

AFL Annual Meeting - Fayetteville, N.C.

By Chuck Schwam

Registration for our annual meeting in Fayetteville, NC June 12-14, 2014 begins. There is a lot of info contained herewith, and the registration form is on the back of the Gazette.

We are only 3 months away from another fantastic annual meeting. We are excited to announce that this year's annual meeting will be the most affordable yet most unique of meetings in several years. This meeting will be jam-packed with history, continuing education, food, and great southern hospitality. Fayetteville, NC is the home of Fort Bragg and is minutes from I-95 highway. There is an airport with 3 airlines with direct flights, an Amtrak station and bus depot.

This year's registration fee is only \$120/person, less than previous years. The room rate at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux is only \$95/night with full hot buffet breakfast included (plus tax). This room rate is also less than previous years. This hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the airport. The hotel is about 10 minutes from the airport.

The \$120 registration fee includes: 5 meals, a full day of guided touring, 5 guest speakers and transportation to and from the airport. In addition, we have scheduled a really fun event on Saturday afternoon. When we confirmed the affordable room rate (at a newly remodeled hotel), the idea of including a true North Carolina barbecue seemed to fit very well.

What is a North Carolina barbecue? In Fayetteville, it is called a pig-picking. This tented outdoor event includes pulled pork, fried chicken, side dishes, sweet tea and live blue grass music. In addition we are featuring a local craft beer called Saison de Lafayette that was specially brewed for this event. This event will be held on a historical Lafayette related homestead, and a tour of the home is welcomed. This fantastic event is included in the event registration fee.

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Photo: Fayetteville, NC



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We realize that attending this event will most likely add another night to your stay. We considered the flight times after the Saturday meeting, the affordable hotel room rates, the low registration fee and travel logistics. It became apparent that a Saturday event such as this will make our annual meeting this year even more enjoyable and less hectic.

Attached, please find the registration form. Registration forms are due May 12. (Although don't wait until May 12 to book your travel!) The registration form asks for some choices.

We have 2 lunch periods: 11:30 and 12:30. If you have no preference, please check the NO PREFERENCE box. Otherwise, please make your preference known.

You must also pick a lunch choice (beef or chicken).

For dinner, you will be asked to make a choice as well.

Finally, please note that you are making your **hotel reservation directly with Holiday Inn Bordeaux (see below)**.

Here are the details. Please save or print for reference.

Thursday June 12, 2014

- Our hotel (the Holiday Inn Bordeaux) is located at 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28304) www.hibordeaux.com. **Reservation line: 910-323-0111**
- When making your hotel reservation, please book by May 13, 2014 to capture the \$95 (+tax) room rate and reference "American Friends of Lafayette" when calling.
- For those that are flying into Fayetteville Regional Airport (code: FAY) (don't book to Arkansas) there will be a free shuttle provided by The Holiday Inn that will take you to the hotel. Arrangements will be made for this shuttle, but you are welcome to call to arrange for pick up when you land at FAY.
- The hotel is only 3 miles from the airport.
- The hotel has been newly remodeled and there is a restaurant and bar in the hotel that serves dinner.
- The annual meeting has its official kick off at 7:00pm in the Wellington Room (first floor).
- There will be refreshments and guest speakers Thursday night. The guest speakers will provide us with an overview of Friday's tours and a short history of Fayetteville and the Lafayette Society of Fayetteville.

Friday June 13, 2014

- After enjoying the hot buffet breakfast in the café, we'll split into 2 tour groups at 8:30am. Both groups will be motor-coached throughout the Cape Fear region. This day will feature a visit to:
- The 'Lafayette Trail'. Follow in the footsteps of Lafayette's Grand Tour visit to Fayetteville in 1825. The tour includes the carriage Lafayette rode in and the bed he slept in.
- The Fayetteville Area Transportation and Local History Museum to view some Lafayette artifacts.
- Cool Springs Tavern
- The Airborne and Special Operations Museum (asomf.org).
- We will be providing a gourmet box lunch in the historic 1831 Market House in downtown Fayetteville. This is the site of the Statehouse where Lafayette stood to address his adoring crowd in 1825. There are two times for lunch 11:30am and 12:30pm.
- Both groups will be back to the hotel between 4:00pm and 4:30pm.
- Cocktail hour for the annual banquet will begin at 6pm at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux. Dinner will start at 7pm. Highlights of the event include:
- Presentation of the Colors by the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company. This company was also the escort for the Marquis de Lafayette during his 1825 visit to Fayetteville.
- A special appearance by General Lafayette himself.
- A reenactment of Lafayette's 1825 arrival in Fayetteville.
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lloyd Kramer, Dean Smith Chair of History at the University of North Carolina and noted Lafayette biographer.

Saturday June 14, 2014

- After the complimentary breakfast in the Cafe, please meet in the Wellington room for the business meeting.
- The business meeting begins at 9:00am
- After the meeting, transportation will be provided to and from downtown Fayetteville for those who want to shop, have lunch, and spend additional time at Lafayette-related and Fayetteville attractions.
- The pig-pickin' is from 5:00pm - 8:00pm. There is transportation to and from the Myrtle Hill house at all times.

Sunday June 15th

- Complimentary breakfast is served in the Cafe.
- Holiday Inn provides free shuttle to the airport.

Feel free to contact Chuck Schwam via phone at 240.676.5010 or email at chsgop@aol.com with questions or concerns.

REGISTRATION ON PAGE 29

Yorktown Day 2013

By Rob Raffety



Saturday, October 19, 2013 was Yorktown Day - the 232nd anniversary of America's decisive Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown, at which our hero, Lafayette, and more broadly the French Army under General Rochambeau and the French Navy led by Admiral de Grasse played a critical role. Each year, the occasion is commemorated by a celebration, beginning with a patriotic parade and ceremony, and continuing with a variety of other activities, including festive lunches, battlefield tours, and interpretive programs.

According to the official Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation website (www.historyisfun.org):

“...[M]odern day observances [of Yorktown Day] traces its roots to 1922, when the Daughters of the American Revolution began an annual wreath-laying ceremony, which set the tradition upon which the current Yorktown Day is based. Today, the Yorktown Day Association, comprised of 13 civic, patriotic and government organizations, coordinates the traditional commemorative events.”

As you may know, the AFL is one of the 13 organizations that constitute the Yorktown Day Association (YDA). As such, our society plays an important role each year in supporting the event, including an annual financial contribution as well as active attendance and participation from our membership. This year, AFL Member, Lea Gryk served as the official AFL Yorktown Day representative. In addition, AFL 1st Vice President, Rob Raffety had the honor of presenting the AFL flag at the ceremony. Formal commemorations included the singing of The Star Spangled Banner and La Marseillaise, as well as an inspiring keynote address by a representative of the French Embassy.



Above: Rob Raffety and the AFL Flag

Right: Diane Parfitt and other Fayettevillians in the AFL section

Later that evening, roughly 60 AFL members gathered at the Hornsby House, an historic Bed & Breakfast owned by AFL Member David Bowditch. It was a very pleasant affair, with plenty of food, drink, and fellowship (my favorite was the clam chowder!). Our President, Alan Hoffman, led an informal program, the highlight of which was a presentation by Williamsburg Archeologist, Alain Lawless, who shared with the group details of his discovery of what is believed to be Lafayette’s horse’s martingale from the Green Spring Battlefield site.

Members who haven’t had a chance to attend Yorktown Day should make every effort to do so. It’s a fantastic event that has emerged as the AFL’s “unofficial” mid-year gathering. This year’s Yorktown Day will occur on Sunday, October, 19, 2014, and it will mark the last for long-serving Yorktown Superintendent, Dan Smith, who will soon be retiring. Mark your calendars and see you there!



President's Message

by Alan Hoffman



In my essay which appeared in the AFL's 2013 publication, "Symbol in Two Worlds: Essays on Lafayette," I wrote: "since his arrival on the first of his four voyages to America, Lafayette has been and continues to be the symbol of Franco-American friendship." The State visit of France's President François Hollande in February demonstrates the truth of this assertion.

On February 10, President Obama took France's President on a tour of Monticello. While at Jefferson's home, Obama said: "This home represents the bonds that helped lead to the American Revolution, helped to influence the French Revolution, figures like Lafayette, who played such a central role in our own independence – all this is signified here at Monticello."

Hollande replied as follows: "I also wish to confirm that this bond that unites us with Jefferson, that these bonds are sustained over time because he represents values and principles. Freedom, human dignity, rights – these are the values to which we are continuing to fight around the world, the United States and France. We were allies in the time of Jefferson and Lafayette. We are still allies today. We were friends in the time of Jefferson and Lafayette, and we will remain friends forever."

On Tuesday morning, February 11, in his remarks on the White House lawn, Hollande adverted to Jefferson and Lafayette: "Today we stand united and we have built a model of friendship – a friendship that is the best recipe for a better world, a world such as the one dreamed by Thomas Jefferson and Lafayette. It is not just about friendship. It is an alliance which will enable us to make this world a safer place, a better place, a more humane place."

Finally, in his toast at the State dinner on Tuesday evening, Hollande returned to Lafayette:

Mr. President, I would like to thank you for the warm welcome that you have extended to me and my delegation. France and the United States of America are bound by ties of history – great history of French citizens such as Lafayette, who fought alongside the heroes of

independence to allow your dream of freedom to prevail. The glorious history of the Americans who came to fight on French soil during the First World War, and then in June 1944 to liberate the European continent from Nazi oppression

Mr. President, the relations between our two countries have reached an exceptional level of closeness and confidence, and there is one simple reason for that: We share the same vision of the world and we show mutual respect. The United States of America and France are two great nations. What is expected of them is to keep a promise, a promise of freedom and the promise of progress, and also to keep a dream alive – the same dream made by Jefferson, Washington, Lafayette and the French revolutionaries – a dream to change the world. By uniting our forces, by uniting our talents, we will be able to keep the flame of hope alive.

President Obama's parting gift to President Hollande was a table made of hardwood including timber from a fallen oak at Mt. Vernon. In a circular chamber at its center was a replica of the key to the Bastille that Lafayette sent to Washington in 1790.

Photo: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2014-02-24/news/ct-table-for-french-president-talk-20140225_1_wilmette-man-table-president-barack-obama



Clearly, Lafayette, the man whose life and career the AFL was founded in 1932 to commemorate and honor, is relevant today as a symbol of the close and enduring ties between the two great republics, the United States and France. In addition, Lafayette is also relevant today in the continuing struggle for human rights at home and abroad. Universal suffrage, anti-discrimination, religious freedom and toleration, prison reform and abolition of the death penalty are issues which Lafayette – perhaps the principal human rights crusader of his time – would be advocating for today. I am sure that we will hear about this side of Lafayette at our annual meeting in Fayetteville, North Carolina when Lloyd Kramer, author of “Lafayette in Two Worlds,” University of North Carolina Press (1996), gives his keynote address. I hope to see you there.

The Marquis and Me

By Katie Leeper

Editor's note: *Katie Leeper is a new member of the American Friends of Lafayette. At 18 years old, she is one of our youngest members and wanted to share her fascination with General Lafayette.*

The Marquis de Lafayette gleaned my fascination when I first glimpsed him in the *Liberty's Kids* cartoon series. Immediately I was taken by his gallantry and enthusiasm. From there, I sought after more information about him. As I was only about twelve at the time, I tried to find books about him which were intended for young adults. I found one children's book and a book of historical fiction with a mention of him. I began to find more books at used books stores and to look in every history book I read for a mention of him. Still, I could only find shreds of information. Thus, I began to purchase college level research books about him. Each book I read made me love him all the more; he had flaws, but he is still a white knight to me.

Whenever I find a book on the Marquis, I purchase it and enjoy reading about him from yet another perspective. Yet, I still felt there was something missing. There was nothing for more people my age to read about him. I would bring him up in conversation and no one would know who he was despite the multitude of towns named Lafayette and his historical significance to America. My love for the Marquis is such that I long for others to know more about him. How can so few people, young or old, not know how important he was to George Washington, let alone his impact on the Revolutionary War? Therefore, I have decided that, at some point, I will write a book of historical fiction about him. His life was full of romance, adventure, pain, joy, and tragedy. He lived through so many historically important events, from the American Revolution to the Napoleonic Wars. It is my wish that the Marquis de Lafayette will once again become a beloved and well-known figure for all Americans.

Lafayette Quiz

By Alan Hoffman

QUESTION

Where can you go to see Lafayette welcoming General John J. Pershing to France? (No, it's not Picpus Cemetery). See Answer on page 27.

Friends of Hermione – Lafayette in America
Consulate General of France NYC
09/25/2013
by Jerry Meekins

My daughter Susan and I, along with Caroline Lareuse and Marc Jensen, attended this impressive cocktail reception. The event was hosted by the Friends of Hermione-Lafayette in America and Bertrand Lortholary, Consul General of France. More than 500 US and French business leaders, representatives of Government and cultural organizations were in attendance. The purpose was to present the Hermione Project and its status, while mobilizing new support to meet the financial challenge.

Guest of Honor, Madame Segolene Royal, President of the Poitou-Charentes Regional Council and former Minister of France, gave a lecture chronicling “The Hermione a Glorious Page in Franco-American History”. She has described the 16 year Hermione construction project, as “Lafayette’s Frigate of Freedom being brought back to life“.

Miles Young, Worldwide Chairman and CEO, Ogilvy & Mather and President of Friends of Hermione-Lafayette, gave a presentation on the Hermione challenge and its status.

It was announced that Dr. Henry Kissinger would be the Honorary Chairman, Friends of Hermione-Lafayette in America. Also, Moet Hennessy signed up as Grand Benefactor of the 2015 voyage.

Caroline presented copies of “Symbol in Two Worlds: Essays on Lafayette” to the Consul General, Madame Segolene Royal and Miles Young.

There will be similar events taking place in key cities, as there was recently in Philadelphia.

The 2015 annual meeting of the American Friends of Lafayette will take place in Yorktown, VA, in conjunction with the arrival of the Hermione on American shores.

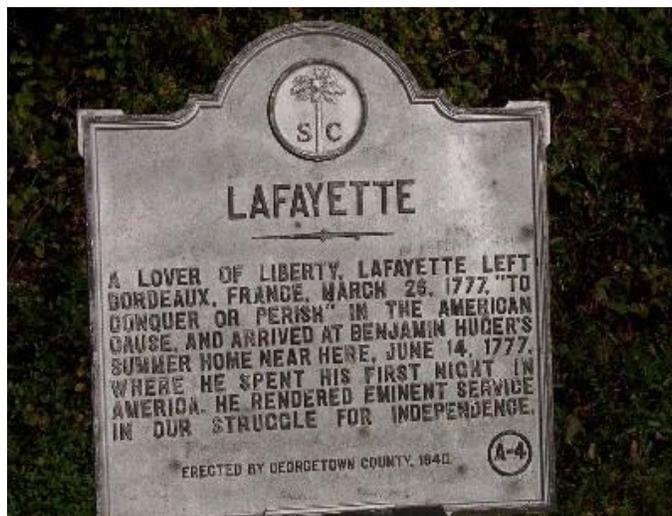
Lafayette Markers & Excerpt

by Jerry Meekins

Since my last Lafayette excursion to Brandywine with my daughter Susan in July of 2013, I haven't been on any interesting Lafayette trips, other than another memorable Yorktown Day experience, in October of 2013. However, I would like to share information regarding several other Lafayette-related sites.

The first is a roadside marker honoring the arrival of Lafayette in America. It's approximately 2 miles northeast of Georgetown, SC, on Route 17, also approximately 40 miles northeast of Charleston, SC.

As most of you probably know, on June 13, 1777, "La Victoire", carrying the Marquis de Lafayette, Baron Johann de Kalb and a group of



volunteers landed on North Island, not far from the marker. They selected this landing site to avoid the British blockade of Charleston.

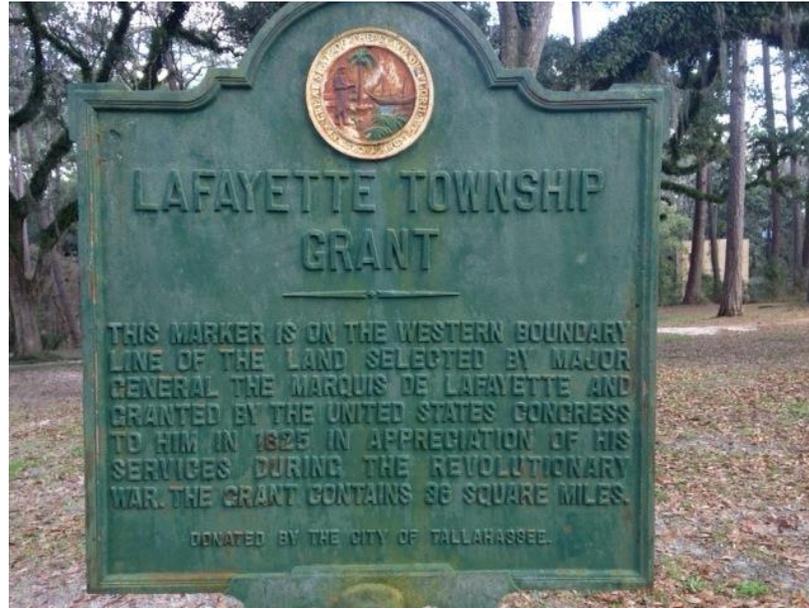
I first visited this site by myself on 11/20/10. I recently had the opportunity to re-visit the site with my brother John on 12/2/13. We were visiting area plantation sites related to Thomas Lynch Jr., Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

If you are ever traveling along Route 17 between Charleston and Myrtle Beach, SC, keep an eye out for this historic marker. As I stated before, it's approximately 2 miles northeast of Georgetown, on the southbound side of the road.

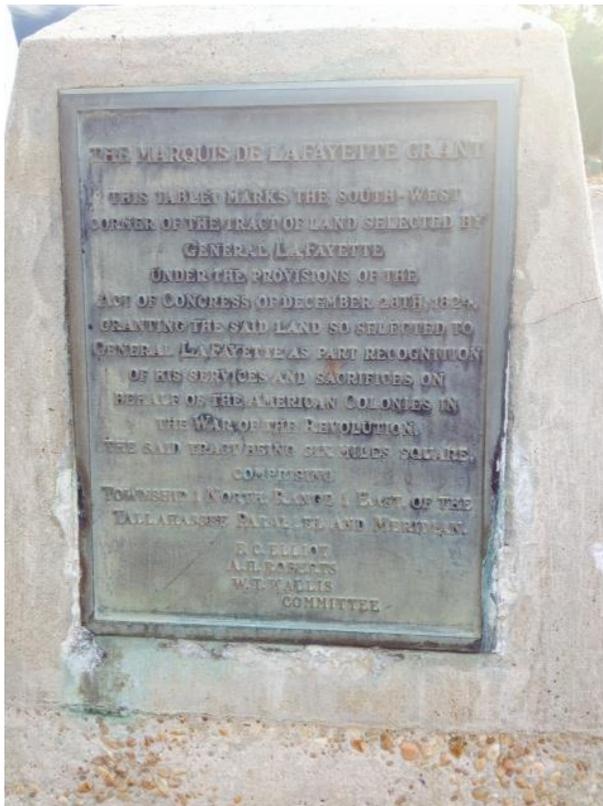
The other sites are in Tallahassee, Florida. There are two prominent Lafayette markers. Both of these markers were located and visited by my granddaughter Kelly, who is a student at Florida State University (FSU). Although she enjoyed the project, she spent several hours and days researching the markers and their locations.

Both markers deal with the Lafayette Land Grant of 1825. The land was a gift of 36 sq. miles (23,000 acres) given to him by the United States, for his services during the American Revolution.

The Lafayette Township Grant western marker is located near the Goodwood Museum & Gardens. I believe it is the only 1 of 4, east, west, north, and south boundary markers still in place.



The Marquis de Lafayette Grant plaque, affixed to one side of the old Prime Meridian marker monument, is located in the parking lot of the Florida Surveying & Mapping Society.



FROM LEFT IMAGE:

THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE GRANT

THIS TABLE MARKS THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF THE TRACT OF LAND SELECTED BY GENERAL LAFAYETTE UNDER PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF DECEMBER 28TH, 1824, GRANTING THE SAID LAND SO SELECTED TO GENERAL LAFAYETTE AS PART RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES AND SACRIFICES ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN COLONIES IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION. THE SAID TRACT BEING SIX MILES SQUARE, COMPRISING TOWNSHIP I NORTH RANGE I EAST OF THE TALLAHASSEE PARALLEL AND MERIDIAN.

F. C. ELLIOT
A. H. RASERTS
W. T. WALLACE

COMMITTEE

This monument was originally located in Cascades Park. But, due to construction in the newly redesigned park, and the making of a new Prime Meridian marker monument, it has been temporarily moved.

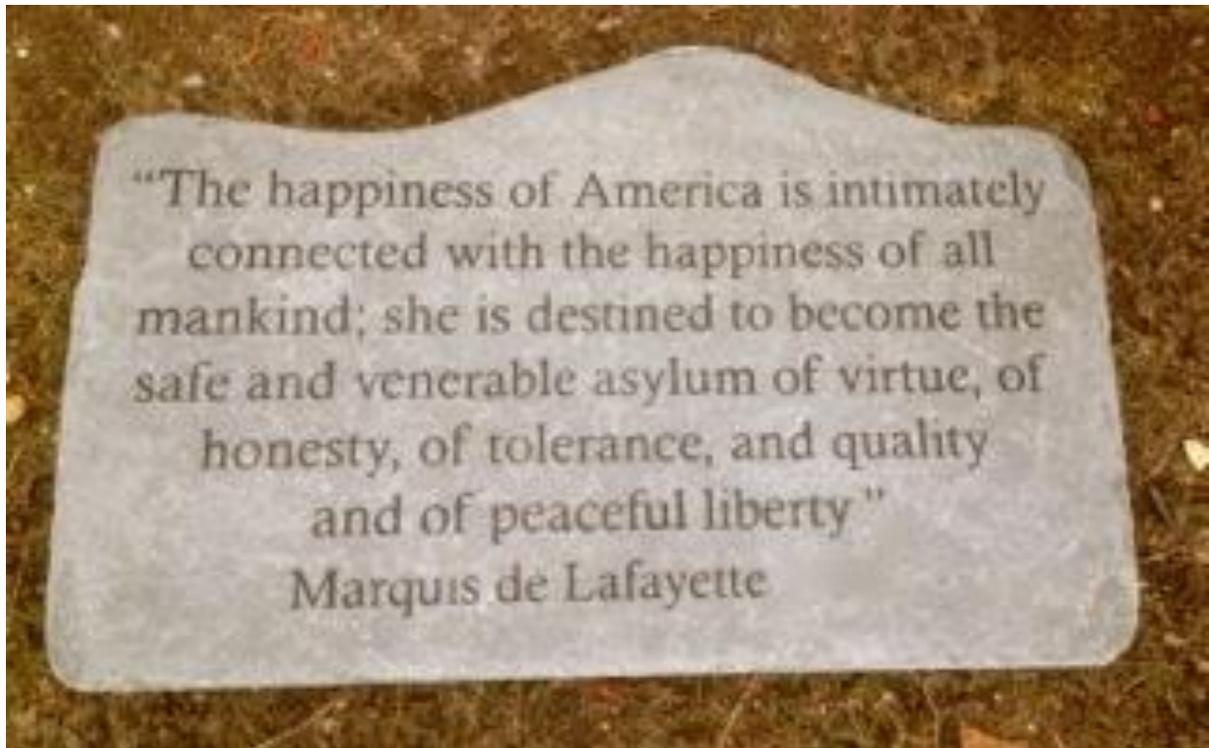


I will be attending my granddaughter's graduation in May of this year. At that time I will personally visit these sites.

In addition to these two Lafayette sites, I would like to share two personal pieces of information, one Lafayette-related, and the other not.

First, is a reference to the Peace Garden at the Birmingham Meeting House, which I mentioned in the article on Brandywine (9/2013 Gazette). Although the Peace Garden is a place to contemplate a world without war, it was the inspiration for my daughter Susan's Christmas gift to me. The inscription on the stone is a meaningful translation of an excerpt taken from a letter written by Lafayette to his wife Adrienne, "my dear heart". The letter was started prior to his arrival in America, in June of 1777, while still

at sea. The letter was finished and sent shortly after he arrived. The statement was very insightful and profound, for such a young European at the time. This very thoughtful and professionally engraved stone is prominently placed in a very peaceful section of my backyard.



The second is a point of pride. My brother John and I have become registered members of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. What a fabulous way to augment my active participation in the American Friends of Lafayette.



In Memoriam: Stanley J. Idzerda

1920--2013

By: Robert Rhodes Crout and Lloyd Kramer
Perspectives on History, January 2014



Stanley John Idzerda, a gifted teacher, academic leader, and specialist on the life and work of Gilbert du Motier, marquis de Lafayette, died on August 6, 2013, in St. Joseph, Minnesota, at the age of 93. Known in his early career as an art historian of the French Revolution, Idzerda later became a talented college and university administrator before developing his most distinguished scholarly work as a documentary editor and interpreter of Lafayette's transatlantic career. In all these roles, Stan remained generous and respectful toward the powerless, as well as honest and unpretentious toward people in positions of power.

Idzerda was born on June 4, 1920, and raised in Brooklyn, New York, during the Great Depression. The son of a lobsterman who had recently emigrated from the Netherlands, Idzerda joined the US Navy, seeking a wider career and intending to become a "lifer." Those plans began to change on the morning of December 7, 1941, when he survived the Japanese attack on the battleship West Virginia, stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Later, he served on the destroyer Drayton, in the Solomon Islands, and at the Battle of Tassafaronga. Identified as having the potential for leadership, Idzerda went to officer candidate school at the University of Notre Dame, where he received a BSN degree in 1945. After the war he attended Baldwin--Wallace College, developed an interest in history, and received a BA in 1947. The GI Bill provided support for graduate studies at Case Western Reserve University. There his mentor John Hall Stewart, who had studied at Cornell with Carl Becker, was training students to pursue rigorous analysis of French historical documents. After completing his PhD in 1951, Idzerda attended the AHA's annual meeting, where Stewart had organized a dinner to introduce Idzerda to other Becker students—Louis Gottschalk, Robert R. Palmer, and Geoffrey Bruun—who were then reshaping the field of French Revolutionary history in America. Idzerda's first notable contribution to the field occurred at the 1953 AHA meeting, when he presented a paper that would appear the following year in the *American Historical Review* as "Iconoclasm in the French Revolution." That article established his position in the intellectual, political, and cultural historiography of 18th-century French history.

Idzerda briefly taught at Western Michigan University before moving in 1952 to Michigan State, where he rose from assistant professor to professor in six years. His commitment to undergraduate teaching led to an appointment as the first director of MSU's Honors College in 1956. Because of his service on the AHA's Committee for Teaching, he wrote *The Background of the French Revolution* (1959) for the "blue book" series of the Service Center for Teachers of History. Originally intended for history teachers, it also aided countless graduate students in the field for two decades. In 1962 Idzerda served as president of the Society for French Historical Studies. He taught in the Mississippi Freedom Schools during the summer of 1964.

His ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds and scholarly disciplines propelled Idzerda toward academic administration. He served as dean of undergraduate studies at Wesleyan University from 1965 to 1968, when he accepted an appointment as the first lay (and male) president at the College of Saint Benedict in Saint Joseph, Minnesota. Idzerda immersed himself in the tasks of attracting new students, faculty, and financial supporters to the college; his infectious enthusiasm contributed decisively to the institution's impressive expansion of enrollments and innovative academic programs.

Idzerda's career moved in other directions when he returned to his scholarly roots and became editor-in-chief of the Lafayette Papers Project at Cornell University in 1974. With primary funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) and the National Endowment for the Humanities, Idzerda organized a diverse editorial team in publishing the correspondence surrounding Lafayette during and immediately after the American Revolution. He wanted to convey Lafayette's ideas and actions through a careful compilation of the documentary record; he also believed that the documents showed a more complex figure than historians had previously described.

The series *Lafayette in the Age of the American Revolution: Selected Letters and Documents, 1776--1790* (published in five volumes by Cornell University Press, 1977--1983) received the Gilbert Chinard Prize of the Society for French Historical Studies and the Institut Français de Washington in 1979. These volumes provide a solid foundation for scholarly work on Lafayette and have long served as a model for other historical documentary editions.

Idzerda expanded on his documentary editing in various articles and other interpretive studies, such as his coauthored *Lafayette, Hero of Two Worlds: The Art and Pageantry of His Farewell Tour of America, 1824--1825* (University Press of New England, 1989). He also wrote numerous entries on Lafayette for encyclopedias, historical dictionaries, and the *American National Biography*. In 1979 Idzerda returned to the faculty at his beloved College of "St. Ben," where he continued to teach until retiring in 1989. He remained deeply engaged with history and intellectual life, even as he cultivated his garden and cared for his ailing wife Geraldine ("Gerri") through her last years.

Stanley Idzerda is survived by his seven children and the innumerable students and colleagues who have long admired his integrity, historical knowledge, faith, modesty, gentility, and joie--de--vivre.

—Robert Rhodes Crout
College of Charleston

—Lloyd Kramer
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

SAVE THE DATES

Yorktown, VA: June 4th to 6th 2015

Our 2015 annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the arrival of the Hermione on American shores. Yorktown is the first stop of the Hermione's transatlantic trip and the AFL will be there to greet her. This meeting will also include visits to Williamsburg and the Green Spring Battlefield.

France, 2015

We have started making inquiries for an AFL-sponsored trip to France. There are many Lafayette-related sites in and around Paris we will visit. A trip south to Chavaniac will be arranged as well. This trip will also include the annual Picpus ceremony, so preliminarily plan on late June / early July of 2015. We are in the early stages of planning this excursion but will keep you all posted. So far, sixty members have shown interest in this Lafayette tour of France.

Polly Wishes to Meet General Lafayette

by Sarah Tuck Gillens

Polly Putnam jumped out of bed as soon as the sun came up. She was excited to start what was going to be a great summer day. Her older sister, Linnie, had been up long enough to dress. Linnie put her finger to her lips, indicating that their younger sister, Alice, was still sleeping.

Polly took a quick look through the rippled glass of their window in an upstairs bedroom of her family's house which was built before the Revolutionary War. Today, June 28th in the year 1825, General Lafayette was going to pass by the Putnam farm on his way from Claremont, New Hampshire to Windsor, Vermont.

The famous, sixty-eight year old soldier, who had helped the colonies win the Revolutionary War, was touring all of the country's twenty-four states. Today he would be traveling by Polly's farm on his way to Windsor, the birthplace of Vermont. With an excited feeling, Polly put on her smock and went down the narrow stairs that took her to the kitchen. She wanted to get her chores done before breakfast.

Polly loved this time of day. As she entered a small side door of a large barn, she saw the family's Morgan mare looking at her from a narrow stall. Maisy greeted Polly with a quiet nicker and waited patiently for Polly to fork some hay into her manger. Polly grabbed a wooden comb and headed for Maisy's braided mane. She had brushed the mane the night before and had braided it to create wavy hair. As Polly

gently pulled strands of hair from the braids and picked out a few pieces of hay, she shared her excitement with Maisy,

“Won’t it be fun to see General Lafayette in Dr. Jarvis’s wicker coach?” Polly asked. “Wouldn’t you like to be one of the six white horses who get to pull the coach today? Wouldn’t you feel special?”

Maisy nodded her head, looking like she agreed, while she was really just shaking out bits of timothy hay.

“General Lafayette has traveled by coach, steam boats and canal boats while visiting our country. He’s probably the first person to say that he’s been to all of our states. He must be very weary by now,” Polly concluded as she brushed Maisy’s wavy tail. She put the brush aside, patted her plump horse and went back to the house.

“Mama, did you know that the General was shot at the Battle of Brandywine?” asked Polly as she entered the kitchen and saw her mother placing cornbread on the table. Her mother nodded that she knew about the leg wound.

“Have you fed the new chicks?” mother asked as her twelve year old daughter slid onto the bench beside the table. “I have some extra bread crumbs for them.”

“Yes, I have. I’ll take the treats out after I eat. I want to be ready to watch for General Lafayette’s coach. Don’t you think this is the most exciting day of the summer?” Polly asked as she helped herself to the corn bread still warm from the beehive oven.

“Yes it is! You can think about all the stories the old Revolutionary War soldiers have told you and your sisters and brothers about the Marquis de Lafayette,” Polly’s mother replied.

“He prefers to be called General Lafayette, Mama,” Polly reminded her.

“Your dad and brothers have ridden to Windsor to be part of the mounted honor guard. The men will parade through Windsor when the general arrives. Pa and your brothers are so proud to be part of the celebration. You will have to harness the mare yourself.”

“That’s all right. Pa taught me well and Maisy is groomed and ready. Mom, did Grandfather Putnam ever tell about what he did in the war? Did he keep a journal?”

“I do not recall ever seeing a journal, Polly. Grampa never liked to talk about the war unless he was with his old soldier friends. Your grandfather was able to do many jobs. He was a blacksmith and could have been a cook. Being near a warm fire would have been good because he minded the cold.”

“Do you think he met General Lafayette when the French soldier came to the aid of our army?” Polly persisted thoughtfully.

“He never mentioned the great man but I think he talked about George Washington and his horses.” Ma said.

Polly's sister, Alice, came into the kitchen from the back stairway. She was braiding her long, brown hair into neat braids. She playfully pinched Polly's arm as she walked by to sit on the bench at the table.

"Ouch! Why did you do that?" asked Polly as she slid away from her sister.

"I'm envious because you're the lucky one today. You and Mama are getting a day off and Linnie and I have to stay here to do the laundry."

Polly looked a little smug. She had been studying about General Lafayette and now she had a chance to see him. She had convinced Mama that her chances were greater if she drove south to the Godfrey Cooke Inn where Lafayette was scheduled to spend the night. Mama would accompany her. Alice and Linnie were stuck with the chore of washing piles of dirty clothes.

"I'm sorry that you have to do the laundry today. If you have the pot boiling in the side yard, you can watch for the coach and everyone following it. Please, please do not hang any of my bloomers on the yew bushes for the general to see. I would be so embarrassed if you did. Keep your bonnet on so that you look respectable!" Polly warned her sister.

"Yes. I will wear my bonnet. Where's your extra one in case mine gets wet while doing the wash?" Alice said with a mischievous glint in her eye.

"Upstairs behind the door," Polly answered as she pulled one of her sister's braids as she headed to the door.

Polly collected eggs and scattered grain for the farm's hens and the bread crumbs for the half grown chicks. She carried the harness, which she had cleaned the previous day, into the walkway in the barn. Maisy was glad to be led out of her stall. She waited patiently while Polly adjusted the harness and tightened the girth. She led the mare out to a hitching post and tied her until Mama could help with the buggy.

Polly looked down the dirt driveway that wound, like a tired ribbon, up from the road from Claremont. Polly was not sure what time of day that General Lafayette would be passing by, so she thought she and Ma would drive the horse and cart down the road, in hopes of seeing the famous visitor. Ma Putnam had prepared a basket with a corked jug of spring water and some homemade cheese and bread, in case they had to wait a long time.

A mounted courier had stopped by yesterday to water his horse. The weary rider was on his way to Windsor, Vermont to check on arrangements for the general's reception. Governor Van Ness, of Vermont, would be meeting the procession of coaches and wagons at Pettes's Coffee House. General Fletcher, High Sheriff of Windsor County, would meet General Lafayette at the newly built toll bridge that spanned the Connecticut River and linked New Hampshire to Vermont. General Lafayette would be invited to greet the Revolutionary War soldiers who had grown old since the fighting began in 1775.

The courier told the Putnam family about the long-winded speeches that Lafayette had heard in Concord, New Hampshire. Claremont was the last stop before entering Vermont and Ma figured speeches, in Claremont, could rival any that the General had heard so far. New Hampshire folks had waited a long time

for this visit. In fact, they'd had one long, cold, dark winter to work out what they wanted to say in greetings to General Lafayette.

Mama came out of the brick house with her basket. She was warning Alice to behave and giving last minute instructions to Linnie, who was now in charge. Together, Polly and Mama picked up the shafts of the buggy and gently pulled them through the loops in the harness. Polly hitched the traces and helped Mama get into the buggy. She unhitched the lead rope to the hitching post, gathered up the long driving reins, climbed into the cart and turned Maisy towards the road to Claremont.

It was a beautiful summer day and their drive took Polly and her mother by some fine, flat farmland along the Connecticut River. She admired the east side of Mount Ascutney across the placid waterway. It stood up like a big cone and was kept company by a cluster of hills around its base. Polly thought the hills looked up to the big mountain just like her brothers looked up to her Pa.

The family's mare was poking along as if these hours away from the farm should last all day. Polly didn't mind because she was a little afraid of meeting the general in his coach. Would his six horses be trotting up the road, raising a cloud of dust? If the coach went by too quickly, she might not catch a glimpse of the General at all. If she was lucky, the General would still be at the Godfrey Cooke Tavern and perhaps she would see him there.

As Polly and her mom drove south, they could see the large building with smoke drifting up from a big, central chimney. The tavern was famous for providing good food and delicious wines. It was a popular stopping point for travelers. People were milling around excitably.

"Look ma! There's Dr. Jarvis's coach. Do you see how fancy it is with blue velvet curtains?" Polly exclaimed excitably.

"It looks like the driver is unhitching one of the horses from the large barouche. Oh dear! It must have picked up a stone in its hoof," Ma said.

The double doors of the tavern opened and folks came outside to stand on the veranda. The driver of the barouche spoke with a tall gentleman and pointed toward the white horse that was being unharnessed. The tall man was dressed in a black coat with a white cravat circling his neck. His tall, black hat made him look taller than Mount Ascutney! He was walking toward the coach when he saw Polly in her cart. He strolled over, tipped his hat and bowed. Polly's face went as red as a sunburn. She handed Ma the reins, stood up and gave the red haired, handsome man a little curtsy.

"May I introduce myself, Miss?" he gallantly asked. "I am Marie, Joseph, Paul, Yves, Roch, Gilbert du Motier, La Fayette."

"We are so pleased to meet you, sir! My name is Polly Putnam and this is my mother, Grace Putnam," Polly responded in a clear voice. "Why do you have so many names?"

"I think that pleasing all of my ancestors is what my parents wished when they gave me all of those names." General Lafayette said while rolling his eyes and shrugging his shoulders. "Polly is a pretty name. It is a strong little horse you have in harness."

“Yes, this is a Morgan and she is used to plowing, driving, riding and pulling logs. It is a breed of horse that is used all over Vermont and New Hampshire. They are gentle, yet strong,” Polly proudly told General Lafayette as he rubbed the mare’s back, thinking for a minute. He turned to Polly and smiled.

“Mademoiselle Putnam, it is a special request that I have. One of our horses has gone lame. Would it be possible to join your mare to our hitch of horses to continue our journey to Windsor, Vermont? A great pleasure, it would be, if you and Madam Putnam would join me in the barouche for the afternoon’s drive to Windsor.”

Polly had been holding her breath as if she had known what the General was going to ask. Her Pa and brothers were already in Windsor. Won’t they be surprised to see them arriving with the general? She quickly agreed to lend her mare and the driver was motioned over to take the mare out of the shafts. The General helped them down from the cart and they were introduced to the general’s son, George Washington Lafayette. They were soon on their way north.

The General asked Polly about her home life and her family. He told Polly and her mother about all the children that he had seen on his visit. Many had sung for him and others had waved as his carriage passed by them. He seemed curious about any Putnams that might have fought in the Revolutionary War. Polly told him about her grandfather’s service and about him mentioning George Washington.

“General Washington was an amazing man,” General Lafayette nodded with his hand over his heart. “Anyone who met him seems to remember the moment and the circumstances. Do you remember any such stories from your grandfather?”

Polly thought for a brief moment. “Well, Grampa Daniel did tell my brothers a tale. He was with George Washington, tending the horses and such, when Major André was caught. General Washington’s men had found the plans to West Point in Major André’s boots. Evidently Benedict Arnold had sold them to him to help the British win the war. Grampa remembers that General Washington was more upset with Benedict Arnold than with Major André. Arnold had escaped and now the Major was to be hung. It was my Grampa who cut the metal handcuffs off his wrists before the hanging,” Polly said solemnly.

“Mais oui, but yes, that was a sad affair,” General Lafayette nodded. “Everyone liked Major André. He was a most amusing fellow. André was sent a tasty breakfast each morning by General Washington’s staff while he was held captive. I think I would like to talk about happier subjects!”

Polly knew that they were approaching their farm. She described how Grampa Putnam had come to Cornish to establish a town and how he had picked a knoll above the Connecticut River for his house. He wanted to be able to see the mountain, to watch the light on it when the sun rose in the east and then to watch the sun go down its backside in the evening. She told about her sisters being home today and her father and brothers in Windsor waiting for his arrival. He was glad to hear that Linnie wanted to be a teacher and that her brothers were learning to be hard-working farmers. Polly was thinking about Alice and that mischievous look on her sister’s face that morning.

...continued on page 18



As they drove by the big barn at the farm, Polly could see Linnie and Alice standing in front of the large, brick house, waving their white hankies. Suddenly Polly gasped in horror. The family milk cow was by the fence along the road, calmly chewing her cud. The General started to chuckle and then howled with laughter. Polly's mom had pressed her hankie to her mouth but then she started to laugh also. The milk cow was wearing one of Polly's bonnets and looked very pretty. Polly sputtered about what she was going to do to Alice and then grinned at the old soldier because the prank had delighted him so much.

"It is a funny ...what do you call it...trick, your sisters played, yes?" nodded the general. Polly had to agree otherwise she probably would have wept. She could relax now that they had passed the farm.

Polly was thinking that someday she would be telling her children about meeting General Lafayette. She was pleased to hear stories about his trip around the states, told in his eloquent French style. She tried to memorize all of them so that she could tell the people of Cornish and share this exciting day with them. The story of the bonnet-wearing cow would be told too.

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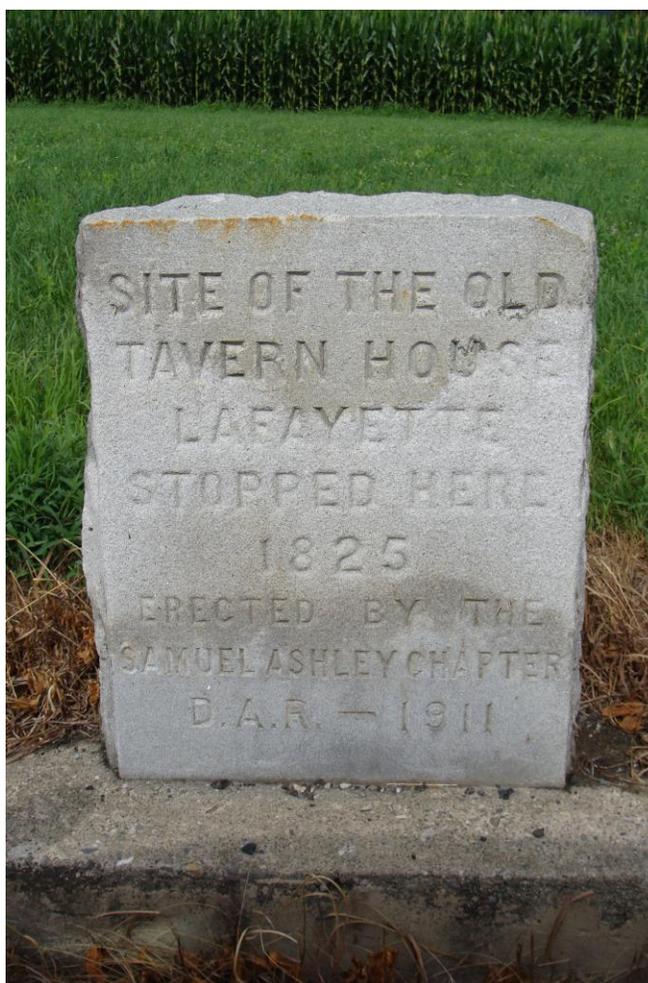
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Author's note:

Daniel Putnam came to "Mast Camp" in the winter of 1764-65 to cut timber for the King's navy. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and there are two references citing him as the blacksmith who freed Major André from his handcuffs before the Major was hung. General Lafayette was present at the hanging. After the war Mr. Putnam returned to Cornish where he was a farmer, blacksmith and town official.

Daniel Putnam built a house and barn on flat, rich land beside the Connecticut River in what is now Cornish, New Hampshire. The Putnam farm has been handed down to the Putnam heirs since Daniel died in 1809. The last male heir drowned in the Connecticut River as did Daniel's namesake in 1773. Daniel Putnam died in 1809, at the age of 70, and is buried at the Trinity Church in Cornish.

Antoinette Putnam gave me a tour of the house before it was sold. It has the original beehive oven, soap stone water trough in the kitchen and wide pine boards on the second floor. The King's pines, pilfered by the locals, were used for flooring in the bedrooms where inspectors might not look. Since the property was sold, the barn has been dismantled and hopefully saved by The Barn People of Windsor Vermont. Polly Putnam is a fictional character but her feelings were similar to all the citizens who were excited to greet General Lafayette during his visit to our country in 1824-25.



The Process of Researching and Painting Two Lafayettes

By Ruth Major

Whenever I paint, I am always inspired by something or someone who stirs my imagination or curiosity. Not long after finishing my article published in the September issue of the “Gazette,” I found a photo online of one of Jean Antoine Houdon’s busts made from a life mask of Lafayette’s head when he was 28. I was mesmerized by it, and decided that I would like to paint a portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette from that Houdon bust at the Herbert F. Johnson Museum at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. My goal was to paint a very realistic portrait of Lafayette.

I was fortunate to get permission from the museum curators to paint from their rare 1785 Houdon bust but was both thrilled and terrified at the prospect of starting the portrait. At times, I questioned my ability, but my desire to paint Lafayette realistically from his life mask was greater than my fears. Within a few weeks I mustered up the courage to draw Lafayette on canvas from recent photos of the plaster bust sent from the museum.

Several aspects of French clothing had to be researched as Lafayette was living in France at the time Houdon made his life mask. This involved not only studying French clothing styles of the period, but also contacting people who know a lot more than I do about Lafayette and his life in 1785.

I wrote to Robert Rhodes Crout whom I had become familiar with through his brilliant article, “Lafayette and the Bastille: the Symbolism of Revolution” included in the 2013 American Friends of Lafayette publication, “Symbol in Two Worlds: Essays on Lafayette.” Professor Crout sent information on appropriate French civilian attire for Lafayette in 1785. For a formal portrait, this could include the Order of St. Louis medal. Created by King Louis XIV in 1693, the medal was given to French Catholic officers. The translation of its inscription reveals that it was a “reward for warring valor.”



I studied numerous period etchings, paintings and drawings of Lafayette to see how late 18th century artists depicted Lafayette’s features. I looked up wig and “le jabot” styles for Lafayette’s neck ruffle and decided that I would paint one similar to that seen in Charles Wilson Peale’s portrait of George Washington. The similar jabot is representative of the close and enduring relationship between the Lafayette and General Washington.

When I paint, I tend to work for hours on end, usually 6 to 12 hours straight with hardly a break, and I begin with a prayer. I take photographs along the way to show myself where I am going astray and what needs refining or correcting. In the end, I may take and study several dozen digital photos before I am satisfied. I

also ask artist friends and family to critique the paintings. The portrait of Lafayette in 1785 was finished in early January of this year but glazes were applied and more adjustments made after the painting dried. Here is the finished portrait.

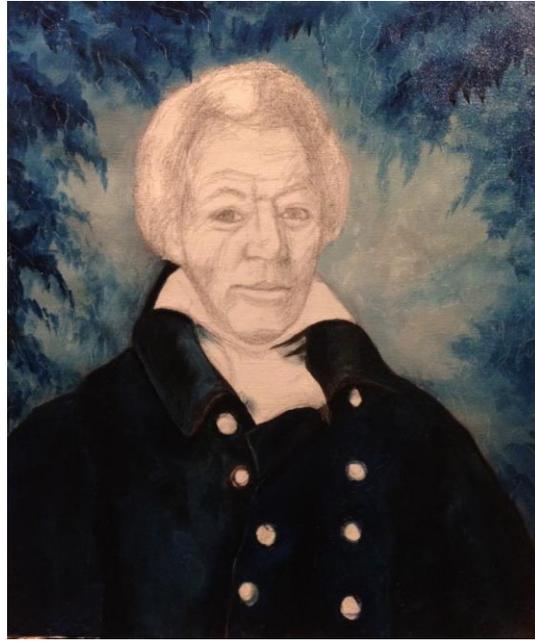
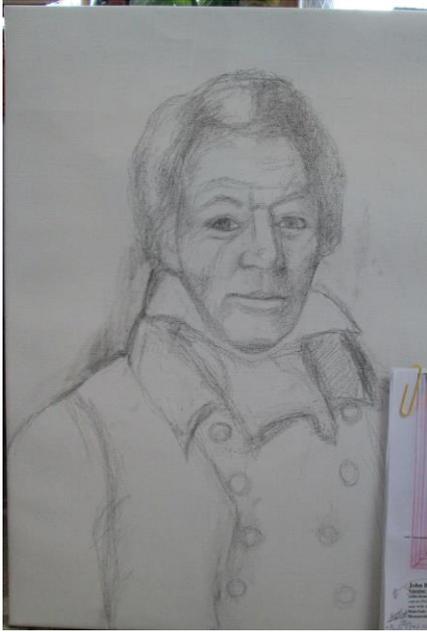


While working on the portrait of General Lafayette, I came across information about a Virginia slave named James Armistead who was allowed to join the Continental Army in the summer of 1781 and soon became Lafayette's assistant. The more I read about this man, the more fascinated I became. I decided that anyone who contributed so significantly to the Patriot cause deserved to have his portrait painted. Frankly, I was astounded that I had never heard of him.

I searched for images of James Armistead Lafayette and found one etching on a broadside from 1824 based on a portrait done earlier that year by the same artist, John B. Martin. The painting belongs to the Richmond Valentine History Center, and I wrote to ask for permission to paint from their Martin painting. Permission was granted, so I purchased a photo from them and enhanced the image until I could see all of his facial features clearly. Then I drew James on a linen canvas facing the opposite direction from Lafayette, so that the paintings may be exhibited as matching portraits of the same size, medium and frame.

When I studied the Martin painting, I decided that I would take artistic liberty with aspects of my portrait of James. These included changing his gaze slightly and the position of coat buttons as my canvas is about four inches shorter than Martin's though about the same width. Probably the most notable change from the original is my background. It came out freely as soon as my brush hit the canvas, with very bold and unforeseen strokes including scraped lines made with a wooden skewer. I was overcome with emotion as I faced James, and the background surrounding him is the direct result of my interaction with his emerging

presence. It is a reflection of how intensely I was affected by him.



I had to stop working on this painting for a while because I had so many questions about this man. I needed answers so went I online to research. Through genealogical records, city historical markers, written accounts, blogs, interviews and countless other sources, I learned that James Armistead was born a slave about 1748 and was therefore about nine years older than Lafayette. James was the property of William Armistead of New Kent, Virginia who came from a military family and served as the VA State Commissary of Stores during the Revolutionary War. In the early summer of 1781, William allowed James to join the Revolutionary cause, and it was not long before Lafayette enlisted James' help as his assistant.

I took note of the words and phrases used to describe James Armistead as I read about his life in Virginia. These included "a slave," "a servant," "Lafayette's assistant," "a revolutionary," "posed as an escaped slave," "a double agent," "a black courier," "a forager," "a valet," "an orderly" and "a spy in the British forces." It appears that James Armistead was a bright, loyal, courageous, wise and valuable spy for the Continental Army. Whether obtaining military plans in Cornwallis' camp, or delivering enemy plans accurately and in a timely fashion to Lafayette and Washington, James Armistead repeatedly put his life on the line and succeeded in his assigned missions. Dr. Rex Ellis, Associate Director for Curatorial Affairs, The National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institute said of Armistead, "If he had not given the information that he gave at the strategic time he did, they would not have had the intelligence to create the blockade that ended the war."

I was amazed to learn that despite his significant contributions from espionage, James Armistead returned to being a slave after the war ended. He petitioned the VA Legislature for manumission, and on November 21, 1784, Lafayette wrote a testimonial for James' service describing it as "essential service" and writing, "His intelligences from the enemy's camp were arduously collected and faithfully delivered." In gratitude for Lafayette's testimonial, James changed his name to James Armistead Lafayette. However, due to being classified as a Patriot spy, not a soldier, and despite his valiant wartime contributions, James was not emancipated and legally freed until January of 1787.

James' former master William Armistead died in 1793. His son William eventually married and purchased the Claiborne Hall Plantation from his father-in-law in 1815. The property included an estate, several buildings and 550 acres in New Kent, and it was from him that James may have purchased his 40 acres in

New Kent in 1816 where he built a farm with his family. James did not receive a military pension until 1819, thirty-five years after the war ended. He was awarded \$40 per year. James Armistead Lafayette was then 71 years old.

AFL President Alan Hoffman shared an article from the “Richmond Enquirer” of October 29, 1824. According to the article, during the October 19th celebration in Yorktown, James Armistead Lafayette, then about 76, was recognized in the crowd. The honored guest, Lafayette “called to him by name,” and James was “taken into his embrace.” No doubt their embrace after decades of absence from one another was a momentous and heart warming occasion for both old soldiers who died within four years of each other in 1830 and 1834.

Below is my finished portrait of James Armistead Lafayette. I am hoping to exhibit these Lafayette portraits together in a meaningful historical exhibit. Both Cornell’s Herbert F. Johnson Museum and Richmond Valentine History Center Museum are undergoing a major renovation or reinstallation. Hopefully, another excellent site will offer to host the paintings and they can be used for fundraising and educational purposes.



I am currently working on a critical historical scene involving both Lafayettes and inspired by a recent archaeological find. The 24 x 36” scene could form the middle painting of a triptych, with the Lafayette portraits on either side. My goal for this three painting project is to recognize and celebrate the heroic wartime efforts and accomplishments of both General Lafayette and James Armistead Lafayette who fought so hard for Liberty and Justice for all Americans. Considering the fact that General Lafayette was a French citizen and James Armistead an African slave, their valiant wartime contributions are all the more praiseworthy.

LAFAYETTE

Hero of the American Revolution

An Exhibition at the Boston Athenæum

June – September 2015

Note from Alan: The Boston Athenæum is seeking support for a wonderful Lafayette exhibition timed to coincide with the arrival of the *Hermione* in Boston in 2015.

Born into one of France's wealthiest and most prestigious families, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette (1757-1834) dreamed of becoming a champion of freedom and a hero of chivalric proportions. An inborn altruism and faith in human rights—unusual qualities for someone of his social rank and time—joined with a natural dignity and impressive physical bearing to serve his plans well: by the time he was twenty years old, Lafayette was one of the most famous Europeans of his day. Beginning in 1777, when he left France for America to offer assistance in the American Revolution, Lafayette enthralled his countrymen and earned the adoration of the rebellious Americans. Lafayette showed unflagging courage in battle and impressive astuteness in handling the troops assigned to him. Within a year, George Washington thought of the young Frenchman as an adopted son, Lafayette considered himself to be a “citizen of two worlds,” and American patriots commonly referred to him as “Our Marquis.” Lafayette's fame was assured when he went back to France in 1779 to plead the American cause—and returned to America with the French government's promise of troops, ships, and financial support. This alliance turned the tide of the Revolution and eventually led to the British surrender at Yorktown, Virginia, a historic event in which Lafayette participated.

The Boston Athenæum proposes an exhibition celebrating Lafayette and his role in the founding of the new United States. The exhibition will focus on images of Lafayette in his youth—paintings, sculptures, and engravings—as well as contemporary documents, manuscripts, and maps, and is inspired by the recent historic reconstruction of *Hermione*, the frigate that brought Lafayette back to America in 1780. That ship, with its game-changing news, made landfall in Boston in April of that year, making this city and the Boston Athenæum a most appropriate venue for this exhibition. Works borrowed from a number of major American museums and libraries will join some of the Athenæum's own Lafayette-related masterworks, including Jean-Antoine Houdon's great bust of Lafayette, acquired by the Athenæum in 1828 from Thomas Jefferson's descendants. Lectures by scholars of the American Revolution and biographers of Lafayette; curatorial gallery talks; an audio gallery guide; a symposium on American art of the period; and concerts of period French and American music are among the possible programs that will enhance the visitors' experience and help to celebrate the achievements of this great patriot, “Our Marquis.”

David B. Dearing, Ph.D.
Susan Morse Hilles Curator of Paintings & Sculpture
and Director of Exhibitions
The Boston Athenæum

Did You Hear About the NEW Website?

We are pleased to announce a new and improved AFL website.

The new site is a labor of love for Dan Fitzpatrick, Alan Hoffman and Chuck Schwam.

Although the site is still a work in progress, the site has been launched.

We plan on adding more pictures, content and fun anecdotes.

But for now...please visit www.friendsoflafayette.org and enjoy.

Feel free to share comments and suggestions regarding the site.

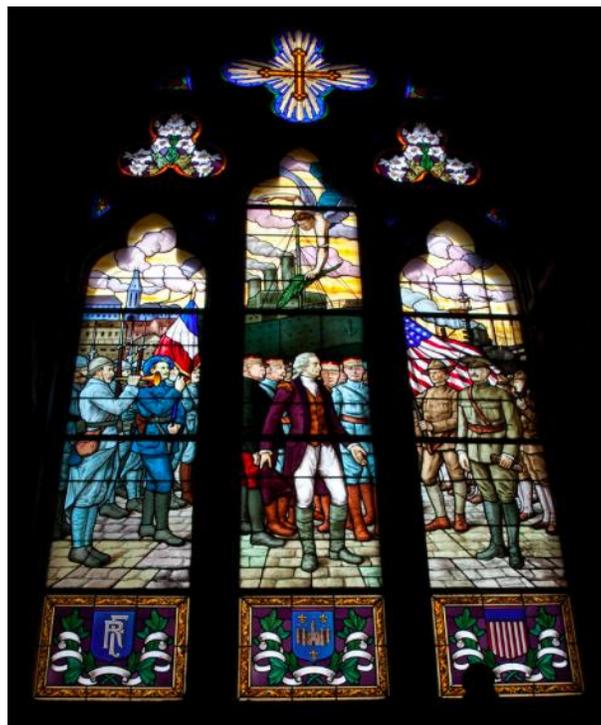
Also please do not hesitate to submit possible content and pictures.

These can be directed to Chuck Schwam at chsgop@aol.com or [\(240\) 676-5010](tel:2406765010)

Lafayette Quiz (continued)

ANSWER

You can go to the American Methodist Memorial Church in Château-Thierry, France. Here Lafayette is shown with WWI Generals Foch, Joffre, Pétain and Nivelle greeting the American General and the A.E.F. (the American Expeditionary Force). See below.



The Battle of Château-Thierry was fought on July 18, 1918 and was one of the first actions of the A.E.F. under General Pershing's command. Part of the second Battle of the Marne, this engagement has been called the turning point of the Great War. There is a memorial called the Château-Thierry Monument that was built by the American Battle Monuments Commission to commemorate the battle and the achievements and sacrifices of the allied forces.

ANNUAL MEETING / JUNE 12 to 14, 2014

REGISTRATION FORM: Deadline is Monday, May 12th

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Number of attendees: _____ (\$120 per attendee)

Please make check payable to The American Friends of Lafayette

Credit cards are not accepted for registration

Please mail check & form to:

Chuck Schwam, 302 Hart Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

~~~~~

**For lunch on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> choose from two offerings. Please pick one:**

Croissant filled w/ brie, apples and roasted chicken, Nicoise salad.

Sliced Beef & Chevre on baguette, Veggie quiche, Apple Frisee salad

**Both lunches will have the same desert: Chocolate Crepes**

**Please choose which seating you prefer, or choose No Preference:**

**NO PREFERENCE**

Please feel free to contact Chuck Schwam

via phone at 240-676-5010 or email at [chsgop@aol.com](mailto:chsgop@aol.com)

11:30a – 12:30p

with questions or concerns.

12:30p – 1:30p

~~~~~

For dinner on Friday, June 13th choose from three entrees. Please pick one:

Herb Roasted Chicken breast w/ AuJus, rosemary potatoes and confetti corn

Roast Baron of Beef topped w/ a red wine portabella sauce and rice primavera

Vegetarian Lasagna



THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE

Dedicated to the memory of Major General Gilbert Motier, Marquis de Lafayette

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