

# The Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

No. 83

October 2015



AFL in France at the George Marshall Center

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## Save the Date

American Friends of Lafayette

ANNUAL MEETING 2016

Boston, Massachusetts

Thursday June 9th to Sunday June 12th

**Questions? Comments? Article Ideas? Photos?**

This Gazette is for you, by you.

Please feel free to send comments, complaints, article ideas, photos, etc.

to [AmericanFriendsofLafayette@gmail.com](mailto:AmericanFriendsofLafayette@gmail.com)

We look forward to hearing from you!

October 2, 2015

## President's Letter

Dear Friend of Lafayette:

This year, which just saw Lafayette's 258<sup>th</sup> birthday, was and is a milestone in the trajectory of Lafayette's posthumous reputation and in the growth of the American Friends of Lafayette.

Fuelled by the voyage of *L'Hermione* and the work of The Hermione-Lafayette Association, Lafayette's life and career were placed on central stage on the east coast where the replica frigate made stops and drew crowds of thousands in many important port cities including Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. The prospect of the *Hermione's* visit generated other commemorative activity tending to educate the public about Lafayette's important role in the American Revolution. This includes newly erected historical markers in Maryland and Virginia, including one in Yorktown, the mandated inclusion of Lafayette in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum in Virginia, and the creation of Virginia's "Lafayette Day" commemorating Lafayette's arrival in the Commonwealth to commence the famous Virginia Campaign. Thus, following Massachusetts in 1935 and New Hampshire in the 1950's, the Old Dominion became the third state to honor Lafayette in this way. By the end of this year, two new historical treatments of Lafayette will have arrived. Long-time member Donald Miller's biography has recently been published, and TV and radio celebrity Sarah Vowell has a book on Lafayette which will appear in October. Not since 2007, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lafayette's birth, has America celebrated Lafayette to this extent.

This year has also been a banner year for the American Friends of Lafayette. Accelerating a recent trend, membership grew dramatically. In 2011, the AFL had 150 separate mailing addresses totaling 179 members, if one includes a family membership as two. We currently have 297



individual addresses with a total of more than 350 members. Thus, the AFL has doubled in size in 4 years.

The 2015 annual meeting in Yorktown was the largest ever, attended by 160 members. The first AFL in France trip was a huge success, providing an opportunity for 30 members to broaden their knowledge of Lafayette so as to be better able to present the General to their friends and to the public. The October Yorktown Day events have expanded in scope with the inclusion of events at Fort Monroe, orchestrated by our new member, Robert Kelly, Historian of Fort Monroe's Casemate Museum, as well as a joint wreath-laying ceremony with the Rochambeau Society at the French monument on the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup>. Those who can are encouraged to stay for the Tuesday morning book donation ceremony at Lafayette High School in Williamsburg.

We plan to continue the momentum with our 2016 annual meeting in the Boston area where Samuel Adams organized the American Revolution, where the Battles of Lexington and Concord and Bunker Hill pushed the Colonies to the point of no return and where Faneuil Hall became known as the "Cradle of Liberty." As Lafayette visited all these places, so will we.

Best regards,

Alan R. Hoffman

# AFL Trivia Questions

by Ernest Sutton

## Question # 1

As the President sips his morning coffee, he looks over at Lafayette Park which was created in 1824 when President Jefferson approved Pennsylvania Ave crossing the White House grounds. His eyes are drawn to the statue of Lafayette, “Hero of Two Worlds,” with a partially clad Greek Goddess at its base handing him a sword.

Who are the other four French auxiliaries that our President sees on the sides of the statue?



Above: Lafayette Statue (1891) in Lafayette Park in Washington DC

## Question # 2

In 1899 our Congress approved the design for a silver commemorative \$1 coin commonly called the “Lafayette Dollar,” dated 1900. It was presented to the French President at the dedication of the plaster prototype of the Lafayette Statue, now known as the Childrens’ Statue, in the Place du Carrousel on July 4, 1900 during the Paris Exposition. The US Mint produced 50,000 coins in one day on Dec 14, 1899.

Why was the “Lafayette Dollar” coin approved by Congress?

Whose portrait is on the front (obverse) of the “Lafayette Dollar”?

Why did this legal tender \$1 coin cost \$2?

Why was the date of Dec 14, 1899 chosen?



Front (Obverse)



Back (Reverse)

ANSWERS ON PAGE 54

## AFL Annual Meeting 2015

We kicked off the weekend with a welcome wine reception Thursday evening, June 4th in Williamsburg, Virginia. Refreshments were served while we listened to two guest speakers. AFL member Barbara McJoynt addressed the group regarding Adrienne Lafayette, and Historian Edward Ayres discussed Lafayette's activities in the Virginia Tidewater area during the latter stages of the Revolutionary War, i.e., the Virginia Campaign. A special treat was the performance of the Yorktown Fife and Drum Corps.



Yorktown Fife and Drum Corp perform at the AFL meeting in Williamsburg

On Friday June 5<sup>th</sup>, we had two tours for our group. One was a walking tour of the historic village of Yorktown, while the other was a tour of the Yorktown Battlefield given by General Lafayette himself (as portrayed by Mark Schneider). We lunched that day at the historic Yorktown Customs House. Our guest speaker was Jennifer Carver, who discussed the rich history of the Customs House.

On Friday evening, we held our annual banquet with keynote speaker AFL member Marc Jensen. As the Maritime Director of the *Hermione* Project, Marc was on the *Hermione* as

she sailed from Rochefort to Yorktown. Marc's presentation gave us an insightful look at life on the *Hermione*.

On Saturday morning June 6th, after our annual (and lively) business meeting, our group toured the site of the Battle of Green Spring. AFL member and Archeologist Alain Outlaw conducted the tour and showed us a Lafayette relic which he had discovered at the battlefield.

On Saturday afternoon, we had our tour of the *Hermione*. Our group was allowed onto the "gun deck" which is usually off limits to the general public. This was the highlight of the weekend for most members.



Diane Shaw, Anne McCauley and Captain Yann Cariou

After our visit on the *Hermione*, we enjoyed a scrumptious picnic specific to the Virginia Tidewater Area. Called "Picking and Shucking over Yonder", AFL members David and Rene Bowditch hosted the feast at their estate "Yonder" very close to Yorktown. We were entertained by none other than the infamous

Colonel "Bloody" Banastre Tarleton (again portrayed by Mark Schneider).

Yorktown 2015 was by far the most well-attended AFL meeting ever as we had 178 people at our banquet. The *Hermione* proved to be a spectacular sight on the beautiful shore of the York River, a sight to be remembered for a long time.



AFL Annual meeting - over 160 members in attendance



AFL Annual meeting - over 160 members in attendance



Mark Schneider at the Yorktown Battlefield addresses the AFL at the annual meeting



Mark Schneider as General Sir Banastre Tarleton entertains AFL members during the farewell picnic during the annual meeting weekend



Benoit Guizard, Marc Jensen fresh off the Hermione, and Chuck Schwam in Yorktown.



Barbara McJoynt, Robert Selig and Durf McJoynt in Yorktown

## Yorktown Victory Celebration

Our upcoming Yorktown Victory Celebration looks like this:

- Saturday evening, October 17th: "Lafayette Returns" Dinner
- Sunday morning, October 18th: Private tour of Fort Monroe and brunch
- Sunday evening, October 18th: Yorktown Association Dinner
- Monday Morning, October 19th: Yorktown Day festivities
- Monday Afternoon, October 19th: AFL sponsored cocktail reception
- Tuesday morning, October 20th: Book donation ceremony at Lafayette High School

Here are the details...

**Saturday evening, October 17th:** Lafayette Returns Dinner

Starting at 6:00 pm, the dinner is at the historic Chamberlin Hotel (2 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe, VA 23651). This dinner is open to the public, but the AFL has 40 members already signed up to attend. If you'd like to attend, RSVP at [www.fmauthority.com/event/lafayette-dinner/](http://www.fmauthority.com/event/lafayette-dinner/)

**Sunday morning, October 18th:** Private tour of Fort Monroe and brunch

At 10:00 am, the AFL will be provided a private tour of Fort Monroe. Given by AFL member and Casemate Museum Historian Robert Kelly, this is a free event that should not be missed. We will see where Lafayette dined and slept during his visit in October 1824. The tour will also highlight where Lafayette reviewed troops on the parade ground and examined the progress of the construction of the Fort.

At 11:30 am Robert and Katherine Kelly will host the AFL for brunch. This will be partly subsidized by the AFL and is free to all members. To RSVP for this free tour and brunch, please send an email to [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com).

**Sunday afternoon, October 18th:** Lecture and book signing by John Maas

At 2:00 pm, author John Maas will conduct a lecture and book signing at the Yorktown Victory Center (200 Water Street, Route 1020). John Maas has recently published an exciting new book: "The Road to Yorktown: Jefferson, Lafayette and the British Invasion of Virginia." Free to the public

**Sunday evening, October 18th:** Yorktown Day Association Dinner

At 6:30 pm at the Yorktown Victory Center, the Yorktown Day Association will be holding its annual dinner at the newly renovated Yorktown Victory Center. This is a "dressy" affair with coats and tie required for men. If you have yet to RSVP for this dinner, you are unfortunately out of luck as it's sold out.

**Monday Morning, October 19th:** Yorktown Day festivities

8:45 a.m. – Commemorative Ceremony at the French Cemetery, Yorktown Battlefield, sponsored by The American Friends of Lafayette and The Friends of Rochambeau. This will be the first year that the AFL co-sponsors this event and we are very excited to do so. This is truly an event that should not be missed.

9:15 a.m. – Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the French Memorial in memory of French war veterans.

10:30 a.m. – Yorktown Day Parade, Main Street.

11:15 a.m. – Patriotic Exercises and Memorial Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Monument to Alliance and Victory, Yorktown.

11:30 a.m. – Brunswick Stew Lunch at Grace Church

**Monday Afternoon, October 19th:** AFL cocktail reception

At 5:00 pm join us for the world famous AFL cocktail party at the Hornsby House (702 Main St, Yorktown, VA 23690). David Bowditch and family will host us again this year for the most famous culinary and social event of the year. \$10 at the door. To RSVP to this

cocktail reception at the Hornsby House Inn on Monday October 19th at 5pm, please send an email to [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com).

**Tuesday morning, October 20th:** Book donation ceremony

Our second annual book donation will take place at Lafayette High School (4460 Longhill Rd, Williamsburg, VA 23188). We are thrilled to continue our literary tribute to America's hero, Lafayette. Every year we will pick one school within the United States to receive donated books about Lafayette. Our committee has chosen Lafayette High School in

Williamsburg as our recipient of Lafayette-related books. We have contacted 15 authors who have written books about Lafayette (including several AFL members). Last year we donated 12 books to Alger B. Wilkins High School in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Please join us this year at Lafayette High School when we present principal Anita Swinton with our next collection of books. The donation ceremony will take place the morning of October 20th 2015...time to be determined.

Please feel free to call me with questions.  
Thank you and Vive Lafayette !!!  
Chuck Schwam Phone: 240-676-5010



AFL will be donating books to Lafayette High School

# SPECIAL SECTION: HERMIONE 2015 PORTS OF CALL



Photo courtesy of <http://hermione2015.com/voyage2015/>

## L'Hermione's Stay at Yorktown, Virginia

As observed by Sarah Gillens

On June 5, 2015 as *L'Hermione* was navigating the York River, members of The American Friends of Lafayette were gathering their gear for a warm and exciting day. They convened at the entrance of the Fort McGruder Hotel waiting for buses to transport them into Yorktown. I was invited to ride in a van driven by Hank Parfitt. After parking at a private residence in Yorktown, we walked down to the York River in a hushed anticipation of seeing a great event.

As we followed Hank down Comte de Grasse St, we could see *L'Hermione* quietly approaching Yorktown in the rising river mist. Crossing onto a fishing pier, we watched the tall ship pass, accompanied by a fire boat, and two sailing ships, the Alliance and the Serenity.

People were starting to congregate and move along the sandy beach. Some folks wore clothes from the late 1700s. *L'Hermione* saluted Yorktown and the gathering spectators by firing twenty-one cannons. Someone on shore lit fireworks to answer the cannons. At this point the crowd reacted by clapping and cheering. *L'Hermione* advanced to the Coleman Bridge and her jibboom almost touched the span. Then she neatly turned to the left and came up to the town pier with hardly a ripple in the calm water.

"Viva Lafayette" cheers could be heard from Chuck Schwam as well as whistles from Bonnie Fritz. The sailors were waving to the crowd and seemed to be enjoying their first formal welcome to a US port. The ship had been in Norfolk to regroup after its passage across the Atlantic. Folks hustled forward to the rock wall protecting the beach for a front row opportunity to see the mooring of the ship and the lowering of the gang planks. Dignitaries were gathered under the shelter of the Riverwalk Landing platform.

A smaller number of people were on the left side of the platform. I joined them and found a large rock to accommodate my camera bag. My zoom lens worked like a telescope so that I could

watch the sailors and proceedings. As I sat there I realized the group of young men and a woman were speaking French. I recognized the woman from the blogs of the sailors learning to sail *L'Hermione* in the North Atlantic in the fall of 2014. Her name was Gwendolyn and I asked why she was here and not on board. She explained that her group was replacing the sailors who had just sailed across the Atlantic. Her friends would board at 2:00 PM and after leaving Yorktown in three days, would sail the ship on the East coast tour until they reached Nova Scotia.

My neighbor, on the next rock, asked me if the crew knew that the ship's white and red flag was upside down at the top of the mainmast. I relayed the question and the French response, along with big shrugs, was, "Mon Dieu, Mon Dieu, trop émotion cet matin!" These young folks had been waving to a number of sailors who were still on the ship. I asked if they could call over to their friends on *L'Hermione* to fix the flag but "...mais non. C'est impossible". They would correct the problem when they took over their duties later in the day.

The ship's crew was dressed in 1700s clothes. There was a marked difference between the sailors in loose, bloused shirts, kerchief neck ties and striped pants and their captain who was festooned in a fitted blue and rosy red coat edged with gold braid, with rosy red fitted pants and a cocked hat.

The sun had broken through and the mood was festive. Two of the young men started to sing while another rolled himself a cigarette. Gwendolyn kindly signed my *L'Hermione* flag. I noticed the crew was traveling with only one backpack per sailor. The AFL members learned later that night that each sailor had only one cubby in his/her quarters in which to store his or her belongings.

The morning festivities continued with a greeting from the Governor of Virginia, Terry McAuliffe, some remarks from the French

Minister of Ecology, Ségolène Royal and the presentations of gifts and citations for *L'Hermione's* Captain, Yann Cariou. Boisterous singing could be heard from the sailors on the ship as well as marching music from the Fifes and Drums of Yorktown. The AFL left the busy seaside and climbed the hill to lay a wreath at the base of Yorktown's Victory Monument.

June 6<sup>th</sup> proved to be another exciting day because after touring and dining; one hundred and sixty of The American Friends of Lafayette were scheduled to board *L'Hermione* from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Chuck Schwam and Bonnie Fritz handed out yellow stickers to identify our group as well as wrist bands which would be collected by the ship's crew after the tour. As our tour time approached we were allowed to line up on the pier between *L'Hermione* and two other ships. This moment enabled me to take close up shots of the ship and crew; however when I aimed my camera at the stern I saw an enormous, black cloud headed for *L'Hermione's* tall masts. We heard several claps of thunder and saw a few flashes of lightning inside the cloud. The ship's crew quickly evacuated all the people on board, helping them step down the gangplank.

As we kept our fingers crossed, the cloud moved on and we were allowed to climb up the

gangway and explore the deck of the ship. The scent of tar was noticeable and it came from the tar filling the spaces between the floor boards and from the tar coating some of the heavier ropes. The new crew was welcoming us and answering questions. That day they wore their red tee shirts with the ship's emblem on the back. We poked around, being interested in the equipment, quarters, miles of rope rigging, and the sizes of the three masts. It made me dizzy to look up at the crow's nest and to think of the sailors nimbly climbing up the ropes, perching on thick ropes to furl and unfurl the sails. The craftsmanship of the sail and rope making had to be appreciated as well as the carpentry in building such a beautiful and sturdy frigate. I knew we had to move toward the exit gangplank because so many people were lined up to have a chance to visit the ship. It was a pleasure to donate to a treasure chest which was near the ladder. The tips were for the volunteer sailors who would go home with many yarns to tell.

*L'Hermione* sailed away on Monday, probably glad to be away from the crowd of spectators. She was headed for Mount Vernon and a delivery of Hennessey Cognac for George Washington.



## L'Hermione in Maryland

The *Hermione* made two stops in Maryland, first in Annapolis and then in Baltimore. The ship was celebrated significantly in two Maryland cities that Lafayette spent considerable time in both during the Revolution and on his post-Revolutionary visits to America.

Robert Reyes of W3R-MD and Superintendent of the National Park Service W3R Trail, Joe DiBello dedicated two wayside markers upon the arrival of the *Hermione* in both Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland. These markers celebrate Lafayette and other French contributors to the American Revolution and the W3R Trail. Donations from the AFL treasury and AFL member Allen Cleghorn helped pay for these markers. They are permanently and proudly displayed at the ports of Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland.

On Friday June 19th in Baltimore, AFL Treasurer, Chuck Schwam hand-delivered two copies of Yasmin Sabina Khan's book, *Enlightening the World: The Creation of the Statue of Liberty* to the *Hermione's* Captain, Yann Cariou. He received the books with the greatest enthusiasm. He read Yasmin's letter aloud and seemed genuinely touched by her gesture.

Here is the letter from AFL member and author Yasmin Khan:

*As a member of the American Friends of Lafayette, I had the privilege of visiting the Hermione the day following her arrival in Yorktown. Having first admired the ship from a distance, I was already enchanted by the beauty and intricate construction of the Hermione. But it was when I toured her and later talked with a member of the crew that I came to appreciate the passion and personal commitment of the many individuals who made the ship's journey possible.*

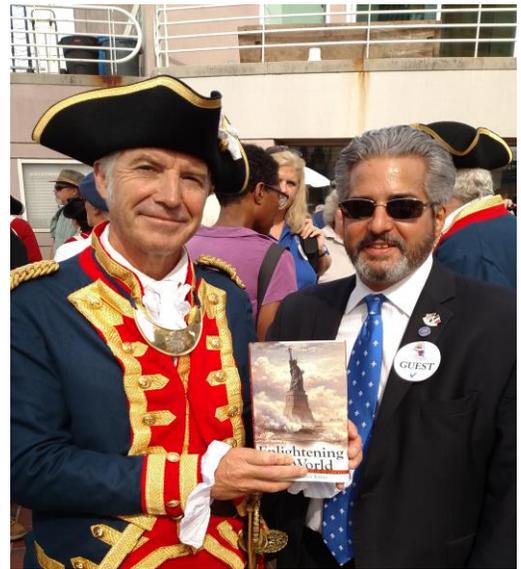
*Please accept this book as a token of my appreciation for the dedication of the crew - to the ship and her voyage, to the spirit of "Cur Non," and to the sense of kinship between the people of France and America. The statue of Liberty Enlightening the World, as she was initially named, was conceived in France as a monument to American liberty and a symbol of the friendship between the two peoples. The statue's supporters in France were proud of the French people's involvement in the American War for Independence and proud of the country that had been established.*

*The statue's supporters also knew that Americans had shown great affection for the young French nobleman and American Major General, Lafayette. Before even hearing the good news that Lafayette brought aboard the Hermione in 1780, Americans celebrated his return from France. Lafayette was loved and respected as a leader and as a friend of America. Through his efforts on both sides of the Atlantic he helped create a lasting attachment between the people of France and the United States.*

*Of course, the Hermione brought good news. With the considerable assistance pledged by the French people, and extraordinary cooperation between the French and American forces, a victory at Yorktown and the substantive end of the war ensued.*

*The Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor was born of the spirit of liberty and the tradition of friendship established during the American War for Independence. In a similar vein as the statue, the Hermione offers us a tangible connection to the remarkable, shared history of the French and American people.*

*- With heartfelt thanks, Yasmin Sabina Khan*

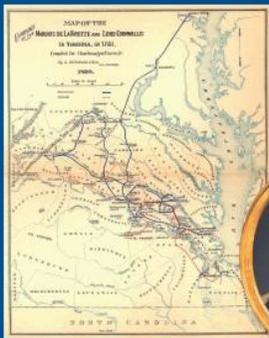


Above left: Robert Reyes and Joe DiBello stand in front of two wayside which celebrate Lafayette and other French contributors to the American Revolution

Above right: Chuck Schwam and Captain Yann Cariou holding Yasmin Sabina Khan's book *Enlightening the World The Creation of the Statue of Liberty*

Below: W3R marker in Baltimore

## On to Yorktown *Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail*



Lafayette by Jean-Antoine Houdon

Marquis de Lafayette by George Stuart

On February 29, 1781 George Washington ordered the Marquis de Lafayette with 1,200 men from newly-established Light Infantry Corps to Virginia to counter Benedict Arnold's raids around Richmond. Lafayette arrived at the Head of Elk on March 3, and embarked his Force at Plum Point on March 8 for Annapolis. Sailing ahead with a small party on March 10, Lafayette reached Yorktown four days later. Here he was to cooperate with American forces under Baron von Steuben and a French Naval Force under the Chevalier des Touches sent from Rhode Island and some 1,100 French soldiers with the express purpose of capturing Arnold. Following an indecisive naval engagement with British Admiral Marriot Arbuthnot on March 16, the "First Battle of the Capes" the French squadron returned to Newport.

Just as Lafayette was returning north and stopping at Mount Vernon along the way, a British fleet sailed into Chesapeake Bay on March 20. It carried Major-General William Phillips and more than 3,000 regular British troops. Upon arrival at Head of Elk on April 8, Lafayette received Washington's dispatch of April 6 instructing him to reverse course and to join his forces with those of Major-General Nathanael Greene in North Carolina. By the time Lafayette reached John Rodgers Tavern on the Susquehanna on April 12, however, he received new orders from Washington to remain in Virginia to fight Phillips' forces. Having crossed the Susquehanna on April 15 where he defused a mutiny of his fatigued force, Lafayette reached Baltimore on April 16, ahead of his troops which were encamped about 6 miles north of town near Rosedale.

Entering the town alone he was warmly greeted with a grand banquet and ball in his Honor at the Assembly Room on Gay and Market (Baltimore) Streets. During the Ball one of the ladies inquired why Lafayette appeared sad? He replied "I cannot enjoy the gayety of the scene, while so many of the poor soldiers are in want of clothes." Continental Quartermaster David Poe Sr. & Elizabeth Cairnes Poe (grandparents of Edgar Allan Poe) spearheaded the effort to turn the Assembly Room into a seamstress factory. Lafayette secured a line of credit from the merchants of Baltimore for 10,000 Dollars to re-equip his detachment. After leaving Baltimore on April 19, tragedy struck at Elkridge Landing when one of the barges overturned in the Patapsco River drowning some men. After camping in Elkridge, Bladensburg, and Georgetown, Lafayette finally arrived with his force in Richmond on April 29, 1781.

Lafayette never forgot the effort from Baltimore. During his Grand Tour of America 1824-25 he met with Elizabeth Poe and visited the grave of her husband. He remembered: "Mr. David Poe who resided here in Baltimore when I was here, and of his own very limited means supplied me with 500 dollars to aid in clothing my troops, and whose wife with her own hands, cut out 500 pairs of pantaloons, and superintended the making of them for the use of my men." He said, pressing his hands on his breast "Your husband, was my friend, and the aid I received from you both was greatly beneficial to me and my troops."



Credits:  
 (W3R) US: Washington-Rochambeau  
 National Historical Trail Association  
 The Friends of the Marquis de Lafayette  
 American Friends of Lafayette  
 and the National Historical Trails  
 National Park Service  
 City of Baltimore  
 Lafayette: Steps to a Memory  
 Historical Signage Foundation/Ventura, CA  
 Friends of President David Poe Sr.  
 Road Regiment of Spanish Louisiana

## French Frigate *Hermione* Comes to Philadelphia, June 25-28, 2015

by Lanny Patten

The *Hermione* came up the Delaware River at about 4pm on June 25, leading a flotilla of 12 Tall Ships, to dock at Penn's Landing. The ship was the feature in a weekend of Tall Ship Festival events. A large crowd awaited the arrival, milling through exhibits set up ashore that enhanced the story of the *Hermione*. Three organizations promoted the Philadelphia visit; Friends of *Hermione*-Lafayette in America, Independence Seaport Museum and Tall Ships America.

Prior to *Hermione*'s arrival, a public lecture at the Seaport Museum by historian Dr. Robert Selig titled "En Avant on Water and on Land" described the events of the American/French march and sail to Yorktown in 1781. That evening the Museum hosted a "La

Grande Fete" for about 500- an elegant reception and dinner. The following day, *Hermione* hosted public visits and then a reception aboard for 200 guests who registered to attend the Gala at City Tavern which was meant to replicate a banquet held in 1781 for the Continental Congress.

There were two more days of public events although one day was dampened by rain. The French crew of 18 Naval personnel and 54 volunteers were entertained and saluted throughout the visit. After 4 days, the ship and its flotilla sailed back around Cape May, NJ and on to New York City for July 4 events. Of note, a 60-foot inflated yellow duck was to be colorfully prominent on the Delaware River, but winds caused problems and it was "beached" after a brief appearance on the first day.



## Sharing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with *L'Hermione*

By Gina Ravosa

Independence Day is arguably one of the most American of holidays, and few Independence Day revelers pause to consider or give thanks to any beyond our shores for their contributions to our independence. But thanks to my father Carmino Ravosa who instilled a deep respect and profound admiration for Lafayette, it was a French-American celebration for our family this year!

Over the holiday weekend, my mother Claire Ravosa, nephew Nathan Feist, and I had the good fortune to visit the *Hermione* while she was moored in New York City and to pay tribute to General Lafayette. Not only did we enjoy our time on the majestic *Hermione*, but we also observed the inaugural French/American parade of flags and subsequent flag raising at Bowling Green. And no patriotic trip to the city would be complete without a stop-in at Federal Hall and lunch at Fraunces Tavern. (The Tavern Museum offers a special exhibition dedicated to Lafayette through December 2016.)

Back to the *Hermione*! Anticipating crowds, we arrived early. Very early. In one of

the first groups of 50 or so visitors waiting on line to view this majestic ship, we watched the line grow behind us and eventually extend for blocks. The *Hermione* did not take much time to tour, but we were hesitant to disembark as it felt like we were experiencing something significant, and we were a part of history. We only wished that Carmino could have been with us, he would have so enjoyed the *Hermione* – and serenading the visitors and crew! (♪*He's Marie Joseph-Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Montier, the Marquis de Lafayette.*♪)

While we did not have an official tour guide telling us what each part of the rigging was for, or what life on board was like while crossing the Atlantic, all it took was a glimpse of the crew's bare feet and well-worn "uniforms"—along with a flashback to my own mariner's training living on board the *Joseph Conrad* at Mystic Seaport as a teen—to get a glimpse of the reality of life on board the *Hermione*!

So it is with profound gratitude to Lafayette and to the builders of the *Hermione*, that we gladly share our 4<sup>th</sup> of July. See photos.

## NYC: *L'Hermione*, a First-time Visitor

By Nathan Feist

We were so impressed by the feat of not only constructing the ship in the traditional manner of the original but also by the challenge of sailing her across the Atlantic as the original crew did in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Having seen the ship while she was docked in New York's South Street Seaport, we were curious whether the helmsman could have retraced the course of the original journey. As far as we can tell from some online research (though it is hard to search for it now that the replica receives the top hits), the original ship did not dock in New York but in Boston and

Providence. However, the *Hermione* did allegedly come close to Long Island Sound in a minor engagement known as the Action of 7 June 1780, where she was confronted by a British frigate after apprehending two trading vessels that were bound for New York harbor. The experience of seeing her reincarnation finally reach the port of New York was the most rewarding and meaningful way we could have imagined for spending the Independence Day weekend, recalling the service that the Kingdom of France provided to our young country when we needed it most.



Claire Ravosa with daughter Gina in front of the Hermione in NY

## *Hermione*, Boston MA, July 11, 2015

By Jerry Meekins

I drove from Long Island, NY to Boston to meet with Alan Hoffman and Chuck Schwam. It would be my second and last opportunity to see and board the *Hermione*. My first visit was in Yorktown, Va.

The day's activities started at Faneuil Hall. I took part in a parade to Rowes Wharf, where the *Hermione* had earlier berthed. The parade was lead by the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts. Other reenactment groups participated.

Although I did not hear the pealing (sound) of bells, I do believe this took place. This was a symbolic recreation of the greeting Lafayette received in 1780.

The official welcome ceremony took place beneath the Boston Harbor Hotel's multistory arch, near Rowes Wharf. The event was hosted by Miles Young, President of Friends of Hermione-Lafayette in America. The list of American and French dignitaries included, Marty Walsh, Mayor of Boston; Fabien Fieschi, General Consul of France to Boston; the current and past Mayors of Rochefort, France; a US Navy Admiral and the current Captain of the *Hermione*, Yann Cariou.

Prior to the public tours of the *Hermione*, but succeeding the dignitaries' tour, Alan Hoffman's Massachusetts Lafayette Society was permitted to tour the ship. AFL members were included in the group. The following AFL members were present:

Alan and Marilyn Hoffman  
Bill and Maureen Poole  
Dr. Robert Selig  
Michelle Rzewnicki  
Chuck Schwam  
Jerry Meekins

If I unintentionally didn't mention someone, my apologies.



Left: Alan Hoffman and Captain Yann Cariou in Boston

Interesting and noteworthy highlights of my walk through the *Hermione* were:

- a golden opportunity to meet Captain Cariou on the deck of the *Hermione*. Chuck and I were able to shake his hand and thank him and his crew for bringing the *Hermione* to America.

- the ship's bell  
- the *L'Hermione* fact banner  
- one of the onboard cannons is from the original 1780 *Hermione*

- the Canot Lafayette, lifeboat

Alan and Chuck presented Captain Cariou and several crew members with first day covers involving Lafayette and the *Hermione*. They were provided to Alan by Robert Reyes, W3R - Maryland.

As in many other ports of call, there were travelling exhibitions and events on the Boston Conservancy Greenway across from Rowes Wharf.

Following our personal tour, several of us went to a reception honoring Lafayette and *Hermione* at the Shirley-Eustis House.

Highlights for Friends of Lafayette were:

- the Lafayette Chamber, with bed, dressing mirror and portraits

- the Lafayette carriage

Both were used by Lafayette during his 1824 visit to Boston.

Dr. Robert Selig, AFL member and project historian to the National Park Service for the W3R National Historic Trail, gave a presentation titled: "Lafayette, *L'Hermione* and W3R"

Before I travelled back to Long Island, Chuck and I went to the Boston Athenaeum. There was a special exhibition entitled: "Lafayette: An American Icon." More than a dozen lenders provided portraits, busts, statues, coins, etc. Our favorite was Houdon's Life Mask of Lafayette.

All in all, it was an outstanding Lafayette and *Hermione* day.

## *L'Hermione Visits Castine, Maine*

July 14-15, 2015 by Phil Schroeder

*L'Hermione's* triumphal voyage to the United States concluded at the public dock in Castine, Maine. On arrival she was escorted by a Castine boat parade and introduced herself by firing her canons as a salute on this most fitting date and occasion: **July 14, 2015 – Bastille Day!**

The *Hermione's* captain and crew were exultant, despite having every right to be tired after a three month's journey and with weeks to go before returning home to France. They had departed *Hermione's* birthplace, Rochfort, on April 18, arriving in Yorktown Virginia on June 5. She then sailed up the Atlantic coast to enthusiastic welcomes at Mt. Vernon/Alexandria, Annapolis, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Greenport NY, Newport, Boston, and now her final U.S. port, Castine, Maine. After Castine, she was to sail on to Lunenburg/Halifax NS and return to Rochefort, France, where she was built in 1997-2014 and where the original *Hermione* was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Her penultimate stop in France before returning home would be Brest, where the original *Hermione* ran aground and sank in 1793. *L'Hermione* now carries – but does not fire – one of the canons salvaged from its namesake (see photo).

Castine was a most fitting port for *L'Hermione's* final visit in the U.S., especially occurring as it did on Bastille Day. The town served from 1670 to 1674 as the capital of Acadia and is named after Baron Jean-Vincent d'Abbadie de Saint-Castin. It would be hard to find a location in the United States more reflective of French history.

In 1780 the original *Hermione* brought General Lafayette back to America to deliver the wonderful news to General Washington that the French would assist the young nation. The frigate then sailed north as part of an intelligence-gathering mission to capture enemy ships

protecting the strategic peninsula of Majabigwaduce at the mouth of the Penobscot River, where the British had occupied the isolated settlement which later became Castine. The mission resulted in important reconnaissance about the strength of the British forces. Thereafter, *L'Hermione* engaged the British navy until the end of the war, including participation in the French blockade in the Chesapeake that made possible America's critical Yorktown Victory.

Celebrations in Castine surrounding the reconstructed *Hermione's* visit occurred over five days, July 11 through July 15 and included Revolutionary War encampments and reenactments; an exhibition *The French Frigate and the British Fort—L'Hermione and Magabagaduce in 1780*; traditional Acadian, Cape Breton, and French music and dance; art exhibits; tours of historic sites; lectures; activities for children; a talk and booksigning by Laura Auricchio, author of *The Marquis: Lafayette Revisited*; a parade of boats and ships to welcome *L'Hermione*; a street parade; a talk about Lafayette and George Washington by Curt Viebranz, President of Mount Vernon; presentation of a replica George Washington portrait to Castine school students and the Castine Historical Society by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association; and much, much more.

American Friends of Lafayette members Barbara and Phil Schroeder, who had been present for *L'Hermione's* first arrival in Yorktown on June 5, were proud also to attend festivities in Castine, her last U.S. stop before heading on to Halifax and then home to France. They toured *L'Hermione* with their friends Captain and Mrs. Charles Weeks. Charlie is a graduate of the Maine Maritime Academy, a retired merchant marine captain, and an honored Maine Maritime Academy emeritus professor.

Castine today is the proud home of the Maine Maritime Academy and is a picturesque Maine seaport village with much to see, learn, and do. Don't miss it on your future travels in Maine! And in doing so, imagine the beautiful frigate

*Hermione* resting at the dock, flying both French and United States flags, on her last day in the United States on her 2015 voyage.

Below: Barb & Phil Schroeder in front of of the *Hermione* in Castine



## A Chance Meeting With A Volunteer Crew Member

by Yasmin Byron



This year's AFL meeting was another special one for me. The group has begun to feel like family, and I cannot thank everyone enough for their kindness. I was also delighted by this year's meeting location and program. I have wanted to visit Yorktown for a while, of course because this is where a pivotal battle of the American Revolution took place and Lafayette's role in setting the stage for the victory was central. But I have also wanted to see the Victory Monument at Yorktown. I described the monument in my book about the Statue of Liberty without seeing it myself, something I don't like to do. Richard Morris Hunt, the architect responsible for the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty, also designed the Victory Monument, together with Henry Van Brunt and the sculptor John Quincy Adams Ward. Hunt and Ward designed a statue of Lafayette, as well. This statue was a gift to the University of Vermont in memory of Lafayette's visit during his 1824–1825 Farewell Tour.

Rather than fly home to Boston, I planned to take the train to Alexandria after touring the *Hermione* on Saturday - a highlight of our meeting! - to visit my brother and his family. Thanks to Alain and Merry Outlaw who drove me from Yorktown, I arrived at the Amtrak station in Williamsburg in time for the one northbound train that afternoon. As passengers walked out to the platform, a young woman held the door for me. We talked briefly and I thought I heard a French accent. So I asked if she had come to see the ship. She replied that, actually, she had come *on* the ship. She had been part of the crew crossing the Atlantic (somehow I failed to notice the enormous sea bag she was carrying). Her tour was over but she needed a little time to adjust before flying back to Europe. She had a friend in Delaware, so she was going there for a few days' stay.

There was space on the train for her to stretch out and rest. However she first sat and talked a little about her experience. She told me that tales of pirates and ships had enchanted her since she was eight years

old. For years she had longed to sail on a ship like the *Hermione*. Naturally it seemed unlikely that this would ever happen - until she heard about the *Hermione*. Although she lives in Belgium, she applied for the crew and was accepted. She had experience sailing; her background in physical therapy may have helped qualify her, in addition. I wish I had asked her more about the training. I believe she said she went for a week at a time (traveling from Belgium) and that the training lasted many months. I do remember the strength of feeling in her telling of her story. Her time with the *Hermione* had been a dream come true. And she felt certain that the entire experience, from training through voyage, was memorable not only for her but for the many family members and friends who had followed the voyage of the ship. This was true for each member of the crew; through them the *Hermione* had touched many others.

It was dinnertime and I started to eat an apple. She immediately offered me chocolate. This was the last remaining bar of the chocolates she had brought with her from Belgium, and she insisted that it paired perfectly with an apple. It was such a friendly, generous offer. I finally accepted a piece of this last bar of chocolate. She also offered a piece to another passenger across the aisle.

I couldn't have hoped for a better conclusion to my visit to Yorktown. I felt very grateful for this chance encounter. I had heard about the voyage - no less, from another volunteer crewmember, the Director of Maritime Operations of the Friends of *Hermione-Lafayette* in America, in a fascinating presentation at Friday evening's annual banquet - and I had admired and boarded the ship. Yet it wasn't until I talked with this young woman at the end of my visit in Yorktown that I started to grasp the passion and the commitment of the individuals that made the *Hermione's* voyage possible. This glimpse of the effort and dedication of those involved inspired my letter of thanks to the captain and crew.

# AFL in France Inaugural Trip

By Chuck Schwam and Bonnie Fritz

On June 24, 2015, thirty-one AFL members gathered in Paris for a ten day tour of Lafayette related sights in France. After a year of planning, everyone was anxious to get started on what would prove to be a trip of a lifetime.

On day one, the group enjoyed a guided tour of Lafayette-related monuments and statues in Paris. The tour was conducted expertly by Benoit Guizard. Our day started at the Lafayette Children's Statue, then on to the statue of Washington and Lafayette at *Place des Etats-Unis*, the statue of George Washington at *Place d'Iena*, and finally the statue of Benjamin Franklin at **Square de Yorktown**. We finished the morning with a quick tour of the Arc de Triomphe.

The group then dined at Benoit's cousin's flat in Paris. Hosted by Rémy Boyer Chammard and his wife Françoise, the luncheon was a lovely catered affair that highlighted wines produced by the Guizard family. The Guizards have been producing wine in Montpellier for centuries. Their wines have attracted many admirers including Thomas Jefferson. The luncheon highlighted true Parisian living.

After lunch, we were afforded a private tour of the American Embassy's George Marshall Center. Formerly the Hôtel Talleyrand, home of the famous French diplomat, the building proved to be a spectacular example of a late eighteenth-century Parisian townhouse. Then off to the beautiful Hôtel St. James Albany, formerly the home of the Noailles family where Lafayette lived and where Adrienne, having arrived with Marie Antoinette, fainted upon seeing Lafayette return from America in early 1779.

On day two and three, the group split in half and visited La Grange. Each day we were hosted by Yasmine Houssenbay for over three hours. Words truly can't describe the feeling that comes over you when you walk down the lane and you see the iconic spires of La Grange. The sense

of Lafayette was overwhelming as we walked in his home among thousands of his belongings. This was truly the highlight of our trip for many.



Above: Charles Cleghorn with La Grange guide Yasmine Houssenbay in front of the iconic towers of La Grange

On day four the group boarded our bus and headed south to Auvergne. We arrived at our wonderful hilltop Hôtel Domaine St. Roch in the tiny village of Salzuit. Upon our arrival, we were fortunate enough to have a private concert by local vocalist Anda Martin. The concert took place in the intimate 16th century chapel connected to our hotel. Accompanied by a piano, Ms. Martin's voice magically filled the chapel while our group was mesmerized by the sights and sounds. Afterward we dined at our hotel overlooking the valley where our hero grew up.

The Château de *Chavaniac* was the highlight of day five. We were given a private tour of the home where Lafayette was born. The group was also given a fantastic tour of the town and its American significance by AFL member Myriam Waze (the "Queen of Auvergne"). We were feted by many dignitaries from Chavaniac and the Haute-Loire region. That evening, the American Friends of Lafayette were featured on a local French television station's newscast. Our dinner in the neighboring town of Brioude was one of the best we had.



Above: AFL in front of Chavaniac with dignitaries from the region

The group spent day six in the ancient town of Le Puy-en-Velay, again with our expert guide Myriam Waze. Le Puy-en-Velay is the capital of the Haute-Loire and famous for its Cathedral and hand-made lace. We enjoyed a trolley tour of the town and a scrumptious lunch of classic French cuisine at Tournayre. In the afternoon we gathered at the statue of Lafayette where we laid a wreath, heard remarks from the mayor and enjoyed a reception with the dignitaries of this important city.

Day seven was a busy day as we returned to Paris. Our bus drove along winding roads back to visit a picturesque town to see where Lafayette's ancestor (who fought with Joan of Arc) rests. The Abbaye de la Chaise-Dieu is a fine example of the Haute-Loire valley. We then headed for a private tour of the Chateau Valloire. This splendid 12<sup>th</sup> century castle is owned and occupied by a Lafayette descendent and houses a unique collection of objects related to Lafayette and Franco-American relations. Included among them is the Brandywine Cup, a gift of the midshipmen of the ship that returned Lafayette to France in 1825. The view of Auvergne from this castle was spectacular and the tour very informative.

As we headed to Picpus Cemetery on day eight, we knew that this was going to be another memorable day. We witnessed the changing of the flag over Lafayette's and

Adrienne's graves. Our own President Alan Hoffman laid the wreath at Lafayette's tomb on behalf of the AFL. American Ambassador Jane Hartley spoke along with other diplomats and generals from both countries. It was a beautiful morning capped by lunch at Le Procope (established 1686). At one of the oldest continuously run restaurants in the world, we enjoyed a wonderful meal where Voltaire, Franklin, Jefferson and Lafayette had dined. We were fortunate to meet several other AFL members that day, who joined us at Picpus and Le Procope, enlarging our group to over 50 persons.

The Palace of Versailles was our first destination on day nine. A popular attraction for tourists around the world, Versailles was mobbed, but we did our best to stay together and imagine the palace as it was 240 years ago. We were then off to the serene monument tucked away in the Paris suburbs known as Escadrille Lafayette. This important part of French history was highlighted with a fascinating talk by a representative of the foundation that maintains the monument. Afterward our bus driver took us to a significant pair of roadside monuments named Pershing-Lafayette.

On our last and tenth day, we started at the Musée de la France Maçonnerie. This is the French Freemason museum that houses an incredible number of aprons, portraits and specifically a sword held by Lafayette. We had an extraordinary tour guide at the museum who took us through Grand Orient de France including the Lafayette Room. We also saw a fascinating Masonic book that's being highlighted in a separate article in this Gazette.

Next, we celebrated July 4th and our independence from British tyranny by lunching at an American restaurant in Paris. Our travelers dined on hamburgers and ribs amongst a bevy of American flags. Then off to Musée Carnavalet where we saw an extra-large print of Lafayette's Rights of Man and many other Lafayette-related items. Our last stop was the Hôtel des Invalides, a museum located at the Military veteran hospital that Napoleon established. There was a bust and

sword of Lafayette here along with many other significant military artifacts. We also toured Napoleon's gaudy and grandiose tomb. We liked Lafayette's better. The day ended with a traditional French meal in Paris at restaurant Le Coupe Chou.

Our trip proved to be hugely enjoyable and informative. For "Lafayettists" it was a trip of a lifetime. We drank French wine and ate an incredible array of delicious cheeses. We ate together and napped together (on the bus). We

challenged each other's knowledge of history with trivia games. We represented our country in at least three ceremonies and sang our national anthem proudly.

We'd like to thank everyone who helped to make this trip possible. We acquired many new friends in France and deepened our own friendships. At this time, no return trip has been scheduled, but someday we may help organize "AFL in France Deuxième."



Left: Ceremony at Lafayette's statue in Le Puy, France



Above: AFL in France at the Lafayette Childrens Statue

# An Important Find at the French Museum of Freemasonry

by Alan R. Hoffman

In what turned out to be one of the many highlights of the first American Friends of Lafayette trip to France, our group visited the Musée de la Franc-Maçonnerie, the French Museum of Freemasonry, on July 4, 2015. Our guide, Frederick Vauth, identified General Lafayette as a major figure in the Masonic movement in France and showed us a number of objects related to Lafayette. One item of special interest was Lafayette's Masonic sword.

Moreover, one of the two Masonic Halls in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century museum building was named for Lafayette. But the pièce de résistance was a Masonic journal which documented Lafayette's acceptance as a Freemason while he was a teenager in France prior to his first voyage to America.

Scholars have debated the question of when Lafayette was first "accepted" as a



Freemason. Apparently, the earliest documentation of his having attended a Masonic meeting was in Paris in 1782, after his return to France following the victory at Yorktown. In an Appendix to Louis Gottschalk's *Lafayette and the Close of the American Revolution* (University of Chicago, 1942), pp. 337-338, the author discusses the question of the timing of Lafayette's initiation into Freemasonry. He writes: "The first undeniable evidence that exists to show that Lafayette was a Mason belongs to the year 1782, when he was 'affiliated' with the Masonic Lodge

of Saint-Jean d'Ecosse du Contrat Social. The word 'affiliated' in the principal record of this occasion indicates, however, that he had previously been a member of some lodge or lodges. But there are only vague surmises regarding his earlier associations."

Gottschalk continues: "Most historians of Lafayette's Masonic connections are inclined to place his initiation somewhere in America in 1777-1779." He then proceeds to debunk each lodge proffered – which includes lodges at Valley Forge and Morristown – as improbable, or supported by multiple hearsay or other unreliable testimonies. He concludes: "In short, if Lafayette was initiated into Freemasonry before 1782, it still remains unknown where and when it happened."

Since the publication of Gottschalk's work, perhaps in response to Gottschalk's persuasive critique, a new but undocumented "conventional wisdom" seems to have taken hold: that Lafayette was initiated as a Mason when he was garrisoned at Metz in 1774 or 1775. For example, Laura Auricchio in *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered* (Knopf, 2014), pp. 24-25, writes: "Broglie [Lafayette's commanding officer at Metz] might well have sparked Lafayette's interest in that fraternal organization, launching an affiliation that Lafayette retained throughout his life." However, she acknowledges that "Broglie's role in facilitating Lafayette's initiation into the order remains undocumented."

This debate is of more than academic importance. If Lafayette was an accepted Freemason before he left for America in April of 1777, his Masonic involvement provides another piece of evidence that Lafayette's political views were substantially in place before he sailed to America, joined the Continental Army and came under the influence of General Washington. In France in the 1770s, the most liberal of aristocrats joined Masonic Lodges where they frequently discussed the ideas of the Enlightenment. If Lafayette consorted with them at Masonic

meetings from 1775 to 1777, this fact in conjunction with other historical evidence would tend to support the proposition that his republican ideals were formed before his first voyage to America.

Other evidence supporting this interpretation of Lafayette's state of mind as of his first voyage to America are (1) the knowledge of the Roman republic and its literature which he acquired as part of his classical education at the Collège du Plessis and (2) the letter he wrote to Adrienne while aboard *La Victoire* in 1777. As to the former, see Stanley J. Idzerda's essay "Lafayette: Apostle of Liberty" in *Lafayette Hero of Two Worlds, the Art and Pageantry of His Farewell Tour of America*, (Queens Museum, 1989), pp. 5-6.

As to the latter, here is the most telling passage from Lafayette's June 7, 1777 letter to Adrienne:

As the defender of that liberty which I idolize, freer than anyone else, coming as a friend to offer my services to this most interesting republic, I bring there only my sincerity and my goodwill, and no personal ambition or selfish interest. . . . I trust that, for my sake, you will become a good American. Besides, it is a sentiment made for virtuous hearts. The welfare of America is intimately connected with the happiness of all mankind; she will become the respectable and safe asylum of virtue, integrity, tolerance, equality, and peaceful liberty.

S.J. Idzerda et al., eds., *Lafayette in the Age of the American Revolution: Selected*

*Letters and Papers, 1776-1790* (Ithaca, NY, 1977), I, pp. 58-59.

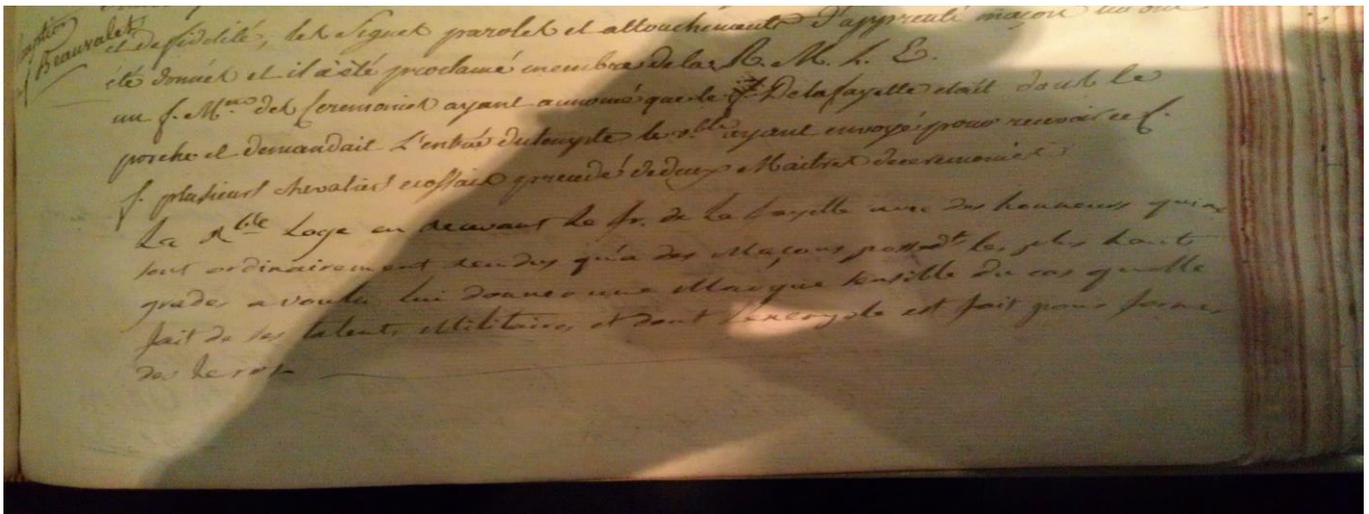
At the French Museum of Freemasonry, Mr. Vauth showed us a Masonic book that belonged to the Lodge of St. Jean d'Ecosse (St. John of Scotland) which established that Lafayette was an accepted Freemason as of June 24, 1775. An entry in the book on that date reflects that, near the end of the meeting, the Master of Ceremonies announced that Lafayette was asking for entrance [at the door]. It continues: "the Worshipful Master [President of the Lodge] sent him an escort of 'Chevaliers – écossais' [high-ranking Masons] to honor him." Since only accepted or admitted Masons were allowed to attend a Masonic meeting, Lafayette's admission to the meeting proves that he was already an accepted Freemason in June of 1775. As Mr. Vauth has written: "As in this document he is noted as a visitor, and only an accepted member may visit, so he was made a member in 1775 or before [and] his first lodge is somewhere else." He continues: "It was a period when many regiments had a lodge. As Lafayette was garrisoned in the City of Metz before arriving in Paris, the military lodge of Metz, 'Saint Jean de Saint Louis de la Vraie Vertu' is a good candidate. Unfortunately, there is no proof of that."

Maybe not; but the book that we saw in the French Museum of Freemasonry clearly disproves that Lafayette first became an accepted Freemason in America and bolsters the evidence for Lafayette's early commitment to Enlightenment ideals as a primary motivation for his first voyage to America. Thus, the historical libel of Lafayette as bored, teenaged adventurer, having no principled core until his American experience – see, e.g., *David Clary's Adopted Son: Washington, Lafayette, the Friendship that Saved the Revolution* (Bantam, 2007) – is becoming increasingly untenable and should be retired to the dust bin of history.



Top: The Masonic Journal

Bottom: The page referencing Lafayette's entry



# THE STATUE OF LAFAYETTE IN LE PUY

by Myriam Waze

In 1880 the decision was made to erect a statue to Lafayette. The official inauguration of the statue took place in 1883.

A referendum was held in the department to pay for the statue. The City Council agreed on a sum of 9.000 francs and asked each village and town in Haute-Loire as well as individuals to finance the project. The government had to supplement the cost and therefore imposed the choice of the sculptor, a former Prix de Rome scholarship recipient.

Edmond de Lafayette, Senator at the time, and Lafayette's grandson, was a member of the Commission in charge of the project. Ultimately they decided to locate the statue at the crossroads of three boulevards. The inauguration was fixed on September the 6th, which is as everyone knows the date of Lafayette's birth. The guests were to be: the President of the French Republic, some ministers, the American minister Mr. Morton, and the consuls of Paris and Lyon. Several committees were formed to plan the ceremony which would include lights and music (local bands of Yssingaux and Brioude). The pedestal of the statue was made out of stone from Ruoms (Ardèche). A triumphal arch was erected on the Place du Breuil in August.

The garrisons of Clermont and St Etienne were to provide military troops to honor the solemnities. The triumphal arches were built in the same way as those of the Lafayette Tour in the United States with gabions and barrels at the base, beams and carved suns radiating armaments. The forest administration had put plants all along the route. The whole town had been decorated. The minister of the United States in Germany, Mr. Morton, the United States consul in Paris and Lyon and a Senator of Louisiana arrived.

There was also many journalists from the American press: the New York Tribune, the correspondents of the Morning News, the New

York Herald. Of course the regional and national French press (French Illustration) were there also. A call was made to the American colony to participate in the festivities.

The members of the Lafayette family that attended the ceremony were: Edmond Lafayette, one of the grandsons of the General. He was at that time Senator and president of the General Council of Haute-Loire. Lafayette's grand-grandsons also attended. A special edition was issued (see photo). In it you could find Lafayette's genealogy and a description of the Chavaniac castle by Mosnier (a local scholar), as well as different texts by different writers. This issue is a bibliographic rarity. The lace makers' guild made a special badge for this circumstance: a shield.

50,000 visitors flocked from Clermont, St Etienne and Lyon, even though it was a rainy day. The public monuments were decked with the French and American flags. Officials were greeted with full honors at the train station and they gave many speeches including the one by the Minister of Interior, Mr. Waldeck-Rousseau. There was a grand procession of officials as well as local mayors and professional corporations with their different banners.

Finally at 3 pm the statue was unveiled with the cheers from the crowd. The statue represents Lafayette when he had taken the tricolor cockade from his hat, saying: "I bring you a cockade which will tour the world," thereby merging the three national colors: blue and red colors of Paris and white for royalty. Then there were more speeches:

The mayor stated that this inauguration was mostly a patriotic festivity celebrating freedom and the sacred union of great nations ... two great peoples who have the same aspirations, always at the head of modern civilization, in the way of progress, towards the future.

Edmond de Lafayette evoked Lafayette's visit to Le Puy in 1829, on the eve of the July Revolution, recalling the role that Lafayette held in Auvergne for the creation of the department, of which he signed the first map registered in the Departmental Archives.



Le Puy lace coat of arms

He traced the exploits of Lafayette, his love of freedom, his essential role in the drafting of the Declaration of Human Rights of Man and the Citizen, his fight for the civil emancipation of the Protestants, his fight for the abolition of slavery, his defense of the oppressed nations and also his affection for Washington. For Lafayette, the Republican type of government was the best foundation of democracy. The speech concluded with a quote from Lafayette to the Council of Haute-Loire, "If, to restore its rights, a nation needs just to want it, it preserves them only by an austere fidelity to their civic and moral obligations."

Then another speech of Mr. Morton, Minister of the United States followed, in which he referred to the place of Lafayette in the history of the United States, the affection that his

countrymen had for him, and his devotion to liberty protected by the Constitution, and the supremacy he accorded to the Law.

"Can this immense example of freedom remain standing as a lesson for the oppressors, as an example for the oppressed, as a sanctuary of the rights of humanity! Can this happy country of the United States reach this complete magnificence and this prosperity which will demonstrate the benefits of government and which will delight in future ages the souls of those of its founders who are not anymore"

Waldeck-Rousseau's speech emphasized the paradox of Lafayette's nobility. He belonged to the privileged society of the old regime, and he did not hesitate to engage in a fight for equal rights, justice and freedom. The Minister of War declared "what we mustn't forget in the life of this great citizen, what is to be given as an example to the younger Republican generation, are the main qualities of Lafayette's character: his fortitude, his selfless dedication to the ideas which are the honor of our Revolution, and especially his absolute fidelity to principles. "

Edmond de Lafayette summarized the career of his grandfather: his unwavering consistency in his beliefs and his faith in political conduct. Then some girls brought bouquets and they asked for the creation of a College for girls. Three Polish immigrants gave Edmond a tribute in memory of Lafayette, recalling his friendship with Kosciusko, a Polish citizen who fought at his side during the War of Independence and the ancient brotherhood of France and Poland, but also Lafayette's role in 1830 with the defeat of the Polish uprising. He had been the President of a Franco-Polish Committee as well as the support and protector of Polish emigrants.

The menu of the banquet follows :

Hors d'oeuvre  
Capon of Bresse in the Périgieux way  
Roast beef with peas  
Ham in Madeira  
Mushrooms with cream

Pheasants and roasted young partridges  
Truffled galantine of turkey  
Salmons of Allier  
Allegorical set pieces  
Mixed Venetian ice creams  
Wines : Beaujolais, Graves, Bordeaux St Julien,  
Bourgogne Pomard, Champagne

Military music was played during the banquet. Toasts were made to the President of the Republic in a relaxed atmosphere of mutual congratulation celebrating the Republic, the army, Lafayette and Washington and, of course, the Haute-Loire as not far from "one of the States of the American Union." (Morton) Mr. Marchessou, one of the directors of the newspaper "Haute Loire," invited the press to tell the world about Haute Loire and to have its good reputation known "as well as its hospitality, its delicate industry, its special and original charm."

Mr. Jourde, the President of the Parisian Press Social Union echoed to Mr. Marchessou in a very jingoist way as a Haute Loire child, referring

to "this so beautiful department unfortunately abandoned which deserves more to be better known." The lace Union President made a toast on behalf of Trade and Industry, noting that the lace of Le Puy has already been well known in the world for several centuries, like the cockade. He asked the Americans to help lower the huge entrance fees that confront the lace.

A lace rosette was to be offered to the guests. A reception in the Prefecture followed, with a music concert, and then a demonstration of gymnastics and fireworks, at the place du Breuil.

Bibliographic Sources : Lafayette, sa statue au Puy-en-Velay, 6 Septembre 1883. Le Puy : Imprimerie Marchessou, 1884.

Newspaper : La Haute-Loire : Journal politique fondé en 1811, édition du jeudi 6 Septembre 1883



Le Puy arch LF Hiolle



Above: Le Puy Hiolle's statue of Lafayette

Below: Lafayette Statue in Le Puy

## Jacques de Guenin's Dream

As you all know, there exists another saga of Franco-American friendship, of a magnitude and duration comparable to the Lafayette saga: the one of the Statue of Liberty. Now, what some of you may not know is that the statue is not a gift from the French Government to the American one, but a gift of the French **People** to the American **People**. In France, the statue was financed by a popular fund-raising which lasted several years, led by devoted and persevering individuals. Similarly, the pedestal was financed by a popular fund-raising in America, initially fueled by wealthy sponsors, then by thousands of ordinary people motivated by Joseph Pulitzer through his press.

The sculptor of the Statue, Auguste Bartholdi, came to the United States several times before and during the construction, where he was treated as a hero, and even married there a former French acquaintance living in Canada who joined him during his first stay!

Most of you have probably seen the Statue of Lafayette by Bartholdi in Union Square, New York City. All of you have seen his Statue of Lafayette and Washington in the "Place des Etats-Unis" at the beginning of your trip. Thus you know that Lafayette, Washington and Bartholdi are inextricably linked for eternity.

Here is my dream: that the AFL extends its scope and name into the "American Friends of Lafayette and Bartholdi". That would allow a more extensive treatment of the unique Franco-American friendship. Secondly, it would open an endless new stream of articles and anecdotes for the Gazette.

*Editor's Note: At one of our group's special lunches in Paris at the historic restaurant Le Procope on the day of the ceremonies at Picpus, July 2, long-time member Jacques de Guenin spoke these words.*

## Lafayette In Auvergne

by Myriam Waze

Several biographers tell how much Lafayette's character was influenced by Auvergne and, as the poet Wordsworth said, "The child is the father to the man."

What do we know about his childhood? His father died when he was two years old. His mother then left to live in Paris. He was raised only by women : his grandmother and his two aunts, Madeleine and Charlotte. So there were no men in his education, except Abbé Fayon, a Jesuit who was his private tutor.

It is necessary to characterize also the provincial nobility to which he belonged; it was very different from that of the King's Court in Versailles. It was much more simple; for example, Lafayette played with simple farmers' sons as he wrote in his Memoirs when he tried to kill the famous beast of Gévaudan. His wealth came from his maternal side NOT from his father's side.

How often did he return to Auvergne after moving to Paris? André Maurois in his book "Adrienne, the Life of the Marquise de Lafayette,"<sup>1</sup> quotes a letter (Edmond de Lafayette Collection) where Lafayette wrote: "I went twice to spend my holidays in Auvergne. I was there still when I reached my fourteenth year and we received the news that my grandfather had arranged my marriage with Mlle de

Noailles, the second daughter of the Duc d'Ayen. I then came to live in the Luxembourg mansion... "

The attachment of Lafayette to his country is best described by Ribadeau-Dumas<sup>2</sup>. During his 3rd journey in America in 1784, Lafayette wrote to the Prince of Poix "if he (the devil) offered me all the whole New World, he would not make me renounce that part of the old one, in which I had the good fortune to be born, and to live. To my taste, there is nothing so charming as to be a native of the Auvergne and even of the Upper Auvergne, be it said without vanity ...<sup>3</sup>"

In 1786, he wrote from Chavaniac : "It was a little before night, my dear heart, that I found myself in this castle, where I had left two people so dear to my heart and who are not any more. The first moment was terrible for my aunt; her cries and her pain were frightening ... " He organized receptions in the family castle. " Since my arrival, the house is full of people and aunt Charlotte is a great hostess to them. Thus, I didn't have to pay any compliment to them and all my thoughts went to my aunt. She speaks to me about my affairs and about hers and I speak to her about you, about my children, about America ... Let us speak a little of our affairs, my dear heart, and I will tell you at I consult your small memorandum at every step ... "

At that time Adrienne formed the project of a spinning school which would give some work to the farmers, during the slack season. A grant had been requested from the Controller of Finances Calonne for this purpose. It was also at that time that, contrary to his manager's advice who recommended that Lafayette sell the wheat harvest, that he made him distribute it to the farmers because there was a famine." "Monsieur le Marquis, " he said, "here is the moment to sell your wheat" and Lafayette answered, "no, it is the moment to give it"<sup>4</sup>

Lafayette also had a doctor come to Aurac. Dr Guinandry had to care for the poor people. This fine doctor lived in Chavaniac until he died, receiving a salary.

Lafayette stayed until May when he left with his aunt for Paris. Shortly after, he came back to Chavaniac with Adrienne.

### **July, 1783**

This was Adrienne's first stay at Chavaniac. Also according to André Maurois<sup>5</sup>, Adrienne came to Chavaniac with her sister Clotilde. Adrienne became attached to aunt Charlotte but did not share the same religious and political beliefs as she. She took care of the domain, the churches and the farmers. She stayed two weeks.

Langeac and other cities came to congratulate Lafayette for his fight against the British, the hereditary enemies of France, then for his participation in America.

Reaffirming its attachment to Lafayette, Langeac offered a toast which declared "You've excited the admiration and the gratitude of the French people. Auvergne is indebted by the honor you bring to us and in particular the people of Langeac who have the privilege to be your neighbours." "Deign to be again persuaded that if circumstances want it, Langeac will be infinitely flattered to belong to you as our hearts already belong to you"<sup>6</sup>

### **Summer, 1784**

Adrienne returned for a second stay in 1784 in the summer with her children, her mother, the Duchess of Ayen and her sisters Clotilde and Rosalie; and they returned to Paris in December. Lafayette was in America at this time.

### **1785**

Lafayette went to Nîmes to meet the minister Rabaut of St Etienne and defend the Protestants.<sup>7</sup>

Adrienne spent the summer with her children. Lafayette wrote from Germany: "Chavaniac is for me a temple which gathers the sacred objects for my heart"<sup>8</sup>

### **1786**

At the request of the city, Lafayette acquired the marquise of Langeac, taking possession on August 13th. He attended a Te Deum mass in the church St Gall in August 13th. There were a banquet and festivities. Thanks were sent to the Langeadois by Lafayette.

### **1787**

In March, 1787 Lafayette went to Chavaniac to attend the Assembly of the Notables in Riom for the convocation of the Etats Généraux. He was elected second deputy in the order of the noblesse.

He took the opportunity of being there to visit Auvergne: Vic-sur-Cère, Aurillac and Saint-Flour. That year, he was also elected deputy of the nobility of Auvergne. He also visited the voters of the Brivadois.

### **1791**

In October he passed through Brioude where he was triumphally welcomed: He said "obliged to stop everywhere, crossing cities, villages on foot, receiving civic crowns, ... Clermont, Issoire, Lempdes, Brioude, all of them made unimaginable feasts for me."<sup>9</sup> Adrienne and her children followed him in an other carriage with Mme. de Noailles, her aunt and her grandmother Mme d'Ayen. In Chavaniac Lafayette received national deputations of the National Guard of Paris and Lyon; then he went with the Parisian delegation to Le Puy en Velay, Yssingeaux and Monistrol where he was still applauded.

There were banquets, songs written in honor of Lafayette, civic festivities, patriotic balls and more. In Le Puy he was welcomed by a detachment of the National Guard with music, he received administrators; the bishop waited for him). Illumination of the city and the banquet had been prepared by the inhabitants. During his stay he began modernizing and improving the castle and the domain with the English agronomist Dysson. They introduced new agricultural implements and they experimented the cross-breeding of bovine and porcine species.

Lafayette was then elected member of the administration of the department of Haute-Loire. At this point in 1791, he was now longing for some rest. Adrienne's mother and her older sister joined them.

As quoted by André Maurois, Adrienne writes: "We are here in a deep peace, M. de Lafayette enjoys this quietness... His fields, his house, his aunt, his children, some letters to write, that is what occupies all his time ...." Lafayette departed on December 22, 1791 after he was appointed a commander of the army of the Center to fight against the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia driven by the French emigrated aristocrats.

Adrienne stayed in Chavaniac with her children. Adrienne didn't feel safe and requested protection.

### 1792

A decree of accusation was issued against Lafayette for rebellion against freedom and treason to the nation. Under threats of plunder and setting fire to the castle, Adrienne hid the compromising papers and puts her children in the safety of the castle of Langeac.

On August 24th, 1792, George Washington Lafayette left and hid in Connangles (near Chavaniac) with his private tutor, Mr Frestel. Adrienne asked for an inventory of the castle and sealed it up to avoid plunder. She wanted to rent an accommodation in Brioude while Lafayette wrote her to join him in England in order to settle in America "we shall find the freedom there which does not exist anymore in France ...".<sup>10</sup> On September 8th, everybody returned to Chavaniac except Lafayette.

On September 10th, 1792, at 8 am in the morning, the castle was invaded by 200 armed men (national guards, soldiers, gendarmes). An order was issued to bring Adrienne and her children to jail ; their personal papers were seized. They departed for Le Puy, and Adrienne obtained permission to remain a prisoner in the castle. When she returned, she was warmly welcomed by the people of the village.

Lafayette was considered as an emigrated aristocrat who had fled. All their personal properties such as the mill of Langeac were sold. He wrote in his Memoirs <sup>11</sup> "The five objects so dear to my tenderness are then always gathered in Chavaniac." Chavaniac was thus the place where the family found itself in safety, the place where Lafayette expected to live in peace like Washington, just taking care of his domain.

### 1793

There was much suspicion on the Lafayette family. The Supervisory Committee asked them to produce citizenship certificates for the domestics and for the people of Chavaniac.

The Committee later selected some suspicious papers, showing proofs of feudalism; and on November 13th, 1793, a cart removed all the papers along with the busts of Louis XVI and Mirabeau. Adrienne was arrested on November 14th, imprisoned in Brioude with other aristocratic women.

### 1794

May 31st, 1794 Adrienne was transferred to Paris. Frestel left with the children to Brioude. The children parted from their mother and said goodbye to her. She was to travel to Paris in a cart. Deeply moved by the events, the staff of the castle donated their small jewels so that they could be sold and that so Adrienne could travel more comfortably. There was an ultimate attempt to produce a new citizenship certificate in favour of Adrienne, mentioning her generous acts; it was in vain. She arrived in Paris on June 7th, 1794, at the prison of la Petite Force; then she moved to the College du Plessis. Adrienne went from prison to various detention houses: such as the Roche house, and the Delmas house. Finally she was freed on February 1st, 1795.

### 1795

She managed to send her son George Washington and Mr Frestel from Bordeaux to America. She returned to Chavaniac where she found her daughters and Lafayette's aunt. The castle had been bought back thanks to the jewels of her sister. She stayed there only eight days and then left Chavaniac to join Lafayette in Olmütz with her daughters. After their imprisonment, it is in the castle of La Grange that the family spent most of their time.

### Return In 1800 Of Lafayette

"My whole family is presently gathered in Chavaniac, while my aunt, during several years, despaired of never seeing us again. It was also endearing to me to present to her my loved daughter-in-law, Emilie Tracy ...". Reunited with his aunt, he stayed there several months, visiting Jax, Siaugues, Allègre, and Le Puy where he was received: " the prefect gave a magnificent dinner, with all the administrators... <sup>12</sup> Appointed as a member of the Conseil Général of Haute-Loire, he went to Le Puy to declare that he refused to sit on it, as long as he

couldn't recover his properties despite having been crossed off the list of the emigrants. Two friends, Mme de Hénin and Mme de Simiane, came to stay in Chavaniac.

### 1802:

Adrienne returned to Chavaniac in April to prepare George Washington's marriage with Emilie de Tracy, and his aunt Charlotte endowed George with her succession.

### Other Visits Of Lafayette Between 1801 and 1807

1804: following a hip fracture, Lafayette went to Le Mont Dore, famous for its healing waters.

1805 : he visited his aunt

1807: he stayed in Chavaniac, but returned immediately to La Grange because Adrienne had a high fever. Every year Lafayette went to Chavaniac for a short stay (his aunt Charlotte died in 1811, at the age of 80)

In 1817 : it was recorded that he paid a short visit.

When George Washington Lafayette was elected a deputy of the Haut-Loire, the population of Langeac celebrated his victory by putting candles in their windows to illuminate the town

### Celebrations Of The Return After His Triumphant Tour Of America

In November, 1825 Lafayette returned to his native country. There were festivities in Chavaniac, Paulhaguet, and Brioude (where Lafayette had a private mansion). Beranger's song "Lafayette in America" was sung in his honour.

"Who better than we, inhabitants of Auvergne, can appreciate all that is great and noble in a man, this very man that a great and free nation has just greeted with its cheers and its enthusiasm and who more than we, his compatriots, can be happy and proud of his triumph, unparalleled in history." <sup>13</sup>

### 1829

He returned with his son and grand-daughter Mme Perrier, one of George's daughters. He was welcomed in Clermont, Issoire, Brioude, Aurac and Chavaniac. There was a banquet in Clermont, offered by the liberal party, on July 22nd. He stopped in Brioude on the 30th. When he entered the town, he was escorted by young people over 20 km, and triumphal arches were erected everywhere.

"This land that you will tread upon prides itself on being your cradle ! And those who shared the games of your childhood, those who later joined in your man's work, and these successive generations living out your beliefs or who have benefited from your good acts are looking forward to seeing you. Come, General, nowhere will you be met with more hearts filled with admiration, or more gratitude or more dedication. " <sup>14</sup> Lafayette replied : "It is with deep emotion that I see my homeland where I first received this affection which opened my heart to the sweet feeling of gratitude ... ."

There was a reception at the Loge St Julien for a patriotic banquet, a ball and more. He attended a lodge meeting. It was probably at this occasion that he offered his red, white and blue sash to the town hall of Brioude, where it is still preserved. An escort of honor of 30 riders followed Lafayette and his son to Chavaniac, joined by others coming from Paulhaguet, from Aurac, from Langeac. He was applauded on his arrival at Chavaniac by the villagers. He was welcomed by the school children, then dances and bonfires took place at the end of the day. People of every town of the department came to visit Lafayette in his castle.

While Lafayette was on his way to Le Puy, this town sent an escort of honor to Coubladour to meet him. They arrived at the Ermitage at nightfall. <sup>15</sup>

The suburbs were illuminated and decorated. There were banners with praises like "To the great citizen," or "Tribute to his civil courage" written on them. Lafayette was celebrated "as the model of civic virtues and personal qualities." Lafayette thanked the people for their loyalty during these last 40 years.

A chorus to the tune of Rossini sang:

"What a beautiful day, happy city!  
That this day, this beautiful day be celebrated !  
With his laurels of oak leaves,  
The hero of Liberty.  
Honour! Honour to the great citizen,  
That everywhere in his country,  
As on the American shore,  
The people cry  
Honour! honour to the great citizen!"

There were many testimonies of Lafayette's attachment to Auvergne as he wrote to the municipality of Brioude "such an old attachment that my life, including my heart is dedicated to you" A

banquet for 150 guests was held with the local leading officials in attendance during which several speeches were given. On his way to Yssingeaux, he was escorted by the liberal youth and riders of Le Puy. He visited Annonay, Monistrol, Montfaucon, Saint-Bonnet, Annonay, Grenoble, Vizille, Voiron, La Tour du Pin, Bourgoin, Vienne and Lyon.

As one can see, Chavaniac was dear to Lafayette's heart and represented his sentimental link to his only family : his grandmother and his aunt. He was deeply attached to Auvergne as a fundamental part of his life and in a completely different way from Lagrange, which was a Noailles' property. He had many relationships with the people of Auvergne not only in his native village but also with the different towns around: Brioude, where the family had a private mansion, Langeac, which he bought in 1786 but also Le Puy.

He represented Auvergne at the Etats Généraux. This presence of Lafayette in Auvergne is still noticeable. Statues were erected in Le Puy and in Brioude; lots of places are named for him. He is considered as the child of Auvergne.

#### **The Château De Chavaniac After Lafayette's Death:**



Lafayette's grandsons inherited the château, first Oscar then Edmond. Lafayette's grandson Oscar was elected a deputy; he studied at the Ecole Polytechnique, and had the rank of captain in the army. When he was a widow, he retired to Chavaniac, taking care of the domain which he inherited. In 1870, he was elected a senator for life by Seine and in 1876 by Marne. He died in Paris in 1881. A bust decorates a public garden in Meaux.

Lafayette's other grandson, Edmond, was elected deputy for the Haute-Loire; he sat on the left. Then he was elected member for the canton of Paulhaguet in 1871. Paulhaguet is a group of villages or towns around Chavaniac). He was the President of the National Assembly, then he was elected senator in 1876 for the Department of Haute-Loire. He died in 1890. A portrait of him in the museum Crozatier. The castle passed to his nephew Gaston Pourcet de Sahune. It was sold in 1916 to an American corporation which was to become the Lafayette Memorial.

1 Maurois, André. *Adrienne ou la vie de Mme de La Fayette*. Paris : Hachette, cop.1960. 570 p. Quotation at page 45

2 Ribadeau-Dumas. *La Destinée secrète de La Fayette ou Le Messianisme révolutionnaire*. Paris : R. Laffont, 1972. 461 p. The reference for this quotation is page 131. The original source is mentioned in note number 3.

3 Idzerda, Stanley J. and Crout, Robert Rhodes Editors. *Lafayette in The Age of the American Revolution. Selected Letters and Papers, 1776-1790*. Vol. V. Ithaca and London : Cornwell University Press, 1983. In a letter to the Prince de Poix, written from Hartford on October 12th 1784. Page 267, vol. V

4 (Le château de Chavaniac in *Mémoires et Procès verbaux : 1881-1882*, Société agricole et scientifique de la Haute-Loire, p. 23)

5 Cf supra note 1

6 Mosnier, Henry. *Mémoires et Procès-verbaux, 1881-1882*, Tome troisième. Le Puy : Marchessou, 1885.

7 Lafayette, Gilbert Du Motier. *Mémoires, correspondance et manuscrits du général Lafayette*. Tome II. Paris : H. Fournier aîné, 1837-38. p.182

8 Pialoux, Paul. *Madame de La Fayette et Chavagnac*. Almanach de Brioude : 1985, p. 94

9 Lafayette, Gilbert Du Motier. *Mémoires, correspondance et manuscrits du général Lafayette*. Tome III. Paris : H. Fournier aîné, 1837-38. p.188.

10 Maurois, André cf supra note 1

11 Lafayette, Gilbert Du Motier. *Mémoires, correspondance et manuscrits du général Lafayette*. Tome IV. Paris : H. Fournier aîné, 1837-38. p.248.

12 Maurois, André. *Adrienne ou la vie de Mme de La Fayette* page 455. The source is a letter from the Archives of La Grange, never published.

13 from the newspaper : *L'Ami de la Charte*. Clermont, November 8th, 1825)

14 Pialoux, Paul. *Trois révolutions pour la liberté*. Brioude : imprimerie Watel, 1989. p.187

15 It was a horse relay just a few kilometers from Le Puy. It is reported in *Arrivée du Général Lafayette au Puy*. Imprimerie clet, 1829.

## Massachusetts Lafayette Day 2015, May 20, 2015

By Jerry Meekins and Susan Cucchiara

My daughter Susan and I attended this year's ceremony. The day's activities started in the Bayard Henry Long Room of the Boston Athenaeum. The dais consisted of Polly Lyman, Board Member of the Massachusetts Lafayette Society, Brigadier General Len Kondratiuk, Alan Hoffman, President, Fabien Fieschi, Consul General, Richard Blumenthal, Headmaster, International School of Boston, David Dearing, Curator, Boston Athenaeum.

The AFL members in attendance were Alan Hoffman, Bill Dunham, Polly Lyman, Ingrid Wood, Blanche Hunnewell, Frederick Detwiller, Bill and Maureen Poole, David Noonan, Jerry Meekins and Susan Cucchiara.

### Agenda:

- Presentation of the Colors by the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts.
- National Anthems performed by The International School of Boston Chorus.
- Reading of the Massachusetts Lafayette Day proclamation in French and English.

- Consul General, Fabien Fieschi, Legion of Honor medal presentation to WWII veteran, PFC Filios, combat medic.
- David B. Dearing, Ph.D. Susan Morse Hills Curator of Paintings & Sculpture and Director of Exhibitions, describing the Lafayette Exhibition at the Athenaeum.

At the conclusion of this segment, we proceeded to the Lafayette Mall for the laying of a wreath at the Lafayette Monument in the Boston Common.

We then went to the Oak Room of the nearby Union Club for a luncheon. The Guest Speaker was Professor John Stauffer, Professor of English and African and African-American Studies at Harvard University. He spoke at length about Lafayette's influence on Boston's Abolitionists.

This concluded this year's celebration.



Massachusetts Lafayette Day

## New Directions for the Methodist University Lafayette Collection

by Ms. Arleen Fields and Dr. Hank Parfitt, Fayetteville, NC

Methodist University, located in Fayetteville, North Carolina, was founded in 1956 and currently serves about 2,400 undergraduate students and 150 graduate students. In 1967, the school purchased a collection of letters written by Lafayette and related items such as books, articles, music scores, and commemorative medals. For decades the collection was underutilized, with pieces being brought out occasionally for displays. In the summer of 2014, Davis Memorial Library received a donation from alumnus Gene Dillman of thirteen pieces of memorabilia dating from Lafayette's later lifetime. This infusion of "fresh blood" prompted Methodist University and the Lafayette Society of Fayetteville to investigate ways that the collection could be used for both research and outreach.

Inspired by Mr. Dillman's gift, the Lafayette Society Board of Directors voted to redirect the society's long-standing endowment at Methodist University to the Lafayette Collection. The generated proceeds can now be used to purchase additional letters and artifacts, support MU students pursuing Lafayette-related research, sponsor visiting professors and scholars, and create an outreach program for the community.

The Lafayette Society is already making good on its promise to add high-quality items to the collection. The society recently added \$10,000 to the MU endowment, and is in consultation with Lafayette author and UNC-Chapel Hill professor Dr. Lloyd Kramer and College of Charleston adjunct professor Dr. Robert Crout regarding future directions for

the collection. Also, in August of this year, the Society paid for the restoration and framing of a rare circa 1825 "Lafayette map" of Fayetteville, donated by heirs of the map's publisher, John McRae. (For more about the map, see the *Gazette* number 82, May 2015, pages 36-37. ).

The library at MU has a dedicated "Lafayette Room," decorated to resemble a local home much like the one where Lafayette stayed on March 4-5, 1825. Until recently, it served as a "by appointment only" museum. In September 2014, the Lafayette Room was rededicated, with a pledge that the space will remain open to the campus community and many of the Lafayette items will become more accessible. It is here that the "Lafayette map" will be displayed.

The Lafayette Society and Methodist University administrators agree that a robust and relevant collection of materials related to Lafayette could one day develop into a research center that draws not only student researchers but also Lafayette scholars nationwide. With the help of donors like Mr. Dillman and supporters like the Lafayette Society, that vision is well on its way to becoming a reality.

You can visit <http://www.methodist.edu/archspec/lafayette/lafayette.htm> for more information about Methodist University's Lafayette Collection. Fayetteville and the Methodist University Lafayette Collection were featured on WUNC-TV's North Carolina Now show on Wednesday, September 16 (at the 14:03 mark): <http://www.unctv.org/content/ncnow>



Above: The restoration and framing of a rare circa 1825 “Lafayette map” of Fayetteville, donated by heirs of the map’s publisher, John McRae.

Right: Davis Memorial Library received a donation from alumnus Gene Dillman of thirteen pieces of memorabilia dating from Lafayette’s later lifetime

Below: The library at MU’s dedicated “Lafayette Room.”



## OBITUARIES

### Bernard Caillot

AFL member Bernard Caillot died suddenly this past June in his beloved Auvergne area of France. Mr. Caillot was an author and activist devoted to

Franco-American relations. More about Mr. Caillot in our next Gazette.

### Betty McPherson

by Faith Gross



Betty Lou Mendenall McPherson was my friend. We spent many fun times together going to home tours, out to eat, visiting interesting places, etc., just enjoying each other's friendship. She was one of the most fun-loving people I have known. She is going to be greatly missed.

She started life in Oklahoma in a family she dearly loved, spending many happy years with them. I loved hearing her talk of those days. I first meet Betty in 1975 when she and I were building homes, she in Yorktown and I in York County. She rapidly became very active in Yorktown community life. She always looked so beautiful and serene on the platform at Yorktown Day as a

board member of Yorktown Day Association. She enthusiastically threw herself into the American Friends of Lafayette which was her special organization. I have heard so many members of the AFL say "I became a member because Betty would not stop singing the praises of AFL until I joined." Betty was involved in many activities in Yorktown and knew almost everyone who lived in the village. She did many good deeds that no one ever realized.

I and her friends and family will miss Betty very much. Her passing is also a great loss to Yorktown and the AFL.

Below: AFL's first Yorktown Day wine and cheese party took place 10 years ago. It was on October 19, 2005, hosted by Betty McPherson at her house with the following attendees: top row, Betty McPherson, Bill Kirchner, Caroline Lareuse, Jean Hultgren  
first row: Barbara Schroeder, John Scotton, Linda Kirchner, Philip Schroeder.



## Memorial service held for Lafayette Society founder in Fayetteville, NC

by Hank Parfitt



On August 29, a memorial service was held for Martha Duell, who founded the Lafayette Society of Fayetteville, North Carolina in 1981. Her ashes were transported to the Memorial Garden at St. John's Episcopal Church in the same carriage used for Lafayette's 1825 visit (see image above). The Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry, the nation's second oldest private militia in continuous existence, served as honor guard. Martha was a native of France who married an officer in the United States Army at the end of World War II. After her arrival in this

country, Martha quickly became involved in the civic life of her new home in Fayetteville. Her activities included the Red Cross, the Lady Lions, County Chairman for UNICEF, Ft. Bragg Officer's Wives Club, and the French Club. She founded not only the Lafayette Society but also the Cape Fear Botanical Gardens. She served over 40 years on the board of the Woman's Club, whose mission is to preserve the city's historic buildings. In the weeks preceding her death, she raised over \$15,000 for much-needed restoration work on one of their projects. Martha died on July 24 at the age of 90.

## Will Smiles

By Alan Hoffman



Will Smiles in front of Lafayette Statue on the campus of his beloved Lafayette College

Will Smiles, our long-time member and friend, had an abiding love of Lafayette College. When he was a student in the class of '59, there was a serious effort to emphasize the life of "the Marquis" as he was always called. No one wanted to graduate without having his picture taken standing next to the Daniel Chester French statue of Lafayette. See a more recent photo of Will and Lafayette.

Jayne reports that Will long ago memorized a quote of Lafayette and would use it instructively when the Smiles children were growing up. "I read, I study, I examine, I listen, I reflect and out of all this form an opinion into which I put as much common sense as I possibly can."

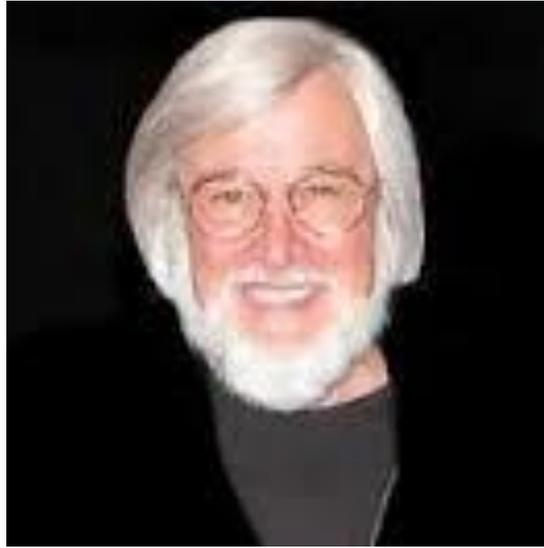
Will's passion for Lafayette College and its namesake was easily transferred to the American Friends of Lafayette. He and Jayne attended the AFL

annual meetings frequently and also attended Yorktown Day on a number of occasions. This June, after Will's passing, we were delighted to welcome the next generation of Smiles!

Will was always of good cheer and very supportive of the efforts of the AFL to advance the public's knowledge of and appreciation for General Lafayette. His passion for the College and for the AFL only came into conflict once when I proposed that Lafayette College change its soubriquet from "Leopards" to something more consonant with Lafayette's career like "Liberators." Will demurred.

In memory of Will Smiles, we wish all of Lafayette College's sports teams great success in their 2015-2016 campaigns and say with Will: "Go Leopards!"

Carmino Ravosa



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*Carmino Ravosa*

Birth Date: January 29, 1930

Born to Eternal Life: July 19, 2015

August 8, 2015

The Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Pleasantville, New York

I had the honor and privilege of representing the American Friends of Lafayette at this memorial celebration.

Most AFL members will remember Carmino for his song, "Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, The Marquis de Lafayette".

Although I did not know Carmino very well, I did enjoy his music. He most certainly put his heart and soul into his work.

I had the opportunity to express the AFL's condolences to Carmino's wife, Claire, and his daughter, Gina, (AFL members), and other family members.

The memorial service was very moving, especially the participation of those in attendance. Many shared their most memorable Carmino moments or thoughts. Attending this wonderful celebration of Carmino's life was a memorable moment for me.

I think it most appropriate to submit the following meaningful commentary on Carmino's life written by his family, specifically for this memorial service (reprinted on the next page).

By Jerry Meekins

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that we greet you here today. The void we all feel by Carmino's passing seems immeasurable, unfillable. Yet the impact of his life- through the legacy of his music and the millions of children and adults that he touched with song-will outlive and diminish the sadness.

Carmino came from humble beginnings in Springfield, Massachusetts, delivering milk for his father – from whom he inherited his deep love of music. Yet he rose to perform for Presidents, to become a foundation of music classrooms throughout the country, to be remembered by the captains of industry that his life touched and to become a historical figure on the landscape of American music.

At one point in his later life, he put to music the words of children's book author Julius Lester: "Dying ain't important. Everybody does that. What matters is how well you do your living."

He believed this. And he lived well, and on his own terms. At every opportunity, he would give thanks for the seminal people in his life – Gardner Dunnan, Headmaster at The Dalton School, Jim Rooker, Executive Editor at Silver Burdett Ginn, and Jim Hirschfeld, Executive Producer at Captain Kangaroo, to name a few. These men-visionaries in their own right- believed in him and gave him the latitude to live the creative and fulfilling life that he was blessed to do. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts, too.

To quote Carmino (and for those who know this tune, hum along): "I love what I'm doing and do what I love. To do what I'm doing I don't need a shove. I love what I'm doing and do what I love. I love what I'm doing and do what I love."

So today we celebrate Carmino's life, and we raise our voices to give thanks for a life well lived. So, sing a little louder when we get to the hymns today. Carmino would love it. Actually, he would insist upon it.

Friends, thank you for being with us.

Claire, Carine, Arnie, Gina, Dean, Ann, Nathan, Marielle, Elissa, Michael, Erinn, Colby, Parker and Skylar

## BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **New Book from Donald Miller released in July: *Lafayette His Extraordinary Life and Legacy***

Donald Miller, longtime member who led an AFL tour of Fayette County, PA in 2005, has just published *Lafayette: His Extraordinary Life and Legacy*, a 446-page biography, available on *Amazon.com*, *B&N.com* and other markets. \$37.95 hardcover; \$27.95 softcover; \$3.99 online. The Marquis de Lafayette Collection of Lafayette College graciously offered several illustrations for this publication.

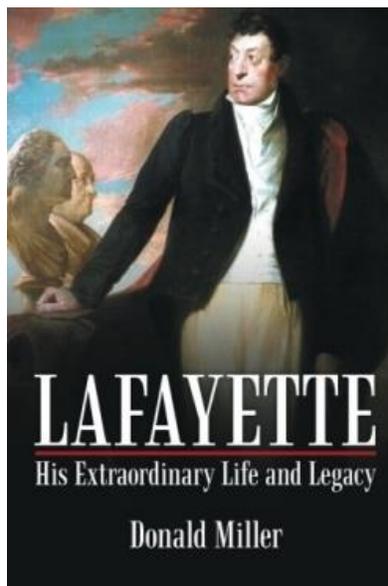
Miller of Naples, Florida is an art critic and author of seven books. He began *Lafayette* in 2002 on visiting sites in France. Miller states that his book contains more new facts and scope than any other recent publication in English. It details Lafayette's early life at Versailles, his Metz commandant's past as a royal spy including his plan to lead the American war and then become king of the new republic. Miller lists the officers sailing with Lafayette to America and reveals what the ship, *La Victoire*, probably held in her hold.

The book covers Lafayette's role as commander of Continental troops in Virginia, his

appeals to Foreign Minister Vergennes, his friendships with Hamilton, Franklin and others and how the "Hero of Two Worlds" helped American businessmen after the war. Detailed are Lafayette's role in ending French absolutism, his years lost in prison and his agitating roles with Napoleon I, Louis XVIII, Charles X and Louis-Philippe.

Nine of 64 chapters are devoted to Lafayette's unequalled tour of the 24 American states, and the book contains an intimate look at his last years. Posthumous events include the modern history of Chateau de Chavaniac and the ironic role of Pierre Laval, the French premier who collaborated with the Nazis. In 1935, he helped save La Grange, home of the champion of liberty.

Former AFL vice-president Albert Oberst salutes this book on its jacket. Past AFL president William Kirchner contributed to a chart of American sites named for Lafayette or La Grange.



## New Book from Sarah Vowell due October 20th: *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States*

Sarah Vowell is the New York Times' bestselling author of six nonfiction books on American history and culture. Her forthcoming book is entitled *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States* (Riverhead, October 2015).

Vowell was a contributing editor for the public radio show "This American Life" from 1996-2008, where she produced numerous commentaries and documentaries and toured the country in many of the program's live shows. She was one of the original contributors to McSweeney's, also participating in many of the quarterly's readings and shows. She has been a columnist for Salon.com, Time and San Francisco Weekly and continues to write occasional essays for the opinion page of the New York Times.

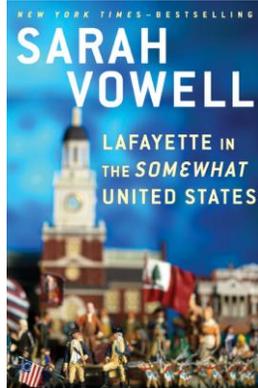
Vowell has made numerous appearances on the Late Show with David Letterman, Late Night with Conan O'Brien and the Daily Show with Jon Stewart. She is the voice of teen superhero Violet Parr in Brad Bird's Academy Award-winning "The Incredibles," a Pixar Animation Studios film.

From the bestselling author of "Assassination Vacation" and "The Partly Cloudy Patriot," comes an insightful and unconventional account of George Washington's trusted officer and friend, that swashbuckling teenage French aristocrat Lafayette.

Chronicling General Lafayette's years in Washington's army, Vowell reflects on the ideals of the American Revolution versus the reality of the Revolutionary War. Riding shotgun with Lafayette, Vowell swerves from the high-minded debates of Independence Hall to the frozen wasteland of Valley Forge, from bloody battlefields to the Palace of Versailles, bumping into John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Lord Cornwallis, Benjamin Franklin, Marie Antoinette and various kings, Quakers and redcoats along the way.

Drawn to the patriots war out of a lust for glory, Enlightenment ideas and the traditional French hatred for the British, young Lafayette crossed the Atlantic expecting to join forces with an undivided people, encountering instead fault lines between the

Continental Congress and the Continental Army, rebel and loyalist inhabitants, and a conspiracy to fire George Washington, the one man holding together the rickety, seemingly doomed patriot cause.



While Vowell's yarn is full of the bickering and infighting that marks the American past and present her telling of the Revolution is just as much a story of friendship: between Washington and Lafayette, between the Americans and their French allies and, most of all between Lafayette and the American people.

Coinciding with one of the most contentious presidential elections in American history, Vowell lingers over the elderly Lafayette's sentimental return tour of America in 1824, when three fourths of the population of New York City turned out to welcome him ashore. As a Frenchman and the last surviving general of the Continental Army, Lafayette belonged to neither North nor South, to no political party or faction. He was a walking, talking reminder of the sacrifices and bravery of the revolutionary generation and what the founders hoped this country could be. His return was not just a reunion with his beloved Americans it was a reunion for Americans with their own astonishing, singular past.

Sara Vowell's book tour looks like this....

- October 20: [BookCourt](#) in [Brooklyn, New York](#) at 7:00pm EDT
- October 21: [Free Library of Philadelphia](#) in [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#) at 7:30pm EDT
- October 22: [Politics & Prose Bookstore](#) in [Washington, DC](#) at 7:00pm EDT
- October 23: [First Parish Cambridge Unitarian](#) in [Cambridge, MA](#) at 7:00pm EDT
- October 24: [Bookshop Santa Cruz](#) in [Santa Cruz, CA](#) at 7:00pm PDT
- October 25: [Book Passage Bookstore & Cafe](#) in [Corte Madera, CA](#) at 7:00pm PDT
- October 26: [Nourse Theater-City Arts and Lectures](#) in [San Francisco, CA](#) at 7:30pm PDT
- October 27: [Powell's City of Books](#) in [Portland, Oregon](#) at 7:00pm PDT
- October 28: [Neptune Theatre](#) in [Seattle, WA](#) at 8:00pm PDT
- October 29: [Rubloff Auditorium](#) in [Chicago, IL](#) at 6:00pm in CDT
- October 30: [Madison Central Library](#) in [Madison, WI](#) at 7:00pm in CDT
- October 31: [Centennial Hall](#) in [Milwaukee, WI](#) at 7:00pm in CDT

## **New book from John R. Maass released in July 2015: *The Road to Yorktown: Jefferson, Lafayette and the British Invasion of Virginia***

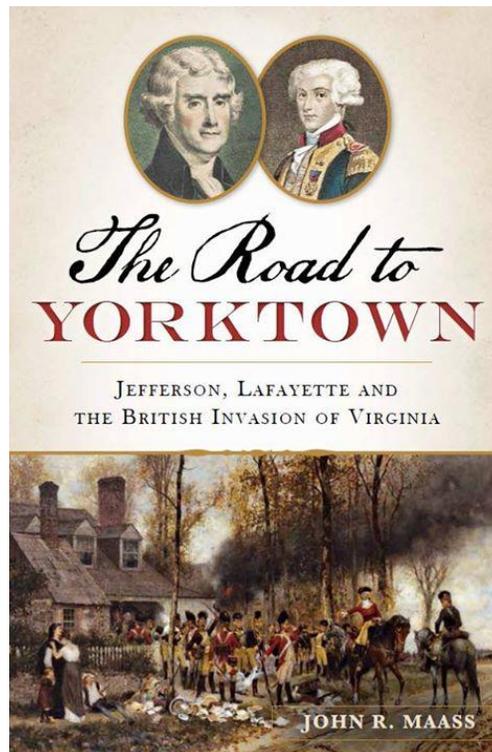
John Maass is a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. He received a BA in history from Washington & Lee University, an MA in U.S. history from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a PhD in early U.S. history from the Ohio State University. He is the author of *North Carolina and the French and Indian War: The Spreading Flames of War* (The History Press) and *Defending a New Nation, 1783-1811* (U.S. Army Center of Military History)

In 1781, Virginia was invaded by formidable British forces that sought to subdue the Old Dominion. Lieutenant General Charles, Lord Cornwallis, led thousands of enemy troops from Norfolk to Charlottesville, burning and pillaging. Many of Virginia's famed Patriots—including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry—struggled to defend the

Commonwealth. Only by concentrating a small band of troops under energetic French General Lafayette were American forces able to resist British operations. With strained support from Governor Jefferson's administration, Lafayette fought a campaign against the veteran soldiers of Lord Cornwallis that eventually led to the famed showdown at Yorktown. Historian John R. Maass traces this often overlooked Revolutionary struggle for Virginia and details each step on the road to Yorktown.

John Maas will be speaking October 18, 2016 at 2 PM at the Yorktown Victory Center (200 State Rte 1020, Yorktown, VA 23690).

He will also be speaking in Petersburg, VA on Fri., November 13 at 6 PM at The McIlwaine House, 425 Cockade Alley at an event to benefit the Battersea Foundation.



## General Lafayette's Legacy Lives on in New Cybersecurity Thriller



*The Lafayette Campaign, a Tale of Deception and Elections*, is a thriller based on the fictional hacking of a presidential election. Disturbingly, everything depicted in the book is technically accurate, and could actually happen. Indeed, some of the events portrayed have now occurred: in the book, a secret government agency first becomes concerned when completely improbable candidates immediately jump to the top of the polls (whether you find that prophetic or not will depend on how you feel about Donald Trump).

The choice of title arises from a key element of the plot, involving an idealistic group of French women who call themselves the *Filles de Lafayette*. In their eyes, if Americans want to believe that their president is the Leader of the Free World, they had better learn how to do a better job of selecting him or her. Or, in the words of their ringleader Josette, "You see, although we do not approve of all of your presidents, we still believe in America. And sometimes, we think, you still need some help. It is true, yes?"

How they go about doing that, and the other forces that have their own ideas about how

the election should come out is the subject of a fast-paced, satirical race to see who can control what happens in November. In the words of Admiral James G. Stavridis, retired Commander, U.S. European Command and NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe, and current Dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, "Andrew Updegrove brings a rare combination of drama, satire and technical accuracy to his writing. The result is a book you can't put down that tells you things you might wish you didn't know."

The reference to Lafayette may also be less than coincidental. Updegrove grew up in Easton Pennsylvania, home of Lafayette College, where his uncle, grandfather and great grandfather all attended; his great grandfather lettered in three sports and went on to coach the football team after graduating while practicing medicine in Easton.

*The Lafayette Campaign* is available in eBook and print versions at Amazon at <http://amzn.com/B010RF882O> as is the first book in the series, called *The Alexandria Project*. Book three, with the working title of *The Doodlebug War*, is in process.

# LAFAYETTE PLACE NAMES

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you Lloyd Kramer, author of "Lafayette in Two Worlds" and AFL member, for pointing out an omission from the list of cities and towns named for Lafayette published in the last *Gazette* – Fayetteville, Arkansas, one of the larger cities by population. We are republishing the list below as corrected. Following the list of cities and towns are lists of counties, townships, villages, etc. and ghost towns. If you notice any other omissions, please let us know. The total is 79.

## CITIES AND TOWNS

1. Fayetteville, NC - 204408
2. LaFayette, LA - 120687
3. Fayetteville, AR – 73580
4. Lafayette, IN - 67140
5. LaGrange, GA - 30478
6. West Lafayette, IN - 29596
7. Lafayette, CO - 24453
8. Lafayette, CA - 24285
9. Fayetteville, GA - 15945
10. LaGrange, NY - 15730
11. Lagrange, IL - 15550
12. South Fayette, PA - 14416
13. LaGrange Park, IL - 13579
14. LaGrange, KY - 8082
15. LaFayette, GA - 7121
16. Fayetteville, TN - 7072
17. Lafayette, WI - 5765
18. Lafayette, NY - 4952
19. La Grange, TX - 4923
20. Fayette, AL - 4550
21. Fayetteville, NY - 4373
22. Lafayette, TN - 3885
23. Fayette, NY - 3643
24. LaGrange, MI - 3500
25. Lafayette, AL - 3003
26. Fayetteville, WV - 2892
27. La Grange, NC - 2873
28. Fayette, MO - 2688
29. LaGrange, IN - 2625
30. LaFayette, NJ - 2538
31. La Grange, WI - 2444
32. Lafayette Hill, PA - 2174
33. LaGrange, OH – 2103
34. Fayette, MS - 1614
35. Fayette, ME - 1140
36. LaGrange, MO - 931
37. LaGrange, ME - 708
38. LaFayette, MN - 504
39. Lafayette, OH - 445
40. Fayette, WI - 366
41. Fayetteville, TX - 258
42. Fayette, UT - 243
43. LaFayette, KY - 165
44. LaGrange, TN - 133
45. LaGrange, AR - 122

## COUNTIES

1. Fayette County, AL
2. Lafayette County, AR
3. Lafayette County, FL
4. Fayette County, GA
5. Fayette County, IL
6. Fayette County, IN
7. LaGrange County, IN
8. Fayette County, IA
9. Fayette County, (Lexington), KY
10. Lafayette Parish, LA
11. Lafayette County, MS
12. Lafayette County, MO
13. Fayette County, OH
14. Fayette County, PA
15. Fayette County, TX
16. Fayette County, WV
17. Lafayette County, WI

## TOWNSHIPS, VILLAGES and OTHER SMALL GEOGRAPHIC UNITS

1. Fayetteville, AL
2. Fayetteville, IL
3. Lafayette, IL
4. LaGrange Highlands, IL
5. Fayette, IN
6. Fayetteville, IN
7. LaFayette, IA
8. Southwest LaFayette, LA
9. LaFayette Springs, MS
10. LaGrangeville, NY
11. Fayette City, PA
12. North Fayette Township, PA
13. Fayette Township, PA
14. Fayetteville, PA
15. Lafayette Township, PA
16. Lafayette, RI

## GHOST TOWNS

1. Fayette, MI (Now a State Park)

# Asteroids Named for Rochambeau, Kościuszko, Yorktown and Lafayette

*Richard Binzel, Professor of Planetary Science at MIT and a Pluto scientist for 35 years who worked for two decades to bring the Pluto mission to the launch pad in 2006, reports as follows:*

I am not able to attend many events these days, but I have been able to add a couple more of our heroes to the skies. The citations include mention of the new W3R National Historic Trail. Perhaps this is worth sharing with other organizations so as to be noted at this year's Yorktown events.

"Rochambeau" has been accepted as the name for Asteroid 96178, through the authority of the International Astronomical Union. The official citation: Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau (1725-1807), was commander of the French Expeditionary Force supporting the American revolution. French and American troops marched from Newport, Rhode Island to Yorktown, Virginia for the decisive battle, a route now designated as a National Historic Trail.

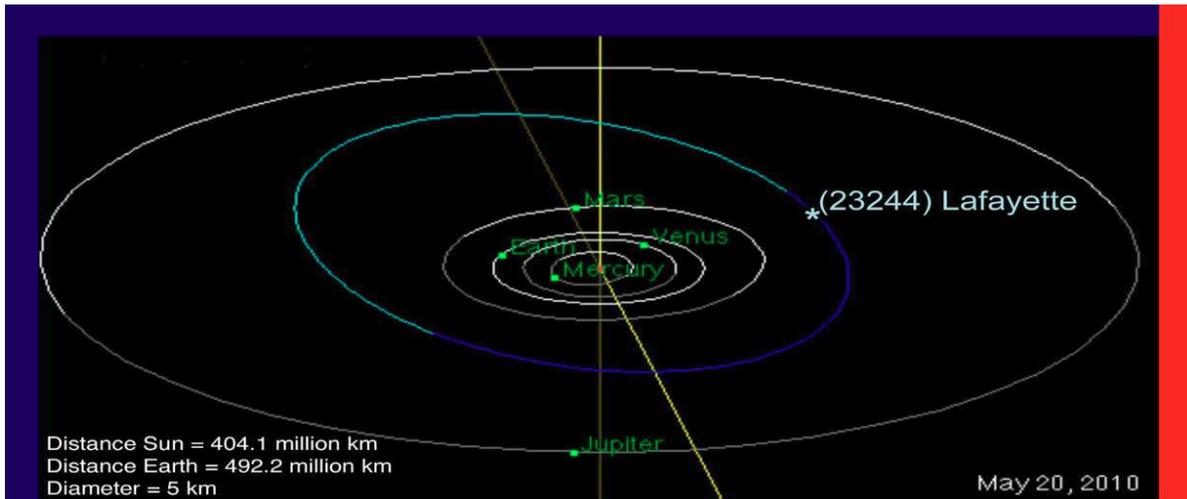
"Kościuszko" has been accepted as the name for Asteroid 90698, through the authority of the International Astronomical Union. The official citation: Andrzej Tadeusz Bonawentura Kościuszko

(1746-1817) was a Polish military engineer who assisted in the American revolution with the design and building of military fortifications, including at West Point, New York. He led a 1794 attempt for independence of Poland from Imperial Russia, known as the Kościuszko uprising.

Some years ago, I was also able to do this one: "Yorktown" is the name of asteroid 35976. Yorktown, a town in Virginia on the York River leading into the Chesapeake Bay, was the site of a Sept.-Oct. 1781 siege of the British army by American and French troops, with support by the French navy. The outcome proved conclusive to the American War of Independence.

Professor Binzel caused the Asteroid Lafayette to be accepted in 2010.

Richard is a long-time member of the Massachusetts Lafayette Society and the American Friends of Lafayette.



## Asteroid (23244) Lafayette

Discovered 2000 November 20 (2000 WP162) by the Lowell Observatory, Arizona Near-Earth-Object Search. Recognized as a symbolic figure of French-American friendship, Marie-Joséphé Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de La Fayette (1757-1834), on his own initiative served as a general in the Continental Army during the American Revolution and as commander-in-chief of the Garde Nationale during the French Revolution. Asteroid name proposed by R. P. Binzel (MIT) and approved by the International Astronomical Union to commemorate the 75th anniversary celebration of Lafayette Day in Massachusetts.

## Trivia Answers

### Question # 1

- Comte d'Estaing
- Comte de Grasse
- Comte de Rochambeau
- Chevalier Duportail

Also: Our US Congress approved \$50,000 for the statue which was dedicated in 1891

### Question # 2

When the US Congress voted to participate in the 1900 Paris Exposition, the Lafayette Memorial Commission was created. To raise \$125,000 to dedicate a Lafayette Statue at the Exposition, a fundraising drive in American Schools called "Lafayette Day" was created. As

part of a nation-wide education program held on Oct 19, 1898, money was collected totaling \$45,858. This fell short of the goal. The Daughters of the American Revolution and the state of New York provided additional donations. The commission recommended a commemorative Lafayette Dollar coin to be sold at a premium price of \$2. One dollar would go towards the statue. Congressional approval of the final coin design included a conjoined portrait of both George Washington and Lafayette on the obverse. (On the reverse side is an image of the prototype of the statue). The Coin's production was on the Centennial of George Washington's death: Dec 14, 1899. The coin was not successful in raising funds. Only \$32,247 were raised for the statue. The remainder was melted down for other coins.

## New “Commons” At Lafayette College Named for Lafayette’s Ships

By Diane Windham Shaw

This fall Lafayette College’s newly-arriving first-year students, the Class of 2019, were assigned to one of five Commons as part of a new program called Connected Communities. Each Commons is housed together in one residence hall (or adjacent halls) and serves as the foundation for the students’ first-year community. Each Commons will develop a unique identity and members will remain affiliated with the same Commons throughout their time at Lafayette. Commons will gather throughout the year for special events and speakers, compete in first-year intramural sports, and host socials within their Commons and with members from other Commons.

Much deliberation was given to what names these five Commons should have, with famous graduates and early eating clubs among the ideas suggested. After the summer of *l’Hermione*, the notion of naming the Commons after Lafayette’s ships was “floated,” and was quickly adopted. Below are the names and the information provided about them in the student orientation guide:

The Commons’ names derive from five ships on which the Marquis de Lafayette sailed to and from America in his efforts to support America’s goal of independence by fighting alongside General George Washington in the American Revolution.

Here are descriptions of these remarkable vessels:



***La Victoire.*** In 1777, the 19 year-old Marquis de Lafayette purchased and outfitted *La Victoire*, a small merchant ship, in preparation for his voyage to America.

***The Alliance.*** In 1779, Lafayette returned to France on furlough on board America’s newest and finest warship, the *Alliance*. (He also sailed on the *Alliance* on his return journey to France in 1781.)

***L’Hermione.*** In 1780 Lafayette boarded the handsome new French frigate, *l’Hermione*, for the return trip to America, carrying with him the secret news that

the French would send a large expeditionary force to aid the Americans.

***The Cadmus.*** Arriving in New York harbor in 1824 to a riotous welcome on the packet *Cadmus*, the Marquis de Lafayette returned to America at the invitation of Congress for what became known as his “Farewell Tour of America.”

***The Brandywine.*** In 1825, the newly-built frigate, *Brandywine*, ordered named in honor of Lafayette by President John Quincy Adams, sailed down the Potomac for Lafayette’s final return voyage to France.



Above: Students of the Alliance Commons and Brandywine Commons

# Pope Francis addresses Joint Session of Congress

September 24, 2015



Top: Pope Francis leads prayer as members of Congress bow their heads with Lafayette looking on.

Bottom: Pope Francis addresses Congress under the gaze of Washington and Lafayette.



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**THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE**

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

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