



**AFL members gather in front of Daniel Chester French's iconic Minuteman Monument in Concord at the Annual Meeting in June 2016**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



October 7, 2016

Dear Friend of Lafayette,

It has been another half-year of growth and activity for the American Friends of Lafayette.

We continue to attract new members. Since March, 2016, 25 new members have joined – about one-third of them using the vehicle of PayPal.

Our June convention in Boston attracted 80 members who spent 4 days touring, learning and dining. At the annual banquet, professor and author John Stauffer presented his essay on “Lafayette and the American Abolitionists” which will be published in the catalogue of the exhibition that Diane Shaw is organizing at the Grolier Library in New York City. This exhibition – December 8, 2016 to February 4, 2017 – is thought to be the first that concentrates on Lafayette’s anti-slavery work and influence. Both the exhibition and the catalogue are entitled: *“A True Friend of the Cause”: Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement.*

During the annual meeting, Colonel Al Cleghorn suggested a new concept to make these gatherings even more substantive – break-out sessions on Saturday afternoon on topics related to Lafayette’s life, work and legacy. We intend to try this out at our 2017 meeting at Lafayette College.

During the Saturday morning session of the June meeting, Yorktown member David Bowditch proposed that the AFL undertake to commission and finance a Lafayette sculpture to be added to the Washington and De Grasse on the River Walk. The original concept was a quartet – including Lafayette and Rochambeau – but York County and other funders were only able to fund two statues which were installed in 2005.

By Sunday, AFL members had pledged \$6,000 towards the \$35,000 sculptor's fee. By the end of July, the Celebrate Yorktown Committee of the Yorktown Foundation had pledged \$10,000. As of this date, the AFL had raised an additional \$9,680 from our generous members!

The plan is to have the sculpture inaugurated on October 19, 2017, Yorktown Day. In 2017, it is the AFL's turn, as one of the 13 sponsoring organizations, to plan and coordinate the Yorktown Day events. How appropriate a time to reintroduce Lafayette to General Washington and Admiral De Grasse!

On September 14, 2016, I was privileged to address students at the Lafayette School in Everett, Massachusetts at the third annual Lafayette book presentation. Edward Everett, for whom the city was named, was an extremely accomplished man who held numerous important positions – including President of Harvard University, Congressman, Senator, Secretary of State, Ambassador to England and Governor of Massachusetts – as well as being a renowned orator. In that capacity, he barnstormed the country in the 1850's to raise money for the Mount Vernon Ladies Association with his Washington speech. After the Civil War broke, out he went on a speaking tour for the Union. He gave a typically long 2-hour address at Gettysburg moments before Lincoln's considerably shorter, but iconic, Gettysburg Address.

A Lafayette School in the City of Everett is appropriate because Edward Everett was also a great admirer of Lafayette.

As a young professor, he gave Harvard's welcoming speech to Lafayette in August 1824. In 1830, as editor of the *North American Review*, he reviewed *Lafayette en Amérique en 1824 et 1825* by August Levasseur (the book that I translated) and gave it and the Farewell Tour a favorable review. After Lafayette's death in 1834, Everett eulogized Lafayette at Faneuil Hall on what would have been Lafayette's 77<sup>th</sup> birthday, September 6, 1834. His eulogy – available online – is 100 pages long!

Finally, although Yorktown Day 2016 is on a Wednesday, Chuck Schwam and our Yorktown representative, Lea Gryk, as well as Fort Monroe's Robert Kelly and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's Peter Armstrong and Kate Gruber, have planned a wonderful two-day program. I hope to see many of you there.

Best regards,

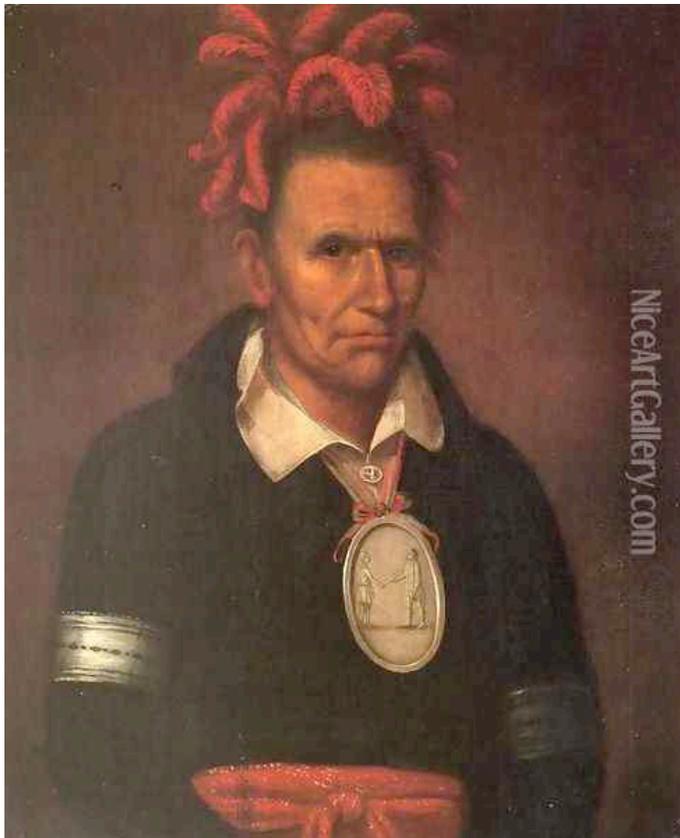
Alan R. Hoffman, President

**LAFAYETTE TRIVIA #1:  
Lafayette meets Red Jacket  
Ernest Sutton, MD and Janet Sutton, MLS**

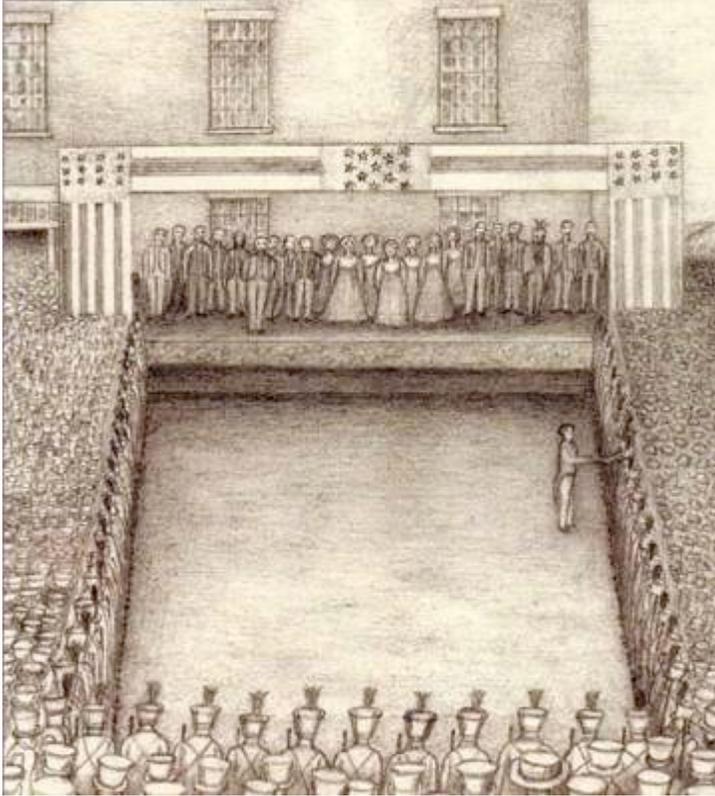
Amidst great celebration Lafayette arrived by boat in Buffalo, NY in the spring of 1825 as part of his grand tour. What was unusual in his welcome at the Eagle Tavern reception was that the Seneca diplomat and orator Red Jacket (aka Sagoyewatha) was in the receiving line. During the remainder of Lafayette's tour through the Six Nations Iroquois Confederation, he always asked to see the local Iroquois chiefs and people.

Upon meeting Red Jacket wearing a large silver peace medal from George Washington dated 1793, Lafayette asked if he was the young warrior 40 years earlier who spoke against the proposed 1784 Treaty of Fort Stanwix and wanted to go on fighting. Red Jacket replied "He is before you." Lafayette then commented that "Time has changed us very much for then we were young and active". Red Jacket rejoined that time was better for Lafayette for he still had a full head of hair, whereupon he removed his feathered cap to reveal his bald forehead.

What was Lafayette's critical role in the 1784 Treaty of Fort Stanwix with the Six Nation Iroquois Confederation following the end of the Revolutionary War, and what was his relationship with Red Jacket?



Red Jacket with President  
Washington's Silver 1793 Peace Metal.  
Painted by John Mathies in 1820. Sold  
at Christies in 2016 for \$845,000



Lafayette's Reception was at Eagle Tavern, Buffalo NY in 1825. Red Jacket is in upper right corner with feathers and Medal. A square cordon of soldiers holds back the enthusiastic crowd.



Peace Medal presented to Red Jacket by President Washington during his visit to Philadelphia in 1793. He had the artist paint his name above the name of George Washington on his 1820 portrait.

**Lafayette Trivia #2:  
She was Called *l'Hermione*  
By Ernest L. Sutton, MD and Janet Sutton, MLS**

Following the American victory over General Burgoyne at Saratoga, France signed the Treaty of Alliance with America thereby making the revolution a global war. After the invasion of England at the request of Spain proved unfeasible, Louis XVI decided upon a new strategy. An Expeditionary Force would be sent to America with 6,000 soldiers and six ships of the line to support Washington. Although command of the force was given to Comte de Rochambeau, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Comte de Vergennes permitted Lafayette to sail to America in advance with the news and supplies.

When Lafayette arrived at the Rochefort naval shipyard on the Atlantic coast near Bordeaux, the frigate *l'Hermione* awaited him. One of three of the fastest and most maneuverable frigates in the French navy, she belonged to the uniquely designed Concorde Class of warships. Her speed and maneuverability with lethal firepower permitted her to sail as an independent frigate on special missions. She was considered a highly prized command. Her ship's captain René Levassor de Latouche-Tréville, the greatest asset of the frigate, waited on deck for his secret passenger and mission.

*L'Hermione* delivered Lafayette swiftly and safely through enemy held waters two months before Rochambeau arrived.

To paraphrase Shakespeare:

"What's in a name? That which we call a ship *l'Hermione*  
By any other name would sail as swift".

Why was the name *l'Hermione* held in such esteem during that the French Navy used the name for twelve ships?



Hanging in l'Musée Nationale de la Marine in Paris is the 1762 painting by Joseph Vernet of Rochefort naval shipyard and arsenal. A close-up of the painting's foreground shows the Royal Rope Factory with suppliers of woolen blankets and rolls of rope in the foreground. *L'Hermione* carried 21.7 mi of rope. Lafayette departed from here on *l'Hermione* on March 21, 1780 for America.



During her 2015 Atlantic voyage, her captain Yann Cariou sailed *l'Hermione's* replica at one point with a top registered speed of 15.3 mph. He feels she could sail even faster.

## **NEW AFL MEMBERS**

**Below is a list of new members who have joined since our last Gazette issue. Welcome aboard !!!**

Francoise Brown	Bethlehem, PA
Frederick E. Detwiller	Georgetown, MA
Jean M. DuFour	Richmond, VA
Ben Goldman	Washington, DC
Odette Guénin	Saint Loubouer, France
Aoife Hufford	Old Lyme, CT
Michel Laudier	Falls Church, VA
Adrien Leleu & Bihuan Zhu	Jersey City, NJ
Philippe Lietard	Bethesda, MD
Pamela Murray	Easton, PA
Katherine O'Keefe	Annandale, VA
Shannon & Steven Reiss	Wayne, PA
Alexis Renault Sablonière	Paris, France
John Stauffer & Deborah Cunningham	Cambridge, MA
A. Norman Sturdivant	Fayetteville, NC
Mary & Philip Tetreau	Londonberry, NH
Bruno Vaes	Charles Town, WV
Nathan & Casey Waters	APO AE, Germany
Lois R. Winter	Yorktown, VA
Dr. Sarah M. Wynn	Eau Claire, WI

## **Membership Dues Changes Announced**

**By Chuck Schwam**

It was determined at our annual meeting this past June that our current dues membership rates were out of touch with other historical societies like ours. We always felt that the AFL was a wonderfully affordable organization that allowed individuals of all income levels to participate. We still very badly want to be an all-inclusive entity, however the limited funds received through new memberships and renewals have restricted our ability to fulfill some of our goals.

After months of work by an appointed dues committee, along with AFL board members and officers, we have come up with a new rate schedule that is fair and affordable. This will help the AFL for years to come. The added bonus is that the new rates will not take effect until January 1st, 2017, giving members several months to renew at current rates. This delay will also give members a chance to upgrade to life membership status with a \$100 savings before the end of this year.

Here is the new rate schedule with important additional information below...

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

\$20 = Student (no printed Gazette)

\$40 = Individual

\$75 = Family (unlimited family members at the same address)

\$375 = Corporate

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

\$300 = Individual

\$500 = Family (unlimited family members at the same address)

\$300 = Institutional

\$1,000 = Benefactor (will receive a significant gift to be determined)

### **ALSO**

- The current Individual Life membership rates will be grandfathered. If you are a life member now, then you will always be a life member. No additional dues are required. However, if current Life members would like to send an additional \$100 to meet the new rate (again, not mandatory), we will use these funds towards our current "Lafayette Statue in Yorktown" campaign and the member will be recognized in our Gazette newsletter.
- The Family Life membership designation is new and should be considered for married couples or full families of any size that live at the same address. It is important to note that if one member of the family is a current life member, the rest of the family is not. The Family Life membership gives everyone at one address a chance to become a full-fledged member of the AFL. This applies to the Annual Family membership as well. Consequently....
- Non-members (to include relatives of AFL members) attending the annual AFL meetings will be charged a fee of \$20.
- A printed copy of the AFL Gazette newsletter will be mailed to one address per issue (except Student membership). A "soft" copy of each issue of the Gazette will be emailed to all members as well (to include Student membership). If you choose to decline the printed copy, saving postage and printing, please let me know. Please understand however, that it is AFL's leadership stance that a printed copy of each Gazette is an important perk and right of membership.
- We expect this announcement to generate a great deal of activity between now and the end of the year. Dues and upgrades can be sent via check or Paypal. Please see instructions on our website at [www.friendsoflafayette.org](http://www.friendsoflafayette.org).

## Yorktown Victory Celebration

By Chuck Schwam

Below are the details for the upcoming Yorktown Victory Celebration event. If you have not registered for the event, and wish to do so, please contact Chuck Schwam at 240-676-5010 ASAP.

### Tuesday morning, October 18th:

At 11:00 a.m., The AFL will be provided a private tour of Fort Monroe. Given by AFL member and 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. We will meet at the Kelly's at 51 Bernard Road, Fort Monroe, Virginia.

At noon Robert and Katherine Kelly will host the AFL for brunch. This brunch will be subsidized by the AFL and is free to all members.

### Tuesday afternoon, October 18th:

At 2:30 p.m. we will meet at statue sculptor Cyd Players's studio for a private tour. Her studio is located at 5812 Mooretown Road, Suite B, in Williamsburg, Virginia

### Tuesday evening, October 18th:

At 6:00 p.m. at the Yorktown Victory Center the Yorktown Day Association will be holding it's annual dinner at the brand new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown (200 Water St, Yorktown, Virginia). This is a "dressy" affair with coats and tie required for men. The cost is \$55 per person. Pre-registration required.

### Wednesday Morning, October 19th:

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.

9:00 a.m. – Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson, Jr., at Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown, sponsored by the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

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 (most popular with AFL members)...or...lunch at the Custom House (pre-registration required).

**Wednesday Afternoon, October 19th:**

At 1:30 p.m., we will meet Lafayette statue sculptor Cyd Player at the location where the new Lafayette statue will be erected (along side General George Washington and Admiral François De Grasse). Ms. Player will discuss the placement of the Lafayette statue and answer any questions AFL members might have. The statues are located at approximately 323 Water St, Yorktown, VA 23690 (near Riverwalk Landing Marina).

At 3:00 p.m. we will converge again at the brand new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown (200 Water St, Yorktown, VA 23690). We will meet with Curator Kate Gruber who will talk to us about the upcoming exhibition that includes both General Lafayette and James Lafayette. Senior Director Peter Armstrong will discuss the museum's background and provide us with a private tour.

At 5:00 p.m. join us for the world famous AFL cocktail party... this year at George and Linda Bennett's house (119 Smith Street, Yorktown, VA 23690). Williamsburg resident Channing Hall has in his possession the surgical instrument that Dr. George Glentworth used to remove the musket ball from Lafayette's leg after the battle of Brandywine. Mr. Hall will show us this rare item and discuss it's origin. Please join us for this wonderful culinary and social event. \$10 at the door.



## In Memoriam

### **Bill Kirchner**

Longtime members of the American Friends of Lafayette will remember Bill Kirchner foremost for his thoughtful energy and vast knowledge of all kinds of printed matter and especially for his dedication to all things related to Lafayette. Bill operated a successful used and rare book business in Chattanooga for many years. When he found out about the AFL, he along with his wife Linda joined it enthusiastically. He started a new tradition that he followed throughout his active years of bringing a van loaded with Lafayette treasures --- books, pamphlets, ephemora --- to the annual meetings. During those sessions, members could comb over the treasures and add to their own personal collections. Even libraries enjoyed his discoveries.

As I began to wonder in those days if members of the organization thought I might follow Len Panaggio's model of serving as decades-long president, I began to think over who in the membership carried not only an enthusiasm for Lafayette but a wide and deep knowledge of the man. Bill was my first choice, and I was so relieved when he agreed to take on the presidency. His era as president saw the 2007 two hundred and fiftieth birthday celebrations of Lafayette and the opportunity for Bill to represent us at the White House and there to greet the presidents of the United States and France. However, the demands of both the presidency of the AFL and operation of a complex small business took their toll on Bill's health much quicker than we realized, and Bill's failing health forced him to give up the AFL presidency, which I then resumed. During his extended illness, we were amazed at the energy of Linda who saw him through those difficult days in rehabilitation and back to their home.

Though he was unable to attend annual meetings thereafter, Bill never lost his enthusiasm for things Lafayette. We share the sorrow of his family in his passing, but we remember fondly his grace, gentlemanliness, and constancy in guiding the organization through a very hectic time in its history.

With every good wish for the peace and comfort of his family,

Robert Rhodes Crout  
President Emeritus

31 March 2016

The American Friends of Lafayette  
Farinon Center—PO Box 9463  
Lafayette College  
Easton, PA 18042-1798

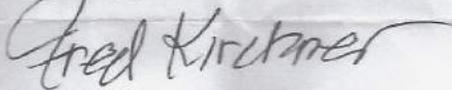
Dear President Hoffman and Officers of the AFL:

I write to you with sad news. My father, William Neill Kirchner, former President of the American Friends of Lafayette, passed away on February 21<sup>st</sup>. He was 79. One of the proudest moments of his life was representing the AFL at a White House dinner for French President Sarkozy, held on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007, celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Marquis' birth—and the assistance Lafayette provided to our young republic during the War for Independence.

As a long time member of the AFL, my father believed deeply in the mission of your organization. He spent much of his adult life studying the Marquis' contributions to American and French history.

I have enclosed a donation from my coworkers at the library where I work in Dayton, OH. Please accept this donation in my father's honor.

Thank You,



Fred Kirchner

# Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

No. 65  
May, 2003

Easton, Pennsylvania

## **ALLAN P. KIRBY, JR. RECEIVES LAFAYETTE LIBERTY AWARD Defines the precious gift of Liberty**

EASTON, PA — Allan P. Kirby, Jr., a friend and benefactor of The American Friends of Lafayette, was the recipient of the Lafayette Liberty Award at the Society's 70th annual meeting held on the campus of Lafayette College.

The award is given to an individual or organization that has made a notable contribution to the ideals that the Society promotes. Dr. Robert R. Crout, president of the Society, made the presentation at the dinner which was held in the Faculty Dining Room.

Mr. Kirby gave his expression of appreciation with a powerful message pertaining to the word "Liberty," a word that he crafted with Lafayette's devotion to liberty and fast forwarding its meaning to all of us in this time of universal terrorism.

An attentive audience heard his response,

"Lafayette Liberty Award — Nice word and I would like to say something to you about that word Liberty, which as you all know was very much a part of Lafayette's vocabulary.

During his first voyage to America he spoke of himself as a "defender of Liberty" and of America as a place of "Peaceful Liberty".

At the age 19 he was commissioned a Major General in the Army of the United States out of, among other reasons, "his great zeal to the course of Liberty".

And he certainly referred to the meaning and importance of Liberty throughout his life.

*Continued on page 3*

## **71st ANNUAL MEETING INCLUDES VISIT TO SOUTH CAROLINA'S LAFAYETTE'S 1777 LANDING PLACE Stellar Program includes visits to Hobcaw Barony and Charleston**

EASTON, PA — President William Kirchner and his wife Linda made a special visit to the Georgetown area of South Carolina a couple of months ago. They found the places associated with the young Marquis de Lafayette who arrived in America at Georgetown in 1777.

The American Friends of Lafayette will meet at the Litchfield Inn Beach & Golf Resort, Pawleys Island, South Carolina June 12 - 14. As of this printing, the following is a pretty solid outline of what we will enjoy and experience. There will be one last reminder mailing to our membership. Room reservations at the inn should be made no later than May 29. The special mailing will note that guests are welcome to the three-day conference. However, if there are those who wish to join us for the annual dinner on June 13 there will be a charge of \$35.

At Hobcaw Barony we will meet our new member, Mr. Harlow Unger, a biographer of Lafayette, where, we understand, he will be signing his latest book.

A connection was made by the Kirchners with the South Carolina Historical Society which will be holding its annual gala meeting on the evening of the annual meeting of The American Friends of Lafayette. As a result, we have accepted the Society's invitation to join their members at Hobcaw Barony after we have concluded our program on June 13.

Hobcaw Barony dates from 1718 when John Lord Carteret was granted by the Lords Proprietors a barony of 12,000 acres in English measurement in the Province of South Carolina.

Between 1760 and 1900, as many as 11 different plantations were managed for rice on Hobcaw Barony. The rice plantation era declined after



*William N. Kirchner*

## **WILLIAM N. KIRCHNER ELECTED PRESIDENT Succeeds Dr. Robert R. Crout**

EASTON, PA — Mr. William N. Kirchner was elected president of The American Friends of Lafayette at the 70th annual meeting of the society. He succeeds Dr. Robert R. Crout who served from 1997 until 2002.

Mr. Kirchner was born in Harvey, Illinois, and has resided in Chattanooga, Tennessee, since 1983 which he describes as the east side of Missionary Ridge. In 1977 he married Linda Lou Weston. Since 1990 the couple have operated a used and out-of-print bookshop (BLK Books) in Chattanooga. Mrs. Kirchner recently retired after 24 years as a media specialist in the state of Georgia's public school system.

*Continued on page 5*

*Continued on page 3*

**WILLIAM N. KIRCHNER (Cont'd)**

The 20th to be elected president, Mr. Kirchner received an A.B. in History from Dartmouth College in 1959. Two years later he gained his M.A. in History from Northwestern University. In 1973 he received his Master's Degree in Library Science at the University of North Carolina. Mr. Kirchner taught history at the college level during the 1960's. After returning to graduate work in library science at Chapel Hill, NC, he held several professional library positions in public library work prior to opening BLK Books in Chattanooga. He is an active member for many years of the Grace Episcopal Church in Chattanooga.

The Kirchners have been members of The American Friends of Lafayette since the early 1980's. It was during the time he was acting as Library Director of a three county system in northwest Georgia, with its headquarters in Lafayette (Walker County), GA from 1979-1982, that he uncovered the "real story" of how Lafayette, GA, became Lafayette in the 1830's.

With the help and guidance from The American Friends of Lafayette, he led his library and community in a successful campaign to secure the flag of the United States which flew over Lafayette's grave at Picpus Cemetery from July 4, 1980 to July 4, 1981 for the community and city of Lafayette, Ga.

Other officers elected were: Mr. Rudolph Cusumano, 1st Vice President; Mrs. Jean Hultgren, 2nd Vice President; Mr. Gene Hardin, Secretary; Mr. Philip Schroeder, Treasurer; and Ms. Diane Windham Shaw, Archivist of the Lafayette Collection by appointment of President Rothkopf of Lafayette College. The following will serve on the Executive Committee: Mr. John S. Wynn, Jr. (1st year of a 2 year term); Mr. Albert K. Oberst, and Mr. John Scotton (1st year of a 2 year term).

During Dr. Crout's term he worked to bring our By-Laws into a more practical fashion. His connections with scholars of Lafayette were valuable and were called upon to be guest speakers at our annual meetings. Dr. Crout made several trips to France meeting with the Count de Chambrun, and representing our Society at the July 4th ceremony at Lafayette's grave. Prior to his election as president he served as secretary. Dr. Crout has been working on a biography of Lafayette and we look forward to its publication.



*PARIS — Mrs. Caroline Lareuse, left, Vice Consul of France for the state of New Jersey, and Mrs. Jean Hultgren, placed a wreath on the grave of the Marquis de Lafayette on February 8 as part of the observance of Alliance Day. The celebration marked the 225th anniversary of the signing of the official treaty of friendship and commerce; a second treaty promised an alliance and aid to the United States.*

**HISTORIC MEDALS  
CAST FOR OUR  
SOCIETY IN 1934  
FOUND IN  
COLLEGE VAULT**

EASTON, PA — Several bronze medals cast especially for The American Friends of Lafayette in 1934 were found by an employee of Lafayette College while doing some tidying work in the college comptroller's office this past September.

The package had the name of our Society on it and was taken to Mr. Philip Schroeder, the Society's treasurer who serves as the Executive Assistant to the College President. The package contained 33 bronze medals. A medal was sent to President William Kirchner who examined it. The medal was ordered by The American Friends of Lafayette to commemorate the centennial of Lafayette's death, May 20, 1834.

Mr. Kirchner noted the initials of the medal's designer which was John Flanagan. He had designed medals for the Duke of Windsor and the Society of Libraries at New York University. He died in 1952.

Ms. Diane Windham Shaw, archivist at the College, located seven copies of the medal in the Lafayette Collection at the David Bishop Skillman Library on the campus.

It was also learned a medal was received as a gift from Mrs. A.H. Gilmer. It has a special inscription incised along the edge: "Presented to the American Friends of Lafayette by the artist, John Flanagan, May 20, 1934."

Mr. Schroeder, coincidentally, received a catalog in the mail at about the time of the vault discovery. It was from the Medallic Art Co. of New York which cast the medals! The company is still in business and was established many years ago.

Vice Consul of France (New Jersey) Caroline Lareuse presented one of the medals to the President of

*Continued on page 9*

## LAFAYETTE STATUE IN YORKTOWN

by Chuck Schwam

Prominently displayed along the waterfront in Yorktown, Virginia are life-sized statues of General George Washington and Admiral François De Grasse which were installed in 2005 and enjoyed by tens of thousands of visitors annually. The original concept was four statues - Washington, Rochambeau, De Grasse and Lafayette - but the funders ran out of money.

Inspired by a presentation by AFL member David Bowditch of Yorktown during the past annual meeting in Boston, the AFL Board appointed a Statue Committee to explore the feasibility of adding a statue of Lafayette. The Committee has completed considerable research and received encouraging support. Sculptor Cyd Player, who designed the existing statues, is excited and willing to produce the additional Lafayette statue. York County is also supportive of the proposal, and as with the original statues, will agree to take ownership and cover all costs associated with installation. York County, as owner, will provide care, maintenance, and security with no additional or residual liability to the AFL.

Equipped with this knowledge, the American Friends of Lafayette has committed to erect a statue of Lafayette to accompany Washington and De Grasse to accurately portray the October meeting between these important men. A new interpretive plaque recognizing Lafayette's important role in solidifying relations between France and America during the Revolution will also be created.

The entire project will cost \$35,000. Many AFL members have already made significant and generous donations or pledges totalling over \$16,000 to date. I also am excited to report that the Celebrate Yorktown Committee of the Yorktown Foundation voted to contribute \$10,000 to this initiative. Consequently, \$26,000 of the necessary \$35,000 has been received or pledged.

The AFL is committed to raise the remaining funds so the new statue may be dedicated on Yorktown Day, October 19, 2017. Yorktown Day 2017 is particularly significant as the AFL is the host organization for the Victory Celebration. Please help us raise the money to have the Lafayette statue completed by that day.

The new statue will accurately portray an important historical event during the Yorktown Campaign and provide an opportunity for tens of thousands of visitors to discover and recognize the role Lafayette played in shaping America's history. We humbly ask that you consider contributing to this exciting endeavour. The AFL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and contributions are eligible to be tax-deductible. All contributors will have their name posted in the AFL Gazette. Please consider helping us construct history. To help make the Lafayette Statue a reality, please mail a check with remittance below (or contribute via Paypal on our website at [www.friendsoflafayette.org](http://www.friendsoflafayette.org)).

-----**Cut and return**-----

Please circle the amount you plan to contribute to the Lafayette Statue in Yorktown:

\$25   \$50   \$100   \$1000   \$5000   Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks to: American Friends of Lafayette

You can mail your check to:

American Friends of Lafayette  
c/o Chuck Schwam  
302 Hart Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878



# Lafayette Statue in Yorktown Contributors

## We have received donations from:

Alan & Marilyn Hoffman  
Angier Brock & Carolyn Weekley  
Barbara Luck  
Bill Cole  
Caroline Lareuse  
Chelsea McCormick  
Chuck Schwam & Bonnie Fritz  
David & Deedy Jensen  
David & Rene Bowditch  
Don Scott \*In memory of Betty McPherson  
Durf & Barbara McJoynt  
Gerard Charpentier  
Hank & Diane Parfitt  
Ingrid Wood  
Jacobo Guerrero  
Jayne Smiles  
JC & Cynthia Raffety  
Jean Pierre & Biruta Cap  
Jeffery & Kim Finegan  
Jennifer Carver  
Jerry & Irene Meekins  
Jim & Lori Adkins  
John & Susan Henley  
Johnny Jeulin  
Jürgen Vsyck  
Lea Gryk \*In memory of Betty McPherson  
Lois Winter  
Masonic Lodge La Fayette 89  
Phil & Barb Schroeder  
Randy & Gayle Randol  
Richard & Elizabeth Auchter  
Rudy and Diane Cusumano  
Steven & Sydney Riddle  
Susan Cucchiara  
Vernon & Connie Eubanks

## Also:

A significant pledge from  
Order Lafayette

## and

A very generous grant from the  
Celebrate Yorktown Committee

## **A new AFL membership management tool and website**

Bonnie Fritz

At our Annual meeting in June 2016, Secretary Bonnie Fritz made a motion to add an expense to our budget to pay for a new online membership management tool called Wild Apricot. This expense increase will allow for the Board, the Membership Co-chairs Drs. Almut and Paul Spalding and the membership at large to better manage our organization's records. The membership voted and the motion was approved.

What this means to you.

- First, our website will be new and improved although the url address will be the same: [friendsoflafayette.org](http://friendsoflafayette.org).
- All members in good standing will have a website USER NAME and PASSWORD. Each member can create their own password.
- Members can update mailing addresses, email addresses, membership levels online through the website.
- Membership renewal fees can be processed online. Each member will receive an automatic reminder via email. The member can then send a check or pay online by credit card.
- There is a new Association email address that can be used to reach all Board members: [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)
- Members will be able to register for annual and special events online.

We are very excited to be upgrading to a professional online membership management tool. This will enable our Board to communicate with the membership at large much more efficiently. You will begin to receive emails from the @gmail address and from the Wild Apricot software. You may no longer be getting Association related communications from private email addresses.

We will be in the process of updating and improving the website over the next year. It takes a lot of training and time to convert 80 years of paper records into an online software system. Please be patient if you receive emails with information that seems in error.

Be on the lookout for new and improved looking emails from [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com) and @wildapricot.org so that you can log in and update your brand new user accounts!

Please direct any questions and concerns to: Bonnie Fritz at [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)

## **AFL Takes Part in Wreath-laying Ceremony for Lafayette Day in Virginia**

by Hank Parfitt, Second Vice-President, AFL

Organizers of the second annual Lafayette Day in Virginia invited the American Friends of Lafayette to participate again in this year's celebration. Last year, the AFL was instrumental in persuading the Virginia State Assembly to pass Joint Resolution No. 797, establishing an annual "Day of Honor" for Lafayette on March 14. The observance in Richmond featured a formal wreath-laying ceremony inside the Virginia State Capitol Rotunda. Other invited groups this year included the Sons of the American Revolution, the Virginia Chapter of the Society of the Cincinnati, the French-American Chamber of Commerce, and the Richmond Alliance Francaise.

Distinguished guests included Michel Charbonnier, General Consul of France in Washington DC; James Dillard from the Virginia State Board of Education; Jeff Lambert, Executive Director, General Society Sons of the Revolution; and eight members of the AFL! I was honored to represent the AFL with comments about our mission and goals and our dedication to the memory of Lafayette. Virginia's Secretary of Education was scheduled to deliver a brief speech on the life of Lafayette, but was caught in a traffic jam on I-95. Fortunately, I was able to give a summary of Lafayette's contributions to mankind, having brought with me a copy of the inscription that accompanies the statue of Lafayette in my hometown of Fayetteville, North Carolina. After that, Monsieur Charbonnier placed a wreath before the marble bust of Lafayette and delivered his message of good will from France and the importance of Franco-American relationships.

Mark Greenough, Tour Supervisor and Historian for the Virginia State Capitol, was our gracious host. He gave a mini-tour of the Rotunda and provided details of the Houdon bust, commissioned by the Assembly in December of 1784. The Assembly actually commissioned two busts and gave one of them to the people of France. That one was nearly destroyed in the Terror of 1792 and purportedly was repaired later by Houdon himself, although its whereabouts are unknown. The Lafayette bust in the Virginia Capitol was given its own niche in the new "Hall of Presidents" in 1930. Mrs. Betty Allen, the longest-serving Capitol Guide, gave an interesting explanation of the 11-ft by 16-ft painting *Storming of Redoubt 10 by American Troops at Yorktown* by Lami (Paris, 1840).



AFL members posed in front of the Houdon bust of Lafayette include (left-to-right) Alain Outlaw, Bill Cole, Jeff Lambert, Gayle Randol, Bob Kelly, Robert Kelly, and Diane and Hank Parfitt



French Consul Michel Charbonnier pays his respect to Lafayette

## Speech at Lafayette School - AFL Book Donation Ceremony

By Alan R. Hoffman

Lafayette School in Everett. Two names to be proud of.

Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de La Fayette, a French nobleman, was the best friend this Country ever had.

As Lin-Manuel Miranda wrote at the beginning of his song “Guns and Ships” in the hit, hip-hop musical *Hamilton*:

How does a ragtag volunteer army in need of a shower  
Somehow defeat a global superpower?  
How do we emerge victorious from the quagmire?  
Leave the battlefield waving Betsy Ross’ flag higher?  
Yo. Turns out we have a secret weapon!  
An immigrant you know and love who’s unafraid to step in!  
He’s constantly confusin’, confoundin’ the British henchmen  
Ev’ryone give it up for America’s favorite fighting Frenchman!  
Lafayette!

As the song indicates, Lafayette played a major role in the American Revolution, which he joined at age 19. He also supported American interests throughout his life. For example, during the 1780’s he lobbied successfully for opening up French ports to American trade and saved the whaling industry in Nantucket by brokering the sale of Nantucket whale oil to light all the street lamps in Paris.



President Hoffman Addresses the Students

Lafayette returned to America in 1824 at age 67 and spent 13 months visiting every state, then 24. Greeted as a conquering hero throughout the land, this last surviving Major General from the American Revolution made an indelible impression on the millions of Americans who came to pay their respects.

As a result, there are 80 cities, towns and counties named for Lafayette, a mountain in New Hampshire, many schools, including Lafayette College in PA and this one, a river in Virginia, and a lake in Florida. Numerous streets, squares and parks were named for Lafayette.

To understand his popularity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, look at the “Pictorial History of the United States,” printed in 1846. Lafayette, not Jefferson, Adams, Madison, Jackson or even Hamilton, shares top billing with Washington and Franklin.

During the “Farewell Tour,” a cottage industry of consumer goods sprung up and numerous painters flocked to paint him.

There are numerous statutes and monuments to Lafayette.

Lafayette was also a champion of human rights – a long-time anti-slavery advocate and a supporter of revolutions in Europe and South America in furtherance of his goal to advance the ideas and ideals of the American Revolution. He also advocated for expanded suffrage and against solitary confinement and the death penalty.

Edward Everett, for whom your city is named, was a scholar, a politician, a diplomat and a leading orator of his day.

He taught at Harvard, was later its President, was an author and served as editor of a leading scholarly journal, the *North American Review*.

Everett was a United States Congressman, United States Senator and Governor of Massachusetts and even ran for Vice President on the Constitutional Union ticket in 1860.

He was Ambassador to England and Secretary of State.

He was a renowned orator – he barnstormed around the country in the 1850’s giving his George Washington speech to raise money for the preservation of Mount Vernon, Washington’s home, and, after the Civil War broke out, he traveled through the Northern and Border States speaking on behalf of the Union. He gave a 2-hr address – all his speeches lasted that long – just before Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg address in 1863.

Quite a resume, to be sure.

Everett admired Lafayette. When Lafayette visited Harvard in August, 1824, Everett, then a philosophy professor, gave the welcoming address. In January of 1830, as editor of the *North American Review* he wrote a long review of the book that I translated from the French, *Lafayette en Amérique en 1824 et 1825*, and praised it, Lafayette and his recent tour of America. About Lafayette’s 13-month visit, he wrote: “an event, taken in all its parts, unparalleled in the history of man.” When Lafayette died, Everett eulogized him at Faneuil Hall on September 6, 1834, which would have been Lafayette’s 77<sup>th</sup> birthday.

So there was quite a connection between the man for whom your city is named and your school's namesake.

The story of Lafayette's role in the American Revolution can begin with the Battles of Lexington and Concord and the Battle of Bunker Hill.

In his oration on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1825, Daniel Webster testified to the significance of this great watershed event of our Revolution.

The battle of Bunker Hill was attended with the most important effects beyond its immediate result as a military engagement. It created at once a state of open, public war . . . . The appeal now lay to the sword, and the only question was, whether the spirit and the resources of the people would hold out, till the object should be accomplished. Nor were its consequences confined to our own country.

Then he turned to Lafayette, the Nation's Guest who was on the 10<sup>th</sup> month of his 13-month Farewell Tour of America. Lafayette – the guest of honor – had helped to lay the cornerstone of the monument and was seated in an arm-chair in front of the survivors of the Battle of Bunker Hill, other revolutionary veterans, a cordon of exquisitely dressed ladies and a crowd of 15,000 in an amphitheater constructed for the occasion at the foot of the Hill. Another 30,000 stood at the summit. Webster continued: "Information of these events, circulating through Europe, at length reached the ears of one who hears me. He has not forgotten the emotion, which the fame of Bunker Hill, and the name of Warren, excited in his youthful breast."

Confirmation of Webster's statement about the effect of the early battles of the American Revolution on the youthful Lafayette is found in Jared Sparks's writings. This scholar and Washington biographer interviewed Lafayette in France in 1828. Lafayette told him that he was first inspired to join the American cause at a dinner given in honor of the Duke of Gloucester, the brother of the English King, George III, at camp in Metz, France. Lafayette was 17 years old and a Captain in the French Army. The Duke, who sided with the Colonists against the policy of George III and his ministers, had recently received dispatches from the Colonies, which he shared with his table companions. Documentary evidence places the Duke's continental tour in August of 1775, two months after the battle of Bunker Hill.

Sparks quotes Lafayette as follows: "the cause seemed to me just and noble, from the representations of the duke himself; and before I left the table the thought came into my head, that I would go to America and offer my services to a people who were struggling for freedom and independence. From that hour I could think of nothing but this enterprise, and I resolved to go to Paris to make further inquiries."

The rest, as they say, is history.

Lafayette, then 19 years old, came to America in 1777 and joined the Continental Army as a Major General. He served in the Battle of the Brandywine, part of the British Army's successful campaign to take Philadelphia, where he was wounded. In 1778, he served at the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse in New Jersey and in the Rhode Island Campaign, in which a French Naval Squadron also participated, before returning to France, on furlough, in early 1779. In France, he rejoined the French Army. Because he was considered the expert on the war in America, Lafayette had frequent access to Vergennes and Maurepas, the foreign and prime ministers; and he used this access to bombard the ministers with ideas to advance the American cause. Maurepas groused that Lafayette would sell all the furniture at Versailles to help the

American cause. Specifically, in writing and orally, Lafayette lobbied for a French Expeditionary Force to be based in America.

The leading 19<sup>th</sup> century American biographer of Lafayette, Charlemagne Tower, Jr. wrote this about the July 18, 1779 memorandum that Lafayette sent to Vergennes in which he fleshed out his ideas for a French Expeditionary Force to be based in America:

This document is one of great importance in the history of our country, and it had a far-reaching influence upon the destinies of the United States. It represents, beyond doubt, [Lafayette's] greatest service to America. It was the starting-point of the series of events which led up to the surrender of the British army under Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Thus it was that in March 1780 Lafayette was dispatched back to America to rejoin the American Army and to inform Washington that the French were coming.

From aboard the frigate *Hermione*, he wrote Washington on Thursday, April 27, 1780: "I have affairs of the utmost importance that I should communicate to you alone." He disembarked from the *Hermione* at Boston on April 28 at Hancock's Wharf, now Lewis Wharf. He spent several days in Boston before travelling to Morristown, NJ by land where he imparted the news to Washington on May 10 – the French Expeditionary Force under General Rochambeau would be dispatched to America's shores.

Rochambeau arrived with his 5,000-man Army and squadron of ships in July of 1780 at Newport, Rhode Island. In early 1781, Washington dispatched Lafayette to Virginia with 1,200 Continental soldiers where Lafayette engaged the British under Lord Cornwallis in the spring and summer, ultimately entrapping the 7,000-man British Army at Yorktown. These operations became known as Lafayette's "Virginia Campaign." In the summer of 1781, what is now a National Historic Trail, the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, saw Rochambeau's and Washington's Armies join Lafayette's troops and the French West Indian Fleet under Admiral de Grasse, which had blockaded the York River and landed 3,000 additional French troops, for the siege of Yorktown which culminated in Cornwallis' surrender. The Franco-American victory at Yorktown ended major combat and led directly to the Treaty of Paris in 1783, which confirmed the independence of the United States of America.

So you see that your school's namesake, General Lafayette, was the point man for the Franco-American military campaign that created this great country of ours.



The Lafayette School, Everett, MA



Alan Hoffman, Dorothea Jensen, and Reenactor John Kelly of the Saintonge Regiment



After the Ceremony  
Photo credits – Anne Hoffman and David Jensen

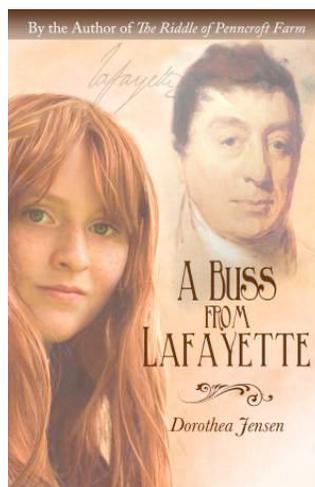
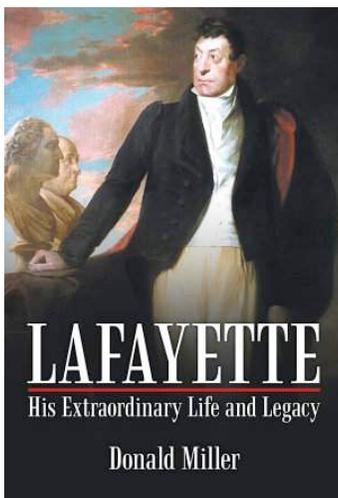
# **AFL BOOK DONATION 2016**

1. *For Liberty and Glory: Washington, Lafayette, and Their Revolutions*
  - By James Gaines
2. *Lafayette in Two Worlds: Public Cultures and Personal Identities in an Age of Revolutions*
  - By Lloyd Kramer
3. *The Journey of the French Coat: Adventures in the Wilds from Fort Niagara to the Our House Tavern*
  - By Gretchen A. Duling, Ph.D.
4. *Lafayette's Gold: The Lost Brandywine Treasure*
  - By Gene Pisasale
5. *Lafayette: Hero of Two Worlds* (Comic)
  - Donated by Henry E. Parfitt, M.D.
6. *Revolutionary Friends: George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette*
  - By Selene Castrovilla
7. *Enlightening the World: The Creation of the Statue of Liberty*
  - By Yasmin S. Khan
8. *A Buss for Lafayette*
  - By Dorothea Jensen
9. *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1824: Journal of a Voyage to the United States*
  - By Alan R. Hoffman (Translator)
10. *A Son and his Adoptive Father: The Marquis de Lafayette and George Washington*
  - By Diane W. Shaw, Christine H. Messing and John B. Rudder
11. *Symbol in Two Worlds: Essays on Lafayette*
  - By Diane W. Shaw, Robert R. Crout, Alan R. Hoffman and Paul S. Spalding
12. *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered*
  - By Laura Auricchio
13. *Lafayette: Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General*
  - By Marc Leepson
14. *The Mock Court Martial of British General Sir William Howe*
  - By Roy (Rudy) Cusumano

## **Book Notes**

by Chuck Schwam

1. *Lafayette: His Extraordinary Life and Legacy*, written by long-time AFL member Donald Miller, is celebrating its first anniversary. This extensive biography reads well and contains some new and interesting information. John Schulman of the *Pittsburg Post Gazette* wrote: “Donald Miller has written the most comprehensive biography to date of the extraordinary Marquis de Lafayette ..., a heroic figure in both the American and French Revolutions who deeply influenced the transition of France from a monarchy to a constitutional republic.” The Kirkus review begins: “An in-depth profile of Lafayette ‘hero of two worlds’,” and ends “a remarkably detailed portrait of a now-lesser-known icon.” For further information, you may contact Donald at [miller88@embarqmail.com](mailto:miller88@embarqmail.com)
2. *A Buss From Lafayette* by Dorothea Jensen. AFL member Dorothea (“Deedy”) Jensen launched this heartwarming novel for young adults this spring. Deedy is an award-winning author, and set her book in her hometown of Hopkinton, New Hampshire during Lafayette’s Farewell Tour. One Amazon reviewer has said: “With the current remarkable interest in the American Revolution due to the musical *Hamilton*, this delightful and poignant book of historical fiction comes along at just the right time to catch the wave, with a focus this time on Lafayette and his many vital contributions to the revolution ... In many ways the book is a wonderful paeon to Lafayette, whose influence on our history has been forgotten by so many. But the book is also the story of fourteen-year-old Clara, a thoroughly engaging young heroine full of tremendous energy and agency. She captivates, charms and ultimately steals the heart of the reader, young or old.” More information can be found at [www.abussfromlafayette.com](http://www.abussfromlafayette.com).
3. *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825* by August Levasseur and translated by Alan R. Hoffman. This year saw Hoffman’s translation of Levasseur’s account of Lafayette’s Farewell Tour go into its third printing. It is also available as an e-book at all major e-book distributors. David McCullough wrote: “Hoffman has made a very great contribution with his translation of Levasseur’s *Journal*.” The Choice reviewer, C.W. Haury of Piedmont Virginia Community College said: “The journal is truly a visitor’s mirror of the time. Summing up: Highly recommended!” More information may be found at [www.lafayetteinamerica.com](http://www.lafayetteinamerica.com).



## ANNUAL MEETING 2016

By Chuck Schwam

The American Friends of Lafayette held its 2016 annual meeting from Thursday June 9th to Sunday June 12th in Waltham, Massachusetts. Hosted by President Alan Hoffman, over eighty members gathered for this annual event.

On Thursday, June 9th, we convened for our welcome reception. Our first speaker, Jean-Noël Barrot is a professor at MIT, an adviser for Chavaniac and Conseiller départemental de Haute-Loire. Mr. Barrot informed AFL members about the upcoming Lafayette exhibition at Chavaniac.

Our next speaker was David Noonan who is a local Boston historian, and he previewed the many sites in Boston that we were to visit in the upcoming days. We were then entertained by Master Sculptor Pierre Lefebvre and his magnificent bust of General Lafayette. Sarah Gillens then led us with the singing of *The Sword of Bunker Hill* with flute accompaniment by Lorraine Meyette. The song was supported with interpretive acting by Alan Hoffman, Hank Parfitt and Chuck Schwam. The festivities concluded with the screening of a nine act play produced by the Friends of Hermione titled *LAFAYETTE*.

On Friday morning June 10th, AFL members were led by experienced Boston tour guides on a leisurely mini Freedom Tour walk which featured Faneuil Hall, the Boston Massacre site and the Old Granary Cemetery. We also visited the site where Lafayette stayed for several days after he arrived on the *Hermione* in April of 1780. The walk also took us to the Boston Common and the Lafayette Monument erected to him in 1924 to commemorate his passage across the Common to the State House on August 24, 1824. We concluded our walk by visiting the State House for a private tour. We saw the two chambers where Lafayette was greeted in 1824 and 1825. The tour concluded as we were given a private viewing of Lafayette-related letters and documents.

Later that afternoon we lunched at the lovely Shirley-Eustis House. Lafayette stayed overnight at this home on August 24, 1824. We toured the house and the bedroom where Lafayette slept. The highlight was seeing the original carriage that brought Lafayette to Roxbury from the Rhode Island border. Our coaches then whisked us away for a tour of the Bunker Hill Monument and Museum. This is where Lafayette laid the cornerstone in 1825.

Our annual banquet was held at the Embassy Suites in Waltham. After a lively cocktail hour, we gathered for our banquet and enjoyed a delicious meal. The keynote speaker was John Stauffer. Mr. Stauffer is a Professor of English, American Studies and African American Studies at Harvard. Author of 19 books, Mr. Stauffer most recently co-authored *Picturing Frederick Douglass*, the most photographed person in 19th century America. He provided a lively talk about Lafayette's influence on American abolitionists.

The next morning, Saturday, June 11th we conducted our annual business meeting. Several officers gave their annual reports and we discussed the need to increase AFL dues. The Lafayette Statue in Yorktown initiative was born here as David Bowditch addressed the members about his idea. The best moment of the meeting was our skype session with *Hermione* sailor Aurore le Vilain. Her wit and insight absolutely delighted one and all.

After a short coach ride we lunched at the Lexington Historical Society where we were welcomed by LHS President and AFL member Bill Poole. AFL members then toured Buckman Tavern with an exhibition about the feud between Lexington and Concord that erupted during Lafayette's 1824 visit: "Who fired the first shot?" We also saw the 39 foot banner from Lafayette's farewell tour. We later visited Concord and the Rude Bridge site where we saw Daniel Chester French's iconic Minuteman Monument.

That evening AFL members were feted at the home of the French Consul in Cambridge, Massachusetts. With Champagne flowing and French hors d'evours passing, the elegant garden party reception was a fitting end to a wonderful day.

The next morning, Sunday, June 12th, our weekend concluded with a fabulous brunch at Alan and Marilyn Hoffman's House in Londonderry, New Hampshire. Party with the President was a big hit with everyone as they dined on scrumptious food and perused President Hoffman's extensive Lafayette collection.

Chuck Schwam shares a moment with Pierre Lefebvre at French Consul's Garden Party



Caroline Lareuse at the Massachusetts State House in front of a plaque commemorating her Uncle, Norman Prince who was a Lieutenant Pilot with the Lafayette Escadrille



Sailor Aurore LeVilain



French Consulate Residence, 194 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA

**Listen My Friends:**  
by Sarah Gillens



Listen my friends and you shall hear  
Of the AFL in Boston, hearing about Revere  
And Lafayette on his tour in 1825.  
We'd be listening to guides, bringing history alive!



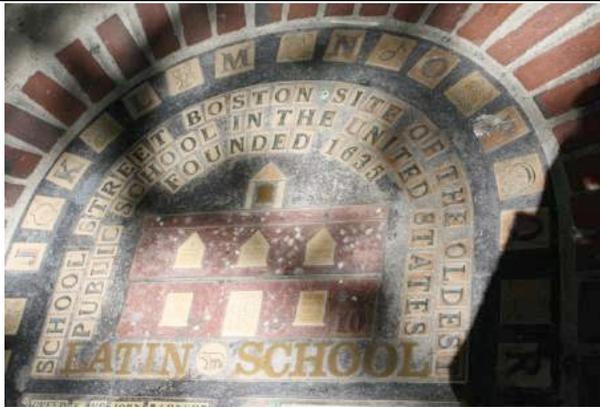
"The buses will soon land, the two you'll soon see"  
Warned Chuck, who teamed up with wife, Bonnie.  
They were bus captains with plenty of charm,  
Answering questions or offering an arm.



David Noonan led our group on what was once Boston's shore,  
Faneuil Hall loomed ahead, security guards at the door,  
Cricket and bull weathervanes, duly observed as we shuffled our feet,  
Over cobblestoned walkways toward Congress Street.  
We envied young Charles as he matched David, stride for stride,  
Perhaps becoming the next generation's tour guide.



We hiked the Freedom Trail, saw the Old State House on the left side,  
Stepped around other tour groups, keeping up with our guide.



Famous for its rolls, the Parker House stood nearby,  
At Boston's first Public Latin School, established in 1635.



We should have seen Franklin's statue but it was gone.  
He had stood for many years on the front lawn.  
I'd like to think he got excited and "lost his head",  
But a strong wind blew him off his pedestal instead.  
His bronze self lay in a body bag for more than a day,  
Whilst the park service figured how to carry him away.



Arriving at the Old Granary burial grounds, finding shade from the sun,  
Seeing where Boston Massacre victims were buried as one,  
Reading epitaphs for Sam Adams, John Hancock and Revere as we tread,  
Carefully, reverently, honoring the famous dead.



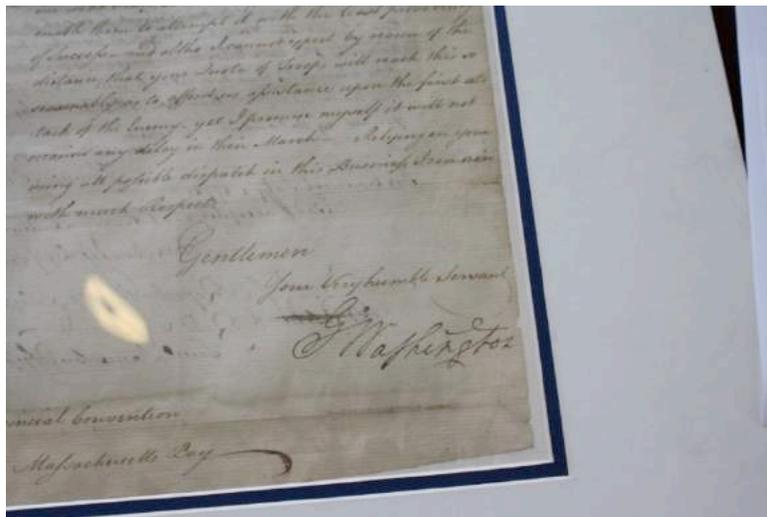
Going uphill, past the King's Chapel and Lafayette Mall,  
We heard of Lafayette's meeting children, big and small.  
Each had a ribbon and waved eagerly as he passed  
To meet Governor Eustis at the State House at last.  
In Boston Lafayette was greeted, feted and admired,  
Until every speech was delivered, each cannon fired.



Our AFL group imagined the children lining this street  
As they waited patiently for Lafayette to greet.  
We looked to the State House, high on a hill  
Looking stately, gold domed and still.  
We marched past large trees and other tourists as well,  
Pausing at the crest to rest a spell.



The Shaw Memorial was nearby, honoring Civil War African American's who kept pace, Following their general's horse showing the horrors of war on its face.



We moved through security, passing the metal check.  
"Better to be on the safe side," I expect.  
We saw original correspondences on display,  
Lined up on a long table, an impressive array.  
Lafayette accommodations seemed to be order of the day,  
The rights of citizenship, another honor that came his way.

## **AFL Meeting 2017**

June 8th to June 11th

By Chuck Schwam

The American Friends of Lafayette is delighted to announce that it will hold the 2017 annual meeting in and around Lafayette College from June 8th to June 11th. We will be changing the format a bit with exciting plans that I'm sure everyone will enjoy.

Our hotel headquarters will be in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. This lovely town is a swath of Americana with quaint shops and historic buildings. Our hotel will be situated on Main Street, only blocks from where Lafayette was first brought after taking a musket ball in his leg at the battle of Brandywine. Main Street Bethlehem also boasts the oldest continuously run bookstore in the world. We will provide a guided walking tour of Bethlehem during the weekend.



There will a welcome reception on Thursday night. We will budget plenty of time for socializing that evening as many of you only see one another once every year. We will provide light refreshments and lively speakers.

As in past years, we will spend Friday touring historic sights via motor coach. The Morristown encampment will be a highlight of that day along with other important landmarks pertaining to Lafayette. We plan on holding our banquet that evening at Historic Bethlehem Hotel. The history and beauty of this hotel alone would make it the best hotel we have booked in recent years. The Historic Bethlehem Hotel boasts past guests that include world leaders, famous entertainers and athletes.

On Saturday, we will spend the entire day at our Mecca, Lafayette College in Easton Pennsylvania. Amongst the stately buildings and exquisite campus grounds, we will hold a breakfast and our annual

business meeting. Of course Diane Shaw will have some special Lafayette-related artifacts for us to see. As Director for Special Collections & College Archives and the AFL's own Curator, Diane always seems to have new and exciting objects to display.

After lunch on Saturday at the college, there will be a new discussion-group format unveiled. We plan to organize break-out sessions on topics related to Lafayette's life, work and legacy. At the college's Skillman Library, we will have historians and authors situated in several rooms associated with different topics. AFL members will be able to move from room to room engaging with other AFL members and the experts in small group settings. I'm sure that this new format will prove to be educational and great fun.

On Saturday evening, we attend a reception with an exhibition of Lafayette portraits in the College Art Gallery. Afterwards, we will have dinner in Lafayette College's Wilson Room that boasts a stunning, modern stained glass rendering of Lafayette.

As in years past, transportation to all of the above events will be provided. We will hold a Sunday brunch as well. Several guest speakers have been lined up as we are already preparing for this great weekend. I will send more details, hotel arrangements and registration information in early 2017. For now, please mark the dates of June 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 on your calendars. 2017 might prove to be our best annual meeting ever.



## **The American Friends of Lafayette Flag: Our Colors**

Jerry Meekins

This past Yorktown Day 2015, I had the distinct honor of being the AFL honorary flag bearer at the Yorktown Day wreath-laying ceremony. I was not only honored, I was very proud to accompany our flag during the ceremony.

Afterwards, while reflecting, I realized that I knew very little about our flag and its history. In a conversation with Chuck Schwam, Treasurer, about the flag, we decided that I should research the flag's history and write an article for the *Gazette*. It's important that our members know about the history of our most beautiful flag.

I want to thank the following members for their time and assistance in my research: Diane Shaw, Phil Schroeder, George and Linda Bennett, Robert Crout and Caroline Lereuse. All of the documentation that I refer to is from the Special Collections at Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

I'm disappointed that my research came up short. I cannot say with certainty that this history of our flag is totally accurate, or complete. I will continue to look for more information. With that said, this is what we learned about our Society's colors.

The first correspondence about the flag is a letter dated Oct. 28, 1933, from Judge Walter P. Gardner, an AFL founder and AFL President, to Louis Annin Ames, Esq., President of Annin & Co., Flag Makers of New York, and AFL member. The Annin flag company is still in existence today. I believe that it is no longer run by the Annin family. I was not able to get any information from the Company, nor did I make contact with anyone in the Annin family.

This first letter is about the initial idea for an official AFL flag. The flag was to be ready for the observance of the centenary of Lafayette's death the following year on May 20, 1934. The next letter, on Annin & Co. letterhead, dated Oct. 31, 1933, was from Mr. Ames to Judge Gardner. This letter was a very positive response to the idea of an official AFL flag. The letter also mentions a sketch, not provided, of the proposed flag. The next correspondence, dated Nov. 4, 1933, was a letter from Judge Gardner to Professor A. H. Gilmer, Professor at Lafayette College. This letter requests advice and assistance regarding the Lafayette Coat of Arms. It also mentions the involvement of Stuart Wells Jackson, a leading Lafayette collector, and another founder of the AFL. Mr. Jackson, "owns a Volume from Lafayette's Library (La Grange), on the cover of which there is an impression of the Coat of Arms." This is the Coat of Arms used for our flag. On Nov. 9, 1933, a letter from Mr. Ames to Mr. Jackson details the specifications and cost of the first and original AFL flag, with a sketch.

Although there are a few more letters, the last significant one is dated April 3, 1934, from Mr. Ames, to Mr. Jackson. It states that the flag of the Society was delivered some weeks prior. There is a handwritten note, "Cost of Flag \$350.00 was divided between Gardner & Jackson."

The following is a picture of our Society's colors taken recently by Diane Shaw at Lafayette College. Details from the Nov. 9, 1933 letter are provided below.



Size: 4 1/3'(52") x 5 1/2'(66")

Material: U.S. Regulation Federal Banner Silk  
Hand embroidered with silk embroidery, trimmed with 2 1/2" hand knotted  
U.S. Regulation gold colored silk bullion fringes.

We believe that the aforementioned flag, currently kept at Lafayette College, is the original 1934 AFL flag. However, there is another AFL flag, very similar, but not exact, kept by the National Park Service, along with other prominent Societies' flags, in Yorktown, VA. These flags are used during the annual Oct, 19<sup>th</sup> Yorktown Day celebration. There is little known about the history of this particular flag.

Here is my best explanation based on conversations with several longtime members, most specifically, those mentioned earlier who helped me with my research. Sometime during the 1980's, at an AFL meeting, a past member, Tom Gardner, grandson of Judge Gardner, suggested having another flag made. We believe the reason was twofold. First, to protect and preserve the original flag for posterity. Second, to have an AFL flag permanently kept at Yorktown for the annual Yorktown Day celebration. The Yorktown flag has no manufacturing markings. I have not found any documentation regarding this flag. Therein lies the mystery and the need for more research. Suffice it to say, both flags are beautiful and meaningful.

Next year, 2017, we plan to have our annual meeting in and around the area of Lafayette College. This will be an excellent opportunity to not only see the original AFL flag, but also many other artifacts and memorabilia associated with Lafayette. I also recommend a visit to Yorktown for the celebration of Yorktown Day, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>. Every year, our beautiful flag, along with the other prominent flags connected with the Yorktown Association, as well as State, District of Columbia and Territorial flags, join in the parade of flags at the wreath- laying ceremony at the Monument of Alliance and Victory.

I enjoyed my research. I can now say that I know about our Society's most beautiful flag. I am very happy and proud to share this information with each and every one of you.

## Yorktown Custom House receives Gift of Lafayette Commemorative Soil

by Jennifer Carver

In 1824 when the Marquis de Lafayette returned to America, he brought with him a large wooden chest that he filled with soil. He took it back to France so that he could be buried on American soil and that soil lines the bottom of his grave. When the replica of his ship, *L'Hermione*, was ready to set sail for its historic voyage last year, members of the Hermione Lafayette Association went to the Chateau de Chavaniac, Lafayette's castle, where he was born and lived throughout his life, and collected soil from under the large oak tree in the front. It was placed in a velvet pouch, then in a metal canister and was brought onboard the *L'Hermione* to sail with the ship to America. This was given to Brigitte van den Hoven-Smith, the President of the Florida Friends of Hermione Lafayette in America Inc., and an Associate of the Comte de Grasse Chapter NSDAR, to be presented to an appropriate place to honor the Marquis de Lafayette.

Ms. van den Hoven-Smith recently traveled from Florida to present the treasure to the Comte de Grasse Chapter at the Custom House in Historic Yorktown. It will be on display with other Lafayette commemoratives in the Custom House museum room which is open for public visitation.



Pictured left to right: Ms Brigitte van den Hoven-Smith presents gift of Lafayette Commemorative Soil to Comte de Grasse Chapter Past Regent Kim Claytor at the Yorktown Custom House

## **President Ronald Reagan's "Lafayette Letter"**

by Jean-Noel Barrot

The year of 1989 was the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution where Lafayette played a crucial role. In that year, Jacques Barrot, then congressman of Haute-Loire and President of the Department Council, former Secretary of Health under President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, was supposed to meet with President Ronald Reagan at a party thrown by a mutual friend. They eventually did not meet, but Jacques Barrot extended an invitation to President Reagan and his wife Nancy to come and visit the Château de Chavaniac.

Lafayette was born and raised in the Château de Chavaniac, a fortified manor house furnished in the Louis XIII style, surrounded by magnificent gardens and located in Chavaniac-Lafayette, in the southeastern part of the Auvergne region of France. During WW1, the Château was acquired by industrialist John Moffat for the French Heroes Lafayette Memorial Fund, an American philanthropic organization, to serve as a school and an orphanage. Many Jewish children were hidden there during WW2. By 1960, over 25,000 children in need had spent time in Chavaniac. After Moffat's death in 1966, the Château was transferred to a French foundation. The Department Council became the owner of the Chateau in 2009.

In his response to Jacques Barrot, President Ronald Reagan expressed his regrets for not being able to meet, and his intention to visit the Chateau with his wife Nancy. He praises La Fayette, as "a man who gave himself to both our countries in promoting liberty, equality, fraternity". President Reagan never visited the Chateau, but we sincerely hope that a United States President will visit in 2026, for the 250th anniversary of Independence, when the Chateau is scheduled to be fully refurbished.

PLEASE SEE IMAGE ON NEXT PAGE



RONALD REAGAN

February 28, 1989

Dear Mr. Barrot:

I was sorry not to have had the opportunity to meet you at a most splendid party thrown by Al Midani at his home in Los Angeles.

Although we missed this chance to meet, I am grateful for your thoughtfulness in extending an invitation to visit the castle of CHAVANCIAC-LA FAYETTE should our travels take us to Europe. Nancy and I still have very fond memories of our visits to your country, and have made note of your kind offer.

Having recently celebrated our Bicentennial of the Constitution, I can certainly appreciate your enthusiasm in paying tribute to La Fayette, a man who gave of himself to both our countries in promoting "liberty, equality, fraternity."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Reagan".

Mr. Jacques Barrot  
Depute de la Haute-Loire  
President du Conseil General  
Chemin de Lavee  
43200 Yssingeaux  
FRANCE

*(This article by Leonard Panaggio is reprinted from the May 2003 issue of The Gazette)*

## ***Historic Medals Cast for Our Society in 1934 Found in College Vault***

EASTON, PA – Several bronze medals cast especially for The American Friends of Lafayette in 1934 were found by an employee of Lafayette College while doing some tidying work in the college comptroller's office this past September (2002).

The package had the name of our Society on it and was taken to Mr. Philip Schroeder, the Society's treasurer who serves as the Executive Assistant to the College President. The package contained 33 bronze medals. A medal was sent to President William Kirchner who examined it. The medal was ordered by The American Friends of Lafayette to commemorate the centennial of Lafayette's death, May 20, 1834.

Mr. Kirchner noted the initials of the medal's designer which was John Flanagan. He had designed medals for the Duke of Windsor and the Society of Libraries at New York University. He died in 1952.

Ms. Diane Windham Shaw, archivist at the College, located seven copies of the medal in the Lafayette Collection at the David Bishop Skillman Library on the campus. It was also learned a medal was received as a gift from Mrs. A.H. Gilmer. It has a special inscription incised along the edge: "Presented to the American Friends of Lafayette by the artist, John Flanagan, May 20, 1934."

Mr. Schroeder, coincidentally, received a catalog in the mail at about the time of the vault discovery. It was from the Medallion Art Co. of New York, which cast the medals! The company is still in business and was established many years ago.

Vice Consul of France (New Jersey) Caroline Lareuse presented one of the medals to the President of the French Sons of the Revolution, M. Helie de Noailles, duc d'Ayen. It was on February 6, 1778, that the official treaty of friendship and commerce, which made France the first nation to recognize the United States of America as an independent nation, was signed. A second secret alliance, in which France agreed to fight on the side of the American colonies, assured the success of their revolution against England.

Upon receiving the medal, M. De Noailles gave this response: "It goes without saying that the French, the English and the Americans will always find themselves supporting the same common values we gave to the world, three pillars of democratic revolution: The Magna Carta and the Peaceful Revolution in Great Britain, the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Declaration of Rights of 1789."

Mrs. Lareuse and Mrs. Jean Hultgren were in Paris for the observance of Alliance Day. The celebration's program began on February 4 with a welcome party. The next day a visit was made to Lafayette's grave at Picpus Cemetery. Later that day there was a flame ceremony at the Arch of Triumph. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, among other activities, was a wreath laying at the statue of

Benjamin Franklin. A highlight on the 7<sup>th</sup> was a dinner at the Paris City Hall.

On the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> there was a private visit to the State Apartments in the Palace of Versailles followed by a formal gala dinner.

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**Postscript:** AFL President Bill Kirchner reported subsequently on his research, which revealed that a number of the medallions, perhaps 300-350, were commissioned by The American Friends of Lafayette and were made available on a subscription basis in 1934 by and for the benefit of the society. In 2006 thirty medallions remained (and still remain in 2016) in the possession of AFL after one was presented to the President of the French SAR, as noted above, and two were conferred to presenters at AFL's annual meeting in Troy NY in 2006. The minutes of the annual meeting that year contain the following entry: "There are approximately 30 Flanagan medals left and we must be judicious in giving them as gifts to various presenters. The executive committee will look into the distribution of the medals and present their ideas which in turn should turn into AFL policy. Additionally do we want to recast the medal? Do we want to sell the medals as a fundraiser? A motion was made by Arline Panaggio and seconded by John Scotton not to distribute any more Flanagan medals until the issue is resolved." The motion was approved



**Gilbert at the Table in Chavaniac**  
by Biruta Cap



Gilbert spent the first eleven years of his life on the family estate in Chavaniac, in the central mountainous Auvergne where winters are severe and communications over tortuous roads difficult and slow. Therefore the cuisine of this isolated region remained very traditional, characterized by dishes based on locally sourced foodstuffs—from the garden, the orchard, the neighboring farm or the hunt. Cold-climate crops—root vegetables, onions and cabbage—were staples; the orchards produced apples, plums, cherries and chestnuts; pastures sustained bovines and sheep. Farmyards would also have pigs, rabbits and fowl. And boars were plentiful in the extensive woodlands. These were the ingredients in dishes young Gilbert might have found set before him at Chavaniac—not fancy refined fare, but hearty soups, stews, and roasts and *gratinées* made with tasty Cantal cheese. Desserts were fruit tarts and sweetened soufflés made with the readily available eggs and the fresh or dried bounty of the orchard, such as flan made with wine-soaked prunes.

Gilbert seems to have had a sweet tooth, as may be inferred from his enthusiastic appreciation of the Moravian rice cake he enjoyed while convalescing in Bethlehem, PA after his injury sustained at Brandywine. As a child, he must have looked forward to the traditional Easter bread of Auvergne, *fouace de Pâques*—a raisin-studded and brandy-perfumed sweet yeast bread similar to the Christmas *Stollen* of Germany.

But his regular daily fare most likely featured the filling and nourishing meat-enriched egg dishes and good crusty country bread with cheese: just what a super-active youngster who played with the village boys or roamed the woods and hills needed to sustain his energy.

After the potato became fashionable in France in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, his doting aunts and grandmother may have added it to the traditional omelet. The *Omelette Brayaude* (similar to quiche, minus the crust) and *truffado*, a potato purée enriched with Auvergne’s famous Cantal cheese, are still on the roster of local cuisine along with the more recently popularized onion soup made with Cantal cheese, and Auvergne’s stockpot called *potée*, featuring several meats and cabbage.

#### OMELETTE BRAYAUDE for 4

For the base: 4 potatoes, 8 eggs, one slice of salt pork

For the “sauce”: 1.5 oz. of shredded gruyère-type cheese, plus 2 tbsp. *crème fraîche*

Preparation:

1. Cut up the *lardons* into sticks and render on low heat to release the fat. (Discard excess fat.) As a substitute, thick bacon could be used, with excess fat removed.
2. In the meantime, wash, dry and cube the potatoes into small dice. Add to the melted fat and *lardons* and cook on low until potatoes soften.
3. In the meantime, beat the eggs, adding salt and pepper to taste.
4. For the enriched version that makes it special, shred the cheese and mix with the *crème fraîche*. (If unavailable, mix sour cream with liquid cream in approximately equal amounts.)
5. When the potatoes are cooked, pour on the beaten eggs. Cook omelet as usual. Just before serving, while folding, pour on the cheese and cream mixture. Steps 4 & 5 are what makes this omelet special.

I made this in my “test kitchen” **for two** as a dinner entrée, adjusting the amount of ingredients to make it more suitable for modern sedentary urbanites. But it was quite filling nevertheless—and absolutely delicious. Accompaniments: a big salad before the omelet, and good crusty bread and some robust red wine. No dessert needed—maybe just a peach.

#### 21<sup>st</sup> century *omelette brayaude* for 2

2 slices of lean, thick bacon, sliced crosswise in 1/2” strips (turkey bacon, maybe)

3 eggs (from humanely raised chickens, preferably)

1 oz. of shredded gruyère-type cheese

1 tbsp. of sour cream AND heavy or light cream **each** (approximately)

Proceed as above; be sure to have the “sauce” (cheese & cream mix) ready to pour on as you fold the omelet. *Voilà! Bon appétit!*

### Sitting in Lafayette's Chair – Part 2 of 3

By Jessica Holy (Woodbridge, VA)



Welcome Sign

The second home we visited was Lafayette's childhood home: Chavaniac. This castle is surrounded by gorgeous country that reminds me so very much of Virginia's countryside with the rolling hills, variety of trees, and summer greenery. The town of Chavaniac is small but incredibly proud of its hero. There were welcome signs featuring his image, written in English and French, that came into view before the castle itself did. We were greeted by a small group of French historical reenactors who represented just a small fraction of the French battalions that fought in the American Revolution. We also met with the president of the organization that maintained the castle. We had to split our group of 30 into two; I was with the group that went through the castle first.



Chateau Chavaniac

We went up a grand staircase that had a painting of Lafayette arriving in America at the top. I had never seen it before but it was beautiful. Our first stop was in a huge salon that was filled with busts of Lafayette and his contemporaries. Once more, Lafayette's bust was staring at Washington's. After this, we had to navigate several hallways that featured portraits of Lafayette, his family, and his contemporaries. We stopped in one room that had portraits and short statements about Lafayette from his biggest supporters and detractors. We passed through a medieval part of the castle that well-meaning Americans had painted with medieval frescoes.



AFL Members in the Grand Salon

We bypassed the gift shop for a moment to stop briefly in a place called the Fresco Room. It was covered in murals that depicted different key events that occurred in Lafayette's life. There was also an introductory video that played on a small television screen – normal tours of the castle would start here. I am going to venture that usually the tours are self-guided for there is museum-like signage in every room and there is an audio tour device that can be borrowed from the gift shop.



Lafayette Memorabilia

We stopped briefly in the kitchen and took a longer stop in the treasure room. This room was full of precious artifacts from Lafayette's life – my favorite was the ring given to him by George Washington Parke Custis that contained George Washington's hair. After this we climbed another flight of stairs to reach Lafayette's bedroom. He was born in this room and slept there whenever he was at home. I believe the bed in it was original. My favorite boyhood portrait of Lafayette hung in this room, as well as the George Washington portrait by Gilbert Stuart. We spent a short amount of time in a room that was solely dedicated to Gilbert and Adrienne's wedding – who knew they had so many dishes to eat at their wedding! Lining a nearby hallway was their families' genealogy.



Lafayette's Bedroom

Our next stop was at a small salon that contained early hand-painted wallpapers and a gorgeous pianoforte. The wooden floor was original and contained four different types of wood. It was very elegant! Attached to this salon was Madame Lafayette's room. This was where Adrienne entertained the guests most of the time, for there were three gaming tables on display. Her original bed was also on display. My favorite object in this room was the portrait of the three Lafayette children. There was no shortage of portraits or prints in this home.



Portrait of Lafayette's Children



Adrienne's Bedroom

We climbed one last narrow staircase and entered a part of the castle that was still in need of restoration. These were rooms occupied by the Lafayette Memorial and the Moffats during the 1920s. The décor and items left behind reflected this time period. I found it very interesting that the Moffats and the Lafayette Memorial – made up of all Americans – had bought the castle and the surrounding grounds after World War I. They turned the castle into an orphanage and school. While they did what they could to preserve the home, they also made a lot of modern changes. They added smoke detectors, electricity, heating, and running water. There were 13 rooms in the space we navigated – some of them named after American states or French war heroes.

Perhaps my favorite stop was the gift shop. Living where I do, there isn't much in Lafayette merchandise that one can buy. Over the past five years, I've collected quite a lot but it was refreshing to find keychains and magnets and T-shirts with Lafayette's image on them. I also loved the books. Chavaniac might not have much in the way of items, but they make up for that with pride and hospitality. We met the mayor of the town and the President of the Haute-Loire region. They timed the opening of an art exhibit in the nearby buildings with our arrival. We were even featured in their local news! Chavaniac is right to be proud of Lafayette; and if I am ever in France again, I will definitely return.



Gift Shop

## Beatrice Chanler and Lafayette

By William A Chanler 3<sup>rd</sup>

My paternal grandmother, née Beatrice Ashley (1878-1946), grew up in Boston, MA. As a teenager, she became an actress, singer and dancer using the name Minnie Ashley. The pretty young woman performed in *El Capitan*, *The Geisha*, *The Circus Girl*, *A Greek Slave*, and *San Toy*. In 1902, she met my grandfather after a performance of *A Country Girl*. He was William Astor Chanler, a great grandson of John Jacob Astor. Minnie had another ardent fan, William Randolph Heart, the publisher.

She married Chanler in 1903, retiring from the stage at that time. They had two sons, William Jr, and Ashley. William was not cut out for family life. He was the first white man to reach the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, leader of two African expeditions, congressman, author, Army Captain in the 1898 Cuban campaign, and friend of Theodore Roosevelt. William and Beatrice separated in 1909.

While her husband moved to Paris to organize Arab uprisings and develop his stable of thoroughbreds, Beatrice remained behind in Manhattan to raise their young sons. In 1913, William sustained a serious leg injury, resulting in an amputation. Beatrice and the boys visited him in a Paris hospital after the outbreak of World War One. It was a turning point of her life.

Beatrice was startled and horrified by the ravages of war she had seen in France. Upon returning home, she felt compelled to help organize various war relief efforts. She toiled industriously, serving as President or committee member of National Allied Relief Committee, League of the Allies, American Committee, Relief of Belgian Prisoners in Germany, American Fund for the Heroes of France and Her Allies, American Branch of French Actors' Fund, and the Russian War Relief Committee.

She organized The Lafayette Kit Fund, established to raise funds to supply French soldiers with comfort kits containing necessities including a bar of soap, a belt, gloves, shirts, muffler, socks and boxers. A kit could be purchased for a contribution of \$2. There were heartfelt stories about some of the donators. Within a month of its birth, three shipments of kits were sent overseas, and Beatrice was busy establishing offices in other cities.

Beatrice spoke passionately about the organization. "It is not in a spirit of partisanship," said Mrs. Chanler, "that the Lafayette Fund has been established. There is no violation of neutrality in our work. No page of American history is more cherished than that upon which is recorded the deeds of Lafayette and his men, and the spirit which prompted and guided them."

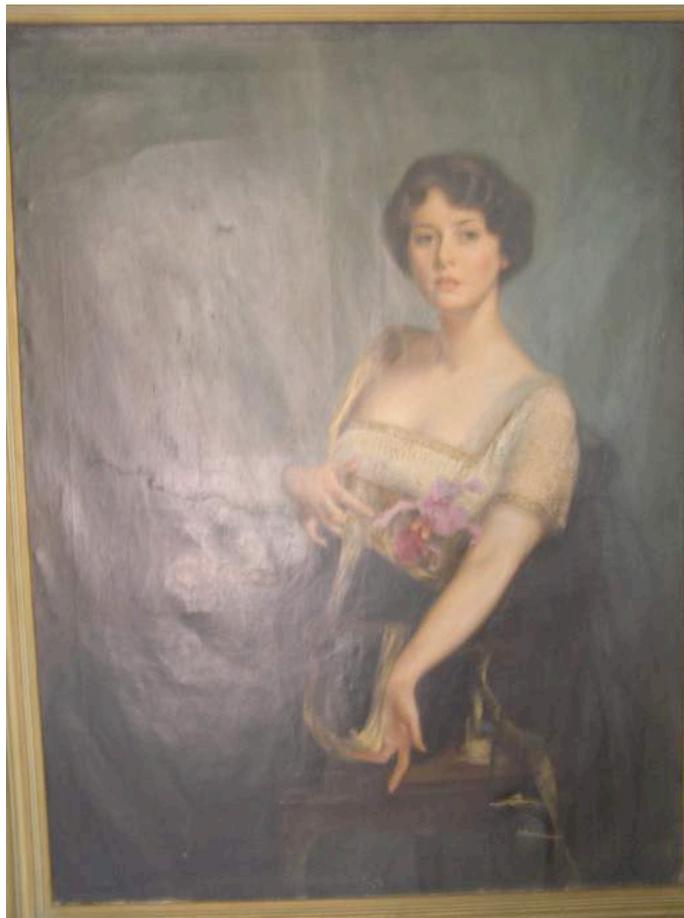
In May, Robert Chanler embarked on the same ocean liner, this time returning home after attending to Willie, still a patient in the hospital. Beatrice was still in France when Robert left the war torn country. In fact, she remained there until early August, carrying out her Lafayette Fund duties and visiting her invalid husband. Upon returning to New York she eloquently spoke about the war.

Beatrice's appreciation of the Marquis de Lafayette began with reflections of his valued assistance to General Washington and his army of American patriots during the American Revolution. Her Lafayette Fund was only one way of expressing her appreciation of the man and gratitude to the French. In September 1915, Beatrice initiated a movement to make September 6 a national holiday in honor of Lafayette's birthday. The Lafayette Fund offices in America supported her, but success was not achieved.

Beatrice Chanler and John Moffat became the prominent proponents of a group that endeared to purchase and restore Chateau Chavaniac, the birthplace of the Marquis de Lafayette. She was primarily responsible for the formation of the French Heroes Lafayette Memorial Fund which raised funds to purchase the estate. Her separated husband contributed a sizable sum.

In 1917 Beatrice helped put together a book to benefit the French Heroes Fund titled *For France*, published by Doubleday. Theodore Roosevelt wrote the Foreword. Prominent authors & artists in the book including Richard Harding Davis, William Dean Howells, Owen Wister, Booth Tarkington, Vachel Lindsay, Hamlin Garland, Henry Cabot Lodge, and others. NC Wyeth created a patriotic illustration on the front cover.

Beatrice would spend many hours at the chateaux in the ensuing decades, overseeing its renaissance. As her son Willie put it, Beatrice “flowered in that magic combination of beauty and intellect, rising foremost among leaders to wave the bannered slogan on high: ‘Lafayette! We are here!’”



Beatrice Ashley Chanler

## Exotic Ohio River Colony Settled in 1790 by the French 500 Gallipolis, Ohio

by Gretchen A. Smith Duling

I was reared in Gallipolis, “City of the Gauls,” in southern Ohio and like most of my relatives and peers I was made aware, at an early age, of its history. It was accepted as fact that our little city park was where the French 500 settled into primitive cabins built for them by woodsmen from Marietta, Ohio, after they petitioned President Washington and Congress for help. These middle-class French citizens had purchased property in Ohio through a land scam! It was not the paradise they had been promised. They arrived on flatboats with all their earthly possession on October 17, 1790. Winter was coming on and sadly they were not prepared for the hardships of living on the frontier. Some died. In the spring others moved on down river, but those who chose to stay persevered and in a short time established a flourishing river trade.

As a child I had the freedom to walk around our little city alone or with friends. It was an era when everyone knew everybody else in the town and you were safe. I admired the old brick houses built by the French on First Avenue along the Ohio River bank. I imagined what they must have been like and what it was like to live in one of those homes. Many are still there to this day.

There was one old place in particular which always caught my attention. It was a three-story brick building built in the Federal style. It was once an Ohio River tavern/inn named *Our House*. It was built in 1819 and owned by Henry Cushing. Legend has it that he would go down to the river’s edge to greet the boat passengers and invite them to come over and stay at *Our House*. This tavern became the distinctive location for the social life of the community. Special events, receptions or dances hosting visiting dignitaries, and local courthouse ceremonials were frequently connected to the *Our House*. The year 1825 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution. There was an effort to remember and teach young people about this history. That year word reached the towns and villages along the River about the times when Lafayette’s boat was expected to be passing each community. The surviving veterans from that community would stand in line on the river bank dressed in parts of their uniforms and respectfully salute the last living Major General of the American Revolution as Lafayette’s river boat slowly passed by.

His boat made an expected and planned stop at Gallipolis. Most of the citizens had come to the river to greet him. There was a grand reception and a dance in the Ballroom the evening of Lafayette’s short visit to Gallipolis. A room was reserved for him at the *Our House*, but he left in the night in order to meet his schedule of events in Wheeling, (West) Virginia. However, it seems that Lafayette’s gold velvet coat and silk weskit were left behind! These artifacts are now in a glass case hung on the wall in the Ballroom and cannot be disturbed.

I grew up knowing that General Lafayette had visited Gallipolis in the spring of 1825. I was especially influenced through my early years, first as a Brownie and later a Girl Scout. Our volunteer leaders planned wonderful learning events and it was through my participation in such learning activities that I first got to tour the *Our House*; indeed, I later earned a badge by volunteering time to carefully dust artifacts. I had not studied about Lafayette in school, but that particular local historical event of his visit to Gallipolis still lingers in local memory to the point that it was for a time celebrated with an annual *Our House* ceremony each spring.

During my deeper study of Gallipolis history and of the personal life of Lafayette, I revisited the *Our House*. The coat and weskit which had been in a glass case in the attic was now openly exposed and laid out on a bed. I took a picture of it and gave it to a local artist to draw for my book *The Journey of the French Coat: Adventures in the Wild from Fort Niagara to the Our House Tavern*. (Available on Amazon.com)

I am sure that there are similar, documented local history stories about Lafayette's visits and brief stops at small villages while on his tour of all twenty-four states in 1824-1825. I read and researched many books about Lafayette in order to write a regional historical fiction book for Youth with accurate facts and information about him and his time as Guest of Our Nation. Only a few of them were written for children and youth.

Gallipolis is just one of many such locations where Lafayette's visit is still remembered and commemorated. This elegant, kind, and noble man should have a place in the social studies curriculum in every school district in America—hopefully, sooner than high school! It needs to be remembered that we would have not won the American Revolutionary War without the assistance of France and in particular that of the young Frenchman Marquis de Lafayette.

Lafayette visited places in the region where I now live. Through my research I helped to uncover the fact that in early June of 1825 he came to Fort Niagara and had breakfast with the officers. It is documented in a log book at Old Fort Niagara. My book weaves together, by way of the journey of a French coat, some of the 1824-1825 history of Lafayette's travels in the United States, especially on the Ohio River, the history of the French 500 settling Gallipolis and some of the local history of Western New York. Ohio History Connections now owns the building and assists with running the museum when the current local Friends of the Our House need advice or directions. The *Our House* docents will discuss and show you the gold coat and silk weskit worn by Lafayette.

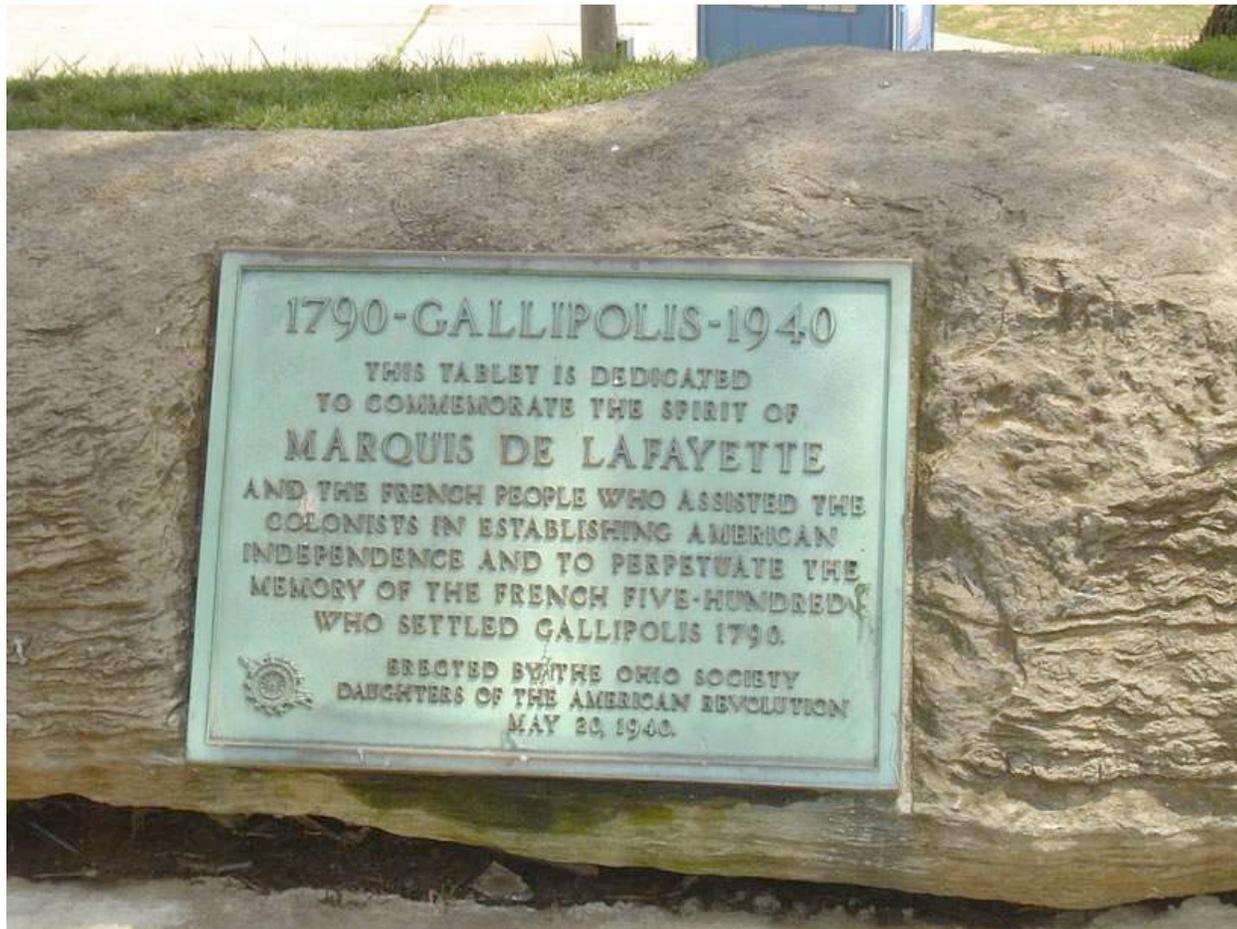
It is an honor and privilege to be a member of the American Friends of Lafayette and know that his memory and history are being continually celebrated and kept alive.



**Historic Our House Tavern/Inn**

**Photo by Henny Evans**

Permission: Gallia County Genealogical Society, OGS Chapter



**Plaque on a Large Stone Marker at the Top of the Ohio River Bank at Gallipolis, Ohio  
Commemorating the 1825 Visit to Gallipolis of Major General Lafayette of the American Revolution**

**Photo by Cindy & Amber Fellure**

Permission: Gallia County Genealogical Society, OGS Chapter

## 2016 Picpus Cemetery Ceremony

By: John and Ruthann Looper, Wallhalben (Pfalz) Germany

We are brand new members, and our first American Friends of Lafayette event was exceptionally touching. We attended the Picpus Cemetery Ceremony at Lafayette's tomb in Paris. The annual ceremony consists of the laying of wreaths, the changing of the U.S. flag which flies over Lafayette's grave and commemorative speeches.

Our family's Lafayette research journey began five years ago with our children's incidental find of a used copy of *Lafayette-Hero of Two Nations* by Keith Brandt in a thrift shop on a U.S. Army base in Germany. We have lived in Germany now for six years and found it challenging to teach U.S. history to our two children who attend German schools. The Brandt book proved to be an unexpected inspiration. What child would not be interested in a 19 year old marquis on horseback? Our children became fascinated by Lafayette and requested innumerable re-readings of the book. Over the years to follow, we came to appreciate the Lafayette story as more than one of a dashing nobleman on a horse, but one of the beginnings of a 240 year old friendship between France and the U.S.

Our morning at the Picpus Cemetery served to deepen our appreciation of Lafayette's sacrifice and the love, comradeship and commitment between our two nations. The traditional day for this ceremony is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. However, this year owing to the U.S. Ambassador's schedule, the ceremony was held early on June 30. Picpus Cemetery is located amidst the clamor of Paris' 12<sup>th</sup> arrondissement. A new high-rise apartment building was going up on one side; children were playing excitedly in a school yard on the other side. The unassuming entry gate consists of double doors which open onto a gravel courtyard in front of an historic chapel. Fortunately for us on this day, several French soldiers were gathered together outside the gate so we could recognize the otherwise nondescript entrance. The property is a narrow band at the far end of which is placed the cemetery, behind a courtyard, a chapel, and a garden.

Soon after our arrival, local AFL member Mr. Benoit Guizard, introduced himself. He was to serve as our generous and knowledgeable host throughout our morning. Benoit gave us a very detailed history of the property and its purchase by Lafayette's wife, Adrienne, as a resting place for her many relatives executed during the reign of terror. This alcove of solemnity and respect is well hidden by its surroundings, which are large commercial enterprises and apartment buildings.

The sky was overcast with a bit of precipitation directly before the procession to the gravesite. The path to Lafayette's grave passes the forecourt of the chapel and the building itself; a beautiful garden and many rows of noblemen's tombs before reaching the area closest to where Adrienne and her family's graves and where Lafayette is buried.

The cadences of the French Army buglers and drummers led us into the cemetery itself with a light mist falling. Throughout the ceremony cries and laughter could be heard from the nearby school children.

There were speeches given by the U.S. Ambassador to France, the Honorable Jane D. Hartley, along with representatives sent by the President of France, the Mayor of Paris and the French military. Each speaker underlined the enduring friendship between our two countries and recalled the words of Lieutenant Colonel Charles E. Stanton 99 years ago, on this very spot, "Nous voila, Lafayette!"

After the speeches, both national anthems were played. Each of the dignitaries laying a wreath was assisted by French soldiers in full dress uniforms, while six U.S. Marines also in full dress stood at attention by the grave for the duration.

Benoit treated us and other AFL members to snacks and drinks at an Irish Pub after the event.

After snacks with Benoit and a metro ride, we visited Lafayette's statue located along the Seine. The memorial, a gift purchased with the pennies from 5 million American school children, had been originally placed in the Louvre courtyard in 1908. It remained there until the late-1980s when it was supplanted by the I.M. Pei structure.

We felt so privileged to be able to give our children this experience of Franco-American friendship. We are very grateful to Benoit for making this an especially memorable day for our family.



Gisela Looper age 10 and Gustav Looper age 12 at the Lafayette Gravesite after the Picpus Ceremony



AFL Representative Pierre Larroque Laying the AFL Wreath at the Picpus Ceremony

# Lafayette Escadrille

Remembering 100 years ago  
by Joyce Good

We could not have asked for a more beautiful Spring day to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Lafayette Escadrille created on April 20<sup>th</sup> 1916 by 38 volunteer American pilots to fly under French command in WWI.

As a Sioux Indian head was the insignia painted on their biplanes, John “Yellow Bird” Steel made the invocation commencing the ceremony with a traditional Native American incantation. This year there were three flyovers instead of one, including a WWI PT 17 biplane, four USAF F-22 Raptors, a B-52 Stratofortress, three FAF Mirages, a FAF rafale.

U.S. Ambassador, Jane Hartley, also paid a tribute to the first Afro-American aviator, Eugene Bullard aka “the Black Swallow of Death” who stowed away on a ship eventually enlisting in the French Foreign Legion and like those in the Lafayette Escadrille fought along side the French before the U.S entered WWI just as Lafayette, himself, came to our aid before his country entered in the Revolutionary War.

The ceremony continued with other tributes, wreath laying, taps, 21 gun salute and both French and American national anthems to mark the rededication of the newly renovated Memorial financed by donations from the American Battle Monuments commission and other associations such as the AFL. There was also an exhibition of WW1 model biplanes built by high school students from the Chateau Thierry region under the guidance of the association l’Escadrille Quentin Roosevelt. Quentin, the youngest son of President Theodore Roosevelt also gave his life to help the French in WWI.



AFL members Joyce Good and Myriam Waze represent the American Friends of Lafayette at the Lafayette Escadrille Centennial Ceremony

# PROGRAM

## **Master of ceremony: Lieutenant-Colonel Eve Douglas**

### **1. Arrival of official party and presentation of colors**

### **2. National anthems**

### **3. Review of the troops**

### **4. Flyover**

- 3 Mirage 2000N from the 2/4 "La Fayette" Fighter Squadron, 1 Rafale from the 1/91 "Gascogne"
- 4 F-22 Raptor from the 94th and 95th Fighter Squadron - USAF

### **5. Symbolic unveiling of the renovated Memorial**

### **6. Invocation and remarks**

- Invocation by John Yellow Bird Steele, President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Historic presentation of the Escadrille La Fayette by Lieutenant-Colonel Raphael Venot, 2/4 "La Fayette" Fighter Squadron Commander
- The United States engagement towards France, Lycée Jeannine Manuel
- Youth engagement, Lycée Notre-Dame Saint-Sigisbert
- Remarks by The Honorable Deborah Lee James, Secretary of the Air Force

### **7. Biplane Flyover**

### **8. Speeches**

- The Ambassador of the United States of America to France and Monaco, The Honorable Jane D. Hartley
- The Secretary of State for War Veterans, Mr. Jean-Marc Todeschini

### **9. Laying of roses by high school students on each of the 68 sarcophagi**

### **10. Wreaths laying**

- The President of the La Fayette Escadrille Memorial, Mr Alexander Blumrosen and The Chairman of the ABMC, The Honorable Merrill McPeak
- The Ambassador of the United States of America to France and Monaco, The Honorable Jane D. Hartley and Brig. Gen. (USAF Ret.) Leon Johnson
- The Secretary of State for War Veterans and Remembrance, Mr. Jean-Marc Todeschini

### **11. French and American Taps, 21 gun salute, moment of silence**

### **12. The Star Spangled Banner and La Marseillaise**

### **13. Flyover by a B-52 from the 5th Bomb Wing and closing of the ceremony**

### **14. Ceremonial toast in the Memorial Park**

*Music : French Army choir and French and US Air Force bands*

## Lafayette at the Freemasonry Exhibit at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France

Marie---Thérèse Larroque (original in French) – Pierre Larroque (English translation)

The Bibliothèque Nationale de France (the “BNF”, the equivalent to America’s Library of Congress) houses one of the most important Masonic collections in the world. It just opened an exhibit on French Freemasonry, in partnership with the Musée de la Franc--- Maçonnerie.

[http://www.bnf.fr/en/cultural\\_events/anx\\_exhibitions/f.franc\\_maconnerie\\_eng.html](http://www.bnf.fr/en/cultural_events/anx_exhibitions/f.franc_maconnerie_eng.html)

From my joining the American Friends of Lafayette earlier this year, I learned that Lafayette and several prominent American Founding Fathers were Freemasons, which presumably significantly facilitated our young Marquis’ quick acceptance by Congress upon his arrival in Philadelphia in late July 1777.

But I was quite surprised to see how prominently this Freemasonry---focused Exhibition shows several artifacts related to Lafayette and to the American fight for independence.

First, it shows the original of the draft which Lafayette submitted to France’s Assemblée Nationale Constituante on July 11, 1789 for Article 1 of “The Declaration of Rights of Man and of the Citizen”.

Second, it shows Lafayette’s circa 1825 Masonic “flamboyante” sword (photograph below).

Third, it shows a painting of the members of the “Loge des Trois Jours” (*Lodge of the Three Days*), which Lafayette constituted following the “Trois Glorieuses” – the Revolution of July 27, 28 and 29, 1830 which led to Charles X relinquishing power and to Louis---Philippe taking over. Lafayette played a major role in this transition to what he hoped would be a more democratic government for France.

And fourth, it shows several documents relating to Benjamin Franklin’s affiliation to the “Loge des Neufs Sœurs” (*Lodge of the Nine Sisters*) during his various stays in Paris between 1779 and 1781. You can imagine my surprise not only to discover that Benjamin Franklin presided over that Lodge during those years, but also to see the documents by which he, Benjamin Franklin, sponsored the great Voltaire and John Paul Jones to join that Lodge!



Lafayette’s “flamboyante” Freemason Sword – circa 1825

## Methodist University Celebrates New Additions to Davis Memorial Library's Lafayette Collection

by Arleen Fields (Assistant Director of Library Services at Davis Memorial Library and Secretary, the Lafayette Society, Fayetteville)

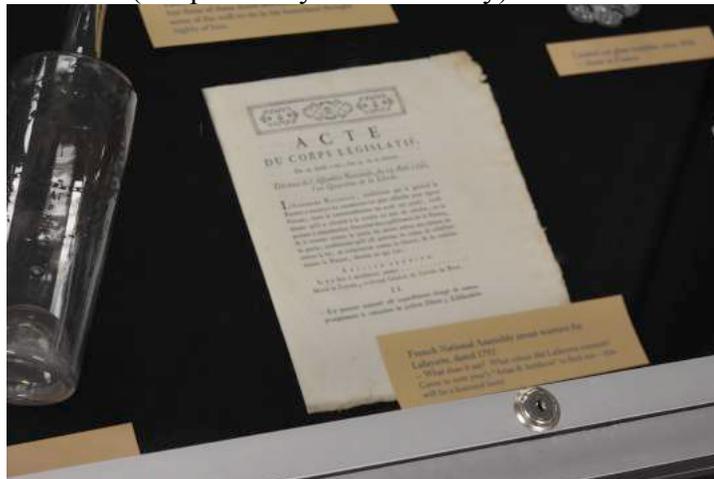
In 2014 Methodist University alumnus Mr. Gene Dillman donated eleven significant pieces of Lafayette memorabilia to the Lafayette Collection at Methodist College in Fayetteville, North Carolina. In the summer of 2016, he followed this up with another generous donation of twenty-two items, many of which were produced during Lafayette's 1824-1825 tour of the United States. These items were unveiled at the third annual *Arias & Artifacts* program on September 9, 2016, as part of Fayetteville's annual Lafayette Birthday celebrations. After a welcome from Methodist University President Dr. Ben Hancock and a short talk, guests were able to view the artifacts and ask Mr. Dillman questions about them. As a dealer in political memorabilia, Mr. Dillman used his knowledge of the market to acquire these items. The newest additions include luxury items such as a Parisian polychrome vase, a leaded cut-glass tumbler with a sulfide portrait of Lafayette, and a pink copper lusterware pitcher. The items also include everyday items with Lafayette's image, including a drawer pull, a curtain tieback, and a fabric remnant with a repeating pattern of Washington and Lafayette. Some of the more unusual items include a set of hand-held scales for weighing gold and an original printing of the National Assembly's 1792 arrest warrant for Lafayette.

After the library event many guests strolled over to the chapel on campus to enjoy the musical portion of *Arias & Artifacts*, a concert of French music presented by soprano Gail Morfesis and other local musicians.

Mr. Dillman's donations have already provided the stars of next year's *Arias & Artifacts*: an original printing of the 1792 arrest warrant for Lafayette, and a letter written by Lafayette to President James Monroe in July 1825. Stay tuned (or better yet, come visit us!) to hear more about the latest additions to the Methodist University Lafayette Collection!

More photos from the evening can be viewed on the King Monarch photostream at Flickr:  
<http://tinyurl.com/MU-Laf-AA-2016>

(All photos by Jason Canady)



Methodist Arrest Warrant



Methodist Cloth Scales



Methodist Creamer, Cup Plate & Blue Pitcher



Methodist Dr Hancock & Mr. Dillman



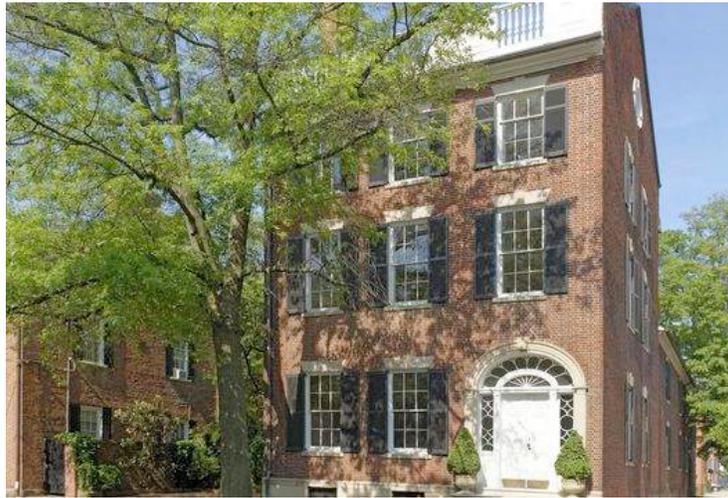
Methodist Drawer Pull



Methodist Parisian Vase

## **Lafayette House**

By Chuck Schwam



This past summer, members of the American Friends of Lafayette were afforded a very special opportunity. The "Lafayette House", located at 301 S. Saint Asaph Street in Alexandria, Virginia, was going up for sale with an asking price of 6.8 million dollars. The current owners of this house were aware of its history and have embraced its significance. In fact, the current owners offered AFL members a private tour of their home before they were to sell it

This house is known as the "Lafayette House" as it is thought that General Lafayette stayed there during the Farewell Tour. There are other famous individuals associated with the house as well. Thomas, ninth Lord Fairfax (1762-1846) leased the house from 1828 to 1830. Nelly Custis Lewis (1779-1851), Martha Washington's granddaughter, and her husband Lawrence Lewis (1767-1839), George Washington's nephew, lived here with their family in 1831. The dining room is thought to be the location where plans were laid for West Virginia to separate from Virginia in the early 1860's



Lafayette House Hallway  
Lafayette House Engineering Marvel: The Three Story Hanging Staircase



The house still has much of its original 19th century interior and exterior. The owners have decorated with Lafayette-themed adornments. Exceptional details of this extraordinary home include the molded elliptical transom feature of the doorway, with graceful lunettes on each side. There is breathtaking entry hall, with the custom Zuber mural of General Lafayette reviewing his troops at West Point and the three story hanging staircase. On the upper level there are three or four bedrooms, most notably the placqued room where General Lafayette stayed during his visit.

On July 23rd, 40 AFL members gathered at the famed Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria. After a scrumptious lunch, members walked the four blocks to the Lafayette House for a private tour. The tour was expertly executed by realtor Kate Patterson. A fantastic time was had by all.



Lafayette House Dining Room



Zuber mural of General Lafayette reviewing his troops at West Point

## **“A True Friend of the Cause”: Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement**

Exhibition at the Grolier Club, December 7, 2016 – February 4, 2017

47 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York

**by Diane Shaw**

Please mark your calendars for a special event at the Grolier Club on Tuesday, January 31. From 6:00-8:00 pm, Lafayette College and the Grolier Club will host a special reception for members of the American Friends of Lafayette and New York Area Lafayette College alumni in conjunction with the exhibition on *Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement*. An official invitation will come by email a little later this fall, which will allow you to RSVP.

Throughout the run of the exhibit, there will be a number of other events, including lunchtime guided tours by curators Olga Anna Duhl and Diane Shaw. On Tuesday, January 24, there will be a special Roundtable discussion on the themes of the exhibit with scholars Laura Auricchio, François Furstenberg, and John Stauffer. The full schedule is below. We welcome your attendance at any of these events.

**Lunchtime Exhibition Tours:** From 1:00 to 2:00 pm on each of the following dates, curators Olga Anna Duhl and Diane Windham Shaw will lead a free guided tour of the exhibition.

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

**Wednesday, December 14, 2016**

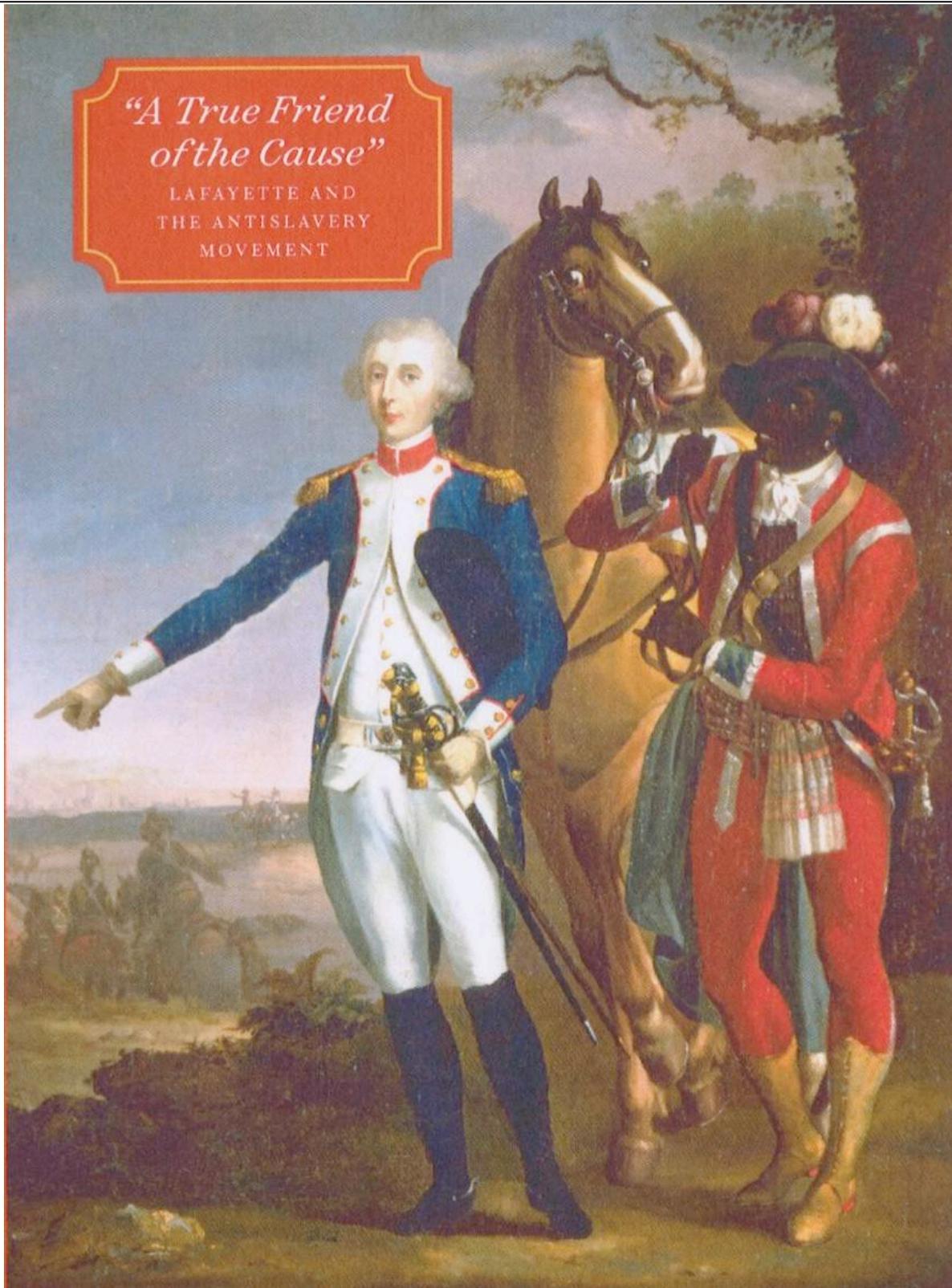
Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016 (6:00 pm-7:30 pm):** “Club Meeting” public lecture. Curators Olga Anna Duhl and Diane Windham Shaw will present an illustrated lecture. Reception follows.

**Tuesday, January 24, 2017 (2:00 pm-3:30 pm):** Roundtable Discussion on “Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement,” featuring panelists Laura Auricchio (The New School), François Furstenberg (Johns Hopkins University), and John Stauffer (Harvard University). Reception follows.

AFL members will also have a chance to purchase the illustrated, seventy-five page exhibition catalog with essays by Diane Shaw, Laura Auricchio, Patrick Villiers, and John Stauffer during the run of the exhibit, or afterward from the Grolier Club or Lafayette College. We will certainly plan to make them available as well at next summer’s annual meeting at Lafayette College. Details about pricing and ordering will be forthcoming.



*"A True Friend  
of the Cause"*

LAFAYETTE AND  
THE ANTISLAVERY  
MOVEMENT

*Cover of the Exhibition Catalogue, 2016.*

## From a Movie to a Ship

Alain C. Outlaw  
Williamsburg, Virginia



It started with a movie. My 55-year episodic interest in the Marquis de Lafayette started in 1961 when, as a teenager, I walked across the Seine River bridge at Le Pecq, just west of Paris, to see the premiere of the French-Italian movie “Lafayette,” in French. It was my introduction to Orson Welles who played the part of Benjamin Franklin. I must admit that I still clearly remember the sound track and the claim that Lafayette loved the smell of honeysuckle, but had forgotten this famous actor’s part until researching the film on the internet.

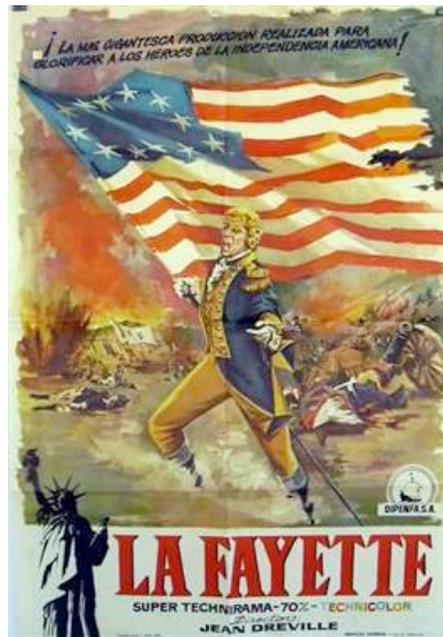
Raised in France for 13 years, my parents let me travel back alone in 1966 to visit my relatives in Paris and central France. My family had moved to the United States, and Dad had obtained a post at CONARC (Continental Army Headquarters) at Fort Monroe, Hampton, Virginia, in 1963. In the three years since our arrival, my parents made sure that my sister and I saw the regional historic sites of Jamestown, Williamsburg, and the Yorktown Battlefield. As it turned out, Lafayette had been to all three sites during the American Revolutionary War as well as during his 1824-1825 “Farewell Tour.” I became fascinated by the role of French forces in the Yorktown victory and was familiar with the principal figures who, by amazing coordination and good fortune, turned the tide of the war: Washington, Rochambeau, de Grasse, and Lafayette. So while in Paris, I purchased military figures of my heroes which have traveled with me ever since.

More recently, in 2009, my link with the Marquis was revived when, by chance, my archaeological team studying the site of the 2,000 acre Battle of Green Spring engagement of July 6, 1781 discovered the cast brass horse ornament linked with my hero. The chance of finding this object was very unlikely, yet it

was found in that very small portion of the battlefield physically investigated. Moreover, it bore the foremost symbol of France, the fleur-de-lis, over which, in relief, was a marquis coronet ! And, yes, the artisan for that 1966 military figure painted the same type of ornament on the breast of Lafayette's horse.

With the arrival of Lafayette's 1780 replica tall ship *L'Hermione* in nearby Yorktown coinciding with my finding out about the American Friends of Lafayette, I did not hesitate to become an AFL Life Member in 2015. Full circle, certainly by plan, the ship had arrived at my nearest port town on the York River.

Vive Lafayette !



Outlaw Military Figure



Outlaw Military Figure



ABOVE AND BELOW: Martingale



## BREST 2016-08-16

By Joyce Good

Sometimes I am so lucky. On the hottest day of the year in France, I was on a boat following *L'Hermione* out to sea. After trying for four months to find a seat on a boat for the parade Brest 2016 and being put on a waiting list but to no avail, finally the Luck of the Irish strikes again! At the Tourist Office in Brest, the day before the parade a seat became available at the last moment. Having followed *L'Hermione* since the beginning on one boat or another, I have found it is the only way to go. And this time it was magnificent!!! All these beautiful clipper ships, and sailboats following her; like a queen as she sailed forth along the “rade de Brest”.



## Helping Hermione Sailors

By Chuck Schwam

As the *Hermione* prepared to sail around Europe this past summer, it was brought to our attention that, unlike last year, the sailors on board were being asked to pay \$120 (105€) per week for expenses. This was a burden that many of the young sailors could not afford, especially after donating hours of time in the yard maintaining the vessel. The reason for this change in policy is to defray the cost of feeding and clothing the sailors. However, this would most likely suppress many young person's dream of becoming a sailor on the *Hermione*.

Thankfully, AFL member Marc Jensen worked with the French Hermione Association on an initiative to raise funds to help the sailors. Since most sailing stints are two weeks long, the hope was to raise one week (\$120) or two week (\$240) contribution amounts.

I'm happy to announce that the American Friends of Lafayette donated \$240 to help a sailor on board the *Hermione* this past summer (a two week stipend). Several AFL members made significant donations as well. The following members donated...

- Allen Cleghorn
- Sarah Gillens
- Alan Hoffman
- Marc Jensen
- Michel Laudier
- Tommy Marsters
- Jerry Meekins
- Albert Oberst
- Chuck Schwam

In total, the American Friends of Lafayette contributed over \$1,200 to this worthy cause.



## Lafayette in *Hamilton*: Bridging the Historical Gap

By Selene Castrovilla

As an author who has spent years trying to show America how wonderful and invaluable the Marquis de Lafayette was, I'm thrilled with -- and, yes, even a little jealous of -- the attention and interest the hit Broadway musical *Hamilton* has brought my dear Lafayette. At the Queens Book Fair this summer, I was so happy to notice a surge in sales of my picture book *Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette*, and my hunch was confirmed when several of the people who purchased my book specifically said they'd learned about Lafayette in *Hamilton*.

However, I'm a purist. I can't help but to want to share some of the places that the musical takes creative license with history, especially with regard to Lafayette.

**The Date and Circumstances of Lafayette's Arrival:** The show places Lafayette in Manhattan, hanging out with Hamilton at a tavern in 1776. However, Lafayette actually arrived on the shore of South Carolina on June 13, 1777. He paid for his boat and voyage out of his own funds, defying his king, who threatened Lafayette with imprisonment upon his return.

Lafayette endured a month of sea-sickness, and still managed to learn English before landing. All this because Lafayette was so caught up with our struggle that he simply had to help us. In his words, **“As soon as I heard of American independence my heart was enlisted, and I thought only of joining my colors to those of the revolutionaries.”**

Lafayette trekked hundreds of miles to Philadelphia, only to be rejected by Congress. They didn't want any more interfering, bossy foreigners. When he persisted, they finally accepted him as a volunteer — he became an honorary general without a command. George Washington met him, and they were struck with a father-son feeling that further cemented Lafayette's devotion to our cause.

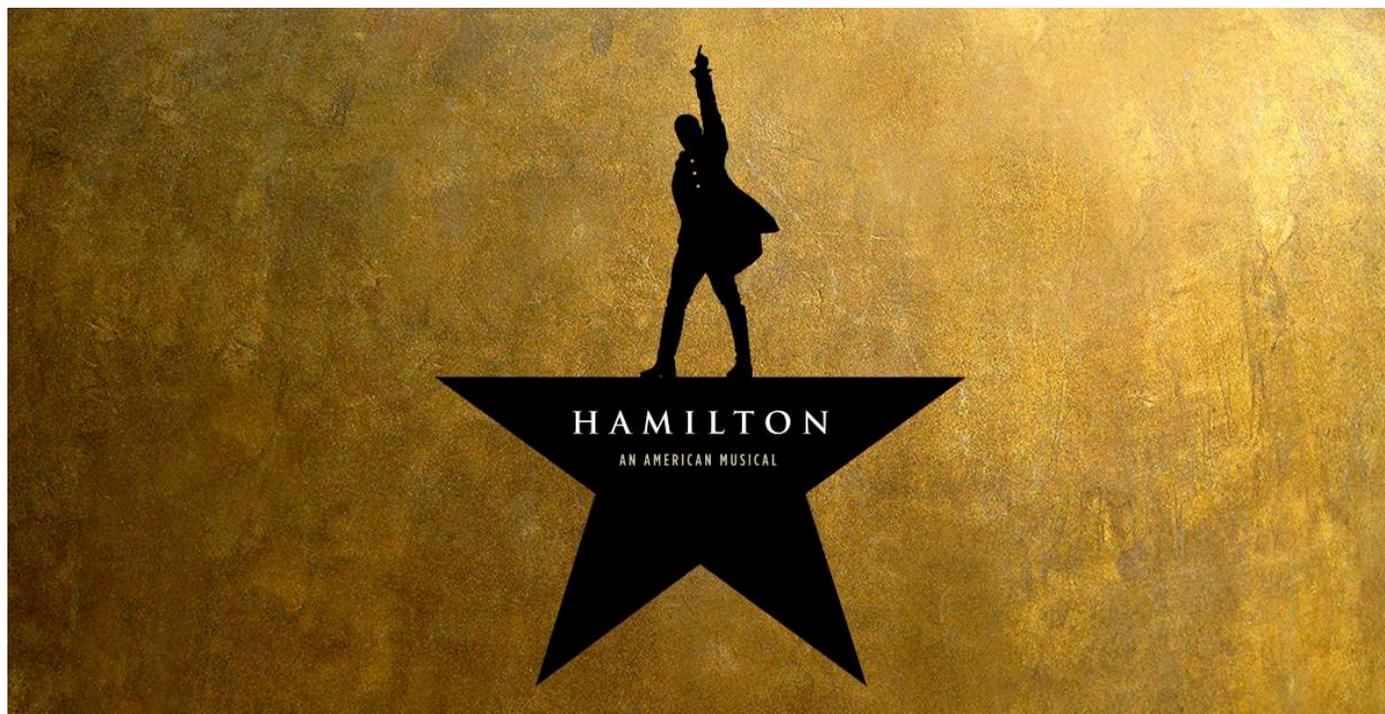
At the Battle of Brandywine, Washington allowed Lafayette to enter the battle and rally the troops who were retreating. His passion convinced the soldiers to stay, although they were defeated. When he finally dropped from a wound in his leg, he was carried back to headquarters. Washington told the doctor: **“Treat him as my son, for I love him the same.”**

**Giving Lafayette Full Credit Where Credit is Due:** The show correctly credits Lafayette for returning to France and convincing his king (who had previously refused him permission to leave the country) and his ministers to send us troops, weapons and money. Without this help, we never could have won our fight. But the musical does not give Lafayette credit for cornering Lord Cornwallis and his men at Yorktown in the famous “Virginia Campaign.” Yes, it was Lafayette who played a cat and mouse game with the British troops through Virginia, first pursued — and then the pursuer.

*Hamilton* gives great weight to the Battle at Yorktown, where Alexander was finally allowed to have the command he wanted (much like Lafayette earlier.) But the “battle,” including the storming of redoubt

number 10 led by Hamilton, was really a foregone conclusion. We knew we would win, because Lafayette had pinned the British in and the French fleet had blocked the harbor, stopping the British fleet from rescuing their troops. The musical places Lafayette in the harbor, but he was actually in the field with Washington and Hamilton. Lafayette remained an American general at Washington's side even when his native country joined our fight. This is something worth being noted.

Perhaps we can create a Lafayette musical! Fellow American Friends of Lafayette: if any of you can write the songs, I've got the words.



Selene Castrovilla is an award-winning children's nonfiction author and young adult novelist. *Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette* (Highlights Press) was a Booklist Top Ten Biography for Youth (+ starred review), an International School Librarians' Honor Book, a Eureka! California Reading Association Honor Book, a Bank Street College Best Children's Book of the Year and recommended American Revolution elementary school-level reading by the ILA. Selene offers in-person and Skype programs, discussions and school visits about the American Revolution and the writing life. She holds an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from The New School and a B.A. in English from New York University. [www.SeleneCastrovilla.com](http://www.SeleneCastrovilla.com).

## Football Season and Lafayette

By Janet Sutton, MLS and Ernest Sutton, MD

Pittsburgh is a sports town with a serious interest in history. Where else does the Smithsonian have an affiliated sports museum in its local history center? The intersection between sports and history is obvious to anyone arriving at Pittsburgh International Airport, where welcoming life-sized action statues of great importance flank the escalators leading down to the terminal train.

On the left is Franco Harris, posed as he receives the “Immaculate Reception” during the Steelers’ football game against the Oakland Raiders at Three Rivers Stadium on December 23, 1972.

On the right is George Washington in his Virginia Militia uniform, who nearly drowned while crossing the icy Allegheny River at a site near the future Fort Duquesne, later Fort Pitt and today Pittsburgh. This occurred in December 1753 while he was returning from a mission directed by the Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie to deliver a letter to the French Commandant at Fort LeBoeuf 120 miles further up river.

During his next visit in July 1755 Washington witnessed General Edward Braddock's defeat by French and Indians at the Battle of the Monongahela. In a letter to his mother afterwards, the 23 year old writes “escaped without a wound, though I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me.”

As our first president, he later sent tax collectors after the Western Pennsylvania farmers who fomented the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794.

**Back to Football Season:** The premier sports family in Pittsburgh is the Rooneys. They have the majority owners of the Pittsburgh Steelers football franchise since 1933. Pittsburgh fans have cheered the Steelers on not only through losing seasons, but also eight exciting Super Bowl appearances and six victories.

Gary M. Pomerantz’s book about the Rooney family and the Steelers’ dynasty, *Their Life’s Work*, relates the story on page 225 of Mrs. Kass Rooney’s visit to the Football Hall of Fame with her son Art Rooney Jr. in 1975. During the visit she told him about all the football greats she personally knew. Art Jr. “realized more powerfully than ever before that the Rooneys were a part of a cultural phenomenon, professional football in America, and important at that, as a founding family. As his mother filled him with even more intimate history of a sport that has defined his family’s life and his own, Art Jr. thought ***Jiminy, this is like being at Mount Vernon with Martha Washington and listening to her tell stories about Lafayette!***”

References to Lafayette show up in the most unexpected places, reminding us of his enduring place in the history of our country, and in the memory of its citizens nearly 240 years after his arrival at Valley Forge in 1777. The spirit of Lafayette resonates even during football season. **Vive Lafayette!**



Mount Vernon



Martha Washington painted by Charles Willson Peale in 1772 at age 41



MG Lafayette painted by Charles Willson Peale 1779-80 at age 22.  
Independence Historical National Park

## Lafayette Trivia #1: Answer Red Jacket & Lafayette

On Lafayette's first trip back to America after the American Revolution to see President Washington in 1784, he unofficially joined James Madison's delegation with the French Charge d'Affaires Marquis de Barbé-Marbois traveling to Fort Stanwix (aka Fort Schuyler) to negotiate a treaty with the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederation. Barbé-Marbois's colorful account of Lafayette's unofficial presence indicates he overshadowed all others. James Madison's bluntly states he "eclipsed everyone". One humorous episode recounted by Barbé-Marbois was that he could read the latest news from Europe in the *Courrier de l'Europe* which stuck to Lafayette's gummed taffeta overcoat.

Known as *Kayewla* by the Iroquois, Lafayette's understanding and respect for their culture permitted him to speak frankly to the chiefs. The four nations that fought with the British lost, and they would lose even more with the Americans unless the treaty negotiation was successful. The sincerity of Lafayette led to the treaty signing by the key chiefs on October 24, 1784.

Except for the Oneida and Tuscarora nations which fought for the Americans, the other nations were to move into reservations in western New York and give up their hunting lands in Ohio which they obtained following the Beaver Wars. It was these two nations that sent warriors to Valley Forge. While serving under the command of Lafayette at the Battle of Barren Hill, these warriors were instrumental in the safe withdrawal of his troops while completely surrounded and attacked by the British with only minutes to spare.

Contemporary accounts of the 1784 treaty negotiations at Fort Stanwix do not mention Red Jacket. It is possible Lafayette met him there, but Red Jacket would not have a direct role as a Seneca negotiator or signer because of his young age. Within 10 years, however, he was the chief diplomat and orator for the Iroquois Confederation, spoke at a session of US Senate, received a Peace Medal personally from George Washington in Philadelphia in 1793, and was one of the signers to the 1794 Treaty of Canandaigua which finally ratified the 1784 Treaty of Fort Stanwix. His speech to the US Senate in 1793 can be found at following web site:

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/nativeamericans/chiefredjacket.htm>.

He died at the age of 80 in Buffalo. Initially he was buried in the Buffalo Indian Cemetery, but in 1894 his grave was moved to Forest Lawn Cemetery by his grandson, Brevet Brigadier General Ely S. Parker, Adjutant to General Grant during the Civil War and later head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



Fort Stanwix National Monument, Rome NY is located near the Oneida Iroquois Nation



Red Jacket's grave was moved from the Indian Cemetery in Buffalo to Forest Lawn Cemetery by his great-grand son in 1894

## Lafayette Trivia #2: Answer She Was Called *l'Hermione*

**What's in a Name?** During the American Revolution the French, British and Spanish navies sailed predominately ships with feminine names or nouns that carried a bold symbolism. An example would be *Courageuse* (courageous) which was a sister frigate of *l'Hermione*, or HMS *Indefatigable*. All of these navies used the name *l'Hermione* on at least one warship during this time.

*L'Hermione*, a name from Greek mythology, would appear to be an unlikely name for a frigate. Hermione, the daughter of King Menelaus of Sparta and his wife Helen of Troy, married the Trojan War hero Neoptolemus. Afterwards Hermione claimed her husband's concubine Andromaque, the widow of Hector from war, casted a spell on her to keep her barren. When her father refused her request to kill her, she fled with her cousin Orestes. Later they married, and had a son. The myths make no further mention of her.

**Why would a warship be called *l'Hermione*?** In the Greek language the name of Hermione is the feminine form derived from the name Hermes, the divine messenger of the Immortals. His unique characteristics, such as being swift, adaptable, cunning, courageous, and if necessary lethal are the same characteristics needed at sea by a fighting frigate. This is a more plausible reason for why a warship would be named *l'Hermione*.

Several episodes in Greek mythology reveal the results of Hermes being chosen for independent and dangerous assignments:

-- When Persephone was abducted by Hades and forced to become his wife in the underworld, it was Hermes who crossed the River Styx down into the jaws of hell guarded by the monstrous three-headed dog Cerberus to retrieve her. He did this with great diplomacy.

-- When King Priam requested assistance to recover the body of his dead son Hector from being defiled by Achilles, it was Hermes who guided him safely across the battlefield through Achaean defenses and into their encampment without harm then returned with both back to Troy. He did this with undaunted courage and magic.

-- When Zeus needed to rescue his human mistress, Io, guarded by the hundred eyed Argus, it was Hermes who craftily distracted Argus and swiftly killed him thereby freeing Io. He did this with cunning lethality.

Whether it was chance or fate, *l'Hermione* was chosen for Lafayette. Using the same attributes as Hermes, she sailed him safely and swiftly through enemy-held waters with the news that France was sending an expeditionary force to America.

NASA 182 years later sent our Astronauts safely into the dangers and unknowns of outer space under the name Project Mercury, the Roman name for Hermes.



French stamp commemorating *l'Hermione* carrying Lafayette from France in 1780 including Marianne, symbol of French Freedom, to bring the news that a French Expeditionary Force was coming to America to assist in obtaining her freedom.



American stamp commemorating Project Mercury that carried man safely through the dangers of outer space in 1962.

## Lafayette Sightings

We invite all AFL members to submit "Lafayette Sightings" for upcoming Gazette issues. Throughout our travels, we find Lafayette-related items in the most unusual places. Even in our everyday day lives, it seems that Lafayette is ubiquitous. Please feel free to share these sightings by emailing us at [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com). Thank you, Chuck Schwam

The below image was submitted by Alan Hoffman. This is a World War I Memorial in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts. Please note the inscription "Lafayette we are here".



Photo credit Dan Kassel

## Testimonials

Dear Alan,

Thank you for the beautiful article on Samuel Adams in the March 2016 'Gazette of the Friends of LaFayette'. This Boston patriot has always interested me in my study of the American Revolution, but I have never followed his life in a chronological order. Due to your well written article, now I appreciate this great man even more and will add to my presentation at the DAR on the many facets wherein he made his many contributions to our early history.

As a DAR docent, one of my favorite rooms to show the public is our Massachusetts Room that is a replica of the Clark bedroom found in Concord. From what I understand that is where Samuel Adams held up while the British were looking for him. On the Mary Burke dower chest in the room is a "tea box," supposedly one of four from the Boston Tea Party that still survives. A few years back, Ross Perot bought one for a museum in Texas. Where the other two boxes are, I do not know.

Now to our box: It shows no evidence that it has ever been in water. It is a regular sized wooden box that is painted a Chinese red and what looks like black Chinese etchings. A Massachusetts DAR chapter gave it to the DAR Museum and as long as I have been a docent, (22 years), it has been on that dower chest. Since the room itself lends itself to a history lesson, it is one of my favorites rooms to show our guests. I usually start my spiel with "before he was a beer, he was a true American Revolution patriot." Then the story of Samuel Adams comes forth. The room lends itself to a wonderful history lesson of the events that took place in this part of our country during this period.

If you ever have an opportunity, please visit our DAR Museum (Memorial Constitution Hall on 17th Street, DC). We have 30 period rooms, one of which is the Massachusetts Room. There you will see our "tea box." Notice that I put the object in quotes. It is a lovely item that truly lends itself to a great story, but I do have my doubts it is one of the boxes thrown overboard in the Boston Harbor. Your analysis would help me to understand this situation better, but the outcome of your comments would never make me think less of our great Samuel Adams, but would lend "truth" to the "box". Thanks again for that well written, informative, and educational article on this great American patriot.

You serve our AFL so very well.  
Barbara Ayers McJoynt

Chuck, Alan, and Dan,

We received this month's AFL newsletter on Saturday, and agree with someone else's comment that we should be calling it a magazine! The quantity and quality of the articles and photos are terrific!

It will take me a while to read all the wonderful, meaningful articles. Thanks to all of you who produced yet another "totally awesome" newsletter! Feel free to pass on this note to anyone else who deserves our thanks and much praise for such an impressive "magazine"!

Vive Lafayette!!!

Gayle K. Randol

*"May this immense temple of freedom ever stand  
a lesson to oppressors...a sanctuary  
for the rights of mankind!"*

Marquis de Lafayette  
Dec., 1784

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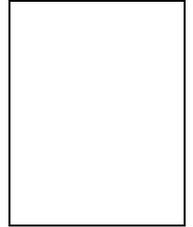
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# THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE

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

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