

# The Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

No. 86

May 2017



AFL Members at American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, October 2016

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friend of Lafayette,

This year, 2017, is an important year for Lafayette's legacy and a "huge" year for the AFL.

As for General Lafayette, it is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the American Expeditionary Force in France and of Colonel Charles E. Stanton's iconic statement at the conclusion of his speech at Picpus Cemetery on July 4, 1917 – "Lafayette, we are here!" See article reprinted with the permission of Lafayette College.

2017 is also the 260<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lafayette's birth and the 240<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lafayette's arrival at Georgetown, South Carolina to join the cause of the American insurgents.

This year also marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette*. See reprint of Volume One, No. 1: February, 1942. The editor was Professor Frank Monaghan, a Yale historian.

He described the *Gazette* as follows:

One of the chief purposes of the GAZETTE is to keep all persons interested in working on Lafayette and his era in touch with each other. We hope that all such persons will become active members of the Society, but in any event we think we shall become the clearing house for all those who seek scholarly aid and who wish to give similar assistance. The Editor will try to set aside a column or two in each issue of the GAZETTE for notes and queries that fall within the scope of the interests of members of the Society. Please send your contributions in, but please be brief. Otherwise the Editor will get out a blue pencil – hoping to retain the sense, but determined to conserve space.

Judging from the length of our last several *Gazettes*, I clearly have to invest in a set of blue pencils.

As I said, 2017 is a huge year for our Society. Thanks to the efforts of Secretary Bonnie Fritz, we now have a new and improved website.

As part of the process of updating the site, we have included the last 17 *Gazettes* and a link to Lafayette College's digital collections where you can find numbers 1 to 68.

As of this printing, members of the AFL have participated in a series of events.

We were guests of the Grolier Club for a cocktail reception and tour of the exhibition: "'A True Friend of the Cause,' Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement" curated by Diane Windham Shaw and Olga Anna Duhl on January 30, 2017 and enjoyed a wonderful guided tour given by Professor Duhl on the following day. This was a joint event with area Lafayette College alumni; and my aide de camp, Chuck Schwam, on my orders, recruited seven alumni/ae as AFL members. See article.

On March 14, 2017, AFL members participated in the Virginia Lafayette Day celebration.

Also, in Virginia, the AFL participated in the new American Revolution Museum's "State Days." AFL members – many from the states of the day which comprise the original 13 – sat at an AFL desk and provided information about their state's role in the American Revolution and about our society.

On May 10, with the assistance and encouragement of Stephen Parahus, who joined the AFL after the Grolier Club event, the AFL will conduct commemorative exercises on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of Daniel Chester French's Lafayette Monument in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York.

In June we will convene our annual meeting in Bethlehem, PA, Lafayette College and Philadelphia. We are preparing a wonderful program, and we are working on a special AFL publication to be hand-delivered to all attendees.

In July the AFL will place its traditional wreath at Picpus Cemetery during the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Colonel Stanton's stirring speech.

Finally, the *pièce de résistance* for the AFL this year may be the Yorktown Day festivities. This year, the AFL will dedicate the Lafayette Statue on the Riverwalk and participate in "Lafayette Day" events sponsored by the new museum on October 18. In addition, as one of the 13 sponsoring societies, this year the AFL has the privilege of organizing the traditional Yorktown Day dinner and ceremonies on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

I hope that many of you will be able to join us at these various and important events.

Best regards,

Alan R. Hoffman,  
President



**LAFAYETTE**  
**COLLEGE**

## **The Annual Meeting of the American Friends of Lafayette**

by Chuck Schwam

The 2017 annual meeting for the American Friends of Lafayette will be held in Bethlehem and Easton, Pennsylvania (Lafayette College) from June 8th to 11th. This will be an exciting gathering as we have put together an itinerary full of Lafayette-related sites, exclusive tours, informative speakers, great food and a twist !!!

*Our official hotel for this weekend is the Historic Hotel Bethlehem (437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018). This will be our first annual meeting where the hotel is part of the meeting experience. This lovely hotel situated on "Main Street USA" has hosted the likes of Winston Churchill, Amelia Earhart, Muhammad Ali, Bob Hope and the Dalai Lama. Many presidents have stayed at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, including Dwight Eisenhower, Gerald Ford, John Kennedy and Bill Clinton.*

The Hotel is located in a designated National Register Historic District in Pennsylvania. This district encompasses a Top 10 USA Today Main Street adjacent to the residential historic homes from the 18th and 19th century as well as Historic Moravian Bethlehem. In 2016 Historic Moravian Bethlehem was nominated to the US tentative list for UNESCO World Heritage Site Designation. All this iconic history is right outside the hotel's front door.

Also on Main Street in Bethlehem you will find a plethora of wonderful shopping opportunities including the Moravian Book Store operating since 1745. There are dozens of eating establishments on Main Street as well.



Historic Main Street Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

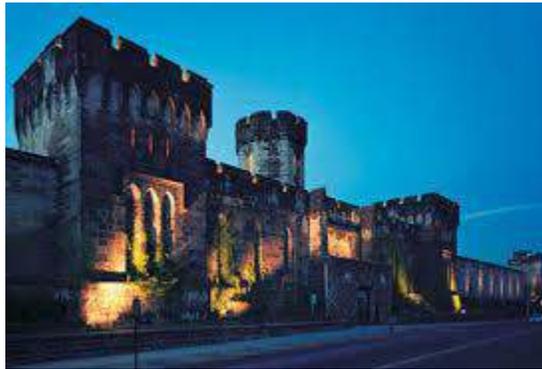
The Historic Hotel Bethlehem will be where we hold our welcome reception Thursday evening, our breakfast Friday morning and our banquet Friday evening. This will also be where our motor coaches load and unload.

On Thursday afternoon, we will offer a walking tour of Old Moravian Bethlehem. Sites include Sun Inn, God's Acre, Church Street buildings, Old Chapel & Central Moravian Church. After the tour, we will hold our

Welcome Reception. There will be a few speakers including Paul Peucker, Archivist of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church, who will give a talk about what Bethlehem was like when Lafayette was here in 1777. Also speaking Thursday night will be Jeffrey Finegan (author) and Preston Hindmarch (illustrator) who will give a talk about their new book on Washington told from the perspective of Lafayette (copies for sale and signing). Refreshments will be served. Camaraderie will abound.

On Friday morning, AFL members will breakfast on Moravian sugar cakes at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem's special restaurant 1741 on the Terrace. Per usual, we have scheduled a touring day on Friday, visiting three very interesting Lafayette-related sites...

On July 23, 1825, braving a heat wave which sent the temperature soaring to 104 degrees, Lafayette visited the newly expanded Philadelphia water system. Known as the Fairmount Water Works, the system was an engineering marvel and the wonder of our young country. We will be given a private, historical tour that highlights what Lafayette saw when he visited these waterworks.



Eastern State Penitentiary

Lafayette also visited Eastern State Penitentiary during this time. Eastern State Penitentiary was once the most famous and expensive prison in the world. Known for its grand architecture and strict discipline, this was the world's first true penitentiary. We will be given a private, historical tour that highlights what Lafayette saw when he visited the penitentiary.

Our final stop on Friday is Girard College, a unique educational institution created by the bequest of Stephen Girard (1750-1831), a French immigrant and quite possibly the richest man in America at the time of his death. (Girard was a member of Lafayette's Philadelphia welcoming committee in 1824.) We will tour Founder's Hall, built 1833-1847, one of the largest and finest examples of Greek revival architecture in America. In addition to the building, we will see the Stephen Girard Collection of furniture, silver, paintings, ceramics, and textiles, as well as the Girardiana Collection of materials documenting the history of Girard College, 1848 to the present.

On Friday evening AFL members will be treated to a cocktail reception and our annual banquet in the Mural Ballroom of the Historic Hotel Bethlehem. The meal will have a delicious French theme and the entertainment for the evening will be presented by *The Ladies of History*, performing a one act play starring Adrienne Lafayette and her "lady in waiting."

On Saturday, we will breakfast at Allan P. Kirby's Chateau Chavaniac, just north of the Lafayette campus. This 1930s-era structure was built to resemble Lafayette's birthplace. We will then conduct our business meeting at the lovely Skillman Library at Lafayette College. We will lunch at the library and then...

Our "twist" this year is to provide a more social, interactive and scholarly afternoon on Saturday. We have three speakers lined up who will provide new insights about Lafayette. The talks will be informal with time for audience interaction. Our speakers include the distinguished Jean-Pierre Cap (discussing Lafayette: questions new and

old), Rachel Engel (Friendship and camaraderie in the Continental Army with special focus on Lafayette) and Julien Icher, (Lafayette's travels in New England 1824-1825). AFL members will also have a chance to peruse the Special Collections, chock full of Lafayette artifacts.



Daniel Chester French's sculpture of Lafayette

Also on Saturday, we will gather at Daniel Chester French's sculpture of Lafayette on campus for our annual AFL group photograph. Late afternoon is highlighted by a reception with an exhibition of Lafayette portraits and history paintings featuring Lafayette in the Williams Center Gallery at Lafayette College.

Dinner that evening will be in the Wilson Room of the Alumni Center of Lafayette College, which has a striking rendering of General Lafayette in stained glass. Spending the whole day at the college will allow members to socialize, study and relax without interruption.

On Sunday, Barb and Phil Schroeder will open their home to us for our farewell Brunch event. There will be an opportunity to visit the neighboring Jacobsburg Historic Site, which includes the *Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum*, and the 1832 *John Joseph Henry home*. John Joseph Henry was a member of the third of five generations of the Henry family of gun makers, who produced Pennsylvania long rifles from the 1750s through the late 1800s, first in Lancaster Pennsylvania and later in Philadelphia and Nazareth PA. The Henry home, in the style of a Philadelphia townhouse, was occupied by five generations of the Henry family from 1832 through the 1980s and contains original furnishings.

**For more information or if you would like to register for this fantastic annual meeting contact Chuck Schwam at 240-676-5010 or [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)**



Lafayette College Campus

# AFL Hosts Yorktown Victory Celebration

By Chuck Schwam

If you have never been to the Yorktown Victory Celebration events held each October, this is the year to attend. This year's events will be hosted by The American Friends of Lafayette. Hosts are rotated through the thirteen participating patriotic societies, and this year is our turn. Consequently we will be seizing this opportunity, and it will be a two-day Lafayette-fest !!!

Festivities will start with a bang on Wednesday morning, October 18th as we unveil our statue of Lafayette on the Yorktown waterfront. The ceremony will be attended by local dignitaries and Lafayette devotees from all over the country. We will gather to see Lafayette join his adoptive father (Washington) and fellow countryman (de Grasse). After the ceremony, the AFL will host a reception at the elegant Freight Shed on the Yorktown waterfront, only steps from the statue.



After the reception, the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown will host "Lafayette Day" at the museum. We will be given a private tour of the new museum including the special exhibit on James (Armistead) Lafayette. There will be speakers throughout the afternoon talking specifically about Lafayette including AFL president Alan Hoffman and AFL Curator Diane Shaw.

That evening, back at the museum, the Yorktown Day Association will be holding its annual dinner hosted by the AFL. We promise an elegant and entertaining evening with a very special surprise guest. The evening will be French-themed with a heaping portion of Lafayette.

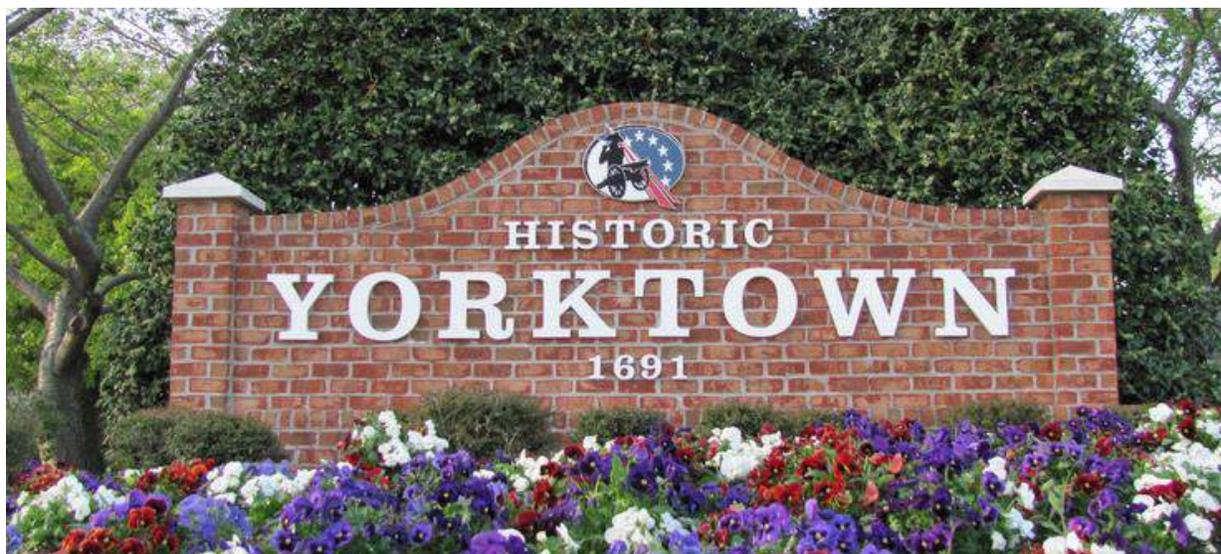
Thursday, October 19th begins with another important ceremony sponsored by the AFL and the Friends of Rochambeau. We will gather at the French Cemetery near the Yorktown Battlefield to honour the French soldiers who died during the siege of Yorktown. This is a short yet very moving ceremony that is a must see.

Following the cemetery observance, we will attend the wreath-laying ceremony at the French Memorial in memory of the French veterans who served in the American Revolution. Then the very special Yorktown Day Parade takes place down Main Street. There are few better examples of Americana than this parade.

The parade ends at the Yorktown Victory Monument where the annual patriotic exercises take place. The pomp and circumstance is significant as hundreds gather to celebrate the victory that propelled Americans towards full independence. The exercises start with a military flag ceremony and singing of both French and American anthems. Attendees are treated to several high-ranking speakers with the keynote address being delivered this year by none other than AFL President, Alan Hoffman.

That evening we will hold our world famous AFL cocktail party. This year's party will again take place at the Hornsby House Inn. We expect the usual lively gathering providing a great way to conclude the festivities.

Unlike years past, the AFL will have a special hotel to accommodate the influx of members attending. The rate will be \$119 per night with a full hot breakfast included. More to come on the hotel accommodations in early summer. Please be on the look-out for official invitations to this two day event in early summer as well. Questions can be directed to Chuck Schwam at 240-676-5010 or [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com). Mark your calendars for October 18th and 19th. This event is not to be missed !!!



## Lafayette Statue in Yorktown

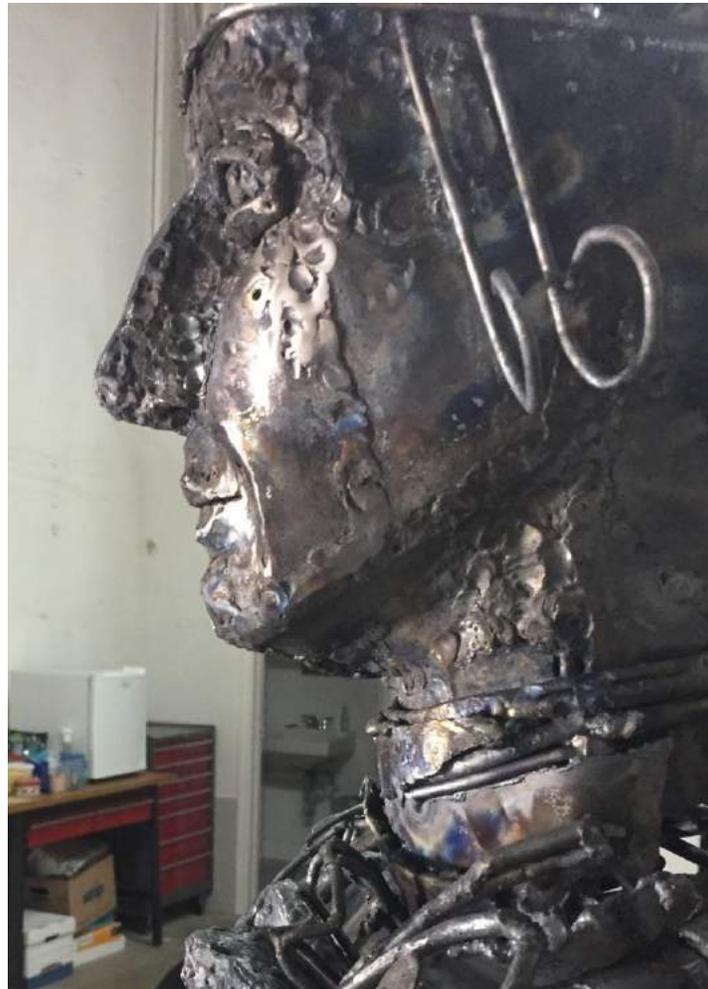
by Chuck Schwam

It gives me great satisfaction to announce that the necessary \$35,000 has been raised. On October 18th, the American Friends of Lafayette will unveil a new statue of General Lafayette. Thanks to many VERY generous organizations and individuals (both "AFLers" and otherwise), Lafayette will proudly stand on the Yorktown waterfront, alongside General Washington and Admiral de Grasse on the Riverwalk.

Our fundraising started in June 2016 and half of our goal was reached by the publication of our last Gazette (October 2016). With thirty-six donors at that time, Sculptor Cyd Player began fashioning the likeness of Lafayette. Ms. Player is an accomplished artist who welds steel to achieve her vision of history. Using welding equipment and blacksmith-like tools, her depiction of Washington and de Grasse are visited by thousands of tourists annually.

In our opinion, it was appropriate to have the "Lafayette" join them. Apparently it was your opinion too! In the last few months of 2016, thirty-four more donations came in and we've easily reached our goal of \$35,000 (in only 6½ months!). Our vision will be realized and fruition is near at hand.

On October 18th 2016, Lafayette will be unveiled to the public. At 11:00am all will gather from far and wide to see Lafayette join his adoptive father and fellow countryman. Please join us at the momentous event open to the public. After the ceremony, the AFL will host a reception at the elegant Freight Shed on the Yorktown waterfront, only steps from the statue.



Special thanks to AFL members David Bowditch, Mark Schneider, and Julien Icher who all posed as "Lafayette models" for sculptor Cyd Player.

**Here is a list of our most recent thirty-four donors (not mentioned in our previous Gazette):**

Celebrate Yorktown Committee of the Yorktown Foundation

Ordre Lafayette

Chris & Faith Gross

Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati

Huber Family

Google match

Lanny & Ann Patten

Ravosa Family

Ernest & Janet Sutton

Pierre Larroque

Yorktown residents at the AFL Cocktail Party

Blanche Hunnewell

Paul & Mary Liz Higgins

William Jenks

Sallie de Barcza

John Becica

Judith P Letchworth

Hylton & Kathleen Phillips-Page

Alyssa Adams

Phil Schroeder - **again**

Barb Schroeder - **again**

William "Bob" Kelly

Todd Prough

Bart Cleary

Michel & Marie-France Tourniaire

Robert Kelly

Benoit Guizard

Rob Raffety

Channing Hall

David & Laura Berish

Durf & Barbara McJoynt - **again**

Cartherine Allen

Anonymous Green Bay Packers Fan in Yorktown

Anonymous Minnesota Vikings Fan (not to be outdone)

We extend our thanks to all who made contributions to our successful campaign to bring this important new honor and badge of recognition to our hero.

## **Exhibits in Yorktown to Commemorate Dedication of Lafayette Statue**

In recognition of the dedication of the Lafayette statue on Yorktown's Riverwalk, Bill Cole, lifetime AFL member and Yorktown resident, has developed three exhibits of items from his collection related to Lafayette to be shown in Yorktown in October, 2017.

Each of the exhibit venues will contain a variety of historic items related to Lafayette, many of which are related to his connection to Yorktown. Some of the venues will have similar items, but each of them will have a number of unique items. A visit to all three will provide views of a wide variety of interesting Lafayetteana.

Among the items to be displayed are a number of commemorative plates including depictions of Lafayette and Washington at Mt. Vernon, bust images of Lafayette, several examples of Lafayette arriving at Castle Garden in 1824, and views of the Chateau de la Grange, Lafayette's home. Several ceramic items created for Lafayette's visit to America in 1824 and 1825 will include copper luster pitchers and a child's canary-glazed cup showing Washington and Lafayette. Some examples of commemorative silk ribbons made for Lafayette's visit will be distributed among the three locations. A large 1957 French poster made to commemorate Lafayette's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday will be displayed in the lower level of York Hall. Several copperplate engravings, including an original print of Lafayette at Yorktown with James Armistead Lafayette based on the Le Paon painting, an original print of the painting of Lafayette by Couder hanging in the Palace of Versailles, several contemporary newspapers and books, 20th-century stamps, and various Lafayette-related ephemera will be exhibited.

The three venues are: a case at the Gallery at York Hall, York County's former courthouse at the corner of Main and Ballard Streets; a case and a wall area on the lower level of York Hall, among the exhibits of the York County Museum's collection; and a case at the Yorktown branch of the York County Public Library, 4 miles south of Historic Yorktown on Rt. 17.

Most items will be on display for the entire month of October, 2017, and all venues are free and open to the public during regular business hours.



Wedgwood portrait and print of Lafayette, and an 1824-25 silk ribbon featuring Washington & Lafayette

# Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe and the American Friends of Lafayette Conduct Wreath-Laying Ceremony in Honor of Lafayette Day at Virginia State Capitol

By Robert Kelly

On March 14, 2017 members of the American Friends of Lafayette gathered in the Virginia State Capitol Rotunda to commemorate the third annual Lafayette Day in Virginia. The observance featured a formal wreath-laying at the bust of Lafayette by Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe. Governor McAuliffe delivered inspirational remarks about Lafayette and Washington. The bust of Lafayette is located directly opposite the iconic life size sculpture of Washington, both of which were sculpted by Houdon. Later in the afternoon, Governor McAuliffe even Tweeted about his participation in the wreath-laying! Distinguished guests included James Dillard from the Virginia State Board of Education; Jeff Lambert, Executive Director, General Society Sons of the Revolution; Demas Boudreaux, Alliance Française; Heloise B. Levit, La Table Française; and eight members of the AFL. Other represented groups this year included the Alliance Française de Richmond Chapitre Rochambeau, the Lafayette Society of Fayetteville, North Carolina, and the French-American Chamber of Commerce.

On behalf of the AFL I delivered the following remarks:

*“Patriotism and Philanthropy—when combined in the same individual, he may be justly styled the noblest work of God.” These inspirational words were spoken as a toast in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette at a banquet held in Norfolk, Virginia on October 23, 1824. To this day, Lafayette embodies many of the qualities that make America so exceptional in our world’s antiquity. His legacy in American history is defined by his persistent pursuit of freedom, his willingness to sacrifice, and his unrelenting charity in support of independence and liberty. It is for these reasons, and many more, that we gather here each March 14<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the Marquis de Lafayette.*

*I am here on behalf of the American Friends of Lafayette. With a membership of roughly 500 people around the county and world, we are an organization aware of the principles of this great French visionary leader. We are inspired by the quality of his remarkable career, eternally grateful for his contributions to our own struggle for liberty, and continually mindful of his efforts to forge an eternal bond of friendship between the United States and France.*

*In closing, it is truly an honor to be here with you all today. On behalf of the Board of Governors of the American Friends of Lafayette, I want to thank you for this opportunity to publically honor our hero, the Marquis de Lafayette.*

Following the ceremony, Mark Greenough, Historian for the Virginia State Capitol, led the AFL on an in-depth tour of the historic building complete with expert commentary. Highlights of the tour included the Old Senate Chamber where we viewed two impressive paintings: “The Arrival of the First Permanent English Settlers Off Jamestown Island, May 13, 1607” by Griffith Baily Coale, and “Storming of a British Redoubt at Yorktown by American Troops” by Eugene Louis Lami. We also visited the Old Hall of the House of Delegates, where the Bill of Rights was ratified into the U. S. Constitution, Aaron Burr was tried for and acquitted of treason, and Robert E. Lee assumed command of the Virginia forces. Our tour concluded in the Jefferson Room which contains a full-length portrait of Thomas Jefferson by George

Catlin, the original plaster model of the Capitol commissioned by Jefferson and built by Jean-Pierre Fouquet, and an 18th-century clock given to the Commonwealth by Lady Astor.

After lunch at the charming Bistro Bobette in downtown Richmond, the AFL was treated to a VIP tour of the John Marshall House which is owned by Preservation Virginia. Site Coordinator Ms. Bobbie LeViness provided a wonderful tour, focusing on the life of Chief Justice Marshall, while also incorporating many facts about Lafayette's visit to Richmond. Additionally, we viewed an original manuscript written by Lafayette, and visited the room where on November 1 1824 Lafayette dined as a guest of Marshall. John Marshall was a close friend of Washington and Lafayette, and served as Lafayette's "unofficial" host during his visit to Richmond in 1824.

Many thanks to those AFL members who attended, and a special thank you to Mark Greenough and Bobbie LeViness for providing wonderful tours. The Lafayette Day commemoration is truly an inspirational experience and I hope you will consider attending next year on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.



## **AFL New Members since Oct. 1, 2016 (as of May 1, 2017)**

### **New Members, Life Membership**

Richard Auchter	WI
Lowell B. Catlett & Joni M. Gutierrez	NM
Benjamin Goldman	DC
Stephen Parahus	NY
Peter Reilly	MA

### **Upgrades to Life Membership**

Kelsey Brow	NY
Carl Wood Brown	FL
G�rard Charpentier	Qu�bec
Kim Claytor	VA
William Cole	VA
Jeffrey & Kimberly Finegan	NY
August Lafayette Huber III	KS
Hylton & Kathleen Phillips-Page	DE
Gina Ravosa	NY

### **New Members, Individual and Family Memberships**

Catherine Dix Allen	VA	Daniel L. Hopping	NC	Joyce Ball Patton	GA
Susan Bruno	FL	Aoife Hufford	CT	Marcia Reese	NY
Col. Andr� & Becky Cap	TX	Marc Jensen	NJ	John C. Santos, Jr.	NY
Rex & Dodie Cowan	FL	Leandros Katsareas	VA	Catherine Steever	CO
Stephanie Dray	MD	John Whitney Kelly	MA	Jason Graham Storey	DE
Katharine Dunlev	PA	Chris De'Sean Lee	IL	Edward M. Strauss	NY
Kathy Faulks	NJ	Judith & Robert Letchworth	VA	Gordon & Cindy Thrall	VA
Channing M. Hall, III	VA	Margaret & William Loscalzo	VA	Lafayette Trawick	NC
Shana Henninga	NY	Rebecca & Matt Lowell, with		Dimitri Villard	CA
James Hockenberry	NJ	Matt, Sarah, Ethan	CA	Wynne Whitman	NJ
Adam Hoffman	MA	Paul McDonald	MD	Robert Whitney	FL
				Reverdy Wright	VA
				Myriam Zuber	MA

# Lafayette Trivia: How did Lafayette Persuade our First Ally to Come to Valley Forge?

By Ernest and Janet Sutton

## Question 1 of 2

After the Battle of Brandywine (September 11, 1777), Lafayette recuperated from battle wounds under the care of the Moravians at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (Site of the 2017 AFL annual meeting). He returned to Washington's Army at Valley Forge on October 19, 1777. Then he was ordered on January 24, 1778 to proceed to Albany, New York to take command of an invasion army with the mission of capturing Montreal, Canada.

After arriving in Albany on February 17, 1778, he joined Major General Philip Schuyler at Johnstown, New York. Schuyler called for a conference of the Six Nations Confederation of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) following the American success at the Battle of Oriskany, the Siege of Fort Schuyler (Stanwix) and the defeat of the British army under General Burgoyne at Saratoga. With these victories, Schuyler hoped that the Six Nations would either support the Americans or remain neutral.

Since the Albany Congress of 1754, there was a long period of peace among the Six Nations and with the colonials. This "Covenant Chain" was sealed with a wampum belt marked in purple with King George II's monogram "GR". [A copy of this belt can be seen along with experiencing the Battle of Oriskany at the Philadelphia Museum of the American Revolution (M\*AR) which opened April 19, 2017.]

After the Oneida fought side-by-side with the Americans against the crown, the "Covenant Chain" among the Six Nations was broken and turned into a civil war. Of the Six Nations, only the Oneida and their adopted Tuscarora cousins supported the Americans. This alliance was sealed on September 16, 1777 in Albany with a war wampum belt that was held by each warrior signifying taking the hatchet from the Americans. Afterwards the nearly 300 warriors joined Major General Gates at Saratoga.



Later during the Johnstown conference, Lafayette anticipated Congress approving Washington's request for the Oneida warriors to come to Valley Forge in the spring. Lafayette also appreciated the dilemma that the Oneida faced in supporting such a request. After the Oneida fought with the Americans, the Four Nations supporting the crown destroyed an Oneida village in retribution. If Oneida warriors were away at Valley Forge, they feared a major attack on their unfortified village of Kanonwalhale.

During this time, the Oneida named Lafayette "Kayewla", the great warrior. How was the young 20-year-old Lafayette able to persuade nearly 50 warriors to go to Valley Forge to support the Americans?

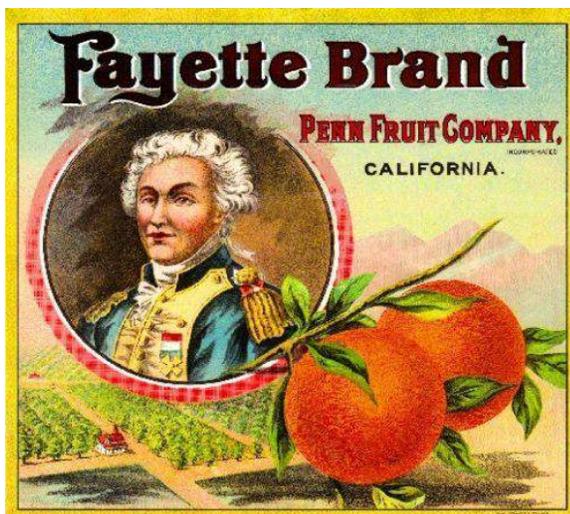
ANSWER ON PAGE 85

### **Lafayette Trivia Question: Lafayette, Ladies, and Oranges by Janet and Ernest Sutton**

#### **Question 2 of 2**

By all accounts, the Marquis de Lafayette was very popular with the ladies. During his 1824-1825 return trip to the United States, many receptions and dinners marked his progress through the states. People were thrilled to meet Lafayette, who was viewed as one of the giants of history for his role in winning American independence. Some of the souvenirs manufactured in honor of Lafayette's visit included items made of porcelain, glass, paper, metal and textiles. Lacking the technology to take a selfie with one of the heroes of the American Revolution, one woman created her own tangible souvenir of the special occasion when she met Lafayette.

What part did oranges play in creating a souvenir of a memorable evening with the Marquis de Lafayette?



“Fayette Brand Oranges” Citrus Fruit Crate Label from Los Angeles

ANSWER ON PAGE 88

# National History Day Contest

by Jerry Meekins

Last October, Tyler Roy, a fifteen year old 10<sup>th</sup> grader attending Polk Pre-Collegiate Academy in Auburndale, FL, contacted The American Friends of Lafayette requesting information about Lafayette and The American Friends of Lafayette. He is a contestant in the National History Day Contest. Simply put, as stated on the nhd.org website, *engaging students and teachers in historical research and skills development*.

The 2017 theme of the NHD is, "Taking a Stand In History". Tyler's project is, "Lafayette: The Hero of Two Worlds".

I was fortunate and honored to answer Tyler's interview questions. Since then I've been following his progress. He has recently won the competition in his school and is currently a contestant in the State competition.

I am thoroughly impressed with this young man and his project. He has a profound grasp of Lafayette, for someone recently introduced to the life of Lafayette and who he was. His idea to focus on Lafayette came from the play *Hamilton*.

Because our organization(AFL) is very involved in educating our youth about Lafayette and his contributions, Tyler's project is both personally and organizationally special. Tyler has been given a student membership in the AFL. I submit Tyler's project for viewing here: <http://99788677.nhd.weebly.com>

# Lafayette visits Illinois College

By Almut Spalding

If there is one recent cultural phenomenon that has brought name recognition of Lafayette to a wide range of age groups, it is the musical *Hamilton*. Phenomenally successful on Broadway, the show is now also produced at the PrivateBank Theatre in Chicago. In that show, the actor playing Lafayette and Jefferson is Chis De'Sean Lee, an amazingly talented 22-year-old rising senior at the Belmont University School of Music. On February 6, 2017, he came to Illinois College, where all new students during their first semester had studied the script and music of *Hamilton*. What better moment for the AFL Board of Governors to give him a year's honorary membership for making Lafayette known through his art?! With his AFL pin proudly pinned on his black sweater below a silver necklace, Chris captivated the campus with a presentation on the path that led him to the roles of Lafayette and Jefferson, and performed many of the songs of that musical. This is an actor to watch!



Chris Lee receiving his AFL pin from Paul Spalding

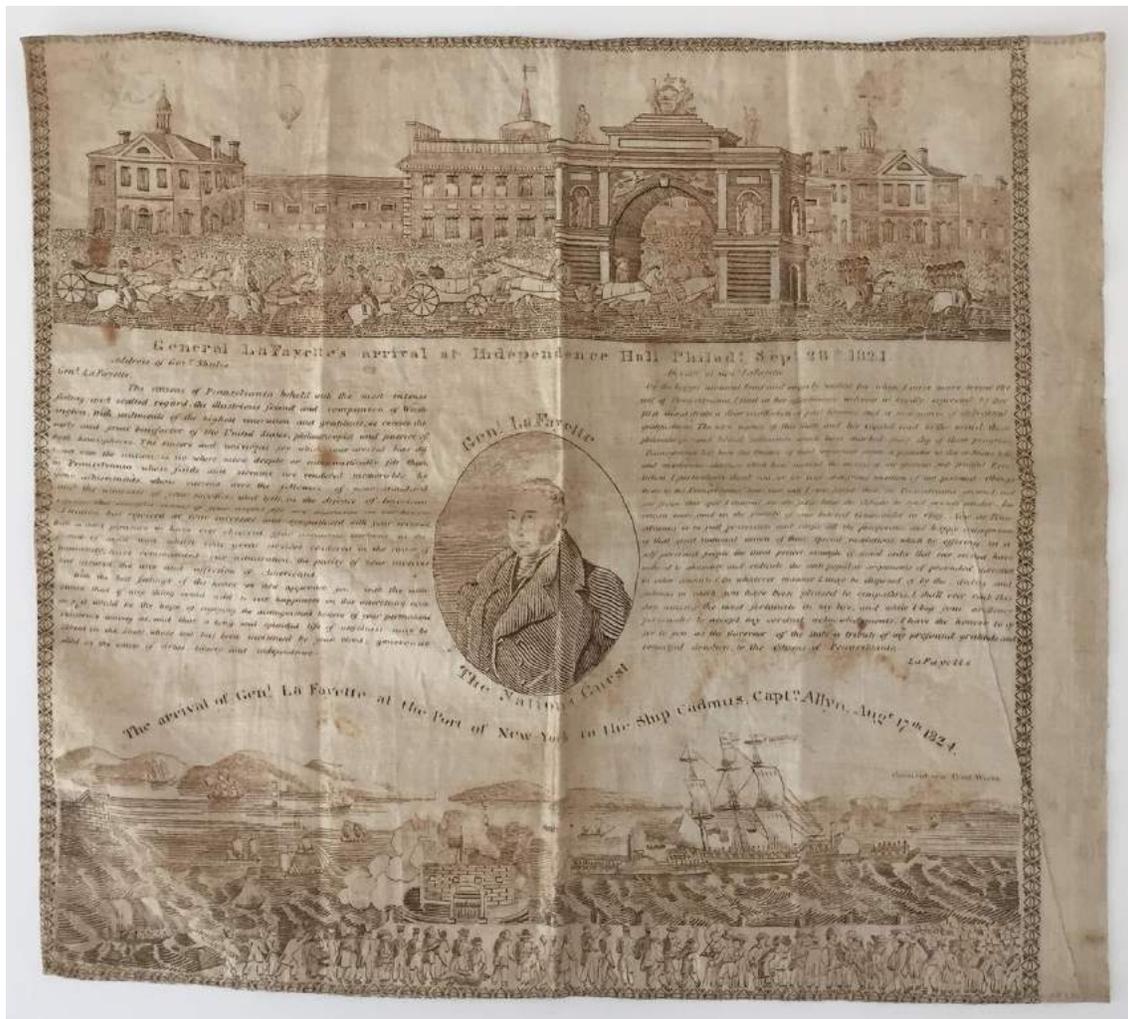


Chris Lee with AFL members Almut & Paul Spalding

# Skillman Library Acquires Noted “Farewell Tour” Souvenir Handkerchief

By Diane Shaw, Lafayette College

Long on our wish list at Skillman Library, and discovered at the Manhattan Vintage Book and Ephemera Show in March, this wonderful linen handkerchief was made in Philadelphia in 1824. It features copperplate engraving by the Germantown Print Works of two vignettes depicting Lafayette’s arrival at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, September, 1824 and his arrival at the Port of New-York on the *Cadmus*, August, 1824. A central portrait of Lafayette as “The Nation’s Guest” is flanked on the left by the text of Pennsylvania Governor John Andrew Shulze’s address to Lafayette and on the right by Lafayette’s reply. This is an unusually well-preserved example of this handkerchief, which has been called “one of the more tasteful mementoes” produced to commemorate Lafayette’s visit. There is also a copy at the Winterthur Museum.

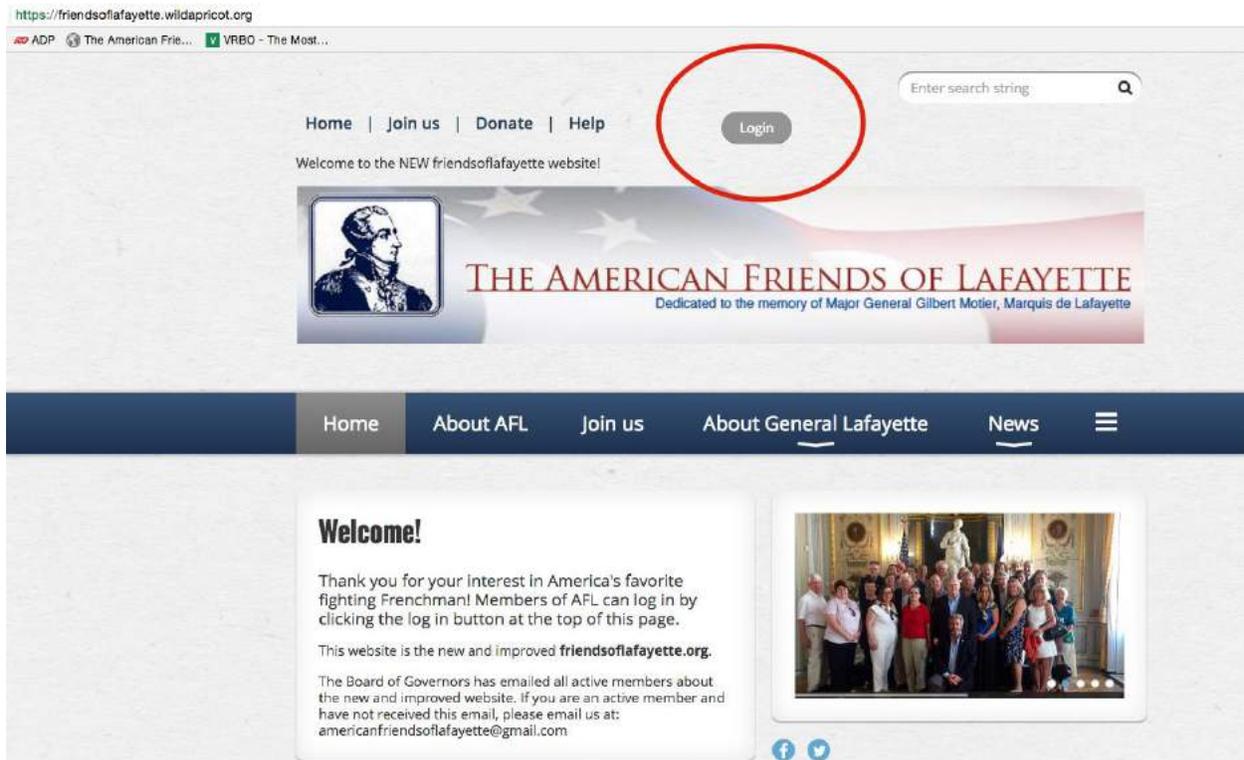


# Wild Apricot is a Wild Success!

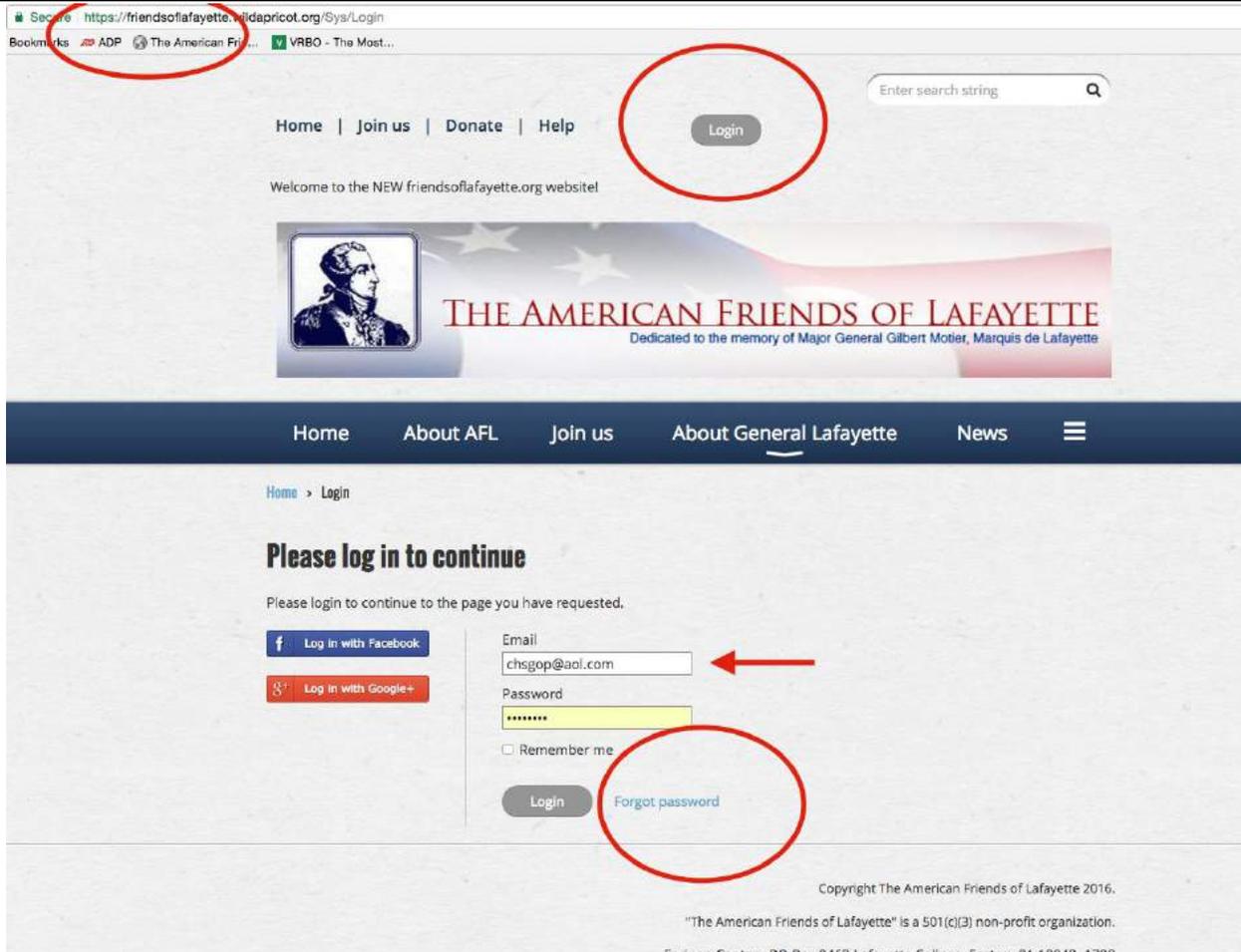
By Bonnie Fritz

In January of 2017, we officially launched the new American Friends of Lafayette website. This website is an upgrade to the former website [www.friendsoflafayette.org](http://www.friendsoflafayette.org) and now has a Member Only section. The member only section gives members access to our membership directory and links to research about Lafayette.

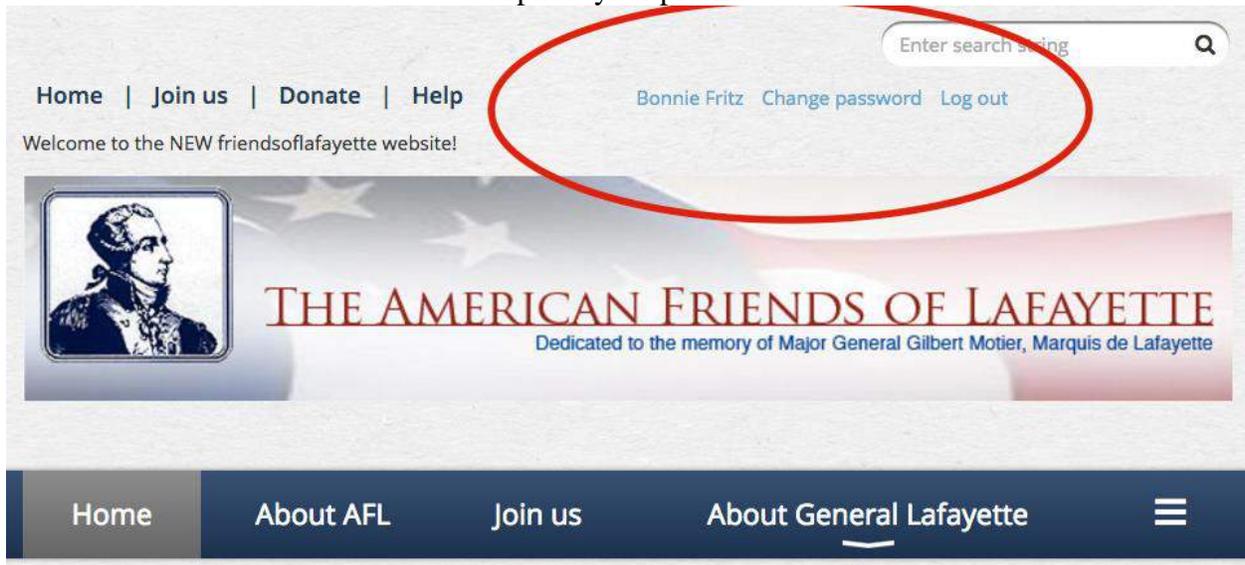
In addition, we send out association notices, event registrations and other updates through this website. Finally, future versions will include blog posts and member focus features. Here are instructions to update your membership profile and opt in/out of listing your information in the private directory.



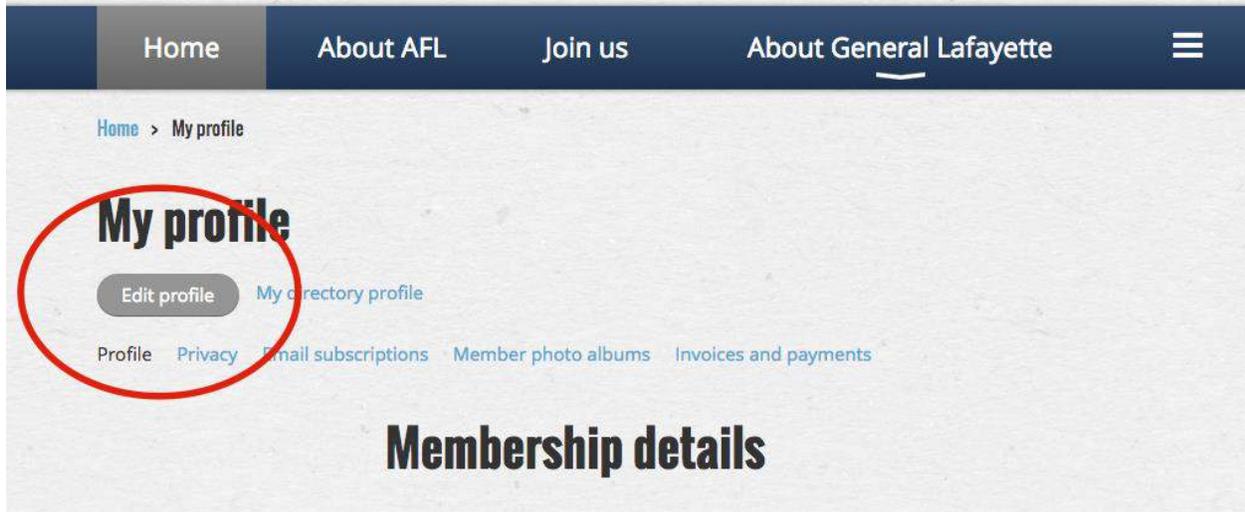
If you forgot your password, or never logged in before, click 'forgot password'.



Now the home page shows that you have logged in. You can click on your name if you would like to update your profile.



You can click on any blue links. But to open the Profile page, click on your name.



Here you will see several options that you can choose by clicking the various related 'radio buttons'. Don't forget to click Save at the bottom.



Back to the main menu. The next two screen shots show the difference between what a member who logged in can see...



versus what the public can see...



Have fun, click around the whole site.

Questions? Email us at [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)

# Lafayette Sighting

by Almut Spalding

Almut & Paul Spalding recently visited Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, AR (birthplace of Walmart), and whom would they find there? None other than Lafayette. Apparently this was a study for the full-length portrait in the NY Public Library. The painter (Samuel Morse) is quoted: *"My feelings were almost too powerful for me...This is the man...who spent his youth, his fortune, and his time, to bring about our happy Revolution; the friend and companion of Washington, terror of tyrants, the firm and consistent supporter of liberty, the man whose beloved name has rung from one end of the continent to the other, whom all flock to see, whom all delight to honor."*



## AFL Member Bill Hurley Wins Lafayette Award



AFL member Bill Hurley (with wife Sandy and the rest of their family) is shown here with the inaugural Lafayette Award in Fayetteville, North Carolina, on April 24. The award was initiated by Mayor Nat Robertson as a way to honor citizens who have made outstanding contributions to the city. Bill, who is also a founding member of the Lafayette Society, led successful revitalization efforts in the Downtown when he was Fayetteville's Mayor in the 1980's. He continues to serve on the Board of the Lafayette Society and is still an active leader in the community.



## Lafayette 1000

by Alan Hoffman

Those of you of a certain age may recall a time when the first two characters of a telephone number were described with letters, not numbers. For example, my home telephone number in Brooklyn, New York was TE6-1489 (today 836-1489). If someone asked me for my telephone number, I would tell him “Terrace 6 1489”.

Perhaps the most famous telephone exchange was “BUtterfield 8,” capitals in the original, the title of the 1960 movie about a call girl played by Elizabeth Taylor. She won the Academy Award for her role. The poster for the movie included the following: “just call ... BUtterfield 8.” Butterfield 8 was an actual telephone exchange that provided service to posh precincts of Manhattan’s Upper East Side. In an earlier time, the first *three* characters of a telephone number were expressed by letters. Thus, Butterfield meant 288, and one would identify his telephone number this way: “Butterfield 1234.”



This practice of using a name that gave us the first three and later two characters of a telephone number lapsed over time and by the 1970’s was replaced by our current usage of providing telephone numbers – land lines or cell phones – completely digitally as in 288-1234.

My first private sector job in the 1970s was at a small law firm that had offices in downtown Boston, first on State Street, the site of the Boston Massacre and the Old State House, and later on Commercial Wharf. The firm’s telephone number was, and still is, 523-1000, with the addition today of the area code, 617. About two years ago, as I was leaving the Boston Athletic Club in South Boston to drive to work, about two miles away, one of my locker room acquaintances, who had heard me talk about Lafayette, no doubt on numerous occasions, stopped me, and said: “Alan, you know, don’t you, the Boston telephone exchange 523 was Lafayette 3?” I replied that “I didn’t but do now.”

Because the first three letters of Lafayette on a traditional telephone translate into the numbers 523, it is likely that “Lafayette” was one of the older three letter exchanges in the Boston area, used between 1920 and the 1950s when the two letter, five number usage became the norm. Thus, had I been around and working in Boston in those days, I would have given my telephone number as “Lafayette 1000.” Who knew?

Our Quizmeisters, the Suttons found this cartoon online. How many factual errors can you find? We will recognize the person who reveals the most inaccuracies at our June meeting and in the next *Gazette*. Send your entries to us at [americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com](mailto:americanfriendsoflafayette@gmail.com)

**LIVES OF GREAT MEN... MARQUIS de LAFAYETTE (1757-1834)**

**LAFAYETTE WAS BORN AT CHAVANAC, FRANCE, ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1757. HE WAS CHRISTIANED MARIE, JOSEPH, PAUL, YVES, ROCH, GILBERT DU MOTIER. WHEN HE REACHED SCHOOL AGE, HE STUDIED AT THE MILITARY ACADEMY AT VERSAILLES.**

**ALTHOUGH BORN INTO THE NOBILITY, HE DID NOT CARE FOR THE POMP AND CEREMONIES OF COURT LIFE. SO, WHEN HE WAS TWENTY YEARS OLD IN 1777, HE CAME TO AMERICA IN A SHIP HE PROVIDED WITH A PARTY OF SOLDIER-ADVENTURERS TO JOIN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY FORCES.**

**HE OFFERED HIS SERVICES TO FIGHT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE YOUNG REPUBLIC AND CONGRESS APPOINTED HIM A MAJOR-GENERAL WITHOUT PAY AND WITHOUT A COMMAND. GENERAL WASHINGTON INVITED HIM TO BE A MEMBER OF HIS STAFF WHICH HE GLADLY ACCEPTED.**

**LAFAYETTE WAS WOUNDED AT THE BATTLE OF BRANDYWINE. HE WAS GIVEN A SMALL DETACHMENT OF TROOPS AND PROMPTLY DEFEATED A MUCH LARGER PARTY OF HESSIANS AT GLOUCESTER. ON WASHINGTON'S RECOMMENDATION HE WAS GIVEN COMMAND OF A DIVISION.**

**HE BECAME A DEVOTED, PERSONAL FRIEND OF WASHINGTON AND SPENT THE TERRIBLE WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE WITH HIM. THE BRITISH HAD NICKNAMED LAFAYETTE "THE BOY" BECAUSE OF HIS YOUTH.**

**BUT, DESPITE HIS YOUTH, LAFAYETTE WAS A BRILLIANT AND COURAGEOUS COMMANDER. HE LED HIS DIVISION SUCCESSFULLY AT THE BATTLES OF BARREN HILL AND MONMOUTH AND DURING THE CAMPAIGN OF RHODE ISLAND. WHEN FRANCE DECLARED WAR ON ENGLAND, HE RETURNED TO FRANCE IN 1779 TO JOIN HIS COUNTRY'S FORCES.**

**IN 1780 LAFAYETTE AGAIN CAME TO AMERICA WITH A FRENCH FLEET AND TOOK UP HIS POSITION AS A MAJOR GENERAL IN THE AMERICAN FORCES. WHEN LORD CORNWALLIS SURRENDERED, ENDING THE WAR, LAFAYETTE SAILED BACK TO FRANCE.**

**WHEN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION EXPLODED, LAFAYETTE JOINED THE REBEL FORCES. AFTER THE FALL OF THE BASTILLE, HE WAS MADE COMMANDER OF THE PARISIAN NATIONAL GUARD. IN 1791, HE RETIRED FROM PUBLIC LIFE.**

**THEN NAPOLEON CAME TO FAME AND ONCE AGAIN LAFAYETTE DONNED A UNIFORM AND WENT TO WAR. HIS LUCK FAILED, HOWEVER, AND HE WAS CAPTURED BY THE AUSTRIANS. FOR FIVE YEARS HE LANGUISHED IN A PRISON UNTIL BONAPARTE DEFEATED THE ENEMY IN 1797 AND FREED HIM.**

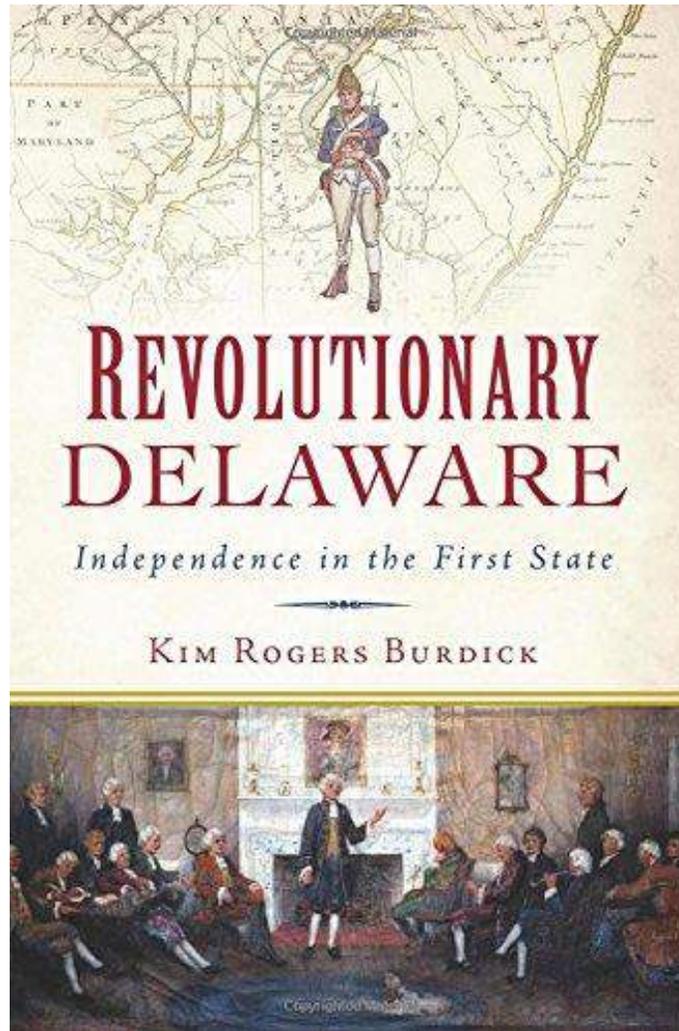
**AFTER THE DEFEAT OF NAPOLEON AT THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO, LAFAYETTE THEN A MEMBER OF THE FRENCH CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, HELPED FORCE NAPOLEON'S ABDICATION. LAFAYETTE COULD NOT STAND IDLE WHEN A PEOPLE'S LIBERTY WAS THREATENED.**

**HE SPENT HIS FORTUNE HELPING THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, GREECE, SPAIN, ITALY, PORTUGAL, POLAND AND THE SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS WIN FREEDOM AND POLITICAL REFORMS. A GRATEFUL AMERICAN CONGRESS GAVE HIM A HUGE LAND GRANT IN LOUISIANA, 200,000 DOLLARS AND A TOWNSHIP IN FLORIDA BUT HE REFUSED THE GIFT WITH THANKS.**

**LAFAYETTE DIED ON MAY 20, 1834. HIS GRAVE IN PICPUS CEMETERY, IN PARIS, WAS COVERED WITH EARTH TAKEN FROM BUNKER HILL. NO ONE GAVE MORE TO THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN FREEDOM THAN THIS GREAT SOLDIER AND STATESMAN... MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE.**

# BOOKNOTES

by Chuck Schwam



## ***Revolutionary Delaware: Independence in the First State***

Authored by AFL member Kim Burdick

An exciting new book from AFL member Kim Burdick has recently been published. Titled *Revolutionary Delaware: Independence in the First State*, Ms. Burdick's book is a fabulous account of Revolutionary War history in Delaware. She mentions Lafayette a great deal in the book chronicling his time in the "First State."

Ms. Burdick's research was obviously extensive as she has uncovered frequently untold history that underscores Delaware's significant role in the American Revolution. Our only wish is that she could write twelve more books (one for each of the remaining original states).

Kim Burdick is a Life member of the American Friends of Lafayette. She is also President Emerita of the W3R-US. In 2008, she moved with her family to the Hale-Byrnes House in Stanton, Delaware. It was at this house that Lafayette celebrated his 20th birthday.

# Picpus Ceremony 2017

by August Huber

In keeping with a long practiced tradition, all politically appointed ambassadors were relieved of their posts with the inauguration of the new president on January 20<sup>th</sup>. This included Ms. Jane Hartley, the former Ambassador to France. The U.S. has always had very strong leadership from the career State Department diplomats, which is certainly still the case today.

Nonetheless, these professionals are reluctant to schedule public events without knowing the availability of whoever may assume the post. Since the Ambassador's post is still vacant, it is very difficult for the AFL to ascertain the actual date of the 2017 Picpus Ceremony at Lafayette's grave.

Traditionally on July 4th the AFL has participated with SAR, DAR, Society of the Cincinnati, military personnel and embassy officials to honor Lafayette and change the American Flag flying over his gravesite. Over the last several years, the date has not been on July 4th, but rather late June or early July to accommodate the ambassador's schedule which has made it very difficult for our members to schedule their travel.

We are still waiting for the official date to be announced. Our hope is that the ceremony will take place on the traditional date of July 4th again. We will keep you posted on the 2017 date.

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## **“Lafayette, we are here!”**

On the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Colonel Charles E. Stanton's iconic statement at Picpus Cemetery in Paris – “Lafayette, we are here!” – we are pleased to publish three items from the Albert Hatton Gilmer *“Lafayette, we are here!”* collection. These items are (1) chapter 3 of an unpublished manuscript by Gilmer entitled “Fourth of July in Paris 1917,” (2) a photostat of the original speech signed by Colonel Stanton and initialed “O.K.J.J.P” by General Pershing, and (3) a copy of the short speech given by General Pershing after his aide delivered his rousing closing line “Lafayette, we are here!”

Gilmer was a long-time Professor of Speech and Dramatic Art at Lafayette College. He was also a member of The American Friends of Lafayette. We are very grateful to Diane Shaw and Lafayette College for giving the AFL permission to print these extraordinary materials in this the 86<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Gazette*.

- Alan Hoffman

## Fourth of July in Paris 1917

**“The words came like an electric shock.”**

**- An American who was there.**

On the Fourth of July, 1917 all Paris was on tip-toe in the crowded streets, grouped at the windows, huddled together on balconies, and standing on house-tops to catch sight of the newly arrived American soldiers parading on their way to the tomb of Lafayette. They were cheered as “Sammies,” “Yankees,” or “Teddies.” That was a scene for every Parisian to gaze upon and long remember, for the vigorously marching Americans were the first of many thousands to follow, come to fight with the French, the British, and the Belgians against a common foe, the invading Prussian armies, even then but fifty miles away. These United States soldiers were the first ever to go out from their homeland to cross the Atlantic and take part in a European conflict. History was in the making.

To the French this novel scene meant in due time their weakening defense would be turned into a powerful offensive movement toward victory. The mere sight of these sturdy strangers from the new world in the west revived in them hope, faith, enthusiasm, and courage.

General Pershing perceived the significance and possible influence of our first appearance abroad in the World War, and he wanted it to have a favorable reception among the people of Paris. He believed it could and would go a long way toward lifting the flagging morale of the hard-pressed army in the trenches and of the anxious citizens on the home front of France.

For our part in the ceremonies, the General commanded Colonel W. H. Allaire to bring from the French west coast port, Saint Nazaire, where the American troops had debarked, a battalion of the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry, equipped for parade. Although these troops were from a Regular regiment, about two-thirds of them were recent recruits. They were not sufficiently trained and

drilled to make much of an impression, from a military point of view by their appearance, but the mere fact of their presence was of inestimable value from the point of view of morale bolstering.

A purely military ceremony was held in the late forenoon in the Court of Honor at Les Invalides. A stand of our national colors was presented by the President of the Republic, M. Poincare, to the battalion and a pair of guidons to General Pershing. Marshall Joffre, other high government and military officers, and a group of French veterans of former wars were also in attendance.

There at the national shrine, sacred to the memory of the past glories of the French people, where the great Napoleon himself lies buried, the official welcome of France was formally extended, on our Independence Day, to the first contingent of United States troops.

Then as the hour of noon approached the unforgettable march across the city to the tomb of Lafayette began. As our soldiers almost forced their way through the densely crowded streets a French airplane flew overhead, acrobating and following the line of march for awhile, and disappeared in the distance. Hundreds of people left the sidewalks and rushed forward to shake the hands of the Americans, strangers but friends and brothers in arms. French soldiers on leave, still wearing trench uniforms stained and dingy with the grime of battle, joined the marching troops in each side in columns and continued for miles. Some of them wore bandages on their heads and others had their arms in slings, from recent wounds. Children ran forward throwing flowers in front of the marching men from over-seas. Flowers were tossed in from the sidewalks or came fluttering and floating down from balconies and windows. They were caught by the American soldiers, who stuck their gay colored petals in the steel gray muzzles of their rifles or tucked them in their belts. In the words of General Pershing: "The column looked like a moving

flower garden.” In concluding his detailed account of the scene in his two volumes of memoirs, he wrote:

“With only a semblance of military formation, the animated throng pushed its way through avenues of people to the martial strains of the French band and the still more thrilling music of cheering voices. By taking parallel streets, I was able to gain several successive vantage points from which to watch this unique procession pass. The humbler folk of Paris seemed to look upon these few hundred of our stalwart fighting men as their real deliverance. Many children dropped on their knees in reverence as the flag with the stars and stripes went by. These stirring scenes conveyed vividly the emotions of a people to whom the outcome of the war had seemed all but hopeless.”

The procession had left the Esplanade of the Invalides, crossed the Seine bridge that leads onto the Place de la Concorde, and marched on until it turned right into the Rue de Rivoli. This famous street they followed eastward until it merges into the Rue de St. Antoine. Passing by the site where once stood the hated prison, the Bastille, destroyed, at Lafayette’s orders, early in the Revolution, the soldiers swung along to the Place de la Nation. There the column left the boulevard and wound its way along the narrower Rue de Picpus to the little out-of-the way cemetery bearing the same name as the street.

At the entrance to the high-walled-in Picpus Cemetery where Lafayette is buried, the troops passed through the arched gateway of the old convent and rested in the garden. There was not room for them in the limited space of the cemetery. Within the walls of the adjoining burial area were gathered only three or four hundred persons, including prominent Americans and French citizens. For the speakers a small railed platform had been erected and hung with the red, white, and blue of the two republics. Lafayette, as an American general, had fought at Brandywine, Monmouth, and Yorktown under our stars and stripes. He himself had created the French tri-color in the early days of the French Revolution, by blending the red and blue of the standard of Paris with the traditional white of royal France upon which its golden lilies had been

displayed. This new flag he gave to his fellow countrymen with the prophecy that it would: "go round the world."

The elevation provided by the stand was necessary, for the listening audience could not gather close around to the speaker. In front of Lafayette's tomb there is only a small open space of a few yards in a corner of the grounds near one end wall. The people present had to stand in the narrow passageways that extend the length of the cemetery, crossed by a few other paths at intervals.

Grouped below the stand were the members of the official party. In it along with General Pershing and our Ambassador William G. Sharp stood the French Minister of War, Painleve, Marshall Joffre, Premier Alexandre Ribot, and other high French officials of the State and of the Army. In a group of officers of the United State Army Forces were: Major General James G. Harbord, Colonel B. H. Alvord, Colonel W. H. Allaire, Colonel Wilson Margette (an aide to General Pershing), Major Edwin F. Ely, Major Ora Beazley, Colonel Harry S. Wilkins, Colonel Frederick T. Hill, Major Gustav Porges, along with other officers of the American Expeditionary Force.

The opening addresses were by the French Prime Minister, M. Alexandre Ribot, Mr. Brand Whitlock, on behalf of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the French Minister of War, M. Painleve, who was followed by General Pershing's representative, Colonel Charles E. Stanton, of the Quartermaster Corps.

Colonel Stanton's speech, delivered from his original manuscript that had been read and approved by General Pershing several days in advance, was as follows:

"I regret I cannot speak to the good people of France in the beautiful language of their own fair country.

The fact cannot be forgotten that your nation was our friend when America was struggling for existence, when a handful of brave and patriotic people were determined to uphold the rights their Creator gave them – that France in the person of Lafayette came to our aid in words and deed. It would be ingratitude not to remember this, and America defaults no obligations.

Today is the anniversary of the birth of the American nation, of a people whose declaration of rights affirms that 'all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' It is celebrated at home with joy and thanksgiving, with bonfire and illuminations, because we feel that since our advent into the galaxy of nations, we have been borne the part of good citizens, respecting the law and living in the fear of God.

We are a people slow to anger but unyielding in the maintenance of our rights and national honor.

The patience, the forbearance, the patriotism of President Wilson, who tried every honorable means to avoid this conflict cannot be too highly praised, for he realized the dread consequences of a declaration of war, and the misery it would inevitably invoke. The arrogant, tyrannous representative of a Prussianized autocracy, has violated every law of civilization. He regarded the solemn Geneva treaty, to which his country was a signatory power, as a scrap of paper, deliberately made his preparations while the world slept in fancied security, and then declared war upon the allied powers.

The United States protested from time to time against his arbitrary acts, receiving from him promise upon promise that he would observe the rules and regulations of war, but every promise was broken, every agreement violated. At last patience ceased to be a virtue and our long suffering President, realizing to the full the responsibility that was his, declared a state of war existed with the German government.

This declaration was in behalf of more than one hundred millions of free men and women.

At once a debate was had in Congress as to the best method of recruiting an army which would worthily maintain our national honor.

A census was taken of the men between 21 and 31 years of age who could be spared, leaving enough to till the soil, to keep our industries speeded up to full production, to maintain law and order and produce revenue as under normal conditions.

To the eternal credit of America's youth, more than ten million voluntarily signed this roll of honor. Thus it is that a handful of us are with you today, who have come to blaze the trail for those to follow.

We have pledged to General Pershing, our distinguished Commander-in-Chief, loyalty and absolute obedience. Under his direction each man will perform his allotted tasks to the end

that, upon arrival, American troops, fully equipped, can take their place side by side of those gallant allies who have borne the burden through three deadening years.

History will record the brilliant achievement of the men of France, and a soil ensanguined by their blood shall be the home of a free people forever. Never can be forgotten the fidelity, the courage, the loyalty of the women of France, who bore her sons uncomplainingly and gave them up unflinchingly. Their presence here, in the somber garments that denote the loss of loved ones, should cause the pulse to quicken, the arm to grow stronger while declaring their sacrifices were not made in vain, and they shall not be called upon again to endure them.

At some future time another genius of your fair country will compose an anthem, which will unite the moving cadences of the Marseillaise and the quickening warmth of the Star Spangled Banner. This Hosannah will be sung in martial strain with glad acclaim by a liberty loving people, the melody rising to a diapason sinister to tyrants, but soothing as a mother's lullaby to a people who cherish honor for itself and their posterity.

America has joined forces with the allied powers, and what we have of blood and treasure are yours. Therefore, it is with loving pride that we drape the colors in tribute of respect to this citizen of your great Republic, and here and now, in the shadow of the illustrious dead, we pledge our heart and our honor in carrying this war to a successful issue.

La Fayette, we are here!"

As may be learned from the opening sentences of Colonel Stanton's speech, he did not try to speak in French, but confined himself to English. In some way, however, the meaning of the salutation in the last four words found an immediate response from the crowd. Of course all Americans present at once caught the fine feeling and the full import of the words as they fell from the lips of the soldiers drawn up to erect at salute before uttering them. French citizens who understood the English words immediately translated their meaning into their own language. It was almost as though a bomb had been hurled into the cemetery and had exploded.

Among the Americans who were at the cemetery was a New England woman, an artist from Boston, Miss Clara Greenleaf Perry. In relating her experience she said: "I was not far from Colonel Stanton as he spoke and when he said: 'Lafayette, we are here!' I was thrilled. The words came like an electric shock. I felt distinctly a quivering of my whole body as though it had been suddenly struck by some powerful force. It was just like a lightning stroke. Many

people turned and gazed in amazement at one another for a moment and then burst into applause. I went home and recorded my impressions in a diary kept by me. I am sure Colonel Stanton spoke the words entirely in English.”

A French writer, M. Gaston Rion, who heard the speech, was so impressed by it that before the year was out he had written a pamphlet and had it published by Libraire Hachette et Cie, under the title, “Lafayette, Nous Voila.” In it he quoted from Mr. Brand Whitlock’s speech and said of Colonel Stanton’s effort: “Then there burst forth an ovation formidable” (This French word is difficult to translate, but it implies something forceful, almost to the extent of terrifying by its suddenness and power.) “It was Colonel Stanton, speaking in the name of General Pershing and ten million American soldiers, who proclaimed with pride: ‘France came to our aid when America was fighting to assure our independence. We have not forgotten. ‘La Fayette, nous voila!’ One cannot express the emotion produced by this invocation pronounced in a tone of such virile energy.” That is how it seemed to a typical listener.

One American reporter on that day failed to pick the winner among the speakers. Charles H. Grasty, leading correspondent in France for “The New York Times,” cabled at once to his paper a complete account of the pilgrimage to Lafayette’s tomb. In it he said: “There was a tremendous press inside the cemetery. Many of the women were carrying babies, and the men, holding floral pieces above their heads. Brand Whitlock’s address was a classic, and his characterization of German Kultur as the ‘camouflage of civilization’ should live.”

About Pershing’s remark he commented: “General Pershing made his usual soldierly address.” The best Mr. Grasty could say of Stanton’s speech was: “Colonel Stanton gave us twenty minutes of old-fashioned Fourth of July eloquence.” He misjudged the address both in quantity and quality, for it was less than ten minutes long and becomes grandiloquent only in one

paragraph near the close, the one dealing with a new international hymn uniting the "Marseillaise" and the "Star Spangled Banner." Mr. Grasty failed to mention the closing vital, enduring phrase, the one that has lived.

Mayor Puy Mouilhave concluded the ceremonies at the grave by reciting an original poem on General Lafayette. What a day of rejoicing and fraternizing! What a frenzied kindling of hopes!

In talking over the event a year later in 1918 with Mr. J. H. McGrath of "The San Francisco Examiner," the Colonel narrated an interesting incident of the after-effects of his talk. "When the exercises were over," he said, "and the crowd started to leave, the dignitaries on the platform went with the crowd. But I remained on the platform, thinking that I could get out from behind and avoid the crush. With me I had a box of smoking tobacco, one of two boxes that I had brought over, and which, I think, were the only two boxes of that brand in Paris. To me they were worth their weight in gold.

"As I took out my box of tobacco and began to roll a cigarette, I noticed that fully a hundred or more people did not go with the crowd, but remained standing in front of me. I did not immediately connect their waiting with myself. Among them I noticed Elinor Glyn, the authoress. Having finished rolling my cigarette, I descended from the platform. Immediately the crowd rushed me. I was so completely taken by surprise that I did not know what to do. I stood helpless receiving the embraces, until I saw an old fellow with a great shock of whiskers coming for me. The sight of those whiskers seemed to bring me to my senses. I threw off those who were clinging to me and fled.

"When I reached a place of safety and had recovered my breath and wits, I again reached for my box of tobacco to roll a cigarette which would soothe my nerves. The box was gone. I

had lost it in the mix-up. You cannot imagine what that loss meant to me. I was disconsolate for days.”

At the close of Stanton’s speech General Pershing was so moved by the wave of enthusiasm that he was persuaded to speak. What he said appears in the next chapter.

The well remembered phrase soon made its way throughout France. It crossed the trenches and “No Man’s Land” into French territory occupied by the Germans. A member of an American artillery section, Professor William N. Brigance, of the faculty of Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana, has told me how he found the words current among the subject French people freed by the Allied victory in 1918. In writing of the expression he said: “This short sentence became the password of ‘rapprochement’ between France and her new American ally. To the Americans at home it sounded like a soldier’s talk. To the French it touched off a Gallic imagination. To those on French soil overrun by Germany – and to whom it quickly filtered through the German lines – it brought a new hope and promise. Through the phrase the French learned that the Americans had arrived.”

Shall with glad acclaim be  
a liberty loving people. The melody  
rising to a diapason, sinister to  
tyrants, but soothing as a  
mother's lullaby to a people who  
cherish honor for itself and their  
posterity.

America has joined forces with  
the allied powers, and what we have  
of blood and treasure are yours. (6)

Therefore it is with loving pride we  
drape the colors in tribute of respect  
to this citizen of your great Republic,  
and here and now, in the shadow  
of the illustrious dead, we pledge our  
hearts and our honor in carrying  
this war to successful issue.

La Fayette. In arm here! (7)

The foregoing is my manuscript  
of my address. Charles E. Stanton

Copy

The following remarks were made by General Pershing at Tomb of La Fayette, Picpus Cemetery, Paris, France, on July 4, 1917, immediately after the oration by Colonel C. E. Stanton, Q. M. Corps.

"I did not intend to speak today, but the occasion is rather overwhelming. No one could have attended the ceremony at the Invalides this morning and witnessed the touching scenes that occurred there, no one could have followed the procession from there to this cemetery and witnessed the enthusiasm with which our own troops were greeted without having a swelling of the heart, without having a feeling of pride, to which he could not adequately give expression, in the fact that we have joined hands and arms side by side with France in the great struggle for liberty. It seems fitting that the entrance of our troops into this war should be made an occasion to celebrate or to commemorate the memory of the great patriot who set out from France to obtain our liberty. Today really marks the entrance of the United States into this war. Our troops have really appeared and we are hoping that we may be able to do our share in the shaping of a liberty and a freedom that we and our posterity may enjoy forever."

Note: Taken down in shorthand and transcribed by T. C. Williams, stenographer to Colonel C. E. Stanton during his entire stay abroad.

Jan. 6. 1944.  


# The Picpus Cemetery Flagpole Saga

by Rex Cowan

Looking back, I suppose it all started with Washington's key to the Bastille; or, more precisely, the Marquis de Lafayette's key . . . .

My wife and I were visiting Washington's Mt. Vernon in August of 2004. When we entered the foyer, one of our group pointed to a key mounted on the wall and asked why it was there. "Well, that's the key to the Bastille, presented to General Washington by le Marquis de Lafayette; they were like father and son you know," our guide responded. Pressing on, the questioner further inquired: "Is it *really* the key to the Bastille?" To which our guide responded, somewhat skeptically I thought: "It is supposed to be."

Being a self-described student of history, I found myself with an armload of books about Washington in hand as I left the Mt. Vernon gift shop following our tour. By golly, I *would* find out if le Marquis really was like a son to Washington. And, was that *really* the key to the Bastille?

Having finished my Washington books, and proceeded to read Jason Lane's fine work *The General and Madame Lafayette, Partners in Liberty's Cause in the American and French Revolutions*, I found that: yes, General Washington and le Marquis *did* develop a father/son type relationship during our Revolutionary War; and, yes, the key in question was, in all probability, *a* key to the Bastille . . . of which, of course, there were many.

August 2005 found my wife and me in Paris, following a long afternoon's search for le Cimitière de Picpus (during which we almost gave up), standing at the foot of le Marquis' grave. In my mind's eye I had envisioned the Stars and Stripes snapping to in a strong breeze, as it reputedly has ever since the day our beloved Marquis was laid to rest in 1834. The absence of a strong breeze could not be helped; but what we found with respect to our flag's *display* was, well . . . disappointing to say the least. There it sat, attached with twine to a faded broomstick stuck in a rusted metal pipe embedded in the ground. Sacré bleu!

Back in the States, my mind remained roiled at what I considered to be the undignified manner in which the Stars and Stripes was being flown over this historical site. Whose responsibility was it to rectify the situation? Ultimately, I decided it should be mine. How to begin?

Casting fate to the wind, I picked up my trusty Larousse Dictionary and found that the phrase for flagpole in French is "mat de drapeau." A Google search on yahoo.fr pointed me to ENTEND'ART, a flagpole foundry in Normandy. A short e-mail in my barely acceptable French (with helpful English translation!) was sent to them. Could ENTEND'ART put me into contact with the right people at le Cimitière de Picpus? Somewhat to my surprise, a response was promptly received. "Wait," said my newly-found contact at the foundry, "We will see what we can do."

About two weeks later my office assistant answered my telephone and then advised: "There is a gentleman on the line who says he is from Paris, France and would like to speak with you." Thus, I came to make the acquaintance of the Chairman for le Fondation Picpus. After I outlined what I wanted to do, and why, the Chairman responded: "Well, the reason for the flag being displayed in its present manner is that the caretaker of the Cemetery removes it each evening and this is a convenient arrangement." He went on to add: "We have several offers or requests to conduct activities involving le Marquis' grave each year. The last was in connection with a TV quiz show. We generally refuse them all." My heart sank. "But *your* proposal . . . we will gladly accept."

Progress! But there were certain restrictions. The pole had to be “in keeping with the dignity and atmosphere” of Picpus (meaning bronze), could not be too tall, and would need to be delivered to the cemetery for le Fondation to install. I then went back to ENTEND’ART. “No” they did not do bronze poles, aluminum would have to do. “Yes,” they could arrange for their poles to be anodized to a bronze-like color. Furthermore, they did not produce poles of less than a specific height (about 15 ft. as I recall). Instructions to ENTEND’ART were then given by me, and plans produced for two poles . . . one for Old Glory and the other for the French flag, symbolizing Franco/American solidarity as represented by our “Hero of Two Worlds,” le Marquis. These plans were transmitted to le Fondation for approval, with a note that the poles could be planted to a depth which would reduce the visible portion from 15 to about 10 feet in height. Voila! We were in business! Or so I thought.

Several weeks passed. Hearing no objection from le Fondation, I took this to signify approval; and the necessary funds were wired to ENTEND’ART. The bank personnel were *thrilled* to be of assistance when advised what the funds were being wired for. But, I had not been back in my office for ten minutes following the wire’s transmission (literally), when word came from le Fondation via e-mail: “No, the flagpole(s) would be too tall, and no there *absolutely* could not be a second pole for the French flag.” My heart sank. Frustration!

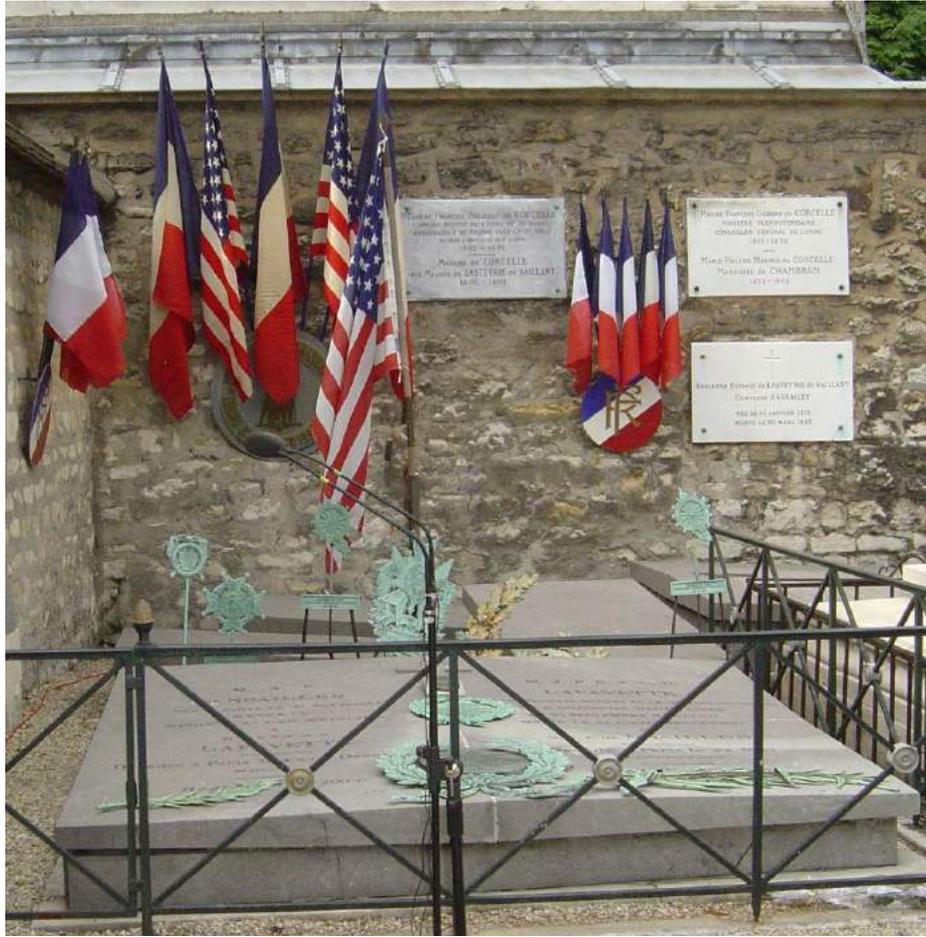
Calming myself, I surmised that maybe there was something being lost in translation between the American “can do, finish the job” approach to projects and the French “we must take our time, we must be politic” approach. I found myself asking: “What would le Marquis do?” Well, *of course*, he would complete the job to be done with both grace and *élan*! So came about my decision to write both the Chairman of le Fondation and ENTEND’ART, requesting that they work together to sort things out, with ENTEND’ART to keep any excess from the sum already wired since there would now be only one pole involved instead of two, as an expression of my appreciation for its efforts.

Time passed. Then an e-mail from ENTEND’ART. Their representative had travelled to Paris and met, personally, with the Chairman of le Fondation at le Cimitière de Picpus. They had gone back to the proverbial drawing board, and were enclosing a drawing of the *bronze* pole they would produce. The cleat on the pole would be their standard plastic, affixed with a strap. E-mails flew from my office: “No” the pole could not have a “flying saucer” as its finial, and a *plastic* cleat would not be dignified. The finial would *have* to be a ball, and the cleat bronze attached with bolts. But “no” came the reply: “we do not put ball finials on mats de drapeau in France anymore, but ‘yes’ we can accommodate you on the cleat.” More e-mails flew.

More time passed. Then, in May of 2006, an e-mail from ENTEND’ART arrived. The deed was done! ENTEND’ART had sent its own workmen to le Cimitière de Picpus to install its final product under the instruction of le Fondation. Then, a few days later, a gracious e-mail from le Fondation’s Chairman . . . the mat de drapeu was “perfect.” International understanding had been reached, the dignity of le Marquis and le Cimitière de Picpus preserved and, as I believe you will observe from the accompanying photo, the result was very much worth the effort.

*Postscript:* As I learned through the adventure described above, le Cimitière de Picpus represents a microcosm of the various political sentiments swirling around the French Revolution and its aftermath. It remains so to this day.

About the Author: Rex Cowan is a small town solo practitioner of law in Winter Haven, Florida. He admits to an outsized identification with historical figures that he admires.



Before and After



# La Grange Under Restoration

By Myriam Wazé and Benoît Guizard

*The Chateau La Grange-Bléneau in Courpalay, 70 km East of Paris, where Lafayette lived with his family from 1802 to 1834, has long been an outstanding landmark for AFL members who had the privilege to visit it in small groups. It is presently undergoing major restoration work, and as a result is not open to AFL visitors for the time being. We met Jeannine de Cardaillac, Managing Director of the Chambrun Foundation – owner of the place – to discuss present work and future plans. Below are some excerpts of our discussion.*

## Major Repairs in Progress

The building, which has remained in the same configuration since Lafayette's time, needs major structural repairs to protect it from natural wear and tear. These include the roof, all outside openings, and inside fixtures and fittings. The aim is to restore the building to the same condition as it was when Lafayette lived there. For instance all windows will have small square panes. All the electricity and the heating also need to be completely renewed.

To achieve all this, Jeannine and her team have had to store all the furniture, objects, works of art, books, and correspondence temporarily at the Archives Nationales for shelter. This has been the occasion for taking a huge inventory from the cellar to the attics by which everything has been recorded, photographed, and scanned, and thus permanently saved for posterity. They will all be returned after the work is finished.

## Great New Finds

Some chests in the attics, some books in the library have revealed priceless documents that were completely unknown. Jeannine quoted for instance a letter from Condorcet to Lafayette giving his position on slavery. Another discovery is the will made by Lafayette's parents. There is also a letter of an architect to Lafayette describing his project to build a pyramid in the square of the Louvre Palace! It is likely more will be found as the scouting continues.

## Preparing for the Future

The Chambrun Foundation is contemplating several options to safeguard La Grange as a place of history, a residence of a unique person and his family, and to disseminate the image and messages of our Franco-American hero. The design of the building, its fittings, the small size of the rooms in the living quarters will never allow public visits except by very small groups. So the plan is to involve the general public in 2 different ways:

- to launch an internet site dedicated to the Chateau, its history of several hundred years, and the life of Lafayette there
- and to create a museum open to the public in the farm adjacent to the Chateau.

### Timeframe and Visits by AFL Members

The duration of the work is not precisely known due to the complexity of the project and surprises that may arise any time. It is very likely that no visit to La Grange will be possible before the Summer of 2019. AFL members will be welcome again in small numbers, as was the case before, when the work is completed. But no date can be set for the time being. As Jeannine says, this might seem long, but it is nothing in comparison with the importance of preserving such a historic site. She also said she would welcome a collaboration to be defined in the future with some AFL scholar/experts on Lafayette.

*We would like to thank Jeannine de Cardaillac very much for her expressions of friendliness to us to the AFL in general and during our meeting. We were sad indeed to hear that La Grange will not be open to AFL visitors for a while, and at the same time very happy to see that the Chateau is in such good hands for now and the future.*



La Grange, Front View

Copyright: Fondation de Chambrum

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

By Jessica Holy (Woodbridge, VA)



The countryside of Vologne



AFL Members in Castle Vologne's Courtyard

The third Lafayette home we visited on the AFL's 2015 trip to France was the Castle Vologne which is not too far from the town of Chase-Dieu. A descendent of Lafayette's, Madame Genevieve Aubert Lafayette, resides there with her husband. Their home dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century and at one point was besieged by the Emperor Clovis. The castle sits atop a high bluff and has a gorgeous view of the surrounding countryside. The castle is currently one third its original size; the current owners have been restoring the home over the years as gifts to one another on their various anniversaries. It currently is open to the public as a bread and breakfast.



The Lafayette Room at Castle Vologne – right side



The Lafayette Room at Castle Vologne – left side



Collection of Sketches and Prints of General Lafayette and Adrienne



The Brandywine Vase

One of the rooms in the castle was dedicated to Lafayette. It contained many interesting items and was set up like a study. Over the years Madame and her husband had sold items to Chavaniac and La Grange, but they still have a fair amount themselves. One interesting item they had was the vase given to Lafayette by the midshipmen of the *Brandywine* ship after his American tour in 1824-1825. It has four scenes on the base, one of which was Lafayette's visit to George Washington's tomb. It is a gorgeous and well-preserved vase. Another interesting item they had was Lafayette's National Guard sword. There were beautiful prints, sketches of portraits, and of course a giant bust of Lafayette. Their décor was very patriotic, and I was highly amused to find a souvenir key to the Bastille keychain from Mount Vernon carefully placed inside their bookcases with far more authentic artifacts.



original sword owned by Lafayette



American souvenirs: Bastille Key Replica Key Chain and Postal Stamps

An

I truly made a memory I will never forget at this castle. Back when this trip was being planned, I decided to ask Mount Vernon if they would provide gifts for me to pass out to anyone in France who helped us on our tour – hotel owners, bus drivers, museum tour guides, dignitaries, hosts, and the like. They agreed and I brought with me lapel pins that featured Lafayette and Washington in front of Mount Vernon and current American Flags that had been flown over Washington's estate, which came with certificates. I was happy to present these gifts on our tour because I want future trips to occur. It took a lot of hard work on both sides of the Atlantic – years' worth – to get our small group into these various locations. I hope these gifts not only showed our appreciation for their efforts but also how we all value the alliance between our

two nations, one that Lafayette played no small role in forming. My ideas were grander than the words I write here. Genevieve is one of many gracious hosts we had, and I know she appreciated the gifts. Her husband was quite pleased to receive the flag – it might end up on display in their Lafayette Room! Genevieve was also smitten with my small Lafayette doll. It might seem childish to some for a grown woman to have a small doll of General Lafayette with her on a tour, but he seems to charm adults and children alike wherever I take him. In a way, taking him with me allowed me to bring my friends who are ardent Fayettests but could not travel with our group. He's a good conversation starter because he often gets mistaken for George Washington. I am sure people have walked away deciding to research Lafayette more.



Madame Genevieve Aubert Lafayette, Little Lafayette, and the author after gift presentation

# Lafayette's First Voyage Across the Atlantic

By Michel Tourniaire

## Prelude

As Chief of the “Cabinet Noir” of Louis XV, the Count De Broglie was at the center of the royal power. He had covered himself with glory during the Seven Years War, and was a fierce opponent of England. However he had since fallen into disgrace with Louis XVI.

He dreamed of becoming the Generalissimo of the insurgents who, he thought, did not have any professional generals to command them. To achieve his plans, he assembled a group of officers of noble rank to sail with Lafayette and prepare his future arrival.

Baron De Kalb was the officers' leader. Of German origin, De Kalb owed his career to De Broglie under whose command he had excelled in the Secret Service as well as in combat. De Kalb's aim was to become Maréchal de Camp, and he was convinced that serving in America was the only way to obtain his promotion. (De Broglie had sent De Kalb to America in 1768 to assess the situation.)

Upon the recommendation of De Broglie, Silas Deane, America's representative, granted Lafayette and De Kalb the title of Major General in the Continental army and various officer ranks to the other 20 persons of the entourage. He also provided Lafayette with a letter of introduction to the President of the Congress.

## The Ship

Only 19 years old, Lafayette could not purchase a ship under his name. Once again De Broglie proved to be providential by proposing the services of the brother of his secretary, François-Auguste Dubois-Martin. Lieutenant at the Regiment Port aux Prince, he was the only officer of the entourage who had naval and commercial experience. He was sent to Bordeaux to find a suitable boat.

On February 11<sup>th</sup> he announced that he had found a ship, *La Clary*, belonging to the company Recules de Basmarein and C<sup>pie</sup> for 29,000 livres. On March 7<sup>th</sup> De Broglie made the first payment of 26,000 livres with Pierre de Larquier, brother-in-law of Dubois-Martin, lending the balance of 3,000 livres.

Lafayette named the ship “La Victoire,” but it was Dubois-Martin who picked the Captain, Jean-Baptiste Le Boursier, who in turn enlisted the crew.

Build in 1771 by the naval construction company of Pierre Bichon, the ship was christened *Comtesse de Richmond* and belonged to Pierre Rivière. Between 1771 and 1775, it made three crossings between Bordeaux and the Antilles. Upon his return, Pierre Rivière sold it to Labat de Serene who renamed it *La Bonne Mère*, and between 1775 and 1777 it made two crossing to Saint Domingue.

On February 12, 1777, *La Bonne Mère* was sold to Louis Lanoix for 25,500 livres, who named her *La Clary*. It seems that *La Clary* was sold almost immediately thereafter to the company Recules de Basmarein for 29,000 livres.

If Lafayette claimed ownership, it was in fact De Broglie who owned it. De Kalb and Dubois-Martin dealt directly with Recules de Basmatein to complete the purchase.

*La Victoire* was a simple commercial ship built in 1771, having 3 masts, 22.5 meters long, 7.80 meters width, and 3.69 meters depth for 268 tons and 6 guns.

By comparison, the frigate *L'Hermoine* built in 1779 had 3 masts and was 44.20 meters long, 11.60 meters wide, 5.80 meters depth for 1170 tons and 32 guns.

## The Departure

Fearing British spies as well as the King's agents, Lafayette accompanied by the Prince of Poix graciously accepted the invitation of the Marquis de Noailles, French Ambassador to the Court of St. James and uncle of Adrienne, to visit England on February 16. Lafayette was warmly welcome by Lord Germain, Minister of the Colonies as well as Lord Shelburne, friend of Beaumarchais. General Clinton too wished to

meet this distinguished young Marquis, not knowing that they would soon be facing each other in battle. The Ambassador was so pleased with his Nephew that he obtained an audience with King George who found Lafayette congenial and very likeable. Invited as special guest to a grand ball given in his honor, Lafayette disappeared and returned to France!

To make matters worse he wrote a letter to his father-in-law telling him his plans! The Marquis de Noailles and his brother the Duke d'Ayen were furious with Lafayette's behavior. If the establishment in London took it with a pinch of humor, in France it was another story.

The Duke d'Ayen asked the Prime Minister Maurepas to use all his power to stop Lafayette from sailing and if necessary to lock him up in the Bastille!

Back in Paris, Lafayette spent three days at De Kalb's home in Chaillot. He dared not visit his family and left without embracing Adrienne; yet he had arranged with his lawyer Gerard to give power to Adrienne over all his possessions. On March 16, Lafayette and De Kalb left Paris for Bordeaux where they arrived on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of March, Lafayette and his entourage visited discretely the office of the Admiralty de Guyenne to sign their "acte d'embarquement." Louis XVI had forbidden his subjects to sail to America to help the insurgents. To avoid suspicion, the registration of the entourage was done over three days. Lafayette introduced himself as the Chevalier de Chavaillac and signed "Gilbert du Motier". On March 22<sup>nd</sup> Lafayette met with the merchants, Basmarein and Raimbaux, for the first time.

The real ownership of *La Victoire* is still being argued. In his memoirs Lafayette pretends that he was the owner; it has since been discovered that he was not. De Broglie who was the owner made it a point to make the world believe that Lafayette was!

In Bordeaux an order sent by the ministry directed Lafayette to leave for Marseilles at once and to wait there for the Duke d'Ayen and his Aunt Madame de Tessé with whom he was to take a trip to Italy. It was expected that this cultural voyage would deter Lafayette from his desire to sail and reconcile him with his family.

On March 23<sup>rd</sup> the preparations were completed, and *La Victoire* cast off descending the Garonne to Pauillac. On the 25<sup>th</sup> Lafayette arrived on board with a launch. At noon on the 26<sup>th</sup>, the boat sailed out of the estuary and dropped anchor at San Sebastian, Spain on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

No sooner had Lafayette arrived that he rode back to Bordeaux and then to Ruffec to meet De Broglie. He felt strong remorse for the ire that he had caused to the Duke D'Ayen and his family, especially Adrienne who was with child. He hesitated. Finally, braving the Duke and in the name of liberty, Lafayette left Bordeaux for Los Pasajes where he arrived on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

A biography of the Vicomte Charles-Louis e Mauroy, a friend of Lafayette, said that they left Bordeaux telling the military commandant that they were on their way to Marseilles, but as they reached the outskirts of the town they followed the road to San Sebastian. The Vicomte sat in the stage coach while Lafayette, disguised as a post-boy, drove the horses. They slept on the straw in cook-shops but finally arrived at Los Pasages. On April 20<sup>th</sup> the *La Victoire* sailed to America.

### The Shipment

Private archives from De Broglie descendants show that the entire expedition cost at least 115,000 livres financed by De Broglie, De Kalb and Lafayette. It is also possible that some funds may have come from Louis XVI himself. Lafayette, 19 years old, could not sign the notes without the approval of his lawyer Gerard or the Duke and the Duchess d'Ayen. Lafayette had invested at least 40,000 livres, Dubois-Martin in the name of De Broglie, the same amount, and De Kalb, the balance. According to the Comte de Ségur close friend of Lafayette, the shipment consisted mainly of supplies, guns, ammunition, and uniforms. Where did these guns come from? There are a few possibilities. First, De Broglie who lived in Ruffec located near Bordeaux owned a foundry that manufactured guns and cannon balls. It is from his Chateau in Ruffec that Lafayette travelled to Los Pasajes. Second, Beaumarchais had been given access to armaments from the Royal arsenals in Bordeaux where the Governor was the Marèchal de Mouchy, brother of the Duke d'Ayen.

Finally, the Spanish Basque country was renowned for its gun manufacturing and Beaumarchais could have used part of the 2 million livres offered by the King of Spain to support the insurgents, hence the stop-over at San Sebastian perhaps to finalize the shipment. It is estimated that there were about 5,500 guns on board *La Victoire*.

### The Voyage

Lafayette instructed the Captain that the crossing would be without a stopover in the Antilles. Le Boursier disagreed because of potential lack of supplies and wind directions. He argued with Lafayette who finally, as the owner, made the final decision: there would be no stopover. Lafayette knew that British ships, Corsairs and even the French Navy would be looking for them, hence his decision.

The voyage lasted 54 days due to contrary winds and the direction chosen. Lafayette wrote that he was seasick for the first three weeks, while De Kalb was sick during the entire trip, Lafayette didn't like sailing: "here days after days are the same. Always the sky, always the sea and the next day, it's the same..." On his good days, De Kalb would teach Lafayette English, a language he spoke fluently. Lafayette wrote long letters to Adrienne explaining his decision and begging forgiveness for having abandoned her without a word, let alone an embrace.

On Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> nearing Charleston, Lafayette's ship encountered an American man of war whose crew warned them of two British frigates blocking the entrance to the bay. *La Victoire* sailed north and in the afternoon dropped anchor at South Inlet, near Georgetown, South Carolina. Lafayette had arrived in America!

They were cordially welcomed by Major Benjamin Huger, a patriot and insurgent who offered them a generous hospitality. On land at last, the night was spent celebrating their arrival in America and the wine cellar of Huger was practically emptied! Once rested, Lafayette decided to reach Charleston over land. In the meantime, *La Victoire* was to sail into Charleston harbor, evading the ever-patrolling British ships. On June 17<sup>th</sup> after riding through swamps, battling mosquitos, snakes and pathless woods, they arrived in Charleston and were welcomed by Governor John Rutledge, Generals Robert Howe and William Moultrie and General Gulden.

### The Sale of the Cargo

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, having escaped the British blockade, *La Victoire* entered the port of Charleston, then a city of 12,000. The cargo was off-loaded and sold through the agents Cribbs and May, correspondents of Recules de Basmerein in America.

The ship was reloaded and the new cargo consisted essentially of rice bound for Saint Domingue. But *La Victoire* never reached Saint Domingue. It sank upon hitting a sand bar as it was leaving the port of Charleston. The cargo was a total loss.

What was the composition and value of the return cargo? A dossier in the archives of La Grange gives us the answer. In the first letter, the Duchess d'Ayen instructs Gerard to insure the return cargo of *La Victoire*, for a value of 100,000 livres. At the bottom of that letter, a post-script, signed by Adrienne reads: I have nothing to add to Maman's letter. You will realize like all of us the importance not to miss the courier tomorrow and not to expose hence forth Mr. de Lafayette to a loss of capital of 150 to 200,000 livres.

This letter is of utmost importance. It confirms that Lafayette intended to sell the cargo loaded in Europe in Charleston. Another letter from the same dossier tells us that the return cargo was rice, most probably meant to be sold in Saint-Domingue. Other letters show the Duchess d'Ayen trying to cash in the insurance from Recules de Basmerein.

Keeping in mind that Beaumarchais estimated that a cargo loaded in France was sold for at least three to four times its value at Charleston, we can infer that the cargo of *La Victoire* must have been sold for between 350 to 400,000 livres.

Since Lafayette owned 40,000 livres of the cargo on the way in, his share of the cargo sale would have brought him around 120 to 150,000 livres. We also know that one part the 100,000 livres insured

under the name of Lafayette, had been converted into rice, a common barter practice in those days, and the rest of the sale into “lettres de change” on the American merchants.

De Kalb and Dubois-Martin sold their shares as well. It is estimated that a balance of approximately 50,000 livres came to Lafayette. It explains the gift of 27,000 livres which Lafayette made to the Charleston insurgents and furthermore why Lafayette did not ask for any money to be of service to the Congress. “Je viens à mes dépens.”

It suggests that Lafayette was not as ignorant of the economic realities as he made us believe he was in his memoirs.

It has taken a long time to expose the case of *La Victoire* because Lafayette had also insured the cargo with Cribbs. To avoid a double settlement, the French and American merchants worked out an agreement.

The many letters written by Lafayette are dispersed between foundations, universities and collectors. On the other hand, letters dealing with economic issues seem not to have had much interest for the biographers, although they offer a better understanding of the financing of the 1777-78 campaign of Lafayette among the insurgents. Not only did he finance a large part of the other officers’ crossing, but he also equipped the American soldiers who were placed under his command after the battle of the Brandywine.

According to a document from Gerard, the family attorney, Lafayette spent about 300,000 livres in 1777, including *La Victoire* expenses; hence the profits from the cargo sales were not enough to cover his expenses.

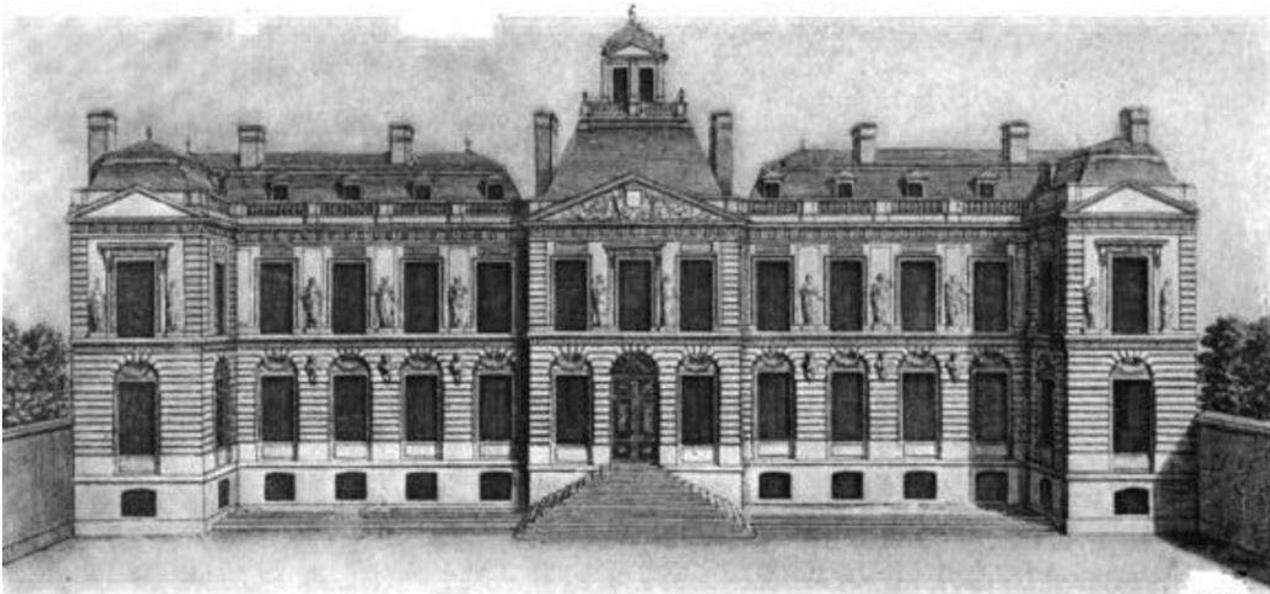
Another person deserves to be mentioned: the Duchess d’Ayen. If Lafayette did not wish to inform Adrienne, who was seven months pregnant, of his departure, Professor Patrick Villiers is convinced that Lafayette had informed that impressive business-woman of his project of supplying armaments for the American insurgency. The insurance file of *La Victoire*, though incomplete, seems to indicate that this was the case.

#### Sources:

- Archives de Bordeaux Métropole
- “Le Premier Voyage de La Fayette en Amérique, Une Ténébreuse Affaire” by Patrick Villiers, Professeur des Universités, Université du Littoral-Côte d’Opale
- *La Fayette* by Gonzague Saint Bris



*Victor François Duc de Broglie, Marechal de France*



**THE HOTEL DE NOAILLES  
FROM THE GARDEN**

From the original drawing in the Musée Carnavalet, Paris

# Regatta “La Victoire”, in the Memory of Lafayette

By Eider Calderón & Pierre Larroque

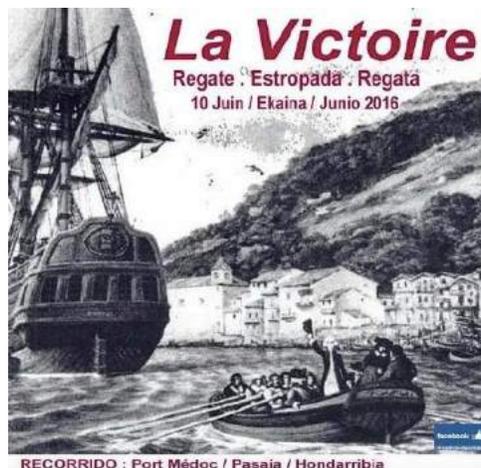
San Sebastian (Donostia in Basque) was the “2016 Culture Capital” of the European Union. As part of the year’s festivities, the associations HN Hondarribiako Nabigatzaileak and Circle Nautique du Verdon organized a regatta, which they named “La Victoire”, between Port Medoc (Bordeaux, France) and Pasaia, Gipuzkoa (Basque Country), to celebrate Lafayette’s own trip from Bordeaux to Pasaia in 1777.

“*La Victoire*” is the name which Lafayette gave to the merchant ship he had bought in Bordeaux to sail the Atlantic and “fight for the Independence of North America”. (The Basques point out that “*La Victoire - Vitoria*” is also the name of the ship on which Juan-Sebastian de Elcano from Getaria was the first to sail around the world in 1519-21. Getaria is a fishing port next to Pasaia.)



French Stamp commemorating *La Victoire* sailing from Bordeaux to Pasaia

*La Victoire* left Bordeaux on March 26, 1777 and docked at Pasaia. Lafayette returned to Bordeaux when he learned that a letter de cachet had been issued to prevent his departure. On April 12, 1777, he set out again for the ship by land and arrived at Pasaia on April 17. Lafayette and his cohorts sailed from Pasaia to North America on April 20, 1777.



*La Victoire* reached America on the 13th of June at South Inlet, near Georgetown, in South Carolina. We wonder if a sailing race could be organized soon from Pasaia to South Inlet to celebrate the *La Victoire*’s trip which first brought the Marquis to America.

## The Regatta

The regatta began on Friday the 10th of June from Gironde (estuary of the rivers Garonne and Dordogne in France) and crossed the whole French coast of Aquitaine to reach Pasaia.

Seventeen boats of Bilbao, Zumaia, Hondarribia, and La Gironde participated in the race. The ships began to enter in the Bay of Pasaia during the morning of Saturday and it was a spectacle to observe the maneuvers of experienced sailors after having traveled approximately 140 miles and sailed all night. Afterward, the race ended in Hondarribia, just South of the French border.



On Sunday the 12th of June, the welcoming ceremony for the sailors took place in Pasaia. The Nautical Club of Hondarribia offered a new plaque (above) celebrating Lafayette's sailing to America 240 years ago. The Mayor of Pasaia, Izaskun Gómez, welcomed the regatta's participants in the city hall, where she gave the awards. A personalized trophy with the boat's name was given to each boat. The trophy was a reproduction of the chain Tower which guarded the ocean entrance of Pasaia.

The Culture Councilors from Pasaia and Hondarribia and several dignitaries from the Sailing Clubs of Hondarribia and Verdon participated in the ceremony. All celebrated Lafayette's dedication to fighting for America's Independence and its revolutionary ideals, as well as his choosing Pasaia for *La Victoire* to sail from for her historic journey.



*Eider Calderón is the Director of the Tourist Information Center of Pasajes, the Spanish name of Pasaia. She was very instrumental in organizing the Regatta.*

## **Recent Lafayette Discovery!**

By William Cole

Recently, I was called and asked to do a talk for the James City Company (Chapter) of the Jamestowne Society meeting. I did not know the person who called, but we had a mutual friend who suggested me as a speaker. I decided we needed to meet, so I set up a casual lunch for the two of them and me.

During our lunch, I mentioned to the person who had asked me to speak that I was a member of the American Friends of Lafayette. To this, she replied that she had a Lafayette item in her family and a story to go with it!

You never know when these things might happen! I asked her to send me pictures of her treasure and the story attached to it.

Here's the story passed down through 161 years to her late mother who wrote this about the item in 1985:

When the Marquis de Lafayette was 67, he made a grand tour of America and was enthusiastically entertained wherever he visited.

On Friday October 29, 1824 at 5 pm he arrived in Petersburg, Virginia and was received with a huge parade led by the Cavalry. He rode in a barouche followed by a line of carriages bearing his son and entourage: then came officers of the 39<sup>th</sup> Regiment and others.

They made their way to Niblo's Tavern on the corner of Bollingbroke and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets where the Marquis was to stay. He walked out among the people and greeted them. That evening Mr. Niblo prepared a sumptuous meal for the party during which 13 formal toasts were drunk.

At 8 o'clock until 2 AM, a ball was held at the theater which was lavishly decorated by the good ladies of Petersburg. The ladies not only wore their best gowns but they had brought their finest china and silver to be used at the reception. This brings me to the point of my story; I treasure a cup and saucer which I believe is early Coalport china from

England and which belonged to my great, great, great grandmother, Ann Stoker Overton of Petersburg. Our family calls this “Lafayette's cup” and who is to say that he did not drink from it?

Elizabeth Woodward Sale  
1985

I have not tried to check on any of the facts in the story—it's her family's story, and I'm not touching it!

Here's a photograph of the cup and saucer treasured by my new friend, Sidney Sale Bland:



# American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

by Chuck Schwam

On April 1st, the Commonwealth of Virginia celebrated the Grand Opening of the new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. This new museum will be a national center for education and tourism devoted to bringing the entire story of the American Revolution to life through engaging museum galleries and real-life outdoor encampments.

The Grand Opening actually occurred over the course of thirteen days from March 23 - April 4, 2017. The game plan was to honor each original state during thirteen consecutive days beginning on March 23rd, in the same order in which each state ratified the Constitution. The American Friends of Lafayette were major contributors to this opening, participating in each of the thirteen days.

Each day the AFL had a "booth" at the museum. The purpose of our presence was to educate the public on Lafayette's importance and France's involvement in the American Revolution. We promoted the AFL and our volunteers gave out pamphlets with information about our organization and the life of Lafayette. We also gave away books about Lafayette. All part of the AFL's mission.



**Hank & Diane Parfitt**



**George & Linda Bennett**

AFL volunteers were mentioned at a formal welcoming program every morning. Each daily program included remarks by each state's designated representative and the presentation of the state flag of the day.

We had twenty-four AFL volunteers help out during the thirteen days. I'd like to thank Sidney Riddle for making extra copies of our pamphlet (we happily ran out). I'd like to thank Bob Kelly for being our trailblazer on day one and for adding many items to our booth. Bob also helped out with post-operational duties by cataloging the contact information from the 180 individuals that participated in our free book raffle. This information allowed us to email each of these individuals, furthering our mission of promoting Lafayette and recruiting new members.



**Steven & Sydney Riddle and JC & Cindy Rafferty**

Our special thanks go to Lea Gryk and Bill Cole. Lea was at the museum every morning, greeting AFL volunteers and setting up our booth. Bill also stopped by everyday, often helping volunteers with last minute needs. Bill generously had an AFL sign manufactured that we proudly displayed at our booth. Both Lea and Bill donated personal items for our booth display as well. Thanks to both Lea and Bill for making the thirteen days a great success.

Here is a list of our generous volunteers and the states that they represented...

- March 23 Delaware - Bob Kelly
- March 24 Pennsylvania - Todd Prough
- March 25 New Jersey - Sallie de Barcza
- March 26 Georgia - George & Linda Bennett
- March 27 Connecticut - - Bill Cole
- March 28 Massachusetts - Judy Letchworth
- March 29 Maryland- Chuck Schwam & Julien Icher
- March 30 South Carolina - Blanche Hunnewell
- March 31 New Hampshire - Susan Leidy
- April 1 Virginia - JC & Cindy Rafferty / Sidney & Steven Riddle
- April 2 New York - Jerry Meekins & Kelsey Brow
- April 3 North Carolina - Hank & Diane Parfitt / Ginny Powers & Maurice Robertson
- April 4 Rhode Island - Robert and Bob Kelly



**Lea Gryk**



**Chuck Schwam & Julien Icher**

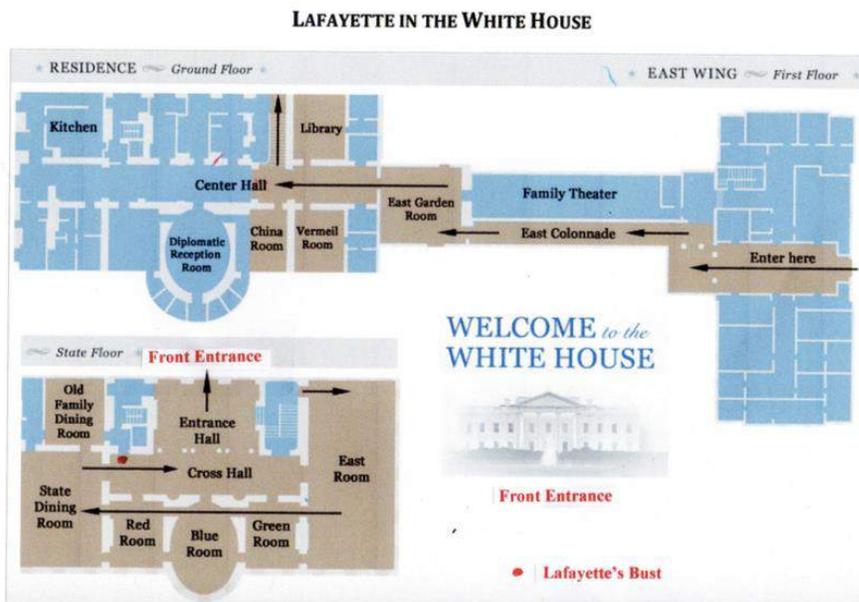
# Lafayette in the White House

By Pierre Larroque

AFL Member Deborah Larroque and her daughter Sophia had the privilege to visit the White House and see its decorations for Christmas 2016.

Always on the lookout for “Things Lafayette”, as now normal for the Larroque family, Sophia looked for a painting, bust or statue of our Hero, and ... she found Him!

Quite prominently, just left of the main Entrance Hall above the door on the right before the State Dining Room, is a bust of our Marquis.



He is here!



Bust of Lafayette at the White House

Whilst they could not ascertain exactly how it ended up in the White House, historians from The White House Historical Association informed us that this bust, a porcelain reproduction of a 1790 Jean-Antoine Houdon original, was manufactured in 1904 at the Manufacture Nationale de Porcelaine de Sèvres and that newspaper accounts already place it in the White House in the Fall of that year. In any event, don't forget to pay a visit to our Hero when you next meander through the White House. He will be happy to see that his American Friends have not forgotten him.

# **King Manor Museum**

**By Chuck Schwam**

It was a blustery afternoon in Queens, New York on January 31st, but AFL members braved the wintry conditions to gather at King Manor Museum. The museum was opened exclusively to the AFL. We were greeted by AFL member and King Manor Museum curator Kelsey Brow.

King Manor was at one time the home of Rufus King. AFL members might know Rufus King for the role he played to help arrange for Lafayette's financial support upon leaving prison and to plan his reception in the United States Capitol in 1824. He met Lafayette in 1778 while serving as a Major under General Glover. Mr. King was also a signer of our Constitution, US Senator and Ambassador to Great Britain.



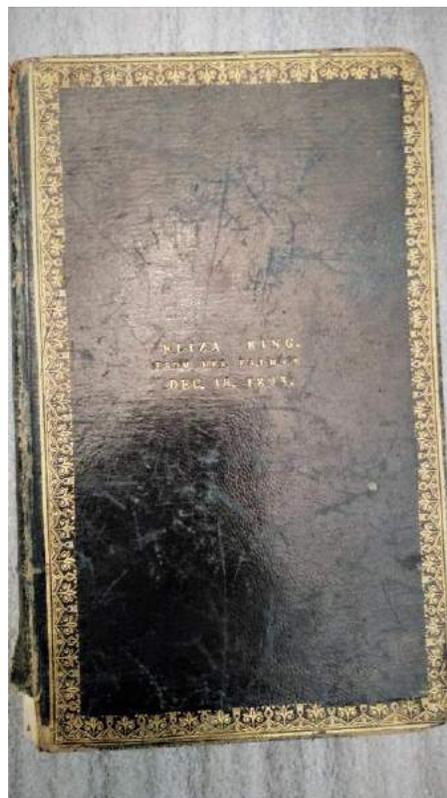
**King Manor Museum**

Kelsey Brow provided an in depth tour of the very interesting museum and lovely home. The first floor rooms were restored to their early 19th-century splendor and provided a private look into the King family's past. The elegant library was highlighted by a statue of Rufus King, sitting in his library, reading a book.

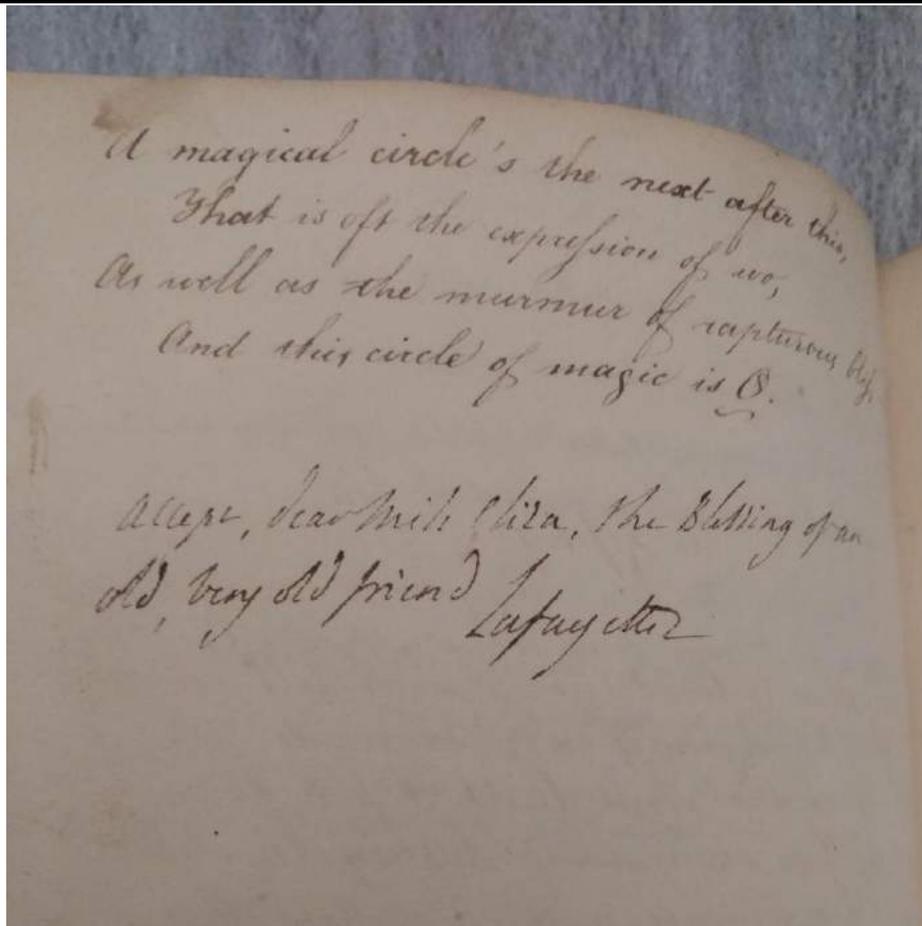
AFL members were anxious to see Lafayette-related objects, and Kelsey did not disappoint. Rufus King's niece Eliza Gracie King delivered a welcome to Lafayette at Castle Garden when he arrived in 1824. Eliza Gracie King's diary features Lafayette's signature from this occasion. The sash he wore this day was also given to Eliza Gracie King, who later passed it down to her daughters in sections. Both items were on private display for AFL members to peruse.



AFL members (from left to right): Bill Cole, Alan Hoffman, Kelsey Brow (curator of the King Manor Museum), Pierre Larroque and Selene Castrovilla gather as Kelsey presents a piece of Lafayette's sash from his arrival at Castle Garden on August 16th, 1824.



Eliza King's Diary given to her by her father on December, 18th, 1823



"Accept dear Eliza, the Blessing of an old, very old friend -- Lafayette."

It was an informative, fun and intimate visit at the King Manor Museum. Thanks to Kelsey Brow, AFL members left knowing more about the King family and their connection to Lafayette.

# From the New England Stops of the Farewell Tour to a Lafayette National Historic Trail

By Julien Icher

## Introduction

Seven years from today is the bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour. Hoping to make this event the next important milestone of French-American long-standing friendship, the Consulate General of France in Boston is committed to having a historic trail implemented out of Lafayette's footsteps in New England on his 1824-1825 Farewell Tour. This trail would not only highlight Lafayette's legacy in New England but would also bring more visibility to the already-existing museums and tourist sites scattered over Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

In 1824, Lafayette was invited by US President James Monroe as the last living general officer of the continental army to visit the then 24-state union for what would be remembered as the Farewell Tour. During this time, Lafayette would visit the New England area twice, first in late August-early September 1824 and second in June 1825, a period during which he visited more than 120 villages, towns and cities.

**New England Stops Made by Lafayette in 1824 - 1825**

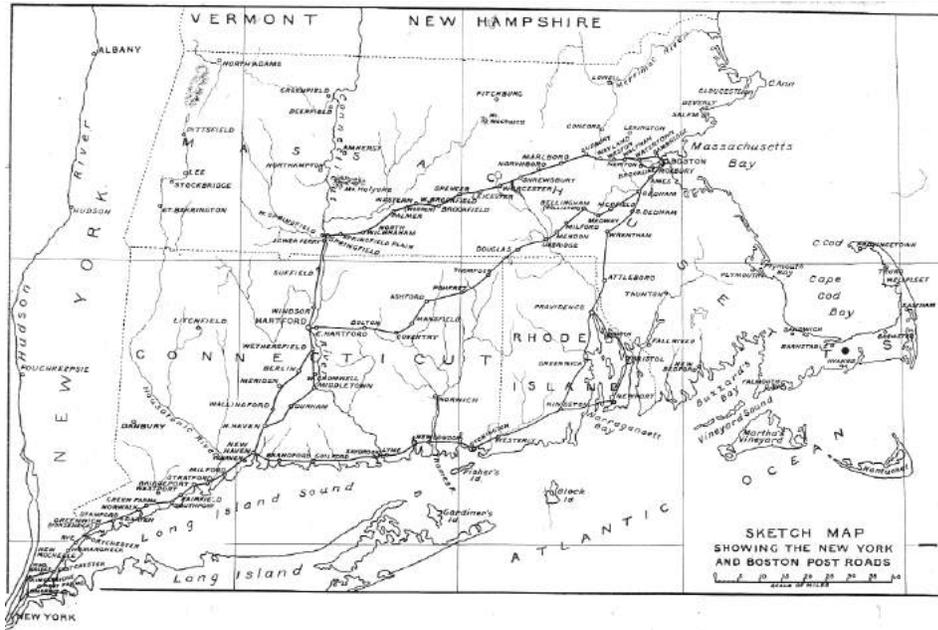
	Connecticut	Maine	Massachusetts	New Hampshire	Rhode Island	Vermont
1824	28	0	28	9	2	0
1825	0	8	20	8	0	17

The very idea lying behind an interpretive parkway is to have drivers connected with the history of the area they are traveling through while being provided with all types of modern amenities. A few attempts have already been carried out successfully such as the Colonial Parkway linking the 3 keystones of early American history (Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown, Virginia) or, more recently, the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (W3R-US).

## Documenting the route

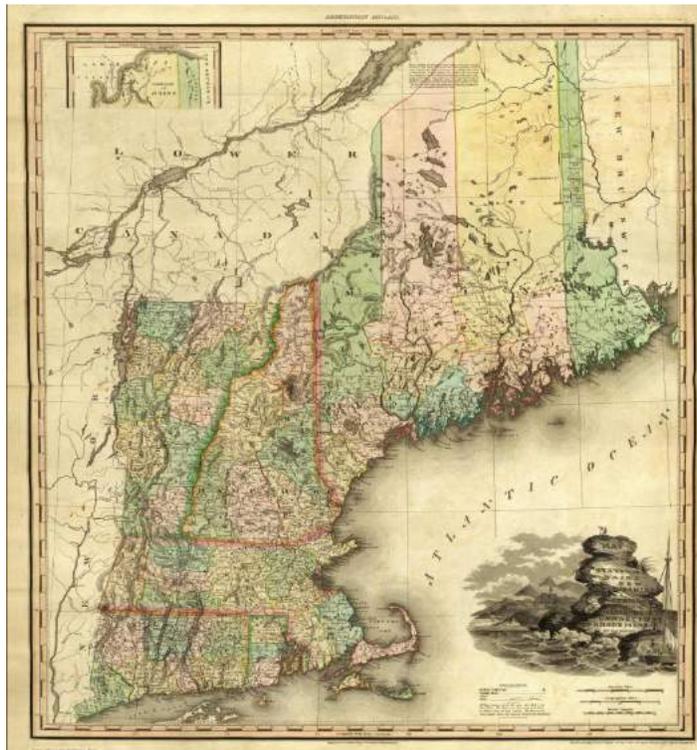
The biggest issue I faced in documenting the actual route was to get a thorough picture of what the road network looked like in 1824-1825 in New England. Not only had most of the roads suffered tremendous changes since, but almost no document allows one to get the details of the roads as the United States started to expand its network. Lafayette's stops are most of the time referred to by the name of the city Lafayette either went from or was headed to, usually lacking the details about the route actually followed.

I used two main maps to pinpoint more accurately what would have been the routes taken by Lafayette. On the one hand, the **Boston Post Road** map displays the main routes used almost two hundred years ago.



JENKINS Stephen, 1913, *The old Boston Post Road*, WENTWORTH Press, p434.

On the other hand, the **New England map** drawn by American cartographer Henry S. Tanner in 1820 provides graphic information to be compared with modern and very accurate digitized maps.



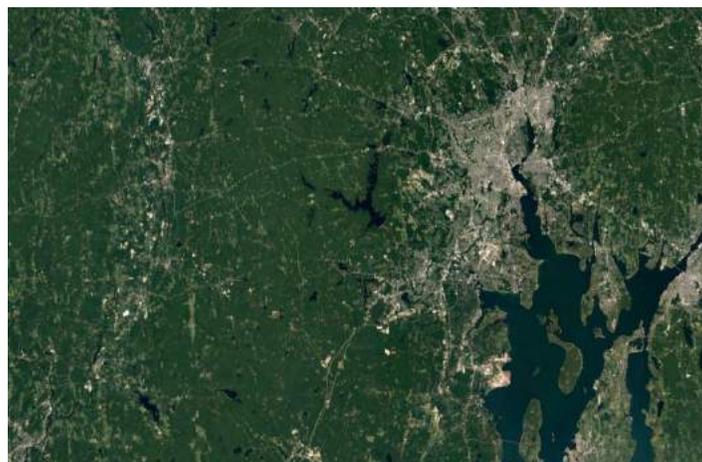
Map of the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island by H.S. Tanner.

In addition to both maps, the painstaking reading of contemporary accounts of the Farewell Tour such as Auguste Levasseur's account as well as media surveys made by Edgar Brandon and James B. Nolan supplied additional valuable pieces of information. So did the numerous documents provided by historical societies throughout New England. Several documents accounting for routes taken by the Continental army during the Revolutionary War such as the [U.S. National Register of Historic Places](#) helped me to single out one route out of many possible routes.

As an example, one of the main bones of contention I had to deal with related to Lafayette's passage in Rhode Island, from Plainfield, CT to Providence, RI. Very few documents shed light on this portion of the trip.

Thanks to the graphic information in Tanner's map as well as the [U.S. National Register of Historic Places](#), I pinpointed that a major route used to connect Plainfield, CT and Providence, RI through what is now the Scituate Reservoir, which the State of Rhode Island created using its eminent domain power in the early twentieth century.

One of the cities which was flooded so that Providence could be supplied with running water was Rockland, RI, which I have listed on my interactive map. See below.



*On the top is a snippet from Tanner's map whose focal point emphasizes the portion going from Plainfield, CT to Providence, RI through the Plainfield Pike. On the right is a snapshot from Google Satellites representing the same area. A red ellipsis defines the Scituate Reservoir. Today, there is a road crossing over the reservoir, route 14, also known as the Plainfield Pike.*

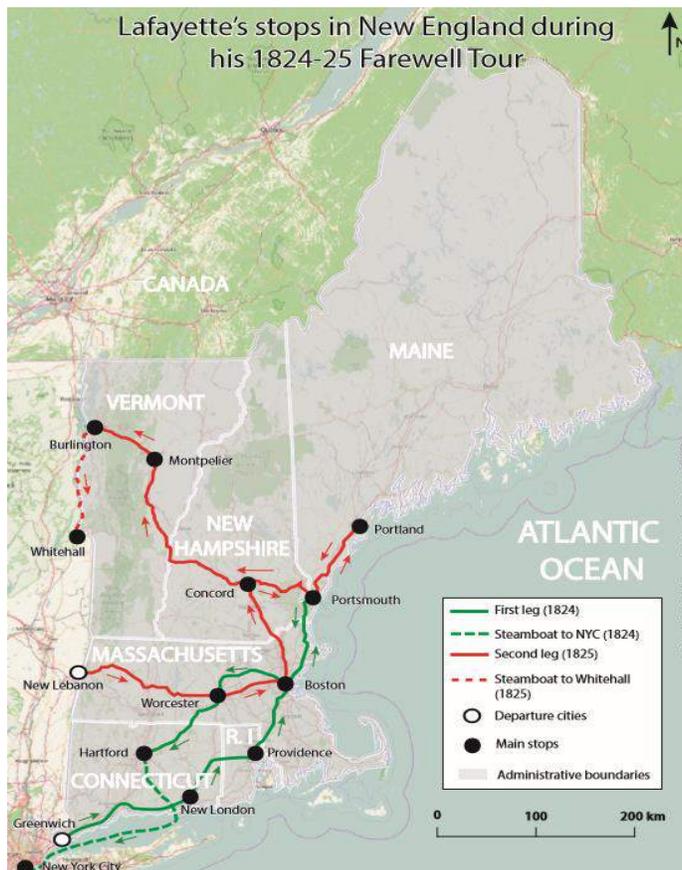
## Bringing the project to decision-making actors

After I had spent a great deal of time documenting the route, my next step was to reach out to decision-making public figures, both state and federal authorities.



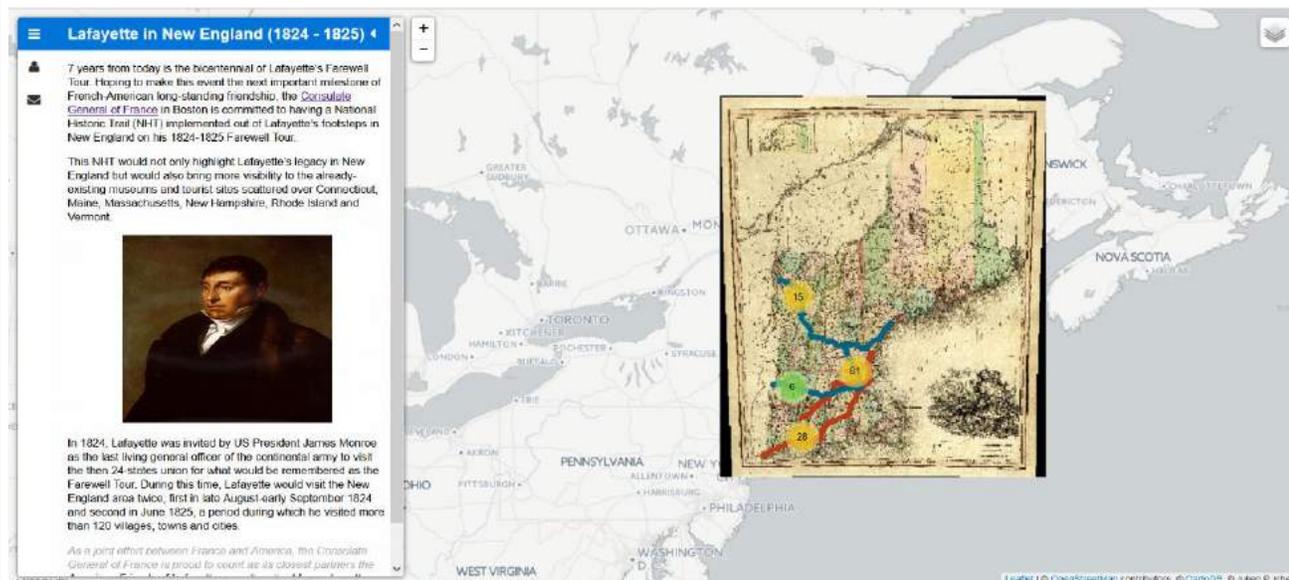
*In this picture, American Friends of Lafayette member Julien Icher meets with New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu with the Consul General of France and his attaché in charge of cooperation and cultural affairs. © Courtesy of Adèle Baker, Honorary Consul of France in New Hampshire.*

A couple of documents were presented for review by decision-makers. The first one is a sketch which aims to offer the broad view at first glance so that one can picture the route throughout New England.

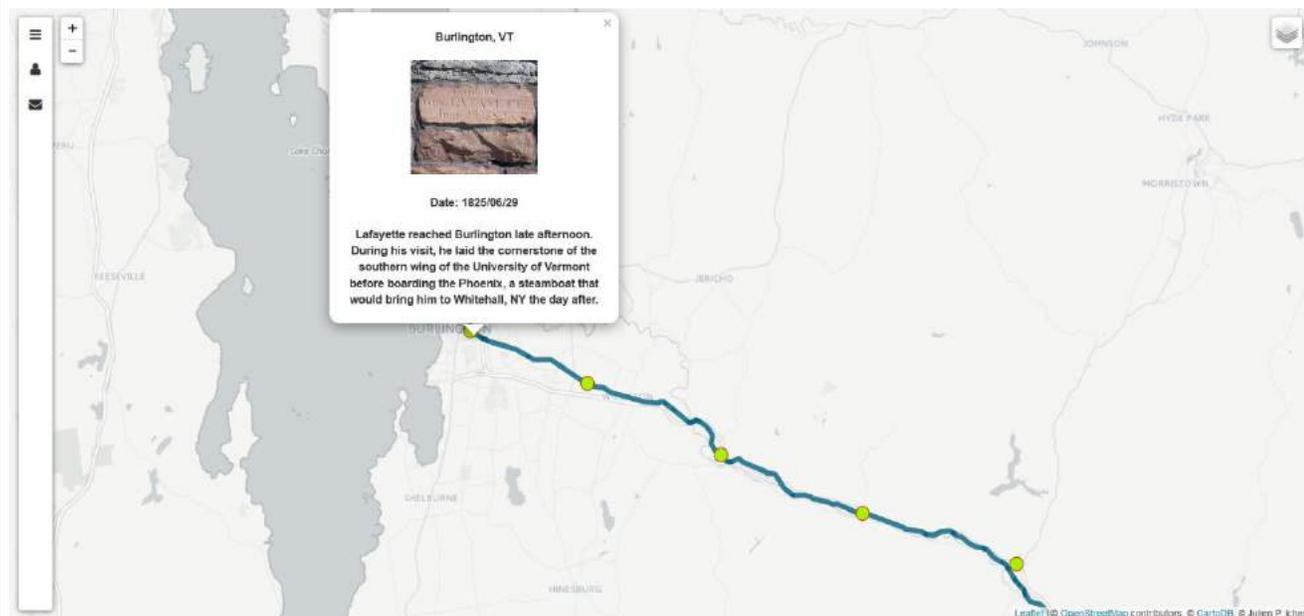


*This sketch displays Lafayette's two different journeys throughout New England. © Designed by Julien Icher.*

In addition to this sketch, a web application allows the user to drill down on the route with more details, whether in terms of “what route did he take either in 1824 or 1825” or “what information do I have about a given town?”. As a resource to spread knowledge about Lafayette, this application is designed to be embedded into several other platforms.



Snapshot of the application with collapse menu clicked upon as well as historical base map displayed.



Snapshot of the web application with pop-up opened.

Hereafter are a few details regarding the functionalities implemented on this application.

The application is user-friendly and is given the basic functionalities such as panning, zooming as well as toggling. The latter allows the user to have both base maps (modern and historic) overlapped so that one can visually assess the differences between modern computing GIS methods and artistic drawing from the ninetieth century.

The blue line displays the first leg of the trip in 1824, whereas the red one accounts for the second leg in 1825. Along both ways are green and yellow clusters that split into smaller light green ones as the user zooms in. When clicked upon, each little dot is provided with a pop-up window that displays basic information accompanied by a picture and its caption allowing the user to dwell on a given point of interest.

On the top right-hand corner is an icon that gives the user the possibility of toggling in/out each one of the features displayed. The side-bar on the left opens a collapse menu that gets pulled in when clicked upon.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Consul General of France, M. Valéry Freland, and his staff for making this project possible. This project would not have seen the light if it were not for a few members of the American Friends of Lafayette from both the D.C and the New England areas who have been instrumental in making sure that I am provided with lodgings, car and relevant information about Lafayette. I would like to express all my gratitude to them, especially highlighting the pivotal role of Alan and Marilyn Hoffman who allowed me to stay with them in Londonderry, New Hampshire for the entire duration of my stay.

## Grolier Club in New York

by Chuck Schwam



AFL member and curator Diane Shaw addresses the group

While Lafayette's contributions in the areas of politics, diplomacy, and the military have received renewed scholarly and public recognition, his abolitionist activities are not widely known outside of the AFL. This exhibition brought into focus Lafayette's sustained efforts in France, the United States, and South America on behalf of the abolition of slavery.

Founded in 1884 and named for French Renaissance book collector Jean Grolier, the Grolier Club is America's oldest and largest society for bibliophiles. The club has an exceptional exhibits program, which features books and prints on a remarkable range of topics and produces outstanding exhibitions catalogues. This past winter it was Lafayette's turn to shine at the famous Grolier Club.

Although this groundbreaking exhibition was open to the public from December 7th to February 4th, the AFL had a private viewing on January 31. Over forty AFL members were in attendance including author Harlow Unger. We were hosted by none other than Diane Shaw, who gave a talk on the exhibition as well as Lafayette as an abolitionist. Afterwards, AFL members perused the extensive exhibit while munching on delicious passed hors d'oeuvres and sipping cocktails. It was a very social and sophisticated evening.

The next afternoon, on Wednesday, February 1st, the AFL gathered at the Grolier Club again. This time we were hosted by Olga Anna Duhl who took members through the exhibition in a more comprehensive way, discussing in detail almost all of the 130 items. Displayed in chronological order, Lafayette's abolitionist views were easily understood and Anna's commentary provided much discussion.



President Alan Hoffman & Curator Olga Anna Duhl

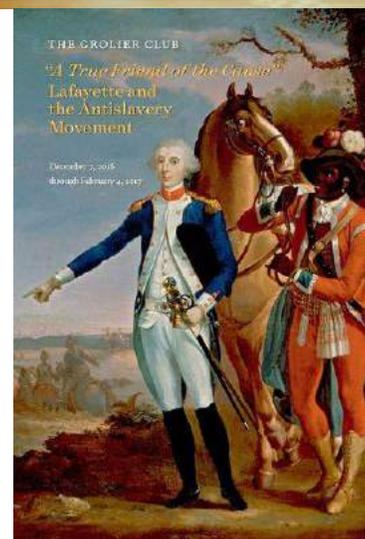
AFL members also had a chance to purchase the illustrated, seventy-five page exhibition catalog with essays by AFL members Diane Shaw, Laura Auricchio and John Stauffer. Patrick Villiers also contributed followed by an illustrated checklist of items in the exhibition. We will plan to make this publication available at our upcoming annual meeting, or it can be ordered at [www.oakknoll.com](http://www.oakknoll.com). This book is a must for any "Lafayetteist's" bookcase.

Our two days in New York proved be a wonderful time. We learned a great deal and saw a virtual cornucopia Lafayette-related objects. It was wonderful to see old friends and meet new friends. In fact, seven Lafayette College alumni joined The American Friends of Lafayette!



Above: Grolier Club

Right: Exhibition Catalogue



## Ode to Lafayette

By: Henri Moulhiade (Trans. Benjamin Goldman)

*Translator's note: The original Ode, as reproduced in the March 2016 edition of this publication, is written in the classical French "alexandrine" style of verse, consisting of twelve-syllable lines with a caesura between the sixth and seventh syllable. There are ten verses of four lines each, employing multiple rhyme schemes: A-A-B-B for five verses, A-B-B-A for two verses, and A-B-A-B for the final three verses, where all "A" lines are "feminine" rhymes sending in a silent "e," and "B" lines are "masculine" ending in a consonant or accented vowel (paired couplets of masculine and feminine rhyme are another feature of the alexandrine style). I have preserved the rhyme schemes, if not the gender of each rhyme, but rather than attempt to replicate the alexandrine meter in English, I have followed the example of poet and translator Richard Wilbur in rendering the verses in the more familiar English meter of iambic pentameter.*

You slept, Marquis, forgotten underground...  
Who knew just where your lonesome grave was found,  
Who came to step beneath the welcome shade  
Atop your humble tomb, and knelt, and prayed,  
But we, your countrymen from distant parts  
Will keep your sacred mem'ry in our hearts;  
Just as a gilded censer sways and dips,  
So may your name anoint our children's lips.  
We shan't forget you! Sacred piety  
Shall find the path to where your tomb shall be,  
Where you in fun'ral shroud were left unknown,  
In Picpus, you shall never be alone.  
And knowing how to find your resting place,  
Velay a crown of roses sends apace  
Your headstone to adorn; and gathered, we  
Who know our prayers will fall upon one knee,  
And to the glory of your youth we'll sing.  
The Loire has sent the Seine one of its own;  
At home our dead, obscure or better known,  
A line of workmen, bred for laboring,  
All those from legend and from history,  
Those fallen in defeat or victory  
For whom Velay an altar tends with pride:  
Immortal shall you be with them be enshrined!  
Velay acclaims and celebrates your role,  
For in this peak-ringed valley do we feel  
Your soaring spirit, proud and strong as steel,  
And which our city hears within your soul.  
Arise our son! Your role is not yet out,  
Our foes would call us slaves with every breath.  
Let any Frenchman's heart that shakes with doubt  
Be lifted! Said thou: "Victory or Death!"  
Serene, heroic, and magnificent,  
Your arm into the clear blue sky extend.  
America her fighting men has sent  
Upon our shores, our freedom to defend!

So guide us, preach that hope shall never die  
And shine your unbowed gaze upon our face,  
With spear in hand and “Vive la France” our cry,  
We fight for justice, and the human race!



Above: Benjamin Goldman at Picpus



Above: Ben Goldman as Lafayette with President Hoffman

## Young Lafayette's Snacks in Paris: Potatoes?

by Biruta Cap

How did the “hero of two worlds” sustain his health and seemingly boundless energy? Food and drink are essential, but he does not seem to have paid much attention to these matters, being preoccupied with more lofty matters. How to be worthy of his father in battle? How to attain *gloire*? And most importantly, how to become a champion of liberty? Yet one must certainly eat to live.

After getting a healthy start in life with the rustic cuisine of Auvergne—rye bread, cheese, eggs, cabbage and other vegetables, fruit—upon landing in Paris at the age of 11, he found an entirely different culture—in food and everything else. His tutor, the *Abbé* Fayon, who had been his teacher in Chavaniac, probably was just as estranged in the second largest city in Europe whose population was eager to embrace the latest discoveries, inventions and fashions, including food fashions.

In the early 1770's when Lafayette attended the very elite Collège du Plessis, in culinary matters, Parisians enjoyed the convenience of ready-made food. The *rôtisseurs* had been plying their trade since the Middle Ages and one could get a roast capon in many neighborhoods. There were also *traiteurs* who offered ready-cooked dishes at individual tables—precursors to modern restaurants.<sup>1</sup> Lastly, since the blossoming of the sugar trade with the Antilles, all manner of sweet baked goods were also readily available in the numerous *pâtisseries*. Did the good *Abbé* have this “fast food” brought to Lafayette's apartment in the Palais du Luxembourg? We may never know. Was there communal eating at the *collège*? If so, there was probably a lot of chicken, since that was the most plentiful protein food available and appreciated by Parisians at that time: roasted, stewed, or boiled in soup.

But young men also went out “on the town” occasionally, as Laura Auricchio has mentioned in her recent book *The Marquis. Lafayette Reconsidered* (p.13). One can imagine the dashing young Lafayette with his friends, all in their beautiful blue uniforms, swords by their side, as they looked for a bite on these forays. What might it have been? While books on the history of food and cooking offer few specifics on places at times so far back in history, there is one interesting development pertaining precisely to France and specifically Paris at the time Lafayette attended school there.

Although the French normally adopted new foods and other “finds” from far-away places with eagerness, such as coffee and chocolate, they were the last in all of Europe to adopt the wonderful potato that had been the main sustenance of native South Americans, and after having been brought to European shores, of most of northern and eastern Europe, especially Ireland. But the French did not know what to do with the potato. In 1748 the French *parlement* outlawed the cultivation of the potato because it was thought to cause leprosy!! (The fruit from the flower actually is toxic.)

Then Antoine-Augustin Parmentier, a pharmacist who raised potatoes in his experimental garden at the Invalides military hospital mounted a clever and sustained publicity campaign to persuade the French that the potato was good food. He had been a prisoner of Frederick the Great of Prussia during the Seven Years War and was fed potatoes there. He evidently realized their potential. But in France, especially in Paris, there was so much opposition to Parmentier's ideas that he was ousted from the Invalides garden and even lost his position as pharmacist at the hospital. But in 1773 he won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in a contest at the Academy of Besançon, and the Faculty of Medicine declared the potato was edible—in fact, it was recommended as a cure for dysentery. Eventually even Louis XVI joined in the promotion of the potato and wore a potato flower on his lapel! But in the meantime, Paris was abuzz with the potato controversy, and even the young *collégiens* most likely could have heard about “the potato.”

Initially, those Parisians who experimented with potatoes tried to reduce them to “dough” as an alternative to bread products. (Please see recipe below.) French fries did not become popular until later. The earliest record of fried potatoes sold by a street vendor on the Pont-Neuf dates to 1789: the French Revolution started by the people of Paris clamoring for bread.

In 1795, Citizen Mériqot in her book *The Republican cook [instructions on] serving and preserving potatoes* included a recipe for a type of French doughnuts naughtily called *pets-de-nonne* (better left untranslated) incorporating mashed potatoes. This deep-fried concoction could be prepared and cooked to order by street vendors. It is the sort of food hungry and adventurous youngsters might grab for a snack—and they still do at fairs in the US, but more likely in the form of Pennsylvania “Dutch” funnel cakes<sup>2</sup> (without potatoes). Deep-fried foods were popular in Paris in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, and were hawked by street vendors in “eatery malls” such as the Pont Neuf, as documented by Louis-Sébastien Mercier in his “Paris à table au XVIIIe siècle” from *Tableau de Paris* (Amsterdam, 1783). Young Lafayette and his fellow *collégiens* may have tasted some of the experimental concoctions combining mashed potatoes and flour to produce biscuits or doughnuts, or using the potato without flour, such as the one below.

French recipes are quite challenging to American cooks because ingredients are in grams and directions are vague. It is assumed the cook already has the necessary basic skills. Eighteenth-century recipes are even more challenging: some terms do not appear in modern dictionaries, and directions are so vague that it would truly be a (mis-) adventure to try to cook the food. But it helps one to appreciate our 21<sup>st</sup> century food culture.



### RECIPE for “*Parmentières en pets-de-nonne*”

- Cook potatoes in water after having peeled and dried them.
- Reduce them to a paste [with a pestle] by mashing them very long.
- Put the paste in a pot with butter the size of an egg, a full teaspoon of orange blossom water, a little sugar, a little salt, a big measure of [about a ¼ liter] of water.
- Boil the whole for a moment; make a smooth and thick paste while stirring until it sticks to the pot.
- Then put it into another pot and mix a few eggs into it until the paste becomes soft but not [liquid].
- Make little piles of pastry the size of a walnut, put them into oil more than half-heated, stirring continuously.
- When they rise to the top and are nicely colored, serve them warm, powdered with fine sugar. [Translation by the author.]

### Notes

1. In the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in Paris, “restaurant” meant a restorative soup. The establishments serving such soups eventually came to be known as restaurants. The famous Procope, opened in 1689, was not a restaurant, but a café where intellectuals and other famous people, including Franklin, met for coffee and discussion.
2. Funnel cakes are a Pennsylvania “Dutch” tradition brought in by German immigrants of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, and became popular when featured as a snack treat at the Kutztown Folk Festival.

## Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

VOLUME ONE, No. 1: FEBRUARY, 1942

PUBLISHED SPORADICALLY FROM 1927 YALE STATION, NEW-HAVEN

### Our First Decade: Tenth Annual Meeting YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA SATURDAY, MAY 30th

NEXT May the Society of The American Friends of Lafayette completes the first ten years of its existence. It has been the custom for the Society to hold its meetings in historical places with which Lafayette was identified in some way. After careful consideration the Council has decided that even in this time of national emergency we are justified by the patriotic and cultural objects of the Society in holding our annual meeting as usual. This meeting is to take place at Yorktown, Virginia, on May 30th next. A most fitting climax to our first decade. For it was by the victory at Yorktown, in which Lafayette and our French allies were the deciding factor, that we won that rich heritage of liberty which we are fighting to preserve today.

The plans for the meeting are somewhat tentative at this time. We hope to hold the business meeting in the Moore House where the Articles of Capitulation were signed in October 1781. Through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Blow the luncheon will be held on the grounds of the historic Nelson House, of which they are the owners. The House will be closed to the public on that day and in the event of bad weather a buffet luncheon will be held in the House. We will be addressed at the luncheon by one or more distinguished guests.

It is further planned to have an outstanding exhibit of historical material relating to Lafayette and our French Allies in the American Revolution. These materials will be housed in the old Custom House, through the courtesy of the de Grasse Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who own the house. The exhibi-

tion will remain on view for several weeks. Some of the material has never been exhibited before and should have keen interest, not only for our members, but for the many visitors to Yorktown at this time of the year.

If sufficient interest is shown, it is proposed to charter busses leaving New York on Thursday, following in part the route of Lafayette to Yorktown.

We have been assured of the fullest cooperation by Mr. Elbert Cox, Superintendent of the Colonial National Historical Park at Yorktown, as well as other courtesies there and at Williamsburg.

Full details will be sent to our members later, but it would be of great help to the Committee if those who will be able to attend would notify our Secretary, Mr. Theodore E. Norton, Easton, Pennsylvania, as soon as possible.

The Committee on the Yorktown Meeting is composed of: Col. Louis Annin Ames, Chairman; George Weller Blow (owner of the Nelson House, Yorktown); Mrs. George Weller Blow; Mrs. George Durbin Chenoweth, Regent of the Comte de Grasse Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Yorktown; Elbert Cox, Superintendent of the Colonial Historical Park at Yorktown; Stuart W. Jackson; J. Bennett Nolan; and Dr. Earl G. Swem, Librarian of the College of William and Mary.

S. W. J.

### Publication Program

ON September 6th a meeting of the Executive Council was held in the New York City headquarters of President Kendall. Among other business there was a long discussion of possible publication activities for the Society. It was finally determined to publish a periodical, the GAZETTE, and a number of bound pamphlets and books (all subject to the limitation of

our available funds). The general field of our publications will be Lafayette and Franco-American relations during the era of Lafayette. President Kendall appointed a publications committee of Messrs. Chinard, Columbia, Gottschalk, Jackson, Monaghan (chairman) and Norton. All the publications of the Society will be sent, in consideration of the payment of the annual dues, to all active members of the Society. The associate members will receive copies of the GAZETTE. A limited number of our pamphlet and book publications will be made available for sale to the general public.

It is planned to issue three or four numbers of the GAZETTE during 1942. We welcome suggestions and contributions from our readers.

The first two items in the bound pamphlet series are being prepared. One will be a folio publication of some sixteen pages and will include a full-color reproduction of a magnificent map (18 by 13 inches) of Yorktown—drawn by Du Perron in October 1781. We are saving the details of this publication as a grand surprise for the next issue of the GAZETTE. The Editor would venture the opinion that this item alone would be (and will be) adequate proof that our publication program is well under way.

The second item will be a small book of some forty pages: the unpublished letters of Lafayette and his wife to Mr. and Mrs. John Jay. This will contain some twenty-three new social and political letters, with an introduction and notes by Professor Frank Monaghan of Yale.

The third item has not yet been fixed upon, but we have our choice of five excellent manuscripts. We are well under way. All communications concerning the GAZETTE and the other items of the publication program should be addressed to Dr. Frank Monaghan, 1927 Yale Station, New Haven, Conn.

### Princeton Meeting

LAST May the annual meeting of the American Friends of Lafayette was held at Princeton, N. J. It was an assemblage characterized by learning, hospitality and good cheer. At the luncheon there were three interesting and impressive speeches: Stuart W. Jackson on "The Origins and Aims of the American Friends of Lafayette"; Bernhard Knollenberg on "A Librarian-Lawyer Looks at Washington and the Revolution"; and Messmore Kendall on "Washington and Genet." Princeton hospitality more than upheld its ancient reputation. The Princeton University Library assembled a special exhibition of historical materials for the members of the Society.

New officers of the Society were elected: President: Messmore Kendall, of Dobbs Ferry and New York City; Vice-President: Louis Anzin Ames of Essex Falls, N. J.; Secretary and Treasurer: Theodore E. Norton of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

An important resolution was passed by the members of the Society: "The American Friends of Lafayette reaffirm their belief in the ideals for which Lafayette fought in America. We are firmly confident that these ideals will triumph and will always remain the common ideals of America and France."

Some members thought that this resolution was a vague, if not timid, expression of opinion in view of the current world crisis. This feeling was gradually accentuated to the point that, at the next meeting of the executive council at Mr. Messmore Kendall's apartment in New York City, a more vigorous clarification was unanimously voted.

### Long Live Free France

WE are obviously not a political organization, but the members of the council felt that the present crisis represented a fundamental challenge—not of politics, but of basic ideals. The Council unanimously voted to send a telegraph message to President

Roosevelt reaffirming our belief in the ideals which motivated Lafayette and requesting that immediate and full aid be extended to the Free French forces fighting with General de Gaulle. Copies of the resolution were communicated to the principal news agencies and to the New York headquarters of the Free France movement.

M. Jacques de Sieyes, personal representative of General de Gaulle in the United States, replied in part, under date of September 12: "The General, informed of your noble gesture, has sent us the following cable:

FOR MR. MESSMORE KENDALL: I ASK YOU TO THANK THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE FOR ITS DEMARCHE WITH REGARD TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, AND TO EXPRESS TO THE COUNCIL MY GRATITUDE FOR ITS ACTION IN FAVOR OF THE FREE FRENCH FORCES.

Your act fills us with the deepest gratitude. . . . An encouragement such as the resolution passed by your Executive Council adds to our ever-increasing confidence in final victory. . . . Please extend to the members of your organization my heartfelt thanks for their great assistance. At the present moment, we can only thank those, such as you, who seek to encourage us, but a time will come when we will prove that we are worthy of the faith entrusted in our leader and our cause."

### Membership

A most recent communication from Secretary Norton indicates that the Society now has 94 active members and approximately 800 associate members. With the recent action of the Executive Council in planning and establishing a publication program a new phase of our activities has begun and new interest has been created. We have added some fifteen new active members during the past nine or ten weeks. But these are not enough. Within the present year we should reach a minimum of 200 active members. If each present active member undertook to add merely one new

active member the goal would be easy. Active members secure, in partial return for their annual dues of \$5, all the publications of the Society. Tentative plans for 1942 include the publication of three bound pamphlets or books and three or four issues of the GAZETTE. Let every member get a new member. Applications for membership in the Society should be sent to Mr. Theodore E. Norton, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

### Things To Come

IN future issues of the GAZETTE: a detailed program of the Yorktown Meeting, together with suggestions about what you ought to see in Virginia. Also some unpublished materials on the French at Yorktown. A bibliography of recent books on Franco-American relations during the era of Lafayette. Perhaps a few brief book notes, if we can find the necessary space. A description by our Secretary Norton of the Lafayette materials that are in the custody of Lafayette College. News of what our members are researching and writing. And, well, just what would you like to have in the next issue of your GAZETTE? (P.S. Have you become an active member of the Society and, if you are, did you get that new member?)

### Notes and Queries

ONE of the chief purposes of the GAZETTE is to keep all persons interested in working on Lafayette and his era in touch with each other. We hope that all such persons will become active members of the Society, but in any event we think we shall become the clearing house for all those who seek scholarly aid and who wish to give similar assistance. The Editor will try to set aside a column or two in each issue of the GAZETTE for notes and queries that fall within the scope of the interests of members of the Society. Please send your contributions in, but please be brief. Otherwise the Editor will get out a blue pencil—hoping to retain the sense, but determined to conserve space.

### An Unpublished Account of the Battle of Green Springs, Between Lafayette and Corn- wallis, 1781, by a Participant.

THE following letter, written by Major William Galvan, a French officer serving under the Marquis de Lafayette in the Virginia campaign of 1781, is Galvan's version of his own exploit in the battle of Green Springs on July 6, 1781. The letter was written to Richard Peters, Secretary of the Board of War, who, as Galvan ought to have known, was a close friend of Anthony Wayne and was therefore not likely to be won over by Galvan's disparaging remarks concerning the commander of the Pennsylvanians. For Peters undoubtedly learned, perhaps before he received Galvan's account, that it was Wayne's quick thinking and daring that saved Galvan and the whole advance party from capture or annihilation. At any rate, Peters appears to have turned Galvan's letter over to Wayne, for it is still in the great collection of Wayne papers in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The same day that Galvan forgot his modesty and penned this self-laudatory account, Lafayette, an eyewitness of the engagement, issued general orders which included the following: "The brilliant conduct of Major Galvan and the Continental detachment under his command, entitle them to applause." But Galvan was too impetuous to wait for the plaudits of his general to take effect upon Congress, the fountain head of commissions, or even to wait for his letter to Richard Peters to bring about the desired conclusion. On August 21 he sent a memorial to Congress and in November he impertuned that long-suffering body with two additional letters. On December 14 Congress acted, doubtless in order to stop the flow of letters: "notwithstanding Congress entertain a just sense of the merit of Major Galvan, the good of the service will not permit his being promoted at this time."

A year later, on July, 24, 1783, dis-

appointed in love as in war, Galvan spent the day cheerfully with his fellow-officers in the City Tavern in Philadelphia, but during the afternoon retired to his room, where, dressed in regimentals and seated before a mirror, he wrote farewells to William Bingham and two other friends and then committed suicide. "I march off," he wrote, "as gaily and almost as eagerly as when our friend Gen. Wayne sent me to attack Lord Cornwallis, and I hope I shall be more successful in outflanking love, than the British army."

JULIAN P. BOYD

Camp Near Norrell's Mill 8th July 1781

DEAR SIR

On the 3rd Instant the Marquis having received information that the enemy had evacuated Williamsburg and were marching to Jamestown, we left our Camp near New Kent Court house and proceeded to Norrell's Mill where we arrived the 5th. There we received intelligence that the greatest part of their army had crossed the river and in consequence the two brigades of Continentals moved off early on the 6th in order to attack what remained at James town. Our march which ought to have been and was really designed to be very rapid, happened however to be considerably retarded by the uncertainty, variety and contradiction of the reports that were brought. The intelligence was so fatally delusive as to induce the General to send back the whole of the Light Infantry and to leave behind the greatest part of the Pennsylvanians, so that we proceeded, only with a few riflemen, McPherson's legion of 80 men, Colonel Stuart's battalion, one field piece and the advance guard commanded by me as field officer of the day, the whole under General Wayne. About a o'clock in the afternoon, we arrived to a large brick house at the Green Springs where we halted to learn if possible exactly what number of the enemy were on this side of the river. Every report seeming to confirm that it was not considerable, we resolved to attack and advanced accordingly within a mile of the enemy's last incampment where we formed in a wood: Colonel Mercer with ten or twelve Volunteer Light Horse was sent to reconnoitre, and the riflemen were detached on our front where they kept firing at the small parties with which the enemy had covered their Number and their Dispositions. The Marquis, who was with us, had sent for the rest of the Continental Troops: the scattered firing of the riflemen (now and then returned by the advanced parties of the enemy) had continued for about two hours when on a sudden we heard a field piece firing towards our right. A little after the canon (*sic*) ceased

firing, and a report was brought that the piece was retreating, upon which I applied to General Wayne for permission to go and carry it off; this being granted and a regiment of Light Infantry commanded by Major Willis being arrived and sent to support me with a field piece under Capt. Savage, I moved towards the place where the firing had been heard: we soon came up with several parties of the riflemen from which I could learn nothing of the pretended retreating field piece, neither could they better inform me of the situation of the enemy, nor I see any part of their line; upon this I kept moving forward and met Col. Mercer whose horse had been killed and who, wounded himself, had the galantry to guide my little column till we came in full sight of the British line. I found their left extended as far as I could see, a wood prevented my discovering much of their right, but from my prepossession of the inconsiderable number they had on this side, and from the great extension of their left, I judged that the extremity of their right flank could not be far distant and without further hesitation resolved to turn it. I therefore wheeled to the left and soon came to a large open field, where I perceived them drawn up and stretching out of my sight with a field piece opposite to me which had already begun to play. In this critical situation a retreat, when so far from the American line and only within 300 yards of the British was excessively dangerous; I knew that all our Continentals were sent for, and would soon be up. I expected to be immediately reinforced by Major Willis and the artillery with him, therefore I determined to engage all what was before me, but to do it with less disadvantage and get out of the immediate direct fire of the artillery, I continued moving parallelly to their line and under their fire till I came to a skirt of wood that terminated the field I was in: there I wheeled to the right, came up within 60 yards of the enemy's line, displayed and began a smart running fire. I found myself very much disappointed in seeing that Major Willis had not followed me. I immediately dispatched to desire him to come up and display at my right, but the movements of the enemy's left had obliged him to retreat, and I remained 15 minutes alone under the fire of the whole British line, which kept advancing at the same time, tho' very slowly. They being at last close to me and no support arriving, I formed my Party in column and retreated in an order which does honor to the American discipline. I soon met the Pennsylvania brigade advancing in line: I immediately wheeled my column about and placed my Self at their left flank to cover that point, considerably outflanked by the right of the enemy, and in this order we proceeded about thirty yards during which the enemy had halted and were pouring an immense fire upon us. I found that our step was slackening and together with Colonel [Josiah] Farmer, who commanded the regiment next to me, we endeavored to ani-

mate the troops to a brisker charge, but they halted and began to fire. I displayed my little column a little obliquely to the left of Colonel Harmer and began to fire like the rest tho' I saw that this would be our ruin. Our stop encouraged the British and, tho' our fire was as brisk as could be expected from so small a line, they began to move rapidly upon us and the right of the Pennsylvanians to give way, the left followed, and the enemy making a devil of a noise of firing and huzzaing (tho' by the by they did not push on very fast) all on our side became a scene of confusion. I attempted two or three times to stop it, but our flight was too rapid to be checked. The Marquis who had been a close spectator of the whole affair ordered me to endeavour to rally the men in the rear of a marsh which was a most eligible spot, but the men that passed by were exhausted by the fatigue of the march, of the action and of the flight: I attempted with as little success to throw some riflemen in the brick house where we arrived a little after. It was at this place that the Marquis reestablished order and from it we marched in the night to Norrell's Mill. Capt. Savage saved his piece, the Pennsylvanians who had two lost them both, the horses having been shot: the slowness of the enemy's pursuit was very remarkable and must be owing to the great loss they suffered: ours does not exceed 120 killed and wounded, no officer among the former but great many among the latter; almost every field officer's horse killed or wounded. One of the Marquis's horses killed—not a man in the whole detachment was more exposed than him: the enemy have precipitately crossed the river, leaving our wounded on this side. They are apparently leaving this state.

It will not be improper to mention in honor of the System of Columns which I have endeavoured to promote in our army that to my manoeuvring wholly in that order I owe what may appear a little brilliant [*sic*] in my conduct that day: I must add that the novelty of seeing so small a body as mine moving along their line and in the very center of it, operated so surprisingly upon the enemy that they never attempted to advance a step upon me while I remained in that order, and we were encouraged to do it only when, after my displaying, they found out by the small volume of my fire what little they had to dread. I really believe that had the Pennsylvanians charged in columns by battalions well conducted the day would have been ours, though against four times our number.

You will not blame me, my Dear Sir, when opportunities of an officer distinguishing himself are so scarce, to make the best of this to claim a promotion which circumstances known to you intitle me to exclusive of this last affair. You may recollect that I was recommended twice by your board for a commission of Lt. Colonel, and that, when I received that of Major, both you and Colonel Grayson promised to recommend me for promotion in two or three months. I have waited

for opportunities, one has fortunately offered, and Congress are too wise to still the zeal of their servants by a neglect which I have already too long experienced. I beg that you will shew this letter to Colonel Grayson and join with him to lay a Memorial in my name before Congress and obtain me what I have both your words for. I hope Mr. Lovel who has already been so good to me will join you also. I have no time to write to him: Please to shew him this, and present my best respects to him.

I am with respect and sincere attachment  
Dear Sir

Your Most Obedient Humble  
Servant

GALVAN

P.S. I will take it as a particular favour from you to order one of my horses to be taken care of in the public stable.

### The Franco-American Review

MANY members of the Society were interested in the late and lamented historical quarterly, the *Franco-American Review*. Some were patrons, some were contributors, others were subscribers. After two full years of publication (eight issues) it was decided to suspend publication. It will be remembered that it was a mutual effort, by Americans and by Frenchmen, to finance and edit a co-operative publication. The bulk of the work (and the bulk of the finances) was the responsibility of the American Board. The efforts of the French editors became weaker and more confused; calamity was in the air of France and in the hearts of Frenchmen. The *Review* had attained a paid circulation of almost five hundred, but this was hardly enough to justify continuance beyond the promised experimental period of two years. The financial management reports, with some degree of pride, that the *Review* closed its books in the black and not the red. Subscribers received full refunds and the patrons for the second year received refunds of some seventy-five percent of the monies they had already contributed. This was typical of the integrity and good management with which the entire project was handled.

During the two years of its publication the *Review* presented many

valuable articles and numerous important documents. The remaining stock of copies of the magazine was given to the Yale University Library where they are available to any interested persons for a small fee. Orders should be addressed to Mr. Bernhard Knollenberg, Librarian (and a recent new active member of the Society), Yale University.

### Lafayette On The Air

THE Cavalcade of America, the coast-to-coast radio program sponsored by the DuPont Company, on January 12th, devoted an entire weekly broadcast to Lafayette. It was entitled "The Gentleman from Paris" and presented Charles Boyer in the title role. As far as we can discover this was the first time the Marquis has been made the principal character in a dramatic program of such wide importance. The estimated radio audience for the evening was between five and six million listeners. The script began with Lafayette's early interest in the American Revolution and ended with his first return to France. The script took some liberties with the facts, but the distortions were hardly apparent to the vast majority of the audience. All in all, it was an entertaining and inspiring radio play. For the benefit of members who collect all Lafayette materials your Editor is trying to arrange to secure a limited number of mimeographed copies of the script as broadcast. If you would like to have one please indicate your interest.

### Talleyrand In America

It is good news for all students of Franco-American relations of the eighteenth century that the American Historical Association has agreed to publish "Talleyrand's Notes on European-American Business Relations" edited by Hans Huth and Wilma J. Pugh. The typescript of the manuscript, together with introduction and notes, is more than 250 pages. The letters and memoirs cover a period from June 10, 1794, to Jan. 12, 1796.

## **Lafayette Trivia Answer: How did Lafayette persuade our First Ally to come to Valley Forge?**

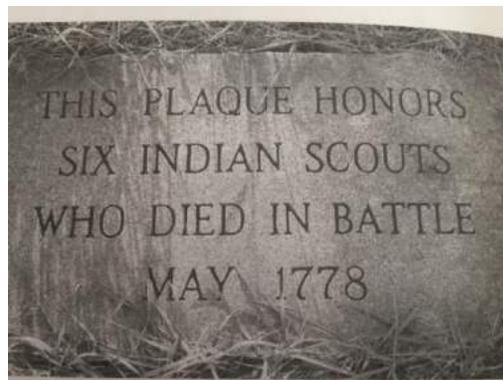
**By Ernest and Janet Sutton**

Although Major General Schuyler had already formed an alliance with a wampum belt with the Oneida, Lafayette appreciated the dilemma the Oneida faced in further helping the Americans. He fully understood that additional retribution would be visited on the Oneida if a significant number of warriors were away at Valley Forge. How was he able to negotiate a solution?

He left behind three French officers trained as engineers with the Oneida, who would be able to build a fort to protect the Oneida village of Kanonwalhale. This later became known as Oneida Castle. Lafayette arranged for building tools to be sent from Fort Schuyler, construction assistance from the local militia, and reestablishment of trade relations with the fort. The village was eventually surrounded by a moated palisade of logs. Further Chief Skenandoah promised to deliver corn to Valley Forge. Lafayette departed March 31, 1778 to Valley Forge after the cancellation of the mission to invade Canada.

On May 15, 1778, nearly 50 warriors and a cook, Molly Cooper, arrived at Valley Forge. She showed the Americans how to prepare hulled white corn soup, the mainstay of the Oneida diet. Nearly 600 bushels of white corn were eventually brought to Valley Forge. Even after the warriors returned at the end of the summer, Cooper stayed behind to nurse the sick. Martha Washington presented her with a fine shawl for her service which is kept by her descendants today.

Three days after their arrival the Oneida departed with Lafayette's 2,200-man reconnaissance-in-force to observe whether the British intention was to attack Valley Forge or return to New York City. The British, however, detected Lafayette's camp at Barren Hill and attacked it in the early morning of his second day in a three-prong attack with 16,000 Redcoats. Although the Pennsylvania militia immediately disappeared as the British approached, the Oneida moved forward to lay an ambush on one of the attacking column's vanguard under Generals Howe and Clinton while Lafayette set up a ruse defense at the St. Peter's cemetery wall. These actions provided Lafayette an additional 30 minutes to organize a hasty withdrawal across the Schuylkill River. The Oneida were the last to cross the river to safety. Several Oneida warriors perished in this engagement. Some historians call this the "greatest escape in American military history", and prevented the capture of Valley Forge.



Plaque marks the graves of the Oneida Warriors killed at Barren Hill  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church Cemetery, 3025 Church St, Lafayette Hill (aka Barren Hill), PA

Although this was the only time the Oneida fought directly under Lafayette and Washington, a lasting bond of friendship was formed between them. In 1784 Lafayette participated in the presentation of the George Washington wampum belt to them at the Treaty of Canandaigua. Today the belt is safely kept in a Syracuse vault by the Haudenosaunee. When Washington became president, he presented Chief Skenandoah with a silver peace medal. (A similar medal can be seen today at The Museum of The American Revolution.)



Original George Washington Wampum Belt presented in 1784 at the Treaty of Canandaigua with Lafayette

Forty-one years after the Treaty of Canandaigua, in 1825 Lafayette returned to the Oneida Nation's homeland on an Erie Canal packet named *Seneca Chief* and visited Oriskany, Fort Schuyler (formerly Stanwix) and Utica. Although he met veterans who fought with him at Yorktown Redoubt # 10, there were no Oneida present. Upon asking his hosts if could meet some of Oneida, he caught them by surprise. The old veterans long ago forgot how the Oneida fought for them, but Lafayette did not forget our first ally. Afterwards he met privately with three of their chiefs, all of which he knew and was surprised they were still living. A detailed account of their meeting is described in Alan Hoffman's translation of *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825* pages 482-483.



Allies in War, Partners in Peace Monument at the National Museum of the American Indian

In our Nation's Capital at the National Museum of the American Indian, stands a 20 foot tall monument to the friendship of the American and Oneida Nations. In the center, Polly Cooper holds a basket of corn brought to Valley Forge. On her left, Chief Skenandoah wears his Washington peace medal and on her right George Washington carries a wampum belt of friendship. This meeting at Valley Forge would not have occurred without Lafayette's persuasion.



2010 US Native America Dollar coin series with Hiawatha Wampum Belt

## **Lafayette Trivia Answer: Lafayette, Ladies, and Oranges** by Janet and Ernest Sutton

Ruby Short McKim's book, *One Hundred and One Patchwork Patterns*, first published in 1931, includes the pattern for the Lafayette Orange Peel quilt block. This is how she explains the name and design of the quilt block pattern:

“The story is that once when the beloved Marquis was feted in Philadelphia, a fair guest at the banquet took home a most beautiful fruit as her souvenir, an orange, imported from Barcelona. To preserve her treasure and memory of gala days, a pattern was carefully made from the pared rind which comes down to us as the Orange Peel quilt block.”

Jane Bacon MacIntire, in *Lafayette the Guest of a Nation: The Tracing of the Route of Lafayette's Tour of the United States in 1824-1825*, 1967, gives another version of the story:

“another delicacy set before him (Lafayette) at a Philadelphia banquet was a dish of oranges imported from Barcelona. A guest took one home as a souvenir and to preserve that memory, she designed a pattern from the parings of the rind. Thus the “Lafayette Orange Peel” patchwork quilt pattern was evolved.”

Dolores Hinson in her book, *A Quilter's Companion*, in 1973, says:

“the story was made up when the good Marquis de Lafayette visited our country for his triumphal journey in 1824-25. During his visit, he was especially honored with a feast in the city of Philadelphia. At the banquet, oranges were served as part of the dessert and M. de Lafayette took his knife and divided the skin of the fruit into exactly four equal parts before peeling it away. A young lady in her teens sitting nearby begged the skin of the fruit as a souvenir of the occasion and M. Lafayette gave the peels to her. She took the peels home and used them as a pattern...It is a very pretty tale and is supposed to be quite true. The pattern was spread all over the new United States where it took its popularity both from its own beauty and the love of every American lady for the Marquis de Lafayette, the Hero of our Revolution.”



Lafayette Orange Peel Bicentennial Quilt

Mary Schafer pieced a Lafayette Orange Peel quilt (85" x 100") in 1974 (it was quilted by another) as part of her series of quilts in recognition of the Bicentennial. This quilt is now in the Michigan State University Museum. Quilting designs include a fleur-de-lis, a symbol of King Louis XVI's aide to the colonies, and thirteen stars to represent Lafayette's service during the American Revolution.



Lafayette quarter football-shaped orange peel

How did Lafayette cut an Orange? He very carefully cut his orange from pole to pole and back to the top, and again half way between the initial cut, resulting in a football shaped orange peel. Four of these shapes cut from fabric and arranged on a background fabric square make up the quilt block.

The Lafayette Orange Peel quilt pattern is cited in all major compilations of quilt block patterns. Quilt pattern books and quilt historians have preserved the origins of the "Lafayette Orange Peel" quilt pattern for interpretation by quilters today. The pattern continues to preserve the memory of the Marquis de Lafayette's visit to America.

## Lafayette in Brooklyn 100 Years Later

By Chuck Schwam

On Wednesday, May 10th, the American Friends of Lafayette commemorated the 100th anniversary of the dedication of [Daniel](#) Chester French's Statue of Lafayette at the Ninth Street Entrance to [Prospect Park](#) in Brooklyn. Many dignitaries were present including the Consul General of France in New York, Anne-Claire Legendre.

AFL member Laura Auricchio gave a brief talk. Laura, as you know, authored the critically acclaimed book *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered*. President Hoffman also spoke along with several local and official representatives. Following the ceremony, new AFL life member Stephen Parahus hosted attendees at a reception in his lovely home mere steps from the statue.



AFL members and local dignitaries gather in front of [Daniel](#) Chester French's Statue of Lafayette at the Ninth Street Entrance to [Prospect Park](#) in Brooklyn



Stephen Parahus closes the ceremony



Alan Hoffman addresses the crowd



Chuck Schwam emcees the event



Laura Aurricchio

# Jacques comte de Trentinian Knight of the Legion of Honour

1930-2017

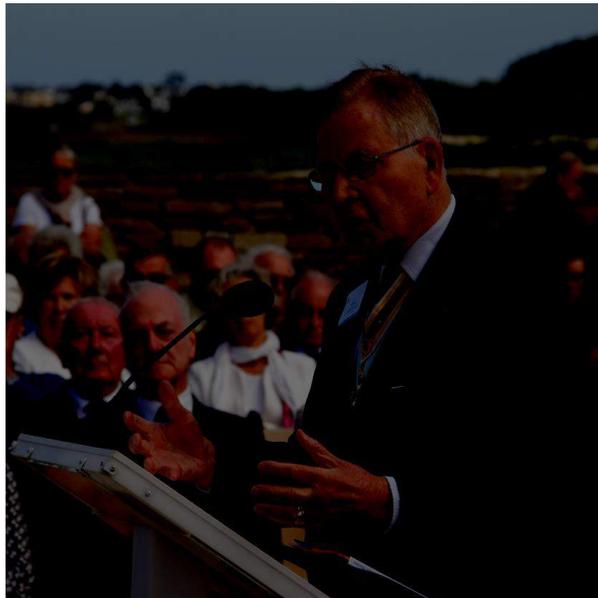
By Lanny Patten

Jacques de Trentinian, a loyal citizen of France, passed away in his Paris home on May 10, 2017 after enduring through cancer treatments. He is survived by his wife Marie-Claire, 5 children and their extended families. A son predeceased his father.

After retiring from a business career, Jacques devoted the last 30 years to becoming a serious and skilled historian, especially of the American War of Independence and alliances with France. He researched his own family roots, finding a grandfather who, as a French cavalry officer in the 1770's and a veteran of Yorktown, provided the ancestry for Jacques to join lineage organizations that honor that colonial period. He served each with great loyalty and devotion, always representing France.

Self-taught he said, he mastered English to read, write and speak most fluently. He waded into research, in English and in French, of the American War and accumulated a significant library. He came to the US frequently, becoming widely known and respected for his depth of knowledge. He authored papers and books, the last published in French in 2016 about the French Navy in the time of the American campaign at Yorktown. It is a rare book of colonial history involving France, in either language, that does not acknowledge Jacques's contribution to the accuracy of the text. He hosted groups to France and organized in depth events that took place at sites that are part of each nation's history.

Jacques was a remarkable intellect, a gifted historian and very much the gentleman- always loyal to France. And he was our friend and lifetime AFL member.



The Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

Publisher: Chuck Schwam

Editor: Alan Hoffman

Layout Chief: Dan Fitzpatrick

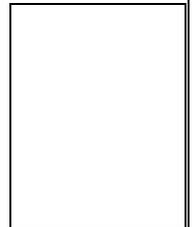
Distributed by: Phil and Barbara Schroeder



**THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE**

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

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