

# The Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

No. 88

May 2018



**The American Friends of Lafayette with then Governor Terry McAuliffe in front of the Governor's Mansion in Richmond, Virginia**

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# Welcome New Members!

New AFL Members since Sept. 16, 2017 (as of May 6, 2018):

## Active Individual Members:

Robert	Brown	PA
Janet	Burnet	NY
Paul	Knobel	OR
Michael	LaPaglia	NC
Frankie Gwinn	Moore	SC
Lindsey	Morrison	DC
Joshua	Neiderhiser	PA
Catherine	Paretti	NJ
R T "Tom"	Plott	AL
Brian	Prosser	FL
Ann	Richardson	VA
Michael E.	Scullin	PA
Mary Kate	Sherwood	NY
Erin	Trunel	France
Holly	Weise	NJ
Frances	Ellis	VA

## Active Family Members:

Pearl R. & V. Cassel Jr.	Adamson	VA
Gregg & Mary Kate	Azcuy	NJ
Rita, James Sr. & James Jr.	Coghlan	PA
Apuleius & Susan	Hillier	VA
Leslie & Hank	Viccellio	VA
Shelley & Jeff	Weisberg	VA
Charles & Carole	Weiss	NC
Kathy & Ronald	Winston	VA
Josette & Peter	Woolley	France
Bennett & Heidi	Wethered	VA

## Institutional Members:

Fort Monroe Authority's Casemate Museum

## Individual LIFE Members:

David Randolph	Craig	MD
Andrew	Natale	AZ

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friend of Lafayette,

This has been another active and productive half-year for The American Friends of Lafayette and its members.

The highlight was the dedication of the new statue in Yorktown on October 18<sup>th</sup> and our stewardship of Yorktown Day, a once-every-13-year occurrence. Chuck Schwam and the Yorktown Committee deserve a loud shout-out for making these events truly memorable.

AFL member Kim Claytor represented the AFL at a Veterans Day Commemoration at Williamsburg, VA.

Myriam Waze and Joyce Good, long-time AFL members in France, held the first [American Thanksgiving](#) at Lafayette's ancestral home Chavaniac.

A large contingent of AFL members participated in Lafayette Day ceremonies in Richmond, VA on March 14, 2018.

With a huge assist from long-time AFL member John Becica, the AFL raised \$100,000 so far to facilitate Julien Icher's return to the US to expand his Lafayette Trail website to the 24 states that Lafayette visited. Julien is very close to obtaining the visa needed for his return. We will keep you posted. Our peripatetic cartographer was honored to accompany President Macron on his State Visit to the US in April.

On the immediate horizon is the Annual Meeting in Annapolis in June which promises to be a fantastic take.

We are also planning a Labor Day Weekend special. Along with Ben Goldman, who will perform as the Lafayette of the Farwell Tour, we will visit central Massachusetts, including nationally renowned [Old Sturbridge Village](#), to experience how small-town America greeted Lafayette on his triumphant return. We will recreate Lafayette's arrival in Worcester County with pomp and circumstance.

The *Gazette* staff is delighted to welcome Michele Rzewnicki as Assistant Editor. Having been an English teacher for over twenty years, Michele has an eye for catching typos, grammatical errors, and sentencing misconstructions. She came to our attention by pointing out a terrible typo in one of our prior issues. Mea Culpa!

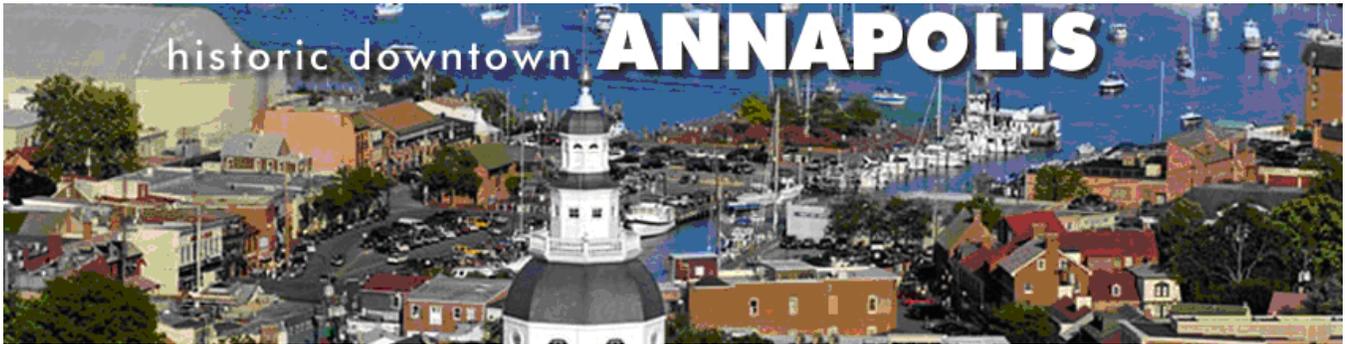
Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the important role - from typing to inputting edits to providing IT advice and serving as our general help desk - that Bonnie Fritz plays in the production of the *Gazette*. Thank you, Bonnie.

I hope to see many of you in Annapolis next month and in Sturbridge in September.

Alan R. Hoffman,  
President

## AFL Annual Meeting - June 7th to 10th in Annapolis, Maryland

By Chuck Schwam



Annapolis, Maryland can boast something most cities in the United States can't. Annapolis is one of the few American cities Lafayette visited on all four of his stays (1777-79, 1780-81, 1784 and 1824-25). AFL members will enjoy private and guided tours of many places Lafayette frequented in Annapolis including...

- Maryland State House
- William Paca House and Garden
- James Brice House
- McDowell Hall
- Hammond-Horwood House
- Ogle Hall
- Historical walking tour of Annapolis

This year's host hotel will be the Maryland Inn. In 1783, when Annapolis served as the nation's first peacetime capital under George Washington, the Maryland Inn, was a popular lodging place for statesman, governors, and colonial and revolutionary war personas. Delegates of the 1783-1784 U.S. Congress stayed at the inn when George Washington resigned as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army and ratified the Treaty of Paris.



During the weekend, the American Friends of Lafayette will take part in two commemorative ceremonies in Annapolis; a wreath-laying at St. John College's French Memorial and a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Mayor Buckley (of Annapolis) for the new W3R /NPS Wayside Sign recalling the site of Lafayette's 1781 encampment.

AFL members will also tour the Naval Academy Museum and visit the crypt of Lafayette's friend, John Paul Jones. This year's banquet will be held at the elegant Governor Calvert House (built in 1695) and will be highlighted by a French-inspired meal and lively entertainment.

AFL members will have a chance to listen to several scholarly and entertaining speakers including...

- Glenn Campbell - Senior Historian of Historic Annapolis
- Chris Kintzel - Maryland State Archives Curator and Collections Manager
- Famous "Miss Peg" - Historian from Maryland Inn
- Lindsey Morrison - State and Local Relations Manager for Campaign 1776
- Stephanie Drey - Author of Historical Fiction and AFL member

The optional and last event of the weekend will be a two hour sail on the French schooner, Liberté. We will cruise around the beautiful and historic Chesapeake Bay that surrounds Annapolis.



The best part is that this year's annual meeting will be a "bus-free" weekend! All historic attractions are within a five block radius of our hotel. The Maryland Inn is in the center of Annapolis, surrounded by eclectic shopping and restaurants. Within walking distance of the hotel is the Naval Academy and the historic waterfront. No need for buses or cars...only comfortable shoes. For more information, call Chuck Schwam at 240-676-5010. See you in Annapolis.

## Lafayette Revisits Central Massachusetts, September 1 to 2, 2018 Save the Dates

By Peter Reilly

Join us this Labor Day weekend in historic Sturbridge Massachusetts where we will party like it is 1824 again including dinner at the Publick House Historic Inn where Lafayette stopped as he made his way from Boston to New York in 1824. The dinner will cap the festivities as we welcome the Nation's Guest in the authentic setting of Old Sturbridge Village.

When Lafayette began his visit to the United States in 1824, he was not quite certain how long he was going to stay. His epic reception in New York and the cheering crowds as he went through various towns on the way to Boston and his reception in Boston, where he was invited to be present at the laying of the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument nearly a year later, probably made him realize that it would be a while.

There has been no celebratory event that has so brought Americans together on such a grand scale as Lafayette's visit. It gave them the opportunity to celebrate a nation founded on ideas. There was an extremely divisive election going on as for the first time the Presidency would not be held by one of the Founding Fathers. For the first time the Constitution would be tested as the election went to the House of Representatives with the office going to John Quincy Adams in what opponents called a corrupt bargain. But there was no controversy about Lafayette. Just a competition for every place he visited to greet him in a grander manner. Although the story of Lafayette's visit is enshrined in national history, the real magnitude is buried in local history. Here is L'Assesseur's account of the beginning of his trip from Boston back to New York

September 2 – Upon leaving the ball, we boarded the carriage to return to Boston, where we awaited our companions for the trip to New York. Having arrived at two o'clock, we set out again at four, making our way by Lexington, Lancaster, Worcester, Tolland and Hartford. In each of these places, General Lafayette received displays of affection from all the citizens, which touched him deeply, but to which he had hardly the time to reply, so swiftly did we travel.

Despite all that swift traversing, there are detailed accounts of Lafayette's stops, however, as he proceeded on the [Worcester-Stafford Turnpike](#). Opened in 1810, the Worcester-Stafford Turnpike was one of a number of toll roads built by private investors with the purpose of broadening business opportunities and was used primarily for commercial travel. Passengers along the turnpike were charged 25 cents per coach and 4 cents for each man and horse at tollhouses built approximately 10 miles apart where horses would have to be changed during the 12-hour ride from Worcester to Hartford.

One such tollhouse was an inn that stood adjacent to the Sturbridge Town Common that has long outlived the very road it was built to serve. That tollhouse, now known as the Publick House, is still a favored destination for travelers and diners alike.

So join us this Labor Day weekend as we follow Lafayette and cheer him as he goes from Worcester to Connecticut.

Lafayette reenactor Ben Goldman, who portrayed the younger Lafayette at the AFL's Fayetteville NC meeting, will portray the elder Lafayette as he is greeted in Charlton at the still extant Rider Tavern. We will be able to view a collection of Lafayette memorabilia that will be open by special arrangement with the Charlton Historical Society.



Rider Tavern (Julien Icher in the foreground)



Benjamin Goldman portraying Lafayette

The high point of the weekend will be Sunday afternoon when Lafayette is greeted at [Old Sturbridge Village](#). There is probably not a better venue anywhere than OSV for capturing the look and feel of a small town greeting the Nation's Guest. Old Sturbridge Village is the largest living museum in New England covering over 200 acres and including 59 antique buildings, three water-powered mills and a working farm. It recreates life in rural New England from 1790-1840. We have been working with the OSV staff to make the reception of Lafayette a memorable event. Our members will be mingling with the general visitors and militia contingents welcoming Lafayette.

Accommodations will be at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center a short distance from both OSV and the Publick House. We have obtained a favorable group rate at the hotel.

Sturbridge is very easy to reach. At the junction of I-84 and I-90 (Mass Turnpike), it is an hour or less from airports serving Boston MA, Worcester MA, Providence RI and Hartford CT.

This Labor Day special is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with Lafayette and to get a real sense of how he was received in small-town America. Look for details and registration materials soon.

# AFL at the Governor's Mansion

By Chuck Schwam

On October 27th, 1824, General Lafayette was in Richmond, Virginia, visiting the state capitol and being feted by Governor James Pleasants at the eleven-year-old Executive Mansion.



Then, 193 years later, on Friday, October 27th, 2017, the American Friends of Lafayette commemorated Lafayette's visit to Richmond with an invitation from (then) Virginia Governor, Terry McAuliffe. Governor McAuliffe hosted the AFL at Virginia's Executive Mansion. The AFL enjoyed time with the Governor and a private tour of the mansion that Lafayette visited nearly two centuries before.

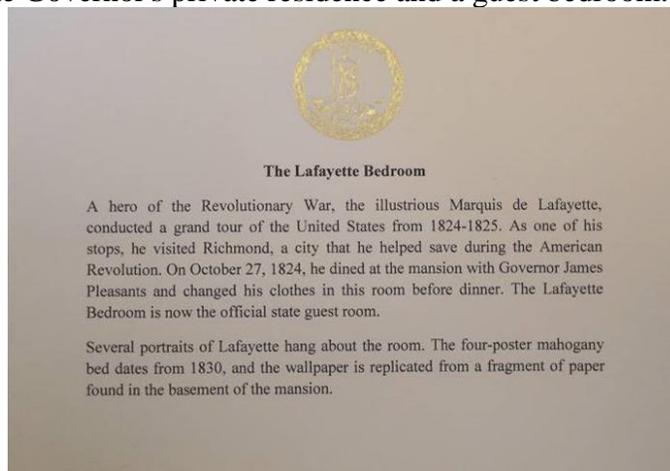


Governor McAuliffe received over thirty members of the American Friends of Lafayette at the front steps of the mansion. Chuck Schwam greeted the Governor with a bag full of Lafayette-related reading material including the *Gazette* issue which featured Terry McAuliffe on the front cover (at the Virginia Statehouse for Lafayette Day 2017). Governor McAuliffe truly enjoyed seeing himself on our publication and was especially ecstatic to receive his very own AFL pin (which he promptly attached to his lapel).



Michaele White, Governor's Office

The Governor then proceeded to welcome us inside for a tour which he initially conducted. After a few minutes, he turned the tour over to Stacy Ellis, (the Deputy Director of The Executive Mansion). Ms. Ellis gave a fabulous tour of the historic building, which is the oldest occupied governor's mansion in the [United States](#). The first floor of the mansion is very large and consists of "public" rooms. Upstairs is not open to the public as it is the Governor's private residence and a guest bedroom. But....



After leaving the group for a moment, Ms. Ellis invited us upstairs and much to our astonishment, the guest bedroom was the called the *Lafayette Bedroom*. There were images of Lafayette on the walls and a plaque explaining Lafayette's visit in 1824. The pièce de résistance was seeing President Hoffman's book on the bedside table!



To commemorate our visit, Chuck Schwam commissioned Fayetteville, NC artist Jimmy Keefe to produce a bust of Lafayette for the Lafayette bedroom at the Governor's Executive Mansion in Richmond Virginia. The bust of Lafayette is now proudly displayed in the room named after him with the following inscription:

*Presented by  
The American Friends of Lafayette  
to commemorate their visit here  
on October 27th, 2017  
193 years after General Lafayette occupied  
this very room on October 27th, 1824*



# Lafayette Day in Virginia

By Chuck Schwam

The American Friends of Lafayette gathered on Wednesday, March 14th to celebrate the fourth annual "Lafayette Day" in Richmond, Virginia. In 2015, the Virginia State General Assembly designated March 14th as LAFAYETTE DAY in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Every year on this date, AFL members along with French and American dignitaries gather at the Virginia State Capitol Building to pay their respects to the Hero of Two Worlds.

The Virginia State Capitol Building in Richmond was built in 1785, and Lafayette visited in October of 1824. It boasts a Houdon bust of Lafayette and a Houdon statue of George Washington. Many of the rooms in the State House are meticulously restored to their 18th century grandeur making it a top attraction in the Mid-Atlantic.



Michel Charbonnier

The ceremony was orchestrated by AFL members Jeff Lambert and Jim Dillard. They both addressed the many who assembled in the historic and elegant rotunda. Michel Charbonnier, the Consul General of France in Washington presented the wreath and spoke eloquently about Lafayette. AFL member Chuck Schwam greeted the crowd on behalf of the American Friends of Lafayette.



Attendees gather in front of the Houdon bust of Lafayette.

After the ceremony, all were treated to a private tour of the Virginia State Capitol Building. The tour was conducted by Mark Greenough, who is the Tour Supervisor and Historian at the Virginia State Capitol, which welcomes more than 100,000 visitors each year. Mr. Greenough's vast knowledge and considerable wit made for a fantastic tour.

After the tour, AFL members drove a short distance to the Wilton House. Erected in 1753, the Wilton House was built for William Randolph III, and was the centerpiece of a 2,000 acre tobacco plantation. The Randolphs hosted George Washington at Wilton House shortly after the Second Virginia Convention in 1775. Most importantly, Lafayette headquartered at Wilton House in 1781 for ten days during the Virginia Campaign. Then Governor Thomas Jefferson visited Lafayette there, while 900 of the General's troops made camp around Wilton House.



AFL members walking up to the Wilton House

AFL members were treated to a wonderful private tour of the house and enjoyed a delicious lunch in an adjacent building. Spending time on the banks of the James River was a lovely way to finish the day. Many thanks to Robert Kelly for helping me organize the visit.



AFL Members on the front steps of Wilton House

## Lafayette Society and Black History Club Host Presentation on Lafayette and Slavery

by Hank Parfitt, President of the Lafayette Society of Fayetteville, NC

The Lafayette Society in Fayetteville, North Carolina, has enjoyed a long relationship with Fayetteville's Methodist University, where numerous Lafayette artifacts and mementoes are housed. One year ago, the Society's Board of Directors also expressed an interest in forging a relationship with Fayetteville State University (FSU). FSU is an HBCU (Historically Black College or University) that was founded in 1867. An ad hoc committee met with Dr. Rob Taber, history professor at FSU, whose specialty is the Atlantic slave trade and Colonial life in the French colonies. With Rob's assistance, arrangements were made for the school's Black History Club and the Lafayette Society to co-host Diane Shaw, Director for Special Collections and College Archives at Lafayette College, for a guest lecture.

On Tuesday February 27 on the FSU campus, Ms. Shaw presented her lecture "*I have been so long the friend of Emancipation*": *Lafayette, Slavery, and Human Rights* to members of the Black History Club, other FSU students and faculty, and members of the Lafayette Society. Ms. Shaw also joined about 10 members of the club for lunch in the school cafeteria, where the students eagerly plied her with numerous questions about a career in history education or library science. In turn, they told her about the club's recent activities, including a project to coordinate an annual Black History Quiz Bowl for area high schools.



Members of the FSU Black History Club pose with lecturer Diane Shaw (center) and Professor Rob Taber (left). Club president Douglas Ballard and Lafayette Society president Hank Parfitt are on the right.

For the Lafayette Society, this was an excellent opportunity to reach a number of young people with a message about Lafayette's place in history. The response by the students has been very positive and enthusiastic and more projects involving FSU are planned for the future. In fact, a dozen club members joined the Lafayette Society and attended our annual luncheon meeting a week after the lecture!

Our organization's new relationship with FSU also opens the door to public discussion about Lafayette's staunch opposition to slavery and other forms of human oppression. It will also provide an opportunity to educate the public about Lafayette's purchase of a South American plantation and its slaves as part of a noble experiment to devise a method of eliminating slavery. At a time when issues of race divide our nation, it is crucial that this history be told accurately and that we help people understand why Lafayette was a hero to the abolitionists long after his death.

The following article appeared in the *Fayetteville Observer* on March 1. Written by long-time staff writer and columnist Myron Pitts, it is well worth the reading:

## **FSU speaker recounts Lafayette's stance against slavery**

**by Myron B. Pitts**

Posted Feb 28, 2018 at 1:44 PM Updated Feb 28, 2018 at 6:36 PM



A curator of items related to the Marquis de Lafayette reminded us Tuesday that our city's namesake was not only a hero of the American Revolution, but a fierce opponent of slavery.

"He was a wonderful advocate for humanity, in so many ways," said Diane Windham Shaw, director of special collections and archives at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.

She spoke to a group of Fayetteville State University students and members of the local Lafayette Society on Tuesday afternoon in the Lyons Science Annex on campus. The FSU Black History Club and the society organized the event.

When I scanned the faces of the audience, I thought Lafayette might have liked the diverse gathering himself, at this historically black university.

The French aristocrat opposed the enslavement of black Africans, which he saw as a monstrous crime incompatible with the goals of the American Revolution. Lafayette was outspoken and worked on George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, who were Virginia slaveowners.

Shaw said Washington made the decision to free his enslaved workers after his death.

“Lafayette almost certainly helped influence his decision,” she said.

She had earlier noted that Lafayette College’s collection of the marquis’ letters included exchanges on the subject between he and Washington. Lafayette discussed with Washington what eventually became the marquis’ failed experiment in what he called “gradual emancipation” of slaves. He purchased property and nearly 70 slaves in the French colony of Cayenne; estate managers paid them wages with the eventual goal of freeing them - but the slaves were confiscated and re-sold after Lafayette was arrested in Austria as a prisoner of war in 1792, a consequence of the French Revolution.

Lafayette and Jefferson debated vigorously over slavery, particularly the possibility of expansion of the practice to the western territories, which Lafayette opposed.

Shaw showed on the projector screen a quote attributed to Lafayette by English abolitionist Thomas Clarkson: “I would never have drawn my sword in the cause of America, if I could have conceived that thereby I was founding a land of slavery.”

Lafayette’s sword, Shaw said, is one of the items in Lafayette College’s collection, and figures prominently in the school’s ceremonies. The collection includes 400 documents related to Lafayette, 750 prints and engravings, 3,000 books and articles and a number of paintings, she said.

Some of the letters make reference to James Armistead, a slave and double-agent who worked for Lafayette and operated out of the camp of British Gen. Cornwallis during the revolution.

Shaw said: “After the British surrender in Yorktown, Cornwallis visited Lafayette and was taken aback to see ‘his’ spy, James, looking quite at home” in Lafayette’s headquarters.

Lafayette later helped secure Armistead’s freedom with a letter he wrote to the Virginia general assembly on his return trip to America, where he was feted as a military hero. At least three newspapers in the south advised slave-holders to prevent their workers from seeing him. Lafayette went out of his way to meet in the homes of African-Americans, including Hannah Till, a 104-year-old woman who was an acquaintance from the revolution.

He learned she was about to be evicted from her house and “quietly arranged to pay her rent,” says Shaw.

Shaw talked about the marquis’ other causes. A Catholic, he became an advocate for the oppressed protestants in France. He also stood up for Jews and American Indians. Himself a victim of solitary confinement during the French Revolution, he opposed solitary confinement and capital punishment.

Several of the FSU history students at Tuesday’s event are enrolled in professor Rob Taber’s class on the French Revolution. They are role-playing events in Lafayette’s life.

“I didn’t know he was so well-rounded,” senior Badiyah Hannon said. “I just thought he was a general in the army.”

Breanna Washington, also a senior, said she was amazed at Lafayette’s humility at a young age.

She praised him for “being on the right side of a good fight, instead of just going with the majority.”

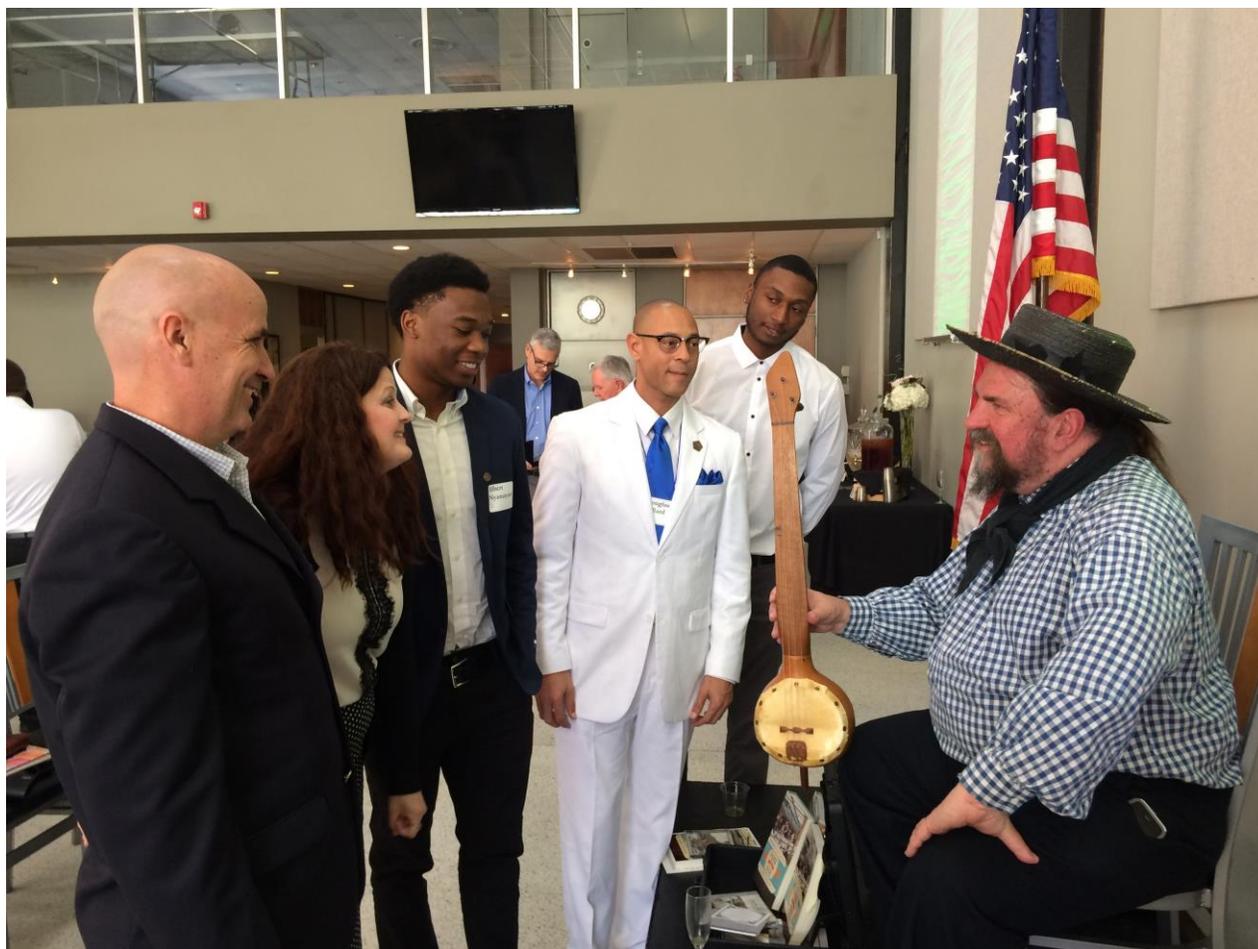
Senior Valencia Wagner said she was impressed that the marquis made a point of seeing African Americans in their homes.

“It was very personal,” she said. “It humanizes him. He’s such an iconic person that you sometimes forget his interactions with people.”

Personally I came away with a feeling I’ve had before that the city’s namesake is a perfect symbol for both the city’s diversity and military heritage. We should play him up even more than we do.

Columnist Myron B. Pitts can be reached at [mpitts@fayobserver.com](mailto:mpitts@fayobserver.com)

## Fayetteville Lafayette Society Annual Meeting



Guests at the Lafayette Society's annual luncheon meeting in Fayetteville on March 4 were entertained with a performance and discussion of early American music by professional musician Simon Spalding. One of the instruments he played was a replica of an early type of banjo developed in Africa and brought to this country by slaves. A dozen students from the FSU Black History Club attended as special guests and new members.

# Yorktown 2017

By Chuck Schwam

In October, the Yorktown Victory Celebration was hosted by the American Friends of Lafayette. Responsibility for managing Yorktown Day is rotated through the thirteen participating patriotic societies, and it was our turn. Consequently, we seized the opportunity and turned it into a three-day Lafayette-fest.

If you had never been to the Yorktown Victory Celebration, 2017 was the year to attend....and you did !!! Over 100 AFL members descended upon the hamlet of Yorktown to celebrate the 236th anniversary of the most important victory of the American Revolution. A victory that would not have happened without Lafayette.

Festivities started with a bang on Wednesday morning, October 18th as we unveiled our statue of Lafayette on the Yorktown waterfront. See page 39 for details.



Chuck Schwam and Alan Hoffman enjoy the statue ceremony in Yorktown.

After the Lafayette statue reception, AFL members and the general public were entertained by several lectures on Lafayette at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. AFL President Alan Hoffman presented Lafayette's Grand Tour of 1824 and 1825. Historian, geographer and AFL member Julien Icher discussed The Lafayette Trail Project Expansion. AFL Curator Diane Shaw lectured on Lafayette and Human Rights.

Later in the afternoon, everyone was treated to an outdoor cannonade ceremony honoring General Lafayette. Shortly thereafter, AFL member and museum curator Kate Gruber provided a private tour of the special exhibit "AfterWARD" highlighting five Revolutionary War heroes: George Washington, Henry Knox, Alexander Hamilton, James (Armistead) Lafayette and the one and only General Lafayette.

That evening, the American Friends of Lafayette hosted the annual Yorktown Day Association dinner at the Museum. The 250 attendees enjoyed a French inspired meal while being entertained by none other than Lafayette (Mark Schneider). Centerpieces were tri-color, French flags were flying, toasts were offered as we charmed the masses with a heaping portion of Lafayette.



Chuck Schwam addresses the dinner guests at American Revolution Museum at Yorktown.

On Thursday morning, October 19th members witnessed an important ceremony sponsored by the AFL and the Friends of Rochambeau. We gathered at the French Cemetery near the Yorktown Battlefield to honor the French soldiers who died during the siege of Yorktown. Sydney Riddle laid the AFL wreath amongst the unmarked graves.

Following the cemetery observance, we attended the wreath-laying ceremony at the French Memorial in honor of the French veterans who served in the American Revolution. Chuck Schwam laid the AFL wreath at the Memorial.



AFL members march in Victory Celebration Parade.

For the first time ever, the AFL marched in the annual Yorktown Day Parade on Main Street. There are few better examples of Americana than this parade. With several marching bands and other historical societies, AFL members waved American and French flags as they as they walked amongst the throngs on Main Street. The parade ended at the Yorktown Victory Monument where the annual patriotic exercises took place. The pomp and circumstance was significant as hundreds gathered to celebrate the victory that propelled Americans towards full independence.



Bonnie Fritz serves as the honorary flag bearer for the flag ceremony.

The exercises were emceed by Chuck Schwam and started with a military flag ceremony. The crowd then sang both the French and American national anthems. Attendees were treated to several high-ranking speakers with the keynote address being delivered by AFL President Alan Hoffman. President Hoffman's speech on Lafayette as a symbol of Franco-American friendship was very well received.



AFL President Alan Hoffman delivers the keynote speech.

Later that evening, the AFL held its world-famous AFL cocktail party. This year's party took place at the Hornsby House Inn. David Bowditch hosted the evening with another scrumptious spread, including his famous oyster stew. John Becica entertained with lovely music on the piano.

Two AFL members brought Lafayette-related artifacts for everyone to see. Channing Hall displayed the surgical instrument that was used to remove the musket ball from Lafayette's calf after the Battle of Brandywine. The Director of Special Collections at William & Mary college, Jay Gaidmore, shared several of Lafayette's letters as well. It was another lively gathering providing a great way to conclude the day's festivities.

On Friday, October 20th, the AFL was provided a private tour of Fort Wool. This fort, which was visited by Lafayette during his Farewell Tour, is only accessible by boat. We were ferried over to Fort Wool on the very comfortable *Miss Hampton II*. Once at Fort Wool, author/historian Mike Cobb dazzled us with his knowledge of this fort and US history.



Mike Cobb leads the tour of Fort Wool

After the tour we were again hosted by Katherine & Robert Kelly for a brunch at their home in Fort Monroe. As always, it was lovely and delicious meal. The Kellys never disappoint as members have enjoyed their hospitality for three years in a row.

Robert Kelly is the museum historian at Fort Monroe. He led tours of Quarters No. 1 which was the first permanent structure erected by the US Army on Fort Monroe. This structure is in the process of being completely renovated and is where two very famous individuals spent time: President Lincoln (1862) and General Lafayette (1824).

For the victory celebration, AFL member Bill Cole curated a three-part exhibition of Lafayette-related materials throughout Yorktown. Each exhibition had many unique items including ceramics, documents, newspapers, books, coins, currency, souvenirs and commemorative items. Materials varied in age from 1781 to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Each item had a brief descriptive text stating its connection to Lafayette's life and career as it relates to the American story and particularly to Yorktown. It was very well done and provided another place for our members to celebrate Lafayette.

Special thanks to Lea Gryk for all of her hard work in Yorktown. Year after year, Lea represents the AFL magnificently well within the Yorktown Day Association and is an important component to the success of the celebration.

Please join us next year (October 18th to 20th) for another wonderful Yorktown Victory Celebration. We have more fun and interesting surprises in store. Look for details in a few months.

The following is President Hoffman's keynote address during the Yorktown Victory Celebration...

### **Yorktown Day, 2017 – Lafayette As Symbol of Franco American Friendship**

By Alan R. Hoffman

The American insurgency against England inspired members of the aristocracy, some of whom were products of the Enlightenment, to volunteer for the cause and join the Continental Army. One of those was the Marquis de Lafayette, who in 1777 was one of the wealthiest men in France, having inherited both his father's properties and title and his mother's family's far wealthier estates.

From the time he arrived in America as a 19-year old in 1777 until his death 57 years later in 1834, Lafayette was the best friend America ever had. His role in the American Revolution which included his service in the Battle of Brandywine, where he was wounded in the left leg; the Battle of Rhode Island, where he mediated between the Count D'Estaing and American General John Sullivan and perhaps saved the Franco-American Alliance which had recently been formalized in the 1778 Treaty of Friendship; the Virginia Campaign in 1781, where he and his undermanned Army entrapped Lord Cornwallis and his troops at Yorktown; and the siege of Yorktown and the storming of the Redoubt #10 where he commanded the American forces with Alexander Hamilton leading the charge, became the stuff of legend. Also legendary was his generosity that included buying and provisioning the ship, which he renamed *Victoire*, that brought him and others, including Baron de Kalb, to America and using his own funds to pay for arms, food and clothing for his ragtag troops.

There was also his diplomatic role in 1779 and early 1780 when he returned to France on furlough, a hero and the expert on the war in America, and lobbied the French ministers repeatedly for more money and material, the return of the French Fleet and French land troops. It was his persistent pestering of the Ministers, along with Franklin's diplomatic petitioning, that led to their decision to adopt his plan. The result was Lafayette's return to America aboard the *Hermione*; Rochambeau's arrival in July of 1780 at Newport, Rhode Island with 5,000 troops and a small flotilla; the arrival of the French West Indies Fleet in the Chesapeake in the summer of 1781; the joint march to Yorktown by Rochambeau's and Washington's armies; and the successful siege and surrender that led to end of the war and the Treaty of Paris.

Less known, however, was Lafayette's role as an unpaid lobbyist for America from 1785 to 1789. This work included opening up numerous ports to American trade, including whale oil, and saving the whaling industry of Nantucket by brokering a contract between the whalers and the City of Paris to supply all the street lamps in Paris with American whale oil. The people of Nantucket were so grateful for Lafayette's help that they dedicated one-day's milk from every cow on the island to produce a 500-pound cheese that they sent to Lafayette in France.

When Lafayette visited Monticello in the Fall of 1824, Thomas Jefferson, who had served as America's Minister to France from 1785 to 1789, took him to the University of Virginia where there was a banquet held in Lafayette's honor in the Rotunda. In his speech, Jefferson said this about the accomplishments of American diplomacy during his tenure in France: "I only held the nail, he (Lafayette) drove it."

Despite some difficult times in the Franco-American relationship – including the so-called Quasi War in the late 1790's – Lafayette served, especially in his adoptive land America, as a symbol of Franco-American friendship. His civic canonization in America occurred during the Farewell Tour of 1824 and 1825 when he returned as an elder statesman of 67 and visited all 24 states and Washington City and was treated as a conquering hero. During this trip, over 3,000,000 Americans came to see the General. Thus, more than 25% of the total population of 11,750,000 saw Lafayette during his triumphant tour.

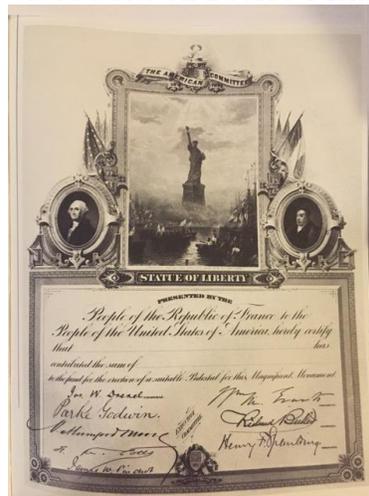
The result was that Lafayette's name was firmly imprinted on the American psyche. There are 80 counties, cities and towns named for Lafayette: Lafayettes, Fayettees, Fayettevilles, La Granges, (named for the chateau where Lafayette resided from 1800 to 1834), Lafayettevilles and even a Lagrangeville. There is Mount Lafayette in New Hampshire, Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, the Lafayette River in southern Virginia, and Lake Lafayette in northern Florida. There are countless streets, avenues, roads and parks named for Lafayette. I have found myself lost on Lafayette Street in Williamsburg more than once. There are statues or monuments to Lafayette in many American cities, large and small.

The back story of the Statue of Liberty is instructive in regards to Lafayette's symbolic role. At a dinner party at his home in Glatigny near Versailles in 1865, Edouard de Laboulaye, historian, author, legal scholar, teacher and republican, suggested that France and America cooperate to build a monument to liberty in America to celebrate the centennial of American independence. As one of his guests, the sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, recalled the conversation, Laboulaye, who had heard Lafayette speak in his youth and was conversant with his extraordinary reception on the Farewell Tour, remarked that America had more sympathy for France than any other European nation. The proof of America's attitude towards France was that "in the United States they hold up to honor the remembrance of the common glories, they love Lafayette and his volunteers as they revere the American heroes."

Laboulaye's dream of a monument in America stalled during the Empire; but under the Third Republic, in 1874, he and others formed an organization called the French-American Union, which issued a public appeal for funds to the people of France late that year. Those who signed this appeal included Laboulaye, and two grandsons of Lafayette, Oscar de Lafayette and Jules de Lasteyrie, who were members of the French Senate.



The appeal was successful. About 100,000 people and many chambers of commerce and local authorities subscribed over a five-year period. (The subscription agreement contained images of Washington, Lafayette and Rochambeau.) Moreover, the creation of this monument to liberty truly became a joint project as Laboulaye had hoped. Bartholdi's statue was financed by the French People; the Third Republic provided transport to America on a ship of state; the American People raised funds for the construction of the pedestal – the subscription agreement for the pedestal contained images of Washington and Lafayette; and the United States provided a site on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor.



The Statue of Liberty was inaugurated on October 28, 1886. In the principal address by Chauncey M. Depew, the orator reviewed and extolled Lafayette's life and work both in America and France. He began: "The story of [Lafayette's] life is the history of the time which made possible this statue, and his spirit is the very soul of this celebration." He noted that the "alliance [with France during the Revolution] assured our triumph, and Lafayette assured the alliance." He concluded: "the spirit-voices of Washington

and Lafayette join in the glad acclaim of France and America to Liberty Enlightening the World,” the given name of the statue.



Images of Washington, Lafayette and Rochambeau adorn the Deed of Gift for the statue.

During the Great War 30 years later, Lafayette’s symbolic role was used to generate support for the Allies. On September 6, 1915, the anniversaries of both Lafayette’s birth and of the first day of the Battle of the Marne in 1914 were celebrated in a number of American cities, including New York and Boston. The day was called “Lafayette Day” or “Lafayette-Marne Day” and the practice continued in some cities into the 1930’s.

Beginning in 1915, American volunteer pilots came to fight for France and were formed into what became known as the Lafayette Escadrille, a unit of American fliers under a French commander. Other American pilots, members of what was known as the Lafayette Flying Corps, were dispersed throughout regular French air squadrons. As Lafayette did for America, these young men fought for France well before America’s formal entry into the war in 1917. Jarousse de Sillac, an aviation enthusiast in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, had written a memorandum in support of the creation of an all-American squadron within the French air service: “It appears to me that there might be great advantages in creating an American squadron. The United States would be proud of the fact that certain of her young men, acting as did Lafayette, have come to fight for France and civilization. The resulting sentiment of enthusiasm could have but one effect: to turn the Americans in the direction of the Allies.” De Sillac proved to be prophetic. As if on cue, in 1916, Theodore Roosevelt, America’s leading cheerleader for joining the Allies in the war against Germany, published an article in *Collier’s Magazine* entitled “Lafayettes of the Air: Young Americans who are flying for France.” The exploits of those fearless young Americans, flying what were, in effect, motorized kites made of wood, coated linen and wire, excited the imagination of their countrymen and engendered sympathy for France.

On September 23, 1916, two months after Roosevelt’s article appeared, Kiffin Rockwell, 24, one of the more flamboyant “Lafayettes of the Air” – he had two pet lion cubs, named Whiskey and Soda – was shot down and killed over Alsace. A leading American poet of his day, Edward Lee Masters, wrote an inspirational poem: “I Pay My Debt for Lafayette and Rochambeau, In Memory of Kiffin Rockwell.”

Another poem, "The Sword of Lafayette," appeared. The last stanza ends "Forget us Lord if we forget the Sacred Sword of Lafayette."

Upon the arrival of the American Expeditionary Force in Paris in 1917, General Pershing visited Lafayette's Tomb where his aide Colonel Stanton said famously: "Lafayette, we are here!" The day after his arrival in France in December 1918 for the treaty negotiations, President Wilson had a wreath laid at Lafayette's tomb with a card that said: "In memory of the great Lafayette, from a fellow servant of liberty." In 1919, Wilson named a new national park in Maine "Lafayette National Park." Unfortunately, we lost that one in 1929, when donors, a married couple, offered to double the land of what is now Acadia National Park if the name were changed. The donors were British citizens with a long memory.

Throughout the year 1934, there were numerous commemorative events in the United States on the centennial of Lafayette's death. On the anniversary date, May 20, 1934, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt addressed a joint session of Congress. He was preceded to the podium by the French Ambassador, whose speech included a message from the President of France, Albert Lebrun. In the course of his speech, the Ambassador said:

History has indeed united the names of Washington and La Fayette with bonds that cannot be severed. ... This friendship between these two champions of liberty, based on complete devotion to the same ideals, must continue, as in the past, to inspire the American and French Nations, not only in the present but in the days to come.

President Roosevelt began his reply as follows:

A century ago President Andrew Jackson, in communicating the melancholy news of the death of La Fayette to the Congress of the United States, called it "afflicting intelligence."

And so it was. It made more than one nation mourn; none more than our own. The Marquis de La Fayette was referred to in a general order to our Army and Navy as "the distinguished friend of the United States;" and the Congress, with rare felicity, added to this the phrase "the friend of Washington, and the friend of liberty."

In this threefold role of friendship we, the people of this Nation, have enshrined him in our hearts, and today we cherish his memory above that of any citizen of a foreign country. It is as one of our Nation's peerless heroes that we hail him.

It should be noted that the French Ambassador, who addressed President Roosevelt at this historic zenith of Franco-American friendship, André de Laboulaye, was the grandson of the Statute of Liberty's guiding light, Edouard de Laboulaye.

Shortly after the outbreak of hostilities in Europe with Germany's invasion of Poland in September of 1939, the U.S. Government interned a French ship, *Normandie*, which had sought refuge in New York Harbor. The ship was still in New York on December 12, 1941, 5 days after Pearl Harbor, when the Coast Guard took complete custody of the ship. On December 16, 1941, an assistant to Colonel William "Wild Bill" Donovan wrote a memo to his superior: "It would be a swell propaganda stunt now that we have taken over the *Normandie* to rename her the *Lafayette*. What about it?" This was the second ship that the Navy named for Lafayette – the first had seen service in the Civil War. The third was commissioned in 1961. It

was the lead ship of the Lafayette-class of ballistic missile submarines. The only other foreigner for whom the US Navy has named three ships is Admiral de Grasse with whom Lafayette now stands on the River Walk here in Yorktown. Donovan's Office of Strategic Services code-named one of its most successful operations – which resulted in the capture of 4,000 axis troops in Southern France in August/September 1944 – “Operation Lafayette.”

Starting in the 1950's and lasting about half a century, there came chill in the Franco-American relationship, but never a breakdown. Even during this time, from De Gaulle to George W. Bush, there was frequent and continuing cooperation on numerous issues of common interest and concern. For example, while France did not support the Iraq War, it sent the Brigade Lafayette to serve with American forces in Afghanistan.

Beginning with the election of President Nicolas Sarkozy and continuing to this date, Franco-American friendship has flourished; and, as could have been predicted, Lafayette again served as the symbol of that friendship.

When he visited Washington and Mount Vernon in November, 2007, President Sarkozy repeatedly referred to Lafayette, the friend of America.

In his address to a Joint Session of Congress in the House Chamber, Sarkozy noted that the deliberations of Congress are conducted “under the double gaze of Washington and Lafayette,” referring to the monumental portraits on either side of the rostrum. The portrait of Lafayette by his friend Ary Scheffer was the painter's Farewell Tour gift to Congress in 1825 on account of “the national honors which the free people of the United States are at this moment bestowing on the friend and companion in arms of your illustrious Washington.” Sarkozy pointed out that what brought these men together was “their faith in common values, the heritage of the Enlightenment, the same love for freedom and justice.” He continued: “at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century ... we must fight to defend and promote those ideals of freedom and democracy that men such as Washington and Lafayette invented together.” And he concluded that he was representing “[a] France that comes out to meet America to renew the pact of friendship and the alliance that Washington and Lafayette sealed at Yorktown.”

As Lafayette himself said when he visited Yorktown on October 19, 1824 for what was the precursor of Yorktown Day, “here the united arms of America and France have gloriously engaged in a holy alliance to support the rights of American independence, and the sacred principle of sovereignty of the people.”

## State of Georgia Proclaims Lafayette Day

By Richard L. Ingram, Chair, LaGrange Lafayette Alliance

*“Why has this not been done before now?”*

I had wrapped up my pitch to the Board of the LaGrange International Friendship Exchange (L.I.F.E.). Bill Price sat at the far end of the table, and it was he who asked the question. Price, stocky, a complexion lightly charred, and the set jaw of a later life Clark Gable, has no hesitations.

The LaGrange Lafayette Alliance thought L.I.F.E.’s annual September event would offer good opportunity to distribute information on the Marquis de Lafayette to hundreds, maybe thousands of people and I was the emissary to make the case. It also provided an occasion to tighten the template and muscle up the arguments.

LaGrange shares a friendly shoulder with Alabama in west-central Georgia, except during football season when even babies have menacing dispositions. Its 30,000 people, many at least, daily file past a magnificent statue of Lafayette smack in the middle of town. Lafayette passed this way on his Farewell Tour, crossing the Chattahoochee River into Alabama below Columbus at Fort Mitchell. He made a casual comment that this land reminded him of home, the Chateau LaGrange. The village taking root nearby decided to call itself Lagrange. In 1976, celebrating the country’s bicentennial, LaGrange erected on its town square a cast statue of Lafayette identical to the one at Le Puy, France, with sword at his side and cockade held high in his right hand.

It was past five. I needed to be down the street by half past the hour for the formal presentation of the Governor’s Proclamation. Governor Deal would not be on hand, but State Representative Randy Nix and State Senator Matt Brass considered this Proclamation important enough to present it to the Lafayette Alliance in person. Only three other states have declared an annual day of celebration for Lafayette and now Georgia would be the fourth.



Richard Ingram before the presentation, making the case

The L.I.F.E. Board paid attention. “People do not know Lafayette,” I said. “Many do not know who the statue downtown is. They have T-ball, dance lessons, and parent-teacher conferences, which leave little time to study the story. Some may be aware”, I continued, “that Lafayette’s story is heroic, but they have no idea how heroic.”

Exit first gear. “The Marquis de Lafayette deserves a thawing out, a rescue from cold storage. That people do not know his story is on me, because I do know.”

Now, overdrive: Adrienne; Washington; Yorktown; Cayenne; Olmutz; and Farewell.

Then, boosters: “Lafayette’s story inspires. It is about character and adventure. It ought to be insinuated into every classroom and every board room in America. This story is no distraction to business. If business is about integrity, initiative, and character, this story is at the heart of what we are all about.”

Superlatives have lost luster in the glare of today’s “celebrity,” the state of being known for not much. The “Heroic Story” must make its case on the strength of its own timbers. Details count. It is not enough to say the story is grand and worthy, the legacy worth a claim. It is not enough to say that Lafayette is a role model. It is not enough to say that Lafayette’s story offers up a sentiment to which all quarters of the community can rally. Instead, those of us who know the story must make the point and prove it.

What’s more, we must make the case and persuade by all variety of platforms. Civic talks and newspaper columns, reasonable for the receding hairline set, get meager traction among the younger crowd; but Lafayette’s story can also be tied to tomahawk throws, musket firings, and escape rooms. For those into such things, let’s strap STEM studies onto the tale with a Yorktown Physics Escape Room: how long will it take to hit Thomas Nelson’s home at Yorktown if the cannonball is an 18 pounder at peak velocity at its apogee thirty feet above ground? How might we link Lafayette, lasers, and geography? How can the Xbox and gaming service Lafayette’s heroic story?

*“Why has this not been done before now?”*

My reply: “The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The next best time is now.” No drive-by affair, this endeavor calls for all the vaunted imagination, creativity, and innovation friends of Lafayette everywhere can muster.

Representative Nix and Senator Brass presented the Proclamation. “Now, therefore, be it resolved,” that the Governor, Senate, and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, “recognize September 6 of each year as Marquis de Lafayette Day in the State of Georgia.”

I accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the Lafayette Alliance: “Let me make this case. . .”



State Representative Randy Nix explaining the three Proclamations I hold from Governor, Senate, and House of Georgia



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE DAY

- WHEREAS: Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert du Motier, marquis de Lafayette, gave his efforts and personal fortune to aid America in its struggle for independence; and
- WHEREAS: Lafayette served in the American Revolution and was commissioned as a major general of the Continental Army. The Continental Congress appropriated awards and honors in recognition of Lafayette's service to the American people, including dual citizenship and the commissioning of a portrait that hangs in the House Chamber of the U.S. Capitol; and
- WHEREAS: At the invitation of Congress, Lafayette toured all 24 states between August 1824 and September 1825; and
- WHEREAS: Lafayette arrived in Savannah, Georgia, on March 7th, 1825. He then traveled to Augusta, Milledgeville, Macon and additional regions to meet with and honor war veterans, State officials, local leaders and members of the general public, hosted banquets and other gatherings to celebrate Lafayette's visit and recognize his commitment to American democracy; and
- WHEREAS: In 1828, the county seat of Troup County was entitled "LaGrange" in reference to Lafayette, whose residence in France was known as Chateau de LaGrange-Beneau-en-Arie. In 1830, the county seat of Walker County was named "Lafayette" in honor of the Major General; and
- WHEREAS: In 1975, a replica of the Statue of Lafayette in Paris, France, was erected in the town square in LaGrange in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and
- WHEREAS: To honor Lafayette's legacy, the LaGrange Chapters of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution will host a banquet on September 6, 2018, the 261<sup>st</sup> anniversary of his birth; and
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 6, 2018, as MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*  
GOVERNOR

ATTENT

*Chris Cox*  
CHIEF OF STAFF

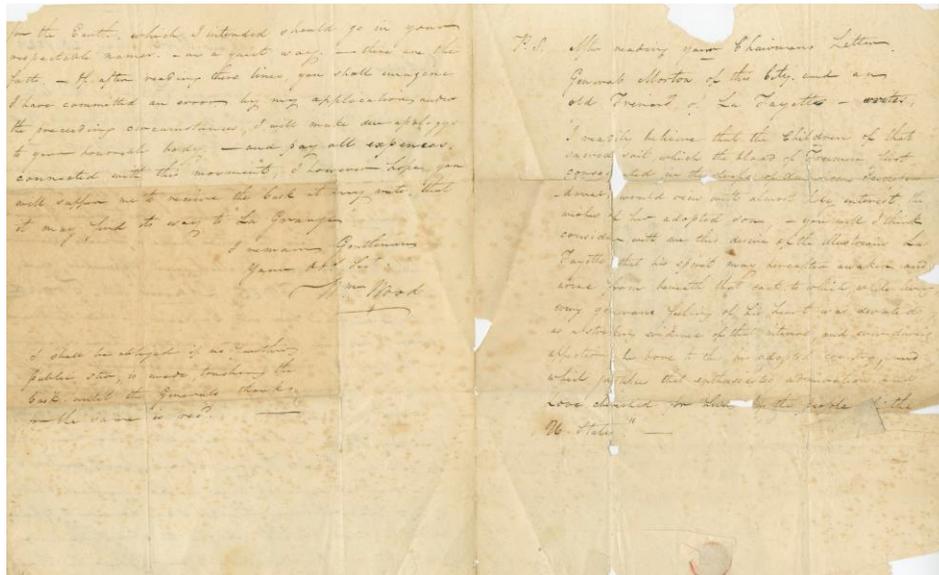
## Recent Purchase by Skillman Library Sheds New Light on Bunker Hill Soil Question

By Diane Shaw, Skillman Library, Lafayette College

One of the prevailing stories about Lafayette, repeated by most of his biographers, is that he brought a casket or trunk of American soil back to France with him in 1825 to be used for his burial. Most accounts cite the Brandywine battlefield or Bunker Hill as the source of the soil. Unfortunately, the documentation for this story has been sketchy at best.

In January Lafayette College's Skillman Library purchased a letter dated May 23, 1829 that suggests that soil from Bunker Hill was sent to Lafayette; albeit four years after his return to France in 1825. The letter was written by William Wood (1777-1857), a wealthy merchant originally from Charlestown, Massachusetts, who was instrumental in establishing mercantile libraries in Boston, New York, Montreal, and other cities, as well as on board ships. In 1825 during the Farewell Tour, Lafayette laid the cornerstone for the Brooklyn Apprentice's Library (the progenitor of today's Brooklyn Museum) which Wood helped to found. (It was at that ceremony that Lafayette picked up and kissed six-year-old Walt Whitman, who never forgot it and later wrote about it.)

Wood's letter is addressed to the Selectmen of Charlestown and concerns his request for Bunker Hill soil to send to Lafayette at La Grange. After the Farewell Tour Wood wrote to Lafayette asking him to take up the cause of mercantile libraries for France and had promised "if he would patronize the institutions, he should receive a rare present, viz., a cask of the sacred soil of Bunker's Hill." Wood apologizes to the Selectmen for some premature publicity about the soil in the newspapers and asks that he be allowed to have the cask to transmit to Lafayette and that "no further public stir, is made touching the cask until the General's thanks for the same is rec'd."



## Annual AFL Book Donation

By Chuck Schwam

The American Friends of Lafayette conducted its fourth annual book donation at Girard College in Philadelphia. The School and students received sixteen books in all (see list below).

The AFL visited Girard College during the June 2017 annual meeting. The school enrolls academically capable students, grades one through twelve, and awards a full scholarship to every child admitted. The scholarship covers most of the costs of attending Girard, including tuition, room and board, books and school uniforms. Applicants must be at least six years old, demonstrate good social skills and the potential for scholastic achievement, and come from a single-parent, low-income (determined by HUD guidelines) family. The process is conducted without regard to race, gender, religion or national origin.

AFL members visited Girard College again on Monday, December 4th to deliver the sixteen books. They gathered at the library for the donation ceremony. Students, teachers, administrators and librarians joined the AFL for the brief ceremony.

After the ceremony, AFL members walked to Founder's Hall for a tour. Founder's Hall at Girard College is considered one of the finest examples of American Greek Revival architecture, for which it is designated a [National Historic Landmark](#). AFL members viewed the special collections area in Founders Hall which houses several Lafayette-related items.

This was a great day for the American Friends of Lafayette as it furthered the mission of educating the public on Lafayette and France's involvement in our revolution.



AFL members with students, teachers, administrators and librarians in Girard College's Library

## List of Books Donated to Girard College

1. *Lafayette in America*
  - Written by Louis Gottschalk - Donated by Bob Kelly
2. *Lafayette: His Extraordinary Life and Legacy*
  - Written & Donated by Donald Miller
3. *The Journey of the French Coat*
  - Written & Donated by Gretchen Duling
4. *Lafayette's Gold: The Lost Brandywine Treasure*
  - Written & Donated by Gene Pisasale
5. *Lafayette: Hero of Two Worlds (Comic)*
  - Donated by Hank Parfitt
6. *Revolutionary Friends*
  - Written & Donated by Selene Castrovilla
7. *Enlightening the World*
  - Written & Donated by Yasmin S. Khan
8. *A Buss for Lafayette*
  - Written & Donated by Dorothea Jensen
9. *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered*
  - Written & Donated by Laura Auricchio
10. *Lafayette in America in 1824 and 1825*
  - Translated & Donated by Alan Hoffman
11. *Lafayette: Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General*
  - Written by Marc Leepson - Donated by Hank Parfitt
12. *Lafayette in Two Worlds*
  - Written & Donated by Lloyd Kramer
13. *My Dear General*
  - Written & Donated by Jeff Finegan
14. *Grolier Club Essays: Lafayette and the Antislavery Movement*
  - Written (with others) & Donated by Diane Shaw
15. *Lafayette in the Somewhat United States*
  - Written by Sarah Vowell & Donated by Peter Reilly
16. *Lafayette: Prisoner of State*
  - Written & Donated by Paul Spalding
17. *The Voice, The Revolution & The Key*
  - Written & Donated by Jenny L. Cote



## LAFAYETTE'S FIRST VISIT TO WASHINGTON CITY, 1824

By Barbara Ayers McJoynt

On October 12, 1824, Lafayette, "The Guest of the Nation," entered Washington City. From the boundary line crowds of people lined the road to greet him. There was a Grand Salute which echoed over the city to the Capitol's central rotunda where he entered the tent of Washington. He was feted by the military, cheering spectators, and many young ladies dressed in silks and sporting gloves with Lafayette's image on them.

From the Capitol Lafayette was escorted to the White House, where he was greeted by President James Monroe. Levasseur, his accompanying French recorder and other French were surprised at the simplicity of the White House where there was no "fluffery" or even guards to protect the occupants. President James Monroe had particularly requested that Lafayette not stay in the White House but rather in Gadsby's Hotel. Monroe believed, as "Guest of the Nation," Lafayette should not be shielded from any citizen who wished to see him. From this fine hotel, he was able to visit and receive many of his old friends.

On October 17th, Lafayette decided to visit Alexandria. One author stated that he crossed a wooden bridge "over a mile long" over the Potomac River to the town most associate with being in Virginia. This author cannot find any evidence for this bridge. An historical point is important here. Alexandria was annexed to Washington City in 1791 with great expectation of its future growth. On April 15, 1791 the first boundary stone was laid at the south corner of Jones Point (ten miles from the Capitol Building) and then continued with thirty-nine (39) more boundary stones laid at one mile intervals between 1791-1792. These boundary stones are still visible today. The ones most accessible to the public today may be seen south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge that links Virginia and Maryland near the Jones Point Lighthouse. When Lafayette visited Alexandria, it was part of the Capitol City, and was not returned to Virginia until the Act of Retrocession by Congress, July 9, 1846. There is no evidence that Lafayette visited this area of Alexandria. It was a very industrial part of the city during his visit.

The residents of Alexandria and the environs were out in force to welcome "The Guest of the Nation." The citizens of the city had built an arch forty feet tall made of sticks, moss, and flowers that spanned Washington Street. On top of the arch was placed a large live bald eagle. A rope had been attached to one leg. As Lafayette passed under the arch, a young boy holding the other end was to pull the rope that had a pin attached to it, thus causing the eagle to flap his wings and maybe even let out a horrific shriek. All would have gone well, except the eagle broke his tethers and began pecking Lafayette on the head. With his usual good cheer "our guest" continued walking down Washington Street among the adoring people.

The crowd swelled to an estimated 1,500 people as he approached the Lawrason home on 301 South Saint Asaph Street, where he stayed three nights. In 2016, this home was listed for sale at \$6,700,000. A marker on the south side of the outside wall gives its historic significance. Two years ago when the house was first listed, Chuck Schwam organized a lunch at Gadsby's Tavern for approximately twenty-five members of the American Friends of Lafayette (AFL). An orientation was given on the historic visit of Lafayette during this period, then the group assembled for a tour of the Lafayette House. No AFL members made a successful bid for the house. It is still on the market today, although at a reduced price.

On the steps at the Lawrason house, the local officials requested a speech from Lafayette; however, few people could see him. Soon, he was directed across the street to the Joynt residence where there were two flights of stairs and an outside platform. Lafayette was guided to this platform for his speech and the crowd shouted its blessings. As the people milled around outside, “our guest” went inside with his traveling companions.

On the second day in Alexandria, Lafayette was the chief attraction of a parade down King Street. Watching the parade was an elderly black man named Joe Williams. A number of derisive names had been given to him; such as Billy Goat, and Willie Goatee (he wore a goatee), etc. On this day, he wore an old Revolutionary uniform and for years had boasted that he had been at Yorktown for the surrender and had served Lafayette his last cup of tea before he left for France. The Alexandrians for years had heard of his different, unlikely stories from the Revolution. Now his veracity could be tested. Whether someone had coached Lafayette or it was instant recognition of an old comrade, Lafayette picked Williams out of the crowd. The man was overwhelmed with joy, for as Levasseur stated: “it proved his claim.” And to the crowd he said, “Didn’t I tell you so?” And to Lafayette he said, “Yes, General, I made the punch for you at Yorktown and did we not enjoy it together? God bless you, Marse General Lafayette!” Then it was on to City Hall where the Masons had convened a secret ceremony for our guest.

On the last of his three days in Alexandria, Lafayette visited the widow of Light Horse Harry Lee and young Robert Edward Lee at their home on 611 Cameron. Young Robert had the day before been a Marshall at the Lafayette parade. Another notable home on his tour was the historic Carlyle House on North Fairfax Street. A banquet was held at Gadsby’s Tavern with about one hundred guests the night before Lafayette’s departure. The sites mentioned above are open to the public for anyone visiting Alexandria today.

It has been recorded that it was a bright and sunny Sunday when Lafayette boarded the steam boat Petersburg with many of his old friends and sailed down the Potomac for Mount Vernon. His stay in Alexandria was a joy to him and an important historical event for the people who are living there one hundred and ninety-four years later.



Barbara McJoynt outside Robert E. Lee's boyhood home

## LAFAYETTE STATUE IN YORKTOWN

by Chuck Schwam

On October 18th, 2017, the American Friends of Lafayette unveiled a new statue of General Lafayette in Yorktown on the banks of the York River. At 11:00am on a beautiful Autumn morning, individuals gathered from far and wide to see Lafayette join the statues of his paternal friend (General Washington) and fellow countryman (Admiral de Grasse) on Yorktown's Riverwalk.



York County Officials install Lafayette next to Washington and de Grasse.

Chuck Schwam served as the master of ceremonies for the unveiling. Baritone Paul La Rosa sang outstanding versions of both La Marseillaise and the Star Spangled Banner. Speakers included AFL President Alan Hoffman, Ordre Lafayette President Gerard Charpentier, Celebrate Yorktown Committee President Bill Cole and the statue's artist Cyd Player. Mr. Michel Charbonnier, the Consul General to the French Embassy in Washington D.C., called Lafayette "an ultimate symbol of friendship, heroism, courage and commitment to freedom and democracy."



Master of Ceremonies and Statue Committee Chairperson  
Chuck Schwam addresses the hundreds that gathered for the ceremony.

AFL member David Bowditch had the honor of unveiling the statue. It was David who first brought the idea to the AFL at the annual meeting in June of 2016. AFL members obviously loved the idea and the AFL raised \$35,000 to bring Lafayette's likeness to the place where he found military glory and victory. Very special thanks to the Celebrate Yorktown Committee for their extremely significant contribution.



AFL member David Bowditch prepares the unveiling.

After the ceremony, AFL members, York County officials and other dignitaries were treated to a very elegant lunch at the Freight Shed only steps from the statues. Everyone enjoyed French-theme food while overlooking the York River. The excitement was palpable as the culmination of 16 months of work was evident right outside the window.



Lafayette relishing his return to Yorktown...

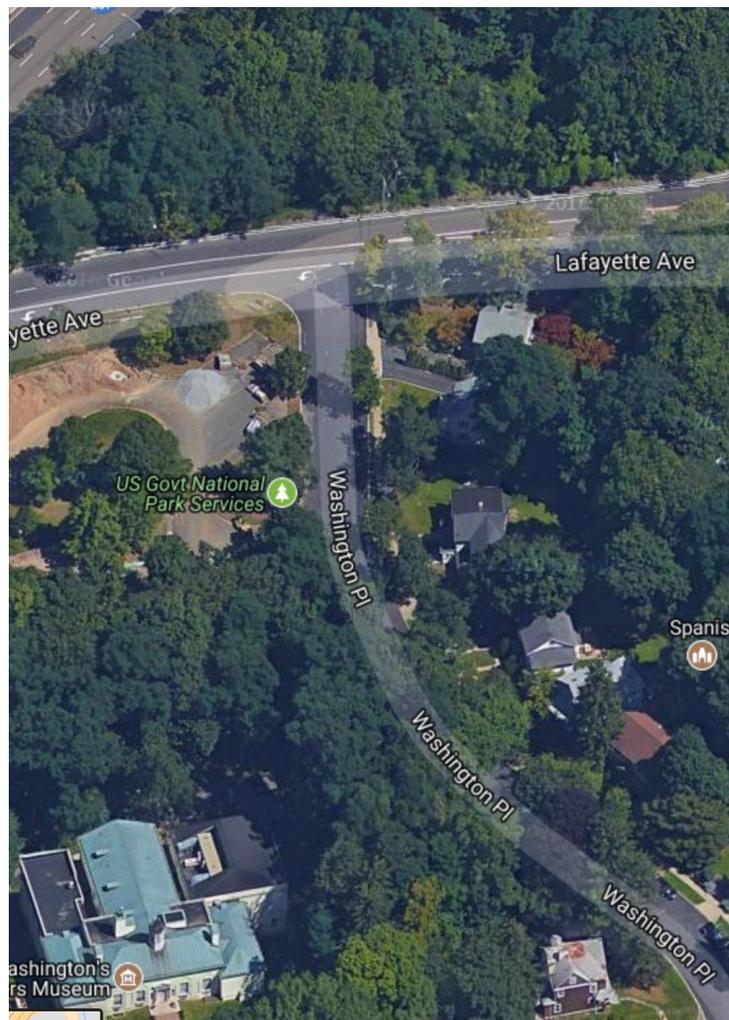


with General Washington and Admiral de Grasse

## Intersection of Great Men (II)

Andrew Natale

Speaking with Alan about the intersection of great men that he had published in the recent *Gazette* caused me to think about other possible intersections where it may occur. Doing so, happily, made me continue to reflect upon my own story of gratitude for Adrienne. The thought led me straight back to Morristown, New Jersey and the recollection of a very sudden and abrupt left turn found on Lafayette Ave., which leads right up to the Washington's Headquarters Museum and the Ford property. So, I looked further into that road and found that it is also another intersection of these great men! Hilariously, there are actually no street signs, but attached is a map with the names of the streets to view. I figured others might like to know about it as well.



## An Update From The Lafayette Trail

By Julien Icher



March 2017 marked the beginning of the Lafayette Trail, an historical endeavor memorializing the footsteps of General Lafayette in the United States of America during his 1824-1825 Farewell Tour. The American Friends of Lafayette partnered with the Consulate General of France in Boston to put together a web-based mapping program representing Lafayette's journey across New England (available online at [www.thelafayettetrail.com](http://www.thelafayettetrail.com)) as well as to foster road signage in cooperation with economic and political authorities at the state level.

In the United States, the Civil War Trust has published an article about the Lafayette Trail through its national initiative known as Campaign 1776, focusing on the Revolutionary War. The article is accessible online at <https://www.civilwar.org/learn/articles/lafayette-trail-mapping-general-lafayettes-farewell-tour-united-states-1824-1825>. Another article is pending publication at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, NH.

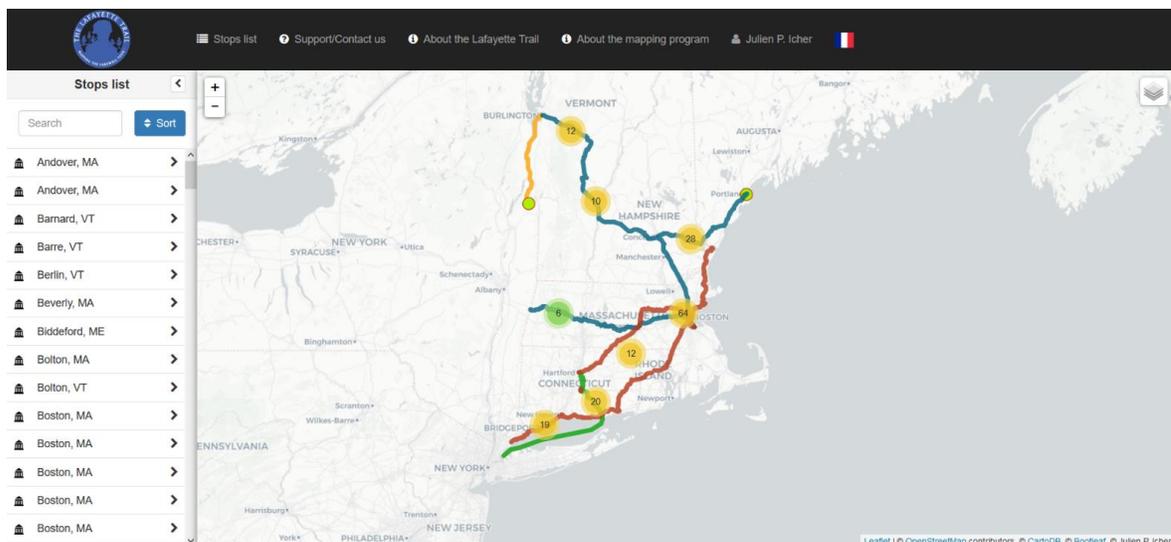
Thanks to the strong support of so many members of the American Friends of Lafayette, a bit less than \$100,000 has been raised. As of March 17, we are still short of \$7,500 to secure extension of the Lafayette Trail to the 24 states visited by Lafayette during his 1824-1825 Farewell Tour.

The Senate of Massachusetts voted on March 9<sup>th</sup> that the General Lafayette Trail running across the Berkshires be extended to the New York state line, therefore making the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the first state to adopt legislation supporting the ongoing efforts undertaken by the team of the Lafayette Trail.

The online platform of the Lafayette Trail now offers content both in English and French. When looking at the English version of the program, click on the French flag to have the website's content translated into French and vice-versa.



The Consulate General of France in Boston has been proactively working to promote the Lafayette Trail among the French representatives in the United States and beyond. It has recently put together a 2-minute long video introducing the Lafayette Trail in New England, while also giving hints of what is to come in partnership with the American Friends of Lafayette. The video is available online on the YouTube channel of the Consulate of France in Boston (<https://boston.consulfrance.org/FrenchSuccess-story-in-NewEngland-The-Lafayette-Trail-App>). I would like to emphasize the pivotal role played by French Consul General Valéry Freland, whose support of this initiative has been unwavering since the beginning. Thanks to the most recent efforts of the Consul General, an exchange program between France and the United States was identified and an application was submitted to give the Lafayette Trail project manager the long-term visa needed to carry on the project.



In France, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, *Les Amis du Lafayette Trail*, was formed to promote the Lafayette Trail among the French people. The frigate *L'Hermione* recently set off for another trip across the Mediterranean Sea, making stops notably in Sète and Marseille. The Lafayette Trail has been invited to participate in an event jointly operated by the Préfecture des Bouches-du-Rhône and the Consulate of the United States in Marseille, a few days prior to the state visit of President Macron to Washington D.C.

The state visit of President Macron to Washington D.C provides an incredible opportunity to reaffirm the deep political bond that unites the United States to France, its oldest ally. General Lafayette is the epitome of the U.S. bilateral relationship with France. His unsolicited actions in favor of American independence played a pivotal role in bringing about the nation as a free and sovereign country. President Macron has handpicked the Lafayette Trail Project and requested that I be part of the French delegation traveling to Washington D.C from April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 25<sup>th</sup> as part of the first State visit of the French President to the United States. This significant event is timely and provides an outstanding opportunity to emphasize shared values that run deep on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and gain further traction as the Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour in 2024 approaches.

The Lafayette Trail has the potential to introduce General Lafayette to many persons across the United States while raising awareness on core topics indirectly tied to Lafayette's Farewell Tour such as the state of the union as westward expansion progresses, the Indian removal policy debates, slavery, and discussions on the future of federalism in American politics. Furthermore, its boots-on-the-ground aspect encapsulates episodes of the Farewell Tour while capturing the efforts of each state to memorialize its specific history and role within the union. It also provides firsthand knowledge of space dynamics, raising questions such as: how does a state think of its own bond to the nation? Do the westernmost states at the time of Lafayette's Farewell Tour celebrate the nation in a specific way because of their proximity to the frontier and their receptivity to the rationale of the wilderness? How does a territory (state, county, town, city...) organize itself to preserve its history? Are there significant differences in preservation policies depending on whether made in urban or rural environment?

Those are important questions that, hopefully, the Lafayette Trail will provide some interesting and new insight into.

Many people, including numerous AFL members, have helped me with this project both by providing food, transportation, housing and companionship during my research and, more recently, financial assistance. I cannot mention all of you in this article. I do want to mention one person, John Becica, without whose guidance, hard work and material assistance the extension of the trail to the other 18 states would not be possible.



# Lafayette inspires leadership training

By Drew Brooks - Military editor

Hoping to inspire future senior noncommissioned officers within Army special operations, officials on Fort Bragg have turned to one of America's oldest heroes. Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette — commonly known simply as Lafayette—was a French aristocrat and general who fought in the American Revolutionary War. Many credit Lafayette— Fayetteville's namesake — with helping to wrest the colonies from British control, contributing military expertise and advocating for French support of America.

On Friday, officials at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School's David K. Thuma Noncommissioned Officer Academy unveiled the Medaille Lafayette to honor one of the top graduates of the school's new Master Leader Course. Sgt. 1st Class Michael S. Minken, a soldier with the 5th Special Forces Group, was honored during a graduation ceremony at Kennedy Hall on Fort Bragg. He was selected from among a group that included future NCO leaders from the Special Forces, civil affairs and psychological operations communities.

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Teagle, commandant of the NCO Academy, said finalists were selected by students and cadre then chosen after standing before a special leadership board. Teagle said the Medaille Lafayette was presented for the first time, but was part of the graduation for the second Master Leader Course class. The course is the latest offering from the Special Warfare Center and School's NCO Academy, which teaches about 1,200 special operations NCOs a year in basic and advanced leadership courses. The course was created to fill an education gap within the NCO ranks of the Army's special operations, Teagle said.

The three-week course, designed for soldiers awaiting promotion to master sergeant, is meant to provide them the necessary skills to lead at an operational level. Master Sgt. Justin Johnson, one of the course instructors, said the goal is to have soldiers change their mindset from the tactical level to a higher level of thinking. Topics include effective communication and how to avoid toxic leadership. "What they're learning is actually opening their eyes to the bigger picture," Johnson said.

Minken said the course helped show what was required of soldiers at the next step in their careers. He said it was an honor to be the first recipient of the Medaille Lafayette. To earn the award, Minken said leaders tested him by asking how he would respond to certain scenarios to test his moral, ethical, leadership and tactical prowess. Teagle said officials wanted to find the strongest leader among the soldiers. "Who's stepping up and taking charge," he said.

Hank Parfitt, president of The Lafayette Society of Fayetteville, presented the award to Minken. Officials said Parfitt was instrumental in creating the award alongside retired Brig. Gen. Ferdinand Irizarry and Curtis Price, executive officer of the Special Warfare Education Group. The award is inscribed with a brief description of Lafayette. It reads that the French general "earned the loyalty of his troops because of his leadership skills, his generosity, and his patriotism and love for his new country. Throughout his life, Lafayette advocated for freedom for all mankind and he vigorously opposed slavery and oppression in all its forms."

Parfitt said Lafayette was a natural choice for a leadership award. “Lafayette was such an effective leader and it is only fitting that the top award for the Master Leader Course should be named for Lafayette, especially since the course is given in the very first city named for him,”he said.

The Lafayette Society of Fayetteville is a historical association and civic organization, dedicated to promoting understanding of Lafayette’s importance to the country’s founding. Parfitt said the group also supported leadership programs at Methodist University and with the Greater Fayetteville Chamber.

*Military editor Drew Brooks can be reached at [dbrooks@fayobserver.com](mailto:dbrooks@fayobserver.com)*



Sgt. 1st Class Michael S. Minken is presented the Medaille de Lafayette during the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School Noncommissioned Officer Academy Master Leader Course graduation.

## **December 23, 1781 – A Small French Basque Village Celebrates Yorktown**

Pierre Larroque with Geneviève Sallaberry

My wife Debbie and I live half the year in La Bastide Clairence, a small village (600 inhabitants), across from Spain, on the French Basque side of the Pyrénées mountains.

Last summer, I made a presentation on “Lafayette’s Life and Role in the Birth of America and the Modern Age” in the village’s communal center. About 70 people attended, including the mayor, and all - really from all walks of life - were most interested. There even was an article about my presentation in the regional newspaper the following week.

The mayor was so surprised and interested by the role of Lafayette in America’s birth and in France’s journey to democracy, that he asked Geneviève Sallaberry, the village’s archivist, to look into the village’s archives and see if there was any mention of Lafayette during the 1780-1800 period.

Geneviève soon emailed me that, after consulting a recent book on the village’s history and looking in the archives themselves, she had found an entry, dated December 19, 1781, whereby the King had ordered that the village celebrate a “Te Deum” to honor the victory which “ for six years (“pour six ans” in the original text) combined with those of the united (not capitalized) States of the America (“États unis (not capitalized) de l’Amérique” in the original text) had won over the army of the english (not capitalized)”. The entry recorded that the festivities would be organized for December 23.

A “Te Deum” was a very elaborate religious and civil jubilee which the King ordered all towns and villages to celebrate for extraordinary events, mainly royal weddings and births. It required a very long mass, songs, fireworks, military parades, elaborate official dinners, and all citizens were supposed to participate and express great joy.

As I read Geneviève’s email, I immediately thought that two things seemed impossible: first, six years would have put the start of the “combined fight” in 1775, before Jefferson penned the Declaration Independence; and, second, since, for me, the United States of America did not formally exist until 1790, the King could not refer to the “united States of the America”.

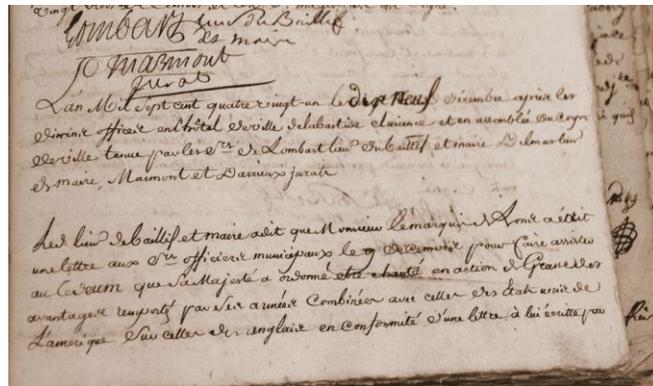
So, Geneviève invited me to consult the archives with her and see for myself.

This turned out indeed to be a treat! Debbie joined me, and both of us were thrilled to see, touch and just flip the pages of 1780s documents of a small Basque village.



Geneviève Sallaberry opens the village archives, looks for the Yorktown entry, and Debbie and Pierre copy the Yorktown “Te Deum” entry

As for the December 19, 1781 entry, we immediately saw Geneviève’s and the book’s authors’ mistake: their “for six years” (“pour six ans”) was in fact “by his armies” (“par ses armées” in the original text). The hand-written 18th century entry simply, naturally, ordered the village to celebrate the victory “by the Kings’ armies combined ... over the english”.



“L’an Mil sept cent quatre vingt-un le dix neuf décembre après les...”



“Le Roi le 25 g<sup>bre</sup> dont un exemplaire ... Te Deum ordonné parce qu’il ...”

So, on Sunday December 23, 1781, La Bastide Clairence, with all of its then 1,000 inhabitants lost in the middle of the mountainous French Basque country, celebrated in great pomp and circumstance the Yorktown Victory!

As for the “united States of the America”, yes, the proclamation did record the alliance of the French King’s army with that of “les États unis de l’Amérique”. But I have now realized that in the 1776 Declaration of Independence, the Colonies had already declared themselves as the “united States of America”. So, thanks to this little historical research, I gained new knowledge about our Country’s birth.

You can now understand why I love my little French Basque village.

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## Veterans Day 2017

By Kim Claytor

I am very grateful to the American Friends of Lafayette and its wonderful members for allowing me the honor to represent our organization this past Veterans' Day. I am always deeply touched and humbled whenever I reflect upon the sacrifices our Forefathers' made in order to secure the Freedoms we enjoy today. Their bravery and courageous spirit inspires me still. For this I will be eternally thankful.

This past Veterans’ Day Ceremony was particularly moving to me. It was spearheaded by Thomas Campbell, Past-President, Williamsburg SAR and held in the Governor’s Palace Revolutionary War Cemetery located within Historic Colonial Williamsburg. In 2011 Mr. Campbell published “*The Forgotten Patriots of the American Revolution.*” In this article, Mr. Campbell revisits the 1930 “Mystery of Williamsburg” – detailing the discovery of more than 100 bodies found during the Colonial Williamsburg renovations. It was thought at that time these deceased were likely American Patriots who either died in battle or as a consequence of wounds obtained during the conflict. Further, Mr. Campbell believes --and many others now concur-- that at least some among those buried in the Palace Revolutionary Cemetery were French soldiers. Hence, the 2017’s Veterans Day focus: To honor these French Heroes.



Mark Schneider as Lafayette and AFL representative Kim Claytor at the Veterans Day ceremony

# Claim Lafayette's Legacy and Run with It

Richard L. Ingram, President, Lafayette Alliance

LaGrange now has more reason than ever to claim Lafayette's legacy and run with it.

The State of Georgia took a stand for liberty, equality, and justice when it unanimously voted to designate every September 6 Marquis de Lafayette Day.

Representatives Randy Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Trammell of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, and Pezold of the 133<sup>rd</sup> co-sponsored the campaign for House Resolution 899.

Nix and company deserve thanks.

This was about more than putting September 6<sup>th</sup>, Lafayette's birthday, in bold relief.

Lafayette stands for civic enterprise: shared purpose that creates unifying power that results in community cohesion and solidarity. There you have it. LaGrange has no need to cast about for some theme to which all its citizens can rally. For New Orleans the theme is carefree life and jazz is the portal; for New York, conspicuous consumption is the theme and the charging bull the portal. For LaGrange the theme is courage and adventure and Lafayette the portal. His motto, "Cur non?" or "Why not?" enlarges the mind and strengthens the spirit.

LaGrange has been ahead of the curve on this account. Mayor Jeff Lukken, under the steady watch of Troup County Historian Clark Johnson, signed off on a list of whereas' s on September 6, 2007, concluding with, "Now, therefore, I, Jeff Lukken, Mayor of the City of LaGrange, do hereby proclaim September 6 as an annual day of celebration and remembrance in the City of LaGrange."

LaGrange has a legitimate claim to Lafayette's legacy, what with his statue guarding town square and his home's namesake greeting every visitor; but legitimacy and relevance are not the same thing. For the claim to be relevant LaGrange must create all manner of means to discover and learn Lafayette. Plays, music, and keepsake crafts are means to this end, a cottage industry that can make LaGrange even more of a destination than it is and for reasons noble.



Lafayette's story is rich with adventure, sacrifice, and purpose. His grandmother instilled in Lafayette the power of story: about his family's role at the side of Joan of Arc at the siege of Orleans in 1429; about his own father stepping into the breach as commander of his company at the Battle of Minden, only to be sliced in half by an English cannon ball on August 1, 1759, when Lafayette was two years old. Having never cast an eye on her, Lafayette is at the age of fourteen betrothed to Adrienne de Noailles, age twelve. It becomes one of the great partnerships of all time. To say nothing of Sunday, April 20, 1777, when he accomplishes the improbable and sails to America, at the age of nineteen, aboard the *La Victoire*.

The objections to this idea of making LaGrange a destination for all things Lafayette are three. First, how can we claim Lafayette when he forded the Chattahoochee below Columbus at Fort Mitchell and never set foot in Troup County? The argument misapprehends the claim. Lafayette is the embodiment of ideas, and those noble ideas are what we are about. Footprints and locks of hair are unnecessary. Thomas Jefferson never took a stroll through Troup County, but the Declaration of Independence is an idea we correctly claim and celebrate. Martin Luther King did not write "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" from Troup County, but it is the idea we rightly claim and celebrate. Second, will the attention visitors give Lafayette-related events not reduce traffic to established tourist destinations? On the contrary, to the extent a Discover Lafayette Cottage Industry attracts greater civic engagement and visitorship, the more all things to do and see in LaGrange will be showcased. Third, is the idea of a Lafayette Cottage Industry not overly hopeful and forgone in utopian speculation? Lafayette himself replies: "I have been reproached all my life for giving in too much to my hopeful disposition. I will respond that it is the only way to do something out of the ordinary."

Lafayette is about story, a wonderful story. It is about a way of thinking, a way of looking at the world, and we benefit by studying his story. His personal creed was bolted to his sense of optimism; his relationships, how he treated people, bolted to his sense of character; and his view of community bolted to his sense of civic obligation.

The claim to Lafayette's story is legitimate. Making it relevant is yet another story.

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## **Lafayette and LaGrange, GA as Destination**

Richard L. Ingram, President, Lafayette Alliance

Georgia House Resolution 899 was put in the hopper January 18, 2018, by Representative Randy Nix and co-sponsors Trammell and Pezold, and passed unanimously: "Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives that the members of this body recognize September 6 of each year as Marquis de Lafayette Day in the State of Georgia."

LaGrange was out front of this charge as far back as September 6, 2007: "Now, therefore, I, Jeff Lukken, Mayor of the City of LaGrange, do hereby proclaim September 6 as an annual day of celebration and remembrance in the City of LaGrange."

Lafayette's life is one adventure after another. He was, in turn: orphaned, shot at, celebrated, imprisoned, bankrupted, and celebrated again. From wealthy frocks to poverty-stained rags he never lost the

common touch. Bankrupt and living on borrowed cash---even then---he kept an optimistic, hopeful spirit, in no way contrived. He mirrors the best in Jefferson, King, and Ghandi, with sufficient miscues to make him human.

Lafayette sets the bar high for America. Here is what he expects: “The welfare of America is intimately connected with the happiness of all mankind; she will become the respectable and safe asylum of virtue, integrity, tolerance, equality, and a peaceful liberty.”

LaGrange has a legitimate claim to Lafayette’s legacy: the statue downtown and his home’s namesake on our archway.



We ought to claim the legacy, make it relevant, and work to become a destination for visitors to Discover and Learn Lafayette. This calls for a campaign with all variety of presentation, from drama, music, and debate to comic books, coffee mugs, and baseball caps. This is a cottage industry, a commercial arm in service to a legacy worth claiming.

It is more than commerce.

Lafayette is a story worth telling. It is a story to which every quarter of our community can rally. It can create the bridging relationships that make social capital, community bonds working to realize a collective sentiment.

The musical “Hamilton” revitalized Broadway. It is a cottage industry; but it is more than commerce. Audiences exit with minds broadened and spirit strengthened. Lin-Manuel Miranda said the work of staging “Hamilton” was civic enterprise: shared purpose that creates unifying power that results in community cohesion and solidarity.

LaGrange can add to its luster noble purpose: the place to come to Discover and Learn Lafayette.

## **Lafayette Trivia (1 of 2)**

**“Lafayette, We Are Still Here!”**

By Ernest and Janet Sutton

This year our nation will be celebrating on November 11, 2018, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ending of the Great War that devastated Europe. Going back in time to nearly two years after the Great War ended to Metz, France on the hot summer day of August 21, 1920, one could have witnessed the 239-member Lafayette Delegation remove a giant American garrison flag revealing an equestrian statue of General Lafayette dedicated to the people of France.

The Lafayette statue dedicated on that day was a replica of the statue made by Paul Wayland Bartlett and given to the people of France by America’s school children. A plaster prototype was dedicated on July 4, 1900, during the Fifth Paris International Exposition (AFL Gazette No. 83, October 2015, page 4) and the final bronze statue on July 4, 1908. Since then that statue has been relocated from the courtyard of the Louvre to the Albert Causeway in the in the 1<sup>st</sup> arrondissement (This was visited by AFL during its tour in France in 2015).



Dedication of Lafayette Statue on August 5, 1920 by the Lafayette Delegation.

The Lafayette Delegation arrived at Le Havre after a 10-day transatlantic crossing on August 15, 1920. They traveled by special train to Paris to attend mass at the Cathedral of Notre Dame before visiting the war-ravaged countryside of the battlefields of northern France. One member commented that along every roadside of their pilgrimage were cemeteries. He was further deeply moved by the large number of black-dressed widows shouting “*Vive l’Amerique!*” America lost 53,000 combatants during The Great War, but in France there were 1.3 million military deaths.

In Metz the streets were festooned with American and French flags and lined with enthusiastic crowds as the delegation proceeded to a grand banquet hosted by the Prime Minister of France Alexandre Millerand. Marshal Ferdinand Foch, Commander in Chief of Allied Armies by 1918, presented commemorative medals to each member. The next morning following mass, the Lafayette statue was unveiled.

At the dedication the senior delegation member James A. Flaherty recalled Colonel Stanton’s words (AFL Gazette No. 86, May 2017, page 33), “Lafayette we are here,” and to the delight of the crowd of 25,000 people he then added “**Lafayette, We Are Still Here!**”

Following the dedication, a military parade lead by 5,000 French soldiers was followed by tanks and cavalry. Overhead flew 25 “aeroplanes” dropping American and French flags, and flowers.

In Verdun, the delegation was met by Marshal Philippe Pétain, nicknamed “The Lion of Verdun,” who presented a specially designed medal to each member of the delegation.

Before the Lafayette Delegation departed Paris for home, Marshall Joseph Joffre, Commander-in-Chief of French Forces till the end of 1916, led the delegation on September 9, 1920 to the tomb of Lafayette at the Picpus Cemetery to lay a wreath in the shape of the Cross of Lorraine. (A wreath was also laid by the AFL during its tour to France in 2015).

Who were the members of the Lafayette Delegation of 1920?

Why was Metz selected as the site for the Lafayette statue?

What happened to this impressive 16-foot tall statue?



Metz was liberated from Germany after 40 years of occupation when the Lafayette Delegation arrived for the Lafayette statue dedication.

ANSWER ON PAGE 115

## Lafayette Trivia (2 of 2)

### **Cruising on the MS Lafayette**

By Ernest and Janet Sutton

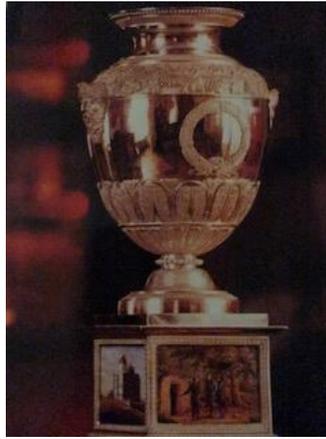
The Marquis de Lafayette made eight transatlantic crossings to America during his life time including his voyage on March 20<sup>th</sup> to April 27<sup>th</sup> 1780 when he brought the news that French troops would be dispatched to the United States. This is Lafayette's most well-known voyage to America for the members of AFL. A replica of the frigate *Hermione* made landfall on its inaugural TransAtlantic crossing at Yorktown on June 5, 2015. It was greeted by the members of the AFL who also enjoyed a below the deck tour including the galley. It doesn't take too much to imagine what eating for 38 days afloat on the Atlantic Ocean was like with Lafayette's tendency to sea sickness. First described by Hippocrates in 400 BC, Lafayette's symptoms most likely included dizziness, nausea or vomiting, belching, excessive salivation, warmth and sweating. Fortunately, Lafayette always looked on the bright side of every voyage as expressed to his compatriots and in his letters home.

On his last transatlantic stormy 3-week voyage departing September 8, 1825 on the frigate *USS Brandywine*, Lafayette would now enjoy lemon juice which was added in 1808 to the daily US Navy rum ration of grog to prevent scurvy. The officers and crew for this voyage were uniquely chosen from descendants of the War of American Independence veterans. No matter what the sailing conditions, he undoubtedly was a charming dinner companion at the table of his host Captain Charles Morris. Following the voyage, the officers and midshipmen donated money for a silver presentation vase with enameled highlights of Lafayette's 1824-25 Grand Tour which was made in Paris. (This was seen at the Villore Chateau, ancestral home Lafayette's descendants, during the AFL tour to France in 2005).

If Lafayette could travel forward in time nearly 150 years to May 1930, he could participate in the French Line CGT (*Compagnie Générale Transatlantique*) launching of its newest cabin class flagship, the *MS Lafayette* (MS is a maritime code for Motor Ship). The ship was equipped with a turbo-electric drive to eliminate vibration which would also decrease sea sickness and decorated with murals of the life of Lafayette in the salon; and it also offered superb gourmet cuisine.



Reverse side of a commemorative coin presented for the May, 1930 launching of the *MS Lafayette*



Silver Presentation Vase of Lafayette's 1824-25 Grand Tour presented to Lafayette from the officers and midshipmen of the *USS Brandywine*.



Grand salon of the *MS Lafayette* with murals of Lafayette's life (1930)

**Question:** As a member of the AFL, what would you order from the lunch menu on the MS Lafayette?

**(In French)**

**MS Lafayette Menu**

**Déjeuner - 25 Septembre 1935**

**Hors – d’Œuvre:**

Huîtres de Claires - Hors-Œuvre à la Française  
Olives Vertes – Olives Noires – Céleri en Branche  
Œufs à la Russe – Choux Fleurs Antiboise  
Salade Portugaise – Sardines à l’Huile  
Saucisson d’Arles - Terrine de Lièvre Solognote

**Potages:**

Consommé Chaud – Consommé Froid – Soup à l’Oignon Gratinée

**Œufs:**

Omelette aux Fines Herbes

**Entrée:**

Côte de Veau en Casserole Grand’Mère

**Légumes:**

Epinards Frais à Crème

**Pommes de terre:**

Pommes Robe – Pommes au Four -- Pommes Purée -- Pommes Pont-Neuf

**Pâtes:**

Nouilles au Gratin – Macaroni au Beurre  
Spaghettis Italienne - Riz au Carl – Riz Créole

**Grillade:**

Entrecôte Grillé Bercy

**Buffet Froid:**

Poulet Froid – Jambon d’York - Jambon de Virginia – Longe de Pore Froide  
Agneau Froid Sauce Menthe – Roastbeef Froid

**Salades:**

Laitue – Romaine

**Fromages:**

Camembert – Petit Suisse – Edam

**Pâtisserie:**

Cornets à la Crème – Madeleines

**Glace:**

Abricot – Chocolat

**Compote - Fruits:**

Compote de Pêches – Corbelle d’Excellence

**(In American English)**  
**MS Lafayette Menu**  
**Lunch – September 25, 1935**

**Appetizers:**

Oysters from claires (Oysters raised in salt ponds called “*claires*” south of Marenne in Brittany)  
Assorted French appetizers --- Green olives --- Black olives --- Celery  
Russian-style deviled eggs topped with caviar --- Cauliflower with seasoned tomato-based dressing  
Portuguese salad with roasted peppers and tomatoes --- Sardines in oil  
Arles sausage of dry-aged pork, ox, and ass or horse (Arles is a city in Provence painted by Van Gogh)  
Rabbit prepared in an earthenware dish from Solognote (Region in North-Central France)

**Soup:**

Hot broth --- Cold broth --- French onion soup

**Eggs:**

Omelet with herbs

**Main Course:**

Casserole of veal rib in a thick white sauce

**Vegetable:**

Fresh spinach in cream sauce

**Potatoes:**

Boiled potatoes --- Baked potatoes --- Mashed potatoes  
Thick-cut “Pont-Neuf” Fries (Originally sold from 1604 on Paris’s oldest remaining bridge aka New Bridge)

**Pasta:**

Noodles with baked seasoned breadcrumbs and cheese – Macaroni with butter  
Italian spaghetti --- Indian Currie --- Creole rice

**From the Grill:**

Grilled sirloin steak with white wine-based sauce (Bercy is the oldest district in Paris)

**Cold Buffet:**

Cold chicken --- Mild-flavored delicate pink York Ham --- Strong-flavored deep red Virginia Ham  
Cold pork loin --- Cold spring lamb with mint sauce --- Cold Roastbeef

**Salad:**

Lettuce --- Romaine

**Cheese:**

Camembert --- Little Swiss Cheese (Fresh creamy cheese from Auvilliers in Normandy) --- Edam

**Pastry:**

Cornet horn shaped pastries with cream --- Madeleines (Small almond cakes from the Lorraine region)

**Ice Cream:**

Apricot --- Chocolate

**Hot Fruit – Cold Fruit:**

Stewed peaches --- Basket of fruit

## LAFAYETTE'S WEDDING FEAST

By Biruta Cap

Lafayette's first Paris sojourn, spanning the six years between his arrival at the Collège du Plessis and his departure for his regiment in Metz, was marked by a social event of the most noteworthy importance: his marriage to Adrienne de Noailles, April 14, 1774. The guests at the reception included the highest-ranking notables: the royal family, the court, diplomats and, of course, the many members of the Noailles and Ayen families.

The ceremony as well as the reception took place in the Hôtel<sup>1</sup> de Noailles, the town-house palace of Adrienne's family. Reflecting their ducal rank, the Noailles and Ayen families lavished a repast that is difficult to grasp in its organization, abundance, appearance and variety of foods set out for the guests in three "services," as was the custom in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Such celebrations were meant to impress: first, with the stunning décor of the table. Upon entering the dining hall, the eye caught the centerpiece, the *surtout*: a large sculpture. At regular intervals, high silver multi-candle candelabra illuminated the gastronomical creations presented in serving dishes that were works of art as well. Naturally, the tableware was of the finest porcelain, likely from the prestigious, world-famous manufacture of Sèvres.

The foods, set out according to a rigid pattern for each course, were highly decorated. Cold meat and fish dishes often had a glaze of white *chaud-froid* sauce, studded with truffles in geometric shapes or flowers made with preserved vegetables. They were meant to impress visually. It was first a feast for the eyes.

Each of the three services consisted of sequenced courses. Each course comprised a great number and variety of dishes—for instance, as many as 23 *entremets*,<sup>2</sup> which were change-overs from the salad course. Each dish was laid out in two serving containers (trays or bowls), one for each end of the table, to observe the symmetrical setting.

The first service began by clear soups, called *ouilles*<sup>3</sup> [pronounced *ouy(e)*]. They had to be served very hot. At Gilbert's and Adrienne's wedding, there were 8 large pots of different *ouilles*. One had shrimp (*écrevisses*), another fine noodles. But the most traditional *ouille* contained what might seem astounding: *la jambe de bois*! A wooden leg? In an elegant soup? Actually, this was a hunk of beef—with the meat still on the bone—apparently to show what kind of meat the consommé was made of. One can only conjecture as to when and how such a tradition arose....

After the guests had partaken of the hot broth, there were 8 other soups to choose from. There were two highly decorated tureens of each type of soup. At each end of the table, carvers were slicing up major meats: ¼ calf at one end and the saddle of beef at the other. Symmetrical arrangements filled the table spaces with entrées of fish, capons, duck, squab, veal, lamb, and several pâtés—altogether 14 varieties, two serving dishes of each. The first course ended in hors-d'oeuvre, contrary to modern usage! These were set out in 4 to 2 of each type, and were composed mostly of meats, such as *petits pâtés*.

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<sup>1</sup> *Hôtel* under the *ancien régime* designated a luxurious in-town residence. Common travelers stayed in *auberges* (inns).

<sup>2</sup> *Entremets*—literally, "between dishes," could be hot or cold, lighter than meats. At Lafayette's wedding this course included such dishes as asparagus with peas, oysters on the shell, mushrooms Italian style, a filled omelet, and 19 others.

<sup>3</sup> This word does not appear in any French dictionary published in the last 80 years. It had been traditional for centuries in France to begin a meal with a strong, clear *consommé* containing only light additives such as fine noodles (vermicelli) or rice.

After the five courses of the first service, the tables were cleared, and the second service brought in, beginning with 20 plates of oysters and 10 plates of root vegetables. The soups and the carved meats of each table-end were replaced by 6 entrées of fish, fowl or game, while an equal number of dishes of *petites entrées* replaced the 30 hors-d'oeuvre of the previous service—again, composed of meats, fish or fowl. Two separate courses of *entremets* followed, before another round of roasted meats appeared. This time, they included more exotic varieties: baby boar, hare, pigeon, turkey— still a novelty in France.<sup>4</sup> 30 salads and 8 preparations with bitter oranges served as an interlude before another round of 23 *entremets*.

Of course, there was still the obligatory 3<sup>rd</sup> service: desserts—46 of them, most likely among the most spectacular and delicious items of this overwhelming menu: pyramids of cream-filled puff pastry (*croquembouche*), architectural cakes, highly decorated *petits fours*. Paris had already earned an international reputation for its *pâtisseries*. The genial Carême, who 30 years later was to reorganize French cuisine and make it world-famous, began by apprenticing to a famous baker, Bailly.

What did Gilbert think of this over-the-top banquet in his honor? He was no doubt overwhelmed. Not counting the desserts, there were about 150 different preparations. Was it possible even to choose? And under the elaborate decorations and sauces, could one know what one was tasting? Did Gilbert enjoy any of the foods? Which ones? We will never know. It is said he retired early from this celebration.

Little, if anything, of such an excessive way of dining has come down to our time, whether in the way of decorating and setting the table, the sequencing of dishes, their preparation and decoration. Whereas the savory provincial French cuisine still thrives in homes and restaurants, only highly trained professional chefs practice classic, *haute* French cuisine, mostly for special occasions. *Nouvelle cuisine*, featuring exquisite, artistically wrought presentations of small portions on large plates drizzled with sauces, imitate modern paintings.

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Is there anything at all in Lafayette's wedding menu that can be revived in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Can any dish be prepared without the battalion of servants manning the kitchen and serving at table? Can we even know how these dishes were prepared? Decorated? Served in artworks of porcelain and silver? And if they could be recreated, would we even find them agreeable to our modern tastes?



<sup>4</sup> *Dinde*, the French word for turkey, belies its origins: d'Inde, allegedly from the West Indies.

From the menu, we can only guess how some of the items were made: only the main ingredients are listed. French cookbooks began to appear after Carême, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the exception of La Varenne’s influential and very popular *Le Cuisinier françois*.<sup>5</sup> Among de La Varenne’s recipes that have come down to the 21<sup>st</sup> century are croissants and hollandaise sauce—although certainly not made as the original! In any case, they do not figure on Lafayette’s wedding feast menu.

There was one item on the wedding s menu that has survived the test of time and place magnificently. Who would have thought it was one of the components of “*pigeons [squab] à la d’Huxelles!*” It turns out that Huxelles was none other than the patron of the influential chef de La Varenne! The marquis d’Huxelles/Uxelles was the royal governor of the province of Châlons-sur-Saone and had the good taste to employ and empower his squire de La Varenne (1615-1678), who reputedly dedicated to the marquis d’Uxelles his immortal stuffing of finely chopped mushrooms and shallots—the famous *duxelles!* Ironically, this “recipe” was not included in La Varenne’s cookbook. Perhaps he did not deem that this humble, easy mixture amounted to a “recipe.”

Essentially, it is “a mixture of finely chopped mushrooms sautéed with chopped shallots,” now a standard in French cuisine. There are entries for “duxelles” in standard culinary reference works, such as the *Larousse gastronomique*, Flammarion’s *L’Art culinaire français*, Time/Life Books’ *Classical French Cooking*, the *Woman’s Day Encyclopedia of Cookery* and Julia Childs’ *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*. All references stress that the fresh, minced mushrooms must be squeezed out in a cloth before sautéing with shallots (or onions or scallions). This “dry” version can be preserved for several days before being combined with the ultimate dish, such as chicken breasts.

It is interesting to note that this *d’Uxelles* at Lafayette’s wedding was the stuffing of pigeons, traditionally the symbol of love and conjugal fidelity. Perhaps Gilbert and Adrienne tasted this particular dish—or one of the seven other pigeon dishes— at their wedding?

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<sup>5</sup> In Louis XIV’s time, the celebrated chef François Pierre de La Varenne, abandoning medieval traditions, published his *Le Cuisinier françois* in 1651, which revolutionized cooking for the nobility. Before Carême’s time, this cookbook was the most authoritative in France and even in England, where a translation appeared two years later.

## Our Visit To *L'Hermione* In Rochefort, France

by: Jerry Meekins & Susan Cucchiara

Like many other members of the AFL , my wife, my daughter, her husband and I were in Yorktown, VA, on June 5, 2015, when the long awaited French frigate, *L'Hermione* appeared out of the morning fog. The experience was amazing. She was a sight to behold. This was *L'Hermione's* first port of call on her maiden voyage to America. Finally, after nineteen years, this magnificent replica of the original *L'Hermione*, which sailed from France to bring Lafayette back to America in 1780 with word of full French support in the American Revolution, was here. Because the AFL was in Yorktown for our annual meeting, special arrangements were made for a tour of the ship. Like most, we were very excited. Boarding the ship was everything we expected, with the exception of time and access. Most of us wanted to see more and stay on board longer; however, large crowds necessitated limited time on board. The Friends of *L'Hermione* Lafayette in America had done, and were continuing to do, an excellent and outstanding job with regard to *L'Hermione* Voyage 2015.

Susan and I decided that we would plan a trip to visit *L'Hermione* in her home port of Rochefort, France. We saved for two years. With the help of AFL member, Marc Jensen, who was one of only two Americans to sail across the Atlantic with *L'Hermione*, we contacted Aurore Le Vilain, a sailor/gabier (topman), who also sailed to America with the ship. A topman's job is the setting of the sails. She kindly agreed to join us in Rochefort and take us on board. After several correspondences, the dates were set, September 2017.



We travelled to Rochefort from Paris on one of France's new high-speed trains. The approximately four hour-trip was seamless, comfortable and very enjoyable. We arrived in Rochefort at approximately 6:30 PM Thursday, September 21st. We walked from the train station to our hotel. Appropriately, it was the Hotel Lafayette. We were very excited about our walk because the hotel owner told us that we would be able to see *L'Hermione* before we arrived at the hotel. Sure enough, we did. As we neared what appeared to be a beautiful park, we could see the large masts of *L'Hermione* through the trees. Here we were, 27 months after Yorktown. Our plan to visit *L'Hermione* in her home port was unfolding.

We continued our walk and made a very slight detour to get our first full glimpse of *L'Hermione*. It was magnificent. We had done it. We were in Rochefort, France standing along side *L'Hermione*. Once we caught our breath, we decided to go to the hotel, settle in, and then come back to the ship without our bags. The hotel was cute and quaint. The room was very plain and simple. We had a window overlooking the street. Not to overstate it, but we were very happy and still very excited. After a quick freshening up we went back to *L'Hermione*, which was five minutes from the hotel. We took pictures and just enjoyed the experience. Although she was docked in an enclosed slip, and being painted, she was still awesome and majestic. We so looked forward to meeting Aurore and spending quality time on *L'Hermione* the next day. Tearing ourselves away from the ship, we went to a restaurant next to the hotel and had dinner. Very nice. We then retired for the night.



The, long awaited next day, Friday, we woke up and had breakfast at the hotel. Also very nice. From there, we walked down to *L'Hermione* to meet Aurore. We were both still very excited. We met Aurore at approximately 10:00 a.m. She seemed to be as excited as we were. Before starting our tour, we went to a nearby cafe to have a coffee and get more acquainted. We then went back to *L'Hermione*. Except for a lunch break, back at the same nearby cafe, we spent approximately three to four hours touring the ship and meandering through the dockside tented exhibition area. The dockside area included a very beautiful and detailed model of *L'Hermione*, separate areas of costuming, sail making, rigging, blacksmithing and woodworking. There was a designated area that showed videos of *L'Hermione* at sea.

One of the last and very special things we had the privilege to see was the sail filled with *L'Hermione* contributors' names. Back in 2011, many AFL members, along with many other people, contributed a small amount to have our names put on a sail that would travel with *L'Hermione* on its voyage across the Atlantic to America. This particular sail that looked more like a giant sheet was filled with what appeared to be thousands of names. Although we searched for our names, we were unable to find them. Regardless, it was an honor to see this impressive sail. We will always cherish the certificate we received acknowledging our contribution to the sail project.



Adjacent to the exhibition area, in one of the dry docks, was a life-sized sailing ship model set up to allow those daring individuals a chance to perform high-wire activity. It was meant to simulate climbing and walking on the rigging at different levels of height. Although it looked interesting, we didn't partake in this particular experience.

Prior to boarding *L'Hermione*, Aurore showed us the basics of raising and lowering a sail. There was a working display unit set up on the dock. Aurore was very proficient. Also from this area, we were able to watch a group of new volunteers climb the rigging as part of their training. After we watched them and talked with Aurore, it was obvious to us how difficult it is to climb all over the rigging and work the sails. You can only imagine what it is like at sea and particularly in adverse weather conditions. Although Susan and I had previously boarded *L'Hermione* in Yorktown, we had had limited access on board. With the exception of the hold area, which is for ballast and modern equipment, like the engine, electrical generator, sanitary facilities, the kitchen and supplies, we were able to walk into and around most of the ship's decks and compartments. Those areas included the galley, wardroom, navigation area, sickbay, officers' quarters(not the Captain's) and crew's quarters. It was interesting to walk around the orlop (lowest) deck, such as the crew's quarters, because of the height constraints. You had to do the gorilla walk, or else you would bang your head on the overhead. This is probably tricky at sea, until you got used to it.

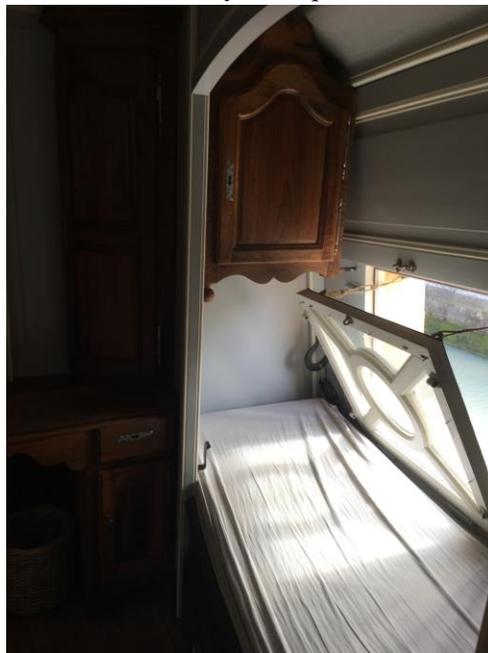


There were many highlights. Having Aurore as our personal guide was first and foremost. She was an experienced sailor and gabier (topman). Our visit would not have been the same without her. She was

extraordinary. For those of you who attended the AFL annual meeting in Boston, Aurore was the sailor from *L'Hermione* with whom we skyped. Secondly, and luckily, we were able to meet and talk with *L'Hermione's* Skipper, Captain Yann Cariou. He was most gracious and giving of his time.



Aurore showed us the area that would have been Lafayette's quarters, which was aft of the ship on the gun deck.



From the outside of the ship, it's the beautiful blue and yellow glass windowed, transom area at the aft (rear) end of the ship. This is also the area that has an ornament-type coat of arms and the name of the ship, *L'Hermione*. While we were below decks, we were shown a very beautiful handmade chess set that was carved by one of the crew members.



The pieces were designed to represent several of the ship's functional parts. Those were sails (kings and queens), capstans (castles,rooks), cannons (bishops), anchors (horses, knights) and balaying pins(pawns).

For you landlubbers unfamiliar with seamanship, capstans are cleated drumlike cylinders used for winding in ropes, or chain, specifically, the anchor. Belaying pins are devices used to secure lines of rigging. Nowadays, most ships and boats use cleats.



Getting to spend time with Aurore in the crew's quarters was very special. As a crew member, she was able to share with us her experiences of shipboard life below decks. While we were in the sickbay area, Aurore told us about 18th century priests being an important part of the ship's compliment. Surprisingly, there's a confessional area. Pretty interesting! Another very interesting area that we discussed and had a few laughs over was the area known as the head (toilet), the 18th century head located in the lower bow section (front). Today's crew has modern toilet facilities.

I forgot to mention something noteworthy. There are twenty-six cannons (12-pounders, sized for a 12-pound ball) on the gun deck. For those of you who boarded the *L'Hermione*, you might remember that there were 6 of the 26, 3 on each side, in the open area just below the main deck, where the ship's tenders (row boats) were. AFL members had access to this area. We were told that one of these cannons was salvaged from the original *Hermione*. Aurore told us that wasn't true. The particular cannon in question, was an original period piece, but, not from *L'Hermione*. Still, a very cool cannon.

At approximately 3:00 P.M. we departed the ship. We left via the starboard (right) side gangway. This is only important because it was on the opposite side of our entry, and on the side of the ship where the gift shop was. Also, between the ship and the gift shop was a nice grassy area with a few picnic tables.

Aurore, myself and Susan sat there for awhile talking. Two points of interest; first, the main deck of the ship can be used for cocktail type events. One of her shipmates, a crew member, owns a local restaurant and caters such events. Apparently, one such event was going to take place that evening. The other interesting point was about one of the crew sitting on the bowsprit. The bowsprit is a spar (long pole) extending forward, in front of the ship. It's used for anchoring the rigging in front of the foremast. The foremast is forward near the bow. To the point, Aurore told us that this particular crew member liked to sit up there on his break. Nice place to hangout and think about what you are doing and where you are.

At this point, we temporarily parted ways. We would meet later for dinner at a nice restaurant suggested by Aurore's shipmate. She wanted us to go to her fellow crew member's restaurant, but, it was closed. Aurore had personal matters to attend to. That was perfect. It gave Susan and me time to explore and visit other places in Rochefort. We were able to do two other very interesting things. Not too far from the ship was the Corderie Royale (rope factory). The Corderie Royale was a very impressive and amazing 374m-long rope factory, built in the 17th century. It is very near to where today's *L'Hermione* was built and currently docked on the banks of the Charente River. Although we didn't tour this facility, we were able to go to it and experience its magnificence.



From there, we went to visit the Musée Hébre, a museum in Rochefort. It just so happened that there was a very unique Lafayette exposition in town. We were able to take in the entire exhibit. As you might expect, there were many artifacts, letters, pictures, etc. One very interesting article was Lafayette's ornately decorative bicorne (headdress) that he wore as Commander of the National Guard. What a great way to cap off our *Hermione* day. Before we went back to the Lafayette Hotel to freshen up and change, we stopped at a local cafe near a beautiful park. We sat outside, had some refreshments and soaked up our *Hermione* experience. That evening we met Aurore at the restaurant for our farewell dinner.

The restaurant was small, quaint and perfect for us. We gave Aurore a small gift as a token of our appreciation. From there, Aurore joined us on our walk back to the hotel, where we exchanged thank yous and expressed our most sincere appreciation. Saying goodbye was bittersweet. We could not have expected nor asked for a better day. The entire experience exceeded our expectations.

The next day we woke up and had breakfast again at the hotel. From there we walked, with our luggage, back to *L'Hermione* for one last look at the replica of the awesome and incredible ship that brought Lafayette to America in 1780, and us to Rochefort. Again, it was a gorgeous day to bid *L'Hermione* adieu. At least for now. We walked along the Charente River past the Corderie Royale to the Rochefort train station. From there, we took the train back to Paris via La Rochelle. We had a very nice lunch at a local cafe near the train station in La Rochelle. From there, we had a pleasant, seamless trip into Paris.

An extraordinary and memorable trip!

By the time this article appears in the Gazette, *L'Hermione* will be on a four and a half month voyage from Rochefort to the Mediterranean Sea and back. The voyage will have eleven stopovers. It is being called *Hermione 2018 Libres Ensemble* (Free Together). Hopefully, *L'Hermione* will return to the United States someday. We most assuredly will be there to greet her if she does!

## Robert Selig Completes W3R-US Resource Study for Massachusetts

By Alan R. Hoffman

While Massachusetts was not on the Newport to Yorktown Washington Rochambeau National Historic Trail, the French army departed for the French West Indies from Boston in December, 1782, having marched there from Providence RI. This is only one of the W3R routes that Dr. Selig has identified in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and has documented in his resource study which was completed in December, 2017.

Another route in Massachusetts begins in Marblehead on April 27, 1780 when *L'Hermione* docked in the harbor to arrange for a pilot for the final leg of the voyage to Boston. According to the ship's log, its principal passenger - Lafayette – who was carrying the news that the French Army under General Rochambeau would be sent to America, disembarked to visit his friend, General John Glover

As you may glean from the draft historical marker below, Lafayette's arrival on the next day, April 28, 1780, at Hancock's Wharf, Boston was the occasion for great joy and celebration. This response to his arrival on his second voyage to America attests to Lafayette's popularity even prior to receipt of the news that the French Army was coming and to the Virginia Campaign and the Victory at Yorktown in 1781.

The resource study, over two years in the making, contains a wealth of information about the movements of French forces in Massachusetts. There is even a section devoted to an excursion that General Rochambeau took in December, 1780 to visit such sights as Bunker Hill and Washington's former headquarters in Cambridge, now the Longfellow House. The excursion was cut short when word reached him that Admiral Ternay, the commander of the French Fleet in Newport, had died on December 15, 1780.

Dr. Selig's study is available at the W3R-US's website, [w3r-us.org](http://w3r-us.org). From the Home Page, click on "History by State" and then click on Massachusetts.



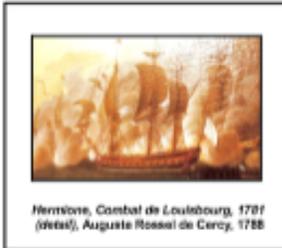
# General Lafayette Arrives in Boston



Washington-Rochambeau  
Revolutionary Route  
National Historic Trail

## Lafayette's Arrival Here Changed the Course of History

In March, 1780, General Lafayette sailed to America on his second voyage aboard a new Frigate, the *Hermione*, with important news to impart to General George Washington. From aboard the *Hermione* "at the entrance to the Boston Harbor," (actually Marblehead), he wrote Washington on Thursday, April 27, 1780: "I have affairs of the utmost importance that I should communicate to you alone." On Friday, April 28, 1780, the *Hermione* docked at Hancock's Wharf, the site of present-day Lewis Wharf, and Lafayette disembarked and was feted for several days by the citizens of Boston.



*Hermione, Combat de Loubébourg, 1781 (détail), Auguste Rossat de Carcy, 1788*

He left Boston on May 2, 1780 and traveled by land to Morristown, New Jersey where Washington and his Army were encamped. On Wednesday, May 10, 1780, Lt. Colonel Alexander Hamilton wrote Baron Steuben: "We have heard from the Marquis. He will be here at dinner. Will you dine with us. The General requests it." Upon his arrival, Lafayette told Washington that a Naval Squadron would soon bring a French Expeditionary Force to America to support the cause of the United States. The news electrified patriotic Americans throughout the country.

On July 10, 1780, the French Expeditionary Force under General Rochambeau arrived off Newport, Rhode Island aboard a small flotilla of French warships and transports and sailed into the Harbor on July 11.

During the Spring and Summer of 1781, Lafayette successfully conducted the "Virginia Campaign" and entrapped Lord Cornwallis and 7,000 British regulars at Yorktown. In August of 1781, the French West Indian Fleet, under Admiral de Grasse, arrived in Chesapeake Bay and landed 3,000 troops commanded by the Marquis de St. Simon who was instructed to cooperate with Lafayette. The Fleet was soon joined by the Newport Squadron. Meanwhile, the French Expeditionary Force and the Continental Army under Washington and General Benjamin Lincoln of Hingham joined Lafayette's Continentals and militia and St. Simon's French troops in the vicinity of Yorktown.



The reconstructed *Hermione* returns to Boston in July 2015

The ensuing French blockade and allied siege ended with the British surrender on October 19, 1781. Yorktown was the last major engagement of the American Revolution and led to the Treaty of Paris in 1783 which guaranteed the independence of the United States.

### Lafayette Place Names

On June 30, 1780, the Virginia legislature passed a bill dividing the Kentucky territory into three counties, one of which it named "Fayette." This was the first of over 80 counties, cities, towns and townships named for Lafayette.

## Bostonians Celebrate Lafayette's Return

Abigail Adams to John Adams  
May 1, 1780

My Dearest Friend,  
Last week arrived at Boston the Marquis de la Fayette to the universal joy of all who know the Merit and Worth of that Nobleman. He was received with the ringing of Bells, firing of cannon, bon fires, etc.

Lafayette described his reception when he wrote his wife from Waterbury, Connecticut, on May 6, 1780

I disembarked after noon in the midst of an immense crowd. They welcomed me with the roar of guns, the ringing of all the city's bells, the music of a band that marched ahead of us, and the huzzas of all the people that surrounded us. In this way I was led to the house that the council and the assembly of representatives of Boston had prepared for me.

There was a deputation from these bodies to welcome me... In the evening the people gathered in front of my door and built a great bonfire with much cheering, which lasted until after midnight.

THOMAS'S Massachusetts Spy or, AMERICAN ORACLE of LIBERTY, 11 May, 1780, Volume X, Issue 470, Page 1

BOSTON, May 4

Last Friday arrived in this port the frigate *Le Hermoine*, His Excellency the Right Honorable the Marquis de la Fayette, Major General in the service of his Most Christian Majesty, and in the line of the United States: His arrival being made known by one of his aids, the joy, of the people at his revisiting the State, was fully demonstrated by his reception; he was congratulated on his safe arrival, by the supreme executive and legislative bodies, of the state then sitting, and was requested to denote the time and place of his landing, that he might be received agreeable to the exalted character of a Nobleman, who had suffered and bled in the cause of virtue and mankind, and

particularly for the independence of the United States; He politely returned his Civilities, and begged to be landed in a private manner. Notwithstanding, a large number of respectable gentlemen of the town, with a number of officers of the army, attended with the band of music, assembled on the grand pier impatiently expecting him, but to their disappointment he landed on Gen. Hancock's wharf.



Lafayette, Charles Willson Peale, c. 1778

The gentlemen of the sword determined to pay their devoirs to their commander and friend, repaired thither with the band, and escorted him to genteel lodgings prepared for him in State Street, amidst the salutations of cannon, the ringing of bells, the flying of colours, and the acclamations of the populace; where he was personally and publicly received by a committee of both Houses; the features of gratefulness were conspicuous in every countenance; and a vast and respectable concourse of people seemed to acknowledge their obligations to this great and disinterested Commander. —Soon after he had a conference with the General Assembly; when the present state of Europe respecting America was enquired into, and the Marquis's accounts received with applause. —In the evening a bonfire was made before his House, attended with a large display of fireworks from the balcony of the Exchange Tavern, where a respectable number of young gentlemen of the town convened, to denote their joy at his arrival, and their respect for his character...

[www.lafayettesocietyma.org](http://www.lafayettesocietyma.org) [www.w3r-us.org](http://www.w3r-us.org)

## Bill Kirchner's Lafayette Collection

by Jerry Meekins

The genesis of this particular article was a visit my wife, Irene and I made to the wonderful home of Phil and Barbara Schroeder in Nazareth, PA, over the Veteran's Day weekend November 11, 2017. Their home is a historic home that originally belonged to the Henry family, famous for the manufacturing of Pennsylvania long rifles. More importantly, their home is very comfortable, cozy and charming. Phil's and Barbara's hospitality was par excellence. We spent the weekend visiting very interesting places in and around the Bethlehem and Nazareth area. We also visited the home of Jayne Smiles and her late husband Will. We shared good food and better times. It was a very special weekend for Irene and me.

Shortly after we arrived, Phil shared with me a very interesting letter and package he had received from Linda Kirchner, wife of AFL President Emeritus, Bill Kirchner, who passed away on February 2, 2016. The package contained several dozen items from Bill's Lafayette collection. Needless to say, I was in awe. Phil informed me about how much Bill loved the AFL and its members. Phil reminisced about the fact that a highlight of meetings in those days was a table covered with printed items and memorabilia that Bill and Linda would bring with them from their home and Bill's book store in Chattanooga, TN. An inventory of the items sent by Linda, with several pictures, is attached. I took the pictures, and Phil compiled the inventory. The entire collection was then sent to Diane Shaw, Director of Special Collections and College Archivist at Lafayette College. As AFL Curator, Diane will examine Bill's collection and help decide what is the best for the collection.

Bill's collection is not the most important aspect of this article. As I have discussed with Phil, Bill's collection is only one part of his AFL legacy. His legacy is the man himself and what he meant to our organization. I regret that I did not know Bill Kirchner personally, nor do I believe I ever met him. Because of my passion for Lafayette and The American Friends of Lafayette, all I know about Bill is what Phil and others have told me and from what I have read in past AFL Gazettes.

Bill Kirchner was the AFL President from 2002 to 2008. There is a short biography in Gazette #65 (May 2003), reentered in Gazette #85 (Oct. 2016). In Gazette #85, there is a letter from Bill's son, Fred Kirchner, notifying the AFL of his father's passing on February 21, 2016. Also in Gazette #85, there is a poignant In Memoriam Bill Kirchner written by Robert Rhodes Crout, President Emeritus.

During Bill's six years as President, he arranged and supervised wonderful meetings in (chronological order) Georgetown SC (where Lafayette first landed in America), Pittsburgh PA, Alexandria VA/Washington D.C., Troy NY, Easton/Bethlehem PA, and Concord NH.

In addition to these six annual meetings and their associated events, the following are special highlights of Bill and Linda Kirchner's activity in AFL:

- Bill was instrumental in procuring the flag of the United States that flew over Lafayette's grave at Picpus Cemetery from July 7, 1980 to July 4, 1981, for the community and city of Lafayette, Ga.
- He presided over the Yorktown Day Ceremony in 2004 at the Monument to Alliance and Victory. AFL was the host organization for the Yorktown Day Association that year.
- He was the AFL President at the time of the Special 75th Anniversary Edition Gazette 1932-2007. This very notable and beautiful issue included messages from Bill as President and from the edition's editor producer, AFL member Janice Wolk.
- Bill's son, Fred, in his March 31, 2016 letter, informed the AFL that one of the proudest moments of his father's life was representing The American Friends of Lafayette, with his wife Linda, at a Washington DC White House dinner, hosted by President Bush for French President Sarkozy. This formal event, held on

November 6, 2007, celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the Marquis' birth and the assistance Lafayette provided to our young Republic during the War of Independence.

Bill Kirchner was a devoted student of General Lafayette and an avid collector of Lafayette printed material and memorabilia. It is also apparent to me that Bill was a dedicated and caring President of our very special organization. So, in conclusion, as you enjoy perusing through this wonderful Lafayette collection inventory and associated pictures, remember the man and his wife, who generously donated this collection to the AFL. I, for one, have a much better appreciation for our AFL founders, and our leaders, in this case, Bill Kirchner, and what they have meant to our wonderful organization. I know that the core of AFL is the membership. But, if it were not for people like Bill Kirchner, past leaders and most certainly our present leadership, the AFL would not be the vibrant and enriched organization it is.

Thank you Bill and Linda Kirchner

#### Bill Kirchner's Lafayette Collection Inventory

2 transmittal letters from Linda Kirchner, undated, received with box of materials she sent to Philip Schroeder, received on November 7, 2017, and with an envelope containing some additional items, received on November 13, 2017. #2692 & #3976 2 copies of Lafayette, Hero of Two Worlds, by Idzerda, Loveland, and Miller (one of the copies is autographed by the authors), 201 pages, 1989. #2677 1 copy Lafayette Alumni News, Winter 2008, contains article, "How Lafayette Lost His Sword." #2674  
1 copy Gazette of The American Friends of Lafayette Special 75 Anniversary Edition, th September 2007. #2672  
1 copy The Legacy of Lafayette, Fraunces Tavern Museum, 24 pages, 1984. #2678  
1 copy From La Fayette to D-Day Two Centuries of French-American Friendship, editions italiques, 64 pages, 1994. #2675  
2 copies A Son and His Adoptive Father – The Marquis de Lafayette and George Washington, by Messing, Rudder, and Shaw, 2006, one copy inscribed to the Kirchners by Diane Shaw. #2671  
1 copy Lafayette in America – A Selective List of Reading Materials in English, by Janina W. Hoskins – European Division, 38 pages, 1983. #2671  
1 copy Symbol in Two Worlds – Essays on Lafayette, published by AFL, 70 pages, 2013. #2671  
1 copy Yorktown 1781 – The Virginia Campaign and the Blockade and Siege of Yorktown 1781, by Colonel H. L. Landers, F.A, Historical Section, Army War College, 219 pages, 1931. #2663  
1 copy Oration of the Life and Character of Gilbert Motier De Lafayette Delivered at the Request of Both Houses of the Congress of the United States, Before them, In the House of Representatives at Washinton On the 31 of December, 1834 By John Quincy st Adams, A Member of the House, 94 pages, 1835. #2662  
1 copy The American Friends of Lafayette Roster as of March3, 1933, 111 pages, hardcover, 1933. #2661  
1 copy A Celebration of the Marquis de Lafayette in Bronze, Program for dedication of Lafayette statue at the Fayette County Court House, September 25, 2004. #2666  
1 copy Lafayette's Visit to Lexington – An Account of the General's Sojourn in the Bluegrass, May, 1825, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., signed by Coleman, 16 pages, 1969. #2680  
5 pages (cover pages and 3 photographs) detached from Flying for France With the American Escadrille at Verdun by James R. McConnell, Sergeant-Pilot in the French Flying Corps, 1917. #2664

Two 52-card decks of AFL playing cards, 1 red, 1 blue. #2658

2 lapel pins, each boxed and containing Lafayette's profile and date 1757-2007, and marked on the back "Made in Lafayette LA, STER TOP, NICKEL POST, C2006, Official Emblem of the MdeL Commemoration." One of the pins has a gold color finish and other a silver color finish. Linda Kirchner's cover letter states, "We received the two Lafayette Pins when we attended the White House reception as representatives of The American Friends of Lafayette Association in 2017(sic). I have another Lafayette Pin which is in our scrapbook from the above occasion." #2665

Lafayette portrait (Gilbert Stuart) print in 6x7 gold frame. #2658

7 assorted Lafayette prints, not in frames. #2658

12 assorted Lafayette First Day of Issue stamps. #2669

2 envelopes marked "200 Anniversary of La Fayette's visit to Bristol R.I." each with a th canceled Lafayette stamp from Bristol R.I. #2669

Program for "First Day of Issue of the Commemorative Stamp Honoring the 175th Anniversary of the Landing of the Marquis de Lafayette Near Georgetown, S.C." June 13, 1952. #2679

Invitation to "...celebrate the recent acquisition of the papers of the Marquis de Lafayette..." to the Cleveland State University Special Collections, May 21 (no year given) #2668

Photograph of Flanagan's AFL Lafayette medal, both front and reverse views, in a 10"x12" mat. #2681

9 detached pages from Lafayette by Lucy Foster Madison containing the title page, a list of illustrations, and seven illustrations by Frank E. Schoonover, 1921. #2670

Print of General Lafayette's Quarters Chadd's Ford Pennsylvania, in a 7"x9" gold frame. #2683

Print of General Lafayette's Quarters Chadd's Ford Pennsylvania, matted 8"x10". #2683

T shirt, "The American Revolution 225 Anniversary, Lighting Freedom's Flame, th Yorktown Virginia" blue, size medium. #2693

Program for White House ceremony honoring His Excellency Nicolas Sarkozy and commemorating the 250 Anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de Lafayette, th November 6, 2007, attended by AFL president Bill Kirchner and his wife Linda. #3977

3 photographs of Bill and Linda Kirchner at the November 6, 2007, ceremony honoring His Excellency Nicolas Sarkozy and commemorating the 250 Anniversary of the birth th of the Marquis de Lafayette. #3977

Ribbon containing image of Lafayette and wording "The Nation's Guest - Lafayette Visits America 1824-1825 - The Hermitage 1993." #3975

Ribbon (old, very fragile) containing wording "ILLINOIS - Taylorville Guard - Lafayette - 1886" #3975

One (only) cufflink with Lafayette image and an accompanying handwritten note reading "1895-1902, probably 1895, #pc-19-A, A pair of solid gold cufflinks using this die were made for Maquis (sic) de Chambrun in 1916, (who was Count Rene de Chambrun and the present owner of the Chateau at LaGrange in 1956." #3975

Seven 35mm photographic slides of Lafayette related sites and people. #3975

One 'Look 'n See' #34 youth trading card (1952?) with image of "Lafayette Military Hero" with very brief historical note and question on reverse. #3975

3 matchbook covers containing ads and images of: Lafayette Hotel (D.C.); Lafayette Hotel (Fayetteville NC); and The Lafayette Insurance Co., Lafayette Indiana. #3975

# The First Thanksgiving at Chavaniac

by Myriam Waze

Friday, November 24th, an unexpected event occurred in the small native village of Lafayette : The first celebration of Thanksgiving in Chavaniac-Lafayette. To recall that Lafayette had celebrated his first Thanksgiving in 1777 in the company of George Washington in Valley Forge, the Association Lafayette and Liberty wanted to commemorate this long-lasting tradition known since 1621.

The year 1917 was a historically important date for two reasons : the entry of the US into WW1 and the purchase of the birthplace of the Marquis. So it appeared obvious that 2017 was the year to celebrate French and American friendship by discovering the Thanksgiving tradition.

Joyce Good, our friend and member of the Lafayette and Liberty Association immediately joined this project and I remember her excitement and enthusiasm when I told her about our idea. "You mean Thanksgiving in Chavaniac? Do you think it will be possible ? " "Cur Non " as Lafayette would have answered! ! Thus we dashed into this uncertain challenge because I must say that our Auvergne friends are more addicted to Truffades and local Aligots composed of cheese, potatoes and sausage.

When at the beginning of November, Joyce presented the menu to them, they burst out of laughing, somewhat baffled "but the corn, here, we give it to the poultry not to the people! " But day after day, the idea made its way. Fortunately she had explained with much emotion what this celebration meant for her and its symbolic value in the United States. Let's say that, then, the hearts were won to the cause.



Some women agreed to be volunteers to prepare some American recipes for D Day or to cook the turkeys. On Tuesday, November 21st, the trunks of our cars full of utensils, dishes and specific ingredients, we arrived in Chavaniac. The day after, we completed the shopping, drove to a nearby butcher shop to get the eight organic turkeys we had ordered. In the afternoon Joyce gave to the volunteer cooks the ingredients, and some instructions about the best way to cook.



Joyce was suddenly afraid when she heard of the increasing number of people who had registered. She got nervous and really hoped that there would be enough waiters and waitresses. Would there be enough food for all, she wondered, feeling like Miles Standish when he saw so many Indians coming to share their first Thanksgiving together ?

Meanwhile, I had started the rehearsal of the short sketch intended to present in a lively way how the first historical Thanksgiving had taken place in 1621. Joëlle was happy to find some costumes to dress the Indians and the Pilgrims in black and austere clothes. Everyone found pleasure in coming back on the stage like last summer's performances in the castle.

Be assured that on the eve of D Day, the cooks were very busy in their kitchens between the various chores such as peeling the potatoes, preparing the pies, etc. The most important task was to find eight ovens to cook the turkeys in for four hours, but all the villagers did their best, and, on Friday at 2pm, Chef Joyce joined her brigade to give her last cooking instructions, to be followed strictly.

Special thanks to Estelle and Etienne from the local grocery-restaurant who cooked two turkeys and of course special thanks to Joyce, mistress of the ceremony, but also to Josette, a former cook, Arlette and Bernard, also a professional cook and former owner of the Family Hotel Lafayette of Chavaniac, Marie-Thérèse, Mireille, Sylvie, Annick Alba, Annick Roudière, Marie-Claude and of course André, Roger, Patrick, Allan, Christophe, Vincent, Gilbert, etc.

What excitement in the Village Hall from 5 pm when the tables and chairs were arranged, and decorated with some autumn leaves and nice coloured plates, glasses and napkins. Finally, ninety two people came that evening to celebrate this first Thanksgiving. Joyce explained the tradition, presented the menu, and read the usual blessing.

Then the show could begin with the following actors : Alain, Vincent, Pierre, Audrey, Gilbert, Cédric, Kyllian, Allan, Annick, Loïse and me. Sylvie played the drum, creating an Indian atmosphere, bringing us back to the XVII century. A quiz prepared by Joyce, some Indian music and contemporary traditional songs entertained the guests.

The first Chavaniac-Lafayette Thanksgiving was launched ! And in the opinion of all, it could also be repeated next year, as it was a big success.

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## **Letter to the Editor**

It appears that you and the AFL have overdone yourselves with the production of the latest *Gazette*. Congrats to you, Chuck and all the other staff and contributors. It is a joy to know that the AFL is in great hands and thriving. - From Ruth Major to Alan Hoffman

## Exclusive AFL Member Hotel Deals in France

In 2015, The American Friends of Lafayette hosted a trip to France where we visited many sites relating to the life of Lafayette. During our stay in Paris, we stayed at the lovely Clos Notre Dame owned by AFL members Monique and Franck Thiebaut.

Monique and Franck would like to offer a boat cruise on the Seine and a welcome glass of Champagne for every AFL member who stays in one of their Parisian hotels.

They have two hotels in Paris that qualify for this generous and exclusive offer:

1. The Hotel le Clos Notre Dame, in Paris, 6th district, in the Latin Quarter, close to Notre Dame cathedral. The website is [www.leclosnotredame.com](http://www.leclosnotredame.com)
2. [The Hotel Delos Vaugirard, in Paris, 15th district, not far from the Eiffel Tower.](http://www.hoteldelosparis.fr) The website is [www.hoteldelosparis.fr](http://www.hoteldelosparis.fr)

If some wish to discover the French Alps, Monique, Franck and their son Alban will also be happy to welcome you at The Hotel et restaurant de La Verniaz et ses chalets, in Evian les Bains (38 kms from Geneva). The website is [verniaz.com](http://verniaz.com)

Please feel free to contact Monique ([moniquethiebaut2@wanadoo.fr](mailto:moniquethiebaut2@wanadoo.fr)) and/or Franck ([fthiebaut2@orange.fr](mailto:fthiebaut2@orange.fr)) for details.



## President Macron's State Visit to Washington D.C.

By Julien Icher



The Presidential Couples at the White House pavilion © Julien Icher

From April 23<sup>rd</sup> to April 25<sup>th</sup>, French President Emmanuel Macron and first lady Brigitte Macron were in Washington D.C. for the first state visit under the Trump administration. Less than two weeks after a successful surgical strike jointly conducted by France, the United States and the United Kingdom against the chemical labs of the Syrian regime of Bashar Al Assad, the visit of the President of France offered a unique opportunity to reaffirm the values fueling the mechanics of our two democracies.

A state visit is the highest diplomatic option available to invite a foreign head of state for a formal trip. When a state visit brings together the leaders of France and of the United States on American soil, the formal dimension is sublimated by the interwoven course of our national destinies, both independently revolving around democratic principles.

As the nation's capital, Washington D.C. contains the core institutions of the United States federal government, where many battles have added their contribution to universal freedom safeguarded by the rule of law.

This three-day place-based transnational narrative is a living tribute to French-American longstanding friendship and the nation builders accounting for it. The locations singled out to host the leaders of France and of the United States exemplify that when it comes to the French-American friendship, personal relationships between friends are equally as important as the ever-lasting political bond between two nations.

### **I. A three-day visit strongly imbued by Lafayette and the memory of his actions**

On Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> early in the afternoon, the presidential aircraft landed at Andrews Air Force base, in the state of Maryland, where the United States had prepared the red carpet for the French President and his wife. Shortly after the President attended a performance of the two national anthems and addressed the press, the entire delegation was conducted to downtown D.C inside a motorcade advancing at breakneck speed.

The delegation was taken to the U.S. President's Guest House (Blair House) where President Macron addressed all in attendance and personally met with every member.



Julien Icher speaking to French President Emmanuel Macron. ©Julien Icher

President Macron was then taken to the White House where he participated in a tree-planting ceremony alongside his American counterpart. This oak epitomizes the commitment for universal liberty that binds our countries together. It originates from the Belleau Wood, a World War I battlefield where it took 10,000 American casualties and losses to wipe out the German positions. The tree also has a personal connection to President Macron, as the town of Belleau is located not far away from Amiens, his hometown.



<https://theunitedstatesblues.com/twitter-shreds-trump-for-tree-planting-ceremony-with-french-president/>

The tree contains a myriad of intertwined realities. First, it is a gift of the people of France coming from a place whose liberty was won mostly with American blood. It is only logical that its final destination be the lawn of the White House, where the branches of liberty that it represents will root deep in US soil. Second,

the tree personifies a common understanding of what French-American friendship is about; that is, a framework where personal friendship and national destinies overlap to set a common course toward universal freedom.

French-American friendship is a continuum of cooperation capitalizing on the past alliances we have nurtured since the beginning of our diplomatic relations. Mount Vernon, where a private dinner occurred on that evening, is a venue to memories evoked by significant memorabilia such as the Key of the Bastille that Lafayette offered Washington after the French people stormed into the Bastille. At Mount Vernon, the legacy of Lafayette is unmistakable. From the 1784 visit to the 3-year trip of George Washington Lafayette (1795 - 1798) to the several visits to the estate during Lafayette's Farewell Tour in 1824, the place is strongly imbued with Lafayette memories.

## II. President Macron and the popular consciousness of the United States

On Tuesday morning, I had the great honor of being invited to the White House where I stood next to Christine Lagarde, head of the IMF, not so far from Jamie McCourt, US Ambassador to France and Mike Pence, Vice-president of the United States. It was the first time I got to enter the White House. In their speech, both leaders strongly emphasized the pivotal role played by Lafayette in helping to found this country as a free and sovereign nation.



Presidents Trump and Macron at the White House © Julien Icher

President Macron drilled down on the Farewell Tour whereas President Trump stressed the sacrifice of Arnaud Beltrame, the law enforcement officer of the Gendarmerie Nationale who turned himself over to the ISIS-inspired terrorist near Carcassonne, France. Born and having grown up in Carcassonne, being at the White House as part of the official French delegation on a state visit, listening to the President of the United States paying tribute to M. Beltrame's heroic actions, is nearly impossible to describe; for emotions overwhelmed me. Once again, realities at different scales dovetailed to convey a one-of-a-kind impression of bliss.

Wednesday morning had President Macron address a joint session of Congress at the United States Capitol, where, once again, a mention of Lafayette was made. General Lafayette was the first foreign dignitary

to ever address a joint session of Congress on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1824. Even though Lafayette addressed Congress *extempore*, his draft emphasized freedom as the most powerful political concept and commended Washington D.C as the direct expression of American democracy.

*“You have been pleased, Mr Speaker to allude to the peculiar felicity of my situation when after so long an absence, I am called to witness the immense improvemens (sic), the admirable communications, the prodigious creations of which we find an example in this city whose name itself is a venerated palladium, in a word all the grandeur and prosperity of the Happy United States who at the same time they (...) secure the complete (... of) American Independence (sic) reflect on every part of the world the light of superior political civilisation.”*

### **Lafayette’s address to a joint session of Congress, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1824**

© Fondation Josée et René de Chambrun

Almost two hundred years later and sixty years to the day after General de Gaulle delivered a speech to Congress, President Macron again praised Washington D.C. and reaffirmed the same visceral attachment to universal liberty in his speech. At the beginning of President Macron’s address, a standing ovation was given to one of the three World War II veterans who were awarded the French Legion d’Honneur (the highest public honor given by France) one day earlier at the French Embassy, when President Macron returned from Arlington Cemetery in Virginia.



First Lady Brigitte Macron saluting World War II veterans. © Julien Icher

The Belleau Wood Oak, the World War II veterans and the visit to Arlington Cemetery all tap into conflicts where American blood was spilled on French soil in the defense of liberty. But the indefatigable stand of the United States for peace and liberty abroad is only as important as its domestic struggle to enforce the Civil War achievements enshrined in the law of the land. While the XIII<sup>th</sup>, XIV<sup>th</sup> and XV<sup>th</sup> amendments provided a confident path forward for American principles, the Supreme Court’s decision *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896 represented a serious setback for the African-American community that would only be reversed in the 1950s and 1960s thanks to the Civil Rights movement.

President Macron is a strong advocate for universal freedom. On Wednesday morning, he was accompanied by Congressman John Lewis (from the 5<sup>th</sup> district of Georgia), one of the six leaders of the Civil

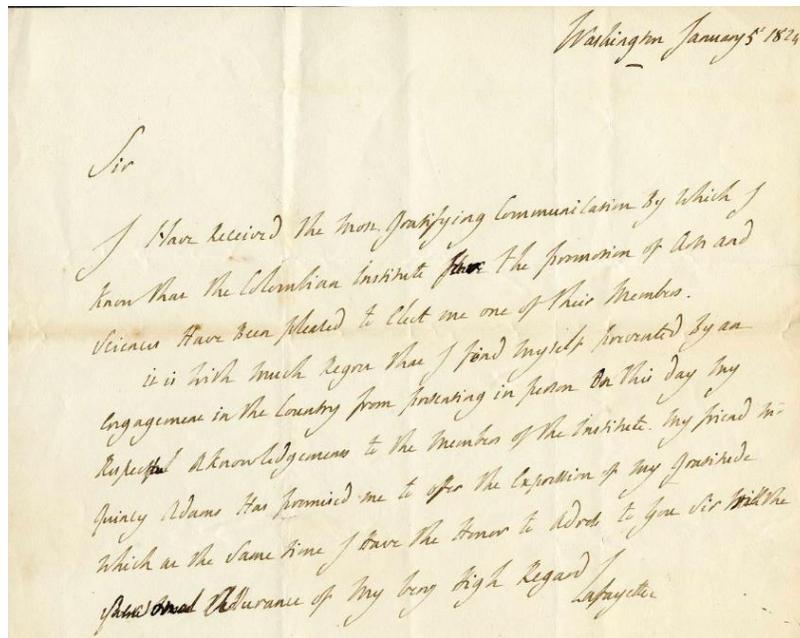
Rights movement, to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. Not only did this decision to visit the Memorial mark a profound interest in American history but it also can be considered a token of respect for American Democracy and the results that it can achieve for all its citizens through hard work and dedication.

### III. The town hall meeting at George Washington University

President Macron's townhall at George Washington University taps into French-American political and cultural cooperation, mostly accounted for by the 67-year-old Lafayette's actions.

General Lafayette, coming back to the United States for the fourth and last time in 1824-1825, wintered in Washington D.C. before setting off for his trip to the southernmost and westernmost states of the Union. He was approached by prominent cultural organizations such as Columbian College (present-day's George Washington University) and the Columbian Institute for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences (1816-1838).

Lafayette attended the very first commencement ceremony at George Washington University on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1824. He was entertained on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1825 at the Williamson Hotel (present-day's Willard Hotel where part of the French delegation stayed during the state visit). On January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1825, the Columbian Institute for the Promotion of Arts and Sciences made *in absentia* Lafayette a honorary member of the society. John Quincy Adams, in his memoirs, recalls the moment when he picked up the certificate from the institute and handed it over to Lafayette later the same day at a dinner held at the house of Mr. Joel Roberts Poinsett, a US representative from South Carolina.



Washington January 5<sup>th</sup> 1825

Sir

I have received the most gratifying communication by which I know that the Columbian Institute ~~has~~ the promotion of Arts and Sciences have been pleased to elect me one of their members. It is with much regret that I find myself prevented by an engagement in the country from presenting in person on this day my respectful acknowledgements to the members of the Institute. My friend Mr. Quincy Adams has promised me to offer the expression of my gratitude which at the same time I have the honor to address to you Sir with the assurance of my very high regard

Lafayette

Letter from the Marquis de Lafayette to Asbury Dickens, Secretary of the Columbian Institute, January 5, 1825, Smithsonian Institution Archives.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The year indicated is wrong. Probably used to writing 1824 on every letter he had sent hitherto, Lafayette specified writing this letter on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1824. At this time, he had not left France yet.

On Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, President Macron engaged with students eager to better understand his political agenda as well as the mechanism through which he gained traction as one of the main leaders of the free world.



President Macron listening to a student at George Washington University © Julien Icher

At the end of the exercise, President Macron headed towards the exit amidst a crowd of students decked out with digital devices desirous to capture this unique moment on their personal cellphones. As he was walking by me, he briefly stopped and instead of bidding me farewell, expressed his desire to move forward on the Lafayette Trail. “On continue nous! Lafayette est avec nous.”<sup>2</sup> were his words.

France and the United States have come to each other’s rescue for more than 240 years. While President Trump calls the French-American relationship unbreakable, President Macron considers it family. Even though the 1778 Treaty of Paris remains the first official diplomatic act between France and the United States, one must always keep in mind that untamed passion has turned out to be the driving force more than once.

Lafayette fitted out the frigate *La Victoire* in secrecy with his own funds in 1777, sailing toward certain trouble, yet equipped with an unwavering mindset in the defense of liberty that would eventually lead to a free and sovereign nation. In 1916, American pilots came together and formed The La Fayette Escadrille, which predated any official actions taken by the American government in support of the Allied forces.

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<sup>2</sup>Translates to: “We will continue! Lafayette is with us.”

From James Armistead Lafayette's decisive actions at Yorktown in 1781 to Bernard LaFayette, Jr.'s<sup>3</sup> during the Civil Rights movement, the name Lafayette has proactively shaped many marches toward freedom.

Very few other countries enjoy such a framework of confidence and partnership based on a set of shared values. The state visit of President Macron brought him to places also visited by Lafayette such as the White House, the United States Capitol, Mount Vernon and George Washington University. The visit to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial echoes the lifelong commitment of General Lafayette to universal freedom. While mostly revolving around the heads of state in attendance, a state visit between France and the United States breaks down to the intimacy of our two national histories and the celebration of our repeated commitments to freedom.

At age 24, I was the youngest member of the delegation. Those three days were probably the most important ones of my life so far. The invitation was an honor bestowed not only upon me but also on my family by the President. I do not enjoy the privilege of having my grandparents alive, but I know all of them would have been very proud of this accomplishment. I had the great honor of flying in the presidential aircraft, of meeting the President of the French Republic in person, the first lady, as well as Civil Rights movement leader John Lewis, with whom I briefly discussed Lafayette's Farewell Tour and the stops made across Georgia, just after President Macron addressed a joint session of Congress. Only a state visit can bring to one place so many important actors of French-American friendship. Being invited to this event is a wonderful recognition of my interest and work on General Lafayette, a personality of French-American friendship who 241 years after he first set foot in America still cannot be ignored.

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<sup>3</sup>Bernard LaFayette, Jr. has been a Civil Rights Movement activist, minister, educator, lecturer, and is an authority on the strategy on nonviolent social change. He co-founded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 1960. He was a leader of the Nashville Movement, 1960 and on the Freedom Rides, 1961 and the 1965 Selma Movement. He directed the Alabama Voter Registration Project in 1962, and he was a leader of the Nashville Movement, 1960 and on the Freedom Rides, 1961 and the 1965 Selma Movement. He directed the Alabama Voter Registration Project in 1962, and he was appointed National Program Administrator for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and National Coordinator of the 1968 Poor Peoples' Campaign by Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition, Dr. LaFayette has served as Director of Peace and Justice in Latin America; Chairperson of the Consortium on Peace Research, Education and Development; Director of the PUSH Excel Institute; and minister of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tuskegee, Alabama.

<https://amydillonv.wordpress.com/calendar/2-day-workshop-introduction-to-the-principles-and-practices-of-nonviolence/dr-bernard-lafayette-jr-biography/>

**A LISTING OF STATUES WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION  
DEDICATED TO THE HONOR OF LAFAYETTE**

**Compiled by: Andy Golbert  
American Friends of Lafayette  
Lafayette College 1965  
April 2018**

**INTRODUCTION**

As part of my collection of Lafayette memorabilia, I have several postcards and pictures showing statues of Lafayette, which are located in France and the United States. I noticed that two of the images showed different equestrian statues that had been in the same courtyard of the Louvre in Paris. My curiosity was piqued, and I decided to find an answer to this anomaly. My search opened a Pandora's Box of several "mysteries", relative to his statues, their locations, and their sculptors. I discovered some interesting sidelights, interesting at least to me.

I decided "Why Not" and began to compile a listing of life-size or larger statues of Lafayette, created to honor the "Hero of Two Worlds" and "The Nation's Guest." When I could not find information on the internet, I contacted historical societies, town officers, museum curators, and they were eager to fill in the facts I needed. Their names and my thanks are added at the end of this listing.

If there are any larger statues that I missed, I apologize, and hope you will contact me with the relevant information: [brklynvt@comcast.net](mailto:brklynvt@comcast.net).

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6. 1895, December 1, Paris, France, Place Des États-Unis
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8. 1900, July 4, Paris, France, Courtyard of the Louvre, "Children's Statue"
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2. Burlington, VT, postcard, ABG
3. Le Puy, France, postcard, ABG
4. Lafayette, Indiana, internet
5. Washington, D.C., internet
6. Paris, Place Des États-Unis, postcard, ABG
7. Morningside Park, NYC, postcard, ABG
8. 1900 Bartlett statue at the Louvre, plaster, postcard, ABG
  - 8a 1908 Bartlett replacement statue at the Louvre, postcard, ABG
  - 8b 1908 Bartlett statue at its present location on the Seine, internet
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17. Los Angeles, California, Calisphere.org
18. Versailles, France, original statue, 1937, ABG
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19. Easton, Pennsylvania, Lafayette College, (LC #2) internet
20. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Art Museum, Memory Spaces.org
21. LaGrange, Georgia, Wiki Media.org
22. Havre de Grace, Maryland, internet
23. Fayetteville, North Carolina, internet
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25. Lafayette, California, Waymarking Images
26. Metz, France, 2004, (Metz #2), internet
27. Saint-Avold, France, Saint-Avold Archives
28. York, Pennsylvania, website
29. Morristown, New Jersey, website
30. Yorktown, Virginia, AFL

1. The oldest statue honoring Lafayette stands in Union Square Park, at Park Avenue South and East 16th Street in New York City. It was cast in 1873, and dedicated on September 6, 1876 on the 119th anniversary of Lafayette's birth. It was sculpted by Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi (1834-1904), who also designed the Statue of Liberty. The Union Square statue was given as a token of appreciation from the French government in thanks for the aid New York sent to Paris during the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71). The granite pedestal was designed by H.W. DeStuckle and was donated by French citizens living in New York.



Bartholdi also designed the Morningside Park (N.Y.C.) statue, and its original at the Place Des États-Unis, Paris, France.

*Union Square, NYC, Andrew B. Golbert Lafayette Collection*

**Sources:**

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/union-square-park/monuments/884>

<https://untappedcities.com/2014/05/09/seeing-double-bartholdis->

[lafayette-and-washington/](#)

2. Lafayette visited Vermont from June 28-29, 1825. He was greeted by Revolutionary War veterans, and laid the cornerstone of Old Mill at the University of Vermont. His statue, dedicated in 1883 stands on the campus green. The statue was designed by John Quincy Adams Ward. Originally, the statue stood in front of Old Mill. It was moved to the north end of the green to make way for a statue of Ira Allen, founder of UVM.



**Source:**

*Lafayette In Vermont,*  
Grace Canfield, 1934

Mary

*Burlington, VT., postcard, ABG Lafayette Collection*

3. The earliest statue of Lafayette in France (1883) is at Le Puy-en-Velay, Haute-Loire. It is located in the downtown square and cannot be missed as most traffic circulates around it. The statue was designed by Ernest-Eugène Hiolle. During World War II, the Nazis had removed this statue from its pedestal, and stored it in a truck. It was to be melted down for bullets. Before the Germans were able to remove it, partisans hand carried the statue five miles, and buried it in a barn where it remained until the war ended.

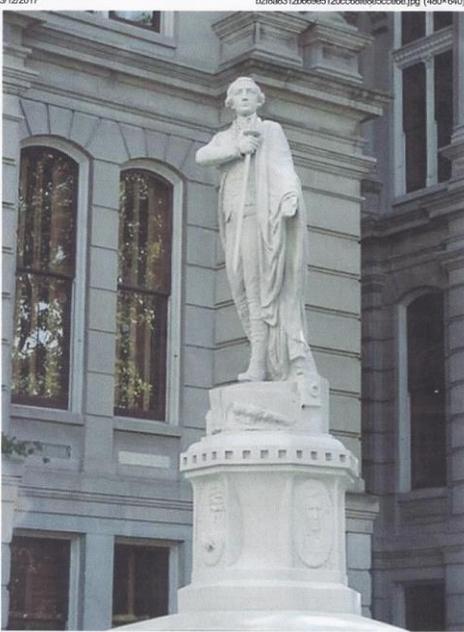


*Le Puy, France, postcard, ABG*

**Source:**

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

4. The Lafayette, Indiana statue was dedicated in 1887 at a cost of \$2,200 and was designed by Lorado Taft. It is presently located on the grounds of the beautiful Tippecanoe County Courthouse and is part of the Lafayette Fountain.



Originally located at Fourth and Main Streets it was moved to the Courthouse lawn in 1936. It remained there until 1973, when it was moved again and installed as the centerpiece of the fountain plaza.

Lafayette, Indiana was founded in 1825, after Lafayette's visit to the area.

Minor mystery resolved. Some sources describe the three figures in the pediment (low pitched gable on the front of some buildings in the Grecian style of architecture) of the Courthouse as William Henry Harrison, Lafayette, Tecumseh, George Rogers Clark and George Washington. The correct identification is: Clark, Washington and Tecumseh.

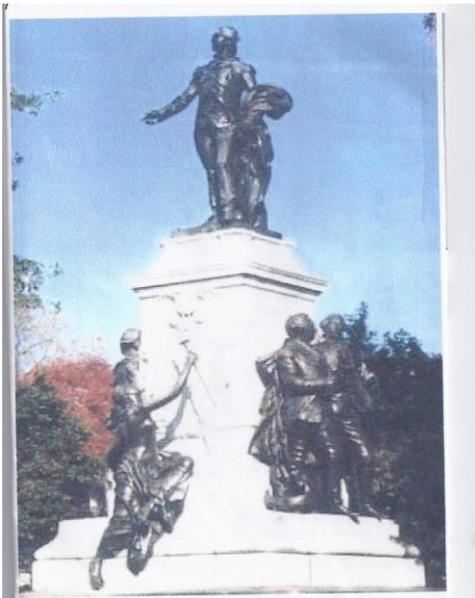
*Lafayette, Indiana, internet*

**Sources:**

Alemeda McCollough Research Library, Lafayette, Ind.

100 Years of the Courthouse, Larry Shumpert, 1982, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LaFayette\\_Fountains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LaFayette_Fountains).

5. The memorial to Lafayette at Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C. was dedicated in 1891. It was designed by Jean Falguière and Marius Mercié. Additional figures on this statue are Admiral Comte de Grasse, Admiral Comte d'Estaing, General Vicomte Rochambeau and Continental General Duportail, Frenchmen who were instrumental in the Yorktown campaign



*Washington, D.C. internet*

**Sources:**

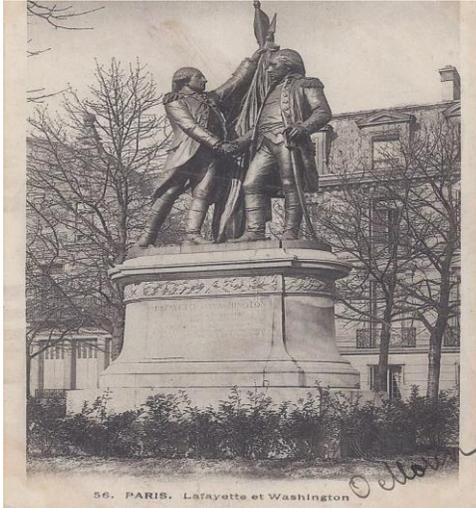
<https://untappedcities.com/2014/05/09/seeing-double-bartholdis-lafayette-and-washington/>

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

6. Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi's statue of Lafayette and Washington at Morningside Park, New York City, is a copy of the one that stands at the Place des États-Unis in Paris, France. It was dedicated December 1, 1895. The monument was commissioned by Joseph Pulitzer, editor of the New York World, to create a statue which would stand as an example of Franco-American friendship. After being exhibited at the Champs Elysee Salon of 1892, and the Columbian Exposition, in Chicago in 1893, Pulitzer offered the work to the City of Paris. The dedication was attended by the artist and a representative of the Lafayette family.

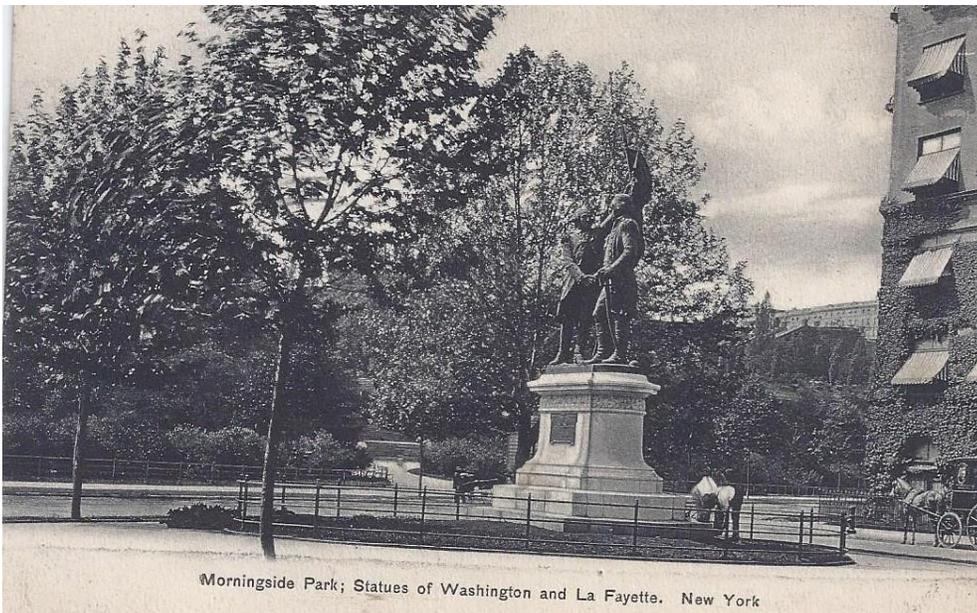
**Source:**

<http://untappedcities.com/2014/05/09/seeing-double-bartholdis-lafayette-and-washington>



*Paris, Place Des Etats-Unis, postcard, ABG*

7. Morningside Park at 114th Street is the site of New York City's second Lafayette statue also by Bartholdi. It was dedicated on April 19, 1900, and is a replica of the statue at the Place des États-Unis in Paris. Charles Rouss, a New York merchant, was the purchaser and donated it to New York City. The statue depicts Lafayette and Washington draped in the flags of the United States and France.



*Morningside Park, NYC, postcard, ABG*

**Source:**

<https://untappedcities.com/2014/05/09/seeing-double-bartholdis-lafayette-and-washington/>

8. The “mystery” of the statue at the Louvre, in Paris.

Pictures of this statue show two different designs (8 & 8a.) Initially, I could not find any information on the internet to explain the contradiction. Paul Wayland Bartlett (American, 1865-1925) was the sculptor of both statues. Intended as a gift to France, the funding came from American school children, penny by penny, towards the sum of \$50,000. The statue became known as the “Children’s Statue”. It was scheduled to be unveiled at the Exposition Universelle in Paris, July 4, 1900, and was to be placed in the Court of Napoleon at the Louvre. The schedule for delivery could not be met, so a plaster model was literally cobbled together in order to satisfy the deadline. Plaques affixed to the sides of the statue proclaim in French and English:

ERECTED  
BY THE  
SCHOOL CHILDREN  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
IN  
GRATEFUL MEMORY  
OF  
LAFAYETTE  
STATESMAN  
SOLDIER  
PATRIOT

Bartlett’s original design (pic #8) was used on the reverse of the Lafayette dollar, the first one dollar commemorative commissioned by the U.S. Mint. It was also the first U.S. coin depicting the same person twice on a single coin (Lafayette on obverse and reverse), and first to depict a president, George Washington, on a U.S. coin. The dollar was struck in 1899, but with a 1900 date (very controversial at the time) to coincide with the Paris Exposition. The intent was to sell the coins at \$2. each and to have them available for sale at the Expo. The Mint struck 50,026 Lafayette dollars of which 14,000 were unfortunately melted in 1945. Depending on condition these coins can be worth from \$250 to \$18,000!

Back to the “mystery”. Picture #8 shows the original plaster statue, while 8a shows a different statue at the Place du Carrousel at the Louvre. Partially due to the haste in designing and producing the statue, Bartlett was dissatisfied with his effort and decided to make several changes. The three cornered hat was discarded as was Lafayette’s overcoat, the positioning of his arm and sword were changed and a different model of horse was used. The “new” statue, in bronze, was installed in 1908 at the Louvre.

The story continues: unveiled in 1900, gifted to France in 1908, the statue was moved to its present location on Cours Albert on the right bank of the Seine near the Grand Palais in 1983, to make room for the Pyramid in the Louvre courtyard.

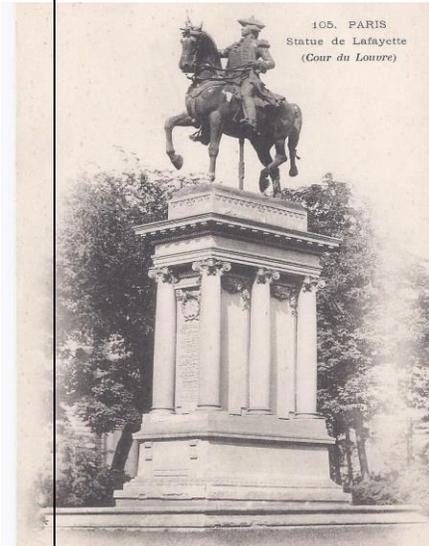
Mystery solved, or not?

Several inaccuracies in identifying the statues confused me in my research. Also, an equestrian statue of George Washington located at the Place d'Iena in Paris on July 3, 1900, was dedicated one day before the Lafayette statue. I have several pictures which identify the Washington statue as Lafayette and vice versa, adding to the confusion. I believe, but cannot confirm, that in 1954, the Lafayette statue, and several others were moved within the grounds of the Louvre to open up a scenic vista. Postcards and pictures show several different bases as it seems new pedestals were constructed during the moves.

The "mystery" of the turtle.

A turtle appears on the base of the statue itself, below the belly of the horse near the rear hooves, picture 8c. There are several theories for this - was Bartlett dissatisfied with the length of time it took to replace the original plaster (1900-1908), or as suggested was he expressing his frustration at the length of time it took to be paid his commission? Only Bartlett knows and he is not talking.

The identical "new" statue was installed in Metz, Moselle, France (Metz #1) in 1920 (no turtle) and in Hartford, Connecticut in 1932 (with turtle).



Picture 8  
1900 Bartlett statue-Louvre,  
plaster, postcard, ABG



Picture 8a  
1908 Bartlett replacement  
statue- Louvre, postcard, ABG



Picture 8b 1908  
Bartlett statue now  
located on the Seine



Picture 8c  
Bartlett's Turtle

*The Lafayette Memorial Commission  
invites your assistance in the dedication of  
the monument to General Lafayette  
presented to the Republic of France  
by the children of the United States.*

*Dedication exercises 10:30 A. M. July  
4th, 1900, Square Lafayette, Carrousel du  
Louvre, Paris.*

IMP. LEMERCIER, PARIS.



*The Lafayette Memorial Commission  
a l'honneur de vous inviter à la Cérémonie  
d'Inauguration du Monument  
du Général Lafayette offert  
à la République Française par  
les Enfants des États-Unis.*

*La Cérémonie d'Inauguration aura lieu le 4 Juillet 1900.  
à 10 heures ½ du matin au Carrousel du Louvre (Square Lafayette)*

IMP. LEMERCIER PARIS

PRÉSENTER CETTE INVITATION POUR L'ENTRÉE DANS L'ENCEINTE

French/English invitation to unveiling of Bartlett's original plaster, July 4, 1900, ABG

**Sources for #8:**

Chicago Tribune, January 20, 1954

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louvre\\_Palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louvre_Palace)

<http://paris-bise-art.blogspot.com>

[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMF96N\\_Childrens\\_Statue\\_of\\_Lafayette\\_Paris\\_France](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMF96N_Childrens_Statue_of_Lafayette_Paris_France)

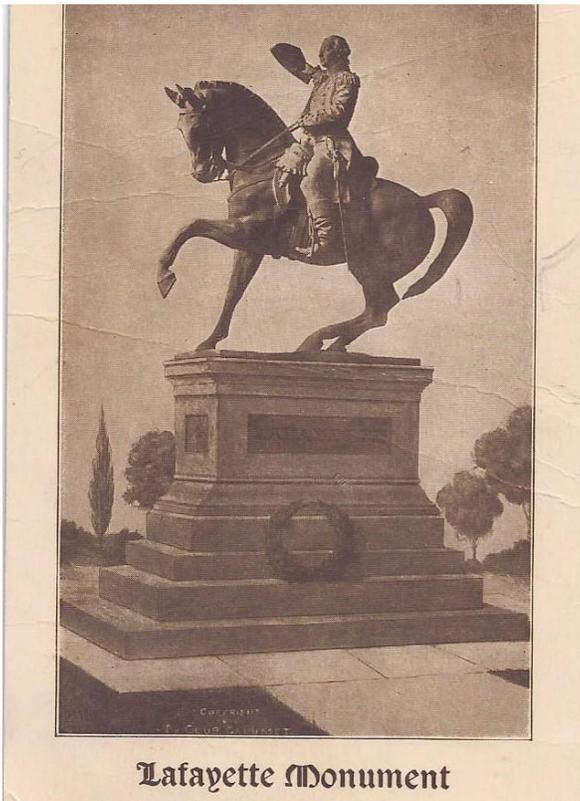
[http://www.coolstuffinparis.com/george\\_washington\\_in\\_paris.php](http://www.coolstuffinparis.com/george_washington_in_paris.php)

[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMF96E\\_Marquis\\_de\\_Lafayette\\_Paris\\_France](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMF96E_Marquis_de_Lafayette_Paris_France)

*Commemorative Coins of the U.S.*, Q. David Bowers, pages 113-120

Photo of Statue of Lafayette in Paris, Societe Industrielle.

9. The equestrian statue of Lafayette at Fall River, Massachusetts was dedicated in 1916. It was presented to Fall River by its citizens of French descent. Sculptors were Ettore and Arnaldo Zocchi. It is located in Lafayette Park at Court Street and Eastern Avenue.



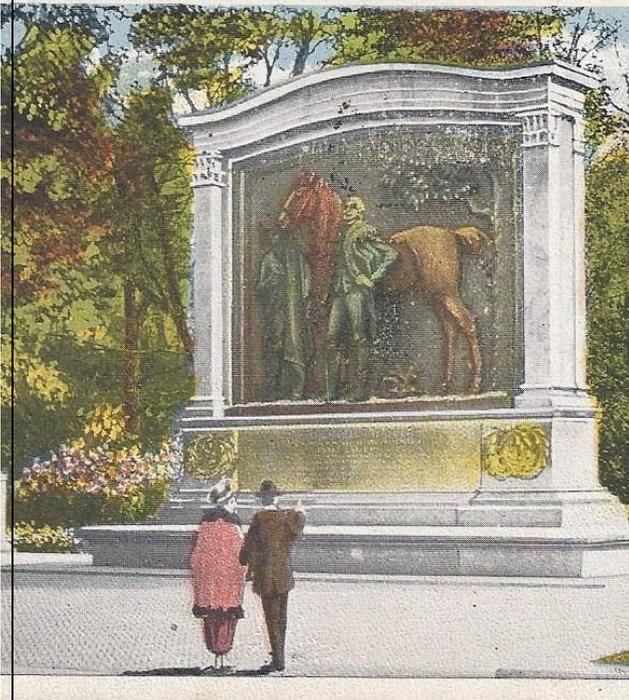
Fall River, Massachusetts, postcard, ABG

**Source:**

[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMEHJ0\\_Major\\_General\\_Lafayette\\_Fall\\_River\\_MA](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMEHJ0_Major_General_Lafayette_Fall_River_MA)

10. New York's third Lafayette statue is located in Prospect Park in Brooklyn. The sculptor was Daniel Chester French (1850-1931) who also designed the statue (pix 13) at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania. It was dedicated on May 10, 1917.

Lafayette Monument, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.



The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation does not credit the other person depicted in the design. Strange? It is undoubtedly James “Armistead,” a slave whose master allowed him to join Lafayette to aid in the defeat of the British. James spied for the Americans from within Cornwallis’ camp. He masqueraded as a double agent providing false information to the British, about the plans of the American Army. James provided valuable intelligence contributing to the victory at Yorktown. As a tribute to Lafayette, James adopted the last name “Lafayette”. A letter from the General revealing James’ contribution to the Am., postcard, ABGerican cause, resulted in his being freed by the State of Virginia, January 9, 1787

Prospect Park, NYC., postcard ABG

**Source:**

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/prospect-park/monuments/883>

11. The Louvre is also the site of a standing statue of Lafayette. It is located in an alcove in the Rohan-Rivoli Wing. The artist is Jean-Pierre Gras and it was dedicated in 1917. A duplicate of this statue is on the campus of Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania (picture #19).

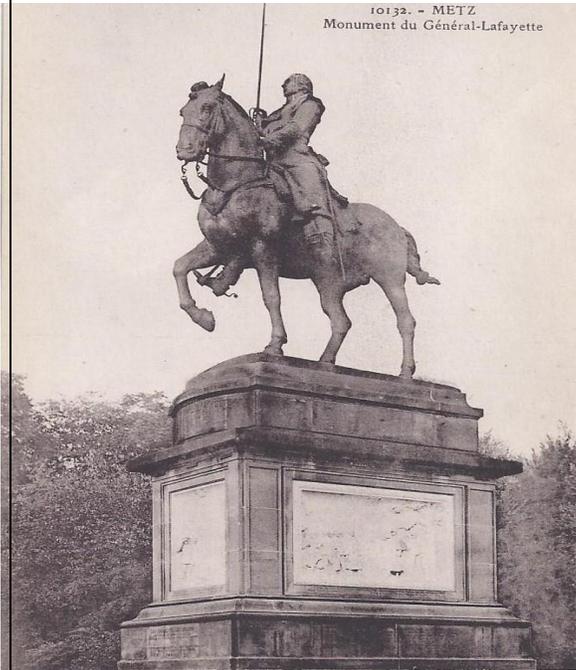


**Source:**

<http://marquisdelafayette-memoryspaces.org/z2-france-europe/>

Louvre, Rohan-Rivoli Wing, internet

12. Metz, Moselle, France. In 1920 the Knights of Columbus dedicated a statue by Paul Wayland Bartlett. It was identical to his Louvre (picture #8a) statue. In 1932 an additional copy was used in Hartford, Connecticut. Unfortunately, in 1941, during World War II, the Metz statue was destroyed by the Nazis. See picture #26 for the “new” Metz statue (Metz #2).



Metz, France, 1920, (Metz #1), postcard, ABG

**Source:**

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

13. Daniel Chester French, who had designed the Prospect Park Statue, also designed a Lafayette statue at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania. This was dedicated in 1921 and stands outside Colton Chapel. As an undergraduate, I remember this statue more often without the sword, rather than with it.



**Source:**

*Story of a College - Lafayette*, Vol II, David Skillman, 1932

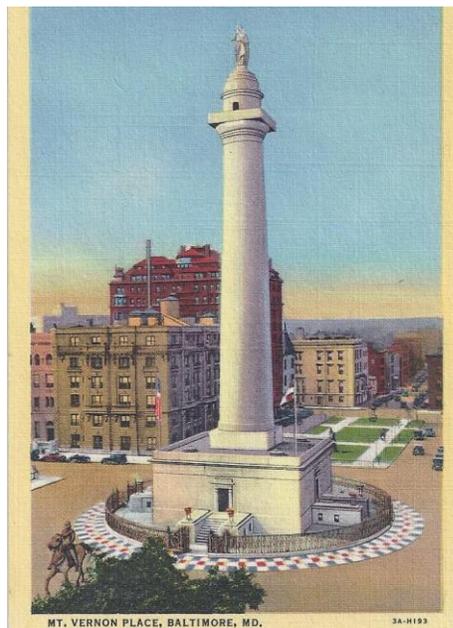
Easton, Pennsylvania, Lafayette College, (LC#1), ABG

14. Baltimore, Maryland’s tribute to Lafayette was dedicated September 6, 1924. The equestrian statue is located next to a monument to George Washington at Mt. Vernon Place between the Peabody Conservatory and the Walters Art Gallery. The sculptor was Andrew O’Connor ( 1874-1941). The

statue was cast at T.F. McGann & Sons Co. Foundry, Boston, MA. Lafayette's statue (picture 14a) is but a fly as compared to Washington's grand spire.



Baltimore,  
ABG



Baltimore, MD Lafayette statue  
Compared to G.W. spire,  
postcard, ABG

MD, postcard,

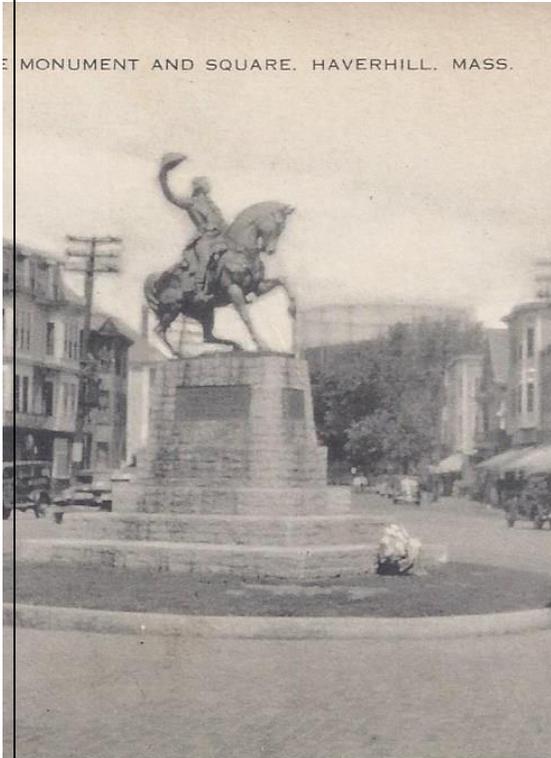
**Sources:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafayette\\_Monument](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafayette_Monument)

The American Magazine of Art - May 1923

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.ht](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.ht)

15. In 1932, an equestrian statue of Lafayette was dedicated at Haverhill, Massachusetts. It is located at Lafayette Square in the center of town. The sculptor was Arnaldo Zocchi ( who co sculptured the Fall River, Mass. statue). This work seems to duplicate the one at Fall River, Massachusetts.



Haverhill, MA, postcard, ABG

**Source:**

<http://marquisdelafayette-memoryspaces.org/massachusetts-ma/>

16. The statue in Hartford, Connecticut was dedicated in 1932. It is a replica of the Louvre statue (picture 8a) and the Metz statue (picture 12), by Paul Wayland Bartlett . After a short move in 1979, it is now located at the intersection of Capital Avenue and Washington and Lafayette Streets, across from the state capital building. Frances Storrs donated \$20,000 to make the bronze casting. In 1907, Bartlett gave the plaster model of the “new” Louvre statue to the State of Connecticut. It was not cast until 1932. The turtle which appears under the horse’s left rear hoof is not on the original Metz statue, but does appear on the 1908 Louvre rendition. Again, the meaning of the turtle is unclear, but it took Hartford 25 years to complete their end of the bargain. Bartlett never had the opportunity to see the completed Hartford statue, as he died in 1925. The plaster model was sent to the Smithsonian, but was later deaccessioned by the museum.

E CAPITOL AND LAFAYETTE STATUE, HARTFORD. CONN.



Hartford, CT, postcard, ABG

**Source:**

<http://ctmonuments.net/2013/10/lafayette-statue-hartford/>

17. One of two statues of Lafayette in California, yes, California, Los Angeles, standing on a pedestal design, was sculpted by Arnold Foerster in 1937. This was a New Deal Project. The original location was called Sunset Park, but the name was changed in 1918 to Lafayette Park.



**Sources:**

<https://calisphere.org/item/384e9d643d32474121883f9799af10c6/>

<https://livingnewdeal.org/projects/lafayette-park-statue-los-angeles-ca/>

Los Angeles, CA, Calisphere.org

18. The monuments on the heights of Versailles, Yvelines, France, dedicated to Lafayette and General Pershing, present another “mystery.” They were constructed to recognize the American Army, and its contribution during WW I, and to honor the American War of Independence. October 6, 1937 was set for the dedication of the Pershing-Lafayette Monument. General Pershing had accepted an invitation to attend the unveiling.



Versailles, France, original statue, 1937, ABG

Due to time and design constraints, there was not enough advance to cast the statues, and they were temporarily mounted in plaster, colored bronze. The chosen site was on the Butte de Picardie at Versailles, on the Rue de Versailles, between the Ville d'Avray and Versailles. Three thousand members of the American Legion attended the ceremony. The Pershing statue was the work of Joachim Costa and the monument grounds were designed by Jacques Carlu. The Lafayette statue was a plaster copy of Bartlett's Louvre work (8a). Unfortunately, the statues weathered, the plaster did not hold up, and they were disposed of in 1941. What remained were the two pedestals (no statues), and the monument grounds (picture 18A).

### Monument Pershing - Lafayette



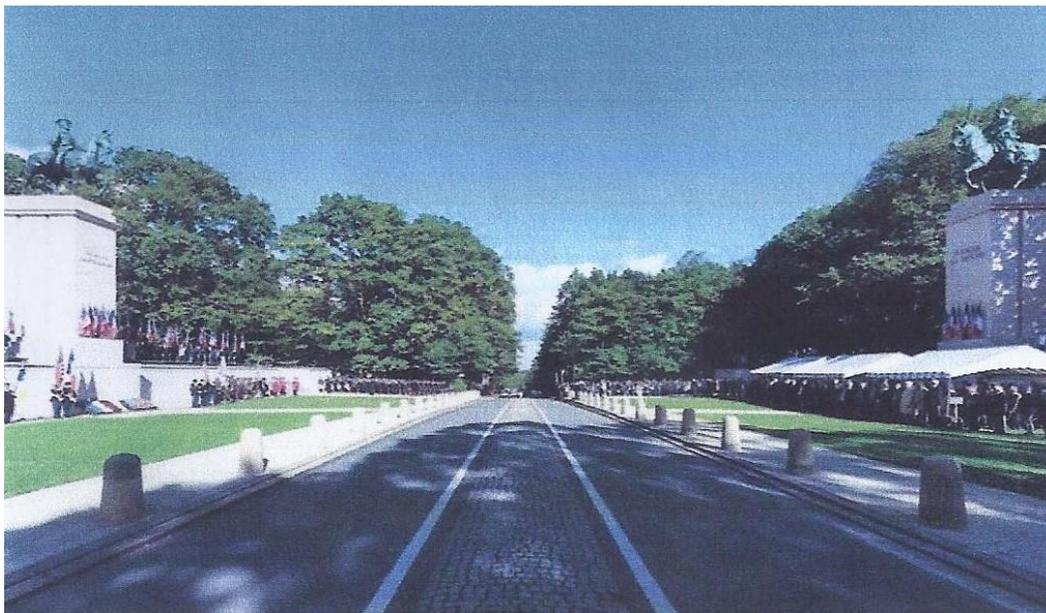
Versailles, vacant Lafayette and Pershing pedestals, WikiMonde

From 1941 through 2017, with a gap for WWII, debates had hindered the reconstruction of the site. The following concerns were incessantly debated:

- a.) Vehicle safety on the main road
- b.) Security from defacement of the monuments
- c.) Funding
- d.) The extent of repair or replacement of the pedestals and memorial grounds
- e.) Who would design the statues
- f.) Should the Lafayette statue at the Louvre be appropriated for this site as a way to minimize costs.

The debate finally came to an end and the time for action was at hand. Sculptor Patrick Castagnet was chosen to design two new statues. They were made of resin, colored bronze. The United States had not been in favor of transferring the “Children’s Statue” from the Louvre.

With the cooperation of the French Government, various patriotic organizations, the municipality of Versailles, local industry, the Association Pershing-Lafayette-Versailles, the Versailles Lions Club, and many subscribers shared financing responsibilities. The grounds and pedestals were refurbished; the new statues were mounted and a dream became a reality in 2017.



( Pershing )

(Lafayette)

Versailles, 2017, replacement statue, Paris Insights

**Sources:**

<http://blog.parisinsights.com/pershing-la-fayette-monument-french-american-friendship/>

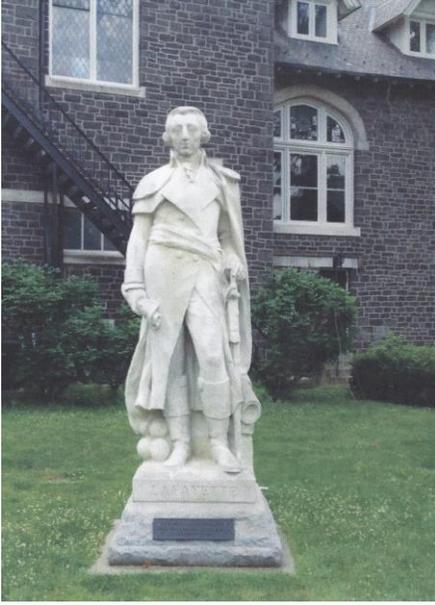
[https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monument\\_Pershing\\_-\\_Lafayette](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monument_Pershing_-_Lafayette)

<http://www.pershing-lafayette-versailles.org/>

Monument Pershing-Lafayette-Versailles- Bulletin #3

<http://www.asrieupe.org>

19. The second statue of the General, at Lafayette College, is located at the College Avenue entrance to the campus. It was donated by John Wanamaker, of Wanamaker's Department store. He was a member of the College's Board of Trustees. It was dedicated in 1938 and is a copy of the statue by Parisien sculptor Jean-Pierre Gras which is in the Rohan-Rivoli wing at the Louvre.



Easton, PA, Lafayette College, (LC #2), internet

**Source:** [http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

20. The Philadelphia Museum of Art is the site of a statue by Raoul Josset. It is located at the west side of the museum, in the "Garden of Heroes," and was dedicated in 1947.



Philadelphia, PA, Philadelphia Art Museum, Memory Spaces.org

**Source:** <http://marquisdelafayette-memoryspaces.org/pennsylvania-pa/>

21. LaGrange, Georgia has a replica of the Le Puy statue by Ernest-Eugène Hiolle. It was dedicated in 1976, as part of the U.S. Bicentennial and is located in Courthouse Square, LaGrange was incorporated in 1828.

When Lafayette visited Georgia in 1825, he made mention that this particular area reminded him of the lands of his wife's estate, LaGrange, thus the name of this town.



LaGrange, GA, Wiki Media.org

**Source:**

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

22. Havre de Grace, Maryland, had been named Lower Susquehanna prior to 1781. French soldiers suggested that the area looked like Le Havre, France. This was brought to Lafayette's attention. He agreed with the idea and was given credit for the suggestion. The town was chartered in 1785. In 1976, coinciding with the U.S. Bicentennial, a statue to his honor was dedicated. It stands at Union Avenue and Warren Street in Legion Square. The sculptor was Gary Siegel of New Arts Foundry in Baltimore, Maryland. In the late 1900's the statue was slightly moved, placed on a new base, and flags were added to the monument. After the American Revolution ended, Maryland made Lafayette a citizen of the state. During his tour of the United States (1824-5) he briefly visited Havre de Grace. In the early 1980's Havre de Grace, Maryland, created a "Sister City" relationship with Le Havre, France.



Havre de Grace, Maryland, internet

**Source:**

<http://visitharford.com/harford-county-maryland-listing/Havre-de-Grace-Historic-Preservation-Commission>

23. Fayetteville, North Carolina, was the first city in the United States named after Lafayette. In 1778 the towns of Campbellton (founded in 1760) and Cross Creek (founded in 1756) merged, and in 1783 the merged town was renamed Fayetteville. At that time, Lafayette was 26 years old. Lafayette spent March 4th & 5th, 1825 in Fayetteville, the only “namesake” town he was to visit.

Their statue was dedicated in 1983 at the time of the town’s bicentennial celebration. It was designed by Ferenc Varga, and it stands in Cross Creek Park. Fayetteville is a sister city to Saint-Avold, Moselle, France (statue # 27).

Fayetteville is the home of the Lafayette Society, founded in 1981 with the intent to raise funds for a statue of their namesake. The Society continues to operate and grants scholarships, brings honor to Lafayette, and promotes the significant contributions he made to mankind and freedom by sponsoring programs and scholastic activities. For further information about the Lafayette Society, including a membership application, contact them at: [www.Lafayettesociety.org](http://www.Lafayettesociety.org)



Fayetteville, North Carolina, internet

**Sources:**

<http://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedi/fayetteville-city-of/>

<http://www.lafayettesociety.org/>

North Carolina History Project, NorthCarolina.org

Carolina Observer, Fayetteville, March 10, 1825



24. Lafayette, Louisiana, was originally Vermillionville. In 1884 the name was changed to Lafayette. Their statue was dedicated in 1987, and was designed by Charles Correia, the owner of the Shidoni Foundry in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was moved to its present location, in the courtyard of the Lafayette Consolidated Government Building and was re-dedicated September 6, 2007 for the 250th birthday of Lafayette. This statue was replicated and the copy is at Lafayette, California.

Lafayette, Louisiana, internet

Source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafayette,\\_Louisiana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafayette,_Louisiana)



25. Lafayette, California, was founded in 1857. There was no previously named town. As mentioned, their statue is a replica of the Lafayette, Louisiana statue by Charles Correia. It is located in Lafayette Park, and was dedicated on September 9, 1991. Lafayette, CA, Waymarking Images

**Source:**

[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM7CP5\\_General\\_Gilbert\\_du\\_Motier\\_marquis\\_de\\_Lafayette\\_Lafayette\\_CA](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM7CP5_General_Gilbert_du_Motier_marquis_de_Lafayette_Lafayette_CA)

26. On November 20, 2004, commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Metz, Moselle, France, at the end of World War II, their 1920 statue that was destroyed by the Nazis was replaced. It was a completely new and daring design, sculpted by Messin Claude Goutin, a Frenchman, and is located in the Square Boufflers.



The monument commemorates a dinner Lafayette attended at the garrison in Metz in 1775. Lafayette, at age 18, listened to speeches about the rebellion in the American colonies. Soon after hearing the speeches, he decided to aid the American cause.

**Source:**

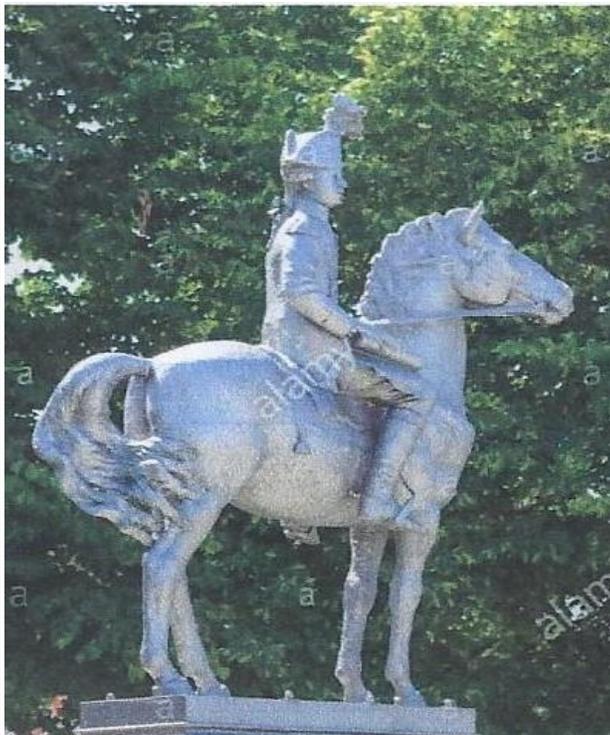
[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

Metz, France, 2004, ( Metz #2)), internet

27. Saint-Avold, Moselle, France features an equestrian statue of Lafayette, sited in front of the City Hall at Le Carrefour des Colonnades, Boulevard de Lorraine. "The project was conducted by the Technical High

School Workshops of Charles-Jully High School with the technical help of Russian artists Youri Tkatchenko, Sergey Gorshov and Vladimir Pavlow. The statue is made of 27 assembled cast stainless steel elements.” It was dedicated July 2, 2004. Saint-Avoid is a sister city of Fayetteville, N.C.

The Lorraine National Cemetery, located north of Saint-Avoid is the final resting place for 10,489 American service members who died during World War II. It is the largest American military cemetery in Europe.



Saint-Avoid, France, Saint-Avoid Archives

**Source:**

Sebastien Vion - Archives Municipales - Saint-Avoid, France

28. At York, Pennsylvania, in front of the Golden Plough Tavern (circa 1741) at West Market Street is a standing, no pedestal, life-size statue of Lafayette. It was dedicated in 2007, and the artist is Lorann Jacobs.



York, Pennsylvania, website

**Source:** <http://www.yorkblog.com/yorkspast/2015/06/14/yorks-life-size-statue-general-marquis-de-lafayette/>

29. Morristown, New Jersey's monument portrays a grouping of three standing figures, no pedestal. The picture shows, left to right: Lafayette, Alexander Hamilton and George Washington conversing. The statues are by Eliot and Ivan Schwartz and are located in the Morristown Green Park. Dedication was in 2007.



Morristown, NJ. Website

Source:

[http://www.revolutionarywarnewjersey.com/new\\_jersey\\_revolutionary\\_war\\_site/towns/morristown\\_nj\\_revolutionary\\_war\\_sites.htm](http://www.revolutionarywarnewjersey.com/new_jersey_revolutionary_war_site/towns/morristown_nj_revolutionary_war_sites.htm)

30. The newest monument to Lafayette was unveiled at Yorktown, Virginia, on the banks of the York River on October 18, 2017. Lafayette joins his compatriots, General George Washington, and Admiral de Grasse on the Yorktown Riverwalk. This grouping is of similar style to the Morristown, N. J. monument of three standing figures with no pedestal. The Lafayette figure was designed by Cyd Player.



The American Friends of Lafayette spearheaded the idea to have Lafayette represented alongside two other heroes of the Battle of Yorktown, and they raised \$35,000 to fund the effort. Mr. Michel Charbonnier, the Consul General to the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., called Lafayette " an ultimate symbol of friendship, heroism, courage, and commitment to freedom and democracy."

Yorktown, Virginia, AFL

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With SPECIAL thanks to my wife, Barbara, for her critiques, and the set up of this listing

#### PRIMARY SOURCE LINKS:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honors\\_and\\_memorials\\_to\\_the\\_Marquis\\_de\\_Lafayette](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honors_and_memorials_to_the_Marquis_de_Lafayette)

[http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf\\_mon.htm](http://www.xenophongroup.com/mcjoynt/laf_mon.htm)

[https://www.google.com/search?q=Monuments+and+Memorials+to+the+Marquis+De+Lafayette+&rlz=1C1JZAP\\_enUS780US782&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjkyM7j4YzZAhUIVK0KHyr9AXYQsAQIfw&biw=1536&bih=759Monuments](https://www.google.com/search?q=Monuments+and+Memorials+to+the+Marquis+De+Lafayette+&rlz=1C1JZAP_enUS780US782&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjkyM7j4YzZAhUIVK0KHyr9AXYQsAQIfw&biw=1536&bih=759Monuments)

<http://marquisedelafayette-memoryspaces.org/>

[www.Pershing-Lafayette-Versailles.org](http://www.Pershing-Lafayette-Versailles.org)

*Lafayette in America Day By Day*, J. Bennett Nolan

*ABG Collection*: Items from Andrew B. Golbert Lafayette Collection



Alan and Marilyn Hoffman are proud grandparents for the first time...welcome Miles!!!

Their daughter Elena and her husband Jason (AFL family members) produced this fine young man.  
Miles is currently the AFL's youngest member.

**The *Gazette* staff will continue to publish any baby photos that reference Lafayette in some way.  
Please send photos and captions to Chuck Schwam at [chsgop@aol.com](mailto:chsgop@aol.com).**

## AFL Gazette Trivia Answer:

### “Lafayette, We Are Still Here”

By Ernest and Janet Sutton

The Lafayette Delegation was composed of 239 Knights of Columbus, (K of C), a Catholic-based fraternal service organization formed in 1882. Today as the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the Great War approaches, it is difficult to appreciate the deep national feelings in both the United States and France that the unveiling of the Lafayette statue in Metz and the words of Supreme Knight James Flaherty, “**Lafayette, We Are Still Here!**” engendered in war-torn France on August 20, 1920. In France this was a national event. In America it was on the front page of the New York Times.

The Lafayette statue is in many ways a by-product of the religious-social situation of American and French Catholics before and during the Great War, especially after the passage of a French law in 1905 concerning the separation of the churches and the state. The Great War provided an avenue for Catholics in both countries to show their patriotism. The K of C raised more than \$30,000,000 in contributions to support programs for American doughboys and the French people. They operated nearly one hundred service canteens known as “huts” under the motto “Everybody Welcome, Everything Free,” open to all religions and all races. The proposal at the K of C 1919 “Peace” Convention to donate a statue of Lafayette to the people of France as a symbol of democracy and Franco-American friendship was well-received by Marshal Foch and the French government.

Not every American Catholic, however, revered Lafayette. Before the American Revolution, Lafayette and 100 French officers attended the Masonic Lodge in Paris as an admitted Mason. (This lodge was visited during the AFL tour in France in 2015). In Lafayette’s time, a Catholic who joined a Masonic lodge risked excommunication. This ban, however, was lightly enforced in France. The K of C intended the statue to “express appreciation of the aid and assistance given by France to the struggling colonies” and “not to glorify Lafayette as a Catholic.”

Metz was selected for the statue because it was where Lafayette made the decision to fight in the American War for Independence. Metz, a staunchly Catholic city, had been occupied by Germany from the 1870 Franco-Prussian War until its liberation in 1919. After the Great War, Metz successfully negotiated with the French government to retain the religious rights for Catholics that had been abrogated under the French law of 1905.

In only twenty years after the Great War, Metz was again occupied and the Lafayette statue was torn down and melted by the German Army in 1940. Later in 2004 a new Lafayette statue by Claude Goutin was erected in its place in front of the Palace of Justice.

**“Lafayette, We Are Still Here!”**



Lafayette Statue in front of the Palace of Justice Metz, France (2004)



Presented to members of the Lafayette Delegation in 1920 by Marshal Pétain, “The Lion of Verdun”, with downward victory palms of peace



Presented to members of the Lafayette Delegation By Marshal Foch, Commander-in-Chief Allied Armies, Metz, August 1920  
Cross of Lorraine with victory palms – Combined French/US Shield



*A la Delegation Lafayette des Chevaliers de Colomb  
en Souvenir de la France Victorieuse Verdun – Aout 1920*  
(To the Lafayette Delegation of the Knights of Columbus  
in memory of the French Victory at Verdun – August 1920)  
Knight of Columbus Coat of Arms – American Shield -- Winged Goddess of Victory



*A la Delegation Lafayette des Chevaliers de Colomb -- Metz Aout 1920 – Jeanne d’Arc*  
(To the Lafayette Delegation of the Knights of Columbus -- Metz August 1920 – Joan of Arc)

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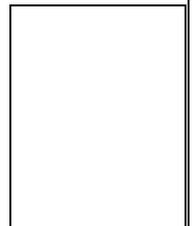
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THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE

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

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