

National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association
The Yorktown Campaign (W3R-USA)
Monday Morning Report

December 20, 2004

Bonjour! Good Morning, All,

Happy Holidays from the W3R-USA Executive Committee. We wish you all good health, much joy and Peace on Earth as we progress steadily forward to the 225th Anniversary of the Yorktown Campaign.

With the appointment of a superb interim Honorary Board Chairman, Betty Jane Washington Johnson Gerber, Chairman of the Nation's Capitol Bicentennial, we are now poised to launch W3R "USA Phase 3. Phase 3 is the "good part" you have all been waiting for-- glamorous celebrations, lights, action, cameras! B J's plans for the Nation's Capitol focus on an entire network of heritage trails related to George Washington, our proposed Virtual Visitors Center and a physical location for a Visitor's Center in Washington, D.C.

By focusing on the Washington-Rochambeau effort as a pilot projects for B J's efforts in DC, we all gain strength and credibility. Mrs. Gerber, modest as always, says she will serve as *Interim* Honorary Board Chairman, and will keep searching for "the perfect" big name to serve as Honorary Chairman. A person who can lead us to greater glory. (However, we think have just the right lady for that job, and her initials are BJG.)

If you haven't already met this dynamic lady, plan to meet BJ at the W3R-USA Gala Evening Fundraising Reception slated for Friday April 22 at the Greenville Country Club, Owl's Nest Road, North Wilmington, Delaware. This event will follow a day-long board retreat/strategic planning session.

We hope that many members and honorary board members and guests will plan to attend this dinner party. Spouses and guests are welcome. The Greenville Country Club is a former duPont estate located on Owl's Nest Road just north of Wilmington and just south of Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. Day Chairmen are Veronica Eid and Jayne Huntington of W3R-Delaware. Detailed information will be available at the end of February.

This month, we thanks Diane Shug-O'Neill of the Library Congress. Diane, a digital technician working on the Rochambeau maps at the Library of Congress, attended the Southern Regional Meeting in Richmond, Virginia and has been consistently helpful to our efforts. W3R's Traveling Exhibit Task Force members were extremely pleased with the December 14 meeting Diane set up for us with John Hebert, Chief of Maps and Geography, Library of Congress and his staff. It was a pleasure to see Diane again and an honor to meet Dr Hebert and Pam Van Ee. The Library of Congress is in the process of setting up a Rochambeau website and we are very excited about the Library's assistance to W3R efforts.

Following that meeting, Kim, BJ and Roseanna (joined By Craig Johnson of Talisman Interactive), met with Patty Van Tuyl and Tom Phelps of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Their enthusiastic response and practical advice was taken to heart and very much appreciated.

The W3R-USA Executive Committee meeting held in Princeton, NJ on December 15 was very successful. It is inspiring to see how our Yankee founding fathers's™ (Jacques, Jim and Serge's™) visions for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route are becoming a reality. We are really on a roll now.

Plan Ahead –“Annual Spring W3R-USA Business Meeting To Be Held in Wilmington, Delaware, April 22 &23, 2005

Kim Burdick will lead the group in a two part strategic planning session on Friday April 22, 2005 from 10:00 am -3:00 pm. Those of you who attended the October 2003 strategic planning meeting know that it is important to think your ideas through carefully, edit them concisely, and write them down. This is a fast-paced workout and as always, that old oven timer will be set for 3 minutes maximum per person.

The W3R-USA board meeting will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday morning, April 23, followed by the always popular dog & pony shows slated for 10 am-1:00 pm. Story boards, brochures, etc. welcome. A workshop is being planned from 2:00pm-4:00 pm that afternoon. Please come for one or both days. The energy at these meetings is incredible.

W3R-USA blueprints really work. As always, our W3R-USA leadership team will create, with our members input, a good work plan. Solid foundations are necessary even while creating castles in the air. It is amazing how almost every item we put on our flip charts in October 2003 has come to pass. Getting a 9 state vision and work plan agreed upon and in writing before leaping into Phase 3 is equally important.

Planning for W3R Phase 3 means that we have really begun to be a “œreal” organization. We need to plan on raising money for extremely important new skill sets, (1) straight clerical work and staff support. to carry out the basic in-house tasks--mailings, scheduling, bookings, Xeroxing, etc. related to Phase 3 celebrations and public programs. (2) Branding: i.e., Unifying interpretive panels and kiosks and all other printed materials in all 9 states (3) negotiating for a proposed visit from Jacques Chirac.

Start collecting contact information related to possible funding sources and begin thinking of who might best serve on a W3R-USA fundraising task force.

Here is the list of the mid-point goals we developed for Phase 2, dated summer 2004. Let's™ cross off everything from this list in time for the April meeting. You can do it! We have come a long ways from October 2003.

- (1) Get 225th Anniversary Legislation passed *Done!*
- (2) Focus on public outreach to families of k-12 students and scouts, with a particular emphasis on 4th graders, as our target market.

- (3) Set a date for each state's 225th anniversary celebration on or before Easter, 2005. Get it locked in place and posted on the reenactors' calendars.
- (4) have all 9 state's Selig reports completed no later than Dec 31, 2005.
- (5) Each of the 9 states must get their section of the W3R shown on an official state or county land use map by April 15, 2005.
- (6) Have a coordinated set of interpretive panels and auto route markers developed by each state along the route and installed by that individual state no later than April 15, 2006.
- (7) Exist as a sustainable and respected organization long after October 2006.

Keep up the good work, Everyone. You are a wonderful group. Please keep sending us your news, calendar items, latest achievements and brilliant ideas. The next Monday Morning Report is slated for January 3, 2006.

We Wish You Happy Holidays and a Cheerful New Year.

Jacques Bossiere, Chairman W3R-USA

Kim Burdick, Vice Chairman, W3R-USA

**News and Notes:
Plan Ahead. Calendar Information.**

Please, right now, grab a pen or pencil and circle the following dates on your new 2005, clean slate calendars.

APRIL

Friday April 22 and Saturday April 23, 2005

National W3R Board Meeting in Wilmington, Delaware

JULY

Friday July 8-Sunday July 10, 2005 ALL INVITED

225th Anniversary Kick-Off Celebration in Newport, Rhode Island

Plan Ahead. 2005 Dues Notices

While your pen is out, W3R-USA Treasurer Carl Nittinger is happy to accept your 2005 membership checks. \$50 per year, standard membership; Lafayette \$100; Rochambeau \$350; George Washington \$500; Allied Troops \$1,000. National Membership is based on a Calendar year. Statewide dues and membership years vary and are not included in these national dues.

National membership checks should be made out to W3R-USA and sent to Carl Nittinger, Treasurer, 130 Walnut Street, Haddonfield, NJ 08033.)

"Poor is the nation having no heroes. Shameful is the one having them that forgets." Anon.

Dear Kim:

Congratulations on BJ Gerber's appointment. I hope that her contacts will help to get a recommendation to Congress from the Department of Interior for a W3R National Historic Trail. You have been doing great work furthering that goal.

Here is the PDF of the 225th Anniversary of the American Revolution Commemoration Act signed into law as PL 108-447 by President Bush on 8 December.

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_bills&docid=f:h4818enr.txt.pdf

Best wishes for the holidays and the New Year.

Jim Johnson
Chairman W3R-NY

From Center of Military History, Fort McNair

We have the go-ahead to request a proposal for contract for Bob Selig to do the proposed 44 page Washington-Rochambeau booklet. I will start working on the scope of work next week. Then, we can submit our proposal to award a "no bid" contract to our funds management people. I'll keep you informed, and send more information later.

Best Regards,
Glenn Williams

A Note To the Newest Statewides

From Bob Selig

Thanks for the compliment on the CT and NY statewide studies. I also finished the one on DE and am currently working on RI and NJ, with the funding for a PA study hopefully in place by 1 July 2005. We hope the Delaware SHPO's Office will soon post Delaware's study online.

As far as costs for a full-blown resource inventory/site survey along the lines of the other states is concerned, they usually run about \$20,000-\$25,000, depending on expenses (Boston is expensive) etc. Some, like DE, are a bit less, others like NJ a bit more. I usually

spend 4-6 weeks doing research on site. If you are interested I can mail you either work proposals from other states or a sample work proposal for your state.

As Kim has indicated, W3R-USA would like these studies of the state archival materials to be completed by the end of 2005 so that they can be used to plan programs, educational materials, turned into guide-books etc in time for the 2006 anniversaries that will take place up and down the coast and the re-enactment of the march, if and/or when there is one.

Once your state is beyond the resource inventory/pure historical research and get into the practical application/marketing of the route, we have been quite successful taking the heritage-based tourism approach with potential funding agencies.

The studies I did and/or am doing in the state and local archives become (and in some instances already have become) the foundation for educational programs, open-space preservation efforts, historic preservation and heritage-based tourism projects.

Editor's Note: In factoring your costs, consider sending Bob and/or a delegate overnight to DC to visit the Library of Congress. Not every original Yorktown Campaign/Rochambeau map has been previously published and you may have some pleasant surprises.

Updates From the States

Rhode Island

Nick and Roseanna Gorham's committee members and the Rhode Island Commissioners are hard at work preparing not only for the gala events slated for this coming July but also for 2006 events, including a history program that will inspire kids, a traveling exhibit, and the always awesome interpretive sign projects. Cate Monroe of Moon Mountain Press will be moving to Maine soon but will remain active in W3R-USA activities.

Massachusetts

I've been remiss in e-mailing you, but it took quite a bit of work setting up the encampment #54 commemoration event. I expect you have seen some of my releases on that.

I understand that Bob Selig gave a presentation to MASSAR a while ago. Since that time Geoff Colby has asked me to help him out with some of the Mass. study and events. I just looked at Dr Selig's fascinating work on the Conn. and NY Rochambeau troop histories. Beautifully done!! What did you have in mind for Mass.?

We feel a little bit like a lost cousin in the events of the day, but it appears that the major part of the French army passed through and encamped in Mass. and that the month of December 1782 was spent in Boston (most men on the ships).

The month in Boston was spent in nightly feasts and balls. There must be lots of stories surrounding this December month and its impact on Boston (and the local economy). Also the medical services provided the French troops in Boston. And its strange that they left on the day before Christmas.

Please let me know what your plans are for Mass (potential schedule, cost) and if I can do anything to help.

Best Regards,
Ken Molloy, MASSAR

Calendar Notes

While organizing W3R events and meetings please give consideration to Jewish as well as Christian holiday schedules. Thank you for your anticipated assistance. I'm happy to be a part of W3R and look forward to continuing to participate in the organization.

The major Jewish festivals in the upcoming W3R Anniversary Years are:

2005

Purim (3/25/05), Passover (4/23/05), Shavot(6/12/05),
the period between and including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (10/3/05-10/13/05),
Sukkot (10/17/05), Chanukah (12/25/05).

2006

Purim (3/13/06), Passover (4/12/06), Shavot (6/1/06), the period between and including
Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (9/22/06-10/2/06), Sukkot (10/6/06) and Chanukah
(12/15/06). Again, each begins at sundown on the day listed.

Susan Saundry W3R-CT

CONNECTICUT CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference Title: Native Americans and the American Revolution
Sponsor: Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center (MPMRC)
Location: MPMRC, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT 06338
Date: 23-24 September 2005

In 2005, as we celebrate the 230th anniversary of the beginning of the Revolutionary War, this conference will seek to explore aspects of this country's founding that remain largely neglected: the era's profound impacts on eastern North America's indigenous populations, and their contributions and sacrifices to this nation's struggle for independence. We invite scholars to address such topics as Native military service, tribal diplomacy, and the social, political, geographical, and economic effects of the war on Indian communities. This is merely a suggested list, and we welcome other topics that fit within the scope of this symposium. We have a limited sponsorship fund available to help defray travel and lodging expenses for Native scholars that are not affiliated with colleges and universities.

AMERICAN-REVOLUTION Mailing List Administrator: Susan L. Willig
American-Revolution-admin@rootsweb.com

Persons interested in speaking at this conference should send titles and abstracts of their intended talks no later than 15 January 2005 to:

Dr. Kevin McBride, Director of Research and Information Resources
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
110 Pequot Trail
Mashantucket, CT 06338
(860) 396-6814
kmcbride@mptn-nsn.gov <<mailto:kmcbride@mptn-nsn.gov>>

Jon Ault, Head Archivist
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
110 Pequot Trail
Mashantucket, CT 06338
(860) 396-6811
jault@mptn-nsn.gov <<mailto:jault@mptn-nsn.gov>>

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New Jersey

Resent-From: AMERICAN-REVOLUTION-L@rootsweb.com
Resent-Date: Sat, 11 Dec 2004 08:27:13 â€œ0700 Posted on Fri, Dec. 10, 2004

They Celebrate a Defeat That Gave Rise to Victories

By Frank Kummer, *Philadelphia Inquirer* Staff Writer

The wooded hill that gives name to Mount Holly rises 185 feet, providing a graceful view of the town below and a perfect spot to launch a cannon attack. Facing the smaller Iron Works Hill a mile to the east, "the Mount" became emblematic of a "great misfortune" that befell Hessian troops 228 years ago this Christmas.

The misfortune came when Carl Emilius von Donop, a Hessian colonel, took up a position on the Mount and defeated a group of Americans. But Donop dallied for days with his troops in Mount Holly, possibly entranced by Betsy Ross, and was hopelessly out of position to help his comrades in Trenton as George Washington slipped across the Delaware to attack.

Now, at least one historian and a group of local reenactors are lending fresh weight to the Battle of Iron Works Hill as a more significant event in Washington's pivotal maneuver than previously thought. "I think it was a key battle," said Ian Johns, who on Sunday will take part with more than 100 other enthusiasts armed with cannons and muskets in a commemoration of the battle in downtown Mount Holly.

A new book, Washington's Crossing, published by Oxford University Press, also gives some prominence to the Dec. 23-24, 1776, battle, which remains largely unknown to many locals.

The book's author, Brandeis University historian David Hackett Fisher, quotes one dismayed Hessian captain surveying the unintended impact of the Iron Works Hill battle. "This great misfortune, which surely caused the utter loss of the thirteen splendid provinces of the Crown of England, was due partly to... the fault of Colonel Dunop, who was led by the nose to Mount Holly... and detained there by love. "Thus," he continued, "the fate of entire Kingdoms often depends upon a few blockheads and irresolute men."

Events surrounding Washington's crossing of the Delaware and capture of Trenton are complex, and many factors contributed to the Continental Army's success. No one calls Mount Holly the decisive factor. Yet it is clear that 2,000 Hessian and Scottish troops who should have been in Bordentown to support Trenton or cut off Washington were instead a day's march away in Mount Holly. The seat of Burlington County essentially became a fateful diversion as Donop set out to quell the colonials led by Virginia Col. Samuel Griffin.

Griffin's small force of Virginia artillery and Pennsylvania infantry had been moving through South Jersey in mid-December 1776. They were joined by 500 militia, half of them boys, from Cumberland, Salem and Gloucester Counties, Fisher wrote.

Donop's agents chased American troops to Mount Holly on Dec. 21, falsely believing they numbered in the thousands. Donop attacked with cannons dragged up the mount. Crown forces won the battle. Americans, based at Iron Works Hill and below, retreated to Moorestown.

Instead of marching back to a critical position at Bordentown, Donop remained in Mount Holly with his 2,000 troops. He had taken up at a home where he might have been smitten with an "exceedingly beautiful young widow," according to an account from the time. The widow has never been successfully identified. Fisher wrote that Betsy Ross, acquainted with a key Mount Holly family and other connections, was a possibility. The theory was first raised by historian Joseph Tustin, who has found ample connections between Ross and Mount Holly. But he acknowledged there was no solid evidence.

As Donop dallied, only 1,500 Hessians remained garrisoned 18 miles away at Trenton when Washington began his surprise attack. Donop's troops realized the mistake when they heard the thud of cannons from the direction of Trenton. Some theorize that Washington may not have launched his attack had Donop's troops been in Bordentown.

Johns, who lives 150 yards from the mount where Hessians set up "6-pounder" cannons, got the idea of commemorating the battle with reenactors in the summer of 2003. He and Dennis Rizzo, a fellow Mount Holly resident, had met during the Road to Monmouth Heritage Campaign, which commemorated the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth. Iron Works Hill was included as a footnote.

"I live in Mount Holly, but I didn't know that much about Iron Works Hill," said Johns, 48, a technical writer for Towers Perrin. "I sort of knew that something had happened, but I never looked up what the details were. It wasn't just that the British spent a couple of nights here the following year, as many people think."

So he and Rizzo dug into the history, with research from the Burlington County Historical

Society and plaques marking the battle site. They held the first commemoration of Iron Works Hill last December. "We were fascinated that something happened in town that we never paid much attention to," Rizzo said.

About 40 troop reenactors showed that day, as well as 100 members of the public, in a sleet and snow storm. "We found we could actually pull this thing off," Rizzo said.

For more information, go to www.ironworkshill.org.

Pennsylvania

Win Carroll, Chairman of W3R-PA and Honorary Chairman, BJ Gerber, are co-hosting a small luncheon at City Tavern shortly after Christmas.

Delaware

Delaware: Greenways and Pipe Dreams

My article on Lee Anderson's hike down the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (and efforts to develop the W3R as a National Historic Trail) was published in December issue of *The SAR Magazine*.

You may read it on the Web at www.sar.org/sarmag/d/trail.htm

Ralph D. Nelson, Jr., Vice Chair of the W3R Liaison Committee of the National Society SAR; see <http://www.w3r-us.org/>

Kim Burdick and I are working on the W3R in Delaware and also on a potential historic corridor project using the W3R and the East Coast Greenway as a spine for the corridor. I'm the Delaware Trustee for the East Coast Greenway and it turned out that many of us were supporting both projects. We got together and partnered on a promotional event for the W3R in DE this past October that included the East Coast Greenway national tour from Fort Mifflin to the Riverfront in Wilmington.

We are also going to participate in a regional trail meeting sponsored by DVRPC and WILMAPCO, the two metropolitan planning organizations that have jurisdiction from Trenton, NJ to Perryville, MD. That program will be held in late January or early February. Advocates for both the W3R and the East Coast Greenway will be invited and National Parks will speak about the opportunities that two parallel and intersecting national trails might provide. They will be asking if there are some steps that can be taken now to "cross market" or work toward a common goal. We hope you will participate in that as well.

If you are interested in participating in this February meeting, please could you please send your contact information (address, fax, phone numbers, etc.) so that we can see that you get all the information and mailings.

Bobbi Britton, W3R-DE/DE East Coast Greenway Trustee

Maryland

Kim,

The Historic Annapolis Foundation's contact information is:

Historic Annapolis Foundation
18 Pinckney Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1793
410-267-7619 or (from the DC area) 301-261-1110,
FAX 410-267-6189
<http://www.annapolis.org/>

The Director of Museum Services was (the last time I spoke with him was a while ago)
Glenn Campbell at 410-263-5553.

Best Regards,

Glenn F. Williams, U.S. Army Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration
U.S. Army Center of Military History 103 Third Avenue Fort McNair, DC 20319-5058
Office: (202) 685-2797 / DSN: 325-2797

Virginia

The William and Mary College Company is organizing a march from Colonial Williamsburg to the Yorktown Victory Center for their event in October 2005. They are currently talking to the National Parks Service about marching on the Colonial Parkway. More details will be announced as plans proceed.

Best regards,
Ed St.Germain Patriot1@AmericanRevolution.org

Virginia Works for New Business: Building on Our Assets

Governor Warner believes that economic development programs must - in addition to attracting new industries - build on the existing, and often under-utilized assets of rural Virginia. In addition to increasing the Governor's Opportunity Fund for economic development incentives by \$2 million, *Virginia Works* does this in three principal areas: Tourism.

In 2003, tourism in Virginia had an economic impact of \$15.2 billion, which represents 5.1 percent of the Gross State Product and 280,700 full time jobs. Virginia's

tourism promotion efforts focus on the Commonwealth's natural beauty and diversity, historic resources, and close proximity to major population centers along the east coast.

To build on this impressive foundation, *Virginia Works* proposes to invest \$3 million in a new 350-mile network of "rails to trails" across Southside Virginia, starting with the first 38 miles from the Halifax County line to Lawrenceville. \$375,000 is proposed for the New Virginia Trails program, which will link and better promote existing tourist destinations. Virginia already has developed the Crooked Road Music Trail, the Virginia Birding Trail, the Civil War Trail and the Virginia Civil Rights Freedom Trail. Virginia is actively working with officials from other states and the federal government to develop the Captain John Smith Water Trail and the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Trail. And the Virginia Tourism Corporation and local tourism groups are in various early stages of development for the Virginia Colonial Trail (to be done by 2007), the Tobacco Heritage Bike and Hike Trail, the Capital to Capital Bike Trail from Williamsburg to Richmond, the Virginia Pet-Friendly trail, the Virginia Wine Trail, the Virginia Motorsports Trail, and the Virginia Fishing Trail.

\$397,500 is proposed for the Tourism Development Support program providing technical assistance to communities that want to develop their tourism industries. Localities have requested such assistance from the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

Dear Santa,

I have been very, very good and extremely helpful to W3R-USA this year. For Christmas, I would like each of Bob Selig's W3R Statewide Volumes; the W3R CT books; a W3R-Delaware Revolutionary Weekend T-shirt; a Society of Cincinnatti Video Tape about the French Involvement in the Yorktown Campaign; the Carpenters Hall VHS Video, "Tete a Tete," and **Richard Ketchum's** recently released book, Victory at Yorktown, published by Henry Holt & Company. 2004. ISBN 0-8050-7396-5.

Dr. Ketchum's newest book on the American Revolution is not only a good read but is extremely useful for W3R-USA members trying to understand the historic context of our work. The book has a very complete bibliography that is useful for members pursuing related reading materials.

Sincerely yours,

Every W3R member

P.S. The cookies at our house are unusually delicious this year. Please come down our chimney any time, day or night.

Another Upcoming Book About Yorktown

The Guns of Independence: The Siege of Yorktown, 1781, by Jerome A. Greene, is an in-depth scholarly study of this pivotal Revolutionary War campaign. Author Jerome A. Greene is a historian with the National Park Service. He is the author or editor of many books, including *Lakota and Cheyenne: Indian Views of the Great Sioux War, 1876-1877*, *Morning Star Dawn: The Powder River Expedition and the Northern Cheyenne, 1876*, and his most recent effort, *Washita: The U.S. Army and the Southern Cheyennes, 1867-1869*.

He resides in Colorado. You can see more about this at
<http://www.savasbeatie.com/Yorktown.html>

We would like to offer you the free use of an excerpt, author interview, cover image, and/or anything else you believe would be of interest to your members. We are also offering signed copies of this new title.

From: Smiles@aol.com

DESIGNING SIGNS? GRAPHIC ADVICE

from

David Rickman, Exhibits Coordinator Division of Parks and Recreation
152 South State Street, Dover, DE 19901 Tele: 302-739-4413
E-mail: David.rickman@state.de.us

In my own work, I try to follow these guidelines:

Choose one theme for your sign – something you can state either in a headline or a subhead.

Follow the 3/30/3 rule: a headline you can read in 3 seconds or less that states your main theme, i.e. – “The French Foreign Legion Slept Here” ;

a subhead that you can read in 30 seconds or less, i.e. – “During the American Revolution, Allied French Troops Spent the Winter Here in Wilmington after the victory at Yorktown” ;

followed by a body text that can be read in 3 minutes or less that sticks closely to your main theme.

Most people will only read your headline.

All sub-themes and other interesting facts can be boxed (try organizing them as bulleted lists under a headline such as – “Did you know?”) or if possible put into the captions to your pictures.

Use pictures – the bigger and more colorful the better. Choose no more than three and make one of them your largest and most colorful.

Keep your writing at the 8th grade level – this means simple language, though not necessarily simple ideas.

Finally, use the typographic standards set out in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Most good graphic designers will be able to do this for you.

Useful Online Resources

The National Coalition for History invites you to subscribe to a FREE weekly newsletter! You are also encouraged to redistribute the NCH Washington Updates to colleagues, friends, teachers, students and others who are interested in history and archives issues. A complete backfile of these reports is maintained by H-Net on the NCH's recently updated web page at <http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~nch> . To subscribe to the "NCH Washington Update," send an e-mail message to: listserv@h-net.msu.edu with the following text in the body of the message (and only this text) SUBSCRIBE H-NCH firstname lastname, institution. To unsubscribe, send an e-mail message to: listserv@h-net.msu.edu according to the following model SIGNOFF H-NCH. You can accomplish the same tasks by tapping into the web interface at: <http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/lists/subscribe.cgi> and at the "network" prompt, scroll down and select H-NCH; enter your name and affiliation and "submit".

Dear Friend:

My December newsletter, *Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution* is now posted online at <http://www.southerncampaign.org/> in pdf format. It requires Adobe Acrobat Reader to download and print which is available for free to download at <http://www.adobe.com/> if you do not have it already installed on your computer. If you have any problem accessing this site, just let me know.

Merry Christmas!
Charles B. Baxley, Editor
cbbaxley@charter.net

Check Out an exciting new online journal for history teachers and students, now available on the Web at <http://www.historynow.org/>.

Good Resources and Great Opportunities

Forwarded by Glenn Williams, Center of Military History, DC

AASLH Awards Competition Announced: The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) invites submissions to the 2005 Awards Program. The Aisle's program seeks to recognize achievement in the preservation of local, state, and regional history. Awards are given for general excellence, exhibits, public programming, special projects, media/publications, individual achievement, and preservation or restoration projects. Nominees need not be members of the AASLH to apply. Nominations are due by 1 March 2005. Nomination forms may be obtained by visiting the AASLH website at: <http://www.aaslh.org/>.

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Teacher?

Summer 2005 seminars and Institutes for school teachers and a separate program for college and university faculty have been announced by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The first program is targeted to school teachers. It is designed to strengthen the quality of humanities instruction available to American students. The programs are led by some of the nation's outstanding scholars and take place at major colleges and universities and archival facilities across the country and abroad. Seminar topics include the legacy of George Washington, the origins of the U.S. Civil War, Native American history, African American history, historical cartography, the Holocaust, and programs in the original languages on French history and Latin literature. Seminar participants receive from the NEH a stipend depending on the length of the seminar or institute. Information requests and completed applications should NOT be directed to the National Endowment for the Humanities; they should be addressed to the individual projects offices as found in the listings.

The application postmark deadline is 1 March 2005. For a more information on the program offerings, please visit the NEH website at: <http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-school.html>), or phone (202/606-8463), or e-mail (sem-inst@neh.gov).

The second NEH program is targeted to college and university teachers. It supports a variety of study opportunities in the humanities for faculty who teach American undergraduates. Designed to strengthen the quality of humanities teaching and scholarship, the seminars and institutes are led by some of the nation's outstanding scholars and take place at major colleges and universities and archival facilities across the United States and abroad. The 2005 summer seminar topics include the Bayeux Tapestry, religion and culture, Latin American philosophy, African cinema, the early American republic, the Vietnam War, and studies of major figures such as St. Francis of Assisi and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Here again, seminar participants receive from the NEH a stipend depending on the length of the seminar or institute. Requests for information and completed applications should NOT be directed to the National Endowment for the Humanities; instead, they should be addressed to the individual projects as found in the listings. The application postmark deadline is 1 March 2005. For a more information please visit the NEH website, <http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-school.html>), or phone (202/606-8463), or e-mail (sem-inst@neh.gov).

OMNIBUS BILL -- THE FINAL NUMBERS

Just before the Thanksgiving recess, Congress, meeting in a lame duck session, nearly finished putting its final touches on the nine remaining spending bills that will fund the federal government in fiscal year 2005. As many Hill insiders expected, Congress consolidated those remaining measures into an enormous (over 3,000 pages!) omnibus appropriations bill (H.R. 4818/ H. Rept. 108-792). This \$388 billion catch-all bill sets overall

agency spending limits and also incorporates an anticipated across-the-board cut of 0.83 percent for all non-security related spending.

Overall, cultural agencies did comparatively well considering the existence of a budget environment constrained by fairly stringent budgetary reduction goals. The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) emerged from the conference with \$138.06 million - a little above the \$135 million it received last year. This number is reduced by two rescissions -- a 0.594 percent cut applied only to the Interior department spending bill, and an across-the-board reduction of 0.83 percent applied to all agencies funded out of the Omnibus bill.

Other numbers of interest to the history and archives community: The National Endowment for the Arts will get a total of \$121.2 million. The agency will not get the \$18 million requested for the "American Masterpieces" initiative but rather only \$2 million for the initiative that was designed to reacquaint people with the best of American dance, theater, music, literature, and the other arts.

The Department of Education's "Teaching American History" program will get another \$120 million -- thank you Senator Robert C. Byrd (D-WV)! The Institute of Museum and Library Services will get an increase of \$9.5 million over fiscal 2004 but \$12.7 million less than the president's request. The Office of Museum Services is slated for \$34.8 million and the library counterpart is to receive \$207 million. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will get about \$267 million in operating funds including \$35.914 for the Electronic Records Archive. The National Historical and Publications Commission ends up with \$5 million for its discretionary grant program -- down 50 percent from last fiscal year's high of \$10 million (a full authorization) but higher than the president's proposed and House agreed to figure of \$3 million.

The Smithsonian Institution will get \$615 million including \$44 million for the final renovation of the Patent Office Building and \$4 million to continue planning and hiring staff for the future National Museum of African American History and Culture. The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars is funded at the president's request level of \$8.987 million.

The National Park Service (NPS) gets an \$84 million increase in operational funds to \$1.707 billion. The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) gets a total of \$72.750 million, a cut of nearly \$1 million. When compared to last year's totals, the "Save America's Treasures" program is trimmed by \$2 million to \$30 million, and the president's proposed \$10 million "Preserve America" initiative, gets nothing. The state historic preservation offices get about a \$1.5 million increase to \$36 million; grants to tribal governments will realize an increase of \$287,000 to \$3.250 million.

UPDATE -- ALEXANDER'S HISTORY BILL

The House companion bill to "American History and Civics Education Act of 2004" (H.R. 5360) authored by Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) has passed the lower chamber. The bill -- the first legislation introduced in Congress by freshman Senator Alexander -- creates summer academies for outstanding teachers and students of American history and civics. It

also provides a statutory authorization for National History Day .Though Senator Alexander and Edward Kennedy (D-MA) attempted to fast track the bill in the Senate, a "hold" (a maneuver to get another bill passed) was placed on it by one senator. Hill insiders are confident though that the measure will be passed by the Senate when Congress reconvenes next week.

NEH CHAIR BRUCE COLE ADDRESSES NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

On 16 November 2004, Bruce Cole, Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), was the guest luncheon speaker at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Cole's speech, "30 Million Pages to Go -- Digitizing the American Newspaper" discussed the recent launching of the National Digital Newspaper Program -- a collaborative program of the NEH, the Library of Congress (LC), and institutions from every state that seeks to digitize newspapers (mostly from microfilm) published between 1836 to 1922. Some 67 million pages of microfilmed newspapers are expected to be digitized. The National Digital Newspaper Program will provide anyone with an internet connection immediate, unfiltered access to any of the digitized newspapers, which Cole believes are among the greatest sources of our nation's history. The program will allow people to search in day-to-day accounts in these newspapers. In digitizing the newspapers, the NEH and the Library of Congress are using a technique called Optical Character Recognition (OCR). OCR enables researchers to display and search the actual pages. The project will be based at the Library of Congress. The material is to be made available to the American public for free, forever. Cole believes that the new National Digital Newspaper Program is a cornerstone of the NEH's effort to end the country's historical amnesia. He stated that newspapers are a singular source for understanding the fabric of the towns and regions of our country. America's newspapers offer insight into our nation's history, which combine to form the mosaic of our past as these stories were news before they became history. Cole believes that the National Digital Newspaper Program is one of the most significant projects undertaken by the NEH for the benefit of the American people. The speech can viewed at: <http://www.neh.gov/whoware/speeches/11162004.html>

GOOGLE LAUNCHES NEW SCHOLARLY SEARCH ENGINE

Google recently unveiled a new search engine that focuses on academic materials. According to a company statement, "Google Scholar" focuses on and limits its results to "scholarly literature such as peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts, and technical reports." Google officials say they have the cooperation of a broad range of academic publishers, library groups, scholarly societies, and colleges though the officials would not name the specific participants. Google officials also claim researchers may find articles on obscure topics on their site that Jstor and other similar search engines may overlook. Google Scholar points researchers to other related works that may be of interest. Google officials declined to state how they determined exactly how material is classified as "scholarly" or how Google Scholar determines which results are more relevant than others. But a company statement does say that it "takes into account the full text of each article as well as the article's author, the publication in which the article appeared, and how often it has been cited in scholarly literature." To access Google Scholar, tap into: <http://www.scholar.google.com/>

