JAMES H. BILLINGTON
LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS, IS AN HONORARY MEMBER

EASTON, PA — Mr. James H. Billington, the Librarian of Congress, accepted honorary membership in The American Friends of Lafayette, it was announced by Dr. Robert R. Crout, president of the Society.

A couple of years ago the Library was given authorization to film the extensive collection of Lafayette family manuscripts by our member, Count René de Chambrun, a descendant of Lafayette. That film is now available to all readers in the Manuscript Room of the Library in Washington, D.C.

JAMES H. BILLINGTON

James Hadley Billington was sworn in as The Librarian of Congress on September 14, 1987. He is the 13th incumbent of that position since the Library was established in 1800. Under his leadership, the Library has expanded its public outreach, most notably in major international exhibits and through the establishment of a new National Digital Library and other electronic services for users in remote locations.

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PROF. CHRIS REYNS-CHIKUMA WILL BE CELEBRATION SPEAKER

EASTON, PA — Prof. Chris Reyns-Chikuma, our guest speaker for our 70th anniversary, was born in Belgium and spent several years in Spain and Japan. He came to the United States in 1994 to start a Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado (Boulder) and arrived at Lafayette College in 2000.

He earned his M.A. in Japanese, August 2000; his Ph.D. in French, May 1998 at Colorado University; and a Masters in Romance Languages, Spanish/French, at the University of Louvain, Belgium.

Prof. Reyns-Chikuma’s professional career includes his position as Assistant Professor in Foreign Languages and Literature at Lafayette College; a visiting assistant professor in French and comparative literature at Colorado College, 1998-2000, and instructor in French and Humanities at Colorado University (Boulder) 1993-1998.

His works have been published and he has been associated with several conferences.

Fellowships: He was selected for the seminar on “Beauty and its Discontents” organized at Colorado University, 1998-99; School of theory and Criticism financial in 1998; Lowrey- Reynolds fellowship 1997-98; and a Japanese Government scholarship at Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, summer 1997.

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EASTON, PA — As The American Friends of Lafayette observes its 70th anniversary, it seemed only proper that we note that Lafayette College, where our Society was established in 1932, was founded in 1826.

Diane Windham Shaw, College Archivist, sent us three pictures of the College which was chartered in 1826 a year after the Marquis de Lafayette, accompanied by his son, George Washington Lafayette, concluded his triumphal 1824-25 tour of the United States.

The undated pictures are from the David Bishop Skillman Library and appeared in the 1932 volume 1 edition of *The Biography of a College*. The College opened in 1832. Easton is situated at the fork of the Delaware and Lehigh Rivers at which place a bridge crosses from Philipsburg, New Jersey.

**THE COLLEGE EDIFICE**

**FRONT VIEW**

*From map published 1850*

**REAR VIEW**

*From map published 1850*
A SPARKLING SOIREE FRANÇAISE
AT GORE PLACE

WALTHAM, MA — Celebrating a French and American alliance of more than 200 years, 80 members of Boston's leading French American societies came together on October 11 for the first time at a Soirée Française at the estate of Massachusetts Governor and U.S. Senator Christopher Gore (1758-1827) at historic "Gore Place."

The evening, co-sponsored by the French Consulate in Boston, the Massachusetts Lafayette Society and Gore Place, was also the first preliminary official event of the Gore Place Bicentennial which will be held in 2006.

William P. Dunham, Jr., past president of the Massachusetts Lafayette Society, deserves the lion's share of the credit for making the Soirée a reality, and the Lafayette members were the most well-represented that evening.

The festivities included a wine reception in the 1793 Carriage House, followed by remarks by Consul General Stephane Chmelewsky, followed by a slide lecture about the visit to Paris in 1801 by the Gores. The Gores were frequent visitors to Paris during Mr. Gore's diplomatic posting in England from 1796-1804. Senator and Mrs. Gore hosted the Marquis de Lafayette at Gore Place in 1824.

Among the many distinguished guests was Dr. Hélène Day, Consul of Monaco and founding president of the Ligue Francophone who declared the event "a lovely party."

From left: Gérard Moufflet, French Library of Boston; Madeleine Appfel, Massachusetts Lafayette Society; Joan Dimancescu, Présidente, Vive les Arts-Boston; Mary Louise Burke, Présidente, Association Boston-Strasbourg; Consul General Stéphane Chmelewsky; Michèle Marinthe, Vice-Présidente, Club Richelieu-Alain Briottet; Ray Holliday, Director, Ecole Bilingue; Dr. Hélène Day, Présidente Fondatrice de la Ligue Francophone de la N.A.; Paul Harold, President, Massachusetts Lafayette Society; Thaxter P. Spencer, President, Gore Place Society. Not pictured: Elaine Uzan Leary, Director, French Library of Boston; Maurice Gervais, Président, Chambre de Commerce Franco-Americaine.

PLAQUE ADDED TO FRENCH MEMORIAL

NEWPORT, RI — A plaque listing the names of the French soldiers and sailors who arrived at Newport on July 11, 1780 and who died here during the occupation was added to the pyramidal-shaped monument at King Park. It was at that place that General Count de Rochambeau debarked 6,000 troops who remained here until June 1781 when they began the march to Yorktown.

The ceremony also marked the beginning of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. Col. Serge Gabriel, AUS (Ret), President of the New England committee of Le Souvenir Francais, headed up the committee of arrangements. The plaque was unveiled by the Hon. Stephane Chmelewsky, Consul General of France in Boston; C.V. Stephane Regnier, commanding officer of the French helicopter carrier Jeanne d'Arc, and the Hon. Richard C. Sardella, Mayor of Newport.

Dr. Robert J. McKenna, representing The American Friends of Lafayette, introduced the Rhode Island delegation of officials.

It was said that after a very rough crossing of 70 days at sea, more than 1,800 of the soldiers and sailors from the fleet of 33 vessels debarked with scurvy and were hospitalized.

Eighteen ensigns from the Jeanne d'Arc, which was docked at Boston, joined in the colorful ceremony and made an impressive appearance. A statue of Rochambeau overlooks Newport Harbor at King Park.

Gazette of The American Friends of Lafayette
Leonard J. Panaggio
Editor
44 Old Beach Road
Newport, RI 02840-3349

FRIGATE HERMIONE

Frigate Hermione was a newly built warship when Lafayette embarked on it on March 21, 1780 to return to America. Upon his arrival he hastened to join Washington to announce the imminent arrival of French reinforcements. The replica of this ship is being constructed by the Association Hermione-Lafayette, Place Amiral Dupont, BP 177, 17308 Rochefort cedex, France.
PHILADELPHIA WAS A REVELATION

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Our 69th annual meeting was held in Philadelphia where so much of our nation's history is alive, from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell to historic Germantown. Arrangements for the three day visit (June 8-10) were made by Peggy and John Wynn of Gladwyne.

On the 9th we visited two of Germantown's historic houses, Cliveden and Wyck, which were outstanding examples of Colonial architecture. At Wyck we learned that nine generations of the same Quaker family, the Wistars and the Haines, giving us an overview of the history of the way of life in this family. The garden intrigued our members, especially the ladies, who learned that Wyck's grounds included a nationally known garden of more than 30 varieties of old roses which grow in their original plan dating from the 1820's. Outbuildings of this charming house featured a smoke house, an ice house and a carriage house.

Cliveden figured in the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777, which proved disastrous for the Americans. Cliveden, the mansion of Judge Benjamin Chew, was occupied by the British. A siege by the patriots resulted in 53 dead and many wounded. The house of stone, built 1763-1767, sustained much damage on that occasion.

We next visited the Barren Hill area where Lafayette outwitted a superior British force with a miraculous escape from an almost certain trap. Here John Wynn played a tape, describing the area, narrated by Rudy Cusomano. We visited St. Peter's Church, just a few steps from the cemetery where the Barren Hill story was heard.

The 1778 church has a historic connection with Gen. John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, whose father was a pastor of the church. There in a special room, we viewed maps and documents of historic significance. From there we visited the General Lafayette Inn, just down the hill from the church. After socializing there and meeting with the innkeeper we boarded the bus to Philadelphia for lunch at the historic City Tavern.

The afternoon began with a visit to the Library Company of Philadelphia. Its origin goes back to Benjamin Franklin and 1743. It is now occupied by the American Philosophical Society. At the Library staff members spoke on a variety of subjects and answered numerous questions. Next, we crossed the street to the American Philosophical Society building where we were given an exclusive visit of that property and viewed a special exhibit of scientific instruments. These included an Astronomical Clock, 1768-69, Dialytical Telescope (Vienna, 1834) and a pair of globes (terrestrial and celestial, London 1795-99). The day's program ended with a visit to nearby Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

The reception and dinner took place at our headquarters hotel, the Crowne Plaza. Caroline Lareuse in her position as the Honorary Consul for France in New Jersey brought us the greetings of the Republic of France.

Dr. Robert Crout was the principal speaker. He chose for his topic "Lafayette and His Ladies" which was informative and entertaining and delivered in a truly scholarly fashion.

On Saturday, the 10th, a very hot and sultry day, many of us made the trek to the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Pennsylvania, the Masonic Temple of Philadelphia. There in a very large museum section we viewed many historic artifacts and relics pertaining to the Masons. Our express purpose, however, was to view the Masonic Apron of George Washington. This outstanding apron was hand embroidered by Madame de Lafayette. It was presented to Washington by Lafayette in August, 1784. Among the places where the nation's first chief executive wore it was September 18, 1793, when he laid the cornerstone of the Capitol, Washington, D.C. We also learned that almost half of the nation's chief executives were members of the Masonic order.
Wyck, residence of generations of Wistar and Haines families.  
L.J. Panaggio photo

Assembled on Barren Hill we learn how Lafayette and his force escaped a 6,000 man British trap.  
R. R. Crout photo

The owner of the General Lafayette Inn, in dark shirt, came out to greet a busload of Society members.  
R. R. Crout photo

Monique and Len Panaggio at the Liberty Bell.  
R. R. Crout photo

MASONIC APRON
have lunch at the historic Sun Inn. The 1758-built inn was a resting place for many Revolutionary War leaders including George Washington, John Adams and Lafayette. The tour will include a visit to the restored 1753 Bachman Tavern in Easton. It is the oldest standing building and served as an important social center in Colonial Easton. We will also view the Easton Flag, one of the United States' early standards. The Society's annual dinner and program will be held that evening in the Faculty Dining Room on Lafayette Campus where we will assemble at 6:30 P.M. with dinner being served at 7 P.M.

The Hon. Gilles Montagnie, Consul General from the Embassy of France, Washington, D.C. will be our honored guest. A highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the Lafayette Liberty Award of The American Friends of Lafayette to Mr. Allan P. Kirby, Jr.

Ms. Diane Windham Shaw, librarian and archivist at Lafayette College, has arranged a special exhibit — “Lafayette and Slavery,” which we will see on Saturday morning at the David Bishop Skillman Library. We will learn that Lafayette opposed the institution of slavery, which began at some point late in the American Revolution and continued throughout his life. Displayed will be materials relating to the following: James Armistead, a slave who served Lafayette with distinction as a spy for the Continental Army; “La Belle Gabrielle,” the plantation purchased by the Marquis in the French colony of Cayenne where he set up his experiment for the gradual emancipation of 70 slaves; Lafayette's correspondence with American statesmen and reformers about slavery, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Francis Wright. We will also view the Ary Scheffer portrait of Lafayette and other historical paintings on display at the College's Kirby Hall of Civil Rights. Our annual business meeting will be held Saturday morning at a campus location with adjournment by noon.

The Lafayette Inn, just off the campus of the College, will be our headquarters. The daily rate is $99 plus tax, and suites, of which there are three, are $109 plus tax. The rooms are air conditioned and parking is free. Breakfasts are included in the room rates. Reservations should be made directly with the Inn — (610) 253-4500. Please state that you are a member of The American Friends of Lafayette. We have arranged a special package that will include registration, tour transportation and any museum charges along with the June 13 buffet dinner, and June 14 lunch and dinner for only $85. Please make out checks to The American Friends of Lafayette and mail to Mr. Philip Schroeder, Executive Assistant to the President, Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18042. Please mail checks before June 7 as we must provide counts for dinners and luncheon.

YOUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY
ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Dr. Robert R. Crout
Diane Windham Shaw
Philip Schroeder
Leonard J. Panaggio

CEYLON, OH — The Cleveland State University Library Special Collections has the Marquis de Lafayette Microfilm Collection which contains documents kept in the archives at Chateau LaGrange in France. This rich source of information contains 6,400 feet of microfilm containing 50,000 sheets covering 25,000 items.

The acquisition of this microfilm collection by the Library was funded through the French/American Library Book Fund arranged by its major benefactor John Horton, a personal friend of our Society's member, Comte René de Chambrun, a direct descendant of Lafayette. Comte de Chambrun approved of the collection since the original agreement between the Library of Congress and the Comte did not allow for copying the microfilm.

We are pleased to learn that a member of The American Friends of Lafayette, Albert Oberst, is a member of The Lafayette Collection Founders Committee.

June K. Burton, Ph.D., LL.D., was chosen a winner of the Marquis de Lafayette Microfilm Collection Essay Competition. The judges awarded her a prize of $250 in the category of Best Scholarly Essay Written by a Non-Student.

Karen L. Mounsey was also awarded $250 for her Best Essay Written in French Submitted by a Student.

Dr. Burton authored "Adrienne Noailles Lafayette (1759 - 1807) As Medical Patient: Lafayette's "Better Half" In The Worst of Times." This became the first publication published by The American Friends of Lafayette in 1999 as the revival of similar publications published by the Society in the past.
MOLAND HOUSE
PLANNING 225th ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

WARWICK TOWNSHIP, PA — Historic Moland House, where the Marquis de Lafayette joined the American cause in August 1777 and received his commission as a major general in the Continental Army, has become the center of activities for this year, according to information received from the Warwick Township Historical Society.

The principal project is the 225th anniversary of a 1777 encampment August 10 and 11. Jackie Schneck, writing in The Moland Gazette, noted that the encampment is part of a much larger celebration that is being held in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties, “but we are the beginning of the Pennsylvania events in 2002.”

The encampment correlates with the Continental Army’s activities in 1777 when the Commander-in-Chief and his 11,000 men marched from New Jersey and settled at the Moland House for 13 days in August.

The article stated that for many years Brandywine began the campaign, but research now recognizes this area and “we are now recognized in the proper time slot in history.” It was also learned that the encampment will be known as the Moland House Neshamini Encampment as the reenactors have more knowledge of the event under the latter name.

President Warren Williams reports a letter from Washington to Colonel Daniel Morgan dated “Neshamini Camp. August 16, 1777.” Washington had information that the British were recruiting Indians to terrorize the New England frontier areas. His solution to the problem was to dispatch Morgan and his crack riflemen.

The letter reads: “Sir: After you receive this, you will march with the Corps under your Command, as soon as possible, to Peeks Kill, taking with you all the baggage belonging to it. When you arrive there, you will take directions from Gen. Putnam, who, I expect, will have Vessels provided to carry you to Albany. The approach of the Enemy, in that Quarter, has made a further reinforcement necessary, and I know of no corps so likely to check their progress in proportion to their number, as the one you Command. I have great dependence on you, your Officers and Men, and am firmly persuaded, you will do honor to yourselves and essential Service to your Country.”

On May 19 the Society sponsored a High Tea with Martha Washington at Moland House for ladies only. A variety of teas, tea sandwiches, preserves, sweets and scones with clotted cream were offered. The highlight was a visit with Martha for tea and conversation. Irene Ferguson portrayed Martha who shared her wonderful stories of life with General Washington.

The American Friends of Lafayette began its association with Moland House when Peter Brunner made a special visit to Newport and conferred with then President Leonard J. Panaggio. In the process of time, the Society gave the Moland House “the break it has sought for many years,” according to Mr. Brunner. That took place at our annual meeting in Mendenhall, Pennsylvania in 1995 when a delegation from Moland House attended our annual dinner and met with our special guest, the Hon. Claude Fay, the Consul General of France. At the meeting Mr. Fay said he would visit Moland House which he did on October 31. Press coverage was “terrific” and the Philadelphia Inquirer was on hand to record the event. On May 10, 1996 about 25 members of our Society met with a large Moland House group and visited the house associated with Lafayette. At that time restoration was beginning. As of now, we understand, a lot has been accomplished with the installation of heating and cooling systems and planned electrical and fire suppression systems.

At that time we noted that “When you get two small organizations together, as we did at Moland House, you create a crowd. We were all happy to meet the

Continued on page 10
THE USS LAFAYETTE
(SSBN-616)

The USS Lafayette (SSBN-616) was the world's most powerful submarine when she was commissioned in 1963. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of The American Friends of Lafayette three members of her crew attended the event which was held at Lafayette College. The representatives were Lieutenant Thomas A. Lauzon, Sonar Technician First Class Harvey D. McFadden and Machinist Mate Second Class Henry W. Robinson, Jr.

On Saturday, November 3, 1963 members of our Society met at the General Dynamics Corporation, Electric Boat Division, at Groton, Connecticut to dedicate a plaque which was placed in the Ward Room. The ceremony was attended by many of the officers and enlisted personnel.

The French Embassy was represented by Admiral Michel Prache. The Consul General at New York, M. Michel Legendre, was also present. Mrs. Emery Bassett, Librarian of the Submarine Library at the base, attended as well as about 35 members of our Society.

After the Invocation by Chaplain F. X. Bergen, Commander Patrick J. Hannifin made an address. This was followed by a presentation of an engraving of Lafayette by Mrs. Alan Maclntire and the gift of a handsome Lafayette paperweight by Paul X. Bergen, Commander Patrick J. Hannifin. The ceremony was followed by a reception in the Crew's Mess and a tour of the submarine which put to sea.

The ceremony was sponsored by the American Friends of Lafayette.

WHIRLWIND TOUR OF VIRGINIA Cont'd.

attacks upon our country.

The French visitors brought with them some French soil packed in two heart-shaped glass containers that were wrapped with blue, white and red ribbon. These hearts were placed at the foot of the large white cross in the woods where the French cemetery for 50 unknown French soldiers are buried.

Mrs. Lareuse stated, "If Lafayette could have American soil on his grave at Picpus Cemetery, then the French soldiers should have some French soil!" She said it was a very touching event.

From Yorktown the two ladies drove southeast to Virginia Beach to Fort Story where there is a monument of Admiral DeGrasse. It was his French fleet that took part in the Battle of the Capes which resulted in General Cornwallis' fate at Yorktown. The ceremony was sponsored by the Alliance Francaise (DeGrasse Chapter) and the city of Virginia Beach.

The next stop was made via a long drive from the ocean to the Blue Ridge area of Charlottesville. There they attended a tree-planting ceremony in honor of Colonel Crozet. A native of Clermont-Ferrand, born at the end of King Louis XVI's reign, he emigrated to the United States where he died on the eve of the Civil War. He was a co-founder of the Virginia Military Institute where his son, Alfred, was a cadet. Col. Crozet was involved in the construction of canals and tunnels to allow railway expansion. Recognized as one of the great engineers of his time, he remained in Virginia until his death and his remains were buried in Lexington. In his homage, it was decided that the little town that was being built just to the west of Charlottesville would bear his name.

Mesdames Lareuse and Hultgren then made another long drive southwest along the foothills of the Blue Ridge to Bedford where the National D-Day Memorial is located. Mrs. Lareuse and Mrs. Hultgren spent the night of the 20th in Lynchburg and took part in a program at Bedford placing a wreath at the D-Day Memorial. Bedford lost the most men in proportion to its population on D-Day than any other community in the country. The ladies made the long journey back to Princeton where they arrived about midnight October 21.

HISTORIC BETHLEHEM Cont'd.

An infirmary for officers was arranged on the top floor of the Sun Inn. However, for better comfort he was removed to a nearby farmhouse which was the home of George Boeckel. There Mrs. Boeckel and her daughter Elizabeth tended to his needs, according to the Butterfield report, from September 17 to October 18. The Boeckel spelling became Beckel. Elizabeth (or Liese!) is buried in the old Moravian Cemetery near the Central Moravian Church.

During his convalescence Lafayette was visited by many heroes of the Revolution. Among them was Baron de Kalb, who was scouting the area for possible points of defense; John Hancock, John and Samuel Adams, Congressmen; and Generals William Woodford and John Armstrong. He considered his wound had healed enough after 29 days of inactivity and hastened to join Washington although he was unable to use his leg.

MOLAND HOUSE 225th ANNIVERSARY Cont'd.

Pennsylvanians who are dedicated to this project and we look forward to news of progress."

If you wish to learn more about the project and its activities for this year communicate with Warwick Township Historical Society, P.O. Box 107, Jamison, PA. The house is located at 1841 Old York Road, Hartsville.
Painted by Alonzo Chappell

Engraved by H. B. Hall

VALLEY FORGE -- WASHINGTON & LAFAYETTE
The arrival of the French fleet at Newport, July 11, 1780 (from an old painting).