

**JEAN-BAPTISTE-DONATIEU DE VIMEUR DE ROCHAMBEAU**  
**JULY 1, 1725**



*Rochambeau* is descended from a long line of soldiers who passed on to him the characteristics of leadership. In his early military campaigns, his commanders saw in the young Rochambeau as a man who could react quickly in the face of danger, put aside fear, and make sound decisions.

*At* 55 years old, he was a seasoned officer and had taken part in numerous sieges over his 37 years in service to his country. He was selected to lead the nearly 5,000 troops to aid the American cause for freedom from the British. His Majesty, King Louis XVI entrusted Rochambeau and his troops, in all cases, be under the command of General Washington. On March 2, 1780 he and the French fleet set sail for America.

*In* August, 1781 the intention to attack the British in Manhattan was scuttled and the combined armies set off to Yorktown, VA to attack the British. A quick crossing through New Jersey, ahead of the British realizing the true target and make them believe that Manhattan was still in the crosshairs, included splitting the armies into 3 columns and building massive bread ovens in Chatham as a ruse de guerre. The columns converged near Princeton, marched to Trenton crossed the Delaware River and headed to Yorktown, VA.

*In* October, 1781 a siege of Yorktown, VA trapped the British. After 3 weeks, British General Lord Charles Cornwallis capitulated and surrendered in the final battle of the Revolutionary War.

*Rochambeau* returned to France in 1783. He and Washington continued their correspondence. He escaped the guillotine in the French Revolution and lived to be 81 years old. Rochambeau's chateau in France is still owned by his descendants and is open for tours.

**PROGRAM**



**4:00-4:15** Gather - Self introductions – wine, beer, drinks.

**4:15** Welcome – Julie Diddell, Chair, W3R-NJ

**Greetings** – Westfield Mayor Shelley Brindle

**Greetings** – Johnny F. Carawan, Trail Administrator, WARO

**Toast to Rochambeau** – Sam Davis as General Washington

**4:30** Remarks - Frank Giordano, Exec. Dir. America250  
U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission

**4:45 - 6:00** - Appetizers, Main Course, Desert, Coffee

**ADIEU**



**À BIENTÔT**

## THANK YOU TO:



**Frank Giordano** America250 for being our guest of honor and his wife, Dottie.



**Stephane Bocket**, Chez Catherine owner, for hosting this event.



**Johnny F. Carawan**, Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, Trail Administrator.



**Tom Ross**, MNHP Superintendent and guest Gina Napurano.



**Sam Davis** for appearing as General George Washington.



**Janice Sellinger** for her support of W3R-NJ/ W3R-US.



**Catherine Parette** for making the lavender sachets.



**Mike Boone**, W3R-US Media Consultant for his marketing support.



**Marc Somnlet**, President, FACC-NY and his wife, Margarita.



**Robert Meyer**, President NJ SAR and his wife, Lori for their support.

&

W3R-US Executive Director, Ellen von Karajan  
W3R-US Board Chair, Larry Abell

W3R-NJ, Board  
Chair, Julie Diddell  
Treasurer, Galina Chernikova  
Recording Secretary, Mary Swarbrick  
Corresponding Secretary, Thomas D'Amico  
Board Member, Eric Diddell

Thank you to the W3R-US & W3R-NJ Board who helped behind the scenes.  
Thank you to those who attended to show your support. **See you on the Trail!**



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

## WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU REVOLUTIONARY ROUTE NEW JERSEY W3R-NJ

### COMMEMORATES

GENERAL COMTE DE ROCHAMBEAU

HERO OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH.

*Chez Catherine, Westfield, NJ*

*July 1, 2023*



July 1, 1725

Bon Anniversaire, General Rochambeau !