



The Brandywine Dispatch

Member's Newsletter of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates

"Keeping the Story Alive and Interesting"

Winter 2019



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PA Museum's Conference visits Brandywine!

The Brandywine Battlefield Park was honored to host part of the PA Museum's Conference 2019 on Sunday, April 7th. The Conference is 3 days of history, workshops, and planning for the future for Pennsylvania History; hosted by the non-profit [PA Museums](#). Brandywine Battlefield offered



Cheval de Frise Display

Conference attendees free admission and an exclusive first look at our two new displays in the Museum.

The first new display is for our prized Cheval-de-Frise. It now has an awesome map showing the Continentals placement and strategy, as well as more displays demonstrating construction and history of this unique Revolutionary War artifact. If you are asking yourself, "what the heck is a Cheval de Frise??" - [Check out our Summer 2018](#) issue, where it is covered in detail.

PA Museum Conference attendees also examined our new display for the Patrick Ferguson Rifle (replica). As the first breech loading weapon, this gave marksmen a much higher rate of fire than the average musket. The trigger guard is actually used as a crank to "unscrew" the breech where it could then be loaded with



New Display for the Ferguson Rifle

powder and ball. The idea of a breech loading musket was way ahead of its time, as the next breech loading weapon to be designed would not be until the percussion lock rifles used in the Civil War.

We would like to invite all of our Members to come out and check out our new exhibits for the 2019 season!





The Brandywine Battlefield Park is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHMC) with the active support of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates

The Brandywine Dispatch is published quarterly by BBPA, and is free with membership.

Submissions are welcome!

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From the Education Director

Greetings from the Battlefield! After our winter hiatus, we are excited to be back in the full swing of things and are gearing up for another busy season here at the park. To give you a sense of the new and exciting things, here are a few highlights from the last several months along with things to look forward to down the road.

Last month, the installation of two new exhibits occurred in our museum to enhance your visit and the overall interpretation of the Battle of Brandywine. One addition is a new exhibit that highlights and tells the fascinating story of our recently acquired artifact, a Cheval de Frise. In July 2017, the PHMC installed this artifact in our museum that washed ashore in Bristol, PA following Hurricane Sandy in 2012. This approximately twenty-foot-long timber with a mounted spike, was a defensive measure that prevented the Royal Navy from accessing Philadelphia. To interpret the artifact, a display was produced to give visitors a better sense of how effective this measure was along with other pertinent information. Additionally, the PHMC improved and installed a new exhibit to better interpret our reproduction Ferguson Rifle. Patrick Ferguson was the inventor and owner of a patent for the first breech loading rifle and Brandywine was the first and only battle throughout the eight-year conflict where the rifle saw combat. Visitors to the museum can now gain a better understanding of how the rifle operated through diagrams as well as appreciate the significant role it played and could have played had it been produced on a more massive scale.

Furthermore, we have also added several new programs to our 2019 calendar that we encourage you to attend! Over the winter and early spring, we have hosted the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry for Casimir Pulaski Day and held several well attended Revolutionary Dining Series lectures with historians, scholars, and artists. We have also implemented our first History at Play: Kids' Day and 18th Century Day programs along with our newest addition for hands on 18th century learning; the History Guild. A full list of our upcoming programs can be found on our website and, again, we encourage you to attend!

Finally, I would like to highlight our educational programming for school students. This spring, the park will see well over one thousand students from local, out of state, and home schools who will take part in our Colonial Day and other educational program packages. This is a significant increase from our school student attendance last year, which is an indication that more interest is being geared towards 18th century history and the American Revolution. Huzzah!

As you can see, there are always new and exciting opportunities to take advantage of with your membership with the BBPA. We hope you can visit and enjoy what we have to offer sometime soon!

Andrew Outten

Director of Education & Museum Services



Charter Day Recap

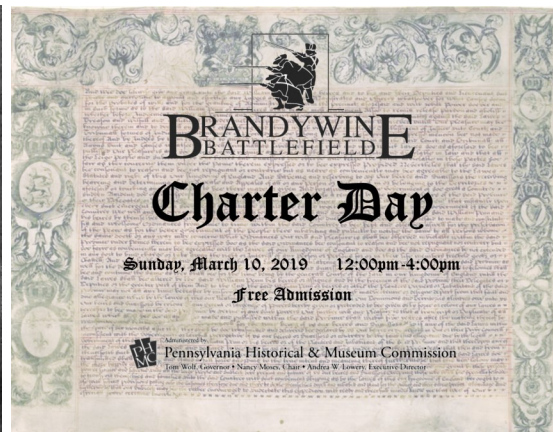
March 10th, 2019



Charter Day:
Our first day of the Season!

We celebrated William Penn's Charter to Pennsylvania to kickoff our 2019 season in early March.

The weather was overcast but it could not stifle the heritage of Pennsylvania!



Encampment Day 2019

May 11th, 2019

Encampment Day is a great event to showcase the 18th Century Soldier. Think you know what it was like to be a soldier in the Continental Army? Think again. This program focuses on the daily life and experience of a soldier in Washington's Army.

Date: May 11th, 2019

Time: 10AM- 4PM

Admission: Adults \$12 Seniors \$10 Kids \$8

[Check out all of our Events](#)



Revolutionary Dining Series Concluded



A huge THANK YOU to everyone that attended and helped make our inaugural Revolutionary Dining Series Season a huge success! To recap the season, check out www.brandywinebattlefield.org/revwardining Also, stay tuned for news on upcoming events!



RevWar Dining Series



Summer Camp 2019

June - August



**BRANDYWINE
BATTLEFIELD**

SUMMER HISTORY CAMP

JUNE - AUGUST

Signups Open!

Grades: K-6

Price: \$250

Member's Price: \$225



The Brandywine Battlefield's annual Summer History Camp is now open for sign-ups! The camp runs every week from June to August. Campers will learn about life in the 18th Century and Washington's Continental Army through various educational programs and activities. Camp activities include 18th Century Cooking, Team Artillery (water balloon launcher), 18th Century Medicine, Capture the Flag, and more! First week runs June 24th - 28th.

Sign-Ups now Open! www.brandywinebattlefield.org/summer-camp

Spring & Summer at the Battlefield

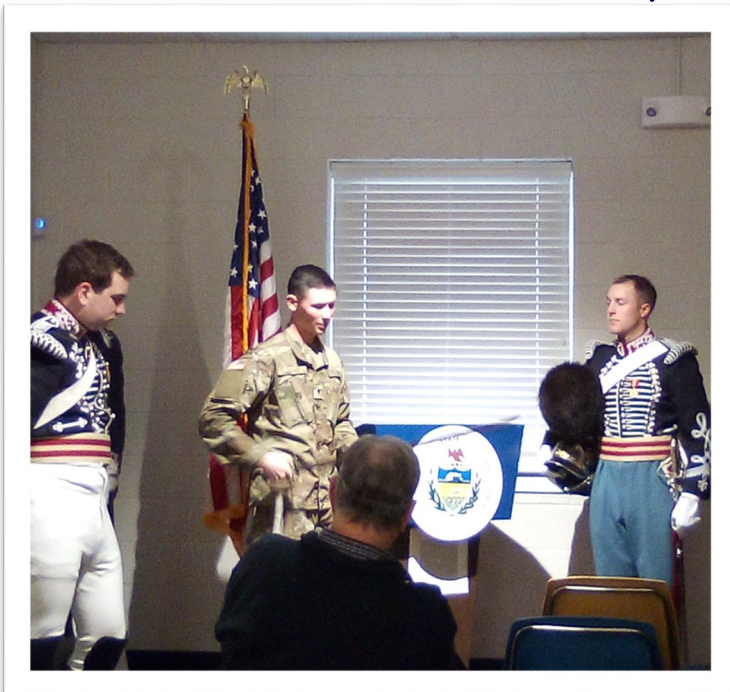
2019 Season

Just a reminder that our hours will be changing from Thursday - Sunday in April to Wednesday - Sunday in May. Then in June, we change to Tuesday - Sunday! Be sure to keep up to date with our hours on our website! We also have ongoing events every month; including Kid's Days, History in the Neighborhood, and 18th Century Days! For more detail visit brandywinebattlefield.org/events



Keep up to date with our Hours: www.brandywinebattlefield.org/plan-a-visit/

Celebrating Pulaski Day



Philadelphia's First Troop City Cavalry

Brandywine Battlefield celebrated the Father of the American Cavalry, Casimir Pulaski, on March 3rd, 2019. The esteemed First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry joined us, talked with guests, and shared their history. The First Troop City Cavalry's Historian gave a very interesting lecture on the unit's history and current roles in the military. The unit is the oldest active military unit in America and is part of the Army National Guard. We were all surprised to learn that the unit is still trained on horseback with lances. Their current uniform also pays homage to the 18th Century; as the woven buttons are actually a type of armor to protect from saber slashes.

The City Cavalry is also very difficult to get into. There are rigorous requirements and an election system to be admitted and advance. Casimir Pulaski lead the 1st Continental Cavalry charge of the American Revolution at the Battle of Brandywine.



“Brandywine Battlefield Park serves the educational needs of the public through the preservation of the cultural landscape and the interpretation of the largest single day battle of the American Revolution. The Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, EIN #23-2143174. The official registration and financial information of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, in Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement”

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Take Notice! Volunteers Wanted:

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the Brandywine Battlefield Park or know someone who might, please visit our website for more information and to fill out a registration form!

www.brandywinebattlefield.org

Contribution Form

Yes! I would like to offer additional support to the Brandywine Battlefield Park and Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates by making a tax-exempt donation!

Please send form and donation to: BBPA - P.O. Box 202 Chadds Ford, PA 19317

My Contribution is: _____ \$500 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ Other: _____

_____ _Check Enclosed

_____ Please Charge my: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ American Express _____ Discover

Name on Card (Please Print): _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Notes: _____

To make an Online Donation, visit our website: www.brandywinebattlefield.org, and click the “Donate link on the home page. All donations are very much appreciated and go towards bettering educational and interpretational components of the Battlefield Park! Thank you!