



A Newsletter from the Princeton Battlefield Society – Fall 2022



Our 3rd annual Young Patriots Day was held on September 18. It was an exciting and meaningful day for over 125 kids and their families. The day, starting with a ceremonial flag raising with General George Washington and Michael Russell, Princeton Battlefield Society president, accompanied by an honor guard of New Jersey Grays and a fife and drum team, was filled with activities and presentations. There were musket and cannon firings, marching and drilling, conversations with General Washington and Ben Franklin, Clarke House artifacts, planting of seeds for winter crops at a new 18th century house garden, games and activities for kids sponsored by Friends of Washington Crossing-Pennsylvania, the 250th

Anniversary trailer and displays from the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission, and information tables from area historic organizations and sites.



The day was capped off with a New Jersey Sons of the American Revolution ceremony unveiling a new plaque at the Clarke House cannon commemorating the death of Brigadier General Hugh Mercer.





We thank the following for making the 2022 Young Patriots Day a huge success.

- Society of the Cincinnati
- Doug Aumack – 18th century medicine
- Washington Crossing Park Association
- Friends of Washington Crossing-Pennsylvania
- The Trent House
- Clarke House Staff
- Washington-Rochambeau Trail (W3R)
- Crossroads of the American Revolution
- New Jersey Sons of the American Revolution
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Princeton Chapter
- Princeton Friends Meeting
- Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission
- Larry Kidder - Discussing the Battle
- Colonial Dress-Up with Kathy Pasko
- Kim Gallagher's Hand-painted miniatures
- Fife & Drum from the Friends of Washington Crossing-Pennsylvania
- New Jersey Grays
- General George Washington (aka Ron Rinaldi) and Ben Franklin (aka Rob DeVitis)
- And, of course, the volunteers who put it all together!



**WE GRATEFULLY RECOGNIZE AND THANK OUR 2022 MEMBERS
FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION TO PROTECT, PRESERVE & PROMOTE
THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA AT THE PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD**

(as of October 2022)

1777 PATRIOT MEMBERS

Mark Herr
William Hupp
Gregory P. Wilson

GENERAL WASHINGTON MEMBERS

Tom Kane
Deborah Roldan
Robert & Susan Tafel
Domenique Collins Yermolayev

GENERAL MERCER MEMBERS

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Don & Janis Barnes
Tim & Mercy Byrne
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Robert Fanelli
Kim P. Gallagher
Luke Johnson
Scott A. MacPherson
Candace McCoy
Mark & Karen Perreault
Randall Riccardo
David & Michelle Russell
Tim & Elene West
Roger Williams
Robert Zadek

REVOLUTIONARY MEMBERS

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John P. Cassullo III
Anne Clementson
W. H. Cox, II
George Daugharty
Joe Diehm
Douglas Dixon
Michael J. Duffy
David Duncan
Harvey Flaxman
Mark Freda
Dr. Kenneth Fredeen
Emanuele Gillio
Dr. J. Daniel Hanks, Jr.

Steve Kuchta
Bill Marsch
Denise & Tom McGough
Richard P. McLean
David Price
Todd Quackenbush
Michael Russell
Pat & Bill Russell
Ben Strauss
Charles Stults
Marshall Swartzburg, MD
Alexandra Tatnall
Kevin Tremble
Lee Varian
Glenn F. Williams, PhD
Brann & Ellen Wry

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Kevin M. Cale
Michael Clayton
Alan Davis
Robert Doscher
Alan Dybvig
William & Susanna Fitzgerald
Anthony J. Franze
Paul Fritts
Ken Gavin
Hugo J. Gobbi
Iain Haight-Aston
Mark S. Henderson
Jerald P. Hurwitz
Rachelle Hurwitz
Kathleen Hyland
Timothy Iten
Joan Kaplan
Asher Lurie
John McCorry
Jeffrey B. Mershon
Bill Meyer
Steven Misiura
Manuel F. Montes
Kevin Mooney
Gary Nelson

Tracy & Jeff Orleans
Bruce Ryno
Mary Skevington
Deanne Smith-Johns
Thomas & Mary Stange
Ben Strong
Thomas Tompkins
Rex Van Veldhuisen
Carolyn Youngs
Vincent J. Zito

MEMBERS

Anonymous (1)
Peter Avioli
Howard Bellizio
Todd P. Bolton
Theresa Brasko
Davis Bruce
Anthony Burdge
Kate Carlisle
Bonnie Cierkowski
Bill Cleave
Julie Crum
James Cunningham
Julie Diddell
Thomas Doyle
Douglas Emery
Grayson & Dee Ferrante
Victoria Fisher
John Frederick
Eugene Fridkin
Christopher Gribbin
Barbara Hansell
Katharine Holub
Thomas S. Jordan
Richard Kane
Adam Kelley

Rosemary Kelley
Larry Kidder
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Douglas Kiofsky
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David Martin
Camille Mastri
Brian McNerney
William Miller
Brewster Miner
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William Myers
Joseph Novak
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Kathy Pasko
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Gregory Regelski
Timothy G. Terrell
William Traubel
Raymond Trepkau
Judith Waidlich
Thomas Walsh
Bruce & Holly Weise
Christian Wethe
Bennett B. Wethered
Robert L. Wong
Catherine Marks Yamamoto

*We welcome your renewal in
2023 and look forward to others
joining our growing family of
members, donors, and friends.
We need you!*



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Princeton, New Jersey 08543
www.pbs1777.org
info@pbs1777.org

★★★ TRAVERSING THE ★★★ TEN CRUCIAL DAYS BUS TOUR

Are you looking for an opportunity to retrace the December 25 Crossing of the Delaware and the December 26, 1776 through January 3, 1777 American and British military engagements at Trenton, Princeton and areas in-between? Here's a tour for you.



*Friends of
Washington
Crossing Park*

Historical interpreters Roger Williams and Larry Kidder, on behalf of the Friends of the Washington Crossing Park-Pennsylvania, will tell the remarkable story of the ten days in 1776-77 that breathed crucial new life and a new sense of possible victory into the American Revolution. Events are discussed in the context of the strategically important central New Jersey towns, villages, and farms. Real people are weaved into their presentations – Quakers, Presbyterians, and Anglicans, each with views on their loyalty to the Revolution or the King or as neutrals. These are some of the same people who appear in the 28 Eyewitness of the American Revolution cards and in the videos produced by the Princeton Battlefield Society.

Hear how the terrain, weaponry and weather influenced the ways the battles were fought and how the lives of local people were disrupted. See where armies marched, fought and struggled to survive on an otherwise peaceful landscape, while the course of American history hung in the balance.

The next public bus tours will be offered on December 4 and 10 and January 7, the day before our Experience the Battle of Princeton.

Tours last from 9 AM to 5 PM. The cost is \$150 per person and includes bus fare, lunch, and donations to Washington Crossing Historic Park, The Washington Crossing Park Association-New Jersey, The Old Barracks Museum in Trenton and the Princeton Battlefield Society.

To register for one of these public tours, please visit <https://www.washingtoncrossingpark.org/traversing-bus-tour/>

★★★PARTNERS IN AMERICAN HISTORY★★★

We acknowledge and thank our community partners for supporting our programs and services.

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| ★ Allen & Stultz | ★ Law Offices of Christina W. Strong | ★ Princeton Corkscrew Wine Shop |
| ★ Americana Corner | ★ The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey | ★ Palmer Square, Princeton |
| ★ The Bank of Princeton | ★ Lear & Pannepacker, LLP | ★ Al Pochek, Photographer |
| ★ Meredith Barnes, Photographer | ★ Matt Matrale, Videographer | ★ The George F. and Estelle M. Sands Foundation |
| ★ Chase Field | ★ The Curtis W. McGraw Foundation | ★ Small World Coffee |
| ★ Colonial Lords of Manors in America | ★ Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission | ★ Society of Colonial Wars |
| ★ Cornerstone Analytics | ★ Mercer Oak Award Committee | ★ Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey |
| ★ Education Committee of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution | ★ New Jersey Society of the Sons of the American Revolution | ★ Sons of the Revolution in the State of New Jersey |
| ★ Enno Terra & Raoul Momo | ★ NJM Insurance Group | ★ TenCrucialDays.org |
| ★ Fire & Safety Services | ★ New Jersey Historic Trust | ★ Visit Princeton-Mercer Convention & Visitor Bureau |
| ★ Friends of Washington Crossing Park | ★ New Jersey Historical Commission | ★ Volunteers at all PBS Events |
| ★ Mark Herr Communications | ★ Post Hill Press and Knox Press | ★ Wegman's – West Windsor |
| ★ Lee Herring Family Fund | ★ Preservation New Jersey | ★ Wildflowers of Princeton Junction |
| ★ HMRArchitects | ★ Princeton Community Television | ★ The Bob Zadek Show |
| ★ HomeDepot – Hamilton | | |

FALL CLEAN UP DAY

Thank you to Laura Wirpzsza and Todd Quackenbush, Clean Up Day co-chairs, and the volunteers who donated time to cleaning up the Park on October 22. And thank you to HomeDepot-Hamilton for top soil, mulch and Fall mum for our new kiosk and to Wegman's for water, snacks, and paper goods.

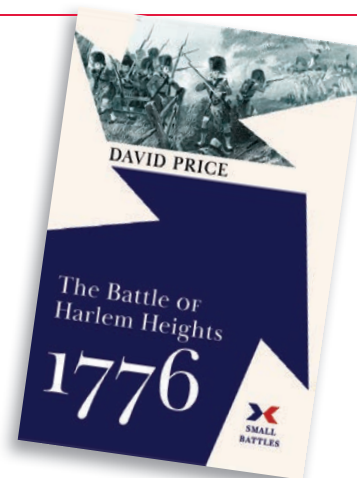


BOOK RECCOMENDATION

THE BATTLE OF HARLEM HEIGHTS, 1776

by David Price

David Price is an Historical Interpreter for the PBS Battlefield Tour Program and the author of JOHN HASLET'S WORLD, THE ROAD TO ASSUNPINK CREEK, and RESCUING THE REVOLUTION. He reviews his new book for our HUZZAH! newsletter.



The Battle of Harlem Heights is a largely unappreciated milestone in American military history. This engagement on upper Manhattan Island on September 16, 1776 presaged the gradual emergence of an effective fighting force among the citizen-soldiers who made up the Continental Army and bore the brunt of young America's struggle for political and economic self-determination. The cooperative effort of regiments from New England, Maryland, and Virginia—whose men lacked any sense of national identity before the Revolution—indicated the potential for this fledgling army to cohere around a common national purpose and affiliation and become the primary instrument for gaining American independence.

The action began when a contingent of rangers led by Colonel Thomas Knowlton of Connecticut encountered British light infantry while conducting a reconnaissance mission. What began as a skirmish transformed into a full-fledged battle as both sides reinforced, and a heavy engagement continued for several hours until, with ammunition running low, the British withdrew. Washington decided not to pursue and risk confrontation with a larger force, thereby keeping his army intact. In *The Battle of Harlem Heights, 1776*, the significance of the Continental Army's victory highlights the role of one of its key participants, the largely forgotten Knowlton – “father of American military intelligence” – who gave his life during the action while urging his rangers forward.

★★★★★ UPDATES ★★★★★

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On August 28 we participated at the Washington-Rochambeau Trail's "March to Yorktown" in Westfield, New Jersey. Representing us in the parade and at our information table were Ben Franklin (aka Rob DeVitis) and trustees, Mike Duffy and Todd Quackenbush. Thanks to Julie Didell, chair of the New Jersey W3R Trail, for organizing the event.



Our annual Battlefield Tour Program for 2022 ended on October 16. This was our fourth year of organized tours on Sundays from May to October. This year, despite

two weather-related postponements, we had about 200 attendees, both adults and children. Thank you to our Historical Interpreters, Larry Kidder, David Price, Roger Williams, and Will Krakower, as well as to our "chief facilitator," Kim Gallagher, for making 2022 another success. We're looking forward to 2023! Anyone interested in volunteering for this program should let us know at info@pbs1777.org.

We welcomed various groups for Fall tours, including members of the Springdale Country Club (September 15), ROTC Rutgers staff ride (October 7), and volunteers and staff from Washington Crossing Historic Park – Pennsylvania (October 8).

Let us hear from you if your group is interested in partnering with the Princeton Battlefield Society on a historic community project.

For example, we will be working with members of the Springdale Country Club (site of Washington's march into Princeton after the January 3, 1777 battle) on developing a historic marker and planting a descendant of the Mercer Oak.

A NEW 18TH CENTURY GARDEN AT THE CLARKE HOUSE



Congratulations and thanks to Caleb Collins, Troop 27, for building a new 18th century garden outside the Clarke House. This was Caleb's Eagle Scout Project. Young Patriots Day was the perfect opportunity for kids to help plant seeds for winter vegetables.

THE RAOUL MOMO VISITOR KIOSK



Our new visitor kiosk at the Park's parking lot was made possible with proceeds from the 2018 Mercer Oak Award reception honoring Raoul Momo. The kiosk makes historic and recreational information available to visitors.

UPDATES *(continued)*

“WE’RE CLOSED!” SIGN AT THE CLARKE HOUSE

That’s a good sign! It means we are taking the next steps in creating a new educational exhibit in the Clarke House museum. Following painting, repairs, a new floor, and required upgrades by the State DEP, the rooms are currently ready for the exhibit’s builders, who visited the museum on October 24.

**Stay tuned for our big announcement:
“NEW EXHIBIT OPEN.”**



HONORS FROM PRESERVATION NEW JERSEY

The Princeton Battlefield Society was awarded the David H. Knights New Jersey Preservation Award for our Eyewitness of the American Revolution initiative.

The award, which was accepted on October 12 by Michael Russell, PBS president, is given annually to an organization or individual that has created new initiatives and new opportunities for preservation, education, and/or community engagement in New Jersey.



SECOND EYEWITNESS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION VIDEO

Thank you to Americana Corner for funding our second video of six “eyewitnesses” at the Battle of Princeton. Now in the editing process, the video features: Colonel Edward Hand (1st Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment), Major John Kelly (Northumberland County Militia), John Hood (3rd Battalion of Philadelphia Associators), Joseph Clark (College of New Jersey student), Colonel John Haslet (Delaware Militia), and Brigadier General Hugh Mercer. The project was directed by Paul Kelley, with Matt Matrale as videographer.

Once released, this Americana Corner-sponsored video will appear on the PBS website, www.pbs1777.org. The first video, underwritten by a New Jersey Historic Trust grant, is currently available for viewing on our website.

We gratefully acknowledge photo credits in this Issue of HUZZAH!

– Al Pocheck, Meredith Barnes, Michael Russell.

★ EXPERIENCE THE ★ BATTLE OF PRINCETON

FREE
Coffee &
Hot
Chocolate



Photographs by Al Pochek

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

- **Plan to arrive by 9:15 am!**
- **9:45** - Introductions and comments on the Ten Crucial Days of 1776-77
- **10:00** - Narration and reenactment of the Battle of Princeton
- **11:00** - Converse with British and American reenactors and living historians
- **11:45** - Wreath-laying ceremony at the Colonnade and Memorial Grove
- **1:00** - Tour the historic Thomas Clarke House

REGISTER TODAY!

Background and registration information at www.pbs1777.org or contact us at info@pbs1777.org

For tourism information on restaurants, hotels, attractions and events, visit the Princeton-Mercer Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.visitprinceton.org

Parking at the Battlefield and along Mercer Road is limited. There will be off-site parking with shuttle service to and from the Battlefield.

THANK YOU TO OUR GROWING LIST OF SPONSORS

- NJM Insurance Group
- The George H. and Estelle M. Sands Foundation
- Investors Foundation
- New Jersey Society, Sons of the American Revolution



VISIT PRINCETON-MERCER
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
A DIVISION OF THE PRINCETON-MERCER REGIONAL CHAMBER

If you are interested in sponsoring Experience the Battle of Princeton or making a donation, contact us at info@pbs1777.org



**Princeton Battlefield
State Park, New Jersey
Sunday, January 8, 2023**

- ★ Witness British and American reenactors, musket and cannon firing, in a reenactment of the January 3, 1777 Battle of Princeton.
- ★ Converse with living historians bringing Experience the Battle of Princeton to life.
- ★ Join the New Jersey Sons of the American Revolution and representatives of military units with lineage to the Battle of Princeton at a wreath-laying ceremony at the Colonnade and Memorial Grove.
- ★ Tour the historic Thomas Clarke House where General Hugh Mercer died of wounds he suffered during the battle.
- ★ Take pictures and bring home memories of this historic event!
- ★ And, if you are the first 200 registered before before January 7, stop by our welcome table and receive Experience the Battle of Princeton gifts.



Princeton Battlefield Society

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