



VALLEY FORGE PARK ALLIANCE

Inspiring appreciation for and citizen stewardship of Valley Forge Park since 1976.

E-News - January 30, 2024

Lafayette: America's Champion



Join the VFPA Speaker Series on Tuesday, February 6 for a special lecture about the role and impact the Marquis de Lafayette had on the America Revolution!

Julien Pierre Icher is a 30-year-old French national, Founder, and President of The Lafayette Trail, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to mapping and marking General Lafayette's footsteps during his Farewell Tour of the United States in 1824 and 1825. It aims to educate the public about the national significance of Lafayette's Tour and to promote a broader

understanding of Lafayette's numerous contributions to American independence and national coherence in preparation for the 2024-2025 tour bicentennial celebrations.

Mr. Icher is the host and director of Follow The Frenchmen, a YouTube-based not-for-profit web series produced by The Lafayette Trail, Inc. exploring and interpreting the significance of Lafayette's legacy. Over the past few years, he has given over 70 lectures about Lafayette and the Farewell Tour.

[Learn More and Register for the Lecture](#)

[Watch Julien Icher Explain About His Talk and Invite You to the Lecture on February 6](#)



We are so excited for our next Speaker Series event on Tuesday, February 6 with Julien Icher of The Lafayette Trail discussing General Lafayette's foo...
[See more](#)

John Clark, Jr. - Spymaster



Throughout the Revolutionary War, General George Washington struggled to win with an army that was continually undermanned, undertrained, and undersupplied. To overcome these brutal odds, he turned to his invisible weapon – a secret intelligence network. According to the Central Intelligence Agency, “General Washington was more deeply involved in intelligence operations than any American general-in-chief until Dwight Eisenhower during World War II.” One of those spies was John Clark, Jr. Read about this

spymaster in the [latest version](#) of the Valley Forge Muster Roll’s “Valley Forge Stories.”

While you’re on the Muster Roll website, [search to see if your ancestor was at the encampment](#) and join our [Honorary Muster Roll!](#)

The Valley Forge Muster Roll is proud to honor all those who were at winter quarters from December 19, 1777 to June 19, 1778.

Calling All Artists!

Valley Forge National Historical Park is kicking off the 3rd Annual '78 Mile Challenge Logo Design Contest and they want to see YOUR designs!

For the first few years of the '78 Mile Challenge (the challenge is running, walking, biking, or paddling 78 miles in the park between April and October), those who finished the challenge received swag with the same design. But in 2022 they changed it up, and invited people to submit their logo design ideas.

Each year these logos go head-to-head in a bracket-style tournament with Facebook users like you voting for their favorites. Will your artwork join the ranks of winning designs?

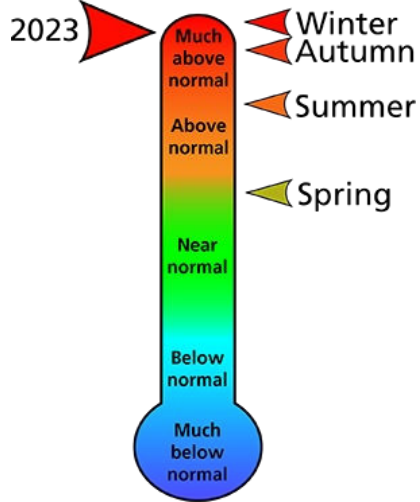
Logo submissions will be accepted from now until March 20, 2024. Then, beginning April 4th, Facebook users will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite design. The winning logo design will be announced on April 21st (the day of the Valley Forge Rev Run) and will officially kick off the 2024 '78 Mile Challenge!

Find more information and full contest rules at go.nps.gov/78milelogo
Learn more about the '78 Mile Challenge at go.nps.gov/78milechallenge



Valley Forge 2023 Weather in Review

In order to better understand ecosystem health in



national parks, the [Mid-Atlantic Inventory and Monitoring Network](#) measures ecosystem "vital signs" across the Mid-Atlantic region, including Valley Forge. One of those vital signs is weather and climate.

What is the difference between weather and climate? Weather consists of the short-term (minutes to months) changes in the atmosphere. Weather is what is happening outside at this very moment, be it rain, snow, or just a warm sunny day. Climate is what you expect to see based on long-term patterns of over 30 years or more. An easy way to remember the difference is that climate is what you might expect (like it being hot in the summer) and weather is what you

get (like a warm rainy day).

Want to see how 2023 compared to a "normal" year at Valley Forge? Check out the full report [here!](#)

Thank You, PECO!



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Many thanks to [PECO](#) for their financial support of the annual March In activities at Valley Forge National Historical Park on December 19! March In is a huge event for the park each year, and PECO's support made it that much easier for staff, volunteers, and visitors this year. Thank you!

Pssst! Want your name and logo on our newsletter?

Email info@vfparkalliance.org to find out how - and you'll get a Friends Circle Membership too!

YOUR LOGO

I Support The Alliance!



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