

# French and Indian War Foundation

*"Preserving and Interpreting the Colonial History of Virginia's Frontier"*



PO Box 751, Winchester, Virginia 22604

www.FIWF.org

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## INAUGURAL FORT LOUDOUN DAY LECTURE & DINNER



Erica Nuckles, speaker at the 2017 Fort Loudoun Day dinner and lecture event held at the George Washington Hotel

On Friday, May 19, 2017, the Foundation hosted its first ever Fort Loudoun Day dinner and lecture. The event was held to augment our annual commemoration of the beginning of construction of Fort Loudoun in May 1756 under the supervision of Colonel George Washington of the Virginia Regiment.

The event was held in the "George Ballroom" of the George Washington Hotel in Winchester, VA. A total of 44 guests enjoyed a wonderful dinner and enlightening lecture by Erica Nuckles about a little-known aspect of the ill-fated expedition in 1755 led by General Edward Braddock in an attempt to remove the French from Fort Duquesne at the site of present-day Pittsburgh, PA. The lecture, "Remarks on a March: Gender and Rank During the French and Indian War," recounted events of the campaign from the unique perspective of a female member of Braddock's Army, Charlotte Browne, the matron of the army's General Hospital.

Fortunately for students of history, Charlotte (1724-1773) kept a journal, now archived in the Library of Congress. The journal tells of her life as matron for British forces in North America. Charlotte was a woman of "middling rank," what we would call middle class today.

Charlotte was appointed matron of the British General Hospital in 1754. At the time she set sail from England aboard the ship *London* on November 17, 1754, she had been widowed and was leaving her family and children to take up her duties with General Braddock's army in North America. Her journal includes a chronicle of the trials and tribulations of the ocean crossing and her eventual landing in Hampton, VA, March 11, 1755. From Hampton, she set sail for Alexandria, VA, arriving there on March 22. The journal continues with her account of the ordeal of moving the British army through the North American wilderness to Wills Creek at present day Cumberland, MD. It was while at Wills Creek that she received news of the devastating defeat of General Braddock's army on the Monongahela.

The General Hospital was mobile during the Braddock expedition and subsequently was located permanently in present-day Albany, NY, for the duration of the war.

All-in-all Erica's recounting of Charlotte's travels provided a unique and fascinating account of this important era, the events of which led to the eventual founding of our country.

by David Grosso, President

Erica Nuckles is a native of Pittsburgh, PA, and is currently the Director of History and Collections at Fort Ligonier in Ligonier, PA. She holds a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Wyoming and a M.A. from George Washington University. She is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Albany, SUNY. The subject of her dissertation is Charlotte Browne and her incredible story.



Erica Nuckles chats with Robert J. Shade, author of the Forbes Road series of novels about the Pennsylvania and Virginia Frontier

We are hopeful that this event will be an annual offering of lectures related to the history of this era as another means by which we continue to pursue our mission to "Preserve and Interpret the Colonial History of the Virginia Frontier."

## BOOK SIGNING AND LECTURE

As reported in the last FIWF By Linda Ross, Past President

newsletter, Sunday, March 19th, was a day to celebrate Virginia history. FIWF hosted a book signing and lecture at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) to recognize authors Wilbur S. Johnston and his book, *On the Town: Celebrating James Wood and the Founding of Winchester in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia*, and Norman L. Baker and his latest book, *Braddock's Road: Historical Atlas*. Our speaker was board member and distinguished author Carl J. Ekberg, whose topic was "Thomas Jefferson in Paris."

As chair of the *ad hoc* committee that organized this event, I would like to recognize my fellow committee members as well as certain attendees, and to thank appropriately MSV for their support.

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*Editor's note: This is the second in a series of brief biographies by FIWF Vice President Steve Resan of the F&I War leaders, for whom Old Town Winchester streets are named, with emphasis on their contributions to the British/American victory in that war.*

## JEFFERY AMHERST

By Stevan A. Resan, Vice President

Jeffery Amherst was born in Seven Oaks, England, on 29 January 1717. His father was a lawyer. His brothers included Admiral John Amherst and Lieutenant General William Amherst. At an early age, he became a page to the Duke of Dorset. By 1735 Amherst had become an ensign in the Grenadier Guards.

Amherst served in the War of the Austrian Succession. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in December 1745 and became an aide to the Duke of Cumberland, the commander of all British forces, in 1747.

Amherst gained fame during the French and Indian War when he led the British land attack on Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island in June 1758.

In the wake of this action, he was appointed commander-in-chief of the British army in North America and colonel-in-chief of the 60th (Royal American) Regiment. Amherst then led an army against French troops on Lake Champlain, capturing Fort Ticonderoga in July 1759. Amherst also served as the nominal Royal Governor of Virginia from 12 September 1759.

In July 1760, Amherst led an army down the Saint Lawrence River from Fort Oswego and captured Montreal, ending French rule in North America. He infuriated the French commanders by refusing them the honors of war; the Chevalier de Levis burned the colors rather than surrender them.

In recognition of this victory, Amherst was appointed Governor-General of British North America in September 1760 and promoted to major-general.

After the British failed to keep their word to withdraw from the Ohio and Allegheny valleys, a loose confederation of Native Americans, who were enraged with British post-war occupation of the region, banded together in an effort to drive the British out of their territory. The uprising, commonly referred to as Pontiac's War after one of its most notable leaders, began in early 1763.

One of the most infamous and well documented issues during Pontiac's War was the use of biological warfare against the Native Americans. General Amherst wrote to Colonel Henry Bouquet, "Could it not be contrived to send the small pox among the disaffected tribes of Indians? We must on this occasion use every stratagem in our power to reduce them." Bouquet wrote that he "would try to inoculate the Indians by means of Blankets."

Reporting on parleys with Delaware chiefs, a trader, William Trent, wrote: "[We] gave them two Blankets and an Handkerchief out of the Small Pox Hospital. I hope it will have the desired effect." Historian Elizabeth Fenn has documented "the eruption of epidemic smallpox" among Delaware and Shawnee Indians nearby, about the time the blankets were distributed.

Amherst was summoned home and was replaced *pro tem* as Commander-in-Chief, North America, by Thomas Gage. Amherst was promoted to lieutenant-general on 26 March 1765.

In 1772 he became a member of the Privy Council and given the title Baron Amherst. He was promoted to full general and, in April 1778, gained a seat in the cabinet. With the advent of the French revolutionary wars, Amherst was recalled as Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in January 1793; however, he is generally criticized for allowing the armed forces to slide into acute decline. Horace Walpole called him "that log of wood whose stupidity and incapacity are past belief." He kept his command, though almost in his dotage, retiring from that post in February 1795, to be replaced by the Duke of York, and was promoted to the rank of field marshal on 30 July 1796. He retired to his home at Montreal Park and died on 3 August 1797. He is buried in the Parish Church at Seven Oaks.



Jeffery Amherst (1717-1797) shown here in a postwar engraving based on Joshua Reynolds's portrait-in-armor as the victor of Montréal

## BOOK SIGNING AND LECTURE

*continued from page 1*

Attendance was outstanding--there were no empty chairs--and many books were sold by the authors. I was ably assisted by committee members Susan Emmart, Suzanne Baker, and Karen Shipp. French cookies, ham biscuits, lots of other good food, bottled water, and wine were provided at no cost to attendees.

Professor Carl J. Ekberg spoke about Thomas Jefferson's tenure as U.S. Minister in Paris (1784-1789). Ekberg has been tracing Jefferson's footsteps (and Jefferson was a great hiker) around Paris for thirty years, and he showed slides that demonstrated how Jefferson's experiences in France shaped his thoughts and his ideas about architecture and politics. It's well-known that the State House in Richmond is based on a model of the Maison Carré in Nîmes, France, that Jefferson had constructed in Paris and sent to Virginia. Furthermore, Ekberg demonstrated how Jefferson's designs for both Monticello and the Rotunda on the grounds of the University of Virginia were influenced by what he absorbed visually in Paris. Finally, Ekberg noted how Jefferson influenced the early stages of the French Revolution, welcoming in his residence on the Champs Elysées members of the French National Assembly, including the Marquis de Lafayette. These are important aspects of Jefferson's life with which all proud Virginians should be familiar.

I wish to thank the MSV for use of the room and for allowing our guests free admission to the museum. I want to thank city councilman Les Veach for attending. I would also like to recognize, those who came from far away: Mr. Carl Champ of Purkittsville, WV, and Mr. Robert Burnes of Staunton, VA.

# NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

by David Grosso, President

May found us again hosting Fort Loudoun Day. The 2017 event witnessed extensive changes from previous commemorations of the beginning of construction of the fort. The most important change was the expansion from a one day to a two-day event. On Friday evening, May 19, the Foundation hosted a dinner and lecture (see related article) presented by the Director of History and Collections at Fort Ligonier at the George Washington Hotel in Winchester. The evening was a success and we are hopeful that we will be able to continue this as an annual adjunct to Fort Loudoun Day itself.



Val Shuppe, portraying a lieutenant and Johnny Smith, portraying a captain, take a break from their portrayal of a French Royal Artillery unit. Both are from Indiana, PA.

On Saturday May 20, our now traditional Fort Loudoun Day was held at 419 N. Loudoun St. in Winchester. The format for activities for the day was revised from that of previous events. Instead of having a speaker, this year we had demonstrations presented throughout the day by history interpreters attending the event. We also invited authors of books related to the history of the era to attend and offer their books for sale to the public. Of course, we also offered tours of the fort site throughout the day.

By the time you receive this newsletter we will have completed the presentation of a lecture series at the Godfrey Miller Home in Winchester. The lectures were all related to events of the French and Indian War era on the Virginia frontier. If you are on our e-mail contact list, you will have received notification of the four-evening Summer Lecture Series and our participation in the event. The series is an annual offering by the home. Since we are a participant and not the sponsor of the series, we were only able to notify those of our members who are on our e-mail contact list. We will expect to have a detailed report on the series in our next newsletter.

As for the future, we are planning for a fall 2017 event that will allow members an opportunity to visit a French and Indian site in Shenandoah County that is not generally available to the public.

Also, we are continuing to work with the City of Winchester on plans for outlining the walls of Fort Loudoun in the street and sidewalks along Loudoun Street. The plan is to carry out the project at the time the City upgrades utilities along N. Loudoun Street in order to minimize costs. Unfortunately, the utility upgrades have again been postponed for at least another year pending the securing of funding for the City project. We are currently working to define the extent of the project and its estimated cost.

The date for our annual meeting has been set for Sunday November 12, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Godfrey Miller House, located at 28 South Loudoun Street, Winchester, VA. Please mark the date on your calendar. We hope that we will see many of you there.

We thank everyone again for your continuing support. Without that support, we could not continue to pursue our mission.

An additional note: If you have not received e-mail notifications from the Foundation in the past year and would like to receive them in the future, please contact us by e-mail to [fiwf.dsg@comcast.net](mailto:fiwf.dsg@comcast.net) and we will add your name to our growing e-mail contact list. Be assured that we will not share your e-mail address with other organizations or with commercial entities.



Val Shupp, portraying a lieutenant in the French Royal Artillery, stands beside the reproduction French cannon she and Johnny Smith, both from Indiana, PA,

## FORT LOUDOUN CONDOMINIUMS UPDATE

By Janet Corneal,  
Owner and Developer



Porches, columns, and railings have been removed from east façade.

Renovation work continues at The Fort. The most recent development has been the removal of the two-story porch on the south side of the building, in preparation for new framing, and the installation of refurbished columns, decking, and railings. Framing is almost complete in all units, with insulation, drywall, and painting begun in several. Kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities are starting to be ordered and bathroom tile is being selected. One of the most time-consuming tasks for this project has been the restoration of the 120 historic wood double-hung windows. We have a dedicated crew working diligently on them and hope to finish sometime this century. Prep and painting of the exterior facades continues around the building. Some work has begun cleaning up the grounds in preparation for future landscape work. Meanwhile, artifacts continue to be unearthed, the latest being a cobalt blue bottle from the perfume, "Evening in Paris" from the 1920s.



One of the 120 double-hung windows undergoing renovation

# MEMBERSHIP

YES, I wish to become a member of the French and Indian War Foundation and play an important role in supporting the educational goals and preservation of the sites associated with this conflict on the American frontier.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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## Annual Dues

- Student \$ 15
- Individual / Family \$ 30
- Patron \$ 100
- Sustaining \$ 250
- Benefactor \$ 500

## 100 Soldiers—Lifetime Memberships

- Soldier \$ 1,000
- Captain \$ 5,000
- Colonel \$ 10,000

*The Foundation is a 501(C)(3) organization*

### Mission

*"The French and Indian War Foundation preserves and interprets the colonial history of the Virginia frontier."*

### Goals

- Raise public awareness about the war and its consequences through public lectures and tours, as well as publication in the media.
- Collect and conserve primary documents relating to the war.
- Identify, document, preserve and interpret French and Indian War era landmarks in the backcountry of the mid-Atlantic colonies.
- Cooperate with privately and publicly owned French and Indian War fort sites in research, promotion and preservation activities.

*We encourage high school and college History students to participate with all activities.*

- I will volunteer my services
- I would like to make a Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward this form to:

**The French and Indian War Foundation**

**P.O. Box 751  
Winchester, VA 22604**

[www.FIWF.org](http://www.FIWF.org)

# THE 2017 BOARD

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**Newsletter,** R. Patrick Murphy, Editor

## Call for Committee Members!

If you have ideas, time or resources we need your help. If you could serve on any of the above committees, please email [fiwf.dsg@comcast.net](mailto:fiwf.dsg@comcast.net).

# FIWF BOARD MEMBER & HISTORIAN NORMAN L. BAKER RECEIVES KOREAN AMBASSADOR'S PEACE MEDAL



FIWF board member and historian Norman L. Baker receives Korean Ambassador's Peace Medal from Josh Morimoto at the Korean War Veterans Association, Chapter 313

FIWF board member and historian Norman L.

By R. Patrick Murphy, Editor

Baker received the Korean Ambassador's Peace Medal on June 13, 2017. Although the Korean ambassador wanted to present the medal to Baker personally in Washington, DC., Baker deferred traveling into the city, so the medal was presented to him in Winchester by the Korean War Veterans Association, Chapter 313. The medal was awarded in recognition of Mr. Baker's service in the U.S. Army in combat during the Korean War. In Korea, he served one year of combat with the Intelligence & Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division. Baker was in combat at the Punchbowl, Heartbreak Ridge, Mundungni, the Iron Triangle, and the Han River. This was Mr. Baker's second war. In World War II, he was a member of the assault forces of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine divisions of the 5th Amphibious Corps in the battle of Iwo Jima in February 1945.



FRIEND  
 OF  
 FIWF

PASSES AWAY

By R. Patrick Murphy, Editor

Past President Linda Ross reports that she recently attended the funeral of Mrs. Genevieve (Jenny) Boxley. Her husband Robert (Bob) Boxley is a past member of the FIWF board of directors, and both attended FIWF events in the past. Ms. Ross states that FIWF was mentioned at the funeral service.



# MEET BOARD MEMBER STEVAN A. RESAN

By R. Patrick Murphy, Editor



FIWF Vice President  
Steve Resan

Steve has had interesting and varied careers, diverse and catholic interests, and a remarkable record of public service at both the national and the grass-roots level. His dedication to the history of the Virginia colonial frontier is unparalleled.

Steve was born and grew up in Chicago. He attended Chicago public schools, graduating from George Washington High School as valedictorian. Steve was also active in Scouting, attaining the rank of Eagle Scout and working

five summers at the Chicago Council's Owassippe Scout Reservation near Whitehall, Michigan. He continued in scouting for the next 30 years as a Boy Scout leader serving in the Chicago, Stonewall Jackson Area, National Capital Area, and Shenandoah Area Councils as cubmaster, scoutmaster, and commissioner.

Steve had an early interest in science and won numerous competitive science fairs during high school.

He studied chemistry at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago during which time he obtained National Science Foundation undergraduate research grants. Steve graduated with a B.S. in chemistry with minors in education and chemical research. While in college he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon social fraternity where he served as recording secretary in his junior year, Alpha Chi Sigma chemists fraternity, and Alpha Phi Omega Scouting service fraternity.

After graduation, he worked at a number of companies as a plastics engineer in research and development. He was granted two utility and five design patents for rubber roofing fasteners. Steve also taught for a year at Augusta Military Academy.

During his career, Steve continued his education formally and informally. He earned a M.S. in polymer science from Akron University and completed graduate courses in education and business management at the University of Virginia and Shippensburg University.

Steve's second career was with the United States Patent Office where he served as senior primary patent examiner, examining patent applications involving the chemistry of magnetic recording media. He was awarded the Department of Commerce bronze medal and a citation from the American Intellectual Property Law Association "for his outstanding contribution to the integrity of intellectual property law." Upon retirement, he was awarded the Exceptional Career Award for his 16 consecutive years of superior ratings.

Steve has a lifelong interest in history, especially colonial history. He now spends his time researching, studying, speaking, and writing about various aspects of life on the Virginia colonial frontier. Steve has visited most of the sites of major British and French forts of the French and Indian War from Nova Scotia to Louisiana, as well as frontier

settlers' forts and sites important to the Iroquois Confederacy.

Besides his position on the Board as Vice President of the FIWF, he is a member of the Winchester Frederick County Historic Society, Fort Edwards Foundation, and the Association of Living History and Farm Museums, First Person Interpreter's Network. He often portrays Colonel James Wood, founder of Winchester. Steve lives with his wife, son, and daughter on the old Braddock Road in Whitacre, Virginia.

Right: Steve Resan as Colonel James Wood, the founder of Winchester



## BAKER-HARDY HOUSE UPDATE

By Jimmie Shipp, Treasurer

### ◆ Bad News, Good News!

The Bad News is that our long-term tenants at the Foundation's Baker-Hardy House at 419 North Loudoun Street, on part of the site of Fort Loudoun, decided to purchase a house and moved out at the end of June. The House Committee and Board wish all the best to Mr. and Mrs. Jose Torres and their daughter in their new home in West Virginia. The Torres family were exemplary tenants in every respect. The (VERY) Good News is that we had only a two-week vacancy period, as Ms. Jennifer Chambers and her daughter rented the house effective July 15th! They are excited about the house, and show promise of also being excellent tenants.

◆ Some minor touch-up painting was accomplished between tenants, and estimates are being sought so that we can budget for other repairs and improvements. Our loan payments remain current, with about \$146,000 principal outstanding.

◆ An old, wrought-iron gate and gatepost removed from the property a number of years ago are being offered for sale through the efforts of past-president Linda Ross. The gate and post are in very good condition.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Hugh Fairfax

Inaugural book tour

Sunday, October 15, 2017

2:00 o'clock

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley  
901 Amherst Street, Winchester

hosted by  
Shenandoah County Historical Society  
together with the  
French and Indian War Foundation

# FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR FOUNDATION AT FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 275TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

By Tony Elar  
Chair of the Development Committee

The French and Indian War Foundation was represented at Fairfax County's 2017 anniversary event on June 17th by Foundation members Tony Elar and Jim Moyer, who have recreated Captain George Mercer's company of the Virginia Regiment. They and other members of the re-created regiment manned a booth to provide visitors with information regarding the company and what it was like to be a soldier in the Virginia Regiment during the French and Indian War.



Privates Rob Medley, Jim Moyer (back row, l to r), and Sergeant Tony Elar with General Edward Braddock front row (r to l) at Fairfax County's 275th anniversary celebration on June 17th.

The Foundation was the only group present that interpreted the history of Virginia during this period and much interest was generated by our organization. Many visitors stopped by the booth and learned of the Foundation's unique mission to preserve and interpret the history of Virginia's colonial frontier. Jim and I had the distinct honor of meeting a re-enactor portraying General Edward Braddock as well.

This annual event brings together historical groups, living history organizations, and re-enacting regiments that pertain to the history of Fairfax as a county in Virginia from colony to commonwealth.

Fairfax County was formed in 1743 and was named after Thomas, 6th Lord Fairfax, proprietor of that portion of the colony of Virginia known as the Northern Neck. In addition to the historical groups, the 14th Lord Fairfax was a special guest at the event.



Tony Elar and Rob Medley (l to r) at the FWF booth at the Fairfax County 275 Anniversary Celebration.

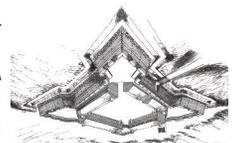
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