

French and Indian War Foundation

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



PO Box 751, Winchester, Virginia 22604

www.FIWF.org

Volume 14, Issue 1 Winter 2019

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

By David Grosso,
President

Welcome to a new year. We are hopeful that 2019 proves as successful as 2018 was for the Foundation. I will begin these notes with a recap of the annual meeting and end with the outlook for 2019.

The 2018 annual meeting was held Nov. 11 at the Godfrey Miller Home in Winchester. After the call-to-order and introduction of the Board, a review of the past year was presented (see Year in Review). Committee reports followed.

Treasurer Jim Shipp reported that the Foundation remains in sound fiscal condition, i.e. income and expenditures for the year were within projections. To ensure that we are able to continue this performance going forward, we began an initiative in 2018 to recruit corporate sponsors to underwrite expenses for events such as the Fort Loudoun Day lecture and the visit to Fry's Fort. The goal is for these events to be revenue neutral. If our readers know of businesses interested in supporting local organizations such as ours please let us know so that we can offer them an opportunity to participate.

Membership increased slightly in 2018 thanks to renewed outreach efforts. We now have members in 11 states. Increased membership aids the Foundation in many ways. To aid these efforts we ask that you consider recommending membership to friends and family with an interest in history. Membership information is available on our website and with this newsletter. In this same vein, we ask that you renew your membership promptly when you receive your renewal notice in 2019 and consider renewal at a higher level. Note that at the highest levels, we offer payment plans over an agreed upon time frame.

There were no significant matters to discuss regarding the house and grounds. Tony Elar, Development Chair, reported on continuing efforts to secure state grant funds for the Fort Loudoun Outline project. Both of our General Assembly representatives Chris Collins, House of Delegates, and Jill Vogel, Senate, have agreed to sponsor legislation requesting funding for the project. We now await the outcome in July of state budget negotiations to learn if our efforts have been successful.

Following committee reports, the election of board members was held. There were no nominations from the floor. Sitting board members, Tony Elar, Tay Rafter, Marc Robinson and Jim Shipp, whose terms expire in 2018 were nominated to new three-year terms beginning in 2019. All were re-elected unanimously. The next order of business was the presentation of awards (see accompanying article).

In 2019, we look forward to participating in the year-long 275th anniversary celebration of the founding of Winchester. As I write this, plans have not been finalized, so we are waiting to hear how we will be asked to contribute. Another exciting opportunity which might come to pass is participation in the Summer Ranger Program at the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historic Park in an event related to the French and Indian War in the Shenandoah Valley. We expect to hear more from the NHP in the Spring once their Summer schedule has been set.

The afternoon concluded with a talk by Steve Resan, "Washington's Well", covering the history of the well at the Fort Loudoun site and the latest findings from his research on the well.

We wish you all well in 2019 and look forward to your continuing support in the new year.

Join Us!

The French and Indian War
Foundation of Winchester
invites you to celebrate the birthday
of George Washington

Friday, February 22, 2019

5:30 - 8:30 pm

Guest Speaker Delegate Chris Collins

6:30 pm

Topic: Civility

The Half Note Lounge in
The George Washington Hotel

103 E. Piccadilly St., Winchester, VA

Cash Bar and a choice of fantastic Appetizers
by Chef Marvin

\$20 a plate if you so desire

A Free Event, All Welcome



Judge Robert K. Woltz History Award

This award represents recognition of outstanding contributions in the area of scholarship which furthers understanding of the French and Indian War Period in American History.

The 2018 award was presented to Dr. Glenn F. Williams.

Glenn F. Williams is a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, Fort McNair, Washington, DC. He has served as the historian of the National Museum of the U.S. Army Project, the Army Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration, and the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. He is the author of a number of books and articles, including the award-winning *Year of the Hangman: George Washington's Campaign against the Iroquois*. His recent book *Dunmore's War* holds particular relevance as it recounts events in the Ohio Country (Virginia's Colonial Frontier) and involves Virginia Militia units and veterans of the FIW. Dr. Williams holds a PhD in history from the University of Maryland.

Dr. Williams is deserving of this award and the Foundation is proud to recognize his work in PRESERVEING AND INTERPRETING THE COLONIAL HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA FRONTIER”.

NOTE: Dr. Williams will be the speaker for the 3rd Annual Fort Loudoun Day Lecture in May. His topic will be "*Dunmore's War: The Last Conflict of America's Colonial Era*" from his latest book of the same title. More on this event will be coming this Spring.

Fort Loudoun Award

The Fort Loudoun award represents recognition of outstanding contributions in the area of leadership in promoting the colonial history of the Virginia frontier.

The 2018 award was presented to Tony Elar.

Tony was born in Freeport, NY and graduated from Gettysburg College with a Political Science and History Major. He has a 38 year career in Direct Marketing and has been reenacting since 1969 including re-enactments of the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WW I and WW II. He lives on a Farm in Front Royal and is the owner of Yellow Cab of The Shenandoah.

Tony is a member of the Board of Directors and chairs the Development Committee.

In 2016 Tony started Captain George Mercer's Company, which is a group of dedicated individuals who portray soldiers who were a part of the Virginia Regiment who manned Fort Loudoun. From the first recruits, Jim Moyer and Tony's son, Mercer's Company has grown in numbers and the number of events in which they participate.

Under his leadership, Tony has created a vehicle which has and continues to educate and entertain people by drawing attention to this period of history and thus significantly contributing to The French and Indian War Foundation's mission to "PRESERVE AND INTERPRET THE COLONIAL HISTORY OF THE VIRGINIA FRONTIER"

Leo Bernstein Award

The Leo Bernstein award represents recognition of outstanding contributions in the area of finance for securing major financial support for the French and Indian War Foundation.

The 2018 award was presented to Judy Kay Schroer.

Judy Schroer, CPA, MBA, of JK Solutions Tax Accounting & Planning has been the Foundation's Accountant since 2012.

Judy Kay did a large amount of work to restore the Foundation's tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), and has filed our annual state and federal income tax returns since 2012 as well as compiling the necessary documentation to allow us to obtain tax-exempt status from state and local sales and service taxes.

All this was done at no cost to the Foundation. While Judy Kay has not been responsible for grants or donations to the Foundation, the pro bono work she has done for us has certainly represented "major financial support," in that the fair market value of her efforts is easily several thousand dollars. Ms. Schroer has been extremely cooperative and easy to work with.

Judy Kay's continuing pro-bono efforts in the form of financial services have contributed importantly to the continuing success of our non-profit organization and the Board, in recognition of this service, has awarded Judy Kay the Leo Bernstein award.

Outstanding Service Award

The Outstanding Service Award is presented to a foundation member in recognition of outstanding service to the foundation.

The 2018 award was presented to Charles A. and Beverly Veatch.

Chuck and Beverly are members of the foundation who have furthered the mission of the Foundation of preserving and interpreting the colonial history of Virginia's frontier by their thoughtful and sensitive preservation and renovation of Fry's Fort, arguably the most important French and Indian War site in the Shenandoah Valley. Moreover, they have made Fry's Fort, a venue rarely open to the public, available to the Foundation for a major fundraising event, including assisting with the planning of the event and utilizing their staff to help with the logistics of the event. Chuck and Beverly have thus performed an Outstanding Service to the Foundation and our mission.

2018 Was a busy and eventful year for the Foundation. In addition to the traditional events hosted by the Foundation, i.e. George Washington's Birthday celebration, Fort Loudoun Day and lecture, several other events were hosted and/or sponsored by the Foundation.

Two new events were initiated that we expect to become annual events. The first was a "Winter Encampment" living history event by Mercer's Company in February at the Fort Loudoun site in conjunction with President's Day. The company also participated in activities at George Washington's "Office" in Old Town Winchester on that day. The second, held in August at the Old Court House, was the re-staging of the election of Washington to his FIRST elected office in 1758 to the House of Burgesses of the Colony of Virginia representing Frederick County. For a first time event, this was a rousing success with nearly 300 passersby taking part. We are grateful to Jim Moyer for conceiving this event and doing the necessary planning and preparation to make it such a success.

The Foundation had an extraordinary opportunity in 2018 to offer members a visit to the premier settler's fort of the French and Indian War era in the Shenandoah Valley, namely Fry's Fort near Strasburg, VA. Through the graciousness of owners Charles and Beverly Veatch attendees were able to tour the historic house and grounds, now an arboretum, and attend talks by Patrick Murphy on the history of the house and Tony Elar on Captain George Mercer's company and its relation to the fort. Attendees were treated to a magnificent Fall day in the Valley accompanied by wine and delicious catered hors d'oeuvres.

As part of the Foundation's outreach efforts Mercer's company participated in eight living history events in Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia in 2018 and expect to appear in as many or more in 2019. A resounding BRAVO for their efforts.

- Ft. Loudoun Winter Encampment • Fort Loudoun Day • Hampshire County Frontier Day-Fort Edwards, WV
- Fort Ashby Day, Fort Ashby, WV • Patriot's Pride Day, Middletown, VA • Braddock's Crossing, Grantsville, MD
- Fry's Fort • Abram's Delight Brunswick Stew Event

The formation of Captain George Mercer's company of the Virginia Regiment and the GW election event are examples of member-initiated activities that promote our mission and serve to introduce the Foundation to the broader public. We encourage members to bring to the Foundation ideas for F&IW era activities that can further serve our mission to "Preserve and Interpret the Colonial History of Virginia's Frontier".

We hope to see you all at one or more of our events in 2019.

ANNUAL MEETING AWARDS

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Special Recognition Award

The Foundation may offer recognition to individuals or organizations who have made significant contributions toward educating the public regarding the French and Indian War and its significance to the history of the United States.

In 2018 Special Recognition was given to Kendra Tolley.

The Board expresses their profound appreciation to Kendra Tolley for all the work she has done for the French and Indian War Foundation over the years.

Past President Linda Ross mentions just a few of Kendra's contributions over the years. Linda wrote that :

"Her first call to duty was in our early stages and we knew we needed to begin a Newsletter. Kendra was recommended as the "go to person" and she certainly was! Always giving us some priority to get the job done quickly, first on getting invitations out and then on that large task of our Newsletter. We do get many compliments on our Newsletter".

Linda goes on by saying that "I cannot say enough about her contributions, not just to us, but to the community of Winchester! You are a hard-working friend of the Foundation and deserving of this recognition."



PRESIDENTS' DAY MUSTER

By Tony Elar

Captain George Mercer's Company of the Virginia Regiment will conduct a Drill and Muster at the site of Fort Loudoun in Winchester on Presidents Day, Monday, February 18, 2019 from 11:00 am to 3 pm.

The Company will drill and then March to Washington's Office at Braddock and Cork Street and Fire three Volleys in honor of George Washington's Birthday. The Company will then March to The Union Jack for a late lunch And Libations

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 _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

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

THE 2019 BOARD

President, David Grosso

Vice President, Stevan A. Resan

Treasurer, Jimmie L. Shipp

Secretary, Marc Robinson

Historian, Norman Baker

Barbara Caballero

Carl Ekberg

Tony Elar

R. Patrick Murphy

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Linda Q. Ross

By-Laws, Stevan A. Resan

Development/Fundraising,
Our Board

Education & Outreach,
David Grosso

Finance, Jimmie L. Shipp

Membership, David Grosso

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.

Our Corporate Contributors



*The Board of Directors
meets*

at 1:30 p.m.

*on the 1st Tuesday of
the month at*

419 N. Loudoun St.

Members are welcome,

however, space

is limited.

MEET BOARD MEMBER TAY RAFTER

By J.R.T. (Tay) Rafter
with editing by David Grosso



Board Member Tay Rafter

Tayman Rafter, M.D., born July 20, 1944, in Culpeper, VA, is a 'diehard Wahoo', by his own admission, with B.A. in Psychology from UVA in 1966 and M.D. degree from UVA College of Medicine in 1970.

Tay developed an interest in history in High School and has continued it since. He served as a US Army medical officer two

years, with tour of duty to Viet Nam. He completed a residency in Family Practice medicine in 1975 at Riverside Hospital, Newport News, VA. .

Tay practiced medicine in Winchester from 1983-2014, at which time he retired from Selma Medical Associates as a Family Physician.

Tay has been married for 50 years to Carol Ann Harlow Rafter. They have three adult children: Keith and Kyle Rafter, Richmond, VA; Ann Rafter Richman, Edinburg, VA.

He is an active member of Fellowship Bible Church and Bible Study Fellowship. He has taken two medical mission trips to Togo, West Africa during summers of 2015, (6 weeks) and 2016, (3 weeks), working in a mission hospital.

Tay and Carol Ann have maintained a Family membership in the Foundation for 10 years and Tay joined the board in 2016 and served as secretary for three years.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S FIRST ELECTION WIN

By Jim Moyer

George Washington won his first political office representing Frederick County VA in the House of Burgesses on 24 July 1758. The 260th anniversary of that event was re-enacted Sunday 22 July 2018 from 1pm to 3pm, . The public was invited to vote.

There were two rules: Vote Out loud for all to hear, and you can vote only for two of the four candidates. Those top two winners will then go to the House of Burgesses in Williamsburg representing Frederick County.



L-R: Timothy Youmans, Jim Moyer, Lenny Millholland, Charles Harbaugh IV, Stevan Resan, Eric Cherry, Evan Clark, Les Taylor

By the end of two hours, 299 total votes were cast. At the end of the voting we re-created a picture in Washington Irving's (famous for writing Legend of Sleepy Hollow) popular biography of George Washington, showing the voters lifting James Wood on a chair up high.

Stevan Resan, VP of the French and Indian War Foundation who played the part of James Wood who stood in for Colonel George Washington who in turn was in Fort Cumberland helping the Forbes Expedition to "reduce" the French Fort Duquesne at what is now Pittsburgh.

A big thanks goes to those who played the other candidates. Thank you to Tim Youmans, Zoning Director of the city of Winchester who has picked up the baton from the late Garland Quarles concerning the story behind the Street Names of Winchester. Tim Youmans pointed me to those who could help make this event happen. Secondly Tim Youmans played the role of one

of the top two winning candidates – Thomas Bryan Martin. Martinsburg is named after him. He's the nephew of Lord Fairfax who was first in line to vote for him and for Colonel George Washington.

The two candidates who lost, were City Councilman Evan Clark who mentioned he never lost an election until this one. And Les Taylor, Winchester's city Sheriff.

Other players were Frederick County Sheriff Lenny Millholland who played the part of the High Sheriff who supervised the polling. George Washington was played by Middletown Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV. Attorney Georgia Andrews played Gabriel Jones the one eyed lawyer who helped George Washington on this election. Byran Flemming provided free of charge a speaker system. There were many others who helped make this event a success, but space does not allow for them all to be named.

And those voters who were old enough treated themselves to a beer from the Virginia Beer Museum, served by David Downes, owner, and his son, a Corporal in the United States Marines who had a break from duty to his station in Okinawa. Thank you to David Downes for getting the permit to provide beer to the voters, just as it was done 260 years ago.

Jim Moyer, French and Indian War Foundation's website updater, organized the re-enactment of this election, getting the permits from the 5 organizations that have a say on the 1840 Courthouse grounds – the very site where George Washington first won political office.

Thanks goes to Frederick County Recreation Dept. who handles the permits for events held on county-owned land. Thanks also goes to Jennifer Bell of the Old Town Advancement Commission (formerly the Old Town Development Board).

The last three signatures needed were the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Association, The Shenandoah University and a BB&T realtor office next to the site.

Finally, insurance for the event had to be found. A big thanks goes to Lynn Rio Insurance who has handled insurance for one day events on the 1840 Courthouse before.

In 2019 we will re-stage this event again on Saturday afternoon 27 July in conjunction with the year-long Winchester 275th anniversary celebration.

Mark Your Calendars

February 18:	Presidents' Day Muster
February 22:	George Washington's Birthday Celebration
April 13:	Virginia Regiment, George Mercer Co @ Fort Harrison, Dayton, VA
April 20:	Reenactment of the Retreat to Edward's Fort, Capon Bridge, WV
May 4 & 5:	Fort Ashby Days, Fort Ashby, WV
May 18	Fort Loudoun Day
May 23	Fort Loudoun Day Lecture

Living History Interpreters WANTED!

The French & Indian War Foundation is actively seeking Living History Interpreters to represent the Colonial time period of Winchester, VA.

Men, women, boys and girls are all welcome to participate.

We are specifically looking for Male Actor to portray a young Colonel George Washington (age range 22-30).

If you are interested in volunteering for our Living History Interpreters Group, email us at: fiwf.dsg@comcast.net

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