

# French & Indian War Foundation

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

PO Box 751, Winchester, Virginia 22604

www.FIWF.org

Volume 16, Issue 4, Fall 2021

## Notes from the President

By David Grosso

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, these notes will necessarily be brief as our outreach activities continue to be constrained due to the ongoing COVID epidemic. As mentioned in the previous newsletter we were able to hold Fort Loudoun Day in person this year and took part in the Clarke County Historical Association Colonial Kids Day in July. Going forward we are scheduled to participate in the CCHA Colonial Heritage Day Nov. 6 at the Burwell-Morgan Mill in Millwood. We invite you to join us and other visitors on that day to celebrate our colonial history. We will again be joining the Col. James Wood II chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution at the event.

Coloring book sales remain brisk. All revenue from future sales will go directly into the treasury as all production costs have now been covered. On another topic related to the books, this Summer we partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Winchester to donate \$500 worth of coloring books to the Laurel Center of Winchester to be given to children who receive services from that organization. The donation was made possible through the efforts of Scott Straub, Kiwanis Club member and FIWF board member, who was successful in securing a \$500 grant from the Kiwanis dedicated to the purchase and donation of the books.

The biggest news for the year by far is the success of the Spring fund raising appeal. It was successful beyond our expectations and we want to thank everyone who was able to contribute. In all, over \$29,000 was raised, most of which went toward paying down the loan on the Baker-Hardy House. We did keep back a portion of the funds to cover costs of some needed repairs to the house. We are especially grateful to the James R. Wilkins, Sr., Charitable Trust for going further than was originally pledged, that is to match the donations from all other contributors, by

donating a total of \$25,000 to the campaign. Because of the generosity of our membership and with the grant from the Wilkins Trust we have reduced the loan on the house to less than \$100,000. This is a significant, symbolic milestone as it makes retiring the loan seem to be a reachable goal.

Another bit of good news is that we have scheduled our Annual Meeting as an in-person event at the Godfrey Miller Home in Winchester on Sun., Nov. 14. If your name is on our e-mail listing you will already have received notice of the

meeting. As in past years we will have a speaker (see notification elsewhere in the newsletter) and again be giving out awards. We have our collective fingers crossed that there will not be a Fall surge in COVID infections that would cause the Governor to place restrictions on gatherings as was the case last year.

We look forward to your continuing support in 2021 and hope we will be able to meet and continue to celebrate the early history of this country.

## Isaac Zane and The Marlboro Ironworks

By Donna Leight

We are surrounded by forgotten history - its people and their stories. In the late 1700's, the small village of Marlboro Virginia was a thriving community, because of one man and his inherent drive. Principally forgotten, Isaac Zane was an accomplished figure in local history. Born in 1743 in Philadelphia, Zane appeared in Frederick County Virginia in 1767 with his friend Mordecai Bean and purchased land from Lewis Stephens, along Cedar Creek.

Lewis Stephens was a Captain of local militia under George Washington and later became the founder of what is now Stephens City. Having purchased the Cedar Creek property in 1745, Stephens built a stone house there in 1756, the same year construction started at Fort Loudoun in nearby Winchester. He added a mill, small ironworks, and a hexagonal stone structure. Standing 8 ft tall, 14 ft wide with limestone walls a foot thick, and a pyramidal roof, the unusual building can still be seen along Middle Road, just northwest of the Cedar Creek bridge. A wooden ladder runs to the cellar floor 19 feet below. The structure has been called an icehouse, powder magazine, and "compting" (counting) house and is believed to have been encircled by a log stockade. Prior to and during the French & Indian War, this site was known as "Stephens Fort" and it protected frontier families during Indian incursions. Per Reference 4, troops from Washington's regiment were garrisoned in the stockade in the Fall of 1757.

Once purchased, Zane poured his energy into the ironworks. A community formed as iron production increased. The property grew to include a grist mill (2 sets of grinding stones, milling fine and coarse flour), sawmill, blacksmith shop



Stephens Fort "Icehouse" built 1752, once surrounded by log stockade. Multi-leveled, bottom 19 feet below ground, lined with circular limestone walls

*continued page 2*

Page 1

(2 fires), distillery (2 stills), cider press, storehouse, barns, orchards, and livestock. A store sold household staples such as sugar, salt, and molasses, as well as paper, inkstands, sealing wax, razors, and forge products. In addition to the labor force of approximately 25 men needed for the hazardous furnace/forge operation, there were woodcutters, colliers, teamsters, carpenters, weavers, seamstresses, cooks, maids, and those that attended the fields and livestock. The village of Marlboro was practically self-sufficient and the forge fires lit up the night sky for miles.

Raised a Quaker, Zane was disowned by the church in 1773 due to his life decisions. The Quaker faith expected regular church attendance, did not allow members to hold office, did not believe in fighting in or supporting war, and did not approve of Zane's lifestyle which included his mistress Elizabeth McFarlane and their son Isaac. (Note that Zane never married, his son Isaac died young, and the bloodline died with him.)

In the early days of iron production, Zane used indentured servants, apprentices, and hired tradesmen. It is estimated that his enterprise employed 150-200 people, at its peak. As Quakers, Zane's family disapproved of slavery. But as the Revolutionary War began, local men went into military service and the indentured servant traffic ceased, making it difficult to run his large operation. Records show that in 1771, Zane had 1 slave and by his death in 1795, he had 21. In his Will, he provided for their gradual emancipation.

Zane's Marlboro Ironworks produced items such as utensils, pots, kettles, gears, mill cranks, wagon boxes, fire backs, and stoves. By 1769, he was hauling iron to Alexandria. The movement of his goods helped build and improve area roads, as Marlboro's iron products went to Philadelphia, Falmouth, Fredericksburg, and beyond. When the Revolutionary War began, Zane retooled to produce munitions, producing four and six pounder cannons, howitzers, mountings, shot (5 kinds), balls, camp kettles, and ship "caboozes" (free-standing deck houses) ordered by the Virginia Army and Navy.

Prosperity at Marlboro came with problems. Some indentured workers were convicts and Zane contended with drunkenness, thievery, and other serious issues. At this time in history, the average settler drank 3-4 gallons of distilled spirits annually, in addition to hard ciders and other products. Zane's distillery and cidery would have contributed to Marlboro's rowdy character.

In addition to supporting the war effort through his industry, Zane had political and military responsibilities. Early in his life, he was known as a "patriot of a fiery temper" and held a Colonel's commission in the Frederick County militia. Per Reference 3, "Governor Thomas Jefferson appointed him and Col. John Smith to superintend the construction of a barracks at Winchester. In 1794, Isaac Zane received a commission as a Brigadier General of the Virginia Militia."

In 1777, Zane purchased the complete library of William Byrd III, which was said to have been the largest library in Colonial Virginia, holding 4000-5000 volumes. He and his friend, Thomas Jefferson, discussed scientific improvements that could be made to his Marlboro businesses. Jefferson visited Zane in Marlboro and written correspondence exists between the two men. Zane noted both Jefferson and James Madison in his will, citing their long and mutual friendship.

There are other notable contributions made by Zane. He was:

- Justice in Frederick County 1772
- Member of Virginia House of Burgesses 1773-1776
- Frederick County delegate at the Virginia Constitutional Convention 1776.
- Member of Virginia House of Delegates 1782-1795
- Considered as delegate (deputy) for the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787 (forming of the Constitution). 73 delegates were appointed by the states, 55 attended.
- At one time, owned more than 20,000 acres (some references say 35,000) in the Winchester/Frederick County VA area, including the bloomery at present day town of Bloomery WV.

Isaac Zane died August 1795, at the age of 52. He was land-rich but cash-poor, having never fully recovered from the debts he incurred supplying munitions for the Revolutionary War. He is buried at the Mount Pleasant Meeting House Cemetery on Cedar Creek Grade southwest of Winchester Va. Massive trees guard the cemetery, providing an overwhelming sense of peace and silent strength. Among the giant oaks, you will not find the old Quaker Meeting House. Nor will you find Isaac Zane. His sister Sarah surrounded his grave with a white wrought-iron fence and while the fence is still there, it now encloses someone else's grave. With the fence moved, Isaac Zane's grave location is unknown. Once a local legend, he is now lost, along with his Marlboro Ironworks and stories of its people.

Zane's Marlboro Ironworks Today Only a fraction of Isaac Zane's enterprise remains.

Still standing:

- Zane's "Mansion" – There was a fire at the house between 1785-1883 and the house was rebuilt. Portions of the house that now stands on the property is original. The limestone foundation remains, and it is thought that the thick main walls are original (20' x 40', now covered with stucco).



Reproduction of "Fairfax Arms" fireback, an example of detailed work produced at Zane's Marlboro Iron Works. Owned by Linda Quynn Ross. Reproduced by Snapp Foundry, Winchester VA. Original at Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, Winston-Salem NC.

# 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

- |                          |                     |        |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student             | \$ 15  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual / Family | \$ 30  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Patron              | \$ 100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sustaining          | \$ 250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Benefactor          | \$ 500 |

### 100 Soldiers—Lifetime Memberships

- |                          |         |           |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Soldier | \$ 1,000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Captain | \$ 5,000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 2021 Board

**President,** David Grosso

**Vice President,** Stevan A. Resan

**Treasurer,** Jimmie L. Shipp

**Secretary,** Eric Robinson

**Historian,** David Jenkins

Dale Corey

Carl Ekberg

Tony Elar

Erick Moore

Scott Straub

Marc Robinson

### **Committee Chairs**

**Building & Grounds,** Erick Moore

**By-Laws,** Stevan A. Resan

**Development/Fundraising,**  
Tony Elar

**Education & Outreach,**  
Scott Straub

**Finance,** Jimmie L. Shipp

**Membership,** David Grosso

**Newsletter,** Dale Corey

### **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).

The Board of Directors currently meets at 3:30 p.m. on the 1st Thursday of the month. Meetings are conducted via Zoom and will continue in this manor until further notice.

## Board Meeting: Items of Interest

- ◆ For the commemoration of George Washington's Birthday, a local brewery will brew a beer using the same recipe that was used during the colonial era. The Foundation will have cups made that will bear an image of Fort Loudoun for use during this event.
- ◆ Scott Straub informs us a new French and Indian War Foundation website is up and running. It is an up to date site.
- ◆ David Grosso has reported that VDOT has approved a request for signage concerning Fort Loudoun that would explain the fort lines on the street.



Scott Straub and Jim Moyer refinished the sign for Fort Loudoun

# 2021 French & Indian War Foundation Members

## Colonel (\$10000 - Life)

Mr. & Mrs. James Wilkins, Jr.

## Captain (\$5000 - Life)

Anonymous

## Soldiers (\$1000 - Life)

Mr. & Mrs. Neil Burton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bell  
 Ms. Judy Bogner  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Britz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Burke  
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Byrd  
 Dr. & Mrs. Winston Cameron, Jr.  
 Mr. Dale Corey  
 Mr. James Deskins  
 Mr. David Edwards  
 Ms. Betty Jean Fawcett  
 Mr. David Grosso  
 Mr. Charles Hall  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Holliday  
 Mr. & Mrs. Archie Jenkins II  
 Mr. & Mrs. George J. Kriz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Leigh, Jr.  
 Mr. David Look  
 Ms. Julia McCaul  
 Mayor Liz Minor  
 Ms. Roberta Munske  
 Preservation of Historic Winchester  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rex Ritchie  
 Mr. Robert Roughton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Smith  
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Straub  
 Ms. Colleen Woods &

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Ekberg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Flanagan  
 Mr. Charles & Ms. Deborah French  
 Dr. & Mrs. Jack Helm  
 Mr. Don & Mrs. Ceretha Karolyi  
 Dr. & Mrs. John McAllister  
 Network for Good  
 Ms. Becky Ebert & Mr. Brett Osborn  
 Mr. Michael Prucker  
 Mr. Michael A. Rea  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Schember  
 Mr. Robert J. Shade  
 Dr. & Mrs. Terry Sinclair  
 Dr. John C. Stauffer  
 Mr. Thomas H. Sullivan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary VanMeter  
 Lt. Col. William C. Westgard  
 Dr. & Mrs. H. George White

## Individual/Family (\$30)

Mr. Ed and Mrs. Sherry (Nay) Acker  
 Ms. Rita C. Bauman  
 Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Bayfield  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward L. Baylis  
 Mr. David & Mrs. Susanne Blount  
 Mr. Darwin S. &  
     Mrs. Audrey R. Braden  
 Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Bayfield  
 Mr. Steven A. Campbell  
 Mr. Dale Carpenter  
 Mr. Randy Crane  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Crowell  
 Ms. Patricia Culver  
 Mr. David Downes  
 Marcia & Frank Duffy  
 Mr. Jim Moyer & Ms. Faye Dutton  
 Mr. Anthony Elar, Jr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. James C. Emmart  
 Mr. Claude Everhart  
 Mr. James & Ms. Kendra Getaz  
 Ms. Melanie Gregory

Mr. John W. Hill  
 Mr. Timothy A. & Helen Hodges  
 Dr. Warren Hofstra  
 Ms. Millicent Hughes  
 Mr. Richard & Ms. Susan Hunt  
 Mr. Edward L. Jaffee  
 Mr. David M. Jenkins  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur S. Johnston  
 Drs. Mark & Jo Jones  
 Mr. Nelson & Mrs. Barbara Keech  
 Mr. Jonathan Klemens  
 Mr. Greg Lambert  
 Ms. Melanie & Mr. Richard Lewis  
 Mr. Mark A. & Mrs. Sandra Lore  
 Mr. Rudy Lubin  
 Mr. Brian Madden, Esq.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Scot Marsh  
 Mr. Patrick McCarthy  
 Mr. Michael McCormick  
 Ms. Amy DuBrueler &  
     Mr. John McGrath  
 Dr. & Mrs. Timothy F. Merkel  
 Ms. Eleanor P. Monahan  
 Mr. Erick Moore  
 Rev. & Mrs. Alan Morrison  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Orndoff  
 Mr. Scott Patchan  
 Ms. Karen Paul  
 Mr. Morgan & Mrs. Megan Pierce  
 Mr. Paul Reid  
 Mr. David Rensch  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Resan  
 Mr. Clayton Robinson  
 Mr. Daniel Eric Robinson  
 Mr. Marc E. Robinson  
 Mr. Jimmie L. & Ms. Karen O. Shipp  
 Mr. H. R. (Randy) Sprouse  
 Mr. Donald W. Stewart  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stieg  
 Dr. Craig & Cathy Ann Stoner  
 Dr. Frank & Joyce Taylor III  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Chatfield-Taylor  
 Mr. James Templeton  
 Mr. Chris VanMeter  
 Mr. Larry Walters  
 Lt. Col. Richard M. Westfall  
 Dr. Joseph W. A. Whitehorse

## Our Corporate Contributors



THE  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON

A Wyndham Grand Hotel

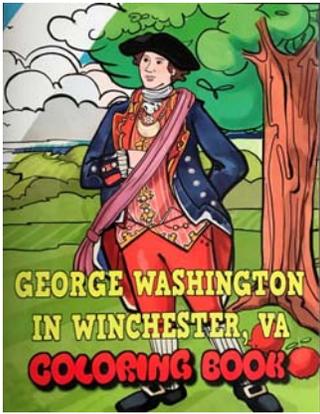


## Advisory Council

Stanley Corneal	David Look
James Deskins	James Moyer
Amy DuBrueler	Roberta Munske
David Edwards	Dr. Dennis Pogue
William Hunt	Dr. John Stauffer

# Coloring Books Donated to Laurel Center

The French & Indian War Foundation (FIWF) and Kiwanis Club of Winchester (also known as KCOW) made a donation of 100 coloring books to the Laurel Center on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



The two books, "George Washington in Winchester, VA" and "Daniel Morgan, Colonial American Hero", were conceived and written by Scott Straub, and illustrated by Maria Santucci. The books were designed by Straub to promote the colonial history of the Virginia frontier and, in meeting with the FIWF's criteria, have landed him a nomination for the Foundation's Fort Loudoun Award. To date, over 1500 copies of the coloring books have been sold, making them the most successful books

sold in the FIWF's 20 year history.



Straub, who belongs to both non-profit groups, applied for a grant from KCOW to cover the cost of the coloring books. KCOW, whose slogan is "serving the children of the world", was happy to partner with the FIWF and had a special sticker printed up to put inside the books showing their contribution to the project. The concept of making

this donation an annual event was discussed during the grant application process, and KCOW did indicate their willingness to continue doing this in the future by purchasing 500 of the special stickers.



Pictured at the Laurel Center donation are Steve Resan, FIWF; Maria Santucci, artist; David Grosso, FIWF; Cindy Marzullo, Development Director at the Laurel Center; Scott Straub (FIWF, KCOW & author); Ginny Grant, KCOW Youth Advisor; and Tim Anderson, KCOW Liaison.

## Isaac Zane

.....continued from page 2

- Mill – While the original mill foundation is still visible, at least three mills have sat atop the limestone base. One of the mills was burned during the Civil War. A subsequent mill burned in 1930, in the same fire that destroyed the wooden covered bridge that crossed the creek beside it. The wooden structure seen today was built in 1932 and is half the size of the earlier mills.
- Icehouse – Still stands, as described above.

Long gone:

- Iron Works – The ruins were visible early in the 1900's and a small part of the foundation still visible in 1936. A fire in 1930 destroyed the covered bridge that crossed Cedar Creek at the mill. (The abutments still stand. Bridge photos available at Handley Archives). The stone ruins of the furnace were used by the highway department for the construction of the replacement single-lane bridge, built around 1932 (which was later replaced with the current bridge). Upstream of the bridge, giant hardened masses can be seen where cinders and slag were dumped over the edge to quench in the creek below, creating a cave-like network along the water's edge. Minebank Road, which runs on the northeast side of the property, was built to feed the furnace below.
- Distillery - Was still standing and used as a barn (1<sup>st</sup> story stone, 2<sup>nd</sup> story frame) until the current bridge took its place.
- The Store – The crumbling stone walls could be seen in 1900.
- Stone blacksmith shop and stone spring house.

References:

Information for this article and further detail regarding Isaac Zane, his legacy, and ironworks photos can be found at the following resources.

*History of the Shenandoah Valley, by William Couper*

*A History of the Valley of Virginia, by Samuel Kercheval*

*Isaac Zane's Marlboro Ironworks: A Colonial Iron Plantation 1763-1795, by Karen G. Cooper (copy available at the Handley Library Archives)*

*The Village that Time Forgot, by Mark P. Gunderman, published in the Royal Examiner*

*"Stephens Fort Contains 1500 Historic Relics", The Winchester Evening Star, June 13, 1957*

*Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, Handley Regional Library*

# SAVE THE DATES:

Saturday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>

Clarke County Heritage Days,  
Burwell-Morgan Mill, Millwood, VA

Saturday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>

FIWF Annual Meeting, guest speaker  
Randy Crane of Fort Ashby

**2022**

February 22<sup>nd</sup>

George Washington Birthday Celebration

May 14<sup>th</sup>

20th Anniversary of FIWF

*All events will be held in accordance with the Governor's requirements for adhering to COVID-19 precautions in place at the time. All attendees will be expected to adhere to these guidelines.*

## FIWF Activities

On 25-26 September, a French and Indian War Weekend was held at Abram's Delight in Winchester.

Members from the French and Indian War Foundation, Mercer's Company, Colonel James Wood II Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Ranger and Indian Reenactors combined for a weekend to commemorate the F&I War.

Camps were present for bystanders to visit and see how our ancestors lived during that time. A reenactment battle between Indians and colonists with support from Mercer's Company was held in the afternoon.

It was an outstanding afternoon of educational and historic information presented for visitors to the site.



Carl Ekburg presented a lecture at Handley High School on 24 Oct. The title of his lecture was "The Jefferson Soul of Winchester"

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

frenchandindianwarfoundation.org  
Winchester, VA 22604  
Box 751  
French and Indian War Foundation



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WINCHESTER, VA  
PERMIT 460