



# French & Indian War Foundation

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

PO Box 751, Winchester, Virginia 22604

www.FIWF.org

Volume 17, Issue 1, Winter 2022

## Annual Meeting Notes

By David Grosso

We hope that everyone was able to manage at least a modest happy holiday season in spite of the continuing coronavirus unpleasantness. In this addition I will recap the business of the Annual Meeting for those unable to attend. We had 35 members and guests attend this year. That number is more than last year but less than the attendance that was typical pre-pandemic.

The meeting was opened with a memorial to long-time foundation members Ed and Betty Orndorff, both of whom passed away in 2021. The meeting was dedicated to their memory. The Orndorff's were strong supporters of the foundation and its mission and routinely found the time to attend events and annual meetings.

All-in-all, the pandemic notwithstanding, 2021 turned out to be a successful year for the foundation as I will recount below.

After opening remarks, a recap of foundation activity during the past year was presented. Thankfully we were able to return to in-person events, though with some restrictions and conditions, such as George Washington's Birthday Celebration and a Winter Muster on President's Day, Fort Loudoun Day, GW's 1758 election to the House of Burgesses and an F&IW Weekend at Abrams Delight. The latter in its second year is expected to become another annual foundation-sponsored event. The Foundation also co-sponsored with the Winchester Public Schools a lecture by Carl Ekberg which described Thomas Jefferson's love of architecture and his influences on the design of Handley H.S. and other buildings in Winchester. We were also participated in two events sponsored by the Clarke County Hist. Assoc., Colonial Kids Day in July and Colonial Heritage Day in November. We expect to continue to attend these and other like events to continue our efforts to reach out to the greater regional community.

Mercer's Company under the leadership of Tony Elar, was quite active this year, attending 12 F&IW-related events in the Mid-Atlantic region. Their efforts continue to contribute importantly to bringing attention to the foundation and its mission.

Jim Shipp, Treasurer, then reported on the financial status of the Foundation which remains in sound financial condition and is expected to remain so in the coming years. Fundraising efforts this year brought in nearly \$39,000 through a grant and increased donations. We thank every one whose generosity made this milestone possible. Most of this extra income was applied to our primary goal, i.e. to reduce the loan balance on the Baker-Hardy house. As of this writing in December, the loan amount is now under \$100,000, \$96,838 to be exact. We also refinanced the loan with The Bank of Clarke County at a lower rate and for a longer term than we were able to obtain from the previous lender. The combination of the large payment on the loan and the more favorable terms of the loan improve the prospects for retiring the loan more quickly and at less expense than would have been possible before. We will continue to work diligently toward this end in order that we can work toward advancing our long-term goals.

Erick Moore then reported on the state of the House and Grounds. There were no significant expenses for property maintenance during the year. We did retain approximately \$3000 from the fundraising efforts to apply to some repairs to front and side doors and rebuilding the severely deteriorated bulkhead that protects the outside entrance to the basement. The deterioration had allowed some minor flooding in the basement recently when there was heavy rainfall. These repairs will be completed in 2022.

Education and Outreach activities were

reported by Scott Straub. Firstly, coloring book sales continue strong necessitating a 2<sup>nd</sup> printing of the George Washington book. In addition, a 2<sup>nd</sup> book was published based on *Daniel Morgan: A Colonial American Hero*. Both are targeted for elementary age children and are for sale on our website. Secondly, Scott previewed the 3D virtual tour of Fort Loudoun now accessible on the website at [fiwf.org/fort-loudoun/](http://fiwf.org/fort-loudoun/). Visit the website and enjoy the tour of the fort as it is imagined to have been when Washington left the Virginia Regiment in 1758.

Membership was reported at 136 members as of November 2021, up from 133 last year. We gained 8 new members in 2021 compared to 4 in 2020, resulting in a net gain of three (3). The apparent discrepancy is explained by the passing of some long-time members and requests for cancellations of memberships. As in most membership organizations the status of the membership remains dynamic.

The Development Committee report was presented by Tony Elar. In addition to discussing fundraising efforts in 2021 (see above), Tony introduced the major fundraiser that we will be promoting in 2022, namely the raffling of an authentic reproduction of an Isaac Haines longrifle by an acclaimed contemporary gun maker, George Stanford (recently deceased) of Strasburg, VA. By the time you read this you will have received an invitation to 'take a chance' of becoming the owner of this rifle either by e-mail, regular mail or both. The proceeds from this effort will make another significant contribution to retiring the loan on the Baker-Hardy House. We encourage you to purchase raffle tickets to support this effort.

Following committee reports, sitting members of the board, Jim Shipp, Tony Elar, Eric Robinson

*continued page 2*

and Scott Straub were re-elected to the board for three-year terms. In addition, Donna Leight, nominated at the November BOD meeting, was also elected. The continuity on the board in recent years has been an important contributing factor to the continuing success of our organization.

The last item on the agenda was presentation of awards. The Leo Bernstein Award was presented to Mr. James Wilkins, Jr., for his efforts in securing a grant and donations totaling nearly \$39,000, the bulk of which was applied toward retiring the loan on the Baker-Hardy House property.

Fort Loudoun Awards were then presented to Scott Straub and David Grosso for their long-term commitments and contributions to the foundation. Presentation of two awards in one year was a departure from precedent for the foundation, however both recipients were more than worthy based on their multitude of past contributions.

Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded for efforts promoting the mission of the foundation:

- Eric Robinson for developing an educational film about the F&IW, for his participation in archeological digs at period sites and his continuing outreach to the public to raise awareness of our colonial history
- Maria Santucci for her artistic contributions to the Washington and Morgan coloring books
- Jim Moyer for his efforts in planning and managing the re-creation of the 1758 election of George Washington to the House of Burgesses representing Frederick County
- Mercer's Company for continuing efforts in education and outreach related to the F&IW era
- John Chesson for allowing the board to visit his home at 612 S. Loudoun St. and examine timbers used to build the house that may have been recycled from the Fort Loudoun Site. The house is believed to have been built in 1790.



James Wilkins Jr receiving the Leo Bernstein Award

Following the business meeting we heard from our guest speaker Mr. Randy Crane from *The Friends of Fort Ashby* (TFFA) who gave a talk about the history of Fort Ashby and efforts of TFFA to develop a museum on the fort site in Fort Ashby, WV. Fort Ashby was one of the forts on the Virginia Frontier under the command of Col. George Washington of the Virginia Regiment during the F&IW. We encourage you to visit Fort Ashby and enjoy their presentation of the history of that area during the F&IW era. Their efforts serve as an example of what we would like to create some day for visitors of the Fort Loudoun site in Winchester.

We look forward to your continuing support in 2022. Without your financial support and participation in Foundation-sponsored events we would not be able to continue to offer the programs that we do. THANK YOU!

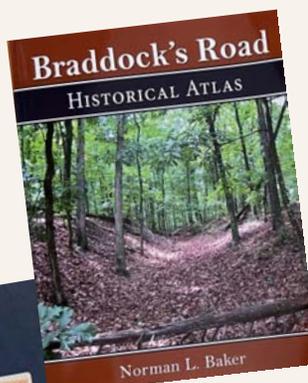
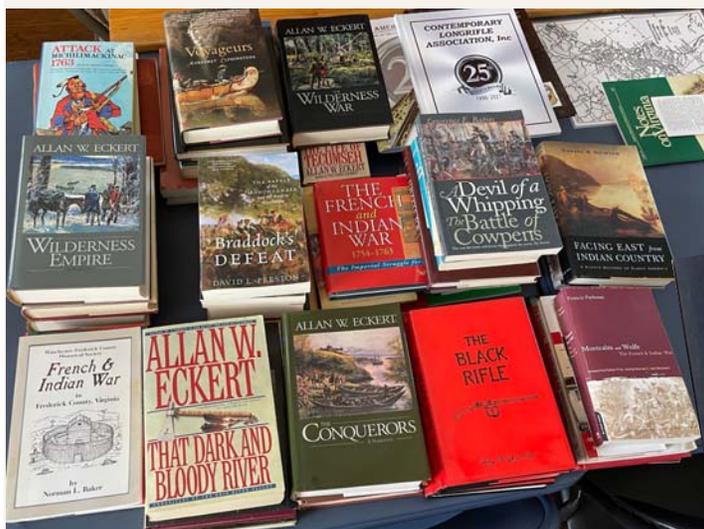
## FIWF Receives Generous Book Donation

By Scott Straub

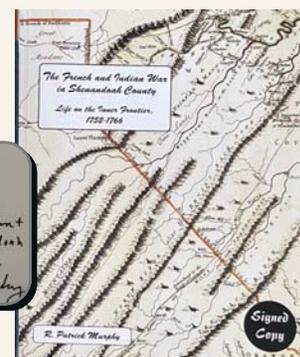
The French & Indian War Foundation wishes to acknowledge a very generous donation of historic books that pertain the F&I War. The books were given by Audrey Braden, wife of the late Darwin "Skip" Braden, who are members and supporters of the Foundation. The collection belonged to Skip, who was an enthusiastic student of history, and greatly enhances the Foundation's Resource Center. Skip was a veteran of the United States Air Force, and later worked as a geologist, a game warden, a bush pilot and an employee of British Petroleum during the development of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. The Foundation is very fortunate to have members like the Bradens and thanks them for their support.



Darwin "Skip" Braden



R. Patrick Murphy  
To Skip Braden,  
Thank you for your interest in this important but generally overlooked aspect of Shenandoah County and Shenandoah Valley history.  
R. Patrick Murphy





# French & Indian War Foundation

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

## George Washington's



**TUESDAY, 2-22-2022, 5pm-8pm**  
**At Winchester Brew Works**

**2 Pints of "Fort Loudoun Lager"**  
**2 Slices of Pizza**

**Commemorative Tankard - Yours to Keep !!**



**ONLY \$25!**

**When: February 22, 2022; 5pm to 8pm**

**Where: Winchester Brew Works, 320 N. Cameron St., Winchester, VA 22601**

**What: A Celebration of George Washington's Birthday and the 20th Anniversary of the French & Indian War Foundation!** Join us for pizza and "Fort Loudoun Lager", a brew inspired by George Washington's beer recipes, made especially for this event by Winchester Brew Works. Middletown Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV will be attending as young George Washington, and will be joined by Winchester founder James Wood, Captain George Mercer & Company, and others!

(For those interested, there will be a military muster of Mercer's Company of the Virginia Regiment at Fort Loudoun, 419 N. Loudoun Street, at 2:00. The Company will march in formation for libations at Winchester Brew Works following the muster.)

**Tickets: \$25 per person includes a Commemorative Tankard Beer Mug (16 oz), 2 pints of Fort Loudoun Lager, & 2 slices of pizza. Mugs will be handed out at the door when you arrive.**

**! Only 100 tickets available— Get yours today!**

**CONTACT SCOTT STRAUB FOR TICKETS AT 731-227-2327 (text or call)**

*Weather Disclaimer: Winchester Brew Works will have the final word in determining whether they will provide service due to weather. In the event of inclement weather, the pizza order for the evening*



# French & Indian War Foundation

*is pleased to raffle a*

## **Stanford Flintlock Longrifle**

*In Celebration of our 20th Anniversary*

This magnificent contemporary flintlock longrifle was made in the style of 18th century gunmaker Isaac Haines of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Haines was a 'grand master' gunmaker of the Lancaster school who made longrifles from 1772 to 1792. He is known for his 'Lancaster-style' flintlock longrifles produced during the 'Golden Age' of the Pennsylvania Longrifles, 1775-1825.

The contemporary flintlock longrifle was made by George Stanford, a native Virginian who lived in Strasburg, VA. Stanford was an avid collector and historian with a national reputation for building fine, collectible, Pennsylvania/Kentucky longrifles. He loved the artistic detail found on many longrifles and was a member of the Kentucky Rifle Association and the Contemporary Longrifle Association.

As a raffle participant, you have the chance to own an important American longrifle created by a skilled craftsman. The 50 caliber piece includes a 48" rifled barrel, curly maple stock, relief carving, silver inlay, and engraving. It is in mint condition and is one of Stanford's finest longrifles. A truly captivating piece of American art.

**Raffle Cost:** \$25 per ticket OR 5 for \$100 (a \$100 purchase will include a 1-year FIWF Membership)

**How to Purchase:** On our website at [FIWF.org/shop](https://FIWF.org/shop) & at selected events

**Drawing to be Held:** French & Indian War Foundation 2022 Annual Meeting, Nov 2022 (see website calendar for updates)



Your raffle participation promotes the  
French & Indian War Foundation's Mission to

***"Preserve and Interpret the Colonial History of Virginia's Frontier".***

Raffle proceeds will be used towards paying off the Fort Loudoun property loan, allowing for advancement of long-term foundation goals.

*Disclaimer: Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Longrifle will be distributed through licensed dealer, in compliance with federal and state laws and applicable local ordinances. If winner is ineligible to receive the prize under relevant state, federal or local laws and regulations, the prize will be forfeited without refund, and a new raffle winner will be selected. Any taxes are the sole responsibility of winner.*

# 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 2022 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

Donna Leight

Erick Moore

Scott Straub

## 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 manner until further notice.

# Members will be Sorely Missed

by Linda Ross



Betty & Edwin Orndoff

Betty K. Orndoff, age 85 died May 3, 2021 in Winchester. She was a life-long resident of Winchester. Betty loved ballroom dancing, the arts and was a member of the DAR. She was married to Ed Orndoff for 62 years. They had one daughter, Edwina.

Edwin P. Orndoff, of Winchester died Aug. 21, 2021 he was 91. Ed worked at Crown Cork and

Seal and later became an auctioneer. Their interests were antiques, and local history. They were strong supporters of Preservation of Historic Winchester and The Winchester-Frederick Co. Historical Society. Betty and Ed were members of the F&I War Foundation since its beginning and never missed an event!

They were a totally dedicated couple to our Mission. The Foundation recognized the Orndoff's with an Award of Achievement for their loyalty.

A truly lovely couple, we are grateful to have had them as supporters, they will be missed!

# Our Corporate Contributors



# SAVE THE DATES:

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Mercer's Company Muster**  
149 N. Loudoun St. Winchester

**George Washington's Birthday Celebration**

Winchester Brew Works  
320 N. Cameron St., Winchester

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Fort Loudoun Day**  
149 N. Loudoun St. Winchester

**May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**20th Anniversary of the French and Indian War Foundation**

**The George Washington Hotel**  
103 E. Piccadilly St. Winchester

*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.*

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