

Autumn
2010



Save the Date!

A Rare Opportunity to Venture Back in Time



Washington crossing the Delaware by Leutz

The French & Indian War Foundation of Winchester is planning the return of Col. George Washington as a Revolutionary War hero!

General Washington, portrayed by well-known actor and historian Robert Gerenser, will reminisce about past experiences that prepared him for the historic crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas Day, 1776. **SAVE THE DATE and join us:** Friday Nov 19, 2010 in the George Washington Hotel, Grand Ballroom; Cocktail Reception begins at 7:00 pm and the program begins at

8:00. More information to follow. *If you would like to donate a (silent) auction item for this event, please contact Julia McCaul at 540-535-7377; Questions always welcome!*

URGENT! Spread the News!

A Brilliant Idea to Benefit the FIWF, Small Business, and the Historically Important Site of Ft. Loudoun

The Winchester French and Indian War Foundation and The Profits for Non-Profits Center at Brilliant Marketing University are collaborating on a fundraising event so different... so amazing... so unusual...so spectacular...so effective... that you are going to want to know all about it... and then you'll want tell your friends, businesses, and other organizations you can about so they can benefit from it too!

What could we possibly be talking about? What could be so great?

Well, for starters, it's a fundraiser that doesn't require donations (although if you're in the donating mood, don't let that stop you!)

Let me explain. The Profits for Non-Profits Center at BMU has generously agreed to discount several of their marketing services programs, training classes, and home-study marketing courses, for anyone who mentions they heard of this fundraiser through the French & Indian War Foundation (or through the FIWF's network of friends, family, neighbors, etc.) All

profits from these program will be donated to The French and Indian War Foundation. (Profits for Non-Profits... get it?)

The service programs and training courses cover websites, email campaigns, and social marketing campaigns. The home-study course covers these important things and much more (details on all program are on the webpage listed at the end of this article).

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP !

Start by reading the enclosed flyer and get familiar with the program, then (cont. pg 2)

Bringing the "War that Made America" to Life

French & Indian War Foundation

**MEMBERS NEEDED TO SERVE
ON ALL COMMITTEES:**

- ◆ HOUSING
- ◆ EDUCATION & OUTREACH
- ◆ FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES

540-514-4424

Inside this issue:

We are delighted to present you with two similar articles this month, both detailing a young, major George Washington's first encounter with the French. Each article recounts the story providing differing levels of details, giving you a broader scope of the history of this event.

We hope you enjoy The First Frenchman Washington Met and Excerpts From the Original French & Indian War Master.

Back by Popular Demand!

Reserve your seats now for this sell-out event

POPULAR FRENCH & INDIAN WAR FOUNDATION AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN NORMAN BAKER IS TOUR GUIDE FOR POPULAR ONE-DAY HISTORIC FORT BUS TOUR

If you are looking to learn more about Virginia's frontier and the French and Indian War, then Winchester is the place to be... and September 25 is the day! That's the day Winchester's French & Indian War Foundation will be hosting their autumn one-day (air-conditioned!) bus tour of the region's historical forts. Norman Baker, expert local historian, will be your tour guide.

The tour begins at 9:00 AM, lunch will be provided, and the following 14 fort sites visited: Fort Loudoun, Pearis' Fort, Enoch's Fort, Cox's Fort, Cresap's Fort, Fort Cumberland, Ashby's Fort, Cocke's Fort, Pearsall's Fort, Thomas Parker's Fort, Edwards' Fort, McCay's Fort, Smith's Fort, and White's Fort.



FORT CUMBERLAND 1755

Photo reproduced from "History of Cumberland, Maryland" by William Lowdermilk 1878.

Reservations are necessary, as the tours typically sell-out, and can be made by contacting **Alan Morrison** at **540-667-5978** or **amorison@att.net**

"My wife and I really enjoyed the trip on August 8, 2009 Saturday from 9am to 5pm. I am guessing that tour was probably more than 20 years of weekends in the making where Norman Baker, our tour guide, had walked all those places, documented all those spots, poured over satellite and aerial maps and topo maps, and photographed parts of the Braddock Road."

Jim Moyer

Please Help Spread the News (cont. from pg 1)

go to the website to get all details.

NEXT:

- 1) If you are a business owner and need these services, contact BMU (540-514-4505) and sign up.
- 2) Whether or not you own a business, start talking! Tell everyone you know about the program. Neighbors, family, friends, organizations, charities, businesses, churches, professionals... you name it! REFER, REFER, REFER!!!
- 3) Think of someone you might "gift" the program to; there are many out there interested in started their own business and there is nothing better than the programs being offered through this program
- 4) Go to the following website address, take a look at all of the different ways to get the word out about this program. We've made it as easy as possible for you—there are flyers you can print and download, emails you can cut and paste and send out... all sorts of ideas to help you, help save Ft. Loudoun and keep history alive for generations to come!

<http://www.frenchandindianwarfoundation.org/bmufr.html>

We CAN do great things... but only by working together!

FUNDS RAISED FROM THIS PROGRAM WILL BE USED TO KEEP THE HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT SITE OF FT. LOUDOUN IN THE HANDS OF THE FRENCH & INDIAN WAR FOUNDATION AND TO CREATE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Fort Loudoun Day

“This has been a magnificent event!” Lt. Col. Mark Sullivan, British Defense Staff



Desi Ramirez, young patriot, and James Wood (portrayed by re-enactor Steve Resan, were two of the many re-enactors who colorfully brought the day to life for us all!

Fort Loudoun Day was held this year on Saturday May 21, 2010, and what a wonderful event it was! After a rain-filled week, we were treated to an partly sunny and 100% dry morning to host this event. Spring was coming alive on the grounds with beautiful pink petunias planted around the well. This date commemorates the date in 1756 (May 15) when work began on the construction of Fort Loudoun.

Board member David Look baked two of his (literally) award winning cakes and personally held a successful fundraiser selling coffee and Ft. Loudon mugs. In addition, the Resource Center was in full swing with Mrs. Betty Orndorff providing much needed, and appreciated, assistance for visitors.

Other highlights of the day included Norman Baker's grounds tours, the wonderfully costumed re-enactors, and of course the hoisting of the British flag. Out featured speaker for the program was Lt. Col. Mark Sullivan of the British Embassy's Defense Staff. Lt. Col. Kieron Potts and his talented wife Elaine also attended, with Elaine treating everyone to festive music on her bagpipe. (What a talent!)

Thanks to our board for all their help with this event, with special thanks to David Look, Julia McCaul, Mrs. Betty Orndorff., and Marc Robinson. Thanks also to Mr. Richard Oram, owner of the Union Jack Pub.

The First Frenchman Washington Met

Governor Dinwiddie sent young George Washington to order this leader out!

LEGARDEUR DE SAINT-PIERRE, JACQUES, officer in the colonial regular troops, explorer, interpreter; b. 24 Oct. 1701 at Montreal, son of Jean-Paul Legardeur* de Saint-Pierre and Marie-Josette Leneuf de La Vallière; killed in the battle of Lac Saint-Sacrement (Lake George), 1755.

Jacques Legardeur de Saint-Pierre was a descendant of several prominent families of New France; he was a grandson of Jean-Baptiste Legardeur* de Repentigny and great-grandson of Jean Nicollet* de Belleborne. His father, Jean-Paul, spent many years in the *pays d'en haut* and in 1718 founded the post at Chagouamigon (near Ashland, Wis.). There is some evidence that while he was still in his teens Jacques joined his father at the post. Several accounts from Montreal praised Jacques early in his career for his knowledge of Indian languages and life; for example, in 1732 Governor Charles de Beauharnois claimed that Jacques had been in the west for nine years and “Knows the savage language better than the savages, as they themselves admit.” Jacques was to be one of the foremost advisers on Indian affairs in New France.

Legardeur's interests and talents were still associated with the *pays d'en haut* [i.e. the Up Country, including the Ohio River valley], and in 1750 Governor La Jonquière [Taffanel] appointed him to lead in the search for the western sea, a project that had been hindered by the death of Pierre GAULTIER de Varennes et de La Vérendrye. However he was soon involved in a quarrel with Louis-JOSEPH and PIERRE Gaultier de La Vérendrye, who insisted on some role in the search and glory. Legardeur eventually realized that the La Vérendrye family had cause to feel slighted, and he apologized. On 5 June 1750 Legardeur left Montreal. After several weeks at Michilimackinac in July, he set off for Fort La Reine (Portage la Prairie, Man.) where he arrived that fall. During the two years he spent at this post, Legardeur, despite what some historians say, travelled several times to the area of the Red and Winnipeg (*continued on page 5*)

Excerpts From the Original French & Indian War Master

THIS ARTICLE IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF EXCERPTS FROM FRANCIS PARKMAN, THE ORIGINAL MASTER OF THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

Virginia Governor Dinwiddie, jealously watchful of French aggression, had learned through traders and Indians that a strong detachment from Canada had entered the territories of the King of England, and built forts on Lake Erie and on a branch of the Ohio. He wrote to challenge the invasion and summon the invaders to withdraw; he could find none more fit to bear this message as a young man of twenty-one. It was this rough Scotchman who launched Washington on his illustrious career.

Washington set out for the trading station of the Ohio Company on Will's Creek; and thence at the middle of November, struck into the wilderness with Christopher Gist as a guide, Vanbraam, a Dutchman, as French interpreter, Davison, a trader, as Indian interpreter, and four woodsmen as servants. Then to the forks of the Ohio and down the river to Logstown, the Chingué of Céloron de Bienville. There Washington had various parleys with the Indians; and thence, after vexatious delays, he continued his journey towards Fort Le Boeuf, accompanied by the friendly chief called the Half King

and by three of his tribesmen. For several days they followed the traders' path, pelted with unceasing rain and snow, and came at last to the old Indian town of Venango, where French Creek enters the Alleghany. Here there was an English trading house but the French had seized it, raised their flag over it, and turned it into a military outpost. Joncaire [Daniel-Marie Charbert de] was in

sentiments more freely. They told me that it was their absolute design to take possession of the Ohio, and, by God, they would do it; for that although they were sensible the English could raise two men for their one, yet they knew their motions were too slow and dilatory to prevent any undertaking of theirs."



This painting by John Buxton represents the three nations in conflict over the territory. A young George Washington (at left, in the red coat), representing Virginia and the British government, meets with French commander of Ft. LeBoeuf to request that they leave the area. From the doorway, shadows of the Native Americans who accompanied Washington on his journey are visible.

command, with to subalterns; and nothing could exceed their civility. They invited the strangers to supper and, says Washington, "the wine, as they dosed themselves pretty plentifully with it, soon banished the restraint which at first appeared in their conversation, and gave a license to their tongues to reveal their

With all their civility, the French officers did their best to entice away Washington's Indians; and it was with extreme difficulty that he could persuade them to go with him. Through marshes and swamps, forests choked with snow, and drenched with incessant rain, they toiled on for four days more, till the wooden walls of Fort Le Boeuf appeared at last, surrounded by fields studded thick with stumps, and half-encircled by the chill current of French Creek, along the banks of which lay more than two hundred canoes, ready to carry troops in the spring. Washington describes Legardeur de Saint-Pierre as "an elderly gentleman with much the air of a soldier." The letter sent him by Dinwiddie

expressed astonishment that his troops should build forts upon lands "so notoriously known to be the property of the Crown of Great Britain." "I must desire you," continued the letter, "to acquaint me by whose authority and instructions you have lately marched (*continued on page 5*)

The First Frenchman Washington Met (cont. from pg 3)

Rivers and Lake of the Woods. He was constantly forced to calm Indian rivalries; it seems that in 1752 he handled major negotiations alone between Cree and Sioux warriors. The search for the western sea was of course fruitless, but under Legardeur's orders and directions, a party, led by Joseph-Claude Boucher* de Niverville, did in 1751 establish Fort La Jonquière (probably in the Nipawin, Sask., area).

Returning to Montreal, likely in 1753, Legardeur was at once sent to the Ohio country, where the French were establishing possessory rights, to the growing resentment of the English. That year Paul MARIN de La Malgue founded in the region two forts, one being Fort de la Rivière au Bœuf (Waterford, Pa.). After Marin's death in October, Legardeur was sent to command at the fort. The presence of the French military upset the Virginia colony, and Governor Robert Dinwiddie sent a young major, George Washington, with a party

of seven to order Legardeur out of the country at once. After a difficult journey Washington arrived at Fort de la Rivière au Bœuf on 11 December and delivered Dinwiddie's written order to Legardeur. In what has become a celebrated communication, Legardeur wrote to Dinwiddie and suggested that Washington was wasting his time by trying international diplomacy with him. He suggested that Quebec, not Fort de la Rivière au Bœuf, was the reasonable place to submit such messages. Legardeur's position was firm but courteous: "As to the summons you send me to retire, I do not think myself obliged to obey it." This affair has received much more attention from some historians than it merits, simply because it was Washington's introduction to great military-political events. The historians of New France have had a clearer understanding of the event than most, seeing in this encounter a seasoned military professional being polite, firm, and probably amused at the "threat" from the Virginia militia major.

Washington returned to the region in 1754, was involved in the notorious assault on the party of Joseph Coulon de Villiers de Jumonville, and was eventually defeated, captured, and released by the French at Fort Necessity (near Farmington, Pa.). Diplomacy was forgotten, and the French and English once again battled for control of the Ohio country and all of North America. In 1754 Legardeur was recalled to Montreal to help in gathering forces for the coming actions. The Baron de DIE-SKAU, a German in the French service, prepared a major offensive in the vicinity of Lac Saint-Sacrement and on 4 Sept. 1755 Legardeur was sent with a force of Canadian militia and hundreds of Indians to accompany him. The battle of Lac Saint-Sacrement occurred on 8 September, actually a series of three major conflicts. In the first, shortly after 10:00 a.m., Legardeur, leading his Indian warriors, was killed at once. His loss affected the Indians deeply, and Governor Vaudreuil [Rigaud*], other French leaders, and even the British commented that the loss of Legardeur could be a major factor in the coming battles.

Excerpts From... (cont. from pg 4)

from Canada with an armed force, and invaded the King of Great Britain's territories. It becomes my duty to require your peaceable departure; and that you would forbear prosecuting a purpose so interruptive of the harmony and good understanding which His Majesty is desirous to continue and cultivate with the Most Christian King. I persuade myself you will receive and entertain Major Washington with the candor and politeness natural to your nation; and it will give me the greatest satisfaction if you return him with an answer suitable to my wishes for a very long and lasting peace between us."

Saint-Pierre took three days to frame the answer. In it he said that he should send Dinwiddie's letter to the Marquis Duquesne [governor general of Canada] and await his orders; and that meanwhile he should remain at his post, according to the commands of his general. "I made it my particular care," so the letter closed, "to received Mr. Washington with a distinction suitable to your dignity as well as his own quality and great merit." No form of courtesy had, in fact, been wanting. "He appeared to be extremely complaisant," says Washington, "though he was exerting every artifice to set our Indians at variance with us. I saw that every stratagem was practiced to win the Half-King to their interest." Neither gifts nor brandy were spared; and it was only by the utmost pains that Washington could prevent his red allies from staying at the fort, conquered by French blandishments.

PART TWO COMING WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE NEXT FRENCH & INDIAN WAR FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER.



DO YOUR PART TO PRESERVE THE RICH HISTORY OF COLONIAL VIRGINIA

Are YOU Interested in playing an important role in supporting the educational goals and preservation of the sites associated with colonial Virginia and the French & Indian War?

Great! Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

Prefix _____ First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip _____ Country _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Alternate email _____

Please select your Membership Preference:

- Student \$15
- Individual/Family \$30.00
- Patron \$100.00
- Sustaining \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00
- Soldier \$ 1,000.00 (Only 100 available!) **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**
- Captain \$ 5,000.00 **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**
- Colonel \$10,000.00 **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

Would you like to volunteer to help with events or on committees? If yes, what type of volunteer work appeals to you? _____

One Time Donation Amount of: _____

Please mail this form and your check to:
The French & Indian War Foundation
P.O. Box 751, Winchester, VA 22604 540-575-7377

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE and JOIN (OR DONATE ANY AMOUNT) ONLINE!

FrendchandIndianWarFoundation.org