

*Oral A Councilwoman  
Woodson  
submitted  
11/11/03*

City of Alexandria, Virginia

---

MEMORANDUM

Date: 11/7/2003  
To: The Honorable Mayor and Members of Council  
Philip Sunderland, City Manager  
Rebecca Perry, Superintendent ACPS  
From: Councilwoman Joyce Woodson  
RE: FYI - French and Indian War Commemoration 2005

---

I attended a planning meeting for what is expected to be a seven state Commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the French and Indian War. The events of the War occurred over a period of several years, but the principal commemorative events are expected to occur during 2004 and 2005. In the fall of 2005, PBS will air a documentary entitled The War That Made America.

The Carlyle House in Alexandria is a site central to the War so Alexandria should appropriately participate in the events. It is expected that Braddock's March through Alexandria will occur in April of 2005. Attendance at the planning meeting by representatives of ACVA, the Lyceum, Carlyle House, and the Office of Historic Alexandria, as well as Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, National Park Service, Potomac Heritage Scenic Trail, and Mount Vernon evidenced serious local interest in participation.

There are many groups involved in the planning with the driving force being the War for Empire Consortium, [www.warforempire.org](http://www.warforempire.org). I've attached the Consortium's brochure along with a Lecture Series listing from the Shenandoah University Historical and Tourism Center and the website printout of the proposed Braddock's March.

This is an interesting project with the potential to promote local tourism.

# Braddock's March 2005

## 250th Anniversary of the French & Indian War in the Americas

### Mission Statement

Braddock's March 2005, the 250th Anniversary of the French & Indian War in the Americas is a nonprofit, educational, mobile display dedicated to the history of the men and women who suffered and sacrificed themselves during Braddock's march to capture Fort Duquesne in 1755.

The march from Alexandria to Pittsburgh will provide history education through live military reenactments at historic sites along the march route which will closely follow the original road which today is called Braddock's Road.

### March Objectives

American History Public Education

Historic Site Promotion & Preservation

Artifact Presentation & Preservation

Braddock Road Preservation

Tourism

(International, National, State & Local)

### Braddock's March 2005

Living history reenactors and educators will recreate the army of British Major General Edward Braddock/1755. Troops will represent the British 44th and 48th of Foot, British Naval Forces and the American Colonial Army.

The uniforms, arms, equipment, tents, horses, wagons, artillery and much of what was used to drive an army across the mountains will be part of the presentation.

A core group will form the educational leaders that will march the entire route and participate at all events. National and local living history reenactors will join the core group at weekend camp sites and historic sites during the march. Each host historic site will have provide camp locations, water, wood, food, security and safety.

A second group of reenactors will be formed to represent the French and Native American forces aligned to stop the British. This group will camp at Point State Park, Pittsburgh, PA in June at the original site of Fort Duquesne. Both armies will meet near Pittsburgh in July.

To increase the public educational component of the march, a mobile museum dedicated to the history of the Braddock March and the French & Indian War will follow the army from site to site. Each participating historic site will be asked to create an modular exhibition which will promote their site and explain their historical contribution to this period in American history. Dr. Paul Kopperman, a Braddock scholar, has verbally committed to travel with the march, lecture and provide an on-site scholarship.

---

All lectures will be held at The Knowledge Point, 20 South Cameron Street, Winchester, Virginia at 7:30 p.m. and are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

### 2003

#### October 10-11

##### **McCormick Civil War Institute Program: The Battle of Sharpsburg**

Reception, dinner and lecture Friday evening, followed by a lecture and tour of Harper's Ferry and Sharpsburg on Saturday. Fee.

#### October 21

##### **Willa Cather's Virginia: A Slide Show and Commentary**

Dr. John Jacobs, professor of English and director, Willa Cather Institute, Shenandoah University  
Willa Cather's memories of 19th century Winchester and Frederick County are most fully developed in her *Sapphira and the Slave Girl* (1940). Through readings from *Sapphira*, an accompanying slide show and discussion, Dr. Jacobs will explore with the audience the importance of Virginia in Cather's life and work.

#### October 23

##### **The Once and Future Past: New Deal Archaeology**

Bernard K. Means, Ph.D. candidate, Arizona State University

During the height of the Great Depression, federal work-relief programs gave people an opportunity to do jobs that were foreign to them, including archaeology. Mr. Means will present how New Deal archaeology changed our knowledge of America's past and examine some of the men who made their living as work-relief archaeologists.

**October is Archaeology Month**

#### November 20

##### **The Iroquois and their Neighbors in the Era of the French and Indian War**

Carl Benn, chief curator, City of Toronto Museum & Heritage Services

Dr. Benn will discuss the people, artifacts and communities of the First Nations of the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes region of the 1750-60's.

*Co-sponsored with the Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society*

#### December 3

##### **Christmas Traditions of the Shenandoah Valley**

John L. Heatwole is a published Valley historian with a lifelong interest in the Civil War and folk lore traditions. He will explore the Christmas traditions of our German-Swiss, Scots-Irish, English and African-American ancestors, tracing their origins and evolution in America and western Virginia.

### 2004

#### January 16-17

##### **Visiting Scholar Visit and Lecture: The French & Indian War and the Making of George Washington**

Dr. Fred Anderson, professor of history, University of Colorado at Boulder, and author of *Crucible of War*, 2001 Parkman Prize winner

#### February 12

##### **"They Are As Proud of Their Uniform as Any Who Serve Virginia:" African-American Participation in the Virginia Volunteers, 1872-99**

Roger D. Cunningham, Lt. Col., USA (ret.)

Col. Cunningham will trace the history of African-American militia units, from post-Civil War beginnings to their demise with the rise of Jim Crow.

*Co-sponsored with the Coalition for Racial Unity*

**February is Black History Month**

#### March (Date TBD)

##### **Southern Women in History**

Dr. Suzanne Lebsock, Board of Governors Professor of History, Rutgers University

**March is Women's History Month**

#### March 24

##### **Willa Cather Institute Annual Lecture: Willa Cather and World War I**

Dr. Steven Trout, associate professor of English, Fort Hays State University, Kansas

#### April (Date TBD)

##### **The Valley Road: History and Landscape Over Three Centuries**

Two-day conference

#### April 7

##### **C. Grattan Price Lecture on Shenandoah Valley History: Ordinary People and Everyday Life in the Valley of Virginia during the Age of Grain**

Kenneth E. Koons, professor of History, Virginia Military Institute

#### April 14

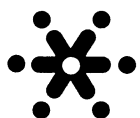
##### **The Sublimity of Battle and the Quietude of Remembrance: Picturing the Civil War within the Valley Landscape**

Dr. Geraldine Kiefer, assistant professor of art history, Shenandoah University

#### May 12-15

##### **McCormick Civil War Institute**

Lectures and Tours



The Knowledge Point™

Shenandoah University Historical and Tourism Center

For more information, please contact The Knowledge Point™  
at (540) 535-3543 or [www.TheKnowledgePoint.org](http://www.TheKnowledgePoint.org).

## *Possible Events/Projects for Alexandria Area French and Indian War Commemoration*

- *Establish steering committee to manage collaboration efforts*
- *Re-enact 1755 Council of Governors at Carlyle House - Apr. 05*
- *Facilitate Steve Nuckles' efforts for march and encampment in Alexandria - April 05*
- *City-wide parade to welcome Colonial Governors*
- *Symposium on French and Indian War*
- *Series of lectures on French and Indian War*
- *Temporary exhibit - possibly at Lyceum*
- *Seek visits by ships of the period to Alexandria waterfront*
- *Work with Shenandoah University on trail signage*
- *Preservation and restoration of F & I War monument at Braddock and Russell Roads - DAR*
- *Encourage interpretation along Potomac Heritage Trail*
- *Work with ACVA to establish marketing plan*
- *Work with ACVA to create flags or banners with logo*
- *Work with ACVA to encourage media interest*
- *Period music presentations/concerts*
- *Local previews of PBS film*
- *Establish web-site with links to War for Empire and others*
- *Encourage involvement of Colonial Dames, DAR, Daughters of Colonial Wars, etc.*
- *Develop school tours using Virginia SOL's*
- *Re-publish Ross Netherton's article on Congress of Alexandria*
- *Establish fundraising committee*
- *Invite Fred Anderson for lecture and book signing*
- *Invite descendants of veterans to special memorial service*
- *Encourage involvement of City Council, state government, etc*
- *Continue to seek commemorative US postage stamp - Series*