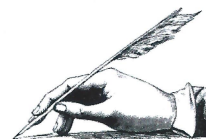




Fort Defiance

Chronicle



Winter Issue

April 2023

Fort Defiance

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Lenoir, NC 28645

828-758-1671

fortdefiancenc@gmail.com

historicfortdefiancenc.org

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Women on the Frontier

A special springtime event will be held on Saturday, April 15th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Experience what life was like for women on the North Carolina frontier. Living history volunteers will be demonstrating the skills of everyday life such as cooking, sewing, the use of herbs, laundry, dyeing and the education of girls. There will be no charge for the main event, admission to the house is \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 6 to 14 and children under 5 are free.



Lunch & Learn Program
June 10, 2023 @ 12:00 pm



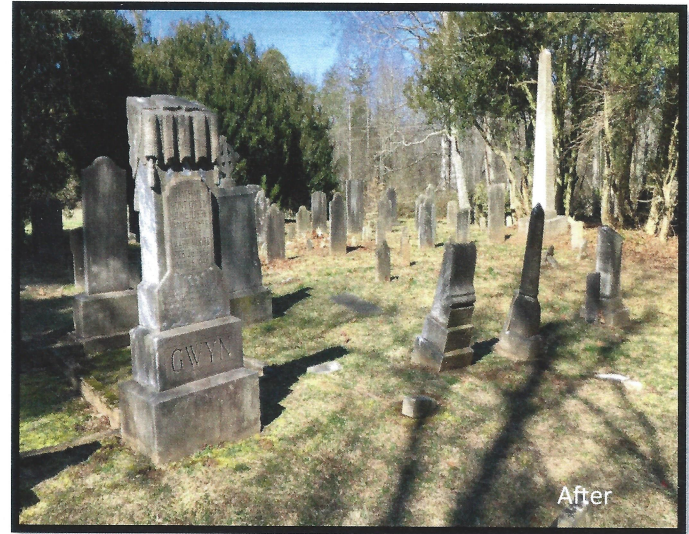
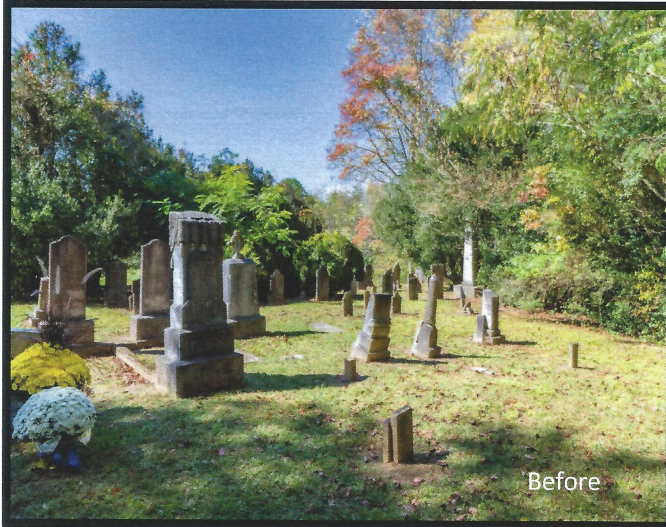
"Native Revolutionaries The American Indians of the Southeast in the American Revolution."

William Caldwell, Park Ranger, with the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail of the National Park Service will be presenting a look at ways that a few of the more local American Indian nations were involved in the American Revolution and the impact their efforts had on the greater policy of the war and the local impact to the backcountry Patriots like William Lenoir.

This event is **free** to the public. **Donations are always appreciated.** Bring a chair and bring lunch and plan to spend the day. Picnic tables are available but limited.



Cemetery Restoration Project



A grant from the Stevens Family Foundation is making it possible to do some restoration work in the Lenoir Family Cemetery. There are 55 graves in the cemetery, with the earliest grave belonging to Elizabeth Lenoir, daughter of William and Ann Ballard Lenoir. She was born February 15, 1783 and died March 22, 1785, the only child of nine who passed away during childhood. The restoration project consists of removing debris such as overgrown boxwoods, limbs, vines and various other undergrowth. The tombstones that are leaning will be straightened and some will be cleaned. The Lenoir Family can still be buried in the cemetery if they choose. The last grave is that of Shirley G. Lenoir, wife of Charles W. Lenoir on January 5, 2021.

Eagle Scout Project #1



Kevin Carbo of the Mooresville Boy Scout Troop 377, with help from other members of the troop, completed his Eagle Scout project on February 25 and 26. His project consisted of building a split rail fence from the gate to the Fort Defiance sign and along the public parking area.



Eagle Scout Project #2



With the help of a grant from the Broyhill Family Foundation, Grayson Peel also of the Mooresville Boy Scout Troop 377 is working on his Eagle Project with the help of his father Aaron Peel. The project consists of building a new storage facility on the back side of the Visitor Center. It is expected to be completed by the end of April.

To attain the Eagle rank, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges, fulfill leadership roles and display outdoor skills, demonstrate by example the Scout Oath and Law, and complete a comprehensive service project in the community.

New Roof



William Lenoir stated in his March 1788 contract with Thomas Fields to build his home, that he wanted the shingles to be made from the stump of the tree, squared, rounded and nailed on. The goal is to replace the roof as close to his instructions as possible. A lot went into making this happen. It has taken grant writing and donations to make the new roof possible. Grants for this project came from the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation and the Stevens Family Foundation. Marching funds came from Steve and Jean Branch, Eliza Bishop, Liza Plaster, Monte & Brenda Combs, Joe & Francis Delk, Brenda Bernhardt, Mike Bernhardt, Myra A. Dickson and C. Yorke Lawson.

Website Update

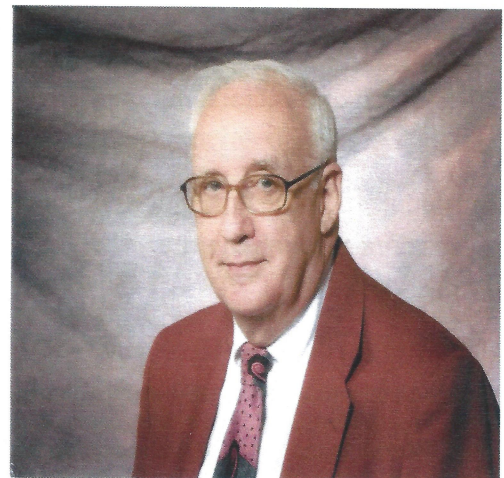
www.historicfortdefiancenc.com

Board Member Tina Triplett, and her son Ben Triplett, have been making some upgrades to the Fort Defiance website. The improvements have made the site more attractive and user-friendly. Anyone wanting to become a member of "Friends of Fort Defiance" or wanting to make a donation can now do so on line with their credit card. Newsletters are available and appointments for tours can be booked on line. Information on the various ways to contact the site, answers to common questions, and a brief history are also included.

Lunch & Learn Event

July 15, 2023

12:00 PM



Stoneman's Raid Though Caldwell County

John Hawkins, Presenter

Scherenschnitte



Scherenschnitte is German for “scissor cutting” paper into fanciful designs, and is an art form brought to this country from Central Europe in the 18th century. It was first introduced by immigrants who settled primarily in Pennsylvania. Like many other traditional European art forms, original intricacy often gave way to American Simplification. It was widely practiced by the common people, thus placing it in the “folk art” category. Roman Catholic practitioners of the art often produced devotional subjects while Protestants often produced landscapes, romantic scenes, and ornamental motifs. Often these cuttings were used as rewards for school performances and as “Liekes Briefe” or love letters. The English readily adopted this technique for the making of Valentines.

This particular Scherenschnitte was found neatly tucked away in one of the Lenoir Family books.

Board Highlights

The Fort Defiance Board of Directors met on March 1, 2023 at 5:30. Members present were Tina Triplett, Monty Minton, Steven Rauchfuss, Ike Forester, Doug Davis and Sandra Watts.

- Tina Triplett reported to the group that the website had been updated and is now capable of taking payments of memberships and donations through the site. Also she and her son Ben are working to improve the appearance of the site and make it more user friendly.
- Sandra Watts informed the group that a grant from the Broyhill Family Foundation had been submitted and awarded and that a grant to the Cannon Foundation is still pending. A representative of the Foundation made a site visit on February 6, 2023.
- The undergrowth of the Lenoir Family Cemetery has been removed with next step to upright any tombstones that may be leaning. Two Mooresville Boy Scout Troop 377 members are working on their Eagle Scout ranking.
- Group discussion as to how best encase the cellar area of the main house. Two bids have been received.
- Calendar of events is being finalized.
- Monty Minton reported that the roofing of the main house should start within the next two weeks. Weather permitting.

FRIENDS OF FORT DEFIANCE

Your support is vitally important to the operation of Fort Defiance. **THANK YOU!** The following members have joined for **2023**:

Patriot/Individual

Oscar L. Doberiner
 R. Kelly Coffey
 Helen Nell Fisher
 Bill Karr
 Iredell County Extension Master Gardner Assoc. (in memory
 Of Michael W. Bernhardt)

Julie Mullis
 Matt O'Bryant
 Karen Barlow (in memory of Shirley Lenoir)

Militia/Family

Wanda Prince
 Liza Plaster (in honor of Steven Rauchfuss)
 Charles & Carol Bernhardt (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Joanne M. Schwind (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Kathryn H. Hamrick (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Margaret M. Broyhill
 Jean Branch
 Betty Buss
 Lissa Holsclaw (in memory of revolutionary ancestor Colonel Isaac
 Lee)
 Nathan Hunt
 Valerie Connor

Lieutenant

Pam Helton

Captain/Patron

Myra A. Dickson
 Brenda Combs
 Monty Combs
 Caron Josey Hobson
 Rutzinski Family (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Nathan & Julie Dixon (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Joseph P. Logan (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)

Alvin Johnston
 Evelyn Hartshorn Beam
 Mary A. Kincaid
 Gemstone District Roundtable (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Roger & Jan Clary (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Jane J. Smith
 Tina Triplett
 Steve McCord
 John Hawkins
 Dr. John W. Thuss
 Joe & Francis Delk
 Jeff & Rita Jones
 Jerry Brooks
 Kathryn LeNoie

Colonel/ Sponsor

Keith & Carrie Harrison (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Scott & Karen Glover (in memory of Michael W. Bernhardt)
 Samuel L. & Sandra B. Ramsey
 James Pennell

General/ Benefactor

Barbara Freiman
 Yorke Lawson

Specified Donations—Thank You
 Stevens Family Foundation (Cemetery Restora-
 tion)
 Bernhardt Furniture Foundation (Upgrade Visi-
 tor Center)
 Hogan Family Foundation (Visitor Center)
 Blue Ridge Energy (upgrade heating & air)
 Broyhill Family Foundation (Capital Improve-
 ments)

Please become a "Friend of Fort Defiance". Memberships are available for individuals, families, and corporations who are looking to support local history and tourism. Each level of membership comes with perks when visiting Fort Defiance. For example, free admission when visiting on regular days of operation, discounts for special event admission, discounts in the gift shop and discounts on ground rentals. Each member will receive a membership card and a copy of the bi-monthly newsletter via mail or email.

Fort Defiance, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization . Anyone wanting to become a member of the "Friends of Fort Defiance" should send a check made payable to Fort Defiance, Inc. and mail it along with the membership form to Fort Defiance, Inc., P. O. Box 686, Lenoir, NC 28645. Or you can make payment by credit card on our website, www.historicfortdefiancenc.org.

Contact Fort Defiance at fortdefiancenc@gmail.com or call 828-758-1671.

<input type="checkbox"/> Patriot/Individual	\$20-39	<input type="checkbox"/> Captain/Patron	\$100-499
<input type="checkbox"/> Militia/Family	\$40-74	<input type="checkbox"/> Colonel/Sponsor	\$500-999
Family is defined as two parents and their dependent children.		<input type="checkbox"/> General/Benefactor	\$1000-up
<input type="checkbox"/> Lieutenant/Supporter	\$75-99		

Name: _____ Telephone: _____ Email _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Please Come Visit Soon!

Fort Defiance is located past the former Patterson School on Hwy 268.

Hours of Operation

April-October Thursday - Saturday 10 AM-4 PM
Sunday 1 PM - 4 PM

November-March Saturday & Sunday 10 AM - 4 PM

Admission

\$7 per Adult

\$5 for children (Ages 6 -15)

Children 5 and under free

Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Instagram.

To schedule a group of 10 or more, please call for an appointment.



Return Requested

Presorted Standard
Postage & Fees Paid
Fort Defiance Inc.
Permit No. 28, 28645

Fort Defiance
P.O. Box 686
Lenoir, NC 28645