

**Membership Application for the
Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society**

Yearly dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families living in the same household. To become a member or supporter, please fill out the information below, attach a check payable to Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc., in the proper amount and mail to P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404.

Name(s)

Street Address

City, State, ZIP

Home Telephone

Work Cell Telephone

E-mail Address

- Individual Membership \$10
 Family Membership \$15
 Supporter \$ _____

**For additional information
and a calendar of events,
please visit our website:
www.rchsinc.org**

*Rappahannock
Colonial Heritage
Society, Inc.*

*Recreating the People of
Eighteenth-Century
Fredericksburg, Virginia*



**P.O. Box 7823
Fredericksburg, VA 22404
(540) 371-3906
www.rchsinc.org**

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc., is to bring together persons interested in preserving & perpetuating the heritage and culture of the colonial era in the Fredericksburg region; to conduct historical research of persons, places & events relating to the region in colonial times, and to organize activities related to the colonial era in an effort to educate the public about the ways of life of our forebears in this area. While we encompass the time period of 1760 to 1820, we concentrate on 1760-1774—before the rebellion erupts.



Dance Demonstration Team

Our Dance Demonstration Team performs English country/American colonial dances in period-appropriate attire. We have danced in the Great Hall of Stratford Hall Plantation and Scotchtown, entertained the crowds at the Fredericksburg Welsh Festival and Spotsylvania Stars and Stripes Spectacular, and taught dancing to visitors of Historic Dumfries, the First Thanksgiving Festival at Berkeley Plantation and Mary Washington House.

Colonial Dance Classes

“Virginians are of a genuine blood, they will dance or die!” noted Philip Fithian in 1775. Our Dance Mistress welcomes all who love to dance or are interested in learning. Couples and families with children will enjoy dancing together.

Open classes are held on the first and fourth Fridays of each month at St. George’s Episcopal Church, 905 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg at 7:00 p.m. Visit our website for scheduling changes.

We’d love to have you join us. Or just come and watch!



Living History Programs

We offer a variety of programs that entertain and educate the public about life in Colonial Virginia.



Members perform an original play about John Waller, a New Light Separate Baptist leader, for the Middlesex County Museum & Historical Society.

Want to know what men and women wore? In addition to attending events in period dress, we present fashion shows and “reverse strips.”

What did they do for fun? Games were popular and we have them for young and old. Here’s a sample: The Royal Game of Goose (a board game), quoits (ring toss), the bilbo catcher, and card games like whist and faro.

Members have created personas and interact with the public in first person. We demonstrate skills like sewing, measuring for a gown and cooking at an open hearth. We host formal teas with delicious food and entertainment.



School Programs

We present interactive programs for young students that complement learning and bring fun into the classroom.



Annual Historic Cemetery Tours

Every October, we lead tours of three historic cemeteries in downtown Fredericksburg. It is an opportunity to share what we have learned about those who have permanent resident status in the St. George’s Episcopal Church cemetery, the Masonic Cemetery and the Gordon/Washington cemetery near Historic Kenmore (and a few buried in cemeteries which no longer exist).



The Rappahannock Gazette

We publish and distribute a newsletter that features articles researched and written by Society members. It is posted on our website.

Membership

All Society members are welcome to attend our business meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Salem Church Branch of the Central Rappahannock Regional Library, 2607 Salem Church Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22407.



Getting Started

Society members are required to dress appropriately, based on the event and venue, for all activities. While this can be a challenge, you’ll find assistance and support within the Society.



Many members make what they need. We can help you select patterns and fabrics. We organize sewing circles to make garments and accessories.



© 2012 Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc. All rights reserved.

RCHS is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.