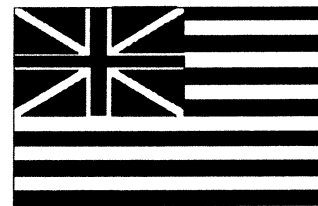


THE RAPPAHANNOCK GAZETTE



Newsletter of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.

Volume 11 Number 1

www.rchsinc.org

January 2008

Calendar of Events

For more information, please contact the Event Coordinator (EC) or Committee Chairperson.

Feb. 5 – Monthly Business meeting:

7:30 p.m., St. George's room 300. Chair: Sharon Brunacci.

Feb. 29 - Sewing Circle:

6:00-10:00 p.m., Linda Pool's studio. Work on cloaks. EC: Sharon Brunacci.

Mar. 4 - Monthly Business meeting:

7:30 p.m., St. George's room 300. Chair: Sharon Brunacci.

Apr. 27 - Coaching Day at Stratford Hall:

EC: Elaine Sturgeon.

Reminder: Due to liability concerns of the corporation, your membership must be current in order to participate in these events.



English Country Dancing

English Country Dance classes are held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 7:30 p.m., Faulkner Hall, St. George's Episcopal Church.

Classes are open to the public (\$2 per class). EC: Elaine Sturgeon, Dance Mistress, 540-785-2168.

Feb. 1 – Demo

Feb. 8 – Open

Feb. 22 – Open

Mar. 7 – Demo

Mar. 14 – Open

2008 Dues are Due

If you haven't already, please take a moment to send in your dues. Individual dues are \$10 and family dues are \$15. The address to mail it to is P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404-7823. If your contact information has changed, please let us know.

2008 RCHS Officers

President:	Sharon Brunacci sharonsmud@comcast.net
Vice-President:	Trip Wiggins tripwig@cox.net
Treasurer:	Joyce Matherly joy1957ray1@aol.com
Secretary:	Greg Brunacci gbrunacci@comcast.net

Many thanks go to Sandra Piercey, outgoing President, for her dedication and leadership. She will continue to serve RCHS as Past President on the Executive Council.

The purpose of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society is to bring together persons interested in preserving and perpetuating the heritage and culture of the colonial era in and around the Rappahannock River Valley of Virginia; to conduct historical research of persons, places and events relating to the Rappahannock River Valley 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 forbears in this area.

Committees

If you are interested in serving, please contact one of the individuals already listed as a member for information on meeting dates and times.

Dance Committee: Elaine Sturgeon and Sharon Brunacci

Education Committee: Sharon Brunacci, Trip Wiggins, Elaine Sturgeon and Catherine Bell

Events Committee: Lyn Padgett, Trip Wiggins, Elaine Sturgeon, Catherine Bell and Sharon Brunacci

History Committee: Trip Wiggins and Lyn Padgett

Media Committee: Jenny-Rose White, Greg Brunacci, Naomi McPherson, Michael McPherson and Elaine Sturgeon

Sewing Committee: Sharon Brunacci, Kitty Taylor, Joyce Matherly, Jenny-Rose White, Elaine Sturgeon and Catherine Bell

Education Committee Notes

RCCHS has created an engaging and entertaining program that teaches children about how their ancestors lived. This interactive program complements the Standards of Learning (SOL) for Virginia. If you are interested in participating in these educational programs, please contact Sharon Brunacci at 540-659-2080. Program dates are listed below:

Feb. 7, 9:00-11:00 a.m.:

SOL Educational Program at St. William of York

Feb. 11, 9:30-11:00 a.m.:

SOL Educational Program at Battlefield Elementary

Mar. 6, 11:00 a.m.:

Colonial Dance demonstration at Fredericksburg Christian School

Mar. 27:

Colonial Dance demonstration at Odyssey Montessori School

Sewing Circle Information

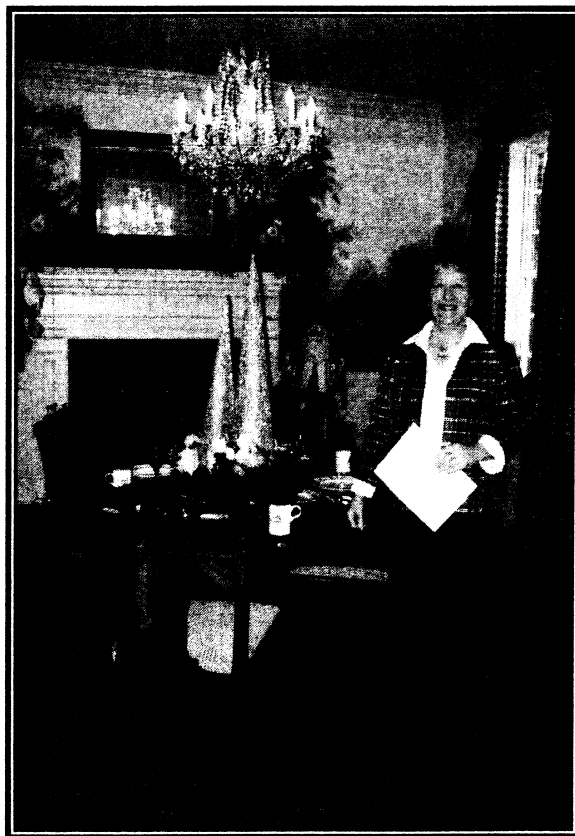
Cloaks: For a ladies' cloak, you'll need about 5 ½ yards of 60-inch wide fabric for a cloak with a hood. For a man's cloak, you'll need about 7 ½ yards of 60-inch wide fabric for a cloak with a capelet. Fabric: worsted wool, fine coating wool or moulton (broadcloth used in extant cloaks is described as a "closely woven, sometimes expensive wool [textile]...that was shrunk, napped, and shorn to produce a compact fabric that resembled felt and did not ravel"*). Lining fabric

for hood (can also be added to body of cloak for extra warmth): linen or linen/cotton in a matching or contrasting color and matching thread. Please remember to wash, dry and press the linen fabric before you come. And if you have a sewing machine, bring it! Contact Sharon Brunacci at sharonsmud@comcast.net or call 540-659-2080 if you have questions about the project as she will be providing the pattern. Contact Linda at lpoolquilts@aol.com or call 540-371-2214 for the address and directions to her studio.

*Baumgarten, Linda. *What Clothes Reveal: The Language of Clothing in Colonial and Federal America*. Williamsburg, VA: The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2002, pg. 108.

Annual Fredericksburg Candlelight Tour

Scheduled in between all our other Holiday activities, RCCHS volunteers participated in Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc. 37th Annual Candlelight Tour. Members of our esteemed



Society served as Hosts and Hostesses at Mary Washington University's Kalnen Inn at Trench Hill, part of the Jepson Alumni Center, on Sunday, December 9th. The Kalnen Inn at Trench Hill serves

as a Bed and Breakfast for guests, visiting professors, and Alumni of Mary Washington University. The three-story brick Georgian Revival House was built in 1927 with an expansive view overlooking down-town Fredericksburg. The house and property were acquired by Mary Washington University in 1948.

The Veranda, Dining Room, Foyer, Parlor and Reception Office were open to guests for the Candlelight Tour. Featured were the Holiday decorations of Carolyn Hilfrich and floral designs of Diane Kuechler. Of special note on the tour was a sideboard that is believed to have belonged to First Lady Dolley Madison. Legend has it that this piece was saved from the White House fire during the War of 1812.

Events of Interest in the Area

The following were gathered from various sources and are subject to change.

Feb. 16 - Birthnight Banquet & Ball: Gadsby's Tavern. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more information. \$\$

Feb. 18 – Free Birthday Tour: Mount Vernon. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Enjoy free admission to estate in national observance of George Washington's 276th birthday. Visit www.mountvernon.org for info.

Feb. 18 – Presidents' Day Sale: Gunston Hall. 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Enjoy \$1 admission. Visit www.gunstonhall.org for more information.

Feb. 18 – Free Birthday Tours: Washington's Ferry Farm and Historic Kenmore. 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. In honor of George Washington's birthday, enjoy free admission to Ferry Farm and Historic Kenmore. Visit www.kenmore.org for more information.

Feb. 18 – Celebrate Presidents' Day: Hugh Mercer Apothecary, Mary Washington House and Rising Sun Tavern. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. In honor of Presidents' Day, the APVA is offering

half-price admission. Visit www.apva.org for details. \$

Feb. 22 – Mary Washington House. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. In honor of George Washington's birthday, enjoy a free tour and refreshments. Visit www.apva.org for details.

Mar. 16 – Free Birthday Tour: Montpelier. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. In honor of James Madison's 257th birthday, enjoy free admission to Montpelier. Go to www.montpelier.org for more information.

Newsletter Guidelines

Our time period and location is 18th century Virginia with our area of concentration being Fredericksburg and the Rappahannock River Valley, The Rappahannock River Valley covers from the ford of the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers down to the Chesapeake Bay. Our particular interests lie in the areas of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford, King George and Caroline Counties.

Any member may, and is encouraged to, submit articles for publication. Committee chairpersons are especially encouraged to write reports of past and upcoming activities. The newsletter is distributed to and read by people with varying degrees of expertise. Articles should be accurate in detail, sources/references must be given for factual information and opinions of the writer must be clearly identified as such. This newsletter will be posted online, so be very careful about listing your sources and getting permission for reprints. The editor has the final say on content, format and deadlines. Items for the newsletter should be addressed to the Editor, c/o RCHS, P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404 or e-mailed to nana4979@comcast.net.

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