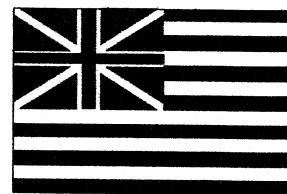


THE RAPPAHANNOCK GAZETTE



Newsletter of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.

Volume 10 Number 2

www.rchsinc.org

April/May 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS BALLS, FAIRES & SUCH 2007

- April 14 Spring Tea, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
29 "A Day in the Life", Belvedere,
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- May 12 Weems-Botts Museum
- June 16-17 June Faire
- July 1 4th of July Event (Spotsy Courthouse)
4 Port Royal 4th Celebration

Remember: Due to liability concerns of the corporation, *your membership must be current* in order to participate in any events the group is asked to do.

DANCE PRACTICE DATES

in the Family Room of St. George's unless otherwise noted

- April 13- Set up for Spring Tea
April 20 - English Country Dance (demo)
April 27- English Country Dance (open)
- May 11 - English Country Dance (open)
May 18 - English Country Dance (demo)
May 25 - English Country Dance (open)



RC HS MEETINGS

The monthly meetings of the Rappahannock Colonial Society will be held in Room 101 at St. George's Church on the first Tuesday night of each month at 7:30 p.m. (*Enter through the cemetery, once inside, proceed downstairs. Room 101 is the first door on the right.*)

2007 DUES

If you haven't already, please take a moment to send in your dues for this year. Individual dues are \$10 and Family dues are \$15. RC HS sponsors many fun activities and you don't want to miss out on them! Due to liability concerns of the corporation, your membership must be current in order to participate in any events in which the group is asked to participate. Send dues to the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg VA 22404-7823.

Quotes & Words of Wisdom

I am more and more convinced that man is a dangerous creature. --Abigail Adams

Music and rhythm find their way into the secret places of the soul. --Plato

The first time I read an excellent book, it is to me just as if I had gained a new friend: when I read over a book I have perused before, it resembles the meeting of an old one. -- Goldsmith

A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy, reaps friendship; and he who plants kindness, gathers love.

-- Basil

2007 RC HS OFFICERS

- President: Sandra Piercey
starshine702001@yahoo.com
- Vice-President: Sharon Brunacci
sharonsmud@adelphia.net
- Treasurer: Joyce Matherly
joy1957ray1@aol.com
- Secretary: Catherine Bell
scot.forlife@verizon.net

The purpose of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society is to bring regular 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.

MEDIA COMMITTEE NOTES

VISIT THE RCHS WEBSITE www.rchsinc.org to see photos of RCHS events and the events calendar. Submit photos to mistress@chateauwhite.com. Webmistress, Jenny-Rose White.

PUBLICIZING RCHS EVENTS: Event Coordinators are responsible for publicizing the event of which they are in charge. The Media Team is happy to publicize your event, if you provide them with your event details 90 days prior to the event. Send articles to hrhdiana@juno.com or purrs4me2x@yahoo.com.

RCHS BUSINESS CARDS: Would you like your own RCHS business cards to hand out at events? E-mail Tina at purrs4me2x@yahoo.com for more information.

from the

Journal and Letters of Philip Vickers Fithian *A Plantation Tutor of the Old Dominion, 1773-1774*

Fryday April 1st 1774.

Good Fryday-A general Holiday here-Wednesday & Thursday I gave up my School on account of the Dance, and they must have this Day for Devotion!-The Colonel, Ben Harry, & myself all go to Ucomico Church-Parson Smith gave the usual Prayers for the Day and a long Sermon very suitable & well chosen.

After Service we were invited and went Home with Captain Walker to dine; I was here introduced to Dr Steptoe & a young Gentleman Brother to the Parson Both seem agreeable, & appear to be men of Sense Dined here also the Parson, his Wife, Sister, Mr. Warder the Lawyer

Towards Evening we rode home I observed as I rode along People are universally plowing up their Land for planting Corn & for Tobacco And in one field I saw several Women planting Corn I think however, it is early even here-They raise no Flax, their Land in general being so poor that it will not produce it-And their Method of farming is slovenly, without any regard to continue their Land in heart, for future Crops-They plant large Quantities of Land, without any Manure, & work it very hard to make the best of the Crop, and when the Crop comes off they take away the Fences to inclose another Piece of Land for the next years tillage, and leave this a common to be destroyed by Winter & Beasts till they stand in need of it again to plough-The Land most commonly too is of a light sandy soil, & produces in very great quantities shrubby Savins & Pines, unless in the Vallies (for it is very hilly) & near the Potowmack where it is often vastly rich-Mr. Carter has been lately solicited & was to have gone this Day with a number of Gentlemen to Horn-Point on the River Ucomico, with an intention, if they think the Situation will be proper, to establish Ware-Houses, & form a small Town-It is however, in my opinion, a fruitless Scheme--



SPRING TEA

Well here we are as of this writing in the Ides of March and the weather! Typical for the time, one day 85 degrees and glorious, the next 40 degrees and the threat of snow. Undaunted we rush head long into spring with the thoughts of gardening, cleaning and of course our next public tea. With a full four weeks to go (as of March 17) we have only a very few spaces still available for our upcoming tea on April 14th. (Ed. Note: as of 3/23, all seats are taken!) Our theme for this tea will be ladies fashions; with of course a nod to our few gentlemen who I'm sure will also be wearing their finest. Our plan is for ten tables of which we already have all our wonderfully attired mothers assigned. We have openings for another servant or two if you would like to participate, so please feel free to call either Elaine @ 540-785-2168 or Catherine @ 540-659-5646.



THE RULES OF CIVILITY

- #33 - They that are in dignity or in office have, in all places, precedency; but whilst they are young they ought to respect those that are their equals in birth or other qualities, even though they have no public charge.
- #34 - It is good manners to prefer them to whom we speak before ourselves, especially if they be above us - with whom in no sort we ought to begin.

NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES

1. 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.
2. Any member may, and is encouraged to, submit articles for publication by the 15th of the month prior. 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 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. Send articles to HRHDiana@juno.com.

Questions? Please contact a member of the Media Committee, Tina Buchanan, Elaine Sturgeon, Jenny-Rose White or Diana Farrar.

"SO TO BED"



The DAR Museum's upcoming exhibit "So To Bed" will display a selection of women's nightgowns and dressing gowns, men's banyans/dressing robes, and quilts and other textiles. For the 18th century specialist, a tobacco-brown quilted silk banyan of about 1780-1800 from a private collection will be of interest, as will two early 18th century men's caps from another private collection, one blue silk with silver embroidery, the other, white corded and quilted cotton. A c. 1770 shift and cap, and a man's shirt with 18th c. plain linen nightcap, will be displayed in a room setting in the gallery, featuring a bed and reproduction indigo bed hangings on loan from Carlyle House in Alexandria, Virginia, and the DAR's c. 1750-70 indigo resist print whole cloth quilt. A set of hair curling tongs of the 18th century will be displayed on a c. 1770 dressing table. "So To Bed" also examines the development of the bathroom, as its functions gradually were removed from the bedroom. At the far end of the gallery will be a 1920s bedroom setup, with manikins in silk pajamas, a far cry from the linen shift and shirt which opened the exhibit. The gallery will also display such homely items as a selection of coarse, medium-quality, and finer bed linens and blankets, and a time line of nightgowns from 1790-1910.

Colonial Williamsburg has graciously helped us with this exhibit. In the gallery, a nightgown and a dressing gown, both of white linen, will be reproduced in full size from originals in the wardrobe of a doll, c. 1785-95, recently purchased by, and not yet displayed at,

Williamsburg. A printed cotton banyan and embroidered cap, exact replicas of originals in the CW collection, will be on a manikin in our 18th century library.

Our period rooms become an extension of the gallery exhibit, with bedrooms featuring stunning quilts and counterpanes, and manikins dressed for the period each room represents. A c.1820 dressing sacque, petticoat, and charming cap will accompany a framed medallion quilt in our South Carolina bedroom; a c.1840 printed cotton wrapper with period cap will adorn a manikin beside our elaborately draped 1840s bed in the Illinois room, and a luxurious 1890s tea gown will be worn in the Ohio parlor (to demonstrate that tea gowns were NOT bedroom attire, but afternoon hostess gowns). In all, nine period rooms will contain bed coverings, manikins, and/or doll beds and doll clothing relating to the exhibit.

"So to Bed" opens Friday, May 4, and closes at the end of September. Admission is free. The DAR Museum gallery is open M-F 9:30-4, Sat. 9-5, closed Sundays. Period room tours with docents are available 10:00 - 3:00 during the week, 9:00 - 5:00 Saturdays; self-guided tours available when docents are not. NOTE: the DAR is closed on Federal holidays and for two weeks midsummer for the annual DAR national conference. Check our website, www.dar.org, for details of open and closed dates before traveling, or phone ahead to 202-879-3241.

Event Coordinators Reminder

Please remember that prior to organizing an event for RCHS that include dancing and/or singing, to consult the Dance Mistress, Elaine Sturgeon, or the Song Mistress, Sharon Brunnacci as to what is available for dances and/or songs. These ladies have graciously committed their time and talents to coordinating dances and songs for our group.



VOCABULARY LESSON

From The Vulgar Tongue, Buckish Slang and Pickpocket Eloquence

- BALDERDASH.** Adulterated wine.
- BALSAM.** Money
- BAM.** A jocular imposition, the same as humbug.
- TO BAM.** To impose on any one by a falsity; also to jeer or make fun of any one.
- TO BAMBOOZLE.** To make a fool of anyone, to humbug or impose on him
- BANAGHAN.** He beats Banghan; and Irish saying of one who tells wonderful stories. Perhaps Banaghan was a minstrel famous for dealing in the marvelous.
- BANBURY STORY OF A COCK AND A BULL.** A roundabout, nonsensical story.

CARD MAKING 1776

ATKINSON and HANEWINKEL

Have for sale, at their hemp and flax manufactory in *Fredericksburg*, dressed FLAX and HEMP of all qualities, from 1s. 3d. to 4s. per pound; also TOW, from 4d. to 1s. 6d. per pound. The dressed hemp at 1s. 6d. may, by a skilful spinner, be wove into cloth that formerly sold for 3s. or 4s. per yard, and at present sells for 8s. or 10s. and so in proportion.

---Wrought hemp from the brake is taken in to mill and dress, at ten pounds in the hundred weight; the toll to be taken after milling.---For heckling, to the quality of 1s. 3d. a bit per pound for milled flax or hemp, and so in proportion.---Those who favor them with their commissions may depend on being served upon the best terms they can afford.---Good encouragement will be given for regular bred *Flax Dressers, Weavers, Spinners, and Rope makers*.---Gentlemen may have their negroes, &c. instructed in *Flax Dressing*, for six months of their labor.

****Alexander Hanewinkel* was regularly bred to *Heckle, Wool Comb, and Card making*, by the trustees for improving manufactures in *Great Britain*, and at present carries on the branch of HECKLE-MAKING, not having yet finished his machinery for wire-drawing, ut in a short time hopes to furnish the publick at a more reasonable rate than at present with *Tow, Wool, and Cotton Cards*.---The prices of heckles are as follows, viz. For No 1 three pounds, No 2 four pounds, No 3 five pounds, and so one pound lighter for each size upwards to No 8; but a No 3 will dress flax or hemp which will make linen that was formerly sold for 4s. or 5s. per yard currency.---A. *Hanewinkel* finds himself under the necessity of specifying the prices of the heckles, as a great many people are disappointed who commission them, thinking they are of the common kind, and of course send less money than they could be sold for; they being equal to, if not better than any imported from *Britain*.---The publick shall have proper notice when his *Card Work* is finished, with the prices he can afford to sell at.

Virginia Gazette (Purdie) 1776-09-06, 4/1



Cuninghame and Buchanan Ship Arrival 1772

Under ship arrivals:

The Cuninghame, Buchanan, in two and thirty Days from Glasgow, is just arrived, and gone up Rappahannock. No letters or papers have been received by her, otherwise we should not have failed giving our Readers some of the freshest Advices from Britain, which have lately been very backward, owing to the Scarcity of Arrivals either here or at the Northward (?).

Virginia Gazette (Purdie & Dixon) 1772-11-26 Pg 2 col 1

ADVERTISEMENT

Members of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society are encouraged to volunteer in one of our standing committees. They are:

- Dance (Elaine Sturgeon)
- Education (Sharon Brunacci)
- Events
- History (Trip Wiggins)
- Media (Tina Buchanan)

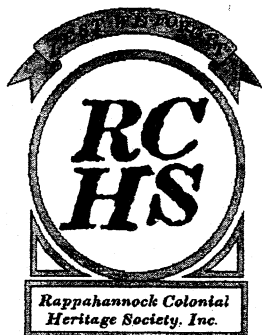
See or contact Sandra Piercey with any questions.



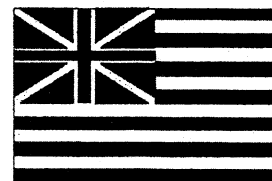
RUNAWAY ADVERTISEMENT

Fled from his Master in Holliston, a servant Francis Chamberlain, had on a collarless Jacket of drab stuff with mariner's cuffs, buff woolen breeches, red Check'd linsey shirt and farmer's half boots. The small toe of each foot has been frozen off. He has a cheery disposition and is a great and easy liar. Stole and brought away with him, out of his master's shop, a number of pewter Candlesticks, plates, spoons, tools, etc., which he may carry in a large wallet. If any shall catch him up and hold him, shall receive 5 pounds reward for the servant and 10 for the stolen Goods.

-taken from *The Hive Online, Runaway Fashions at www.thehiveonline.org/hive200701.htm*



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
for the
Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.



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 & around the Rappahannock River Valley of Virginia;*
- *to conduct historical research of persons, places & 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 way of life of our forebears in this area.*

The time period of concentration is 1760 to 1820. Our business meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in Faulkner Hall, St. George's Episcopal Church, 905 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg.

YEARLY DUES: INDIVIDUAL \$10.00 FAMILY \$15.00

Please fill out the information below, attach a check written to **Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc. (RCHS)** in the proper amount and mail to P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404-7823.

Date: _____ Phone: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Membership:

Individual (\$10) or Family (\$15)

New Membership or Renewal