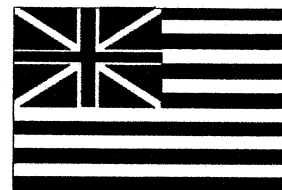


THE RAPPAHANNOCK GAZETTE



Newsletter of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.

Volume 10 Number 5

www.rchsinc.org

November/December 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS BALLS, FAIRES & SUCH 2007

- Nov. 10 Game Night Practice (at the Bell Home)
15 Stafford County Historical Society, 7:00 p.m.
29-30 Wreath Making (at the Buchanan Home)
- Dec. 6 APVA Business Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
(At the Downtown Fxbg Library)
7-8 Stratford Hall Christmas
9 Wreath Pick Up, 10:00-3:00
9 Christmas Candlelight Tour
- Jan. 12 Open House, 6:00 p.m.

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.

RCHS 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.)

DANCE PRACTICE DATES

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

- Nov 3 - Jefferson Ball in Richmond
Nov 9 - English County Dance, Faulkner Hall - Open
Nov 10 - Dancing at Tavern/Gaming Night@ Bell's
Nov 15 - Dancing demo for Stafford Historical Soc.
Nov 16 - English County Dance, Faulkner Hall - Open
Nov 23 - NO CLASS (no facility)
Nov 30 - NO CLASS (Wreath Making at Buchanan's)
- Dec 6 - Dance demo program for APVA @ Rap Central Lib
Dec 7 & 8 - Dancing, Stratford Hall Candelight Tour
Dec 14 - NO CLASS (no facility)
Dec 21 - NO CLASS (no facility)
Dec 28 - English County Dance, Faulkner Hall - Open

DUES

...are due in January! Individual dues are \$10 and Family dues are \$15. RCHS 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.

2007 RCHS 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 RULES OF CIVILITY

#39 - In writing or speaking, give to every person his due title, according to his degree and the custom of the place.

#40 - Strive not with your superiors in argument, but always submit your judgement to others with modesty.

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 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.

VOCABULARY LESSON

From The Vulgar Tongue, Buckish Slang and Pickpocket Eloquence

BARKING IRONS. Pistols, from their explosion resembling the bow-wow or barking of a dog. Irish

BARN. A parson's barn; never so full but there is still room for more.

BIT BY A BARN MOUSE; tipsy, probably from an allusion to barley.

BARREL FEVER. He died of the barrel fever; he killed himself by drinking.

BARTHOLOMEW BABY. A person dressed up in a tawdry manner, like the dolls or babies sold at Bartholomew fair.

BAR WIG. A wig between a Dalmahoy and a double cauliflower or full bottom.

BASKET -MAKING. The good old trade of basket making: copulation, or making feet for children's stockings.

TO BASTE. To beat, *I'll give him his basting*; I'll beat him heartily.

BASTING. A beating

BASTONADING. Beating any one with a stick; from baton, a stick, formerly spelt baston.

BATCH. *We had a pretty batch of it last night*: we had a hearty dose of liquor. Batch originally means the whole quantity of bread baked at one time in an oven.

BATCHELOR'S FARE. Bread and cheese and kisses

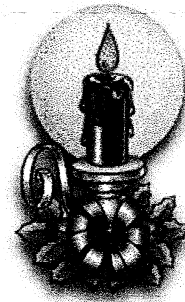


MORE ON CALENDAR NOTES

GAME NIGHT PRACTICE: As we have a plan to have a gaming night "Open House" in January, let's have a practice run on Saturday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Catherine Bell's house. We'll play all the games and get up to speed on them ourselves, maybe have a little background music from our in-house musicians and have some wonderful heavy hors d'oeuvres. Call to let Catherine know if you are coming (call 659-5646 or e-mail her) and what you are bringing.

RCHS CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING begins with "The cutting o' the greens" on November 25. As in the past, we will meet at the driving range on Rt. 17 at 9:00 a.m. for a fun-filled outing in Caroline County trimming trees. Everyone that can help is encouraged to please come along with clippers, pruners, limb loppers and garden gloves. If you have a truck and are willing to bring it along and let us fill it up with greenery, we'll love you forever. Wreath making will be in the Buchanan's garage all day and evening (9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) on Thursday, November 29 and Friday, November 30. You won't want to miss the fun; call Catherine to sign up for a shift.

Questions? Please contact Catherine Bell at 659-5646 or e-mail her at scot.forlife@verizon.net.



CANDLELIGHT TOURS

The RCHS has been invited to help with the Fredericksburg Candlelight Tours for Sunday, December 9, from 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at The Kalnen Inn at Trench Hill.

See web site: http://www.umw.edu/jepsonalumni/executivecenter/venues/kalnen_inn_on_trench_hill/default.php Dress can be either 18th century attire or nice holiday attire if you do not yet have period clothing. Help is needed as follows:

11:00 - 2:00 Need two people

2:00 - 5:00 Need two to three people

5:00 - 8:00 Need four to five people

Please contact Lyn at lyn.padgett@usmc.mil to volunteer.

From
**The Journal and Letters of
Philip Vickers Fithian**

Greenwich Novem: 30: 1774

[Letter of Philip V. Fithian to Elizabeth Beatty]

TO LAURA.

-The Widow left the Room after begging that I would stay to Coffee-I was seated near the Toilet on which Miss had thrown her Piece of Drawing.-I viewed it, She saw me, & began a fine Apology-That her Situation is so lonely, being out of the Way of Entertainment by Company!-That Music & Drawing are her chief & necessary Amusements-That She was glad of the Oppertunity of an Hours Conversation even of an utter Stranger-That She came to America about the 20th; of last May, with a Brother who is since returned-That her Aunt is desirous She may stay in Mary-land & be a Companion and Intimate with her-That since July She has had the Ague and Fever, which had left her only a few Days-And, said She, I want very much to go up to Philada:-I heard all this with great Attention & Patience;-When She had finished her Story, I asked her in turn several Questions which she answered with Propriety, & the greatest Apparent Frankness-Till She came to the Answer which I have before set down, then I smil'd-You came then from Britain, Miss-No Sir, I came from London!-Fearing a Proposal to wait on her down to Annapolis, & thence to Philadelphia, the moment I had drank two Dishes of Coffee, which was a few Minutes before Sunset I mounted & rode twenty Miles-

Do you know Mr ----- who lodged at Mrs ----- in Philada said P.----- to me as we were sitting together in the Parlour this rainy Afternoon, she sewing at a Lawn Wristband, & I pouting over Watt's Logic-Yes, Madam, I have some Acquaintance with him-And he knows Miss ----- said She, I saw him last Spring at Mr. A----- She had sometime before told him that you was remarkably & impertinently intimate with Miss Beatty - That She herself, & Miss Beatty both ha disapproved of your Conduct, & had by themselves, agreed to inform you of their Sentiments & to advise you to enter upon a different Behaviour-She told him that She had at last prevailed over you so far as to declare to her that you would never make any further Addresses to Miss ----- because She had a few Days before made a pointed and ill-natured Remark upon your going to Virginia-And pray Madam, did you believe such Trash-? But Trash or Substance it makes me feel grave-I was to Day looking over my Papers & saw Something Apropos, if I can turn to it presently you shall have it-It is an Extract from my Virginia Journal.

I have heard lately some very dull Stories, & am consequently in a very dull gloomy kind of Humour-Every Day I am expecting a more vigorous Feeling-Perhaps it will come tomorrow, but today I must tell you that my Feeling accords precisely with what I have recorded of myself last March.



RUNAWAY ADVERTISEMENT

October 19, 1776

Ran away on Friday, the third inst. a young Negro woman named BET, of middling stature, thick, fat, and likely, and her ears bored for rings. She had on a black alamode bonnet with lace, an old blue shalloon jacket and petticoat, white linen shift, handkerchief and apron, pale blue worsted stockings with red clocks, high heel black leather shoes and silver buckles. She took with her a half worn scarlet cloak, new purple and yellow checked stuff jacket and petticoat, white linen ditto, blue and white stamped linen ditto, cambrick apron, red and white calico short gown, and black bombazeen quilted petticoat. I have been informed that a Negro woman, answering her description, was seen at Brunswick, in Jersey, with some soldiers, but to this I do not give intire credit. Any person delivering the said Negro woman to Mr. Michael Clarke in Chesnutstreet, Philadelphia, to any of the Maryland officers at camp, or to the subscriber in Charles county, Maryland shall have TWENTY DOLLARS reward and reasonable charges.

THOMAS STONE. Philadelphia October 16



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.

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