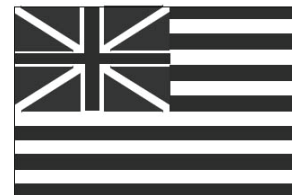




# The Rappahannock Gazette

Newsletter of the Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.



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.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Jun. 7 - Resolution for Independence:** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Stratford Hall Plantation. EC: Elaine Sturgeon, 540/785-2168.

**Jun. 22 - Smithsonian Tour, Belmont.** EC: Lyn Padgett, 703/432-0957.

**Jun. 29 - Spotsylvania Stars and Stripes Spectacular:** 2:00-7:00 p.m., Spotsylvania Courthouse. EC: Tina Buchanan, 540/898-2113.

**Jul. 1 - Monthly Business Meeting:** 7:30 p.m., St. George's Church. Chair: Sharon Brunacci, 540/659-2080.

**Jul. 4 - Independence Day in Historic Port Royal:** 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., St. Peters Church. EC: Trip Wiggins, 540/371-3906.

**Jul. 12 - Tavern Night at Mary Washington House:** 6:30-10:00 p.m. EC: Elaine Sturgeon, 540/785-2168.

## ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES

**Jun. 6 - Demo**

**Jun. 13 - Open**

**Jun. 27 - Open**

**Jul. 11 - Open**

## LEE'S RESOLUTION

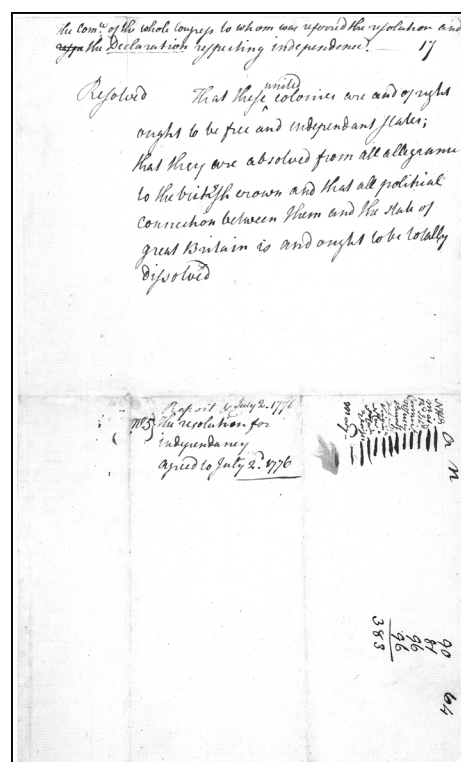
On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee introduced the following resolution for independence to the Second Continental Congress.

“Resolved, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

That it is expedient forthwith to take the most effectual measures for forming foreign Alliances.

That a plan of confederation be prepared and transmitted to the respective Colonies for their consideration and approbation.”

If you would like to download a PDF of Lee's Resolution, go to [www.ourdocuments.gov](http://www.ourdocuments.gov) and search for “Lee Resolution (1776).”



Lee Resolution showing congressional vote, July 2, 1776 [Electronic File]; Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774-1783; Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention, 1774-1789, Record Group 360; National Archives. Transcription courtesy of The Avalon Project at Yale Law School.

R C H S C O M M I T T E E N O T E S

**EVENTS COMMITTEE**

**Saturday, June 7**

**Resolution for Independence:**

Our next event is at Stratford Hall Plantation, where we will do our usual outside set-up: tent, chairs, tables, games, etc. We will do children's games, some dancing, gaming for ourselves, talking with and entertaining the public. You are encouraged to bring some hand sewing, an instrument to play or anything else of that nature that you think might add to our impression.

The attire will be 1776 and all classes will be appropriate.

RCCHS is not sponsoring a large food display so please bring snacks and drinks for you and your family. Don't forget your period appropriate containers, etc.

The event is open to the public from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. We'll do our usual car/van pool from the Ferry Farm Wal-Mart, leaving at 8:00 a.m. so we can be there at 9:00 to get set-up.

We need as many as possible to help out with this event and would really appreciate your participation. Stratford Hall is a lovely historical site and if the weather cooperates, we'll guarantee you a really good time.

If you think you can participate or have any questions, please contact Elaine Sturgeon, the Event Coordinator (540/785-2168 or [miselaineus@yahoo.com](mailto:miselaineus@yahoo.com)).



**Sunday, June 29**

**Spotsylvania Stars and Stripes Spectacular:**

For this event, RCCHS will be located in front of the Judicial Center at the Spotsylvania Courthouse complex. We can park behind that complex. The event starts at 3:00 and runs to 7:00 p.m., with fireworks starting after dark. Please plan to be there at 2:00 p.m. to help with set-up.

As at Stratford Hall, we'll set up our tent, play games and talk with the public, and maybe have a dance or two if there are enough members. Please remember to bring your period appropriate containers whether you plan to buy your snacks or bring them with you. We are supposed to be provided a meal. If you have a plan to sit, please bring something period appropriate to sit on.

We can take turns wandering the grounds to enjoy the other entertainments, including a variety of live music and demonstrations.

If you can participate, need directions or have questions about attire, please contact Tina Buchanan, the Event Coordinator (540/898-2113 or [purrs4me2x@yahoo.com](mailto:purrs4me2x@yahoo.com)).



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

**Tuesday, July 1**

**Events Committee Meeting:**

The next RCCHS Events Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1 at 6:30 p.m. in St. George's Faulkner Hall. For more info, please call Lyn Padgett at 703/432-0957.



**Friday, July 4**

**Port Royal Fourth of July:**

We will be located at St. Peter's Church in Port Royal. The event starts at 11:00 a.m., so please plan to be there at 10:00 a.m. for set-up.

The attire will be 1776 and all classes are appropriate.

RCCHS will set up a games table, do some English Country dancing and provide "Colonial color." Lunch will be provided by the host organization. Period-appropriate eating utensils are welcome.

This is always a fun event, so plan on participating. To sign up or for questions, contact Trip Wiggins, the Event Coordinator, at 540/371-3906 or [tripwig@cox.net](mailto:tripwig@cox.net).



**MEDIA COMMITTEE**

Personalized RCCHS business cards are available to hand out at events. Please contact Greg Brunacci at 540/659-2080 or [gbrunacci@comcast.net](mailto:gbrunacci@comcast.net) to request yours.

(continued on page 3)

**Media Committee** (continued from page 2)

Did you know you can save the RCHS money by receiving the newsletter as a PDF? Just send an e-mail to Naomi McPherson at nana4979@comcast.net and we'll make it happen!



**O F F I C E R ' S  
C O R N E R**

**Treasurer's Report**

May Balances

Beginning: \$7,546.82

Ending: \$7,889.27

**E V E N T S O F I N T E R E S T I N T H E A R E A**

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

**Jun. 6, 13, 20, 27 – Lantern Tours: Gadsby's Tavern**

**Museum.** 7:00-10:00 p.m. Tour the tavern and City Hotel by candlelight. Call 703/838-4242 or visit [www.gadsbys-tavern.org](http://www.gadsbys-tavern.org) for info. \$

**Jun. 7 – The Lees and Independence: Stratford Hall**

**Plantation.** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. In 1776, Richard Henry Lee offered a resolution in Congress that led to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Celebrate the Lees' role. Visit [www.stratfordhall.org](http://www.stratfordhall.org) for information. \$

**Jun. 7 – Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* (1725).** Program for Fredericksburg Festival of the Arts Chamber Music Festival. Call 540/374-5040 for tickets and info. \$

**Jun. 14, 15, 21, 22 – William**

**Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* (1593-94): Historic Kenmore.** Play on the grounds begins at 7:00 p.m. Visit [www.kenmore.org](http://www.kenmore.org) for info. \$

**Jun. 21 – Colonial Foodways: National Colonial Farm.**

Accokeek, MD. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Costumed interpreters demonstrate what life was like for "middling" sort tobacco growing families in the late 1770s, preparing seasonally available foods using colonial implements and methods. Visit [www.accokeek.org](http://www.accokeek.org) for more information. \$

**Jun. 27-29 – Under the Redcoat: Colonial Williamsburg.** Living history program on the British occupation of Williamsburg. Visit [www.history.org](http://www.history.org) for info. \$

**Jul. 4 – Independence Day in Historic Port Royal.** 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Enjoy readings, music and dancing by members of RCHS.

Visit [www.historicportroyal.com](http://www.historicportroyal.com) for more info. Free

**Jul. 4 – Ferry Farm's Fabulous Fourth of July.** 10:00 a.m.-3:00

p.m. Enjoy music, first-person demos and other entertainment. Visit [www.kenmore.org](http://www.kenmore.org) for info. \$

**Jul. 8 – First-Person Interpretation, Claude Moore Colonial**

**Farm:** McLean. 6:00-8:00 p.m. Learn about what it takes to adopt another persona at this workshop. Go to [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org) for more info. Reservations required. \$

**Jul. 19 – Colonial Foodways: National Colonial Farm.**

Accokeek, MD. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. See June 21 listing for details.

**Jul. 19-20 – Summer 18<sup>th</sup> Century Market Fair, Claude Moore**

**Colonial Farm:** McLean. 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Go to [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org) for info. \$



## Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 7823  
Fredericksburg, VA 22404-7823

**Visit our Web site:  
[www.rchsinc.org](http://www.rchsinc.org)**

### 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). Dance Mistress: Elaine Sturgeon, 540/785-2168 or [miselaineus@yahoo.com](mailto:miselaineus@yahoo.com).

**Jun. 6** - Demo  
**Jun. 13** - Open  
**Jun. 27** - Open  
**Jul. 11** - Open  
**Jul. 25** - Open



Costume: 18th C. Photo: 1758. Photo: S. S. S. S. S.

### NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES

Our time period and location is 18<sup>th</sup> 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 en-

couraged 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 newslet-

ter should be addressed to the Editor, c/o RCCHS, P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404 or e-mailed to [nana4979@comcast.net](mailto:nana4979@comcast.net).

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