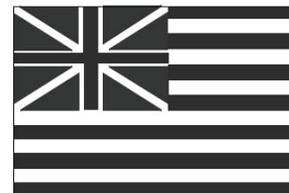




The Rappahannock Gazette

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

May 30 - Sewing Circle:

6:00-9:30 p.m., making caps at Joyce Matherly's house. EC: Sharon Brunacci.

Jun. 3 - Monthly Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m., St. George's room 300. Chair: Sharon Brunacci.

Jun. 7 - Resolution for Independence: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Stratford Hall Plantation. EC: Elaine Sturgeon.

Jun. 22 - Smithsonian Tour, Belmont. EC: Lyn Padgett.

Jun. 29 - Spotsylvania Stars and Stripes Spectacular: 3:00-8:00 p.m., Spotsylvania Courthouse. EC: Tina Buchanan.

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

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES

- May 23 - Open
- Jun. 6 - Demo
- Jun. 13 - Open
- Jun. 27 - Open

COACHING DAY

By Elaine Sturgeon

In spite of the nasty weather, what a fabulous time we all had. At least the rain held off until later in the day.

What a wonderful display of outfits! I think we really out did ourselves this time. And how about the marvelous photo of Jenny-Rose and Bridget White in the April 28 issue of *The Free Lance-Star*? I want to thank all of those who made the special effort to do traveling or riding outfits—it really set the stage.

Thanks to each and every one for your individual contributions. The success of the whole was due to all of the pieces and parts. Special thanks to: those who helped with making the food—Catherine Bell, Sharon Brunacci, Kitty Taylor, Jo Buchanan and John Jacobsen; then there was the Buchanan's very nice set up under the tree and the McPherson's table; Trip Wiggins and Lyn Padgett for organizing and setting up

the cards and gaming; Dennis Buchanan for being the official photographer —can't wait to see the results; all of the many hands it took to set up and take down the tents, tables, chairs, etc.; Catherine Bell for the great traveling display in front of our main tent; and all of the additional traveling up and down the road that was required by Kim Kendall, Elizabeth McDowell and John Jacobsen to be with us. You all make a mother proud!



Linda Pool with walking stick and cloak.
Photo by Naomi McPherson.

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, miselaineus@yahoo.com.

- May 23 - Open
- Jun. 6 - Demo
- Jun. 13 - Open
- Jun. 27 - Open

Dancing at Historic Dumfries on Charter Day. Photo courtesy of Weems-Botts Museum.




Get involved and you'll have some fun!
"I promise."

RCHS COMMITTEE NOTES

Sewing Committee

Have you thought about making a new cap but are unsure which style would suit you best? We are encouraging all ladies to bring the caps you have to the sewing circle on May 30. You'll be able to try on each other's caps and see what you like best. There will be different patterns available for you to copy.

If you are planning to attend, please call Sharon Brunacci in advance at

540/659-2080. For directions, call Joyce Matherly at 540/368-1050. Remember to bring your sewing machine, supplies and materials.

Events Committee

The next RCHS Events Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3 at 6:30 p.m. in St. George's Faulkner Hall. For more info, please call Lyn Padgett at 703/432-0957.

Media Committee

The newsletter has a new look! This Microsoft Publisher newsletter format features a 12-point Times New Roman font for easy reading, graphics and dynamic columns.

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



OFFICER'S CORNER

President's Report

Please join me in welcoming Robert Serafini and Lisa Carson to RCHS. We're delighted to have you as new members!

Treasurer's Report

April Balances
 Beginning: \$8,071.40
 Ending: \$7,546.82

Nick and Allyson Brunacci and Louis Taylor admire the horses and carriage. Photo by Naomi McPherson.

C O A C H I N G D A Y

(continued from page 1)

The live musicians were additionally a nice touch. Too bad it was too wet to dance. That would have been great fun for the crowd as well as us.

Stratford Hall was delighted with our entire presentation, too. We really added a wonderful

dimension to their event, and we're definitely invited back.

Again, thank you to all for such a wonderful event enjoyed by all.

Bridget and Jenny-Rose White and Tina Buchanan
join the party on the green.
Photo by Naomi McPherson.



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.

May 24 – Memorial Day at Historic Kenmore. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. It is 1781 and Lord Cornwallis could be marching on Fredericksburg. See www.kenmore.org for info. \$

May 24 – Memorial Day Ceremony at the Masonic Cemetery of 1784. 904 Charles Street, Fredericksburg. 12:00 noon. To honor those buried here, followed by solemn procession to Hugh Mercer Monument. Visit www.umw.edu/jamesmonroe museum for details.

May 29 – Twilight at Monticello: The Final Years of Thomas Jefferson. Virginia Historical Society, Richmond. 12:00 noon. Lecture by Alan Pell Crawford as part of the Banner Lecture Series. Call 804/358-4901 or visit www.vahistorical.org for more info. \$

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.gadsbystavern.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 with special activities, presentations and tours. Visit www.stratfordhall.org for information. \$

Jun. 7 – Colonial Cooking, National Colonial Farm: Accokeek, MD, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Open-hearth cooking workshop includes fire-keeping, use of 18th century equipment and creating a meal using seasonal ingredients. Registration required. Go to www.accokeek.org for info.

Jun. 14-15 – Colonial Living Experience, Claude Moore Colonial Farm: McLean. Spend a weekend in an 18th century outdoor camp. Reservations due May 31. Go to www.1771.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 for more information. \$

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 for more info. Free



Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society, Inc.

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**Visit our Web site:
www.rchsinc.org**

LEARNING LINKS: PROJECT GUTENBERG

One way to experience what life was like in the 18th and early 19th centuries is through books. Readers can “hear” how language was used and “observe” behavior.

Oliver Goldsmith’s comedy *She Stoops to Conquer* and his novel *The Vicar of Wakefield* are both

available online at Project Gutenberg (www.gutenberg.org). You can also find Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell’s *Cranford*, Jane Austen’s novels, John Trusler’s *Works of William Hogarth in a Series of Engravings* and Hannah Wolley’s receipts.

You can download these e-books and many others for free (although they gladly accept donations).

Check it out and enjoy a good e-book today!



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 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 RCHS, P.O. Box 7823, Fredericksburg, VA 22404 or e-mailed to nana4979@comcast.net.

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