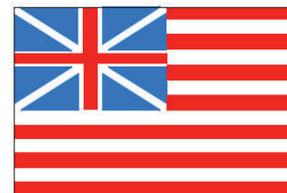




The Rappahannock Gazette



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

Feb. 23 - Rehearsal for March 7 Event: 7:00 p.m. EC: Lyn Padgett, 540/841-7275.

Mar. 2 - Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Mary Washington House. Chair: Sharon Brunacci, 540/659-2080.

Mar. 7 - Smithsonian Tour: 1:00-2:00 p.m. Inn at Fredericksburg Square. EC: Lyn Padgett, 540/841-7275.

Mar. 20 - Virginia Farm Bureau Women's Conference. 7:00 p.m. Fredericksburg Hospitality House. EC: Lyn Padgett, 540/841-7275.

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

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES

Feb. 26 - Open
Mar. 5 - Demo
Mar. 12 - Open
Mar. 26 - Open

NEW LOCATION FOR BUSINESS MEETINGS

At the Business Meeting on February 2nd, the Society members in attendance voted to continue scheduling the business meeting on the first Tuesday of each month by accepting an invitation to meet at the Mary Washington House (1200 Charles Street, Fredericksburg).
 St. George's Episcopal

Church had asked that we either change the day of the week that we meet at the church or move to another location.

Myra Wiggins and Sharon Brunacci came up with the idea of meeting at the historic home. It is a win-win situation for the Mary Washington House and RCHS.

MARCH 2ND AND APRIL 6TH EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Sandra Piercey will be presenting the topic "18th Century Trades and Crafts: Supporting the RCHS Education Program" after the March 2nd and April 6th business meetings.

Join us as we explore the types of trades and crafts that were the common employment for those living in 18th century Virginia. This will be an interactive presentation. Those who currently portray a person of the 18th century for our school programs please come prepared to give a very brief (less than five minutes) presentation of who you are, what you do for a

living, and the types of "props" you use in your trade or profession. Sandra will provide a handout for those who have not yet chosen a profession and provide information that will assist you in participating in the RCHS education program. Please bring provisions for taking notes.

Building on the last session, the second will assist those of you who want further guidance in selecting or enhancing the "person" you would like to portray in our RCHS school and education programs.

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ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES

English Country Dance classes are usually held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month in the Family Room of St. George’s Episcopal Church. Classes begin at 7:00 p.m. and are open to the public (\$2 per class). Dance Mistress: Elaine Sturgeon, 540/785-2168 or miselaineus@ yahoo.com.

Classes:

- Feb. 26 - Open
- Mar. 5 - Demo
- Mar. 12 - Open
- Mar. 26 - Open
- Apr. 9 - Demo
- Apr. 16 - Open

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 2

Events Committee Meeting:

The next RCHS Events Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mary Washington House. For more info, please call Lyn Padgett at 540/841-7275.

MAY 4TH EDUCATION PROGRAM

(continued from page 1)

If you have questions, please contact Sandra Piercey (814/490-6580) or Lyn Padgett (540/841-7275).



Lyn Padgett will be presenting the topic “The History of Tea and Preparation for the RCHS Spring Tea” after the May 4th business meeting. To prepare for our tea on May 15th, we will be learning about the history and social customs of “taking tea.” Please call Lyn Padgett if you have questions.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.

Clockwise from top left: Katie and Denise Beaver chat with Anita Goss; Jo Buchanan, Sharon Brunacci, Laura Gilchrist and Catherine Bell in the kitchen; Michael



Photograph by Catherine Bell.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.



Photograph by Kimberly Kendal.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.

T W E L F T H N I G H T

Submitted by Catherine Bell.

Well I think that we would have made our forefathers proud as we came together for this year's 12th Night party. Despite the bitter cold 24 brave souls came out for our second annual do. With a slight change to the set up we allowed ourselves more space to sit and visit during our repast, and with no tables to clear away we were able to dance not only after our meal but also before. Jim and Lynne Eppes brought along their game of Shut the Box and taught any number to play the game in our gaming room, whilst others chatted or danced the night away.

Gilchrist and Nick Brunacci play Shut the Box; Catherine prepares to cut the King Cake; Kimberly Kendal and Elizabeth McDowell take a break from dancing; Society members, led by Dance Mistress Elaine Sturgeon, dance in the family room;

another line of the dance; Trip Wiggins, Eve Blackwell, Lynne Eppes and Greg Brunacci at the game table.



Photograph by Kimberly Kendal.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.

EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE AREA

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

Feb. 18 – George Stubbs Movie. 7:00-7:30 p.m. at the Headquarters Branch of the Central Rappahannock Regional Library. Learn about this 18th century Brit known as “the Horse Painter.” FREE

Feb. 20-22 – Celebrate, By George: Museum of Culpeper History. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Sat. & Mon., 1:00-5:00 p.m. on Sun. Visit with young George Washington and tour the Burgandine House (1749), which will be “dressed” as a tavern. Call 540/829-1749 or visit www.culpepermuseum.com for info. \$

Feb. 22 – Open House: George Washington Birthplace. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.. In honor of George Washington’s 278th birthday, enjoy

free admission. Visit www.nps.gov/gewa for more information. FREE

Feb. 28 – Liberty Lecture Series: Giving Voice to the Voiceless. Gunston Hall. 3:00 p.m. Call 703-550-9220 to register. Visit www.gunstonhall.org for more information. \$

Mar. 4 – Lecture: Preserving the Clothing of James and Elizabeth Monroe. 7:00 p.m. in room 139 of Combs Hall, UMW. Textile conservators Colleen Callahan and Newbold Richardson will talk about techniques used to prepare the Monroe Museum collection for a new exhibit. FREE

Mar. 7 – Liberty Lecture Series: Giving Voice to the Voiceless. Gunston Hall. 3:00 p.m. Call 703-550-9220 to register. Visit www.gunstonhall.org for more information. \$

Mar. 13 – Scotchtown Hands-On History: Slave Life. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Learn about the African-American experience at Schotchtown and the cultural contributions enslaved Africans brought to America. Call 804/227-3500 for info. \$

Mar. 14 – Liberty Lecture Series: Giving Voice to the Voiceless. Gunston Hall. 3:00 p.m. Call 703-550-9220 to register. Visit www.gunstonhall.org for more information. \$

Mar. 25 – Great Lives Lecture: Marie Antoinette. 7:30 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium in Geo. Washington Hall, UMW. Speaker: Caroline Weber, author of *Queen of Fashion*. Visit www.umw.edu/greatlives/default.php for info. FREE

**If you haven’t paid your 2010 dues, this is the last issue of
The Rappahannock Gazette you will receive.**

If you have already paid your dues, thank you...and please disregard this message.

If you haven’t, please take a

moment now to complete and sign the 2010 RCHS Membership/Renewal Application form included with

your December newsletter and return it with a check. Dues were due at the end of January.

Thank you!

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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