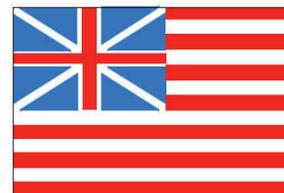




# The Rappahannock Gazette

*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

- Nov. 28 - Cutting O' the Greens for Holiday Wreaths:** 9:00 a.m. EC: Catherine Bell.
- Nov. 29 & 30 - Make Wreaths:** 5:00-9:00 p.m. EC: Elaine Sturgeon.
- Dec. 2 & 3 - Make Holiday Wreaths:** 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. EC: Catherine Bell.
- Dec. 4 - Distribute Wreaths:** 9:00-11:00 a.m. EC: Trip Wiggins.
- Dec. 4 - Scotchtown's Colonial Christmas Tour:** EC: Elaine Sturgeon.
- Dec. 11 - 1774: A Stratford Hall Christmastide:** EC: Elaine Sturgeon.
- Dec. 12 - HFFI Candlelight Tour:** EC: Myra Wiggins.
- Jan. 4 - Annual Business Meeting:** Mary Washington House. 7:30 p.m. Chair: Sharon Brunacci.
- Jan. 16 - Sewing Circle: Mitts, Caps & Neckerchiefs:** 10:30 a.m. EC: Catherine Taylor.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Rappahannock Colonial Heritage Society Nominating Committee recommends the following slate of officers for the upcoming year, 2011.

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President:</b>      | <b>Trip Wiggins</b>    |
| <b>Vice President:</b> | <b>Sharon Brunacci</b> |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>      | <b>Joyce Matherly</b>  |
| <b>Secretary:</b>      | <b>Elaine Sturgeon</b> |

Elections will be held at the first scheduled business meeting of the year, Tuesday, January 4, 2011 (7:30 p.m.) at the Mary Washington House, 1200 Charles Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia. At that time, nominations may be made from the floor provided the prior consent of the nominee has been obtained.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyn Padgett  
Nominating Committee Chairperson

## 12TH ANNUAL WREATH SALE

**It's time to order your beautiful holiday wreaths!** Hand-crafted by RCHS, these fresh cut mixed-greens wreaths are available for only \$15 each.

You may contact Trip or Myra Wiggins with your advance order until November 28th. They may be reached at 540/371-3906 or [tripwig@cox.net](mailto:tripwig@cox.net) or [myrawig@cox.net](mailto:myrawig@cox.net).

(continued on page 4)

## ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES

- Dec. 3 - Demo**
- Dec. 10 - Open/Demo**
- Jan. 7 - Demo**



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.

## O F F I C E R S C O R N E R

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

We have several new members this month. Please join me in welcoming Anna Taylor, Jacquelyn Rook and Catherine (Katie) Williams and her family. We're so glad you decided to join us!

The annual RCHS Business Meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2011. All members are encouraged to attend. There will be no business meeting in December.

Sharon Brunacci

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

October Beginning Balance:	\$9,425.49
October Ending Balance:	\$8,125.80

Joyce Matherly

## E V E N T S C O M M I T T E E

**Sunday, November 28  
Cutting O' the Greens:**

Now that the ghosts and goblins are behind us, and I'm sure for the most part all our Thanksgiving preparations are already made. Our 18th-century thoughts turn to the joyous season of Christmas, and our biggest fundraiser of the year—"wreath making." With that in mind I would like to invite each and every member of RCHS to come out and join us November 28th for the cutting o' the greens. We meet at New Post Golf Range (9945 Tidewater Trail in Fredericksburg) at 9:00 a.m. to convoy to Caroline County. Bring your trucks and vans, work gloves, clippers and loppers and wear warm clothes and a good pair of wellies or boots to keep your feet dry.

To sign up, please contact Event Coordinator Catherine Bell online at [scot.forlife@verizon.net](mailto:scot.forlife@verizon.net).

**Monday & Tuesday, Nov. 29 & 30 Making More Wreaths:**

We need your help! We have been asked to provide 30 wreaths for the Spotsylvania County Office

Building by December 1st in addition to the wreaths we usually make for those who order them. So we're adding two sessions this week. One on Monday and one on Tuesday, both are evenings from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Buchanan's house (10609 Rollingwood Drive in Fredericksburg). If you are available to help with clipping, bundling or wrapping, please contact Elaine Sturgeon at 540/785-2168 or online at [miselaineus@yahoo.com](mailto:miselaineus@yahoo.com).

**Wednesday, December 1  
Clipping the Greens:**

In past years when her schedule has allowed, Jo Buchanan would clip the branches we cut into usable bundle-sized pieces. Last year for the first time a few of us went along to give her a hand and therefore readied a good quantity of ready-to-use greens for the first day of wreath making. This effort meant that during the two days of wreath making the clippers never fell behind the bundlers and the bundlers never fell behind the wrappers, and we finished all

orders well ahead of schedule. So, we have a plan to do the same thing this year. If you could spare one hour on Wednesday, December 1st, come along, clippers in hand, to the Buchanan's between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Please e-mail Catherine Bell at [scot.forlife@verizon.net](mailto:scot.forlife@verizon.net) if you can help.

**Thursday & Friday, Dec. 2 & 3  
Annual Wreath Making:**

That done we will make the wreaths at the Buchanan's house (10609 Rollingwood Drive in Fredericksburg) on December 2nd and 3rd from 9:00 a.m. 'til 9:00 p.m. or until we're finished. Whether you clip, bundle or wrap, you are desperately needed. The work is easy for everyone but tiring if we don't get a break. The more we have the merrier we all truly are. We provide holiday music, goodies for breakfast nibbling, lunch and dinner—what a deal. So there you have it, it's not pretty like dancing at the great hall in our finery, it's not genteel tea sipping with guests but it is our biggest fundraiser. So please e-mail

Catherine Bell at scot.forlife@verizon.net to volunteer as much time as you can.



**Saturday, December 4  
Distribute Wreaths:**

People who ordered wreaths will be coming to the George Street entrance of St. George's Episcopal Church between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. to pick them up. If you would like to help, please contact Event Coordinator Trip Wiggins (540/371-3906) to volunteer.



**Sunday, December 12  
Historic Fredericksburg  
Foundation Candlelight Tour:**

We're looking for Society members to work at Mary Washington House. You can volunteer for the 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. or 2:00-5:00 p.m. shift or for both. Dress is upper middlin or gentry class "undress." Scripts for each location have been prepared—simply read or paraphrase what it says. If you are interested in participating, please contact Event Coordinator Myra Wiggins at

540/371-3906 or online at myrawig@cox.net.



**Tuesday, January 4  
Events Committee Meeting:**

We will be meeting at the Mary Washington House from 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Events Chairperson Myra Wiggins at 540/371-3906.

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

**S E W I N G C O M M I T T E E**

**Sunday, January 16  
Sewing Circle:**

If you need a cap, neckerchief (handkerchief) or pair of mitts, plan on joining us at the home of Catherine Taylor (8384 Willow Hill Road in King George) on Sunday, January 16th. Beginning at 10:30 a.m., you'll choose your pattern, cut your fabric and start sewing.

Please let her know in advance that you are coming

(kittysews4u@yahoo.com). She can let you know what you'll need—fabric, other supplies and tools—and also give you directions to her home.

Due to Catherine's allergies to wool, please do not wear or bring any wool or wool-blend fabric with you.

**E N G L I S H C O U N T R Y D A N C E C L A S S E S**

English Country Dance classes are held at 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:**

- Dec. 3 - Demo
- Dec. 10 - Open/Demo
- Jan. 7 - Demo

**Performances:**

Dec. 4 - Scotchtown's Colonial Christmas Tour  
The dress for this festive occasion will be "dress," evening finery. We'll meet in the Bloom parking lot of Lee's Hill Shopping Center at 4:15 p.m. to carpool to Scotchtown.

Dec. 11 - 1774: A Stratford Hall Christmastide  
We'll meet in the Bottom Dollar parking lot on Route 3 at 2:45

p.m. to carpool to Stratford Hall Plantation.



Illustration by [unreadable]

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.

**Dec. 4 – “A Monroe Christmas” Holiday Open House: James Monroe Museum.**

4:00-6:00 p.m. Enjoy a tour of the museum. Visit [www.umw.edu/jamesmonroe](http://www.umw.edu/jamesmonroe) museum for more info. FREE

**Dec. 4 – Scotchtown’s Colonial Christmas Tour.**

6:00-9:00 p.m. Enjoy music, dance and decorations of the season as you tour the house,

then join us in the 18th-century kitchen for seasonal refreshments. Call 804/227-3500 for info. \$

**Dec. 5 – Scotchtown’s Colonial Christmas.** 1:00-5:00 p.m. Enjoy music, seasonal decorations and refreshments. Call 804/227-3500 for information. \$

**Dec. 11 & 12 – HFFI Candlelight Tour.** Sat., 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sun., 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The house George Washington bought for his mother

in 1772 will be a featured home on the tour this year. Go to [www.hffi.org](http://www.hffi.org) for more info. \$

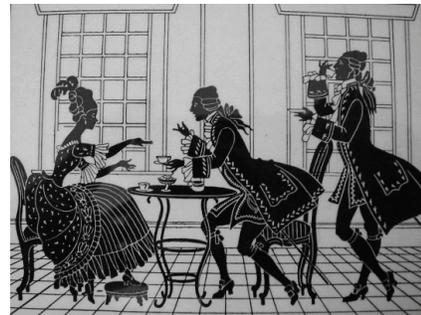
**Dec. 11 – 1774: A Stratford Hall Christmastide.**

12:00-8:00 p.m. Enjoy children’s activities in the Visitor Center. Beginning at 4:30 p.m., visit the Great House to learn about Christmas in the 18th century. See [www.stratfordhall.org](http://www.stratfordhall.org) for info. \$

R C H S   T E A

Bring the pleasure of RCHS Tea—a fragrant and delicious blend of black and green teas, orange peel, bergamot and cloves—to your home. Four-ounce bags are available for \$8.00.

Call Lyn Padgett at 703/681-5526 (days) or 540/841-7275 (evenings) to order yours today.



1 2 T H   A N N U A L   W R E A T H   S A L E

Trip Wiggins and Catherine Bell ‘wrap’ bundles of greens into unique and beautiful wreaths.



Photograph by Naomi McPherson.

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Orders may be picked up between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 4th, at the George Street entrance of St. George’s Episcopal Church.

*This is an important fundraiser for the Society. We need you to share information about the wreaths with your friends, neighbors and co-workers. Can you hand out some fliers? Contact Myra or Trip to get fliers. We’re counting on you to participate in cutting the greens, clipping them, making the wreaths and distributing them. Please give generously of your time. Your support is greatly appreciated!*