



Society of the

1704 Virginia

Quit Rents

Queen Anne's Herald

Volume II, Christmas Issue 2022

Lila Burner Housden, Editor

Carla Whitehurst Odom, Editor



Blessed Christmas, Dear Members!

It is my great honor and pleasure to have been appointed to lead the Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents for the next two years. Sharon Stine was a wonderful Inaugural Governour and I look forward to her continued wisdom and guidance.

I am blessed to have an exceptional Council serving with me. Each brings a wealth of talent and dedication to our Society. My heartfelt thanks to each of you for joining me!

The goals for our next two years are to increase our membership by inviting our friends and family to join our Society. We have just reached 72 members. It would be a grand accomplishment to reach one hundred members by the end of this

administration! I have sent out a number of invitations, and there have been a good many members joining for those invitations. This is a goal for each and every member. YOU are Virginia Quit Rents and I hope you will be an Ambassador for Virginia Quit Rents.

Members who bring two or more new members into Virginia Quit Rents will be granted the Honorary lifetime title of Ambassador. Ambassadors will receive a special certificate, a letter of recognition, and will be honored at our Annual Convocation. To accomplish this simply provide names and contact information to me, and I will issue a personal invitation.

Our second goal is to complete a directory for the Society. We will be sending out emails to confirm all member information is correct and as up to date as possible.

Our Annual Convocation is scheduled for Saturday evening, April 15, 2023, from 6PM until 10PM, at the Army and Navy Club, Washington DC. We will meet in the Ballroom for a “Colonial Evening” where we will be joined by Order of Bacon’s Rebellion, Descendants of Continental and Colonial Officers, Descendants of Colonial Mothers, and Order of Founders of the Granville District. Our thanks to Lt Colonel Charles Robert Odom for sponsoring our evening.

I want to recognize our Genealogist, David Smith, for his exemplary dedication to our Society. David received less than stellar records and spent a great deal of time making corrections and bringing our membership up to date. Thank you, David! You are a treasure!

You can always reach me via email: The1704Society@outlook.com or my cell phone: 540-908-1029.

I wish you the Merriest and Most Blessed Christmas!

Warmest Regards,

Lila

Lila Burner Housden
Governour

**Society of 1704 Virginia Quit Rents
Gouverneur's Council
2022-2024**

**Gouverneur: Lila Burner Housden
Vice Gouverneur Carla Whitehurst Odom
Deputy Vice Gouverneur: Leslie Ann Kirk
Vicar: Ann Scott Garner
Exchequer: Lynda Aydelotte Moreau
Recording Scribe: Robin Redfern Towns
Corresponding Scribe: Rick Leon Ganns
Genealogist: David Carline Smith
Librarian: Betty Keener Samaras
Marshall General: James Edward Conway
Stationer General: Constance Brooks Paradiso
Parliamentarian: Robert Odom
Chief Justice Deborah Whitmore Hicks
Councilor General: Barry Christopher Howard
Councilor: Edgar Stennette Hicks
Councilor: Patricia Anne Conway
Councilor: Janet Butler Walker**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting via Zoom
March 30, 2022**

The Annual Meeting was called to order by Sharon Stine, Gouverneur at 6:58 PM. Gouverneur Stine explained that the meeting via Zoom was necessary due to the continuing pandemic issues and the meeting will be in conjunction with the Order of Bacon's Rebellion and the Society of Colonial Mothers.

She stated that photos were welcome but were not to be distributed prior to the approval of the Executive Board, and if you do not wish to be seen, please stop your video.

Gouverneur Stine welcomed everyone and introduced her Council. She thanked them for their dedication and service to the society.

Carla Odom and Lila Housden were appointed to review the minutes of this meeting.

Governour Stine presented the following report.

Lila Housden and I started talking about the 1704 Virginia Quit Rent several years ago. The Quit Rents were very important since they were the only proof of landowners in Virginia before 1704. These rents are used by several societies as proof of an ancestor living in the colony of VA before 1700. Since we have not had an in person meeting hopefully we will have our inaugural in April 2023. We will have a Colonial Evening with DCCO, Colonial Mothers and Bacon's Rebellion.

Deputy Governour Housden presented the following report.

I have assisted Governor Stine, when asked. It has been my great pleasure to serve in the Stine Administration.

Vicar Odom presented the following report.

This officer has sent cheer cards as directed to do so. Additionally, the online Inaugural Edition of the Queen Anne's Herald was published in December of 2020. It has been an honor to serve in the Stine administration.

Stationer General Kirk presented the following report.

This Stationer General has kept current the Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents website that was approved for publication by Governour Sharon Stine on 12 Aug 2020. It consists of eight pages of society information that includes the organization's history, council, membership information, insignia, forms, and newsletters.

The website should be considered a membership tool and is only as good as the material submitted. The officers and members can help keep the website fresh and interesting by submitting information and photos when available.

The website address is: <https://societyofthe1704virginiaquitrents.weebly.com>. It is an honor to serve this organization.

The following reports are attached, but not presented at the meeting.

Exchequer's Report submitted by Constance Paradiso: Appendix A.

Recording Scribe's Report submitted by Charles R. Odom: Appendix B.

Justice General's Report submitted by Deborah Hicks: Appendix C.

A Registrar's Report was not provided.

No unfinished business was reported.

As new business, Governour Stine announced Lila Housden would be her successor. She also announced the 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on April 15, 2023, at the Army and Navy Club in Washington, DC.

There being no additional business, Governour Stine called on Gayle Coan for the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07PM.

Charles R. Odom,
Recording Scribe

**Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents
Annual Treasurer General's Report
Constance Paradiso
March 23, 2022**

Summary

Truist Simple Business Checking Balance as of 2/28/22 Statement:	\$11,169.56
Outstanding deposit:	\$83.95
Working Balance as of 3/23/22:	\$11,253.51
Total Assets as of 3/23/22	\$11,253.51

990N: Filed 3 March 2022 Status: Accepted

**Founding Justice General Deborah W Hicks
1 May 2020 - 31 March 2022 Report**

I prepared and filed the State of Alabama Domestic Nonprofit Corporation Certificate of Formation on May 1, 2020. Thereafter I filed for the EIN and Form 1023-EZ Streamlined Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which was approved on July 16, 2020 by the Department of the Treasury. I assisted with the review of the bylaws. I have

participated in the business of the executive board via email and cast my vote as appropriate.

I have checked the irs.gov 990-N filings and note that the Exchequer is current in the filing, with the last filing for the national society encompassing Tax Period: 2021 (01/01/2021 - 12/31/2021).

I know of no actions or claims pending against the society and I have no reason to believe that any claims are forthcoming or of any current claims the society has against any person or entity.

It is a pleasure to serve in the Stine administration

Deborah W Hicks

Founding Justice General, Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents



Historic UK

QUEEN ANNE

**Anne, Queen of Great Britain
Reigned 1702 - 1714
6 February 1665 - 1 August 1714**

Anne (6 February 1665 – 1 August 1714) was Queen of England, Scotland and Ireland between 8 March 1702 and 1 May 1707. On 1 May 1707, under the Acts of Union, the kingdoms of England and Scotland united as a single sovereign state

known as Great Britain. She continued to reign as Queen of Great Britain and Ireland until her death in 1714.

In 1702, Anne adopted the motto *semper eadem* ("always the same"), the same motto used by Queen Elizabeth I. The Acts of Union declared that: "the Ensigns Armorial of the said United Kingdom be such as Her Majesty shall appoint".

Queen Anne, Last of the Stuart Monarchs

Queen Anne (1665–1714) was the last of the Stuart monarchs, remembered for achieving the union of England and Scotland in 1707 and for bringing the War of the Spanish Succession to a conclusion. James Anderson Winn, professor of English at Boston University, explores the life and reign of Queen Anne, bringing you the facts about the royal and her court.

Born: 6 February 1665

Died: 1 August 1714

Ruled from: 1702 to 1714

Family: The daughter of James, Duke of York (later James II) and Anne Hyde

Successor: Georg Ludwig, Elector of Hanover, who ruled as George I

Remembered for: Achieving the Union of England and Scotland and bringing the War of the Spanish Succession to a conclusion

Anne as a Princess

Anne Stuart and her older sister Mary were the only surviving offspring of James, Duke of York by his first Duchess, Anne Hyde. At the age of three, Anne was sent to France to have her eyes treated (as she suffered from an eye condition). There she stayed more than two years, learning the language perfectly.

In 1671, not long after her return, her mother died, and her father, who had become a Roman Catholic, was soon in search of a duchess. His 15-year-old bride, Maria Beatrice of Modena, was less than four years older than Princess Mary, who would later be married (at 15) to William of Orange.

Princess Anne's own marriage was delayed by politics: fearful of Catholics in the wake of a supposed plot to assassinate the king, a strong party in parliament

attempted to pass laws preventing James from succeeding to the throne. Charles sought to defuse the crisis by sending James and Maria to Scotland, where Anne visited them in 1681–82.

In 1683, shortly after Charles had defeated his foes, Anne married Prince George of Denmark. When the king died (on Anne's 20th birthday), her father succeeded as James II, but his arrogant attitude toward parliament and his aggressive Catholicism alienated the English establishment, and a group of powerful men invited William of Orange to invade.

Anne and her husband supported the Revolution of 1688, which replaced James II with William and Mary, though they later had reasons to regret that choice. The princess, who had already suffered several miscarriages and had lost two infant daughters to smallpox in 1687, gave birth to a son in 1689, just months after the coronation. As William, Duke of Gloucester, he would live the longest of her children.

Despite the welcome presence of a Protestant heir, the two sisters quarreled, and when William removed John Churchill, Earl of Marlborough, from his court and military posts, Mary insisted that Anne part company with Sarah Churchill, who was her favorite. Refusing to obey this command, Anne left the court and moved into separate lodgings – this was the beginning of estrangement that continued until Mary's death in 1694. To Anne's eternal regret, Gloucester died in 1700, a few days after his 11th birthday.

Queen Anne's Reign

When William died (on 8 March 1702), Anne succeeded to the throne. Within a few weeks she had named Marlborough as her Captain-General and her longtime friend Sidney Godolphin as Lord Treasurer. For most of her reign, these two men executed her policies at home and abroad. Forming an alliance with the Netherlands and the Holy Roman Empire, the queen declared war on France in May, and Marlborough won significant victories at Blenheim (1704), Ramillies (1706), Oudenarde (1708), and Malplaquet (1709).

Despite these unprecedented successes, domestic politics were fierce. The Tory party gained a substantial majority in the election of 1702, and withstood an attempt by the ministry to break their power in 1705. The Whigs swept into power in 1708, but were soundly defeated in 1710 and 1713.

Because the party holding a majority in parliament did not automatically gain all the ministerial posts, the queen was subject to relentless partisan pressure from both sides, yet she managed to prevent party passions from erupting into violence, and achieved a major success in forging the Union with Scotland in 1707.

Her later years were sad. Prince George died in 1708, and Anne's long association with Sarah Churchill ended bitterly in 1710. A Tory ministry headed by Robert Harley, intent on making peace, persuaded the queen to part company with Godolphin and then with Marlborough. Although her war-weary nation welcomed the Peace of Utrecht (1713), the queen did not have long to enjoy its benefits: worn out by physical ailments and party strife, she died on 1 August 1714, and was succeeded by George I, the first of the Hanoverian monarchs.

James Anderson Winn is a professor of English at Boston University and the author of *Queen Anne: Patroness of Arts* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

This article was first published by History Extra in July 2014.



Queen Anne

Queen Anne, younger daughter of James II, is often overlooked by historians, yet her time on the throne (1702-14) changed Britain forever. Her reign saw the end of the Stuart dynasty and laid the way for the Georgian era.

(image from Wikipedia)

What were the Quitrents?

Quitrents were small annual fees paid by a landowner in colonial Virginia to the proprietor (or grantor) who had conferred the holding. The quit rent was a survival of feudalism and were more closely related to a tithe than a tax since they released the subject from any further obligation of service to the proprietor. The imposition of the quit-rents in the American colonies emphasized their relation to the mother-country as fiefs of the crown. The feudal notion of land-tenure maintained the feudal premise, that the soil belonged to the crown. In 1704 the lands of Virginia as well as the Quit Rents belonged to Queen Anne.

This was a kind of land tax that the Crown originally imposed and that was regulated by acts of Parliament. The basic English land laws under which the people of colonial Virginia gained title to their land required the owners to pay to the Crown a quitrent of two shillings for each hundred acres of land.

If a landowner failed to pay the quitrent for a specified number of years, the Crown had the right to take back the land and grant it or sell it to another person. The money raised by this tax went into the royal treasury and was used to pay the expenses of the royal government in the colony. This is the origin of the modern system of land taxes in Virginia.

In 1704 Virginia, Quitrents were collected by the Governor or Deputy Governor. Eventually, Sheriffs were given the task of collection. In the Northern Neck of Virginia, the Quit Rents were collected by the Lord Proprietors of the Fairfax and Culpeper families.

Colonial Virginia Taxes

Virginians paid several kinds of taxes during the colonial period, and it is often important to a researcher to understand the differences.

Some taxes resulted from laws that the Virginia General Assembly passed. The revenue raised by those taxes went into the colonial treasury. Other taxes resulted from laws that Parliament passed. The revenue raised by those taxes went into the royal treasury. Different officers of government were responsible for collecting and auditing and disbursing the money raised for the colonial treasury and the money

raised for the royal treasury. In some instance, however, the county sheriffs or their agents acted as the collectors of both colonial and royal taxes. The collectors, treasurers, and auditors of most of the taxes kept specified percentages of the money they handled in lieu of a salary.

TAX ON TITHABLES. This was a capitation or poll tax that the General Assembly imposed. These people were subject to the tax: all free Caucasian males

age sixteen or older; some adult female Caucasians (usually widows) who were heads of households; all slaves age sixteen or older; Native American servants, both male and female, age sixteen or older. In most instances, the head of the household or the owner of the slaves or master of the servants paid the tithable tax. The money raised by this tax went into the colonial treasury and was used to pay the expenses incurred in carrying out the policies of the colonial government that the assembly put into effect. Following the American Revolution, this tax was replaced by taxes on items of moveable personal property, such as on slaves, livestock, and some luxury items. This is the origin of the modern Virginia personal property tax system.

See the Research Note on Tithables and also the VA-NOTES entry on Tithables for a list of documents in the archival records in the Library of Virginia containing the names of people who paid the tax on Tithables.

QUITRENTS. This was a kind of land tax that the Crown originally imposed and that was regulated by acts of Parliament. The basic English land laws under which the people of colonial Virginia gained title to their land required the owners to pay to the Crown a quitrent of two shillings for each hundred acres of land. If a landowner failed to pay the quitrent for a specified number of years, the Crown had the right to take back the land and grant it or sell it to another person. The money raised by this tax went into the royal treasury and was used to pay the expenses of the royal government in the colony. The county rent rolls, as they were called, which were kept in the office of the royal auditor general of the colony in Jamestown or Williamsburg, no longer exist. This is the origin of the modern system of land taxes in Virginia. Some documents recording the number of landowners and the total amount of quitrents for each of the counties can be found in the records of the colonial governors and of the royal auditors general of Virginia in the Virginia Colonial Records Project microfilm of documents from the British Public Record Office.

COUNTY LEVIES. This was also a capitation or poll tax regulated by acts of the General Assembly but imposed by the county courts. The county governments

collected it to defray some of the expenses of operating the county government, such as keeping the courthouse, jail, and roads in repair. Very few detailed records of the collection of county levies appear to be preserved in the familiar county court order books.

PARISH LEVIES. This was also a capitation or poll tax. The parish vestries collected it to defray the expenses of paying ministers, keeping the churches and chapels of ease in repair, and until the 1790s to pay for providing for the poor and for orphans, which were then the responsibility of the parishes. Some rudimentary records of the parish levies are preserved in the surviving parish vestry books.

PORT DUTIES. The Trade and Navigation Acts that Parliament passed to regulate the commerce of the colonies and to raise revenue for the royal treasury-imposed taxes on a number of items when they passed through a port of entry. These taxes were often not directly visible to the Virginians since the value of the tax was added to the retail cost of the merchandise. Both Parliament and the General Assembly imposed specific duties on items of commerce, including taxes on the importation into Virginia of slaves, wine, and on gunpowder and shot, among other items.

EXPORT DUTIES. Among the other revenue sources for the support of the royal government of the colony was a tax of two shillings per hogshead on all tobacco exported from Virginia. The Crown required the General Assembly to impose this tax to provide a source of revenue for paying for upkeep on the governor's palace, to pay the salary of the governor, and for the support of the royal government in the colony. This tax was paid at the time of export, and because most tobacco growers sent their crops to market through intermediaries, such as merchants and agents for British mercantile houses, these taxes were often not directly visible to the planter who had grown the tobacco for export. The General Assembly also imposed a tax on furs exported from Virginia, with the money raised from that tax devoted to the maintenance of the College of William and Mary.

FEES. These were not taxes, but they were imposed and regulated by law or under the direct authority of the Crown. Most of the officials of the colonial government, from the governor all the way down to the various local officers and clerks, collected fees for the performance of their duties. The General Assembly regularly passed laws to regulate the fees that the officers charged. Fees had to be paid for registering deeds and proving wills, having land surveyed, granting land patents, inspecting tobacco at public warehouses, passing merchandise through the customs

house, issuing licenses to operate taverns and ordinaries, and for many other routine transactions. The money raised through these fees defrayed the costs of running the

offices and took the place of a salary for the officers, almost none of whom, except a few high-ranking royal appointees, received any salary.

Almost all official colonial records about taxes and fees give values either in British pounds, shillings, and pence, or in pounds of tobacco. The government of the Commonwealth of Virginia continued to keep some of its official financial records in pounds, shillings, and pence until the turn of the nineteenth century, when the treasurer and auditors began keeping accounts in U.S. dollars and cents. In practice, most colonial Virginians were accustomed to reckoning values in a bewildering range of ways: British pounds sterling; several sorts of colonial currency that had sterling values but often changed hands at a reduced rate, or discount; and Spanish coins with values given in dollars, doubloons, pistareens, and pieces of eight. Frequently, both in colonial government accounts and in private transactions, people stated the value of a commodity or service in pounds of tobacco, and certificates or promissory notes payable in tobacco were often the most abundant circulating medium in the colony.

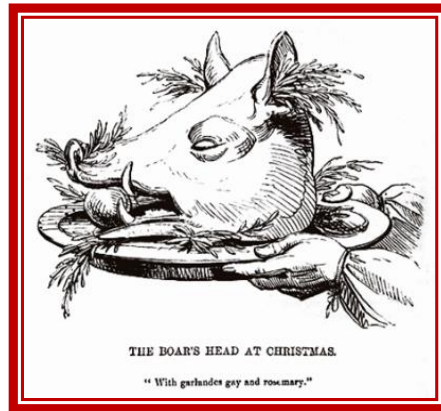
An online series on Research in Virginia Documents.
Prepared by Daphne Gentry, Publications and Education Services Division.
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Christmas in Stuart Times

Christmas in Stuart times lasted a full 12 days and was enjoyed by rich and poor alike. At the royal court it lasted even longer. It began officially on 1 November and ended on 2 February!

What did the Stuarts eat for Christmas?

Much of the food that the Stuarts ate at Christmas time, we still eat today. Although their most impressive meat dish was the boar's head with an apple or lemon in its mouth and not the traditional turkey we enjoy today. The boar's head was crowned with holly, ivy and rosemary before being carried to the dinner table.



The boar's head was even serenaded with a Christmas carol at Queen's College in Oxford:

**“The boar's head in hand bear I,
Bedecked with bays and rosemary,
And I pray you, my masters, be merry Quot est is in convivio.”**

Another favourite of the Stuart's was the Christmas pie, which represented the manger of Jesus Christ. To the Stuart's, the Christmas pie was so special that they were guarded against thieves and contained meat, game, spices, fruit, and suet. As we know it today, the minced pie was also on the menu at the Stuart's Christmas dinner. Though they were smaller in size, their contents were just as exotic as the Christmas pie.

Christmas in Stuart times was celebrated by the rich and poor alike. All good folk were encouraged to share their fortune with the poor, including their food. For the wealthy, spices in food were very important but also very expensive, because they came from distant lands. The spices that you probably have in your cupboard at home were found scarcely in the Stuart kitchen. From cinnamon to cloves and nutmeg to pepper even fruits such as oranges and lemons were expensive though during Christmas, they were a must. <https://royalcentral.co.uk/>

Undoubtably, Virginians would have added seafood, venison, and local game to their Christmas celebrations. Pigeons were considered a delicacy and raised by the aristocracy but were scorned by the common fold as “small meat”. Corn prepared numerous ways would have included as side dishes. Remember, in 1704, Virginians would still consider themselves Englishmen and devoted, loyal subjects of their Stuart monarch. Their celebrations would have mimicked what they would have enjoyed were they back home in England.

Christmas Games, Stuart Style

Hot Cockles

One person was blindfolded and knelt with his or her head on the lap of someone sitting on a chair. They placed their hand in the small of their back, palm upwards, and called out 'hot cockles hot'. The other players hit the palm of the hand and the blindfolded player had to guess who struck the blow.

Cross and Pyle

This is a similar game to heads and tails. You spun a coin and guessed the outcome. Grown-ups bet on the fall of the coin.



Forfeits

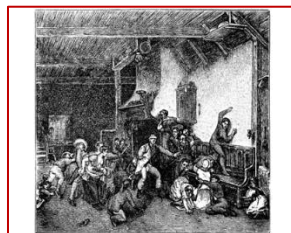
A token or item such as a handkerchief was collected from each player. Each player had to win back his or her possession by a forfeit. You might sing a song, dance a jig or recite a poem.

Question and Command

A commander may order his or her subjects to answer any 'lawful' question. Any player who cannot answer must pay a fine or forfeit.

Hood-man Blind

You know this game as blind-man's buff.



Hoop and Hide

Our game of hide and seek.

Closkeys

A form of nine pins or skittles.

Paille Maille

A French game the English called Pell Mell. It was a cross between golf and croquet. It was played on a ground 850 yards long with a hoop at each end. The idea was to knock a ball through a hoop with a mallet.

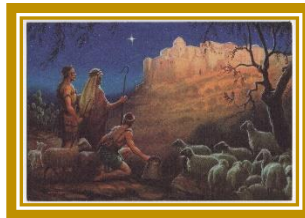
Yawning for the Cheshire Cheese

This was the last game, towards midnight. Everyone sat in a circle and yawned. Whoever yawned the longest, widest and loudest won a large Cheshire cheese.

Of Course, It Could not be Christmas Without Christmas Carols!

**Many familiar Christmas Carols we still enjoy today,
had their beginnings in the
Stuart Era.**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

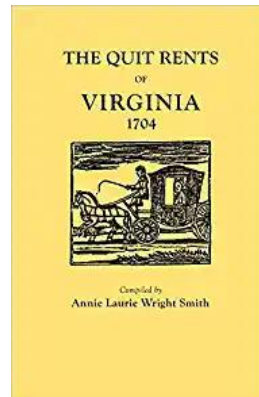


I Saw Three Ships

The First Noël



The Quit Rents of Virginia 1704 compiled by Annie Laurie Wright Smith and Alison Smith is the basis of approved ancestors for the Society of the 1704 Virginia Quit Rents. It is available on Amazon for \$21.00.



**May the Peace and Joy of this Holy Season Overflow
Your Hearts and Homes!**

Merry Christmas!

The Governour's Council

