

HISTORY



Roundtable est. 2017

March's Topic: Colonial America

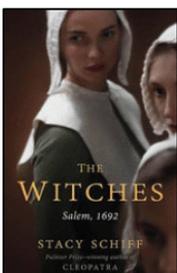
Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 24th, 2026 at 6:30pm

Register at www.greenwoodlibrary.us or by calling 317-881-1953.

More info and handout at www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable.

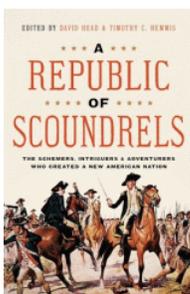
Read. Watch. Listen. Discuss. Read any non-fiction book, watch a documentary, and/or listen to a podcast pertaining to **Colonial America**. Once you've read/watched/listened to the item, come to the roundtable prepared to summarize your book/video/podcast for all the participants. Possible resources include (but are not limited to) –

Books:



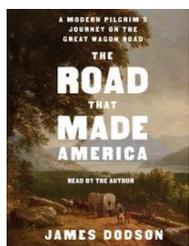
[The Witches: Salem, 1692](#) by Stacy Schiff – NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES COLONIAL Schiff; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby*

It began in 1692, over an exceptionally raw Massachusetts winter, when a minister's daughter began to scream and convulse. The panic spread quickly, involving the most educated men and prominent politicians in the colony. Neighbors accused neighbors, parents and children each other. Aside from suffrage, the Salem Witch Trials represent the only moment when women played the central role in American history. As psychologically thrilling as it is historically seminal, *The Witches* is Stacy Schiff's account of this fantastical story -- the first great American mystery unveiled fully for the first time by one of our most acclaimed historians.



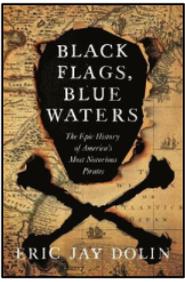
[A Republic of Scoundrels: The Schemers, Intriguers & Adventurers who created a New American Nation](#) edited by David Head and Timothy C. Hemmis– NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES COLONIAL Head; [eBook via Hoopla](#)*

This new look at Founding Fathers such as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton goes beyond their common depictions as American saints to expose the sometimes selfish motives behind their actions. The early years of the republic were full of self-interested individuals, sometimes succeeding in their plots, sometimes failing, but always shaping the young nation. *A Republic of Scoundrels* seeks to re-examine the Founding Generation and replace the hagiography of the Founding Fathers with something more realistic: a picture that embraces the many facets of our nation's origins.



[The Road that Made America: A Modern Pilgrim's Journey on the Great Wagon Road](#) by James Dodson – NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES Dodson; [eAudio](#) via Libby*

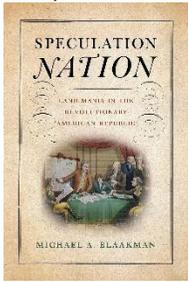
In the bestselling tradition of Rinker Buck's *The Oregon Trail* and Tony Horwitz's *Confederates in the Attic*, *The Road That Made America* is a lively, epic account of one of the greatest untold stories in our nation's history—the eight-hundred-mile long Great Wagon Road that 18th-century American settlers forged from Philadelphia to Georgia that expanded the country dramatically in the decades before we ventured west.



[Black Flags, Blue Waters: The Epic History of America’s most Notorious Pirates](#) by Eric

Jay Dolin – NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES COLONIAL Dolin; [eAudio](#) via Libby*; [eBook](#) via Hoopla

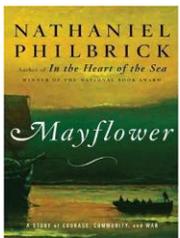
During American piracy's 'Golden Age' spanning the late 1600s through the early 1700s, lawless pirates plied the coastal waters of North America and beyond. American colonists at first supported these outrageous pirates in an early display of solidarity against the Crown, and then violently opposed them. Dolin depicts the star pirates of this period, among them towering Blackbeard, ill-fated Captain Kidd, and sadistic Edward Low, who delighted in torturing his prey. He also details the pirates' enemies, and shows how they eliminated-- almost always violently-- from the American Atlantic.



[Speculation Nation: Land Mania in the Revolutionary American Republic](#) by Michael A.

Blaakman – NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES COLONIAL Blaakman

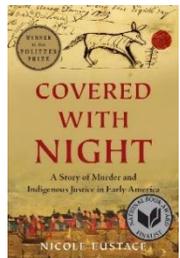
During the first quarter-century after its founding, the United States was swept by a wave of land speculation so unprecedented in intensity and scale that contemporaries and historians alike have dubbed it a “mania.” In *Speculation Nation*, Michael A. Blaakman uncovers the revolutionary origins of this real-estate bonanza—a story of ambition, corruption, capitalism, and statecraft that stretched across millions of acres from Maine to the Mississippi and Georgia to the Great Lakes.



[Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War](#) by Nathaniel Philbrick –

NONFICTION HISTORY UNITED STATES COLONIAL Philbrick; [eBook](#) via Libby*

How did America begin? That simple question launches the acclaimed author of *In the Hurricane's Eye* and *Valiant Ambition* on an extraordinary journey to understand the truth behind our most sacred national myth: the voyage of the Mayflower and the settlement of Plymouth Colony. As Philbrick reveals in this electrifying history of the Pilgrims, the story of Plymouth Colony was a fifty-five year epic that began in peril and ended in war.



[Covered with Night: A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America](#)

by Nicole Eustace – via Evergreen Indiana*; [eAudio](#) via Libby*

In *Covered with Night*, historian Nicole Eustace reconstructs the attack and its aftermath, introducing a group of unforgettable individuals—from the slain man’s resilient widow to an Indigenous diplomat known as “Captain Civility” to the scheming governor of Pennsylvania—as she narrates a remarkable series of criminal investigations and cross-cultural negotiations. Taking its title from a Haudenosaunee metaphor for mourning, *Covered with Night* ultimately urges us to consider Indigenous approaches to grief and condolence, rupture and repair, as we seek new avenues of justice in our own era.

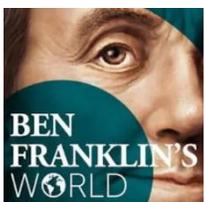
Video:



[Colonial Cookery in North America](#) – Episode 25 in Food: A Cultural Culinary History via Kanopy*

Eating habits in the American colonies incorporated a wide variety of cultural influences. Contrast the culinary fashions of Virginia, modeled on the English gentry, with the mercantile, Puritan ethic of New England; the varied foodways of the Dutch settlers, Germans, Quakers, and Quebecois; and the unique cuisine of Louisiana.

Podcasts:



[Ben Franklin’s World](#)

A multiple award-winning podcast about early American history. It's a show for people who love history and who want to know more about the historical people and events that have impacted and shaped our present-day world. Each episode features conversations with professional historians who help shed light on important people and events in early American history.

*=requires GPL Evergreen Indiana card