

William M. E. Rachal Award

The William M. E. Rachal Award was established in 1985 for the overall best article to appear in the Virginia Historical Society's quarterly journal, the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*. Each year a committee of the journal's editorial advisory board selects the author whose essay has best advanced the cause of scholarship in Virginia history. The award carries a cash prize of \$250 and honors the long-time editor of the journal, Will Rachal, who served from 1953 to 1980.

Past recipients:

David F. Allmendinger, Jr., "The Early Career of Edmund Ruffin, 1810–1840" (1985)

Ronald L. Heinemann, "Virginia in the Twentieth Century: Recent Interpretations" (1986)

Anita H. Rutman, "Still Planting the Seeds of Hope: The Recent Literature of the Early Chesapeake Region" (1987)

Dell Upton, "New Views of the Virginia Landscape" (1988)

Alden T. Vaughan, "The Origins Debate: Slavery and Racism in Seventeenth-Century Virginia" (1989)

J. Frederick Fausz, "An 'Abundance of Blood Shed on Both Sides': England's First Indian War, 1609–1614" (1990)

Jack Temple Kirby, "Virginia's Environmental History: A Prospectus" (1991)

Ann Field Alexander, "'Like an Evil Wind': The Roanoke Riot of 1893 and the Lynching of Thomas Smith" (1992)

Phyllis A. Hall, "Crisis at Hampton Roads: The Problems of Wartime Congestion, 1942–1944" (1993)

Gail S. Terry, "Sustaining the Bonds of Kinship in a Trans-Appalachian Migration, 1790–1811: The Cabell-Breckinridge Slaves Move West" (1994)

Eric T. Dean, Jr., "'We Live under a Government of Men and Morning Newspapers': Image, Expectation, and the Peninsula Campaign of 1862" (1995)

Cynthia A. Kierner, "Genteel Balls and Republican Parades: Gender and Early Southern Civic Rituals, 1677–1826" (1996)

Harold S. Forsythe, “‘But My Friends are Poor’: Ross Hamilton and Freedpeople’s Politics in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, 1869–1901” (1997)

Noel G. Harrison, “Atop and an Anvil: The Civilians’ War in Fairfax and Alexandria Counties, April 1861–April 1862” (1998)

William Guthrie Sayen, “George Washington’s ‘Unmannerly’ Behavior: The Clash Between Civility and Honor” (1999)

Edward Bond, “Source of Knowledge, Source of Power: The Supernatural World of English Virginia, 1607-1624” (2000)

Jean B. Lee, “Historical Memory, Sectional Strife, and the American Mecca: Mount Vernon, 1783–1853” (2001)

Roger D. Cunningham, “‘They are as Proud of their Uniform as Any Who Serve Virginia’: African American Participation in the Virginia Volunteers, 1872–99” (2002)

Michael Ayers Trotti, “Murder Made Real: The Visual Revolution of the Halftone” (2003)

Jeffrey H. Richards, “Samuel Davies and the Transatlantic Campaign for Slave Literacy in Virginia” (2003)

Philip Levy, “A New Look at an Old Wall: Indians, Englishmen, Landscape, and the 1634 Palisade at Middle Plantation” (2004)

Kevin M. Levin, “William Mahone, the Lost Cause, and Civil War History” (2005)

Ellen Eslinger, “Freedom Without Independence: The Story of a Former Slave and Her Family” (2006)

Phyllis Leffler, “Mr. Jefferson’s University: Women in the Village!” (2007)

Caroline E. Janney, “‘One of the Best Loved, North and South’: The Appropriation of National Reconciliation by LaSalle Corbell Pickett” (2008)

Thomas Aiello, “The Champion and the Corpse: Art and Identity in Richmond, 1950” (2009)

Gordon S. Barker, “Secession and Slavery as a Positive Good: The Impact of the Anthony Burns Drama in Boston on Virginia” (2010)

Mark Sturges, "Enclosing the Commons: Thomas Jefferson, Agrarian Independence, and Early American Land Policy, 1774–1789" (2011)

Linda Rowe, "Gowan Pamphlet: Baptist Preacher in Slavery and Freedom" (2012)

Charles H. Ford and Jeffrey L. Littlejohn, "Reconstructing the Old Dominion: Lewis F. Powell, Stuart T. Saunders, and the Virginia Industrialization Group, 1958–65" (2013)

Alexander S. Leidholdt, "Showdown on Mr. Jefferson's Lawn: Contesting Jim Crow during the University of Virginia's Protodesegregation" (2014)

Jeff Broadwater, "James Madison and the Constitution: Reassessing the 'Madison Problem'" (2015)

Brook Poston, "'Bolder Attitude': James Monroe, the French Revolution, and the Making of the Monroe Doctrine" (2016)

William Fernandez Hardin, "'This Unpleasant Business': Slavery, Law, and the Pleasants Family in Post-Revolutionary Virginia" (2017)

Cassandra L. Newby-Alexander, "Sarah Garland Jones" (2018)

Stefan Schöberlein, "A Professor's Civil War: M. Schele de Vere's Struggle with the Confederacy" (2019)

Brian J. Daugherty and Alyce Miller, "'A New Era in Building': African American Educational Activism in Goochland County, Virginia, 1911–32" (2020)

Marvin T. Chiles, "'A Period of Misunderstanding': Reforming Jim Crow in Richmond, Virginia, 1930–1954" (2021)

John G. Kolp, "'Mrs. Ann' and 'The Colonel': Anne Toft, Edmund Scarborough II, and the Limits of Gendered Power on the Seventeenth-Century Eastern Shore" (2022)

Erin N. Bush, "For the Protection of Our Children: The 1922 'Children's Code' and the Expansion of the Commonwealth's Eugenic Surveillance Authority" (2023)