



# VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*The Story of Virginia*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Virginia Historical Society Hosts Rare Live Taping of Public Radio History Program *BackStory*

**What:** *BackStory with the American History Guys* is a unique, interactive radio program distributed by VFH Radio at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities that includes listener calls, interviews with guest scholars and experts, wide-ranging discussion, and produced features. On each program, internationally renowned historians and hosts Edward Ayers, Brian Balogh, and Peter Onuf pull a topic from the headlines and use it to drill down into America's past.

**Who:** Edward Ayers: 19<sup>th</sup>-century historian, author and editor of ten books, and President of the University of Richmond

Brian Balogh: 20<sup>th</sup>-century historian, author of two books and editor of numerous articles and essays, and Director of the National Fellowship Program at the Miller Center of Public Affairs and historian at the University of Virginia

Peter Onuf: 18<sup>th</sup>-century historian, author and editor of eleven books, and Thomas Jefferson Professor of History at the University of Virginia

**Topic:** Paying Up: The History of Taxation

From the very beginning, Americans have been arguing about whether their taxes are fair and just. The American History Guys will explore taxation's complicated and turbulent history—from the Stamp Act of 1765 to the Tea Party Movement of 2010—and discuss Americans' attitudes toward the Tax Man.

The American History Guys take "calls" from the audience, so visitors should come prepared with questions about the history of taxes in America.

**When:** Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Virginia Historical Society, 428 North Boulevard, Richmond 23220

**Cost:** This event is free and open to the public. Reservations are not required. Seating is first come, first seated. There is free parking in the Virginia Historical Society lot.

For more than 182 years, the **Virginia Historical Society** (VHS) has been connecting people to America's past through the unparalleled story of Virginia. The VHS—a history museum and research library—features award-winning exhibitions that are entertaining and educational for visitors of all ages. The Society is the only museum with all of Virginia's history under one roof—all centuries, all regions, and all topics are covered. Although designated the Official State Historical Society, the VHS is a privately funded non-profit organization that relies on contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations to sustain its operations. The VHS is located at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond's Museum District. Admission is free. Museum hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m.–5 p.m. Library hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information, call (804) 358-4901, visit [www.vahistorical.org](http://www.vahistorical.org), or find the VHS on Facebook and Twitter.

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