



GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded May 1, 1968

GREGG KIMBALL TO SPEAK AT THE SEPTEMBER 24TH MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Gregg D. Kimball is Director of Publications and Educational Services at the Library of Virginia. He holds the Ph.D. degree in history from the University of Virginia as well as a Masters of Library Science from the University of Maryland. His main research interests are African-American history and culture, traditional music in America, and the American South. Dr. Kimball was a curator and historian at Richmond's Valentine Museum for almost ten years, developing four exhibitions funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, including *Shared Spaces*, *Separate Lives: Life in the Wickham House*, (1993-1996), and *The Working People of Richmond: Life and Labor in an Industrial City, 1865-1922*, mounted at Tobacco Row (199-1992). He was the chief historian during the Valentine's restoration and interpretation of the Tredegar Iron Works site, which is now the



headquarters for the Richmond National Battlefield Park, National Park Service. Dr. Kimball co-authored the book *In Bondage and Freedom: Antebellum Black Life in Richmond, Virginia, 1790-1860*, with Marie Tyler-McGraw (1988), and has published numerous articles, reviews, and essays. His most recent book is *American City, Southern Place: A Cultural History of Antebellum Richmond* published by the University of Georgia

Press (2000). Dr. Kimball is a veteran of the United States military and lives in New Kent County, Virginia.

Dr. Kimball has long had an interest in traditional music. He has published numerous articles on Virginia artists, including the blind street singer Jimmie Strother, who was recorded in 1936 at the State Prison Farm by John Lomax, Anglo-American ballad

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Fall
HOUSE TOUR
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006
10 A.M. ~ 4 P.M.

PRESENTED BY THE
**GOOCHLAND COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

TICKETS

\$15 in advance

\$20 purchased on the tour

OUTLETS FOR TICKETS & BROCHURES

Luck Stone Showroom
347 River Road West

Belle & Kitchen Kuisine
Short Pump Crossing Center

Hampton House
Grove & Libby Avenues

The Edible Garden
12506 River Road

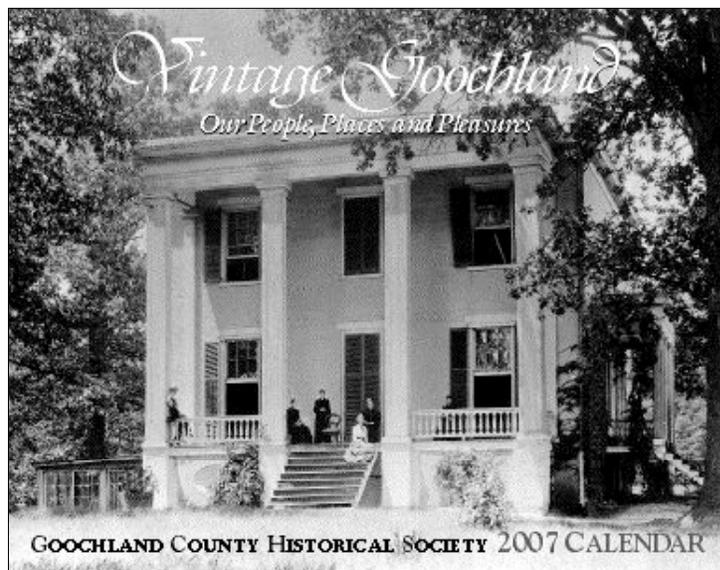
Village Fine Wine & Cigar
Village Shopping Center

Enzo's Ristorante
36 Broad St. Rd., Centerville

Historical Society Center
2875 River Road West, Goochland

All visitors are required to have tickets except for infants in arms.

The all new GCHS 2007 Calendar (see page 5)



(see tour information on pages 3 & 4)

Gregg Kimball—continued from p.1

singer Horton Barker, and Hopewell's Tubize Royal Hawaiian Orchestra, a factory band that appeared on Richmond radio station WRVA and recorded for Okeh Records. He has written entries on several Virginia bluesmen for the *Encyclopedia of the Blues* (Macmillan, 2005). Dr. Kimball has developed programs on traditional music for Duke Homestead State Historic Site, Virginia's Governor's School, the Library of Virginia, the Southern Association of Women Historians, and the Richmond Public Schools. He is currently working with the James River Blues Society on a project to erect historical markers commemorating Virginia's early blues musicians. He performs traditional blues from the pre-World War II era with Sheryl Warner and the Southside Homewreckers, playing guitar on the trio's CDS *Thirteen Classic Blues* (1998) and *Lucky Oil on My Hand* (2000). The band won the James River Blues Society's 2000 blues competition and has twice performed at the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

"VIRGINIA ROOTS MUSIC: Creating and Conserving Tradition"

Kimball's lecture will explore the documentation and recording of Virginia's grassroots musical traditions and its performers in the

first half of the twentieth century. Based on the Library of Virginia's current exhibition of the same name, the talk will integrate live and recorded music and images to tell the story. In the two decades before World War II, hundreds of average Virginians had their music recorded by folk music collectors and commercial record companies. Folklorists and record executives made recordings for very different motives, but both groups were responding to fundamental changes in the economy, technology, and society of America and the South. Early folklorists feared that radio, records, and the general reach of the marketplace would dilute the pure music of the American folk. The remnants of these musical traditions therefore needed to be documented and preserved before their inevitable demise. Record companies and radio stations began searching out "old-time" and "race" artists as soon as it was clear that such records had a substantial commercial audience. While eagerly selling the music through modern communications and technology, they also marketed the songs and musicians as an expression of a more authentic, even pre-industrial, American past. The lecture will look at these complicated processes of cultural transformation and how their legacy continues to shape our ideas about popular and traditional music. 🍷

Summer Intern

Aaron Bonovitch, son of Ricky and Shirley Bonovitch, spent the summer as a research assistant at the Historical Society. Aaron is a junior at Goochland County High School and has an interest in History and computers. While at the Society, Aaron helped with genealogical research, answered email and the telephone, assisted with research for the 2007 Calendar, and made himself generally indispensable to the Director and the volunteers. The Society is very grateful to Aaron and to his parents for the time and talent Aaron dedicated to his work.



Historical Society president Temple Bayliss (right) with summer intern Aaron Bonovitch. Photographs by Fred Sorrell



Aaron, seen here at the computer, answered email and research inquiries as part of his duties at the Historical Society.

Welcome New Members

The Society is pleased to welcome these new members:

Austin and Jane Brockenbrough	<i>Manakin</i>
David and Susan Halla	<i>Alexandria</i>
Donya and Thomas Ransom	<i>Richmond</i>
Sue and Frank Reichel	<i>Manakin</i>
John S. Russell	<i>North Carolina</i>

Gifts to the Society

State Farm Documents

- Gift of Capt. Larry Platt, Academy for Staff Development, Crozier
- History of the Virginia State Farm 1894-1974
 - Untitled report on the State Farm complex, 1940s
 - "A History of the Virginia State Farm", 1960

Family History Book

- Gift of Douglas M. Kinney, Maidens
- Ladd/Paddock Family, A Perspective autographed by the author, Bruce Clinton Ladd

Store Ledgers

- Gift of Mrs. Louise K. Mills
- Tuckahoe Coal Pits ledger
 - W. A. Dietrick Store Ledger 1852
 - Unknown Store Ledger 1853-57

Briesmaster Family Documents

- Gift of Eva Briesmaster Henley, Manakin
- Photographs and two original glass plate negatives

Photographs

- Gift of Sandra Taylor, Crozier
- Dover Mill ruins
 - Photograph of Elk Hill church with congregation
 - Photograph of 1940s Fife Baseball team

The FALL 2006 GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOUSE TOUR

Saturday, October 21, 2006
10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.



FIVE DISTINCTIVE HOMES and an historic church spanning a period of more than 230 years will be featured on the Fall House Tour sponsored by the Goochland County Historical Society. Since 1979, the Society has hosted 23 house tours. Proceeds from this event support the activities of the Society and help it fulfill its mission "to preserve and present" the rich history of Goochland County for present and future generations.



"BELLEVILLE" ~ 1324 Shallow Well Road

A winding drive through woods and rolling fields brings the visitor to the traditional boxwoods and magnolias at the entrance of this lovely home. The farm, first known as Woodson's Mill, then Elmington, has now evolved into the elegant estate known as Belleville. The original two-story clapboard structure with a slate-floored English basement was built circa 1840. The front doors open to a thirty-foot entrance hall with a walnut banister staircase. The spacious twelve-foot high ceiling rooms are richly decorated with American and English antiques. Throughout the rooms the heart pine floors peak out at the edges of warm Oriental rugs. A collection of family portraits graces the walls. There is even a bit of whimsy in the faux finish of a door panel where a well-disguised face can be seen looking at you. The current owners restored the structure in 1966 and then had the brick wings built in 1972 to accommodate the bright kitchen and expanded living areas. The pool and pool house were added in 1987.

Mr. & Mrs. Randolph W. McElroy, owners



"ROYSTERS" ~ 1860 River Road West

A small part of the appeal of this site is in the approach. The private drive through fields and pastures, past ponds and over cattle guards brings you to the oldest home on the tour. Situated on the top of a hill surrounded by a white picket fence stands Roysters, also known as the Pleasants-Royster-Richmond House. Remarkably the land has been owned for 289 years by only three families. On July 17, 1717, Lieutenant Governor Spotswood signed a Royal Patent granted to Dorothy Pleasants in what was still upper Henrico County. In 1768, William Royster became the owner and built the homestead. It remained in his family until Isaiah Richmond purchased the "land and manor house" in 1876. Isaiah's great-great grandson and his wife, the current owners, began restoration of the 'cottage' in the 1970's, creating the comfortable home it is today.

The cozy kitchen and family area were once a dirt-floored basement. The two stories above are decorated with a wonderful variety of antiques and collectibles, from vintage photos to the dolls displayed in a cradle that was found in the house. The grounds reflect the owner's love of gardening; flowers are nestled beneath an enormous honey locust tree that stands guard near the front entrance.

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Nuckols, owners

The Goochland Garden Club will conduct a plant sale on the grounds of Roysters



"CONTENTION" ~ Lee Road

A pleasant drive down Lee Road brings the visitor to the site of "Contention." Be sure to ask a hostess about the legend of this unusual name! Dating back to the early 1700's, when it was known as Pleasant Green, the original homestead is noted as the birthplace in 1769 of James Pleasants, who was governor of Virginia from 1822 to 1825.

The Massie family constructed the present main house in 1911 in close proximity to the original 18th century structure, which was

demolished in 1917. The east wing of Contention, originally the “farm office,” reportedly dates to the 1820s. The carved surround of the front door hints of the delicate details to be found within. Elaborately carved and milled molding, panels, mantels, and built-in cabinets fill the main section’s four-over four rooms and central foyer. It is believed that rescued 18th-century woodwork and panels were incorporated during renovations in the 1930s which also included the raising of the hip roof and the addition of the leaded glass enhancing the front and back entrance doors. More recent renovations include the addition of a west wing housing the kitchen and a sunny family room.

Two flower-filled cast iron urns, signed “James W. Carr Richmond Va.,” flank the entrance drive. The “U” shape of the house encloses a picturesque courtyard shaded by a stately elm tree and surrounded by a mature boxwood garden.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. Meyer, III, owners

THE MEADOWS ~

Developed on the land of one of Sabot’s oldest plantations, Joe Brooke Farm, is now the area known as the Meadows. Here the tour presents two new homes featuring architecture of the 21st century. They are truly beautiful additions to the county.



~ 717 BIG WOODS PLACE

A circular drive surrounding a splashing, tiered fountain faces the two story portico of this majestic home. Completed in 2005, the house was designed by William E. Poole Designs, Inc. and built by Allen N. Coleman, Inc. Every room has appeal, decorated in warm earth tones with splashes of color. The kitchen was recently featured in the June/July 2006 issue of *housetrends* magazine. A local kitchen design company worked with the owners to create a room that satisfies the family’s needs and desires right down to the special drawer that holds the food and water bowls for their Golden Retrievers.

Mr. & Mrs. Ross Webster, owners

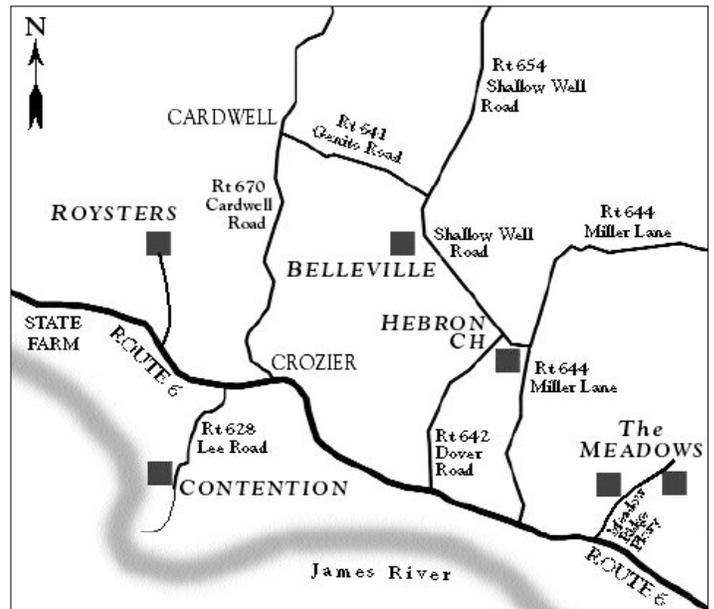


~ 752 DOUBLE OAK LANE

Reminiscent of a European country home on the outside, the interior of this home showcases decorative elements from all over the world. Designed to suit the tastes and lifestyle of its owners, the house was built in 2004 by Allen N. Coleman, Inc. The open layout accommodates a comfortable flow for entertaining, while the soft colors give it a feeling of serenity. As the Chairperson of the Department of Fashion Design & Merchandising for VCU, Ms. Guthrie travels extensively and has collected art prints from many of the fashion capitals to adorn the walls. Each room displays items of interest from the entryway to the majestic master bath.

Mr. R. Videtic & Ms. K. Guthrie, owners

The Goochland County Historical Society will conduct a sale of its 2007 “Vintage Goochland” calendars, books, early county maps and memorabilia at this home.



Begin the tour at any home. Watch for signs on Rt. 6 and at drive entrances.

BELLEVILLE ~ 1324 Shallow Well Road (Rt. 654)

1.2 miles NW of Hebron Church or .25 miles south of Genito Road

ROYSTERS ~ 1860 River Road West (Rt. 6)

One mile west of Crozier on the north side of Rt. 6

CONTENTION ~ Lee Road (Rt. 628)

From Rt. 6 in Crozier, turn south on Lee Road for 1.3 miles

THE MEADOWS AT MANAKIN

~ 752 Double Oak Lane

From Rt. 6 turn north on Meadow Ridge Parkway for .8 mile, turn left on third road, home on right

~ 717 Big Woods Place

From Rt. 6 turn north on Meadow Ridge Parkway for .85 mile, turn right on Big Woods Place, home on right

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ 1012 Shallow Well Road (Rt. 654); Just east of Dover Rd. (Rt. 642) and just west of Miller Lane (Rt. 644)

All visitors are required to have tickets except for infants in arms.

Low heeled shoes are recommended.

No cameras inside.

Disclaimer of Liability: Neither the Goochland County Historical Society nor any homeowner shall be liable for harm or injury to any individual, group or property participating in the tour.

CALENDARS
WILL GO ON SALE
OCTOBER 1ST

2007 *Vintage Goochland*

A CALENDAR

*Created Especially to Explore Goochland's
Rich Heritage*

A PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

*Featuring Vintage Images of Goochland's
People & Places*

A KEEPSAKE

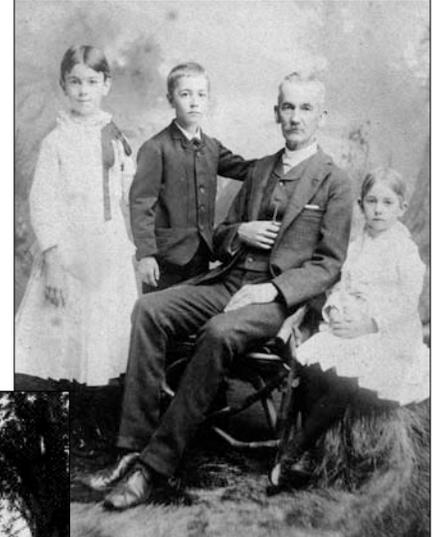
Depicting Goochland's Bygone Days

BLITHEWOOD, The Wood Family



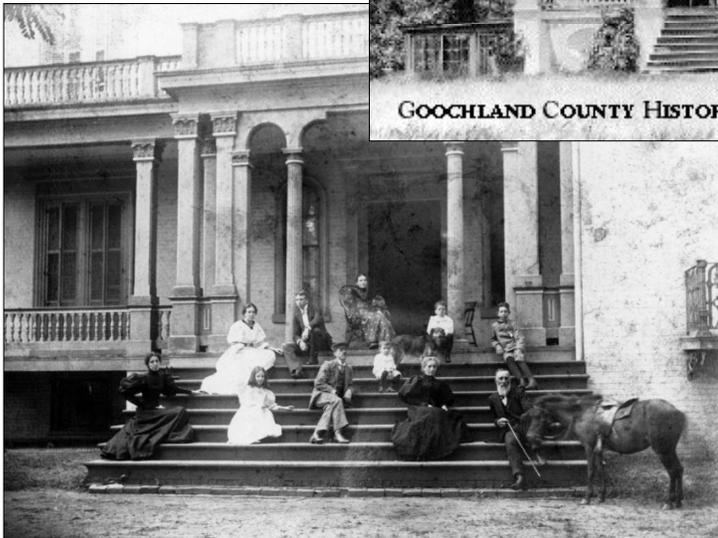
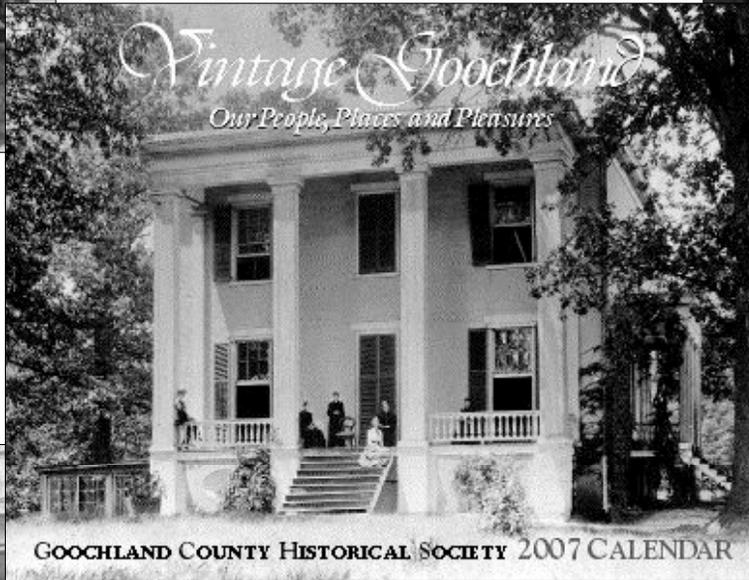
The Boggs Family at SNOWEN

Take a photographic
journey back in time and
explore the rich heritage
of Goochland.
All new photographs
in the 2007 calendar.



WILLIAM MILLER and Children

Enjoy fun scenes of
Goochland's heritage
EVERY day of
the year in our specially
designed photographic
collection calendar.



SABOT HILL, The Norton Family



ELMINGTON, The Briesmaster Family

2007 Vintage Goochland Calendar — \$7.00 each

This specially created calendar is unique to Goochland County. It is beautifully illustrated with 15 sepia-toned photographs suitable for framing. The size is 11" by 17" hanging. You may purchase calendars at the Society's Museum Shop, or from our website at www.goochlandhistory.org, or order by mail. To order by mail, please send your name, complete mailing address, daytime telephone number, and a check to include the order amount plus 15% of the order amount for shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to the Goochland County Historical Society.

Thank you for supporting the Goochland County Historical Society.

The Goochland County Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded and operated for the perpetuation and preservation of Goochland County heritage and tradition.

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Phyllis Silber, Editor
Douglas Price, Designer

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Society Phone & Fax
(804) 556-3966

Visit the Society's Website
www.goochlandhistory.org

Email the Society
goochlandhistory@verizon.net

Winter hours (October - March) are:
Wednesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
or by appointment. Those traveling long
distances should call the Society to confirm
it will be open that day. (804) 556-3966

Visit the Goochland Historical Society
The Society's headquarters are located a
half mile east of the Goochland Courthouse
at 2875 River Road West (Route 6).

Goochland County Historical Society
P. O. Box 602
Goochland, Virginia 23063

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UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS

GRIVA Fall Conference

September 16, 2006. *The National Archives—More than the Census*, featuring Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL. GRIVA program meetings are held at the Bon Air Presbyterian Church, 9201 West Huguenot Road, Richmond, Virginia, unless otherwise noted. Visitors are welcome.

Goochland Historical Society Fall Meeting

Sunday, September 24, 2006, 3:00 p.m.

Featuring Gregg Kimball: *A History of Folk Music in Virginia*

The meeting will be held in the Goochland County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Room. This meeting is open to the public. Gregg Kimball will encore his performance from the Blues marker dedication held in April of this year.

Powhatan Historical Society House Tour - Upcountry Homes Along the Old Hunting Path

Saturday, September 30, 2006, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Advance tickets \$25.00

www.powhatanhistoricalsociety.org 804.598.1139 or 804.379.0605

Goochland Historical Society Fall House Tour (see details inside)

Saturday, October 21, 2006, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.,

Advance tickets \$15, purchased on the tour \$20.

Goochland Historical Society Magazine Errata

On page 46 of the 2006 issue of the Magazine incorrectly stated "Dorothea (Randolph) married Josiah Woodson and lived at Boscobel." The correct wording is "Dorothea married Col. John Woodson, son of Josiah Woodson, and lived at Boscobel." The Society regrets the error.



Goochland County Historical Society

Phyllis Silber, *Executive Director*

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