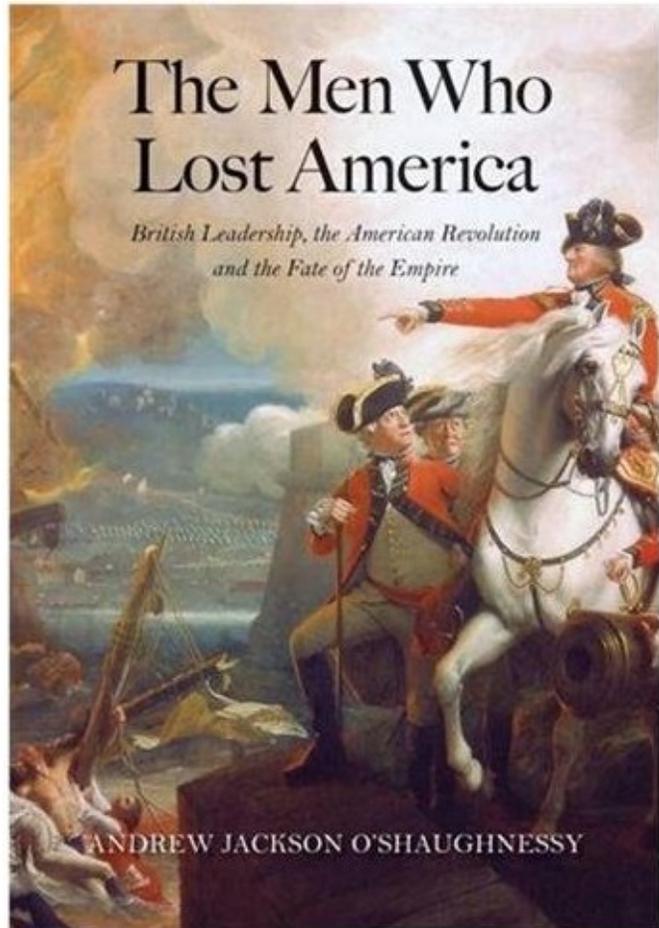
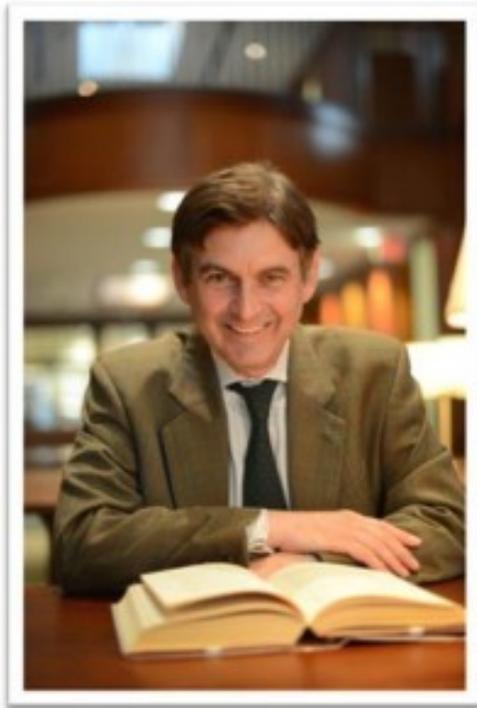


## Andrew O'Shaughnessy To Speak at Byrd Church



Andrew Jackson O'Shaughnessy is the Saunders director of the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello and a history professor at the University of Virginia. An Oxford graduate, Dr. O'Shaughnessy will speak on his newest book, *The Men Who Lost America: British Leadership, the American Revolution, and the Fate of the Empire*. This book won the 2014 Cincinnati History Prize sponsored by the New Jersey Society of the Cincinnati and the 2013 Great Midwest Book Festival Award. A much sought after speaker, he is also the author of *An Empire Divided: The American Revolution and the British Caribbean* and numerous articles relating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Andrew has recently been awarded the New York Historical Society's annual American history book prize; the prize comes with a \$50,000 cash award and an engraved medal. Our meeting will be Sunday, April 27, at 3 p.m. at Byrd Church, Dogtown Road in Goochland.

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Goochland Historical Society Friends,

*See it. Share it. Celebrate it.* We are having fun living up to our Call to Action slogan. We adopted this slogan last year and find it inspirational. Goochlanders seem primed to cherish and celebrate our history and have told us so. We hope you have seen, attended or otherwise been a part of these events including our:

- Membership Meetings, which in 2013 featured the introduction of Dover Hall, author Selden Richardson (*The Tri-State Gang*) and the author who really knows front porches, Michael Dolan, when we visited Lucy and Mark Wysong's home at Bolling Island.
- Art/history exhibit in the new Community Room at Reynolds Community College.
- 2014 Calendar, which celebrated vintage images of Goochland and Goochlanders.
- *Gravesites and Cemeteries in Goochland County* book.
- Volume #44 of *Our Goochland County Historical Society Magazine*.
- New web site [www.goochlandhistory.org](http://www.goochlandhistory.org)

2014 is off to a wonderful start! We welcome five new Board members: Richard Carchman, Louise Chapman, Andy Donnelly, Ryan Dunn and Preston Perrin. We extended an appreciative salute to our outgoing Board members: Peter Rippe, Ed Wilson, Jeff Mabry and Jane Bowles. Also, we are very excited to welcome Catherine Southworth to our staff.

Be on the lookout for a range of activities and events over the course of 2014. The first to mention is our General Membership meeting, scheduled for Sunday, April 27, beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Byrd Presbyterian Church. Our featured lecturer, Andrew O'Shaughnessy, will speak on his recent release, *The Men Who Lost America*, which was just honored with a book award by the New York Historical Society. So much happening. Please be active!



*Waque Dementy*

***See it. Share it. Celebrate it.***

## 2015 CALENDAR CONTEST "BARNs OF GOOCHLAND"

The Goochland County Historical Society is inviting local photographers to submit their photographs as part of this year's Society Calendar Contest! The theme for the 2015 calendar is "Barns of Goochland". The contest is open to everyone. From the entries we receive, a minimum of 14 photographs will be chosen. Entries will be evaluated based on appeal, content and photographic skill.

Go to our website at [goochlandhistory.org](http://goochlandhistory.org) and print the [entry form](#) and [contest rules](#). Get started today! The deadline is May 30, 2014.

## James Pleasants Commemoration



Photo courtesy Scott Johnson, GCHS member

Jim Cochrane, a re-enactor from Captain Knibb's Battery, reads the Medal of Honor inscription awarded to Goochland Civil War patriot, James Pleasants. In the background is the monument on Cardwell Road dedicated to Pleasants' service.

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# SPANISH HISTORIAN FROM UVA VISITS TO RESEARCH ANTHONY GAVÍN—GOOCHLAND MINISTER



MARÍA TAUSIET. Imagine her surprise when María Tausiet discovered an early minister of St. James Parish, Goochland, Virginia, was from her home in Zaragoza, Spain. María is a leading Spanish cultural historian and a 2014 Scholar in Residence at the University of Virginia. Her focus is early modern Spanish religious history and the Catholic Reformation. The parish minister, Antonio Gavín, a former Catholic priest, ministered in Virginia from 1735 until his death in 1749. On Wednesday, February 26, 2014, she and University of Virginia French professor, Mary McKinley, paid a visit to the Goochland Historical Society to learn more about Anthony Gavín (Antonio Gavín) and his service to St. James Parish.

Ms. Tausiet, a resident of Madrid, received her doctorate cum laude from the University of Zaragoza in 1997 and served from 2008 to 2011 as a fellow at Spain's premier research institute, Centro Superior de Investigaciones Científicas. She has published seven books, as well as numerous essays and articles on religious culture with topics ranging from witchcraft and magic and demonic possession to the history of emotions. Currently she is preparing a scholarly paper on the notion of immortality and its depiction in scientific and fantastical representations of the afterlife.

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REVEREND ANTHONY GAVÍN (ca. 1692-1749). While it could be said that the Reverend Anthony Gavín lived out his life quietly in Goochland as a colonial Anglican parson, he had a colorful past of which few of his parishioners were aware. His moment of glory was as the author of the international best seller *A Master-Key to Popery*, first published in Dublin, Ireland in 1724. Part expose of Roman Catholicism, part adventure, and part true confession, Gavín's book told his story as a former secular priest who had fled Spain, his escape, and the abuses of the Catholic Church that he had witnessed; the more sensational parts of the book dealt with indecent confessions and the Inquisition. The British press reprinted *A Master-Key to Popery* in 1725, the same year Gavín came out with his second edition. That year it also was printed in Amsterdam in French, followed by German and Dutch editions. Gavín's widow Rachael gave a copy to Thomas Jefferson; the inscription identifies her husband as the author.

The Reverend Anthony Gavín appears to have been a devoted, industrious, and zealous minister. Upon reaching Virginia, he was assigned to an established parish, but after serving only nine months he learned of the vacancy in the frontier parish of St. James and requested that assignment. He wanted to serve the people of the mountains which included what is today, not only Goochland County, but also Fluvanna and Albemarle, thereby extending the ministry 50 to 60 miles beyond Dover Church where previous ministers had focused. In addition to three churches, he had seven places of service in the more remote areas. Within the space of one year he forded the North and South Rivers—Rivanna and James--nineteen times, traveling more than 400 miles over the parish. In his first journey he reported baptizing over 400 people, with almost one-half of these being slaves. While Dover and Lickinghole churches pre-existed his ministry, he proposed the creation of Beaverdam, as well as moving the Glebe to a more convenient place from which to carry out parish services. While the Reverend Gavín may have lived a quiet life in St. James as compared to his early years as a Spanish priest and author of a best seller, he certainly seems to have been a tireless parson and one devoted to the welfare of all of his parishioners.



María Tausiet, Phyllis Silber, Mary McKinley

**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)

**Office hours are:**  
Wednesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Note: Those travelling long distances should call the society to confirm it will be open that day at (804) 556-3966.

Email the Society:  
goochlandhistory@comcast.net

Visit us online:  
www.goochlandhistory.org  
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Phyllis Silber, Editor  
Catherine Southworth, Assistant Editor

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**Phyllis Silber, Executive Director**

**New Board of Directors 2014**

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Bruce Venter, 1st Vice President  
E. Steve Fleming, 2nd Vice President  
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Sam Smith  
Ennion Williams  
John M. Williamson, Esq. Registered Agent

## **SPRING MEETING AT BYRD CHURCH**

April 27, 2014

*The Men Who Lost America:  
British Leadership, the American Revolution,  
and the Fate of the Empire*

By

**Andrew O'Shaughnessy**  
Directions to Byrd Church

**From Goochland Courthouse**

Go west on Rt. 6.

Take a right onto Dogtown Road.

The church is about 3/4 mile on the right.