



Goochland County Historical Society Newsletter

FOUNDED MAY 1, 1968

VOLUME 43 • NUMBER 1 • JANUARY 2019

WELCOME TO 2019



TIME TO
RENEW!
MEMBERSHIPS
RUN
JANUARY 1st
THROUGH
DECEMBER 31

President's Message

Dear Members,

It is that time of year again – time for you to renew your membership, if you have not already done so. And if you have already renewed, many, many thanks. Memberships are our primary source of income, so knowing how many renewing members we have early in the year allows us to prepare a realistic budget and plan programming accordingly. Like many small organizations that operate on a limited budget, we try to squeeze every dollar for maximum impact; therefore, it helps to know how many dollars we have.

In 2019, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Goochland Historical Society Magazine*. Its first issue was published in 1969 and

today the *Magazine* includes over 4,600 pages. The stories it presents cover the county's history, people, places, and events. They are stories that may never have been told otherwise. Surely we would be poorer without them, as not only do they inform, entertain, and inspire us, they preserve Goochland's history for future generations. The world is changing so quickly, it is a great gift for people to be able to know their past.

Speaking of the *Magazine*, you should be receiving the latest issue sometime in March. In celebration of the Society's 50th anniversary in 2018, it features an article on our first 50 years, a recounting of favorite ghost stories, and guidelines for dating historic buildings, as well as updates of early articles where new

information has come to light. Articles revisited are Goochland's ghosts and gold mines, the Allen Railroad, and the Jackson Blacksmith Shop.



Remember that to keep those issues of the *Magazine* coming your way, you just need to renew your membership!

Thank you for your past support and we look forward to your continued participation,

Christina Dunn, President

James Richmond, Director





Goochland County Historical Society

James Richmond
Executive Director

Catherine Southworth
Office Administrator

Board of Directors 2018

Christina Dunn, President
Bruce Venter, 1st Vice President
Vernon Fleming, 2nd Vice President
Virginia Olsen, Secretary
Kathleen Kimmel, Treasurer
Louise Chapman, Cheryl Childress,
Laura Meadows Mausolf, William Quarles,
Dave Southworth, Richard Toler,
Linda Weistroffer, Erin Yearout-Patton

Visit the Goochland Historical Society

The Society's History Center is located one half mile east of the Goochland Courthouse at 2875 River Road West (Route 6)

Office hours:

Wednesday–Friday, 10:00–3:00

2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00–3:00

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

Email the Society:

goochlandhistory@comcast.net

Visit us online:

www.goochlandhistory.org

www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com

www.twitter.com/GoochlandCHS

Copyright 2019 by the Goochland County Historical Society. All rights reserved.

MARCH 1963—OH WHAT A NIGHT!



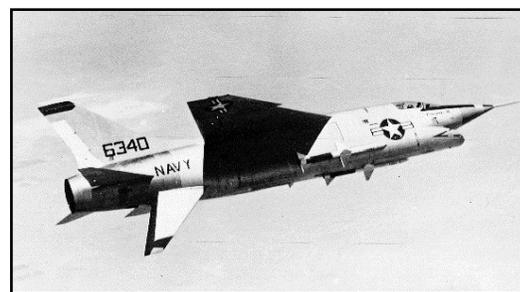
Airplane fragment A1976-59

March 10, 1963 would be a night not easily forgotten for many residents in the Crozier area. On that night at about 10 p.m., a loud boom rattled the windows. “I was watching ‘Thunder Road’ on television and thought it was part of the movie”¹ said Edith Richmond about the sound that she heard. Minutes later, Richmond, who was part of the relay for the Goochland Fire Department, got the call that a plane had crashed near First Union Baptist Church on Cardwell Road.

The plane was an F8U, a single-engine; supersonic, carrier-based air superiority jet aircraft built for the United States Navy and Marine Corps.² It was one of three planes that were flying over

Goochland that night from Andrews Air Force Base near Washington to the Marine Air Station at Beaufort, South Carolina. The plane was piloted by Marine Captain John V. Bancroft of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The other two pilots reported that they were in contact with Bancroft minutes before the crash and nothing seemed to be wrong until Bancroft’s plane “dropped like a rock” from the sky.

The impact created a crater that was described as 20 to 25 feet deep



XF8U-3 Crusader

and at least 25 feet wide. Wreckage was strewn over about three quarters of a mile. The military sent heavy equipment from Norfolk to aid in the search for the body of the pilot and the engine to determine the cause of the crash. While pieces of the plane were recovered, the body of the pilot was never found.

1. Richmond, E. (2018, December 8). Personal interview.
2. Wikipedia contributors. (2018, November 22). Vought F-8 Crusader. In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 18:54, December 8, 2018, from https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Vought_F-8_Crusader&oldid=870076328
3. AP (1963, March 12). Pilot of Crashed Jet Still Missing. *The Progress-Index* (Petersburg, Virginia) Retrieved from <https://www.newspapers.com>.



CALENDAR CORRECTION

In the 2019 Vintage Goochland Calendar, February, the caption for the picture of Lizzie and Mary Lou Logan incorrectly named the them as children of Mary Lou as Calvin Hopkins and Louise Chapman. The names should have been James Hopkins and Louise Chapman. We regret our error.

SOCIETY NEWS—FALL 2018 NEWS

Welcome our Intern for 2018-2019



Madeline “Maddie” Muniz, currently a senior at Goochland County High School, has been volunteering with us this winter. At school, she is completing a project on historical conservation. While at the Society, Maddie has been transcribing and proofing original court documents. She has applied to five colleges and is awaiting acceptance letters.



Maddie and Richard Toler working on transcriptions

October Meeting at Deep Run Hunt Club

On October 14, 2018, Deep Run Hunt Club hosted our Fall Meeting. James Payne Beckwith, the speaker, has deep family roots in Goochland. He presented the talk “*All in the Family: Diomed, Sir Archie, and Henry from the 1780 Epsom Derby to the Great Match of 1823.*” James is descended from one of Sir Archie’s North Carolina owners and is an expert on this subject. We had a record number of people in attendance and all enjoyed refreshments afterwards.



James Payne Beckwith, speaker



Vernon Fleming, Society Vice President, and wife Ann

November Meeting at Dover Baptist Church



Edward Lengel (left), professional military historian and author, was the honored speaker on November 4, 2018. He spoke with passion about the subjects of his latest book: *Never in Finer Company*. Sergeant Alvin York, the famous WWI hero, along with his commanders and the well-known newspaperman, Damon Runyon, crossed paths to create a compelling yet sometimes tragic story about the Battle of Argonne Forest.



The Cemetery Corner

The Historical Society is actively working on a third edition of our popular Cemetery book. In addition to adding new names and cemeteries that have been found since the last edition was published, we are also updating locations of some known cemeteries. One such cemetery is the location of Henry Wood's tombstone.

Henry Wood was the first Clerk of the Court for Goochland County. He is known to have lived on a tract of land called Woodville and is known to have passed away in 1757. The Society has old photographs of his table tomb and the location was simply "Woodville". We also have a form filled out in the 1930's, when historic houses were cataloged as part of the Works Progress Administration that also says his tomb is at Woodville. We tried to contact the owners of the land where the home known as Woodville stood but had no luck in that venture. Neighbors

near the location couldn't recall seeing a table tomb in the area either. Next, we tried Facebook and there, we struck gold.

One person shared the facebook post with another person, who shared it with another person and finally the right person was contacted. On a piece of land about a mile from where the original home known as Woodville stood is the location of Henry Wood's table tomb. It is well off the main road and in a group of trees, but it still exists. It cracked a few years ago when a branch fell on it, but the owners had it repaired and 262 years later, the tomb stands again. The inscription of the tomb reads "Henry Wood Son of Valentine & Rachel Wood born in London July the 8th 1696 Departed this life May the 2nd 1757 Fuimus Quoquo Nos".



We are still searching for graveyards and cemeteries that may have been missed by the first two editions of the Cemetery book.

If you have any information on cemeteries in Goochland, please contact the Society at 556-3966 or at goochlandhistory@comcast.net so that we may include them in the upcoming book.



Recent Visitors to the Society



It's still early January and visitors have already started stopping by to research Goochland ancestors.

Elaine Taylor, retired Director of Louisa County Historical Society, conducted a training seminar at the Society for our volunteers on researching African-American ancestors.



Ruth Woodfin and James Richmond researching Ruth's Bolling ancestors



Elaine Taylor

SOCIETY NEWS—FALL 2018 NEWS

DAR Historic Marker Dedication at French's Tavern, Powhatan, Virginia

A ceremony was held on November 8, 2018, to dedicate a DAR historical marker at French's Tavern, now home of Mrs. Carolyn Neurohr, in Powhatan County, Virginia. The home was built in the early 1700s. As a result of our contributing research, the Goochland County Historical Society was invited to witness this event. Bruce Venter, James Richmond and Catherine Southworth, GCHS members, attended.



Left to right: Bruce Venter (Vice President GCHS), DAR members Bonnie Hawkwood, Davis Caskey, Bana Caskey, Marcy Thomas, Carolyn Neurohr (home owner), Lisa Doan, Linda Absher, Carol Beam, Lu Treadwell, Paige Jessee, James Richmond (Director GCHS), DAR member Diana Freeman

December Meeting at Rochambeau

The Society held its annual Christmas meeting at Rochambeau. The home, formerly owned by Society founding member Elie Weeks, is now owned by Susan Weeks and Ursel Huber. Raymond Baird (right) delighted us with his portrayal of Patrick Henry. As usual the refreshments were bountiful and delicious.



Right: James Richmond and Phyllis Silber in front of Society founding member Elie Weeks' portrait



Left to right: Linda Weistroffer, Cheryl Childress, Ginny Olsen, Scott Johnson, Louise Chapman, Bruce Venter



Sandra Barkley and Louise Chapman

January 2-31—Sir Archie Exhibit, Goochland Public Library



Through the month of January, the Society has its Sir Archie exhibit up at the Goochland Branch of the Pamunkey Regional Library. This follows the fall lecture by James Payne Beckwith of Durham, N.C. titled “*All in the Family: Diomed, Sir Archie and Henry from the 1780 Epsom Derby to the Great Match of 1823*” where the exhibit was also shown.

CALL FOR WORLD WAR II PICTURES AND MEMORABILIA

This June marks the 75th anniversary of the largest combined land, air, and sea operation in history. Museums across the state will be hosting events in the days and weeks to come. We are searching for photographs of Goochland servicemen. If you have any photographs of these brave men and women, stop by so that we can scan and make copies of your originals.

Upcoming Events

SIGN UP FOR OUR GENEALOGY CLASSES

We are hosting a series of genealogy classes in 2019, including the Basics of Genealogy, Beyond the Basics, DNA, African American Genealogy, and Photographic Preservation. If you have just become interested in your heritage or want to learn more, then these sessions will be fun and informative. We are now taking reservations for the first two classes (see below). Please email us at goochlandhistory@comcast.net or call us at 804-556-3966 to reserve a space.



Jean Sanner, DNA speaker,
Richard Toler, GCHS Member



Gloria Gilmore, African
American genealogy speaker

February 9—Genealogy Class at 2 p.m., Goochland Public Library

We are bringing back our very successful **Basics of Genealogy** class.

Join us, whether or not you are a beginner or just want to refresh your skills.

March, 9—Genealogy Class at 2 p.m., Goochland Public Library

Presenting **Beyond the Basics**, which includes Online Sources, Census Records, and more.