



# NEWSLETTER

## Calder Loth to Speak at 50th Anniversary Kickoff Meeting

### Spring Meeting

Sunday

April 29, 2018

3 pm

Byrd Church

2229 Dogtown Road  
Goochland, VA 23063

April

19

Historic Dinner at  
Tanglewood Ordinary

21

Genealogy Class #3  
Goochland Branch Library

May

5

Volunteer's Cookout

6

RES Culminating Event  
Courthouse Green. See page 5.

12

Genealogy #4, Jean Sanner DNA  
Goochland Branch Library

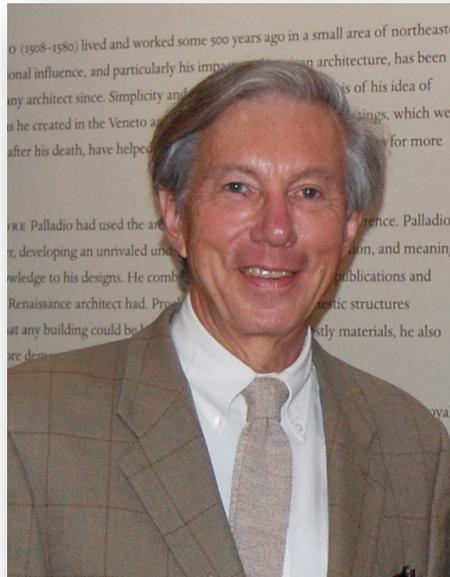
19

History Walk-Master Gardeners  
Reynolds Community College

June

2-3

Rassawek Spring Jubilee



Calder Loth

On December 8, 1968, Calder Loth, who at the time was an architectural historian with the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, spoke to the membership about the Guidelines for Dating Virginia Buildings. We are excited that he is returning to help celebrate our 50th anniversary. Our Spring Meeting will be held at Byrd Church on April 29, at 3pm.

Mr. Loth will be giving an illustrated overview of Goochland County's registered historic landmarks with some anecdotal information on those with which he has been personally involved. He will include images that he used for the talk he gave to the Goochland Historical Society 50 years ago, along with other vintage slides.

Mr. Loth retired as Senior Architectural Historian from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, where he was employed for 40 years.

He continues to serve there part-time. Among his other activities, Mr. Loth teaches architectural literacy for the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art in New York and other venues. He is also Vice-President of the Center for Palladian Studies in America and a member of the Virginia Art and Architectural Review Board.

His publications include *The Virginia Landmarks Register*, *Virginia Landmarks of Black History*, *Lost Virginia: Vanished Architecture of the Old Dominion*, and a number of articles relating to historic preservation and classical architecture.

In 2008, he was the first recipient of the Secretary of the Interior's Preservation Award for service to state preservation programs.

In 2010-2011, Loth served as a co-curator of the Royal Institute of British Architecture's exhibition "Palladio and His Legacy, A Transatlantic Journey," and was author of Congressional Resolution No. 259 honoring the 500th anniversary of Palladio's birth. ✨



Byrd Church

## Message from the President – April 2018

### Dear Historical Society Members:

As the front page of this newsletter reports, 2018 is our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In May 1968, a group of concerned citizens interested in preserving, presenting, and interpreting the county's history came together and established the Society. After 50 years, we are still going strong. While we have any number of successes under our belt, we have much left to do.

The Society's library and museum collections are at the core of our activities, providing links to our past and documenting life in the county from its beginning in 1728. Technology has the potential to open doors to these collections, allowing enhanced access to back issues of our magazine, the creation of an online catalog, and the presentation of online exhibits and information now hidden in old records. Of course, applying technology comes at a cost, so the Society is busy preparing grant applications in an effort to gain support for these innovations. Also, maintaining technology over time, will result in changes to our budget priorities and funding needs.

While technology can improve and expand services, it cannot address all aspects of our work. In many instances, face-to-face communication is the best, and sometimes the only, appropriate response. It is people who make presentations to school and seniors' groups, provide research help to an out-of-state visitor, conduct history walks at Luck Stone or the herb garden at Reynolds Community College, interview older citizens to record oral histories of communities, research and write articles for

the magazine, and prepare newsletters for mailing. Of course, this requires, as the military says, "boots on the ground" to make things happen. Over the years, the Society has been blessed with a number of willing, loyal, and able volunteers. Currently we need additional volunteers to fill vacancies left by those who have moved out of the county. If you would like to help, we would love to have you. We need volunteers who can work on a regular basis (once a month) at the Society's facility, write articles for the magazine, or serve on special short-term projects or for one-time events.

Our boots on the ground are reaching out to more organizations in the county for cooperative events, including Second Union Rosenwald School, Inc. for a joint lecture, Friends of the Goochland Public Library for a book-signing event, American Legion Post 215 for a Memorial Day celebration, and Goochland Public Schools where we are concentrating on fourth and seventh grade teachers and a special program on local history at Randolph Elementary School. A grant from the Goochland Rotary Club has enabled us to offer teachers resources for the classroom, as well as presentations on the Kanawha Canal; and Civil War and Revolution in the county.

Since this is our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we have more than the usual number of events planned for this year's celebration. As you know from our cover story, for our May lecture, architectural historian Calder Loth, the Society's



very first speaker back in 1968, will be presenting. Information about this and other events can be found throughout the newsletter, so please check them out and plan to participate. Finally, we would like to thank the owners of Tanglewood Ordinary, Anne and Jim Hardwick, who are offering a special dinner with a Civil War interpreter, on April 19 to help raise money for the Society, so make your reservations early; it should be a fun evening. After all Tanglewood Ordinary is known to have some of the best fried chicken in the Richmond area and believe me, the Society can certainly make good use of the money raised. We also would like to thank the Commonwealth Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, for its recent gift of books for our collection. And last, but certainly not least, welcome new members! We are delighted to have you join us.

Thank you for your continued support!

Christina J. Dunn ✨

### ✨ Historic Dinner at Tanglewood Ordinary ✨

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Ken Chandler will illuminate the life of a Civil War officer and his men through stories and music. This is one of Richmond Discoveries' (an educational tour management company) most popular programs. Mr. Chandler will paint a

colorful picture of this historic time through flags, artifacts and musical instruments.

The cost is \$50 per ticket. A cash bar for beer and wine will be available. For further details and for

purchasing tickets, go to their website at [www.ordinary.com](http://www.ordinary.com) or contact the Tanglewood Ordinary Restaurant at (804) 556-3284. Doors open at 5 pm. The presentation begins at 6 pm. Come out and support the Society! ✨

# SOCIETY NEWS — RECENT EVENTS

## Genealogy Classes are a Success



The Society is currently sponsoring genealogy classes for beginners. The sessions have been well-received, with good questions asked by all. The first session was held on Saturday, February 17, and included how to get started and where to look for records. The second session on March 17 was all about how to get the most out of census records. The next two sessions, *Storing your*

*Family Tree Information*, and *DNA Testing and Genealogy*, will be held at the Pamunkey Regional Library-Goochland, on April 21 and May 12, at 1 pm, respectively. Space is still available if you are interested in attending the next two classes. Please register to guarantee a seat. Call the Society at (804) 556-3966, 10am-3pm Wednesday-Friday. ✱

## Writers Roundup

On February 10, 2018, writers from around the area met to discuss and present their work for the Second Annual Writers Roundup hosted by the Friends of the Goochland Branch of the Pamunkey Regional Library. This year's theme was "History Comes Alive" and the Historical Society was well represented on the panel by several of our own. Member Mary Lynn Bayliss, former Director Phyllis Silber, Vice President Bruce Venter and current Director James Richmond were all on hand to talk about their books and articles.

Others on the panel were local authors Connie Lapallo, Julie Phend and Emerson "Willie" Williams. The event featured time for each author to talk about how their projects came to fruition and then each was given time to present a reading from one of their works.

After the readings, the panel answered questions from the



Back row: Lynn Bayliss, James Richmond, Emerson Williams, Bruce Venter  
Front row: Julie Phend, Phyllis Silber, Connie Lapallo

audience. The questions ranged from what prompted the writers to select a certain topic, how to begin the process, and how to get started on a book or article. Afterward, the authors broke up and went to individual tables where they could sell their

books, meet the attendees and sign autographs.

The event was well-attended and well-received. Hopefully it will spawn a similar event like it for next year! ✱

# SOCIETY NEWS — RECENT VISITS

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## Commonwealth Chapter, DAR, Presents Books to the Society

On Thursday, January 25, the Executive Board of the Commonwealth Chapter, National Society

Daughters of the American Revolution, presented the Goochland County Historical Society with seven books

selected from its “wish list.” Those present were Marcia Sugumele (Registrar), Judy Jessup (Librarian), Bana Caskey, Paige Jessee (Vice Regent), and Janie Moyers (Membership).



Not only did they donate seven books, but the chapter has asked for a list of more books the Society would like to add their collection. The Society greatly appreciates the Chapter’s generous gift.

While at the Society, several of the DAR members conducted research on their Goochland ancestors. ✱

Judy Jessup (Librarian) presenting Chris Dunn, President, with books. From left, Lisa Doan, Christina Dunn, Judy Jessup, Bana Caskey, and James Richmond, Director.

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## Professional Genealogists, Eric Grundset and Henry Hoff, Visit Society

The Society has been getting visitors lately from around the country, from as close as Maryland and as far away as Colorado.

On March 15, we were pleased to assist two professional genealogists for a day of research: Eric Grundset and Henry B. Hoff.

Eric Grundset is the retired Director of the DAR Library in Washington, DC. He is a well-known author and frequent speaker at genealogical conferences.

Henry Hoff is editor of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register. He is also a certified genealogist and the author of more than 125 genealogical articles in numerous scholarly journals. Mr. Hoff is the co-author, compiler, or editor of seven books.



Eric Grundset



Henry Hoff

In a letter to the Goochland Historical Society Eric wrote: “Thank you for such a nice visit to GCHS last week. I appreciated the hospitality and

friendliness showed Henry and me. I’m sure I’ll be back again someday looking for something I didn’t think about.” ✱

## Randolph Elementary School Culminating Event, Courthouse Green

On May 6, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. to 5 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers from Randolph Elementary School will be presenting “Goochland on the Green,” marking the end of a year-long project that helped to cultivate student interest in Goochland’s impactful history. Funded by a Goochland Education Foundation 2017 Strategic Innovation Grant, this collaborative project has successfully taught students how to deepen relationships and effectively interconnect with members of the Goochland Community.



Randolph Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> grade students were given the opportunity to learn more about their community and the rich history of Goochland County. In October of 2017, these students took a journey to discover some of the hidden gems in the county by visiting areas west to east along the James River on River Road.

The students first visited Second Union Rosenwald School, then travelled to Bolling Hall, the Courthouse Green and Old Stone Jail, Tuckahoe Plantation, and then drove by the Dover Steam Mill ruins. All of these places offered different pieces of history from periods of time that spanned from the Revolutionary War all the way to the time of segregation. Students were engaged in learning about the history that was so close to them in Goochland.

Student created portable murals, commercials referencing Goochland’s past and present, coffee table books, and a photography gallery featuring faces of Goochland will be among the products on display to showcase



student learning. Student products will also be accessible through the Goochland Historical Society website.

This opportunity would not have happened without the support of the Goochland Education Foundation, Goochland Historical Society, Board of Supervisors, School Board Members, Goochland County Public School System, and community members.

There will be displays of various projects and a presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Refreshments will be served. Come and witness the wonderful journey that local children experienced. ✨

## New Exhibit at Reynolds Community College

The Society is currently putting together a new exhibit that will soon replace the World War I exhibit at Reynolds Community College. The exhibit will be titled “Lost Architecture of Goochland” and will feature many homes and businesses that once graced the landscape of our county. These notable architectural gems have been lost to destruction, both man-made and natural, and the county is poorer for their disappearance. Included in the exhibit will be Dover, Sabot Hill, Eastwood, Anderson’s Tavern, Dungeness, Ben Lomond, Woodville, Bowles Store, The Forest, Maiden’s Adventure Hotel, and Mannsville. This will be a traveling exhibit, visiting other county venues over the next year. ✨



Courtesy James Robinson  
EASTWOOD, SABOT  
Built 1859. Destroyed by fire 1941.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Cherished Part of a WWI Soldier's Everyday Life

In the Society's collection of World War I artifacts is a little metal plate with a knife, fork and spoon. This unassuming item would have been a cherished part of a World War I soldier's everyday life. Made of aluminum, the mess kit has a top and bottom that are closed with a metal strap that becomes a handle for cooking in the bottom half. The knife is embossed with "US" and the soldier crudely engraved his initials "ERB" into the top. This mess kit was donated to the Society in 1994 by Mrs. Myrtle Briesmaster, wife of Edward Briesmaster (pictured at right), the soldier who carried the kit through Europe. The mess kit is part of the exhibit currently on display at Reynolds Community College. It will also be on display on May 28, 2018 in the Old Clerk's Office on the



Courthouse Green during the Memorial Day event held there at 10:00am. \*



## THE CEMETERY CORNER

### Grave of Goochland's Oldest Citizen by Richard Toler



#### Mary Lou Napier Manley

Based on the Society's cemetery database, it appears that Mary Lou Napier Manley may be the oldest

person buried in the county.

Mary Lou had a long career as a maker and provider of moonshine. She and her mother, Martha Napier, were caught in 1929 or 1930 and then convicted in Goochland County Court for making illegal spirits. The pair were convicted and sentenced to a year. At the time, the Goochland County Jail was undergoing repairs, so they served their time in the Henrico County Jail.

On release, Mary Lou must have gone right back to making moonshine. It appears she continued making it well after Prohibition was ended in 1933 and was known locally as a

supplier into the 1960s.

Eventually, Mary Lou grew too old to continue her distilling activities. She spent the last years of her life in a retirement home in Charlottesville. She died in March of 1982 and is buried in the Beasley Cemetery near Columbia with only a funeral home marker designating her grave.

A copy of Mary Lou's Virginia Death Certificate can be found on Ancestry.com, and from that it was learned that she was born in 1870, making her 111 years old at her death. Since making moonshine involves tasting each batch, we are led to conclude that drinking moonshine must not be detrimental to one's longevity. \*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Welcome New Members

- Katherine M. Aldon
- Churchill G. Bowles
- James Dean, Jr.
- Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Dillon
- Kevin R. Dunne
- Elizabeth P. Ferguson
- Jennifer Gates
- Thomas F. Grate
- Paige Atkinson Jessee
- Judy Jessup
- Steve Kilpatrick
- David & Kathleen Nuckols
- Kathleen Kimmel & Donald Leeger
- Dr. & Mrs. Gregory O'Shanick
- Edie Salmon
- Jaime Sprouse
- Michael Trowsell
- Catherine Waldrop

## New to the Gift Shop—Goochland County Clocks and Sir Archie Puzzle

The Society is now offering clocks made in the shape of Goochland County in a variety of woods and dials for only \$30 each.

These beautiful time pieces are handcrafted in Goochland to

your specifications by a local artisan, dated and signed. You can also have a dot of contrasting wood inserted in the approximate location of your home or point of interest. Please allow two weeks for personalization. They make an excellent gift! ✨



And who doesn't love the famous race horse Sir Archie, foaled in Goochland County at Ben Lomond in 1805! For just \$12, you can have a fun puzzle of this great foundation sire of Triple Crown winners, including Virginia's own Secretariat. The puzzle is based on the well-known portrait by M. Stainforth of Sir Archie with his groom. ✨

## Support the Society with your Purchases

It's not just for Holiday shopping! You can support the Goochland County Historical Society (GCHS) every time you make a purchase on Amazon! It's called Amazon Smile and a small percentage of every purchase can be donated to the Society. For more information, please email [goochlandhistory@comcast.net](mailto:goochlandhistory@comcast.net) or call 804-556-3966. ✨



## Historical Society blog

Don't miss out on fun and informative weekly postings. ✨

Sign up for our Blog at

[www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com](http://www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com)

**Visit the Goochland Historical Society**

The Society's headquarters are located one-half mile east of the Goochland Courthouse at 2875 River Road West (Route 6)

**Office hours:**

Wednesday–Friday, 10:00am–3:00pm

2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00am–3:00pm

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](mailto:goochlandhistory@comcast.net)

**Visit us online:**

[www.goochlandhistory.org](http://www.goochlandhistory.org)

[www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com](http://www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com)

[www.twitter.com/GoochlandCHS](https://www.twitter.com/GoochlandCHS)

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## Time to Renew!

In 2018, the Goochland County Historical Society celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Please join us for this celebration.

Your membership runs

**January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>**

Remember, it's your dues that  
keep the Society open.

“We don't want you to become history!”



### 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* / Laura Meadows Mausolf, *Archivist*

Louise Chapman, Cheryl Childress, William Quarles,

Dave Southworth, Brandon Taylor, Richard Toler

Linda Weistroffer, Erin Yearout-Patton

Derek Stamey, County Liaison