



GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 24 Number 2

P.O. Box 602 2875 River Road West, Goochland, Virginia 23063

September, 2003



Oak Grove

### FALL HOUSE TOUR

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Mugford  
Barbara Hughes  
Dr. & Mrs. Claude Wilson  
"Oak Grove" Margaret Walker  
"Chastain" Helen Scott Reed  
Stuart White's art studio  
Hebron Church

Advance Tickets \$15.00

Purchased on tour day \$ 20.00

**Ticket Outlets:**

Luck Stone-Manakin  
Saddlery Trade-Centerville  
The English Garden-12506 River Road  
Paper by Patti Paul-Village Shopping Center  
Hampton House-Libbie & Grove Ave.  
Belle Kuisine-Short Pump Crossing  
The Historical Center-2875 River Road West

A Box lunch will be available for \$7.00 & must be ordered in advance. To order a lunch return the form attached to the ticket or call the Society by Noon, Tuesday, October 14. (804.556.3966)

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Sunday, September 21st at 3:00 PM

At

**Clover Forest Plantation**

5871 Whittcamp Road (Route 618)  
Goochland, Virginia

The September meeting of the Historical Society will be held on Sunday, at 3:00 PM at Clover Forest Plantation, owned by Deidre and Sebastian Völcker. The focus of the program will be restoration and preservation. Clover Forest and the out buildings will be open for touring. Sebastian and Deidre will speak to the group about restoring and maintaining the Plantation as well as its history. Special fall refreshments will be provided.

#### Directions to Clover Forest

From Rt. 6 and Rt. 522 intersection, go west 3.4 miles on Rt. 6. Turn south (left) onto Rt. 600 (Rock Castle Road) & go 3.7 miles to fork. Go west (right) at fork onto Rt. 625 (Three Square Rd) for 1.5 miles to "T". Turn south (left) onto Rt. 616 (Stokes Station Road) & go 1.6 miles. Turn west (right) onto Rt. 618 (Whittcamp Rd.) & go 1.7 miles to 4th driveway on the left.

See map on back page.



Clover Forest was built in several periods. The west wing, c.1761, is the oldest portion of the house with massive stonewalls at its base. It originally supported a single story but eventually was raised to two. Capt. Thomas Pemberton of the Continental Light Dragoons built the elegant two-story brick addition on the east side of the original house. The addition is thought to have been built atop an older structure that was either destroyed by fire or simply modified to accommodate the brick addition. Started in 1807, Capt. Pemberton's addition was completed by 1811 as evidenced by dated brick near the top of the chimney.

"The interior of (Clover Forest) is noted for beautiful woodwork. The graceful stairway has a curved walnut handrail with a second rail set into the stairwell. A carved arch supported by fluted pilasters divides the hallway. Doorways have deep reveals and tall cornices."<sup>1</sup> Noteworthy features in the grand rooms are the carved fireplace mantles. The Dining Room mantle piece features an eagle with the shield of the United States, commemorating Pemberton's military service. The carving in the Salon indicates a return to civilian life: farm implements over two cornucopias. Clover Forest stood in the elegant configuration of Capt. Pemberton's vision for more than a century.

In 1949 Richard S. Holson and Margarite Louise Holson of Chicago purchased Clover Forest and proceeded with grand undertakings. The symmetry of the mansion was balanced with the addition of the two-story east wing. The Holsons added the modern conveniences of central heating and plumbing, and spectacularly redesigned the grounds with sweeping terraces stretching out to the private lake. Under the Holsons' stewardship Clover Forest had a staff of three gardeners and even boasted a three-hole golf course. Mrs. Holsons' stylish touch can still be seen today especially in the gardens. It is also quite likely it was she who had the dumbwaiter installed to better facilitate her own unique hospitality.

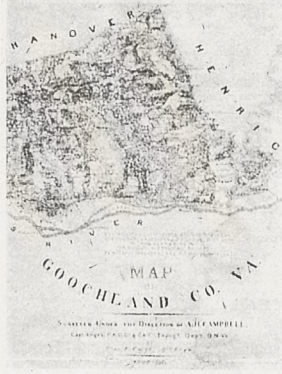
It is the Völcker family, from the village *Zoelen* in Holland, who have influenced the Plantation as it appears today. With extensive restoration experience on old homes in Europe, including the rescue in France of a fortified medieval farm complete with moat, the senior Mr. Völcker contributed vast knowledge of architecture, historic design and materials along with an unyielding devotion to old world procedural accuracy. Commencing in 1979 Mr. Völcker immersed himself in the architecture of Virginia, visiting and studying all Virginia plantations open to the public.

By the late 1970s, the uncovered southern porches were rotted. Accordingly, they were removed completely and rebuilt using timber of the period, with a Chippendale railing added as seen at Monticello. Capt. Pemberton's beautiful bricks from the 1811 addition, long since hidden by layers of house paint, were meticulously uncovered. All four chimneys were rebuilt using hand-molded brick and all exterior brick surfaces of the mansion were entirely repointed and a perimetric brick drainage skirt added. When siding was replaced careful attention was given to use the same species of wood, and the boards were attached with period square nails. Modern nails from earlier repairs were replaced.

The incredible level of attention to detail was continued on the interior. When hand blown glass was not available Mr. Völcker simply hand-carried one hundred sixty pounds of cut panes across the Atlantic from France in hand luggage. For the American Colonial shutter latches, when suitable replacements could not be readily located in the U.S. at the time, he commissioned a French blacksmith to replicate a specific design originally manufactured in Bucke County, Pennsylvania. As for décor, the vivid blue seen in the Great Hall and Salon was inspired by paint studies done by the conservators at Gunston Hall. The wall covering in the Dining Room is a Toile de Jouy titled "Lafayette" celebrating the Franco-American friendship.

(Please read more at [www.cloverforest.com](http://www.cloverforest.com))

<sup>1</sup>Emmie Fergusson Farrar & Emilee Hines. *Old Virginia Houses, The Heart of Virginia*. Hale Publishing, 1974.



### 1865 GILMER MAP

The Society has received permission from the Virginia Historical Society to produce colored reprints of this 1865 map of Goochland and to make them available for sale in the Gift Shop. The price of this map varies with the size of the print. Names of home owners and houses are indicated on the map. This is one of a series of maps the Society now has available for research.



Clockwise top left: Roselle Scales, Jim & Rachel Parker, Margaret Franklin, Professor Kenzer, Jim Eads, Steve Fleming



### ORIGINAL GHS AUDITORIUM SEATS

The Historical Society has been given the seats from the former Goochland High School to sell as a fundraiser. These are the original seats with beautiful cast iron sides and recovered cushions. The Society is grateful to the Board of Supervisors for this opportunity. There are still some seats available. To make arrangements to see the seats or to place an order call 556-4212 or stop by the Center where there is one on display.

### May Meeting Well Attended

The May meeting of the Historical Society was held at the home of Sallie & Bill Tunner. More than 50 people came to hear Professor Kenzer discuss a book he is writing that is based in Goochland, and were rewarded by hearing a second speaker, Dr. Charles Brownell. Dr. Brownell is working on the nomination to place the Goochland Court House on the National Register of Historic Places.

### WELCOME!

New members to the Society are

Lane Homes & Remodeling	Goochland
Charles & Alice Matuszak	CA
John & Pat'sy Rowland	TX
Sally Cameron Harrison	Manakin
Kay & Joe Higgins	Maidens
Joe & Laura Logan	Daleville, VA
James & Elizabeth Stutts	Maidens
Alma (Susie) Jones	Manakin
Diana & John O'Connor	Manakin
Wendy Woods	Manakin
Ed & Theresa Hooker	OH
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Talley	Manakin
Steve Suggs	Goochland
Kevin & Margaret Crenshaw	KY
Richard & Meredith Zalesak	Sandy Hook
Frances & James Lee	Goochland
George & Ann Pace	Richmond
Thomas Yeaman, Jr.	Richmond
Janet Honeycutt	Louisa
Alexandria Library	Virginia

### Corrections & Additions

The 2002 issue of the Historical Society Magazine failed to mention that the monument to James Pleasants is on private property owned by Mrs. Robert Kilpatrick. Mrs. Kilpatrick maintains the grave. We truly regret the oversight.

### Society Volunteers

Eleanor Andrews, Susie Jones, Denise Jenkins, and Myrtle Ragland are now volunteering at the Center. Their support has most welcome. Ruby Martin serves as chair of the volunteers and she encourages anyone with an interest in history and preserving our heritage to contact the Center. Volunteers are trained to provide various services to those who visit including genealogy research. Most volunteers come once or twice a month. Ruby will arrange the volunteer calendar to find the best time for anyone to help.

### 2003 Magazine Editor

The Society is pleased to announce that Mack Curle has accepted the position as Editor of the 2003 Magazine.

### HOUSE TOUR HOSTESSES

Betty Eads and Frances Truett, Co-Chairs of the 2003 Fall Tour of homes, have named the following volunteers to be a Hostess Chair at a home on the tour.

Louise Thompson  
Betty Williams  
Verna Seidensticker  
Ann Bright  
Mary Webb  
Audrey Eggleston

Marty MacMillan, President, appointed

Denise Jenkins Flowers  
Katherine James Luncheon  
Nancy Duley Tickets  
Design and printing of the tickets and brochure will be done by Betty Salmons, owner of Richmond Printing.

Contact Us:  
Telephone: 804.556.3966

Visit our web site:  
[www.goochlandhistory.org](http://www.goochlandhistory.org)

Visit the Center:  
2875 River Road West

Dr. & Mrs. Richard Reynolds  
2121 River Road West  
Maidens, VA 23102 2704

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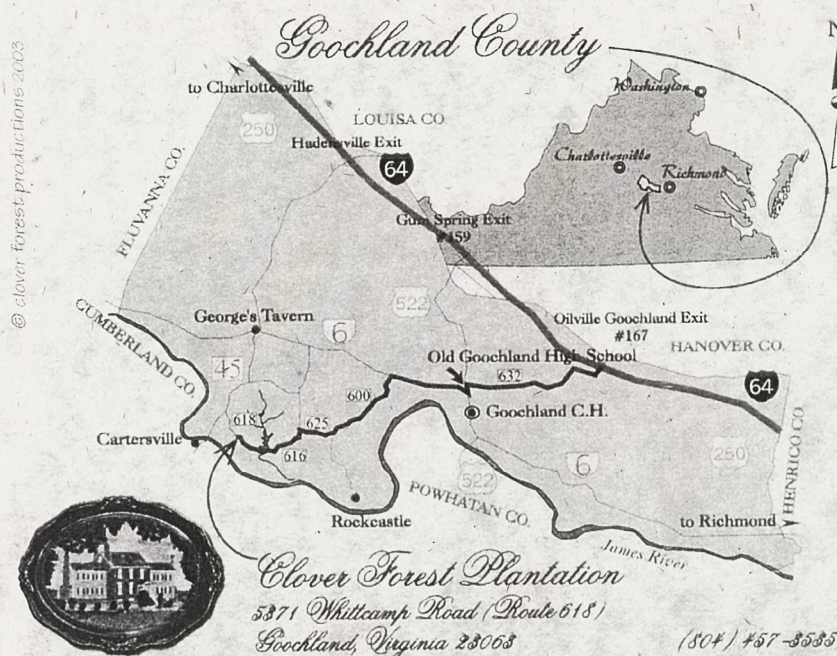
GOOCHLAND, VA 23063  
P.O. BOX 602  
GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**Goochland County  
Historical Society  
Fall Meeting**

**3 o'clock  
Sunday, September 21,  
2003**

**at  
Clover Forest Plantation  
5871 Whittcamp Road  
Goochland, Virginia**



*Clover Forest Plantation*  
5871 Whittcamp Road (Route 618)  
Goochland, Virginia 23063

(804) 557-5535