

Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation

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www.wbhouse.org

Officers: Phyllis Sawyer, President; Jessica O'Connor, Secretary; Margaret Moore, Treasurer. Board of Directors: Susan Kellam; Mary Ann Schmidt; Leslie Rawls, Donn Lee, Deon Dallman, Phyllis Doverspike.

SOME OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:

Youth Day (May 7th), Fall Festival (September 23rd) and Holiday Open House (December 10th)

A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

Calendars, magazines, newspapers, and forecasters remind us spring has arrived in spite of recent cold winds and chilly temperatures. At the WBH we watch trees putting out their green leaves and azaleas blooming just as they always have. New growth is everywhere. And, despite the springtime pollen and allergies, we love it all.

At times it seems even the smallest piece of property is up for development. This season is a reminder of our goals and the purpose to preserve and maintain not only our house, but the other historic properties located throughout the City.

Just as the plants and trees continue to grow and bloom, we need to follow their example- by continuing to promote this lovely old home, enlist new members for support, and provide a place for visitors to explore and experience life as it was lived in days gone by.

Spring is a wonderful time of renewal and beauty & we invite you to enjoy it with us.

PASSPORT TO HISTORY

The WBHF will begin issuing Passports to students with a \$5 donation. Donations for future visits will be discounted by \$1. Stickers documenting visits for tours & events will be free. The first passports will be available during our Youth Day event on Sunday, May 7th.

A LOOK BACK

Recent unseasonable weather and early blooming are far different from the conditions of 1962. While it was the first year of the East Coast Surfing Championship as well as the year a referendum was approved for the merger of Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach, it was also the year of the Ash Wednesday Storm.

A strong Nor'easter devastated the mid-Atlantic from the Outer Banks to Cape Cod. The storm lasted through five high tides causing 20-30 foot waves and a 7 foot tidal surge. In N.C. it cut a new inlet between Buxton and Avon. Beach erosion was severe at the Oceanfont- the concrete boardwalk was breached, parts of the 15th Street Pier were found in Lake Holly, and Army DUKS were used to evacuate residents of the North End. Houses toppled there and in Sandbridge where residents were evacuated to shelters in Princess Anne. Salt water flowed into Back Bay's fresh waters and dunes were lost at Little Island. Facing millions in damages, Governor Harrison declared a state of emergency for Virginia

As the holy week preceding the Christian celebration of Easter nears, it is interesting to note an Ash Wednesday tradition. Many receive ash crosses on their foreheads, a reminder of man's mortality. In 1962, the storm may have been the only reminder needed.

FORGOT TO RENEW A MEMBERSHIP?

It's not too late. Memberships last through the end of the year.

Receive quarterly mailings, advance notice of events and a discount on building use requests in return for your help with funds for repairs and acquisitions.

To renew or to join for the first time, just mail to us at: P.O. Box 56114, Va. Beach, VA 23456

Membership levels are: Friend \$25; Patron \$100; Sponsor \$250 and above; Students \$10.

NEWEST DOCENT

If you take a tour with docent Richard Tsikuris, you might get to meet Lacy Grace. Our youngest trainee is most excited about the antique highchair.



DONATION



Board member Deon Dallman donated a bakelite vanity set to the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Among the amenities are a button hook for boots, a powder box, and a nail buffer.

The set dates to approximately the 1920s and was given to Deon by her friend Nellie Pafford of Virginia Beach.

TEA TIME

LaTunya Holloway of Coffee, Tea & Me hosted an event at the house on Saturday, January 14th.



With over 30 years of experience in ministry and counseling, LaTunya is one of the recipients of the 2023 Phenomenal Woman award. Her business has a goal of "providing a safe place for individuals to come together, share, connect and inspire one another to greatness".



YOUTH DAY STUDENT EVENT

We are excited to announce our Youth Day event for students on May 7th!

In 2020 our plans to host students at the house was derailed by covid closures. But

we are now ready for our special guests to share their exciting knowledge, and talents. With a tour of the house included, we expect it to be a fun filled afternoon for our younger history buffs.

Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation Interested in Volunteering? Help us with: _ Greeting Visitors Gardening Serving on a Committee Cleaning Leading Tours Special Events Clerical Work Other: Call the Whitehurst-Buffington Foundation President at 757-427-1151 for more information.



Visit & he Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation FaceBook page.

The Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation, a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to the preservation of this historic home as a living example of early American life in Virginia.