



# Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation

www.wbhouse.org

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

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Spring Tea on May 4th – Fall Festival on September 14th – Holiday Open House on December 10th**

### A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

As I look out my window today, the bright sunshine is a welcome sight! The dreary months of January & February had some of us wondering if spring would ever begin.

With this thought in mind, I turned to the 2024 edition of the *Old Farmer's Almanac* for information on the weather, seasons, planting times, & tides. Not surprisingly, the March prediction for our part of the country was repeated cycles of sunny, mild, rainy, then chilly.

Since its start in 1792, the *Almanac* has provided useful information on a variety of subjects, many especially related to farm life and the farm family.

One can easily imagine that the families living in the Whitehurst-Buffington House would have sought information from its pages down through the years. The original house was constructed in 1793. The occupants were farmers and harvested the tall pines that grew along West Neck Creek, sending them down the waterways to provide timber for the shipbuilders in Norfolk.

Whatever the forecast, it's always a great day to visit us at the house.

Our board is seeking two new members. Anyone interested in joining us should contact Phyllis Sawyer at 757-427-1151.

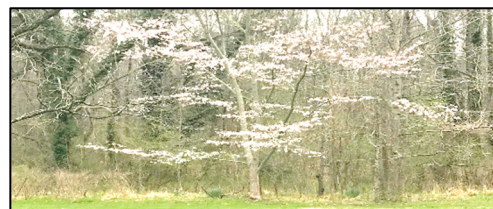
### WINTER VISITORS

On January 20th, Latunya Holloway of Coffee, Tea & Me hosted an inspirational networking tea.



Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation held a Winter Wildlife Hike in the West Neck Creek Natural Preserve on January 31st. Coordinated by Rachel Ginsberg, the event culminated with a tour of the Whitehurst-Buffington House. The experience was well attended and reviewed.

We welcomed fourteen members of the Old Dominion University retired faculty group for a tour of the house on March 27th. The meeting was arranged by John Ritz.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Standard time, law in 1883, was promoted by U.S. and Canadian railroads for better travel and communication. Train guards using different times had resulted in multiple accidents with fatalities, reported as early as 1853.

Standard Time Act 1918, launching Daylight Savings Time, was meant to conserve energy resources during WWI. It was implemented again during WWII. The Uniform Time Act 1966 standardized DST but allowed local jurisdictions to opt out.

It was permanent in 1974 and 1975, but start dates were backed up to January and February during those years in response to the energy crisis.

DST was extended by 3 weeks in 1987 and 4-5 weeks in 2007. The Sunshine Protection Act 2022 seeking to make DST the permanent standard was passed by the Senate but not the House.

Some medical professionals are now lobbying for the elimination of DST altogether. They note the importance of circadian rhythms and express concern about the affect time changes have on physical and mental health due to the disruption of our internal clocks.

For now, we still “spring forward and fall back”. So enjoy some fresh air and take advantage of the extra time in the sun.

The Whitehurst-Buffington House is open 1:00- 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

## DONATIONS

Gwen and Jack Stace, WBHF friends from Virginia Beach, donated a Sunbeam Mixmaster bowl from the 1930s and an Anchor measuring cup.



The Council of Garden Clubs-Virginia Beach donated a child-size loom, circa 1922. We believe it may have been used as a salesman sample demonstrator.



From the same time period, we also received a manual coffee grinder as well as several small china cups.



## FALL FESTIVAL 2024

Our annual Fall Festival is five months away, but plans are well underway.

Already joining us are the Tidewater Blacksmiths, Bee City, Virginia Beach Public Library and Farmer's Market, Regency Society of Virginia, and Moore to See Photo Expeditions. Team Fat Kid will be returning with their delicious menu.

A dozen crafters & artists have also responded. But there are still spaces available. If you are interested in participating, please email Leslie Rawls at [lawls2@cox.net](mailto:lawls2@cox.net) or text contact information to 757-672-1313 to find out more.

### 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.

## Spring Tea

Saturday, May 4 at 2 pm



Enjoy a variety of teas with  
Sweet, Savory & Chocolate  
Treats

Presentation by cofounder of  
Virginia Historical Tea Society  
Deon Dallman

\$20 Donation Required  
Seating is limited

Reserve a place at the table by  
calling 757-651-7372 or 427-1151

Visit &  Like the 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.