

# Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation



www.wbhouse.org

Officers: Phyllis Sawyer, President; Barbara Vaughan, Vice-President; Jessica O'Connor, Secretary; Margaret Moore, Treasurer.  
Board of Directors: Susan Kellam; Mary Ann Schmidt; Kenny Harris, Leslie Rawls, Donn Lee.

## FOR FUTURE EVENTS INFO

We will post updates via our Mailing List, our Web Site and our FaceBook Page

### A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

Fall is definitely here – the earth is ready. Breezes are cooler and leaves are beginning to fall. During this beautiful season, we are open for visitors on our regularly scheduled days, (Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons), but no activities can take place at this time.

During the Holiday Season, the House will once again be beautifully decorated by members of the Council of Garden Clubs. We encourage you, your friends and family to visit.

WBH Foundation Members, Students, Senior Adults, and Service Members will be welcomed guests as we take this opportunity to show off this beautiful decorated old home.

**A LOOK BACK** to Fall Festival 2019. Visitors having a little fun in the antique car that won our People's Choice Award.



### EVENTS

The 2020 calendar of events has been affected, like many others, by COVID 19.

Our Fall Festival originally set for September 19th was postponed with hopes of rescheduling as a Spring Fling. A new date is currently to be determined.

Our annual Holiday Open House was set for December 13th, but we regret this is being cancelled. Regardless, the house will be decorated for the season and will remain open during its regular hours for holiday visits and viewing.

The WBHF falls under City of Va. Beach Cultural Arts and will continue to plan upcoming events in accordance with state guidelines and recommendations.

Updates on future events will be posted to our FaceBook page and website [wbhouse.org](http://wbhouse.org) as they are available.

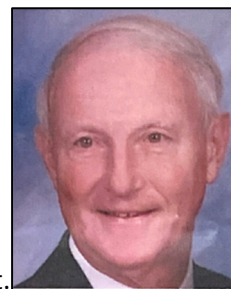
### BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION AND

WBHF member David Lee has stepped down from his duties with the board of directors.

An ardent supporter, David crossed paths and swapped stories with many visitors at our events. Despite his move to North Carolina, we suspect we will still see him helping out from time to time.

### IN MEMORIAM JIM OGLESBY

The WBHF is sad to share the passing of our friend and fellow board member Jim Oglesby in August.



Joining us in 2013, he was a valued member of our board.

Jim was our resident expert for antiques, advising on donations and acquisitions. He conducted Antique Appraisals events locally including at the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Jim was also a collector and enthusiast of clocks. The rare 1835 Virginia made C. Jerome & Company clock he donated last year is on prominent display at the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Jim will be sorely missed.

### ELECTION OF REPLACEMENT

We are glad to welcome David's brother, Donn Lee, who will be completing his term.

Donn and his brother grew up close to the house and share a belief in community service. We are pleased to have Donn join us and feel he will be a fine addition to the WBHF board.

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

## REPAIRS

Last month we experienced a malfunction in the breaker box at the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Fortunately, we were able to have the electrical circuits restored quickly and report no further issues.

The intermittent beeping was apparently just a problem with the battery in our security system. (It was not James Howard anticipating All Hallows Eve.)

This did not affect our protection and Johns Brothers has already completed the motion sensor repairs.

## HISTORY CONNECTIONS

August marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote.

Most would be familiar with the NWSA (Cady Elizabeth Stanton and Susan B. Anthony) established in 1869.

But in 1909 influential women in Richmond formed the Equal Suffrage League of Va. By 1916 there were 115 chapters from almost every town in the state, including Princess Anne County.

A 1914 announcement in *Virginia Suffrage News* notes 20 members who maintain “an educational and social center at the Oceanna High School”.

State secretary Ida Mae Thompson kept detailed records, even reaching out in the 1930s for materials to include in the archives, now part of the Library of Virginia. A response from a former local member’s daughter was signed Louise Land Meyn / Mrs. Henry C. Meyn. It notes additional former members Mrs. C. DeWitt, Mrs. Chas Ingram, Mrs. Frank T. Washington and Mrs. Ida Thomas.

Members successfully worked on legislation affecting women and children while lobbying for the vote. They disbanded September 1920. In October over 13,000 Va. women were registered.

## MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships run from January 1st from one year to the following January 1st. They give free admission during open hours. Dues help the Foundation keep this wonderful old house going and to move forward with acquisition of furniture.

Visit [wbhouse.org](http://wbhouse.org) for more information on supporting us.

## RECENT DONATIONS



A childhood rocking chair donated by Lillie Gilbert (in front of the fireplace in the Whitehurst-Buffington living room).

## DID YOU KNOW

Whitehurst family members were involved in changes made in Princess Anne County (established 1691).

In 1820/1823 Daniel Whitehurst was appointed Commissioner and authorized construction of a new courthouse and jail on property near his farm. The former 1778 courthouse was in Kempsville.



In 1872 his descendant, also named Daniel Whitehurst, was one of the trustees establishing the Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church. Mount Zion exists today on Princess Anne Road near Seaboard Road.



## 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 Foundation President at 757-427-1151 or the Vice President at 757-427-1833 for more information.

Visit &  Like the [Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/Whitehurst-Buffington-House-Foundation).

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.