

# Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation



Officers: Phyllis Sawyer, President; Leslie Rawls, Vice President; Margaret Moore, Treasurer, Alisha Hasson, Secretary.  
Board of Directors: Susan Kellam; Mary Ann Schmidt; Donn Lee, Jane Bloodworth-Rowe.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

We will set dates for upcoming events this month & post to our Website and FaceBook Page

### A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

I received a call one evening from a couple sharing the Whitehurst name. They were in Pennsylvania and planning to drive to Washington DC. on the way to their home in Florida. They found the Whitehurst-Buffington House online & asked about the proximity to DC.

Recently retired and interested in researching the shared name, they changed plans to visit the WB House the following day. After seeing the house and historical materials available, they expressed appreciation for the opportunity to envision life as it might have been lived in old Princess Anne years ago.

They concluded their visit by picking up copies of many of our materials, presented a donation to the Foundation, and asked me to take their picture on the front steps. The recognition we have & the visibility online across multiple states gave me new understanding of the importance of our work.



### HOLIDAY HIGH-LIGHTS



On Sunday, December 7th, the WBHF welcomed many friends and neighbors visiting for our Holiday Open House.

Everyone enjoyed the fresh cut greenery & period décor provided by the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach.

This year the holiday trimmings were coordinated by new Historic Houses chairmen Cookie Duffy and Jessica O'Connor (not pictured).

Also lending a hand were Peggy Caverly and Kay Eckhardt, co-chairmen of CGCVB Historic Preservation.



In the dining room, board members, docents and guests shared stories over plates of cookies and treats with a cup (or several cups) of warm, delicious homemade apple cider on the side.



One and all were excited to see Bob Clark & his hammered dulcimer in the parlor. This year we were fortunate that cellist Rose Ann Arnaud was able to join him

In the kitchen, guests could grab some gifts from author Cheryl Lane or Stephanie Sawyer of Nature's Christmas.



To see more photos visit the *Past Events 2025* Album on the WBHF FaceBook page or just use this QR Code.



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

## VISITORS

On October 4th, the American Legion Auxiliary held a Tea Party Fundraiser at the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Donations for attendance supported the mission of Auxiliary #110 Virginia Beach in helping send more young women to Girls State in 2026. Started in 1937, Girls State was designed to teach responsible citizenship and love for God and Country.



### 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.

## COMMUNITY



Virginia Beach Parks & Rec hosted the Wicked Woodland Wonders on Friday night, October 10th.

It promised holiday spooky fun and adventure through the woods of West Neck Natural Area to one of Virginia Beach's old historic houses, the Whitehurst-Buffington House.

Attendees got to craft a lantern, make s'mores, learn about nocturnal animals, play games on the front lawn, and hear campfire stories courtesy of the Virginia Beach Public Library.



Also available was a haunted grave tour to the tombstone of James Howard Whitehurst.

Board members and docents from the Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation joined the Parks & Rec staff, opening the house for visitors of all ages. Although formal tours were not conducted, representatives were located in all areas of the house to provide key information and answer all manner of questions.



Visit &  Like the Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation FaceBook page.

## MEMBERSHIPS

The Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation would like to thank everyone who has already renewed memberships for 2026 as well as those who have recently joined.

Your yearly dues help the WBHF complete the repairs necessary to keep this wonderful, historic house open, so we can continue to share its stories with our community.

Membership runs from January 1st of one year until the following January 1st and gives you free admission during our open hours as well as 25% off building use requests.

Memberships levels are:

- WBHF Friend \$25
- WBHF Patron \$100
- WBHF Sponsor \$250+
- Students \$10

To join, you can mail to:

Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation  
P.O. Box 56114,  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Alternately you can visit us on Zeffy to join. Just use the following link or scan the QR Code below.

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/whitehurst-buffington-house-foundations-memberships>



The Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation thanks you for supporting our beautiful house.

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.