



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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Holiday Open House 12-07-25

A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

As I look back over time, I am reminded of just how many people have made it possible for us to enjoy successful events like our recent Fall Festival.

It all started with a beautiful old home, located in the heart of the municipal center, that was in danger of succumbing to the vestiges of time and neglect. As the city began to experience growth, more and more historical structures were disappearing, and we needed to get busy.

Permission was granted by the City, meetings were held, and presentations were made. Thanks to the support received, some 20 years of idleness was overcome and the process of bringing this beautiful old house back to life began.

The framework of our organization was set up by a group of ladies from the community with a goal of becoming a viable historic foundation. With support from the business community and the many dedicated individuals who gave unselfishly of their time and resources, we were able to prepare and continue to run a historic community.

We are gratified to see a new generation of people who appreciate the beauty of our site & bring new energy to participate in our activities and support our mission as we seek to provide a sample of life as it was lived in old Princess Anne County.

FALL-ING INTO FUN

Wow what beautiful weather we had for our annual Fall Festival, held this year on Saturday, September 13th!

Visitors were numerous- we were glad to see a lot of familiar faces and to meet many new friends.

Docents & WBHF board members conducted tours throughout the event. Interest was so high an additional tour had to be added at the end of the day.



Featured guests included Va. Bch Farmers Market, Va. Bch Public Library- Princess Anne, Bee City Va. Bch, Butterfly Society of VA, Tidewater Blacksmiths Guild, Moore to See Photo Expeditions & Bob Clark with his hammered dulcimer. Many included activities in their booths & all reported high numbers of visitors. Local Crafters & Artists brought many creative offerings and saw a lot of well-deserved interest.



Our improved picnic area was a popular spot for visiting and for enjoying the oodles of delicious options whipped up by Jason and Melissa on the Shmitt Sandwich food truck.



Those who joined us in the past will recall we used to host antique cars.

Each year an owner won a People's Choice Award. Prior winner Jerry Johnson made a welcome surprise visit with his Model A.

We had some other special guests too. Rocky Holcomb, Sheriff of Virginia Beach, took time out of his busy schedule to visit our Fall Festival. And Captain Kevin Hugo came along.



Emily LaBows, Virginia Beach Cultural Affairs Director, also came to visit and peruse the guest & vendor booths.



You can see more photos in the *Past Events 2025* folder on our FaceBook page or by scanning this QR code.



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

COMMUNITY

From September to the middle of October the WBHF has historical items and information on display in the Princess Anne branch of the Virginia Beach Public Library on Nimmo Parkway.

The four-sided case is used to highlight enriching opportunities from local city organizations in addition to the library.



DONATIONS



Each year our friends with the Tidewater Blacksmiths Guild craft a period piece for the Whitehurst-Buffington House during the annual Fall Festival.



Joe Gentile and his apprentice Galen crafted a fireplace shovel this year. You can see it on display in the dining room.

In August, Joanie Kassir of Bay Island gifted a set of pearl handled forks and knives to the Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation. Her place settings are a lovely addition to our tableware, and we are looking forward to utilizing them for our Spring Tea 2026.



Want to donate something? Contact Mary Ann Schmidt at 757-434-2486 or message us on our FaceBook page.

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.

Holiday Open House
Sunday, December 7, 2025
1:00 – 4:00 pm

Period Decorating courtesy of
 Council of Garden Clubs Va. Beach

Live Music
 Cookies and Cider
 Admission is free
 Donations are appreciated

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.