



Whitehurst-Buffington House Foundation

www.wbhouse.org

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

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spring Tea (May 16) * Fall Festival (September 12) * Holiday Open House (December 6)

A FEW WORDS FROM PHYLLIS

Hard to believe we are ending the first quarter of the year. A new year for us but the 250th year of our nation & the 223rd year of the Whitehurst -Buffington House.

It is a beautiful spring day- the trees are budding, daffodils & dogwoods are filling our yards & city roadsides with beauty.

We have experienced such unusual weather- record breaking high temperatures and a late snow & ice storm with temperatures reaching freezing.

As we seek to interpret life as it might have been lived in old Princess Anne County, one can only imagine how difficult these abrupt changes in the weather might have been for them. Will the firewood last? Will there be enough hay & corn from what we stockpiled for the cow & mule? Will the grass begin growing so we can put the animals out to pasture? Have the hens stepped up their laying so the "settin' hens" can start raising a new 'brood"? Will the frost spare the buds on the apple trees so there will be a new crop for pies & cider this fall? Will the sun shine & warm the soil so cool weather veggies can be grown.

The mud-filled roads will begin to dry, so carts & buggies can begin helping people get around. Thus life in the country begins anew with the coming of spring.

DID YOU KNOW

The Whitehurst-Buffington House was built in 1793 when *The Farmer's Almanac* was only putting out its second edition.

No other periodical published in North America is older than *The Old Farmer's Almanac*.

Though smaller and mostly confined to New England, the astrological info and weather forecasts were a key component even in 1793. Robert Thomas wrote "As to my judgment of the weather . . . you will in one year's time . . . discover how near I have come to the truth."

Farm features were a bigger focus than ornamental gardening and pets. Recipes included more Medicinal than Culinary offerings, including those for livestock. Under the 1793 Home Remedies was listed "To take out the spots of smallpox".

History features were reduced to "Memorable Accidents, Occurrences, and Events" although some space was dedicated to an "Anecdote of the Marquis de la Fayette".

"Anecdotes & Bon Mots" include what is now Brain Games under "Anecdotes & Pleasantries"- although the sensibilities of the humor are very much different today.

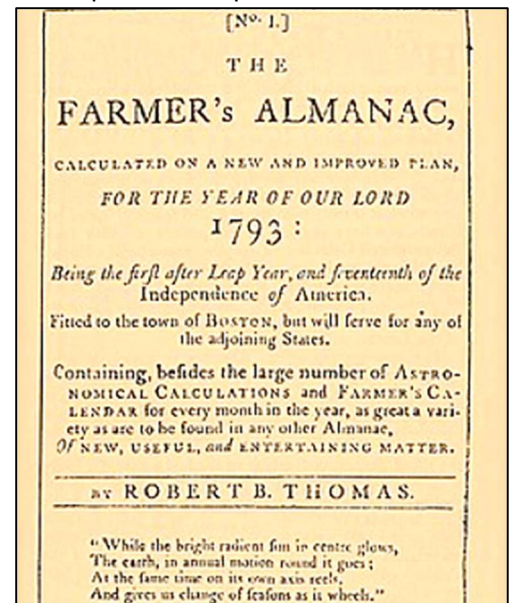
Ironically longevity was a focus in both 1793 & 2026. Then, it was recommended

to "Act in everything, with moderation, to keep the body in a reasonable activity". Now it is stressed to "always maintain a good sense of humor". Both good advice.

Court schedules, justices (like John Jay of New York) and judges were listed. College vacations were posted as were "Friends' Annual Meetings". Also featured was "The Bible dissected". Not so today.

Under "Roads to the principal towns on the continent from Boston" were the "Names of Inn-holders"- the closest thing to an ad in 1793.

Viewing both truly gives one a sense of how much has changed and what remains of deep-rooted importance to readers.



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

VISITORS

On February 25th and 26th, docent Jeffery Cannon hosted his fellow homeschoolers, Forest to Sea Nature Group, for tours of the Whitehurst-



Buffington House.

His daughter Aurora, our very own Docent Apprentice, led the tour and activities for the students. She provided a youth oriented experience enjoyed by all. The visit contributes to a History lesson for these young scholars.

Jeffery conducted the comprehensive tour for the parents.



DONATIONS

The WBHF thanks Joyce & Barry McCracken for donating a beautiful, framed print and an ornate mirror. Both pieces will be on display for visitors to see sometime soon.



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.

Reservations Open on April 16th

Spring Tea

Saturday,
May 16 at 2pm



Sweet, Savory & Chocolate
Treats and a variety of Teas

Tea Talk

Reservations open April 16
Call 427-1151 to reserve a seat

\$35 Donation Required

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.