

HISTORIC VIENNA INK

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HISTORIC VIENNA, INC.

NOVEMBER 2018

VOL. XIX, NO. 4

Church Street Stroll November 26, 6 to 9PM

Co-Sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc., the Merchants of Church Street, and the Town of Vienna Parks and Recreation Department

This annual event includes the lighting of the Town tree, Santa's arrival in Vienna, and staged and strolling performances. As he does each year, Santa Claus will arrive atop the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department's antique truck. After the lighting of the tree and caboose lights, Santa will listen to the wishes of boys and girls at the Freeman Store and Museum. This event is free and open to the public.

Santa arrives at 6:15

Santa and Mayor light the tree and caboose lights at 6:20
Visit Santa at the Freeman Store after the tree lighting

Performing on the Big Stage

- Wolftap Elementary Singers
- Fairfax Jubil-Aires
- Louise Archer Elementary Singers
- Thoreau Chamber Choir
- Green Hedges School Jazz Band
- Vienna-Falls Chorus of Sweet Adelines
- Vienna Community Band

Strolling Performers

- Fairfax Jubil-Aires
- Vienna-Falls Chorus of Sweet Adelines

Historic Structures Open

- Freeman Store and Museum
- Little Library
- Caboose with the Optimists Club of Greater Vienna
- Train Station with Northern Virginia Model Railroaders
- Knights of Columbus (formerly First Baptist)
- Vienna Presbyterian Church indoor activities

Petting Zoo on the side lawn of the Freeman Store

Supervised Bonfires with Marshmallows for roasting

The Church Street Merchants will be open.

For more information, contact the Freeman Store and Museum at 703 938 5187.

amazonsmile

When shopping at Amazon, use this link:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0205248>, and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to Historic Vienna, Inc. by Amazon.



Instagram

find us at
FreemanStore_Museum



Join our Facebook page
Historic Vienna Inc.

Santa visits the Freeman Store and Museum



Sunday, December 2, 12 to 2 PM
and

Sunday, December 9, 12 to 2 PM

Visits with Santa are always free of charge.

Santa's Special Chair is positioned next to the gorgeous holiday tree in the upstairs parlor. Children who may be a bit nervous are encouraged to sit and watch for a while – most end up enthusiastically telling Santa their wishes!

Celebrate Small Business Saturday

Saturday, November 24, 12-4PM

Special discounts!

Enjoy HVI's special porch decorations for Vienna's 2nd decorated store window contest.

☞ REMINDER

HVI Memberships are from January 1 to December 31.

Please use the form on the back to join or renew your membership now.

Inside this Issue

- P2 – HVI in the 72nd Halloween parade, Antiques Appraisals,
- P3 – Stop by the Little Library, British Holiday Teas, Calendar of Events
- P4 – Used Book Cellar Turns 2!, Museum Committee: New Exhibits – Vienna and the '50s, League of Women Voters, Victory Garden Renovated, West End Cemetery/Malcom Road
- P5 – Freeman Store: New at the Store, 2018 Ornament
- P6 – About HVI, Membership and Volunteer Form

Historic Vienna, Inc., a 501(c)(3) Corporation for historic preservation, operates The Freeman Store and Museum
P.O. Box 53, Vienna, VA 22183

www.historicviennainc.org

Visit us at: 131 Church Street, NE, Vienna, VA 22180

Email us at: historicviennava@gmail.com

703.938.5187

Special Events

HVI in the 72nd Halloween Parade

HVI marched in costume with several members happily joining the fun



This year, HVI celebrated all the Viennas with signs showing the distance from Vienna, VA. The Store has postcards showing the Viennas.



Photos by Lisa Fay

Antiques Appraisals

The Antiques Appraisals conducted during the Vintage Market was quite successful. Historic Vienna, Inc. is grateful to Lori James of Atlas Services (www.atlasservicesllc.com), Jamie Grasso (www.jgjewelry.com), and Stephen Poppe (scpoppe@verizon.net) for donating their time and expertise to evaluate the items brought in. The appraisers were generous with their comments and gave realistic advice. Not only were the items brought in to be appraised interesting, but many were generational and rather unique. Many items were handed down from at least 3 generations: grandparents, to parents, to grandkids; some bought as investments; others were items found in surprisingly unique places. The following is a sampling of items brought in and their stories.

- A unique genuine *diamond and pearl necklace* with a 18 K gold chain that the owner calls “The Flying Lady”. It was made in the Victorian era. This necklace was given to the client’s grandmother by a very wealthy friend. The grandmother gave it to the current owner’s mother during WWI. The original owner owned considerable amount of land in Washington, DC. and donated stained glass windows to the Washington National Cathedral. The current owner’s ancestors came to Jamestown in 1619!
- A small *hand carved Troll statue* from Norway. The Troll carried a walking stick and pipe in its mouth. The artist is Antwain Sven.
- A three foot tall *paper mache doll* made by a West Virginia artist specifically for museums. The doll holds a bible and wears clothing made of fabric from that time period of 1930.
- A *watch* with white gold and sapphire stone from the 1800s was found far back in the chest of drawers and belonged to the client’s mother who died about 19 years ago.
- A beautiful *diamond and floral handcrafted necklace* from the 1920s. It was handed down to a granddaughter
- A *brass teapot* from the 1892. A gift from a grandmother or great aunt
- A *silver plated tea set* from the 1882 to 1907 era that was a 25th anniversary
- A 2 1/2 foot *Hawkes crystal vase* with matching bowl.
- A *sorority pin* from the first African American sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA). This sorority was formed at Howard University. It has 14k gold and diamond seed pearls.

While there were many other interesting items two were especially of note because of their value and circumstances with which the owners acquired them.

- An *Art Deco Fern Handled vase* from Rousseau, France made in the early 1900s that was found in the basement of an old Vienna, VA house (built in the early 1900s). The owners bought the house in the early 1970s and discovered this treasure buried in the dirt in the basement’s crawl space!

- This item was also found, *a pair of spectacles from the 1700s* (1760-1790) found on Frederick Street on property owned by George Broadwater! An 1814 coin was found on this property as well. The family who brought in these items might donate them to HVI.

The Antiques Appraisals event was so well received, that we are planning another event in March that will be an all-day event. Appraisers with different specialties will be appraising items during a 2 to 3 hour time window. Look for details in the Spring HVInk coming out in March and on our website: www.historicviennainc.org.

All Day Antiques Appraisals
Coming in March 2019!
Check the website or call the store for details and the date

Multiple Specialist Appraisers
There will be time slots in 2 to 3 hour windows
for each specialty.

Three More Chances to Stop by the Little Library This Year!

Monday, November 26, 6 to 9PM

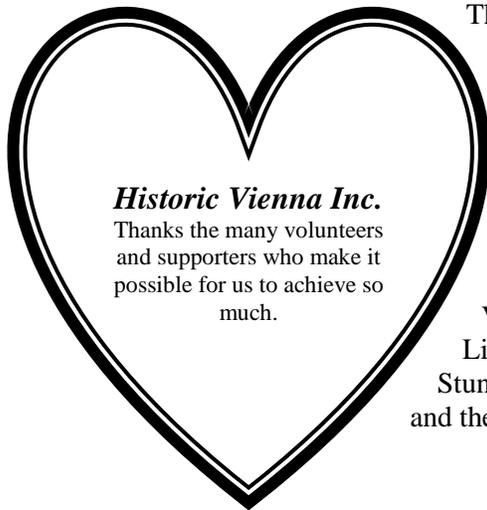
Sunday, December 2, 12 Noon to 4PM

Sunday, December 9, 12 Noon to 2PM

The Little Library will be open *during the Church Street Stroll on November 26, Monday night, from 6 to 9PM*. Come visit our holiday decorated building.

After visiting Santa in the Freeman Store parlor, please stop by the Little Library which will be open on *Sunday, December 2 from 12 to 4PM* and on *Sunday, December 9 from 12 to 2PM*. Children are welcome to come in and are invited to participate in creating crafts with our docents throughout the afternoon.

In keeping with our Mission statement of preserving and promoting knowledge of Vienna's heritage we encourage town residents to visit our Little Library. The Little Library will be closed in the month of January and February but you may email Anne Stuntz at stuntzag@aol.com or call 703 994 9054 to arrange a visit to the Little Library and the Freeman Store.



Historic Vienna Inc.

Thanks the many volunteers and supporters who make it possible for us to achieve so much.

British Holiday Tea & Parlor Talk

Friday, December 7, 3PM and Saturday, December 8, 3PM

Enjoy learning about the Holiday Tradition of the Christmas Tree while you enjoy British holiday treats. After the short presentation there will be plenty of time for relaxing and visiting with your friends in the beautiful parlor and dining room of the Freeman Store and Museum. The traditional English Holiday tea will include scones, sausage rolls, sandwiches, assorted sweets – including mince pies, and a bottomless cup of tea. The tea costs \$35, space is very limited (***Saturday is already Sold Out!***) so make your reservation by contacting ***Patti Bentley or Susan Fay at the store 703-938-5187.***

HVI Calendar of Events

All events take place at the Freeman Store unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, November 24, 12-4PM

Monday, November 26, 6-9PM

Sunday, December 2, 12-2PM

Friday, December 7, 3-5PM

Saturday, December 8, 3-5PM

Sunday, December 9, 12-2PM

Saturday, December 15, 1-5PM

January 1 to February 28

Friday, March 1

Small Business Saturday – Freeman Store special discounts

Church Street Stroll and Santa Claus Visit

Santa visits the Freeman Store, Little Library open 12-4PM

British Holiday Tea, tickets \$35

British Holiday Tea, tickets \$35 –SOLD OUT!

Santa visits the Freeman Store, Little Library open 12-2PM

Open House at Vienna Train Station & Caboose

Freeman Store and Museum open by appointment only

Freeman Store and Museum reopens with normal store hours

Please visit our website at www.historicviennainc.org for up to date information on the organization, Freeman Store hours, special events and museum exhibits.

Used Book Cellar turns 2!

What's new in the Freeman Store Used Book Cellar?

Some committee members recently acquired a large collection of history books, notably military history and donated book shelves from a generous donor. Look for a date, possibly in January/February, when HVI will offer a *special sales event* highlighting this collection.

In addition, colorful children's Spanish books and Christmas books for all ages are available at a terrific price. **During November and December, all art books, hobby and collectibles volumes will be half price.** Your used book donation is always welcome and greatly helps to stock our USED BOOK CELLAR. Books may be brought to the Freeman Store, bagged or boxed and left on our porch benches anytime or brought inside during Store hours, Wednesday through Sunday, 12 – 4 pm.

A new feature is the addition of extra sturdy bookshelves displaying the biography/memoirs, government, politics, and history sections, and coming shortly, shelving for our fiction section. Volunteers are always welcome and a book review or two for HVInk newsletter would be a perfect contribution from one of our HVI members. Extra hands and help are always needed for the Vienna Church Street Stroll. Contact the Store to volunteer today. Thanks to all who make HVI's fundraiser so successful.

Historic Vienna is asking for book donations all year round.

From the Museum Committee

New Upstairs Exhibit: Vienna and the '50s

Remember hula hoops, Barbie dolls, play doh, and matchbox cars? Remember Patsy Cline, Elvis, Little Richard, and the Kingston Trio? How about *Leave It to Beaver*, *Gunsmoke*, *I Love Lucy*, and *The Ed Sullivan Show*? The Korean War? segregation? Vienna experienced the 50s in all its good, bad, and ugly. Come to the Freeman Store next year to experience Vienna in the 50s through an exciting multimedia exhibit.

Wish to take a more active role in the exhibit? Consider sharing your memories and stories or artifacts and collectibles of the Vienna area. If you would like to volunteer building the exhibit, serving as a docent, or re-enacting in your 50s garb, let us know.

New Hallway Exhibit: The League of Women Voters

The fourth exhibit in the 5-year series of small exhibits on the history of the movement and where it stands today, will focus on the League of Women Voters. The league was founded after the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote by the National American Woman Suffrage Association. The league encouraged women to vote and lobby for legislation. If you are interested in helping us plan, prepare, and promote these exhibits or have photographs or other artifacts to loan, please contact

Leigh Kitcher at 703 255 9066 or email her at LeighKitcher@aol.com.

Freeman Store Victory Garden is Renovated

Winter crops and bulbs are tucked in for fall and winter growing, including radishes and garlic. Next year Ayr Hill Garden Club members will schedule workshops for young gardeners. Beginning in spring, children may come by, cut some spring flowering bulbs and learn basic flower arranging. Also planned will be spring vegetable planting of both vegetables and herbs, making natural dyes, and crafting tussy mussy or tussie mussies, or nosegays. Of course springtime means whitewashing the fence once again. Contact the Freeman Store and Museum for spring events.

West End Cemetery/Malcolm Road Plans

by Catherine Hardman

In the middle of September, it came to HVI's attention that a small, slivered/parallel section of Lewis/Malcolm was destined to be redeveloped with little-to-no attention to the adjoining residents, nor the Town, in general. The two lots that contain the old grey farmhouse from 1925 (440 Malcolm) and the adjoining property (424 Malcolm) have been sold and the new owners proposed to build three new houses. The plan is to tear down the old home, carve out

the property to make three lots and to expand the West End Cemetery by 800 sq. ft., as per the agreement of the sale.

There was an immediate concern for the status of the West End cemetery. It has deep historic significance to the Town of Vienna, especially for the African American residents, many of who can easily trace their regional heritage to this specific location. The following excerpt is compliments of The Fairfax Genealogical Society (Volume I of the Gravestone Books).

“This cemetery is located on the west side of the 500 block of Lewis Street, off Lawyers Road, in Vienna. According to an article in the 26 May 1988 Vienna Times by Carol Bonham, this cemetery is on land once owned by Capt. Harmon L. Salsbury where he built his home “Windover Heights.” In 1884, Salsbury, who had commanded a division of African-American soldiers during the Civil War, conveyed land to blacks for use as a cemetery. The cemetery has been known over the years as the Borgus, the North-South, the Lewis Street, and the Windover Cemetery. It was named West End Cemetery in 1986 when restoration was being planned by Historic Vienna, Inc. After the restoration, over 250 people attended a dedication ceremony at the cemetery on 26 April 1987. When the gravestones were read in April 1988, the cemetery was in excellent condition and was being maintained by Historic Vienna, Inc. The cemetery contained 27 gravestones. The earliest death date was 1884; the most recent was 1978.”

After a last minute request to go beyond a general Systematic Probing of the adjoining area to search for any unmarked graves, we convinced the Town to demand a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey to ensure that the land proposed for development was “neutral.” According to HVI’s Secretary, Sylvia Taylor, “There was a very good turnout this morning at the cemetery. Matthew Turner of Geo Model seemed to do a thorough scan of the ground penetrating radar of the area behind the cemetery and found no indication of graves. He is willing to come back later to do the same in the cemetery itself for unmarked graves. The 27 graves documented are the ones that are clearly visible. We are sure that others were buried within the cemetery. People in attendance were the builder; Mayor DiRocco; Emily Goodman, Construction Inspector, Dept. of Public Works; Carey Sienicki; Gloria & John Runyon; Liz DiFrancisco; Dick & Aimee Martin, and me. The builder showed us the additional land beyond the cemetery that is to be given to HVI as a gift. He said that Vondell Carter made that a stipulation when the contract was signed in Nov. 2017. Mayor Di Rocco, before she left, seemed very interested in having the entire cemetery scanned later.”

HVI will follow up with the Town of Vienna in the near future to survey the entire West End Cemetery and work with other historic societies and archives to obtain records and learn as much information as possible about the “residents” of the West End Cemetery.

Freeman Store News

What’s New at the Freeman Store



The Gift Shop at the Freeman Store has some new and wonderful items to please all holiday shoppers. Christmas jam and a variety of preserves from Shawnee Springs in Winchester VA; Christmas tree ornaments made by

hand; coasters featuring original Vienna art; new I love Vienna signs and magnets.

Did you know the most popular hostess gift is a kitchen tea towel? We have over 15 different designs to choose from. Looking for an all occasion card - - browse our



large selection. And don’t forget a new holiday book for the kiddies to read before bedtime. We’re open Wed. thru Sun. 12-4.

2018 Ornament – It’s here!

The 2018 Ornament hand made for us by Rachael Peden is the Vienna National Bank. This handsome brick building with white columns and beautiful medallions is Vienna’s first bank. It was built in 1923 and sits at the corner of Church Street and Dominion Rd. This ornament is the 18th in a collection of ornaments sold exclusively at the Freeman Store.



Remember: HVI Members receive a 10% discount on items purchased at the Freeman Store.

