

HISTORIC VIENNA INK

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HISTORIC VIENNA, INC.

FEBRUARY 2021

VOL. XXII, NO. 1

Everyone has a Covid story will you share yours?

Historic Vienna, Inc. has a mission to gather and preserve Vienna's history - both past and present. The Oral History Committee is documenting how Vienna residents and businesses have been affected by, coped with, and reacted to the Covid 19 pandemic. You can participate in several ways!

- Submit a description – a few sentences, a couple of paragraphs, or more...
- A photograph or a collection of photos/images to express changes in the Town or at home
- A piece of art – paintings, sketches, crafts, multimedia
- A poem
- Achievements and new things learned because of being at home

The reflections we gather will capture a variety of our Vienna residents' experiences. We will share them on our website and preserve them in our archives. Send your submission to hvioralhistory@gmail.com. There is a release form on the Covid Stories page that you will need to download and sign and send along with your story.

If you prefer to be anonymous on our website, you will still need to sign the release form and provide a general description of yourself to use instead of your name.

Essential worker experiences **Family Life Supplies**
Unemployment **Gatherings and Celebrations** **Parks and Recreation** **Friendships/Relationships** **Fear - Isolation - Masks** **Pets** **Graduates and Graduations** **Virtual School** **Social Media Sites** **Local Business Survival**
Vaccine **Covid In Your Family?** **Food** **Impact on Vienna**
Sports **Vienna Community Support** **Students and Teachers** **Daily Life Adjustments** **Travel** **Working from Home**
Hardest Adjustments to Endure **Town Government** **What Is Next? Any positives?** **New Connections**

Upstairs Museum Exhibit “Vienna and the ‘60s”

Hallway Museum Exhibit

“The Women’s Rights Movement: Where Are We Now?”

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

follow us at
FreemanStore_Museum



Join our Facebook page
Historic Vienna Inc.

Virtual Museum Opening and Spring Membership Meeting

“Vienna in the 60s”

Sunday, March 14 – 2:00 PM

Via Zoom – details will be on our website

The Spring Membership meeting of Historic Vienna, Inc. will be held on *Sunday, March 14 at 2:00PM via Zoom*. There will be a brief business meeting before the program, and this year’s Heritage Preservation Award will be announced.

Experience the 1960s! Relive the music, mini-skirts, political unrest, and hippies of that era. It was a transformative decade for Vienna’s history too, with rapid residential and commercial growth. HVI will present videos and slides from the exhibit *Vienna in the 60s*, held over by popular demand into 2021.

Presented by the Museum Committee

Freeman Store and Museum Covid Hours!

*Our schedule for March is to be open on
Fridays and Saturdays 12noon-3PM.*

Membership renewals are due for 2021 now!

You may renew online through our website or use the form on the back to renew your membership and volunteer to help us preserve history.

Inside this Issue

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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

Email us at: historicviennava@gmail.com

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

703.938.5187

Used Book Cellar

Local buyers and dealers were invited to shop in the Cellar on three shopping days during January. Shoppers exclaimed that they had not attended a book sale in eight months and were delighted to visit the Cellar.

Numerous used book donations found on the Freeman Store benches arrive almost daily. Our stock is incredibly varied and includes popular authors and current publications, and books on local subjects. We certainly appreciate receiving your book donations.

Young Reader Roundup

The ponies are here! In book form - of course. We have a **huge** selection of chapter books all about *ponies* selling for 25 cents each in our Used Book Cellar.



We're also featuring our largest selection ever on **DINOSAURS**. Are your children hooked on **Star Wars** books? We've got a box full of them too.

Come shop the Used Book Cellar for all these irresistible children's books. Check our website for our open hours starting this Spring or email us at historicvienna@gmail.com to schedule a shopping appointment.

Volunteer Job Description

Did you mention you are interested in volunteering? Below are some tasks a volunteer can accomplish and continue to be socially distanced. An HVAC Ion system and multiple air purifiers operate 24 hours a day and masks are required.

- Contact smoats5555@aol.com to arrange a time to volunteer
- Adopt a specific book category and place priced books on shelf. Arrange fiction books alphabetically by author's last name. One can shelf all books A to G, for example.
- Cull books
- Write a book report for the HVInk, using a Used Book Cellar offering. Children's book reports would be delightful to receive!
- Create a special book section with a particular subject
- Offer to read to children outdoors beginning in May
- Tell everyone you meet to visit the Freeman Store Used Book Cellar.

Historic Vienna is asking for book donations all year round.

From the Museum Committee

Exhibits continue through 2021!

Upstairs Exhibit: Vienna and the 60s – Experience the 60s again in Vienna! All you hippies, flower children, bohemians, and mavericks prepare yourselves to flash back to the 1960s and its days of sit-ins, anti-war marches, and Woodstock. It's been said that if you remember the 60s, you weren't there.

Hallway Exhibit: The Women's Rights Movement: Where are we Now? The fifth and final exhibit in the 5-year series of small exhibits on the history of the women's rights movement focuses on where it stands today. It has been 100 years since women won the right to vote. While women have won many rights, they have not yet achieved full equality. This exhibit looks at our progress in many areas including economic, political, educational, family, and health.

Enjoy a Total Sensory Experience at the Little Library

Please come visit the Little Library on Sunday, March 7, 1 to 4PM. *We guarantee you will have a total sensory experience.*



Sight: Be captivated by the beauty of an architectural wonder with the building's original structure and period objects.



Sound: Learn from a friendly, knowledgeable volunteer on site to answer your questions and provide interesting trivia.



Smell: Discover the treasured, good smell of old books with that unique smoky, earthy, and woody scent. It is not found anywhere else and often triggers many wonderful memories.



Taste: Enjoy a delicious “taste” of local history; sorry no food and beverages are allowed in the museum.



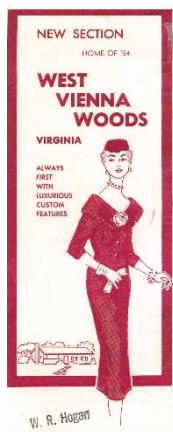
Touch: Delve into a collection of over 5,500 beautiful books dating back to 1835, old card catalogs and historical documents.

Starting in March you will once again be able to enjoy Vienna’s Little Library on the first Sunday of each month. Built in 1897, this historic property is now a museum, having served the town for nearly 70 years as a community library. Located on the Freeman Store and Museum side lawn, the Little Library continues to strengthen this community providing an awareness of Vienna's past.

Visit Vienna’s Little Library on the 1st Sunday of the month March through December 1 to 4PM. Look for special events opening dates. If interested in a tour or volunteering email historicvienna@gmail.com.

Early Vienna Developer Passed Away

Last November, Stephen G. Yeonas passed away, age 95. The town of Vienna has much to thank Yeonas for. When he returned from WWII, he established the Yeonas Company in Arlington, Virginia to build homes for the returning soldiers. His first large development was in Vienna.



The Yeonas Corporation’s Vienna developments, totaling over 1500 homes, were a key contributor to the town’s fivefold growth between 1950 and 1960. Developments in the 50s included: Vienna Woods, West Vienna Woods, East Vienna Woods, Hillside (on Johnson St. and Hillside Cr.), 17 homes in Murmuring Pines, and The Vienna Shopping Center; and in the 60s included: more Vienna Woods, Dunn Loring Woods, Stonewall Manor, Tysons Green, Waverly, Glencannon, Barristers Place, and Lakevale.

The Yeonas family really left its mark on Vienna. In 1959, the Yeonas Company offered and eventually deeded acres of land to Vienna Little League to build George C. Yeonas Park, in honor of their father. Yeonas Park is next to Southside Park. And many of the street names in Vienna

Little Library Celebrates National Women’s History Month

whose origins can be traced to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City factories staged a protest over working conditions. In 1981, the U.S. Congress designated the second week of March National Women's History Week. In 1987 Congress expanded it to a month-long observance.

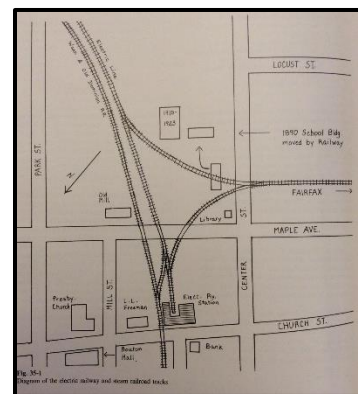
Women Librarians In the 1880s men made up 52% of librarians. Today, 83% of librarians are women.

Women and the Little Library. The Vienna Library Association was established in 1913 to manage the Little Library. The Association’s Board of Trustees was unusual with 5 men and 5 women serving at a time. One of the books in our library, *All True: The Record of Actual Adventures that have Happened to Ten Women of Today* (1931) includes chapters written by Margaret Mead and Amelia Earhart. Many books were donated by women including 20% of the collection by Mrs. Gilman Hall. There are also donations from notable women including actress *Helen Hayes*; *Edith Boling Wilson*, the second wife of President Woodrow Wilson; and researcher, activist, and philanthropist *Catherine Filene Shouse*, founder of the Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts here in Vienna.

Woods are from the Yeonas family and business. To learn more about these developments, please visit our museum exhibit: Vienna in the 60s.

Street Cars in Vienna

We’ve been thinking about the electric line that came through Vienna from DC on its way to Fairfax from Washington from 1904 to 1938. Last month the property on Courthouse Road SW behind Jiffy Lube was sold for redevelopment. The historic home built in the late 1800s had belonged to Florence Roseborough and her husband William Daniel, a Navy engineer since 1948. A portion of their Courthouse Road property was a piece of the de-commissioned trolley line.



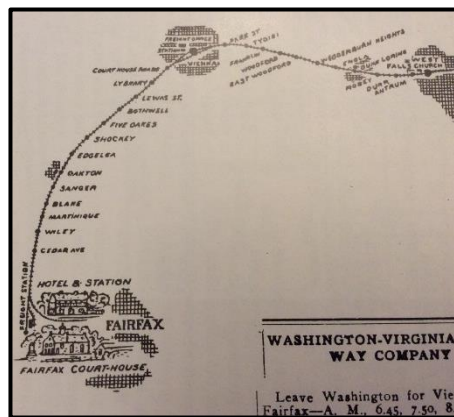
In 1904, the Washington, Arlington, and Falls Church Railway (electric) was extended to Vienna and on to Fairfax from Falls Church. Street cars made the trip from Washington, DC, via Falls Church and included many stops on Electric Avenue. The tracks ran parallel to the Old

Dominion tracks in some areas. There was a terminal on Church Street and train cars switched directions to make the return trip to Washington or to Fairfax. A portion of former land dedicated to the Electric Railway now comprises a 40-foot-wide by the property depth of 117 Courthouse Road SW.

Have a look at *This Was Vienna Virginia* by Connie and Mayo Stuntz to learn more, it's the chapter on the Turn of the Century. You can see the earlier map (page 246) that the station was across the tracks from the Freeman Store and Museum ("LL Freeman") on Church Street. A photo of that house is in the book. The big wall mural in TDBank at Glyndon is of the electric station too. It looks a bit like the Freeman Store and is sometimes mistaken for it.

To the right is a close up of the route map from Falls Church through Vienna to Fairfax (page 253). Look, the Little Library, now on the site of the Freeman Store, had its own stop!

These are the stations between Vienna and Fairfax: *Vienna's Freight Office Station, Court House Road, Lybrary (sic), Lewis St., Bothwell, Five Oaks (my family used Bothwell and Five Oaks), Shockey, Edgelea, Oakton, Sanger, Blake, Martinique, Wiley, Cedar Ave, Hotel & Station and Fairfax Court-house*



and Freight Station. (By the way, the Oakton station is still there and is on the National Register.

Mourners and caskets were taken to the cemetery in electric cars. Passenger service continued through Oakton and continued on to Fairfax. Farm goods, students, and Washington-bound Vienna workers enjoyed this mode of transport. With the advent of bus transportation, the automobile, and the razing of the DC terminus, and the introduction, briefly, of the Arlington and Fairfax Auto Rail Company, increased rates, and many additional operating issues, the service ended.

You can still see the concrete abutments where the trolley line crossed the W&OD in SW Vienna at Owaissa. You can still see a number of low flat pieces of property between Vienna and Oakton where the trolley ran. It ran at the back of Flint Hill Cemetery, for example. That was filled in in the late 50s though, with fill dirt from the corner of Park and Church Streets. (That will confuse future archeologists!)

If you read this far, be sure to ask Anne about a lesson many Vienna boys learned to their dismay about the electric tracks.

Special Events

Virtual St. Patrick's Day Tea, March 13, 3PM

Enjoy a full English Tea with scones, authentic clotted cream, jam, homemade lemon curd, elegant tea sandwiches and special Irish savories and sweet treats. These treats will be carefully packaged with English Tea (bags) in special boxes which attendees can pick up at the Freeman Store and Museum from 12 to 2PM on March 13th. Packages not picked up on time will be donated to charity. Tea Packages will be on sale through our website only through March 5. Tea Packages once purchased are non-refundable. At 3PM, join us for the Zoom program which will include: How St. Patrick Saved Civilization, The Foods of Ireland, Irish Dancing, and St. Patrick's Trivia.

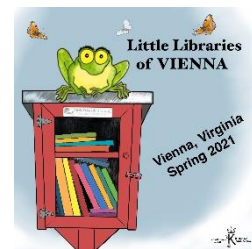
Celebrate Little Libraries of Vienna Week

Join us in celebrating the 30+ *Little Libraries* in Vienna the week of April 17-24, with special events at the Freeman Store and Museum on Saturday, April 24, covid permitting!

A Little Library, which may be registered as a Little *Free* Library, is a ***"take a book, return a book"*** free book exchange. They come in many shapes and sizes, but the most common version is a small wooden box of books in a home's front yard or public location. With access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds, anyone may take a book or bring a book to share.

Little Libraries inspire readers and strengthen communities.

- 92% of people say *their neighborhood feels like a friendlier place* because of a Little Free Library.
- 3 out of 4 people report *they've read a book they normally would not have read* because of a Little Free Library.



- 73% of people say they've *met more neighbors* because of a Little Free Library.

Vienna will also commemorate Earth Day that same week as part of the fun since there are more than 100,000 registered Little Free Library book-sharing boxes in 108 countries worldwide.

Walk on the Hill – April 25

Covid permitting, the Walk on the Hill will take place on April 25, **rain or shine**. As the streets close, the Windover Heights homeowners will welcome visitors to stroll the neighborhood to enjoy the landscaped gardens of this historic district.



Once again, homeowners and Historic Vienna will place signs **“If This House Could Talk...”**, which describe historic and fun information about the home in

participating yards. Homeowners wishing to participate should contact *Anne Stuntz*, stuntzag@aol.com, or 703-994-9054. This year, Ayr Hill Garden Club will present a Photography Show, possibly virtually, featuring photographs and botanical designs created by members.

As always, the event is free. An online walking map will be available before the event on the Town website at www.viennava.gov/walkonthehill.

The long time success of this event is truly a community effort and a wonderful start to spring. Historic Vienna, Inc. would like to acknowledge the support of the residents of the Windover Heights Historic District, and the Town of Vienna Departments of Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Police in making the Walk on the Hill such a pleasurable event. Thank you!

Freeman Store News

The Freeman Store & Museum is open by appointment only in February. Our schedule for March is to be open on **Fridays and Saturdays 12noon-3PM**. If you would like to shop in the store on another day, please email us at historicviennava@gmail.com. The Freeman Store will continue to offer **online popup sales** during the year as an alternative to indoor shopping in the Store. Check the *Welcome (or Home)* page at www.historicviennainc.org for information or connect with us on our social media accounts: Instagram at *freemanstore_museum* or our Facebook group *Historic Vienna, Inc.*



Featured Item: Blenko Glass

Blenko Glass Company, located in West VA, is the oldest hand-blown glass company in the USA. Since 1893 they have produced their world famous glassware using exquisite color and impeccable design. Their signature water bottle is truly a beautiful timeless piece.

We are committed to providing you with personal attention when you visit us. Thank you for your patronage and support over the years. We look forward to showing you what's new in the Store!

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

HVI Calendar of Events

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

Now until further notice
 Fridays & Saturdays in March, 12-3PM
 Sunday, March 7, 1-4PM
 Saturday, March 13, 3PM
 Sunday, March 14, 2-4PM
 Sunday, April 11, 1-4PM
 April 17 to 24
 Sunday, April 25, 2- 5PM
 Sunday, May 2, 1-4PM
 Saturday, May 8, 8AM-1PM
 Saturday, May 15, 3PM
 Saturday, Sunday, & Monday May 29-31

HVI is collecting books – sorters are welcome! **Open by appointment.**
 Freeman Store and Museum resume special Covid opening hours for March
 Little Library open
 Virtual St. Patrick's Day Tea 3-5pm. *\$40 per person *Reservation Required*
 Virtual Spring Membership Meeting and Museum Exhibits Opening
 Little Library open
 Celebrate Little Libraries of Vienna Week; *Special activities Saturday, April 24*
 Covid Permitting Walk on the Hill, , Windover Heights Historic District *Rain or Shine*
 Little Library open
 Ayr Hill Garden Club Plant Sale and Garden Faire at the Freeman Store
 Virtual The Language of Flowers Tea 3-5pm. *\$40 per person *Reservation Required*
 Covid Permitting Viva! Vienna!

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

Our Mission Statement

Historic Vienna, Inc. (HVI), established by the Vienna Town Council on April 6, 1976, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation dedicated to:

- Preserving and promoting knowledge of Vienna’s heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of historically significant places, events, and persons.
- Educating the public through permanent and revolving exhibits, outreach programs, and publications.
- Enhancing a spirit of community through an awareness of Vienna’s past.

Our Programs and Activities

- Sponsor *traditional community events* enhancing Vienna’s small town atmosphere (e.g. visits with Santa, Church Street Stroll, Walk on the Hill)
- *Living exhibits* that illustrate the way people lived (e.g. reenactments, demonstrations, entertainment)
- The Freeman Store - experience a *historic country store* selling local history books, Virginia crafts, Vienna souvenirs, and old-fashioned toys and candy
- *Guided tours* of the Original Vienna Library, Freeman Store and museum exhibits
- Encourage *preservation of Vienna’s history, historic sites, and artifacts* (Freeman Store and Little Library operations, museum exhibits, antiques appraisals, oral histories, preservation award, Vienna’s historic register)

Board of Directors

Historic Vienna, Inc. is led by a 15-member Board of Directors. Three members are appointed by the Town Council and twelve are elected to three-year terms by the Membership at the Fall Membership Meeting. Officers are elected by the Board to one-year terms.

Time to Renew Now!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nancy Moats, Vice President | Anne Stuntz, President | Leigh Kitcher, Treasurer |
| Beverly Burns | Catherine Hardman, Secretary | Simeon Moats |
| Darrell Mounts | Mike Berger | Gloria Runyon |
| Steve Shannon | Katie Newland | Suzanne Traut |
| Jon Vrana | Sylvia Taylor | |
| | Leslie Herman, Town Liaison | |

Preserve and celebrate Vienna’s history – Support Historic Vienna, Inc.

Membership is from January 1 to December 31. There are 2 membership meetings per year.

Now you can renew online! Visit our website: www.historicviennainc.org.

Historic Vienna, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions and membership fees are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

I want to become a member. I want to renew my membership (renewals are due in January for 2021).

___ Individual (\$25) ___ Family (\$30) ___ Group or Corporate (\$40)

I want to make a \$_____ contribution to Historic Vienna, Inc. (100% tax deductible).

Make your check payable to: **Historic Vienna, Inc.**
PO Box 53
Vienna, VA 22183

Total amount enclosed: \$_____

Name *Date*

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone *Email Address*

I want to volunteer. (Circle as many as you wish) Storekeeper – Special Events – Book Sale – Oral Histories

I have skills to share: Exhibits – Research – Graphics – Social Media – Computer Skills – Other:_____