

# HISTORIC VIENNA INK

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF HISTORIC VIENNA, INC.

FEBRUARY 2025

VOL. XXVI, NO. 1

## HVI Spring Membership Meeting

### *“A Celebration of Collecting”*

The Spring Membership meeting of Historic Vienna, Inc. will be held on *Thursday, March 27, at 7:30 in the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE.* There will be a brief business meeting before the program, and this year’s Heritage Preservation Award will be announced.

Back by popular demand, instead of a speaker, the Spring Membership meeting will be “A Celebration of Collecting.” HVI invites you to come to show off your favorite collection of *anything*. Anything that you can carry and display on a 6-foot table or half table. These carefully curated collections offer a unique glimpse into the interests and lives of residents in our community. Whether you are a collector, an enthusiast, history lover, or simply curious, all are encouraged to attend.

Space is limited, so sign up by March 20 to reserve your table space at the meeting. Email [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com) to make a reservation to display your collection.

Every collector/exhibitor will have a few minutes to talk about their collection as part of the program. People will be able to visit each collection and chat informally. *No selling will be permitted.*

The HVI Membership meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

## Community enjoys HVI 2024 programs and activities!

Almost 15,000 people visited the Freeman Store, Used Book Cellar & Museum

Over 1,200 visited the Little Library Museum

13 special events with nearly 6,000 attendees

5 story times in summer for children

Over 150 visits with Santa in the parlor

Numerous photos taken with our seasonal displays

A variety of tours given informally and by appointment

*Thank you for enjoying our programs and activities.*



**Instagram**

follow us at

[FreemanStore\\_Museum](https://www.instagram.com/freemanstore_museum)



Join our Facebook page  
**Historic Vienna Inc.**

## Spring Membership Meeting

**Thursday, March 27, 7:30 PM**

**Vienna Community Center  
120 Cherry St. SE**

*“A Celebration of Collecting”*

### *Upstairs Museum Exhibit*

*“Exploring Books Throughout Time”*

### *Hallway Museum Exhibit*

*“Vienna Unveiled Through Maps”*

### *Museum Exhibit Opening Reception*

*Saturday, March 1, Noon*

### *Offsite Exhibits*

*Vienna Community Center, Vienna Rexall Drug Center, and Lakevale Community Center*

## **Membership renewals are due for 2025 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.

*Thank you if you have already renewed!*

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Historic Vienna, Inc., a 501(c)(3) Corporation for historic preservation, operates The Freeman Store and Museum

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## From the Museum Committee

### Exhibits

#### ***Exploring Books Throughout Time***

*(Located upstairs and in the Little Library Museum)*

Explore and learn about the evolution of words and writing. Explore how books evolved over time from ancient scrolls to digital publishing. Assorted genre, award-winning volumes, category types, historical firsts, etc. will weave together a fascinating history of books.

In addition, Vienna's Little Library *Museum* displays not only the books that comprise the museum collection, but provide surprising background on the collection's donors, how the library books were cataloged and the building's intriguing history.

Workshops, speakers, and other programming that will complement the exhibit include:

- Presentations by local authors and illustrators
- Book appraisals
- Little Library historical presentation
- Bookbinding workshops
- Youth activities will include paper-making, making a 'kindness' quilt, make-a-book, and book readings.
- Alice-in-Wonderland Tea

#### ***Vienna Unveiled Through Maps***

*(Located in the hallway)*

According to the Washington Map Society "...maps are among the most indispensable works in human history."

Throughout 2025 you may explore the history of Vienna through maps, uncovering once rural pastures, farms and fields now lost under the suburban sprawl. The exhibit, located on the first floor of the Freeman Store and Museum, draws on Historic Vienna's permanent collection as well as personal donations and public sources. This unique and informative installation reveals the history and development of Vienna with maps of transportation routes, property boundaries, pre and post Civil War lands, historic cemeteries, and aerial views throughout the years.

#### ***Exhibit at Vienna Rexall Drug Center***

The second *Vienna Then and Now* exhibit, which shows how Vienna has changed over the years, will continue through 2025.

#### ***Exhibits at Vienna Community Center***

The special exhibits on the *History Wall* (on the way to the auditorium) at the Vienna Community Center, continue to be rotated. In December, we featured Santa Claus; in January, we featured the US Presidents from Virginia; in February, we featured Vienna's African American Trailblazers; and in March we will feature the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

This space is ideal for presenting the history of our community. If you have an idea for a topic to present, please email us at: [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com).

#### ***Little Library Museum Wedding***

This January, by special request, a wedding was held in the Little Library Museum. The couple chose the museum because of their love of books. The event included an HVI docent, the couple and the officiant. Just before the wedding, a group of Scouts were given a tour of the museum. It was a busy afternoon! Tours are available by appointment.

#### ***Little Library Museum Open***

Vienna's Little Library Museum (LLM) is open on the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 4PM. Built in 1897, this historic property is now a museum, having served the town for nearly 70 years as a community library. Look for special events opening dates. If interested in a tour or volunteering email [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com).

#### ***Capture Memories of Patrick Henry Library***

Patrick Henry Library, the Virginia Room at The City of Fairfax Library and Historic Vienna are collaborating on a project to capture the community's memories of Patrick Henry Library before it is closed for renovation this year.

From March until renovation begins, members of the community are asked to share their memories via an audio recorded interview. To keep the interviews short, they will be guided by a set of focused questions. Patrick Henry Library will conduct interviews by appointment or participants may record their own answers to the interview questions using interview kits loaned by Historic Vienna. Interviews will be transcribed and uploaded to the Virginia Room Oral History archive.

Once construction begins, the focus of the project will shift to presenting the history and memories of Patrick Henry

Library in various ways to the community. For more information on how to participate, email [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com) or stop by the Patrick Henry Library during open hours.

***Save Your Family History!***

Free Family History Kits, available for check out from Fairfax County Public Libraries, provide a new opportunity to build connections across generations and save history! Preserve memories and first-hand accounts:

- celebrate the values, and lessons of loved ones
- provide a deeper connection to our history
- help us to understand each other
- ensure future generations can learn from the past

Have some fun and start your own personal project however and whenever you want. Ideas include:

*One-on-One:* Encourage older family members and friends to share their memories to preserve stories, traditions, and experiences for future generations.

*Group Session:* Make it a family activity! Encourage all ages to share their thoughts and experiences to add depth to your history.

Kits include a set of cards with interview prompts, a digital voice recorder, and instructions. They are available in English, bilingual Spanish-English and Korean-English.



Use this QR code for more information and to reserve a kit.

**United States 250<sup>th</sup> Celebrations**

***Momentum Builds For The 250<sup>th</sup>***

The VA250 Mobile Museum will be at Mount Vernon February 21-26. We are hoping to bring it to Vienna.

***Be part of history - Get involved today!***

HVI is putting together an exciting exhibit to feature artifacts that help tell the story of our town and country. Whether it's old signs, photos, souvenirs, or any other memorabilia we may want to showcase, please consider sharing with HVI. Items should be related to the colonial era in Vienna, Vienna history or the US bicentennial. Email images to [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com); do not deliver any items to the Freeman Store at this time.

***Stay Connected:*** Be the First to Know About

Fairfax 250 ([www.fxva.com/fairfax250](http://www.fxva.com/fairfax250)),

Virginia 250 ([www.VA250.org](http://www.VA250.org)),

America's 250 ([www.america250.org](http://www.america250.org))

Each site offers amazing events and programs happening now and throughout 2031 (decisive victory at the Battle of Yorktown) and you can sign up to receive regular newsletters with updates.

***Educate and Inspire:***

Want to make a difference and have fun? Join our 250th team and HVI will cover the \$75 cost of your online

orientation event with AASLH (American Association for State and Local History)! Together HVI's team will organize and lead efforts with planning, promotion and holding of historical, cultural and educational activities.

AASLH is offering a 1 1/2 day virtual event Feb 27-28. By attending you will learn about national and state planning opportunities, identify ways to participate, and join others in generating ideas for this once-in-a lifetime event. In addition to educational sessions, you will hear from the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration and the Smithsonian Institution.

More information on the AASLH program can be found at: <https://aaslh.org/programs/250th/>. To discuss your 'free to you' registration, email [historicviennava@gmail.com](mailto:historicviennava@gmail.com).

***George Washington Day-to-Day***

Follow George Washington in real time as he takes command of the Continental Army and leads the fight for liberty against Great Britain.



Use this QR Code to access Mount Vernon's 1775 daily timeline. The timeline will be updated daily as a celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's founding.

**Special Events**

***Walk on the Hill – April 27***

The Walk on the Hill will take place on April 27 from 2 to 5PM, 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. Local bands will play starting at 2PM. Hickory Grove will play old-fashioned music throughout the afternoon in the log cabin at 223 Walnut Lane.

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



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!

This year, Ayr Hill Garden Club is expected to host a Photography Show on the island at the intersection of Orchard Street and Windover Avenue featuring photographs taken by Club members and James Madison High School students. The Club will also have a table at Salsbury Spring to explain the history of the Spring and its importance to the town. Club members will show visitors the native plants in the park that support the wildlife habitat and native pollinators.

***Plant Sale on the Side Lawn***

On May 10, from 8am to 1pm, on the side lawn of the Freeman Store and Museum, Ayr Hill Garden Club will host their annual plant sale featuring native plants and booths for other garden related non-profit organizations including, Master Gardeners, Mad Grow Inclusion, and the Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society.

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](http://www.viennava.gov/walkonthehill).

**HVI Calendar of Events**

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

Saturday, March 1	Freeman Store and Museum resume normal opening hours, 12-4 Wed-Sun
Saturday, March 1, Noon	Freeman Store and Museum Exhibit Opening Reception
Sunday, March 2, 1-4PM	Little Library open
Thursday, March 27, 7:30PM	Spring Membership Meeting, Vienna Community Center
Sunday, April 6, 1-4PM	Little Library open
Sunday, April 27, 2- 5PM	Walk on the Hill, Windover Heights Historic District <i>Rain or Shine</i>
Sunday, May 4, 1-4PM	Little Library open
Saturday, May 10, 8AM-1PM	Ayr Hill Garden Club Plant Sale and Garden Faire at the Freeman Store
Saturday, Sunday, & Monday May 24-26	Viva! Vienna!

Please visit our website at [www.historicviennainc.org](http://www.historicviennainc.org) for up to date information on the organization, Freeman Store hours, special events and museum exhibits

**Freeman Store News**

***Freeman Store reopens March 1<sup>st</sup>***

Spring is coming and we look forward to welcoming you back to the Store. Open hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12noon-4PM. Follow us on Instagram at *freemanstore\_museum* or our Facebook group *Historic Vienna, Inc.*



***What’s New?***

Our customers love mugs and our newest mug features Andrea Scheneumeyer’s beautiful illustration of the Freeman Store. Andrea is a former Vienna resident who now lives on the West Coast. It’s exciting to see renderings of our beloved building by talented young artists.

For all of the honey lovers – *honey is back in the store!* Try our new line of honey by Erin’s Elderberries.

***Meet the Maker***

***Westerwald Pottery*** was founded by author, historian, and professor Phil Schaltenbrand. Schaltenbrand’s journey began in 1975 when he was asked to design a few pieces of pottery for America’s upcoming bicentennial. The pieces were modeled after early Pennsylvania stoneware, inscribed with town names, and embellished with traditional colonial-style decoration.



While Westerwald offers a wide array of beautifully painted pottery, their customers love them because they can create personalized, custom pieces. Our personalized Vienna mugs are one of the best-selling items in the

Freeman Store. All pottery is signed, dated, and stamped with a potter's mark. Your stoneware has passed through the hands of up to eight craftsmen and because every piece is handmade, no two products are exactly alike. To date, Westerwald has stamped more than 50,000 towns and cities onto its pottery!

For fifty years now, Westerwald Pottery has continued to produce handmade stoneware pottery. Their factory is located forty-five miles south of Pittsburgh in the historic town of Scenery Hill.

***Pencils Down!***

Exciting changes are on the horizon for the Freeman Store! After many years of handwriting customer receipts, we're

retiring our pencils and introducing a new Point of Sale (POS) system. This upgrade is designed to streamline your checkout experience and enhance overall customer satisfaction.

With the new system, we'll be able to process sales more efficiently, track purchases, and manage our inventory electronically. It will also help us better handle busy events in town, ensuring smoother operations for everyone.

We appreciate your patience as our staff gets up to speed with this new system. Thank you, as always, for supporting the Freeman Store and the Used Book Cellar as we continue to make the Freeman Store a cherished treasure in Vienna.

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

***Used Book Cellar***

Although the Used Book Cellar is closed during January and February, the UBC team has been focused on enhancing the 'sales' room. The shopping area now has a cleaned, newly painted floor and the book processing area has customized, one-of-a-kind built in shelving that will greatly help to hold boxes of books that have not yet been shelved.

Our team has also focused on culling and calling attention to recently donated books, as they prepared for our 4th Super Bowl Book Bag Sale. New and upcoming, scheduled book readings will be offered for our younger readers.

Last year's sales, donations, and support from both our volunteers and shoppers is greatly appreciated. Contact the Freeman Store if you would enjoy volunteering in the Used Book Cellar.

**Young Reader Roundup**

Our children's section is a treasure trove of stories for youngsters of all ages. Donations of quality books continue to arrive so that you can always find something fun and exciting for all age groups from toddlers, to grade school, to young adult.



Oftentimes donations we receive are posted on our Instagram account ([@FreemanStore\\_Museum](#)) so be sure to follow along with us!

We are always happy to receive specific book requests, as well as your donations. Thanks, as always, to our devoted team. The Used Book Cellar continues to provide significant support for Historic Vienna's programs and activities.

*Historic Vienna is asking for book donations all year round.*  
Please follow the guidelines on our website on what and how to donate.

***HVI Board News***

Cathy Hardman is stepping down as a Board Member for Historic Vienna, Inc. We greatly appreciate the contributions she has made to the organization, both as a volunteer and a Board Member since August of 2018. Cathy, has served as Secretary and has been an active volunteer, helping with special events, Oral Histories, the Museum Committee and Archives.

