

Note From Our President . . .

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Supporters:

With your support, the Aldie Heritage Association was active on multiple fronts during 2025. Projects and other initiatives we undertook included the following:

- We completed the restoration of the 1809 James Mercer brick wall after more than six years of advocacy, fundraising and community outreach. In October, the Loudoun County Joint Architectural Review Board named our Village's Wall Project the winner of the 2025 award for "Excellence in Restoration."
- We attended and spoke at public meetings in opposition to portions of the newly-proposed Route 50 Operational Study that threatened to degrade the traffic-calming design that has been so successful in slowing traffic and preserving Little River Turnpike as a scenic highway.
- We sponsored public community meetings on subjects including preservation of our Village churches and the future of the Piedmont Environmental Council's Aldie Assemblage and Roundabout Meadows properties.
- We continued our longstanding collaboration with Aldie Elementary School, contributing funds for enrichment materials for teachers and citizenship awards for students. We presented those awards at the School's "Moving Up" commencement ceremonies in June.
- We joined with other Aldie organizations to mobilize Village clean-up operations, install the annual Christmas-season decorations, and co-sponsor community dinners at the meeting hall at the Aldie Methodist Church.
- We strongly opposed the proposed transformation of Mickie Gordon Park into a large, suburban-type facility with lighted playing fields and other features that are incompatible with the rural character of our area; the County has withdrawn that proposal and "gone back to the drawing board."



John Gulick, Jeanine Manley and Gene Gulland

To continue this and other work, we need your help—your membership, your active participation, and your TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS. As a Village, Aldie does not have a local government or levy taxes, as towns such as Middleburg do. Consider your contribution as a small, voluntary "tax" targeted at protecting and preserving our treasured community. PLEASE JOIN US!



Gene Gulland, President
Aldie Heritage Association

What's Ahead in 2026

As development pressures increase in our region, we expect 2026 to be even more challenging than past years. We will continue the ongoing work from 2025 and also:

- Continue consulting with County officials and the Conservation Fund, which has purchased the 1000+ acre Oak Hill Estate for use as a state park, focusing on protection of the Village from traffic and other impacts.
- Monitor the Mickie Gordon and Route 50 projects as they resurface in modified form, and spearhead community advocacy to protect Aldie.
- Continue our membership in the Loudoun Historic Village Alliance, advocating for protection of Aldie and Loudoun's other historic villages.
- Continue holding community meetings on important topics, including the future of our church properties, protection of our local water resources from groundwater depletion and explanation of the "Small Area Planning" process for rezoning Aldie and other Loudoun villages.
- Launch a program by which residents owning qualifying properties more than 50-years old can obtain attractive historic plaques to post on their properties.
- Sponsor a public celebration ceremony for the formal dedication of the restored Aldie Wall.
- Work with County business development and tourism agencies to attract compatible commercial operations and to raise Aldie's profile as a tourist destination.

Report from NOVA Parks: Aldie Mill and Mount Zion Church

Greetings from Aldie Mill Historic Park!

2025 proved to be a noteworthy year in the ongoing story of Aldie Mill. In May, the Little River experienced its highest rainfall in two decades, providing enough water to power free-wheeling demonstrations of the eastern waterwheel through July. Since the park's opening in 2005, low seasonal water flow has often limited operation of the merchant mill and occasionally paused grinding demonstrations. This pattern reflects the experience of generations of millers before us, who routinely ceased grinding by late summer to clear the mill race and ensure the mill's long-term viability.

In keeping with this legacy of stewardship, NOVA Parks is collaborating with engineers to explore sustainable solutions that would support more consistent grinding demonstrations in the future. Park staff are also undertaking a much-needed update of the site's weathered wayside signage to strengthen interpretation and better share the mill's rich history with visitors. These efforts will enhance the educational value of the site and help ensure that Aldie Mill remains a vibrant resource for the community and for all who appreciate the region's industrial and cultural heritage.

The 2026 season begins on April 4, when the Merchant Mill opens for free tours on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Group tours and school programs are available on weekdays by reservation. Throughout the year, we will also host a series of special programs commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. For details about tours and events, please visit novaparks.com/parks/aldie-mill-historic-park.

Aldie Mill Historic Park is seeking dedicated volunteers to support weekend tours and public programs. Volunteers play a vital role in helping us share the mill's history, engage visitors, and keep this remarkable site active and welcoming. If you are interested in contributing your time and enthusiasm to preserving and interpreting Loudoun County's largest—and most storied—grist mill, please contact Corwyn Garman, Historic Site Manager, at cgarman@nvrpa.org.

For more information about programs and events at Aldie Mill Historic Park, please visit our website at novaparks.com/parks/aldie-mill-historic-park. —Corwyn Garman, NOVA Parks

P.O.Box 20, Aldie, VA 20105 • aldieheritage@gmail.com • aldieheritage.com

TREASURER'S REPORT 2025

	Category
INFLOWS	
Membership / Donation	\$2,684.00
Checks	\$1,259.00
Give-Choose	\$1,100.00
PayPal Received	\$325.00
Aldie Ruritan Giving Partnership	\$1,100.00
Interest Earned	\$0.00
PayPal Withdrawal to Checking	\$311.66
Refunds / Adjustments	\$0.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	\$3,770.66
OUTFLOWS	
Administrative Expenses	
AHA D&O Insurance	\$725.00
PO Box	\$198.00
Office / Postage	\$73.00
Virginia Registration	\$25.00
Paypal Fees	\$13.34
Dropbox	\$119.88
Website Domain & Hosting	\$438.68
TOTAL Administrative	\$1,579.56
Events & Fundraising	
Aldie Day	\$0.00
TOTAL Events & Fundraising	\$0.00
Annual Meeting	
Refreshments	\$167.00
TOTAL AHA Annual Meeting	\$167.00
Projects & Initiatives	
Aldie Wall Balance (Cochran Stone)	\$2,060.00
Sponsorships & Donations	
Middleburg Business & Professionals Association	\$250.00
Aldie Ruritan Giving Partnership	\$1,100.00
Aldie Good Citizen	\$150.00
Aldie Elementary Teacher Support	\$300.00
TOTAL Projects, Sponsorships & Donations	\$3,860.00
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$5,606.56
Starting Balance (01 JAN 2025)	\$50,027.63
TOTAL INFLOWS	\$3,770.66
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$5,606.56
NET	-\$1,835.90
Ending Balance (31 DEC 2025)	\$48,191.73
<i>CASH ON HAND</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>

2025 Aldie Heritage Association Board of Directors

Gene Gulland (President), Guy Gerachis (Vice President), Matt Kukis (Treasurer),
Jeanine Manley (Secretary), Bill Carney, Malcolm Collum, Stacia Frye,
Cheryl Hutchison, Wendy Kirwan, Dave Senty and Cliff Sweatte

Aldie Heritage Association is Proud to Participate in the Following Organizations . . .

Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition

AHA participates in virtual monthly meetings of the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition. LCPCC is a consortium of 55 nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations dedicated to the preservation and protection of the historic and environmental resources of Loudoun County. LCPCC members were instrumental in helping AHA work with Loudoun County representatives to preserve the County-owned properties in the Village. The LCPCC is also working on zoning for the rural policy area following adoption of Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan.

<https://loudouncoalition.org/>

BIZZBUZZ

Aldie Heritage Association members also participate in the Middleburg Professional Business Association's monthly virtual BizBuzz meetings. The networking events give us a chance to get to know what's happening in Middleburg and discuss issues and concerns that affect Middleburg and Aldie.

<https://visitmiddleburgva.com/category/biz-buzz/>

Loudoun Historic Village Alliance

Aldie Heritage Association is a member organization of the Loudoun Historic Village Alliance, and participates in monthly meetings to discuss the latest news, learn about issues and community efforts, share ideas and experiences, and support other Loudoun villages. The Loudoun Historic Village Alliance was formed in 2019 to address the joint and individual challenges of Loudoun County's unincorporated villages.

<https://loudounvillages.org/>

Become a Supporter!

The Aldie Heritage Association is 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization founded to promote the history, character and heritage of historic Aldie Village and the surrounding area. AHA's Directors are local residents and property owners. Some of us have deep and longstanding ties to our village. Others are relative newcomers. We all share the goal of preserving for future generations the historic and scenic community we have inherited.

Join us this year. Pitch in during our annual clean-up days in the Village and at Mount Zion Cemetery. Help tell the history of Aldie to students in our local schools and learn about the citizenship awards they can earn. Make AHA stronger and amplify our voice as we stand against irresponsible development proposals that take no account of the exceptionally beautiful natural and man-made features of our community.

And please make a tax-deductible contribution to support our work. To donate, go to our website: aldieheritage.com/join. And be sure check out our Facebook page for opportunities to get involved:

facebook.com/aldieheritageassociation.

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership gift helps support the Association's mission to promote the history, character and heritage of Aldie, VA and the surrounding area. AHA is a 501(c)(3) organization: contributions are tax-deductible. Please indicate your level of support:

_____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ Other

For more information, please contact us at aldieheritage@gmail.com.