

Friends of Colvin Run Mill

January—March 2023



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ON-GOING EVENTS

General Store: Open Thursdays thru Sundays

Miller’s House Exhibit and Mill Tours:
Saturdays and Sundays. Milling to start again in April of 2023.

See page 4 for exciting new event opportunities

Details and information at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill

END OF YEAR DONATIONS

As you will see throughout this newsletter, continued improvements abound at Colvin Run Mill. These occur through the efforts of the County staff with help from the Friends of Colvin Run Mill (FOCRM).

Please consider an end-of-year donation to FOCRM that will help us maintain the site and contribute to its flourishing. Of particular help would be funds to help maintain the family garden (page 2) (we included long term maintenance in the contract)

How to donate:

Go to “www.FriendsOfColvinRunMill.org” or

[Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

“SNAKE” FENCE REPAIRED

Thanks to the Boy Scouts of Troop 1916, the period fence of split rails has been restored and put to rights. Our thanks to the scouts for this really important maintenance project!



SUCCESSFUL CIDER MAKING

Thanks to staff and many volunteers, the cider making events provided a family friendly and educational journey into the past. Over 150 visitors brought their own apples and used the site’s press to depart with wonderfully tasting and healthy pure apple juice (some references claim that it can only be called “cider” if it has been allowed to harden).

Steve Gobolic setting up the cider press

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING

FAMILY GARDEN UNDER REPAIR

The family garden between the miller's house and mill is getting a redo. The Friends of Colvin Run Mill have contracted to clean out the old and provide new appropriate planting to provide a secluded and attractive place to meditate, picnic and enjoy the wildlife.



Installation of new planting in the family garden — Fall, 2002

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall was filled with many exciting activities at the mill. Oak Tree Properties replanted the family garden with native plants (see opposite); miller Steve cranked up the scutter and press so families could make their own cider ; scouts participated in programs to earn merit badges; and Northern Virginia carvers continued to educate young and old in traditions passed down through generations.

Although grinding has halted for the season, winter programs are underway. Candlelight tours of the mill and festively decorated miller's house (it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!) were finished off with hot cider and cookies. And Santa is coming to town – but already has stopped by the mill – one of the site's most popular events. To start the new year the park's outstanding staff has lined up new programs on history, including preserving your own family history, felt making, and a book club (see page 4).

These programs add to the rich tradition and vibrancy of the mill. Children's gift shopping at the general store has been restarted. When I visited the mill after selling grain products at the Reston Farm Market one Saturday, the store was positively abuzz with children shopping as volunteers assisted them with gift wrapping while parents strolled the grounds, oblivious of what gifts will await them under the tree.

As the year comes to a close, we are, once again, thankful for your support, for the dedication of the park staff, and the wonderful tireless volunteers. Together, we are carrying on traditions that make memories.

Jim Wallar

President, Friends of Colvin Run Mill

**SANTA AT THE
MILL—TWICE!**

**Sat and Sunday
Dec 2022**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO ALL**



NEW MAIL BOX INSTALLED

Our neighbors love it.



Dear Colvin Neighbors,
We are delighted by the
new Mill mailbox which we
are certain is enjoyed not
just by us, but all passersby!
What a work of art!
Warm regards,
Nick & Jackie Dean

WALKWAY BY MILLER'S HOUSE UPGRADED AND GARDEN REFRESHED



THE COLVIN RUN MILL SITE IS EXPANDING AND ENHANCING ITS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ON A BROAD RANGE OF SUBJECTS

*Exciting new and reoccurring events scheduled for Colvin Run Mill, January 2023 thru March 2023.
Check ParkTakes for time and registration requirements.*

Thursday, January 12 Preserving Your History: Oral Histories

Thursdays, January 19 & 26 Beginning Felting Class: Make a Snowman (1 class, 2 sessions)

Saturday, January 21 Exploring Teas: Advanced Workshop

Tuesday, January 24 Book Club The Grand Idea: George Washington and the Race to the West by Joel Achenbach

Saturday, January 28 Simple Machines: Work & Play Saturday,

February 4 What We Know Tour: Enslaved People at the Mill

Thursday, February 16th Preserve Your History: Paper, Photos and Books

Sunday, February 19, 26 and March 12 Maple Syrup Boil Down

Tuesday, February 21 CRM Book Club All That She Carried: the Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake by Tiya Miles

Saturday, March 4 A World of Teas

Sundays, March 5, 19, & April 2 Beginning Woodcarvers Class (1 class, 3 sessions)

Thursday, March 16 Preserve Your History: Objects (textiles, silver, household items and more)

Saturday, March 18 and Thursday, March 23 Women of the Mill: Emma Millard

Tuesday, March 21 CRM Book Club Pride & Prejudice by Jane Austen Saturday, March 25 Exploring Teas: Advanced Workshop

Become an Official "Friend of Colvin Run Mill"

At the Board of Directors Meeting in April 2022, the Board approved membership dues as follows: Individual - \$35 a year, Family - \$55, Business - \$100.

If you join, your membership supports an historic treasure that continues to educate and inform and grind out fine whole wheat flour, not to mention cornmeal, grits, and buckwheat flour.

In addition, you'll continue to receive the Newsletters, have opportunities for special tours, receive samples of stone ground grains at special events, and you will have the right to vote for members of the board of Friends of Colvin Run Mill (one vote for individuals and businesses and two votes for families).

Join now by completing the membership form on the Friends of Colvin Run Mill site (focrm.org/be-a-friend).