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COMING EVENTS

May 5 & 19: Grinding; 12 –3, fee: \$8/ Adults, \$6 Child

May 5: Engineering Day 11-2; \$38, pre-registration required thru ParkTakes

May 5 & Jun 2: Blacksmith demo, 11-3; free (planned; call to confirm 703-759-2771)

Jun 2 & 16: Grinding; 12-3, Fee: \$8 Adults, \$6 Child.

Jun 2 & 16: Wood Carving; 12-3; lessons Ages 12 and up. Free. Nominal charge for wood blocks.

Jun 16: Father's Day Celebration: Free mill tours for all Dads accompanied by their children.

Jul 7 & 21: Grinding; 12-3; fee: \$8 Adults, \$6 Child.

Jul 8-12 and 22-26: Doll Camps; 9 am to 12 pm. Ages 5-9; \$199 per camper. Details in ParkTakes. Preregistration required.

1812 Re-enactors Impress Boy Scouts

On Sunday April 7, the Chesapeake Independent Blues (an element of the Friends of Maryland's War of 1812, Inc.) visited the site and provided demonstrations of musket loading and firing. Eight re-enactors participated, in uniform, and displayed artifacts of the era including cooking utensils and typical food consumed by the soldiers of the day. Good weather and mill grinding contributed to the experiences enjoyed by the Boy Scouts. More pictures on page 4.

Donations to the Friends of Colvin Run Mill make it all possible. Use PayPal at "focrm.org/membership" or send a check to Friends of Colvin Run Mil, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, VA 22066

Mike Henry Honored by the Virginia Association of Museums (VAM)



Scott Harris, Mike Henry, & John Verrill at the recent VAM conference with their AMP (Aging Museum Professional) buttons.

During its recent conference, John Verrill, recognized Mike for his many contributions to VAM. John noted: “Mike has been a leader in the museum community. He has served on the board of the Small Museum Association, he has served on VAM council as a member, Treasurer and VP for Programs. He served as an instructor at 4 VAM Forums, a program of training for museum personnel. He has also taught history and museum studies courses at NVCC. His assistance to the Civil War Trails program is a source of pride. Aside from these activities, he has also served as a MAP reviewer for the American Alliance of Museums. In this role he has assisted museums across our nation.”

Mike will be retiring in December. He volunteered at the site starting in 1986, started working there as Fairfax County employee in 1991, and became the site manager in 1995. Along the way he became a master blacksmith and an accomplished miller. During his tenure, the mill was restored to its full operational configuration and the Miller’s house restored to its 1810 construction.

The Friends wish Mike the very best in retirement and express our deepest appreciation for all he did for the Colvin Run Mill Historic Site.

Notes from the President

LOTS GOING ON!

Good News: A very successful Maple Syrup Boil down with some 450 visitors over three weekends.

Good weather and successful Easter Egg Hunt on April 13. See pictures page 4.

The videos are turning out to be a great addition to tours when we are not grinding. The animated display of the mill is big success. Thank you Mark Ortiz!

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Park Authority permits us to now apply for “Capacity Building Funds” from the Park Foundation and an application has been submitted.

Larry Herman ,Jim Wallar, & Kay Hynson have been making great strides in cleaning up and planting around the site. Thank you Larry, Jim, and Kay.

A birdcage arm chair was bought for the House thanks to the generosity of a single donor and we are working on getting a touch screen display for the barn.

Not so good News: The flume has been assessed as reaching the end of its designed life and will need to be replaced soon.

Mike will be retiring in December (see opposite). His knowledge and experience will be greatly missed. Anything we, The Friends, can do to fill any temporary gap in daily staffing would be greatly appreciated. If you can help out during the week or on weekends, please let Kathryn or me know soonest.

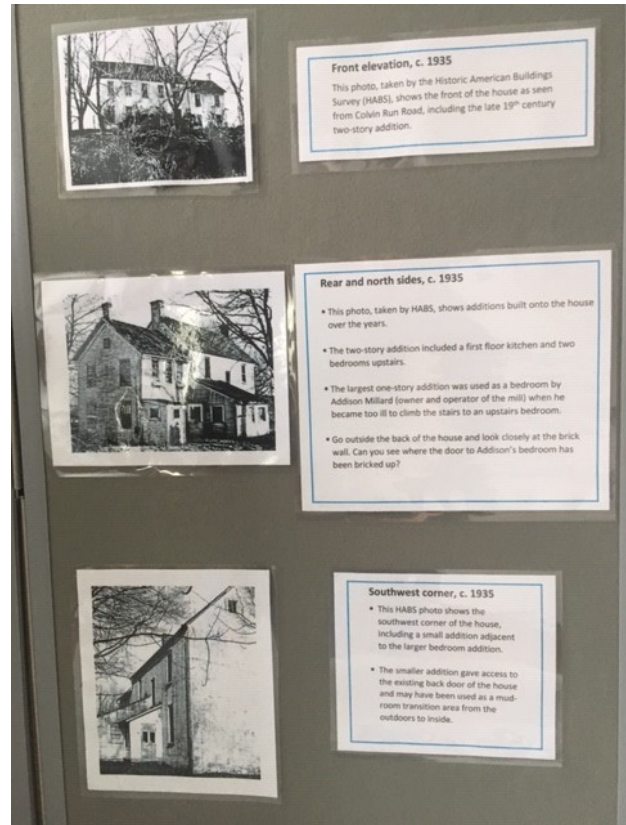
Hope to see you at the mill soon,

Gene Bacher, President

Miller's House Restoration

Great progress is being made in furnishing the house (below) and depicting its evolution (right). The house was open to the public during the maple syrup boil down and attracted a lot of attention. One suggestion was to have something for youngsters to do so the staff added some period toys which added to the experience.

But, we are still in the need of donations for purchasing period pieces of furniture. Two periods are to be depicted, one the Federal period (early 1800s) and the other, the Victorian period (late 1800s/early 1900s, below). If you can contribute to this endeavor, please contact Kathryn Blackwell at 703-759-2771.



Friends Purchase Tea Table for the Miller's House

The Board agreed at its April 9 meeting to purchase a reproduction tea table for the Miller's House. The cost will be, hopefully, partially reimbursed by the County's new Capacity Building Fund. The table is being built by a Leesburg woodworking firm which also made the gaming table for the house.

FOUR FLOOR TOURS

With the completion of the mill video and purchase of the tablets on which to display it, the staff is now offering tours of all four floors. The top two floors have not been open to the public because they are too difficult for people with disabilities to access. Now we can offer the video as a reasonable accommodation. Tours are offered on Saturdays starting at 10:30, A fee of \$10 is required as is registration thru ParkTakes.

SUMMER CAMPS AT THE MILL

Aug 5-9: Miller Adventure Camp. Learn to operate antique and modern milling equipment. Will include hikes, historic chores, and crafts. Ages 8-14, 9 am to 4 pm daily. \$350 per camper. Register thru ParkTakes.

Aug 12-16: Camp SheEO: Business Girl. Be a SheEO and learn to own, lead and manage a business (like a mill?). Go from the classroom to the stockroom to the board room with a purpose and a plan. Ages 13-16. Register thru ParkTakes. Vendor run camp.



SUCCESSFUL EASTER EGG HUNT, APRIL 13



WAR OF 1812 RE-ENACTORS



MUSKET LOADING