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COMING EVENTS

Aug 6: Grinding, 12 to 3. Ticket required. Blacksmith demo.

Aug 20: Free Grinding Demo!! See article page 3. Blacksmith demo.

Aug 6 and 20: Free Wood Carving Lessons 12 to 4 (See article page 4)

Sep 3 and 17: Grinding, 12-3. Ticket required. Blacksmith demo

Saturday, Sep 23: Cocktails of the Early Republic. Evening event with tastings, history of alcohol use in the early 1800s, mill tour, and light hors d'oeuvres. \$45 inclusive. Call 703-759-2771 for details. See article page 3.

Oct 1 and 15: Grinding, 12-3, Ticket required. Blacksmith demo.

Oct 1: Engineering Day the Mill. For 6 to 12 year olds. Use Legos to model the race and gearing for the grinding stones. Registration required. \$40 fee. See ParkTakes or on-line. See article page 3.

For up-to-date information about programs and registration, call the mill at 703-759-2771.

Deaf Visitors Learn About Blacksmithing



In May, some 20 deaf visitors toured the mill and the blacksmith shop with the help of the Fairfax County's ADA/Inclusion Branch which provided interpreters for the event. Similar events can be scheduled upon request with two weeks notice for visitors with disabilities. Call 703-759-2771 for information and talk to Kathryn Blackwell.

RUN OF THE MILL PROGRAM

Designed to give people a greater understanding of the milling process with a 4 floor tour that allows program participants a behind the scenes look at the Oliver Evans system. Participants then clean, mill and sift grains using our antique equipment and are given a bag of what is milled to take home. The program lasts two hours and costs \$20 per person. Registration required. Call 703-759-2771 for instructions.

Consider making general contributions to the Friends by identifying "FOCRM" on Amazon Smile.

From the President

There's good news and bad news with our lighting project. Because the project is so different than what most electrical contractors are used to, the right fit hasn't yet been found. The idea now is to look at the possibility of finding someone with stage lighting experience. We're hoping it just might work.

Re-use and re-cycle is the order of the day, and consistent with the way treated their belongings two hundred years ago. The farmers and millers of the day really wouldn't think of letting still useful items go to waste. In keeping with that theme, when the old copper gutters were removed from the house during its recent renovation, it was pretty clear that they ought to be put to another good use. As it turned out, one of the mill staff members knows someone who works with metal and can turn the copper into lanterns that will be used on the site. FOCRMR will be covering the cost of the work. If you come out for the evening cocktail program in September, or Christmas at the Mill in December, you will see some of these wonderful new/old lanterns.

The site is also raising money to purchase a pair of hand grinding stones that will be available for use in various programs. A pair of stones will cost about \$1,000. You can donate at the General Store, or send a donation to FOCRMR (indicate it's for the stones) to FOCRMR, 10017 Colvin Run Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066.

While several new volunteers have joined Colvin Run Mill Historic Site in the last few months, more are always welcome. If you're interested, contact Kathryn Blackwell at 703-759-2771. Go to the website for more information:

<http://Fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer>.

See you at the Mill!

Kitty O'Hara



**A moth at the mill on Sunday,
July 2. Can you identify it?
Answer on page 4.**

MEET THE MILL STAFF

Philip Hosea, the newest staff member, was born in Springfield, IL and moved to the Washington, DC area in 1999 after receiving his Associates Degree in Communications. Working for years in the commercial glazing industry, he was also an active 18th century reenactor. In 2015 his avocation became his vocation as well when he was hired by Historic London Town and Gardens in Edgewater, MD as a museum educator. In March of this year he was hired by Colvin Run Mill as the Schools Coordinator. He lives with his wife in Cheverly, MD and continues reenacting as a hobby.

JUST IN

ANOTHER SPECIAL PROGRAM PLANNED

Sunday, November 12: Grinding (weather permitting) (tickets required) and a special free feature exploring the importance of the mill's production of "ship stuff," the coarsely ground flour used to feed sailors. Presented by "The Ship's Company" which is dedicated to preserving maritime history. Will explore the importance of sailor's rations and nutrition.

Restoration Projects Continue and Special Events are Planned



The front of the house with new roof, a new handicap ramp, repointed, and new shutters—July 2017



The down stairs parlor with ceiling replaced and painted - July 2017

Upcoming Special Events

Sunday, August 20: A very special day for a number of reasons: first, it is the 40th anniversary of the Mill being added to the National Register of Historic Places; secondly, it is the date on the 1809 bill of sale of the mill. Soooo... in honor of this history, we're celebrating with an open house, both the mill site and the restored house (at left). The downstairs will be open to the public (though not yet furnished) and county staff will be on site to solicit visitor inputs on the long range interpretive plan for the site. No tickets required!!!!

Saturday, September 23: Cocktails of the early republic. A brand new program designed to acquaint visitors with the alcoholic drinks common during the founding of our country. Historian William Knight will be at the mill mixing historic cocktails for you to sample while he talks about the importance of alcohol in these United States in the early 1800s. \$45 all inclusive fee. Call the site at 703-759-2771 for registration details.

Sunday, October 1: Engineering Day at the Mill. A repeat of last year's popular program for kids aged 6–12 where they use Legos to recreate a miniature water race, the water wheel, and the grinding stones. As in introduction to the mechanical engineering aspects of the mill, this program can't be beat. Preregistration required.

JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS

Carving Lessons at the Mill



The Northern Virginia Carvers provide free lessons at the Mill each summer, June thru August., 1st and 3rd Sundays, 12:00 to 4:00. It's mission is to:

1. Preserve, enhance and perpetuate the American cultural tradition of artistry and craftsmanship in woods;
2. Provide guidance and assistance to beginners and experienced alike;
3. To create opportunities for fellowship with others who share an interest in carving-regardless of their level of carving experience; and,
4. To let the general public experience the joy and "feel" of wood carving.

There is a small fee to pay for the pre-cut blanks. **Carving participants MUST be at least TWELVE (12) years old to use the carving knives.**

Come join the fun!

The moth pictured on page 2 is an Orange-tipped Oakworm.



Wood carving lessons in the temporary education center– June 2017



Wooden pre-cut "blanks" used to start the carving process