
The Gristmill Gazette

Jerusalem Mill Village Newsletter Fall 2021



2813 Jerusalem Rd., Kingsville, MD

www.jerusalemill.org

410-877-3560

Scheduled Events

Saturday, September 18th: Amateur Jousting Club Championship Joust, starting at noon, in the jousting field behind the Jerusalem Mill bank barn on Jericho Road. This is the final joust of the year.

Saturday, September 18th: 11 AM to 4 PM. 250th anniversary, "Back in Time Day", at the Fork United Methodist Church, 12800 Fork Rd., Fork, MD. Jerusalem Mill blacksmiths will be participating in the celebration by demonstrating their craft, in period attire, using the portable forge. There will also be a Union Infantry exhibit, a Revolutionary War Color Guard, War of 1812 Infantry, Perry Hall Mansion display, Strawbridge Museum display, music, food court, bounce house, face painting, and more.

Friday, October 8th: Gunpowder Falls State Park (GFSP) Volunteer Pancake Breakfast. 9 AM. Enjoy a complete breakfast prepared on-site by the GFSP executives and staff. All Gunpowder Falls State Park and Friends of Jerusalem Mill volunteers are invited to attend. RSVP by calling the park office on 410-592-2897.

Saturday, October 9th: Fall Yard Sale, 8 AM to 2 PM. We'll have a wide variety of vintage items, household goods, books, DVDs, tools, equipment, toys, hardware, supplies, small furniture, etc. Nothing has been held over from the Spring yard sale! If you have any items to donate, call the Visitor Center at 410-877-3560 to arrange for drop-off, or simply bring the items on the 9th. Please, no chemicals, food, towels, bedding or large furniture. Most items in the yard sale will not be pre-priced. Take whatever you want, and make a cash donation in whatever amount you think is appropriate. Tables will be spread out across the ball field to accommodate social distancing. 100% of the proceeds go toward the maintenance, repair and daily operations of the Jerusalem Mill Village, and will help us make up for some of the lost revenue due to the pandemic.

Saturday, October 9th: Second Saturday Serve volunteer day, 9 AM to 12 PM. Help us with a variety of tasks to maintain, repair and preserve the Jerusalem Mill Village. We'll provide the tools and refreshments. There's no need to register in advance. Just show up Saturday morning, meet us at the General Store, sign in, and we'll put you to work!

Saturday, October 16th: 9th annual Gunpowder Falls Cross Country Invitational in the Jerusalem Mill Village field behind the parking lot. Hosted by Dulaney High School. Twelve schools are already registered. All day.

Saturday, November 13th: Second Saturday Serve volunteer day, 9 AM to 12 PM. Help us with a variety of tasks to maintain, repair and preserve the Jerusalem Mill Village. We'll provide the tools and refreshments. There's no need to register in advance. Just show up Saturday morning, meet us at the General Store, sign in, and we'll put you to work!

Saturday, November 20th: Harford County Running Club 50k ultra out and back course on the Little Gunpowder trail system, starting at Jerusalem Mill Village. All day.

Saturday, December 11th: Second Saturday Serve volunteer day, 9 AM to 12 PM. Help us with a variety of tasks to maintain, repair and preserve the Jerusalem Mill Village. We'll provide the tools and refreshments. There's no need to register in advance. Just show up Saturday morning, meet us at the General Store, sign in, and we'll put you to work!

In the Spotlight:



Thank You!

Our Living History program is finally back, after being on hold for 14 months due to the pandemic. Visitors can once again step back in time to the 18th and 19th centuries and experience life in a typical rural industrial village by watching the crafters and artisans at work. It was a challenging year, but thanks to the support of our members, sponsors and donors, we were able to continue to meet the basic financial obligations associated with maintaining and operating the 11 buildings and 24 acres entrusted to our care.

Although our visitor volume has only returned to about 70% of our average over prior years, this year we have already hosted visitors from 28 other states and four other countries, just since May 1st. Our dedicated volunteers continue to work tirelessly to provide an educational and entertaining environment for people of all ages to enjoy. We hope you'll continue to support our mission of preserving the village and presenting its living history. There are many ways you can help: volunteer your time (as little as 3 hours per month), become a sponsor or member, designate Friends of Jerusalem Mill as your charity of choice when you shop at Amazon (Amazon will make a donation on every purchase), attend our events, include us as part of your estate planning, donate materials to our yard sale, and of course we always accept cash donations (through donation boxes, PayPal, Network for Good, etc.).

Here's a sampling of just a few of the projects that are upcoming, essential to maintaining and preserving the historic structures in our inventory and to continuing our educational programs:

- Replace the accessible ramp behind the General Store, to make the store available to all visitors.
- Complete the reconstruction and fit-up of the bank barn, which can then be used for indoor events and can be rented out for private events, giving us another source of income to fund our mission.
- Install a kitchen and powder room in the mansion so the first floor can be used for historic interpretation and the second floor for income-producing activities.
- Complete the conversion of the garage into a blacksmith school to train future generations of blacksmiths who can continue our tradition of smithing in the village.
- Replace the shingles on the leaking blacksmith shop roof
- Replace the shingles on the post office/tenant house

- Restore the original kitchen and hearth in the mansion so we can use it for historic interpretation.
- Restore Dr. Phyllis Pullen's office in honor of her contributions as one of the first female doctors and one of the last "country" doctors in the area, and celebrate her many accomplishments raising and showing horses and terriers, and as a painter and sculptor.
- Purchase equipment that will allow us to finally accept charge cards at concerts and other events, at the yard sale, and for donations and purchases in the Visitor Center – Museum.
- Build a soffit ladder extension and modify the doors on the chicken coop to protect the entrances from rain. Note: the chicken coop is actually used for exhibit space during "education days", and used for storage during the off-season.

Your support will help us accomplish at least some of these projects, and will help us to continue to meet the normal day-to-day financial obligations associated with managing an entire village. We can't do this without you! Thank you for your support!

Introducing our volunteers

In each edition of our newsletters, we like to introduce you to some of our volunteers who help make this organization such a success. In this edition we introduce two volunteers who joined our staff this year.

Cate Isert is our summer-fall intern, and comes to us from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom where she is working on her Master degree in Building History. She attained her Bachelor degree in History at Brigham Young University in Utah, where she was Valedictorian in her class, and where she also served as a Teaching Assistant. She also lived in Russia for five years, and has traveled extensively throughout the world. Cate's primary project in Jerusalem Mill Village is studying the mansion to help unravel the mystery of the construction chronology and architectural changes over the past 240 years, which gives her a very challenging opportunity for practical application of her formal education in a real-world environment. We're looking forward to Cate's final report!

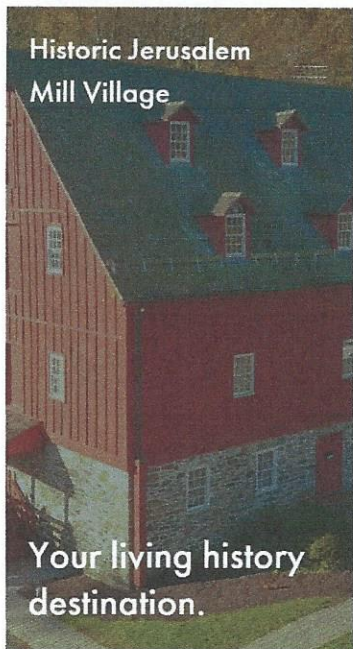


Chloe Greenwood is our newest blacksmith, and has been in the metal trades since 2018, starting as a machinist and then as a mechanic for steam locomotives in Colorado. Since then, she has worked in a small smithy in her backyard. Her specialty is housewares and small tools, both of which fit well in our living history program. Chloe says she's "there's something special about working at old sites and carrying on a truly ancient tradition"

New Distribution Schedule

The Gristmill Gazette will continue to be distributed on a quarterly basis, but will now be distributed in September, December, March, and June. This new distribution schedule better aligns with our events and activities schedule, to keep you informed on what's coming up in the village.

Our New Web Site



If you've visited our web site lately, you've noticed a change in design and content. More and more of our visitors are using smart phones to access information about Jerusalem Mill Village, so the new design is much more compatible with smart phones, without compromising its utility on tablets, laptops and desktops. Thanks to our web designer, Quattlebaum Services in Central, South Carolina, our web site is now easily accessed and navigated from any medium. A simple way of characterizing one big difference is "more scrolling, less clicking"! And yet, we've packed even more information on our web site. You can easily access information on visiting the village, whether you want to get directions, see what's available on the grounds, learn about our regular activities, schedule private events, or obtain a commercial photography permit. You can also read more "About" us if you're considering becoming a member or sponsor, if you want to hear about our preservation or living history, or if you want to peruse our photo gallery. There's also information on volunteering, special public events, shopping for gifts or souvenirs, or donating to our important

mission of preserving history and sharing it with the public. There's also one-click connections to our Instagram and FaceBook accounts. Check us out at www.jerusalemill.org.

Coming Soon – A Blacksmith School!

The Friends of Jerusalem Mill are pleased to announce that the blacksmith school building is nearing completion and we hope to start offering classes as early as this fall. Class size will be small, to ensure that students get personal attention, and will be designed to provide students with hands-on training in a variety of blacksmithing tools and techniques from fundamental to advanced training. Students will be permitted to keep handcrafted items produced by them during the class. Successful students may be offered an opportunity to join the living history staff and demonstrate their new skills to the public. To receive detailed information as it becomes available, send an e-mail request to jerusalemill@yahoo.com, and be sure to include your contact information (phone number and e-mail address).

Walking Tours Now Available

We are happy to introduce a great new opportunity to learn more about the historic Jerusalem Mill Village and hear stories about some of the people who lived and worked in the village over the past 250 years. Starting in September 2021 we are offering walking tours of the village. These guided tours will take you on a stroll throughout the entire village, and will include a visit into many of the buildings. Along the way you're almost certain to hear about aspects of the village that you probably didn't already know, no matter how many times you've visited! You'll see where and how the people lived and worked, and hear some of their stories. The tour usually takes at least an hour, but can take 1 ½ to 2 hours depending on the pace of the walk, the number of sites the group wants to see, and the quantity of questions and discussions that are prompted during the tour (and we encourage both!). Walking tours are available by appointment only, and cost \$15 for guests 16 years old and up, \$10 for children 12 through 15

years old, \$5 for children under 12 when accompanied by an adult. Members of Friends of Jerusalem Mill get a 30% discount on adult tickets! Plan on walking approximately 1 ½ miles, some of which may include gravel paths, a forest trail, road and bridge crossings, and some stairs. To make a reservation, please call our Visitor Center – Museum on 410-877-3560 and leave a message with your contact information.

Welcome New Members!

We welcome the following members who have joined or re-joined the Friends of Jerusalem Mill since July 1st:

Timothy Knabe (lifetime)
George & Jo Ann Geist
William & Linda Minarik

Dr. Gary & Teresa Fiskum
Anne Kauders (lifetime)

Another Idiom Explained

The expression “Sleep tight! Don’t let the bedbugs bite!” originated in the days of rope beds, which were a staple in American homes until the 19th century. A rope bed is a type of platform bed in which the mattress is supported by a lattice of rope, rather than the wooden slats we use today. The ropes need to be tightened regularly with a bed wrench, as they tend to sag with usage. When the ropes in a rope bed are loose, anyone trying to lie down on the bed will just roll toward the middle. It has been suggested that when a houseguest had overstayed his or her welcome, the host might loosen the ropes on the guest’s bed as a way to send the message that it may be time to leave! So “sleep tight” refers to the best way to adjust the ropes in order for the sleeper to get a good night’s rest.

When the weather got cold, a rope bed would be topped with an insulating palliasse or tick, which would traditionally be filled with natural materials (e.g., straw, chaff, down feathers, etc.) Unfortunately, these natural materials attracted bugs that fed on or nested in the materials and also tended to bite whoever was trying to sleep in the bed. Bedbugs were an uncomfortable fact of life, but “don’t let the bedbugs bite!”.

To contact the newsletter editor, send an e-mail to gristmillgazette@gmail.com, or call the Visitor Center – Museum at 410-877-3560. To add another e-mail address to our subscription list, send an e-mail to gristmillgazette@gmail.com with a subject line of “subscribe” and enter the new e-mail address in the text box. To cancel your free subscription to the Gristmill Gazette, send an e-mail to gristmillgazette@gmail.com with a subject line of “unsubscribe”.

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