

GRIST FROM THE MILL

COLVIN RUN MILL
HISTORIC SITE

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

August 2008

Changes, Down by the Old Mill Stream

We miss Mary Allen!

Mary's retirement last month left big shoes to fill. With county money tight, it is unlikely her position will be filled soon and we will all be pitching in to try and fill the gap.

Jennifer Blackwood will schedule volunteers and prepare the monthly calendar of activities. You'll be hearing from her by phone or e-mail.

Ann Korzeniewski will gather information and edit the newsletter.

Please send your news and notes her way. The newsletter has a new look this month and a new delivery system via e-mail. Please share your comments (pro and con) with Ann.

Ann and Dawn Kehrer will take turns attending Resource Management Division Volunteer Committee meetings and will keep everyone up to date on volunteer issues.

We'll still need you to track your volunteer hours on the index cards in the lunch room.

For many years, Mary was the friendly face of Colvin Run Mill and a dedicated advocate for all of you who donate your valuable time and varied talents to the site.

We will try to follow in her footsteps and keep our noses to the grindstone — even though we miss her!



To e-mail any staff member: firstname.lastname@fairfaxcounty.gov

2008 SPOOM Conference

Garrett County, Maryland, known for Deep Creek Lake boating and skiing, is home to some fantastic old mills. **Stantons Mill** in Grantsville will host this year's SPOOM conference

September 25—28, and six other sites will be visited on the bus tour.

Pre-conference workshops include Miller Training, Slate Painting, and Blacksmithing.

Registrations must be received by August 31. Find forms and more information at www.spoom.org.



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WEEKENDS IN AUGUST:

Northern Virginia Carvers
Sundays 8/3 & 8/17
Noon—4pm

Celebrate Ice Cream
Saturdays, 8/9 & 8/23
Noon—4pm

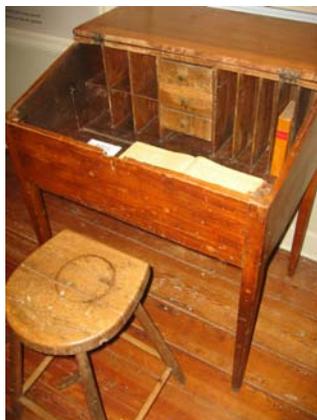
Grinding Grains
Sundays, conditions permitting
Noon—3pm

SPECIAL PROGRAM:

Children's Concert
Fairfax Symphony Brass Quintet
Thursday 8/14, 2—3pm
FREE



From the Miller's Desk



The next SPOOM *Mid-Atlantic Chapter* meeting will be held in York County, PA, on Friday and Saturday, August 8 and 9.

Featured mills are the historic **Wallace Cross Mill** and **Muddy Creek Forks Mill** in southern York County, and the reconstructed **Bradley Mill** located within the Agri-

cultural and Industrial Museum in downtown York. Experts will be at all three sites to describe the mills' restoration and interpretation.

Conference events are open to SPOOM members and other mill fans. A brochure with schedule, registration form, costs, hotel accommodations and other informa-

tion is available online at www.yorkcountyparks.org or through the Registrar at 717-741-4366 or JudyGrove@Verizon.net.



FY08 : A BUSY YEAR

During fiscal year '08, July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, 19,966 people visited Colvin Run Mill Historic Site — an 11% increase over last year.

And YOU gave **6,991 hours** — a 7% increase.

THANKS!

¡Adios Andy!

Andy Procko is leaving us again. This time he's moving to Florida to live with his daughter and her family.

Since 1993 Andy has shared his love of history and wide-ranging curiosity with visitors. In 1994 he began the site's maple syrup boil-down to demonstrate "sugaring." This program continues to be

popular with winter visitors and we all enjoy the syrup at the annual Volunteer Breakfast.

Andy also investigated gold panning and introduced day campers to the thrill of finding gold in nearby Difficult Run.

He was site Volunteer of the Year in 1996 and served the Friends of

Colvin Run Mill as their first treasurer.

In 2005, Andy and his wife Annie retired to Washington State. When Annie died, he returned to Reston and resumed his place with the Friday crew at the mill.

We wish him well as he heads south to begin another new venture.

School Daze

☞ We bid a fond farewell to **Julie Bell**, who begins her freshman year at the University of Virginia this month where she will major in history and education.

☞ **Drew Foulis**, Mason's trusty dusty, returns to Radford University for his junior year as an outdoor education major.

☞ **Pam Gennari** goes back to the 1st grade at Loudoun Country Day School and resumes her weekly Sunday schedule in the General Store.

NEXT MONTH:

- **RMD Volunteer Awards at Green Spring Gardens Saturday, September 20, 9:30am—noon**



ON THE ROAD with Marian Doddington in Redding, CA

by MARJORIE LUNDEGARD

This article is *"On the Road with Marian"* as reported from the information provided by my friend Marian Doddington who visited Moore's Flour Mill in Redding, California, when visiting her brother. Before her departure, I encouraged Marian to visit this mill and bring back photos. As it so happened, the mill was already a favorite shopping site for her brother and his family. Marian brought back several pictures of both the inside and outside of the mill located at 1605 Shasta Street, in the northern part of the state which is not the area the Lundegards usually visit on their trips west.

Around 1975, Bob Moore, Sr., established this mill in Redding, California. The mill has two runs of stones, one 42 inches in diameter and the other set a 24 inch edge runner. The mill also has a scourer and sifter plus all the necessary equipment to manufacture flour. The mill is powered by electrical motors, not water power, and grinds several varieties of whole grain flour using buhrstones. Today Bob Moore, Jr., operates Moore's Flour Mill and sells a wide variety of flour products.

Moore's Flour Mill is an interesting place to visit.

Natural stone-ground products, whole grain flours, cereals, meals, bulk grains, seeds, beans, gluten-free products, mixes and spices can be purchased at the mill's store.

Bob Moore, Sr., is an interesting person who enjoys fixing old pieces of machinery. Even as a child Bob was curious about how things worked. So he began collecting old grain milling equipment and making it workable. Bob acquired several sets of stones from an old water-powered flour mill in North Carolina. He became interested in milling after reading the 1948 book called *John Gaffe's Mill* which told the story of a young man who restored his family's old gristmill.

In the 1960's, Bob was managing an auto service shop in Redding. In his spare time, he did his homework on the old methods of milling. In 1973 he purchased his first set of millstones and within a year he began operating Moore's Flour Mill.

Four years later, he retired and moved to Portland, Oregon. He sold

the Redding mill to one of his three sons, Bob Moore, Jr. However, retirement just wasn't what Bob, Sr., wanted. He bought another mill in Oregon and began a milling business. That mill was known as Bob's Red Mill.

However, ten years later an arson fire destroyed the mill. Hard work and determination led to the rebuilding of the mill and within six months it was operating again. Today, products are milled with a combination of the old buhrstones and new stones imported from Denmark. He has 115 employees on his 6.5 acres of land where he grinds, packages, labels and operates a distribution center, a restaurant, and a visitors' center. He sells more than 300 products that include buckwheat pancake mix, cereal, whole wheat bread flour and flaxseed.

In 1996, Bob, Sr., decided to retire again and turned the mill over to his two new partners, Dennis Gilliam and John Wagner. Bob's Red Mill continues to offer the highest quality natural foods and gluten-free products.



"Our whole grain flours, cereals, meals, and mixes are freshly made with care on our century old French buhrstones. We are a place where quality reigns supreme."

**Moore's Flour Mill
Redding, CA**

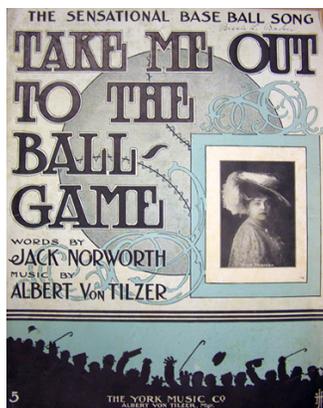


**Photos by
Marian Doddington**



Arti—FACTS by Dawn

The Boys of Summer



“...Milliard’s [sic] delivery would do credit to a professional.”

Fairfax Herald

July 31, 1888

☞ Which baseball song just celebrated its 100th anniversary?

☞ Which local baseball club once out-scored its opponent by 35 runs?

Don’t know?

Stop by the Colvin Run General Store to find the answers in the new case exhibit. On display are a reproduction of the front page for the song that just celebrated its 100th anniversary, “*Take Me Out to the Ballgame*,” an 1888 newspaper article about the Colvin Run Base Ball

Club, a photo of the Great Falls Base Ball Club, a youth bat and two youth gloves.

I hope you have a chance to read the article about a ball game played between the Colvin Run Base Ball Club and the team from Clark’s School House. In it, one of the Millard boys (first name not given) moved the writer to say that his pitching “would do credit to a professional.” Millard’s team won that game with a lopsided score of 46 to 11.

You will also see the attire for base ball clubs in the photo of the Great Falls team, and see the kind of bat and gloves a child would have played with 60 to 70 years ago.

One of the gloves is a Si Johnson, Jr., glove. Remember him? I don’t either. He played ball with four different teams from 1928 to 1947.

Many thanks to the volunteer staff of the Arlington Historical Society who generously loaned the gloves.

GREAT FALLS
BASE BALL CLUB



Can You Dig It?



Paid and volunteer Park Authority archaeologists from the Cultural Resources Management & Protection Section are investigating outbuildings

here this summer. They identified potential “hot spots” using aerial photos from 1937 and historical documentation. So far, they have opened a 1x1 meter unit near the mill and found a little bit of glass, a few nails and a lot of bricks.

They have also probed the soil downhill in front of the miller’s house and

found what we believe are the remnants of the icehouse. Further work will focus on defining the walls and entrance of the icehouse.

Weather permitting, investigations will continue through August, every Friday from 9 a.m. to 2p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering to work with the archaeologists, contact Aimee Wells at

703-534-3881 or aimee.wells@fairfaxcounty.gov



Kudos to Dawn Kehrer

Dawn Kehrer has won an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History for her meticulously researched Colvin Run Mill Furnishings Plan. The award, which recognizes excellence for projects, individual achievement and organizational general excellence, will be presented at the 2008 conference in Rochester, New York, on September 12.

The primary purpose of the Colvin Run Mill Furnishings Plan is to ensure the accuracy and guide

acquisitions of furnishings for our Oliver Evans-style gristmill. But just as important, we believe this is *the first comprehensive furnishings plan* created for a gristmill in the United States, and its benefit to others in the historic mill community will be substantial. Interpreters know what they *do* display; but they lack plans showing all they *could and should* display to accurately portray milling operations.

Dawn's floor-by-floor plan will be a model for

the field of mill interpretation. Mills often focus solely on how the machinery operates and what is produced. Dawn has gone further by thoughtfully documenting the details that make a work place come alive.

Dawn is grateful for the help of CRM volunteers who scanned images, created floorplans, proofed copy, gave computer advice and indexed images.

A copy of the plan is on top of the bookshelf in the lunchroom.



AASLH
American Association
for State and Local History

August Birthdays

1 — **Drew Foulis** plans to celebrate by watching the day's Siberian solar eclipse on the internet.

10 — **Crystal Allison &**

27 — **Vernon Allison.** On the theory that the family who celebrates together, stays together, Crys & Vernon are looking forward to "the best birthday ever" when their kids and grandkids all gather 'round this month.

10 — **Marjorie Lundegard** will also party with her family: first at a combined celebration with her sister and brother-in-law; and again when her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren visit from California.

26 — **Mike Toms** celebrated early this year with a month-long trip Down Under in the spring. He and wife Martha spent three weeks in Australia and another week exploring the islands of New Zealand. They're traveling again this month for some R&R in Alabama.





COLVIN RUN MILL HISTORIC SITE

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A PUBLICATION OF
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COLVIN RUN MILL HISTORIC SITE



www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm



Don Sweeney, FCPA



The mission of Colvin Run Mill Historic Site is to maintain and interpret its historic buildings and collections for the enrichment of Fairfax County residents and visitors as they relate to the themes of technology and community in 19th century rural northern Virginia.

Manager: Mike Henry

Assistant Manager/Newsletter Editor: Ann Korzeniewski

Miller: Mason Maddox

Historic Collections Coordinator: Dawn Kehrer

Programs, Volunteer Scheduling & Sales: Jennifer Blackwood

Jills of All Trades: Crystal Allison & Pam Gennari

Summer Dusty: Drew Foulis