

DOUBLE MILLS INC.
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PO BOX 120
MARDELA SPRINGS, MD 21837
WWW.DOUBLEMILLS.ORG

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Editor: Stephanie Elliott

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The Mockingbird

“Bring Down the Mill” Campaign Launched

In August, Expert House Movers, under the direction of owner Jerry Matyiko, raised the mill to facilitate the pouring of a new foundation. Part of the current foundation dates to at least the 1870s, while the rest dates to the 1930s, including several piers which were in danger of giving way due to erosion of the soil around the mill. The oldest part of

\$90,000. In order to fund the project, Double Mills Inc needs to raise \$50,000 from private donors in order to get a “match” grant of \$50,000. This \$100,000 would give the organization enough money to fund the foundation and also have some money left over to start on the raceway.

We are asking for the support of our members and concerned citizens of the community to help us raise these funds and “bring down the mill.” There are several fund-raising activities planned, which we hope will be embraced by the community (see p.3). We are also asking for individual and corporate donations and appreciate any amount. Please send donations to Treasurer, PO Box 120, Mardela Springs, MD 21837



This picture shows the erosion that put the mill in danger of collapsing.

the foundation has eight-foot-high walls and is actually a basement which houses a lot of the gears, belts, and mechanisms that ran the mill.

The price tag for the new foundation is expected to be in the vicinity of \$75,000—



The mill is currently raised off its foundation

Mardela Springs Afghans Have Arrived!

The Mardela Springs Afghans have arrived. If you ordered one or more of the afghans, you may pick them up at our dinner/meeting at Snetten Church Community House on Oct. 28, 2008 from 6-8 pm. Feel free to join us for dinner and view a power point of the history and current restoration of Double Mills. If you would like to dine with us, or are unable to pick up at this time, please email stephanie@doublemills.org to make arrangements to get your afghan. If your afghan

has already been delivered, please still join us for dinner!

If you did not order one, but would like to do so, please contact us at the aforementioned email address. Orders can still be placed, but cannot be guaranteed for Christmas delivery. Price of the afghans is \$37.50 plus tax. Checks may be made payable to Double Mills Inc. and orders mailed to Double Mills Inc., PO Box 120 Mardela Springs, MD 21837.

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Olde Towne Candle Co. Fundraiser

Double Mills Incorporated

Officers:

President, Leland Smith;
 Vice President, Kevin Coleman; Treasurer, Stephanie Elliott; Secretary, Lisa Coleman

Board of Directors:

Carolyn Adkins, Sylvia Bradley, Kevin Coleman, David Kenney, Lydia Passwaters, Craig Twilley, Lester Twilley, Ellen Wright

Miller's Legacy Being Fulfilled— Haunting Words From the Past

Sherman Cooper loved Double Mills grist mill as much or more than anyone else in its 200-year existence. He had been the miller there for almost twenty years, and had worked beside his wife, Beula, and his partner Bo to turn out a product that was second to none. He was so proud to be the miller of this mill, and could recount its rich history.

Cooper had lost his wife the previous year, and at 81 years of age he was beginning to realize his own mortality. On a cool autumn day in 1975, he took a piece of cardboard and a carpenter's pencil and sat on the platform outside the entrance to the mill he loved and scrawled the words of the following poem; words that have haunted his family for over 30 years.

Several of Cooper's grandchildren and great-grandchildren are involved with the restoration of historic Double Mills, and are determined to help fulfill their grandfather's legacy.

"The Miller and the Mill"

As long as water runs downhill
I want to run old Double Mill.
And when my milling days are o'er,
And I lock the old mill door,
Never to return anymore,
I will be with my loved ones
Over on the other shore.

And I, the old Mill,
Sit down the hill,
Very quiet and very still,
Hoping some good man will come by,
Unlock the door and give me a try,
Just as he did in days gone by.

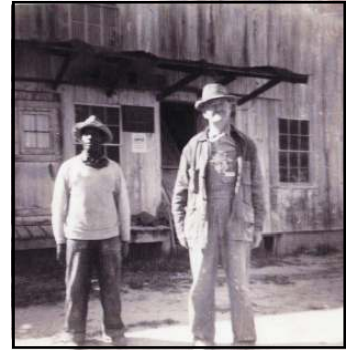
Just fill the hopper and sweep the floor;
Pull the gates; put water on the wheel;
And I will give you some Double Mills meal.

Now if these things should not come to pass,
And I, the old Mill, am left here to die at last,
You won't hear the rumbling of my wheels anymore
For my dear old Miller is on the other shore.

- Sherman Cooper, 1975



Sherman Cooper c. 1975



Sherman Cooper and his helper, "Bo," in the early 1960s



Bag logo from 1965



Directors Attend Mid-Atlantic SPOOM Meeting

Four of our directors, Kevin Coleman, Lisa Coleman, Sylvia Bradley, and Stephanie Elliott, attended the meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Society for the Preservation Of Old Mills (SPOOM) meeting in York, Pa., Aug 8th and 9th. While there, they visited the Wallace-Cross Mill; the Muddy Creek Forks Roller Mill & Grain Elevator; the Ma & Pa Railroad Museum and general store; the York Agricultural & Industrial Museum; and the Nixon County Park & Nature Center.

Several classes were held, including: "Planning and Preparing Interpretive Displays"; "Branding and Interpreting Your Mill Site"; and "Philanthropy and Mill Preservation: Creating a Lasting Partnership." The tours were enjoyed by all and lots of ideas were noted for future reference.

Of particular interest was the on-site reconstructed grist mill at the Agricultural and Industrial Museum. Parts from several old mills were salvaged to create this working mill that

allows visitors to visualize exactly how a mill works. From the overshot wheel to the collection bin, every step in the process of grinding corn into meal can be seen, making it easier to understand what a truly amazing example of engineering milling really is.

Hopefully, Double Mills will be able to host a meeting of the Mid-Atlantic SPOOM within a couple of years.



L-R: Sylvia Bradley; Stephanie Elliott; Lisa Coleman; Kevin Coleman



Ma & Pa Railroad Station, General Store, Post Office, and Museum



Double Mills Hall of Fame—Thank you!!

We are again humbled by the outpouring of help we have received; both in financial and in-kind donations. Topping our list again is **Jerry Matyiko of Expert House Movers**. Mr. Matyiko has been a huge part of the Double Mills Restoration Project, and we are so grateful to him for his contributions. Also an on-going contributor to our efforts is **GMB Architects/Engineers**, who have put us far, far ahead of schedule. Their expertise has been a huge asset to our project. Special thanks to both of these outstanding companies.

We would also like to thank the following groups and individuals for their contributions this quarter:

John Long; Gary & Patty Parks; Gary Mackes, Coleman Guthrie; Robert & Margaret Grant; Carol Woodcock; Norris & Mary Emily Twilley; Rebecca Boone; Lisa Conley; William Collins, Jr.; Eugene & Carolyn O'Connor; Kevin & Lisa Coleman; Byron & JoAnn Holston; Heather & Timm Zumm; employees of PRMC dialysis unit; Rebecca Phillips; Ed & Ellen Wright; Hebron Lions Club; Bi-State Ruritan.

As mentioned in our cover story, we have begun Phase II of the restoration and have launched the “Bring Down the

Mill” Campaign. We will need to raise at least \$50,000 in private donations in order to rebuild a stable foundation for the mill. This money can then be used as a match for an additional \$50,000 of grant money.



We will be holding several fund-raisers over the next few months, and hope you will continue to be very supportive of our efforts.

***Double Mills Inc is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law under the Federal tax code.**

Quote

“We thoroughly enjoyed the June 21st event and will watch with interest as the restoration continues.” – Margaret Grant, Ocean Pines, MD



Expert House Movers
PO Box 447
Sharptown, MD
21861



Olde Towne Candle Company Fundraiser

Double Mills Inc has partnered with Olde Towne Candle Company, owned by Lance & Jasmine Carroll of Salisbury, Md, in a collaborative fund-raising effort. Jasmine, great-granddaughter of Sherman Cooper, past miller of Double Mills, founded the company with the help of her husband, Lance Carroll. The Carrolls, who live in Salisbury, hand pour their triple-scented candles, which are available in 20 different fragrances, including many of your favorites!

The candles are available in a 9-oz. size and a 16-oz size and sell for \$10 and \$16 respectively (plus tax).

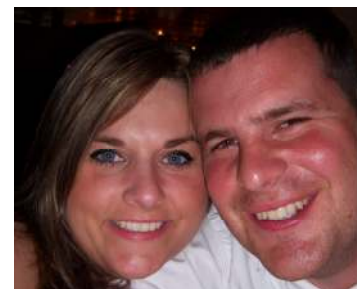
Fragrances: Apple Jack peel; Bayberry; Blueberry Dream;



Christmas Cookie; Christmas Eve; Cinnamon Doughnut; Cranberry Spice; Fall Harvest; Fresh Linen; Gingerbread; Home Sweet Home; Jack Frost; Pineapple Upside Down Cake; Pumpkin Patch; Southern Living; Vanilla Sugar; and Very Cherry.

To order your candles, please contact us via email : sylvia@doublemills.org; or stephanie@doublemills.org

Orders being taken until Oct. 28.



Lance & Jasmine Carroll of “Olde Towne Candle Company”

Olde Towne candles are the perfect gift, For every lady on your list!



High-Definition LCD TV up for Grabs!

Be on the lookout for your chance to win a high-definition LCD TV! Double Mills Inc will be raffling off one of the state-of-the-art televisions to help raise funds for our Bring Down the Mill Campaign.

of winning.


We are working with local electronics distributors to secure the best deal on the nicest television so that we can provide the winner with a very nice prize, while also achieving our goal for the proceeds, which will be used toward the Bring Down the Mill Cam-

paign.

A second-place prize, yet-to-be-determined, will also be awarded and drawings will be held on Dec. 13 just in time for Christmas!



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“No, this isn’t a special on the Grand Canyon. It’s an actor’s face in high definition.”

Tickets will be \$10 each with a limited number of only 300 tickets to improve your chance

Readers' Page

Lester Twilley, Jr. asks if anyone has seen a lady's slipper in our local woods lately. They used to be fairly common.

I, too, remember the lady slippers, but haven't seen one in many, many years. I wonder also about teaberries and Indian Pipes—does anyone know if these are still in our area?



Lady's Slipper



Teaberries



Indian Pipes

Eleanor Elliott of Delmar would like to know if anyone remembers when a traveling salesman would take his pony door-to-door and have the children of the household pose for pictures on the back of the pony. This photo was taken in 1933 in Laurel, Del., at the home of Elliott's grandmother Tull.



"Childhood sometimes does pay a second visit to man; youth never." - Anna Jameson

Shirley Martin of Salisbury submitted this picture she snapped on a visit to Double Mills in the 1960s.



Do you have a picture or memory of life on the Eastern Shore? Please send to PO Box 120, Mardela Springs, MD 21837 or email to:

stephanie@doublemills.org.

Genealogy Forum

Are you a lower Eastern Shore native looking for missing branches of your family tree? Chances are someone has the information you need. Also, family stories, pictures, and other anecdotal information may be out there just waiting for you to ask. If you are interested in finding out more about your family, please write to: Editor, Double Mills Inc. PO Box 120, Mardela Springs, MD 21837 to have your query published. You may also email the editor.

Keepsake Mill

By Robert Louis-Stevenson

Over the borders, a sin without pardon,
Breaking the branches and crawling below,
Out through the breach in the wall of the garden,
Down by the banks of the river, we go.

Here is the mill with the humming of thunder,
Here is the weir with the wonder of foam,
Here is the sluice with the race running under—
Marvelous places, though handy to home!

Sounds of the village grow stiller and stiller.
Stiller the note of the birds on the hill;
Dusty and dim are the eyes of the miller,
Deaf are his ears with the moil of the mill.

Years may go by, and the wheel in the river
Wheel as it wheels for us, children, today,
Wheel and keep roaring and foaming forever
Long after all of the boys are away.

Home from the Indies and home from the ocean,
Heroes and soldiers we all shall come home;
Still we shall find the old mill wheel in motion,
Turning and churning that river to foam.

You with the bean that I gave when we quarreled,
I with your marble of Saturday last,
Honoured and old and all gaily appareled,
Here we shall meet and remember the past.

** Submitted by Byron & JoAnn Holston, Plain, Wis*

Bennett Family Honors Memory of Elisha Bennett

In the early 1800s, Elisha and Nancy Bennett relocated their family of six boys and six girls to the Barren Creek area of "Barren Creek Springs" from their home near Columbia, Del. The Bennetts had invested in several grist and saw mills along the creek and, with the help of their six sons, they engaged in the milling industry. Bennett had bought the mills and the mill ponds—even the land under the ponds was owned by Elisha and Nancy. For 50 years, Barren Creek Mill was run by Elisha "and the boys."

In 1934, Elisha's grandsons Harold, Carl, and Darcy, continued the family tradition by buying Double Mills Grist Mill about one-half mile "up-creek." The brothers made several improvements to the mill and turned it into quite a large operation, turning out specialized feeds for chickens and hogs. They continued their operation throughout the '30s and '40s.

Today, Harold Bennett's granddaughter, Sylvia Bradley, is active in the Double Mills restoration effort, and has started a "Bennett Family Fund" to honor the memories of the Bennett family, who were so involved with the early days of milling in our area. The funds will be used for the restoration of Historic Double Mills.

There are many, many Bennett relatives, both locally and throughout the U.S. Bradley has contacted many of these relatives, asking them to be a part of the memorial. The fund is being well-received by relatives, and already, there have been several donations toward her goal of \$10,000.

Bradley would like to hold a reunion at the mill for descendants of the Bennett family, and is planning a Bennett Family Tree plaque to recognize donors to the fund.

DUES ARE DUE

It's that time again. Please send your yearly dues to our PO box. Price is \$15/person; \$25 per couple. If you joined after 6/1/2008, you are exempt.

Go Paperless!

Would you like to receive your newsletter through email and save the paper? You will be sent a beautiful color PDF version of the newsletter four times/year.

To take advantage of the paperless option, please send an email request to the editor at:

stephanie@doublemills.org.

Double Mills Inc. Initiates Legacy Society

In June when we officially opened our Capital Campaign we were appealing to those friends and supporters of our present efforts to save and restore "ole' Double Mills," but some have told us that, while they are enthusiastic about our work, they would welcome the opportunity to make a bequest that would continue to provide support even beyond the present day. In response to that we have begun the Legacy of Double Mills Society.

The way the Society works is simple. If you choose to make Double Mills Inc. the legatee of a bequest in your will, you simply tell us that, and you will be recognized as a member of the Legacy of Double Mills Society. You do not need to reveal now any details of your legacy, nor sign any obligations or agreements. But your legacy will be evidence of your caring and commitment to preserving this treasured piece of Eastern Shore heritage.

If you would like to become a part of Double Mills Legacy Society, please fill out your name and contact information below and mail it to the Treasurer of Double Mills Inc., Stephanie Elliott, at our Post Office Box 120, Mardela Springs MD 21837.

Legacy of Double Mills Society

Purpose: *To recognize individuals who have included Double Mills in their estate plans.*

These individuals are offered an opportunity to become members of the Society by completing this membership application. We wish to express our grateful appreciation to individuals who make planned gifts in support of our mission. The Society exemplifies the importance of will provisions and other planned/deferred gifts to our organization and to our community.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone [optional] _____

email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Signature: _____

Date _____

