
The Gristmill Gazette

Jerusalem Mill Village

Special Holiday Edition

December 2019



Christmas in the Village



Looking for something fun to do this coming weekend? At this writing the weather forecast suggests a perfect weekend to get outside and enjoy the weather before it gets too cold! And what better place to get outside than in the oldest, most intact mill village in the state, especially when it's decorated in traditional Colonial style? On Sunday, December 8th, Jerusalem Mill Village will be celebrating its annual Christmas in the Village, from 1 PM until 4 PM. The Miller's House will serve cider and cookies, the Blacksmith Shop will demonstrate smithing, there will be a 19th-century Santa Claus in the Civil War Room of the General Store building, and there will be a large Colonial Christmas tree in the Visitor Center – Museum where children of all ages can also watch the Colonial Toy demonstrations (and of course, give them a try!). Can't make it on Sunday, but still want to see the decorations? Stop in on Saturday the 7th during our standard living history hours, 1 PM to 4 PM! There will be lots of opportunities for photographs, so bring your camera!

There is no admission fee for Christmas in the Village. However, your generation donations, membership or sponsorship will help us ensure we can continue to restore, preserve and present the local treasure.

Jerusalem Mill Village in Miniature

The day following Christmas in the Village, the Jacksonville Senior Center will open their annual Holiday Christmas Garden (December 9th through December 29th). A special feature this year will include portions of the Jerusalem Mill Village, in miniature and to scale. You can view the model railroad at the Jacksonville Senior Center at 3605A Sweet Air Road, Phoenix, MD 21131, just 12 miles from the village! There is no admission fee, although donations will be greatly appreciated. The Holiday Train Garden will be open to the public as follows:

December 9th through 13th, 16th through 20th, 23rd, 26th and 27th, from 11 AM until 3 PM.
December 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, and 29th, from 10 AM until 4 PM.

Support Our Village While You Do Your Holiday Shopping!

Now you can show your support and help us preserve the village every time you buy something from Amazon. Just tell Amazon to donate to The Friends of Jerusalem Mill! When you shop at Smile.Amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of their profit to the Jerusalem Mill Village. You can use the same account login on AmazonSmile that you use on Amazon.

Here's how:

To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and continue shopping at AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, and before you begin shopping, select "Friends of Jerusalem Mill Inc." as your charity of choice, by clicking on the "Supporting" label right below the search bar at the top of the page and make your selection. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to the fund that supports our mission to continue to restore, preserve and present three centuries of Maryland history. 100% of Amazon's donation to Jerusalem Mill will go toward the maintenance, restoration and operation of the village!

Victorian Christmas Facts

By Jessica Miller and Rich Albright

- Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* was written in 1843, 71 years after Jerusalem Mill's grist mill opened for business. Not only did the novel save Dickens from financial ruin, but it also helped inspire and revive several Christmas traditions, including family gatherings, special dinners, and charitable giving.
- Christmas cards were first invented and printed in England in the 1840s, but didn't catch on in America until the 1870s.
- Blindman's Bluff was a popular Victorian Christmas game. A blindfolded player tried to catch and identify other people in the room.
- "Jingle Bells", written by James Lord Pierpont, was published in 1857 under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh". Our covered bridge was built just 8 years later.
- "O Holy Night" was composed by Adolphe Adam in 1847, 44 years after our bank barn was built. The lyrics for the song came from a poem written by French wine merchant and poet Placide Cappeau.
- Although the melody for "Deck the Halls" dates back to the 16th century, the English lyrics, written by the Scottish musician Thomas Oliphant, date to 1862.

*The Friends of Jerusalem Mill
wish you a happy, healthy
and prosperous New Year!*

Special Thanks to our Sponsors in 2019!

We are sincerely grateful to our sponsors for their generosity, enthusiasm, and belief in our mission! We encourage all of our readers to the sponsors listed below when you need their services. To inquire about sponsoring our many activities and events, [e-mail](mailto:jerusalemill@yahoo.com) us at jerusalemill@yahoo.com !

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