
Friends of the Stockdale Mill

Summer 2012



Labor of Love

by Ruthalice Watson

Ten years ago my husband was asked to work at the Stockdale mill to help in the restoration. At first I thought, "Oh No! He has plenty to do here caring for our wooded acreage, keeping up with his woodworking projects, and most of all my 'honey do' list." He said "yes" and ten years later he is still volunteering at the Mill.

Other than myself, our family, and church, the Stockdale Mill is the love of his life. If you want to get him excited or have an enthusiastic conversation, just ask him about the Mill. On second thought, you probably won't have to ask – he will tell you anyway. When we are out and about visiting other locations, my husband will make sure that he has the Mill brochures to leave.

As I said, ten years have passed and there is still plenty of work to do at the Mill. The restoration process will always be ongoing, there will always be repairs to make and cleaning to do. It will always be an endless labor of love.



May through October on Mondays you will find a few men working in the Mill lovingly caring for the dear old Stockdale Flour Mill on the Eel River.

Saturdays, May through October, 12:00 – 4:00PM and other special times, such as the Roann Covered Bridge Festival, you can take a tour and listen to your guide explain the workings and history for their dear old mill.

Being the wife of this "old guy" who loves the "Mill" almost as much as me, I get to volunteer in the Visitor's Center on Saturdays while tours are given. Sometimes I can hardly believe the excitement and admiration for the Mill that I hear from those who have just had a tour. Folks from far and near are coming to see this old flour mill, a reminder of many years gone by. They leave a note of nostalgia, planning to bring friends and family back to share the experience.

I end this with a note of deep gratitude and appreciation for all who have given so much time, hard work, money, and love to make possible what the Stockdale Mill is today. If you are able and willing, won't you join this group of Volunteers? Help them to continue the "labor of love" to keep the "Old Mill" on the Eel River standing where she is for many years to come.

photo: Jim & Ruthalice Watson representing the Stockdale Mill at SPOOM conference.

Visitors Come from Near and Far

Peggy Morris

The mill's Guest Registry indicates visitors touring Stockdale Mill during the last three years came from 27 states and Washington, D.C. All areas of the U.S.A. from Connecticut to California, Kentucky to Kansas, Tennessee to Texas, Missouri to Montana, and Florida to Utah were represented. One Saturday, there were 15 entries in the guestbook, mostly couples. Of those 15 entries, 10 different states were noted; only one couple from Roann.

Stockdale Mill is internationally known. Foreign country guests have visited from: Saskatchewan, Canada; the United Kingdom; Spain; Sweden; Germany, Bulgaria; and China since 2010. Cultural exchange groups have visited from Bosnia, Ukraine, and South Korea.

Positive comments are heard frequently. Some written accolades include these: Fantastic! A great place-Thanks! A fantastic place! Fascinating! Thank you, very nice! Thanks for the tour!

Restoration Continues

Roger Harman rebuilds a window sill on the main floor – one of the many projects accomplished during the summer of 2012 by our team of volunteers.

Low river levels allowed us to adjust the turbine gates under the mill and make concrete repairs to the dam.



Mill Trivia

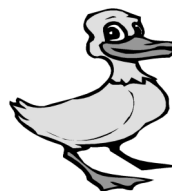
Sue Dyson

How much do you remember from your mill tour? Answers are on the last page.

- 1) In which year was the Stockdale Mill built? a. 1827 b. 1857 c. 1877
- 2) These items were produced at the nearby cooperage: a. bottles b. wooden wheels c. barrels
- 3) The combined energy of the 3 turbines was: a. 7.5 horsepower b. 75 hp c. 750 hp
- 4) Do you recall the name of the settler who built the original wooden dam? a. John Anderson b. Thomas Goudy c. Sam Smith
- 5) The 4 machines on the main floor that crush the wheat are called what? a. breaks b. augers c. turbines
- 6) The Stockdale Mill closed its doors for good in the year? a. 1958 b. 1963 c. 1972
- 7) James M. Deck came to Stockdale from Pennsylvania in 1881. What was his occupation? a. miller b. stonedresser c. cooper
- 8) The wood siding on the mill was cut from which type of tree? a. red pine b. sycamore c. yellow poplar
- 9) The first settlers to the area settled on this nearby stream: a. Squirrel Creek b. Grass Creek c. Turkey Creek
- 10) Which wheat product, originally thought to be worthless, was often dumped into the river? a. middlings b. barley c. bran

Sponsor a Duck, Help the Mill

*Great Eel River Duck Race
September 9 - 2:00PM*



CHECK YOUR ADDRESS

We want to have your proper name and address. Please take time to look over your address label for accuracy. Let us know if something is not correct.

Please forward corrections to the address or e-mail on the back page.

SPECIAL HOURS

Roann Covered Bridge Festival

four hours:

Saturday Sept 8 10-6

Sunday Sept 9 12-4

Founders Day Picnic

Calling all volunteers. If you have ever donated your time, materials, equipment, etc., you and your guests are invited to join in our Founders Day picnic at the mill on Sunday, October 21 at 1:00.

Beverage will be provided – bring a covered dish if you can ... or just come!

Stockdale Mill Foundation Board of Directors 2011

Jim (President) & Ruthalice Watson
Kathie (Secretary) and Ken Grandstaff
Pam (Treasurer) & Fred Musselman
David & Valerie Doud
Ron & Jennifer McColley
Peggy Morris
Sue Dyson
Joe & Anita Krom
Dwight & Susanne Fouts

* * DONATION CARD * *

Stockdale Mill Foundation
c/o Jim Watson
8469 N SR15
Roann, IN 46974

Donation by: _____

Amount: _____

Note :

COTTONWOOD TREE



The old cottonwood tree near the mill entrance had to come down. Struck by lightning four years ago, it could no longer sustain itself. The tree was 6' 8" in diameter, 20' around, and well over 100' tall. Tree rings indicate that it began life 110 years ago.

Stockdale Mill Foundation
c/o Jim Watson
8496 N SR15
Roann, IN 46974

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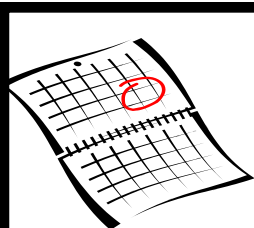
RETURN REQUESTED

The Stockdale Mill Foundation is a non-profit Indiana corporation with the purpose of preserving the Stockdale Mill. We are a 501©(3) organization, enabling donors to deduct contributions. All donations are used 100% for historical preservation and restoration. We invite you to come experience what our dedicated volunteers have prepared for your visit.

E-mail us:
info@stockdalemill.org

Find us on the web:
www.stockdalemill.org

Answering machine:
(765) 833-2019



Regular tour hours are
Saturdays
Noon to 4PM
May through October

**Special tours may be arranged for
your family group or organization.**

SUMMER 2012

Trivia answers: 1) b 2) c 3) b 4) b 5) a
6) c 7) b 8) c 9) a 10) c