



Spring Events 2023

Old Schwamb Mill

17 Mill Lane Arlington, Massachusetts 02476 781-643-0554

For more information about any of these programs, please contact us by telephone at 781-643-0554 or via e-mail to info@oldschwambmill.org. The Mill is open to visitors for tours every Tuesday and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. For group tours, please call in advance.

Admission to all events is free, with a requested donation of \$5.00. Visit us online at www.oldschwambmill.org.

Wee Woodland Fairy Workshop

Saturday, May 6, 1:30 to 3 pm

The Old Schwamb Mill is delighted to present a unique children's program, the "Wee Woodland Fairy Workshop" with educator and artist Peggy Fenner. This program will be focused on the fairy experience via story-telling, music, displays and fun-to-do creative projects. Space is limited to 20 children ages 4 to 8 and their family members (children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program).

Refreshments will be served. Admission is \$15/family. To register or for more information, please RSVP to info@oldschwambmill.org or call 781-643-0554.



Frame-Making during the Schwamb Mill's Business Years

Saturday, May 13, 2 to 3 pm

This talk by Old Schwamb Mill President Dermot Whittaker will focus on the frame-making business of the Old Schwamb Mill as it

introduces the audience to the history of the Mill and its production processes. In 1847, Charles Schwamb arrived in Boston from Germany and began making oval frames. By 1864, he had his own frame factory in what is now the Old Schwamb Mill. In 1904, his grandchildren Clinton and Louis Schwamb took charge of the business, running it as The Clinton W. Schwamb Company, Inc., until Clinton's son Elmer Schwamb retired in 1969. In 1905, as grandchildren Clinton and Louis Schwamb worked to revive the family business, there were only four to six regular workers, including the engineer minding the steam engine. Yet they produced just under 6,000 frames that year. Their output quickly grew to tens of thousands of frames annually, an astonishing number when it is remembered that they also produced mouldings and other items. This program is presented as part of the Hidden Treasures Program, offered by the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, in partnership with the National Park Service.

Schwamb Mill Open House Saturday, June 3, 10 am to 4 pm

Join us for a day-long celebration of the Old Schwamb Mill, located on the oldest, continuously operating mill site in the United States. This family-friendly event has something for all ages!



All Day

Opening Reception of “The Power of Water” Exhibit

In 1864 The Old Schwamb Mill was built next to Mill Brook to take advantage of free water power. But, where is the water wheel that would generate that power to operate the frame-making machinery? This new exhibit, “The Power of Water,” seeks to answer that question. Displays, including a replica wooden water wheel and informational panels, will provide a brief history of several mill buildings that were located on this site since the late 1600s.

All Day

Ongoing tours of the Old Schwamb Mill building and Gallery Viewing for the impressive exhibit “Ways of Seeing: Painting, Photography and Printmaking” featuring the work of Richard McElroy, Janet Smith, and Cathy Garnett.

10 to 10:30 am Margaret Moody Puppet Show: “Taking Turns”

Mathilda and her best friend Doggie are excited about the bouncy house at their friend’s birthday party and that makes it hard to wait for their turns. Imagine Mathilda’s surprise when she sees that grown-ups have trouble taking turns, too. Puppeteer Margaret Moody plays the story with needle-felted animal puppets and lots of gentle humor. This show is geared toward children aged 3 to 7. Admission: \$15/family

11 am to 12:30 pm Frame demonstrations by the Mill’s woodturner David W. Graf

See how our artisan woodturner creates each Old Schwamb Mill oval frame by hand using the original Mill equipment dating from the 19th century.

2 pm Talk by Bob Tanner: Water Power: Hydro Turned the Mill

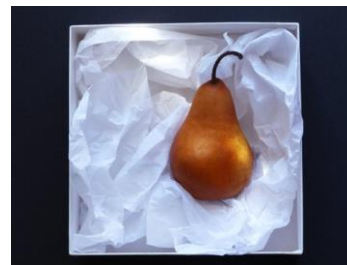
Learn how the Old Schwamb Mill originally powered its operations using water from its Mill Pond.

Ways of Seeing: Painting, Photography & Printmaking

Closing reception: June 10, 2 to 3:30 pm

Three long time-time Arlington artists, Cathy Garnett (printmaker), Janet Smith (photographer) and Richard McElroy (painter), have shared their work at the Mill this Spring. The works range in depiction from concrete naturalism to intriguing abstraction. Mediums include painting, watercolor, printmaking and photography. Don’t miss this chance to see this rich, rewarding show.

Image: Perfect Pear by Janet Smith



Arlington’s Porchfest at the Old Schwamb Mill

Saturday, June 17, 12 noon to 4 pm

Enjoy performances by local bands as they play on the Mill’s “porch.” Concerts take place outdoors, weather permitting.
