

# SCRIBNER'S MILL PRESERVATION, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 323 Harrison, ME 04040

Fall

2018



### Officers

Peter Hammond, President  
Roy Clark, Vice President  
Torry Eaton, Secretary  
Marilyn Hatch, Treasurer,  
and Newsletter Editor

### Directors

Cheryl Callahan  
Matthew Charlebois  
Rick Jackson  
Tim Pike  
Barry Sturdivant

### Membership Chairperson

Stuart Reynolds  
415 Rodge Rd.  
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

### Mission Statement

*The Barrows/Scribner's Mill will be an accurately reconstructed early saw mill museum used for educational purposes to teach the life and times of a family operated lumbering business.*

Website: [scribnersmill.org](http://scribnersmill.org)

Follow us on facebook.

Telephone: 207-583-6455

The Fall newsletter is late getting out because I wanted to cover all the happenings of 2018.

Starting with the **blacksmith shop**, for the last tour of the season the hearth, with its original bellows, was showcased with blacksmith Lucas Damen working at the forge. Those in attendance were amazed that

the wooden hearth did not catch fire and that it was safe. As told in the Spring Newsletter, the blacksmith shop served as a bunkhouse for the men who harvested the granite for the dam and the foundation of the mill. Thanks to Dan Scribner's description,



the bunk has been installed. Our carpenter, Ed Somers with a smile on his face, was pleased not to have to sleep in the bunk loft.

**What is it?** While clearing out his father's barn prior to its sale, Robert Fogg found several items that he thought Scribner's Mill Preservation would like to have. One item was a vise of some sort that Robert felt might be a Horseshoe vise; but, was not sure. It has a patent date of "SEP 10th 1878". Searching the Patent Office data base was not productive for no object came up for the Patent date. This next summer the vise will be on display in the blacksmith shop. Any one who can determine its use will be given a free membership to Scribner's Mill Preservation and a T-shirt. Maybe someone a little more tech savvy, who knows how to navigate the Patent Office site, might have better luck finding this item to learn what it is and who the patentee was.





## Update on the interior restoration.

Right: Matthew Charlebois has cut out each of the 60 cogs or pinions for the log carriage, then cut out the space where it is to be inserted. Here he is setting the cog into the carriage.

Below: Checking to make sure the pinion rack clears the cogs.



In this picture Matthew and volunteer Tristin Smith are flipping the carriage over so the cogs face down.



This picture shows that the track wheels have been attached to the carriage.

Matthew has laid out the spokes to the wrag wheel in his shop.



The wrag wheel and pinion rack are assembled onto a shaft that is to be attached under the mill floor where the pinion rack will engage with the carriage cogs.

The next step is to locate a company that can cast the iron that wraps around the wheel. The notches on this iron will engage with a lever system to rotate the wheel and pinion rack thus pushing the carriage forward.



SMP is so fortunate to have two members, Scott Hatch and Matthew Charlebois who are capable of understanding and implementing the reconstruction of this early technology.



## President's Message

The 2018 season saw very noticeable progress in the mill and the blacksmith shop. On open days crowds often arrived early and frequently stayed all afternoon. Many times we had visitors who had previously lived in the local area and had stories of family connection to the mill. All of our visitors wanted to see everything we have to offer and were ready to take the time to explore the grounds. On occasion we were short staffed. The addition of one or two volunteer members would have been helpful.

We have a unique collection of period equipment and artifacts which generate a great deal of conversation and our visitors come with many questions and tales to trade.

I encourage any members of the Scribner's Mill Preservation organization to consider volunteering as docents at the mill, the long shed, at the homestead or around the grounds (barn, ice house, etc.). You have already acknowledged interest by becoming a member. The training is strictly on-the-job. Just show up ready to greet and talk to our visitors. Of course, it would be helpful to read Marilyn's fine history of the mill to provide background information and personal stories of the folks involved. If talking with the public isn't something you enjoy, there are behind the scenes projects that you could become involved in. Give it a try. Come join us for the 2019 season.

Best wishes for the New Year!

## Meet the New SMP Board Members

### Matthew Charlebois

I grew up in Massachusetts where I took up woodworking after a time in the military. I moved to Maine in 1990 where I met my wife Kate and first saw Scribner's Mill with its timbers to rebuild the mill lined up in the mill pond area. Opportunities here in southern Maine were wonderful for me. Over the years I have been able to be involved with some great craftsmen and doing a lot of great work. Projects as prestigious as the renovation of the Maine State House and the Portland City Hall to many multi-million dollar homes on the spectacular waterfronts in this great state.

I spent a number of years with Scott Hatch, The Barn Wright, doing spectacular work preserving antique barns and homes as well as putting back together the Mill.

The most recent work at the mill has been working on the restoration of the interior works. Almost always seemed (under my breath) as an unachievable goal; however, hard work and a passion for the preservation of our history, has brought us closer to running the mill. The Mill is important to teach so many about how our ancestors got us to where we are. This may be one of my greatest achievements.

### Torry Eaton

I moved to my in-laws previous home in Otisfield three years ago from Aroostook County where my husband Mike & I raised two sons and I worked as the Director of Employment & Training

programs at the Aroostook County Action Program for nearly 30 years. I am now working for Workgroup Technology Partners in Westbrook as their Senior Human Resources Administrator. Our sons are grown – both having graduated from Maine Maritime Academy - and now working in the Portland area. As a kid, my husband Mike had a connection to the mill for he loved coming down to the mill to swim and fish and would share stories of his ventures there. When asked in 2016 if I would be interested in helping with the Education Program at Scribner's Mill my reply was positive. I started to manage the kitchen for the students making corn muffins, this last year I took the children on tours of the house. It is a pleasure to now serve on the Board as Secretary.

## Parting Shots

Scott Hatch is laying out the screw works to be enclosed in the head and tail stocks (which holds the log or the carriage) and are used to set the log for its next cut.

The person in the background is a visitor who happened to drive by on a sunny Sunday morning and found the mill door open.



Left: The track is absolutely straight and level. Scott is cutting boards to fit in the spaces between the track and the floor.



Right: Because of the weight of the carriage a center wheel was added to eliminate any future sagging of the carriage.



Left: The carriage is in place, next the construction of the Head and Tailstocks with its screw works that will adjust the log on the carriage for each cut.

**Note: The Scribner's Mill Book has been published and already sold out. A second printing is in the works. Our web site will announce when it will be ready for purchase again.**

Send checks made payable to Scribner's Mill Preservation, to:  
**Stuart Reynolds, 415 Ridge Rd., Bowdoinham, ME 04008**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Select membership level of support:

Student \$5

Individual \$15

Family \$30

Sustaining \$25

Corporate/Patron \$50

Benefactor \$100

Life \$500

Jessie P. Scribner Club \$1000 (Name placed on a plaque located at the Mill and life membership awarded.)

I would like to give a special donation to be added to the STK Foundation grant.

*Your continued support is appreciated.*

Contributions are tax deductible within legal limits for income tax purposes.

Scribner's Mill Preservation, Inc.  
PO Box 323  
Harrison, ME 04040