



Autrey Mill

Explore | Appreciate | Preserve

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Our mission is to create a destination and educational resource
to inspire exploration, appreciation, and preservation
of the natural environment and local history.

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A message from the Autrey Mill Board of Directors...

One of the most frequent comments our staff and board members hear from visitors we greet is, “I never knew this place was here.” That comment, echoed nearly every day, is usually followed by something very complimentary.

Could not (have) chosen a better place to get married! The prices were reasonable and the staff are super friendly! [Tiffany Brook Balli](#)

My company worked a wedding at this beautiful place on 9/17. The place and the people that run it are great. It's a beautiful property - a little unknown treasure in John's Creek. [Dottie Bailey](#)

We were driving through the area - we live in Athens - and decided to stop in when we saw the sign. We had a great time and talked a little with the staff, before checking out the trails. We'll definitely be back sometime in the future! [Charles Nicolosi](#)

We visited today to participate in a Merit Badge class for Boy Scouts. The instructors Lauren and Mary were wonderful. They kept the boys engaged in the subject. The Preserve is wonderful. The historical buildings were wonderfully cared for and preserved. [Nancy Thomas](#)

My son's Scout Troop completed the American Heritage merit badge here on Saturday. I must say WHAT AN OUTSTANDING time our boys had during this time. Ms. Mary and Ms. Lauren did an outstanding job teaching the class. It was so worth the drive and we will come back again too see what we missed. [Janice Welch](#)

It is a great place to go spend an afternoon with our girls. Perfect getaway close to home. My six year old attended some camps last year and she is excited to go this summer as well. I love to take my 11 month old to see animals in the mornings. [Petra Blasko](#)

This is one of our favorite places to take the kids for some time out in nature. We really enjoy the walking trails and can spend all day down in the creek during the hot days of summer. [Sandra Walker](#)

Our goal for 2017 was to make it easier for visitors of all ages to discover, explore and appreciate all that the Preserve has to offer. We have accomplished much to meet that goal: hiring both a new Operations Manager and a Heritage Curator; increasing programming that opens the historic buildings to the public, such as Take-a-Peek Tuesdays and Sunday Socials; expanding homeschool and summer camp opportunities; and completing 25 Scout projects totaling over \$15,000 in donated materials to improve the grounds.

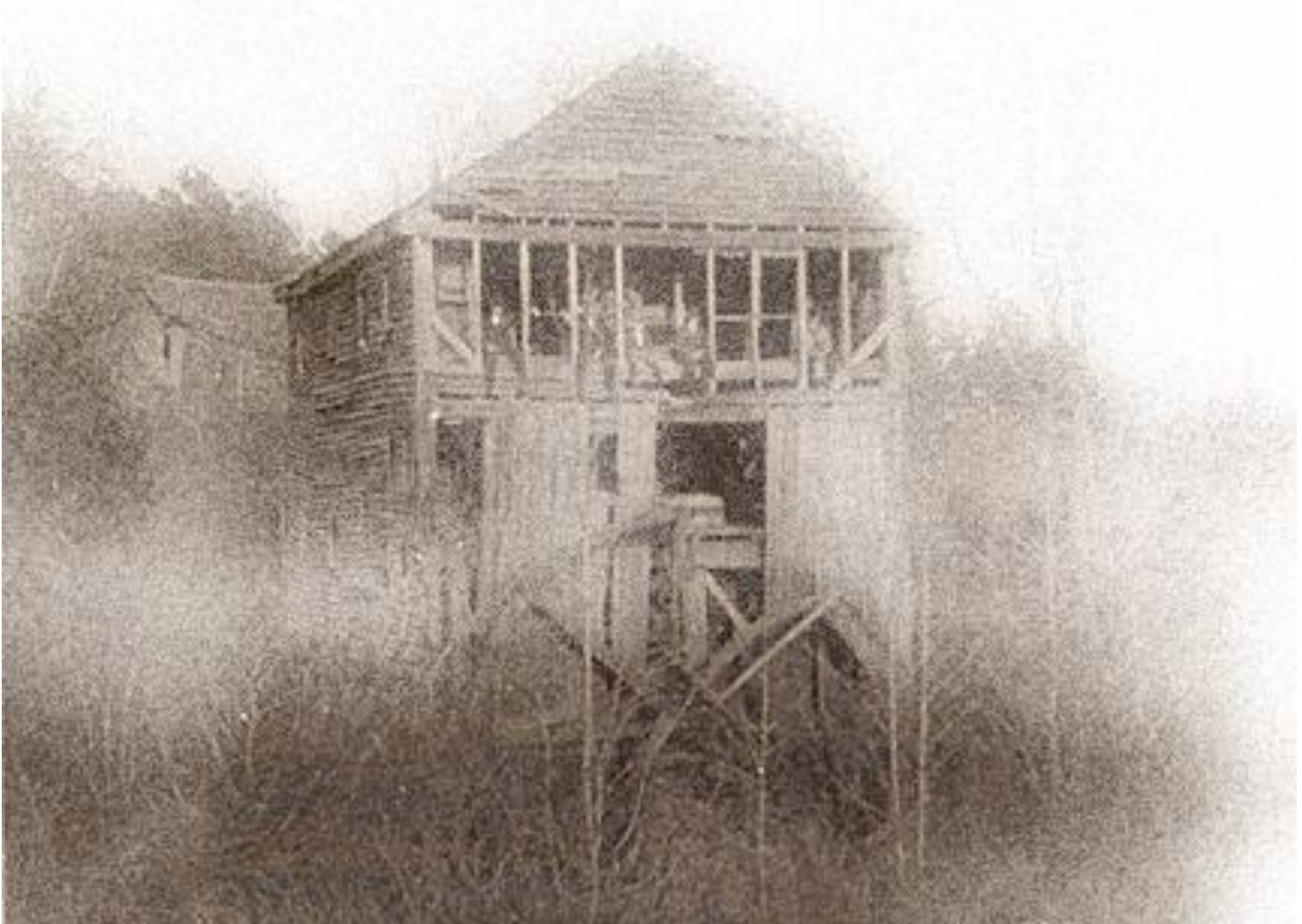
As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “Nature and books belong to the eyes that see them.” With a nod of thanks to our “authors” - our sponsors, staff and volunteers - we look forward to the next chapter, the year to come.

History and Mission

The beginnings of Autrey Mill date to a 1988 grassroots effort by community advocates to save the woodlands from development, prevent the loss of the old mill site and halt the demolition of historic buildings situated on the property. In 1989 the Autrey Mill Nature Preserve Association was formed as a non-profit organization to operate, protect and improve the preserve. The beautiful Autrey Mill of today was built over a 28-year period under the leadership and vision of our non-profit organization's Board and its talented staff, with the vital help of generous public and private supporters, and by harnessing the indispensable work of volunteers.

The Autrey Mill Nature Preserve Association is a Non Profit (501)(c)(3) organization that operates the preserve, historic buildings, and provides all the environmental, heritage and event programming offered to the public.

Upon the incorporation of the City of Johns Creek, Autrey Mill was officially designated a city park. This created a unique partnership that preserves the roles of The Autrey Mill Nature Preserve Association in development, fundraising, and oversight of the programming, protecting the natural environment and preserving the history of the area. We anticipate the 2016 Johns Creek Parks Bond Referendum will contribute to increasing foot traffic and continued improvement of the facilities.



Staff and Board of Directors



Staff as of December 2017:

Chason Thompson - Intern

Alison Kane - Heritage Instructor

Marnie Gordon - Heritage Curator

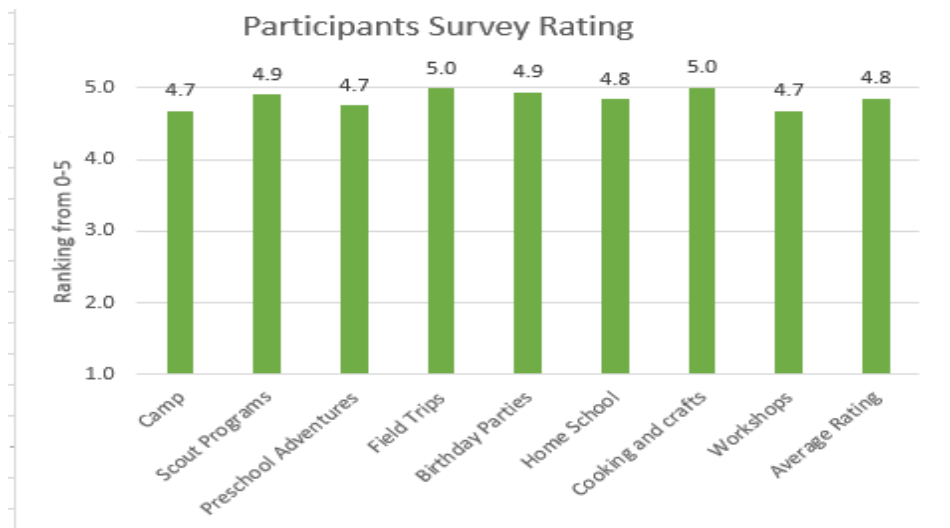
Judy Webb - Office Assistant

Lauren McDaniel - Operations Manager

Mary Winder - Program Director

2017 - 2018 Board of Directors

Pam Sutton - President
 Jackie Bass - Vice President
 Kathy Reed - Treasurer
 Karen Daniel - Recording Secretary
 Michael Hanft
 John Herring
 Mary Jo Malowney
 Lara Maltby
 Deisha Oliver-Millar
 Jason Sutton
 Janis Hill (emeritus)
 Michelle Sienkiewicz (emeritus)
 Judy Webb (emeritus)



Introducing Marnie Gordon

I have lived in the Atlanta area for over 25 years. I worked in the private sector before going back to school to pursue my Masters' degree. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in History and English and also a Masters' degree in Heritage Preservation from Georgia State University. I recently finished an internship with the Marietta Museum of History in collections management. I have worked on several preservation projects throughout the Atlanta community. I am very excited to be joining the Autrey Mill team as the Heritage Curator and can't wait to see what the future holds.

Community Offerings

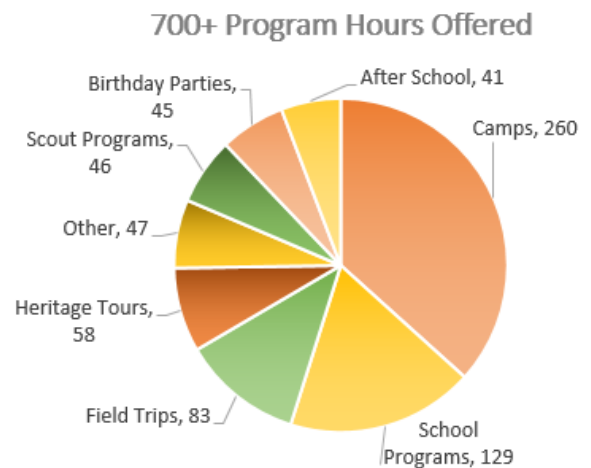
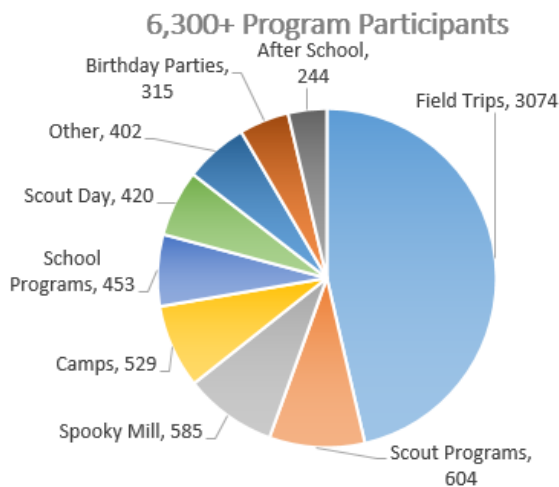


Cost-free Recreational Area

- Free public access is available every day from 8am to dusk
- Over 3 miles of trails with bridges, boardwalks, benches, pavilions, and vantage points designed for quiet enjoyment of Autrey Mill's habitats and historic sites

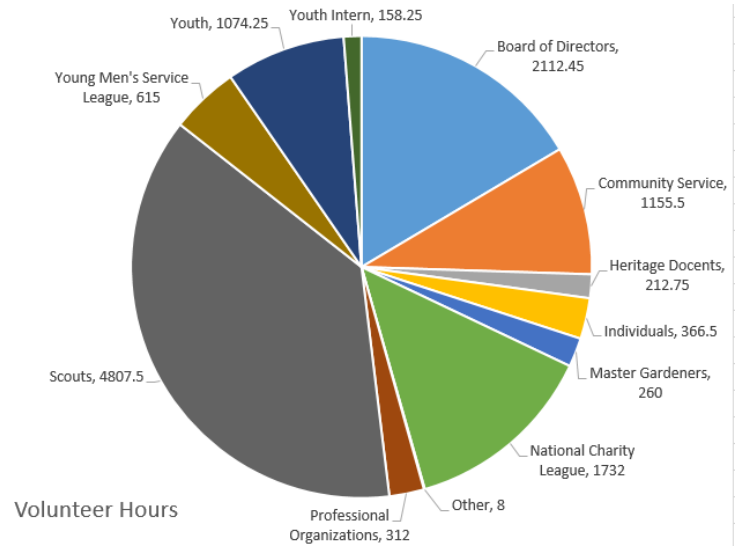
Educational and Recreational Programming

- Adopt a Stream workshops for adults
- Classes for children (includes home school classes, Scout badge activities, preschool activities)
- Field Trip destination (meets Georgia Curriculum Standards)
- Summer and holiday camps
- Scheduled Docent-led tours of historic buildings
- Guided nature hikes
- Outreach programming (offered off-site to area festivals, schools and community groups)
- Annual events (Spooky Mill, Scout Day, Wild Weekend)



Visitor Center and Natural History Museum

- Exhibits of live fish, amphibians, and reptiles native to Georgia, and an African tortoise
- Ducks, rabbits, and chickens in a fenced pond area
- Displays and dioramas of woodland animals, bones and skins
- Living lab for hands-on inspection of nature
- Lending Library of nature-themed children's literature



Heritage Center

- Preserved landmark historic buildings and donated artifact collections
- Heritage gardens
- Oral history project and research into the inhabitants of this land during the past 400 years

Event Rental Facility

- A Victorian farmhouse, mid-1800s church, large pole barn, and amphitheater available for rent for parties, weddings, corporate retreats, reunions, and community groups
- 1,200+ attendees at over 25 rental events in 2017

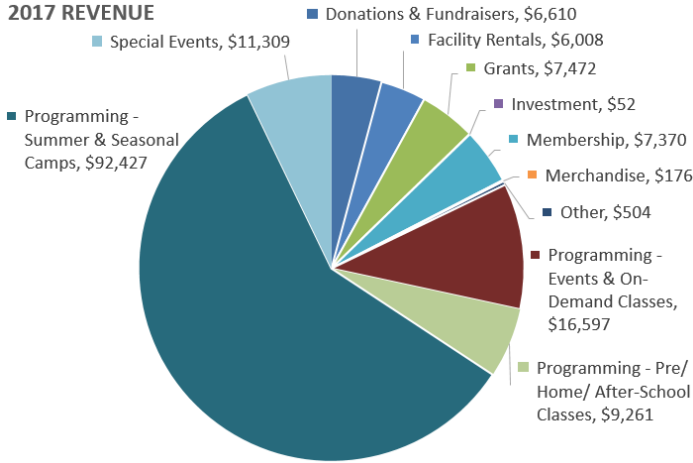
Community Engagement through Volunteerism

- 12,705.5 Total Volunteer Service Hours in 2017
- 25 Scout Service projects completed, contributing over 4800 hours in 2017
- Our Heritage Docents: Jan Mairose, Janice Millner- Lock, Julia Barnes, and Mary Jo Malowney contributed over 200 hours in 2017
- The Executive Committee and over half our 2017 board members have been awarded the Presidential Service Award for their volunteer hours with Autrey Mill. Additionally, our Board President's family of four gave enough hours to all receive the Gold Service Award
- Special thanks to Bill Yacola and Steve Prince, who contributed over 240 hours in 2017

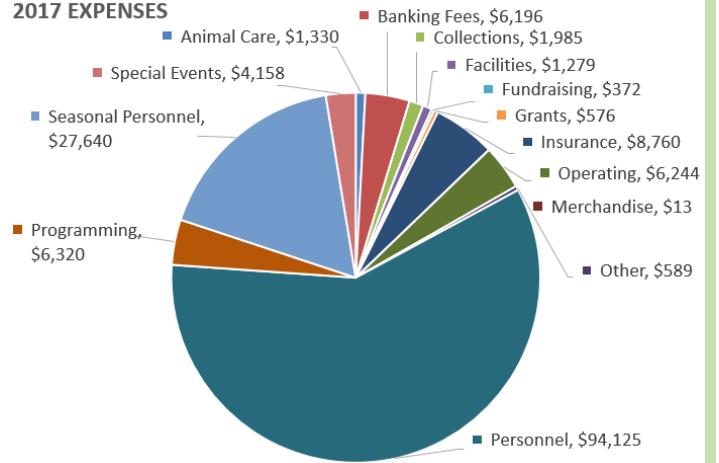


Financial Overview

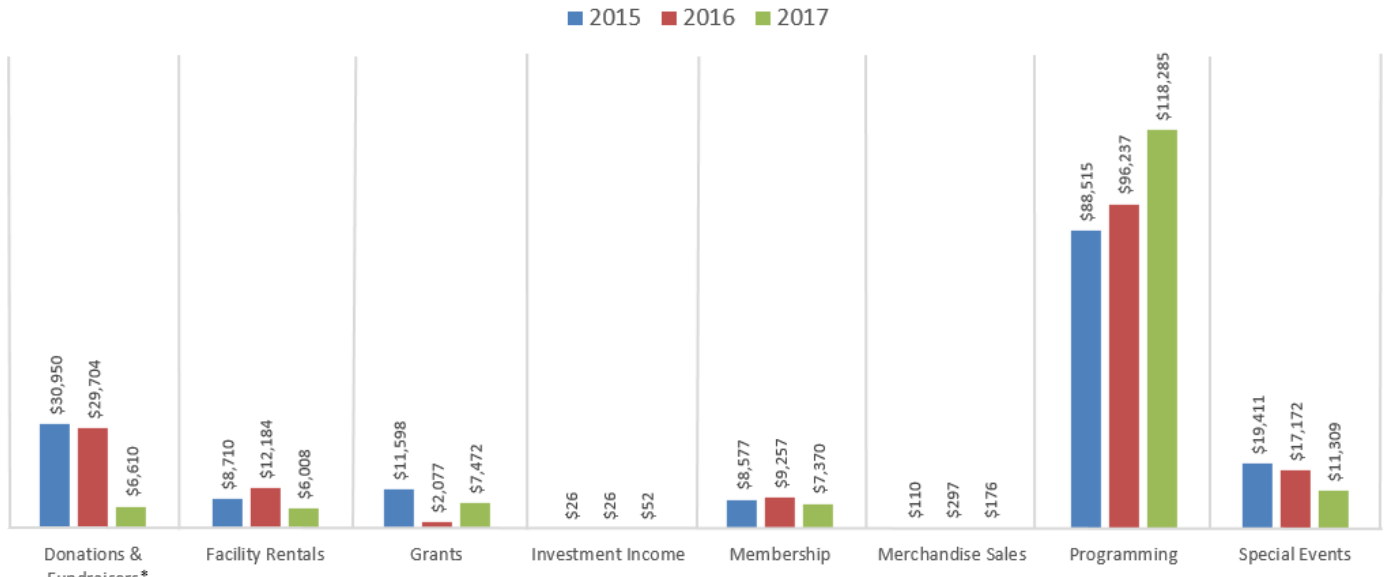
2017 REVENUE



2017 EXPENSES



3-YEAR REVENUE HISTORY



* - WILD About Autrey Mill Fundraiser (held in Fall of 2015 and 2016) was moved from Fall 2017 to Spring 2018



Financial Supporters

\$750 and above



• Karen & Bill Daniel



• Lara & Arlan Maltby



• Pam & Jason Sutton

\$250 - \$749



• Annette Vitullo



• Christopher Coughlin



• Jackie & Bob Bass



• Jeff & Mary Minchew



• Robert Webster



\$100 - \$249



• Alison Kane



• Courtney Tetterton



• Fran Gillis

• Cyrille Holota

• Gary & Nancy Bivins

• Elaina Palincsar

• Joan Compton

• John Compton



• Kelley & Greg Hundt

• Laura Gugliotta

• Lisa Cuya

• Mary & Andrew Winder



• Stephanie Endres

• Susan Brogden

• Vanessa Goggans

• Zhengxuan Feng



\$99 and below



Afrah Khan
Alex Raskin
Alexandra Hoffman
Allison Redd
Amanda Rountree
Amy Rohner
Andrienne Ware
Angie Jones
Annette Hendrickson
Aron Canouse
Ashley Hernandez
Becca Oakley
Bo Youm
Brittany Koretski
Caldwell
Cara Endriss
Catherine Dansby Smith
Catherine Long
Catherine Sinotte
Chandra Drake
Chantal Puylear
Charles Nicolosi
Cindy Imlay
Cinthia Clark

Claudia Vigil
Colleen Giannotta
Cora McMicheal
Daniel Skrok
David Cain
Deborah Gettings
Deisha Oliver-Millar
Delaney Powers
Derek Wasdin
Erika Morales
Erin Nichols
Faye Rosenberg
Fran Cromer
Gary Danielson
George Rose
Gitisha Goel
Heather Martin
Hun Song
Ilyssa Tabor
Jackie Davis
Jamie Roach
Janelle Hughes
Janet Jones
Janis Hill

Janna de Bruijne
Jenna Walston
Jennifer Jensen
Jennifer Kenny
Jennifer Miers
Jennifer Rombaro
Jingshi Shi
Jodi Davis
John Bradberry
John Herring
Judy Webb
Julia Hurtado
Julie Johnson
June Price
Karen & Chris Tostenson
Karen Allgood
Katherine Jeffrey
Katherine Olsen
Kathy-Trangmai Wynne
Katie Pharr
Katie Vander Velde
Katy Cleveland
Katy Johnson
Keren Rosenberg



Kevin Isom
Kim MacConnell
Kimberly Novak
Kimberly Woods
Kirk Franz
Kristen Finley
Kristie O'Connor
Kristin Jones
Kristine Reising
Lacy Perry
Laura Willson
Lauren Mehlberger
Leigh Ann Eskew
Lieselotte Cuya
Linda Agnello
Lindsay Wilson
Lisa Johnson
Luba Bensman
Luke Mays
Lyn Mardant
Marc Karum
Marcelle DeCuir
Mary Park
Megan McGuire



Melissa Goldberg
Meredith Kane
Michele Flemign
Mike Myslinski
Mike O'Connor
Nahoko Her
Naomi Akita
Nina Hancharik
Noa Argaman
Paige Holland
Petra Alex
Rose Szymanski
Ryann Kennedy
Samantha Morgan
Sandra Guggenheim
Saraswati Yagnavajhala
Shana Silva
Sharada Chandran
Sharon Carnegie
Sheetal Graffagnini
Sher Ghouchani
Simone Mendez
Srividya Narayanan
Starbuck Laney

Steven Prince
Sumbal Raza
Susan Campbell
Suzanne Grant
Tara Singleton
Tenise Cook
Tim Maley
Toby Bramblett
Tonya Chelette
Tracy Swanson
Valerie McMichael
Victoria Diamond
Virginie Deavers
Wendy Coletti
Wess Winder
William Underwood
Yael Matana
Yale Xiao
Zsuzsanna Toth

All levels above include monetary support plus value of in-kind physical donations

Community Supporters



The following companies and organizations deserve special recognition for the donation of their volunteer time:

- Alcon
- Beta Club
- Boy Scouts of America
- Calvert High School
- Centennial High School
- Chattahoochee High School
- Girl Scouts of America
- Grubbly Farms
- Honda
- Jacqueline Bass Preservation, LLC
- Jack and Jill of America, Inc.
- LDS Missionaries
- LexisNexis Risk Solutions
- National Charity League
- Posco America
- Verizon
- Wilson and Reed Academy
- Young Men's Service League

Ongoing Partnerships

- The City of Johns Creek
- Johns Creek Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Johns Creek Chamber of Commerce
- Arts Alliance of Johns Creek
- Boy Scouts of America
- Fulton County Schools
- Heritage Sandy Springs
- Keep North Fulton Beautiful

Program Director Note:

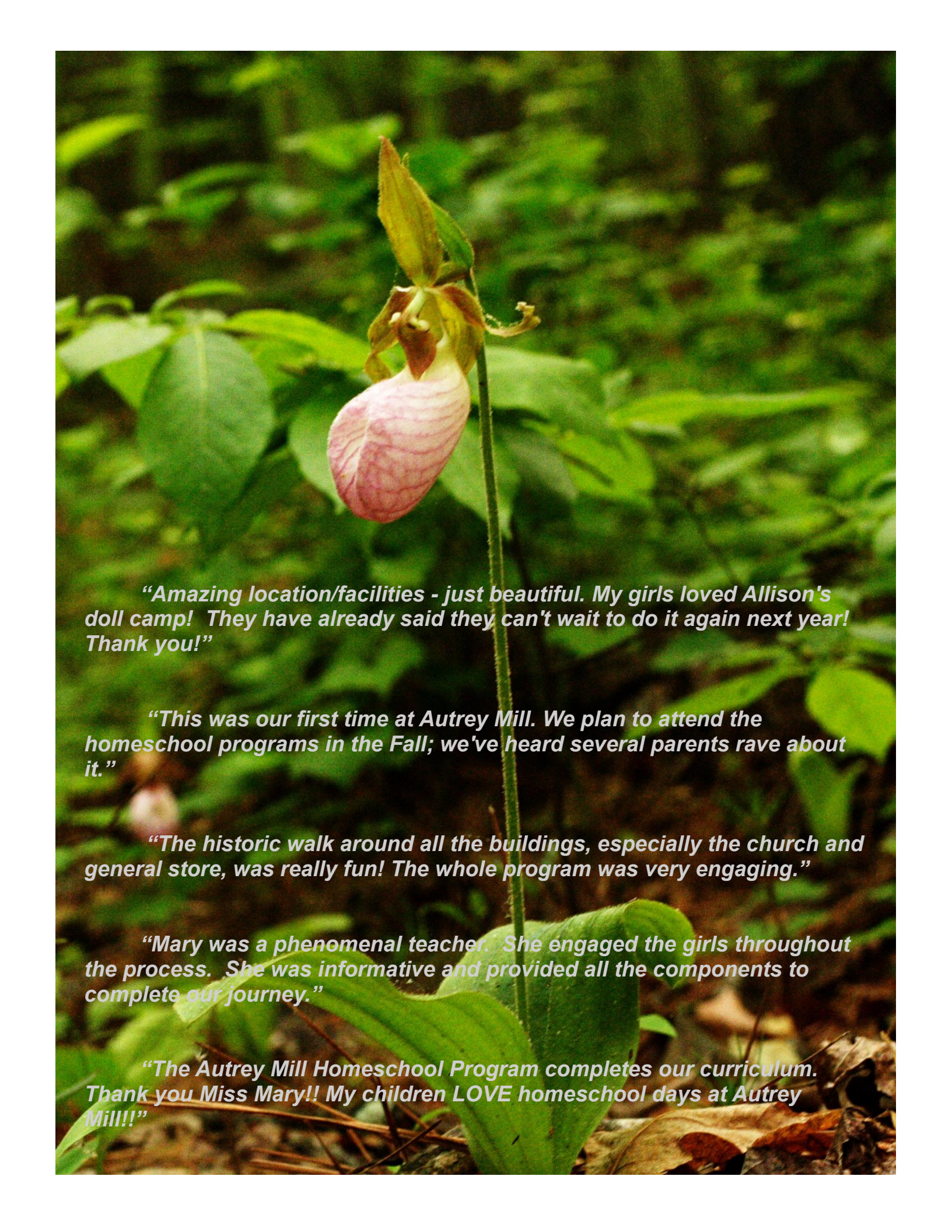
I have had the pleasure of working at Autrey Mill in various positions since 2014, but in 2017 I accepted the position of Program Director. Although I have added some new responsibilities and challenges, I consider it an honor to be a part of the evolution of such a special place.

Each morning, I park overlooking a reservoir. A security detail of crows in shiny black plumage announces my arrival. In turn, I am greeted by a rabbit running circles around my feet and the chatty hens. After our water cooler gossip, I begin my "real work". There are many meetings with major stakeholders and investors. Our major stakeholders - children- enjoy exploratory sessions. "Getting our feet wet" and "leaving no rock unturned" are more than expressions around Autrey Mill! Our investors are the volunteers from all walks of life who donate time, knowledge, enthusiasm and love to our small non-profit.

Autrey Mill is many things to our visitors: a safe space for learning and exploration where a young teen with autism can find his voice; a site for first dates, proposals and weddings; a place of celebrations; a place for quiet reflection surrounded by nature; a piece of history connecting the past, present and future of Johns Creek for its residents. It is a privilege to contribute to an environment of inspiration.

Thank you all for your support during the past year. Thank you for your time. Thank you for loving Autrey Mill. I cannot wait to see what 2018 has to offer.

*Sincerely,
Mary Winder*

A close-up photograph of a lady's slipper flower (Cypripedium) with a large, pink and white striped pouch. The flower is on a thin green stem and is surrounded by lush green foliage in a forest setting. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the flower.

“Amazing location/facilities - just beautiful. My girls loved Allison's doll camp! They have already said they can't wait to do it again next year! Thank you!”

“This was our first time at Autrey Mill. We plan to attend the homeschool programs in the Fall; we've heard several parents rave about it.”

“The historic walk around all the buildings, especially the church and general store, was really fun! The whole program was very engaging.”

“Mary was a phenomenal teacher. She engaged the girls throughout the process. She was informative and provided all the components to complete our journey.”

“The Autrey Mill Homeschool Program completes our curriculum. Thank you Miss Mary!! My children LOVE homeschool days at Autrey Mill!!”