



Compton's Mill

# **SPOOM**

## **Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

### **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!**



**Next Meeting: March 28, 2009 at the Union Mills in Carroll County, MD.**

### **SPOOM 2008 MEETING AT GRANTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

--Marge Lundegard

The SPOOM annual meeting took place in Grantsville, Maryland on September 25th. The meeting ended on September 28th with a farewell breakfast. Over 120 people from all parts of the United States and Canada attended the event. Special workshops took place on Thursday the 25th. Friday was the day dedicated to the touring of mills in the area.

The first mill visited was the Sam Beachy Cider Mill. Generous samples of cider and apple butter were enjoyed by all. Next on the trip was the Compton Mill that was built in 1872. This is a three storied frame structure with roller milling machinery and also grinding stones.

Next stop was The Unique Milling Company, a two and a half storied concrete block building. This was the first electrical mill in the Alleghany Mountains. However, our host, John Childers, had to use an electrical cord connected to the adjacent gas station so that we could see inside the boarded up mill. In fact, to enter the mill, we had to "walk a plank" over a deep ditch.

A brief stop at the Bruceton Dam in West Virginia was where we had a very hearty lunch. Then, we had an unexpected tour of the operating Hazelton Mill. This mill only grinds buckwheat and is where Bob and I purchase our annual supply of buckwheat flour. (cont'd P. 2)

Photo: Bob Lundegard

## **SPOOM 2008 MEETING AT GRANTSVILLE, MARYLAND...cont'd**

At Morgantown, we stopped at the Easton Roller Mill that was built in 1864. This is a two and a half storied red frame building with white trim and is 36 ft x 56 ft in size. Today the mill is a museum. Our final stop was at the Jackson-Blaker Mills in West Virginia. Only the Blaker Mill was open and a grinding demonstration was given. Today the mill uses a turbine to power the equipment inside the mill. The Jackson Mill is non-operational and has been converted into a museum that is full of milling and farming items. Needless to say the tour was a VERY long day of "milling."

Saturday was the day to attend special lectures. The farewell dinner and business meeting was held at the Penn Alps Restaurant. Sunday was when we said goodbyes to old and new friends. John Childers, the miller at Stanton Mill in Grantsville, was the host of this very special enjoyable event.

The 2009 SPOOM meeting will be held at Albany, Oregon on September 24 through 27, and will be hosted by the Boston Mill Society. A special Columbia River Gorge Tour is scheduled for Thursday. On Sunday, a special Pacific Ocean Tour is scheduled. Be sure to mark your calendar so that you can attend.



**Easton Roller Mill**



**Bruceton Mill dam site**



**Unique Milling Company**

Photos: Bob Lundegard

## Mid-Atlantic Chapter

-- Robert Lundegard, Vice-President

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter held its semiannual meeting in the York County, Pennsylvania area on August 8th and 9th, 2008. Members gathered on Friday morning for registration and breakfast at the Wallace-Cross Mill in rural York County. Later, members were treated to a talk on the history of the mill, in addition to a tour and interpretation of the mill's operation. That afternoon, attendees moved to the nearby Ma & Pa Heritage Village at Muddy Creek Forks, where they enjoyed a box lunch and a tour of the village mill, grain elevator and A. M. Grove Store/Post Office/Railroad Station. After a presentation on the history of the village and its connection to the Maryland and Pennsylvania (Ma & Pa) Railroad, all were treated to a ride on the Ma & Pa tracks. Friday evening, members were guests of the York County Department of Parks and Recreation for dinner at the Richard M. Nixon County Park, after which they enjoyed a tour of its nature center. The meeting was hosted by Judy Grove with substantial help from the Friends of the Wallace-Cross Mill, and the York County Department of Parks. Judy and her friends were excellent hosts and the participants had a rewarding and congenial experience. The meeting was great fun. SPOOM-MA expressed its appreciation to Judy Grove for doing an outstanding job. The photos below were taken by Steve Spring (millfoto@aol.com) and capture some of the enjoyable highlights of the meeting.



Judith Grove in  
Wallace Cross Mill

Saturday morning, participants went to the Agricultural and Industrial Museum of York County, for a talk on Creating Lasting Philanthropic Partnerships for Mill Preservation. After a box lunch, The SPOOM-MA business meeting was begun by Chapter President Chuck Ives. The meeting covered an agenda which included: Chapter participation in the SPOOM Conference in September, A strategy for attracting new members, Celebrating the bi-centennial of Mid-Atlantic milling, Guidance for hosting the next chapter meeting, and Approval of a Mid-Atlantic Chapter logo, letterhead and membership brochure. (Photos: Steve Spring)



Nick Yannarell (l) and Chuck Ives (r)

The new Chapter letterhead, logo, and brochure, prepared by Steve Spring and Nick Yannarell, were approved by the Board with a few modifications. These will be on display at the SPOOM-MA table at our September national meeting in Grantsville, MD.

The Nominating committee distributed the proposed slate of officers for the 2009-2011 term. There were no additions from the floor. The slate was approved unanimously.

The new officers are:

- Robert Lundegard, President
- Robert McLaughlin, Vice President
- Judith Grove, Secretary
- Jane Sewell, Treasurer

There was discussion of the proposed approach for attracting new SPOOM members. There is an urgent need to attract new members and reverse the losses of recent years. Membership is now about 1200 members down from a high of over 2000. The proposed approach was approved for presentation to the SPOOM Board at the September 2008 national meeting. The goal behind the approach is for each current member to recruit one new member.

At our March 2008 meeting, Chuck Ives appointed a committee, to be chaired by Judy Groves, to develop an approach and proposal for a Mid-Atlantic bicentennial celebration of milling in the Mid-Atlantic region. Committee members include: Mason Maddox, Bob Anderson, Chuck Ives, Ivan & Marlene Lufriu, Richard Abbott, and Bob Lundegard. Judy passed out a proposed approach for organizing this celebration. The proposal was discussed with enthusiasm. Judy was asked to prepare a time line for guiding Chapter activities over the next three years leading up to the celebration. These activities will be discussed at our next meeting.



## **SPOOM-MA Table at the Grantsville SPOOM Annual Meeting**

--Marge Lundegard

The exhibit area at the SPOOM meeting was in a restored historic church within a short walk of Stanton's Mill and the Penn-Alps Conference Center. SPOOM-MA stocked and manned an information table in the exhibit area, along with many vendors and book sellers. Nick Yannarell and I were present at the table, at the breaks in the program, and answered questions from the visitors. The table featured a large image of the SPOOM-MA logo prepared by Steve Spring. Brochures and publications from many Mid-Atlantic mills filled the table. Those who stopped at the table received information on our Chapter, membership drive and on our plans for a bi-centennial celebration of milling in the Mid-Atlantic region. At the close of the conference, the supply of brochures was exhausted. I want to thank all the mills that provided brochures. We hope to have a SPOOM-MA table at the 2009 SPOOM meeting in Oregon.

**Below: Judith Grove at Wallace Cross Mill**

Photo: Steve Spring



**Above: Marge & Bob Lundegard (l) and & Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bennett (r) of NC. Photo: Nick Yannarell**

## **SPOOM-MA Attends the SPOOM Board Meeting at Grantsville**

--Robert Lundegard

I represented our Chapter at the annual SPOOM Board meeting on the first night of the conference. This Board meeting sets the stage for the many informal discussions of Chapter activities and interests that take place in the corridors, at meals, and during the mill tours. My report to the Board covered the following topics:

- Chapter Meetings
- Bi-Centennial Celebration of Milling in the Mid-Atlantic States
- One-for-One Membership Drive
- Help for Mill Owners

I asked for approval of our “One for One Membership Drive” approach as a template for Chapter efforts to advance SPOOM membership. The vote was unanimous and we were encouraged to get on with this vital task. Later at the closing business meeting, following the conference dinner, I was able to encourage participation by all Chapters and members in this “One for One” initiative. The need is to create a mind-set, on the part of each SPOOM member to seize every opportunity to spread the word on SPOOM. Hopefully, it will become a habit to tell those we meet of the benefits of joining our society.

**\*\*\*Congratulations!!\*\*\***

**Our own Ivan Lufriu was elected to the  
SPOOM Board at Grantsville!!!**

Craig Sansanetti displaying photo of Muddy Creek Mill  
Photo: Steve Spring



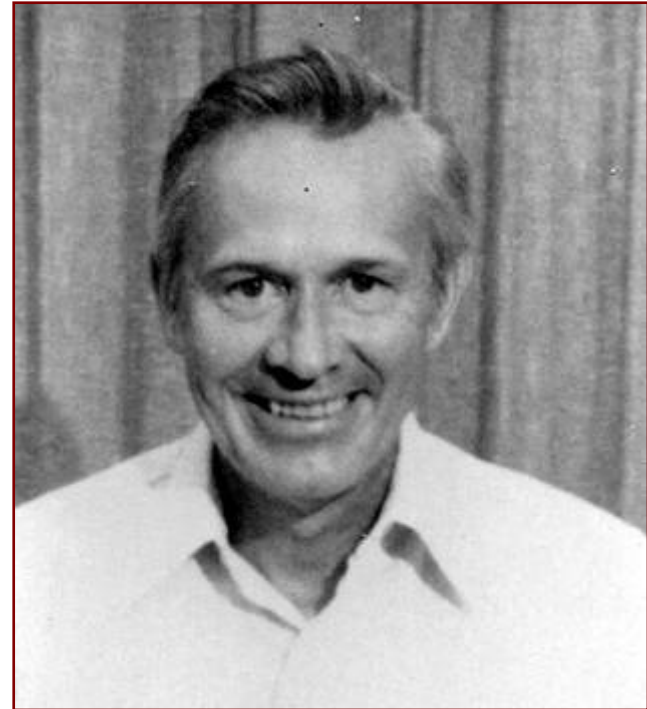
## From the Desk of Your Next President

--Robert Lundegard

I want to express my appreciation and respect for our outgoing president Chuck Ives. I met Chuck at our first Chapter meeting at Union Mills four years ago. Chuck did an outstanding job at that meeting in launching our Chapter, bringing us together in a new venture, establishing the by-laws, and electing the first officers. Chuck has been an excellent steward during our critical beginning years. It has been my good fortune to work with Chuck during this period. I know he will provide his good council as a continuing member of our Board.

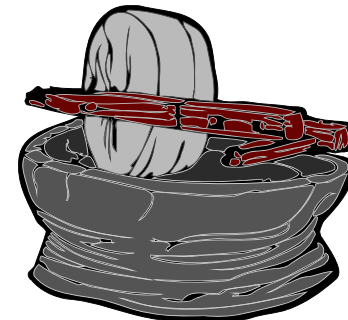
Our next Board meeting will be at Union Mills on Saturday March 28, 2009. We will begin with an introduction of the new and returning Chapter officers and Board members. Following these introductions, we will continue our discussion and further development of 1. Plans for a bi-centennial celebration of Mid-Atlantic milling, 2. The "One for One Membership Drive, 3. Chapter help to mill owners, and 4. Our plans for the August 2009 Chapter meeting in Bucks County, PA.

I look forward to the next two years. I will work with our officers and members to support the preservation of the mill heritage within our region. We also can reach out to the several Chapters of SPOOM. The Chapters are an extension of the SPOOM Board and a resource for growth. With the help of other Chapters, we can expand SPOOM contributions to the American community of historic preservation.



Bob Lundegard

(Taken just prior to joining SPOOM 📞)



## **The Breneman-Turner Mill**

--Ken Weaver, Chair, Mill Preservation

**Progress continues on the restoration of the ca 1800 Breneman-Turner Mill on Linville Creek in Rockingham County VA. It was operated by J Howard Turner until 1988, the year of his death. In the latter years, he kept it going as a way of showing history to school children and other interested persons.**

**For several decades the 3 story masonry wall was cracking and bulging. To keep it from falling, the current owners, the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center, had it braced in 2005 as shown in the attached picture. The wall is scheduled to be torn down and rebuilt in March 2009. With the help of 2 foundation grants, we are approaching the \$110,000 in funds needed to rebuild the wall and do other exterior repairs, thus completing the outside.**

**Also we are currently restoring the 22" burr stone set and adding an electric motor below the hurst frame to be able to demonstrate grinding even before the dam and mill race is restored. The attached picture shows Millwright Derek Ogden training local Gordie Shantz the art of dressing the stones.**



Photos: Ken Weaver

## 🌀 Notes & News 🌀

### Offer Tours??

Interested in having your mill placed on the 'Mills open to public' list? Send a short description of your mill and directions to it, to: Steve Spring, 120 Harvest Lane, Sterling, VA 20164. Millfoto@aol.com.

### TIMS-America Yahoo Group

The International Molinological Society (TIMS) has, not only this YAHOO Group but also an interesting online newsletter. For information contact: [www.timsmills.info](http://www.timsmills.info) or to subscribe: [timsnews@metc.net](mailto:timsnews@metc.net). The last newsletter is 20 pages and so can't be attached here, but you would like to view a copy please contact Bob Lundegard. If you are interested in participating in this group contact Steve Spring at the address above or at: [Millfoto@aol.com](mailto:Millfoto@aol.com).



### **\$\$ DUES \$\$**

Dues are now due on a calendar year basis, January through December, so it's a pretty safe bet that everyone needs to renew. This may be done at the March meeting or by using the form below.



Olive Oil Mill,  
Hippo Regia, Algeria  
Photo: Susan Langley

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for the Preservation Of Old Mills

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

(newsletters are emailed or posted in web site when possible to save postage)

New Subscription     Renewal

Please Check One:

Individual, Member of SPOOM - \$10.00

Individual, Not Member of SPOOM - \$15.00

Please indicate level of membership and mail this form with your check or money order to **Membership Manager, 3311 Littlestown Pike, Westminster, MD 21158. Please make your checks out to Mid-Atlantic Chapter.** The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is a member in good standing of the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills and serves, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the District of Columbia

## Typewriter Art

**PAUL SMITH**, the man with extraordinary talent was born in Philadelphia on September 21, 1921 with severe cerebral palsy.

Not only had Paul beaten the odds of a life with spastic cerebral palsy, a disability that impeded his speech and mobility, but also taught himself to become a master artist as well as a terrific chess player even after being devoid of a formal education as a child.

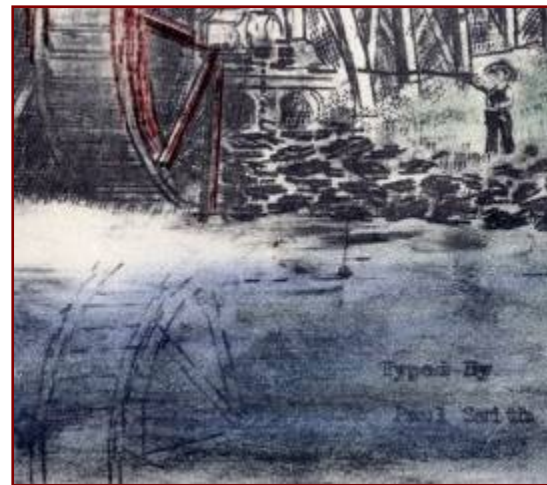
'When typing, Paul used his left hand to steady his right one. Since he couldn't press two keys at the same time, he almost always locked the shift key down and made his pictures using the symbols at the top of the number keys. In other words, his pictures were based on these characters .... @ # \$ % ^ & \* ( ) \_

Across seven decades, Paul created hundreds of pictures. He often gave the originals away. Sometimes, but not always, he kept or received a copy for his own records.

As his mastery of the typewriter grew, he developed techniques to create shadings, colors, and textures that made his work resemble pencil or charcoal drawings.'

This great man passed away on June 25, 2007, but left behind a collection of his amazing artwork that will be an inspiration for many. Can you believe that this art was created using a typewriter? More information:

[http://www.paulsmithfoundation.org/main\\_biography.html](http://www.paulsmithfoundation.org/main_biography.html)



One example and detail, relevant to our interests but he was very diverse.