



Cross Roads United  
Methodist Church

# **SPOOM**

## **Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

**January 2011**



**Mid-Atlantic SPOOM Chapter Meeting**  
**Cross Roads United Methodist Church**  
**6881 Church Road, Cross Roads, PA 17322**  
**Southern York County, PA**  
**April 2, 2011 ~ 8:30 – 4:00**

**\$10 Fee includes all Activities listed under Parts 1 & 2.**

**Pre-registration is requested to ensure availability of adequate meals and resources.**

**To Pre-Register for the Meeting: Send the names and phone numbers or Email addresses of all attendees to the SPOOM-MA secretary Judy Grove at [JudyGrove@Verizon.net](mailto:JudyGrove@Verizon.net) or 717-741-4366 by March 21. The \$10 Fee may be paid at the door in cash or by check payable to SPOOM MA.**

**Directions to the church: From I-83 take SHREWSBURY exit 4 and travel EAST on Rte 851 for 4.5 miles to STEWARTSTOWN. Turn left on N MAIN STREET (RT 24). Go 3.4 miles on Rte 24 and make a slight RIGHT turn onto CROSS ROADS AVENUE. Continue 1.7 miles to stop sign and turn right onto CHURCH ROAD. Continue 0.3 miles to white frame church on the left.**

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## **SPOOM-MA Semi-Annual Meeting Meeting (cont'd)**

### **PART 1: SPOOM-MA Meeting at Cross Roads UM Church**

**8:30 -9:00 Reception, Coffee, & Registration**

**9:00-10:30 SPOOM-MA Business Meeting**

**10:30 Stretch Break**

**10:45 I Smell a Mill: Uncovering the Sites and History of Mills – Ray Kinard and Terry Koller (the “K” Team) will share how they locate, identify, and document the mills they have been tracking for over a year – with a focus on those located in the Southern York County Area.**

**11:45 Restoration of Wallace Cross Mill Machinery – video narrated by Harvey Bradley, millwright, and Ray Boasman, master craftsman, documenting their inspection, repair, and restoration of the machinery and wheel in 1998**

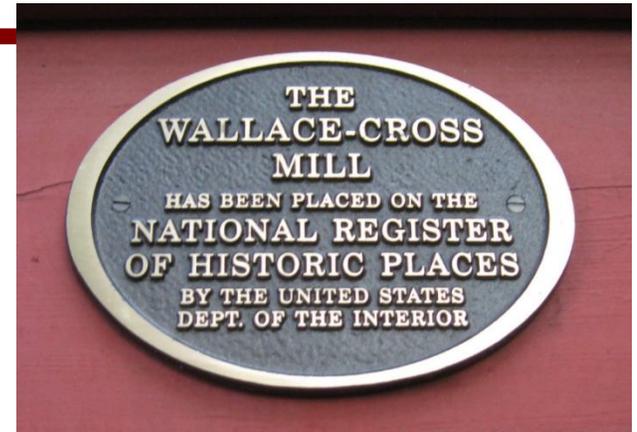
**12:15 Lunch**

### **PART 2: Afternoon Tour Options**

**1:30-2:30 Tour of Woolen Mills Farm at 290 Woolen Mill Rd (Route 581) New Park PA 17352 owned by Jay McGinnis [woolenmill@earthlink.net](mailto:woolenmill@earthlink.net) 717-382-4754 and featuring a restored c. 1900 windmill that currently powers a feed mill and ice cream maker. The farm also boasts alternative energy generation via solar panels and geothermal heat pump. See [www.newparkwindmill.com](http://www.newparkwindmill.com) for pictures and more details.**

**3:00 Optional Tour to Wallace Cross Mill or Stewartstown Historical Society**

**4:00 Adjourn**



**SPOOM-MA Semi-Annual Meeting Meeting (cont'd)**  
**SPECIAL PRE-MEETING TOUR of Historic Mills of York County, Pennsylvania**  
**Friday April 1, 2011 from 8:30 am - 4:00pm**  
**\*\*Advance Registration is required\*\***

Directions to the initial meeting point will be sent when registration is received.

Morning – Travel to the listed mills and view several others in passing as time allows.

Mackley's Mill, also called Willow Grove (grist, still) on *Kreutz Creek*:

Myers Mill (chop, flour and grist) and Codorus Mill (c1730s grist) on *Codorus Creek*:

Bentzel Mill (grist, saw) and Biesecker Mill (grist, saw, distillery) on *Little Conewago Creek*

Lunch at Glen Rock Mill Inn – Select one of the following:

*Cobb Salad* – Crisp romaine and green leaf lettuce, topped with cucumbers, tomatoes, bleu cheese, bacon, hard boiled egg, and cold grilled chicken breast

*Shrimp Sandwich with French Fries* – Poached shrimp tossed in a spicy remoulade sauce, with Greenleaf lettuce

*Soup and Salad* – Cup of the soup of the day and a small green or Caesar salad

All choices include soft drink, tax and gratuity

Afternoon - *Codorus Creek, south branch*: Glen Rock Mill (fulling, grist, woolen)

*View 7 mill sites in Spring Valley Park*

Return to starting point

**\$20 Fee includes Van Transportation\* and Lunch**

**\*A minimum of 8 participants are needed to cover costs for the van. If less than 8 people sign up, we will carpool to the sites and the fee will be reduced accordingly.**

**To Register for the April 1 Pre-meeting Tour: Send the names, phone numbers or Email addresses, and choice for lunch of all attendees to the SPOOM-MA secretary Judy Grove, 613 Green Valley Road, York PA 17403 by March 21. Include a check payable to Judith Grove for the \$20 Fee.**

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## **SPOOM-MA Semi-Annual Meeting Board Meeting (cont'd)**

### **Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes of August 2010 Meeting-Judy Grove
- Treasurer's Report on Members and Finances-Jane Sewell
- Newsletter Editor's Report-Susan Langley
- Report on mill preservation activities-Ivan Lufriu
- Mid-Atlantic Milling Day, August 28, 2011-Judy
- Report on plans for the SPOOM 2011 Meeting-Judy, Mason, & Bob
- Mid-Atlantic Chapter Report to *Old Mill News*-Robert McLaughlin
- Report on SPOOM Mill Lists & Mill Surveys-Steve Spring
- SPOOMMIDATLANTIC.ORG web page-Bob
- Rack Card Experiment Evaluation & Results
- Plans for September 2011 Chapter Meeting at Colvin Run Mill- Bob
- Plans for 2012 Chapter Meetings
- Roundtable Comments
- New Business:

### **Introductions**

- Judy Grove
- Ray Kinard
- Terry Koller
- Harvey Bradley
- Ray Boasman

### **Suggestions for Overnight Accommodations**

**Glen Rock Mill Inn is located at 50 Water Street, Glen Rock PA 17327 a few miles from I-83 Exit 8. The historic site, built in 1832 as a saw mill, features rough hewn 14" beams, original stone and brick work, and a collection of antiques, many from the 19th century. There are 12 guest rooms and a penthouse suite. The restaurant features upscale American regional cuisine with an emphasis on fresh local products. For rates and reservations visit the website [www.glenrockmillinn.com](http://www.glenrockmillinn.com)**

**or call (717) 235-5918. A virtual tour is available on the Photos page of the website.**

**Holiday Inn Express is located at 140 Leaders Heights Road, York, PA 17403, just off I-83 Exit 14 Leaders Heights Rd/Rte 182 W. Google *Holiday Inn Express York PA* or call (717) 741-1000 for rates and reservations.**

## **From the Desk of the President**

*-- Robert Lundegard*

This is the beginning of my final two year term in office. During the coming term I want to solidify SPOOM-MA as an organization that implements the SPOOM mission in our region in an effective way. An effective way for me includes publicizing the public mills in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, providing guidance to mill owners committed to mill preservation, encouraging research and education in the history of mills, and building a community of mutual supporting leaders within and around SPOOM-MA.

Our bi-annual meetings, newsletters, and web site are the tools we have to accomplish our goals. We have made substantial progress in making these tools effective and of increasing value. We still have work to do. To continue to progress we need more members to become involved in hosting our meetings, contributing to the newsletter, and growing and institutionalizing of the substance of the web site. We need more members to take up roles in these endeavors.

Our next election is over a year away. But it is not too early to begin thinking about our next slate of officers, board members, and task leaders. How do you want your Chapter to be configured in three years? Helping mill owners in their preservation efforts is our primary goal. Good work has been done with positive results. Can the Chapter do more? Should we consider establishing a Chapter Preservation Fund to provide small targeted assistance to our preservation program?

The Newsletter is great and our most important lasting link to the public and our members. Getting regular submissions of mill articles on events, travels, or mill history for publication in the newsletter is an everlasting challenge. How can we help our Editor in these regards?

The web site is an experiment. To become an enduring archive for photos, history, and Chapter records, the web site needs sustaining support from our Organization members. These members are the public mills in our region who are featured on the Home Page of the site. To date the response from these public mills has been limited. How can we expand their participation in our Chapter?

I look forward to working with you during the next two years and to achieving some success in meeting these challenges.

## **SPOOM-MA Board Designates August 28, 2011 as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Milling Day**

*-- Robert Lundegard*

The SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Chapter Board, at our recent meeting at the Aberdeen Mills, passed a resolution designating Sunday August 28, 2011 as the “Mid-Atlantic Regional Milling Day”.

The resolution proposes that all the mid-Atlantic public mills participate in a coordinated celebration of the history of flour milling and its importance to the growth of early America. This industry not only provided food for Americans but through its world leading exports added to the capital for America’s industrial growth. This important history deserves to be recognized by our school children and the public at large. The purpose of this designated day is to expand this recognition through special educational programs at our mills. Leading up to the day of celebration we will support and encourage the preparation of articles in the press and in the media by the local organizers.

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter will prepare advance materials for each mill participant to use in their communications with the media in their community. These materials will include draft press releases, information flyers and posters, commemorative stamps and bumper stickers, and guidance for press interviews.

A program for preparing and distributing this material will be presented to the Board at our next meeting in the Spring, 2011.



◀ Peirce Mill. Venue of the 2012 Spring Meeting

## 2010 SPOOM MEETING AT YATES' MILL, NC

– Marjorie Lundegard

The annual Spoom meeting was held at Raleigh, North Carolina and was hosted by the Yates Mill group. Over 100 people attended the meeting. There were members from all parts of the United States and Canada. The next meeting will be hosted by the Colvin Run Mill from September 22 -25, 2011. Colvin Run Mill will be celebrating its 200 year anniversary. So be sure to mark these dates on your calendar.

The Yates Mill sponsored lectures each day for two hours after which the attendees visited mills in the area. Two commercial mills, a feed mill, and four water powered mills were visited, comprising a wide spectrum of area mills.

The Buffaloe Milling Co. and the Sanford Milling Co. are examples of producing commercial mills. The Buffaloe Milling Co. is a family venture and was started about 1854. Corn, yellow and white, is ground at this mill. The mill specializes in “coatings” for fish, chicken etc. The corn used at the mill comes from farms in North Carolina and Virginia. This is a modern mill built on an old mill foundation. Large quantities of produce are sold to commercial stores. We were served “hush puppies”, breaded chicken and breaded fish all using the product produced at the mill.

The Sanford Milling Co. is owned and operated by four generations of the Harkness family. The mill is six stories high and fully pneumatic. This was a mechanical operated. The mill can store up to 180,000 bushels of grain. The mill grinds at 100 bushels per hour. They grind wheat of which 50% is obtained is a hammer mill that makes animal food. The mill has Some of the roller machines were dated 1900 and still operates on a 16 hour day.



Yates' Mill Visitor Center ▲



◀ Yates' Mill Dam

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## 2010 SPOOM MEETING AT YATES' MILL, NC (cont'd)

The original Atkinson Mill burned in 1950 and the present mill was built in 1951. The mill was incorporated in 1971 and stock in the company was transferred to the present owners, Ray and Betty Wheeler. The concrete dam was built around 1930. Local residents were paid one dollar a day to help build the dam. Ray and Betty Wheeler, who had worked at the mill since 1958, bought the mill in 1971 when it was incorporated. The mill had been owned by one family for 214 years.



In the early 1900's each county had at least 20 grist mills operating. In fact, some counties had at least 40 working mills. Today, only about 10-15 grist mills are operating in the state of North Carolina. Today the Wheeler family operates a very successful mill and they sell a wide variety of products. The mill operates 24 hours each day and employs over 60 employees. Originally the mill used water to power the mill but today electricity is used. The mill has 5 runs of stones. The Wheelers hope to make the original mill into a mill museum.

This is truly a success story. This family had a dream and passion to be successful in the milling world. The whole family, father, mother and children, all worked together to achieve this goal. What a wonderful success story. Mr. Wheeler gave each person a bag of their flour products—over 16 different products are made at the mill and each person could select one of these products.



The North Carolina State University Feed Mill is a modern experimental facility. It is located in the middle of a pasture field and the mill makes and tests feed for pigs, chickens and small ruminants. The feed mill teaches, develops, and implements new technology associated with animal agriculture.

◀ Atkinson Mill

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## 2010 SPOOM MEETING AT YATES' MILL, NC (cont'd)

The modern 100 feet high building opened in October 2007. The square footage of the mill is 6750 ft. The mill can store 9000 bushels of grain, 75 tons of ingredients, and 25 tons of feed. The mill uses a hammer mill and also a roller mill for the grinding of the grain.

The Gilliam Mill is located on NC 42, between Sanford and Carbondon. Before describing the mill one must mention the different and unique items that the owner has collected. There were old steam engines, tractors, gasoline engines and all sorts of old milling equipment. A sawmill was operated by a large gasoline engine. The steam engine operated several pieces of equipment, one of which was making cedar shingles. There was a small cemetery on the site.

Across the Big Pocket Creek was the water powered mill. There was one run of stones that is used today to make cornmeal which is sold at the mill. The original mill was built in 1853 but it was destroyed by a flood in 1928. The present mill was completed in 1979 and is owned by Nancy and Worth Pickard. On the mill side of the stream are 3-4 log cabins, one of which is a blacksmith shop. There is also a covered bridge on the site.

It was at the Old Gilliam Mill that the “spoomers” had a hearty barbecue. Along with the excellent food there was a group of 5 country musicians who entertained the SPOOM group.



▲ Grinding at Atkinson Mill



The West Point Mill, aka the Christian Mill and the McCowan Mill, is located in Durham on the Eno River. The McCowan family and the Mangum family owned this property at one time. This mill had a unique overshot water wheel that is 8-10 feet wide and 6 feet in diameter. The mill is a frame structure that rests on a 1-2 story stone foundation.

◀ Roller Stand at Sanford Mill

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## 2010 SPOOM MEETING AT YATES' MILL, NC (cont'd)

Charles Abercombie was granted the site in 1778. In 1942 the dam was washed out and in 1973 the building collapsed. In 1973 the Friends of West Point bought the mill. Originally the mill used buhrstones to grind the grain but today a meadows mill is used. There is one run of stones in the mill today. Originally there were 32 mills on this river but only West Point remains today.

There was a fish weathervane on the roof of the mill. Fish weather vanes were symbolic requests for prosperity and God's blessing. The present weathervane represents the Roanoke bass fish, or the redeye fish, a rare game fish in the



▲ Buffalo Mill Miller



Gilliam Mill Dam ▲

The Yates Mill is located in a 174 historic county park that is located in Wake County, 5 miles from downtown Raleigh. Yates Mill served the community for over 200 years. At one time Wake County had 70 gristmills but sadly only one remains today.

Samuel Pearson was the mill founder and probably built the mill by the year 1756. Samuel owned the mill until he died in 1802. His son, Simon, inherited the mill but he had to sell the mill to pay off his debts.

There were architectural changes in the mill between 1820 and 1850. The Yates family purchased the mill in 1863. The N.C. State University purchased 1000 acres of land including the Yates Mill. The mill ceased operations and soon began to fall into disrepair. In 1989 the Yates Mill Associates (YMA) was formed to preserve and restore the mill. The mill was stabilized in 1996. In 2001 the N.C. State University leased 157 acres to Wake County, including the mill.

Hurricane Fran, in 1996, breached the dam, drained the millpond, and caused the shed to collapse. Restoration of the mill and machinery was completed in 2005 and is operating today.

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## 2010 SPOOM MEETING AT YATES' MILL, NC (cont'd)

The convention ended with a wonderful banquet served by the staff of the Marriott Hotel. This was a very successful meeting. We visited 2 commercial mills, a research mill and 3 water powered mills. Plan to attend the meeting in 2011 that is being hosted by Colvin Run Mill, Great Falls, Virginia.



## Heritage & Sustainability 6th Annual Tide Mill Conference

– Susan Langley

The Tide Mill Institute hosted its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on November 12-13. The Opening Reception was held Friday evening at the Dorchester Historical Society, Dorchester, MA. The Conference papers were presented at the Old Schwamb Mill, Arlington, MA. The Old Schwamb Mill, built in 1861 and operating until 1969, is the oldest continually operating mill site in the United States. Fine frames are still produced in the mill. Presentations included local mills, regional mills from Maine, Massachusetts and the Chesapeake (SPOOM-MA), as well as modern efforts to harness tidal power. A tour and demonstration followed. For more information about the Tide Mill Institute:

Website: [www.tidemillinstitute.org](http://www.tidemillinstitute.org)

Information/Presentations: Bud Warren ([bwarren@bwi.net](mailto:bwarren@bwi.net))  
207-373-1209, or Earl Taylor ([ermmwat@aol.com](mailto:ermmwat@aol.com)) 781-272-6700

L-R,,Richard Duffy, Earl Taylor & Bud Warren ►



## Mystery Equipment

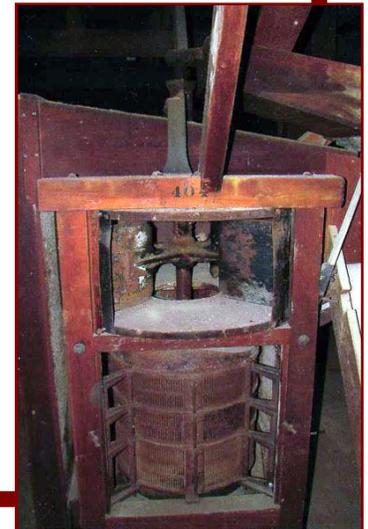
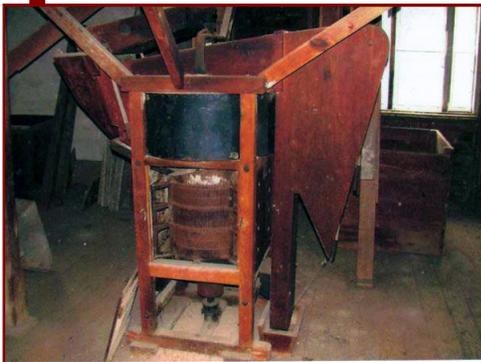
**\*\*Bob Rowland Asks for Your Help-Can you identify the mystery equipment?\***

The Cumberland County (PA) Historical Society has undertaken to prepare a book on the history of the mills of Cumberland County. A major undertaking since there is in excess of 100 mill sites scattered around the County. Several remain but in deteriorated condition. A number of the mills have been converted to residences. Finding it to be fun assignment and having recently found SPOOM, I am submitting a membership application.

We have one mill, the Glen Allen Mill, which was operating up until the 1950s. It is in reasonably good condition except for the elevator belts and (silk?) screens. The water wheels were washed out. I have compared it to Oliver Evans's 1795 edition and it appears to have been designed from this book.

One piece of equipment has us stumped (See photos below). There are two small input chutes in the upper right and left corners. Below them are irregularly shaped hoppers with chutes for conveying the flour (?) to the floor below. I have removed the door from the lower portion of the machine and inside is a round, slotted, metal cylinder. It appears to be a purchased piece of equipment (not homemade) for filtering or separating flour(?).

Any corrections or additional information would be much appreciated. Please contact me at: [goofybob@aol.com](mailto:goofybob@aol.com), 717-761-1159, or by post, 3 Cornell Drive, Cap Hill, PA 17011.



## ❧ Save the Date ❧

### Friends of Colvin Run Mill, VA

**Quarterly Meeting**, Saturday, March 5, 2011.

10017 Colvin Run Road  
Great Falls, Virginia 22066

**Colvin Run Mill Bicentennial Kickoff** is April 10, 2011

**SPOOM National Conference** is September 22-25, 2011

More Information: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm)



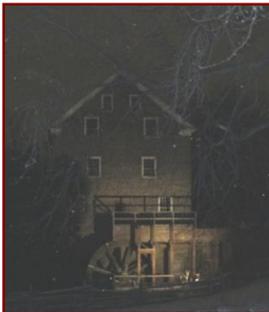
### Roblin's Mill & Heritage Red Fife Wheat (a.k.a. What I did on my Christmas Holiday) –Susan Langley

Black Creek Pioneer Village was established in Toronto, Canada in 1960. The village was based on the historic Stong family farm that retained almost all of its original buildings and homes. Other structures were moved to the site to rescue them from demolition and a village was created that is typical of rural communities of the region between 1790s and the 1860s; generally 1867 is interpreted as the year of Canada's Confederation (independence from Britain).

The Village includes the functioning Roblin's Mill ca.1842, which grinds wheat and corn. It was dismantled and the interior moved to Black Creek from Ameliasburg in eastern Ontario; the stone for the exterior was found along the nearby Humber River and reconstructed. One of the wheats ground is Red Fife (*Triticum aestivum*), a heritage bread wheat. It is named for David Fife and his family who began to grow it in 1842, and for the red color of its kernel. A landrace wheat, it has genetic variability enabling it to thrive in diverse conditions., sc as te older climate of Canada.

Black Creek Pioneer Village: <http://www.blackcreek.ca/>

Red Fife Wheat: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red\\_Fife\\_wheat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Fife_wheat)



## **Restoring your Tide Mill to produce Power...sites sought for prototype**

*– Frank Heller*

I have assembled a small team of designers, dam restorers, marine engineers and fabricators capable of designing and fitting a power generator into a tidal channel or tidal dam.

We are working on a design for a split channel in Bremen, ME. Preliminary to filing a DEP permit application; probably 'fitting' a small 1 meter Gorlof turbine to a generator; or adapting one of several other variations to the channel, eENERGY, SEABELL, tidal waterwheel, etc.

If you would like a site assessment, please contact me ([fjheller@myfairpoint.net](mailto:fjheller@myfairpoint.net))



Articles, photographs, and upcoming events are due to Susan by April 22<sup>th</sup> for the next newsletter. Don't forget photo credits/captions. Please remember to let everyone know about Spring Flings, Craft Sales, Pancake Breakfasts and all the fun and fundraising activities out there, as well as all the news and events related to your mills or mills in your neighborhood. Email to: [slangle06@comcast.net](mailto:slangle06@comcast.net).



## **It's Time to Renew!**

SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Memberships run on the calendar year, so 2011 Membership Fees are now due. Use the renewal form sent to you via Email or snail mail or the membership form at the end of the newsletter to continue your membership. Individual memberships are \$10 with current SPOOM membership or \$15 without. Sustaining Membership is a new category for 2011. The \$25 fee provides additional funds for the support of mill restoration efforts within the chapter. As always, each membership provides the quarterly newsletter, information on mills and seminars, tax deductible dues, and invitations to mill tours and semi-annual meetings. Please submit your payment promptly so you can continue to enjoy your membership benefits. Encourage like-minded friends to consider joining as well.

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Milling Connection: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Sustaining Membership - \$25.00

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