



# **SPOOM**

## **Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

**Next Meeting: March 7-8, 2008, The Cooper Grist Mill, Chester, NJ**

#### **COOPER MILL AT CHESTER, NEW JERSEY**

-- Marjorie Lundegard

The Cooper Mill is located 1.2 miles west of SR 206 on Black Creek. Originally the mill was a frame structure that was built by Nathan Cooper in 1826. When Nathan built this mill there were three other mills that existed downstream from his location. Upon the death of Nathan, his nephew operated and owned the mill. Later on, Abraham, son of the nephew, operated the mill. The ownership of the mill remained in the Cooper family for three generations.

At some time, the three storied stone structure replaced the original frame structure. The mill had four runs of stones that were powered by a sixteen foot Fitz overshot waterwheel that was installed in 1927. There is a rather long wooden flume that channeled the water from the millpond that was formed by a horseshoe shaped dam that is still intact. A tunnel under the road connects the mill to the millpond. A turbine was installed in the mill in 1870. In 1963 the park acquired the mill and in 1978 the mill was opened to the public. The miller, Ivins Smith, operates the mill. He dresses out using black trousers as well as a black vest. To top it off, he also wears a black derby hat that creates an image of a very wealthy miller. He grinds using two runs of stones. The mill produces whole wheat flour and corn meal. The stone building is well maintained by using volunteers.

## First SPOOM-MA and TIMS-America Joint Meeting

--Bob Lundegard

I attended the January 19, 2008 TIMS-A meeting as our SPOOM-MA liaison. I was an observer up to the discussion of plans for the March 8 meeting. The discussion was productive and led to a proposed meeting structure that enables SPOOM-MA to accomplish its goals while having an opportunity to attend the separate TIMS-A workshop.

SPOOM-MA members, not attending the workshop, are encouraged to attend the SPOOM-MA business meeting on March 8 at the Cooper Mill. Registration for the SPOOM-MA meeting will be on Saturday morning at the Morris County Visitors Center. The SPOOM-MA meeting will begin after registration. There will be a fee to cover food and incidental costs. A meeting agenda will be sent prior to the meeting. You are encouraged to attend the SPOOM-MA meeting and the Saturday afternoon tours even if you choose not to participate in the workshop.

Those who arrive on Friday afternoon and are not attending the Friday workshop can attend a buffet dinner and mixer at the Visitors Center.

**Registration information** follows (next page)

**Directions:** 66 State Route 24  
Chester, NJ 07930  
(908) 879-5463

**Located on Rt. 24/513 in Chester Township. I-80 to exit 27,  
Rt. 206 south. Rt. 206 to Rt. 24/513 west.  
Approx. 1¼ mile to Cooper Mill on left.**

- ☞ NOTE: There are 2 forms in this newsletter:**
- 1. Registration for the TIMS-A Workshops does not include the SPOOM-MA Meeting fees**
  - 2. SPOOM Membership Subscription**



## SPOOM-MA Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Old Business:
  - Participation in SPOOM '08 meeting at Grantsville, MD
  - Strategies for attracting new members
  - Strategies for helping mill owners
  - Publicity, brochure, press releases & coverage
  - Other Old Business
4. New Business:
  - Report by Nominating Committee
  - Colvin Run Mill Bicentennial in 2011
  - Coordination with TIMS-A
  - Next meeting, location and schedule
  - Other New Business

☞ **NOTE: For Information about registering for this meeting, Contact Chapter Secretary Jane Sewell (Ejss61@aol.com). There will be a fee to cover food and incidental expenses.**

\*\*All photos this edition are courtesy of Bob Lundegard.

Ivins Smith, right.



# TIMS America - SPOOM Mid-Atlantic

Spring Meeting,  
Workshops and Mill Tour  
March 7 - 8, 2008

at Cooper's Grist Mill

Route 24/513

Chester, NJ 07930

The first day will be in two parts, including both lectures and hands-on experiences.

The morning shop, taught by Jim Kricker is about Common Maintenance Issues and how to resolve them.

The afternoon shop is taught by Ivins Smith, includes a section of the SPOOM Miller Training Curriculum in which each participant will gain knowledge of feeder and grinding processes, along with uncovering the secrets of the "Miller's Thumb."

The second day will include tours of local mills including the Ralston Cider Mill and, of course, the Cooper Grist Mill and Mill Town Village, plus a Wool Carding and Spinning Demo, and Business Meetings.

The registration fees are \$25.00/person/day, or a total of \$50/person for an action-packed two days.

Registration fees include meals, local transportation, and entry fees.

Proceeds will benefit both  
TIMS America and SPOOM Mid-Atlantic organizations.

This workshop will fill up quickly, so don't wait to sign-up!

## Joint TIMS America - SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Milling Adventure



7 - 8 March 2008  
At the Cooper Gristmill  
Chester, NJ



### Registration Information:

Day One: \$25.00 - Workshop fee includes breakfast snacks, lunch and dinner.

Day Two: \$25.00 - Tours, Meetings and Demonstration day. Fee includes transportation, entry fees, breakfast, snacks and lunch.

Hotel Information: Hotel costs are not included in the daily registration fees. A recommended near-by hotel is the Comfort Inn, 1925 Rt. 57 West, Hackettstown, NJ 07840, (800) 4-CHOICE or (908) 813-8900. A block of rooms have been set aside for participants.

Travel Information: Closest Airports are Newark, N.J. and Allentown, PA.

### Registration

(Copy this form for other registrants)

- Day One (A.M. Workshop 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.; P.M. Workshop 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.)  
 Day Two (Meetings, Tours & Demos)

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

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

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check and this registration form to:

Joe Guenther, TIMS America Treasurer, PO Box 157, Millwood, VA 22646

Make payable to TIMS-America

All Proceeds benefit both TIMS America and SPOOM Mid-Atlantic

Release of liability: I hereby release TIMS-America and its Board of Directors, SPOOM Mid-Atlantic and its Board of Directors and the owners, agents, employees and volunteers of the mill sites to be visited from any and all liability of whatever nature or kind arising from my participation in this event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](mailto:Millfoto@aol.com).

### TIMS-America Yahoo Group

Besides using this as a site for TIMS America members, I would like to use it as a basis for up-to-date mill news, for example I am trying to get permission to put the Beverley-Chapman Mill newsletter on site. And I can also provide information about the March meeting for members of TIMS America to be aware of. This site can be as active and members want it to be and the great thing is that it's free. I just think it has so much potential. 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.

## 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