

**Mid-Atlantic Chapter
Society for the Preservation of Old Mills**

**March 24, 2012
Semiannual Meeting**

Location: Rock Run Nature Center
Friends of Peirce Mill
5200 Glover Road NW
Washington DC 20015

Attendees: See Attachment A

President Bob Lundegard opened the business meeting at 9:00 AM. He welcomed attendees, thanked Adam Sieminski, President, and members of the Friends of Peirce Mill for their hospitality, and expressed regrets on behalf of Harold Rapp, outgoing SPOOM president and Charles Yeske, host of the September 2012 SPOOM meeting in Bucks County PA.

Minutes of the August 2011 meeting at Colvin Run Mill VA were approved as distributed. The balance in the treasury is \$4,591.60. This amount reflects \$920 from 2012 memberships to date, including 30 individual (26 @ \$10 and 4 @ \$15), 9 sustaining memberships (\$25), and 6 organizational memberships (\$50), along with three additional donations totaling \$75. Nine memberships were paid using the online feature that was in place by early February. Intentional solicitation of additional organizational members will occur in the next few weeks.

SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Newsletter: Send articles to slangley06@comcast.net by the April 6 deadline for the next issue. Susan Langley, editor, welcomes long-term calendar items from participating mills. Pictures in jpeg format are preferred; include names of any individuals in the photos.

Charles Yeske offered to print and mail hard copies at no charge to the chapter for those members who do not have computer access.

Mill Preservation Update: Ivan Lufriu (See Attachment B)

- Updates on the progress at Brightwell's Mill are posted on **SPOOM Mid-Atlantic's Facebook Page**.

2012 Mid-Atlantic Milling Day on June 9 and 10: Suggestions of activities, resources, and sample publicity materials for use by participating mills are posted on at www.spoommidatlantic.org. Additional suggestions or announcements of events may be sent to judygrove@verizon.net for posting.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Report in *Old Mill News*: Vice President Robert McLaughlin sends a quarterly chapter report. Send information on events of general interest to him at Rlm101@verizon.net by the May 1 deadline. Pictures may be sent to Steve Spring at millfoto@aol.com.

Watershed Map Project: Bob Lundegard reported that hundreds of mills in the Potomac watershed and Fairfax County are entered into the mill database. Maps up to 44" x 30" are available for sale. View the online version at <http://107.22.218.139/nvccgis>. Friends of Colvin Run Mill currently retain oversight of the database, but plans are to move the program first to the SPOOM Mid-Atlantic website and eventually to the SPOOM website. York County PA is in the process of finalizing the agreement and paying funds to extend the program to York County mills in the Susquehanna watershed.

SPOOM-MA Web Page: Under the new server, membership management features and technical support and training have greatly improved. The photo gallery, sponsor page and online membership payment features are in use. Future plans include development of a page detailing mill preservation activities and the option to register and pay meeting fees online.

2013-14 Officer Nominations: Marlene Lufriu will chair a committee to provide a slate of officers to be presented at the August meeting.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings:

- **August 18, 2012: Double Mills** The meeting will be held in Mardela Springs (near Salisbury) MD. Pre-meeting picnic on Thursday evening and tour of local mills on Friday. Details and registration will be published in the chapter newsletter.

Potential Future Chapter Meeting Sites:

- **Caroline County Historical Society** (Contact – Ivan Lufriu)
- **Lime Valley Mill MD** (owner: Karen Peterson)
- **Walnut Valley Mill Lancaster PA** (contacts: Dale and Allison Brian)
- **Kemps Mill Williamsport MD** (owner: Richard Nye)
- **St Vincent Grist Mill Latrobe PA**
- **Little Buffalo Grist Mill near Newport, Perry County PA**
- **County Mills Lewisburg PA** (contact: Tom Rich @Bucknell University)

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Grove, Secretary
717-741-4366

JudyGrove@Verizon.net

March 27, 2012

Chapter Member Contact Information: For now, a few days prior to the event names of attendees will be sent by Email to those who pre-registered. Contact information for individuals may be requested from the secretary when needed. Information related to milling topics or events may be submitted to the secretary for distribution via Email alerts upon approval by the board.

Following the meeting, Steve Dryden, author of *Peirce Mill – 200 Years in the Nation's Capital* presented a talk on the Peirce family and their ties to the mill and Washington, DC. Anthony Linton, naturalist at Rock Creek Park, presented background on the old mills that once lined the banks of Rock Creek. A box lunch and tours of Peirce Mill and the Peirce Barn Visitors Center completed the day.

Chapter Meeting Attendees - March 24, 2012

Attachment A

#	First Name	Last Name	Mill Connection
1	Nathan	Bond	
2	Allison	Brian	Lime Valley Mill - PA
3	Dale	Brian	Lime Valley Mill - PA
4	Daniel	Campbell	Preservation Architect
5	Deborah	Dougherty	Peirce Mill - DC
6	Steve	Dryden	Peirce Mill - DC
7	Ken	Faulstich	Peirce Mill - DC
8	Judith	Grove	Wallace Cross Mill-PA
9	Kathleen	Kilpatrick	Peirce Mill - DC
10	Ray	Kinard	Mill researcher PA
11	Terry	Koller	Mill researcher PA
12	Anthony	Linton	Rock Creek Park DC
13	Quentin	Looney	Peirce Mill - DC
14	Ivan	Lufriu	Union Mills - MD
15	Marlene	Lufriu	Union Mills - MD
16	Marjorie	Lundegard	Colvin Run - VA
17	Robert	Lundegard	Colvin Run - VA
18	David	Lyman	Peirce Mill - DC
19	Bob	McLaughlin	Union Mills - MD
20	Diane	McLaughlin	Union Mills - MD
21	Richard	Nye	Kemps Mill MD
22	Karen	Peterson	Walnut Valley Mill MD
23	Sheila	Ploger	Peirce Mill - DC
24	Craig	Sansonetti	Muddy Creek Forks PA
25	Adam	Siemanski	Peirce Mill - DC
26	Nick	Yannarell	Colvin Run - VA

Recent Mill Preservation Efforts – Ivan Lufriu - March 24, 2012

Attachment B

1.) Williston Mill near Denton, Maryland. The lake that provides water to the mill has become contaminated with toxic blue-green algae. Chemical treatment will be costly; and there is no guarantee

as to its efficacy. Draining the pond may be the only alternative.

2.) Lonaconing Silk Mill. Considered the last intact silk mill in the U.S. that has never been modernized. Located in Lonaconing, MD, the mill lies within the National Lonaconing Historic district, and was nominated to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. Closed and virtually untouched for more than 50 years, the mill faces demolition due to lack of finances available to maintain the building. Owner Herb Crawford is desperately looking for assistance in the preservation of this historic building. Susan Langley, of the Maryland Historical Trust, reports that this facility has been a concern for many years, through several private owners. Due to private ownership, the facility is not eligible for most grants, loans, and assistance. Owners have never agreed to an easement because they felt this would reduce the value of the property. The best thing that could happen is for the site to be taken over by a non-profit or local/state agency so that it would qualify for grants and assistance.

3.) Brightwell's Mill, Madison Heights, Amherst County, VA. Family owned and operated since 1920. Looking for advice on preservation. Advice given: 1.) Investigate SPOOM grants. 2.) Consult with millwrights Derek Ogden or Ben Hassett, both living in Virginia. 3.) Enlist the assistance of local groups such as Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, and local schools. 4.) Form a "Friends" group. Consider special events to bring attention to the mill. 5.) Get involved with SPOOM events through the national organization, or the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. 6.) Visit the websites. 7.) Find a building listed on the National Registry, and talk with knowledgeable people there. 8.) Find a competent contractor for any major work on the mill. 9.) Fully engage your relatives. 10.) Comply with local ordinances regarding water use, construction requirements, and fire safety. 11.) Make sure you have adequate liability coverage.

4.) Custis Mill, Virginia. Have been put in contact with Ben Hassett.

5.) Tate family mill, Greenville, Tenn. Asking in what ways SPOOM can assist in preservation. Advice similar to Brightwell's Mill. Also advised them to contact John Lovett, millwright who lives in Tenn.

6.) Roop's Mill, Westminster, MD A housing development is planned for the area surrounding Roops Mill. Having met all local requirements, the project will now require a review by the U.S. Army corps of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment. The project is therefore subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which requires federal agencies to take into consideration the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. The project is located within the Roop Rural Historic district, which has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Maryland Historical Trust, and features a mill, dwellings, agricultural and industrial outbuildings, and a lime kiln. On behalf of the developer, known as RMV, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. were retained to seek comments from local organizations and adjacent property owners about ways the project can avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to the Roop Mill historic property. On behalf of SPOOM, I responded with my comments about the mill's historic value, and what the developer could do to minimize adverse effects to the historic buildings and site.