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## South Union Messenger (February 1987)

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Shakertown South Union

# The South Union Messenger

FEBRUARY 1987

Greetings from Shakertown at South Union. We hope that this, the first newsletter of 1987, will update our membership on all of the events that have taken place this Winter. This edition will also serve as a recapitulation of the highlights of 1986 and a reminder of the goals we have for this year.

## DINING FACILITIES OPEN AT SHAKERTOWN

On December 3, 1986, the Shaker Tavern opened as a restaurant on a year-round basis. The Tavern, object of several major restoration projects in 1986, had been on Shakertown's list of long-range plans for the past five years. A series of improvements to the building with the goal of a full-time restaurant in mind led to the culmination of much planning and hard work.

The Shaker Tavern was built in 1869 as a business venture of the South Union Shakers. The business was leased to an outsider for one hundred dollars a month and the Shakers had very little to do with the Tavern after that. However, the Shaker Tavern maintained a thriving business for over thirty years, catering to the Victorian railroad travelers who stopped at South Union.

Today the Shaker Tavern is once again open to the public as a restaurant with an atmosphere much like it would have been in the 1880s and 90s. Although the Shakers kept their distance from the hotel and restaurant business, as the Tavern menu says, "...we feel certain that Shaker influence was evident in many of the recipes served to guests in the Tavern during its heyday." Not unlike the original Tavern business, the restaurant offers a combination of "Victorian richness and Shaker goodness" and a dining experience that cannot be found elsewhere.

Shakertown at South Union is proud to add The Shaker Tavern to its list of accomplishments in the field of preservation, the adaptive use of a historic buildings, and in the attractions offered the visitors of Shakertown. The Shaker Tavern is open Wednesday through Saturday evening and Sunday noon, with reservations suggested. For reservations call: (502) 542-6801.

## BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

New officers for 1987 were recently elected by Shakertown's board of directors. Heading the list was the re-election of John P. Hines of Bowling Green as president. Hines is the retired president of Citizen's National Bank. Richard Cox of Auburn was also re-elected to serve once again as treasurer. Newly elected were Ray Clark as vice-president and Nancy Gaines as secretary.

SOUTH UNION WELCOMES ALL 1986 NEW MEMBERS:

Mark & Ann Allen, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Patrick W. Allen, Dayton, Ohio  
Auburn Hosiery Mills, Inc., Auburn, Kentucky  
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Baird, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Battleground Seed Co., Inc., Russellville, Kentucky  
Mr. & Mrs. Odvar Berg, Russellville, Kentucky  
G. M. Biggers, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Barbara Blackburn, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mrs. Lena Booker, Oakland, Kentucky  
Libby Brown, Hendersonville, Tennessee  
Clem D. Carter, Jr., Russellville, Kentucky  
Clark L. Carthrae, M.D., Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Joe & Nancy Cheek, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Harold & Irene Cheney, Lake Elsinore, California  
Daily News, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mrs. Joseph E. Davenport, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Curt DeBaun III, Terre Haute, Indiana  
Allison J. Dennis, Russellville, Kentucky  
Jean Dones, Columbus, Ohio  
John E. Downing, M.D., Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Carol Dyche, Russellville, Kentucky  
Floyd Ellis, Rockfield, Kentucky  
Joni Emerson, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Dr. & Mrs. John O. Fitts, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
John & Vivian Foe & Family, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
E.M. Frey, Madisonville, Kentucky  
Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Hall, Franklin, Kentucky  
H.C. Hanson, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Freeland & Pat Harris, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Houchens Industries, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Joseph R. Huddleston, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mark & Kim Iverson, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Dr. Nicholas & Patricia Kafoglis, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mitchell Leichhardt, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mark P. Leone & Nan S. Wells, Washington, D.C.  
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Long, Hendersonville, Tennessee  
Roger E. Long, Nashville, Tennessee  
Mr. & Mrs. T.C. Melton, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Ed Mallory, Russellville, Kentucky  
James D. & Rose O. Mills, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Jack & Pat Minish, Auburn, Kentucky  
Dr. & Mrs. John B. Moore, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Dr. & Mrs. Gordon B. Newell, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Joe B. Orr, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Larry & Ruth Owrey, Franklin, Ohio  
Dick Pfefferkorn, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mrs. Edward Price, Russellville, Kentucky  
Prather Price, Auburn, Kentucky  
Richard & Susan Spence, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Dr. & Mrs. William T. Wade & Will, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Wheeler, Bowling Green, Kentucky  
W. Howard & Rose Williams, Russellville, Kentucky  
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Ray Wren, Auburn, Kentucky

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 1986

South Union as an organization has made many steps toward its goals this past year and it could not have been realized without faithful members, a hard-working staff and a supportive and helpful board of directors. Credit for these accomplishments cannot go to only a few but to everyone who had a part, whether it be a paid staff member, a volunteer helper, or a monetary donation. For the following list, Shakertown at South Union thanks everyone who was involved.

Major repair to the Centre House roof, gutter system, and dormers

Walls were painted on the ground floor of the Centre House, an in-house project

Bare light bulbs in the ground floor hallway were replaced with Shaker lanterns

Restoration work on the "Preservatory" was begun, an in-house project

New signs were placed in the Centre House yard highlighting points of interest

Rail fence was built to enclosed an area formally used by the Shakers as an herb garden.

Facade of Shaker Tavern was restored, a project funded by Ruth Pottinger

Tavern interior was repapered and painted

Tavern was air-conditioned, a project funded by Ruth Pottinger

Shakertown at South Union membership increased from 106 in 1985 to 187 in 1986

Shaker Museum Shop receipts highest in museum history

1,000.00 grant was received from Kentucky Humanities Council for the development of a slide-tape program entitled, "South Union—The Simple Life"

15,000.00 grant was received from Kentucky Heritage Council for the restoration of the interior of the Centre House

20,000.00 grant was received from State Dept. Local Government for the construction of a permanent festival structure

30,000.00 grant was received from Barren River Area Development District for the purchase of 72 acres containing the Shaker "Holy Ground"

1,400.00 matching funds for the development of a new brochure was received from the Kentucky Tourism Cabinet

The Shaker Tavern was opened on a year 'round basis, offering evening dining for visitors to Shakertown at South Union

We hope that 1987's accomplishment list will take two pages!

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

Eight new board members were recently elected to serve on Shakertown's board of directors. They are Larry Boyles of Citizen's National Bank in Bowling Green; Carol Dyche, owner of the Colony House in Russellville; Mark Iverson, an accountant with Meany & Associates in Bowling Green; Jay Joines, an attorney in Russellville; David Lee, history professor at Western Kentucky University; Linda Reynolds, a regional craftsperson and owner of a craft supply business; Dan Ware, president of the Franklin-Simpson County Chamber of Commerce; and Nancy Gaines, a long-time supporter and volunteer at Shakertown. We are looking forward to an exciting new year with these newly appointed members and the others presently serving on the board: John P. Hines, Ray S. Clark, Richard Cox, Joe Gran Clark, Grover Corum, Bill Gaines, Mrs. Deedy Hall, Bess Martin, Cordell Smith, Paula Vanarsdall, and David Wilkinson.

### A SPRING OF SHAKER AT THE KENTUCKY MUSEUM

Beginning in March, the Kentucky Museum in Bowling Green will feature several events pertaining to Shakerism in America. An exhibit from the New York State Museum, "Community Industries of the Shakers: A New Look," will open March 3 and be available for viewing until May 10. In addition to the exhibit, the Lunchtime Learning series in April will be devoted to the subject of the Shakers. On April 7, the series will begin with noted Shaker author, June Sprigg. On the 14th, Julia Neal, Deedy Hall, and Tommy Hines will participate in a panel discussion about a trip made this past Fall to visit the Shaker Eldresses at Canterbury. April 21st will feature Dr. Lucy Freibert speaking on the subject "Creative Shaker Women." The final installment of the series will include the viewing of the Kentucky Humanities film, "The Shakers: Hands to Work, Hearts to God."

Besides an appearance at the Lunchtime Learning series, June Sprigg will also speak on the evening of April 7 at Bowling Green High School. Lunchtime Learning begins at 11:30 in the orientation room of the Kentucky Museum on the campus of Western Kentucky University.

### A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

1986 was quite a year for Shakertown and I see no need for slowing down in 1987. We have already set many goals for this year and I believe with our museum and tavern staff, along with the new set of board members it can be the best year yet.

Everyone at Shakertown would like to express sympathy to the families and friends of two long-time supporters of South Union. Russell Proctor was on the board of trustees and a life member of Shakertown at South Union. Ray Pearson was also a faithful member to Shakertown, a volunteer during the early 1970s restoration, and a South Union researcher. Both men will be missed by each member of the Shakertown organization.

I hope that each one of you will be able to attend the exhibit and the Lunchtime Learning series at the Kentucky Museum. The South Union Shaker Museum will open officially May 1 with some new exhibits and a fine schedule of events for 1987. Thank you for your support.

*Tommy Hines*

Tommy Hines

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