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South Union Messenger (July 1987)

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SHAKER FESTIVAL IS ON ITS WAY

Just a few more days and the 26th annual Shaker Festival will be in full swing. There are so many events planned for this year's festival that it promises to be one of the very best ever. The Shaker Festival dates are July 9-18.

Each day of the festival there will be craftspeople on site demonstrating the handiwork of the Shakers. During the first week-end the broom-maker will be demonstrating and the Shaker oval box-maker will be with us both week-ends. Throughout the ten-day event demonstrating will be: basket-weaving, chaircaning, butter-making, weaving, and much more. Special exhibits include a collection of Western Shaker village maps drawn by Rick Spence of Cincinnati, Ohio, and living demonstration of the Shaker honey industry.

A Shaker Picnic Luncheon will be available in the Centre House kitchen between 11:00 and 2:00 each day of the festival. Shaker Picnic Ham and Biscuits, Shaker Apple and Tuna Salad, Picnic Lemonade, and Shaker cookies are just a few of the authentic recipes offered for our picnic or "traveling food" as the Shakers called it.

Each evening the outdoor drama "Shakertown Revisited" will be presented at 8:15. This year's director is Michael Hunt from Morgantown, Kentucky, a drama major at Berea College. The music is being directed once again this year by Chandler Fowler of Bowling Green, Kentucky. The drama, which chronicles the one hundred year history of the South Union Shakers, will be presented in our new open-air theatre.

Dinner will be available at the Shaker Tavern at three separate seatings each evening: 4:30, 5:45, and 7:00. A buffet of Shaker recipes will be featured at the Tavern during the ten-day festival only. Reservations are required for this evening meal and may be made by calling: 502-542-6801.

Come and join us for the 26th Shaker Festival and enjoy an exciting and educational event. For more information call: 502-542-4167.

Pricing Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaker Museum/Crafts Demonstrations</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaker Picnic Lunch</td>
<td>a la carte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Shakertown Revisited&quot;</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaker Tavern Dinner Buffet</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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</tbody>
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All Shaker Festival events take place at the Centre House site (Shaker Museum) except for the Shaker Tavern Dinner Buffet.
SPECIAL THANKS FOR RECENT DONATIONS TO SHAKERTOWN

Six foot metal fruit dryer from South Union colony...donated by Mrs. Carrie McKenzie, Auburn, Kentucky
Five piece broom factory from South Union colony...donated by Mrs. Curry Hall, Auburn, Kentucky
Side table purchased at South Union Sale, 1922...donated by Mrs. T. C. Cottrell, Bowling Green, KY.
South Union Straight Chair...donated by Mrs. Ruth Pottinger, Auburn, Kentucky
New Handrails for the Shaker Tavern to match originals...donated by Mrs. Curry Hall and Margaret Sloss, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Paint for the Centre House hallway and two retiring rooms...donated by Porter Paint of Bowling Green
Monetary donations received for Shaker wellhouse restoration and matching for state restoration grant...by Mrs. Amanda Gordon, Mrs. Lillie Mae Hayes, Julia Neal, Harry C. Peart, and Mrs. Ruth Pottinger.

WANT LIST

In each newsletter we list items that are needed at the museum in hopes one of our members will help us acquire one or more of them. Here are a few things that would make life a little more "simple" at Shakertown. They are: a window air-conditioner, a metal extension ladder, a new typewriter (300.00 to 400.00 range).

We would also like to purchase a large wooden loom that is currently on display in the museum. The loom is not a Shaker one, but it is from our region and is like what the Shakers used at South Union. It would be very beneficial for the museum to have a loom, not only for demonstration purposes but for workshops and lectures as well. The price of the loom is 450.00.

RESTORATION CONTINUING

Shakertown is still in the process of a restoration project funded in part by the Kentucky Heritage Council. Ground work to take moisture away from the Centre House first floor has been completed and the roof and belltower have been painted. New restrooms are being installed on the first floor of the Centre House, enabling us to remove four bathrooms on the upper floors and a network of old pipes protruding through the walls of the building. Next the places where the plaster has been damaged by water or age are being repaired. Since the wellhouse collapsed in a wind storm several months ago, it has been included in the Centre House grant. Finally, the shutters and window trim will be painted and, if there is enough money left, we will restore the 19th Century kitchen porch. There is so much activity going on that we hope our festival visitors won't mind the sound of hammers and saws and the sight of plaster dust.
GOOD NEWS FACTS FROM SOUTH UNION

The South Union Antique Mall has received a facelift. A new roof has been put on the building and the facade has been painted and repaired.

June Sprigg visited South Union in April while speaking at the Kentucky Museum in Bowling Green. A banquet at the Shaker Tavern was given in her honor.

South Union received matching funds from the state of Kentucky for the development of a new brochure. We now have beautiful full color brochures that show us off to our best advantage. Thanks to Sally Clark and Dan Ware for their help.

Martha Wetherbee visited South Union in June and examined our South Union baskets. We are also now carrying Martha's handmade baskets in our gift shop.

Mrs. Ruth Pottinger of Auburn donated 7,000.00 and Mr. Harry Peart of Bowling Green donated in excess of 3,000.00 to Shakertown for the purpose of matching our Centre House restoration grant. Without them we could not have completed the project. Special thanks.

Dianne Watkins was recently elected to serve on Shakertown's board of directors. Dianne is the education curator at the Kentucky Museum in Bowling Green. Welcome.

Melinda Engelking visited us in June. Melinda is a Shaker researcher who makes reproduction Shaker stoves. She also left us with a nice donation.

Bob and Kit Cress, who donated the Shaker miniature dwelling house last year stopped by South Union in June. They were pleased with our arrangement of the house.

The garage in the yard of the Centre House has finally been torn down. It was built in the 1950s by the Catholic priory but after several years of neglect it has become an eyesore. The garage was the last non-Shaker structure in the yard.

South Union has conducted a series of workshops and demonstrations this year, something new to our museum. We want to continue to expand upon this and offer a full schedule of events for next year. Special thanks to Linda Reynolds for conducting two chair-caning workshops and to Allison Dennis for her help in teaching the weaving workshops.

The Shaker Tavern is continuing a thriving business, bringing more and more visitors to Shakertown.
A SAD LOSS TO SHAKERTOWN

In February, the president of our board of directors, John P. Hines, passed away suddenly while vacationing in Florida. It was because of Mr. Hines' leadership that Shakertown had such a progressive year in 1986. His business sense, along with a congenial personality and endless enthusiasm, made him a tremendous asset to the Shakertown organization. He will be greatly missed by everyone at Shakertown.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Everyone at Shakertown is working steadily in preparation for this year's Shaker festival. There are several new things going on during the ten-day event so I hope each of you will attend. We are still in need of volunteers to be stationed at various points in the museum, so if you are interested in helping out please give me a call at 542-4167.

We were all saddened at the death of Mr. Hines in February and, more recently at the death of Mrs. Myrtle Calvert. Mrs. Calvert, whose father and grandfather were South Union Shakers, would have been 100 years old in October. She was a dear friend to Shakertown and liked to visit the Centre House at least once a year. A room on the second floor was dedicated to the memory of her father and grandfather; a room she was carried to by pack-saddle only two years ago. She was a dear lady who will be missed.

So much is going on at the museum now that it is unbelievable. Anyone who visits us during the festival will see a lot of restoration in-progress. Overlook the plaster dust and the disarray in the yard. We are happy to have this kind of activity.

Hope to see you at the festival.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Signature]