

4-1990

South Union Messenger (April 1990)

Kentucky Library Research Collections
Western Kentucky University, spcol@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/su_messenger



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "South Union Messenger (April 1990)" (1990). *South Union Messenger*. Paper 17.
https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/su_messenger/17

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in South Union Messenger by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

MAY 10 1990

Shakertown  South Union

The South Union Messenger

THE FRIENDS OF SHAKERTOWN AT SOUTH UNION NEWSLETTER

April 1990

SOUTH UNION SEMINAR

The third annual South Union seminar will be held Saturday, May 12. Because of an extremely busy spring season we have not been able to give much notice this year, but we are still hoping for a good number of our members to register. The schedule of events will be informative and entertaining and the food, as usual, will be one of the many highlights.

This year's activities include a tour of the 1854 Wash House, a performance by the South Union Shaker Quartet, luncheon in the Centre Family Dwelling dining room and an evening meal at the Shaker Tavern. Topics for the day will be "Harvey L. Eads: Lifetime Believer" and "The Furniture of South Union: East Meets West." The cost for the one-day event will be 17.50 per person, a price which includes everything except the evening meal at the Shaker Tavern. (price range: 8.95-9.95)

Please write or call for information: (502) 542-4167.

NEW EMPLOYEE

Mrs. Sue Brooks joins our staff this season as an interpreter and as museum shop personnel. Sue is a talented and enthusiastic addition to the staff of the museum. She lives with her family in the South Union community.

AN EVENING AT SHAKERTOWN

South Union's first gala fundraiser, "An Evening at Shakertown" was a huge success. A forty member committee produced an absolutely beautiful evening with fine food and music and a "simply elegant" atmosphere. With donations and the sale of 250 tickets the event raised almost ten thousand dollars for restoration at Shakertown. A special thanks to co-chairs Mrs. William Fuqua and Mrs. James Patrick Kilgore.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. William O. Brooks, Lexington, Kentucky
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Coleman, Louisville, Kentucky
Dale Covington, Marietta, Georgia
David Cummins, Franklin, Kentucky
Daryl and Sally Cummings, Auburn, Kentucky
Timothy and Barbara Durham, Palm Bay, Florida
Karl, Carla, and Erin Federer, Glenarm, Illinois
Kurt and Jayne Fiegel, Midway, Kentucky
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Flanary, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Pamela Galloway, Dayton, Ohio
Kenneth Hatcher, Jacksonville, Florida
Mitchell Kinder, McDonald, Tennessee
Mattie Lovan, Morgantown, Kentucky
John and Ann Moore, Mooresville, Indiana
Mildred Moore, Morgantown, Kentucky
Barret and Marie Redmon, South Union
Juanita Richardson, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Jane C. Robinson, Greenville, Kentucky
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Scott, Alvaton, Kentucky
Julius and Patsy Sloan, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Kristin Smith, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Virginia Spickard, Lincoln Park, Michigan
Maxine Tice, Morgantown, Kentucky
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Turner, Russellville, Kentucky
Dean and Earlene Watkins, Oakland, Kentucky

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

South Union straight chair, ca. 1830.....purchased with donation from Bob and Kit Cress, Mansfield, Ohio.

South Union armed rocker, ca. 1830.....purchased with donation from Mrs. Curry Hall, Auburn, Kentucky.

South Union rocker, small.....purchased by Mrs. Curry Hall.

Shaker dust pan, tin.....donated by Jeanne Weaver, Morgantown, Indiana.

Sugar bucket, attributed to Shaker.....donated by Margaret McQueen, Auburn, Kentucky.

Applesauce paddle, attribute to Shaker.....donated by Sheldon and Brenda Baugh, Russellville, Kentucky.

Brick from West Union.....donated by Mr. and Mrs. Curt DeBaun, Terre Haute, Indiana.

Slat Basket, attributed to Shaker.....donated by Ann Metzger, Los Angeles, California.

Set of video tapes produced by Pleasant Hill.....donated by Michael Breeding, Shakertown at Pleasant Hill.

IN MEMORIAM

During the past several months we have lost four valuable members of the South Union Friends organization: Dr. Lyle Snavely of Glasgow, Mrs. Jane Morningstar of Bowling Green, Mrs. Ruth Pottinger of Auburn, and Mr. Earl Wallace of Lexington. Dr. Snavely and his wife Christeen have been members at South Union for more than a decade. Mrs. Morningstar was an active supporter of preservation on south-central Kentucky.

Ruth Pottinger was one of the biggest supporters of the South Union project, financing such projects as the restoration of the Shaker Tavern columns, the air-conditioning of the Tavern building, the installation of theatre seating in the festival pavilion, modernization of the Tavern kitchen and many other projects. She also supplied the matching funds for a 30,000 dollar grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council in 1986. Earl Wallace is best known for his work at Pleasant Hill. He served as the chairman of their board and was also a contributor to the South Union restoration.

A FUTURE FOR THE SOUTH UNION HOLY GROUND

During the 1840s and 50s each Shaker community established a site for secluded out-of-doors worship. The South Union Shakers named their designated spot the "holy ground" and met there for worship twice a year until the mid-1850s. The holy ground was a plot of ground a little less than an acre, a perfect square bordered with approximately thirty-six pine trees. Within that square of pines was a circle of sugar maples. The worship service was held within that circle.

Because of the generous donations of South Union Friends Amanda Gordon and Margaret Sloss our holy ground will soon look much like it did in the 1840s. The land is being cleared of two concrete water tanks and the pines and maples will be planted in the original configuration very soon. We hope to have the site open to the public sometime this year.

SHAKER TAVERN REOPENS

The Shaker Tavern is once again open to the "world's people." Our new innkeepers, Barry and Marie Redmon are serving evening meals and luncheon every day except Mondays. The menu consists of Shaker recipes and regional favorites. The Tavern will remain open until the museum season ends in November at which time only evening meals will be available until April.

Three bed and breakfast rooms are currently being restored in the building for use in time for the Shaker Festival in June. For more information call: (502) 542-6801.

MUSEUM WANT LIST

filing cabinets, four drawer
metal shelving for artifact storage
folding tables for special events

RECENT DONATIONS

Funds to paint and repair picket fence around Centre House,
donated by Julia Neal, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Funds to restore side entrance to 1917 Shaker Store donated
by Margaret McQueen, Auburn, Kentucky

Funds to restore and repair Centre well-house donated by
Margaret McQueen, Auburn, Kentucky

Funds to restore Shaker Tavern hotel rooms and to install
new bathroom facilities donated by Mrs. Curry Hall, Auburn

50.00 donation in honor of Julia Neal given by Mr. and Mrs.
Edgar McCormick, Kent, Ohio

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Everyone at Shakertown will long have happy memories of Ruth Pottinger. Not only did she give to so many worthy restoration projects but she contributed a spirit of joy and enthusiasm to everything she did for South Union. Miss Ruth truly loved Shakertown and her enormous influence on all of us will be remembered.

South Union was very fortunate this year to be the subject of Pleasant Hill's Friends' Forum. We were honored and privileged to be able to tell a new audience about the history and restoration of South Union. Dianne Watkins, education curator of the Kentucky Museum and Shakertown board member, presented a paper on Elder Harvey L. Eads and I spoke on the history of the village using many of the historic photographs in our collection. The South Union Shaker Quartet was also invited to perform a program of South Union music.

The highlight of the Friends' Forum was a video produced by Michael Breeding of Pleasant Hill, focusing on the preservation efforts of Deedy Hall and Julia Neal. Both ladies were interviewed in February and did a wonderful job recounting the history of preservation here. The video presentation made a perfect ending to a memorable Pleasant Hill weekend. Thanks so much to Jim Thomas and the fine staff.

I hope each of you will want to attend our 1990 South Union Seminar, May 12. It promises to be a day filled with informative talks, good Shaker music, and wonderful food.

Tommy Hines

1990 Calendar of Events

- May 12 SOUTH UNION SEMINAR
A day of Shaker-related topics, special tours, music, luncheon and dinner. 17.50 per person. Begins at 9:30am. Reservations.
- May 26 BROOMMAKING DEMONSTRATION
- June 15-17, 22-24, 29-July 1 SHAKER FESTIVAL
Three week-ends of Shaker foods, music and crafts and the outdoor drama, "Shakertown Revisited." 2.50 entry fee. Meals and drama not included. Begins each morning at 10:00.
- July 28 BROOMMAKING DEMONSTRATION
- July 30 SHAKERTOWN TEACHER WORKSHOP
A workshop conducted by the Kentucky Historical Society and Shakertown for elementary teachers. 3.00 per person, excluding luncheon served in the Centre House dining room. 9:30-4:00. Reservations.
- August 17-18 OVAL BOX/SHAKER BASKET WORKSHOP
A two-day workshop where you can learn to make either a nest of six oval boxes or two miniature Shaker baskets (a peach basket and a laundry basket). 50.00 per person. Begins Friday evening at 7:00 and resumes Saturday morning at 9:00. A Shaker luncheon is included in the registration price. Reservations,
- September 8 WALKING TOUR AND LUNCHEON
An annual walk to a point of interest at the South Union site, followed by a Shaker luncheon. 17.50 non-members, 15.00 members. Begins at 10:30am. Reservations.
- September 29 BROOMMAKING DEMONSTRATION
- October 13 FALL CANDLELIGHT TOUR
An evening tour of the 1824 Centre Dwelling by candlelight. Shaker music performances. No reservations required and no cost. 7:00.
- November 17 A SHAKER BREAKFAST
A hearty Shaker breakfast served in the Centre House dining room. 15.00 non-members, 12.00 members. 10:00. Reservations.
- December 1-2 CHRISTMAS AT SHAKERTOWN
An open house celebration with period decorations, holiday refreshments, music, crafts and antiques. Free to the public.