

3-1993

South Union Messenger (March 1993)

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 (March 1993)" (1993). *South Union Messenger*. Paper 9.
https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/su_messenger/9

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.

Shakertown  South Union

The South Union Messenger

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF SHAKERTOWN AT SOUTH UNION, KENTUCKY
March 1993

JOIN US FOR THE SOUTH UNION SEMINAR

The sixth annual South Union Seminar will be held April 16-17 and will feature five presentations from authorities in the field of Shaker studies. Jean Burks, Curator of Recreational Artifacts at the Strong Museum in Rochester, New York, has been invited as this year's keynote speaker. Ms. Burks served as Curator of Collections at the Canterbury Shaker Village from 1987 to 1990 where she authored the book, Documented Furniture: An Introduction to the Collection. Most recently, she and Tim Rieman have co-authored The Complete Book of Shaker Furniture, to be released later this year. Jean will discuss the adventure she encountered while researching the book and will talk about the pieces that were chosen from a variety of sites to be included in it.

A registration form and a detailed agenda for the event is included at the back of this newsletter.

SHAKERTOWN AT SOUTH UNION RECEIVES \$500,000 GRANT

Shakertown at South Union recently received \$500,000 in federal funding as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. The funding was made available to Shakertown because of the widening of US 68 to four lanes and the potential development that could occur within the South Union historic district. The ISTEA funds can be used to purchase original Shaker land and buildings in order to protect the historic site from commercial, industrial, or residential encroachment.

In February the museum organization purchased the first 62 acres of the project and hopes to work with other local landowners for additional purchases. Shakertown must match the \$500,000 amount with approximately \$120,000. Because the ISTEA funds will not purchase all of the Shaker buildings and the land necessary to protect the site, the Shakertown board of directors voted to raise additional funds. Timing is very crucial as the road project comes nearer to Shakertown and the prospect of development becomes more real.

Special thanks to David Morgan and the Kentucky Heritage Council for their help with the implementation of the ISTEA funds and to board president Gran Clark and board member Charlie Ray for their assistance with the project.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Two new members were recently elected to the Shake town board of directors. Grover Corum, of Auburn, Kentucky, returns to the board after an eight year absence. Mr. Corum was one of the founders of the South Union preservation project and served as a board member and president of the organization during the 1960s and 1970s. He and his family have been supporters of the museum for many years and we welcome his experience and expertise to the board.

John Ridley of Bowling Green, Kentucky, has also joined the Shakertown board. Mr. Ridley is with Morgan Keegan and Co., an investment firm located in Bowling Green. With talents well-suited to Shakertown's growth and development, John Ridley will be an asset to the museum organization.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Cherry table with one drawer, South Union, ca. 1850, turned legs,
.....donated by Col. and Mrs. Robert Spiller, Oakland, Kentucky

Walnut table with one drawer, South Union, ca. 1830, cylindrical legs,
.....donated by David and Phyllis Hall, Auburn, Kentucky, in memory
of Mrs. Curry Hall

Cherry candlestand, South Union, ca. 1850, made for Dr. William Rice Burr by the South Union Shakers. Dr. Burr was the Shakers' physician.
.....purchased with funds from acquisition endowment

Collection of photographs, books, periodicals, and ephemera, both primary and secondary Shaker materials
.....donated by Julia Neal, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Photograph made in June of 1922 for the South Union auction booklet, view of Centre Family buildings, looking south
.....donated by Julia Neal, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Maple slat-back chair, maple armed rocker, walnut and poplar one drawer table with brass knob, walnut wash stand, all attributed to South Union, and oval box made at Sabbathday Lake, Maine, mid-twentieth century
.....donated by Julia Neal, Bowling Green, Kentucky

Types of Christ and Manner of His Second Appearing, by Harvey Eades, published at South Union in 1878
.....purchased with funds from acquisition endowment

Collection of tinware, seven pieces, attributed to Shaker
.....purchased with funds from acquisition endowment

Collection of books and periodicals, secondary Shaker material
.....from the collection of Deedy Hall, bequest

Small paper label, probably given as reward to Shaker school children, green with black print and decorative border, with message, "1 MERIT"
.....found under floor boards of Centre House attic during restoration

MUSEUM HIRES EDUCATION CURATOR

Shakertown at South Union is pleased to announce the hiring of Sharon Koomler as its first education curator. Sharon served as an intern at the museum in 1992 and spring 1993, working with the collection and planning and executing children's tours. Her Christmas school program attracted almost 2,000 children during the first three weeks of December.

Sharon will finish her graduate work with a degree in Folk Studies from Western Kentucky University in June. We are fortunate to have Sharon on staff and look forward to many new education programs in the coming seasons.

WES AND AMY MOORE NAMED VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Wes and Amy Moore of Nashville, Tennessee, were the 1992 recipients of the Deedy Hall Volunteer of the Year Award. The award was established in 1992 to honor those who have given of their time and talent to the museum, "above and beyond the call of duty." Wes and Amy volunteered for every major event that was held last year, displaying a true affection and dedication to the South Union project. The staff and board of directors appreciate the Moore's for all they contributed to the success of the museum's 1992 season.

DONATION RECEIVED FROM THE APOLLO FUND

A generous donation was recently received from the Apollo Fund, a trust established by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Bingham, Jr. The \$100,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Bingham will be placed in Shakertown's operating endowment fund. We appreciate this gesture of support and wish to thank the Bingham's for the important role they have played in the recent growth of Shakertown at South Union. Mrs. Bingham is a member of Shakertown's advisory committee.

THANK YOU...

For your donation in memory of Mrs. Curry Hall:

John and Linda Tanner, Madison, Tennessee
Flo Morse, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Wendall and Viola Hess, Enfield, New Hampshire
Nancy Hillenburg, Anaheim, California
South Union Area Study Group, South Union, Kentucky

For your donation to the Acquisition Endowment Fund Drive:

Jayne and Kurt Fiegel, Versailles, Kentucky
R.L. and E.M. Bear, Harrisburg, Illinois
Judge and Mrs. William Allender, Bowling Green, Kentucky
Ervin G. Houchens Foundation, Bowling Green, Kentucky

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Martha Boice, Dayton, Ohio
Mr. and Mrs. David Taylor, Owensboro, Kentucky
Judy and D'arcy Havill, Camp Dennison, Ohio

"INSPIRED BY SHAKER DESIGN" TO OPEN APRIL 4

In celebration of the Year of the Craft in the Americas, Shaker-town at South Union is sponsoring a juried exhibit of contemporary craft that is inspired by Shaker design. Thirty pieces from 14 artists have been selected for the show which will open April 4. "Inspired by Shaker Design: A Contemporary View of Shaker Craft" will boast a wide variety of artwork that exemplifies the quality and beauty we associate with those things made by the Shakers.

The exhibit will run through May 15 when a Patrons Night Celebrity Auction will allow those in attendance to bid on the pieces. The auction will benefit the Shakertown Acquisition Endowment Fund Drive. If you would like additional information about the exhibit or if you wish to receive a catalog write to Shakertown at South Union, ISD, P.O. Box 30, South Union, Kentucky 42283.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

There are many exciting things happening at South Union this spring. The grant from the Carpenter Foundation that we received in 1992 has produced great progress on the interior of the Centre House. The fourth and ground levels of the building have been restored and a fire detection system has been installed. The ISTE A grant is allowing us to do something that we thought of as a long-range plan: purchase Shaker land and buildings. With 15,000 visitors between March 15 and November 15 last year, it is evident that our attendance continues to rise each year. 1993 promises to be even better. The support of our membership is more important now than ever before. I hope that each of you will take time to visit South Union this year and see for yourself the progress that you are helping make possible.

The Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill has played host to two retreats for South Union staff and board of directors recently. The board spent a weekend at Pleasant Hill in January and seven members of the museum staff attended a retreat there March 5-6. Both groups came back to South Union with an even greater appreciation for the preservation efforts taking place there. There is much that South Union can learn from the successes of Pleasant Hill. Our hosts, Jim Thomas, Larrie Curry, and Lynn Reynolds, could not have been more gracious and we appreciate the time they spent with both the board and the staff.

As you will remember, I reported the sad loss of Mrs. Curry Hall in the January newsletter. Mrs. Hall had a marvelous collection of antiques in her home and it was her wish that they should be auctioned at a public sale. Her extensive collection will be sold Saturday, April 10, Easter weekend. The Shaker Sugar Maple Farm and her home will be auctioned Friday, April 9. If you would like a catalog you may write: Jesse L. Riley and Son, P.O. Box 15, Russellville, Kentucky 42276.

I hope to see you at the South Union Seminar, April 16-17.

Tommy Hines
Shakertown at South Union

1993 Calendar of Events

- March 1 - May 20 **SHAKERTOWN CHILDREN'S TOURS**
- March 15 **OPENING DAY**
Shakertown at South Union opens its 1993 season.
- March 26-27 **OVAL BOX AND BASKET WORKSHOP**
A two-day workshop where you learn to make either a nest of oval boxes or a Bushwacker basket. Reservations required. Time TBA. \$60 per person. Includes Shaker lunch.
- April 4 **EXHIBIT OPENING**
"Inspired by Shaker Design: An Exhibit of Contemporary Craft" in celebration of the Year of the Craft in the Americas.
- April 16-17 **SOUTH UNION SEMINAR**
Our sixth annual South Union Seminar will feature key-note speaker Jean Burks, co-author of The Complete Book of Shaker Furniture, Shaker foods and music. Reservations required. Times TBA. Fee TBA.
- May 1 **WEAVING DEMONSTRATION**
- May 15 **ART AUCTION BENEFIT**
A fund-raising event in conjunction with the closing of the "Inspired by Shaker Design" exhibit.
- May 15-16 **BROOM-MAKING DEMONSTRATION**
- June 12-13, 19-20 **SUMMER SHAKER FESTIVAL**
Two week-ends of Shaker foods, music, and crafts. No reservations required, except for groups. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily. Fee TBA.
- June 26 **"AN EVENING IN SHAKERTOWN"**
Our annual gala fund-raising event. Invitations to all museum members.
- July 17-18 **BROOM-MAKING DEMONSTRATION**
- August 21 **WEAVING DEMONSTRATION**
- August 28-29 **BROOM-MAKING DEMONSTRATION**
- September 18 **AUTUMN DAYS AT SHAKERTOWN**
Apple butter making, homemade fried pies and a variety of fall activities for the family make up our Autumn Days celebration. This event presented in conjunction with the city of Auburn. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Shakertown South Union

SOUTH UNION SHAKER SEMINAR

April 16-17, 1993

Shakertown at South Union, Kentucky

Friday, April 16, 1993 - THE 1869 SHAKER TAVERN

- 5:30 p.m. Gathering of Seminar Participants
- 6:00 p.m. Welcome
J. Gran Clark, President
Shakertown at South Union Board of Directors
- Tommy Hines, Executive Director
Shakertown at South Union
- 6:15 p.m. Shaker Evening Fare
Tavern Dining Room
- 7:30 p.m. Shaker Music Performance
South Union Shaker Quartet
- 8:00 p.m. Closing
Tommy Hines

Saturday, April 17, 1993 - THE 1824 CENTRE FAMILY DWELLING

- 8:00 a.m. Registration/Light Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Orientation
Tommy Hines
- 9:30 a.m. Presentation
"Shaker Women's Work"
Martha Boice, Dayton, Ohio
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. Keynote Presentation

Jean Burks, Strong Museum
Rochester, New York
- 11:30 a.m. Break
- 11:45 a.m. Shaker Luncheon
Centre Family Dining Room

South Union Shaker Seminar (continued)

During the lunch break (11:45 - 1:00) participants can view the exhibits in the Centre House and in the Smoke and Milk House.

- 1:00 p.m. Presentation
 "Utopia Achieved? The Roles of Women in the
 United Society of Believers"
 Dr. Sally Ann Strickler, Reference Librarian
 Western Kentucky University
- 1:30 p.m. Break
- 1:45 p.m. Presentation
 "Sericulture, Silk, and the South Union Shakers"
 Donna Parker, Exhibits Curator
 Kentucky Museum, Western Kentucky University
- Jonathon Jeffrey, Special Collections Librarian
 Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky University
- 2:30 p.m. Closing Remarks
 Tommy Hines

The 1993 South Union Seminar is paid for in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council.

REGISTRATION FORM
SOUTH UNION SHAKER SEMINAR - "THE SHAKERS: RELIGION IN PRACTICE"
APRIL 16-17, 1993

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

_____ \$25 Non-Member Registration Fee

_____ \$20 Member Registration Fee

_____ \$12 Shaker Tavern Meal, Friday Evening (Optional)

_____ Total Enclosed

Mail registration form and check to: Shakertown at South Union,
P.O. Box 30, South Union, Kentucky 42283 by April 5, 1993.
Participants may attend the Friday evening session even if choosing
not to reserve space for dinner at the Tavern.

Shakertown  **South Union**
Shakertown at South Union, Kentucky 42283

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
SHAKERTOWN AT
SOUTH UNION, KENTUCKY 42283
PERMIT NO. 3**

Jonathon Jeffrey
9707 Morgantown Rd.
Bowling Green, KY 42102