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South Union Messenger (December 1993)

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The South Union Messenger

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

SHAKERTOWN AT SOUTH UNION RECEIVES CONTRIBUTION

Shakertown at South Union recently received probably its largest contribution ever, an historic Logan County home and seventy-five acres of land. The brick house was built in 1820 for one of the founding families of Logan County, a family whose descendents donated the property to the museum. The contents of the house were also donated to Shakertown, a collection that encompasses 170 years of the Morton and Dawson families and of Logan County itself. The collection includes early 19th century cherry and walnut furniture, late 18th century coin silver, oil paintings, photographs, manuscripts, textiles, books dating from the late 1700s, scrapbooks, clippings, glassware, ironware, and tools that represent almost two centuries of Kentucky history.

Shakertown at South Union will eventually open the house and farm for special tours, interpreting the site as an example of 1840s family life, in comparison with the communal lifestyle of the Shakers. Restoration and development of the site will have to come first. A fund for the **Morton House Project** has been established with a generous donation from one of the five Morton family descendents, Dr. Thomas A. McKenzie III. As this special fund grows, the historic site will be restored and will eventually be an important part of the museum's education program. School children will get a broader perspective on Shaker folk-life by understanding how the Shakers' neighbors lived.

We wish to thank Morton family descendents, Susan Brickman, Nancy Kizer, Thomas A. McKenzie III, Inez Morton, and Marmaduke Morton VIII, for their contribution to Shakertown at South Union and to Logan County.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE GROVER CORUM FAMILY

A \$10,000.00 donation was made to the museum in December by Grover and Mary Corum and family of Auburn. This very generous contribution will be used as matching money for a fund-raising project to be held in 1994. Mr. Corum was one of the first members of the museum's Board of Directors, on which he continues to serve, and has been a constant supporter of the South Union project from its inception. The museum is indebted to the Grover Corum family for its assistance in the preservation and operation of Shakertown at South Union.

TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS HIRED THANKS TO THE W.L. LYONS BROWN FOUNDATION

The museum will be adding two additional full-time staff members in 1994. Sharon Koomler, Bowling Green, was hired as the museum's first Director of Education and Mike Sisk, Morgantown, was hired as Assistant to the Executive Director. Partial funding for the for the staffing project came from the W. L. Lyons Brown Foundation in the form of a \$27,000.00 grant to be used over a two year period.

Both Mike and Sharon have completed their graduate degrees at Western Kentucky University earlier this year in History and Folk/Intercultural Studies, respectively. The museum looks forward to a prosperous 1994 because of this wonderful opportunity given us by the W. L. Lyons Brown Foundation. The Shakertown at South Union staff now includes three full-time employees and four part-time employees.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Major and Mrs. Jonathon Perkins, Clarksville, TN
Sharon MacPherson, Nashville, TN
Dr. and Mrs. Alan Scott Black, Augusta, GA
Judge and Mrs. William G. Fuqua, Russellville, KY
Sue Carol Browning, South Union, KY
Darlene Gooch and Family, Russellville, KY
Dr. and Mrs. Dale Clark, Russellville, KY
Judge and Mrs. John D. Minton, Bowling Green
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Buckberry, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Ruston Flowers, Lewisburg, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Kazunori Endoh, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Browning Gorrell, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Menees, Allensville, KY
Mrs. Evelyn Lockwood, Bowling Green, Ky
Allene Limis, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Priest, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Muth, Rockfield, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Isenberg, Auburn, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wheeler, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riley, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse L. Riley, Jr., Russellville
Elizabeth M. Hancock, Santa Fe, NM
Sharon Burdick, Oregon, IL
Catherine Lamb, Oregon, IL
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keita, Elizabethtown, KY
Bret Morgan, New York, New York
Mike Sisk, Morgantown, KY
Carol Schell, Louisville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. James Sterling, Williamsburg, MI

Robert Young Link, Franklin, KY
Nat and Christi Nofsinger, Lewisburg, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Sutton, Richmond, VA
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Kilgore, Bowling Green, KY
Mike and Melynda Riley, Russellville, KY
Elizabeth Wilson, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Garrett, Jr., Russellville, KY
Margaret Madison, Bowling Green, KY
Logan Business Supply, Russellville, KY
Mary E. Johnson, Topeka, KS
Sandra Guy, Central City, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Griffin, Bowling Green, KY
Barbara Stewart, Bowling Green, KY
Blairmore Farms, Woodburn, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dowse, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. William Schlegel, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Northern, Russellville, KY
Mrs. Chester Ezell, Woodburn, KY
Mr. and Mrs. James Turner, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. James Edwards, Jr., Montgomery, AL
Samra Linton Smith, Russellville, KY
Lula C. Shaw, Russellville, KY
Karen Anderson-Plum, Bryon, IL
Mr. and Mrs. Mac Brown, Louisville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Robbins, Russellville, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Bonds, Bowling Green, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelley Hanks, Auburn, KY
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Sterling, Big Rapids, MI
Dr. Frank Nickell, Cape Girardeau, MO

MUSEUM RECEIVES GRANT FROM KENTUCKY ORAL HISTORY COMMISSION

Shakertown at South Union recently received a grant from the Kentucky Oral History Commission in the amount of \$1,600. The funding will be used to transcribe series of taped interviews that pertain to the last days of the South Union Shaker colony. The interviews were made in 1989 by then Western Kentucky University graduate student Sara McNulty and include interviews of Prather Price, Deedy Hall, Amanda Gordon, Bea Vick, Carroll Browning, Mazelle Woodward, Lola Ward, Booker Tisdale, Elizabeth Stagner, Mayola Rush, Kathleen Rogers, Tempie Nole, Maxine Marbury, Clinton Hardison, Haley Finney, Pauline Blakey, and Dee Barrow.

These personal memories of the last South Union Shakers are an invaluable link in the history of the South Union village. The tapes are housed in the Julia Neal Library at South Union and will be available to the public along with the written transcriptions by mid-1994.

MUSEUM RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

The archaeological project will continue in 1994 because of a \$6,500.00 grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council. The survey will focus on the North and East Family sites at South Union and will complete the archival research and a chain of title for the historic property. Staff member Mike Sisk will conduct the research for the project and archaeologist Kurt Fiegel will supervise the dig. Volunteers are needed so call the museum if you would like to be a part of the project.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

South Union maple and ash rocker with original seat and room numbers stamped on front posts, purchased from the Shakers prior to 1922 by Margaret Hobson
.....purchased with funds from the acquisition endowment

Early maple and ash slat-back, mule-eared chair with replaced seat and turned feet, attributed to the South Union Shakers, purchased from the Shakers around 1910
.....purchased with funds from the acquisition endowment

Forty-three pieces of ironware for use in the kitchen exhibit, not attributed to the South Union Shakers but of Logan County origin
.....donated by Mary Nancy Todd, Bardstown, Kentucky, Mrs. Todd is the daughter of the late Russell Procter, former president of Shakertown Revisited, Inc.

South Union maple and ash side chair with original paint, missing two back slats, but excellent example of South Union's finest period of chair construction
.....found in collection at the Morton farm and donated by the family

Cotton scarf with blue pin stripes, South Union, dated 1874 and stamped "Nancy E. Moore," South Union Eldress and member 1811-1889
.....gift to collection

Wooden spool attributed to Maine Shakers, wooden spool with traces of chrome yellow paint and some silk thread from Union Village, tailor's thimble attributed to Alfred, Maine Shakers, brush and hand mirror attributed to Shaker
.....donated by Karl Federer, Glenarm, Illinois

THANK YOU TO OUR MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are very special to us because they represent the community we serve. Without them the museum could not function effectively and we acknowledge with much thanks the many hours that our volunteers have contributed over the past year. We will need you again in 1994, probably even more than in the past. Volunteers can be used in all aspects of museum work, so if you have time to give, give the museum a call at (502) 542-4167.

This year's recipients of the Deedy Hall Volunteer of the Year Award are John and Linda Tanner of Madison, Tennessee. John and Linda deserve a "lifetime achievement award" for they have been involved with Shakertown at South Union for more than thirty years. The Tanners continue to help the museum in so many ways and everyone here appreciates their special talents and their very valuable gift of time.

John and Linda were presented their award at the annual South Union Area Study Group/Volunteer Christmas dinner, held December 4th at the Shaker Tavern.

IN MEMORY

Two members of the Friends of Shakertown at South Union have passed away since our last newsletter in September. Mary Burt, a long-time supporter of the museum, was a native of the South Union area and remembered the Shakers in her youth. She will be missed by the Friends and staff of Shakertown.

O. Edward Freeman, a life member of the museum, also passed away recently. Edward was the nephew of Deedy Hall and assisted her greatly in collecting Shaker during the 1960s and 1970s. His correspondence with Mrs. Hall has been preserved in the museum library. It details the transactions in the Shaker market during this period, making the letters a valuable reference for collections research. The **O. Edward Freeman Fund** has been established by friends in his memory and will be used to preserve manuscripts materials in the library.

MUSEUM MEETS CHALLENGE GRANT FROM J. GRAHAM BROWN FOUNDATION

A two-year fund-raising project was completed on December 1 when the museum met its \$125,000.00 goal. In 1991, the J. Graham Brown Foundation challenged Shakertown at South Union to raise \$125,000.00 in order to establish an acquisition endowment. The foundation matched the amount raised and granted an additional \$125,000.00, making the new acquisition endowment total \$375,000.00. The following individuals, foundations, corporations, and fund-raising events allowed the museum to meet its goal:

\$20,626.98	1992 "An Evening in Shakertown" Gala Event
\$18,000.00	Anonymous Donation
\$17,233.65	1993 "An Evening in Shakertown" Gala Event
\$14,311.02	Donation from Apollo Trust
\$11,600.00	Donation from Shakertown at South Union Advisory Committee: Edie Bingham, Martin Brown, Bill Coke, Al Smith, Ann Early Sutherland, Ridley Wills, III
\$10,000.00	Bequest From the Deedy Hall Estate
Donations from \$3,000 to \$5,000	Col. and Mrs. Robert E. Spiller Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc.
Donations from \$1,000 to \$2,999	Liberty National Bank and Trust Co., Louisville Kroger of Nashville Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cress Houchens Foundation Tarrent Foundation Gray Construction Major General Dillman A. Rash
Donations from \$500 to \$999	Julia Neal Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jones Harry C. Peart Mrs. C.K. McClure
Donations from \$100 to \$499	Mr. and Mrs. Dale Spencer Jay D. Joines Mr. and Mrs. John Tanner Mr. and Mrs. Larry Owrey A.C. Holland Mrs. Irvin Dagen Mr. and Mrs. Bob Guion Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mallory Mr. and Mrs. Mac Brown Pat and Mary Allen Doug and Casey Lester L. Evadine Parker Bea Vick W.G. Lussky Courtaulds Coatings Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Broeker

Donations to \$99

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Fuqua
Trent Spurlock
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gilbert
Pine Hill Bed and Breakfast
Mrs. William Allender
R.L. and E.M. Bear
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Fiegel
Barbara Ackerman
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wren
Mable Howlett
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Baird
Mike Sisk
Jane Flener
Margaret York
Mr. and Mrs. Oddvar Berg
Elaine Disch
Sharon Lee Edwards
Mary Russell
O.E. Freeman
Dorothy Hindman
Henry Boyd
Per C. Pearson
Mr. and Mrs. Giles Woolk
Sara Tyler
Martha Boice
Rose Mary Lawson
Susan Keig
Nancy Hillenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Taylor
Dr. and Mrs. Jack Scott
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marshall
Addie Bennett
Dr. and Mrs. Edmund Wilkins
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirkpatrick
Virginia Spickard
Wallace Herndon, Sr.
Julia Duncan
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Newberry
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bennett
Mrs. William O. Brooks
Joy Williams
Mrs. Robert Sharp
Sue Elliott

Donations in Memory of Steve Kistler

Pat and Mary Allen
Trent Spurlock
Paul and Diana Van Kolken

Donations in Memory of O. E. Freeman

John Helm
Mary Helm
Helen Overbacker
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Myers Simpson
Florence A. White
Francis P. Fretwell
George W. Barlow
Alan Schoen
Julia Neal
Michael Chase

Donations in Memory of Margie Helm

John R. Helm
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Thomas
H. H. Helm
Mr. and Mrs. Robert VanMeter, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs Timothy V. Hartnett
Charlotte Helm
Joseph B. Helm
Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Bessire
Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Myers
Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Helm

Donations in Memory of Andrew Spiller

Shaker Festival Craftspeople of 1992

Donations in Memory of Duard Johnson

Lillie Mae Hayes

Donations in Memory of Deedy Hall

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Hess
Lucille Nunn Lyne
Ann O'Hara
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. John Tanner
O. Edward Freeman, Jr.
Edie Bingham
Ann Bell McCoy
J. Gran and Sally Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Peart
Mr. and Mrs. William Coke, Jr.
John Helm
Trent Spurlock
Julia Neal
South Union Area Study Group
L. Evadine Parker
Paul and Diana Van Kolken
Alan Schoen
M. M. Richardson
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Baugh
Shakertown at Pleasant Hill
James Heston Thomas
Dale Covington
Mary Helm
Grover and Mary Corum
Ray and Paula Clark
Maxine Marbury
Ray and Iola Summers
Mrs. Bea Vick and Van Stilley
Mrs. T. B. Wilson
Nancy Hillenburg
Flo Morse
Allison Fuqua
Sharon Koomler
Col. and Mrs. Robert E. Spiller
Mr. and Mrs. Oddvar Berg
Mary Delong Hughes
Mrs. Walter Eden
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Myers Simpson
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Spurlock
Bobbie Martin
Colonial House Furniture

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Neely
Mrs. Ray T. Scott
Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Ray
Ed Price, Sr.
Mary Lucy Franklin
Christine Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hines
Mrs. Beverly Spitler
Mrs. William L. Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Eldred
Jean Dones
Elaine Dodson
Virginia Hurst
Janet Herrick
Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Hines, Sr.
Mrs. Frank Bell
Harold T. Hanks
Earl and Nancy Wright
Franklin Duplicate Bridge Club
Lillie Mae Hayes
Sue Brooks
Mary Burt
V. Sloss Costen
Mary E. Sloss Clement
Bill Clement

THANK YOU...

Sally Clark, Russellville, for designing ads for the museum

Randy Fuqua, Russellville, for loaning a vehicle to the Morton House Project

Margaret Sterling, Bowling Green, for donating a word processor to the education office

Dorothy Jones, Indianapolis, for contributing toward a collections acquisition

John and Linda Tanner, Madison, Tennessee, for donating 1400 candy canes for children's tours

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

We would like to welcome two new members to the Shakertown Board of Directors. Judge John D. Minton, Jr. of Bowling Green and Mr. Mike Robbins of Russellville began their terms in November. Judge Minton serves as Judge of Warren Circuit Court 2nd Division and has been active with the museum's annual fundraising event, along with his wife Susan, for the past three years. Mr. Robbins is president of Trans Financial Bank F.S.B. and has been a supporter of the museum for many years. Mike and his wife Lori have played important roles in the development of "An Evening in Shakertown."

The executive committee for 1994 is: Jay D. Joines, president, Charlie Ray, vice-president, Allison Fuqua, secretary, Trent Spurlock, treasurer. Rotating off the Board this year were Dianne Watkins, Bowling Green, and Bill Holt, Bowling Green. Others currently serving on the Board of Directors are:

Ray S. Clark, Russellville
Skip Cleavinger, Bowling Green
Grover Corum, Auburn
J. Gran Clark, Russellville (out-going president)
Carol Dyche, Russellville
Nancy Gaines, Auburn
Julia Neal, Bowling Green (member emeritus)
John Ridley, Bowling Green
Sally Ann Strickler (out-going secretary)
Roland Willock, Bowling Green

Special thanks to Bill Holt and Dianne Watkins for their contributions to the organization and to J. Gran Clark for a tremendous two-year term as president. Shakertown experienced much new growth under his leadership.

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

1993 has been an exciting year. We met our challenge match on December 1st, thanks to so many of you who donated to the cause. The list of contributors was phenomenal and I appreciate each one's gesture of support.

We were very honored by a visit from Sister Meg and Sister Marie, members of the Sabbathday Lake Shaker community. They were the guests of Pat and Mary Allen who guided through the Shaker sites in Kentucky and Ohio. Everyone here certainly enjoyed the time we spent with each of them.

The Julia Neal Library continues to grow. A joint project with the Kentucky Library at Western Kentucky University will soon produce a bibliography of all South Union library and manuscript materials. We are continuing to look for manuscript materials that relate to South Union and the western Shakers as well as other primary and secondary sources concerning the Shakers nationwide. Any contributions to our library, in the form of books, manuscripts or ephemera would be a great help.

Happy New Year!

1994 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 14-25	<u>Spring Children's Programs</u>
March 15	<u>Museum's Opening Day for General Public</u>
April 9-10	<u>Oval Box Workshop</u>
April 11-22	<u>Sheep to Shawl Program</u>
April 30	<u>South Union Seminar</u> Our seventh annual South Union seminar will feature noted Shaker authorities, good Shaker food and music. Reservations required. Times and Fee TBA
May 7	<u>Spring Herbal Fair and Picnic</u> An event for the herb enthusiast or for those who enjoy spring itself. Herb demonstrations, sales and foods. Time and Fee TBA
June 11-12, 18-19	<u>Shaker Festival</u> Two week-ends of Shaker craft, food and music. 10:00 to 5:00 daily, Fee TBA
June 25	<u>An Evening in Shakertown</u> Our annual gala fundraising event. Invitations sent to all members. Time and Fee TBA
June-July	<u>Summer Day Camp</u> Spend the morning at South Union each day for a week and learn about the Shakers. Elementary age. Fee and Time TBA
August 26-27	<u>Oval Box Workshop</u>
September 17	<u>Autumn Days at Shakertown</u> Fall activities of the 19th century for the entire family. 10:00 to 4:00, Fee TBA
September-November	<u>Fall Children's Programs</u>
October 1	<u>Southern Furniture Symposium</u> Noted authorities on Kentucky and Tennessee will be featured during this day-long event. Time and Fee TBA
October 15	<u>Fall Candlelight Tour</u> An evening of living history and music in the Centre House. 7:00 p.m. Fee TBA
October 22	<u>Logan County Day</u> Free admission to all citizens of Logan County.
October 29	<u>Candlelight Dinner in the Centre House</u> Time and Fee TBA
November 12	<u>A Shaker Breakfast</u>
December 3-4	<u>Christmas at Shakertown</u>

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

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