

Spring 2010

## South Union Messenger (Spring 2010)

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# SOUTH UNION MESSENGER

Spring 2010 Edition  
Newsletter of the Shaker Museum at South Union, Kentucky

You Are Cordially Invited to . . .

## *The* SOUTH UNION SEMINAR

50th Anniversary Edition

Make your reservations to attend the Shaker Museum's 50th Anniversary Celebration at the annual South Union Seminar. We commemorate the past, thankful for the scores of volunteers, the generosity of donors, and those staff members who have worked tirelessly. We also look to the future toward the seemingly endless possibilities for development in the areas of both preservation and education.

The South Union Seminar will begin Friday evening, April 23, with dinner at the Shaker Tavern, followed by a gathering at the Centre House. On Saturday, April 24, participants will be treated to presentations about the history of the South Union village, and the history of the museum. There will be unveilings of major restoration projects and recent acquisitions, tributes to the founders of the museum, and a look at the future of the historic site. And, of course, wonderful southern Kentucky meals. Reserve your spot today!



## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR by Tommy Hines

What a great time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Shaker Museum at South Union. The past fifty years have seen steady growth and development, beginning in 1960 at a church building in Auburn, and today, an historic site that encompasses 500 acres of the original Shaker farm, seven of the original South Union structures, and one of the largest collections of Shaker material culture in the world. Let me say, we would not be where we are today without the legacy provided by Deedy Hall, founder of the Shaker Museum, and Julia Neal, South Union's premier historian. Both women, along with many others who served as board members and volunteers, donated thousands of hours to make this place what it has become.

And we are not finished yet! There are still restorations to take place, educational opportunities yet untapped, and artifacts to collect. We have only scratched the surface as to the potential at South Union and YOU as members have had a great deal to do with that. Thank you for your continued support of the Shaker Museum at South Union. It may sound trite, but we could NOT have done it without you. Celebrate with us in April!

## SEMINAR UNVEILINGS

Participants at this year's South Union Seminar will be a part of several important unveilings. The 1875 Grain Barn will be opened to the public for the first time during this event, as will the South Union cemetery. Both sites will become a part of the daily tour for visitors after the Seminar, but you will be the first to not only see the completed projects but to hear the story of the long road to restoration.

These projects have been funded by Federal TEA-21 funding, the James Graham Brown Foundation, the Helm Foundation, the Central Ministry Trust, and other private individuals.





## SOUTH UNION RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING

The Shaker Museum has recently received a \$50,000.00 grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation for the purposes of multiple restoration projects on four of South Union's historic structures. The funding will allow work restoration of the 1824 Centre House dormers and the 1847 Steam House window openings and exterior trim. The project will also include chimney reconstruction and brick floor installation in the 1835 Smoke and Milk House, and the replication of the original wooden exterior banister on the 1846 Ministry Shop. We are most grateful to the Carpenter Foundation and look forward to seeing progress they are making possible.

We have also received a \$9,000.00 contribution from the Central Ministry Trust for the construction of a fence to surround the South Union cemetery. Along with other private contributions, this grant will allow the Museum to finally enclose the recently surveyed cemetery, helping to honor those 420 Shaker brothers and sisters who are buried there. We have waited many years for this project to become a reality and we celebrate the fact that it is finally becoming a reality.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

\$200.00 for Cemetery restoration . . . Jeff and Marion Jackson Clark  
\$1,000.00 for collections acquisition . . . John and Linda Tanner  
\$1,000.00 for Cemetery restoration . . . Anonymous  
\$2,000.00 for Smoke and Milk House restoration . . . Ernie and Elaine Ezell  
\$2,000.00 for the BUS Fund to defray school bus costs . . . Edie Bingham  
\$10,000.00 for general operating support . . . Edie Bingham  
\$9,000.00 for Cemetery restoration . . . The Central Ministry Trust  
\$10,000.00 for general operating support . . . The Atticus Trust  
\$15,000.00 for educational programming . . . W. L. Lyons Brown Foundation  
\$50,000.00 for restoration of historic structures . . .

The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation



## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Oval Box, varnish finish, inscribed "Fidelia Ann Young" in ink on interior  
Gift of Karen Jack

Shaker Cloak Advertising Bookmark, Mt. Lebanon, New York  
Gift of Ray Buckberry

Typescript Court Testimony of South Union Elder Logan Johns, January 13, 1904, concerning conflict of interest accusation  
Purchased with Acquisition Endowment Funds

Poplar Work Stand, turned legs, with old refinish, South Union origin  
Purchased with Acquisition Endowment Funds



One of the four images recently acquired by the museum, this photograph includes (left to right), the 1841 Trustee's Office, and the ca. 1841 Post Office. This site was the seat of business activity for the Shakers, including the selling of products and the offering of meals and overnight accommodations. The Trustee's Office burned in 1930. This photograph was taken around 1925.



# REGISTRATION

for the

## SOUTH UNION SEMINAR

April 23 and 24, 2010

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs (vegetarian meals, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$75 per member      \_\_\_\_\_ \$85 per non-member

\_\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.

Our keynote speaker will be former South Union staff member, Sharon Koomler, who will be presenting, "A Faithful Walk: Journeys of Benjamin Seth Youngs." There will also be presentations detailing the history of the Shaker Museum, the opening of newly restored sites, a gathering of former Shaker Museum staff members, and special exhibits designed to commemorate our 50th Anniversary. Meals will be prepared by our Shaker Tavern innkeeper, Jo Ann Moody.

A detailed schedule of events and confirmation will be mailed to you when you register.

Registration deadline is April 17. Please mail registration to:

Shaker Museum

P. O. Box 177

Auburn, Kentucky 42206

For more information call: 1-800-811-8379



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Spring Antique and Garden Market

May 22

Our first ever spring antiques and garden market in the 1875 Grain Barn. Garden demonstrations through out the day! Admission \$5 per person.

### L&N Railroad Luncheon

May 22

Enjoy a hearty late 19<sup>th</sup> century menu typical of what would have been served at South Union's famous railroad hotel. Served at the 1869 Shaker Tavern Bed and Breakfast. Reservations required: \$22 museum members, \$25 non-members

### Music in the Barn

September 25

Celebrating the completion of the 1875 Grain Barn, a Kentucky Shaker landmark. A regional music event, reservations needed.

### A Shaker Breakfast

November 6

A Civil War-era Shaker breakfast that promises to please and to astonish. Seatings at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Reservations required: \$22 museum members, \$25 non-members.

### Civil War at South Union

November 6

Civil War living history that includes demonstrations and interactive discussions for all ages. Admission \$8 for adults, \$4 for children.

### Christmas at Shakertown Holiday Market

December 4

One of Kentucky's finest antique and craft markets, just in time for Christmas! Features over 30 regional antique vendors and artists. Event is free to the public with a canned food item or monetary donation that will be distributed to those needful in the community. 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Preview Party, Friday night, December 3, \$10 by reservation.



SHAKER  
MUSEUM  
AT SOUTH UNION

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