

Summer 2008

## South Union Messenger (Summer 2008)

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### Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "South Union Messenger (Summer 2008)" (2008). *South Union Messenger*. Paper 39.  
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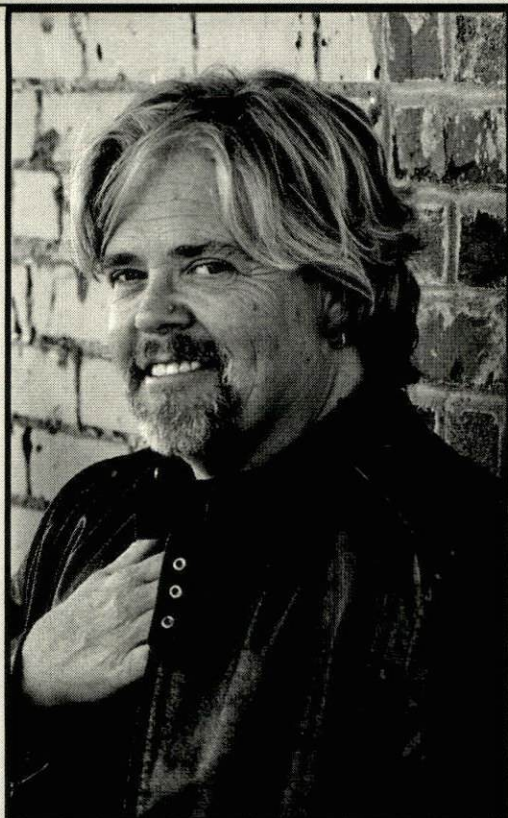
# SOUTH UNION MESSENGER

S H A K E R M U S E U M A T S O U T H U N I O N

BB&T Presents

## **HOEDOWN AT SHAKERTOWN**

*Featuring*  
**Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra**  
**John Cowan**



John Cowan picture used with permission from  
[www.johncowan.com](http://www.johncowan.com).

Attend **Hoedown at Shakertown** and enjoy the unique opportunity for a close encounter with the Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra as they perform the music of American composer Aaron Copland, including his setting of the Shaker hymn, *Simple Gifts*, for baritone soloist and orchestra. Soak up the beauty of the sunset illuminating the Centre House as the evening concludes with John Cowan and his band. John was a member of the '70s progressive bluegrass band New Grass Revival, which included Sam Bush and Curtis Burch in its membership.

- You may pre-order a reserved meal from Brickyard Café, Franklin.
- Gates open at 6 p.m. CT; Music begins at 7:30 p.m. CT.
- Bring a blanket or chair (no tables please).
- Many ticket options are available! Make your ticket and meal reservations through the Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra online at [www.BGCO.com](http://www.BGCO.com) or by calling (270) 846-2426.



## SPRING EVENTS 2008 REVIEW



*Civil War re-enactor Heather Vernon reads aloud from Eldress Nancy's journal Friday night during the 2008 Seminar.*

### Shaker Seminar

#### "Are These Not Perilous Times?"

Guests spent a weekend immersed in history during April's Shaker Seminar. The seminar, which focused on the Civil War's impact on the South Union Shaker community, featured lectures by prominent Shaker educators, re-enactments and demonstrations by Civil War soldiers, a reading from Eldress Nancy's journal and a hearty Civil War-era meal.

### L&N Railroad Luncheon

Participants of the inaugural L&N Railroad Luncheon were treated to a hearty late 19th century meal representative of those served at the 1869 Shaker Tavern railroad hotel. The Shaker Museum welcomed special guests of the Historic Railpark and Train Museum at the L&N Depot: Executive Director Sharon Tabor and Business Development Director Duncan McKenzie. Guests were served a menu of dressed lettuce; roast turkey and cranberries; baked macaroni and cheese; baked sweet potatoes; green peas and pearl onions; bread; walnut cake and peach cobbler.



*(From Left:) Civil War re-enactors Patrick Lewis, Kaelin Vernon and Rich Kanan pose for pictures after explaining a Civil War soldier's daily life to Seminar participants.*

The Shaker Museum at South Union was delighted to add a spring menu taken from 19th century resources to its calendar of events. The next meal is A Shaker Breakfast on Saturday, Nov. 1 & 8 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. CT. Reservations are required; \$22 for members, \$25 for non-members.

*Make your reservations for A Shaker Breakfast today by calling (800) 811-8379 or sending an e-mail to [shakmus@logantele.com](mailto:shakmus@logantele.com).*



## 1875 GRAIN BARN RESTORATION CONTINUES

Restoration of the Shaker Museum's 1875 Grain Barn will continue thanks to a \$135,500 grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation of Louisville, Ky. The restoration project was put on hold in the winter of 2007 until funds could be acquired to complete the project. Now, the protective insulation will be removed and restoration contractors will return to finish the work on the historic structure. The move is vital in preserving the local history of South Union Shakers.

Advisory Committee member Edith Bingham of Glenview, Ky., said the grant will increase local interest in South Union's culture. "The James Graham Brown Foundation has demonstrated again its ongoing support of, and belief in, the long and careful restoration of the South Union Shaker Village, the longest surviving Southern Shaker site, which includes unique and finely crafted structures, farmed land and a collection original to this Shaker site," Bingham said. "Educational and tourist benefits to the nearby region between Bowling Green and Russellville enhance the area's economic base. This beautiful rural site demonstrates vividly how the Shakers settled, adapted to the Civil War inroads of their internal stability and how later adaptations to changing cultural practices helped them survive until 1922."

Besides the barn restoration, the James Graham Brown Foundation grant will also help South Union:

- Memorialize the South Union cemetery, partially destroyed after the Shakers sold their village in 1922, by building a fence around the graveyard and placing a single marker for the more than 400 Shakers buried in the grounds.
- Move the 1818 Meeting House foundation to its original location. The Meeting House was central to the Shaker faith, as worship services were held there.
- Convert a non-Shaker building into a visitor center, research library and office space. A new parking lot will be built behind the visitor center.

Executive Director Tommy Hines said the grant means a great deal to South Union. "We are indebted to the James Graham Brown Foundation for their assistance to our historic site over the years. This latest grant will complete one of the most significant developmental projects we have ever undertaken. The addition of a welcome center and research facility, coupled with newly restored buildings and sites, will allow us to offer more for the general public to enjoy. The educational opportunities for visitors will be greatly increased."

The 1875 Grain Barn will add a new depth of education experience to South Union visitors. In addition to the barn, individuals, groups and school groups can view the 1824 Centre House, a 40-room, four-story dwelling that houses the country's largest collection of Southern Shaker artifacts and one of the state's finest gift shops; the 1835 Smoke & Milk House, which exhibits workshop equipment made and used by the Shakers; the 1847 Steam House, a structure built to cook cow feed, and the 1846 Ministry Shop in which Shaker leaders lived. Visitors may also spend the night at the 1869 Shaker Tavern, a hotel built by the Shakers for railroad travelers.



# EVENTS 2008

## *Hoedown at Shakertown*

September 13, Meeting House Lot

## *Farm Day*

October 18, 1824 Centre House

## *A Shaker Breakfast*

November 1 & 8, 1869 Shaker Tavern

## *Christmas at Shakertown*

### *Preview Party*

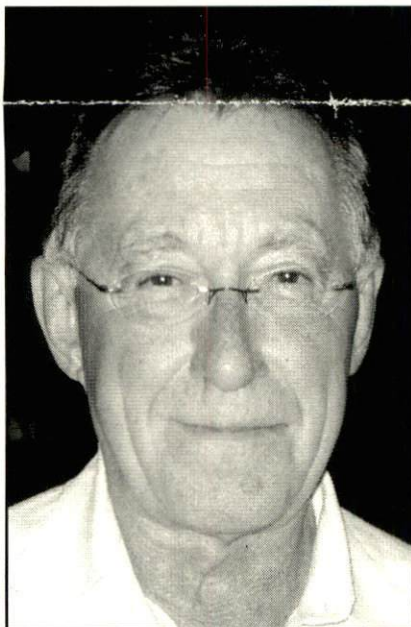
December 5, 1824 Centre House

## *Christmas at Shakertown*

### *Holiday Market*

December 6, 1824 Centre House

## PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME



### **The Shaker Museum is honored to announce the Board of Directors presidency of Thomas Moody.**

"In response to the Advisory Committee's strong suggestion, several of the Board members at last meeting agreed to serve as officers. A person who strongly desires to promote Shaker history at South Union, I offered to serve as chairman. Residing in an ancestral home in Franklin, I am one who loves antiques, restoration, local history and the arts. I am organist of The Presbyterian Church in Bowling Green, and a retiree of the English/History faculty of the local high school. My great aunt attended the 1922 Shaker auction and my McCutchen/Downey ancestors lived very near the colony. Margie Helm and Deedy Hall were relatives and friends, respectively. As a result of all these forces, it has been my distinct pleasure to join those who work untiringly to promote the cause."

~ Board of Directors President Thomas Moody



The Shaker Museum is also pleased to introduce two new members of the Board of Directors: Geri Smith of Bowling Green, Ky. and Robyn Minor of Auburn, Ky.

### **Officers 2008**

**President:** Thomas Moody

**Vice President:** Sally Ann Strickler

**Secretary/ Treasurer:** Joe Gran Clark



# CONTRIBUTIONS

## Contributions

The Atticus Trust

Bowling Green League of Bicyclists

Estate of Margaret Berg

Edith Bingham

Walter Chesnut

Mary Charlotte Decker

Joseph & Dorothy Jones

Nick & Pat Kafoglis

Dorothy Marshall

Dent & Phyllis Morriss

John & Carol Rochford

John & Linda Tanner

## Memorial Contributions

*In Memory of Steve Kistler*

Pat & Mary Allen

*In Memory of Rose Mary Lawson*

Fred Lawson

Eddie Belle Denison

*In Memory of Mary Spencer*

David & Martha Almand

Eulis & Naomi Biggs

Martha Boice

Sue Brooks

William & Vicky Byrum

John Campbell

Charles M. Moore Insurance

Connected Nation

Dale W. Covington

Jean Dones

Ronald & Elizabeth Dunn

Betty Crabtree & Paula Ezell

Tommy Hines

Magda Gabor Hotchkiss

John & Mrs. Kelly

George & Darlene Kohrman

Bill & Ann McCormack

Margaret McGee

M. Stephen & Miriam Miller

Patricia Moore

Carolyn Moreland

Ramiro & Jane Muralles

Stanley & Patricia Murray

R. H. Moore Drug Company

William & Pam Rohrs

William & Sandra Soule

Rich & Susy Spence

William Spencer

Vernon Squire

Penelope Tuminski

Claire Viverito

Cynthia Kay Warren

Kay B. Warren

West Cedar Street Neighborhood

## 'Hoedown at Shakertown' Sponsorships

South Union thanks BB&T, Logan Aluminum and Earnhart + Friends for sponsoring Hoedown at Shakertown September 13 at 7 p.m. CT.



Earnhart + Friends

## MEMBERSHIPS

### New Members

Cheryll Ann Cody  
Sam Daniel  
Drs. Donald & Caroline Ellis  
Cheryl Frerman  
Scott & Elaine Hoover  
Mr. & Mrs. James Innis  
Robyn & Tim Minor  
Susie Wyatt

Ray & Paula Clark  
Eddie Belle Denison  
Wayne & Nancy Dinsmore  
Elaine L. Disch  
J. Wilson & Winifred Ferguson  
Dennis & Lori Gentz  
Ken Hatcher  
John R. Helm  
Elizabeth Hester  
Tommy & Gingie Hines  
Mike & Sam Hossom

Lois Madden  
Judy & Ray McCaskey  
Drs. James Beattie Jr. & Marie  
Michelson  
Wes & Amy Moore  
Dent & Phyllis Morriss  
Mrs. Bell S. Muth  
Naomi M. Northrop  
Dr. Judy Pierce  
Bertha Robertson  
Jeane Robertson

### Membership Renewals

Irene Ahlgrim  
Betty Jo Beard  
Martha Boice  
Philip & Mary Page Boyd  
Henry Brockman  
Sue Brooks  
Robert B. & Janice G. Campbell  
Joyce Chesnut

Mable Howlett  
Charles Hungate  
Jonathan Jeffrey  
Tracey Johnson  
Dorothy A. Jones  
Fay Jones  
Nick & Pat Kafoglis  
Fred Lawson  
Brenda Longhoffer

Shaker Realty & Auction Co.  
Rich & Susy Spence  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sutherland  
John & Linda Tanner  
Saddler & Amy Taylor  
Claire Viverito  
Jeane Weaver  
Lyn Whiston

## IN MEMORY OF MARY SPENCER

The Shaker Museum lost a very dear friend in April. Mary Spencer, along with her husband Dale, volunteered for scores of museum events over the past twenty years. From shelling corn at Farm Day to serving lunch at the Shaker Festival, Mary was always ready to lend a hand. She and Dale maintained the Holy Ground property at Shakertown for a number of years and together they volunteered to complete the restoration of the Centre House bake room in 1996, the year the couple received the museum's Volunteer of the Year award.

Anyone who had the privilege of knowing Mary will agree that she was not only hard-working but one of the kindest and gentlest people you would ever hope to meet. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Dale.



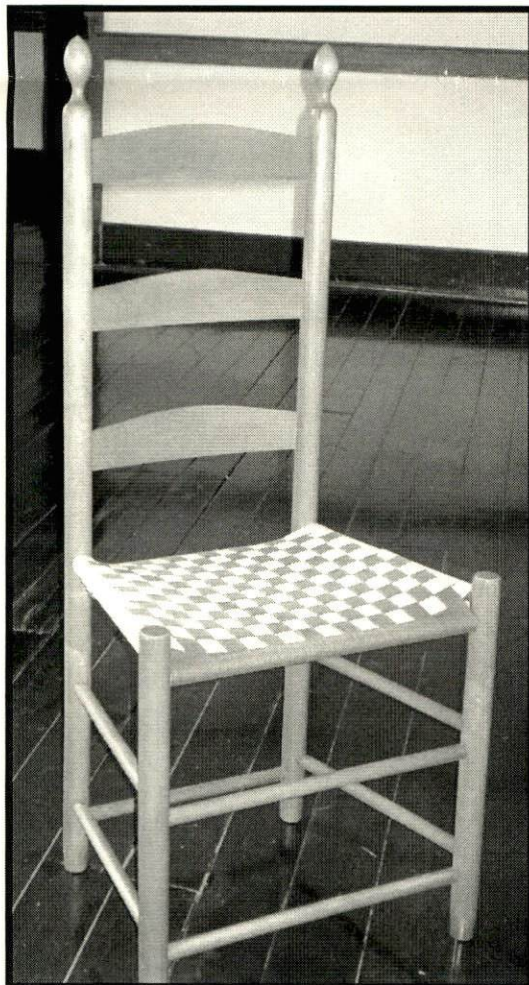
## SOUTH UNION CHAIR RETURNS HOME

Thanks to the generosity of some very special friends of the museum, we were recently able to acquire one of the finest known examples of a South Union chair. The South Union Shakers made chairs in four distinct styles from the late 1810s through about 1870. This chair, which falls into what is uncreatively referred to as type 'B' by the museum, has finer proportions, more graceful details, and superior craftsmanship when compared to the others.

Besides its general form and delicate details, the chair also retains much of its brilliant chrome yellow paint. Like all type 'B' examples, the original seat has not survived and the front posts are not stamped with room numbers.

It is possible that the absence of room numbers, the more delicate nature of construction, and the consistent retention of original color on most type 'B' chairs may indicate that they were made for use by the ministry and not those who lived in the dwelling houses.

We wish to express thanks to those who helped bring this beautiful example of South Union craftsmanship back home.



### "Thank You" Contributors

Col. and Mrs. Robert E. Spiller  
The Stuart Foundation  
Nancy Hillenburg  
Edie Bingham  
Steve and Miriam Miller (in memory of Mary Spencer)  
Bill and Fletch Coke  
George and Darlene Kohrman  
John and Linda Tanner  
Charles Hungate  
Nancy Disher Baird  
Mr. and Mrs. Hanlin Bavely (in memory of Mary Spencer)  
Tom Moody  
Lois Madden  
Jim and Carolyn Innis  
Anthony Thurman  
Cheryl Kline  
Rich and Suzy Spence (in memory of Mary Spencer)  
Mike and Monique Sisk  
Elaine Disch (in memory of Mary Spencer)  
Jeanne Weaver  
Chicago Area Shaker Interest Group (in memory of Mary Spencer)  
Robert Martin and Rafael Perez (in memory of Mary Spencer)





**SHAKER  
MUSEUM**  
AT SOUTH UNION

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110 RIVERWOOD AVE 1  
BOWLING GREEN KY 42103-1634

## Planned Giving

Gift plans benefit you, your family and Shaker Museum at South Union.

There are many options available for such donations.

Please carefully consider expanding your monetary donations.

- ♦ Outright Gifts of Real Estate
- ♦ Outright Gifts of Personal Property
- ♦ Estate Gifts by Will or Living Trust
- ♦ Estate Gifts of Life Insurance
- ♦ Estate Gifts of Retirement Plans