

4-2002

South Union Messenger (April 2002)

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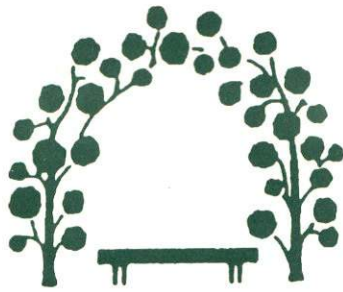
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South Union Messenger

Newsletter for the Friends of the Shaker Museum at South Union, Kentucky

"..we need volunteer help so that our herb garden may continue to be enjoyed by our museum visitors"

Volunteers Needed for Spring Herb Garden

As we begin our exciting upcoming event season, the museum's need for volunteers is always important. In recent years, the museum's historic herb garden has been planted and maintained by volunteer labor. Once again, we need volunteer help so that our herb garden may continue to be enjoyed by our museum visitors.

The South Union Shakers were producing herbs for many different uses but primarily for medicinal purposes. In 2001, the museum garden grew for the first time broom corn and cotton. This year, the museum's volunteer herbist, Dory Hudspeth, intends to lead the museum herb garden into another successful planting year with more herbs and other historic planting. However, in order for her to be successful with leading the garden project, we need your help as a volunteer.

To be a volunteer for the Shaker Herb Garden requires at least one half-day per month as scheduled, a good attitude and dedication.

In years past, our dedicated corps of volunteers have been the life-blood of the museum. This year our need for volunteers is greater than ever. With ten special events, additional tours, exhibit opening receptions, increased maintenance, farm projects, restoration of buildings, archeology and a continued list of other activities, the museum needs your help in all areas.

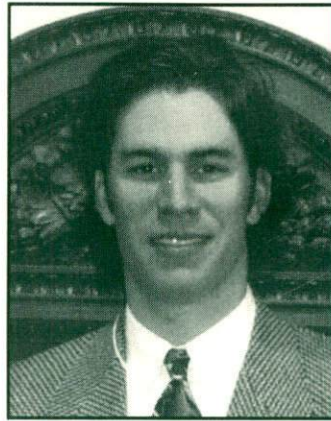
If you would like to become a regular or even occasional volunteer at the Shaker Museum call the museum volunteer coordinator, Mike Hossom at 1-800-811-8379 or 270-542-4167. Call soon so that we may start scheduling garden sessions and archeology projects by early spring.



The Trustees Office in 20th Century - This early 20th century photograph of South Union's Trustees Office give evidence of the Shakers' love for flowers during that period. In the early days of the village, flower gardens for beauty alone would have been considered a waste of resources. But the pace of life in the 1910's afforded the Shakers more leisure and the planting of annuals became a favorite pastime among many of the sisters. The Hollyhocks peering over the picket fence must have made a colorful impression against the white clapboards and blue-green shutters of the Office.

April 2002

The Director's Corner . . .



Welcome to this year's first issue of the *South Union Messenger!* With spring just around the corner, the Shaker Museum is already moving into what looks like another exciting year.

As many of you have now heard, the Shaker Museum, with Pleasant Hill, was the 2001 recipient of the National Preservation Award for the Stewardship of Historic Sites. This year we are already making efforts to assure that the preservation of South Union continues with planned acquisitions of additional Shaker properties, well-structured events, new exhibit themes and openings, and continuation of quality interpretation.

Each month, I meet regularly with our board of directors and together we decide the best options for making the Museum fiscally operate. Over the last 40 years, the Museum has made great strides towards the preservation of the South Union Shaker Community. Because of effective planning, leadership, and vision, the Shaker Museum has withstood the test of time. This year, we are already making plans which we hope will ensure our future as a historic site.

I would like to take the opportunity to say a few things about our new board chairman, Charles "Buzz" English, Jr. So far this year, Buzz has been a wonderful leader for this organization. Based on his personal commitment over the last few years, I can already see that 2002 is going to be a good one. This kind of commitment to any non-profit board is always a challenge while still trying to balance other personal duties too. It is clear, however, that Buzz is a leader and at this wonderful time for South Union, this can only assure us strength and vision as a board as we look forward to the upcoming season.

Finally, a hearty thank you is only appropriate for the many hundreds of members and volunteers and thousands of museum visitors who continue to believe and support this wonderful historic site. Make time for yourself and your families in the near future to visit us soon. We will be sure to make your visit a memorable one.

Until next time, thank you again for believing in this award winning institution we call the Shaker Museum at South Union.

Sincerely,
Jerry T. Wooten
Executive Director

"Because of effective planning, leadership, and vision, the Shaker Museum has withstood the test of time."

Mark your Calenders ...



April 19-20: South Union Shaker Seminar

*April 20: "Bountiful Table & Gentle Manners"
Exhibit Opening*

May 11: Shaker Methods Day

Jasper Springs Gift Shop

A Fresh Look for 2002



On your next visit to the Shaker Museum, stop in and check out our newly remodeled gift shop located in the basement of the 1824 Centre House. We also have a new name - Jasper Springs Gift Shop. The name was derived from the historic holy name of the South Union Shaker Community - Jasper Valley. The springs, located to the northwest of the museum on adjacent property, helped nourish the community with fresh water during the Shakers existence at South Union.

In addition to our new look, we have expanded into another room and increased our gift shop

inventory as well. This year we are introducing reproduction Shaker furniture pieces. Also, new food items, childrens gifts, books and prints, are just a part of our new look. For on-line orders, customers now have the opportunity to place an order over the internet. Just go to www.shakermuseum.com and click on the gift shop icon. More inventory will be included in the months ahead.

The Museum hopes to do more marketing of the Jasper Springs Gift Shop this year in an effort to attract more customers. The Gift Shop is open daily during the same hours as the Museum, 9-4 Monday-Saturday and 1-4 on Sunday. Beginning May 1, the gift shop will extend its hours from 9-5 Monday - Saturday and 1-5 Sunday. We hope you will stop in and visit the *Jasper Springs Gift Shop* during your next visit to the museum.

Upcoming Spring Events

April 19-20 South Union Seminar - This year, we are very pleased to have as keynote speaker at our 14th annual South Union Seminar Mr. Stephen Paterwic. Mr. Paterwic will present a spectacular program entitled *Shaker Industry Since 1875: A Selective Look at Shaker Response to Changing Times*. Mr. Paterwic has been studying the Shakers since 1967 and is currently a member of the Publications Committee at Hancock Shaker Village. He has served as a consultant on numerous books and is a frequent participant at Shaker conferences. Also featured at this year's Seminar will be Kentucky State Representative, Sheldon Baugh. Mr. Baugh will be speaking on the *Shaker Preserve Industry and glass making*. The Seminar will begin on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. with a gathering at the 1869 Shaker Tavern for a wonderful dinner. Following the dinner, Mr. Jerry Grant, curator of the Shaker Museum at Old Chatham, New York, will present a program on *Shaker Cabinets and Furniture Making*. The event will run from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday evening and 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The cost is \$45 and includes dinner on Friday evening, a continental breakfast on Saturday morning and lunch. Please call the Museum at 1-800-811-8379 for registration information.

Also, on April 20, don't miss our first exhibit opening of the year, *Bountiful Tables and Gentle Manners: Dining with the Shakers*. This exhibit will feature Shaker dining customs and technological advances through journal entries, menus, photographs and artifacts. The exhibit opening will be 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

May 11 Shaker Method Days - Once again, the Museum is pleased to present *Shaker Methods - Trade with the World's People*. Living history Shakers will demonstrate how the Shakers packaged seeds, food and prepared woven cloth for sale to the "world's people". This event will take place from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on May 11. Admission is \$6.00 to the general public and \$4.00 for members. There will be many things going on at the Museum that day and our Gift Shop will be open. Please make your plans to join us.



A sampling of the new items available in the Jasper Springs Gift Shop



"For on-line orders..go to www.shakermuseum.com and click on the gift shop icon."

Education Tours - Update

This year the Shaker Museum anticipates an increase in school-related tours and activities from local and surrounding counties. Since December, the Museum staff has been busy compiling information for area schools in order to do better promotion of school-related tours, which, as you probably know, is big income for the Museum. We are pleased that Mike Hossom has agreed to serve as educational coordinator for the Museum. In addition to the many school tours planned for the 2002 season, Mike has the responsibility for scheduling, maintaining and promoting school tours and other educational activities for the Shaker Museum.

If any member has information on a potential school that may be interested in bringing a group to the Shaker Museum, please contact Mike Hossom at the Museum by calling (270) 542-4167.

South Union Shaker Study Group: *In the Works!*

A number of friends, students, and members have recently shown interest in participating in a Shaker Study Group. The idea of a study group would be to have a regular meeting each month or every other month at a determined location, preferably at or near the Shaker Museum or another local historic site.

The focus of the group would be to discuss topics about the Shakers, develop programs featuring speakers on Shaker and local historical subjects, and offer an opportunity for individuals to further explore the ideals, beliefs, cultures, and industries of the Shakers and South Union Shaker Community. Each meeting would probably involve a meal and meet for an hour of historical discussion. In addition to the meetings, the formation of this group would also offer an opportunity for members for arranging field trips to visit other Shaker related sites around the country.

In order for us to make plans for a potential inaugural meeting, we need feedback or interest from our members. Please either call the museum (270) 542-4167 or clip the below interest form and mail it in to the museum at : South Union Study Group, P.O. Box 30, South Union, KY 42283. Please respond no later than April 19, so we can begin making plans for an early May meeting.

Name _____
Address _____ _____
Telephone # _____
Interested in being part of the South Union Study Group YES _____ NO _____
Would like to be included on the mailing list YES _____ NO _____

"..the formation of this group would also offer an opportunity for members for arranging field trips to visit other Shaker related sites..."

1869 Shaker Tavern

A Unique Bed and Breakfast Experience



The 1869 Shaker Tavern, which is owned by the Shaker Museum and operated as a Bed & Breakfast, is a unique experience, indeed. The Victorian style building was built as a business venture for the South Union Shakers and leased to an outside interest to be used as a hotel for the "people of the world". Our Tavern boasts of a grand columned facade, intricate brickwork and ornate staircase. While staying as an overnight guest at the Tavern, one will experience the peace and serenity of the Shakers, the Victorian style beauty of the building, as well as the magnificent meals prepared by our innkeeper, Jo Ann Moody. Jo Ann will serve her guests a bountiful breakfast, which is included in the price of the overnight stay and will prepare any other meals requested. Also included is free admission to the Shaker Museum and a shopping experience in our gift shop. The Tavern offers six guest rooms that share a common area on the second floor landing. Each room is tastefully furnished which contributes to making the guest feel at home. Jo Ann is not only a wonderful cook, but also a delightful hostess. She is very knowledgeable about the history of the Tavern and the Shakers who lived here between 1807 and 1922. The Shaker Tavern is also available for parties and receptions. The Shaker Tavern Bed and Breakfast offers an atmosphere of quiet peacefulness, old-style Victorian beauty, wonderful home cooking and a chance to step back in time -- something everyone would enjoy in this fast-paced world. For overnight and meal reservations, call 1-800-929-8701 or 270-542-6801

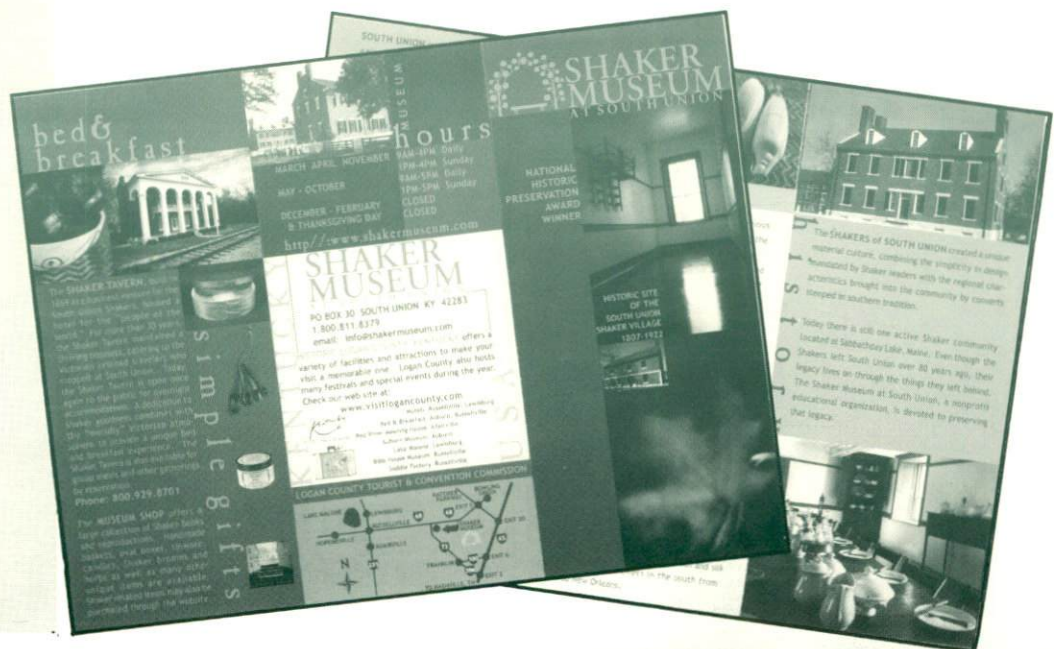
New Brochure!

Thanks to a grant from the Logan County Tourism Commission, the Shaker Museum has a brand new brochure. The new design comes from the efforts from our talented board member and professional graphic designer, Dianne Howerton. This is the museum's first brochure change since 1987.

The fresh look still incorporates photographs of the historic buildings and collections, but includes new colors, added graphics, and new information about our gift shop, website, and Shaker Tavern Bed and Breakfast.

As a member, you should have already received your copy in the mail. If you would like a copy, please contact the Museum and we will mail you a copy.

"The new design comes from efforts from our talented board member and professional graphic designer, Dianne Howerton."



MEMBERSHIP

A Special Thanks to Our Members

The Shaker Museum would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who recently renewed their membership as well as the new members. The strength of the Museum is only as effective as the support of its members. This year, we anticipate a 30% increase in the Museum membership. Below you will find a membership renewal form. If you have not yet sent in your renewal for 2002, please clip and mail with your check to the museum office. Once again, thank you and please encourage friends and family to become members of this fine institution.

*Thank you: to our
most recent donors.*

Joseph and Dorothy Jones
Auburn Banking Company
Cora Jane Spiller
Barbara English

*Please clip the membership form below and
mail with your check to the address below.*

Shaker Museum at South Union
P.O. Box 30
South Union, KY 42283

Shaker Museum at South Union Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

Make check payable to Shaker Museum at South Union.

Please bill my Visa MC Card No. _____

Signature _____ Exp. Date _____

BASIC BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Free Admission to the Shaker Museum • 10% Discount in Museum Shop • Free or Reduced Admission to Events • Quarterly Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Student \$15
 Individual \$25
 North Family \$50
 West Family \$100
 East Family \$250
 Center Family \$500
 Jasper Springs Society \$1,000

ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Basic Benefits for 1 person & 1 guest admission
Basic Benefits for 1 person & 1 guest admission
Basic Benefits for immediate family & 2 guest admissions
Basic Benefits for immediate family & 4 guest admissions
North Family benefits + 2 tickets to Shaker Breakfast
North Family benefits + 1 nights stay at the Shaker Tavern
North Family benefits + 2 nights stay at the Shaker Tavern for 2
& complimentary use of the Shaker Tavern Meeting Room

SPECIAL EVENTS

- April 19-20 SOUTH UNION SEMINAR**
The annual, two day seminar on Shaker history will focus on Shaker industries this year. Registration fee includes Friday evening dinner at the 1869 Shaker Tavern, Saturday continental breakfast and lunch. Reservations recommended. 6PM to 9PM Friday & 9AM to 3PM Saturday. \$45 before April 12 (\$55 at the door)
- May 11 SHAKER METHODS - TRADE WITH THE WOLD'S PEOPLE**
Come and learn how the Shakers supported their massive economy at South Union. Living history "Shakers" will be available to answer questions and demonstrate how the Shakers packaged seeds, food and prepared woven cloth for sale to the "world's people". 9AM to 5PM / Admission \$6 (Members \$4)
- July 13 SHAKER SUMMER NIGHTS**
Bring your lawn chair and join us for a celebration of traditional folk and bluegrass music at one of the Museums best attended events each year. Enjoy drinks, food and cold watermelon as we gaze across South Union's spectacular farm nightscape. 7PM to 10PM / Admission \$7 - Members \$5 - Children 12 & U Free
- August 17-18 SOUTH UNION CIVIL WAR DAYS**
The South Union Civil War journals are among some of the best. Join us as Civil War "living history" takes place around the 1824 Centre House. Union and Confederate historians will demonstrate military and firing drills, camp life and cooking. 9AM to 5PM Saturday / 10AM to 4PM Sunday
Admission \$6 Adults / \$2 Children 6-12 / Under 6 Free
- September 28 SOUTH UNION HARVEST DAY**
Step into the 1870's and join us for demonstrations of Shaker activities celebrating the fall harvest. Pumpkins, barbecue, baked food items, special gift shop items, games, music and more music. Enjoy a tour of the wonderful Shaker Museum as well. \$6 Adults / \$2 Children 6-12 / Under 6 Free
* Dinner is available at the Shaker Tavern, seating time is 6:PM. Call 270-542-4167 for reservations and pricing.

EXHIBIT OPENINGS

- April 20 BOUNTIFUL TABLES & GENTLE MANNER ... DINING WITH THE SHAKERS**
The exhibit will chronicle the history of foodways at South Union, making the argument that the Shakers ate the same foods as most rural Americans of the 19th century. Shaker dining customs and the technological advances available to them set the Shakers apart from the world. Journal entries, menus, photographs and artifacts will be exhibited.
1PM to 3PM • Exhibit included with Museum admission price.
- June 15 COME DANCE AND SING**
Artifacts from the Meeting House have recently been discovered during the Bond House demolition. This exhibit will feature quotes from journals and letters written during the Meeting House construction, a reconstructed conjectural floor plan of the building, and photographs documenting the structure and its unique place in Shaker architecture.
1PM to 3PM • Exhibit included with Museum admission price.
- August 17 DOMESTIC PERFECTION**
This exhibit will explore 19th century and early 20th century craftsmanship, exemplified in items made by the Shakers for their own domestic use. Featured items will include South Union baskets, furniture, textiles and eastern Shaker crafts such as poplarware, oval boxes, swifts, buckets and chairs.
1PM to 3PM • Exhibit included with Museum admission price.

MORE SPECIAL EVENTS

- November 9 A SHAKER BREAKFAST**
Experience a morning meal like no other with an extensive menu taken from South Union Civil War journals. Also tour the historic buildings and shop in our Museum gift shop. Reservations required. First seating 8:30 AM / Second seating 10:30 AM. \$22 Each (Members \$20)
- December 6-7 GIFTS FOR THE SEASON**
Christmas at Shakertown is one of Kentucky's finest antique and handmade craft shows. Reservations are required for Friday evening's Preview Party which benefits the Museum. Friday 7PM to 9PM. Saturday 9AM to 4PM. Admission \$2 with canned food item.
- December 13 & 20 CANDLELIGHT HOUSE TOURS**
Get into the traditional Christmas spirit and join us for a special nighttime tour of the 1824 Centre House. Costumed interpreters will guide guests through illuminated Shaker buildings. Cider and cookies will be served around the Centre House Christmas tree. Reservations are recommended. 7PM to 9PM • \$4 Adults & \$2 Children

2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

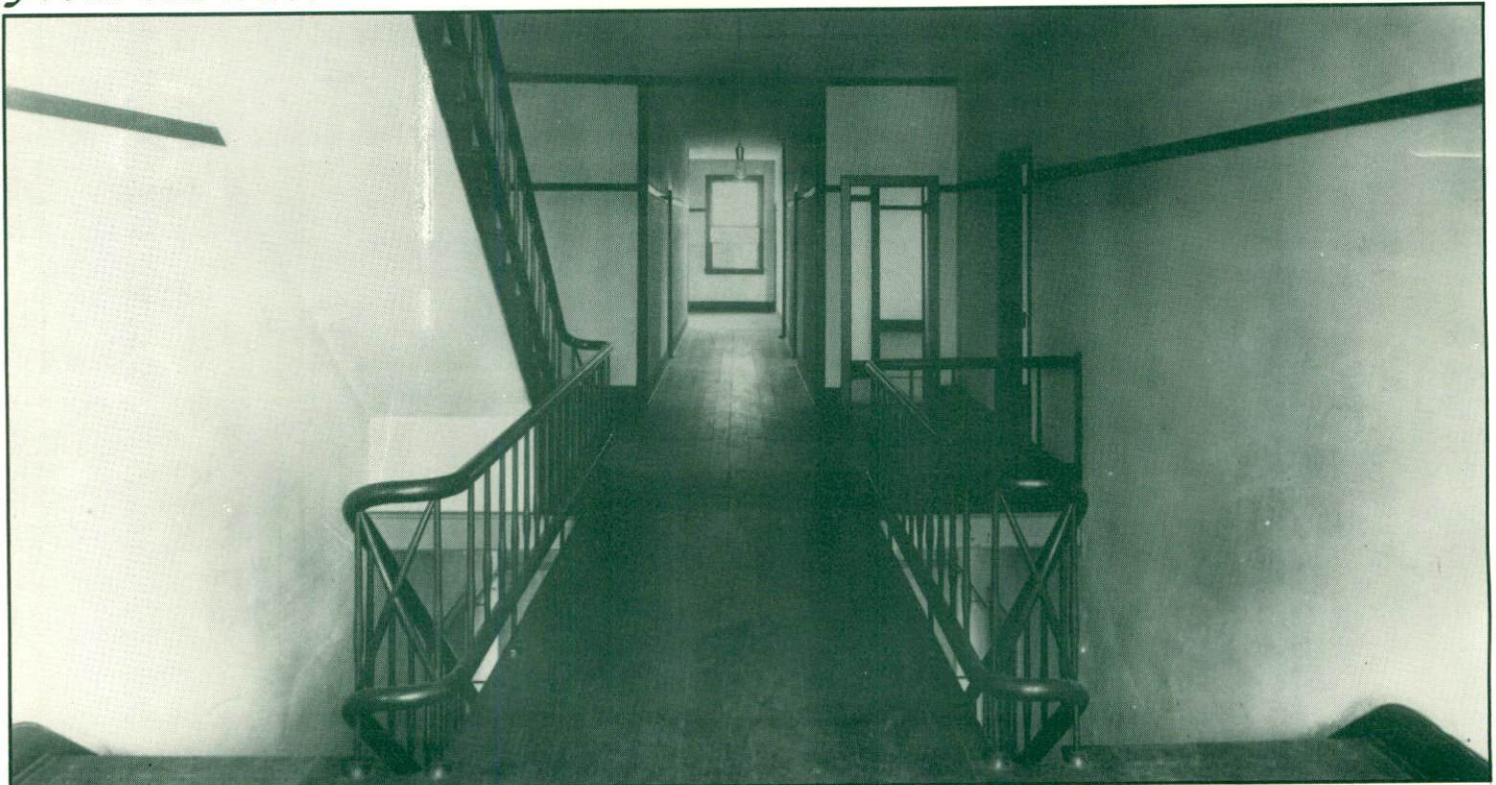


SHAKER MUSEUM AT SOUTH UNION

850 Shaker Museum Road
South Union, Kentucky 42283

Nonprofit Organization
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South Union, KY 42283
Permit No. 3

From the Past. . .



Rare Interior Photograph - When South Union closed its doors in May of 1922, the nine remaining Shakers gathered their belongings and left the community. Less than one month later, an unidentified photographer captured thirteen village images that were to be published in a catalog for the upcoming auction. For some reason this image, the only known interior photograph of South Union's Trustees Office, was not included in the catalog. The photographer stood in the center of the second floor hallway and faced the front of the structure. The two rooms on either side of the hallway were the finest in the house, often reserved to accommodate visiting Ministry from other Shaker villages. The Trustee's Office was always an important seat of business for the community and was meticulously maintained from the time it was built in 1841 until the village closed in 1922. The building burned in 1930.