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South Union Messenger (January 1985)

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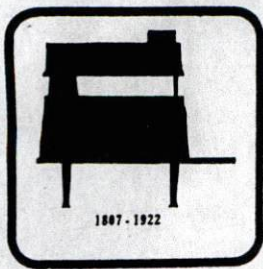
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SHAKERTOWN

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JANUARY 1985

Dear members,

Shakertown hopes that you and your family had a joyous Christmas season. We hope that each one of you will have a happy and most prosperous 1985.

Excitement and enthusiasm build at Shakertown as the directors plan the '85 activities. In this newsletter, a few of our ideas will be shared with you while other ideas will be shared later.

MUSEUM NOTES

A lot has been happening at the Shaker Museum since our last newsletter. In 1984, 6300 visitors toured our museum. This is an increase of 1200 visitors over 1983. We are very pleased with this attendance figure. During July, a number of our visitors were also attending the National Convention of the National Campers and Hikers Association which was held in Bowling Green, KY. We appreciate the help of the Bowling Green-Warren County Tourist Commission who sent many of the convention visitors our way.

In August, June Sprigg, author of By Shaker Hands, visited the museum to view our Shaker exhibits. Ms. Sprigg is in the process of correlating a Shaker exhibit for the Whitney Museum in New York. From South Union, one black walnut coat hanger, one three-tiered coat hanger dated 1864, a sample of silk and a silk kerchief will be used in the exhibit. Even though the

1984 FESTIVAL NEWS

July 12-21 were the dates for our 23rd Shaker Festival. Our festival was well attended. The weather for the festival was favorable unlike the past two years when it has been so hot.

For the first time, the festival meal was served at the Shaker Tavern. Over 1000 people tasted various Shaker dishes, and enjoyed a pleasant evening of Southern hospitality.

TAVERN NEWS

December 1st and 2nd were the dates for our second Open House at the Shaker Tavern. Over 200 people helped us to celebrate the Christmas spirit. Many volunteers helped decorate the tavern in Williamsburg style. Visitors enjoyed afternoon performances of the Sweet Adelines and a children's violin group.

We are in the process of restoring the Shaker Tavern. Plans are in the making for the tavern to be a restaurant. Already, the tavern has been rewired, tables and chandeliers have been purchased; however, there is still work to be done. The tavern needs to be wallpapered, chairs need to be purchased and the front columns need to be replastered.

OTHER ITEMS

Already, there are plans in the making for the 1985 Shaker Festival. The dates are July 11th-20th. As in the past years, we have always had a talented cast. If you live in the local area, think about joining "Shakertown Revisited". You do not have to be a professional actor or singer. There is always a part for a volunteer.

At this year's festival, Shakertown will have an exhibit from the Smithsonian Institute. More will be said about this later.