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South Union Messenger (March 1983)

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FESTIVAL PLANS

At its February meeting, the Board of Directors approved the hiring of Mr. Ted Barr of Russellville, Kentucky, as music director for the 22nd annual South Union Shaker Festival which will be held July 14-23, 1983. Mr. Barr was music director for last year's festival and also arranged much of the music used in the show. We are very pleased to welcome him back. More information about the festival will be forthcoming during the next few months.

GRANT COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors has appointed a committee to oversee the Governor's Challenge Grant which was awarded to Shakertown at South Union last month. This committee is responsible for keeping all the grant paperwork properly filled out and submitted on time, deciding how the money should be spent, and contacting various Kentucky artists and craftspersons about coming to South Union to share their talents with the people of this area.

Committee members are: board member, Pamela Napier; Barren River Area Development District Arts Specialist, Annie Archbold; and--from Logan County--friends of Shakertown, Jo Ann Roche, Emma Forte, Allison Garrett, and Gail Watwood.

In keeping with its decision to sponsor events that can be enjoyed by the whole family, the committee has already scheduled a concert by the McLain Family Band on Thursday, May 19, 1983, at 7:00 pm. The McLains, Kentucky's best known bluegrass musicians, have performed in 48 of the United States and over 80 foreign countries. Anyone who hears them perform becomes a fan of theirs for life. In conjunction with the McLain concert, we are hoping to have an old fashioned picnic-on-the-grounds just prior to the band's performance.

There are several other concerts and workshops in the planning stages, and, of course, we are still busy raising our matching funds for the Governor's Challenge Grant from individuals, civic clubs, businesses, and government agencies.

To you members who have already contributed to this fund, a hearty THANK YOU!!!!!
A NOTE OF EXPLANATION

Included with each newsletter is a membership application form. This form can be used for recruiting new members or for renewing current memberships. When it is time for your renewal, a reminder will be sent to you. Several of you have renewed your membership prior to the expiration date. This is certainly appreciated, though not necessary. When a membership is renewed in advance, it will be dated from the month of expiration as is indicated on the membership card. We encourage all of you to elicit the support of your friends and neighbors who are interested in historic preservation.

Donations made to the Governor's Challenge Grant Fund cannot be counted as a membership, but you may use the membership form as a means of indicating your name and address. Both memberships and donations are tax-deductible, and we will send a receipt to you for both items.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dear Friends,

Things are happening at Shakertown at South Union, and I'm excited! After years of work on the part of several individuals, it looks like we're about to get things going at the Shaker Tavern. Natural gas was hooked up last fall; the museum and antique mall made gains last year; a matching funds challenge arts grant has been approved; and negotiations are under way for us to acquire some adjoining property for the expansion of our operation. With some more land, we could increase our parking facilities, and build an open-air pavilion to house the pageant.

All this takes money. And since January of this year, over $1000 has already been received, and several people have made commitments. I'd like to ask each of you to consider and respond to two things:

1) Make a tax-free contribution now to Shakertown at South Union.
   If you're not a member, and you do not designate how you want your contribution used, the first part will go for a membership in your name, so you can keep up with the happenings at South Union.

2) Include a list of several friends and/or acquaintances that you think would be interested in this Shaker colony. We'll invite them to take part.

We anticipate a need of approximately $200,000 to do what we believe needs to be done. We're not trying to duplicate nor compete with Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, but we do believe we need to make some improvements. We'll keep you informed as our plans are progressing. Our next newsletter will include more financial plans.

Sincerely,
Grover Corum, President
Shakertown at South Union
170 YEARS AGO AT SOUTH UNION

These excerpts are the second part of our series highlighting the history of the South Union community. The information is from the journals kept at South Union by an appointed scribe during the winter of 1812-13. Typed and bound copies of the journals are available for reading in the Manuscripts Division of the Kentucky Library and Museum, located on the campus of Western Kentucky University.

"Nov. 15, 1812 Public Confession - Joseph Dunn made public confession today in meeting, & begged another privilege. After meeting he & his wife Anne confessed & were received again."

"Jan. 13, 1813 To Iron Works - Francis Whyte & Wilson Gray go to the works & return with 12 large kettles, 2 pots, 4 stoves, & 2 saw mill cranks in the 22nd Inst. [this month]"

"Jan. 26, 1813 Demise - last night Jency Ham died."

"Jan. 28, 1813 Confession & Re-Admission - Isaac Whyte & family returned from Madisonville, Hopkins County, Ky. & confessed the 2nd time to Eld. Benjamin [S. Youngs] & Joseph Allen & is admitted."

"Feb. 2, 1813 Shingle Making - Brethren commenced making Shingles & finished 12,000 on the 11th Inst. [this month]"

"Feb. 16, 1813 Bridge - Built over the creek below the mill."

"Feb. 27, 1813 New Road - Blazed the road thro the thicket due South by the compass, from the Bridge over the creek below the mill to intersect the Great Road from Russellville to Bowling Green."

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of Shakertown at South Union in the class checked below:

___ Life Membership $1,000.00

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

___ Sustaining Membership 500.00
___ Contributing 100.00
___ Associate 25.00
___ Active 10.00

Husband and wife are included in one membership.

Check ___ Miss ___ Mrs. ___ Mr. ___ Mr. & Mrs.
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________
State __________ Zip __________

Checks should be made payable to Shakertown Revisited Inc.
All contributions are tax exempt.
Your check is your receipt.