

Spring 1983

South Union Messenger (Spring 1983)

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SPRINGS 1983

SHAKERTOWN

at
SOUTH UNION, KENTUCKY 42283
PHONE: (502) 542-4167

The 22nd Annual South Union Shaker Festival shall be held July 14-23, 1983. The Festival includes tours of the 1824 Centre Dwelling House (the Shaker museum), the 1869 Tavern, Shaker-style dinner, and the music-drama "Shakertown Revisited" which presents the history of South Union including the Shaker songs and dances.

The museum is open 9:00am-7:15pm Monday - Saturday, and 1:00pm-7:15 on Sunday (Central Time). Operating on the same schedule is the antique mall located in the 1917 Shaker Store Building. The mall features antiques from eight dealers and the building also houses the U.S. Post Office. The South Union postmark has been in continuous use since 1826. The Tavern will be open 3:00-7:15 daily except Saturdays when it will open at noon. At the Tavern on various days will be a weaver, basket-maker, stained glass artist, and oval box maker. Dinner hours are 5:00 - 7:00 daily. On July 16, the authors of a new Shaker cookbook will be at the museum. The book is Sister Jennie's Shaker Desserts and copies will be available for autographing from the authors and in the gift shop. The play will begin at 8:15 each evening.

Shakertown at South Union is located on U.S.68 - Ky.80, ten miles west of the Green River Parkway. Accommodations are available in Bowling Green and Franklin. For additional information write or call the museum.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Several of the "Shakertown Revisited" cast members manned an information booth at the Arts Alliance Street Fair in Bowling Green on Saturday, June 11. They wore their Shaker costumes, played recordings of Shaker songs, distributed brochures to the Street Fair visitors, and talked to passers-by about the upcoming festival.

There were some funny moments when a few people thought the unusually dressed cast members passing out museum brochures were actually proselytizing fanatics handing out religious tracts--but other than that, the day was very profitable. Most of the people who talked to the cast members promised to come visit the festival.

On July 4, the cast will perform a few scenes from "Shakertown Revisited" at the Kentucky Museum's Glorious Fourth Celebration. That event begins at 10 a.m. with a reading of the Declaration of Independence by our own J. Granville Clark. The performance by the "Shakertown Revisited" cast members takes place at 11 a.m., and many other entertainments are scheduled throughout the day. If you are looking for something different to do on the Fourth of July, plan to take part in this celebration. And anyone who wears an historic costume to the Kentucky Museum on the Fourth gets a free piece of watermelon!

MEMBERSHIP INCREASES

Thanks to the recruiting efforts of many of you, several new individuals and families have become members of the Shakertown at South Union friends organization. Gaining new members is the best way for Shakertown to continue to grow.

We are now offering more membership options and have tried to make our membership categories and dues amounts more consistent with those of other non-profit museums.

Please continue to invite people you know to the museum and to share the newsletter with your friends and neighbors. Anyone wishing to have more information about Shakertown at South Union or an extra copy of the newsletter may contact the museum.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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



Checks should be made payable to and mailed to Shakertown at South Union, Kentucky 42283. All contributions are tax exempt. Your check is your receipt.

- Regular
- Individual - \$15.00
- Family - \$25.00
- Contributing - \$100.00
- Sustaining - \$500.00
- Life - \$1000.00
- Special
- Senior Citizen - \$10.00
- Full-time Student - \$10.00

- Title
- Miss
- Mrs.
- Ms.
- Mr.
- Mr. & Mrs.
- Dr.
- Other (specify)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

170 YEARS AGO AT SOUTH UNION

The following is the fourth in our series of excerpts from the Shaker Journals kept at South Union during 1813. Those familiar with the July festival will recognize the entries concerning Joseph and Anne Dunn. The comments concerning the "meat eaters" are Elder Benjamin S. Youngs' response to a Shaker decision to attempt a vegetarian diet. Elder Benjamin loved meat--and when the Central Ministry lifted its ban on meat, he rejoiced greatly.

- May 3 Demise - Jno [John] Slover Senr. died & buried next day.
- May 13 Bad To Worse - Jo. Dunn again fixing for his trinity, world, flesh, & Devil.
- May 15 Wrathy, rather - Gone. Jo. Dunn to day forced off Anne & all the children - said if Anne would not go - he would take the children - bind them out & then come & be revenged by burning every house & barn. The man who he got to take him away asked him if he was not afraid God would kill him. Poor Anne went away weeping bitterly.
- May 18 Re-Admission - Robt. Gray returns very penitent. No Meat - poor good Willie Jones now too good to eat meat. [He died.]
- May 21 Building - Nailors shop raised near the smith shop.
- May 27 Troubles - Troublesome times - troublesome souls - No meat eaters! Live forever! - false revelations, - notions - heresies - devilments! B.
- May 30 Back Track - Reuben Miller & John Johnson decamped privately.
- June 1 Nail Cutting - commenced in the new shop today.
- June 5 Black Family - We, visitors [from Pleasant Hill] & all went there to supper - had young potatoes - first this season.
- June 22 Wheat Harvest - & flax pulling begin to day.
Tribulation - heavy with the no meat eaters!

Typed and bound transcripts of the South Union Shaker journals are available for reading in the Manuscript Division of the Kentucky Library at Western Kentucky University.