
The Friends' Quarterly

A Newsletter from the Enfield Shaker Museum

Vol. XIII, No. 1

Spring 2001

Enfield Shaker Museum Wins Barn Preservation Grant

The Enfield Shaker Museum has been awarded a barn preservation grant by the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance. This grant provides funds to assess the condition, identify and prioritize stabilization and repair needs, and analyze potential interpretive strategies for the barn which was erected in 1856 by the Church Family of the community of Shakers in Enfield, New Hampshire. Known as the West Meadow Barn, the structure probably was erected to house the Shakers' horses. The West Meadow Barn is on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Enfield Shaker Historic District. The Enfield Shaker Museum acquired it in 1993 through the State of New Hampshire's Land Conservation Investment Program.

"The Board of the Enfield Shaker Museum is extremely pleased that the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance is assisting us to preserve and restore this historic structure," said Dr. William D. Moore, Executive Director of the Enfield Shaker Museum. "This humble barn can provide visitors to our site with important insights about agricultural history both within the Shaker community and in the region as a whole."

"Barns are disappearing at an alarming rate in New Hampshire," noted Jennifer Goodman, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance. "We hope that this program can help owners find effective ways to save their barns for future generations."

The Enfield Shaker Museum's grant is part of a multi-faceted program sponsored by the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance in cooperation with the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, and the Historic Agriculture Structures Advisory Board. Other components of the program include a statewide survey of historic agricultural structures, research on tax-related disincentives to barn preservation and a how-to publication on barn repair.

Founded in 1985, the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance works to preserve the state's historic buildings, landscapes, and communities through leadership, advocacy, and education. The barn grant program is made possible by generous support from The Mosaic Fund, the Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation and anonymous donors.



The West Meadow Barn shown in an historic view.

Photo: Enfield Shaker Museum

Enfield Shaker Museum to Host Contra Dance Series

The Enfield Shaker Museum will host a series of five contra dances during the spring and summer of 2001. These events will encourage Museum visitors to participate in a traditional form of New England dance while enjoying live music performed by New Hampshire's most respected dance bands and instruction by the region's finest callers. Contra dancing is a form of community-based participatory dance that has been practiced continually in Northern New England for at least two hundred years. The dances will be held in the Museum's Stone Mill erected in 1849.

The first dance in the series will take place on Saturday, May 19th, and will feature David Millstone and the band *Northern Spy*. David Millstone has been calling contra dances in New Hampshire for over twenty years, specializing in involving people of all ages and levels of experience in the activity. *Northern Spy* has been performing at dances in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire and Vermont for twenty years and features as many as ten instrumentalists.

Mary DesRosiers will call for the second dance scheduled for June 16th. Music will be provided by the *Sugar River String Band* of Newport, New Hampshire. A resident of the Monadnock region of New Hampshire, DesRosiers is an accomplished caller of old and new dances, an engaging teacher, and a veteran folk singer.

New Boston Fancy will be the band at the

dance on July 21st. Frank Woodward, who will both play bass and call the dances on that night, is the third generation of his family to be intimately involved in traditional dancing in New Hampshire. Frank's father, Willie Woodward, was a respected caller in northern New Hampshire.

The band *Old New England* will be featured on August 18th with calling once again by David Millstone. *Old New England* is possibly New Hampshire's best-known contra dance ensemble, featuring Bob McQuillen on piano. McQuillen has been performing at contra dances for more than fifty years. *Old New England* received the Governor's Arts Award in 1993 and Bob himself won the Governor's Award in 1998.

Ruth Sylvester will call and *Nat Hewitt and Friends* will provide music on September 15th. Ruth Sylvester is a resident of Norwich, Vermont, and frequently calls for dances in the Upper Valley. Nat Hewitt lives in Nelson, New Hampshire, and has performed for contra dances throughout the United States.

All dances in the series begin at 7pm. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 15 years and includes chances on door prizes. This series is made possible, in part, by grants from the New England Folk Festival Association, the Country Dance Society Boston Centre, the New Hampshire Council on the Arts, and the Mascoma Lake Community Association, and by support from Great Meadow Music, of Westmoreland, New Hampshire.



David Millstone and Northern Spy

Photo: Gary Sampson

2001 VILLAGE GARDENERS PROGRAM

Become a Village Gardener this summer and learn new skills! This popular program, in its 15th season under the direction of Museum Herbalist Happy Griffiths, trains individuals in all phases of herb gardening in popular bi-weekly classes starting Thursday, May 24th and ending October 6th. Soil preparation, garden planning, composting, mulching, propagation and use of herbs, harvesting, and herb crafts will be addressed. Each bi-weekly class will discuss the growth, maintenance and use of the 'herb bed of the week' (culinary, medicinal, fragrant, dye, everlasting, etc.) followed by a hands-on activity using one or several of the herbs. Each student, by the end of the summer, will be enriched with herbal and gardening knowledge which they can then incorporate into planting their own garden.

In exchange for the classes, each Village Gardener is asked to contribute approximately two hours per week to maintaining the garden. Gardeners are free to set their own work schedule, although Happy posts the times during the week when she or her assistant, Kitty Scherer, are working in the garden and available to help and answer questions. Gardeners also are encouraged to expand their knowledge of herbs and gardening by volunteering at the Summer Craft and Garden Fair (June 23rd) and at the Harvest Festival (October 6th).

The tuition for the Village Gardeners program is \$40.00 which includes the cost of an official Museum apron, plus materials and hand-outs provided by the instructors. The cost for returning Village Gardeners is \$30.00.

If you are interested in becoming a Village Gardener, please complete this form and return it to the address below. Enrollment in this popular program is limited and positions are filled on a first come, first serve basis, so don't delay. Further information can be obtained by calling the Museum at 603/632-4346, e-mailing us at chosen.vale@valley.net, or visiting our website at www.shakermuseum.org. Detailed schedules will be sent to all who sign up.



Gertrude Marcy, a Village Gardener, tends to the Museum's gardens.

Photo: Karen Bussolini

Yes! I want to participate in the 2001 Village Gardeners Program at the Enfield Shaker Museum. I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$40.00 (\$30.00 for returning Village Gardeners) made payable to The Enfield Shaker Museum.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please return this form to:

The Village Gardeners Program
The Enfield Shaker Museum
24 Caleb Dyer Lane
Enfield, NH 03748

Yankee Magazine's Community Partners

The Enfield Shaker Museum has received more than \$2000 in income by participating in *Yankee Magazine's* Community Partners! Many of the Museum's members and friends have supported this endeavor by subscribing to *Yankee* at a special \$20 rate. By participating in this program, subscribers receive one year of *Yankee* and the gift of *Yankee's* 64-page *Church Supper Cookbook* while the Enfield Shaker Museum receives a donation of \$10. A subscription to *Yankee*, through this program, makes an appropriate gift for any occasion!

It's renewal time for those who graciously signed up in the first months of the Museum's participation in the program. For the Museum to benefit, renewals must be submitted on one of the Museum's Community Partner forms, like that at the right; renewals ordered on other forms do not generate funds for our cause.

The Shaker Inn, Dana Robes Woodcraftsmen, Shaker Workshops, Timeless Woodcraft, and Johnson and Dix have generously assisted the Museum in promoting this initiative. For more information about how you, or your business, can participate and support the Museum's preservation activities, call (603) 632-4346.

New Board Members

The board of the Enfield Shaker Museum recently welcomed three new members! Richard Blodgett and Samuel Colbeck were elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting in November, while Meredith Smith was elected by the board in December to fill a vacancy.

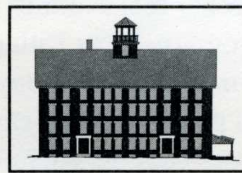
Although Richard Blodgett is originally from the Finger Lakes Region of New York, his wife Ruth has family ties to Enfield. Ruth and Dick have been part-time residents of Enfield for decades and recently have assumed year-round residency in the Upper Valley. A graduate of both Dartmouth College and the Tuck School of Business, Dick made his career at IBM. The Museum is benefiting currently from Dick's financial acumen as he has agreed to serve as the institution's treasurer.

A resident of Lyme, New Hampshire, Dr. Samuel C. Colbeck recently retired from the Cold Regions Research Laboratory where he had been a researcher and administrator since 1970. Dr. Colbeck's work on hydrology and glaciology is known internationally. Locally, many recognize him for his volunteer work on the ski patrol at Whaleback and for his devotion to the Mary Keane Chapel organ recital series.

Meredith Smith, and her husband Doug, recently moved to Enfield and currently are restoring the Livingstone Lodge on the east side of Lake Mascoma. Meredith is an enthusiastic historic preservationist, but is also a talented textile artist. She has been active in the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen since first moving to the Granite State seventeen years ago. Meredith is also active in the Mascoma Lake Association and in the Enfield Village Association's efforts to revitalize Main Street.

Please make a point of introducing yourself to these new board members at an upcoming Museum event. They would love to meet you!

Subscribe to *YANKEE* Magazine and Preserve the Enfield Shaker Village



Join *Yankee* and the Enfield Shaker Museum in a special fund-raising effort to preserve and restore historic buildings built by both Shakers, who occupied the site from 1793 to 1923, and the Catholic Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, who ran a seminary on the grounds from 1927 to 1985. Each subscription includes:

- ◆ One year of *Yankee Magazine*!
- ◆ Free *Yankee* cookbook!
- ◆ A \$10 donation to the Enfield Shaker Museum.

☐ **YES!** Please enter my subscription to *Yankee* right away at the low price of \$20 (*Yankee* alone regularly costs \$24!) and send my FREE *Yankee Church Supper Cookbook*. I understand that for each paid subscription, the Enfield Shaker Museum will receive a donation of \$10.

My name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enter: ☐ My Subscription ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Subscription

Gift for _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Payment enclosed (make checks payable to
Yankee Magazine's Community Partners). ☐ Please bill me.

To order, please complete and mail to: *Yankee Magazine's Community Partners*, PO Box 523, Dublin, NH 03444

Renewals extend current subscription.

Donors will receive gift announcement cards. (Outside U.S. add \$6).

CBA1KIL



Organ Recital Series



World-renowned fingers will once again be pulling out the stops and dancing on the ivories of the Mary Keane Chapel's Casavant organ this summer. A series of six recitals by talented organists is scheduled for Sunday afternoons in July and August. These concerts comprise the nineteenth season of organ recitals in the Mary Keane Chapel organized by local impresarios George and Donna Butler (pictured above).

A performance by Paul Halley and Eugene Friesen inaugurates the season on July 15th. Paul Halley is recognized around the world for his work with the Paul Winter Consort and for his service as the Director of Music at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Halley will perform with Eugene Friesen, who has won awards internationally for his performances on the cello.

Other performances in the series are:

July 22 – Rodger Vine

July 29 – Nigel Potts

August 5 – Andrew Scanlon

August 12- Patricia Snyder

August 26 – George & Donna Butler

All performances begin promptly at 4:30 pm. A donation of \$15 at the door is requested for the July 15th recital; all other performances are open to the public with a donation suggested. The Mary Keane Chapel organ recital series has become a featured attraction of the Upper Valley's summer season. Seating is limited. For more information concerning the artists featured in this year's series, visit the museum's website at www.shakermuseum.org.

New Cat's Meow

The *Friends' Quarterly* is a publication of the Enfield Shaker Museum.

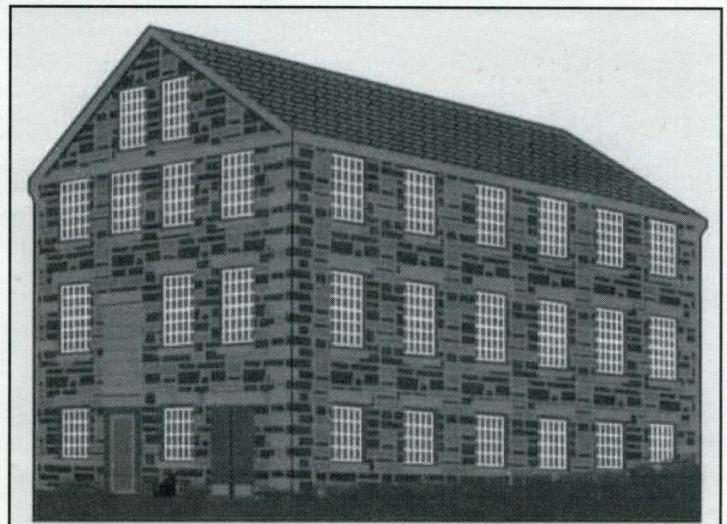
The Enfield Shaker Museum

24 Caleb Dyer Lane
Enfield, NH 03748
www.shakermuseum.org
chosen.vale@valley.net
(603) 632-4346

Board of Trustees

Stephen Powell, President
Eric Gesler, Vice-President
Richard Blodgett, Treasurer
Galen Beale, Secretary
Samuel Colbeck
Meredith Smith
Linda Stamm

The Museum shop has commissioned a reproduction of the Museum's historic Stone Mill. Representing a building constructed by the Shakers in 1849 as a water-powered woodworking shop and used by the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette as a gymnasium, this souvenir complements the Mary Keane Chapel and Great Stone Dwelling collectibles that have caught the fancy of many Museum visitors. This wonderful reminder of our lovely village is part of the popular Cat's Meow line and is available exclusively through the Museum shops for \$13.75. Come by the shops to pick up one, or call (603) 632-4346. Add \$3 to your order if you would like one shipped to you.



New Hampshire Traditional Arts Workshops

Become part of a thriving culture of artisanry! Learn arts traditionally practiced in New Hampshire! The Museum's workshops are taught by talented craftspeople steeped in history who provide individual attention to small numbers of students.

- Wednesday, June 13, 10am-3pm, **Shaker Poplarware Workshop**. Galen Beale and Marjorie Gibbs, instructors. Learn the ins and outs of poplar weaving while making a "Tomato Pincushion," a reproduction of a popular item sold by Shaker communities. All materials supplied. \$70/\$60 members.
- Friday, July 27, 9am-5 pm, **Basket Workshop**. Martha Wetherbee, instructor. Make a Shaker Fancy Lace Basket (round, with a 6 1/2" diameter). Shaker design combined with traditional wood materials, this Shaker basket is a classic. \$165/\$150 members.
- Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29, **Same 5pm Basket Workshop**. Martha Wetherbee, instructor. Make a Shaker Tatting Basket. (rectangular, 9" x 7 1/2" x 7" tall). Sturdy and exquisite, this classic Canterbury style basket is made from ash wood prepared by Martha. \$265/\$250 members.
- Saturday, September 8, 2-4pm, **Chair Taping Workshop**. Barbara Brady, instructor. \$35/30 members.
- Sunday, September 16, 1-4pm, **Dried Flower Wreath Workshop**. Happy Griffiths, Museum Herbalist, instructor. All materials supplied; please bring small clippers. \$35/\$32 members.

Call (603) 632-4346, or send email to chosen.vale@valley.net to reserve your place in these classes. Class size is limited so sign up today!

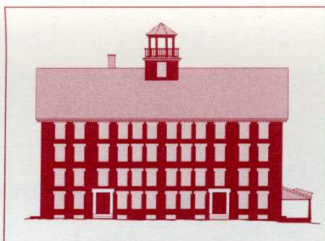
.....

HAVE YOU ...

... remembered the Enfield Shaker Museum in your will? For further information about how to help the Museum when planning your estate, contact William D. Moore at (603) 632-4346.

... visited the Museum's website recently? Get the latest information about the Enfield Shaker Museum at www.shakermuseum.org.

.....



Enfield Shaker Museum
24 Caleb Dyer Lane
Enfield, New Hampshire 03748
(603) 632-4346

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Enfield, NH
Permit No. 1