

Shaker Sisters at the east side of the Great Stone Dwelling. Image from a glass plate negative. Robert Leavitt Collection, Enfield Shaker Museum.

# Enfield Shaker Museum

Invites you to

# A Spring Forum on the Shakers

Friday-Sunday, May 18-20, 2007

We Make You Kindly Welcome

We have had a good taste of the food that never perishes, and have drank of the waters that flow from an inexhaustible fountain. Yet we are always hungering and thirsting.

Shaker Sister Elizabeth Lovegrove

# Friday, May 18

#### Noon - 6:30 p.m. Registration

Meet at the east entrance of the Great Stone Dwelling (facing the lake). Register in the Sister's Retiring Room, the first door on the left. Relax in your room, or socialize with friends and colleagues in the second floor Meeting Room.

#### 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Reception

Enjoy the company of your fellow attendees in the Dining Room with a complimentary glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage.

### 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Spring Shaker Dinner

Shaker tradition and local flavors are blended in our menu:
Ginger Water and Rhubarb Punch
Sister Lucy's Potato Bread
Sister Amelia's Spring Herbs Soup
(fresh herbs in chicken broth with a dash of cream)
Mixed spring greens in a mint vinaigrette
Great Stone Chicken

(breast of chicken stuffed with apple, fresh sage and Vermont Cheddar cheese and lightly glazed with maple syrup tapped from the trees at the Great Stone Dwelling)

Fiddleheads in lemon butter and rosemary
Roasted new potatoes with red onions, thyme and sea salt
Light buttermilk bread pudding with fresh berries
Coffee or Tea

# 7:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. Key Note Speaker David H. Watters *The Shakers and the Rise and Fall of New England*

David H. Watters examines the history of the Shakers in the context of New England's distinctive culture. He argues that the Shaker persistence in this century and the transformation of their villages into museums parallel a similar reinvention of the New England image.

#### Performers

**George and Donna Butler** are a musical team dating back to 1960. Both have extensive education and experience in the field. They are greatly valued resident organists and caretakers of the Mary Keane Chapel.

Mary Ann Haagen has been a student of Shaker history since the 1970s. She holds degrees in music from Cornell University and Columbia University. She is a visiting scholar in the music department at Dartmouth College and teaches a course there in American music.



Enfield Shaker Singers are devoted to the study and performance of Shaker music. This a cappella vocal ensemble draws on the repertoire received or composed in communities in New York, New England, Kentucky and Ohio.

# Saturday, May 19

#### 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

#### 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Enfield and Canterbury Shakers Textile Industries

Mary Rose Boswell's study of the New Hampshire Shakers' 19th and 20th century textile industries places their production levels in the context of New England's textile history.

#### 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Sisters' Work, Reciprocity and Shaker Union

The basic necessity of "getting along" was not easy in the Shakers' complex societies. Drawing from her forthcoming publication, Glendyne Wergland cites how many communities dealt with the issue.

#### 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

#### When the Church was at Ashfield

David Newell presents new research and a reassessment of events when Shakerism, Mother Ann and the elders were centered at Ashfield, Massachusetts, 1782-1783. It was here the largest Shaker meetings of all times were held in the first meetinghouse constructed by the Shakers.

#### 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Lunch

#### 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Archeological Excavations at Shaker Sites

David R. Starbuck will summarize archeological excavations conducted at many Shaker sites in the eastern United States. He will make suggestions as to how archeology might benefit the Enfield Shaker Museum..

#### 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

A Tour of the Great Stone Dwelling

Architect Michael Gohl will demonstrate how to "read a building" by directing attention to the innovations and construction details of the Enfield Shakers' "stone house." He will also trace changes over time.

#### 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

## A performance by the Enfield Shaker Singers

Dressed in Shaker costume, this a cappella vocal ensemble, led by Museum volunteer and former trustee Mary Ann Haagen, will perform traditional Shaker song and dance.

#### 6:30 p.m. Eldress Bertha's Summer Dinner

Spiced Concord Grape Drink and Water with Lemon
Basket of assorted freshly baked breads
Eldress Bertha's Tomato Soup
(with fresh herbs and vegetables)
Brother Irving Greenwood's Pot Roast
(with carrots and potatoes)
Seasonal Vegetables
Corn Pudding
Eldress Bertha's Rosewater Apple Pie
Coffee or Tea

# Sunday, May 20

# 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Meet in the Dining Room

#### 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. A Walk to the Feast Ground

Walk with interpreter Arthur Gagnon up Mount Assurance to see the Enfield Shakers' outdoor worship area. At the top of the hill, you will see a spectacular view of the Shaker community and Lake Mascoma.

#### 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Bach to Jazz and Back

Enjoy a performance by Donna and George Butler on the Casavant organ in the Mary Keane Chapel. The Chapel was built by the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette in 1931, designed by Donat R. Baribault. The sanctuary features German stained glass windows produced by Zettler Studios.

11:15 a.m.—11:30 a.m. Conclusion

## Speakers and Presenters

**David H. Watters** is director of the Center for New England Culture, co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of New England* and professor of English at the University New Hampshire. He has written many books and articles on New England literature, culture and history.

Mary Rose Boswell is executive director of Enfield Shaker Museum. While curator at Canterbury Shaker Village, 1983-1987, she knew the remaining Shakers there. She has authored two books and many articles on the Shakers.

**Arthur Gagnon** has been giving tours at Enfield Shaker Museum since 1994. He has had a life-long interest in history and has been studying the Shakers, especially their theology, for nearly 14 years. His article, "Shakerism and the Godhead" appeared in the Spring 2005 issue of the *Friends Quarterly*.

Michael Gohl is an architect in Hardwick, Vermont.. He the author of two important documents for the Museum, The Historic Structure Report for the West Brethren Shop, East Brethren Shop and Great Stone Dwelling, and a Site Plan Analysis.

David Newell was assistant director at Hancock Shaker Village for several years. By 1980, he became a bookseller specializing in printed and manuscript works by and about the Shakers and kindred groups. Today, he serves on the editorial board of the Couper Press of Hamilton College. He lives in Ashfield, Massachusetts, where the first Shaker meetinghouse was erected in 1782.

**David R. Starbuck** received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Yale University in 1975. He has written many books and articles on the Shakers and has directed digs in the U.S. and abroad. His book *Neither Plain nor Simple* is the first comprehensive look at the built and natural environment of a Shaker village.

Glendyne Wergland received her Ph.D. in U.S. history from the University of Massachusetts in 2001. Her book *One Shaker Life: Isaac Newton Youngs, 1793-1865* received the Communal Studies Association Award in 2006. Her presentation is based on her forthcoming publication on Shaker sisters and the difficulties and rewards of 19th century communal life.