



Enfield Shaker Museum

Spring Forum on the Shakers

April 3-5, 2009

Sponsored by
Shaker Workshops® and Opus Office Programs



*There are moments, when words fitly spoken
Are worth more, than silver, or gold;
There are great and momentous occasions,
When the unvarnished truth must be told;
There are errors and evils to conquer,
By the use of the tongue or the pen,
There are times that demand earnest action,
On the part of brave women and men.*

Mary Isabella Russell

(b. 1833 in Hartland VT, arrived in the Enfield
Shaker NH community in 1846 with her parents and siblings)
*as quoted in the exhibit Shaker Yokefellows,
Courtesy of Hamilton College Library Digital Collections*

Friday, April 3

10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Registration

Pick up your registration packet at the admissions counter in the Great Stone Dwelling. Relax in your private room and bath, shop in the Museum Store (15% discount on select items on Friday, 10% off on Saturday), socialize with your friends and colleagues. Hike our hills, and enjoy our serene site. Experience other museums, attractions and tax-free shopping opportunities in the area!

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. *Shaker Yokefellows: Enfield Shakers from Vermont*

Galen Beale, Collections and Exhibitions Committee Chair and former board president, will walk you through this intriguing exhibit, which illustrates why nearly 200 Vermont residents moved to New Hampshire to join the Enfield Shakers. The title of the exhibit was inspired by the poem *New Hampshire* by Robert Frost, who lived in both states.

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

The New Hampshire Shakers were known for their dairy and apple products. Their traditions continue among many dairy farms and orchards today. At the reception tonight, you will sample cheeses from Vermont and New Hampshire, and cider from Farnum Hill Cider.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Dinner

Experience Shaker culinary traditions and local flavors in tonight's menu: roast chicken with cranberry dressing, rice with rosemary and thyme, Eldress Bertha's poppy seed rolls, baby greens with shaved Parmesan, sautéed string maple carrots, Eldress Bertha's rosewater apple pie a la mode.

Performers

Rebecca Rule is the author of *Live Free and Eat Pie: A Storyteller's Guide to New Hampshire*. She has lived all her life (so far) in New Hampshire and has written many popular books set in her home state, as well as the comedy "Town Meeting: the Musical." She is best known for her storytelling events. After a full day of serious discussion on Saturday, Becky will entertain guests with her version of "Yankee Shakers."



George and Donna Butler are a musical team dating back to 1960. They are greatly valued caretakers of the Mary Keane Chapel. Museum Trustee Donna Butler and George Butler will provide an informative

musical program in the Mary Keane Chapel on Sunday. Their demonstrations of the Casavant organ are based on compositions for public concert performance that audiences may become aware of music not limited to only church and sacred music.



Saturday, April 4

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

9:15-10:15 a.m. *Material Evidence in a Gendered Landscape*

Thirty years of research at Canterbury Shaker Village gave Shaker scholars the opportunity to examine Shaker archeological remains through the lens of gender. Paula Dennis will discuss the integrated approach that has revealed more about the community's dually bonded nature than was anticipated.

10:15-11:15 a.m. *Canterbury Takes the Lead, 1880-1912*

The title is a play on words. Though the Canterbury Ministry remained secondary to the Ministry of Mount Lebanon, the society at Canterbury surpassed Mount Lebanon demographically by 1902 as the largest Shaker community. Stephen J. Paterwic will demonstrate how Canterbury came to dominate Shakerdom.

11:30-12:30 p.m. *Canterbury's "Shaker Mothers and Daughters"*

Based on her research of Canterbury Sisters and the girls who were cared for by them, Susan Maynard will explain how it was possible to have "mother and daughter" relationships in a celibate community.

12:30-1:45 p.m. Lunch and Roundtable Discussions

Pick a table where your favorite Shaker topic is the focus! Carl and Beth Shelton will also be on hand to discuss their collections on display.

2:00-3:00 p.m. *Branding: The Revival of the Shaker Cooperage Industry in Enfield, NH*

Robert P. Emlen's presentation will show how Elder Henry Cumings took stock of his assets at the Enfield Shakers' North Family - rail transportation, pine forests, local need for pails - and organized an industry propelled by the Shaker name, not unlike the chair industry at Mt. Lebanon.

3:15-4:15 p.m. *A Mob on Enfield Village, NH*

In 1818 a mob descended upon the Enfield Shakers in pursuit of three children. Seeking vigilante justice after years of legal wrangling was the children's mother, Eunice Hawley Chapman. Hiding in the hills with the long-sought youngsters was the children's father, Shaker Brother James Chapman. How the Chapmans arrived at this explosive juncture, how the Shakers partook in the crisis, and how the conflict finally played out will be explored in Ilyon Woo's presentation.

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. *Window on the West: The Musical Documentation of the Shaker West at Watervliet Ohio*

One of the earliest and smallest communities in the Shaker West, Watervliet had two "giants," Richard McNemar and Issachar Bates. Carol Medicott will show how hymnals from the 1830s can be used as a "window" to view the Shaker West's tempestuous progress and the impact these leaders had on Watervliet.

7:00 p.m. Traditional Shaker Dinner and "Yankee Shakers"

Irving Greenwood's pot roast, roasted new potatoes, sautéed green beans, Eldress Bertha's baked stuffed tomato, victory garden salad with lime vinaigrette, Eldress Bertha's chocolate zucchini cake a la mode. Coffee or tea, and complimentary wine. During dessert, Rebecca Rule will entertain guests with her program.

Sunday, April 5

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:15- 10:15 a.m. The Great Stone Dwelling

Built during the Era of Manifestations, the Enfield Shakers' "stone house" was the vision of Caleb Dyer, whose mercantile ventures made the community an economic force. Interpreter Arthur Gagnon will lead you through the building and point out its unique characteristics.

10:15—10:45 Organ Music in the Mary Keane Chapel

The Mary Keane Chapel was built while the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette owned and occupied the Enfield Shaker Church Family. The building stands in contrast to the Shakers' architecture but in union with the spiritual focus of the setting. As caretakers of the Chapel, organists George and Donna Butler have a mission to demonstrate the Casavant organ with compositions to increase awareness of music not limited to only church and sacred music.

12:00 p.m. Lunch. Open Discussion facilitated by Stephen J. Paterwic.

Presenters

Paula Dennis is the principal of In the Field Consulting, which is based in Essex, New York, and specializes in the cultural resource management of the vernacular built environment. Her research interests include cultural diffusion and construction methods at historic farmsteads throughout the northeast.

Robert P. Emlen is University Curator and Senior Lecturer in American Civilization at Brown University. He serves on the Adjunct Faculty in the History of Art and Visual Culture at the Rhode Island School of Design. He is a past trustee of the Museum. His publications include *Shaker Village Views: Illustrated Maps and Landscape Drawings by Shaker Artists of the Nineteenth Century*.

Susan Maynard earned an undergraduate and master's degree in history. She is a past president of the Shaker Heights Historical Society and is a volunteer at Canterbury Shaker Village. In 2005, she published *A Shaker Life, The Diaries of Brother Irving Greenwood 1894 – 1939*. Her talk at this Spring Forum is based on interviews with three women who lived as girls in the 1930s at Canterbury site.

Carol Medicott's research specialty is historical geography, including music, nationhood, memory and sacred spaces. A 2004-05 "post-doc" at Dartmouth College catalyzed her into Shaker studies. She is a frequent contributor to the Shaker Seminar and serves on the national board of the Communal Studies Association. She is active in efforts to preserve the White Water Shaker site.

Stephen J. Paterwic has published many articles about the Shakers and is a popular lecturer on the topic. He published the *Historical Dictionary of the Shakers* (The Scarecrow Press) in 2008. He is an overseer of Hancock Shaker Village as well as a incorporator and a trustee at Sabbathday Lake.

Ilyon Woo holds a B.A. in the Humanities from Yale College and a Ph.D. in English from Columbia University, where she wrote her dissertation on 19th century anti-Shaker and Shaker apostate narratives. Her book on Eunice Chapman's case against the Shakers will be published by Grove Atlantic Press.