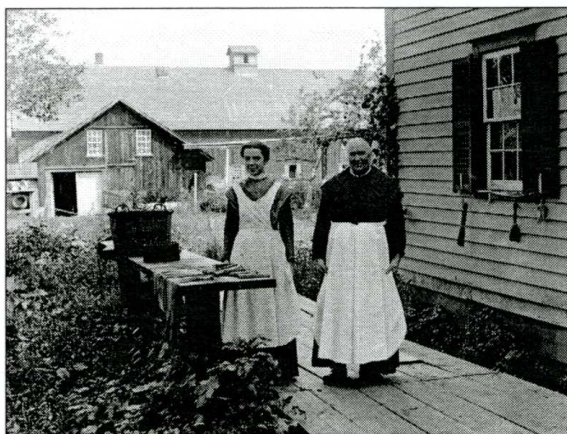


## Enfield Shaker Museum

### Spring Forum on the Shakers

May 7-9, 2010

Sponsored by  
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Enfield Shaker Sister (left) and Dairy Matron Sarah  
Tryphena Bradford (1833-1907), Chosen Vale, n.d.  
*Robert Leavitt Collection, Enfield Shaker Museum.*

## Friday, May 7

### 10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Registration and Tours

Pick up your registration packet at the admissions counter in the Great Stone Dwelling. Relax in your newly renovated private room and bath. Take a guided tour of the building; learn about the latest improvements funded by the Capital Campaign. Explore the exhibit, *Cummings: A Family Transformed by Shakerism*, in the Great Stone Dwelling. See a new exhibit in the Stone Mill. Shop in the Museum Store (15% off on select items on Friday, 10% off on Saturday). Socialize with colleagues. Visit nearby attractions and enjoy tax-free shopping in the area!

### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Laundry Dairy Tour

The Laundry/Dairy is the oldest remaining structure on the Museum site. While changes occurred after it was built in 1813, many original elements still exist. Richard Burley will give a guided tour of a new exhibit that explains the building's architecture and the Enfield Shakers' dairy industry.

### 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Reception

Many local dairy farms and orchards carry on the agricultural traditions of the New Hampshire Shakers today. At the reception tonight, you will sample cheeses from Vermont and New Hampshire, and Farnum Hill cider.

### 6:30 p.m. Dinner and Program, "The Enfield Shakers' Durham Cows and Other Stories of the Lowly Bovine in New Hampshire"

Our program will feature Steve Taylor, scholar, journalist, farmer and former New Hampshire Commissioner of Agriculture. An entertaining speaker with a "wonderful wit," Taylor will weave stories about the Enfield Shakers' dairy industry into his presentation. Dinner will be a salad of baby greens, vinaigrette and shaved Parmesan; Sabbathday Lake rolls; cranberry roasted chicken (vegetarian entrée optional); mashed potatoes; green beans; baked stuffed tomato; Shaker rosewater pie; coffee, tea and complimentary wine.

## Saturday, May 8

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

### 9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Welcome - Mary Boswell, Museum Executive Director

### 9:15-10:15 a.m. The History of the Gathering Order 1799-1923

Many people think that Father Joseph Meacham's "Gospel Order" never changed. After his death, the Shakers created a new Gathering Order that continued to evolve until it was discontinued in the 1920s. Stephen J. Paterwic brings new insights and a deeper understanding of Shaker policies and governance.

### 10:30-11:30 a.m. Shaker Monasteries: A New Avenue for Comparison

The Shakers are often compared with other communal societies. Richard Burley proposes a study outside the current scope of investigation: medieval monastic orders. Comparisons will include their organization and foundational writings such as the Rule of St. Benedict and the Millennial Laws.

## **Saturday, May 8, continued**

### **11:45 a.m. -12:45 p.m. An Unflattering Mirror: Market, Republic & Radical Tradition in James Smith's *Shakerism Discovered*, 1810**

Michael B. McCoy uses an economic theme in an anti-Shaker tract published by James Smith in 1810 to argue that it should be read not only as a libelous denunciation of religious difference along a fractured frontier, but also as work coming to terms with the economic transformation of the young American republic.

### **1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch and Roundtable Discussions**

Pick a table where you can chat about your favorite Shaker topic! On display will be artifacts from the collection of Wendell Hess (1908-2000), a friend of the Enfield Shakers since he was a child. His granddaughter Karen Hambleton, a former Museum board president, will answer questions about the collection.

### **2:00-3:00 p.m. "Civilly Dead"**

The case of Eunice Chapman, who fought her husband and the Enfield Shakers for the return of her children, rocked all of New York and beyond, including Thomas Jefferson. Ilyon Woo will discuss the two sides and the irony of this pivotal skirmish. Her talk follows her 2009 presentation, for which she received the Shaker Workshops Outstanding Scholarship Award.

### **3:15-4:15 p.m. "We live at a great distance from the Church": Cartographic Strategies of the Shakers, 1805-1835**

Carol Medlicott will illuminate some of the Shakers' early maps in the broader context of American cartographic practices. This will shed light on the nature and extent of geographical knowledge in Shaker circles and how Shakers used cartography to maintain "Gospel Order" across great distances. She will focus on the George Kendall maps of the Western villages produced in 1835 using the travel journal of Isaac Newton Youngs.

### **4:30-5:30 p.m. From Vardley to North Homage: The Fictional Shaker in the Eyes of the World**

Shaker studies have examined how the World thought about the Shakers and interacted with them. Brian Bixby will discuss how the World treated the Shakers in fiction, from Catharine Maria Sedgwick's 1824 novel *Redwood* to the present. He will point out patterns and illustrate his arguments with period drawings, photographs, portraits and possibly a map of the fictional Shaker world.

### **5:30 p.m. Announcement of the recipient of the Shaker Workshops "Outstanding New Scholarship" Award**

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

Enjoy complimentary cocktails, wine and local breads, butter and honey.

### **7:00 p.m. Canterbury Shaker Dinner**

Our menu will be a Canterbury Shaker Victory Garden salad; vegetable medley of carrots, potatoes and turnips; Eldress Bertha Lindsay's squash biscuits; Brother Irving Greenwood's pot roast (or vegetarian entrée); Eldress Bertha's chocolate zucchini cake a la mode; tea, coffee and complimentary wine.



## Sunday, May 9

### 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast

### 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Shaker Readings and Songs

An Enfield Shaker Singer will lead in Shaker readings and songs. If weather permits and participants agree, the program will be held at the Feast Ground. A leisurely stroll up to the site of the Enfield Shakers' outdoor worship area offers spectacular views of the Museum site and Mascoma Lake.

### 11:00 a.m. Checkout time.

Those wishing to stay additional days may do so by contacting Sara Parris, Event Coordinator, in the office at (603) 632-4346 or emailing her [events@shakermuseum.org](mailto:events@shakermuseum.org).

## Spring Forum Presenters

**Brian Bixby** is celebrating his recent doctorate in history for his study of Shakers, tourists, collectors and preservationists. Now he's adding novelists.

**Richard A. Burley** received his M.A. in Medieval Studies from the University of York in 2009 and is a relative newcomer to the study of the Shakers. As Technical Writer for the Enfield Shaker Museum, Burley wrote the text and developed the design for the new exhibit in the Laundry/Dairy building on the Enfield Shakers' dairy industry. He will begin his Ph.D. studies in English at Boston College in September.

**Michael B. McCoy** is Assistant Professor of History at SUNY Orange. He earned his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and is currently completing a Ph.D. in American and Atlantic History. McCoy's work has appeared in *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* and Davis and Newman, eds. *Pennsylvania History: Essays and Documents* (2010).

**Carol Medlicott'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. Her book, *The Great Divorce: A Nineteenth-Century Mother's Extraordinary Fight Against Her Husband, the Shakers, and Her Times*, will be published by Grove/Atlantic this August.