

Enfield Shaker Museum

Spring Forum on the Shakers

May 6-8, 2011

Sponsored by Shaker Workshops® and Ford Bookkeeping, LLC



Enfield, New Hampshire, Shaker North Family, looking northeast, c. 1927. Collection of the United Society of Shakers, Sabbathday Lake, Maine.

Friday, May 6

11:00 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 Great Stone Dwelling (last tour leaves at 4:00 p.m.) and see the latest improvements funded by the Capital Campaign. Browse in the Museum Store for great deals and tax-free shopping all weekend. Socialize with colleagues. Visit local attractions and businesses!

4:00-5:00 p.m. Guided Tour, The Ties that Bind

To celebrate the Town of Enfield's 250th Anniversary, the Museum's Exhibits and Collections Committee has planned exhibits in the Great Stone Dwelling, North Enfield, and Enfield Center. Committee member and former Trustee Mary Ann Haagen will give a guided tour of the exhibit in the Great Stone Dwelling. This exhibit explores aspects of Shaker industrialization and celebrates historians, collectors and artists inspired by the Shaker story.

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

Join your colleagues and sample our local Farnum Hill cider and cheeses from Vermont and New Hampshire. Cash bar.

6:30 p.m. Dinner and Film

Enjoy a dinner of baby greens, vinaigrette and shaved Parmesan; Shaker roasted chicken (vegetarian entrée optional); Canterbury Shaker sweet potatoes with apricots; green beans; Shaker baked stuffed tomato; Eldress Bertha's rosewater apple pie ala mode.

During dessert, view the film, Come Thou Fount: Thoughts on the Shakers. Directed by independent filmmaker Christopher Maloney, this film premiered at the S.N.O.B. (Somewhat North of Boston) Film Festival in Concord last fall. In this film, Maloney captures a rare interview with Sabbathday Lake Shaker Brother Arnold Hadd. The Fountain of Youth segment was filmed by Max Cross. Maloney studied at Ohio University and the New York Film Academy, where his thesis film Empty Streets was produced and funded by an associate of The Weinstein Company. His film The Death of Andy Kaufman is being internationally released on DVD.

Saturday, May 7

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. Perspectives on the Shaker Society at Enfield, NH

Steve Paterwic traces the history of the Gathering Order at the Enfield, NH, Shaker community and how it reflects the position of Shakerism in a greater context. He then explores why the Canterbury community, and not Enfield, came to dominate NH Shakerism, and how this dominance continued into modern times.

10:30-11:30 a.m. Scenes of Horror

Ilyon Woo examines the attacks against the Shakers in Turtle Creek, OH, and those in Enfield, NH, where Eunice Chapman raised a mob to reclaim her children in 1818. Woo compares the two strategies, as surely, the specter of the Turtle Creek ordeal hung heavily over the climactic mob scene in Enfield.

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. The Ties that Bind: From Neighbors to Interpreters

Using an 1854 diary of an Enfield Center farmer and the correspondence of 20th century scholars deeply interested in the Shaker experience, Mary Ann Haagen observes the shift from occasional interaction between neighbors to "interpretation" of the Shakers by people whose families had known them.

1:00-2:00 p.m. Lunch, Presentation and Book Signing

Richard Roth discusses the progress of his development of online databases of Shaker collections and biographies that come from various sources, including institutional and private collections. Authors will be present to sign their books on the Shakers. Most of the publications are available for sale in the Museum Store.

2:00-3:00 p.m. Shaker Equality of the Sexes

Some scholars have concluded that Shaker women and men were only theoretically equal, but Glendyne Wergland believes that few historians have examined a full range of sources, and that all of them have applied androcentric 20th century standards to their assessments of 19th century Shaker society. Referring to a wide range of primary sources, Wergland sheds new light on Shaker equality.

3:15-4:15 p.m. The Story of the Harvard Shaker Cemetery

Visitors to the Harvard Shaker Cemetery often remark on the haphazard arrangement of the graves. This is counter to the Shakers' reputation for order. Roben Campbell and David Fay's close examination of the burial patterns, and their reconstruction of the history of the cemetery, reveal an organization that reflects the deep principles of Shaker life and beliefs.

4:30-5:30 p.m. Stillness at Last: Preservation of the Built Environment at Sabbathday Lake

Adam Krakowski examines the effect of a roadway on the Shaker village at Sabbathday Lake, New Gloucester, ME. The road was moved in 2003 to protect the historic structures, but after a century of auto traffic, preservation issues remain.

5:30 p.m. Shaker Workshops Award for Outstanding New Scholarship

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

Sample New Hampshire and Vermont breads, jams, and honey. Cash Bar.

7:00 p.m. Dinner and Presentation

Enjoy a dinner of Shaker Victory Garden salad with lime vinaigrette; Sabbathday Lake Shaker herbed roast pork; Sabbathday Lake Shaker Creamed Potatoes; Esther Perkins Biscuits; carrots; Canterbury Shaker Angel Cake with Bavarian Filling.

Using primary sources, Dick Dabrowski, President of Shaker Workshops, will speak on the unique architectural history of the Great Stone Dwelling. For many years the tallest building north of Boston, the "stone house" was a sparkling jewel that pointed to the success of the Enfield Shakers. It still amazes visitors today.

Sunday, May 8

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

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

We will close the program in a circle, reflecting on the weekend's activities, reading favorite passages from Shaker primary sources and singing Shaker songs.

1:00 p.m. Checkout

Guests are kindly welcome to stay additional days before or after the weekend. Contact Event Coordinator Sara Parris in advance at (603) 632-4346 or events@shakermuseum.org, or make your reservation at the information desk during the weekend.

Spring Forum Presenters

Roben Campbell is an independent scholar specializing in the Harvard Shakers. She worked as a docent at Fruitlands Museum and continues to lecture on their Shaker collection and give tours of the Harvard Shaker Village. She is a frequent lecturer and consultant at several organizations.

David Fay is retired from many years of research at Bell Laboratories. From time to time he works with his wife Roben Campbell on Shaker projects.

Mary Ann Haagen holds degrees from Cornell, Columbia and the Dalcroze School of Music. She has spent many years presenting, with the Enfield Shaker Singers, the connections between Shaker song and the broader history of the Shakers. She is a visiting scholar in music at Dartmouth College. She lives in Enfield with her husband Charles DePuy.

Adam Krakoswski has a degree in museum studies and is a candidate for a Master's degree in Historic Preservation from the University of Vermont. He has received many research fellowships, including the highest department honor offered for art history at Hartwick College. He is a recipient of many awards and is employed as a professional conservator and preservation mason.

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 corporator and a trustee at Sabbathday Lake.

Glendyne Wergland graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received her PhD from University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her book, One Shaker Life: Isaac Newton Youngs, 1793-1865, received a Communal Studies Association Award. She is also the author of Visiting the Shakers, 1778-1849, Visiting the Shakers, 1850-1899, and Sisters in the Faith: Shaker Women and Equality of the Sexes.

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.