

An Invitation to Join The Friends of The Shakers



of
Sabbathday Lake
New Gloucester,
Maine

Directions to the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village, Museum and Library: Shaker Village is located in New Gloucester, Maine, on Route 26, approximately 8 miles north of Exit 63 of the Maine Turnpike in the town of Gray, and 8 miles west of Exit 75 in the city of Auburn.

The Village is 25 miles north of Portland, and 12 miles west of Lewiston-Auburn.

From the South (Portland, Boston): Take Gray Exit 63 off the Maine Turnpike. Turn right at the toll booth and go to the traffic light in Gray Center; turn left at the light onto Route 26 North, then turn left at the second light to follow Route 26 North approximately 8 miles to the Shaker Village turnoff (watch for road signs).

From the North (Augusta, Bangor): Take Auburn Exit 75 off the Maine Turnpike. Turn right at the toll booth onto Routes 100, 4, 202. Follow that route for 1 mile and turn right onto Route 122. Follow Route 122 over hill and dale until you come to Route 26. Turn left onto Route 26 South. Follow Route 26 South for about 2 miles and you will be at the Shaker Village turnoff (watch for road signs).

Museum Hours: The museum is open from Memorial Day to Columbus Day, Monday through Saturday (closed Sundays). Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For Additional Information about the Shaker Museum and Library: Phone 207-926-4597, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Or visit www.shaker.lib.me.us



Friends of the Shakers members harvesting herbs at fall work day.

Check the desired membership level: (All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.)

- Individual \$25. Family \$35. Sponsor \$100. Patron \$200.
 Lifetime \$1,000. (may be paid in 2-4 installments) Other \$ _____



Make check payable to The Friends of the Shakers, and mail it with this form to:
The Friends of the Shakers, 707 Shaker Road, New Gloucester, ME 04260

- Please check this box if your address or phone number, shown below, is new.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

The Sabbathday Lake Shakers are members of the only active Shaker community in the world. In addition to raising sheep, cattle, vegetables and herbs, the Shakers' daily lives revolve around their religious faith and their commitment to their Shaker family.

Who We Are

The Friends of the Shakers, an all-volunteer non-profit organization, was founded in 1974 to lend a hand to this unique community. For more than 30 years members of the Friends of the Shakers have contributed to the Sabbathday Lake Shakers through direct donations, fund-raising for restoring and preserving historic Shaker Village buildings, and volunteering at the Village on spring and fall Friends' work days.

Members of the Friends of the Shakers receive:

- Unlimited free admission to the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum's guided tours. The Museum exhibits Shaker-made furniture, textiles, and other artifacts from various stages of the community's history since its founding in 1794.



The 1880 Sabbathday Lake Shaker schoolhouse was restored with assistance from the Friends of the Shakers.

- A subscription to *The Clarion* newsletter, which keeps members up-to-date on Sabbathday Lake Shaker village, museum, and library happenings.



A Friend of the Shakers picks apples on fall work day.

- An invitation to attend the annual August Friends' Weekend held at the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village in New Gloucester, Maine.

- A \$5 discount on Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum crafts workshop fees.

Friends Contribute to Historic Preservation

The community's buildings were constructed in the 18th and 19th centuries and are on the National Register of Historic Places. One of the Friends' greatest achievements was partnering with the Trust for Public Land, Maine Preservation, Royal River Conservation Trust and the New England Forestry Foundation to raise the \$3.65 million needed to place the Shaker village and its 1,700 acres of forest, farm, lake shorefront and bog in a



A postcard view of the 1816 Trustees' office during the 1950s. With the help of the Friends of the Shakers, it was renovated in 1994.

trust. The project was successfully completed in 2007, and the 550-member Friends organization raised \$207,000 of the necessary funds. As a result, the Village's buildings and property are forever protected from future development or inappropriate use.

In the early 1990s, the Friends financed major structural repairs to the community's 1816 Trustees building which houses the Shaker Store.

Friends' also helped fund the 1986 renovation of the village's 1880 schoolhouse. The building was beautifully restored and houses the Shaker Library, a vast collection of Shaker-related materials which is open to the public.

Friends' Work Days: Time to Lend a Hand and Get Acquainted

The Friends of the Shakers hold two Saturday work days at the Village, one in October and one in May, to prepare the Village for the upcoming winter or summer season. Work days offer an assortment of projects to as well as fellowship and relaxation over a noontime meal. Painting fences, mowing lawns, weeding gardens, washing windows, sweeping, raking leaves, stacking wood, picking apples, working in the herb room, and preparing yarn for the store are all tasks typically done on work days.



Window washing at spring work day

Friends' Weekend: An Annual Reunion

Every August, Friends of the Shakers travel from all over the world to meet at the Village for Friends' Weekend. New workshops on Shaker life, history, music, or crafts are presented each year. Friends "from away" or from down the road enjoy seeing the newest museum exhibits and the beauty of the Village. It's an opportunity for people from all walks of life with a common interest in the Shakers to meet and get to know one another while they learn about the Shakers.



Shaker Sister Frances Carr, center, joined by two Friends at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village during Friends' Weekend.

For many, Friends Weekend is a time of yearly renewal of the spirit as well as an opportunity to share in the community's heritage.

You are invited to join the Friends of the Shakers by completing and mailing the application on the other side of this brochure with your membership contribution. Funds are used for the support and preservation of the ongoing Shaker tradition at Sabbathday Lake and are greatly appreciated.