



The Clarion

Published by the Friends of the Shakers

Fall 2010

Dear One and All:

What a wonderful Friends' Weekend! We wish to thank you one and all for making it such a special, fun-filled time.

We had a wonderful turnout with many new friends in attendance and, for the first time in many years, a lot of little children!

The programs, events, food and even the weather were all perfect. And if you missed this year, we look forward to seeing you next year!

One of the greatest gifts God has bestowed upon us is that of friends, and we appreciate you all and thank you all!

Much love and appreciation,

Sister Frances.

for the Community

Fall is in the Air

After a glorious sun-filled summer here in Maine (many have said it was the most beautiful summer in memory) there are definite signs that fall is on the way: the daylight hours are rapidly becoming fewer, leafy trees are showing signs of fall color, and the breeze is crisp. Before we know it, the Friends' fall work day will be here on Saturday, October 16.

This year's fall work day, as well as the board of directors' meeting, will start at 9 a.m., an hour earlier than in the past. If you can't be at the Village that early, please come when you can; there will be useful and enjoyable projects available no matter what your arrival time.

After many years of service, work day coordinator Rick Szatkowski is stepping down, and in his place Mary Larnard and Bill Kline will be the coordinators. Mary plans to arrive at the village a few days before work day so she can review the work assignments and gather the necessary equipment and supplies, freeing the Shaker family and museum staff from this responsibility.

As usual, sandwiches, soda and spring water will be provided for the noon meal; pot luck donations of desserts, salads or other side dishes are always appreciated.



What's New at the Museum and Library?

We hope attendance during year two of "Creating Chosen Land" exhibit will be as good as the first year's has been. In 2011 the Museum will publish a catalog of the exhibit and will install audio tapes that will provide an oral history component.

In 2011 the Museum will sponsor a conference titled "We Will Sustain the Structure: The Natural and Built Environments of the Shakers," a complement to the "Creating Chosen Land" exhibit. Any Friends member who would like to receive conference information should contact the museum office as soon as possible at (207) 926-4507 or by email to usshakers@aol.com.

The library has had conservation assessments done on 12 key bound manuscripts in the collection. The assessed items cover the early years of the community to the 20th century. The library is now seeking funding to have the items properly conserved.

The Shaker Studies class at Gray-New Gloucester High School has been re-instituted this fall; the 17 enrolled students will be coming to the village for a variety of activities involving both the museum and library.

— Leonard Brooks



Friends of the Shakers

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The Clarion

is published by
the Friends of the Shakers
for its members.

Please address comments or
questions about
membership to:

The Friends of the Shakers
707 Shaker Road
New Gloucester, ME 04260

or by email to:
info@friendsoftheshakers.org



New Board Member Elected at Annual Meeting

Erin Dulac was elected to the Friends' board of directors at the annual business meeting. She lives right down the road in Raymond, Maine, with her husband and two young sons. Erin and her sons frequently visit the community, and she regularly attends Sunday meeting. Her face will be familiar if you've been to recent work days and Friends' weekends, as Erin has participated in both events.

In addition, President Nancy George and Secretary Susan Dupree were re-elected to two-year terms as officers. Susan was also re-elected as a board member along with Ellie Fish, Jim Gelbort, Ray McCaskey, and Munira Naqui.

The 2nd Maine Native American Summer Market & Demonstration was held at Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village on a beautiful sunny Saturday, August 28.

Basket makers, wood carvers, flute makers and jewelry makers representing three Maine tribes demonstrated their craft and sold their wares under a big tent.



This and That

The Shaker Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, December 4th from 10am to 3pm. Any member of the Friends interested in volunteering should contact the museum office as soon as possible at 207-926-5987 or usshakers@aol.com.

Board member Jim Gelbort has developed a great new website for the Friends organization. Find it at www.friendsoftheshakers.org. Jim is also working on delivering the Clarion via email for Friends who would prefer to receive it electronically. If you would like to receive your Clarion by email, send us an email to let us know: sdlfriends@att.net. Thank you, Jim!

Did you know that you can now find us on Facebook? Yes, the Friends have a Facebook page with 101 followers. Can you help us get to 200? To find it, search for "Friends of the Shakers" within Facebook. "Like" the page to receive timely updates on Friends' events at the Village.

Friends' Weekend 2010: A Memorable Time For All

With picture-perfect summer weather and a wonderful program built around the new exhibit about the history of the SDL Village structures, Friends' Weekend could not have been better. In the afternoon 100 participants toured the exhibit, "Creating Chosen Land: Our Home 1783-2010," in the Spinhouse, and enjoyed a hay wagon ride around the Village that tied in with the exhibit. The wagon toured the Village, went across the back of garden, and down the road to the site of the great mill, while Ken Averill and Michael Graham talked about the history of the buildings, some still standing, and some gone.

A third facet of the tour was a slide show presentation by Brother Arnold about the people involved with the development of the Village architecture.

Earlier in the day, Friends were treated to Sister Frances reading from her book, *Growing Up Shaker*. It was wonderful to hear the words of her book come alive in Sister's own voice.

The evening music program in the Meetinghouse was presented by Ellie Fish, Judy Travis and Barbara Bentsen who each discussed what Shaker music meant to them. The gathering sang Ellie's, Judy's, and Barbara's selections of their favorite Shaker hymns.

Thanks to close to two dozen Friends who donated imaginative and lovely gift baskets and the coordination of Ellie Fish and Judy Travis, the Big Basket Raffle was great success and raised \$700 for the Friends' treasury. And, thanks to the generosity Friends show throughout the year, the organization was able to give the Shaker family a check for \$5,000 at Friends' Weekend.

Thank you to all who spent so many hours planning the weekend and volun-

teering during the weekend to make it the success it was, especially President Nancy George and Events Coordinator Doug Tilghman. And, thank you to the Shaker family for their hospitality!



Help Us Keep Up the Good Work — Renew Your Membership Today!

If your Clarion mailing label or your membership card does not have an “August 2011,” or later date, your Friends of the Shakers membership has expired.

In the last year the Friends organization donated more than \$18,000 to the Shaker Family, and members volunteered in many ways at the Village. Please renew your membership and continue to join with other Friends to assist the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Community and be eligible to attend next year’s Friends’ Weekend, as well as continue to receive *The Clarion*, a discount on Shaker Museum crafts workshops and free admission to the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum.

Please fill out the form below and mail it with your membership dues to the address noted on the form. The Friends of the Shakers is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. We look forward to hearing from you.

— Donna Murphy and Jim Gelbort, Membership Chairs

Check the desired membership level:

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

Make check payable to *The Friends of the Shakers*, and mail it with this form to:

Donna Murphy, 127 Peabody St., Gardner, MA 01440

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

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____



The Friends of the Shakers
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New Gloucester, ME 04260