FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We encourage our visitors to Rethink Tradition and we challenge ourselves each day to find new ways to share the singular beauty and history of Canterbury Shaker Village. This season, we are starting a new tradition at the Meeting House. Rather than limiting access to this symbolic and sacred place to only those on guided tours, visitors will now find the doors to the Meeting House open all day, every day.

It is not surprising that it is this building that resonates most deeply with tourists, casual visitors and members alike. Perched on a hill at the end of a tree-lined lane, this 2 1/2 story Gambrel is our earliest building and the one first built by the Shaker community. Here in the summer of 1792, the Canterbury Shakers formally called their community to order and commenced its construction under the supervision of an accomplished Shaker woodworker, Moses Johnson. The Meeting House is the only one of the six buildings Johnson constructed to have survived intact.

Its design was a departure from the architectural norm of its day because it served as both a place of worship on the first floor and a residence above. All ecclesiastical focus was eliminated by creating instead a large open worship space with no supporting posts and no pulpit. The interior was and remains simply furnished...
with benches facing each other. Brothers would sit on the left and Sisters on the right. The center was then left open for dancing and singing. To aid the precision, Shakers embedded cues, or wooden pegs, in the central part of the dance floor. Still visible today, they form five rows of markers, some in straight lines and some in flared lines, and allow us to imagine the intricate dancing prayers they helped facilitate.

Throughout the year, we will enhance the visitor experience in the Meeting House by playing a variety of recorded Shaker music. To begin the season, we have chosen "Gentle Words", a premiere recording of Kevin Siegfried’s Shaker song arrangements. This seemed an appropriate lead-in to Kevin’s June 23rd concert in the Meeting House. During his performance he will lead a small choral ensemble performing rarely heard and newly uncovered melodies. Please don’t miss this. After all, where else can you experience such a concentration of Shaker history, music and beauty?

I invite you and your guests to visit the Meeting House today and everyday and to rethink the traditions that this historic building embodies. And I hope to see you on June 23rd.

All my best,

Funi Burdick, Executive Director

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**"Traveling Home"**
A Concert with Kevin Siegfried
Sunday, June 23, 3pm

Don't miss this exploration of the Shaker's lasting musical legacy. Tickets are still available for "Traveling Home," a concert with Kevin Siegfried. Get yours today before they sell out!

Tickets are $17 for adults, $8 for children ages 6-17; children 5 and under attend free. **Concert ticket includes a museum pass good for the day of the concert.** Seating is open, and tickets are first come, first serve. **Purchase Tickets.**

Siegfried will be joined by a small choral ensemble and will lead a journey into our fascinating American musical heritage, performing rarely heard and newly uncovered melodies from the Canterbury Shakers and beyond.

**Naturally simple...naturally Shaker**
Summer Gathering and Auction
July 31, 2013*, 5:30-8:30pm

What could be nicer than

On July 31st, you can win a signed print called "Heirloom Tomatoes" by Cook’s Illustrated magazine illustrator John Burgoyne; a Deluxe 3 night stay at the Hamilton Princess Hotel in Bermuda, a one of a kind hand hooked wool rug, and many more unique trips, handcrafted jewelry and items.

Look for our auction catalog on our website starting July 1st.

**WISH LIST**

Looking for a different way to support the Village? Please consider donating these items:

**Golf cart**

**2 Glass Beverage Dispensers** (preferably 2.5 to 3 gallon size, with spigot)

**12 tablecloths** 60” x 102” wrinkle and stain resistant. Machine washable and dryer safe. White or
spending a breezy summer evening on a hillside, overlooking ponds and fields, while sipping a glass of wine, enjoying fine food, meeting nice folks and supporting one of the county’s most important National Historic Landmarks?

Join us **Wednesday, July 31st** for a summer gathering and auction benefiting Canterbury Shaker Village.

Our auction selections share the Shaker characteristics of fine craftsmanship, high quality and simplicity. A full catalog will be available on our website starting July 1st. Please share it with your friends and colleagues!

Tickets are $55 per person. [Click here](#) to buy tickets or [download the invitation and RSVP form](#).

For further details, call (603) 783-9077 ext. 285.

*Rain Date Thursday, August 1, 2013*

**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

**The ABCs of Letterpress Printing**
$100 members, $109 not-yet-members
One-day workshop offered Sat. August 10th (new date!); Sat. October 5th

**Shaker Brooms**
$75 members, $82.50 not-yet-members
One-day workshop offered Wed. June 19th; Sun. July 14th; Sun. August 25th

**The Herbalist in the Field: Discovering Plant Medicine in its Natural Habitat**
Each class $45.00 Members, $49.50 not-yet members
One day Saturday workshops offered:
- June 22nd: Flowers and Flavor
- August 3rd: Peak of the Season
- September 7th: Autumn Berries, Barks and Roots
Take one or take them all!

**Nest of Oval Boxes**
$220.00 Members, $242.00 not-yet members
Two-day workshop offered Saturday and Sunday, July 26-27, 2013

[Register online](#) or call (603) 783-9077 ext. 284.

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**AROUND THE VILLAGE**

**Dark Red**

Contact Sally if you would like to donate any of these items.
Letterpress Printing

Communication was an essential element within and between Shaker communities. The Shakers developed printed materials to document their beliefs for the outside world and for the Shaker communities spread far and wide.

At the outset of the 1800's, Canterbury Shaker Village printing activities focused on seed packet labels, leaflets, and catalogs advertising their successful herbal medicine enterprise. Eventually, they also began printing posters, product labels and hymns for worship.

In 1843, during an era marked by a Shaker spiritualism movement, the Canterbury Shakers were called upon to execute a major 400 page printing project: *A Holy, Sacred and Divine Roll and Book*, written, or "received," by a New Lebanon Shaker, Philemon Stewart. This project denoted the beginning of Canterbury Shaker Village's role as a print shop for other Shaker communities.

New type fonts were bought and the print shop space reconfigured to hold the large 2,500 volume project. This project was followed immediately by the production of *A Juvenile Guide, or A Manual of Good Manners, Consisting of Counsels, Instructions and Rules of Deportment for the Young and Millenial Hymns*.

In 1852, Canterbury Shaker Village began to print hymns set to music and purchase a special font of musical notes for the purpose of printing a 222-page *Repository of Hymns and Anthems*.

However from the mid 1850's to the 1870's the print trade declined at Canterbury. It was revived in 1874 when Canterbury purchased a Young American printing press in order to print manuscripts and pamphlets during a time when there was little music being printed in New Hampshire.

In the late 1870's, the Canterbury Shakers began setting type, writing and proofreading for *The Shaker Manifesto*, the Shaker newspaper previously published by the Shakers at Watervliet, NY. Despite these efforts, the print shop eventually fell into disuse and once the Shaker Sisters started traveling to Boston at the turn of the century to have hymnals printed, the Print Shop was taken down.

Today, the Canterbury Shaker Village Print Shop, now located in
the historic Carpenters’ Shop, is again a vital part of the Village, printing items for the Museum Store and materials for school programs. Canterbury Shaker Village Printers James Macnab, Steven Wheeler, David Dunham, and Steven Maynard create printed materials and demonstrate the craft of letterpress printing to visitors during the season.

Interested in learning more about letterpress printing? Take one of Jim McNab's popular Letterpress workshops.

**INSPIRED EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF THE VILLAGE**

**Are you a Member? Join today!**

Members provide crucial support of the Village’s vital operating expenses allowing us to preserve our treasured collections, present innovative exhibitions, and offer workshops and events.

As a member of Canterbury Shaker Village, you will help the Village share more than 200 years of craftsmanship, innovation and spirituality. As a private non-profit museum that receives no federal funding, we depend on the support of our members.

Membership at the Village has its rewards: unlimited visits, free tours, discounts at the Museum Store and Shaker Box Lunch & Farmstand and invitations to exclusive Member events. However, the greatest reward is playing an important role in maintaining this lively, historic museum’s dedication to the Shaker way of life.

We invite you to explore our many different membership levels and find the one that’s right for you. Join today or give the gift of membership to a friend or family member.

There are four easy ways to join:

- **Online**
- Call 603-783-9077 x285
- Fax a completed membership form to 603-783-9362
- Mail a completed membership form to the address at the bottom of this email

**COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS**

**Shaker Music Printing Plates**

**Member Reflections**

"Having spent most of the past ten years away from Canterbury, it was important for me to reconnect with my community when I returned...last fall.

Shaker Village has been an important part of my life since I arrived to Canterbury in 1974. I treasure the times that I was personally welcomed to the Trustees' house by Eldress Bertha and Sister Gertrude.

We would bring our students from the then Horizon's Edge School to the village for tours or to do small chores for them.

On May Day, we would dance the May Pole in the lane in front of the Meeting House to their delight. It was one way that we felt we could give back for their kindness.

We always felt welcomed and could feel the warmth that came from these lovely women.

My connections to the village remain strong and my commitment to its preservation is growing daily.

To say that I feel fortunate to be living so close and to be able to add to my very list of positive memories is an understatement.

Every time I head for home, the Shaker Orchard is there to greet me and reinforces my sense that I am a very fortunate person!"

Tory Dodge
Canterbury Shaker Village Member

**Did You Know?**
The museum recently rediscovered eight wooden boxes full of metal printing plates.

Careful inspection revealed the plates to have been used in the printing of The Shaker Hymnal in 1908.

While the Canterbury Shaker Village printing operations had ended in 1899, the Stanhope Press of Boston was charged with publishing the 273-page book, which contained 249 selections of music written in conventional musical notation for mixed voice.

The Village staff is planning an exhibit for later this summer that will highlight the interesting history of printing at Canterbury Shaker Village, including these music plates. Stay tuned for more information!

Henry Clay Binn was just 19 years old when he acted as Senior Printer for the product of A Holy, Sacred and Divine Roll and Book. Blinn and his team produced 2,500 copies of this 400-page volume written, or “received,” by a New Lebanon Shaker, Philemon Stewart.