

January 27, 1960

Mr. John Williams,  
Shaker Museum,  
Old Chatham, N.Y.

Dear John:

Since talking with you about the possibility of a Shaker documentary, I have not made much progress concerning financing, but had very reassuring confirmation to the effect that Roger Tilton, who is the man who would be doing the film, is one of the top men in the country in this field. This information came to me from one of our parents, who happens to be the Executive Vice-President of the Screen Directors Guild, of which Tilton is a member. I was assured that Tilton is not only extremely creative and artistic but very competent technically. I also learned that Tilton has visited the Museum a number of times as he is a friend of Hugh Johnston's and is in the area quite frequently. So he comes to the subject with a very keen interest.

I am still hoping that someone will be found to finance the film and, if you have any ideas or suggestions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

NEW YORK 17 N. Y.  
382 MADISON AVENUE  
COPIE & BICKEL

СОБЛ

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
*President*  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2115  
or 9-2111

THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
*Secretary*  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
*Director*  
  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
*Director Emeritus*

February 8, 1960

Mr. Jerome Count  
P. O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

I have your letter concerning the documentary film which certainly sounds extraordinarily interesting.

We, unfortunately, are in no position to help finance such a film at the present time, but as plans get more definite I would like to talk to you further about it.

I am going to be away for the next three weeks or so but hope we can get together in early March.

Sincerely yours,

*John*  
John S. Williams

JSW:mc



~~Shaker~~

Shaker Ritual Songs and Dances  
by Shaker Village Work Group  
Under the direction of Jerome Count  
On the Lawn Behind the Blacksmith Shop

2 PM

Teen-age boys and girls, members of the Shaker Village Work Group, ~~xxx~~ will re-create the dances and music that were characteristic of the of the Shaker religious services of more than a century ago. Using authentic Shaker costume, the teen-agers of the well-known Shaker Village Group have been studying the music and dances of the Shakers with the assistance of members of the Shaker order, including the late Brother Ricardo Belden.

The "whirl" and the "shake" from ~~th~~ which the ~~religious~~ religious sect derived its name, "The Shakers," or, originally, "Shaking Quakers," ~~were~~ were two aspects of the Shaker Service that brought ~~the group~~ their members to the attention of the public generations ago at the Mt. Lebanon Shaker Community. The ~~whirl~~ whirl and the shake are characteristic of the original dance ritual which will be performed at the ~~Fest~~ Festival.

~~Members of the Shaker Village Work Group will also demonstrate~~

During the Festival, <sup>teen-age</sup> members of the Shaker Village Work Group will ~~also~~ demonstrate the use of original Shaker ~~weaving~~ <sup>weaving</sup> equipment in the Weaving Shop. Looms in use will range from the largest ~~Shaker~~ size rug and yard-goods widths to braid and tape looms used for making hand-woven materials

which were used for seating Shaker chairs. The looms used in the demonstration date from the late 1700's to the middle 1800's, when the Shaker communities <sup>annually</sup> produced thousands of yards of handwoven materials for their own use. ~~Examples~~ Examples of fabrics will be found in the Weaving Shop. Visitors to the ~~Museum~~ Museum may arrange to observe the teen-age Work Group at the original historic Shaker site at New Lebanon, N.Y. where they are engaged in restoring ~~and~~ the communal dwellings and workshops, and re-creating the early-American industries of the Shakers. Guided tours are given without charge daily from 9:30 to 11:30 AM, 2 to 5:30 PM. ←

Mr. Collins  
5-9-2115

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
*President*  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2115  
or 9-2111

THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
*Secretary*  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
*Director*  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
*Director Emeritus*

August 10, 1960

Mr. Jerome Count  
P. O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

As I think you appreciate yourself, it is rather difficult to thank you and your boys and girls and their counselors for the magnificent job done here last Saturday.

Speaking on behalf of your fellow trustees I know that the ritual service adds a great deal to the Festival. Those that saw it were fully appreciative and I have spoken to many who regretted exceedingly that they missed the performance.

Please extend not only my personal thanks but those of Mr. Meader and the trustees to your staff and all the members of your Group. This, in particular, includes the work done in the Textile House which was outstanding and most particularly to those who worked in the broom shop. I believe this latter effort was tremendously interesting to a great many visitors.

Sincerely yours,

*JSW*

JSW:mc



MEMORANDUM

Re: SHAKER FESTIVAL TRIP; Sat. August 5 and Sun. August 6, 1961

The following are the vehicles for these trips and the drivers and staff members assigned to them:

SATURDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff (Dorian & Kim)  
Bus #1.....40 Pass. (excluding driver)  
Bus #2.....40 Pass. ( " " )  
GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
Station Bus, 8 pass. ( " " )  
Total 130

Staff

Dorian & Kim driving  
Jane C. and Gerry M.  
Joan Stampee  
Ollie, driving  
Bud J., driving  
Henry C., driving

SUNDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff  
Bus #1.....40 pass. (excluding driver)  
Bus #2.....40 pass. ( " " )  
GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
Station Bus, 8 pass. ( " " )

Doe & Nancy S., driver  
Gerry, Jane, Ollie  
Sue L. & C. Mang  
Pete Fuchs, driving  
Charlie H., driving  
Dean F., driving

NOTE: Equipment to be taken and loaded in the Blue Ford at 10:30 AM-- we will try to arrange to leave equipment at the Museum Saturday afternoon, and return there on Sunday.

Equipment: 1. Costumes 2. Bogan Public Speaker System  
3. Microphone with jack to fit Bogan 3. Bag lunch 4. In Grey Ford, weaving and broom materials and equipment.

Departure and Return:

Except for Grey Ford noted above, all vehicles will leave Shaker Village at 11 AM; leave the Museum for the return trip at 3 PM.

Schedule at the Museum.

1. Upon arrival we will assemble on lawn of the large white house across from Museum and eat lunch.
2. Next, change into costumes.
3. Procession through Museum grounds with entire group singing, starts at 1:30 PM, returning to platform for Service.
4. At conclusion of Service entire group ends by means of a recessional from platform to original starting point---- singing throughout therecessional.
5. Weaving and Broom demonstrators will give one hour demonstrations at 11 A.M. and 3 P.M.

Assignment to Vehicles

Except for weavers and Broom demonstrators, villagers will not be assigned to vehicles by name. However, drivers in the Village vehicles and staff members in busses will be responsible for seeing that the required number of villagers are loaded and that the vehicles do not leave with more or less than the specified above.



MEMORANDUM

Re: SHAKER FESTIVAL TRIP; Sat. August 5 and Sun. August 6, 1961

The following are the vehicles for these trips and the drivers and staff members assigned to them:

SATURDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
 3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff (Dorian & Kim)  
 Bus #1.....40 Pass. (excluding driver)  
 Bus #2.....40 Pass. ( " " )  
 GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
 Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
 Station Bus.. 8 pass. ( " " )  
 Total 130

Staff

Dorian & Kim driving  
 Jane C. and Gerry M.  
 Joan Stampee  
 Ollie, driving  
 Bud J., driving  
 Henry C., driving

SUNDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
 3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff  
 Bus #1.....40 pass. (excluding driver)  
 Bus #2.....40 pass. ( " " )  
 GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
 Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
 Station Bus.. 8 pass. ( " " )

Doe & Nancy S., driver

Gerry, Jane, Ollie  
 Sue L. & C. Mang  
 Pete Fuchs, driving  
 Charlie H., driving  
 Dean F., driving

NOTE: Equipment to be taken and loaded in the Blue Ford at 10:30 AM-- we will try to arrange to leave equipment at the Museum Saturday afternoon, and return there on Sunday.

Equipment: 1. Costumes 2. Bogan Public Speaker System  
3. Microphone with jack to fit Bogan 3. Bag lunch 4. In Grey Ford, weaving and broom materials and equipment.

Departure and Return:

Except for Grey Ford noted above, all vehicles will leave Shaker Village at 11 AM; leave the Museum for the return trip at 3 PM.

Schedule at the Museum.

1. Upon arrival we will assemble on lawn of the large white house across from Museum and eat lunch.
2. Next, change into costumes.
3. Procession through Museum grounds with entire group singing, starts at 1:30 PM, returning to platform for Service.
4. At conclusion of Service entire group ends by means of a recessional from platform to original starting point---- singing throughout therecessional.
5. Weaving and Broom demonstrators will give one hour demonstrations at 11 A.M. and 3 P.M.

Assignment to Vehicles

Except for weavers and Broom demonstrators, villagers will not be assigned to vehicles by name. However, drivers in the Village vehicles and staff members in busses will be responsible for seeing that the required number of villagers are loaded and that the vehicles do not leave with more of less than the specified above.



MEMORANDUM

Re: SHAKER FESTIVAL TRIP; Sat. August 5 and Sun. August 6, 1961

The following are the vehicles for these trips and the drivers and staff members assigned to them:

SATURDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
 3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff (Dorian & Kim)  
 Bus #1.....40 Pass. (excluding driver)  
 Bus #2.....40 Pass. ( " " )  
 GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
 Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
 Station Bus. 8 pass. ( " " )  
 Total 130

Staff

Dorian & Kim driving  
 Jane C. and Gerry M.  
 Joan Stampee  
 Ollie, driving  
 Bud J., driving  
 Henry C., driving

SUNDAY

Grey Ford (leaves 9:30, returns 4 o'clock  
 3 Broom dem., 4 weavers, 2 staff  
 Bus #1.....40 pass. (excluding driver)  
 Bus #2.....40 pass. ( " " )  
 GMC.....18 pass. (including staff)  
 Jeep.....13 pass. ( " " )  
 Station Bus. 8 pass. ( " " )

Doe & Nancy S., driver

Gerry, Jane, Ollie  
 Sue L. & C. Mang  
 Pete Fuchs, driving  
 Charlie H., driving  
 Dean F., driving

NOTE: Equipment to be taken and loaded in the Blue Ford at 10:30 AM-- we will try to arrange to leave equipment at the Museum Saturday afternoon, and return there on Sunday.

Equipment: 1. Costumes 2. Bogan Public Speaker System  
3. Microphone with jack to fit Bogan 3. Bag lunch 4. In Grey Ford, weaving and broom materials and equipment.

Departure and Return:

Except for Grey Ford noted above, all vehicles will leave Shaker Village at 11 AM; leave the Museum for the return trip at 3 PM.

Schedule at the Museum.

1. Upon arrival we will assemble on lawn of the large white house across from Museum and eat lunch.
2. Next, change into costumes.
3. Procession through Museum grounds with entire group singing, starts at 1:30 PM, returning to platform for Service.
4. At conclusion of Service entire group ends by means of a recessional from platform to original starting point---- singing throughout therecessional.
5. Weaving and Broom demonstrators will give one hour demonstrations at 11 A.M. and 3 P.M.

Assignment to Vehicles

Except for weavers and Broom demonstrators, villagers will not be assigned to vehicles by name. However, drivers in the Village vehicles and staff members in busses will be responsible for seeing that the required number of villagers are loaded and that the vehicles do not leave with more or less than the specified above.



JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary  
HUDSON, N. Y.

ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director

H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

January 16, 1962

Mr. Jerome Count  
P. O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

On ~~our~~<sup>a</sup> recent visit to Canterbury I discovered to my great surprise that there existed a very deep and strong feeling against our having the Shaker service performed. I find not the slightest criticism against you or your good works. I have done my best to explain that everything has been done in an authentic and dignified manner but Robert tells me the opposition still exists and also exists in Maine. Therefore, in planning the Festival for this year I have come to the reluctant conclusion we will have to give up the service.

I sincerely hope, however, that your boys and girls will see ~~you~~<sup>then</sup> way clear to assist in the Festival at the Textile and Craft Shops. You, your staff and all the children have always joined in this production so generously and regardless of time and effort that its withdrawal seems extremely unfortunate to me. However, the criticism has reached such a point that I feel it would be damaging to the Museum, to continue.

Possibly this decision will be a relief to you. I certainly hope so.

Sincerely yours,

*John*  
John S. Williams  
President

1/19 aud'd

JSW:mc



JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

August 8, 1962

Mr. Jerome Count  
P. O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.


Dear Jerome:

I am writing to thank you for the great effort put in by the many members of your work groups during the Festival.

Just from watching the visitors, it was very apparent that the broom-tying and lathe work were particularly appreciated. The spinning and weaving was also an excellent job.

Will you please be kind enough to thank these diligent workers on behalf of the Museum.

Sincerely yours,

  
John S. Williams  
President

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

19 August, 1962

Mr. Jerome Count, Director  
Shaker Village Work Group  
P.O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Jerry:

Please express to your Villagers and staff members my heartiest congratulations for what in my opinion is the best Open House you ever had. From the initial parking to the final chorus the whole effort showed great responsibility, initiative, and real performing ability and creativity, and they and you deserve great and well-merited applause. I am always pleasantly surprised at what these young people can do and what their instructors can evoke, but never so much so as this year. You should all feel genuinely proud of what has been accomplished this summer.

Thank you for inviting me. I shall look forward to being with you again next year. In the meantime, best wishes for your continuing success.

Cordially yours,



Robert F. W. Meader

Director





John Williams

July 4th  
Jerome Count

Here is the copy for the announcement we talked about for the program:

SEE SHAKER VILLAGE....

Visitors at the Museum Festival are cordially invited for free Guided Tours at Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village, original site of first organized community of Shakers, dating back to Revolutionary War times. See original Dwelling Houses, Workshops, Chair Shop, Barns --including ~~xxxx~~ curious barred cell used for confinement, only one ~~of kind~~ known in any Shaker settlement. The Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village is now a unique educational project for teen-agers engaged in restoring Shaker buildings and re-creating early-American crafts and industries of the Shakers. Hours for free guided tours: Daily (except Monday), 9 to 11 AM, 2 to 5 PM. Off Route 20 at New Lebanon, N.Y., near Mass-N.Y. line. Watch for signs, "SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP".

You could have the printer make up the copy appropriately. Perhaps a **Border** would help. Many thanks....

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President

OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary

HUDSON, N. Y.

ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director

H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

September 4, 1963

Mr. Jerome Count  
P. O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.


Dear Jerome:

I have your letter of early August concerning the tickets. It has not been our practice to offer tickets to everybody as the big majority would be thrown away and this would cost you printing money.

We could, of course, leave them on top of the counter and let anybody who wished take them, provided you do not object to the cost.

Let us talk about this again some time before next summer.

Sincerely yours,

  
John S. Williams  
President

JSW:mc



*Shaker Museum*

August 9, 1964

Mr. John S. Williams  
Shaker Museum  
Old Chatham, New York

Dear John:

I don't think our kids are looking for any special glory--and I am sure you know me well enough to know that we are not as an organization either. But I think, after the amount of time and effort expended upon the part of so many boys and girls, as well as a number of our paid staff, to give the demonstrations at the Festival and adequately prepare some of the Museum equipment, it is pretty rough to see publicity stories with "stand-ins" representing the demonstrators, as shown in the enclosed story, and without even a mention in the text of Shaker Village kids having done the job.

It was bad enough to have stand-ins for the advance story spread all over the press (and again without any reference to our contribution to the event and the Museum), due to the fact that we could not interrupt our schedule to send staff and kids and transportation over for the pictures by the Eagle on less than 24 hours notice. But to see a "stand-in" in the post-Festival story just isn't nice, much less good reporting. Not getting any recognition is one thing. Being ignored is another. But giving recognition to someone else who simply posed for pictures isn't fair.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President

OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary

HUDSON, N. Y.

ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director

H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

August 13, 1964

Mr. Jerome Count  
Shaker Village Work Group  
P.O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

I was sorry to receive your letter blaming us for something in which we had no part. As to the first publicity, you will recall you advised us about 9:30 A.M. that your children couldn't get over here. The Eagle staff members arrived shortly after and we discussed the matter. They persisted they wanted a story and it was they who requested us to round up some local youngsters. We did suggest at the time that they stop at the Shaker Village Work Camp and take some pictures and run a combined story. They stated to us that they felt strongly these were two separate stories and we got the impression they would do a story on your camp activities.

As to the publicity after the benefit we, of course, never have any idea what papers may pick up and run a story nor did we this year. The picture in the Courier was taken by the Eagle photographer and we have not the vaguest idea how it got into the hands of the Courier.

We are, of course, sorry that in the reviews of the benefit your children were not mentioned but as I pointed out above we have no idea as to what stories the various papers might run, if any.

As ever,

*John*



JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

August 26, 1964


Mr. Jerome Count  
P.O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

I have just returned from Canterbury where I had a long conference with Eldress Emma B. King. I am happy to say she is agreeable to our reviving the Shaker service at the benefit next year which will be our tenth.

I am writing you early as I most sincerely hope your boys and girls will again wish to produce the service which for many years has drawn a great many people to the benefit. I believe we could do a good publicity article on this using pictures from the last time it was performed here.

Sincerely yours,

  
John S. Williams  
President

JSW:mc

August 31, 1964

Mr. John S. Williams,  
The Shaker Museum,  
Old Chatham, N.Y.

Dear John:

I was glad to note from your letter of the 26th that Eldress Emma is agreeable to our boys and girls giving the Shaker service. I had a chance to read your letter to the group while they were still here and they were obviously pleased that they would have a chance to be helpful further to the Museum. However, a final decision will have to await the meetings of their Winter Council, which is the group that works during the winter on planning ahead for next summer. This will be some time after December.

One complication is that with our Open House occurring now after the conclusion of both the Museum's and Hancock's festivals, our opportunities of raising funds for our scholarships, through sales of our products, have been substantially affected. Our budget this past year provided for over sixty boys and girls, entailing over \$25,000 in our budget for scholarships. While the Open House provides only a very small portion of this, as you can imagine, every dollar is important.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director



*B*  
*Shaker Museum Foundn*

May 17th, 1965

Mr. John S. Williams,  
Shaker Museum,  
Old Chatham, N. Y.

Dear John:

We have had a meeting of our Council and again discussed the question of giving the Service at the Festival, as well as having various craft demonstrations. The arrangement that you and I discussed seemed to be about the only idea that seems promising and it was concluded to try it experimentally this year. That is, a booth would be provided by the Museum to be manned by our own staff and kids and for sales of our products during both days of the Festival, with all proceeds being retained by us for our Scholarship Fund. Also, as you suggested, the bus transportation would be paid for by the Museum.

I think we will be able to manage the demonstrations both days, but follow your suggestion of limiting the Service to Sunday.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director

P.S. I think your idea of having our booth near the area where the Service will be given, and still generally accessible to the mainstream of visitors would be good.

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President

OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

THE SHAKER MUSEUM

J.

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary

HUDSON, N. Y.

ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director

H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

June 12, 1964

Mr. Jerome Count  
P.O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

We missed your presence at our last meeting. Quite naturally the annual benefit came up for discussion. We hope, very much, that your boys and girls will see their way clear to help us in the various craft departments. As we're only about six weeks away I'd deeply appreciate it if you'd drop me a line confirming that you'll be with us.

Sincerely yours,

*JW*  
John S. Williams  
President

8/15 - Aud - 8/1 - 2

JSW:mc



June 17, 1965

Mr. John S. Williams,  
Shaker Museum,  
Old Chatham, N.Y.

Dear John:

It was my understanding that the meeting definitely decided that the Shaker Service should be given only on Saturday --to avoid splitting up and confusing the public, since the Flea Market was also only to be held one day. Therefore, we have been planning it that way. This will also avoid your bus expenses for two days, limiting it to Saturday only.

However, the demonstrations can be given both days. We can hold them from 10:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. This will give the kids enough time to assemble for the service on Saturday, after completing their demonstrations.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director

JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
*President*  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
*Secretary*  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
*Director*  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
*Director Emeritus*  
MURIEL M. COLLINS  
*Asst. Secretary*  
*Asst. Treasurer*

June 16, 1965

Mr. Jerome Count  
P.O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

There was so much discussion at our last meeting concerning the extent of the Festival that we failed to get time to discuss some of the details. Are your boys and girls counting on putting on their usual exhibit of spinning, weaving, peg-turning, threading and broom-making. Last year we announced these would be demonstrated at 11 A.M. and 2 P.M. As the service is scheduled at 2 P.M. the timing on the others should be changed.

Should we have these handicrafts exhibits for the two days the same as I understand you plan for the religious service? Please let me have your thinking on this as soon as possible so we can get the information together for the program.

Sincerely yours,

*John*  
John S. Williams  
President

JSW:mc



Statement given to Miss Collins of Shaker Museum, Old Chatham, N.Y., June 24, 1965

The Shaker Ritual Religious Service rendered by teen-age members of Shaker Village Work Group was originally recreated with the assistance of the late Shaker Brother Ricardo Beldon, as well as other members of the Shaker Society. With this assistance from the Shakers themselves and research carried on over many years from published and original manuscript material, the teen-age boys and girls of the Work Group, which was founded by Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Count and is now under their direction, began to render the recreations of the Service in the late 1950's and will be given at the Shaker Museum Festival at 2 P.M. in August. The teen-age boys and girls who will participate in the re-creation of the Service come from 20 states and areas, as far away as Oregon, the middle west, Florida and South Carolina, in order to participate in the eight-week Work Group program at the Mount Lebanon Shaker settlement, which has just been declared a national historic monument for preservation by the U.S. Dept. of Interior.

May 4, 1966

Mr. John S. Williams, President  
The Shaker Museum  
Old Chatham, New York

Dear John:

I do not anticipate any difficulties which would prevent the group from doing the Shaker service this year. Although the actual decision is made by the boys and girls while here, they seem always anxious to carry out this project, both because of the recognition it gives them and the assistance that it provides for the Museum.

One change that would be helpful is in the location of our booth. Last year I felt that the ideal spot had been selected, but sales proved to be very small apparently because it was not in the main-stream of traffic near the Flea Market. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you would select another location which would attract the public toward the dealers.

I guess that Robert has reported to you that Tuttle of Vermont has given a very enthusiastic reaction to the idea that I proposed at the Trustees meeting to have a popular art-format book written and published on the Shakers. We have conferred with Michael Frisch, our former staff member and villager, who did his honors Master thesis on the Shakers at Tufts. He is interested in doing the manuscript for submission to Tuttle. This seems a very promising project and will fill a badly needed book on the Shakers.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director

P.S. Will you tell the folks who handle the publicity for the Festival that we should not be referred to as a "camp", but rather a "summer work project for teen-agers at the Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village." Our kids were mortified to find that the CBS television program referred to us as a "nearby camp". Incidentally, I am enclosing a copy of our material, because I think it would be helpful at this time for you to know more about the philosophy underlying our program and how the Shaker background is utilized in bringing about certain educational results.



May 4, 1966

Mr. John S. Williams, President  
The Shaker Museum  
Old Chatham, New York

Dear John:

I do not anticipate any difficulties which would prevent the group from doing the Shaker service this year. Although the actual decision is made by the boys and girls while here, they seem always anxious to carry out this project, both because of the recognition it gives them and the assistance that it provides for the Museum.

One change that would be helpful is in the location of our booth. Last year I felt that the ideal spot had been selected, but sales proved to be very small apparently because it was not in the main-stream of traffic near the Flea Market. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you would select another location which would attract the public toward the dealers.

I guess that Robert has reported to you that Tuttle of Vermont has given a very enthusiastic reaction to the idea that I proposed at the Trustees meeting to have a popular art-format book written and published on the Shakers. We have conferred with Michael Frisch, our former staff member and villager, who did his honors Master thesis on the Shakers at Tufts. He is interested in doing the manuscript for submission to Tuttle. This seems a very promising project and will fill a badly needed book on the Shakers.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Count,  
Director

P.S. Will you tell the folks who handle the publicity for the Festival that we should not be referred to as a "camp", but rather a "summer work project for teen-agers at the Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village." Our kids were mortified to find that the CBS television program referred to us as a "nearby camp". Incidentally, I am enclosing a copy of our material, because I think it would be helpful at this time for you to know more about the philosophy underlying our program and how the Shaker background is utilized in bringing about certain educational results.

*Call - over - 5/4*  
JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
President

OLD CHATHAM 9-2271

MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

# THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK 12136

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
Secretary  
HUDSON, N. Y.

ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
Director

H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
Director Emeritus

MURIEL M. COLLINS  
Asst. Secretary  
Asst. Treasurer

CLARENCE WILLIAMS  
Superintendent  
Grounds and Buildings

*f. Shaker Museum*

May 2, 1966

Mr. Jerome Count  
P.O. Box  
Pittsfield, Mass.

Dear Jerome:

The time has now rolled around again when we are planning our Benefit in August. I take it from our last meeting the Saturday after Thanksgiving that we are all in agreement the Shaker Service must, if possible, be presented again this year. I do hope you will find no difficulties in your way.

The Flea Market has been all set up and we will be ready to start publicity in another six weeks or so.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

*John*  
John S. Williams

JSW:mc



JOHN S. WILLIAMS  
*President*  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2271  
  
MUSEUM  
OLD CHATHAM 9-2063  
or 9-2061

THE SHAKER MUSEUM

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
Shaker Museum Road  
OLD CHATHAM, NEW YORK 12136

3 September, 1966

WILLIAM F. CHRISTIANA  
*Secretary*  
HUDSON, N. Y.  
  
ROBERT F. W. MEADER  
*Director*  
  
H. PHELPS CLAWSON  
*Director Emeritus*  
  
MURIEL M. COLLINS  
*Asst. Secretary*  
*Asst. Treasurer*  
  
CLARENCE WILLIAMS  
*Superintendent*  
*Grounds and Buildings*

Mr. Jerome Count  
Shaker Village Work Group  
P.O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Dear Jerry,


We are indeed most grateful for the envelope of documents which you were so thoughtful as to send us. As you may recall, we have a large advertising poster of the Shaker Blood Syrup, and had understood that the Shakers disapproved of it heartily, because, so we were told, it was an unauthorised use of their name, and also because is claimed to cure so wildly improbable a catalogue of ills. These documents are the first we have seen to give legality to these alleged protestations.

Apparently A.J. White, Ltd., was the London branch of the well-known A.J. White Company of New York, who seem to have been long-time agents of the Shakers. We have several bottles of Mother Siegel's Curative Syrup or Extract of Roots, one bearing a "finely executed steel engraving" of the label, put out by the London branch to prevent fraud. I gather this label is subsequent upon the London agreement you sent us.

If I read it aright, the correspondence with Emma Neale with regard to the registration of a trade mark referred specifically to the word "Shaker", and not especially to any particular design although a drawing seems to have accompanied the application.

These documents are indeed of great interest and value to the Museum, and we are most grateful to you for giving them to us. Should you care to take them off your income tax as a gift-deduction to a non-profit educational institution, be advised that we have evaluated them collectively at \$40. It is difficult to arrive at a figure for such material, but this seems to us a fair and reasonable one.

Most sincerely,

  
Robert F. W. Meader  
Director

*Shaker Museum*

Memorandum

July 29th, 1967

FROM: Jerry Count

TO: Staff concerned with PRINTING, WEAVING, SPINNING, WOODWORKING, BROOMMAKING, CRAFT STORE

Arrangements have been concluded to have crews of villagers, under staff supervision, take part in the Shaker Festival at the Old Chatham Museum, Saturday, August 5th, from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. A booth will be provided for sale of Shaker Village products, and various crews from the workshops mentioned above will demonstrate Shaker Crafts to the public during the hours mentioned. Usually some 2,000 members of the public attend the Festival and this is an unusual opportunity for villagers to demonstrate their skills and responsibility.

Will Betsy please arrange a meeting of the various staff members involved in this event, so as to co-ordinate the transportation arrangements and taking whatever equipment is needed. Staff members who are not already familiar with equipment available at the Museum for these demonstrations, should arrange to visit the Museum in advance so as to know what materials and equipment will have to be brought from Shaker Village to make the demonstrations effective. You should also select the members of your crew who are to conduct the demonstrations and explain them to the public, as well as those who are to man the sales booth.

*Betsy - arrange for food*  
*Karen Pedwell - " " transportation*



SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 26, 1968

TO: Staff of Craft Store, Metal Shop, Broom Shop, Woodworking, Shaker Baskets,  
FROM: J.C. Weaving

On Saturday, August 3rd, the Shaker Museum will put on their fund-raising Shaker Festival. We are committed to provide villagers and staff for demonstrations by the above workshops, and they will provide a booth for sales of SVWG items. Please note the following plans which will be essential to fulfilling this commitment:

1. All staff members should go to the Museum during the coming week, to see what equipment the Museum already has for your demonstrations, and its condition, as well as to determine what equipment and materials should be brought from SV.
2. The Craft Store will need to list the items that it will take to the Museum to be placed on sale and to plan for its display. Note that some of our items are sold by their store, and we should not undersell them, so that some of our prices may have to be revised. ~~reactive do not want to undercut all the merchandise.~~
3. Select villagers who will man the demonstrations and sales booth.
4. Arrange to trade your day off with another staff member if your regular day off is on Saturday. Advise me of whom you have traded with.
5. Arrange for transportation for your trip during the week, as well as on Sat., August 3rd, with Barbara.
6. The time for the demonstrations is 9:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.
7. Notify Liz Reid about need for bag lunch to be taken. Give her 48 hrs. notice.

SHAKER VILLAGE WORK GROUP

September 26, 1967

Mr. Robert Mender,  
Shaker Museum,  
Old Chatham, New York

Dear Bob:

In checking through on the Shaker leads in Sweden, I consulted with a number of people, including the outstanding religious sociologist, who had not heard of the involvement of any Swedes with the Shakers. A historian at the Nordic Museum in Stockholm gave me a good lead which I am now passing on to you, concerning the Elfdalen people. He said that Mr. Evert Ahs, of Rots Skans, Alvdalen, Sweden (a "self-made museum man", it was said) is the man running a local museum in what is the area from which the Swedes came who went to Kentucky. Write to him for the information you would like to have and say that you were recommended to him by Musellektor Skans Torsten Nilsson of the Nordic Museum in Stockholm. Apparently, Alfdalen is the modern version of the Elfdalen of the 1860's.

I ran into a blank wall on tracing the possibility of Shaker influence on Swedish modern design. Most Swedes trace the beginnings of Swedish Modern to a craftsman 's exhibit of 1917, but in the Stockholm restoration museum I found traces of functional design extending back into the 1800's. Generally, the level of craftsmanship in rural areas in the 1800's is very primitive, compared to that of the Shakers. Not until the middle 1800's are there signs of refinement in design and craftsmanship in the rural areas -- at least so far as is shown in their restoration museum. This is also true of Denmark and Finland, where I also saw two restoration museums.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Gount,  
Director

JG:mr



JOHN S. WILLIAMS, Chairman of the Board  
Old Chatham 757-2271

WARDEN McL. WILLIAMS, President  
Bedford Hills, N. Y.



ROBERT F. W. MEADER, Director  
Old Chatham 757-2063

JOHN J. CURRAN, Secretary  
Chatham, N. Y.

CLAIRE L. WHEELER, Asst. Sec'y-Treas.  
Old Chatham 757-2063 - Res. 384-4376

The Shaker Museum Foundation Inc.  
SHAKER MUSEUM ROAD  
Old Chatham, New York 12136

Old Chatham 757-2063 or 757-2061

October 1, 1969

Shaker Village Work Group  
P. O. Box 1149  
Pittsfield, Mass. 01201

Dear Sir:

Please enter our order for 50 records titled "Shaker Village, 14 Shaker Folk Songs" and 100 Harper's Illustrated Monthly (reprint) "Visiting the Shakers in 1857." Ship and bill to the above address.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

*Claire L. Wheeler*

Mrs. Malcolm Wheeler

October 15, 1969

Mrs. Malcolm Wheeler  
The Shaker Museum  
Old Chatham, New York

Dear Mrs. Wheeler:

We regret having to inform you that, at this time, we have no further copies of the Harper's Illustrated Monthly (reprint) "Visiting the Shakers in 1857," nor is it possible to send you the fifty records titled "Shaker Village, 14 Shaker Folk Songs".

Sincerely,

Sybil A. Count, Director  
(Mrs. Jerome)

SAC:mr