



March 23, 2015

Contact Shawn Hartley Hancock
Director of Marketing & Communications
413-443-0188 x 221
shancock@hancockshakervillage.org

Photos available
For immediate release....

Pittsfield, MA....

Hancock Shaker Village announces programs, workshops and events for 2015

Saturday, April 11, 10 am – 4 pm, Hancock Shaker Village opens for the season. Adult admission \$20 (many discounts apply). Youth ages 13 to 17 are \$8. Children 12 and under are FREE on family visits, courtesy of Berkshire Bank. Eighteen of the Village's 20 historic buildings open for the season, staffed with crafts demonstrators and historic interpreters. The Village remains open seven days a week for visitors through November 1.

Saturday, April 11, 10 am – 4 pm, Baby Animals on the Shaker Farm. The season opens with the popular and much-loved event -- celebrating newborn barnyard animals on the farm! Adult admission \$20. Youth ages 13 to 17 are \$8. Children 12 and under on family visits are FREE. Greylock Federal Credit Union and Greylock Insurance Agency are chief sponsors, along with Guardian Life Insurance and WGBY-57. Baby Animals runs every day, 10 am to 4 pm, through May 3, 2015. For more information, including registration for Behind-the-Scenes Farm Tours, go to babyanimals.hancockshakervillage.org.

Special activities during Baby Animals (included in admission):

- April 18 Concerts by David Grover at 11 am and 1 pm.
- April 25 & 26 Sheep shearing, all day, both days
- May 2 Children's story hour with artist Susan Merrill, 11 am

Pony rides on weekends \$5

Bring a picnic or have lunch in our Café.

Saturday, April 11, *Heaven on Earth*: A Shaker Introduction, opens in the Main Gallery of the Center for Shaker Studies (Visitor Center) at Hancock Shaker Village. This exhibit of items from the collection reflects themes of design, religion, community and people, textiles, products, innovation, agriculture and restoration. Free with Admission to Village, or \$6 (Adults) for Gallery-Only admission; Children and youths are free.

Monday, April 13, *EAT*, an exhibit of new paintings featuring barnyard animals at feeding time by the beloved Stockbridge artist Susan Merrill, opens in the Poultry House Gallery. Exhibition is on view through May 24. All art is for sale. See Merrill's work online at babyanimals.hancockshakervillage.org.

Saturday, May 2, 11 am, Story Hour with Susan Merrill in the Poultry House Gallery. Part story-hour, part art lesson for children (who must be accompanied by an adult). Free with museum admission.

Saturday, May 9, 11 am – 3 pm, Sustainable Gardening Workshop with instructors Georgia Barberi, head gardener at Hancock Shaker Village and farm manager Bill Mangiardi. \$75 non-members; \$68 members of Hancock Shaker Village. Call to register 413-443-0188, x 0.

Saturday, May 23. Buildings in the historic Village on the north side of Route 20 open for the season. All 20 authentic buildings at Hancock Shaker Village now open through November 1.

Saturday, May 30, *Modern Wings & Shaker Roots* contemporary sculpture exhibition opens. Four visiting sculptors use found and recycled materials to explore and re-interpret the Shaker aesthetic. Exhibition is funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibit, which runs through the end of the season on November 1, is free with museum admission.

Saturday, May 30, 2 pm, Artist Talk with Christina La Sala, *Modern Wings & Shaker Roots*, Community Hall. Free with admission.

Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31 10 am – 5 pm, both days Wood-Turning Basics Workshop. Learn wood-working, tool-sharpening and the wood qualities necessary for traditional spindle-turning with Hancock Shaker Village's popular veteran woodworker Jack Steffek. \$120 nonmembers; \$105, members of Hancock Shaker Village. Call to register 413-443-0188, x 0.

Saturday, June 6, 1 to 5 pm, Backyard Poultry Workshop. Everything you need to know to start and maintain your own backyard poultry flock, from buying hatchlings and hens to cleaning the coop! Instructor Laura Field (aka the Chicken Lady) welcomes all levels in one of Hancock Shaker Village's most popular workshop offerings. \$50 nonmembers; \$45 members of Hancock Shaker Village. Call 413-443-0188, x 0, to register.

Saturday, June 13, 4 pm, Michael Graham, Director of Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum in Maine, will lead a lively talk and screen a new short film, **The Shakers Today**, about the last living Shakers. Community Hall. Free event.

Saturday, June 13, 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, June 14, noon to 4 pm, Oval Box Basics Workshop. Make your own #2- or #3-sized traditional Shaker oval box. All materials included. Instructor is Rick Ryer, veteran oval-box maker and educator at Hancock Shaker Village. \$170 nonmembers; \$155 for members of Hancock Shaker Village. Call 413-443-0188, x 0, to register.

Saturday, June 20, 2 pm, Artist Talk featuring Dennis Maher, *Modern Wings & Shaker Roots*, Community Hall. Free with admission.

Monday, June 29, Hours at Hancock Shaker Village extended from 4 pm to 5 pm every day. The Village will now be open from 10 am to 5 pm seven days a week, through the end of the season on November 1.

Saturday, July 11, 2 pm, Artist Talk with Fritz Horstman, *Modern Wings & Shaker Roots*, Community Hall. Free with admission.

Saturday, July 18, 5 pm to 10 pm, *Back to Our Roots*, Gala party to benefit Hancock Shaker Village. Cocktails, dinner and dancing under the Main Tent, with gorgeous sunset views of the Round Stone Barn. Locally sourced cuisine and flowers harvested from the gardens at Hancock Shaker Village. Food by Fire Roasted Catering. Music by the Lucky Five Jazz Band. Call for tickets: 413-443-0188, x 0.

Wednesday, July 22 through Sunday, July 26, Shaker Seminar, annual conference of Shaker scholars, hosted by Hancock Shaker Village in Albany, NY. Call 413-443-0188, x 0, to register. For more information, visit hancockshakervillage.org, and go to Programs & Events.

Saturday, September 5, 2 pm, Artist Talk with Jon Brooks, *Modern Wings & Shaker Roots*, Community Hall. Free with admission.

Saturday, September 12, all day, Willis Henry Auction of Shaker furniture and artifacts, Community Hall. (A private auction event that welcomes the public; NOT an auction of Hancock Shaker Village collections.)

Saturday, September 12, 10 am - 12 noon, or 1:30 – 3:30 pm Beeswax Candle-making Workshop – Great for Kids! Learn wax techniques as you craft and roll your own candle to take home in a custom gift box. Meet bees in their “habitat” at hives on the Shaker Farm. Instructor is Joe Moncecchi. Great for kids ages 12 and up. Kids 8 to 12 must attend with an adult. \$45 nonmembers; \$40 members of Hancock Shaker Village. Call 413-443-0188, x 0, to register.

September 15 to September 20, Berkshires-to-Boston Bike Ride. Hundreds of cyclists take up residence starting September 15 at Hancock Shaker Village for training rides that “climb” Mount Greylock ahead of the group’s 240-mile trek to Boston, which departs from the Village on Thursday morning, September 17. Cyclists reach Beantown by Sunday, September 20. Other programs on site at the Village in association with this super-fun cycling group. Visit berkshirestoboston.com for more information.

Wednesday, September 23 – Sunday, September 27, Traditional Timber-Framing Workshop. Using centuries-old tools and techniques, participants craft the parts of a small building and assemble its frame over the four days of this intensive course. Hands-on learning is supplemented by demonstrations and discussions. Register directly with either instructor: Jack Sobon, 413-684-3223, or Dave Carlon, 413-684-3612. \$620 for nonmembers; \$558 members of Hancock Shaker Village.

Hancock Shaker Village Country Fair, September 26 and 27, 10 am – 5 pm, both days. Two-day fall festival featuring food trucks, crafts exhibitors and a farmers market

on the beautiful grounds of the historic Village. Juried quilt show and drawing of the winning raffle ticket for the Hancock Shaker Quilt. Chicken races and other kids' activities. Display of antique tractors and farm equipment. Demonstrations of traditional Shaker crafts. Farmers and hand-crafters interested in exhibiting at Country Fair can download an application form online at hancockshakervillage.org. Go to Programs & Events and click on Country Fair.

Saturday, October 10, 4 - 9 pm, Spirited Supper, Brick Dwelling. A festive evening of craft beers from local breweries chosen to complement an inspired dinner menu. The evening begins with an hour-long tour of the historic Village, emphasizing Shaker spirit-making and agricultural legacy of growing hops and barley on the farm.

Saturday, October 31, 4 – 9 pm, Spirited Supper, Brick Dwelling. A festive evening of craft beers from local breweries chosen to complement an inspired dinner menu. The evening begins with an hour-long tour of the historic Village, emphasizing Shaker spirit-making and agricultural legacy of growing hops and barley on the farm.

Sunday, November 1, Hancock Shaker Village closes for the 2015 season.

November 27, 28 and 29, 10 am – 5 pm, Special Sale in the Village Store, with deep discounts on most merchandise, and even deeper discounts for Members of Hancock Shaker Village.