

## NEWS from Hancock Shaker Village



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Caption: Veteran woodworker Jack Steffek re-creates an authentic Shaker candlestand for *Ask This Old House* cameraman Jay Maurer in the woodshop of the Tannery at Hancock Shaker Village. The TV program *CBS Sunday Morning* also taped a segment on the Shakers that will air May 31 as part of the program's annual Design show. Photo: Clark Wiedmann

## TV programs converge on Hancock Shaker Village, underscoring the relevance of the Shakers

*Leading programs use the Village as a backdrop to instruct and entertain*

*Tune in Sunday, May 31, for major segment on Shaker design*

Pittsfield, MA..... *CBS Sunday Morning*, which airs from 9 to 10:30 am every Sunday, will air a segment about Hancock Shaker Village this Sunday, May 31, as part of its annual Design show. CBS Producer Alan Golds and CBS correspondent Richard Schlesinger, including their camera crew, were on-site recently to tape a segment about the Shakers with HSV Curator

Lesley Herzberg. The segment includes the Round Stone Barn, Brick Dwelling, aspects of Shaker life at the Hancock community, as well as the extraordinary Shaker design legacy.

On May 15, the public-television show *Ask This Old House* producer Heath Racela and his crew, including cameraman Jay Maurer, spent the day at HSV to film a segment on furniture-making. The team from *ATOH* first taped an authentic candlestand in the Brick Dwelling, which veteran HSV woodworker Jack Steffek then re-created in the woodshop of the Tannery using an authentic peddle lathe.

“This recent media interest in the Shakers proves how relevant the Shakers are to today’s audience,” says Linda Steigleder, President and CEO of Hancock Shaker Village. “The Shaker spirit of ingenuity, industry and sustainable living is very much alive.”

It takes a Village to host a TV show. For the *ATOH* segment Mr. Steffek, who used authentic Shaker tools, was assisted by HSV woodworking colleagues Clark Wiedmann and Ted Williams in the instruction portion of the segment.

The furniture-making segment taped at HSV will be introduced by Tom Silva, long-time co-host of both *This Old House* and *Ask This Old House*, and is scheduled to air in early 2016.

### **About Hancock Shaker Village**

From 1784 until 1959, Hancock Shaker Village was home to hundreds of Believers in Christ’s Second Appearing, a close-knit sect of Protestants originally from England. They were commonly called Shakers because of the whirling, quaking and “shaking” they exhibited during their religious services.

Since 1960, Hancock Shaker Village has been open to the public as an outdoor history museum preserving the Shaker legacy. While only a few are still living (all at Sabbathday Lake in Maine; none live at Hancock), the Shakers are best-known today for their simple and elegant furniture, many ingenious inventions, communal living and deep spirituality. “Hands to work and heart to God,” a Shaker axiom attributed to founder Mother Ann Lee, sums up their belief that hard work was a form of prayer or devotion to God.

Located on 750 acres in the beautiful Berkshires of Massachusetts, Hancock Shaker Village features a museum collection of more than 20,000 authentic Shaker artifacts and 20 historic

buildings (including the majestic Round Stone Barn) in a preserved and walkable village setting, a working farm with heritage-breed livestock and extensive gardens of heirloom vegetables, flowers and herbs.

Visitors enjoy a rotating schedule of exhibits, programs and workshops in both the historic Village and the modern Visitor Center, a variety of individual and group tours, a mile-long hiking trail, and indoor and outdoor picnic areas.

Hancock Shaker Village is open seven days a week, including holidays, from 10 am to 4 pm through June 28. Beginning June 29 and through the close of the season on November 1, visitor hours are 10 am to 5 pm. The Village Harvest Café, serving lunch and snacks, and the Village Store (also online) are both open daily during visitor hours.

Adult admission is \$20 (many discounts apply), youth admission (ages 13 to 18) is \$8, and children age 12 and under are always free on family visits. Scout troops, churches, school field trips and other groups enjoy reduced group rates. For more information, visit our website: [hancockshakervillage.org](http://hancockshakervillage.org).

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