

From the Editor –

This issue of *ACSQ* begins with an article on the role of women in the Hopedale community by Deirdre Corcoran Stam, whose high school years were spent in the town of Hopedale, Massachusetts, site of the nineteenth-century utopian community of that name. Stam's later education took her to Harvard (BA), New York University's Institute of Fine Arts (MA), Johns Hopkins University (MEd), Catholic University (MLS) and Columbia University (DLS). She served as full-time faculty in library science at Columbia, Syracuse, Catholic, and Long Island universities where she taught in both the information technology and rare books areas. Interspersed were leadership roles for the Drew University Library, the Bibliographical Society of America, the Museum Computer Network, and the New York State Center for the Book. Currently she serves as trustee for the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation and as board member for the Oneida Community Mansion House.

The second article is by Galen Beale, who excerpts and provides commentary on the portions of Wendell Elkins' recently available journal dealing with his and his family's relationship with the Shakers. Wendell was the son of Hervey Elkins, noted for his book, *Fifteen Years in the Senior Order of the Shakers* (1853). In his journal Wendell Elkins describes visits by the Shakers to his family's home, and visits by his family to the Shakers. Even though his father had left the Shakers, they remained on friendly terms and had regular contact. Beale, who contributed an earlier article to *ACSQ* ("Peter Ayers, Defender of the Faith," July 2011), has coauthored two books: with Mary Rose Boswell, *The Earth Shall Blossom: Shaker Herbs and Gardening* (1991); and, with Gerrie Kennedy and Jim Johnson, *Shaker Baskets & Poplarware: A Field Guide* (1991).

In New Acquisitions (at Hamilton College), we feature a series of photographs of the House of David traveling basketball team. The House of David was noted for the barnstorming baseball team, but much less is known about their basketball team. These photographs come from a 1950 trip to Alaska where they played, and defeated, the Sitka Alaska Native Brotherhood.