

From the Editor –

In this issue we present two articles on the Shakers: one, an analysis of the burial patterns at the Harvard cemetery, and the other a description and analysis of the events in 1840, when Shakers from the White Water community were accused of molesting two boys who had been living with them.

Roben Campbell, the author of “The Harvard Shaker Cemetery,” is an independent scholar specializing in Harvard Shaker life. She has conducted extensive research and has delivered presentations on population growth and decline in Harvard, the tuberculosis epidemic there, and Shaker textiles. She worked as a docent in the Shaker building at Fruitlands Museum for eight years and continues to give lectures on its Shaker collection as well as tours of the Harvard Shaker Village. She has co-curated exhibits on the Shakers at Fruitlands and on utopian life in Harvard at the Harvard Historical Society. She is also a frequent lecturer and consultant on Shaker topics at other local organizations.

Thomas Sakmyster, author of “The Tribulations of the White Water Shakers: The Child Molestation Trial of 1840,” is professor emeritus at the University of Cincinnati where he taught history from 1971 to 2008, and where he held the Winkler Chair of Modern European History. He received his B.A. from Dartmouth College and his Ph.D. in history from Indiana University. He has authored *Hungary’s Admiral on Horseback: Miklos Horthy, 1918-1944* (1994) and *Red Conspirator: J. Peters and the American Communist Party Underground* (2011). He is currently engaged in researching the history of White Water as a member of the Friends of White Water Shaker Village. His paper was originally presented at the Communal Studies Association annual meeting in September 2011.

This issue concludes the fifth year of publication of *American Communal Societies Quarterly*. Let me take this opportunity to thank all subscribers for their ongoing support of this journal. Over these five years article submissions and readership have increased, and the journal is now indexed in the *America: History and Life* database hosted by Ebsco. Still, we need more subscriptions. If you know of friends or scholars who might be interested in the *Quarterly*, please encourage them to subscribe. If you have an institutional affiliation, ask your library to subscribe. This will help insure that the *Quarterly* will endure for many years to come.