



THE HOURGLASS

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WILLINGTON

GUIDED TOUR OF SHAKER EXHIBIT

A HOME FOR THE SOCIETY

Next Saturday, May 13th, the Willington Historical Society will take a guided tour of the Shaker historical exhibit entitled "Hands to work and Hearts to God" which is on display at the University of Connecticut's Benton Museum.

This exhibit includes a collection of Shaker furniture and photographs from the Hancock Shaker Village in Massachusetts. This particular collection has never been exhibited outside the village.

The Shakers are members of a religious sect started in England about 1707. They are thought to be an offshoot of the Quakers.

Since the Shakers do not marry or bear children, they had the sect survive only through new converts.

Through the years this group has made many important contributions to American life, including the production of commercial seed; the invention of the circular saw, cut nails, and flat brooms, among other items. Their fine furniture, produced by a Shaker Community, is now prized by collectors' items.

The tour will be conducted by exhibit coordinator Hildegard Gunning, and will begin at 10 a.m. This should be a new experience for those who can join us Saturday.

Historical Society president, Betsy McIlvaine, has reported that she approached the Board of Selectmen in late April to discuss the possibility of the Society obtaining the back room of the old Town Hall for its use.

Selectmen Bob Cassells and Al Kanyadi supported the society's request and continued to do so at the May 1 meeting with the Selectmen's Society.

The Historical Society is grateful for their support.

Should we get the use of the rooms, the Society has agreed to pay some fee to cover heat and lighting costs.

RUSSIAN HISTORY

At its May 12 meeting, the Connecticut Historical Society will have as its guest speaker Dr. Victor G. Scottron who will give a talk on "Historic Discovery in Russia."

The meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Buchanan Center on Rt. 89, 8 p.m.

This should be an interesting program for history buffs.