



THE SHAKERS: FARMERS, STEWARDS, AND UTOPIANS

A presentation for the Town of Colonie Sustainability Week Celebration

Thursday, May 11, 2023 - Noon

Area residents may realize that there are roads, schools, and businesses that incorporate “Shaker” in their name. They may not realize that the Shakers are a Utopian society whose beliefs on gender and racial equality and communal living date to the 1700s, and that their first American settlement was established in Colonie in 1776. The Shakers remained in Albany until 1938 and at one time owned or leased over 2500 acres in the region.

The Shakers’ agriculture soon formed the basis for several key industries which helped to broaden their economy. While they lived separately from the World (as they called non-Shakers), they participated in the larger agricultural community’s discussions about best practices. A presentation at the Shaker Heritage Society will introduce this remarkable community.

The presentation is a free event and will take place in the Meeting House at Shaker Heritage Society. The talk will last 45 minutes, and participants are welcome to stay for an optional tour of the site afterwards. Bring a picnic lunch if desired.

Shaker Heritage Society is located at 25 Meeting House Road, just off of Heritage Lane between the Albany Airport and the Ann Lee Pond Nature and Historic Preserve. Contact 518-456-7890, x 3 or educator@shakerheritage.org or visit www.shakerheritage.org for more information.



25 Meeting House Road, Albany, 12211 | www.shakerheritage.org | 518-456-7890



Shaker Heritage Society 25 Meeting House Road, Albany, NY 12211

DIRECTIONS: From any direction: head toward Albany Airport, looking for the brown and white Shaker Site signs. Turn south at the Heritage Lane traffic light, which is at the corner next to the Albany County Nursing Home. After a few hundred feet, just past the large white barn, turn left onto Meeting House Road. The program will take place in the white Meeting House, which is the second building on the right. Parking is available on both sides of the building. .

