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From the Editor

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From the Editor –

In this issue of ACSQ we feature two articles on Shaker apostates and publish an account by a visitor to the Shaker village at White Water, Ohio.

Patricia Goitein discusses the migration of Shaker apostates from Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, to Peoria, Illinois, in an article that was presented at the 2007 Shaker Seminar in Pleasant Hill. Goitein earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan, and is an independent researcher who for the past decade has been studying the prehistoric and historic development of the Galena Trail corridor in north central and northwestern Illinois. She has presented research papers on the Galena Trail and the anti-slavery movement along the Trail, as well as on Peoria's Shaker apostates, at the Illinois State Historical Society's annual history symposia. Her paper, "Meet Me in Heaven, Confronting Death Along the Galena Trail Frontier, 1825-1855," was recently published in the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*.

Mary Richmond notes in her *Shaker Bibliography* (no. 3541) that the account of a visit to the Shakers at White Water by Benn Pittman is "of little value" because it was published in an outdated form of shorthand. David D. Newell discovered, however, that the article was transcribed using a phonetic alphabet and published in 1855, the same year as the original. Newell also discovered that in the same year an abbreviated account of the visit was published in standard English. Here Newell provides a transcription of the full account.

Mary Ann Haagen, a retired public school teacher and long time student of Shaker history, presents an account of the family of Edward R. Cummings of the Enfield, New Hampshire, Shaker community. She describes in particular some of the divisions between members of the family who left the Shakers and those who remained in the community. Haagen and her husband, Charlie DePuy, live in Enfield, and have been active in the work of the Enfield Shaker Museum since its founding in 1987. Haagen's Shaker research focuses on the Bishopric of New Hampshire, particularly the history of the Enfield Shakers. She is the director of the Enfield Shaker Singers, an a cappella singing group devoted to the study and performance of Shaker music and dance. She is currently a visiting scholar in the music department at Dartmouth College.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that Glendyne Wergland's new volume of visitor accounts will be available by April 15. See p. 52 for more information on the book and how to order copies.