



NEWS RELEASE

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"EVENING WITH THE SHAKERS" PLANNED AT USI

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Two of the best informed speakers on the historic Shaker communities of West Union, Indiana, and Whitewater, Ohio, will be presented in "An Evening with the Indiana and Ohio Shakers" on Thursday, October 17, at the University of Southern Indiana Orr Center.

The speakers will be John Martin Smith, an Auburn, Indiana, attorney who is writing a book, *West Union on the Wabash: Indiana's Pioneer Shaker Community*, and Dr. Donald E. Janzen of Danville, Kentucky, the first professional anthropologist to conduct historic archaeology at Shaker sites.

Smith will speak at 6 p.m. He is noted for his writings on local history and for his tireless research on the West Union (or Busro) Shaker Village located 16 miles north of Vincennes, near Oaktown in Knox and Sullivan counties.

Janzen will speak at 7:30 p.m., after a break for discussion. His work -- first at Shakertown at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, and currently at West Union and Whitewater -- has produced new insight into Shaker heritage. He will report on current projects, one to find building foundations and map the village of West Union, an effort underwritten by an \$8,640 grant from the Indiana Historical Society, and the other to place the historic preservation plans of the Hamilton County Park District at Whitewater, near Cincinnati, on the strongest historic archaeological evidence.

The program is sponsored by the USI Center for Communal Studies and is open to the public. For information, contact Dr. Donald E. Pitzer, director of the USI Center who also has worked on the West Union project, 812/464-1727.

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