

SHAKER MUSEUM | MOUNT LEBANON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

John Dax and Edward Spiro join Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon board

(May 26, 2016) On May 14 the trustees of Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon elected John Dax and Edward Spiro as the newest members of its board of directors. They bring with them extensive experience in law practice and an interest in the local community.

“I’m thrilled to welcome Ed and John to the Museum’s board, particularly at this moment of evolution and expansion for the institution,” said Executive Director Lacy Schutz. “They bring with them a tremendous aggregate of professional acumen and experience and I’m grateful to both of them for their willingness to help move the museum forward.”



John Dax (left) and Edward Spiro (right), the newest board members of Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon.

Mr. Dax was raised in southwest Ohio and first became acquainted with the Shaker movement as a teenager through family outings to the Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill in Kentucky. He has lived in New Lebanon since 1987 and has served on many local boards and committees, including as Chair of the New Lebanon Zoning Board of Appeals from 2006 – 20011 and in his current role as President of the Shaker Swamp Conservancy, Inc. Mr. Dax has been a lawyer in private practice since 1983 and is a graduate of New York University and the Columbia School of Law.

“Joining the Museum’s board of trustees allows me to contribute to this important institution as it preserves and makes available to a broader public its priceless collection, and restores and repurposes the historic North Family structures,” said Mr. Dax. “I can’t imagine a better way to pursue my combined interests in the Shaker movement, in historic preservation, and in the future of the Town of New Lebanon.”

Mr. Spiro is a civil litigator and partner at Morvillo Abramowitz in New York City and has many years of experience handling complex commercial litigation for individual and corporate clients. He has been recognized as a "Litigation Star" by *Benchmark Litigation: The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* and is regularly listed in Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers*. Mr. Spiro is a member of the Departmental Disciplinary Committee of the Appellate Division, First Department, and of the House of Delegates of the New York State Bar Association. He lives in New York City and in Old Chatham, and has two grown children and two grandchildren.

“I am very excited to be joining the Shaker Museum board,” said Mr. Spiro. “The Museum tells a fascinating story of the Shakers and undertakes to share it with our larger community. I look forward to the Museum continuing to play a significant role in the Columbia County and Berkshires cultural environment.”

Board Chair Jeff Daly said, “I’m really looking forward to John and Ed bringing their experience toward our goal of revitalizing the historic Mount Lebanon site and a stronger museum.”

Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon, located in New Lebanon and Old Chatham, Columbia County, New York, is dedicated to engaging and inspiring local, national, and global audiences by telling the story of the American Shakers. The Museum’s collection of over 56,000 Shaker items is the most comprehensive collection of its kind in the world. The Museum also stewards the North Family historic site at Mount Lebanon Shaker Village. The Museum is open seasonally at the site from June to October, and offers programs year-round. Please visit www.shakermml.org for more information.