

2011 Sessions of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting



Dear Friends,

Picture yourself driving onto the Earlham College campus on a beautiful summer day. Feel your excitement as another session of OVYM begins. If you have done this before you will be anticipating greeting old and new friends and sharing laughter and conversation over good meals. You will be looking forward to joining in worship sharing, business meetings, and workshops where participants can grow closer to one another. You may already have a skit in mind for the talent show. If you haven't been to the yearly meeting before, we can assure you of a very warm welcome.

Please join us for the 191st Annual Session of OVYM to be held at Earlham College, 27-31 July 2011. As we gather to share our leadings, understandings, and experiences, we will be challenged by the theme "What Does the Lord Ask of Us: Our Everyday Ministry of Love and Service."

We look forward to seeing you there.

Your Planning Committee,
Tunia McClure, clerk
(tmcclure@rtccom.net)

Clerks' Notes

Friends and United Diversity

The focus of our religious society is the local Meeting for Worship. As with any religious democracy our local focus is where religious authority should begin. God speaks to individuals in the silence. Then that individual, if feeling that it is appropriate, shares this message to those assembled at the local meeting. Quarterly Meetings are composed of those who attend the local Meeting. Yearly Meetings are composed of both local and quarterly Meeting Friends. So when Friends come together, as we will, this Seventh Month, in Richmond, Indiana at Earlham College, they will share in the mystery and magic of our rich mélange of spiritual seekings. What is so unique about Friends is that we are both local and global at the same time. We share in neighborhood realities and those concerns which affect Friends far away from them. We are our sisters and our brothers keepers no matter if these people live down the block, across the country or around the globe from us. The George Fox song, which in part goes "There's a light that is shining in the Turk and the Jew, and a light that is shining, friend, in me and in you" makes this reality concrete.

Our strength is in our united diversity. We are involved one with the other. We may see our next door neighbor more than others, but all God's people contribute to and share in keeping God's creation in good shape. Isaiah 6:8 enjoins us that when we hear the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!", then we should heed this message. As we come closer to our Yearly Meeting Sessions, as we prepare to send our members to spread their sense of God's message to other people, that we keep in mind that we are all God's children and that our lives are intertwined one with the other. And as Tiny Tim says at the conclusion of Dickens classic "God bless us, everyone!! All I can say is Amen and Amen.

Paul Kriese
Oxford Friends Meeting
Presiding Clerk
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

News & Announcements

Executive Committee

Dear Friends,

A reminder that Executive Committee will meet by phone conference on Saturday, Feb. 5th at 12 noon. Please send the Clerk and myself any proposed items. See below for what's on the agenda (capsule summary) thus far.

For Conference Call 1-661-673-8600

Enter Access Code: 140129#

To minimize loud background noise: Mute is *6 To unmute: *6

Agenda:

- Clerk's Table:
- One time sharing of OVYM mailing list with Friends Journal
- Sex Abuse Prevention Policy Review
- Consideration of Friends General Conference request for a one time donation
- Ft. Wayne Friends now solely affiliated with OVYM

Items:

1. Approval of Oct. minutes and Dec. conference call minute (see attached)
 2. Status of Property Corp with the closing of Lauramoore Home as residence
 3. Naming of names for Nominating Committee
 4. Proposal that Recording Clerk have a 4 year rotation like Presiding Clerk: one year as Assistant Recording Clerk, two years as Recording Clerk, and final year as Assistant Recording Clerk.
 5. Approval of nominations to Quaker Hts. Board and proposal about supporting Quaker Hts. as our ministry
- Announcements

In service, Deborah

Deborah Jordan

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Clerical Support

3960 Winding Way

Cincinnati, OH. 45229

<http://ovym.quaker.org>

Of Interest

2010 FWCC World Conference of Friends

Twelfth month 16, 2010 Executive Committee: After worship and discussion, Friends were pleased to approve the nominations of Erik Cleven (Lafayette MM), Rachel Ernst (Community MM), and Ben Griffith (Lexington MM) as OVYM representatives to the World Conference of Friends 2012 in Kenya, East Africa.

We celebrate the lives and mourn the recent passing of the following Friends:

Dave Pilbrow	Oct. 9th 2010	North Meadow Circle of Friends
Marjorie Furnas	Oct. 29, 2010	Miami Monthly Meeting
Irwin Abrams	Dec. 15th, 2010	Yellow Springs Monthly Meeting
Betsy Caulfield	Dec. 21st, 2010	Bloomington Monthly Meeting

Hold in the Light

Christmas Joy and hold in the Light: Betsy Neale, Lexington Meeting, received a kidney transplant on 12/19/2010.

OVYM Women's Retreat

A weekend retreat was held for the women of OVYM November 12 – 14 at Rebel Ridge/Friendly Acres Retreat Center in southern Indiana. Rebel Ridge/Friendly Acres is currently leased by Maie Klaphaak of Louisville Friends Meeting with the hope and vision of making it a sanctuary for Friends and others to come to for contemplation, study and fellowship.

Eight women attended the retreat which centered around the theme of "How Spirit is Working in our Lives". The open plan of

the kitchen/dining/living room area allowed us to weave in and out of activities – separate strands united as a whole. As some cooked, others dozed, chatted, and tended the fire with a continual flow from working to resting. Each of us served and was served, providing a living experience of equality. There was generous time for worship, discussion, communal cooking and eating, walking through woods and fields, napping, and enjoying each others company. We ended the day with singing, drumming and dancing in front of the fireplace.

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Officers

Paul Kriese, Presiding Clerk
Ben Griffith, Assistant Presiding Clerk
Deb Kociszewski, Recording Clerk
Wilson Palmer, Treasurer
Stephen Angell, Assistant Treasurer



Comments for the Quaker Quill are appreciated. Find me and tell what you think.

The Quaker Quill is published three times a year in February, June, and October by Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Submission deadlines are the 15th of the months prior to publication. Editor: Daniel Cartmell, 11774 S. Springboro Road, Brookston, IN 47923 • 765-563-6284 • quakerquill@gmail.com *Quaker Quill*

One woman reported that, "I felt held in the Light in a magnified way and was able to experience safety to share from deep within". Another said she felt we had created a "circle of trust" like Parker Palmer writes about. One Friend said, "Wonderful location, fantastic fireplace, good and healthy food, but most of all – FEMININE, FAITHFUL, FABULOUS FELLOWSHIP!!" We plan to make this an annual gathering and invite all OVYM women to join us in November, 2011.

We highly recommend this facility for committee meetings,

EARTHCARE ACTIONS BY MONTHLY MEETINGS

Bill Cahalan, OVYM Earthcare Committee

We have decided to begin sharing regularly what meetings are doing for Earthcare. We want this to provide inspiration for finding our own particular ministries as we seek right relationship with an increasingly damaged Earth community.

I spoke to Ben Griffith about what is happening at Lexington Meeting. Three projects are being undertaken with their meeting house and grounds. One has been setting up rain barrels to keep some of the rooftop water from the storm sewer and make it available for watering on the grounds. This was done in collaboration with a home schooling group. I think this is one form of rainwater harvesting/diversion (along with rain gardens, ponds and cisterns) that can begin to take some of the burden off of our municipal water systems (which usually uses coal-fired electricity for pumping) and our storm sewers.

Lexington's building renovation plan is being developed in a way which is as "green" as possible. In addition, members broke up about 3000 square feet of blacktop to put in garden perennials, trees, shrubs and some raised beds for vegetables.

I also talked with David Duvall of North Meadow. He reported that they have installed a geothermal heating system to heat both space and water. So no gas is burned, but there is some electrical use for the heat exchanger. This was fairly costly, but they were not as interested in "payback" financially as much as in reducing their carbon footprint compared to the previous gas space and water systems. They will, however, be comparing utility bills with those of the past to look for financial savings.

workshops and retreats. It is rustic modern, with a large, open floor plan, a floor to ceiling fireplace and modern kitchen and baths. It is nestled on 300 acres of fields and woods overlooking a large pond. Very peaceful. If you are interested in scheduling a gathering, please check out www.friendlyanswers.org or contact Diann McFarland Herzog at Ldiann@yahoo.com, Maie Klaphaak at maie@insightbb.com or Jackie Wilsun at wilsundance@yahoo.com.

North Meadow also contributes shares from a Community Supported Agriculture business to a prison program for single women and their children. North Meadow has generally been getting good local food to people who are financially stressed.

The last area David told me about was that they have remodeled their restroom and plan a compost toilet to replace their flush toilet. This keeps bodily "wastes" from the water system and returns them to the soil as resources.

This is the second meeting, after my own Community Meeting, that has inserted a compost toilet. I did hear that Bloomington is planning such a toilet as well. Are there any others out there? Call or email me if your meeting also has one, or if you want to know more about compost toilets.

Lastly, I called Veronica Frost of Yellow Springs Meeting. She reported the installation of a new inner wall for insulation. They will blow in cellulose. This was done raising money by approaching people individually.

Maybe next issue I will report on our Community activities, which include several projects related to sustainable food. We are also very interested in hearing from others of you who want to share your stories. I know there is a lot more going on that we would all benefit from hearing about. Let's support each other in listening for and following the leadings we receive for lives of right relationship with Creation.

Quarterly Meeting News

Miami Quarterly Meeting

Miami Quarterly Meeting gathered for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on 10th Month 9, 2010 at Happy Hallow Camp Nashville IN, opening with a period of silent worship and a query.

2010-24. The roll of Monthly Meetings was called and Friends identified as appointed representatives to the Quarterly Meeting are listed below.

Campus No Rep

Community Bill Cahalan

Dayton Nikki Coffee-Tousley

Eastern Hills Martha Viehmann

Green Plain No Rep with regrets from Caroline Taylor

Lexington Betsy Neale

Louisville Howie Baker

Miami No Rep

Oxford Andy Garrison

Winter 2011

Yellow Springs Veronica Frost

2010-25. Review of the Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Miami Quarterly Meeting Reports:

2010-26. Joint Quarterly Meeting. Deborah Jordan reported that pending final count we had approximately 78 Friends attending. Due to food costs being more than expected the money charged for attendance was not sufficient and we have incurred a deficit of approximately \$150. We discussed covering this difference from the Cincinnati Fund but due to a large number of people requesting funds for travel to yearly meeting this year we were not confident that there would be sufficient funds to cover this difference. Deborah will work with Veronica Frost to find final numbers for deficit and we will request that Friends in attendance make donations to cover the difference. Richard Mitchell brought forth the concern that if Quarterly Meeting is to continue to functioning as a

Quarterly we should request additional funding from OVYM.

2010-OVYM Executive Committee Richard Mitchell and Betsy Neale reported on the last executive meeting. OVYM has received a request for additional funding from FGC. There was discussion that all Quaker organizations are short on funds at the moment and executive committee asked representatives to go back to their monthly meetings to discuss the amount of funding OVYM provides to Quaker organizations and if these kinds of funding decisions should be made at the yearly meeting level. Lauramoore Home is planning to close but it has been determined that OVYM does not own the building so therefore this does not require input from us. Nikki reports that the form that OVYM uses to for travels will be changed to clarify the difference between tax deductible mileages versus actual mileage.

2010-Teen Committee: OVYM Teens have created a Facebook page that will be used to organize events and report activities.

Old Business:

2010- Oxford Minute on discontinuation of Feb Quarterly Meeting. During the 5th month sessions of Miami Quarterly Oxford brought forth a minute on discontinuation of the February meeting for business due to low attendance, difficulty of travel due to weather, and difficulty in finding a clerk. At 5th month we were not able to find unity on this minute and members were asked to take the concern to their monthly meetings and to report back. Reports from the following monthly meetings came back: Dayton-Friends approved temporarily suspending Feb meeting but would like to continue looking for ways to make fellowship. Louisville-approved minute but also wanted to find new ways of fellowship perhaps through incorporating social networking. Yellow Springs-Approved the minute but once again shared Friends concern for losing more opportunities for fellowship. Eastern Hills-Approved the minute. Many friends spoke in favor of finding new ways for us to create what seems to be seen as the positives of quarterly

meeting; traveling for wider fellowship and worship, and hosting Friends from around the yearly meeting. The question seems to be not if we should continue with the February meeting but what can we do now to make our Quarterly meetings new and exciting ways to come together. Martha Viehman put it best when she said. "We have to throw a party that we want to attend" Nobody seemed to feel that the business conducted at the February meeting, mostly nominations, would be missed this year. Although we all seemed easy with discontinuing February meeting so many people expressed excitement and hope for finding a way to revitalize quarterly meetings and there was uneasiness with ending the meeting without that plan in place. With that in mind we agreed to hold the February Quarterly meeting as scheduled on Feb 20th and to request the Lexington Monthly meeting provide programming around the theme of "How to plan the party that we want to attend".

New Business:

2010-Spring Grove Cemetery. Jim Croker-Lakness is trustee of Spring Grove Cemetery and is resigning in order to transfer his membership. He spoke to describe his role as a trustee and we will nominate a replacement at the February meeting.

2010- February Meeting: Miami Quarterly Meeting will meet again February 20th at Community Friends meeting. Lexington Monthly meeting will provide adult programming and Community will provide youth programming. Frank Huss is acting as interim presiding clerk and items for business should be sent to him.

Ben Griffiths
Presiding Interim Clerk
Miami Quarterly Meeting

Rachel Dean
Recording Clerk
Miami Quarterly Meeting

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Lafayette Friends Meetinghouse, West Lafayette, IN

First Month 16, 2011

1. Opening worship. Friends gathered at the appointed time in a period of centering worship.

2. Welcome and role call of meeting representatives/reporters. The Clerk welcomed Friends and called the roll of monthly meeting representatives/reporters. The following Friends identified themselves as representatives/reporters:

Bloomington	Marcia Ankrom
Clear Creek	no reporter
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne	Terre Holada
Hopewell	no reporter
Lafayette	Erik Clevon
North Meadow	Evalyn Kellum
White Rose	no reporter
Presiding Clerk	Rex Sprouse

3. Announcement regarding the afternoon program. The Clerk reminded Friends that in the afternoon Friend Paul Buckley would offer a presentation on The Journal of Elias Hicks.

4. Clarification of scheduling of the next session of Whitewater Quarterly Meeting. The next session of Whitewater Quarterly Meeting will be held at North Meadow Circle of Friends Meetinghouse on Fourth Month 16 or 17, 2011. North Meadow Friends plan to inform the Clerk of the precise date within the next month.

5. Concern about Whitewater Quarterly Meeting's records. Following up on Minute 5 of our meeting on Tenth Month 9, 2010, Phyllis Martin has reported to the Clerk that she contacted the archivists at Wilmington College and Earlham College concerning Whitewater Quarterly Meeting minutes and records. The archivists had no information about the location of the Quarterly Meeting's records since 1967.

6. Minute on Sexuality and Gender Identity Equality. Friends returned to the concern raised by Fall Creek Friends at the Tenth Month 9, 2010 Quarterly Meeting session that Whitewater Quarterly Meeting did not have a minute affirming equality of relationships. Reporters from North Meadow, Lafayette, and Fall Creek Meetings presented minutes and reports from their respective meetings. After several procedural questions were raised and clarified, Friends felt the power of the Holy Spirit move among us. With much deep reflection, Friends united in the following minute:

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Friends have been led by the Light of the Living Christ to understand that God's love extends with equality to all

people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. The understanding that Christ has given us as Quakers today leads us to three conclusions. We affirm the full humanity of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender persons. We are committed to their equal status within the Religious Society of Friends and the wider world. We celebrate their covenant relationships, including marriages under the care of our constituent meetings, as just as sacred, just as valid, and the cause for just as much joy as those of any other persons.

7. Brief announcements. Friends shared announcements about a Friend from Kenya who will be visiting in the region and about a recent survey conducted by Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. It was agreed that details would be distributed widely among Whitewater Quarterly Friends.

8. Closing worship. Friends concluded the business meeting with a brief period of closing worship.

Monthly Meeting News

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting

Discussions several years ago of our need to do more outreach have led to efforts that have borne some wonderful fruits! We have a new clerk, Marya Bower, who is reaching out to new and old. One member, Erica Pearson, volunteered to be a "super-greeter" each First Day as well as facilitate a Bible or Quakerism class for several weeks at the beginning of each college semester immediately following Meeting for Worship. These efforts and a change to a later time for our Meeting for Worship (made possible by a change in the college's semi-programmed meeting time) combined to bring us more college and Earlham School of Religion students who participate regularly in Meeting for Worship, including a few who have participated in Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business. More people are speaking in Meeting for Worship than in the recent past and we are appreciating deep silences as well.

We have been scheduling regular second hours each month for Adult Education and Peace and Social Concerns. Adult Education has focused on worship sharing around topics of "Quakers and..." such as "Quakers and God, Quakers and Jesus, or Quakers and Politics. Peace & Social Concerns led discussions on each of the Friends testimonies. We were challenged this summer for prayers when one attendee's brother who was on one of the ships which tried to sail to Gaza with supplies was captured, beaten and jailed. He was released after his sister contacted our Congressman. Our Meeting then sent a petition to

government officials calling for an end to Israel's illegal control and collective punishment of Gaza and the West Bank. Two of us also spoke out at a town meeting to call for ending the siege of Gaza and ending U.S. military aid to Israel.

In June we celebrated two joyful weddings: the marriages of Clear Creek members Newell Pledger-Shinn and Jennie Isbell and of member Anna Margaret Birkel and Emmanuel Greene. These celebrations included fantastic food by a local caterer, picture taking, games like Corn Hole (in the mud!) and dancing.

One new family with three young children have kept our First Day School going with the help of Meeting volunteers and a college student paid to do child care. We recently enjoyed a Christmas play with the children as actors and inter-generational simple gift making.

Our Ministry and Oversight Committee has been rigorously contacting former members and inactive local attendees to improve the accuracy of our directory. Consideration is also being given to putting our contact information in a database and sending the directory by email in the future.

Our Meeting is facing two big decisions: (1) whether to go forward with a Quaker Quest program for inner and outer outreach for our Meeting, and (2) how to wisely plan to spend a large bequest from one of our former members, Hope Farber, and her husband Evan Farber. Please hold us in the Light as we prayerfully consider these decisions.

submitted by Jane Stowe

Dayton Monthly Meeting

Dayton Monthly Meeting

Dayton Friends Peace and Social Concerns committee has been supporting our meeting and its individual members in the writing of letters to legislators by providing addresses of our legislators, pre-addressed envelopes and suggestions for issues to write about such as support for the START Treaty and for the DREAM Act, reduction of military spending, environmental issues, and others.

In November we had a mini-retreat in which we discussed concerns and hope for the state and future of our meeting.

We have enjoyed and appreciated hearing from former members and members who have moved away. Reed Smith still resides in State College, Pennsylvania and is experiencing some health issues. Please hold him in the light. Marion Adair-Hinds recently moved to State College. Please hold her in the light as well.



Dayton Monthly Meeting - *continued*

Barb Robinson, with assistance from Terri Scarpelli, led our annual children's Christmas program. We enjoyed our tradition of sharing food and fellowship after the program.

I have posted a photo taken at our late summer retreat which I

Hopewell Monthly Meeting

The Labyrinth at Hopewell lies under deep snowdrifts waiting for spring so we can walk on it and remember the wonderful events of this year. In this walk we must hold in the Light the horrible events of this past year. We are with everyone holding the city of Tucson in the Light. We hold the grief of those lost and the joy of those who were wounded and are now healing. We remember those who were ordinary folks who showed such courage and bravery that saved lives. We rejoice in the population of that city coming together to love, support and care for one another.

To me it is a lesson in the power of the words. My five-year-old granddaughter is an attendee at Hopewell. She is in First Day School. She attends Friends Memorial pre-school in Muncie, IN, where she is a collector of words. She carries a pencil and paper everywhere she goes. She asks your name and how to spell it. Then she puts it her list.

Once she asked my 35-year-old grandson his name. He told her Mike, which she already knew. She took her pen and paper and said, you must spell it for me. That is important." So he spelled MUD. Which she wrote down carefully. Then she took it to school as she did everyday with her list of names and words to give to the teachers.

They gently explained that she had Mud instead of Mike. She was devastated.

She came home from school in tears and furious. "Words are important. They mean something. They all have a meaning. Each one. Names are important because they are words and tell who you are and what you are. This is all wrong, he is not mud. Words are important. You must use the right one. Not a wrong or bad one."

This discussion went on a while. My point being; even she knows that words can hurt, describe, and fan flames that cause pain.

Quakers center of belief is a peaceful settlement of issues. We are taught to use words of comfort, peace and positive inflection.

This past election surpassed all reason and civility. I believe enough negative and hateful words can hurt, wound and fester in some people's minds. I do not think our countrymen and women can think these inflamed words or speak them aloud if they believe, as we believe, that we are part of God and see God in everyone. I am not clear how we can implement this to the political world. Therefore, I believe we should make

wrote about in the October issue of the Quill. Perhaps remembering that sunny August day on the Hadley family farm will warm us as we read this in the middle of winter!

Terri Scarpelli, correspondent

it a ministry to hold all people in the Light to find some peace within themselves to disagree with a sense of Peace, Justice, Civility and Honor.

Our Meeting suffers through cold and snowy rides, keeping the furnace running, and the pipes from freezing. Peace descends on us as we gather in the Silence and wait for the Messages we need.

We have doors. Not the doors music group, but doors on our shed. It was falling down and needed help. A member contributed to the door fund. So we feel blessed with riches. We can store lawnmowers once again and not have to haul them every time we mow. The Meeting thanks this generosity of work and financial help.

Our Christmas Project was to buy Christmas presents for a family that is near and dear to us. One of the members attends our Meeting. The Meeting had fun buying toys and wrapping them. Getting the right sizes. There was so much laughter as we did this. There is so much joy in giving that I think we sometimes forget that the giver of gifts receives the greatest blessing.

Now, more than ever, we hold all of those people who work, pray, are wounded and sometimes die to bring peace to others. Our hope and prayers are with them and all of us who try. May the Spirit Bless and may she/he bring spring as fast as possible.

We are also studying the QUR'AN. My back story is: I went to the library when I could not find mine. The librarian looked up the book, said there were several copies, but all were missing.

I said: "What do you mean missing? Someone check them out and didn't bring them back?"

"No," she said. "Just missing from the shelves. We don't know how or why."

"If they're missing why can't you reorder?"

"Someone has to ask that we order a missing book."

This intrigues me, why they are "missing", and if they are and they know it, why someone else has to order the book. The other time was "The Essence of the Universe." by Brian Greene. It's about the String Theory. Controversial to some I guess. Scary huh? I just found that interesting.

Miami Monthly Meeting

OVER THE HOLIDAYS:

12th Month 19th, 2009, Miami Monthly Meeting held its annual Christmas program with carols, carry-in brunch, and meeting for worship in the Red Brick Meetinghouse. The following 1st day, we carried the holiday spirit to Quaker Heights, sharing it with residents and staff during the bi-monthly meeting for worship with carols and Christmas thoughts shared by various members of the Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

We were saddened at the passing of long-time member, Margie Furnas, who died on October 29th.

Monimia Hoak Barker, sister to Eula McDermott and Benton Hoak, passed away, January 9th. She was raised in Miami

Monthly Meeting and some of the Yearly Meeting's "old-timers" may remember her.

Tom Nowel, past Clerk of Miami Quarterly Meeting and former Recording Clerk at Miami Monthly Meeting, transferred his membership to Cleveland (OH) Monthly Meeting as he moved to Cleveland, Ohio. His presence at Meeting is missed.

Dr. Bob Finley had knee-replacement surgery over the holidays. His recovery is progressing nicely and he is walking more comfortably than he did before the surgery. Please continue to hold him in the Light.

COMING EVENTS

The Celebration of the Bicentennial of the White Brick Meetinghouse is scheduled for May 15th, in conjunction with Miami Quarterly Meeting's gathering in Waynesville.

Oxford Monthly Meeting

Our Advent Event for 2010 focused on world food needs. We played a non-trivia game on the subject, and raised \$410 for Heifer Project for donations of: 1 Gardener's Basket (bees and seeds and rabbits, 1 sheep, and 2 flocks of hope (chicks, ducks and geese).

First Day School is active and enthusiastic. 100% participation is easy when there is only one student! Favorite topics these days include right relation to nature, and we recently had

units on "What is the Bible?" and a survey of Nobel Peace Prize winners.

We are now concerned that the long-term host of our meeting premises, the United Campus Ministry, has suffered a catastrophic loss of support from area churches. Our thoughts and prayers - and increased budget support - are with them as they seek new backing and reconsider their mission.

submitted by Andy Garrison

Yellow Springs Monthly Meeting

A long life of service to the Society of Friends and the cause of peace came to an end when Irwin Abrams died on December 16, 2010 at the age of 96. His 1938 dissertation on European Peace Societies has been widely quoted. In 1989 he published "The Nobel Peace Prize and the Laureates," the definitive work on that subject. He nominated Jimmy Carter yearly for twelve years and Carter received the Peace Prize in 2002

He fulfilled his alternative service requirement during World War II working for the AFSC. He served on the board of the Friends Journal. He was the first clerk of the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting during its formation in 1949.

For many years he served as professor of history at Antioch College and was actively interested in the recent rebirth of the College as separate from the University. He will be greatly

missed.

Friends are in the process of reducing our carbon footprint by insulating the 1930 Rockford Chapel. Our First-day school is thriving and new attenders continue to come.

We look forward to more blessings in 2011.

A memorial meeting for Irwin Abrams will be held Saturday February 26 at 3PM at the Glen Helen building, 405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio. The meeting is being held under the care of the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting, of which Irwin was a member. Irwin died on December 16 at the age of 96.

*In the Light,
Carl Hyde*

Editor's Notes

The Boston Globe reported that the average world per capita income is about \$7,000 and that the median world per capita income is about \$1,750, half the world's people live on less than \$5 a day.

The paper version of the Fall 2010 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Quaker Quill was delayed while I fussed with the the mailing permit and life in general. It will be delivered with this edition of the Quill. Dan Cartmell

News From The Broadacre

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Friends Committee on National Legislation 2010 Annual Meeting Report

The FCNL list of successes this past year includes the passage of the new START Treaty which was successfully ratified in December by the US Senate, after FCNL representatives lobbied their senators on this issue at the end of November's annual meeting. This treaty will verify and cut the number of nuclear warheads stockpiled by the US and USSR by half, down to 1550. Other successes were inclusion of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act in the health insurance reform bill that passed, creation and funding of the Complex Crisis Fund for the State Department and USAID, and passing the Genocide Prevention Act. FCNL is working to include an exit strategy in war funding for Afghanistan, advocating for Pentagon budget cuts to help bring down the deficit, and gaining support for the CLEAR Act which would tax carbon at its source, with 75% going to promote green energy and 25% providing a dividend back to taxpayers to help pay for their increased energy costs.

We approved FCNL priorities for the next two years at the annual meeting. They are very similar to the past two years. Changes included: (1) moving Friends' concern to work for peace between Israelis and Palestinians and end the isolation of Gaza from an extra concern at the end to an issue under "We seek a world free of war...", and (2) adding a sentence to "support legislation to curb the undue influence of money and corporate power in our political system". Also language was included to show that by "fair taxation" we intended "progressive taxation".

William Penn House

William Penn House Representative Report for 2010 Annual Meeting

William Penn House is a non-profit organization which provides simple lodging for travelers and visitors and organizes workcamps and other programs. Its two boards meet monthly and annually and consist of Quakers from monthly and yearly meetings. Income comes mostly from lodging fees with 18% coming from donors. Twenty-nine workcamps were held this year in the DC area, West Virginia, New Orleans and Pine Ridge, S.D. Other programs offered were thirteen potlucks/dialogues; programs on issues such as international politics, AIDS/HIV issues, and developing personal relationships; weekly yoga class; and use of their conference room by other groups. Penn House staff also visited seven yearly meetings and many monthly meetings.

FCNL's current Executive Secretary, Joe Volk, is retiring after 20 years as the third Executive Secretary. His farewell speech emphasized that "hope is not a noun, it's a verb!" The next Executive Secretary, Diane Randall, was confirmed and welcomed enthusiastically at the end of the annual meeting. She will take over in March. Diane is a member of Hartford Monthly Meeting and New England Yearly Meeting and brings to her new role over 25 years of experience leading non-profits that advocate and educate for social change. She has lobbied successfully for affordable housing and other issues in Connecticut, is well grounded in Friends principles, and cares deeply about improving democracy.

Despite some discouraging trends in the recent election, FCNL remains hopeful, working hard where they see some possibilities of making even small changes towards their goals. They remain in good shape financially but had to cut staff and programs in the past few years even though their membership list has been growing. They would like to bring these programs and staff back, so if you can help, please ask your meetings to increase their donations or send your donations to: FCNL, 245 Second St. NE, Washington, DC 20002-5761; phone 202-547-6019; email fcnl@fcnl.org. You may also click on the latest legislative action message to take action at www.fcnl.org or listen to the latest legislative action message at 202-547-4343 and then take action. To be a contact person for your meeting sign up at www.fcnl.org or call the FCNL office.

Submitted by Jane Stowe

FCNL Representative from OVYM

William Penn House has especially focused on giving youth leadership roles. Most staff and board members are under age thirty and high school teens may be accepted as interns; those who have graduated from high school are encouraged to intern for a transition year before heading to college or future pursuits. Radical Hospitality, or seeing strangers as if they were Christ, is a goal for which the staff strive. They invited a group of Naval officers to dialogue with them which was felt to be a positive event, even though they were criticized for this by other Quakers.

To find out more about William Penn House workcamps and programs or to make a tax deductible donation, contact: William Penn House, 515 East Capitol ST., SE, Washington, DC 20003 or call 202-543-5560. Email: info@williampennhouse.org

Website: www.williampennhouse.org

submitted by Jane Stowe

Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat Workshops for 2011

Poets of the Sacred: Praying with the Psalms, January 15, 9:00-3:00; led by Mike Carson at the Bloomington Friends Meeting House

Sound Healing, February 12, 9:00-noon; led by Janiece Jaffe at the Bloomington Friends Meeting House

Discernment and Discovery, April 16, 10:00-4:00; led by Shelley Newby at Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat (In case of rain, will meet at Bloomington Friends Meeting House)

Writing Our Losses, May 21, 9:00-3:30; led by Donna Eder, Deborah Hutchinson, and Beth Lodge-Rigal at Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat

Walking the Labyrinth, June 4, 9:00-Noon; led by Sharon Wailes, First United Church, Bloomington

Day Quest: Finding Your Way in Nature, September 24, 9:00-3:30 (Rain date: Oct. 1); led by Forrest Gilmore at Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat

Being Quiet: Silence for Everyone, November 5, 9:00-3:30; led by Brent Bill at the Bloomington Friends Meeting House

For more information on any of these workshops, call 812-679-6835 or e-mail us at mtgilfr@bloomington.in.us

Terry Reynolds

Bloomington Friends

Prophetic Vision and the Power of Witness - Posted January 15th, 2009

By Dan Coppock

Wednesday's theme of worship was one of hope. As the first full day, the evening of greeting and collection and transition from travel put behind us, we were now presented with the laying out of our hopes for the conference, our anticipation of work to be done, and the beginnings of moving forward. Our morning worship helped lay out something more fundamental: our grounds for hope in the first place. Colin Saxton from Northwest Yearly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends, spoke on the prophet Micah, a "nobody" from "nowhere," who, though he had relatively little influence during his life, led the King Hezzekiah to sponsor a revival of the morality of Israel. Colin Saxton spoke of nonresistance and about the cross. He spoke of breaking through a numbness that our society seems to value and reconnecting to the radical nonviolent message of Jesus Christ, a theme visited the previous night by Ched Meyers. This message was underscored by the reminder immediately after worship that we were building up to a day of action and that members of the gathering were facing arrest even that afternoon in their witness and prayer for the owner of a local gun shop.

A panel then followed discussing the various faith bases. Christina Amalia Repoley, an unprogrammed Friend from Atlanta, spoke of the power that comes from worshipping expectantly and that manifested in the corporate waiting is the grounding of faith that produces the fruit of peace work and allows us to live in the virtue of life and power that takes away the occasion for all war." Paul Anderson, an Evangelical Friend from Oregon, spoke of a biblical, radical third way that heaps coals on the heads of adversaries and prevents a co-option of truth by presenting a third choice between two undesirable options. Belita D. Mitchell, a Brethren from Harrisburg, Pa., spoke of the transformation in her life experience and how by practicing and living out her faith with her community she has discovered the meaning of sharing the Presence by taking it to the streets. Jordan Blevins, another of the Brethren, shared his commitment to ecojustice and relationship both with the Earth and with each other, seeking in each other and in oneself embodiment of the living Christ. Mimi Copp shared stories of her travels and family to illuminate her experience of the justice side of "peace and justice." She spoke of the women in white of West Africa and her own experience in Shalom House, the Brethren in Christ house in West Philadelphia. In the afternoon she was arrested while praying at a gun shop. Gilberto Flores, a Mennonite minister, spoke of his reluctant participation in an indigenous peace resistance movement in Guatemala, and of his subsequent exile to the United States, the end of his personal peace.

The group moved then to small group and individual discussions. The themes for pondering and mindful discussion, drawn from the writings of Martin Luther King Jr. were of hope, of purpose, and of prophetic vision. My workshop had the notable absence of another of those who were arrested.

We reconvened in the evening to hear the faith witness of Alexie M. Torres-Fleming, who moved the group gradually from thinking towards acting. We heard of the arrest of those who prayed and the execution of Curtis Moore at the hands of the State of Texas. The group heard Alexie Torres-Fleming speak powerfully of her early life in the poorest Congressional district in the United States, in South Bronx; her wrestling with the myth of escape; and her divinely inspired decision to return to the community in which she was brought up. She spoke of her prophetic dreams, which played a large role in her actions as community worker. She reflected on the struggle for dignity and the incarnational aspect of God's power. She laid out lessons that she had learned along the way, challenging and affirming the group as a whole. She ended her time reflecting on the discomfort and disorientation that came with acting as God's servant but with the invocation to tease the power out of the powerless. The evening closed with reflections on Dr. Howard Thurman surmising that there is no security in this life. The ground is laid for the theme of Thursday's worship: lamentation and the remorse of a not clearly visible God.

Thanks!

On January 15th, 2009 mkr says:

Hey Dan,

Thanks for sharing about hope, and for your excellent summary of the day's events. I wish I could be there, but at least I can read about it in depth! Your readers might want to check out efforts here in Cincinnati to build links between the local congregations of the three historic peace churches: <http://www.amanioutreach.blogspot.com/> (Amani means "peace" in Kiswahili).

Also, is anybody there sharing about the Kenyan Friends Peace Conference taking place in Bungoma, this very week, simultaneous to the peace gathering in Phila? Check out the report from David Zarembka (AGLI - African Great Lakes Initiative) that preceded the conference, and look for more coverage from Kenya soon: <http://amanioutreach.blogspot.com/2009/01/peacebuilding-in-kenya-friend...>

Keep up the great work, we look forward to hearing more about the peace gathering!

Be blessed,

Mary Kay Rehard Cincinnati, Ohio

Quaker Heights Care Community



FUNDING CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM AT QUAKER HEIGHTS

Three years ago, Quaker Heights Care Community embarked on the journey, which created a part time chaplaincy program for the residents and families. Violeta Gwynn was the successful candidate who accepted the position. In November 2010, the organization made the position full time based on the perceived need for pastoral and chaplain services. During the same period, the organization faced a very difficult budget year. In response to the resource demands and tensions created by the budget, the Trustees, in consultation with philanthropy professionals, are now asking each of the Yearly Meetings (Ohio Valley and Wilmington) to support the chaplaincy program. A formal pledge request letter will arrive in the first quarter of 2011, asking the Meetings to consider full support of chaplaincy at Quaker Heights. The cost of the program exceeds \$50,000.00 annually. Donations and gifts will allow the daily important spiritual support of residents and their families to continue into 2012 with a formal chaplaincy program. Without a successful campaign to pay for the expenses of the chaplain, the program faces discontinuation. Ongoing spiritual presence is an important manifestation of the mission to provide care the aged and chronically ill. Please give generously to support this important pastoral service and ensure its survival beyond 2011. Thank you.

In Peace,
 Wendy Waters-Connell
 Wendy L. Waters-Connell, RN, MS, LNHA
 Executive Director
 Quaker Heights Care Community
 514 High Street
 Waynesville, Ohio 45068
 513.897.6050
 wwatersc@quakerheights.org



Pictures: Chaplain, Violet Gwynn, offers story telling during a Lithuanian Cultural Event at Quaker Heights Care Community.

The Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College Presents

"Ohio Women & the Civil War Home Front"

Quaker Genealogy & History Conference
 Saturday, April 16, 2011
 Waynesville, Ohio

3:30 p.m. - Doing Civil War Genealogy Research workshop with Karen Campbell
 5:30 p.m. - Dinner and Guest Lecture by Dr. Kelly Selby of Walsh University

Ohio's political and military importance to the Union victory are widely known, but often less understood is the vital contribution made by the state's female population. This presentation demonstrates the importance of Ohio's women by exploring their wartime activities on the home front, focusing largely on the Soldiers Aid Societies and the Sanitary Fairs in Cleveland and Cincinnati, including stories of Quaker women and their involvement in southwest Ohio.

Registration forms will be mailed out in February
 Registration: \$15 for the workshop, \$10 for dinner and the lecture
 Co-sponsored by the Ohio Humanities Council



New Harmonies

CELEBRATING AMERICAN ROOTS MUSIC

MARCH 16 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2011

Tuesday, March 22, 12 noon

Music Talks: "Songs of the Underground Railroad" with Allen Schwartz

Free - Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington College

Tuesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.

Music in Film: "Freedom Song"

Free - Sponsored by Wilmington College APB

Kelly Center, Wilmington College

Wednesday, March 23, 9 p.m.

Open Mic Night with Clinton County LIVE

Free - General Denver Hotel

Thursday, March 24, 12 noon

Music Talks: The Firelytes Steel Drum Band

Free - Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington College

Thursday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Music in Film: "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"

Free - Sponsored by Wilmington College APB

Kelly Center, Wilmington College

Tuesday, March 29, 12 noon

Meet the Author: Dr. Larry Gara, The Baby Dodds Story

Free - Books 'N' More/Jen's Deli

Tuesday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.

Music in Film: "Standing in the Shadows of Motown"

Free - Sponsored by the Murphy Theatre

Murphy Theatre

Wednesday, March 30, 9 p.m.

Open Mic Night with Clinton County LIVE

Free - General Denver Hotel

Thursday, March 31, 12 noon

Meet the Author: Randy McNutt, King Records of Cincinnati

Free - Books 'N' More/Jen's Deli

Friday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Night on the Town with The Connection - A smooth evening of jazz and blues. Add to the night out with dinner at the General Denver Hotel.

Dinner - call 937/383-4141 for reservations

Concert - \$15 call 937/382-3643 for tickets

Murphy Theatre

Monday, April 4, through Saturday, April 9

Special Exhibit: "Pete Seeger, A Life in Song"

Free - Sponsored by the Dayton International Peace Museum

Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington College

Tuesday, April 5, 12 noon

Music Talks: "Pete Seeger" with Dr. Allan Winkler

Free - Quaker Heritage Center, Wilmington College

Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.

Music in Film: "Pete Seeger, The Power of Song"

Free - Sponsored by the Murphy Theatre

Murphy Theatre

Wednesday, April 6, 9 p.m.

Open Mic Night with Clinton County LIVE

Free - General Denver Hotel

Thursday, April 7, 12 noon

Brown Bag Lunch Concert with Sara Douglas & Friends - Bring your lunch and enjoy a review of 20th century concert music inspired by roots music.

Free - Murphy Theatre

Friday, April 8, and Saturday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.

Night on the Town with Mad Men & Martinis - A General Denver Cabaret dinner and performance.

\$40-call 937/383-4141 for reservations

General Denver Hotel

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Night on the Town with The Corndrinkers - An evening of old-time and traditional country music featuring twin fiddles, banjo, guitar, and bass.

Free - Kelly Center, Wilmington College

For more information, please contact:

Ruth M. Brindle Dobyns

Curator, Quaker Heritage Center — Chair, Heritage Advisory Council — Region 8 Representative, Ohio Local History Alliance —

Newsletter Editor, Friends Association of Higher Education — Coordinator, Issues & Artists/Westheimer Peace Symposium —

Wilmington College, 1870 Quaker Way, Pyle Center 1182, Wilmington, OH 45177 — (937) 382-6661 x 719 ruth_dobyns@wilmington.edu

If you are what you should be, then you will set the world on fire. - St. Catherine of Siena

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
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Brookston, IN 47923

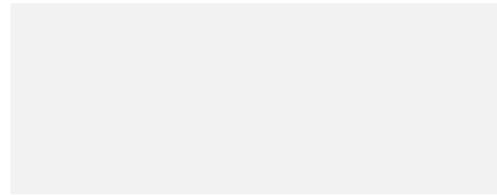
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