

Reports in
Advance 2010

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

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Agenda for OVYM Worship for Business

Business Sessions Agenda for 190th OVYM session (2010)

Wednesday 7/28 2:30- 5:00 pm Wilkinson Theatre	Thursday 7/29 10 am – 12:30 pm Richmond Room	Friday 7/30 10 am – 12:30 pm Richmond Room	Saturday 7/31 10 am – 12:30 pm Richmond Room	Sunday 8/1 10 am – 11 am Wilkinson Theatre
Centering Worship	Centering Worship	Centering Worship	Centering Worship	Centering Worship
Greetings Roll Call of Representatives	Greetings, Roll Call	Greetings	Greetings	Greetings
Welcome, Introductions, Letters of Introduction	Welcome, Letters	Review of Discipline Revision Process	QEW report	Final Nominations
Gratitude to youth workers	Statistician Report	Discipline Revision Committee Report	FWCC report	Minute of Appreciation for those leaving service to OVYM
Delegates to youth business	Treasurer Report	<i>Final Consideration of Membership, Part 3</i>	FGC report	Site for 2011
Absent Friends	Proposed Budget from Budget and Finance	<i>Seasoning Consideration of Seeking Harmony with Creation Section, Draft 6</i>	Visioning Threshing	Registrar's Report
Review of Agenda	Quaker Heights Friends Home, Inc	<i>Threshing section on Close Relationships, Draft 2</i>	Youth Secretary Report	2010 Epistles from the Youth Middle Youth Teens YAF
Epistle Summary	<u>Lauramoore</u> Home	Planning Committee report	Teen Committee Report	
Whitewater Quarterly Report	Friends Music Camp	Peace and Social Concerns	Middle Youth Report	2010 OVYM Epistle
Miami Quarterly Report <i>Recorded Minister</i>	AFSC report AFSC visitors	Religious Education	Children Committee Report	Closing Worship at Stout Meetinghouse
Initial Nominating Committee Report	FCNL report	Personnel Committee	Announcements	
Executive Committee Report <i>Personnel appt</i>	Announcements	Property Corporation	Closing Worship	
Advancement and Nurture Committee	Closing Worship	Quill Publications Records Coordinator		
State of Society Summary		Announcements		
Announcements		Closing Worship		
Closing Worship				

Miami Quarterly Meeting Report

The Tenth Month, 2009 session of Miami Quarterly Meeting was held at Campus Meeting on the Wilmington College campus. Worship, program and business sessions were held in the Canby Jones Meeting House, and we were blessed to have Friend Canby was with us for a portion of the day. The program portion of the session was special as Friends from Community Meeting and Miami Center Quarterly Meeting of Wilmington Yearly Meeting presented a history of Quakers in southwest, Ohio. The question of where Friends from both branches of our Society in this geographic region are headed in the future was discussed as a concluding portion of the afternoon program. Friends from Campus Meeting were wonderful hosts with a beautiful facility, great lunch and fellowship. During Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, Christine Snyder reported on the bi-centennial celebration of Springfield Monthly Meeting (Wilmington YM). Friends approved a minute in opposition to an Ohio ballot issue which would place four casinos in various metropolitan areas of the state including Cincinnati. The ballot initiative unfortunately was approved by voters.

The Second Month, 2010 session of Miami Quarterly Meeting was an adventure. The gathering was hosted by Oxford Meeting, but Friends were to gather at Miami Monthly Meeting in Waynesville at the White Brick Meeting House. During the three weeks leading up to the session, southwest, Ohio and Waynesville, in particular, were inundated with twenty inches of snow and ice. Miami Monthly Meeting closes the White Brick in the winter to save on heating costs, but Friends had intended to open the facility early this year to co-host quarterly meeting. Friends found it impossible to clear the large amount of snow and ice from the White Brick, and a forecast of another storm the weekend of the session prompted both Oxford and Miami Friends to postpone Quarterly Meeting until Third Month. Nevertheless the session was held three weeks later on a spring like day. Yellow Springs Monthly Meeting developed and presented the program portion of the gathering, and the primary agenda item for the business session was nominations. Frank Huss agreed to continue as Treasurer, and Richard Mitchell agreed to serve a new two year term on the Committee of Two which administers the Cincinnati Fund. The Presiding Clerk had served three consecutive one year terms and is planning to move from the area this year. Likewise the Recording Clerk declined further service in this particular position. A number of names were brought forward for both offices by monthly meeting representatives who served in the capacity of a nominating committee. Quarterly Meeting was blessed that Rachel Dean accepted the nomination for Recording Clerk. No Friend came forward to accept a nomination for Presiding Clerk. Oxford and Miami Friends were excellent hosts for this session.

The Fifth Month, 2010 session of Quarterly Meeting was hosted by Eastern Hills Monthly Meeting. Following a bountiful lunch, State of Society Reports were read by Meeting representatives in a very centered gathering. Friends were able to discern a sense of the health of

our monthly meetings as well as challenges and perceived shortfalls. During the business session, Friends approved the monthly meeting rotation for hosting Quarterly Meeting for 2011 through 2013. Again, no one came forward to accept a nomination to serve as Presiding Clerk although one Friend indicated an interest in 2011. Based on this possibility, three Friends agreed to share the service on an interim basis, Ben Griffith at the Tenth Month, 2010 session; Frank Huss at the Second Month, 2011 session; and Franchot Ballinger at the Fifth Month, 2011 session. Meeting representatives will contact the Friend, who has expressed an interest in this service, early in 2011. During the business session, Oxford Monthly Meeting brought forward a minute that would eliminate the Second Month session of Miami Quarterly Meeting on a permanent basis. Some of the rationale includes the possibility of severe weather and the loss of attendance at Quarterly Meeting sessions over the past few years. The inability to successfully nominate a Presiding Clerk seemed to be a reflection of lower attendance and interest. A significant number of Friends supported the minute, but others in attendance expressed concern over loss of a larger gathering for worship and fellowship. Friends did not reach unity on the minute. Friends approved the sending out of information regarding the minute to all monthly meetings in the quarter in order that a more broad response might be elicited. Monthly Meetings are asked to consider the minute during their business sessions and make a response to Ben Griffith who will clerk the Tenth Month session of Quarterly Meeting.

I have said this in numerous forums, and I say it one final time, my service as Presiding Clerk has been a blessing and special opportunity to me. Thank you to Tom Hill for nominating me and thank you to Friends for your love and support over the past three years. I especially enjoyed visiting our monthly meetings as we rotated from one place to another. I would have accepted additional service, but it is time for my wife and I to return to our deep roots in Cleveland as our children are adults. I ask Friends to consider the minute that would eliminate the Second Month session very carefully. The fact that Friends have gathered in this manner for 201 years is really not very important if way forward may be improved. I unite with the Eastern Hills Friend who expressed the concern that we need more, not less, opportunities for wider worship and fellowship regardless of weather inconveniences.

Tom Nowel

Presiding Clerk (exiting)

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Report

Over the course of the last year, Whitewater Quarterly Meeting held three sessions: Tenth Month 17, 2009, at Fort Wayne Friends Meeting Room; First Month 16, 2010, at Fall Creek Friends Meetinghouse; and Fourth Month 17, 2010, at Hopewell Friends Meetinghouse. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Friends gratefully acknowledge the faithful service of Friends who participated in hosting these sessions.

At the Tenth Month 2009 session, Friends approved the service of David Duvall as Treasurer of Whitewater Quarterly Meeting for a term to end at the end of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting sessions in summer 2011. At the First Month 2010 session, Friends united with traveling minutes for Diann Herzog and Rex Sprouse. Diann's religious service involves travel within Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. Rex's religious service involved travel within the Midwestern region and was thus forwarded to the Executive Committee of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, where it was approved. As is customary at the Fourth Month session, Friends shared State of the Meeting reports. At that session, Friends were also blessed with an open and searching discussion of a couple of issues that had arisen in particular meetings. This became a time of deep sharing and listening, and Friends felt drawn together through this exchange. Friends also considered suggestions for making future sessions respond to a wider range of Friends' concerns. It was also decided that the First Month 2011 session will be held on a First Day, instead of the customary Seventh Day.

Rex Sprouse, Presiding Clerk
Seventh Month 1, 2010
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

2010 OVYM NOMINATIONS

OFFICERS
(thru '10 YM)

Presiding Clerk
Assistant Clerk
Recording Clerk
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer

Paul Kriese
Ben Griffith
Deborah Kociszewski
Wilson Palmer
Stephen Angell

2010 SESSIONS	2010
Epistolary Committee	<i>1. Ron Haldeman 2. Sandra Ward Angell</i>
Summary of Epistles received	<i>Bill and Janette Shetter for 2010 Mildred Mahoney (for 2011)</i>
Reporter to Friends Journal	
Memorial Meeting	<i>1. Janette Shetter 2. Roy Jo Stuckey</i>

2011	2012	2013
ADVANCEMENT AND NURTURE (12)		
David Garman (1W)*	Terry Reynolds (1W)	Deborah Jordan (1M)
Jack Davis (1W)*		
<i>Ben Thornber (PM)</i>		
YEARLY MTG PLANNING (ex-officio, Clerks of Teen & Junior Yearly Mtg. Comm.) (9)		
Jeremy Coppock (1M)	Phyllis Martin (1W)	Dinah Duvall (PM)
Tunia McClure (1W)	Byron Branson (1M)	
	Jamie Fota (1M)	
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (6)		
Beth Parrish (2M)	Gloria Bruner (2W)	Hannah Branson (5M)
	Susan Hyde (4M)	
MIDDLE YOUTH (9 - Maybe 6)		
Gail Koehler* (2M)	Barbara Robinson (2M)	
Yoshiya Togami (2M)	Jason Dean (1M)	
TEEN ACTIVITIES (9) + 6 teens		
Nikki Coffey Tousley* (1M)	Cynthia Sibrel* (1M)	Peter Hardy (1M)
Chance Duvall (1W)		Nick Rhein (1M)
James Taylor (1W)	Dale Blanchard (1M)	David Funke (1M)
_____ -TM	8	_____ -TM
_____ -TM	_____ -TM	_____ -TM

2010	2011	2012
PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE (9)		
Ken Bordwell (2M)	Jane Stowe (2W)	
	Robert Vetter (1W)	
AUDITING COMMITTEE (2 year overlapping terms)		
Veronica Frost (1M)	Donita Barnes (1W)	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE (ex-officio, Treasurer, Assist.Treas, [-- who is Clerk of B&F] (3+)		
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE (9)		
Marjorie Isaacs (2M)	Diann Herzog (4W)	Elaine Troth (1W)
DISCIPLINE REVISION COMMITTEE (9)		
Paul Buckley (1W)	Rex Sprouse (3W)	
Byron Branson (3M)	Barbara Robinson (1M)	
	Mary Garman (1W)	
Wilson Palmer–Invited Member		
FRIENDS MUSIC CAMP BOARD (ALL reps named by FMC) ** (6)		
Paul Wagner (3M)	Victoria Burke (1M)	Caroline Stanley (Olney Rep)
Gail Miller (1W)	Ellen Duell (2M)	Anne Whitaker (1M)
BRADDOCK TRUSTEE	+Named by Braddock family (3)	Year to Year
QUAKER QUILL EDITOR		
Dan Cartmel		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
RECORDS COORDINATOR		
Susan Hyde & Christine Snyder	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
STATISTICIAN		
Frank Huss	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR		
Eric Cleven	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
YM WEBSITE		
Lonny Burger	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

2011	2013	2015
YEARLY MEETING TRUSTEES (6)		
Vaughn Peebles (2W)	David Hyde (1M)	
Beth Stafford (2M)	Evalyn Kellum (1W)	David Duvall (2W)

REPRESENTATIVES TO FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS (4)		
2011	2012	2013
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (4)		
Jana Schroeder (1M)	Peter Fosl (1M)	<i>Leslie Liszak (1W)</i>
FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (up to 4)		
Rachel Dean (2M)		
JP Lund (2M)		
Krystin Schmidt (2M)		
FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (3)		
Eric Wolff (1M)		
Richard House (1M)		
FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (4)		
		Jane Stowe (1W)
		James Russell (1M)

The following are one year Y M appointments to the named organization

	2011
FLGBTQC	
WILLIAM PENN HOUSE COMMITTEE	<u>Jane Stowe</u>
QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS	<u>Maria Collee</u>
FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS	

M = Miami Quarter; **W** = Whitewater Quarter; **1 or 2** = 1st or 2nd 3-year term; **P** = Partial term; * = convener or clerk; **TM** = Teen Member. (#) next to the Committee's name equals the number of committee members for that committee.

“V_____” equals a un-filled position (or vacancy) to be filled later by E.C. and NOM COM action.

Executive Committee Report

OVYM 2009-2010

Our year was remarkably quiet. We have met and conducted the business of the Yearly Meeting in this year faithfully and efficiently. As I review our minutes from our meetings, I can report the following highlights:

- We approved the hire of our new Youth Secretary, Carol Simmons. Her name came forward from the Teen Committee's search.
- We utilized a conference call again in February. Friends seem to appreciate dispatching some of our Committee's business without the expense of time and bigger carbon footprint that is involved with face to face. We are fully cognizant that this type of meeting cannot discern weighty matters.
- Almost every meeting has spent some time with nominating concerns. There is a real struggle finding Friends to fill our many slots.
- As different items of concern have arisen over the past two years, Presiding Clerk Ben Griffith has worked with Advancement and Nurture to outline a visioning for the Yearly Meeting for the coming year to address these concerns. Executive Committee also heard this proposal and approved moving forward with the proposal.

One of my biggest concerns continues to be involving some of our constituent monthly meetings in the on-going business of the yearly meeting. Many years ago the Yearly Meeting changed the make-up of the Executive Committee to encourage wider participation as the Executive Committee. As we go forward with a visioning for the coming year, it will be a challenge to involve the un-involved. We need to discover who we are now as a people in the beginning of the 21st century.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Griffith, Presiding Clerk
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

Clerical Support Report

All continues to be well. I am blessed to work for the Yearly Meeting and attend Executive Meetings. If you check the website soon, you will see a brief article I wrote about Executive Committee Friends working behind the scenes. Summer is a busy time of the year with preparation for Annual Sessions in anticipation of our annual “reunion”. We can also meet up at Jt. Quarterly this year too. I notice my reports get shorter each year. Maybe all has been said, and the rest is love. Please contact me if I can help your committee work more smoothly, or if the Yearly Meeting office can be of service to your Monthly Meeting.

In Service,
Deborah Jordan
OVYM Clerical Support

Web Site Report

The Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Website underwent two complete rebuilds this past year. The second rebuild was to work around unresolved issues with the Mozilla Firefox browser. The site has a new look and feel with new navigation and appearance continuity across the site’s 32 pages, while maintaining the original content and links to documents. There are pages for both Quarterly Meetings and each Monthly Meeting and an interactive map to the Monthly Meeting has been added to each Monthly Meeting’s page. The Home Page now contains headlines and banners that link the visitor to other areas of the site, and is more in line with the home pages for other non-profit organizations.

New this year has been the creation of a Spotlight on Ministry article. The original concept was to have a new spotlight article each quarter and organizations wishing to submit an article on their ministry may do so by emailing the article to the webmaster through the webmaster link on any of the site’s pages.

The PDF file of Faith and Practice (the old Discipline) that is available on the Resources page is up to date with all of the changes approved by OVYM during the Discipline Revision Process. There are a number of additional resources for Monthly Meetings available on that page as well.

The Youth page is awaiting input and photos from the various committees and Youth Secretary in order to become functional.

The process of recreating the OVYM.Quaker.Org web site has been one of creative challenge and joy. I thank the Yearly Meeting for the opportunity to serve in this position.

In Joy,
Lonny Burger, OVYM Webmaster

OVYM Personnel Committee Report

The Personnel Committee conducted its mandated face to face annual meeting during the 2009 OVYM session. Members of the committee reviewed the contracting process for OVYM staff and set general guidelines for renewal contracts in 2010. In support of the Teen Activities Committee, the Clerk of the Personnel Committee participated in the interview process for the new Youth Secretary. JP Lund conducted an exit interview with the outgoing Youth Secretary, Lauren Baumann. The Personnel Committee drafted renewal contracts for the Youth Secretary and Clerical Support Staff Person. These contracts, which were approved at the Sixth Month Executive Committee meeting, are effective for one year from Sixth Month, 1st, 2010 to Fifth Month, 31st, 2011. Thank you to all involved that made the renewals very transparent. Members of the committee are JP Lund, Steve Angell and Tom Nowel.

Tom Nowel, Clerk

OVYM Property Corporation Trustees

Trustees of the Property Corporation met during Yearly Meeting session, 2009. Tom Hill, long time member of the committee, had removed himself as a trustee based on his re-location to Virginia. Tom had established the Corporation and was the leading Friend among the trustees. His services to the Property Corporation have been invaluable. David Hyde graciously accepted the nomination to succeed Tom. The corporation was founded some thirteen or fourteen years ago when it appeared that OVYM was a strong contender to inherit beautiful farm property and buildings that had the potential to become a retreat center. The real estate issue was never resolved in favor of the Yearly Meeting, but at the time Friends were encouraged to donate funds to support the possibility of OVYM becoming a land owner. The corporation was established to hold land and monetary donations to support OVYM activities in respect to donated real estate. One anonymous contribution of \$1000.00 was made over twelve years ago. Trustees were appointed to oversee the corporation, and I became its one and only Treasurer. The \$1000.00 was deposited into a socially responsible money market account which nearly went under approximately five years ago. After a great deal of effort, the account was saved from liquidation. The funds of the corporation were then deposited into a Certificate of Deposit at First Financial Bank, a more conservative and secure investment tool. As Treasurer, I am the only signatory to this account which is neither wise nor good business practice. The Property Corporation, at its previous meeting, agreed to move this account to the OVYM Treasurer. It will be placed in the general OVYM funds or investments but continue to be earmarked as Property Corporation funds. This has not yet taken place as the maturity date of the CD is Sixth Month, 28th, 2010. I plan to cash the CD out and submit it to the Treasurer on this date. The current balance of the investment is \$1431.47.

Tom Nowel
Property Corporation Treasurer

Summary of Epistles received for 2010 sessions OVYM

Janette and William Shetter

Quakers have many fine old traditions. One of the most community-enhancing of them is that each Yearly Meeting appoints Friends to compose, at the conclusion of its annual sessions, an epistle that is then sent as a greeting to other Yearly Meetings all around the world. Those of us who are asked to summarize all the epistles OVYM has received throughout the year feel extraordinarily privileged to serve as the channels through which the many thoughts and experiences in these reach all of you.

An epistle usually begins, as ours always does, with the words “to Friends everywhere”. **Britain Yearly Meeting** goes on with “We send our loving greetings...” and **Pacific Yearly Meeting** says “Greetings of all peace and good to you, dear Friends! ... We in PYM carry you in our hearts here at our annual session...” Many Yearly Meeting epistles open with some words about the inspiration of their surroundings. **Great Plains Yearly Meeting** met “in the great expanse of the North American heartland”, **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting** tells us how “the lovely setting of rolling green hills nourished our souls”, **Southeastern Yearly Meeting** speaks of “sitting under the live oaks hanging with Spanish moss”, and **Pacific Yearly Meeting** met north of San Francisco “hemmed in by rolling, fog-shrouded hills.”

Alaska Yearly Meeting’s theme was “Vitality and Diversity in our Meetings”. A group of young Alaska Friends together with OVYM Friends spent nearly two weeks prior to the sessions participating in Spirit Camp – an intensive experience living in Quaker community. An epistle often includes a sobering thought. Alaska Friends remind us that their YM house and grounds need repairs that they are unable to afford.

The theme of **Great Plains Yearly Meeting** was “The spirit of the Lord is upon us!” This epistle goes on to enumerate the help and support they have received from a wide variety of dedicated Friends.

Illinois Yearly Meeting met “In the context of economic difficulty, ecological degradation and international unrest,” but that “we gathered together guided by the testimony of simplicity ...”, and a visiting Friends engaging in sustainable agriculture presented “Being freed into and through simplicity”. They add “A message we would like to share with you is this: Let us be mindful of simplicity as it allows us to refocus our

efforts from just doing in response to what we see in the world around us to allowing us to refresh the spiritual foundation and leading of our actions.”

Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative chose as its theme “Quaker Seeds”, and they turned their attention to social justice in voicing a concern for undocumented immigrants.

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting’s theme “Reflecting light: seeing ourselves in the Other” proclaimed at the beginning a strong emphasis on social questions outside the YM itself: Native Americans, Palestinians, the current financial crisis enveloping many communities, families and individuals, and the YM endorsement of the Earth Charter. But they echo a constant strain in these epistles when they add “The enthusiasm and open-heartedness of our younger Friends gave us comfort and warmth throughout our time together.”

New England Yearly Meeting, meeting for its 349th annual session, assures us “We pruned our business agenda, allowing more time to pray and listen.” Their epistle is easily the most ambitious of all we have received. There follows an equally long epistle from Young Adult Friends with a translation into Spanish, a free-verse epistle from Young Friends, and no fewer than four more epistles: Junior High YM, Junior YM (grades 3-6 and grades K-2), and finally a brief but heartfelt Childcare epistle.

New York Yearly Meeting met under the theme “Equality: living into the testimony”. They prepared for the sessions by spending “many hours in extended worship. As a result spiritual conversations have been occurring outside of sessions that open doors to deep fellowship and new possibilities ... The effect of this extended worship on early meeting sessions has been to bring us into a deeper stillness where f/Friends meet in love and unity, where we can be with our disagreements.”

Ohio Yearly Meeting Conservative is grateful for “the presentations and programs that guide us to a deeper contemplation of God’s love, peace and nonviolence” but are at the same time “saddened by the state of the world and the human suffering that is found in so many regions of the world.”

Pacific Yearly Meeting goes further than merely summarizing the epistles received: “We have heard epistles from other Yearly Meetings throughout the week, reminding us we are part of the larger body of the Religious Society of Friends.” As many other Friends, PYM Friends detailed for us the many efforts to ‘green’ the annual sessions. The Yearly Meeting’s Youth Program Coordinator, by the way, is their only paid staff.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in its 329th annual session found itself “challenged to identify where we are touched by the fire of the Spirit”. They welcomed many types of Friends and at the same time reminded us of “several challenges to Friends who live in the world but not of it”, one example being support of a war tax resister. Like many other Yearly Meetings including our own, they struggle to find enough Friends to do the work that needs to be done.

Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting Association (SAYMA) met under guidance of the theme “Spirit woven in our lives: a tapestry of Light”. And they experienced this as a reality: “Our individual threads were woven together into a collective tapestry. Grounded in worship, the threads of light and grace guided our time together ... When we leave, we each take our thread back to our own monthly meetings and worship groups, changed and invigorated by its presence in the collective tapestry here at SAYMA.”

The epistles of more than one Yearly Meeting give evidence of a difficult relationship with FUM, in every case due to their personnel policy. **Southeastern Yearly Meeting** writes “Sylvia Graves, General Secretary for Friends United Meeting, gave an inspiring presentation on the Global Ministries of FUM and ... continued to broaden our understanding of FUM.” In an extended minute, the Yearly Meeting with a sense of sadness and loss formally laid down its membership in FUM. At last year’s sessions, Friends Betsy Neale and Richard Mitchell gave workshops on The Jesus of History.

The theme under which **Wilmington Yearly Meeting** met was “Listening is an act of love.” Wilmington Friends had prepared carefully for the sessions by holding a pre-YM retreat, which “gave us time to settle into an attitude of worshipful listening: listening to each other [and] listening to the Holy Spirit.”

Australia Yearly Meeting’s epistle begins with the words “together we become one” and ends with “let there be peace” in the language of the Kurna, the first people in the area where the sessions were held. For the Kurna people, “their natural connection with the land and each other and their innate respect for land and life involves deep trust, deep closeness, deep dependence and oneness with the land and the earth.” Young Friends gave a unique presentation of the Backhouse lecture. It featured an ‘elephant’ on the stage throughout the performance, which “represented those difficult and often unstated questions that during the evening were dealt with in creative, fun and honest ways.”

Britain Yearly Meeting was able to rejoice in an attendance by no fewer than 1,700 Friends, including 300 children and young people. “If we stay in the light”, they remind us, “we will find spiritual energy to help us create new relationships and renew existing ones. In our dialogue and connections we are challenged to be inclusive, nurturing and constructive.” Following extensive consultations over three years, they were led to enable same-sex marriages. The theme of the Yearly Meeting Gathering was “Creating community, creating connections.”

Canadian Yearly Meeting met under the theme “Friends with Mother Earth”, showing once again the environmental and earthcare concerns that dominated most Yearly Meetings and that inspired this YM particularly strongly. All YM epistles voice delight at the attendance by youth, but the Canadians stand out in their appreciation also of “the elders among us, bringing their walkers, canes, wheelchairs, and hearing aids, as they engaged with spirit and love in our deliberations throughout the week.” They still do not have clarity about their relationship with FUM.

The theme of **Central and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting** was “Radiating the Light in changing times.” These Friends had the unique excitement of receiving and distributing their new major publication, ‘Living Adventurously: Quaker Faith and Practice, Central and Southern Africa’. They comment “This collection of writings will contribute to a deepening of reflection on our own experience and is also an attractive introduction to Quakers and their ways.” Several Meetings plan to use ‘Quaker Quest’ as a means of outreach, and they comment that such initiatives need to come in the mother tongue, so that they may need a new effort to translate into various African languages.

At the **Germany Yearly Meeting** sessions, 206 Friends met including 48 children and young adults. German Friends met in 38 interest groups, and the first filled was a group designed to exercise ‘intuitive perception.’ They ask the question “What do we experience of each other when we attentively look them in the eyes and perhaps recognize their soul?”

Ireland Yearly Meeting’s theme was “Being true to our vision.” They detail many examples of how their YM sessions and their many forms of outreach were an inspiration to all, but find it necessary to add the less welcome news that after 28 years of service to the wider community, Quaker House Belfast, an important Quaker witness, has been laid down.

Netherlands Yearly Meeting met under the theme “Conflict prevention.” One of their activities was an exercise from the Alternatives to Violence project, which involved making a human knot in order to experience what it feels like to be entangled in a relationship. During the welcome to Friends from other countries, A German Friend told about someone who wanted to study the Dutch language. When asked “Why do you want to do that, when it is hardly useful?” She answered “Out of love.”

The epistle from **New Zealand/Aotearoa Yearly Meeting** begins with a salutation in Maori. One of the most serious matters for consideration was “the need for constitutional arrangements that better recognise the place of Maori as the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa/New Zealand. We feel the current system advances the interests of the majority at their expense despite guarantees in our country’s founding document, The Treaty of Waitangi.

Many of the Yearly Meeting epistles conclude with uplifting words or a prayer.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s ends with “This is a time for Quakerism because the attitude of the world seems to be turning toward values we cherish: right relationships – economic, ecological and spiritual – to each other and to Earth itself.” **Great Plains Yearly Meeting** assures us “We pray that your meetings be blessed by a profound sense of the Lord Jesus Christ in your midst” and a fitting conclusion of this summary comes in the words of **New York Yearly Meeting** “We pray that we will be still, faithfully sharing the abundance we’ve received with humility and joy.”

Statistical Report

Twelfth Month 31, 2009

Miami Quarter

Monthly Meeting:	CAM	COM	DAY	EH	GP	LEX	LOU	MIA	OX	YS	MQM
MEMBERSHIP											
12/31/08	28	77	14	41	11	53	82	52	15	122	495
Correction by addition			7	1							8
Births/Adoptions											0
Request of parents											0
Convincement Children accepted as adults	2					1		2		1	6
Transfers to		1									1
Transfers to	3									3	6
TOTAL GAIN	5	1	7	1	0	1	0	2	0	4	21
Correction by subtraction			1								1
Deaths		2				1	2			1	6
Removal by request Children becoming adults						6			1	2	9
Transfers from		1									1
Loss of contact	1					6					7
TOTAL LOSSES	1	3	1	2	0	13	2	0	1	4	27
Net gain or loss	4	-2	6	-1	0	-12	-2	2	-1	0	-6
MEMBERSHIP											
12/31/09	32	75	20	40	11	41	80	54	14	122	489
Resident members over 18	22	45	15	26	4	31	62	21	9	57	292
Resident members under 19	0	12	0	4	0	2	3	7	0	15	43
Non-resident members over 18	10	15	5	10	7	8	15	23	3	39	135
Non-resident members under 19	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	11	19
Regular attenders over 18	4	27	6	3	0	63	9	14	3	15	144
Regular attenders under 19	0	8	3	2	0	20	7	3	1	5	49
United Meetings	*			*							2
Budget members	16	75	20	20	11	41	80	54	14	122	453
Worship attendance	13	40	11	16	0	36	27	14	10	30	197
Non-member attendance	2	17	4	3	0	19	9	5	3	12	74
First Day School	0	7	2	4	0	9	9	6	1	4	42
Friends in school/college	0	4	3	6	0	1	2	7	0	11	34

Statistical Report

Twelfth Month 31, 2009

Whitewater Quarter and OVYM

Monthly Meeting:	BL	CC	FC	FW	HPW	LAF	MG	NM	WR	WQM	OVYM	PRIOR YEAR
MEMBERSHIP 12/31/08	75	108	11	7	11	15	1	38	9	276	771	760
Correction by addition						1				11	9	11
Births/Adoptions										0	0	0
Request of parents				1						1	1	0
Convincement Children accepted as adults	4		1					1	3	9	15	9
			1			1				2	3	5
Transfers to			1							1	7	6
TOTAL GAIN	4	0	3	1	0	2	0	1	3	14	35	31
Correction by subtraction										0	1	1
Deaths	2	2						1		5	11	6
Removal by request Children becoming adults	1	2					1			4	13	4
			1			1				2	3	5
Transfers from	1	2								3	6	9
Loss of contact										0	7	4
TOTAL LOSSES	4	6	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	14	41	29
Net gain or loss	0	-6	2	1	0	1	-1	0	3	0	-6	2
MEMBERSHIP 12/31/09	75	102	13	8	11	16		38	12	275	764	771
Resident members over 18	59	27	12	7	11	8	0	34	5	163	455	452
Resident members under 19	3	3	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	10	53	64
Non-resident members over 18	9	72	0	0	0	6	0	4	7	98	233	234
Non-resident members under 19	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	23	23
Regular attenders over 18	50	12	0	0	0	9	0	22	0	95	239	236
Regular attenders under 19	20	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	27	76	62
United Meetings				*						1	3	3
Budget members	75	102	13	4	11	16	0	38	12	271	724	730
Worship attendance Non-member attendance	49	30	8	8	11	11	0	16.7	2	137.7	334.7	335.7
	25	8	0	2	2	6	0	4	0	64	138	139
First Day School Friends in school/college	14	4	0	0	11	2	0	0	0	24	66	65.75
	2	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	13	47	36

Report from Representatives to Friends General Conference Central Committee

Seventh Month 1, 2010

General background

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (then known as Indiana Yearly Meeting (Hicksite)) was one of the seven yearly meetings that co-founded Friends General Conference in 1900. Friends General Conference functions as an umbrella organization offering spiritual support and services to its 15 affiliated yearly meetings and associations, its nine directly affiliated monthly meetings, and its one statewide fellowship.

Annual Gathering

This summer's Friends General Conference Annual Gathering was held at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, Seventh Month 4-10, 2010. The 2011 Gathering will be held at Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA.

Other programs, services, and resources

Friends General Conference offers a wide range of programs, services, and resources. Friends are encouraged to visit the www.fgcquaker.org website for an overview.

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Representatives to FGC Central Committee

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting's named Representatives to Friends General Conference Central Committee for 2009-2010 were Richard House, Rex A. Sprouse, and Eric Wolff. As part of their work on Central Committee, Richard also serves a member of Long Range Conference Planning Committee; Rex also serves as OVYM's Yearly Meeting Representative to FGC's Executive Committee, as a member of Blue Book Committee, Ministry and Nurture Committee, Traveling Ministries Committee, and Yearly Meeting Visitors Committee, and as Co-Clerk of the 2010 FGC Annual Gathering Committee; Eric also serves as a member of Publications and Distribution Committee.

Update for 2010

Friends General Conference Central Committee meets every year over a long weekend at the end of Tenth Month. The 2009 meeting was held at the New Windsor Conference Center, operated by the Church of the Brethren, in New Windsor, MD. This gathering proved to have a very

heavy agenda. The Ad Hoc Priorities Committee brought forward 17 recommendations for the restructuring of many of the committees of Friends General Conference and for additional ways to help us to be faithful to our leadings to nurture the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends, while keeping within the material blessings we are being given. After considerable discussion and discernment, Friends approved these recommendations, including the appointment of a transitional committee charged with discerning recommendations for the implementation of aspects of the restructuring of the committees primarily working in the areas of ministry, outreach, and education. Much of the agenda of the additional meetings of the Executive Committee in winter and spring 2010 were devoted to the seasoning of this work. The committee charged with making concrete recommendations for the implementation of the restructuring is expected to bring forward its recommendations at the 2010 Central Committee meeting.

Rex A. Sprouse
Seventh Month 1, 2010

OVYM BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

PROPOSESD BUDGET FOR 2010-2011

Dear Friends,

How does the Yearly Meeting enhance our Divine Spirit and aid our seeking after Truth? Are we joyful glue bringing us together to help the Flame burn stronger and brighter or are we a burden to our constituent Monthly Meetings? The Budget and Finance Committee offers the following information, numbers and tables as a legacy and reflection of where the Spirit has led us in the past. We hope you will prayerfully consider your Divine Leadings and help choose where we should go next. This budget contains a \$5,600 deficit. It is possible that our costs will stay low and our actual deficit on June 30, 2011 will be less. Regardless, we will not propose a budget so far out of alignment next year. Ben Griffith, our outgoing clerk of Yearly Meeting, is hearing “rumblings” in various areas of our Yearly Meeting. He hopes to lead us in a period of self-examination. As we collectively develop a future vision, please consider what numbers and tables would reflect and enhance that vision. Though our monetary reserves can support a one-year deficit this large, this is not a sustainable practice and we encourage the Yearly Meeting to include the budget process in our upcoming self-examination.

The proposed 2010-11 budget for Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is slightly (1.7%) larger than last year’s proposed budget. The increases come from 5 sources:

\$1100 for Quaker Quill. (Most of this cost is caused by those requesting to receive the Quill on paper in the mail instead of on-line.)

\$500 for payroll increases to staff.

\$500 restored in the budget to (someday) fund the printing of the new Faith and Practice.

\$200 (new item) to ensure the children’s program is supported at joint Quarterly Meeting.

\$150 liability insurance increase.

Luckily, these increases were somewhat offset by the Yearly Meeting Sessions Planning Committee requesting \$1,049 less this year.

About a quarter of the deficit is due from increased expenses. The total Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting membership population is reduced by 7 since last year. There are less people to support an increasing budget. If one can put a number on this kind of loss, the number is perhaps an \$800 loss. Ultimately, then, our current deficits are mostly about income. Our total income is down about as much as it should have increased to give us a balance budget.

A few years ago Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting felt led to move away from assessing Monthly Meetings for their share of our income. The new system asks each Monthly Meeting to evaluate their proportional share suggestion from Budget and Finance Committee. Only 8 Monthly Meetings responded to our recent request for proportional share covenant pledges. Budget and Finance is left to guess, based on past history, which Monthly Meetings will pay the suggested amount and which will likely give much less. We are heartened by the 3 Monthly Meetings willing to support Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting more than the proportional share suggestion. However, the reduced income from a third of our constituent Meetings overwhelms all the other factors.

The following list of 23 tables is somewhat difficult to follow. The attempt is to open our books and provide all of our members with complete information of where our money comes from and where it goes. Not everyone is going to be interested in or excited about all of this information. However, everyone should read and attempt to understand the General Fund Summary, Table 8. Table 8 is the monetary heart of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. It is an overall picture of the financial state of OVYM. Where does our money come from and how much is it? How much are we spending and where? Do we project a surplus or loss? Of secondary interest to the more casual observer is Fund Balances at Year End, Table 1. The General Fund (Table 8) is the core, but there are a couple of other funds that the Yearly Meeting controls. Table 1 lists all of the funds and our current or projected values of those funds. It might be helpful to be aware that there are 6 funds associated with our Yearly Meeting.

Detailed information about Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting can be found in the rest of the tables. If you have done your duty and looked at Tables 8 and 1, please feel free to stop reading and skip to the next page. The FWCC Conference Fund (Table 2) and the Faith and Practice Printing Fund are supported by transfers from the General Fund. The other 3 funds have independent sources of income.

Tables 9 through 23 provide details of the line items in Table 8. Some of these “line item detail” tables are themselves made up of sub-tables. To help explain the interconnections, the description column should include the referenced table number. The dependencies should be revealing more and more detail about where money is being spent. Skip or refer to sub- and sub-sub- tables in response to your own quest for detailed information.

We expect our 2010-11 General Fund to incur expenses of \$82,203. Table 8 in the report shows \$85,703 for the total expenses, not \$82,203. Because we decided to track the costs that members absorb traveling to committee meetings, the budget contains \$3,500 of “funny money”. We show \$3,500 “income” of Donated Travel Costs in Table 8. In Tables 15 and 21 we show

“expenses” of Donated Travel costs of \$1,000 and \$2,500 respectively. This \$3,500 of “expenses” then is also reflected in Table 8, canceling out the \$3,500 of “income”. Therefore, \$82,203 is how much money may actually come out of the OVYM check book in 2010-11.

Here is a brief summary of how most of the \$82,203 is proposed to be spent:

Staff (teen secretary, clerical support) expenses	\$22,740
Contributions to other Quaker organizations	\$19,350
Net cost of annual Yearly Meeting sessions	\$14,513
Representative travel costs to other Quaker organizations	\$ 6,000
Net Teen program expenses	\$ 5,800
Quaker Quill costs, mostly for mailing paper copies	\$ 3,300
Various administration and office costs	\$ 2,550
Minutes and Directory expenses	\$ 2,150
Committee expenses not listed above	\$ 2,000
Liability insurance and background checks	\$ 1,300
Travel costs of committee members not donated	\$ 1,000
Transfer to the FWCC Conference fund	\$ 1,000
Transfer to Faith and Practice printing fund	\$ 500

As a Yearly Meeting we have been led to take on projects and expenses to enhance programs for our youth, support wider Quaker organizations, support a committee’s call to a mission and help unburden our clerk from drowning in paperwork, missing the chance to feel the Spirit call to her life and respond to the Divine Sparks in others. These are some of the ways costs enter our budget. Most of us feel there is Gospel order in living within our means. In order to find balance, the Budget and Finance Committee adds up the expected costs. We divide the expenses by the total number of members in the Yearly Meeting to calculate each member’s proportional share. That number is then used to determine each Monthly Meeting’s suggested fair share by

multiplying it times the number of members in the meeting. This year's calculated share per member is about \$113.54. A meeting with ten members would traditionally have been assessed \$1,135 and one with fifty members would owe \$5677. Your local meeting has already had a chance to affect the suggested proportional share by attending the Annual Budget Advisory Meeting. The Budget Advisory Meeting is currently the event where the yearly meeting community first evaluates the proposed budget. Everyone in the Yearly Meeting is welcome to attend this meeting and help shape our fiscal future. Next year, please remember this date: the first Saturday in April, the morning of Executive Committee.

It was decided at the 2008 OVYM annual sessions to add an intermediate step in the budget development process. Rather than assessing meetings and expecting that they will all pay the assessed amounts, we are asking each meeting to consider both the work of the Yearly Meeting and the Monthly Meeting's ability to contribute. The Budget & Finance Committee calculates each meeting's suggested proportional share and communicates this amount to them. Then, we ask each Monthly Meeting to discuss this figure at Monthly Meeting for Business. Each Monthly Meeting is to report back to OVYM Budget & Finance Committee an amount of its proportional share covenant pledge.

In the budget process, there are steps where we are open to the workings of the Spirit and steps that involve only basic mathematics. It is perhaps folly on the part of Budget and Finance to work on the assumption of a balanced budget at the beginning of the process and then give free reign to Monthly Meetings to unbalance it during the last step. In the months ahead, please consider and discuss what expenses enhance the lives of our Monthly and Yearly Meetings. What are our obligations to respond to the request for Proportional Share pledges? If a Monthly Meeting does not send representatives to Yearly Meeting sessions and Executive Committee meetings are they responsible for new expenses incurred by a call of the Spirit that others heard? Do the values of integrity and honesty include our interactions with Yearly Meeting? Dear Friends, this is only a Budget and Finance Committee report, but it also speaks about our condition as a Yearly Meeting.

Submitted by Wilson Palmer

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 1. Fund Balances at Year End

FWCC Conference Fund (Table 2)	1,516	1,516	2,516	1,516	3,516
Benevolent Fund (Table 3)	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Peace Witness Fund (Table 4)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Capital Fund (Table 5)	5,576	5,518	5,618	5,518	5,718
Faith and Practice Printing Fund (Table 6)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000
Teen Alaska Trip Fund (Table 7)	0	3,617	0	0	0
General Fund (Table 8)	32,135	33,476	31,319	36,202	31,319
Total	49,027	53,927	49,253	53,036	50,853
Increase (decrease)	13,446	3,460	226	-891	1,600

Table 2. FWCC Conference Fund

Starting Balance	516	516	1,516	1,516	2,516
Transfer from General Fund	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000
Disbursements (Kenya 2012)					
Ending Balance	1,516	1,516	2,516	1,516	3,516

Table 3. Benevolent Fund

Starting Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Income	200	152	100		100
Disbursements (65%=MQM, 35%= WW)	200	152	100		100
Ending Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800

Table 4. Peace Witness Fund

Starting Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Income	100		100		100
Disbursements - World Peace Tax Fund	100		100		100
Ending Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 5. Capital Fund

Starting Balance	5,376	5,376	5,518	5,518	5,618
Income	200	142	100		100
Distribution					
Ending Balance	5,576	5,518	5,618	5,518	5,718

Table 6. Faith & Practice Printing Fund

Starting Balance	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
Transfer from General Fund	500	500	0		500
Distribution					
Ending Balance	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,000

Table 7. Teen Alaska Trip Fund

Starting Balance	239	239	3,617	3,617	
From OVYM Reserves	3,000	3,000	-67	1	
From Teen Budget (Table 20)	3,000	3,000			
Fundraising & Contributions	9,361	8,584	1,300	600	
Participant Fees	3,500	2,000	800	1,300	
Total Income	19,100	16,823	5,650	5,518	
Fundraising Costs		485	0		
Cost of Alaska Trip	19,100	12,721	5,650	5,518	
Total Expenses	19,100	13,206	5,650	5,518	
Ending Balance	0	3,617	0	0	

Table 8. General Fund Summary

INCOME					
Meeting Contributions (Table 9)	76,903	73,846	78,278	63,688	76,303
Interest	500	116	100		100
Other Income					
Cash contributions	500		200		200
Donated Travel Costs	3,500	3,058	3,500	922	3,500
Sales of Disciplines	28	8			
Total Income	81,403	77,028	82,078	64,610	80,103

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 10. Operating Expenses

Administration (Table 11)	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,768	2,650
Clerical support (Table 12)	750	903	900	283	900
Staff (Table 13)	21,925	22,112	22,240	20,552	22,740
Publications (Table 14)	4,690	3,997	4,350	986	5,450
Archives	600		300		300
Misc					
Total	31,015	28,848	30,290	23,589	32,040

Table 11. Administration

Bank Charges	100	11	50		50
Printing	200	92	100	624	100
Liability Insurance	850	815	850	969	1,000
Background Checks	400	230	300	72	300
Clerks' Expenses	1,000	412	800		800
Treasurer's Expenses	500	276	400	103	400
Total	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,768	2,650

Table 12. Clerical Support

Office Expenses	200	895	700	125	700
Postage	250	8		44	
Travel	300		200	114	200
Total	750	903	900	283	900

Table 13. Staff

Compensation	18,346	20,066	20,500	18,780	21,000
Tax	1,403	792		633	
Workers Comp	325	358	360	314	360
Cell Phone	550	459	480	395	480
Internet Access	300	274	400	370	400
Professional Development	1,000	163	500	60	500
Total	21,925	22,112	22,240	20,552	22,740

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 14. Publications

Quill	2,290	2,039	2,200		3,300
Minutes	1,600	1,623	1,650	986	1,650
Directory	800	335	500		500
Total	4,690	3,997	4,350	986	5,450

Table 15. Committee Expense

Advancement & Nurture (Table 16)	355	0	400	0	400
Middle Youth (Table 17)	1,275	198	600	106	600
Peace & Social Concerns (Table 18)	750	170	600	0	600
Religious Education (Table 19)	300	0	200	175	200
Teen Program (Table 20)	5,275	4,142	5,800	729	5,800
Mid-year Children's Program					200
Travel - Donated	1,000	900	1,000	166	1,000
Travel - Reimbursed	1,800	562	1,000		1,000
Total Expenses	10,755	5,972	9,600	1,176	9,800

Table 16. Advancement & Nurture Committee

Retreat Honorarium	100				
Books for members	50		50		50
Pamphlet reprinting	100		100		100
Printing & Advertising	35				
Postage & Photos	70				
Gathering of M&C clerks			150		150
Sample Resource Materials			100		100
Total Expense	355	0	400	0	400

Table 17. Middle Youth Committee

Joint Quarterly Gathering	450			106	
Winter Gathering	550	198			
Spring Biking	275				
Staff			400		400
Supplies			200		200
Total Expense	1,275	198	600	106	600

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 18. Peace & Social Concerns

Work Camps	120		120		120
Pre-YM Workshop	400		250		250
Postage	180	170	180		180
Materials					
Display for YM Sessions	50		50		50
Total Expense	750	170	600	0	600

Table 19. Religious Education Committee

Lending Library					
RE Newsletter					
Postage					50
Fall Retreat & Spring Workshop	300		200	175	150
Total Expense	300	0	200	175	200

Table 20. Teen Program

INCOME

Contributions					
Fundraising					300
Participant Fees	75	215	300	40	1,200
Total Income	75	215	300	40	1,500

EXPENSE

Publicity	200		100		100
Travel	1,000	286	1,200	400	900
Teen Events	750	788	800	369	800
Service Trips	400	283	4,000		5,500
Alaska Trip	3,000	3,000			
Misc					
Total Expense	5,350	4,357	6,100	769	7,300

Net Teen Prog Cost	5,275	4,142	5,800	729	5,800
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	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
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Table 21. Representative Travel

Normal (\$250 per trip)	2,750	2,750	3,000	1,325	3,000
Additional Reimbursement	1,750	2,916	2,000	1,242	2,000
Coopted Representatives	1,000	984	1,000	750	1,000
Donated Travel	2,500	2,158	2,500	675	2,500
Total Expenses	8,000	8,808	8,500	3,992	8,500

Table 22. Yearly Meeting Sessions

INCOME

Contributions	2,500	2,749	2,500	0	500
Registration	2,910	3,120	2,910	2,582	2,500
Room & Board Charges	15,554	16,146	15,554	13,760	13,700
Bookstore Income	2,100	1,180	1,700	2,415	2,000
Total Income	23,064	23,195	22,664	18,757	18,700

EXPENSES

Administration	120	109	470	171	250
Adult Program	1,900	1,221	1,740	1,526	1,800
Young Adult Program					
Teen Program	1,200	1,633	1,500	1,400	1,400
Middle Youth Program	1,740	1,533	1,740	1,233	1,233
Children's Program	2,400	2,701	2,400	2,765	2,765
Adult Room & Board	15,554	16,086	15,554	12,808	13,000
Room & Board Subsidies					
Children	6,383	6,916	6,383	5,040	5,125
Staff	1,913	2,073	1,913	1,512	1,600
Guests	502	242	633	504	466
YAF attenders subsidy			1,800	1,420	1,420
First-time attenders subsidy			2,056	1,626	1,626
Simple Meal Donation	637	650	637	600	600
Bookstore Expenses	1,400	1,142	1,400	1,928	1,928
Total Expenses	33,749	34,306	38,226	32,533	33,213

Net Cost of Session	10,686	11,111	15,562	13,776	14,513
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	08-09 Budget	08-09 Actual	09-10 Budget	09-10 YTD Actual 6-4-10	Pro- posed 10-11 Budget
Table 23. Contributions by OVYM					
OVYM Ministries					
Friends Home	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Friends Music Camp	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Lauramoore Home	400	400	400	400	400
Subtotal	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400
Major Quaker Organizations					
AFSC	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650
FCNL	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
FGC	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Friends Journal	600	600	600	600	600
FWCC	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Quaker United Nations Office	500	500	500	500	500
Subtotal	12,750	12,750	12,750	12,750	12,750
Quaker Education and Outreach					
Earlham College	300	300	300	300	300
Olney Friends School	300	300	300	300	300
Quaker Heritage Center	300	300	300	300	300
Wilmington College	300	300	300	300	300
Subtotal	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Specific Q. Peace & Social Concerns					
FLGBTQC (Lesbian & Gay Concerns)	200	200	200	200	200
Friends Peace Teams	500	500	500	500	500
Indiana Friends Com. On Legislation	200	200	200	200	200
Quaker Earthcare Witness	500	500	500	500	500
Right Sharing of World Resources	600	600	600	600	600
Subtotal	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Contributions	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350

OVYM Treasurer's Report

2009-2010

Steve Angell (Oxford M. M.)

The Yearly Meeting budget ran a substantial surplus this year, as you can see at the bottom of Table 8, General Fund Summary of Income and Expenses. The real surplus is somewhat less than that. The Teen Service Trip ended on July 4, after the end of the fiscal year, and there are still a couple of thousand dollars in expenses from that trip that will need to be paid in the new fiscal year. Also, the surplus includes \$1440 from the Friends Property Corporation, a sum remitted to the Treasury by Tom Nowell before his recent move to Cleveland. Tom suggests this money needs to be kept in a separate fund. (See his letter appended to the end of the Treasurer's Report). Budget and Finance Committee has not yet met to determine how to deal with this fund. In any case, the real surplus is probably in the \$7000 to \$8000 range.

Why did we run a surplus of that size? The answer is that Monthly Meetings were faithful in sending in their proportional shares, so that our income was about what we expected, but our spending in several areas was much less than the budget, and also less than what we had spent in the same areas in years past. In operating expenses, we were \$3000 under budget, and more than \$1000 dollars under what we expended last year. In committee expense we were \$5000 under budget, although this would change if belated teen committee expenses were included. In Representative Travel, we spend more than \$4000 under budget, and more than \$4000 less than we spend last fiscal year. Our yearly meeting sessions expense was almost \$2000 less than what we budgeted. Contributions were the one part of the budget that worked out precisely as we expected them to.

A perennial problem for Budget and Finance Committee is getting accurate feedback from constituent parts of the Yearly Meeting as to what anticipated expenses for the next fiscal year will be. In short, the monies that we raise could comfortably sustain more activities by yearly meeting committees and members either than what is happening, or than what members are informing the yearly meeting treasurer about.

Another transition in the Treasurer's Office is occurring. Please welcome our new Treasurer, Wilson Palmer of Eastern Hills Meeting. It has been a great pleasure for me to serve the Yearly Meeting as your treasurer

	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
Table 2010-1. Fund Balances at Year End					
FWCC Triennial (Table 2010-2)	516	1,516	1,516	2,516	3,516
Benevolent Fund (Table 2010-3)	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Peace Witness Fund (Table 2010-4)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Capital Fund (Table 2010-5)	5,376	5,576	5,518	5,568	5,594
<i>Discipline Printing Fund (Table 2010-6)</i>	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Teen Alaska Trip Fund (Table 2010-7)	239	0	3,617	0	0
General Fund (Table 2010-8)	35,037	32,134	35,009	34,880	45,111
Total	50,467	49,026	55,459	52,763	64,020
Increase (decrease)	327	-1,441	4,992	-2,696	11,257

Table 2010-2. FWCC Triennial Fund

Starting Balance	1,686	516	516	1,516	2,516
Transfer from General Fund	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Close WGYF Fund					
Disbursements	2,171				
Ending Balance	516	1,516	1,516	2,516	3,516

Table 2010-3. Benevolent Fund

Starting Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Income	229	200	152	100	57
Disbursements	229	200	152	100	57
Ending Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800

Table 2010-4. Peace Witness Fund

Starting Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Income	100	100		100	50
Disbursements	100	100		100	50
Ending Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500

Table 2010-5. Capital Fund

Starting Balance	5,179	5,376	5,376	5,518	5,568
Income	197	200	142	50	26
Distribution					
Ending Balance	5,376	5,576	5,518	5,568	5,594

Table 2010-6. Discipline Printing Fund

Starting Balance	500	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500
Income	500	500	500	0	
Distribution					
Ending Balance	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500

Table 2010-7. Teen Alaska Trip Fund

Starting Balance		239	239	3,617	3,617
From OVYM Reserves		3,000	3,000	-67	1
From Teen Budget (Table 2010-19)		3,000	3,000		
Fundraising & Contributions	414	9,361	8,584	1,300	600
Participant Fees		3,500	2,000	800	1,300
Total Income	414	19,100	16,823	5,650	5,518
Fundraising Costs	35	175	485	0	
Cost of Alaska Trip		19,100	12,721	5,650	5,518
Total Expenses	175	19,100	13,206	5,650	5,518
Ending Balance	239	0	3,617	0	0

Table 2010-8. General Fund Summary	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
INCOME					
Meeting Contributions (Table 2010-9)	69,089	76,903	73,846	80,306	77,848
Interest	891	500	116	100	
Other Income					1,440
Cash contributions	2,154	500		200	115
Contributed Travel Costs	3,369	3,500	3,058	3,500	1,206
Sales of Disciplines			8		
Total Income	75,503	81,403	77,028	84,106	80,609
EXPENSES					
Operating Expenses (Table 2010-10)	29,130	31,015	28,848	30,290	27,798
Committee Expenses (Table 2010-15)	11,537	10,755	5,972	9,600	4,387
Representative Travel (Table 2010-21)	8,288	8,000	8,808	8,500	4,066
Yearly Meeting Session (Table 2010-22)	7,252	10,686	9,578	15,562	13,776
Transfer to FWCC Triennial Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Transfer to <i>Discipline</i> Printing Fund	500	500	500	0	
Contributions by OVYM (Table 2010-23)	16,000	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350
Total Expenses	73,707	81,305	74,056	84,302	70,377
Net General Fund Gain (Loss)	1,796	98	2,972	-196	10,232

Table 2010-9. Meeting Contributions					
Bloomington	7,200	6,572	6,892	8,325	6,967
Campus	1,428	1,484	1,641	1,575	1,611
Clear Creek	10,476	11,342	11,342	12,150	12,150
Community	5,917	8,374	7,885	8,663	7,950
Dayton	2,134	2,226	2,226	1,575	1,590
Eastern Hills	2,200	2,279	2,300	2,306	2,350
Fall Creek	1,261	848	0	300	686
Fort Wayne		0	450	450	
Green Plain	0	1,166	480	1,238	450
Hopewell	970	1,060	0	300	600
Lafayette	1,164	1,590	1,150	1,688	1,688
Lexington	5,238	5,724	5,724	5,963	6,082
Louisville	8,000	8,692	9,100	9,113	9,100
Maple Grove	0	106	0	113	
Miami	5,432	5,830	6,000	5,850	6,000
North Meadow	3,783	4,346	4,346	4,275	4,274
Oxford	1,649	1,590	1,590	1,688	1,725
White Rose	500	954	0	1,013	500
Yellow Springs	11,737	12,720	12,720	13,725	14,125
TOTAL Meeting Contributions	69,089	76,903	73,846	80,306	77,848

Table 2010-10. Operating Expenses	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
Administration (Table 2010-11)	2,449	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,905
Clerical support (Table 2010-12)	849	750	903	900	358
Staff (Table 2010-13)	21,059	21,925	22,112	22,240	21,747
Publications (Table 2010-14)	4,148	4,690	3,997	4,350	3,188
Archives	600	600		300	600
Misc	25				
Total	29,130	31,015	28,848	30,290	27,798

Table 2010-11. Administration

Bank Charges	157	100	11	50	22
Printing	180	200	92	100	624
Liability Insurance	813	850	815	850	969
Background Checks		400	230	300	72
Clerks' Expenses	937	1,000	412	800	115
Treasurer's Expenses	361	500	276	400	103
Total	2,449	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,905

Table 2010-12. Clerical Support

Office Expenses	150	200	895	700	139
Setup New Office	400				
Postage	100	250	8		44
Travel	199	300		200	175
Total	849	750	903	900	358

Table 2010-13. Staff

Compensation	15,340	18,346	20,066	20,500	19,960
Tax	1,106	1,403	792		633
Workers Comp	313	325	358	360	314
Medical	2,842				0
Cell Phone	514	550	459	480	395
Internet Access	348	300	274	400	385
Professional Development	597	1,000	163	500	60
Total	21,059	21,925	22,112	22,240	21,747

Table 2010-14. Publications

Quill	1,896	2,290	2,039	2,200	2,202
Minutes	1,490	1,600	1,623	1,650	986
Directory	763	800	335	500	
Total	4,148	4,690	3,997	4,350	3,188

Table 2010-15. Committee Expense

Ad Hoc FWCC 2009 Arrangements	327		0		
Advancement & Nurture (Table 2010-16)	666	355	0	400	0
Middle Youth (Table 2010-17)	1,031	1,275	198	600	106
Peace & Social Concerns (Table 2010-18)	356	750	170	600	0
Religious Education (Table 2010-19)	0	300	0	200	235
Teen Program (Table 2010-20)	5,756	5,275	4,142	5,800	3,319
Travel - Donated	1,058	1,000	900	1,000	457
Travel - Reimbursed	2,343	1,800	562	1,000	270
Total Expenses	11,537	10,755	5,972	9,600	4,387

Table 2010-16. Advancement & Nurture Committee	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
Retreat Honorarium	50	100			
Books for members	227	50		50	
Pamphlet reprinting	388	100		100	
Printing & Advertising		35			
Postage & Photos		70			
Gathering of M&C clerks				150	
Sample Resource Materials				100	
Total Expense	666	355	0	400	0

Table 2010-17. Middle Youth Committee					
Joint Quarterly Gathering		450			106
Winter Gathering		550	198		
Spring Biking		275			
Staff				400	
Supplies				200	
Total Expense		1,275	198	600	106

Table 2010-18. Peace & Social Concerns					
Work Camps		120		120	
Pre-YM Workshop	94	400		250	
Postage	96	180	170	180	
Materials	85				
Display for YM Sessions	82	50		50	
Total Expense	356	750	170	600	0

Table 2010-19. Religious Education Committee					
Lending Library					
RE Newsletter					
Postage					
Fall Retreat & Spring Workshop		300		200	235
Total Expense		300	0	200	235

Table 2010-20. Teen Program					
INCOME					
Contributions					
Fundraising					
Participant Fees	800	75	215	300	40
Total Income	800	75	215	300	40
EXPENSE					
Publicity		200		100	
Travel	879	1,000	286	1,200	400
Teen Events	1,341	750	788	800	369
Service Trips	4,255	400	283	4,000	2,590
Alaska Trip		3,000	3,000		
Misc	81				
Total Expense	6,556	5,350	4,357	6,100	3,359

Net Teen Prog Cost	5,756	5,275	4,142	5,800	3,319
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Table 2010-21. Representative Travel					
Normal (\$250 per trip)		2,877	2,750	2,750	1,325
Additional Reimbursement	38	1,600	1,750	2,916	1,242
Coopted Representatives		1,500	1,000	984	750
Donated Travel		2,311	2,500	2,158	749
Total Expenses		8,288	8,000	8,808	4,066

Table 2010-22. Yearly Meeting Sessions	2007-	2008-09	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10
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Table 2010-22. Yearly Meeting Sessions	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
INCOME					
Contributions	2,424	2,500	2,749	2,500	0
Registration	2,750	2,910	3,120	2,910	2,582
Room & Board Charges	13,181	15,554	16,146	15,554	13,760
Bookstore Income	2,097	2,100	1,180	1,700	2,415
Total Income	20,452	23,064	23,195	22,664	18,757
EXPENSES					
Administration	120	120	109	470	171
Adult Program	1,316	1,900	1,221	1,740	1,526
Young Adult Program					
Teen Program	1,108	1,200	1,633	1,500	1,400
Middle Youth Program	1,677	1,740		1,740	1,233
Children's Program plus \$125 for Joint QM expenses	2,355	2,400	2,701	2,400	2,765
Adult Room & Board	12,582	15,554	16,086	15,554	12,808
Room & Board Subsidies					
Children	5,409	6,383	6,916	6,383	5,040
Staff	1,622	1,913	2,073	1,913	1,512
Guests	189	502	242	633	504
YAF attenders subsidy				1,800	1,420
First-time attenders subsidy				2,056	1,626
Simple Meal Donation		637	650	637	600
Bookstore Expenses	1,326	1,400	1,142	1,400	1,928
Total Expenses	27,704	33,749	32,773	38,226	32,533
Net Cost of Session	7,252	10,686	9,578	15,562	13,776

Table 2010-23. Contributions by OVYM

OVYM Ministries					
Friends Home	400	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Friends Music Camp	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Lauramoore Home	400	400	400	400	400
Subtotal	1,800	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400
Major Quaker Organizations					
AFSC	2,500	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650
FCNL	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
FGC	3,700	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
<i>Friends Journal</i>	600	600	600	600	600
FWCC	2,750	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
FWCC Midwest Field Sec. (restricted)	650				
Quaker United Nations Office	300	500	500	500	500
Subtotal	12,400	12,750	12,750	12,750	12,750
Quaker Education and Outreach					
Earlham College		300	300	300	300
Olney Friends School	300	300	300	300	300
Quaker Heritage Center		300	300	300	300
Wilmington College		300	300	300	300
Subtotal	300	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Quaker Peace and Social Concerns with specific focus					
FLGBTQC (Lesbian & Gay Concerns)	200	200	200	200	200
Friends Peace Teams	100	500	500	500	500
Indiana Friends Com. On Legislation	100	200	200	200	200
Quaker Earthcare Witness	500	500	500	500	500
Right Sharing of World Resources	600	600	600	600	600
Subtotal	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Contributions	16,000	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350

Letter from Tom Nowel, Property Corporation Treasurer
Hi Steve,

I hope all is well with you. I am sending you a check in the amount of \$1436.84. This represents the total investment of the Ohio Valley Property Corporation. The Property Corp was formed about 12 or 13 years ago as a way for Yearly Meeting to legally hold property. At the time there was the possibility of a large farm coming into the possession of Yearly Meeting. OVYM needed a legal vehicle to hold such property, and Tom Hill established the Property Corp to accomplish this. The Corp is registered with the Ohio Secretary of State. It was thought, at the time, that this property could be used as a retreat center. Friends were encouraged to make financial contributions to support the function of the Property Corp. As it turned out, the owners of the farm decided not to donate it to Yearly Meeting, but the Property Corp. continued to exist in the event that various kinds of property might be donated in the future. One Friend donated \$1000.00 to the Property Corp. about 12 years ago. This is the only contribution ever made. The Trustees placed the donation in a money market with a social awareness policy. About four or five years ago, this investment company went through some difficult times, and the Property Corp investment was scheduled for liquidation. I had one hell of a time saving the investment. I have been the Treasurer of the Property Corp since its inception. I have been the sole signatory to the account that has held the investment. This has always made me very nervous, but no other trustees would step forward to be a second signatory. Following the debacle with the money market account, I placed the investment in a safe CD at the bank where I conduct my business, First Financial Bank. Again, I have been the only signatory. I had major surgery last month. What would happen to the investment, if I was no longer around?

In the annual meeting of the Trustees of the Property Corp, last late summer, members came to unity to close out the CD account on its maturity date and to send the proceeds to the OVYM Treasurer. The minute stated that the Treasurer would designate the monies as belonging to the Property Corp. but to place it with other OVYM monies. The maturity date of the CD was June 28. The bank would only make a check out to me since I am the sole signatory. I placed the proceeds in my checking account, and now you will be receiving the proceeds as I have written a check to Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. My 12 year term as Treasurer is also ending at the close of Yearly Meeting session. So this had to be taken care of now. Hopefully you will know how best to handle the investment and yet earmark it as Property Corp.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. The "check is in the mail."

Blessings,

Tom Nowel, 06/30/10

Friends Home, Inc. (Quaker Heights Care Community)

2010 Report to Yearly Meeting

Quaker Heights remains an important ministry of the yearly meeting, as we provide skilled care and assisted living to elderly in the Waynesville area. We remain one of the largest employers in the area, providing jobs that with living wages to all our workers.

The Board of Trustees has continued to plan for the future in an era that makes any planning difficult. The economic downturn and the changes in health care will continue to impact our mission in ways we cannot fully predict. However, we are confident that to provide the care we wish to deliver, we must generate funding outside government sources. To accomplish this, the Board has engaged a consultant to help us establish an ongoing advancement process. Concurrently, the Trustees are educating themselves on the components of a successful advancement process.

We have fully implemented electronic documentation within the organization. Staff are becoming more proficient in its use and using less time to provide the documentation that supports our reimbursement from private and governmental insurance programs.

We have initiated a program that allows us to benchmark our quality indicators with national indicators. This gives us immediate feedback on how we are doing well and where we need to improve in our care to residents. We should start to get reliable data later this summer.

Attracting more short-term rehabilitation residents is part of our strategic plan. To this end, we are exploring the possibility of enlarging our rehabilitation area and providing more private rooms.

We are recognizing that more of our assisted living residents are coming with memory problems and/or impaired thinking. In response, we are offering more education about their care to our staff.

In summary, this has been a year of continued challenges. However, we continue to meet those challenges and plan for a future in which we continue to provide care to our residents that reflects our core Quaker values of equality, integrity, simplicity, and harmony.

Wendy Waters-Connell, Executive Director

Alice Palmer, Clerk

OVYM Discipline Revision Committee

Report in Advance
June 2010

Committee Members Byron Branson, Paul Buckley, Lisa Cayard, Mary Garman, Betsy Neale (co-clerk), Wilson Palmer, Barbara Robinson, Rex Sprouse (co-clerk).

Work of the committee and monthly meetings, 2009-2010 The Discipline Revision Committee held day-long meetings in September, November, January, and April, each time at Community Friends meetinghouse. Mary Garman, of Clear Creek FM, and Barbara Robinson, of Dayton FM, began terms of service on the committee this year.

Monthly meeting contacts The committee has been contacting monthly meetings to update our list of monthly meeting contacts. If your meeting has not already done so, please notify Rex Sprouse of the name of the person in your meeting who should receive materials and communications from the Discipline Revision Committee.

Assessing the progress of the revision process The committee spent some time this year reviewing our working table of contents and assessing the remaining revision work. If we consider the material that has been revised and approved by the yearly meeting, our progress appears to be very slow. The committee feels, however, that there is much material in the current *Book of Discipline* that needs little or no revision. In addition, some topics in the working table of contents can be addressed briefly, perhaps in one or two descriptive sentences followed by citations directing the reader to print and/or internet sources for more detailed information. Since the revised book may be the last version that will appear as a printed book, including citations to internet sources is a doorway into a future virtual version of our *Faith and Practice*.

The working table of contents differs substantially from that in the current *Book of Discipline*. The new version is organized to make it easy for the reader to find material on specific topics, and it clearly delineates material on Quaker organization from that on issues of faith. We anticipate that the book will be used in two primary ways: 1) by seasoned Friends seeking information on procedures, and 2) by people newer to meeting who wish to learn more about Quakerism in order to make a decision about applying for membership.

Membership Section We remind Friends that the Membership Section has been divided into three parts during the review and revision process because it is such a long section. The part demarcations will not appear in the final publication of the section.

Parts I and II of the membership section were approved at the 2009 sessions. Membership, Part III, draft 4, which addresses the membership of children, was threshed at those sessions. Because the committee sensed agreement with Part III during that threshing, we created draft 5 and published it in the minute book for a year of seasoning. We will bring it to the 2010 sessions for consideration for approval.

Seeking Harmony with Creation In the fall we distributed to monthly meetings a revised version of the text on concerns about the environment. Responses were received from seven monthly meetings. The committee carefully considered the responses from monthly meetings and developed draft 7 of this section, which will be presented for threshing during the 2010 annual sessions.

Close Relationships (Part I). The first draft of this text was distributed to monthly meetings for their consideration in early 2010. We received responses from 8 monthly meetings. At the time of the writing of this report, the committee is still developing draft 2 of this text, which we expect to present for threshing at this year's 2010 sessions. We have modified the Introduction to make it more reflective of our spiritual experiences and understanding. In the subsection on Friendship we have clarified that the text applies to many types of friendships, not just spiritual friendships or those within our meetings. We affirmed the importance of integrity in all friendships. We also labored at length on the subsection, Sexuality. We clarified our understanding of the spiritual nature of sexuality and the need to express our sexuality with honesty, respect, and integrity.

In closing We thank Friends for their participation in the work of discipline revision during the past year. We look forward to a productive year in 2010-2011. Monthly meetings can again expect assignments, one for consideration between October 2010 and January 2011 and another for consideration between February and April 2011.

Note: Three draft documents are published below.

The first document, Membership (Part III), Draft 5 was published last fall for a year of seasoning. It is being presented at this year's sessions for approval and adoption.

“Seeking Harmony with Creation,” 8th Draft, is presented for Friends’ consideration for a year of seasoning before approval. If accepted for seasoning, these documents will be published in the 2010 OVYM Minute Book.

“Close Relationships,” (Part I), Draft 2 is presented for threshing.

Faith and Practice – A Book of Discipline
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting
Membership (Part III)
5th Draft
Ninth Month 12, 2009

Youth membership

Friends’ communities rest on a principle of equality and on the worth of every individual. We value and welcome the young people who attend our meetings and participate in the lives of our communities. At the same time, our faith rests on deep personal and individual experience, and membership in the Religious Society of Friends and in a particular monthly meeting calls for a serious commitment. One person cannot make this commitment for another, and a caregiver cannot make this commitment for a young child. In order to accommodate both of these spiritual insights, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting presents the following procedures as a model to consider. These procedures recognize both youth membership and adult membership and outline a process for transition to adult membership. Regardless of a Friend’s age, the term youth membership as used here is understood as membership requested by another on that Friend’s behalf, while the term adult membership is understood as membership requested by that Friend directly.

Members who are parents or those with parental responsibility intending to bring up a child in accordance with Friends’ faith and practice may request youth membership for the child. Monthly meetings may accept minor children as youth members at the request of one or both of their parents or guardians. The Committee for Ministry and Counsel should approach members who are new parents and parents requesting transfer of membership and ask if they would like to request youth membership for their children. Likewise, the membership clearness process for new members who are parents should include the children in the discussion of membership. When the monthly meeting accepts a child into youth membership, the child will also be considered a youth member of the relevant quarterly meeting and of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Children must ultimately make their own decision about adult membership. Youth members may request transition to adult membership at any time they feel ready to do so, by writing a simple letter to the Committee for Ministry and Counsel. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting recommends that monthly meetings appoint membership clearness committees for youth members seeking transition to adult membership, following the same procedures set forth above for new membership.

To help prepare children for making this decision, the meeting should teach children about the meaning and responsibilities of membership. This process includes teaching children how to enter into waiting worship and how to participate in the Spirit-led Quaker business process, giving them opportunities to accept responsibilities such as participation on committees as they are able, and encouraging them to participate in youth groups associated with quarterly meetings, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, and Friends General Conference.

When parents or other adult Friends sense that a young person may be ready for adult membership, they should encourage the youth member to consider taking this step. The Committee for Ministry and Counsel should send a letter to each youth member around age 16, expressing appreciation for the young person's gifts and growing spiritual maturity and encouraging him or her to consider whether the time is right to request adult membership. Ministry and Counsel should continue to send letters to the youth member every two or three years between the ages of 16 and 25. The youth member should be asked to make a decision by his or her 25th birthday.

If a youth member has not requested adult membership by age 25, youth membership status ends, and the monthly meeting will minute that action. Should a youth member of any age inform the meeting that he or she does not wish to remain a member of the Religious Society of Friends, Ministry and Counsel is advised to seek discernment regarding the appropriate course of action in that individual case. However, if the youth member is clear about resignation, the monthly meeting will minute that the individual's youth membership has ended. These young people should be warmly assured that they are welcome to continue as active attenders, that they may at any time request membership, and that the meeting will continue to support them with loving care.

Friends recognize that monthly meetings may discern alternative procedures concerning membership of children. Whatever procedures are adopted should reflect Friends' sense of loving concern and responsibility for children, as well as our belief in the value of raising children as part of a spiritual community.

Faith and Practice – A Book of Discipline
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting
Seeking Harmony with Creation
7th Draft
Fourth Month 10, 2010

The Earth is the Lord's
and the fullness thereof,
The world and those
who dwell therein.
(Psalm 24: 1)

Quakers have a long and deep history of respect for the creation of which we are a part. Our wondrous world is a manifestation of the Divine with the power to nourish us physically and spiritually. William Penn articulated this faith-based concern for the Earth when he asked how human beings could “find the Confidence to abuse [Creation], while they should see the Great Creator look them in the Face, in all and every Part thereof?” Likewise, John Woolman wrote, “To say we love God as unseen and at the same time to exercise cruelty toward the least creature moving by his life ... is a contradiction in itself.”

Ongoing exploitation of the Earth's resources threatens the delicate ecological balance that sustains the current web of life. Flowing from our testimonies, Friends' responses take various forms. In 2002, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends found unity around the principle of sustainability as a basic standard for responsible living. As individuals and meetings, Friends are encouraged to examine their lives and take action to walk more lightly on the Earth, seeking harmony with creation. Friends are also called to promote systemic changes in government and industry that would heal and protect the Earth. With Divine assistance, our witness should offer a pattern that would inspire and inform the actions of others.

Faith and Practice – A Book of Discipline
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting
Close Relationships (Part I)
2nd Draft
Sixth Month 28, 2010

Introduction

The fundamental faith of the Religious Society of Friends should be visible in our daily lives. Faithful Friends seek to practice Divine love in close relationships within our community of family, friends, and the children under our care. As we experience God's love for us, we grow in our love for God and love of our fellow human beings. In turn, these loving relationships draw us closer to God. We are called upon to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, tolerance, and forgiveness in our lives with one another (Colossians 3:12). Both individuals and monthly meetings have a responsibility to support and nurture spiritually edifying close relationships built on this foundation.

Friendship

Deep friendships encourage us, stretch us, challenge us, and sustain us. It is important for friends to respect one another, to protect one another's reputation, and to honor trust and confidentiality. Good friends can minister to one another, sometimes listening with an open heart and mind to private concerns, sometimes speaking truth that only close friends can offer. Friendships across genders, sexualities, classes, generations, faith traditions, or races can enrich our understanding and provide great joy.

Since the earliest days of our Religious Society, Quakers have been encouraged to know one another in those things that are eternal. Spiritually uplifting friendships do not require agreement on every point of faith and practice, but they are greatly helped by a shared vision of faithfulness to leadings of the Spirit

Sexuality

Friends understand the gift of sexuality as one of the ways to participate in the love of God. This is true regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Deep respect for that of God in each person means that our relationships should be free of exploitation. We are asked to consider our motives and to remember that mutual love and respect, honesty, and commitment are essential ingredients of rightly ordered relationships. Sexuality is a powerful force that can transform life in ways both positive and negative. We should be mindful that abuse of sexuality can have serious, long-term emotional and physical consequences for ourselves and others. Among Friends, sexuality education for both children and adults should be based in spirituality and on the best scientific information available.

Marriage and other steadfast commitments

Our meetings are enlivened and challenged by the loving steadfast commitments of members and attenders. It is our hope that such commitments will build spiritual bonds that make themselves felt not only in the home and in the meeting but also in the world. As relationships develop, the partners ideally find richness in sharing on many levels, including physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual.

Some committed partners request marriage under the care of the meeting. Following a discernment process, marriage is solemnized in a Meeting for Worship, the partners promising with Divine assistance to be faithful to each other. We feel that God alone can rightly join partners in marriage, and no priest or church official is essential for its accomplishment. A meeting taking a marriage under its care nevertheless makes a serious commitment to support and strengthen that marriage. [The recommendations for the wedding procedure are to be found on pp. xx in this volume.]

It is the conviction of Friends that marriage is a covenant for life. A lifelong commitment can sustain a marriage through very trying times, forging a deeper and more spiritually mature relationship. Implicit in the marriage promise are both the realization that problems and disagreements will arise and a commitment by both partners to make sincere efforts with Divine guidance to solve them. Only by mutual love and unselfishness can any steadfast relationship be maintained. This is not an easy task, but it is a high calling toward which we should strive.

(tentative) topics to be addressed in Part II

Family Relations

Supporting Marriages and Other Steadfast Commitments

Nurturing Children

Ending Close Relationships

Aging

Death

Bereavement

Quaker Quill Report

to the 2010 Annual Sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

In a world that increasingly is electronic, the Quaker Quill remains mostly a paper publication. Paper is tactile, durable, portable in ways that an electronic file displayed is not (and for many of us more than a decade of Quaker Quills are available at the OVYM web page) and a paper document is complete, it can be tucked in a pocket read anywhere the light is good enough: under a tree, in the car, on the sofa, on a bus... and so many other places. However you choose to receive the Quaker Quill, it needs to be useful to you. About three percent of the Quill will have been delivered by way of the internet in June of 2010 and three percent of the Quill annual expenses to OVYM is roughly eighty one dollars. For a few intrepid soles the Quill will be delivered by email, slipped in quietly on waves of electrons and photons mediated by quadrillions, if that few, of transistors of the vast infrastructure of an industrial society: which, by the way, can be converted to paper, for the paper inclined, avoiding the cost to Yearly Meeting of postage and printing.

The June issue of the Quill had a subscribership of 791 by U.S.P.S. and 22 by email. The annual expected cost will increase from roughly \$2,400 in this past year to \$3,000 with an additional one time expense for mailing permit of about \$300. The largest part of the increase will be the cost of printing partly because printing is our largest cost. The price of printing had been trending up with a larger expected cost for printing of this last issue than was experienced.

The June 2010 issue of the OVYM Quaker Quill will be my forth issue. The look of the Quill started to change markedly at the end of Barbarie Hill's long tenure as editor. Annie Glen continued that change with the new look. I took that trend with particular regard for the front page and after three issues have sorted out with the help of years of back issues what seemed the major elements of format and content. I have gotten the occasional "wow" and "looks really good", which is much appreciated. My effort has been to listen and hear, to included in the Quill that which is best conveyed by this means.

As always, find me and tell what you think.

Yours in peace,
Dan Cartmell
Editor, OVYM Quaker Quill

OVYM Religious Education Committee

The OVYM Religious Education Committee has had an active and productive year. Our meetings have been blessed by the presence of the Spirit, which we lean to for guidance and direction. We have visited monthly meetings providing religious education materials and facilitating discussions, conducted a workshop for a meeting's retreat and at times, have visited our Friends to be companions along the way. We have been received with warmth and hospitality, which has greatly encouraged us.

This has been a year of good works and yet we know there can and should be more. In our committee meetings, Spirit has raised up a concern, with power and urgency, which we have spent much time in discernment with. We are now carrying that concern for our Monthly, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings which is intentionally seeking out, naming and lifting up the gifts of the Spirit that God so graciously gives for the building up of our faith communities. The gift of the Elder has been at the forefront of our discussions, but it has become clear that no discussion of any one of the gifts would be whole without including the other gifts of the Spirit. Our enthusiasm for this work is in response to the Spirit within us. It is our great pleasure to be of service to our beloved community, to recognize the gifts among us and to celebrate them and encourage their growth, with special attentiveness to the rising generation.

Advancement and Nurture Committee

2010 Report

This year we used conference calls for all but one of our meetings. We have learned that though technology saved a lot of fossil fuel, face-to-face meetings are very important for us. As we discussed where we are and where we are being led, we are going to meet together more often while making use of conference calls to save travel.

Our committee continued in the time of discernment, which began last year. We are listening for leadings for how best we serve the yearly meeting. Listening together helped us in the task of getting to know each other in new ways and finding gifts that we have together that we do not possess as individuals.

Over the course of the year our committee consulted with the Religious Education Committee as they seasoned a leading to explore the theme of eldering. We spent a substantial amount of time discussing a visioning process for the yearly meeting. This is an ongoing task and you will be hearing more from us as time goes on. In many ways our only meeting together in the same room was the highlight of the year. We met in a time of worship and sharing as we considered the State of Society Reports. At the conclusion of the year, we feel great challenges and great opportunities.

FCNL Annual Meeting

More than 170 Quakers from 39 states gathered in Washington, DC from November 12 – 15 to plan their work for 2010 and discuss strategies for further strengthening FCNL to realize the historic opportunities for policy change in Washington. In addition to OVYM representatives Ken Bordwell, Frank Huss and Jane Stowe, Mary Anne Curtis from Community Friends and James Russell from Yellow Springs attended the sessions.

Prior to the opening of the annual meeting, approximately 50 Quakers gathered at the FCNL offices on Capitol Hill to participate in lobby day. There was training in the morning, and visits to one or more of their legislators' offices.

It was announced that the General Secretary, Joe Volk who has provided leadership for 20 years will retire next year. Because of the decrease in financial support the budget had to be cut from 4.8 to 2.4 million. This resulted in 17 staff members being layed off or having salaries reduced but all their interns were retained and no programs were dropped. The financial goal over the next three years is to raise \$9 million in 3 years in order to bring back layed off staff and bring salaries, which had been cut 10-20%, to their former level.

A top White House official, congressional staff, and FCNL lobbyists spoke to the delegates and emphasized that, in the next two years, Congress could put the United States back on the road toward nuclear disarmament, invest more money in tools to peacefully prevent deadly conflict, and advance many other issues of concern to the FCNL network. The challenge, explained FCNL Executive Secretary Joe Volk, is how to mobilize people around the country to provide the lobbying and financial support that will be necessary to realize these goals.

Participants were visibly moved by Muslim leader Sayyid M. Syeed's description of the evolution of the Islamic Society of North America during the last three decades. As National Director of the Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances at the society, Sayyid Sayeed discussed his work building alliances with other faith communities. Participants in the Annual Meeting approved an epistle encouraging Quakers to engage with American Muslims.

One of the highlights of each Annual Meeting is the introduction of the interns where the delegates learn about their background and the reasons they wanted to be part of FCNL. They are an amazing group of young people and this year OVYM is represented by Matt Southworth, a recent graduate of Wilmington College.

One of the underlying themes of the meeting is that more of us need to be lobbying. Joe Volk said that he has never seen such potential as with President Obama. FCNL is

lobbying the administration as well as Congress for the first time – the administration can do a lot through regulation without Congress.

For more information about the annual meeting (with a chance to listen to some of the speakers) or to keep up with ongoing activities visit <http://www.fcnl.org>.

American Friends Service Committee

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends, Peter Fosl (Louisville MM), Jana Schroeder (Clear Creek MM), and Tom Bennett (Community MM) attended the AFSC Corporation Meeting 6-7 November 2009 at the Friends Center in Philadelphia. Friends were especially inspired by the interaction with other Friends. Some examples of business were:

- * Proposed By-Laws changes affecting: (a) moving Corporation meetings from November to March; (b) reducing the size of the Board from 30-33 to 24-27 members, including those who serve *ex officio*, in order to improve efficiency; and c) the composition of a Board reduced in size (whether or not each region must be represented on the Board by a Friend). No conclusion was reached on this issue, but the corporation expressed serious reservations about changes 'a' and 'b'. The next Corporation meeting will be held in March of 2011.
- * A report on the financial status of the AFSC, describing the dramatic decline in financial resources and the significant cuts made both to AFSC staff and to service programs around the world. Net assets for the AFSC have declined by nearly \$36 million, forcing the AFSC to reduce staff and consolidate or close offices in Afghanistan, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Jordan, South Africa, Connecticut, Vermont, Pine Ridge, Syracuse, Oakland, and Woodland. Other offices and programs, however, continue to pursue the work of the AFSC in peacemaking, reconciliation and trauma-healing, and justice.
- * Moving, friendly, and sometimes humorous testimonials were delivered concerning the tenure and admirable service of Paul Lacey (Clear Creek) as clerk of the Corporation. Arlene Kelly (Central Philadelphia) has replaced Paul as the clerk.

Recent News:

- * After an intensive search, the AFSC released news (June 13, 2010) that Shan Cretin has been appointed the new General Secretary. The biographical information sent out by the AFSC includes the following: "Shan Cretin is, currently, the Regional Director of the American Friends Service Committee's Pacific Southwest Region, with responsibility for AFSC's work in Southern California, Hawai'i, Arizona and New Mexico. Programs in the region focus on immigrants' rights, prison reform, food security, peace, and demilitarization. She also serves as a member of the board of directors of The California Endowment. A member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), she is a former clerk of

Pacific Yearly Meeting, the regional body that includes Quaker meetings from California, Hawai'i, Mexico and Guatemala. She co-founded the Los Angeles Chapter of Alternatives to Violence Project and she facilitated conflict resolution workshops at the Chino Youth Correctional Facility and in the Los Angeles community. Although Los Angeles has been her home since 1975, Shan has lived, worked and traveled in the People's Republic of China, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Egypt, Israel, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Taiwan, Japan, Mexico, Canada, Ecuador, Peru, Uganda, Burundi and Kenya. In the 1990's she was a faculty mentor on a project to support Israeli, Palestinian, Egyptian, Jordanian and Moroccan health care workers who wanted to collaborate on improving health and health care in the Middle East. From 1987 to 1996, she directed a project on rural health insurance in the People's Republic of China. A graduate of MIT and Yale, Shan served on the faculties of Harvard, Yale, West China Medical University, Shanghai Medical University and UCLA. From 1990 to 1998, Shan consulted with diverse health care clients in North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East to assess and improve the quality of clinical care and business practices. She has conducted research and demonstration projects on clinical practice guidelines, chronic illness care, electronic prescribing, and electronic medical records.”

- * An 8-person Working Group has been established to reflect in depth on the optimal size and role of the AFSC Corporation. There are advantages and disadvantages to reducing the size of the Corporation or maintaining it as is. For example, a reduction in size would be more economical from a financial view point and would reduce AFSC’s carbon footprint. It would allow, however, for fewer opportunities for Friends from different regions to learn of the work of the AFSC and disseminate this information locally. The clerk of the Working Group is Jeannette Raymond (Minneapolis) who will be sending further information as the work proceeds. In the meantime, please contact her at jluraymond@juno.com if you have questions or comments.

Friends are asked to continue to:

- * Spread the good word of the work and mission of AFSC. Historically, Friends have been some of the most effective ambassadors to new or current donors.
- * Be willing to speak about your support for AFSC at events or in a newsletter, conveying the importance of AFSC’s work in the world. Write an editorial or find other ways to raise AFSC’s visibility.

- * Pass on any leads for funding to the Philadelphia or regional offices.

Quaker Earthcare Witness

by Marcia K. Ankrom, OVYM Representative

Quaker Earthcare Witness annual meeting in the Fall was held at the Firs Conference Center in Bellingham, Washington.

Quaker Earthcare Witness joined with Friends World Committee for Consultation-European and Middle East Section and other Quaker organizations by endorsing the climate statement prepared by Britian Yearley Meeting in advance of the Copenhagen Conference concerning the global climate change crisis.

In order to reduce our collective carbon footprint, the Outreach Committee has proposed we have fewer meetings to travel to for face- to- face gatherings to be held in places of natural beauty with easy access to public transportation and alternate meetings be via web conferencing.

The Spiritual Nurturance Committee will continue to season it's proposed minutes on recognizing the Light Within all Creation and recognizing eric joy's leading and ministry regarding spiritual unification. These were further discussed at the QEW Stering Committee Spring meeting at the Cenacle Confrence and Retreat Center in Chicago, Illinois. Also the possibility of developing a working group on "New Spirituality", which would meet electronically to avoid conflicting with other working groups during QEW meetings, is being considered.

Bloomington Monthly Meeting continues to find ways to be more earth friendly by purchasing a new Energy Star refrigerator with fund from a QEW mini-grant. The renovation of the tool shed to a garden cottage using recycled products has been completed. This space is used for a First Day school classroom. Cellular blinds for the windows to keep out the heat from the sun in summer and to hold in the heat in winter have been installed over our new double-paned windows. A solar panel was installed to generate electricity. The First Day school planted a small vegetable garden. Most of the work was completed by our members.

Annual Report for Friends Music Camp

Friends Music Camp is making plans for our 31st season, with a full enrollment. Campers will come this year from 13 states of the U.S., and from 4 foreign countries (Spain, Bolivia, Costa Rica and Japan). The return rate is 70%. About 40% are Friends or have a Friends connection such as attending a Quaker school, or having Quaker grandparents. Our staff of 23 includes 11 former FMC campers.

Again this summer Friends Music Camp staff and campers will stage a benefit concert in Yellow Springs, Ohio, raising money for the Glen Helen Nature Preserve.

A challenge in these difficult economic times is raising scholarship money to enable young people to attend who could not do so without financial help. Our thanks go to the Yearly Meeting, a number of Monthly Meetings, and many individuals in the Yearly Meeting and elsewhere who have contributed to our scholarship fund. We couldn't do it without this help.

We were also very surprised and touched this spring when a returning FMC camper decided to stage a benefit concert as a Bar Mitzvah project, and donated half of the proceeds to Friends Music Camp (the other half went to a local children's theatre of which he is a part.)

Our music program is stronger than ever, thanks to our many talented and dedicated teachers, and to the overall planning of Co-Director Nick Hutchinson. And--just as important--FMC campers still find their time at camp to be a place "that changed my life," "where I can truly be myself," where they are among adults and age-mates who think seriously about life and what each individual can do "help the world along."

Besides Nick Hutchinson (mentioned above), co-Directors are Drea Gallaga and Peg Champney. The Board of Directors chosen by the Yearly Meeting continues to be helpful in giving us guidance.

--Peg Champney

Youth Secretary Report

With the approach of the 190th annual sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, I am struck by a sense of the ongoing balance between tradition and transition within the Religious Society of Friends, and especially by the concentration of that balance within the OVYM teen program this year.

Transition, while a constant state of being alive, has been particularly acute for the teen program since last summer as the Youth Secretary position changed hands once again. Changes in program leadership are often difficult for participants, most of whom have formed a deep and personal bond with the departing leader. The program's latest leadership change followed a period of intense activity that saw the teen group grow in both size and vibrancy, but also witnessed situations – primarily among adults who support the teen program – that left some lingering interpersonal wounds.

One of my goals this past year has been to build on the vibrant aspects of the program while being mindful of possible hurt and tender feelings among participants as well as the adults who love and support them.

Despite the challenges, the teen group has had a busy and productive year. Following what may have been an all-time high for attendance at Yearly Meeting sessions, with 18 teens participating last summer, the group held four weekend retreats in addition to an Ohio-based service trip that completed the exchange begun last summer with Alaska Friends Conference.

The first retreat coincided with Miami Quarterly Meeting in October. We spent the night at the Red Brick Meetinghouse in Waynesville, Ohio, and joined the QM session the next day in Wilmington. The programming for the retreat complemented the QM focus on the 200th anniversary of Miami Quarter and the history of the Quaker migration to the Northwest Territory.

The annual November retreat at Fall Creek Meetinghouse in Indiana constituted the second retreat of the year. Following the October retreat's focus on Quaker history, we learned more about what Quakers are doing in the world today. Teen Committee member James Taylor, who is also a past Teen Secretary, gave a lively and well-received presentation on his Alternatives to Violence work with incarcerated juveniles.

In February, we gathered for two nights in Lexington, Ky., where we visited a former slave plantation, served dinner at a homeless shelter and helped with ongoing structural

renovations at the Lexington meetinghouse. On Sunday morning, OVYM Clerk Ben Griffith gave a presentation about efforts in Kentucky to eliminate capital punishment.

In May, we participated in a joint retreat with the Middle Youth and Young Adult Friends groups at the Southern Indiana farm rented by Maie Klaphaak, who hopes to turn the property into a Midwest Quaker center. In addition to working on the property, we had group discussions about our Quaker connections across generations, and talked about our ideas, hopes and wishes for the future of Quakerism. Significantly, the gathered youth affirmed their desire to see basic Quaker principles remain the same.

Fifteen teens participated in the recent service trip, with six of the group coming from Alaska. Three of the Alaskans and five of the OVYM teens had been part of last year's Spirit Camp experience. While the occasion of this year's experience was OVYM's annual service trip, we spent a large portion of time building community and learning about Quaker processes – for worship, business, and nurture. We also spent a significant amount of time discussing and developing personal building blocks for pursuing service in the world. Sensitivity to issues of race was a particular focus of the week, with a series of activities from the Help Increase the Peace handbook providing some of the structure for programming. We concluded our time together feeling more empowered as individuals and as a group.

All told, 22 OVYM young people participated in this year's teen activities, which were supported by at least two volunteer Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) at each outing. Every retreat included times of worship, Quaker business practice, service, thematic programming, games, and socializing. We often found a place for craft making as well.

It's been a year of transition and continuity, too, and we grew stronger in our connections to one another and in our understanding of Quaker worship and process. OVYM is blessed in its young people, and I am blessed to spend time with them.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Simmons

Teen Committee Report

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

The 2009-10 year began with 19 teens attending Yearly Meeting sessions last August, the largest number we have had in recent memory. In September, we welcomed a new youth secretary, Carol Simmons, who brings a love of the arts and gentle spirit to her work. Carol has been working hard to improve communication with parents. We did a midyear review in May, and recommended to the personnel committee that Carol's contract be renewed for another year beginning in June 2010.

Our program this year was energized by the teen trip to Alaska for a Spirit Camp in July of 2009, which challenged us to work towards greater teen ownership of planning and community nurture. In Alaska, the group formed its own teen-led worship and nurture committee, and we continue this practice for our summer service trip and 2010 sessions. We would like to do more to develop ongoing teen leadership through the year, but we struggle with the lack of continuity of participants at our retreats. Approximately 25 teens attended at least one event this year, but the busy lives of our young people make it difficult for most to attend regularly. Our group is relatively young and predominantly young men.

At the request of our teens, an invitation was extended to the youth of Alaska Friends Conference to join our annual service trip, and we moved the date of the trip to immediately before Friends General Conference so that the Alaskan could attend both events. Nine OVYM teens and six AFC teens traveled together to Cleveland, which the OVYM teens chose as a relatively close and vibrant urban environment. The theme was Quaker engagement with the diversity of the city, with an emphasis on Underground Railroad routes through Ohio. The trip began with a weekend at Community Meeting in Cincinnati for community building and a trip to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. In Cleveland of the group helped with the restoration of the Cozad-Bates house, an Underground Railroad station which is being turned into a resource center. They also met with an intern from AFSC's Akron office to learn about and participate in counter-recruiting efforts, cooked a meal for residents at the Ronald MacDonald house, and visited the oldest African-American church in Cleveland. Cleveland Friends Meeting allowed us to use their meetinghouse as a base. In addition to Carol Simmons, the trip was led by Laura Herman, an Alaskan who served as staff for last year's Spirit Camp and is a recent graduate of Guilford College, and Chance Duvall, a young adult who grew up in North Meadow Circle of Friends. Planned fundraising for the trip included dinners at different meetings and selling hoodies.

During the year, we held four retreats. We met at Miami Quarterly Meeting in Waynesville for an overnight in October and held weekend retreats at Fall Creek Meeting

in November and at Lexington Meeting in February. The Waynesville retreat focused on the historical witness of Friends and what it means to be Quakerly. The teens then raised the queries of “What are Friends Doing Today?” and “What are Friends NOT Doing Today?” as themes for the Fall Creek and Lexington retreats, respectively.

Our fourth event was a joint retreat with Middle Youth and Young Adult Friends, though only one young adult was able to attend. The theme was weaving between the generations, and we reflected on our vision for the future of Quakerism and the messages we would like to give older and younger Friends. The event helped to build bridges between the ages and ease transitions for those moving into the next group. We would like to make it an annual event. The retreat was held at a beautiful farm rented by Maie Klaphaak near Louisville, which she would like to turn into a Quaker community or retreat center. The committee also considered working with Religious Education on a retreat on parenting, but did not feel able to move forward on this at this time.

We are thankful to the many adults who have served as Friendly Adult Presences, provided transportation, offered programming, and helped with logistics over the year. We are also thankful to Maie and the Monthly Meetings which have graciously hosted our activities.

Submitted by Nikki Coffey Tousley, Clerk

Middle Youth Committee Report

How generous is the divine Spirit when we make ourselves available to the workings of love.

In preparing this year's report, your Middle Youth co-chair is struck both by the blessings of generosity and the difficulties in making ourselves available. She is pressed to confess her own difficulty in carving out time from a life pressed by numerous responsibilities, to accomplish all that the Yearly Meeting might want its Middle Youth Committee to do. Readers will notice, too, that OVYM has a single co-chair; she has referred to herself as such throughout the year, convinced that this YM is getting half of the leadership it is due.

In the recent issue #17 of "Quaker Theology", writer Joyce Ketterer published an essay titled "An Argument for Comprehensive Religious Education of FGC Young Friends" where she writes, in part, of her confusion, anger and disappointment when, at a Quaker college, she realized how little she knew about Quakerism, despite that "intensive experience" of being Quaker as she grew up. She concludes her essay with a series of queries. Of those, I am pleased to reflect that one of the great strengths of your Middle Youth program is the program offered at Yearly Meeting when plenary speakers and guests spend time with the Middle Youth, providing our youth with examples of contemporary Quakers with an active ministry. For all these ministers, and the faithful Yearly Meeting workers who assist in getting them to the Middle Youth, we are most grateful.

Additionally, we must again also reflect on the essential contributions made by all of our Friendly Adult Presences who are willing accompany the youth, offering wisdom and inspiration and simple presence, thereby demonstrating a Quakerism that is adult while not being parental. This "adult while not parental" presence must be one of the most fundamental aspects of what our youth will remember about what it is to be Quaker. OVYM adults have repeatedly demonstrated tremendous generosity when called upon for specific contributions.

I need, then, to take this opportunity to call upon the Yearly Meeting as a whole to assist our Nominations Committee in identifying and recruiting additional leadership for our Youth committees. What our Youth receive from the adults is tremendous. Perhaps what will assist their efforts is a little more intentional application of this recurring generosity.

At last year's Yearly Meeting, 8 middle youth participated in our program, a significant drop in the previous year's attendance; several of our faithful Middle Youth have transitioned to the Teen Program, and we are again in need of adults who identify and encourage Middle Youth from their monthly meetings to take part in our Yearly Meeting sessions. We are also grateful for the organizational leadership of the Teen Secretary and Committee in the first of what we hope to be regularly occurring "joint" retreats between Young Adult Friends, Teens, and Middle Youth. This successful event is a creative response to the continuing challenges of tremendously busy schedules.

Report on Friends World Committee for Consultation

For Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

This coming year, instead of having an annual meeting, the Section of the Americas will sponsor many local events on the theme of “Being Salt and Light: Friends Living the Kingdom of God in A Broken World;” this is the same theme as the upcoming 2012 World conference. These events are aimed at bringing FWCC to where Friends are by engaging more Friends in pre-World Conference discussions. The first of these will be held at Knoxville, TN on Oct. 8-9. (See <http://www.saltandlight2012.org/>) FWCC is actively looking for invitations to host these events. Please contact Margaret Fraser (margaretf@fwccamericas.org) with questions or offers to host.

In large part, this change is the organization’s response to continuing budget deficits, even as it continues to implement new cost saving measures, including moving to a smaller office within the Friends Center in Philadelphia this year. It ran another deficit this year, and we faced no realistic prospect of balancing the budget in the near future if we continued doing business in the way it had been. The “Salt and Light” events will enable FWCC to continue bringing Friends of different branches together and to build momentum toward the upcoming World Conference.

Now is the time to name delegates to the upcoming 2012 World Conference at Kabarak University in Nakuru, Kenya. By September 2010 the World Office needs to know how many of our allocated places OVYM will take up. By December, names and contact information of those who have been appointed delegates to the World Conference need to reach the World Office.

Rachel Dean, J. P. Lund, and Steve Angell attended the Section of the Americas Meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation on March 18-21, 2010, near Baltimore, Maryland, meeting there over 100 other Friends from a wide variety of yearly meetings throughout the hemisphere.(Cathy Habschmidt was there as Treasurer.) We were warmly welcomed at a Jewish conference center.

Deborah Suess gave the Keynote Address on Friday night, focusing on the conference theme, John 13: 34-35: “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” Deb mentioned that scholars often refer to this as a softening of Jesus’s doctrine to love one’s neighbors and enemies, as found in Matthew and Luke, but she didn’t find it to be soft. Rather, with the diversity found in today’s Religious Society of Friends, loving one another may be a constant

challenge, one well worth working with. That diversity is often found even within individual monthly meetings.

Young Friends planned the closing worship on Sunday. Current ESR students Emma Condori, Silas Wanjala, and Rachel Stacy helped to plan this service. Silas gave a meaningful meditation on I Corinthians 13.

The new Friends Directory of Meetings, Churches, and Worship Groups in the Section of the Americas is now available.

The Latin American section of FWCC continues to be very active. As an example, FWCC is sponsoring training in Alternatives to Violence (AVP) for Friends' pastors in Central America in July. The training will take place in Honduras.

Another issue that FWCC is actively working on is planning a "Global Change" consultation, likely also to be held in Kenya. This is intended to look at what Friends need to be saying about climate change concerns, but it is broader than that. Information on this aspect of FWCC's work can be found at www.fwccglobalchange.org

From our vantage point, FWCC has enormous skills for work with Friends across branches. This is very important work of cross-pollination that requires great tact and skill, and it immensely strengthens the Religious Society of Friends, especially through enabling otherwise isolated groups of Friends to trust each other and to learn from each other. FWCC's unobtrusiveness is a mixed blessing, in that it gets far less credit for its good work that it deserves. Indeed, it deserves far more support from Friends than it gets.

Stephen W. Angell
Rachel Dean
J.P. Lund
FWCC Representatives for Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

William Penn House Report

Report on 2009 Annual Meeting

William Penn House – founded on Capitol Hill in 1966 as a center for Friends & other advocates for peace & justice to learn, teach and speak out

Operations: All-Quaker working Board currently includes 2 lawyers; skilled staff follow callings, now operating in the black with 4 staff, 3 interns (cut staff to 2 with 25% pay cuts after 2001), building has been upgraded, new beds, rain garden to reduce run-off, no staff own cars

Mission 3-pronged:

1. hospitality – 30 beds, \$40-\$50/ night, have increased occupancy to 72%
2. seminars – wide range of peace & justice issues
3. workcamps – DC, W. Virginia & New Orleans, want to expand

Current goals:

1. work with local population – distributing & working for legality of HIV/AIDS self tests (DC has Third World HIV rates), space used for yoga & meditation groups
2. become a nationally known Quaker organization, expand workcamps; do workcamps with smaller YMs and interfaith ones, 2 hours to a day or more
3. bring in more youth, plan Young Adult Friends conferences

Greg Woods, former EC student who attended Clear Creek Meeting, works with workcamp program; now planning workcamps on ecology and for High School students; Penn House is considering hiring person who headed Western Quaker Workcamps (formerly Joint Service Project) after AFSC laid down this program.

Three Quaker schools are interested in including workcamps as part of their curriculum (including Westtown). Faith, wife of Micah Bales, former ESR student, is planning the next Young Adult Friends Conference in Wichita, KS (May 2010). Need for funds to bring staff salaries up to a sustainable wage level, expand programs and continue upgrading their 3 story building which has no elevator.

Fundraising suggestions included asking YMs for increased donations tied to specific programs and sending follow-up letters to those who stay overnight asking for additional contributions.

Submitted by Jane Stowe

OVYM Planning Committee

2009-2010

The Yearly Meeting Planning Committee met five times during the year and communicated with each other one-on-one in between. The evaluation forms that Friends filled out after the 2009 Yearly Meeting sessions were valuable and instrumental in helping the committee to identify the theme and shape the program for this year's Yearly Meeting. In particular, Friends, mindful of the number of children, teens, and Young Friends in our midst, asked for a truly inter-generational gathering. At our October meeting the theme of "Celebrating Friends as Family: Nurturing the Future" flowed easily from our shared silence and reflections. Altogether, our committee has greatly benefitted from gathering with the common purpose of putting together a program that will truly celebrate and nurture Friends as family.

We were pleased to find plenary speakers who have worked extensively with Friends of all ages. The worship sharing queries and several of the workshops center on our concerns for family, what this means to us personally and collectively. An international theme also runs through the program so that we may be challenged to widen our horizons as well as consider more immediate families. We have also responded to the request of some Friends to integrate more time for worship in the program. On Thursday, we have used the space opened up through there being one less business session than usual for an activity entitled "Worship in Three Forms." On Friday, during the time-slot for workshops, Friends will have the option of attending a meeting for worship in Stout Meeting House.

Planning Committee members each take a day to be on hand to help answer questions and respond to concerns. This year, the Friends on duty will be as follows: Wednesday: Tunia McClure, Thursday: Jamie Fota, Friday: Dinah Duvall, Saturday: Phyllis Martin, Sunday: Tunia McClure. Please remember to fill out your evaluation form at the close of the yearly meeting sessions. They will surely provide a good starting point for the planning of our 2011 meetings.

Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College

I recently read an interview with a woman talking about her Quaker family and their involvement in the peace movement. “I knew they did good things,” she said, “but they never told me why.” To me, that statement is the reason the Quaker Heritage Center exists, to tell Friends, friends of Friends, and others, *why* Quakers have done good things. How do we tell those stories?

The Quaker Heritage Center tells those stories through exhibits. The past year saw five exhibits come through the QHC, beginning with “A House Divided: Quaker Responses to the Civil War”. This exhibit generated interest from a number of people outside of the Quaker world, as well as a lot of publicity within Quaker circles – a special thank you to Katie Terrell Wonsik for her article on the exhibit in the November/December 2009 edition of Quaker Life! In October we welcomed “The Quaker Tapestry”, a photographic reproduction of a number of the panels from the British tapestry project that depicts Friends history and beliefs, loaned by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Also in October, the QHC was pleased to partner with the Dayton International Peace Museum to present their “Nonviolent Solutions” exhibit on campus for the Westheimer Peace Symposium. January and February brings the Golden Globes and the Oscars to the entertainment world. The QHC celebrated with “Friends in Film”, a red carpet exhibit and series of film showings. The highlight of our exhibit year was the March 3, 2010, opening of “Bridges of Friendship: How Children Learn About Other Cultures”, presented in conjunction with the Peace Resource Center and Watson Library. Over 100 people – including Ohio’s First Lady, Frances Strickland – gathered at the QHC to welcome Ellen C., a 1927 Friendship Doll, back to Wilmington. Programming for the exhibit continued in April with a lecture on the 1927 Friendship Doll Exchange Program, and a celebration of the Children’s Festival and a visit to an American Girl Doll Tea Party in May. We’re looking forward to the 2010/2011 exhibit year when we welcome “New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music” from the Smithsonian’s Museums on Main Street program in the spring. Preparations continue for our special exhibit for the FUM Triennial next summer...stay tuned for details! Our traveling exhibit, “*To Friends Beyond the Sea that Have Blacks and Indian Slaves: Friends Respond to Slavery*” remains on display in the Wilson Conference Room at the Friends Committee on National Legislation building in Washington DC, and a second version of the exhibit was featured at Guilford College in North Carolina in the spring semester.

The Quaker Heritage Center uses artifacts to illustrate those stories. Our collections continue to grow with donations ranging from two beautiful early 19th century indigo and white double-weave coverlets, to a full series of public relations art posters designed in the late 1940s for Marshall Plan. We have also continued the process of cataloging

artifacts in the collection that were donated to Wilmington College prior to the opening of the QHC in 2005. Among these items is a collection of international dolls donated by Helen Stafford, who was a language professor at the College in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

The Quaker Heritage Center shares those stories with our visitors. We had over 865 visitors to the QHC this year – a 35% increase in visitorship from last year! In addition to a number of Wilmington College classes, admissions tours, and orientation sessions, we had off-campus non-Quaker visitors from the Ohio Humanities Council, the Oberlin (Ohio) Youth Peace Group, the National Peace Academy, and a couch tour from Joy Tour & Travel. We have welcomed 3rd graders from East End Elementary School (Wilmington, Ohio) each May for the last few years, but this year, thanks to the insistence of one dedicated teacher and the support of Wilmington (Ohio) City Schools, we have been able to arrange tours for every 3rd grade student in the city! We have also had visits from campers at Quaker Knoll (Wilmington, Ohio), Friends United Meeting staff, members of Ada Chapel (Wilmington, Ohio), and the Chester Friends (Wilmington, Ohio) USFW.

The Quaker Heritage Center takes those stories out to those who aren't able to come to us. I attended Wilmington (Ohio) Yearly Meeting sessions in Tennessee, Indiana Yearly Meeting sessions at Quaker Haven Camp, the Friends Association of Higher Education annual conference at Guilford College (Greensboro, North Carolina), the Friends Committee on National Legislation Annual Meeting (Washington, DC), and the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums Annual Meeting (Columbus, Ohio). I also visited with youth at Cuba Friends Meeting (Cuba, Ohio), two clubs at Cape May Retirement Village (Wilmington, Ohio), and a Social Studies Methods course at Wilmington College.

The Quaker Heritage Center works with others to tell those stories. We continue working collaboratively with groups on- and off-campus. The QHC kicked off the academic year along with the Wilmington (Ohio) Yearly Meeting Heritage Fund by dedicating the beautiful “Who Sends Thee?” statue on the campus of Wilmington College, located in the green space between the QHC, Kelly Center, and Watson Library. Also in the fall, we hosted a presentation by Wilmington College students who received financial support from the Isaac Harvey Fund for their Quaker-related educational and service travel in 2008/2009. In between the snowstorms in February, we sponsored “A Legislative Update on Afghanistan” by Matt Southworth, Campaigns Program Assistant with the Friends Committee on National Legislation. The QHC was the host site for the Region 8 Meeting of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums in March, offered financial assistance to the Wilmington College Office of Campus Ministry for Katie

Terrell Wonsik to speak at the Quaker Lecture Series in April, and will be the host site for the 18th Biennial Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists in June.

The Quaker Heritage Center provides space for others to create and tell their own stories. Use of the T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse continues to be in high demand from groups within the Wilmington College and wider Quaker communities. The Meetinghouse was the site of Faith & Life Forums, faculty meetings, Instruction Development and Resources Committee programs, Honors Program capstone presentations, Admissions events, Catholic mass on high holy days, weekly College Worship, Conflict Resolution Education in Teacher Education workshops, faculty retreats, a Marble Society alumni gathering, English Writing I courses, Miami Quarterly Meeting, the Annual Quaker Lecture Series, a performance by Sones de México on tour for the Ohio Arts Council, a guest lecture by Beverly Palmer titled “Florence Kelly: Activist, Mother, Quaker” sponsored by Watson Library for Women’s History Month, and a gathering of alumni from Earlham School of Religion.

The Quaker Heritage Center encourages others to explore those stories. I was pleased again this year to work with three outstanding student interns. Nate Freytag, Heather Myers, and Kelsey O’Day assisted with exhibit research, design, fabrication, installation, collections care, and educational programming. As an adjunct faculty member of the History Department at Wilmington College, I brought over a dozen students into the QHC to work on exhibits and collections care as part of a two semester course on Public History. I have continued as a member of the Isaac Harvey Fund Committee, and served as the Coordinator for the Westheimer Peace Symposium and Issues & Artists series, and am also a representative on the Wilmington College Staff Council. In the wider museum professional world, I continue as the Region 8 Representative to the Board of the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums, a role which may lead to the QHC being a host site for an AmeriCorps volunteer through the Ohio Historical Society in the next two years. I am the Chair of the Heritage Advisory Council and a member of the History and Legacy Subcommittee of the Clinton County (Ohio) Bicentennial Committee.

The Quaker Heritage Center preserves those stories with the support of our donors and volunteers. We were blessed this past year by the generosity of the many groups and individuals who made financial contributions to the work of the QHC, and to those who volunteered their time and energy to our programs and exhibits. A special thank you goes out to two graduating Wilmington College students: Becky Wilkerson, who has worked as a Student Gallery Assistant for four years, and Erica Weishaupt, who worked as a Student Gallery Assistant this past year. They will be missed!

I'd like to leave you with a few queries: What stories about Quakers and their good work do you know? What stories should the Quaker Heritage Center be telling? How can the Quaker Heritage Center share those stories with a wider audience? How can you help the Quaker Heritage Center carry out its own good work?

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth M. Brindle Dobyns
Curator, Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College
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Executive Committee Minutes

Tenth Month, Third Day, 2009
Eastern Hills Friends Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio

1. **The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.**
2. **Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee	Representative
Miami Quarterly Meeting	
Campus	Dale Hayes
Community	Byron Branson
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Ben Griffith
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	No Representative
Oxford	No Representative
Yellow Springs	Peg Champney
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Tom Nowel sends Regrets
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting	
Bloomington	Janette Shetter sends Regrets
Clear Creek	David Garman
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog sends Regrets
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg	No Representative
Hopewell	No Representative

Lafayette	No Representative
Maple Grove (inactive)	
North Meadow Circle	No Representative
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse sends Regrets

Yearly Meeting Officers

Presiding Clerk	Ben Griffith
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese sends Regrets
Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski
Publications Coordinator	Regrets
Quill Editor	Regrets
Treasurer	Regrets
Assistant Treasurer	Wilson Palmer

Standing and Special Committees

Advancement and Nurture	David Garman
Budget and Finance	No Representative
Discipline Revision	Regrets
Nominating	Peg Champney
Peace and Social Concerns	Richard Mitchell sends Regrets
Religious Education	Diann Herzog sends Regrets
Personnel	Tom Nowel sends Regrets
YM Planning	Byron Branson
Children's Program	No Representative
Middle Youth	Gail Kohler sends Regrets
Teen Activities	Nikki Coffey Tousley

Yearly Meeting Staff

Clerical Support Deborah Jordan

Youth Secretary Carol Simmons

Liaisons

Friends Home, Inc. Liaison Dale Hayes

Lauramoore Home No Representative

Friends Music Camp Peg Champney

Not required to attend Executive Committee but welcome:

Auditor

Braddock Trustees

Personnel Committee Representatives

Yearly Meeting (Property Corporation) Trustees

Records Coordinator

Statistician

Webmaster

Guests

3. Qualifications / clarifications of minutes of sixth month 2009 Executive Committee

No clarifications were requested. The minutes stand as approved in sixth month.

4. Friends Missing in Attendance at the Executive Committee Meeting

The clerk noted that several Friends were unable to attend the tenth month Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee meeting due to the Friends General Conference planning meeting for 2010 FGC Gathering. Most notably, Rex Sprouse is serving as Co-Convener. Betsy Neale, Richard Mitchell, Diann Herzog, Steve Angell are serving on committees.

5. Review of the Agenda

The clerk called for review of the agenda. No additions were made.

6. Conference Call Minutes

The clerk recommended that minutes of Conference Calls be inserted into the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting after the Conference Call. Friends agreed.

7. Executive Committee Conference Call Ninth Month 12, 2009

The Executive Committee conducted a Conference Call on Ninth Month 12, 2009 at 1:00 PM for the purpose of seeking approval of the Youth Secretary Contract.

The minutes of that meeting are as follows:

Various Executive Committee members assembled on a conference call September 12, 2009 to consider one special called-agenda item.

The Executive Committee approved, upon the recommendation of the Teen Committee, the contract of our new Youth Secretary, Carol Simmons, to start on September 15, 2009 and run through May 31, 2010.

This minute recorded by Ben Griffith, Presiding Clerk

8. Designation of the Term Faith and Practice

The clerk advised that the references to the Faith and Practice that is being developed and adopted will be noted as Faith and Practice by the clerk's table moving forward. The current Book of Discipline is posted on the yearly meeting web site in PDF format. The revisions that have been approved are posted as Faith and Practice.

9. Support Committee Clarifications

The clerk clarified the membership of the various support committees as follows:

The Presiding Clerk's Support Committee:

(one year renewable; named by committee or individual)

David Garman (from Advancement and Nurture)

Tunia McClure (from Yearly Meeting Planning)

Linda Coppock (at large from Yearly Meeting)

The Clerical Staff Support Committee

(one year renewable; named by Clerk's Table or individual)

Ben Griffith (from Clerk's Table)

Bill Cahalan (from monthly meeting or spiritual community)

(at large from Yearly Meeting) – to be named

Youth Secretary Support Committee

(one year renewable; named by Teen Committee or individual)

(from Teen Committee)

(at large) – to be named

(from monthly meeting or spiritual community) – to be named

10. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Minute Book

Friends discussed the printing of the Minute Book of the 189th Annual Session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. It was noted that the printing has been delayed due to the late receipt of some reports and formatting concerns. Friends also discussed the most effective quantity of books to print, noting that the minutes are posted on the yearly meeting website (www.quaker.org\ovym), and acknowledging the preference of some Friends to have a physical copy of the minute book. Friends agreed to have the clerk and clerical support person determine the final quantity to be printed (125 – 150 copies). Friends agreed to distribute three to four copies to each monthly meeting, with meetings able to request additional copies if needed. The clerk will send a letter to monthly meetings announcing the change.

11. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was distributed. No questions were raised. Friends accepted the report.

12. Naming Committee

Friends entered into a period of silence to raise names to approach to serve on Nominating Committee. One additional person is needed. Two names were raised. The clerk's table will approach these two individuals. The clerk requested that if these two Friends are unable to serve, the clerk's table and Nominating Committee pursue additional names.

13. Registrar's Position

Friends considered whether the position of Registrar should be named by the Nominating Committee or the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee. Friends approved the action that the clerk approach Yearly Meeting Planning Committee to incorporate the naming of a Registrar into their official duties as a committee, and to have that responsibility added to the duties of the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee in the Yearly Meeting Handbook.

14. Executive Committee Meeting Format for Second Month 2010

Friends considered the most effective format for the Second Month Sixth Day 2010 Executive Committee Meeting, noting the advantages and disadvantages of conference call and face to face meetings. Friends agreed to plan on a conference call for the second month 2010 meeting, unless pressing business arises. In the event of urgent pressing business for the Executive Committee, the clerk will arrange a site for face to face meeting. The clerk will contact all monthly meetings via E mail and postal mail to encourage their participation.

15. Miami Quarterly Meeting Report

The Miami Quarterly Meeting will meet on Tenth Day 18, 2009 at Campus Friends Meeting. The program will center on the 200th anniversary of Miami Quarter, and will share the time with Miami Center Quarter of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, also celebrating its 200th anniversary.

16. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Report

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting will meet at Ft. Wayne Friends Meeting on Tenth Month 17, 2009.

17. Youth Secretary Report

Carol Simmons presented the Youth Secretary's Report, noting the enthusiasm and commitment of the program, and concern for a successful transition from one year to another. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes

18. Clerical Staff Report

Deborah Jordan reported that all is well.

19. Quaker Quill Report

The clerk reported that the Quaker Quill will be released soon and will include many photos from the Yearly Meeting session.

20. Advancement and Nurture Committee

David Garman presented the report. The fall meeting of Advancement and Nurture will be a conference call. The committee currently has five members and will move forward on the work of the past year.

21. Audit Committee

Copies of the Auditing Committee Report were distributed and discussed. One concern noted in the Auditing Committee Report is that a two year term may be too short to adequately learn the position of Treasurer fully. The Nominating Committee has also considered this concern and feels that the term would more effectively last longer than two years. The clerk will season the notion and propose a way forward to consider the matter further. Friends accepted the report.

22. Discipline Revision Committee

Copies of the Discipline Revision Committee report were distributed. Friends accepted the report.

23. Nominating Committee

Peg Champney presented the report. The Committee brought forward the following names:

Jane Stowe from Clear Creek as representative to FCNL and William Penn House

Deborah Jordan from Community Friends on Advancement and Nurture

Lonnie Burger from Miami Monthly Meeting as Webmaster

Nick Rhein of Community Friends and Peter Hardy of Lexington Friends to the Teen Committee.

Dinah Duvall of North Meadow Circle of Friends to Yearly Meeting Planning on a part time basis

Friends approved these appointments.

24. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

Byron Branson presented the report. It was noted that the committee has only four members at this time. The next meeting of the committee will be held October 17, 2009 at Community Friends Meeting. Friends accepted the report.

25. Teen Committee

Nikki Coffey Tousley presented the report, noting that the primary focus of the Teen Committee since the close of Yearly Meeting session has been the contracting and transition of the new Teen Secretary. The Teen Clerk of the Teen Committee has suggested inviting Alaska Friends to join with Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting teens on the annual Teen Service Trip and possibly Friends General Conference Gathering in 2010. Friends approved the Teen Committee moving forward with Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting extending the invitation to Alaska Friends.

The report suggested the formation of a Yearly Meeting Ministry and Counsel committee to support ministry and provide guidance in resolving conflicts. The clerk recommended forwarding this suggestion to Advancement and Nurture for seasoning and further recommendation.

Friends accepted the report

26. Friends Home, Inc. Report

Dale Hayes presented the report, noting that Friends Home, Inc. is essentially at full capacity and running at a surplus. The organization is working with a consultant to plan for the future, noting a need to plan for additional assisted living with a focus on dementia care. There is a need for additional Quaker involvement in planning and fund raising. Friends accepted the report.

27. Friends Music Camp Report

Peg Champney presented the report, noting that the Endowment Fund experienced a loss in its investments. During the past season, funds were raised to support all scholarships without accessing the Endowment Fund. Peg noted a special gratitude for the involvement of Music Camp alumni in fundraising and encouraging young people to attend camp. She shared stories of real impact of the camp in the lives of campers. Peg encouraged Friends to consider names of those who could be outside speakers to campers.

The meeting closed in silent worship. Friends approved the minutes. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held Second Month 6, 2010 via Conference Call.

Submitted, Deb Kociszewski, OVYM Recording Clerk

Lauren Baumann
Youth Secretary
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

Report on Spirit Camp with Alaska Friends Conference

July 12 to 28, 2009

Programming

There were four distinct portions of Spirit Camp that largely dictated the overall structure of the camp. We spent the first four days of camp at Dickerson Friends Center, a remote (and fairly rustic) camp in Wasilla. We then transitioned to the wilderness portion of the trip, spending just under a week at Eklutna Lake. The next two nights were at Nancy Lake, as we led a multigenerational program for the younger families associated with Alaska Friends Conference. Finally, we returned to Dickerson Friends Center for yearly meeting sessions and ended the trip there.

A large part of the initial programming at Dickerson Friends Center focused on community service work around the site. The teen participants worked on staff-led projects, including:

Creating a new campfire pit and circle

Building stairs for easier access to the meetinghouse

Cleaning the outhouses and mixing up a “neutralizer” to keep smells down

Constructing an outdoor shower

In addition to assisting with much needed projects around the site, the community service work was also designed to help the teen participants (and staff) know each other better through working together. During this portion of the trip, the work projects were interspersed with swimming in the lake, cooking and cleaning up from meals, and community games. We began each morning with about 20 minutes of meeting for worship. The hour after lunch was spent in a combination of “sit time/quiet time.” During this time, each teen participant was to sit quietly for at least 15 minutes in individual silent reflection. The following forty-five minutes could be used for resting, journaling, letter writing, or any other quiet activity of the participant’s discretion. The primary programming in the evenings was meeting for worship with a concern for

business, as we attempted to come to consensus on the guidelines for the remainder of the trip. We also made good use of the new campfire circle!

We then transitioned to the wilderness site at Eklutna Lake for the next six days. A large part of the programming at Eklutna Lake consisted of simply learning how to survive in the wilderness, as basic tasks such as cooking and cleaning took up a significant amount of time. To get to the wilderness site, half of the group biked eight miles, while the other half canoed across the lake. In this manner, we transported all of our gear, as well as all of the food for the week. Food for 19 people for six days weighed almost 400 pounds!

On some days, the programming consisted of group trips away from camp. One day, a group of ten teen participants and staff biked to a nearby glacier. Unfortunately, the glacier had receded a lot in the past few years and they were unable to see it up close. The following day, the whole community biked and/or canoed to the nearby Bold Mountain. We all ate lunch together and about half of the group felt motivated to climb the mountain. The physical demands of both trips (as well as transporting ourselves and the gear to the site) helped bring the community even closer together, supporting one another to complete the challenges. We also played many community games while at Eklutna Lake.

We had a quick transition from Eklutna Lake to Nancy Lake. At Nancy Lake, we were joined by many Alaska Friends Conference families with young children. A large part of the program in this portion of the trip was teen participant driven, as they led various community games, including “Toilet Tag,” “Big Wind Blows,” and “Capture the Flag.” Again, community work, such as meal preparation and clean-up, took up a significant amount of time.

The final portion of the trip was spent joining Alaska Friends Conference in their yearly meeting sessions. The main programming during sessions focused on racism; the workshops were run by a racism-awareness group from Anchorage. Teens were given a choice to either participate in the workshop sessions or to help staff the children’s program. The teens were responsible for the evening program and presented a slide show of pictures from the trip. The teens also led additional group games, including “Duck, Duck, Awkward Chicken,” and “Wink.” We had our final good-byes at the conclusion of the yearly meeting sessions. After a final camp clean-up, OVYM teens were transported to Anchorage for a day of sightseeing and souvenir shopping.

Processes used to create community

Before camp began, the staff agreed on the objective to create a teen participant-driven community leadership. The staff put together small groups of three to four teens with one staff member. These small groups were constant for all of camp and were responsible for

various cooking and cleaning tasks; we also did regular worship sharing in these groups. We also put much emphasis on our community meeting for worship with a concern for business. And, throughout camp, there was a lot of emphasis on group games to help everybody get to know each other better.

Our first meeting for worship with a concern for business was held on Monday, July 13, in the evening of the first full day of camp. To help model the structure, two staff members co-clerked the first business meeting with the caveat that this would be the only time staff members would be in that role. In this business meeting, we discussed the use of iPods and cell phones during camp and, after much discussion, were able to come to an agreement. By the next business meeting, two teen co-clerks were nominated by the worship and nurture committee (another committee, comprised of teens, described below). Whenever there was a problem within the community, a business meeting was called so the entire community could be part of the resolution. This inclusive structure helped bring forward a variety of opinions, which was especially useful when community decisions needed to be made.

The worship and nurture committee was composed of one member from each small group, along with one staff member. Each member volunteered to be in this position. The worship and nurture committee met regularly and was responsible for developing worship sharing queries. If there was a conflict within the community, the worship and nurture committee was consulted. In some cases, the entire worship and nurture committee met with the people who perpetuated the conflict and was able to find a resolution. Other times, the worship and nurture committee brought the conflict forward to the larger community in a meeting for worship with a concern for business format.

How can OVYM carry this forward?

During this trip, the groundwork was laid for more teen-directed leadership in the OVYM community. It would be important to continue this structure of business meetings clerked by teens, as well as the establishment of a worship and nurture committee at every retreat.

Instead of asking for people to volunteer to be in the clerk role, it might be beneficial for teens to be nominated by the worship and nurture committee. For more continuity, it might be helpful for there to be a few “permanent” members of the worship and nurture committee (“permanent” really indicating a commitment of about a year to serve on the worship and nurture committee at every retreat the teen attends). In addition to the “permanent” worship and nurture teens, there could then be volunteers to fill in the vacant spots. Then, at every retreat, there could be a mixture of new and seasoned teens serving on this committee.

The worship and nurture committee could similarly be tasked with coming up with worship sharing queries before (or during) each retreat, depending on its length. This kind of responsibility might help increase teen participation and interest in worship sharing.

How did the teens grow?

Each teen grew immensely throughout this experience. It is difficult to categorize the growth of each individual teen, but the group as a whole seemed to truly engage with Quaker process by the end of the trip. Business meeting and meeting for worship reached much deeper levels and participation by the end of the trip. The teens were challenged to begin exploring their own spirituality; I believe that will continue to happen as the teens grow in the next few years.

OVYM Discipline Revision Committee -Report for Executive Committee Meeting

Tenth Month 3, 2009

Since the 2009 Yearly Meeting sessions, the Discipline Revision Committee has met once, on Ninth Month 12, 2009.

Review of Discipline Revision Procedures The committee reviewed our procedures, including the sequence of drafts 1 to 5. It is our intention that the 5th draft be the final one. Thus, Draft 4 comes to annual sessions with the hope that it will be accepted for a publication in the Minute Book and a year of seasoning prior to final approval. If the committee feels that Friends are not approaching unity on the draft, it may be revised and re-circulated to monthly meetings or laid aside for a period of time. We hope this will be a rare occurrence.

When we distribute a text to monthly meetings, we ask them to assess whether the text is an adequate expression of the shared faith and practice of Yearly Meeting Friends. We hope that the monthly meeting's response to the committee will reflect a sense of the meeting rather than the comments of individual Friends.

In order to clarify the differences between drafts of a particular text, the committee will begin to provide a grounded summary of substantive changes from one draft to the next, beginning with the 2nd draft.

Changes to our Book of Discipline Membership (Part I) and Membership (Part II) were approved at the 2009 annual sessions. As new texts are approved, they will be inserted into the text on our website – either replacing or supplementing the text from the 1978 Book of Discipline.

Discipline Revision Contributions to the 2009 Minute Book Membership (Parts I and II) will appear as newly approved texts. In addition, Membership (Part III), which deals with the membership of children, has been lightly edited based on comments from the threshing session at this year's annual sessions. In the first paragraph the 5th draft defines the terms "adult membership" and "youth membership" as used in the document. The final paragraph clarifies that some meetings may be led to implement different procedures for children's membership. The edited version is included in the Minute Book and will be brought back to the floor of the 2010 sessions for final approval. This latest version will also appear in the *Quill* for Friends' review and consideration.

Seeking Harmony with Creation The 5th (or 6th – there is some confusion about the numbering) draft of this document was presented at YM for acceptance. There was not enough unity to present this section for approval at the 2010 Yearly Meeting sessions. Therefore, based on comments from the threshing session, the committee has developed

another draft, which will be circulated to monthly meetings this fall for their consideration. We request that comments be returned by 12/08/2009.

Calendar of committee meetings for the year The committee scheduled meetings for 11/07/2009, 01/09/2010, 01/23/2010 (snow date), 04/10/2010, and 06/23/2010 (if necessary to prepare for annual sessions).

Submitted by Betsy Neale and Rex Sprouse, Co-Clerks, Discipline Revision Committee

Treasurer's Report

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

Fall Executive Committee Meeting

Oct. 3, 2009

The main item for discussion during this point of the year is the yearly meeting sessions books. All of the income and expense are in. So the report on yearly meeting sessions is complete.

We had \$18,756 in sessions income. We had \$32,533 in sessions expense. So the net cost of our sessions with \$13, 777. This net cost of course would be covered by income from other sources – and the “other sources” are almost entirely proportional share contributions from OVYM monthly meetings.

This actually is slightly better than what we had anticipated. We had budgeted for \$38, 226 in expenses, and \$22,664 in income; thus we had budgeted \$15,562 as the net cost of our sessions. So our sessions cost us \$1,785 less than we had anticipated.

Overall we have had \$25,156 in income and \$44, 544 in expenses for an overall total deficit thus far of \$19,388, since the beginning of our budget year on July 1. This is normal for this time of year. Our yearly meeting budget year differs from the budget year of most monthly meetings, which are on the calendar year. So we anticipate receiving a higher amount from proportional share contributions in the second half of our budget year, from Jan. 1 to Jun. 30, 2010.

A preliminary breakdown of sessions income and expense may be found on the back side of this sheet:

Stephen W. Angell

OVYM Treasurer

2007-08 Budget	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Proposal	2009-10 YTD Actual
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Table 2009-22. Yearly Meeting Sessions

INCOME

(a) Contributions	2,700	2,424	2,500	2,749	2,500	0
(b) Registration	3,000	2,750	2,910	2,910	2,910	2,582
(b) Room & Board Charges	13,500	13,181	15,554	16,146	15,554	13,760
(a) Bookstore Income	800	2,097	2,100	1,180	2,100	2,415
(a) Total Income	20,000	20,452	23,064	21,695	23,064	18,756

EXPENSES

(a) Administration	500	120	120	109	470	171
(a) Adult Program	2,000	1,316	1,900	1,221	1,740	1,526
(a) Young Adult Program						
(a) Teen Program	1,300	1,108	1,200	1,633	1,500	1,400
(a) Middle Youth Program	1,550	1,677	1,740	1,533	1,740	1,233
(a) Children's Program	2,300	2,355	2,400	2,701	2,400	2,765
(b) Adult Room & Board	13,500	12,582	15,554	16,086	15,554	12,808
(b) Room & Board Subsidies	6,500					
(b) Children		5,409	6,383	6,916	6,383	5,040
(b) Staff		1,622	1,913	2,073	1,913	1,512
(b) Guests		189	502	242	633	504
(b) YAF attenders subsidy					1,800	1420
(b) First-time attenders subsidy					2,056	1,626
(b) Simple Meal Donation		1,234	637	650	637	600
(a) Bookstore Expenses	500	1,326	1,400	1,142	1,400	1,928

(a) Total Expenses	28,150	28,938	33,749	34,305	38,226	32,533
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(a) Net Cost of Session	8,150	8,486	10,685	12,610	15,162	13,777
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- (a) For 09-10 actuals, Actual income and expense figures used.
- (b) For 09-10 actuals, Estimates are being used, these being subject to further revisions within the overall income and expense parameters (the latter being firm).

OVYM Executive Committee
6th day, 2nd Month, 2010
Conference Call

Friends gathered in the virtual space of the conference call.

1. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees

Meeting/Committee	Representative
Miami Quarterly Meeting	
Campus	No Representative
Community	Byron Branson, Frank Huss
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	J P Lund
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Betsy Neale, Richard Mitchell
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	Tom Nowel, Paul Kriese
Oxford	Steve Angell
Yellow Springs	Peg Champney, Carol Simmons
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Tom Nowel
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting	
Bloomington	Janette Shetter
Clear Creek	David Garman
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg	Paul Ricketts
Hopewell	No Representative

Lafayette	Dan Cartmell
Maple Grove (inactive)	No Representative
North Meadow Circle	No Representative
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse

Yearly Meeting Officers

Presiding Clerk	Ben Griffith
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski
Publications Coordinator	
Quill Editor	Dan Cartmell
Treasurer	Steve Angell
Assistant Treasurer	Wilson Palmer regrets

Standing and Special Committees

Advancement and Nurture	David Garman
Budget and Finance	
Discipline Revision	Betsy Neale, Rex Sprouse
Nominating	Peg Champney
Peace and Social Concerns	Richard Mitchell
Religious Education	Diann Herzog
Personnel	
YM Planning	Byron Branson
Children's Program	
Middle Youth	

Teen Activities Nikki Coffey Tousley

Yearly Meeting Staff

Clerical Support Deborah Jordan

Youth Secretary Carol Simmons

Liaisons

Friends Home, Inc.

Lauramoore Home

Friends Music Camp Peg Champney

Not required to attend Executive Committee but welcome:

Auditor

Braddock Trustees

Personnel Committee Representatives

Yearly Meeting (Property Corporation) Trustees

Records Coordinator

Statistician Frank Huss

Webmaster

2. Nominating Committee

Bill Shetter has agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee until the end of the 2010 annual session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. The following Friends currently serve on the Nominating Committee (the end of their terms are also noted):

Bill Shetter 2010

Evalyn Kellum (clerk) 2010

Peg Champney	2010
Rachael Dean	2011
Howie Baker	2011
Diann Herzog	2012

3. Youth Secretary Support Committee

The following Friends have agreed to serve on the Youth Secretary Support Committee:

Bruce Heckman from the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting

Dale Blanchard from the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Teen Committee

Jim Coppock from the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting at large

4. Statistical Reports

Friends were reminded that Statistical Reports are due to the Statistician. The Statistician's report is due to Budget and Finance third month 15.

5. Budget Requests

Friends were reminded that budget requests are due to Budget and Finance by third month 15.

6. Treasurer's Report

Steve Angell called attention to the Treasurer's Report, indicating that the report shows that income is right on track for this point in the fiscal year. Dan Cartmell advised that the Quaker Quill budget is expected to be approximately \$ 600 high that planned based upon current issue costs. Friends accepted the report.

7. Discernment

The clerk has suggested to the Yearly Meeting Planning committee that we delete the Thursday afternoon business session. This would allow Yearly Meeting Planning to plan an additional worship opportunity. Friends indicated that if the clerk was confident that business would be covered in other sessions, we should move in this direction.

8. Miami Quarterly Meeting

Tom Nowel reported that Miami Quarterly Meeting will meet second month 21, 2010 at Miami Monthly Meeting. Oxford Friends will serve as hosts. Friends will consider nominations for the next year's officers of Miami Quarterly Meeting.

9. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Rex Sprouse reported that Whitewater Quarterly Meeting met first month 16, 2010.

10. Traveling Minute

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting has forwarded a traveling minute in support of Rex Sprouse's leading to travel in ministry among Friends in the Midwest in his service to the Friends General Conference 2010 Gathering. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends, through the Executive Committee, added their endorsement to the letter.

11. Youth Secretary Report

Carol Simmons reported joy in her first months of service as Youth Secretary. Retreats were held in tenth and eleventh months of 2009, with another scheduled for second month 2010 at Lexington Friends Meeting. The annual service project of the teen program is scheduled for sixth month 26 through seventh month 3. The dates coordinate with the start of the FGC Gathering. It will take place in Cleveland, Ohio. Friends noted that the FGC Gathering actually starts on seventh month 4, 2010. The Teen Committee will take this under advisement and may adjust the dates of the service trip.

12. Clerical Staff

Deborah Jordan reported that OVYM Clerical Support is having a quiet time. Friends are reminded that meetings can request copies of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting contact lists from Deborah.

13. Quaker Quill

Dan Cartmell reported that the Quaker Quill is at the printer. They should be distributed in the next week.

14. Statistician

Frank Huss reported that Statistical Reports have not been received from the following meetings in Miami Quarterly Meeting: Louisville, Yellow Springs and Dayton, and from the following meetings in Whitewater Quarterly Meeting: Fall Creek, Fort Wayne and Maple Grove. Friends reviewed addresses and names of

contact people from meetings whose reports have not been received. The due date has past. Meetings are reminded to submit these reports as soon as possible.

15. Advancement and Nurture

David Garman reported that the committee has met via conference call. The committee is exploring its service to the yearly meeting as a smaller-size committee than in the past.

16. Nominating

The Budget and Finance Committee urgently needs Friends to serve on the committee. Stan Zarowin is unable to serve at this time, and Dean Matthews is experiencing serious health issues. Wilson Palmer and Steve Angell serve on the committee at this time, and Ben Griffith serves on an ex-officio basis. Friends entered into a brief period of silence to raise names for the service. Nominating Committee will contact the two names lifted. Friends were asked to continue to hold this need in the light and contact Nominating Committee with additional names.

17. Discipline Revision Committee

Betsy Neale reported that the first part of the Close Relationships section has been distributed to meetings. Responses are due to the Discipline Revision Committee by fourth month 6, 2010.

18. Peace and Social Concerns

Richard Mitchell reported that the Peace and Social Concerns Committee has been a little quiet recently, but is looking to re-energize in the near future.

19. Religious Education

Diann Herzog reported that the Religious Education Committee has been quite active, having presented one workshop, several meeting visitations with more scheduled, and a Parents' Retreat in the planning stages. Additional members to the committee are welcome.

20. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

Byron Branson reported that the theme of the 190th annual session of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is "Celebrating Friends as Family: Nurturing the Future." One of the plenary talks will be given by Max Carter of Guilford College.

21. Teen Committee

Nikki Coffey Tousley reported that the Alaska Friends Conference has accepted the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting invitation to join in the 2010 Teen Service Trip. Six teens from Alaska Friends Conference have indicated an interest. Nikki outlined additional planned activities for the committee.

22. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

Dinah Duvall will replace Stan Zarowin on the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee at least through the 2010 annual session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

23. Friends Peace Team

Friends were reminded to check the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting blog for announcements relative to the Friends Peace Team.

24. Fort Wayne Friends Meeting

It was announced that Fort Wayne Friends Meeting will receive two new members in third month 2010.

The meeting ended with a brief period of silence.

The next meeting of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee will occur on Fourth Month 3, 2010 at the Earlham School of Religion, with budget review open to all at 9:30 AM and business meeting at 12:00 noon.

Submitted,

Deb Kociszewski

OVYM Recording Clerk

Executive Committee
3rd day, 4th Month, 2010
Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, Indiana

1. **The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.**

2. **Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee	Representative
Miami Quarterly Meeting	
Campus	No Representative
Community	Frank Huss
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Ben Griffith
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	Tom Nowel
Oxford	No Representative
Yellow Springs	Carol Simmons
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Tom Nowel

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Bloomington	No Representative
Clear Creek	Larry Habschmidt
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg	No Representative
Hopewell	No Representative

Lafayette	No Representative
Maple Grove (inactive)	
North Meadow Circle	Elaine Troth
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse

Yearly Meeting Officers

Presiding Clerk	Ben Griffith
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski
Publications Coordinator	No Representative
Quill Editor	No Representative
Treasurer	Steve Angell sends regrets
Assistant Treasurer	Wilson Palmer

Standing and Special Committees

Advancement and Nurture	Deborah Jordan
Budget and Finance	Wilson Palmer
Discipline Revision	Rex Sprouse
Nominating	Peg Champney sends regrets
Peace and Social Concerns	Frank Huss
Religious Education	Diann Herzog
Personnel	Tom Nowel
YM Planning	No Representative
Children's Program	No Representative

Middle Youth	No Representative
Teen Activities	Nikki Coffey Tousley

Yearly Meeting Staff

Clerical Support	Deborah Jordan
Youth Secretary	Carol Simmons

Liaisons

Friends Home, Inc. Liaison	No Representative
Lauramoore Home	No Representative
Friends Music Camp	Peg Champney sends regrets

3. Qualifications / clarifications of minutes of second month 2010 Executive Committee

No clarifications were requested. The minutes stand as approved in second month.

4. Treasurer's Report

Steve Angell submitted the Treasurer's Report and Wilson Palmer reviewed the report with Friends. Friends were advised that the final contribution to the Alaska Trip Fund has been received. Expenses in general have been light during the current fiscal year. Friends took time to review the printed report. Friends accepted the report.

5. Joint Quarterly Meeting Expenses for Children

The clerk reviewed with Friends the history of funding mid-year Children's Program expenses as they relate to the hiring of childcare for the Joint Quarterly Meeting. The clerk recommended inserting a line item into the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting budget to accommodate the needs of the Children's Program during Joint Quarterly Meeting.

Friends approved.

6. Miami Quarterly Meeting

Tom Nowel reported that the Miami Quarterly Meeting met most recently on Third Month 21, 2010 at Miami Monthly Meeting and shared productive time. The pressing business of Miami Quarterly Meeting was nominations for the coming year. A Recording Clerk has been named, but Friends are still considering the position of Presiding Clerk. It was also reported that Miami Quarterly Meeting has the responsibility for planning the Joint Quarterly Meeting scheduled for tenth month 2010. No Friends have volunteered to serve on an ad hoc committee to plan the Joint Quarterly Meeting scheduled for tenth month. No contacts have been made with Happy Hollow, and no structure has been established. Friends noted the importance of the Happy Hollow experience to the young people of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. The clerk recommended that the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee establish an ad hoc pre-planning committee for the purpose of securing a date with Happy Hollow. Miami Quarterly Meeting will then expect to work on the details from that point. Diann Herzog, Deborah Jordan and Carol Simmons expressed interest on working on the ad hoc pre-planning committee.

7. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting will meet fourth month 17, 2010 at Hopewell Friends.

8. Youth Secretary Report

Carol Simmons presented the report summarizing Teen activities since the last Executive Committee meeting. Six Teens celebrated a retreat at Lexington Monthly Meeting, working at the meetinghouse and in the community. Carol also reviewed plans for the Service Project as they stand at this time.

9. Clerical Support Report

Deborah Jordan reviewed the information received in the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting office from Friends' organizations. In response to a question, Deborah noted that the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting directory information is made available to our ministries. It was clarified that OVYM directory information will be provided only to OVYM ministries and Friends General Conference.

10. Advancement and Nurture

Deborah Jordan reported that Advancement and Nurture has met via phone conference to conduct the business of the committee. Advancement and Nurture has been in discussion with Religious Education about workshop possibilities for the committees. A workshop on Eldering is in the works, and Advancement and Nurture will sponsor a workshop at the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting session.

11. Budget and Finance

Wilson Palmer reviewed the work of the Budget and Finance committee, noting that he has been encouraged to provide not only detailed worksheets full of numbers, but also descriptive, meaningful summaries of those numbers. Friends were reminded not to hesitate to travel to do the business of the yearly meeting. Friends noted that publications costs are on the increase. The clerk anticipates increased efforts to disseminate more information on line.

12. Discipline Revision

The Discipline Revision Committee will meet fourth month 10 to work on the second draft of the first part on Close Relationships section of the Faith and Practice. Responses have been received from a few monthly meetings. The committee expresses gratitude to those meetings that have provided responses to the Discipline Revision Committee.

13. Nominating Committee

Diann Herzog reported that significant time was spent in worship at the most recent meeting of Nominating Committee. A focus by the committee on faith-led service has led to some positive responses from Friends.

14. Religious Education

Diann Herzog reported that a recent retreat by the Friends serving on Religious Education was worshipful and gathered. The committee met by conference call with Advancement and Nurture. It was noted that nine spaces are allocated for Religious Education. Two Friends currently serve on the committee, and note no lack of spirit.

15. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

The Yearly Meeting Planning Committee is working diligently on the annual sessions. Friends are encouraged to look forward to a spirit-filled session. Tunia McClure is working well in her role as clerk.

16. Teen Committee

Nikki Coffey Tousley reported that teens are working on fund-raising for the annual service project. They will be making "hoodies" as a fund-raiser. Details on other fund-raising activities will be available in the very near future.

17. Personnel Committee

Tom Nowel reported that the Personnel Committee would meet soon to extend contracts for our personnel positions. Friends are encouraged to provide any input for this purpose to the clerk so that the contracts can be prepared and put in place.

18. Quaker Quill

The clerk reminded Friends that the deadline for the next Quaker Quill issue is fifth month 15. Friends are encouraged not to procrastinate in their submissions.

19. Statistician

Frank Huss reviewed the Statistical Report. Friends accepted the report.

20. Friends General Conference

Rex Sprouse reminded Friends that on-line registration for the Friends General Conference Gathering began fourth month, first day. Early registration will continue through fourth month, tenth day. There is no mail-in registration for the Gathering. Friends have the option of phone-in registration. The Gathering is scheduled for seventh month four throughout ten, 2010 at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. Rex noted that FGC is especially seeking staff for the High School program.

The meeting closed in silent worship. Friends approved the minutes.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held sixth month 5, 2010 at North Meadow Circle of Friends Meeting in Indianapolis, IN.

Submitted,

Deb Kociszewski

OVYM Recording Clerk

**2nd Annual Budget Advisory Meeting
April 3, 2010
Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN**

Present: Frank Huss, Paul Kriese, Wilson Palmer, Ben Griffith, Jane Stowe, David Garman, Nikki Coffey Tousley, Carol Simmons

Assistant Treasurer and Budget/Finance Committee Clerk Wilson Palmer presented the 2011 proposed budget. He noted the proposed budget is revenue neutral budget meaning that we aren't going to lose or make money this coming budget year.

1. Going through Table 1 he noted the increase/decrease line of 1600 is due to \$1000 we will put in the FWCC fund, the \$100 Capital Fund, and the Discipline Printing Fund.
2. Briefly we looked overall picture and Wilson explained briefly how the tables are layered.
3. Table 8 General Fund summary shows the General Fund Summary of Income and Expenses. The income table does show donated travel which doesn't actually show up in the checking account, but is offset by the equal amount of expense.
4. We encouraged Friends to be honest with their leadings and meeting's leadings about how the Yearly Meeting budget reflects our leadings as a body.
5. We started breaking down the tables, starting with administration table 10 which embodies tables 11,12,13 and 14. There was a change noted that the Quill line requested the amount be raised from \$2200 to \$3300 due to higher costs.
6. Committee Expenses were summarized next. These expenses were represented by tables 15,16,17,18,19, and 20. Teen Committee changed the way they showed the figures in their budget to make it more transparent. We also visited the topic of children worker at Joint Quarterly Meetings. This will be brought up at Executive Meeting today. Friends expressed support for the idea of supporting the children's worker at this gathering with YM funds built into the children's program budget so that it may mirror the practice of the MY worker and Teen worker being paid out of these YM budgets as a matter of being an on-going program. Wilson noted that the RE budget received slightly less than the requested amount because travel expenses were included in the request. He talked with the committee to express that travel would be reimbursed out of the YM committee travel line and that this was why this request was reduced.

7. A short detour ensued as David got ready to leave the meeting early and commented on the budget. He particularly commented on contributions and Friends talked a bit about our commitment to support our own youth programs is very important to us, and our contributions are in many ways more symbolic than critical...
8. Sessions Table 22 was looked at with Wilson noted how Sessions are annually subsidized by the YM budget. This is an intentional and annual exercise. The Planning Committee submitted a very thorough budget. Wilson noted that there very well may be a lower attendance this year due to the FGC Gathering being in “competition” with our Session. People have limited time and money, and some Friends will choose between the Gathering and Sessions. The idea of maybe charging more for registration in coordination with a better communication of scholarships in order to offset the loss of income.
9. As we made our way through the last part of the discussion, the recorder lost track of some of the discussion. We did however plug in the changes we discussed and noted that our suggested proportional share be around \$112, very similar to last year.
10. We asked our hearts to consider other things about the budget. One Friend expressed concern about the Lauramoore budget being kept at \$400 A brief history about the Lauramoore and concerns raised by Executive Committee was given.

Notes taken by Ben Griffith, Presiding Clerk

OVYM Executive Committee
5th day, 6th Month, 2010
North Meadow Circle of Friends

1. The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.

2. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees

Meeting/Committee	Representative
Miami Quarterly Meeting	
Campus	Dale Hayes sends regrets
Community	Frank Huss
Dayton	Nikki CoffeyTousley
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Betsy Neale/Richard Mitchell
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	Tom Nowel sends regrets
Oxford	Steve Angell
Yellow Springs	Peg Champney
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Tom Nowel sends regrets

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

Bloomington	Janette Shetter
Clear Creek	David Garman
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg	Terre Holada
Hopewell	No Representative

Lafayette	No Representative
Maple Grove (inactive)	
North Meadow Circle	Elaine Troth
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse sends regrets

Yearly Meeting Officers

Presiding Clerk	Ben Griffith
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski sends regrets
Publications Coordinator	No Representative
Quill Editor	No Representative
Treasurer	Steve Angell
Assistant Treasurer	Wilson Palmer

Standing and Special Committees

Advancement and Nurture	David Garman
Budget and Finance	Wilson Palmer
Discipline Revision	Betsy Neale
Nominating	Peg Champney/ Evalyn Kellum
Peace and Social Concerns	Richard Mitchell
Religious Education	Diann Herzog
Personnel	Tom Nowel sends regrets
YM Planning	No Representative
Children's Program	No Representative

Middle Youth	No Representative
Teen Activities	Nikki Coffey Tousley

Yearly Meeting Staff

Clerical Support	Deborah Jordan
Youth Secretary	Carol Simmons sends regrets

Liaisons and others:

Friends Home, Inc. Liaison	Frank Huss
Lauramoore Home	No Representative
Friends Music Camp	Peg Champney sends regrets
Statistician	Frank Huss

3. Clerk's Items

Reports in advance are due by 6-20-10 to Erik Cleven and copied to Deborah Jordan with Memorial Minutes sent to Paul Kriese and Erik Cleven, copied to Deborah Jordan. Please note formatting request included in the email on this subject.

4. Treasurer's Report

Steve Angell reviewed the Treasurer's Report (see attached). Income and expenses are less than anticipated by about \$20,000 each. Teen expenses are down, but the Service Trip will be charged in the next month. Representative travel cost is also down. Treasurer requests that Representative Travel Forms be submitted for tracking purposes, whether for reimbursement or donation.

5. Visioning Proposal

Ben Griffith presented this proposal (see attached) with support from Advancement and Nurture Committee. Paul Kriese clerked this portion of the meeting. The presentation included a background of the need, a proposal for the visioning process, and a draft survey. The purpose of the survey is to generate discussion. Youth will have their own set of

questions. Feedback is welcome, especially from the committees in question. All responses would be available on the web.

Friends approved a kiosk at Yearly Meeting for an initial survey trial. Friends would also like to have a survey for Monthly Meetings to use with members and attenders who may not be as involved in Yearly Meeting. The details are yet to be worked out. It was proposed that Monthly Meetings be asked to have these discussions when there is a planned visit by a designated Friend. These discussions would provide a chance to deeply listen to concerns being raised and to what Friends want from Yearly Meeting. Terms like Middle Youth or Proportional Share would need to be defined. A goal of reaching all members was suggested. Affirmation for the visioning process was given.

6. Minutes for this Meeting

Friends approved allowing acting Recording Clerk and Clerk to write and edit minutes.

7. Naming for Nominating Committee and Personnel Committee

The Clerk explained the process of allowing names to arise out of waiting worship. Assistant Clerk will ask people in the order named. Three Friends are rotating off the committee. One of these Friends, Evalyn Kellum, is willing to serve again for another 3 year term ending in 2013. Two names for nominating are needed.

One for a term ending in 2012 and one for a term through 2013. The clerk also noted that one person is needed to serve on Personnel Committee to replace Tom Nowel who is moving to Cleveland. Friends entered into silence and names then arose.

8. The Quill

Ben reported that it will be published soon.

9. Clerical Support

Deborah Jordan said that the new OVYM Directory is being compiled. She asked that Monthly Meetings return changes from last year, not the entire contact information for the OVYM Directory.

10. Website

Ben reported that Lonny Burger just updated the website.

11. Statistician

Frank Huss reported that there has been an overall loss of seven members.

12. Budget and Finance

Wilson Palmer reported that the committee is still hearing back from Meetings on their contributions. In April, it was proposed that this be a balanced budget. With current commitments to contributions, the budget is at a negative balance of -\$6313. This will still be alright if expenses continue to be lower as well. There was a suggestion to ask Meetings to consider resources of attenders in their contributions.

13. Discipline Revision

Betsy Neale reported that the committee is preparing for annual sessions.

14. Nominating

Peg Champney requested approval for the following appointments: Ben Thornbur for Advancement and Nurture, effective immediately. Elaine Troth for Religious Education, effective immediately. Effective as of Yearly Meeting sessions: Ron Haldeman and Sandra Ward Angell for Epistolary Committee; Mildred Mahoney for Epistle Summary. Roy Joe Stuckey and Janette Shetter for Memorial Committee. Friends approved.

15. Personnel

Ben Griffith reported that the two contract employees have been evaluated and contracts reviewed with a recommendation to renew both. Friends approved.

16. Religious Education

Diann Herzog reported that there is a planned interest group on Eldering at Yearly Meeting, followed by a fall workshop and spring retreat planned.

15. Teen Committee and Youth Secretary (see attached)

Nikki Coffey Tousley reported on the intergenerational retreat near Louisville in May and the plans for that to be an annual gathering. The upcoming service trip to Cleveland will include a reunion with 6 teens and one Young Adult Friend from Alaska.

16. Friends Home, Inc.

Frank Huss reported that Friends Home, Inc. is working with a fundraising consultant. There is a concern that the current chaplain feels constrained by her 20 hour a week time limit.

17. Friends Music Camp

Peg Champney reported that the camp is thriving and full. They are challenged to raise more money for the increased requests for scholarships. Donations are welcome.

18. Joint Quarterly Meeting

Scheduled at Happy Hollow, Indiana for 10-9 to 10-10-2010.

19. Wider Quaker Body

Steve Angell reported on a Young Adult Friend (YAF) gathering from all branches of Quakerism (see attached) in Wichita, Kansas Fifth Month 28 to 31 with 73 YAFs in attendance and a number of FOAPs (Friendly Older Adult Presences). Two YAFs from OVYM were in attendance. It was a lively gathering with some cross-branch challenges.

20. Thanks were expressed to North Meadow Circle of Friends for their hospitality.

The meeting closed in silent worship.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for 10th month 2. A conference call will be considered since this is the weekend before Joint Quarterly.

Submitted, Deborah Jordan, Acting OVYM Recording Clerk

Treasurer's Report 6/4/2010

	2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Budget	2008-09 YTD Actual	2009-10 Budget	2009-10 YTD Actual
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Table 2010-1. Fund Balances at Year End

FWCC Triennial (Table 2010-2)	516	1,516	1,516	2,516	2,516
Benevolent Fund (Table 2010-3)	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Peace Witness Fund (Table 2010-4)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Capital Fund (Table 2010-5)	5,376	5,576	5,518	5,618	5,618
<i>Discipline Printing Fund (Table 2010-6)</i>	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Teen Alaska Trip Fund (Table 2010-7)	239	0	3,617	0	0
General Fund (Table 2010-8)	35,037	32,134	35,009	36,755	39,572

Total	50,467	49,026	55,459	54,688	57,505
Increase (decrease)	327	-1,441	4,992	-771	2,817

Table 2010-2. FWCC Triennial Fund

Starting Balance	1,686	516	516	1,516	2,516
Transfer from General Fund	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Close WGYF Fund					
Disbursements	2,171				
Ending Balance	516	1,516	1,516	2,516	2,516

Table 2010-3. Benevolent Fund

Starting Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Income	229	200	152	100	
Disbursements	229	200	152	100	
Ending Balance	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800

Table 2010-4. Peace Witness Fund

Starting Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Income	100	100		100	
Disbursements	100	100		100	
Ending Balance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500

Table 2010-5. Capital Fund

Starting Balance	5,179	5,376	5,376	5,518	5,618
Income	197	200	142	100	
Distribution					
Ending Balance	5,376	5,576	5,518	5,618	5,618

Table 2010-6. Discipline Printing Fund

Starting Balance	500	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,500
Income	500	500	500	0	
Distribution					
Ending Balance	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500

Table 2010-7. Teen Alaska Trip Fund

Starting Balance		239	239	3,617	3,617
From OVYM Reserves		3,000	3,000	-67	1
From Teen Budget (Table 2010-19)		3,000	3,000		
Fundraising & Contributions	414	9,361	8,584	1,300	600
Participant Fees		3,500	2,000	800	1,300
Total Income	414	19,100	16,823	5,650	5,518
Fundraising Costs	175		485	0	
Cost of Alaska Trip		19,100	12,721	5,650	5,518
Total Expenses	175	19,100	13,206	5,650	5,518
Ending Balance	239	0	3,617	0	0

Table 2010-8. General Fund Summary

INCOME					
Meeting Contributions (Table 2010-9)	69,089	76,903	73,846	82,181	63,688
Interest	891	500	116	100	
Other Income					
Cash contributions	2,154	500		200	
Contributed Travel Costs	3,369	3,500	3,058	3,500	922
Sales of Disciplines			8		
Total Income	75,503	81,403	77,028	85,981	64,610

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses (Table 2010-10)	29,130	31,015	28,848	30,290	23,589
Committee Expenses (Table 2010-15)	11,537	10,755	5,972	9,600	1,085
Representative Travel (Table 2010-21)	8,288	8,000	8,808	8,500	3,992
Yearly Meeting Session (Table 2010-22)	7,252	10,686	9,578	15,562	13,776
Transfer to FWCC Triennial Travel	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Transfer to <i>Discipline</i> Printing Fund	500	500	500	0	
Contributions by OVYM (Table 2010-23)	16,000	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350
Total Expenses	73,707	81,305	74,056	84,302	61,792

Net General Fund Gain (Loss)	1,796	98	2,972	1,679	2,818
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Table 2010-9. Meeting Contributions

Bloomington	7,200	6,572	6,892	8,325	6,967
Campus	1,428	1,484	1,641	1,575	1,198
Clear Creek	10,476	11,342	11,342	12,150	10,935
Community	5,917	8,374	7,885	8,663	5,784
Dayton	2,134	2,226	2,226	1,575	1,590
Eastern Hills	2,200	2,279	2,300	2,306	2,350
Fall Creek	1,261	848	0	1,238	686
Fort Wayne		0	450	450	
Green Plain	0	1,166	480	1,238	450
Hopewell	970	1,060	0	1,238	600
Lafayette	1,164	1,590	1,150	1,688	1,688
Lexington	5,238	5,724	5,724	5,963	6,082
Louisville	8,000	8,692	9,100	9,113	6,000
Maple Grove	0	106	0	113	
Miami	5,432	5,830	6,000	5,850	
North Meadow	3,783	4,346	4,346	4,275	3,008
Oxford	1,649	1,590	1,590	1,688	1,725
White Rose	500	954	0	1,013	500

Yellow Springs	11,737	12,720	12,720	13,725	14,125
TOTAL Meeting Contributions	69,089	76,903	73,846	82,181	63,688

Table 2010-10. Operating Expenses

Administration (Table 2010-11)	2,449	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,768
Clerical support (Table 2010-12)	849	750	903	900	283
Staff (Table 2010-13)	21,059	21,925	22,112	22,240	20,552
Publications (Table 2010-14)	4,148	4,690	3,997	4,350	986
Archives	600	600		300	
Misc	25				
Total	29,130	31,015	28,848	30,290	23,589

Table 2010-11. Administration

Bank Charges	157	100	11	50	
Printing	180	200	92	100	624
Liability Insurance	813	850	815	850	969
Background Checks		400	230	300	72
Clerks' Expenses	937	1,000	412	800	
Treasurer's Expenses	361	500	276	400	103
Total	2,449	3,050	1,836	2,500	1,768

Table 2010-12. Clerical Support

Office Expenses	150	200	895	700	125
Setup New Office	400				
Postage	100	250	8		44
Travel	199	300		200	114
Total	849	750	903	900	283

Table 2010-13. Staff

Compensation	15,340	18,346	20,066	20,500	18,780
Tax	1,106	1,403	792		633
Workers Comp	313	325	358	360	314
Medical	2,842				0
Cell Phone	514	550	459	480	395
Internet Access	348	300	274	400	370
Professional Development	597	1,000	163	500	60
Total	21,059	21,925	22,112	22,240	20,552

Table 2010-14. Publications

Quill	1,896	2,290	2,039	2,200	
Minutes	1,490	1,600	1,623	1,650	986
Directory	763	800	335	500	
Total	4,148	4,690	3,997	4,350	986

Table 2010-15. Committee Expense

Ad Hoc FWCC 2009 Arrangements	327		0		
Advancement & Nurture (Table 2010-16)	666	355	0	400	0
Middle Youth (Table 2010-17)	1,031	1,275	198	600	106
Peace & Social Concerns (Table 2010-18)	356	750	170	600	0
Religious Education (Table 2010-19)	0	300	0	200	84
Teen Program (Table 2010-20)	5,756	5,275	4,142	5,800	729
Travel - Donated	1,058	1,000	900	1,000	166
Travel - Reimbursed	2,343	1,800	562	1,000	
Total Expenses	11,537	10,755	5,972	9,600	1,085

Table 2010-16. Advancement & Nurture Committee

Retreat Honorarium	50	100			
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Books for members	227	50		50	
Pamphlet reprinting	388	100		100	
Printing & Advertising		35			
Postage & Photos		70			
Gathering of M&C clerks				150	
Sample Resource Materials				100	
Total Expense	666	355	0	400	0

Table 2010-17. Middle Youth Committee

Joint Quarterly Gathering		450			106
Winter Gathering		550	198		
Spring Biking		275			
Staff				400	
Supplies				200	
Total Expense		1,275	198	600	106

Table 2010-18. Peace & Social Concerns

Work Camps		120		120	
Pre-YM Workshop	94	400		250	
Postage	96	180	170	180	
Materials	85				
Display for YM Sessions	82	50		50	
Total Expense	356	750	170	600	0

Table 2010-19. Religious Education Committee

Lending Library					
RE Newsletter					
Postage					

Fall Retreat & Spring Workshop		300		200	175
Total Expense		300	0	200	175

Table 2010-20. Teen Program

INCOME

Contributions					
Fundraising					
Participant Fees	800	75	215	300	40
Total Income	800	75	215	300	40

EXPENSE

Publicity		200		100	
Travel	879	1,000	286	1,200	400
Teen Events	1,341	750	788	800	369
Service Trips	4,255	400	283	4,000	
Alaska Trip		3,000	3,000		
Misc	81				
Total Expense	6,556	5,350	4,357	6,100	769

Net Teen Prog Cost	5,756	5,275	4,142	5,800	729
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Table 2010-21. Representative Travel

Normal (\$250 per trip)	2,877	2,750	2,750	3,000	1,325
Additional Reimbursement	1,600	1,750	2,916	2,000	1,242
Coopted Representatives	1,500	1,000	984	1,000	750
Donated Travel	2,311	2,500	2,158	2,500	675
Total Expenses	8,288	8,000	8,808	8,500	3,992

Table 2010-22. Yearly Meeting Sessions

INCOME

Contributions	2,424	2,500	2,749	2,500	0
Registration	2,750	2,910	3,120	2,910	2,582
Room & Board Charges	13,181	15,554	16,146	15,554	13,760
Bookstore Income	2,097	2,100	1,180	1,700	2,415
Total Income	20,452	23,064	23,195	22,664	18,757

EXPENSES

Administration	120	120	109	470	171
Adult Program	1,316	1,900	1,221	1,740	1,526
Young Adult Program					
Teen Program	1,108	1,200	1,633	1,500	1,400
Middle Youth Program	1,677	1,740		1,740	1,233
Children's Program plus \$125 for Joint QM expenses	2,355	2,400	2,701	2,400	2,765
Adult Room & Board	12,582	15,554	16,086	15,554	12,808
Room & Board Subsidies					
Children	5,409	6,383	6,916	6,383	5,040
Staff	1,622	1,913	2,073	1,913	1,512
Guests	189	502	242	633	504
YAF attenders subsidy				1,800	1,420
First-time attenders subsidy				2,056	1,626
Simple Meal Donation		637	650	637	600
Bookstore Expenses	1,326	1,400	1,142	1,400	1,928
Total Expenses	27,704	33,749	32,773	38,226	32,533

Net Cost of Session	7,252	10,686	9,578	15,562	13,776
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Table 2010-23. Contributions by OVYM

OVYM Ministries					
Friends Home	400	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Friends Music Camp	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Lauramoore Home	400	400	400	400	400

Subtotal	1,800	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,400
Major Quaker Organizations					
AFSC	2,500	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650
FCNL	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
FGC	3,700	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
<i>Friends Journal</i>	600	600	600	600	600
FWCC	2,750	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
FWCC Midwest Field Sec. (restricted)	650				
Quaker United Nations Office	300	500	500	500	500
Subtotal	12,400	12,750	12,750	12,750	12,750
Quaker Education and Outreach					
Earlham College		300	300	300	300
Olney Friends School	300	300	300	300	300
Quaker Heritage Center		300	300	300	300
Wilmington College		300	300	300	300
Subtotal	300	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Quaker Peace and Social Concerns with specific focus					
FLGBTQC (Lesbian & Gay Concerns)	200	200	200	200	200
Friends Peace Teams	100	500	500	500	500
Indiana Friends Com. On Legislation	100	200	200	200	200
Quaker Earthcare Witness	500	500	500	500	500
Right Sharing of World Resources	600	600	600	600	600
Subtotal	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Contributions	16,000	19,350	19,350	19,350	19,350

OVYM TEEN Committee - Report to Executive Committee – Sixth Month 5, 2010

This report will also serve as the Youth Secretary report. The work of the youth secretary and teen committee since the last report has focused on a multigenerational retreat in May and our upcoming service trip. Although there was interest in a parents retreat, we were unable to find a date. We hope this concern can be carried forward.

The first weekend in May, we held a retreat for Middle Youth, Teens and Young Adult Friends at a farm adjacent to Maie Klapaahk's home north of Louisville, where Maie and other Friends are hoping to develop an intentional community or retreat center. The focus of the retreat was weaving between age groups, and we reflected on our vision for the future of Quakerism and the messages we would like to give older and younger Friends. We also helped clean the bunkhouse and barn, cut a trail around a pond on the site, and decorated napkins and curtains to be used by future groups. There were ten participants, one YAF, five teens, and four middle youth, in addition to parents and FAPs. One of the teens and one middle youth will be moving up into the next age group this summer. We hope to continue to hold this retreat each May as a way to help youth transition and build connections between the age groups.

Six teens from Alaskan Friends Conference will be joining us for the annual service trip, 25 Sixth Month through 4 Seventh Month. In addition, Laura Herman, a young adult Friend from Alaska, will serve as a Friendly Adult Presence. Laura was one of the FAPs for the Spirit Camp last year, and is a recent graduate of the Guilford College Quaker Leadership Scholar Program. Chance Duvall, of North Meadow, will be the second FAP. Chance has served as Middle Youth staff during Yearly Meeting sessions, and currently works in youth programming for the YMCA. The focus of the trip will be Quaker identity in the diversity of the city. The group will visit the Underground Railroad Museum in Cincinnati, and in Cleveland they will help to renovate the Cozad-Bates house, a former station on the Underground Railroad, which is being refurbished as an Underground Railroad resource center. They will also visit and work at St. John's AME Church, the first African American church in Cleveland, cook a meal at the Ronald MacDonald house, and meet with an intern from the Akron AFSC office to assist in her work with military counter-recruitment. The Alaskans and some of our youth will be attending Friends General Conference in Bowling Green the following week.

More generally, we have been working to better involve teens in planning, and intend to create teen ministry and nurture committee for the trip and at OVYM this year. We are still working on planning for Yearly Meeting. The teens decided that they would like to take a bike trip rather than canoeing this year.

We will be holding fundraising dinners and selling hoodies to support the service trip. Please support these efforts. An order form for the hoodies will be circulated soon.

Carol and Nikki met to do a mid-year evaluation, recognizing challenges and setting goals for Carol as youth secretary. Members of the committee were also encouraged to voice concerns. We recommended to the Personnel committee that Carol's contract be renewed. *Submitted by Nikki Coffey Tousley*

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS GATHERING (Wichita, Kansas, May 28-31, 2010)

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting was represented at the Young Adult Friends Gathering at Wichita, Kansas, by Laura Gleason of Bloomington Meeting, Howie Baker of Louisville Meeting, and myself of Oxford Meeting.

Overall, the various branches of Quakerism were well, and rather evenly, represented. I haven't seen exact figures, but as I recall, about 30% of attendees were EFI, and about the same proportion were FUM and FGC. Conservative Friends and Independent Friends made up the other 10%.

ESR's Valerie Neverman did a splendid job coordinating and preparing meals for the conference. Cliff Loesch and the University Friends Church did a wonderful job hosting us. Adult First Day School, prior to the (programmed) meeting for worship, was a good chance to get to know some of the congregation members. I enjoyed making the acquaintance of Benny and Earline Mevey. Earline told me about her entire family, including her grandson who lost his foot to an IED in Afghanistan and is still recuperating a year later at Walter Reed Hospital.

Carlos and Karla Moran were two Evangelical Friends Church – Eastern

Region members present. Carlos is originally from Guatemala. Carlos and Karla are as of the last few weeks now doing church planting in the Washington Street area of Indianapolis. Karla expressed interest in the idea of being able to draw on expertise of ESR faculty members as guest speakers.

My workshop on “Quakers and the Bible” was well attended (about 15 on Saturday; another 6 for the same workshop on Sunday), and elicited good, F(f)riendly, and searching discussions, as we discussed how George Fox looked at the Book of Revelation, and as we discussed the varied views of Friends on the issue of Biblical authority more generally.

Young Adult Friends seemed very much to enjoy the ability to talk with others in their age range from the tremendous variety of Yearly Meetings present. More than once, one could hear the expression that these Young Adult Friends gatherings are more “alive” than any other Friends meetings or gatherings they attend.

That said, there were of course differences that arose, and hopefully everyone could learn from those as well. In the Saturday morning English language Bible Study, there were some sharp disagreements on “Universalism,” i.e., whether Christ is the only way to God for Quakers, or whether there are other paths to God for us. (I happened to be in the Spanish Language Bible Study at the time, which was much calmer.) This again arose in the worship on Sunday evening, after Dave Williams had delivered his Quaker history message about how such Friends as John Woolman, Stephen Grellet, Elizabeth Fry, and Emma Malone had combined concerns for personal holiness and social change. (Dave also commented on John 3:16, utilizing a story about the birth of his first son, to stress the importance of what God had done for humanity in sacrificing God's only son.

Subsequently, in the open worship, some Young Adult Friends stressed the importance of the centrality of God's Love in their gatherings, drawing on such sources as I Cor. 13 and John Woolman's statement, in his visit to the Indians, that “Love is the first motion.” Those Friends, who tended to be mostly, but not exclusively, from FGC or Independent Yearly Meetings, seemed to resist any imputation of a theology common to Friends beyond that of our awareness of, reliance on, and witness to God's Love. For other Young Adult Friends, a clearer statement of our Christ-centered witness as Friends was definitely much desired.

There was some concern expressed that more be done to make sure that these events feel like a safe space to all of the Friends who come. Would it be possible to orient Young Adult Friends at cross-branch events such as these more fully to the theological variety that they will encounter there? Would it be possible to “take” people's “temperature,” i.e., their comfort levels with the events that are going on, more systematically at cross-branch events?

One concern of mine, that I expressed briefly at the end of the Sunday night service, was the need for music pertaining to worship to be inclusive. The Sunday night service featured all praise songs, generally presenting a high and exalted Lord, and some of which had stark proclamations of a vicarious atonement, that not all Friends present could affirm. “Worship in Song” hymnals were located in the University Friends

Church library, and some dozen of us gathered around the piano after the Sunday night service was over to sing the familiar hymns that we loved. Would it be possible to have a greater variety of hymns and sacred music at an event drawing so broadly from all of the various branches?

Overall, despite the difficulties, Friends felt that much good had been accomplished at this Gathering. I left on Monday morning, before the Gathering's Epistle had been finalized, but my understanding is that the previous sentence expresses something of the theme that was in close-to-final versions of the Epistle. Thanks to all who helped to make this so important, and spiritually searching and revitalizing, an occasion for Friends. *Submitted by Steve Angell*

Deep Rumbings. Is it time to vision again?

There have been some rumbings in the Yearly Meeting recently. Rumbings are different than action items brought forward by our committee structures and acted upon at OVYM sessions. Rumbings are deeper, more troubling, more promising, more hard to hold. It is the Spirit moving and calling. Perhaps this is an obvious call for OVYM Friends to go deeper to the source of the call.

Below is a short list of some of the specific rumbings that have been heard. This list just reports the audible voices. There are certainly more to hear:

COMMITTEE WORK AND STRUCTURE

- A&N has questioned our committee structures and has wondered if these structures are the best way to provide services to monthly meetings.
- Nominating Committee has reported increasing difficulty in finding people that are willing to serve. Serving committees has also led many involved Friends to burn out. Are there too many positions for too few willing volunteers?
- The Audit Committee has questioned the wisdom of the new Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer rotation knowing that there is a steep learning curve for the job of Treasurer. The committee feels the term should be longer than 2 years.

YEARLY MEETING AND QUARTERLY MEETING STRUCTURE

- Whitewater Quarterly Meeting has questioned the viability of the Quarterly Meeting structure.
- Many Friends have wondered why so much time is spent on business. Is there a need to reduce our business? Is there a way we can reduce our business?
- Is it already time to relook at the new covenant-based “Proportional Shares” to see how it is working for monthly meetings?
- Some Monthly Meetings want our fiscal year to change to the regular calendar year of Jan. 1 – Dec. 31st.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

- Teen Committee and the previous Youth Secretary undertook the successful Alaska Wilderness trip in 2009. Still the work was almost entirely done by the Youth Secretary and Committee Clerk(s). This lack of a group of people to do this work is a perennial problem for a committee that tries to hold multiple retreats during the year.

- Young Adult Friends are growing in our midst. Should we seek more ways to encourage their growth?
- Should the Middle Youth receive the same kind of support as Teens with some hired help?

WEB-BASED AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES

- Email and conference calls are changing the face of committee work. Should there be more intention to this change? What are the pros and cons?
- Web-based technologies are being considered to make a wider participation in our Yearly Meeting more possible.
- Will our new Faith and Practice be a print on demand document? (This will mean we can be doing revisions anytime we want in the future.)

YEARLY MEETING MINISTRIES

- We have been struggling in our relationship to the Lauramoore in particular. Our ministries (Friends Home, Lauramoore, and Friends Music Camp) are all stand alone separate entities. Part of our struggle is a lack of definition to what it really means for us to have a ministry. What does a “ministry” relationship mean? When we have concerns about one of our ministries, how should these concerns be addressed?

Are we ready to rumble?

Here is the proposal for our visioning quest. The process will be shepherded by Advancement and Nurture with leadership provided by (soon-to-be) Assistant Clerk Ben Griffith.

1. Generate a comprehensive survey for distribution at OVYM sessions. This survey will be posted on the web-based service called Survey Monkey. A kiosk will be set up at sessions so everyone can fill out the survey. These surveys will also be distributed in hard copy to monthly meeting representatives and electronically (special attention being paid to those who do not access the internet getting paper copies) to reach out to as many OVYM friends as possible and who are willing to take the time to be surveyed.
2. We will collect responses from the survey through September in order to distribute a survey result by Joint Quarterly Meeting held at Happy Hollow Campground on October 9 and 10. We may encourage even more responses to be added at this event?
3. Advancement and Nurture will organize a one-day visioning retreat in early 2011. We will try to capture the multi-faceted rumblings at this intensive one-day retreat. Proposed actions, solutions, identified concerns and conflicts will be collected.
4. A&N will publish a report from the retreat. It will outline possible action responses and propose any further threshing vehicles to April and June Executive Committees. It will also seek to encourage threshings on the monthly meeting and quarterly meeting levels.
5. At Yearly Meeting sessions, the recommendations that arise from this work will receive a full and worshipful consideration for bringing forward any true Rumblings...

Survey for Ohio Valley Friends

Who are you?

1. Identify yourself
 - a. Female
 - b. Male
2. How old are you?
 - a. Youth under 10 *(this answer will redirect to different questions)*
 - b. Middle Youth 11-13 *(this answer will redirect to different questions)*
 - c. Teen 14-18 *redirect?*
 - d. Young Adult 18-35
 - e. Middle Adult 35-55
 - f. Older Adult 55-75
 - g. Bonafide Elder 75+
3. Identify your meeting
 - a. Campus
 - b. Community
 - c. Dayton
 - d. Eastern Hills
 - e. Green Plain
 - f. Lexington
 - g. Louisville
 - h. Miami
 - i. Oxford
 - j. Yellow Springs
 - k. Bloomington
 - l. Clear Creek
 - m. Fall Creek
 - n. Fort Wayne
 - o. Hopewell
 - p. Lafayette
 - q. Maple Grove
 - r. North Meadow
 - s. White Rose
4. How long have you been a Friend (attender or member)?
 - a. Less than 5 years
 - b. 5-10 years
 - c. More than 10 years
5. My monthly meeting is a part of
 - a. Miami Quarterly Meeting

- b. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting
 - c. I don't know
6. How many times have you attended a Quarterly or Yearly Meeting?
- a. 0-4
 - b. 5-10
 - c. 10+
7. I regularly access the internet and email:
- a. Yes
 - b. No
8. Briefly describe your spiritual life, beliefs, and your practice.
9. Briefly describe some of your joys and reasons for being a part of your Monthly Meeting:

Quarterly Meeting:

Yearly Meeting:

10. Briefly describe some of your concerns or dislikes about being a part of your Monthly Meeting:

Quarterly Meeting:

Yearly Meeting:

11. I feel strongly led by the Spirit to help my monthly meeting to:

How do you feel? (Try to answer with one of the multiple choice answers provided, but feel free to add comments on any/or all questions. We will do our best to include written comments to more fully enlighten our survey results.)

12. I don't feel qualified to really answer any questions about the yearly meeting or quarterly meeting.

- a. Yes, this is true *redirect*
- b. I haven't had much experience, but I am willing to try
- c. I would like to answer the questions.

FUNCTION OF YEARLY MEETING

13. Rank the three most valuable works or functions of the Yearly Meeting? (*ranking instructions*)

- a. Really don't know enough to say.
- b. Our youth programs
- c. Sending representatives to Wider Quaker World
- d. Developing a social network of Friends and monthly meetings
- e. Advancing Truth in the Ohio Valley region
- f. Continuing the work of our Quaker heritage
- g. Developing personal and communal spiritual growth
- h. Other _____

14. What ways can Yearly Meeting support the spiritual life of its constituent Monthly Meetings? Choose the top two actions.

- a. Really don't know enough to say.
- b. By cultivating sister relationships among meetings
- c. By continuing to support or increase support for Teen and Middle Youth programs
- d. Adding financial support for cultivating Young Adult Friends
- e. By encouraging the growth of traveling ministers among us
- f. By providing more programming materials for monthly meetings
- g. Other _____

15. What ways can Yearly Meeting support the physical life of monthly meetings? Choose the top two responses.
- Really don't know enough to say.
 - Hire a Field Secretary to provide more continuity to the care and nurture of meetings
 - Develop a Meetinghouse Fund that encourages monthly meetings to improve, buy or build meetinghouse facilities.
 - Provide more educational materials for First Day School
 - Provide training for Quaker Quest
 - Other _____
16. What are the things you feel the yearly meeting should be doing more?
- Really don't know enough to say
 - Cultivating our prophetic voices and calls to ministry
 - Encourage more social justice projects that would provide opportunities for Young and Old Friends to serve
 - Be a better model of good stewardship of the Earth and our communities. Develop a stronger testimony of Earthcare.
 - Invest more money in ourselves and Quakerism.
17. Yearly Meeting business sessions are often scheduled to last 12-14 hours on the floor of sessions. Would you support efforts at reducing the time the Yearly Meeting conducts business?
- Yes
 - No

SUPPORTING YOUTH

18. How should we support Young Adult Friends?
- Subsidize attendance at sessions by providing ½ scholarships
 - Provide seed monies to help Young Friends conduct intervisitations with YAFs from other yearly meetings and to attend YAF conferences.
 - Give them encouragement to attend our yearly meeting sessions and to be an active part of our committees.
 - Other _____
19. Should we increase our support for Middle Youth by hiring a part-time worker to help organize similar to the Teen program?
- Yes
 - No

20. If we perennially struggle with finding adults who are active in helping out with the Teen Committee, how can we get more active support?
- a. Market our teen program better to our adults/parents
 - b. Require some involvement from parents
 - c. Other _____

Quarterly Meeting Structure

21. In our 2009 session, Whitewater Quarterly Meeting reported serious concern about the viability of the structure of Quarterly Meeting to continue. Do you feel that Quarterly Meetings are still a viable structure for us?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
22. What would you like to see done about this concern for Quarterly Meetings?
- a. Lay down Whitewater Quarterly Meeting and combine it with Miami Quarterly Meeting. Continue on with one quarterly meeting.
 - b. Lay down both Quarterly Meetings and instead establish a new Mid-year meeting open to all constituent monthly meetings.
 - c. Keep our two Quarterly Meetings going.
23. One possible alternative suggested has been the establishment of a Joint Quarterly Meeting every year instead of every other year. Would an annual Joint Quarterly Meeting in October be a possible intermediate step that you might support?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

Committee work in ovym

24. If you have served on yearly meeting committees in the past, how best can you describe how you felt about your service?
- a. The service was truly inspiring.
 - b. The work had moments of inspiration, but much of the time the work seemed to not have a very close relationship to living in the Spirit.
 - c. It was thankless, but I felt committed enough to go on anyway.
 - d. It was great to work with other Friends in Ohio Valley, but it takes too much time and energy.
 - e. Other _____
25. Should we decrease the amount of committees and committee volunteers?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

26. Advancement and Nurture has struggled with its own mission because of the amount of travel it requires to make visits. Do you think personal visits from Advancement and Nurture should be a part of its work?
- c. Yes
 - d. No

Web-based technology

27. Technology is beginning to radically change our communication patterns. Email has been both a blessing and a curse to almost every committee. Would you support some sort of formal protocol for email in an attempt to alleviate the misunderstandings inherent in this form of communication?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
28. I think more committee work should be done by conference call and email.
- a. Yes
 - b. No
29. Web cams and skypeing are beginning to make video conversations commonplace. Would you like to see the yearly meeting support the use of web viewing conferences for more committee meetings?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. I have no idea what you are talking about!

Finances of OVYM

30. At this point every organization in the Quaker Alphabet is reporting a shortage of giving. Should OVYM increase our contributions?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
31. Some have questioned whether or not OVYM should be involved in deciding contributions or whether this decision should go to more local levels. Do you think contribution decisions should be done by:
- a. the individual Friend
 - b. the monthly meeting
 - c. the yearly meeting
 - d. all of the above

32. There have been some more ambitious financial dreams articulated for OVYM over the years. Should we be exploring any of the following dreams:
- a. A retreat center (where we also hold annual sessions)
 - b. Establish a Quaker School
 - c. Other _____
33. Do you think Yearly Meeting ought to:
- a. expand the budget
 - b. contract the budget
 - c. stay basically the same
34. Do you think the Yearly Meeting ought to change its fiscal year to Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 (presently it is July 1 to June 30) ?
- a. yes
 - b. no
 - c. let the Finance Committee look at the problem
35. What has been your reaction to the new Proportional Shares versus the old Assessment?
- a. I have a negative reaction to the Proportional Shares (PS). Let's go back to the assessment method.
 - b. I have a negative reaction to PS, but am willing to give it more time.
 - c. I have a positive reaction to PS, but think that it ultimately might not work for monthly meetings.
 - d. I have a positive reaction to PS.

State of the Meetings Reports

Campus Friend's Meeting

We were asked to consider three queries:

- 1) How does your monthly meeting follow the teaching and example of Jesus?

We quickly agreed that our primary goal was to follow the two most important commandments of Jesus – To love God with all your heart and all your soul, with all your mind and all your strength and to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. All the rest is commentary. We interpret this as a commandment to be tolerant, generous, loving and kind.

The meeting agreed that our meeting values each other and our individual expressions of spirituality and our relationship to the divine. We have a strong sense of acceptance and openness to our differences. We do a good job of inward listening. We also welcome many forms of expression during our meetings for worship - totally silent meetings, expressions of praise, concerns, spiritual messages, musical messages. We are filled by all of these.

- 2) Is your meeting generous in meeting the needs of others?

We felt that generosity includes our time, talents, concerns for each other as well as financial gifts.

As a meeting, we've always responded to requests of donations as we are led. Examples of our generosity include: quarterly participation, with the substantial help of HomeFires – a Cincinnati home school group, in making and serving lunch at Your Father's Kitchen; monthly Peace Vigils (great generosity of time and commitment), annual gifts to a wide variety of Quaker organizations. As a meeting we make use of clearness committees to assist members with important decisions, and we support our members as needed by ongoing Circles of Care which provide friendship, physical and spiritual support. We have also been the recipients of generosity as Friends in California, who responded to the economic plight of Clinton Co by donating \$1,000 to Campus Friends Meeting this year to distribute to college students in need.

Our meeting shares an attitude of concern toward each other. We attended a wonderful tea party at Cape May Retirement Community for a new attender who wanted to get better acquainted. We invite members to speak about anything of personal importance to them on fifth Sundays. This has allowed us to get much better acquainted with each other. We sense that our presence in worship here in the T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse is important to Wilmington College and we always welcome students to attend.

Consideration of this query raised another one for us – is there something as a meeting we are called on to do to support our larger community? The meeting agreed to seriously discuss this query as we seek God’s leading in showing us ways to give more as a gathered community.

3) How does your generosity enrich your meeting’s spirituality?

It strikes us as impossible to be spiritual without being generous as the two are inseparable. We have truly enjoyed our annual retreats at Quaker Knoll Camp. These have been wonderful occasions to get to know each other better and grow in our spiritual knowledge as well. We had a series of evening potlucks we called “Deepening Corporate Worship” that then led to spiritual quests as those gathered answered various queries with each other. Our monthly fellowship breakfasts are always important social events, but we also use this time to invite speakers to discuss Quaker issues of interest to us. We are now exploring the various Quaker organizations our meeting donates money to so we can all make better decisions about how to allocate our funds in the next budget.

Campus meeting has been enriched this year by the addition of four new members, and another four new attenders. Sunday meeting for worship attendance has also grown significantly this year, for which we are all grateful and feel richly blessed.

Community Friends Meeting 2009 State of the Meeting Report

This past year has brought our meeting both deeply felt losses and renewed spiritual growth. We lost two more of our founding elder members, John Hubbard and Horatio Wood. Our community mourns their passing, but we gratefully acknowledge the inspiration, the gifts and the wisdom these elders have left us. We also note with sadness the passing of a longtime attender and devoted House and Grounds committee member, Ed McAndrews, who contributed countless hours to caring for the meetinghouse and grounds, especially care for our trees.

The past year has also brought joy as we celebrate the many active new attenders who have begun worshipping with us, and the spiritual growth experienced in our Meeting Renewals and in our community outreach. The active energy in the meeting community has been felt in a growing spirit of cooperation among the three Friends Meetings in Cincinnati. We have shared spiritual nurture opportunities, a Quakerism 101 class, and teen activities. We also participated in activities with the other Peace Churches in Cincinnati. Two members of our meeting are currently serving as staff at Cincinnati Friends Meeting, which has opened new lines of communication.

Our small Peace and Social Concerns committee has been reaching out into the community to make a positive impact through serving meals at Tender Mercies, volunteering at the Free Store, and letter writing campaigns to support clean energy legislation. Another avenue of outreach has been the creation of a meeting website, communityfriendsmeeting.com, which includes a calendar of events, newsletters, and other meeting information. The Meeting has also provided ongoing support to two of our members with a calling to wider ministry: Bill Cahalan's spirit-led witness on earth care and a local food economy, and Paulette Meier's music ministry which will soon result in the publication by Quaker Press of a CD of 17th century Quaker quotes set to music.

Adult Education committee has worked closely with Ministry and Counsel Committee to provide opportunities for spiritual growth and nurture in response to suggestions that came out of our Meeting Renewal last year. These have included an extended two-hour worship, additional outdoor worship opportunities, and two sessions on Transforming Power for Peace. We have been holding a mid-week Meeting for Healing every other week, which draws attenders from other meetings and from the community, and thus provides outreach as well. Ministry and Counsel Committee planned two one-day Meeting Renewals this year, one that provided opportunities for sharing our spiritual journeys, and one that was open to all three Cincinnati meetings to introduce and support opportunities for spiritual companionship. These activities have deepened the life of our meeting community as we seek to open our hearts to one another and to the work of the Divine in our lives.

This year we have been blessed with new resident caretakers, a couple with a small child, who are active in the life of the Meeting, and who have increased our connections with Xavier University through their role as professors of peace studies and theology. We greatly appreciate their excellent care for our house and grounds. Stewardship committee and House and Grounds committee have been lively and active this past year. There was an outpouring of support and dedication from the meeting community as we came together to complete some major projects to make our meetinghouse more energy efficient, including furnace replacement, hot water heater replacement, asbestos removal, insulation and window replacement. The Friends in Unity with Nature Committee continued to focus on growing the local food economy and restoration of the Meeting's woods. An additional focus has been on increasing the energy efficiency in the Meetinghouse and in our homes. On a sad note, we lost several of our favorite trees in the front yard during the high winds and drought in the past year.

Our First Day School class consists of six creative and engaging children ages four to seven, who have been learning about Quaker history this year. Highlights included a "Faith and Play" story to learn about George Fox's Big Discovery and learning about William Penn with a member who has written an original song about Penn's life. The annual Christmas Play was written in rhyme by one of our teens. Our active group of six teens participated regularly in OVYM teen activities as well as teen activities with the three Cincinnati meetings. The OVYM teens' trip to the Alaska Friends Spirit Camp provided a rich opportunity for spiritual growth, and our teens returned with greater spiritual maturity and a deeper connection to their Quaker faith. The meeting community also supported one of our young adults, who traveled to Burundi to help build a clinic for AIDS patients.

This past year our meeting has experienced some internal conflicts, but with Divine assistance we are learning how to listen more deeply to one another in times of hurt and misunderstanding. We continue to learn how to hold one another in love when we stumble and fall short, and how to be channels of God's love even in our brokenness and imperfection. The spiritual center of our meeting community continues to be the experience of shared worship, and we are deeply grateful for the abiding love and light that binds us together.

Dayton Friends Meeting

State of the Meeting, 2010

Dayton Friends Meeting continues to be a small, spiritually rich community.

Our meetings for worship reflect the depth of our Quaker experience and the weight of our spiritual practices. Two families who have been with the meeting for many years have begun new retirement directions. The Snyders have a new home in Clarksville, Ohio, and are attending a closer Meeting. The Woods are on their way to Honolulu Meeting where they will serve as Friends in Residence. We miss their presence, yet we remain a meeting of spiritual depth. We continue to meet in rooms rented from the Brethren. We have improved the space in order to make our place of meeting hospitable and spiritual.

Our monthly meetings for business are carried out in an atmosphere of sincere openness. Members do not arrive with closed minds or pre-determined positions. This was clear to us this year when we made the decision to stay where we currently meet rather than move to the former AFSC office. Members were concerned for the loss of the AFSC in the Dayton community, yet clarity was easily reached on the most appropriate space for the meeting.

Much of the focus of the Meeting this year has given priority to the pastoral care of our members. The needs and challenges of some of our older members are important to us. We have had members with health concerns, and have both held them in the light and rejoiced in recoveries.

We provide regular first day programming for children and have enjoyed the participation of several younger children. We have welcomed a new baby into our community, creating a welcoming quilt for him. We have also rejoiced in the birth of children to two of our distant members. We are blessed by the occasional attendance of teens and young adults who have been nurtured by the Meeting. One of our young people, a third generation Earlham student, is spending the term abroad in Spain; another plans to start graduate work at Ohio State University this Summer. We will also celebrate a high school graduation this year.

We continue to provide food and service to a local homeless shelter on a monthly basis. We have revived our monthly second-hour discussion to discuss Michael Birkel's *A Near Sympathy: The Timeless Quaker Wisdom of John Woolman*.

After our joint retreat with Englewood Friends Meeting (FUM) last year, we have continued to develop our relationship with them. We have met together several times for worship and shared food. This growing relationship gives us hope that Quaker divisions can be overcome and that we can work together in unity.

While all of these factors contribute to the vital life of the meeting, as we noted last year, we are concerned about the size of the meeting combined with the increasing average age of our membership. The burden of supporting the work and finances of the meeting falls to fewer people. Yet, we are sustained by the richness of our worship together and our support for each other. We acknowledge the presence of the Spirit in our midst, our love for each other, and our continued hope for all creation.

Eastern Hills Monthly Meeting

State of the Meeting Report

As a “bridge” Meeting, Eastern Hills submits State of the Society Reports to both Wilmington and Ohio Valley Yearly Meetings. In recent years, we have found the State of the Society queries provided by Wilmington to be helpful for examining our Monthly Meeting’s spiritual life. Again this year, we continue our practice of using those queries as the basis of our report.

How does your Monthly Meeting follow the teaching of Jesus?

Is your Meeting generous in meeting the needs of others?

How does your generosity enrich your meeting spirituality?

In one respect, we find responding to this year’s queries to be a challenge. The challenge is not that we do not follow Jesus’ teachings. It is probably fair to say that all in the Meeting--Christ-centered or not--value Jesus’ peace and social justice teachings, the Beatitudes, and more. The challenge comes in recognizing that as a monthly meeting Eastern Hills lacks a cohesive sense of mission (however one might define that word) that defines us and guides our Meeting activities. We have no such continuing commitment. However, there are times that we do dedicate ourselves as a Meeting to act on others’ needs. When health problems or other difficulties arise for a Meeting individual or family, we are generally ready to provide whatever support we can. Also, it is a tradition in our Meeting (as in many others) to make a Christmas contribution in money or goods to some community need. Finally, in this respect, Eastern Hills Meeting long ago decided that Meeting money belongs also to the greater community, not to Eastern Hills alone. Consequently, we make regular donations to organizations that we believe are consistent with Jesus’ peace and social justice teachings as reflected in Quaker Testimonies.

If we consider the activities of Meeting individuals, our response to the queries is significantly different. No doubt, members and attenders alike are generous with their personal wealth by contributing financially to organizations consistent with Christ’s teachings. Perhaps what is more important, almost everyone in the Meeting devotes his or her God-given gifts (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12-31) to fulfilling Jesus’ teachings, especially those in Matthew 25:35-40. Thus, we have members and attenders who minister (as professionals, as volunteers, and in their families) to the ill, the dying, the socially outcast, the hungry, and the homeless, as well as to others disadvantaged in various ways or struggling in our society. The ministry of yet others is dedicated to peace efforts (Luke 6:27, 35; Matthew 5:9, 44). For all of these individuals, it seems that Christ’s Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-11) provides the touchstones of their ministry.

Jesus’ peace and social justice teachings, his call for compassion and service to “the least of these who are members of [his] family”: these speak to us, and we respond joyfully. However, we find answering his call to be “fishers” of men and women (Matthew 4:19) more difficult. As

we see our numbers dwindle, we wonder if we can do more to share our Quaker faith with our neighbors.

Although we might not have a Meeting-defined mission, we can truthfully say that our spiritual lives are enriched as individuals bring to our faith community the blessings of their ministries and experience. Whether in conversation, in discussions at Meeting for Business, or vocal ministry in Meeting for Worship, we are challenged and inspired by what we learn of others' devotion to Christ's friendship (John 14:15).

Green Plain Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting Report

Green Plain Monthly Meeting has a very small membership and many of the members reside in other states. However, contact is maintained with all the members during the year. They are asked to share any thoughts and concerns that they might have at any time. A summary of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting reports and events is provided to all the members. The members that reside in the area maintain the Meeting House and grounds. The non-resident members serve the Meeting in other capacities.

Caroline Taylor

Clerk

Lexington Friends Meeting State of the Meeting Report

May 1, 2009 – April 30, 2010

Each of us brings gifts to the meeting that we use to minister to one another. Our gifts are many: some are spiritual or practical, some involve teaching or repairing, and some build community through listening, all of which often lead to social action, compassion, and forgiveness. We nurture one another, try to fix what's broken, and continue to grow in wisdom in company with the Spirit.

Our meeting's strength is always in our shared worship. Friends concerned with ministry and worship support us in deepening our connection to Spirit. We are encouraged simply to arrive on time, to minimize disturbance of the silence, to learn more through Quakerism 101 (here called "The Quaker Experience"), to hear of Friends' spiritual journeys at first Friday potlucks, and to practice better listening to one another and to Spirit.

Friends minister with strength and compassion. In these harsh economic times, there is much to do. Pastoral care is readily available in our community. Clearness committees have met and offered needed support through personal crises and financial struggles. Two of our long-time Friends passed on this year. During their times of failing health, our community members offered visits, physical help, thoughts and prayers. At the same time these special Friends gave back to us their gifts of ministry, one with gentle kindness, the other with wisdom born of experience.

Our young Friends are taking on a larger role in meeting. We have tried different schedules for them to participate in meeting for worship. They contribute to religious education planning and activities (Peace Fair, Crop Walk) and have begun to report to the business meeting. They have participated in Quaker life, regionally, at teen retreats at Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, and nationally, at Friends General Conference Gathering. Their bond with our community has strengthened. We have also been blessed with new little ones to cherish as they grow and find their way around the meeting.

Other activities include adult religious education which has brought us stimulating discussions on First Day. New books have been given to the library. We have Sandwich Sunday potlucks after worship which include a cake with candles for all those celebrating birthdays during the month. We have well attended meetings for worship with attention to business ably facilitated by one or the other of our co-clerks. Contributions are regularly deposited and the bills paid. We plan and participate in an annual spring retreat; we join in an All Kentucky Gathering of Friends in the fall. Dedicated Friends work to fill our committees with Friends who have the needed gifts. An informative monthly newsletter always gets out as do a series of timely email messages. We care for our aging meeting house: moldy walls in the "addition" were taken

down with great enthusiasm by young Friends, and the roof was patched once again. We are moving forward with our renovation plan as a stalwart group of Friends is focusing on the challenge of fundraising activities. We are partnering with our homeschool renters in a community garden.

We set high goals for inclusiveness, diversity, welcoming newcomers, reaching out to our neighborhood and to central Kentucky communities. These goals are high but not so high that we aren't disappointed and concerned when we fall short of meeting them. We also set high goals for being a loving and accepting community. Increasingly we find ourselves struggling with differences among us. We find ourselves in conflict over politics, food choices, and what it means to live a Quaker life. We are seeking to find our way through our conflicts to greater love and compassion for one another, regardless of differences.

Our community has also been shaken by repeated break-ins at our Meetinghouse and by a theft at a Quaker event held at a Friend's home. The latter is particularly distressing since it appears possible that the thief is one of us. We ask ourselves how we are to respond to community members whose actions we deplore. We find ourselves, a bit awkwardly, trying to see what love will do, even when love is not our first response.

We are knocked about and we recover, an indication of the strength of our community. We are a caring and conscientious lot. We pay attention. We plan for our future together. And there are moments when we catch the Spirit in our sails and are propelled by its ineffable power.

Louisville Friends Meeting State of Society Report 2010

“Fear is always an anticipation of what has not yet come. Our fear and separation are great, but the truth of our connection is greater still.”

—Buddha’s Little Instruction Book, Jack Kornfield, p. 91

The year to date has been eventful. We considered whether to construct an addition onto our meetinghouse or to purchase a larger property. We found an available property, and after a particularly well-centered business meeting resolved to offer to purchase that property. The purchase didn’t go through, and we later realized that particular property might take more work to manage it than the meeting could invest.

One of the Burundian families has moved and as a result our meeting has many fewer kids in First Day School and the general dynamic of the meeting has changed. Our prayers go with them. Their oldest son stayed in Louisville and plans to attend college in Louisville next year.

Our children are doing quite well. We have six or seven who are about the same age and who are growing together. They have become more comfortable in the meeting, and are including the adults in their activities more readily than in previous years.

We have a clerk now!! After a challenging three-year period without a presiding clerk Beth Parrish has come forward to serve, and already we feel a greater sense of continuity and balance.

Some of our struggles remain the same. We have trouble filling committees. We’ve lost two elderly members this year. We are preparing ourselves for the passing of other elderly Friends whose deaths will change the character of our meeting. We have begun communicating more effectively with members and attenders about meeting activities. While more Friends from Louisville have been attending Yearly Meeting, they do so from their own convictions. The larger meeting feels separate from the wider Quaker body. Friends have been challenged about the perception of wealthy Friends’ influence throughout the year.

On the other hand, the Spirit is moving in Ministry and Nurture committee and in our two clearness committees. Meeting for Healing has been reactivated and is well-attended. The participants find Meeting for Healing to be rewarding. We are more supportive of our members this year, and reach out more in times of stress. Many new people are becoming active in the life of our meeting. We have had a retreat to examine Quaker Quest. The retreat was well-attended and greatly enjoyed; as of the writing of this report, the meeting has not made a decision on whether to move forward with Quaker Quest.

In short, our meeting's growing pains have become more pronounced. We continue to grow and change both as individuals and as a meeting. We are taking more risks than we have recently, and are actively grappling with issues of our own identity. Unity remains elusive, but we feel ourselves growing in the Spirit and in each other's fellowship.

Miami Monthly Meeting

State of Society Report

2010

Miami Monthly Meeting sends greetings to Friends throughout Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and beyond. The active membership in the Meeting is relatively small with an average of ten to twelve attenders at Meeting for Worship. Those in attendance gather in a quiet and reverent manner as worship allows Friends to open to the Divine. Vocal ministry occurs during most Meetings for Worship with messages ranging from practical to mystical. Worship in the White Brick Meeting House holds special significance as many generations have gathered there for two hundred years. Elias Hicks himself worshiped and spoke in this historic place of worship.

The business of the Meeting is borne by five or six Friends who regularly attend Meeting for Business on the first First Day of the month. The Meeting is financially secure at the present time, but expenses have continued to outpace income for the third or fourth consecutive year. This concern has prompted the Meeting to reduce or eliminate some external contributions. An additional concern is the number of members and attenders who do not make financial contributions to the Meeting. A "Friendly" reminder of the need to financially support the Meeting was recently approved for distribution. The Meeting continues to make contributions to AFSC, FCNL, Pendle Hill, Friends Journal and other worthy Quaker organizations and causes. Milton Cook continues to serve as Clerk of the Meeting, Lonny Burger as Assistant Clerk and Bill Hoch as Treasurer. Members continue to serve outside the Meeting as trustees of Quaker Heights, board members of the Waynesville Cultural Center, OVYM and other areas of ministry. Tom Nowel and Lonny Burger are completing their terms as clerks of Miami Quarterly Meeting. The history and beliefs of Miami Monthly Meeting Quakers have been featured stories in regional print media twice this past year.

Miami Monthly Meeting continues its tradition of providing financial support for members who are pursuing college educations. Over the past year, the Meeting provided grants to four or five members who are enrolled in full time programs.

The Meeting was pleased to approve the membership request of Margaret Schorreck. Margaret (Peg) has been an attender for a number of years. The Meeting was saddened with the passing of Richard Faux who, in the past, had been a regular attender at Miami Monthly Meeting for a number of years. His Memorial Meeting was held at the White Brick Meeting House, and members from a number of Monthly Meetings attended. His service to Friends, AFSC and various political causes was remembered by those in attendance.

The White Brick Meeting House and Red Brick Meeting House continue to be maintained in excellent condition. The bicentennial of the White Brick will be celebrated during Fifth Month, 2011. Miami Quarterly Meeting is scheduled to convene at the White Brick for the bicentennial celebration during Fifth Month, 2011, and the Waynesville community will be invited to an open house. Friends gathered this past Eleventh Month to clean and remove the large amount of honeysuckle and overgrowth from the front of the White Brick Meeting House. The appearance of the property has been greatly enhanced.

The Meeting developed a web site this past year. This comprehensive informational forum provides news about the Meeting including history, religious beliefs, calendar of events and links to a variety of Quaker sites. Friends are encouraged to visit the web site at <http://miami.quaker.org>.

The annual Fort Ancient worship and lunch was a success again. Friends from a number of Meetings joined with Miami Friends on a beautiful First Day morning during Seventh Month. Adult First Day School continues to convene at 9:30 am each First Day. Discussions are informal although specific topics are being considered this year. Six or seven faithful attenders participate on a regular basis.

Finally, our Easter worship and celebration. Over 35 Friends and attenders were in the Red Brick Meeting House including six or seven young adults who had grown up in the Meeting and who had moved away from the area or were living away at college. After a wonderful hot breakfast, four young Friends searched for plastic Easter eggs in the graveyard. This was followed by a centered worship. Easter is always a special time at Miami Monthly Meeting

Friends from around Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting are always welcome to join with Miami Friends for worship in Waynesville at 10:45 am each First Day. As the sign in front of the White Brick Meeting House states, “everyone welcome.”

For Miami Monthly Meeting
Tom Nowel

Oxford Friends Meeting

State of Meeting Report

Fifth Month, 2010

We experience the meeting as small but gathered, both in general and in Meeting for Worship. The practice of sharing after worship helps to bond us as a community.

Nancy McDowell has been an important point in our lives this year— her eldership adds a rich dimension. She has hosted us in her home a couple of times, and we are grateful to have been part of her recuperation after a fall this winter.

Our care for our first-day schooler, Rita, has been meaningful to us, in arranging for her spiritual education. We ourselves benefit from sharing in the practice of religious education. An important theme for first day school and has been caring for the animal world and how animal and nature symbolism informs our spirituality. Rita continues to connect us to this ministry by volunteering at Animal Adoption Foundation. Additional topics for religious education have been Old Testament stories and the life of Jesus, Quaker journaling and history, and truth & imagination.

At our Advent Event, we collected donations to Animal Adoption Foundation and also Environmental Mobile Unit (which works on local environmental education). We also enjoy a tradition of Spring Fling in family homes.

We are grateful that Sandra Ward-Angell's hospice and hospital chaplain training, under the spiritual care of our Meeting, has reached a successful conclusion and grateful she will be able to spend more time with us.

We are grateful that we have begun to revive the practice of hymn singing after meeting. We occasionally go out to lunch after worship. Some of us continue our practice of midweek worship.

We are looking forward to being the home meeting for YM clerk, Paul Kriese, and recognize his request for our spiritual support. Among others who contribute to YM functions, Steve Angell is still YM treasurer and represents us at YM Exec committee.

Nani Ball is board member for Campus Ministry Center. We are also active in Empty Bowls and we contribute to Church World service kits and school bags and the harvest MOON festival. Several of us are on Oxford Citizens for Peace and Justice board and many contribute to Bread Not Bombs. Paul Kriese continues to be active in supporting Presidential initiatives. We are grateful that Barbara Diehl walks (with our financial support) for CROP (against hunger and poverty) and in the search for a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

We miss absent former members and attenders.

Steve Angell went to Iran and reported to us. Other second hours include: Sandra's reflection on her hospice education program, Cecilia Shore on children's understanding of self and others, and Paul on Spritual Basis of Community Organizing.

We are grateful to the many of us who contribute to our monthly meeting's continuity and functioning: Mary Duerksen as treasurer and Cecilia Shore as recording clerk, and Andy Garrison's unprecedented 4-year tenure as presiding clerk.

We are thankful to have the Campus Ministry Center, here in Oxford, as our home. We contributed a brick to their garden walk.

At our Meeting for Business during Fourth Month, we approved the following minute: "We propose that the Quarterly Meeting meet two times a year, in the spring and fall, with a discontinuation of the winter quarterly meeting. The unpredictability of the weather and the challenge to families and the elderly physically to get to quarterly meeting in the winter, suggest this move."

Yellow Springs Friends Meeting

State of the Meeting Report

Yellow Springs Friends Meeting continues in God's grace and blessings. The adult First Day School has been renewed this year in four ways: singing, worship sharing, Know Thy Friend (sharing of life experience and spiritual journey), and consideration of the query. On 5th First Days there is a surprise program. In Ninth month our one day retreat at Glen Helen included two workshops. One, "Praying in Color" was led by Diann McFarland Herzog. The other, "Scriptio Divina", was developed and given by former attender and ESR graduate, Sarah Emmer. In early Twelfth Month the children and some adults organized and ran an Eco-Fair. There were crafts and used or "recycled" items for sale. The Fair ended with an intergenerational sharing circle on how to reduce our impact on mother earth. Our library is being refreshed and revitalized by the loving attentions of Lori Gravley. Other activities of the meeting include several Friendly dinners in 2nd and 3rd months and a recent workday.

Our number is stable (2 fewer now) though new attenders -- some from far away -- add to us. There may be 10 children at First Day School and 40 or more persons at 11 a.m. worship. Attendance at meeting for worship continues to range between 25 and 45 throughout the year. We have four new members: Mansir Petrie, and Ben and Eva Thornber transferred in and Radar Mark Browne Middleton joined by conviction. We lost a beloved Friend, Joan Wagner Brucker, who died in the body on October 2nd, 2009. In Fifth month the wedding of Mansir Petrie and Daphne Sorensen was celebrated under the care of the Meeting.

Friends continue their ministry, work, education and seeking in diverse ways. There are two early worships: one at 7a.m. on Fourth day, and one at 8:30a.m. on First Day. On Seventh day the peace vigil, on First Day worship a 3 p.m. worship at Friends Care Community, Music Camp each year, work and witnessing to end the death penalty, two long lived groups: one on a Course in Miracles and a worship sharing group. Friends are also pursuing study and contemplation. Among these: two spent time at Pendle Hill this winter and one Friend is earning

a degree at the Earlham School of Religion. We remain at Rockford Chapel on Antioch's campus. Negotiations are in progress for a 99 year lease with the revived and soon to reopen Antioch College.

Thanks be to God in all things and all circumstances!

Clear Creek Friends Meeting

State of Meeting Report

April 2010

We continue to weave together the inward and outward journeys as we worship and respond to God's call to service near and far. Worship has been held in a spirit of loving care that encourages a deep center for spiritual growth and nurture. A rich variety of vocal ministry from more voices has been shared during worship. As we reflect upon the state of our meeting this year, we sense a yearning to build on the spiritual depth of our community by moving outward. Our Peace and Social Concerns Committee continues to offer encouragement in this quest. They have raised issues to nudge us to wrestle with how best to put our firmly held beliefs into practice in our community and in the wider world. We have met with representatives from Habitat for Humanity and Open Arms to explore opportunities for community service and provided food for Habitat for Humanity workers. We have recently held the exploratory Quaker Quest workshop, and have begun the process of discerning whether to take the next step.

The nature of First Day School has changed as we have a younger group with younger energy. Folks faithfully volunteer their time to provide a place of warmth where young spirits can grow in a loving and caring environment.

The desire for learning does not only reside with the younger folks. The religious education coordinator continues to encourage a wide variety of second hour learning opportunities. These have included: Experiment with Light, individual gifts of ministry, meditative practices, God talk, stewardship, and seeing the world from a new perspective.

Our community continues to be enriched by the presence of students from Earlham School of Religion and Earlham College who take an active part in the life of the meeting.

They bring new voices to the worship and educational activities.

Small groups continue to provide a wide array of spiritual growth and fellowship opportunities. These have included: writing as a spiritual practice, book discussion group, storytelling, and sharing food together. We have gathered for singing and game nights. This year a group of Earlham College students has met to learn more about Quakerism and to engage in Bible study. In our annual retreat with the theme "From Deep to Deep: Exploring Prayer," we explored spirituality through artistic expressions.

Friends have encouraged a closer look at how we might walk more gently on the Earth. In response to a concern raised by Bloomington Meeting through the Quarterly Meeting, we passed a minute on seeking right relationships to food and land. We have encouraged each other by visiting each other's gardens, by holding a pitch-in meal during which we discussed the sources of the food, and through calculations of our ecological footprints.

A change of the time of the College Meeting for Worship led us to change our time of Meeting for Worship to ten o'clock, which has led to an increase in worship attendance. We have also noted the later starting time has been more convenient for many of our attenders. We are living into how best to use time before and after worship for other activities such as discussion of the queries and Meeting for Worship with attention to Business.

As we move forward, we challenge each other to consider how to integrate the inward spiritual life and activism.

Fall Creek Meeting

State of Meeting Report 2010

Fall Creek Friends feel that our meeting is in very good order. We come together on First Day with a sense of joy, anticipation and expectation. We assemble not as a group of separate individuals, but with openness and tenderness toward each other, that God would be with us and in us through each other and through that unseen Presence that binds us together and makes us of one mind and one heart. Visitors to our meeting often remark that they feel the Presence too.

Our meetings for worship are reverent and there is often vocal ministry. It is the ministry of the Spirit, not of man and we find in it edification and nurture for our spirits and for our community.

We are a meeting of mostly commuters and regret that it is almost impossible to meet mid-week. Mid week meeting is a need and a desire shared by everyone, and we are hoping that God will make a way open for us to be able to gather. It is our experience that our loving God often grants our hearts' desires and so we have faith and patience.

Our business meetings are useful and peaceful. We continue to emphasize reading and discussion of the Queries as an important part of our business meetings. The Queries have served to open us up to one another. In sharing our responses, we have come to know each other in the spirit as we seek to live with integrity in the world. We offer each other support and encouragement, bear one another's burdens, and pray for each other. Being a small meeting, we are especially grateful for the wealth of gifts we have received, to carry on the work that a faith community is called to do.

We continue to meet for Bible reading before meeting for worship each First Day. This has brought much energy into our meeting and has grown us in wisdom and knowledge. We often see ourselves and the human condition in both the energy and stumblings of the early churches.

What we feel when we are reading together is the presence of the Holy Spirit, even when our understandings of the text are very different. We are a meeting that feels that scripture plays an important role in the building up of a faith community.

We linger long after meeting for worship, sharing meals, discussion and fellowship. It is often late afternoon before the last person leaves the building. Our time together is blessed and refreshing and we carry that into our daily lives, knowing that when we are strong in spirit, we strengthen Spirit in the world. We are humbled by the presence of the Spirit in us, among us and between us.

Fort Wayne Friends Meeting

State of Meeting Report

April 16, 2010

Fort Wayne Friends Meeting is growing! We added two “new members”, Bob and Terre Holada, to our membership this March. This brings our membership to eight. We also enjoy having Fred and Mary Anna Feitler, who are active in our little group. Our average attendance on Sundays is now from 10-12 people.

During the past six months, we have been an active group. We had a retreat in October at Quaker Haven, began tutoring through Fort Wayne Community Schools, and had a chili dinner in February of this year. We are in the process of forming committees again, which will relieve certain people of the burden of trying to get everything done.

Our Monthly Meeting also has an attendance of eight to ten people on a regular basis. With those numbers, we have at least ten to twelve opinions! We try to prayerfully consider the best course of action. As a result of this prayerful consideration, our meeting wrote a letter of concern about proposed police presence in southeastern Fort Wayne at the new YMCA.

We are studying Parker Palmer’s book “A Hidden Wholeness” for a monthly book study. We have several people who help with leadership in First Day School. Our group has a small number of members, but we are mighty in our faith. Some of us look forward to attending the Gathering this summer.

Hopewell Friends Meeting

State of Meeting Report

April 2010

Lisa Hubbell Mackinney's song, *Rooted and Grounded in Love*, may be the theme for Hopewell Meeting. We continue to be glad to meet together in worship. Adult second hour discussions have been centered on Nels Ferre's The Sun and the Umbrella. The young Friends made leaf print t-shirts and prepared a time capsule for intergenerational activities. Many Friends took the Polar Express train from Connersville to the North Pole! We meet for pitch-in lunches after each business meeting. We review the revisions to Faith and Practice. An intergenerational family night was held in October with a wiener roast/campout enjoyed by all, with lots of food, games, and laughter.

In worship with attention to business, we have explored the Queries in Faith and Practice as they pertain to our lives. We gave generously to Haitian survivors. We also found a need with food stamp recipients. We provide paper products and soap in New Castle since food is the only thing they are allowed to purchase with the stamps.

We helped with a memorial service for Edith Doll, long-time loving member, wife, mother and helping founder of Hopewell, in January. We will also have a celebration of life for Sue Dice, art teacher, wife, mother and loving friend, May 1. These strong women will be missed.

The clerk attended the Quaker Gathering in Indianapolis where Annie Glen, pastor of Kokomo Friends and member at Hopewell, was one of the thoughtful speakers. The peace garden and labyrinth were used by Women's Spirituality Group from Muncie. Friends are collecting CHANGE (we would wish to see in the world through nickels, dimes, pennies and quarters!) Whitewater Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hopewell April 17. New flooring was installed in the water-logged back hallway thanks to a member's generous donation. We have looked into Green ways to keep our meeting afloat. The furnace is not cost efficient, but we do not have the funds to replace it yet. We met in member's homes to save the cost of heating the meetinghouse. We share our life travails and joys because we are rooted and grounded in the love of Spirit, and love for each other.

Lafayette Friends Meeting

State of the Meeting Report

Fourth Month, 2010

Lafayette Friends have experienced a year of reflection and growth, of reaching out to our community and looking inward to the state of our Meeting.

We are looking forward to the visit in a few weeks of the daughter of two of the founding members of our Meeting. Anne Webster Weaver is coming to place a plaque on a small memorial to her parents which has graced the yard of our Meeting House for many years. The occasion will afford us the opportunity to reminisce, to reflect on our past, and to look at the present state of our Meeting in the context of that past.

In the past year we have engaged more with local peace groups and churches, helping to feed the homeless and speak out against war. As we have done so, we have become more aware of the need for greater outreach. Although our first steps are uncertain, our aim is both to let the community know of our existence and at the same time to clarify for ourselves our own spiritual identity so that we can provide for others who are seeking a closer relationship with God a clear understanding of what we as Friends have to offer.

We have had two Purdue student Friends joining us for worship this year, and we are enlivened by their presence and their contributions to our discussions.

We have declared ourselves graduates of Quakerism 101 and have moved on to Quakerism 102, our discussion of “Fit for Freedom, not for Friendship.” We are learning a great deal from studying how our Society dealt with a controversial issue that tore apart much of the fabric of society in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and was one of the major causes of a long and terrible war. We know that the issues of racism are still very much with us and we hope that as we move into the later chapters of the book, we will be better able to discern what God requires of us in our relationships with those who seem different from us.

We are proud of our member Erik Cleven, who will be presenting a workshop on “Quaker Approaches to Conflict Transformation” at the FGC Gathering in July. We are pleased that our Meeting and Whitewater Quarterly Meeting are able to support Erik financially in his work.

We have been led to seek ways to improve our First Day School program. Our children have decided that they want to study Quakerism and nature, and we have just purchased appropriate curriculum from Quaker Earthshare Witness. We believe that by using a more structured curriculum than in the past, it will be easier for a number of our members and attenders to share in the teaching duties so that all of the responsibility does not fall upon the parents.

The question of the infrequency of spoken ministry in Meeting for Worship continues to arise. Although Friends do not see this as a problem needing remediation, we do ask ourselves if more vocal ministry might not foster more spiritual growth among us. As we grow in other ways and seek to draw closer to God, perhaps we will find ourselves becoming more comfortable with vocal ministry.

Submitted by Ann Pellegrino, Clerk

North Meadow Circle of Friends
State of Meeting Report prepared in the
Fourth Month of the year of our Lord 2010

In the book of Genesis we read that on the First Day “God said, ‘Let there be light; and there was light. God saw the light was good’” (Genesis 1:3,4). At North Meadow Circle of Friends, we meet for worship every First Day and open our hearts and minds for the Light of God. Our attendance has seen increases as the year progresses. The messages have been rewarding, and we are particularly blessed at the beginning of each month, when one from among our midst shares his or her Spiritual Journey.

The book of Genesis continues “In the sweat of our brow you shall earn your food, till you return to the ground from which you were taken; for dust you are, and you return to dust”(Genesis 3:19). North Meadow has reached the point where its beloved are being taken on the journey to talk with the Holy Spirit face to face. We lost Jane Haldeman one of our founders, who had served the Meeting long and well. In her name, North Meadow has established a fund to help those who have passed with the costs of cremation. In recent days we have also lost Caroline Kellum, mother of Evalyn Kellum. Caroline has been with us in worship and celebrations many times over the years. We will miss them both.

James “the Just” writes in his advices to the churches, “Is anyone of you in trouble? Let him pray. Is anyone thriving? Let him sing praise. Is anyone ill? Let him summon the presbyters of the church” (James 5:13,14). We have had more than our share of illness among our members and attenders. We can speak with confidence of the power of prayer and of the work of care committees. We are learning to notice the need of help before it is asked for; we are learning how to offer help.

As the world keeps turning, so does life, and as we lose members so do we gain members. In the New Testament we read “As the human body is one and has many members, all the members of the body forming one body for all their members so it is with Christ” (1st Corinthians 12:12). This year we have received a transfer from Live Oak Meeting in Huston of Linda Bell.

One of the biblical truths can be found in Ecclesiastes chapter three. “Everything has its appointed hour, there is a time for all things under heaven: time for birth, a time for death, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ... a time to break down and a time to build, ... a time to scatter and a time to gather” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-5). North Meadow Circle of Friends has just finished paying off our mortgage and we have begun in earnest to plan for major changes to the building. Our first steps will be to move the Caretaker’s apartment to the south side of the second floor,

and build a handicapped accessible bathroom on the first floor. In the long run the entire first floor will be for meeting use. Our worship room will double in space.

Paul wrote to the Ephesians, “Thus you are strangers and foreigners no longer, you share the membership of the saints, you belong to God’s own household, you are a building that rests on the apostles and prophets as its foundation, with Christ, Jesus as the corner-stone; in him the whole structure is welded together and rises into a sacred temple in the Lord, and in him you are yourselves built into this to form a habitation for God in the Spirit” (Ephesians 2:19-22). North Meadow Circle of Friends continues to grow together as a community and works to reach out to others. Greeters now welcome all as they enter for worship. A list serve reaches out on the internet. We are seriously considering holding a Quaker Quest. We held a retreat and continue to strengthen our Meeting and its individuals.

We remember Jesus saying, “For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you entertained me, I was unclothed and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me I was in prison and you visited me.... I tell you truly, in so far as you did it to one of these my brothers, even to the least of them, you did it to me” (Matthew 25: 35-40). We have a concern for our troubled world. We have a Food Pantry for those who come to the meeting seeking help. We have shared in a community-supported agriculture project that gardens inner-city lots by providing three shares to a prison-release project for women with children. We carry our testimony messages to booths at Earth Day and a Peace and Justice Summit. We open our meeting doors to many of those who share our concerns like the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba

The reading of Genesis chapter one shows the truth that there is that of God in everything. Therefore it is clearly understood when God’s Son, Jesus Christ says, “This is my command: you are to love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12). And we feel at home waiting in Meeting for Worship for the internal voice of the Holy Spirit.

(Quotations are from the James Moffat Bible)

White Rose Monthly Meeting of Friends State of Meeting Report

June 2, 2010

White Rose Meeting remains a small gathering of Friends. We meet the first and third First Day of each month for fellowship and worship. We are presently at three regular attendees, with an occasional visitor. During the past year we have accepted into membership 3 attendees of the Ft. Wayne Worship group, which is under our care. Due to the distance separating us, those

members do not regularly travel to Wabash for meeting, and continue to meet in Ft. Wayne, but we do try to be present with each other as occasion permits.

Due to the activities of each, we do not meet some of our scheduled days by mutual agreement. The size of the meeting does not easily allow participation by the meeting itself in many activities, but we believe the commitments of the individuals to their various organizations takes the place of these responsibilities, which are usually fulfilled through the meeting. We remain, each in our own way, active in Christ's and Quaker's affairs.

Murray Cox, Clerk
White Rose Meeting.

Memorial Minutes

Doris Ann (Erickson) Best

Doris Ann (Erickson) Best, 84, died Dec. 8, 2009 in Corydon, IN. Doris, daughter of the late Harry and Anna Hanson Erickson, was born and raised Lutheran in Minneapolis, MN. Doris moved to Washington, DC in the mid-1940s to work in the war effort. There she met H. Edward Behre, a convinced Friend, at a square dance. They married in 1948. They raised their five children in Florida Avenue Meeting (now Friends Meeting of Washington).

Doris began her career in business and became a leader in consumer activism in the 1960s and 1970s, working for food safety, fair pricing, truth in advertising, and consumer's rights. As a young mother, she staffed Virginia Citizen's Consumer Council from her home. She led local, state, and national consumer organizations testifying before Congress and lobbying successfully for important consumer protections. As a citizen leader, Doris traveled to the Soviet Union on behalf of the Nixon Administration in the early 1970s. There, she met and established friendships with leaders of the Soviet women's movement. Doris visited consumer cooperatives and advocacy groups around the world, making long-lasting international friendships in the process.

Doris married F. Andrew Best in 1978 and moved with him to Corydon, IN in 1982. They became active in Louisville (KY) Friends Meeting, where they contributed especially to the social and intellectual life of the meeting community. For several years, they hosted a worship group in their home to provide opportunities for unprogrammed worship for Friends and seekers unable to travel the additional thirty miles to Louisville. Their annual early summer picnic and New Year's Day gatherings were for many years highlights of the meeting's calendar.

Doris is survived by her husband, F. Andrew Best; four sons, Eric Behre and Evan Behre of Dayton, MD, Earl Behre of Miami, FL and Eliot Behre of Marysville, WA; a daughter, Anna-Marie Behre Bolin of Mechanicsville, VA; a stepson, Gregory Dale Best of Fairfax, VA; a stepdaughter, Ellen Best Edwards of Palmyra, VA; a sister, Donna Pierson of Bloomington, MN; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joan W. Brucker

Joan W. Brucker, who died in her Yellow Springs, Ohio home surrounded by her family on October 2, 2009, will be remembered by her Meeting friends for her many contributions to Yellow Springs Friends Meeting. Her frequent ministry regarding her own Quaker childhood in Baltimore and experiences at Baltimore Friends School was often shared early in a meeting for worship when the children were with us. Her love of singing enhanced the pre-Meeting hymn sing. Her devotion to bringing fresh flowers from her garden to Meeting every Sunday is missed. And her reading of a children's book at our Christmas celebrations brought delight to old and young. Children in the Meeting as well as the Village of Yellow Springs will remember her as Granny. For decades she read stories at the Children's Community Center.

The village of Yellow Springs benefitted by her originating a community carol sing that goes on 53 years later, and by her service to the board of Chamber Music Yellow Springs. Many stories were told at her memorial service regarding her support of children outside of her own four –

Ellie, Tom, Emily, and Jane. Members of meeting may long remember the Sunday meeting for worship that fell just two days after her death was a remarkably gathered meeting, full of remembrances of her, including her love of gardens, music, books, and travel as well as her capacity to lend compelling observations about how one might improve oneself. Friends were grateful for the opportunity to take turns assisting her in the final months.

The obituary in the local paper, The Yellow Springs News, also included the following:

“Joan had spent her last day in the care of her community of friends. Joan had been a cancer survivor since 1990. A lifelong believer in the joyful power of books, Joan served as librarian for schools in Springfield, Yellow Springs and Dayton. Upon retirement, she volunteered as a children’s book reviewer. Born April 24, 1930 in Baltimore, Md, to Margaret Corson Wagner and Henry Milton Wagner, she spent her childhood amidst a diverse community of missionary workers, foreign students and social justice activists. She attended Friends School in Baltimore and Oberlin College, graduating in 1951.....

Joan traveled the world, often visiting with authors and illustrators in children’s literature. Joan is survived by her children Tom Brucker, Ellie Marshall, Jane Benham, and Emily Brucker; four grandchildren; and her brother Henry (Bud) Wagner.”

Edith Mae Doll

Edith Mae Doll was born July 6, 1919 to Clem and Celcia Chance. Even though she spent as much time with her family as possible, she lived most of her youth with her foster mother, Lora Henley Ankrom of Dublin, IN. She graduated from Knightstown High School in 1937 and attended Earlham College for two years. She left Earlham when her funds were depleted and took a job at Doll’s Market in Dublin where she met Eugene Doll. They were married August 10, 1940. They raised four daughters, Eugenia Mills, Mary Alice Cummings, Martha Sborov and Ruth Ann Fields.

They lived in Dublin all their married life where they took an active part in the community. They worked in the family business, and then purchased Doll’s Market from Eugene’s father in the late 1950’s. They allowed customers to have groceries on credit if they needed to, as one of the ways they served their community. They purchased produce and eggs from local farmers. Edith served on the Dublin Library Board, and was responsible for cataloging the books in the library. She assisted in cataloging the books in the Dublin School library as well. After retiring from the grocery, Edith worked as secretary at Dublin School for a few years.

Edith and her family were members and active participants at Dublin Friends Meeting until 1957 when they transferred their membership to Hopewell Friends Meeting. They rode bikes to meeting to save fuel and to exercise for many years. They both cared for the meeting deeply. Edith cleaned, bought cookies, and kept the meeting as beautifully as she did her own home.

Edith served as treasurer for many years at Hopewell. She helped new members feel welcome and valued their input to the life of the meeting. She often spoke from the silence about her abiding love for nature. Edith was a true Friend and is missed by all who knew and loved her.

Eugene passed away in 1999 from Parkinson's disease. Not too long after his death, the family noticed that Edith's memory was slipping. She lived her last 5 years in a dementia unit in Muncie, IN. Her health slowly deteriorated over these years. Through all this time she smiled easily, and always thanked those who helped with her care.

She passed away January 12, 2010.

Her memorial service was held at Hopewell Friends January 30, 2010.

Jane Lippincott Haldeman

Jane Lippincott Haldeman was born into Colora (Maryland) Monthly Meeting – a meeting founded by her grandfather – on November 6, 1935 to John and Ruth Lippincott. Although a member of the Religious Society of Friends by birthright, she was to become thoroughly convinced.

One of Jane's earliest memories – and one that would set the tone for the rest of her life – was of her father. During the Second World War, German prisoners of war worked in the family

orchards, but John Lippincott refused to allow the American guards to carry weapons on the property. This example of deep conviction borne out quiet strength was not lost on the young girl; nor was the fact of success in the face of arms.

Jane's commitment to Quaker ways was reinforced by attendance at Westtown School and Earlham College. At Earlham, she met an upper classman, Ron Haldeman, and in due course they were married. Attendance at meeting for worship was required of all students, but Jane's devotion went further. Several times a week, she joined other students in silent worship at a faculty member's home and on Sundays, she would travel five miles to Webster, Indiana for a student-run unprogrammed meeting – arriving early to light the fire on cold mornings.

But Jane felt at home in any worship service. After graduation, Ron served as a Friends pastor in Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings and Jane eagerly took on the even more demanding role of pastor's wife. She had years earlier discovered the joy of singing in worship and may be the only birthright, silent Quaker to sing a solo at an evangelical revival meeting. And once, she led the cast of the musical Hair into a service singing Hara Krishna. But the opening line of her favorite hymn was entirely in character, “ ’tis a gift to be simple, ’tis a gift to be free to come round where you ought to be” Jane was a gift to whatever church or meeting she attended.

Jane liked God well enough, but questioned how well God was managing affairs here on earth. To help fill the gap, she gave freely of her time throughout her adult life. She started early. One high school summer vacation was spent at a work camp in Germany. In the 1950s, the American Friends Service Committee ran work camps and Jane was an eager participant. And when work camps were no longer an option, she found other ways to contribute to the betterment of humanity. Her social action and involvement in the greater concerns of the world led her to a relationship with God that theology and ritual never could have achieved.

In the late 1960s, Jane served as a link between her neighborhood and Quakers in a project called Neighborhood Friends, Incorporated. The little group bought a house on 23rd and Broadway in Indianapolis in which to develop program to support the neighborhood.

This was during the Vietnam War and conscientious objectors to the war worked in the house, Some of the people involved in this project were among those who founded North Meadow Circle of Friends a decade later, filling the need for an unprogrammed Quaker meeting in

Indianapolis. Jane served and nurtured that meeting in ever conceivable way almost to the day of her death. Even in the days since she left us, her spirit had drawn us together.

There was something about Jane's ability to listen – to know just when she needed to come over and give you a hug – and her willingness to help others. She liked people – all people, even those she didn't like. She knew what it meant to be an advocate for the poor and the dispossessed, and when to encourage you to go tilt at windmills – and she would join you in taking on the windmills. For the last seven years, whenever she was in town, she stood on a corner in downtown Indianapolis every Friday with a sign denouncing the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Only her final hospitalization stopped her.

The problem with Jane's listening was that she could never say no. She was always willing to do too much – no job was unimportant. Once the doorbell rang and a young person asked if "we" could stay for the weekend. Thirty people ended up camping in every nook and cranny of the house. The Indianapolis Free School occupied the house for months on end – Ron had to learn to cook for the masses. And these weren't peanut butter sandwich meals. Jane was a professional dietician and insisted on serving a decent meal to all.

She attended the annual Friends General Conference Gathering from the time it was held at Cape May and for years volunteered her services as a dietician. Until mid-June 2009, she was intending to do the same for this year's Gathering, but her health finally caught up with her.

On Thursday evening July 16, she met with a care committee from North Meadow Circle of Friends. She had just begun chemotherapy for a recurrence of cancer and was slowing down. She and Ron were planning to move into a retirement home and they knew they would need some help getting everything in order. As the meeting was breaking up, Jane collapsed – surrounded by Friends. She was hospitalized that night and died in the company of still more Friends on

Saturday, July 25. Ron and Jane had marked their fifty-fourth wedding anniversary the day before.

The world is a better place because Jane visited it. And yet the world is still out there, and those who knew her know she would be urging us to pick up where she left off with a listening ear, a hug, and a helping hand.

She loved so many people in so many ways. She was a woman without guile and vanity. She was simple in the simplest possible way. She was free with her time, her skills, and her love.

She has come round where she ought to be. Jane Haldeman was a simple gift to us all.

We will miss her gentle spirit.

John Harrison Hubbard

John Hubbard was born in Pittsburgh, PA on October 31, 1926. His parents were Claude Hubbard and Alice Emma (Jones) Hubbard. He had one sibling, a sister named Harriet. Harriet died at age 14 from meningitis when John was 7 year old. John attended a private boy's school, Shadyside Academy in Pittsburgh, where his father was a physical education teacher. His mother had a biology degree from Mt. Holyoke College, but the family does not believe she worked outside the home. After high school, John attended the University of Pittsburgh and earned a Bachelors Degree in engineering. He graduated while the United States was deeply engaged with World War II, so John signed up for the U.S. Navy.

After the war, as John told everyone, the "G.I. bill" paid for his tuition to go to Tufts University in Boston where he earned his Masters Degree in engineering. He returned to Pittsburgh, and there began visiting other religious faiths. While attending Pittsburgh Friends Meeting he met Rachel Elizabeth Katz. They were married April 3, 1953 at the Fifth United Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. Within a year of marriage, they both took jobs in Cincinnati, OH and moved to the community of Mariemont, where they lived until 2005. John was an engineer at the Ohio River Division Laboratories of the Army Corps of Engineers until 1972 when he resigned instead of being transferred to Illinois. After working for a private consulting firm for a few years, he taught engineering courses at Cincinnati State College for nearly four years before retiring.

When the Hubbards moved to Cincinnati, they joined the Seven Hills Friends Meeting (F.U.M.) which merged in 1968 with East Cincinnati Friends Meeting (F.G.C.) to form Community Friends Meeting. It was into these Friends Meetings that their two children were born and raised. John Allen Hubbard was born October 10, 1956. Their second child, Karolyn Elizabeth Hubbard was born November 3, 1959. In the mid 1960s the family spent many summers attending Camp Nee-kau-nis, a Quaker camp located north of Toronto. There they met many

international Friends, especially from Canada and the British Isles. Deeply valuing education, the Hubbards were proud that both their children hold graduate degrees: Allen followed his father into engineering and Karolyn became a veterinarian.

John and Rachel retained a life long interest in music, especially classical music. They regularly attended concerts at the Taft Museum, Christ Church, the University of Cincinnati's Conservatory of Music, and held season tickets to the Cincinnati Symphony. They were supporters of the Mariemont school and community organizations: one year they hosted a French girl through an exchange program at Mariemont High School. Karolyn noted that "Dad and Mom were very involved with our lives. Dad was the one who helped me with my homework. He loved putting up Christmas decorations and wrapping the gifts. He and Rachel came to all our concerts and other school events." John was an avid sailor who enjoyed sailing with the family at Cowen Lake State Park.

John and Rachel were active in Quaker, ecumenical and civic organizations. They attended a Triennial Conference of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) in Honduras and annual FWCC--Section of the Americas conferences in Mexico, Oregon, California and Arizona. John was quite involved in Friends United Meeting, representing Community Friends Meeting at Miami Center Quarterly Meeting and Wilmington Yearly Meeting's annual sessions. For years John represented Cincinnati Quakers on the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati (MARCC) and served as the MARCC Executive Board's secretary for six years. He also attended functions of the Council of Christian Communions on behalf of the Friends Meeting. John was a trustee of Quaker Heights Care Community during the turn of the millennium when Quaker Heights was about to begin a major expansion.

John was a leader in the Public Sanctuary Movement in Cincinnati during the El Salvadoran civil conflicts. Faced with the reality of the U.S. sponsored war in El Salvador, the Friends Meeting discerned for weeks as to whether to provide sanctuary to Salvadoran refugees. Standing together with many other religious bodies in Cincinnati, there was strength in numbers; however each individual in the Meeting was reflecting as to whether they were willing to take the risk of committing civil disobedience. John was among those who took the deliberation seriously and, in the end, was very clear that his conscience would not allow him to do otherwise. It must have been this strength of his conviction that led him to take the commitment so seriously. In the first months after the Salvadoran family, Miguel, Gabriela and their daughters, moved into the Meeting House, John would often be seen in the library taking his turn to stand watch for government officials who might come to arrest them. He would go out of his way to help make sure the family had what they needed to live comfortably. Once the family started to leave the house to do errands or speak in public, John would often accompany them. Growing close to the family, he became keenly aware of the unjust war in El Salvador and the importance of speaking truth to power at such a moment in history.

In 2001 the Hubbards had to deal with their son Allen's death from Lymphoma, leaving behind three daughters whom John and Rachel helped through high school and college. In 2005 he and Rachel moved into the assisted living housing at Quaker Heights. There John designed and built a special small pond to be attractive to dragonflies. Dragonflies had become a major hobby of John's during his more than thirty years of volunteering at the Cincinnati Nature Center. He spoke caringly of nurturing dragonflies at the nature center and then at Quaker Heights. The special body of water to enhance the breeding of dragonflies at Quaker Heights is still there.

After Rachel's passing, John moved to live near his daughter Karolyn in Atlanta, Georgia. Ten months ago he moved to "Court at Sandy Springs" where he died on June 14 with Karolyn and Michael present. His ashes are buried next to Rachel's in the Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati. A Friends Memorial Service was held at Community Friends Meetinghouse on September 6, 2009, with friends and relatives from his many local connections present.

Charles Miller Leslie

Charles Leslie, a member of Bloomington Meeting, died on August 15th, 2009 at 85 years of age. He will be missed for his promotion of social justice and education, his sharp intellect, honesty, and kindness to others.

Charles was born in Arkansas in 1923. As a young man, he served in the Army Air Corps as a bomber pilot in WWII. During this experience, he became a pacifist, left the Army, and then attended an Anthropology program at the University of Chicago where he earned a Ph.D. Charles eventually taught as a professor of medical anthropology at universities including Pomona College, Case Western Reserve, Harvard, and Indiana University. He was a widely published researcher who made a significant impact on his field.

Charles worked in the civil rights movements in Mississippi in the summer of 1964 and visited prisoners on death row. In 2008 he published *Death Row Letters*, his years-long correspondence with a prisoner sentenced to capital punishment.

It was in 1999 that Charles joined Bloomington Friends Meeting. He contributed to the Meeting by visiting Friends, including a member who was dying, proofreading other members' books and manuscripts, and simply talking to them. Perhaps his most visible committee work at Meeting was his faithful activity on the Social-Fellowship Committee. One of his local activities outside Meeting was equally down-to-earth: his regular work at the Community Kitchen, providing free meals to the disadvantaged.

In meeting for worship, Charles was known for a spirituality that was intellectual and sincere in nature. For instance, one Sunday, he quoted "Dover Beach," a poem that expressed his own

striving to do what is just and right in a challenging world. Bloomington meeting will not be the same without him and his kind acts of justice. He is missed and loved still. Charles is survived by his wife, Zelda, and his children, Mario, Almira and Samuel. He has four grandchildren.

James McElhone

James (Jim) Michael McElhone, 51, faithful attender of Lexington Friends Meeting, died on December 18, 2009. Born in Lexington, he was the son of the late James Benjamin and Gertrude Henrietta Rodgers McElhone. He earned a B.S. degree in Computer Science from Eastern Kentucky University and an A.S. degree in Electrical Science from Lexington Community College. He held many jobs at the University of Kentucky including Academic Information Services, Senior Analyst in Information Management at the Chandler Medical Center, and most recently manager of Information Technology at Kentucky Geological Survey at the University of Kentucky.

He is survived by three sisters, Jacqueline Langendorf, Bonnie Dowler, and Joyce (Fred) Branham; six nieces and nephews; and six great nieces and nephews.

Jim began attending Lexington Meeting several years ago. He was very regular in his attendance at worship and at adult education. He had a quick wit, and Friends enjoyed his wry humor. He was an active seeker and also participated in a number of other groups exploring various spiritual paths.

Jim lived for a number of years with a brain tumor. He had surgeries and various therapies. Throughout these challenges he maintained his zest for life and interest in other people. His steadfast spirit was a gift to all who knew him.

Lexington Friends and Jim's friends and family celebrated his life at a memorial service on January 9, 2010 at the Lexington Friends Meetinghouse.

Maryrhea Mullins Morelock

Maryrhea Mullins Morelock, longtime member of Lexington Friends Meeting, passed away Tuesday, July 14, 2009, after a long illness. Surviving her are her son, Kolan, and his wife Betsy of Lexington; granddaughters, Wendy Morelock of Ewing NJ and Amy DiLorenzo, and her husband, Matt DiLorenzo, both of Lexington; great grandsons, Dominic and Angelo DiLorenzo of Lexington; and many cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and sister.

She was born in Abington, VA on May 28, 1928 to Rhea and Mary Seaton Mullins. She grew up in southwest Virginia and graduated from Berea College in 1956. She received her Masters in Social Work from the Kent School of Social Work at the University of Louisville in 1964. She began a dedicated profession in social work in 1956 at the State TB hospital in Madisonville,

KY, and retired in 1991 as a professor at the University of Kentucky College of Social Work in Lexington. She was a resident of Lexington from 1964. She loved traveling and took her granddaughters to Europe. She also visited the USSR and Alaska and drove across much of the United States. She maintained her connections to her home state of Virginia, keeping up with old friends and subscribing to the local paper, *The Post* of Big Stone Gap, VA.

Maryrhea was a longstanding member of Lexington Friends Meeting. She helped revive the meeting in the 1960s. She served Lexington Meeting in many capacities including presiding clerk, and member of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. She initiated a project whereby for many years the meeting made, decorated, and filled Christmas stockings for the children at the Manchester Center, a facility that served low income families in Lexington.

She represented the meeting as an observer to the Kentucky Council of Churches (KCC). The KCC staff wrote warmly of her service.

The staff of the Kentucky Council of Churches are deeply appreciative of the life, gifts, blessings, and service of Maryrhea Morelock. We remember with joy the edification that was ours as we traveled with her to our many Executive Board meetings all over the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We cherished her prophetic heart, her compassionate wisdom, and her sincere friendship. We wish to express our gratitude for enriching our Executive Board, our lives, and our common causes. She was loved and will be missed.

During the last years of her life Maryrhea struggled with illness and disability. Friends were moved and inspired by her strength and spunk as she regained her ability to walk and recovered several times from very serious illnesses. The meeting was enriched by the opportunities her illness afforded us to hold worship with her in her home and in a nursing home, to bring Christmas carols to her in her home, and to visit by her bedside. Lexington Friends, Maryrhea's family, and other friends and colleagues celebrated her life at a memorial service at Lexington Friends Meetinghouse on August 22, 2009.