



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

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## February 2015 NEWSLETTER

“Don’t let the behavior of others destroy your inner peace.”

*H H Dalai Lama*

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Eleventh Day First Month 2015**

Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:45 AM.

Attending: Dawn Atwater, Molly Burgoyne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Benita Cooper, Leigh Anne Dodge, Doreen Getsinger, Robert Gladney, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Bill Lane, Jr., Connie Lewis, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Candace Shattuck, Brian Shean, Bob Wack, Dolores Wack, Winslow Womack .

Comments on the First Query: A Friend read aloud the first Query “Meeting for Worship”, during our meeting for business. No one added additional comments.

Approval of the minutes from the Twelfth Month 2014: Under the item of “Query” a Friend requested that the word “felt” be changed to “thought” and the typo corrected in the third sentence be made to read “a newer Attender” as the word attender had been left out. A Friend also requested that we leave out the phrase “Call to Order” and “adjourned” as these are not Quakerly terms. With these corrections, the Meeting approved the minutes.

Clerk’s Desk: The Clerk reminded everyone to please remember to post all meetings on the calendar in the Common Room. If a committee meeting is planned, it is also a good idea to send an announcement to communications ( [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com) ) so it can be put out on e-mail and posted online. The Clerk also asked everyone to look at possible dates for the Carriage Shed Sale. This is typically held in May or September. We need input from everyone to make sure we do not plan this event when it conflicts with other important events taking place in our community. The Clerk received three letters requesting membership. She read these aloud and then turned the letters over to the Clerk

of Overseers so clearness committees may be formed. The letters came from Amy Owsley and Ryan Ewing (including their children, Liam and Finley), Jen Coleman (including her son Giuseppe), and Christine Brooks and Ted Corbett. We are happy to take these people under our consideration with thanks as well to FDS and what a wonderful job they are doing.

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Annual Report 2014**

Third Haven Friends Meeting is an active community of 153 members, including 22 under age twenty-two and a fluctuating number of attenders at varied levels of activity. Attenders are encouraged to consider applying for membership as they are moved to do so. The range of attendance at Meeting for Worship is 65-75. This is an active and engaged community.

Representatives attended Southern Quarterly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to keep the Third Haven community informed and represented at these levels of Quaker activity. Members and Attenders also represented Third Haven at a variety of Talbot County organizations, representing our Quaker values in the world.

The Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Recorders and Treasurer facilitated the aims of the meeting. Third Haven committees pursued their responsibilities with commitment and creativity throughout the year, creating a productive community.

Budget and Finance supervised creation, approval and implementation of the budget. The treasurer provided frequent reports and the committee sought to remind members and attenders of the importance of supporting Third Haven. Third Haven's finances are in good order.

Overseers Committee continued pastoral care, helping members and attenders nurture one another. As in past years, committee members kept in touch with the Third Haven Friends through a calling tree. An annual new member and attender recognition luncheon in March and an honoring our elders event were well attended. A continuing focus for the committee was the care of seniors in our community and support of members facing challenges.

Testimonies and Concerns led the meeting's involvement in peace and social justice issues by sponsoring projects including Shoffner Fund disbursement through the First Day School adoption of a Bolivian child and Aquayuda water delivery in Colombia South America, Marilla's lunches, homeless shelter and detention center volunteerism, PEACE demonstrations and discussions, the Multicultural Festival and Christmas children's donations, migrant worker aid, and three members serving on the board of Midshore Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP).

Worship and Ministry supported the spiritual life of the meeting and adult religious education. Greeters from the committee welcomed members attenders and visitors, offering pamphlets and other information. The 12 Queries and 4 Advices were read throughout the year. Quarterly silent retreats and Modules on Quaker faith and practice

were also offered. Discussion groups covered a variety of topics including "Essentials of our Faith and Practice," "Higher Consciousness & Spiritual Awakening" and "Christ a Symbol of the Self". Meeting for worship is consistently spiritual and enriching.

First Day School counted 17 families comprised of 25 children under the age of 17 who have attended this past year. The largest attendance fell on the holidays, especially at Christmas and Easter when special programs occur. On a weekly basis, attendance is sparse, with an average of 3-5 attending. Meeting members shared their talents and gifts with the children, which makes a big difference. First Day School grows our meeting in many ways.

Property and Grounds oversaw numerous projects. Clay Owens continues to serve as caretaker, including duties as groundskeeper, housekeeper and friendly presence to visitors. Members and Attenders supported Clean Up days in April and November. An extensive list of projects and the contributors to their success may be found in the November 2014 newsletter.

Scholarship Committee: Third Haven's Scholarship Fund offers some financial support to young people in Friends schools and college students, so that the Meeting continues to demonstrate its care for them during these important years. The fund totals approximately \$80,000 managed by Friends Fiduciary. This year's scholarship distribution was \$3,250.

Charity donations committee intended to coordinate meeting donations is in formation.

Hospitality Committee has had large groups partaking in coffee and treats after meeting for worship, although attendance slows down over the summer months. Hospitality facilitated numerous events enhancing the life of the meeting.

Communications Committee prepares and posts all text and images on the Third Haven Website, and newsletter, providing vital meeting information and recording current history.

Outreach Committee seeks to make the general public more aware of Friends' existence; more knowledgeable about Friends' beliefs; and more welcome at Friends meetings through personal contact and publications briefly introducing our faith and community and smoothing the pathway to membership for seekers.

Facilities Use handled requests from Friends and community for activities which were congruent with Quaker testimonies.

Nominating Committee carefully considered the gifts of all members and attenders, inviting each person to participate as he or she is moved, making our community strong through the diversity of skills we all bring to Third Haven.

Details are available in annual committee reports published in monthly newsletters.

This is a synopsis of so much that occurs during the year at Third Haven Friends Meeting, an active, thoughtful, spirit led community of the Religious Society of Friends. The Meeting accepted this report with thanks. It will be emailed to the Clerk of SQM and taken to the upcoming SQM.

### **PYM Interim Meeting and Called Meeting Reports**

The Interim Meeting held at PYM on Jan. 10, 2015 had two parts. The morning agenda covered the normal business of PYM and the afternoon session was in the form of a “called meeting” on the topic of racism.

The morning meeting covered various topics. The General Secretary encourages all to visit different Meetings other than their own. Information was given discussing the safety of children in our Meeting and the oversight of volunteers working with children. There is much to be found regarding this topic of the PYM website. A Friend suggested that this be given to FDS to discuss further with discernment on how these issues affect our Meeting.



In the afternoon, approximately 400 people attended the session representing 80 Meetings. The session began by asking the participants to make a list of all the ways they feel “privileged”. Then the large group split into smaller discussion groups. Several queries regarding racism led to thoughtful conversation. Importantly, Friends left with the query, “What antiracism work are you doing as a Meeting and as individuals”? The

group approved a Minute of Action as follows.

“Friends tested and affirmed the work of our clerks and our elders, since being tasked during Annual Sessions in July 2014, to help discern a way forward in addressing many ‘-isms’ including-racism, sexism, genderism and classism. Friends also heartily affirmed that as a Yearly Meeting we:

Commit to increase our consciousness as Friends about the intersection of privilege and race in our culture and spiritual community. We know our knowledge is often limited by our own experiences and that we have much to learn from each other and from outside resources.

Commit to move forward with our entire community. The yearly meeting is the community of all our individual Friends and monthly meetings and this work needs to be done with the involvement of all of us.

Commit to integrate this work into what we do in an ongoing way at the yearly meeting level. We want this work to become part of the fabric of what we do whenever we get together as yearly meeting members and attenders.”

This discussion stirred tender emotions and feelings to be shared among us. Those present suggested T&C committee, with the thought that a worship sharing or called meeting of our own be considered, discuss this issue in depth.

### **Overseers Annual Report**

The Clerk of committee presented the following.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Overseers Committee Annual Report for 2014

In 2014, these members of Third Haven Friends Meeting served as Overseers: Paige Bethke, Molly Burgoyne, Larny Claggett, Deborah Cox, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Connie Lewis, John Schreiner, Norval Thompson, and Adrienne Rudge, clerk. I begin my report with thanks to all of the committee members for their constructive suggestions, their timely actions, their senses of humor and their devotion to pastoral care, which is the mission of the Overseers Committee.

I particularly want to acknowledge Norval Thompson, who after twelve years of active service on the committee, retired in December. In addition, I thank Candace Shattuck for the guidance that she offered to me personally and to the committee.

The Committee met monthly with the exception of June, July and December. We kept in touch with the Third Haven Friends Meeting community through a calling tree by dividing members and attenders alphabetically. We spoke with, wrote to and visited with individuals as the year progressed, with special attention to those facing challenges.

Last spring, at the request of non-resident member Aiyana Paterson –Zinkand, the Overseers formed a Clearness Committee to consider her request that she and Rick King be married at Third Haven under the care of the Meeting. A committee consisting of Paige Bethke, Gwen Beegle and Marsie Hawkinson met with Aiyana and Rick and enthusiastically recommended that their request be approved. Aiyana and Rick were married on July 19, 2104 at Third Haven Friends Meeting.

The annual new member and attender recognition luncheon was held on March 2nd and was very well attended. As part of the program of welcome, Dona Sorce discussed the path that led her to Quakerism and to Third Haven. With support from the Hospitality Committee, Overseers decided to sponsor an additional community luncheon on October 5<sup>th</sup> honoring the “elders” of Third Haven. Debbie Cox shared some of her memories of growing up attending this meeting, which inspired other stories from those attending.

Also in March, the Overseers helped with a memorial service for Lila Line, organized primarily by Joe Davis. The Committee maintains a file of Declarations of Memorial Intentions in the Common Room. This form, which in the case of Lila was a big help in planning her memorial service, is available online at the Third Haven Friends Meeting

website or by mail from the clerk of the Overseers Committee. The form has been updated; the new version was accepted by Meeting for Business in December 2013.

In 2013, the Overseers Committee was asked to draft a new description of the process of becoming a member of Third Haven, with an emphasis on an expanded definition of the responsibilities of membership. Revising that description stayed on our agenda in 2014, and John Schreiner became the principal author of the piece, with input from both Overseers and the Outreach Committee. The result is a leaflet called Pathway to Membership at Third Haven Friends Meeting.

One issue that we discussed over the course of several months resulted in a minute offered to Meeting for Business in November. Overseers urged members and attenders to practice sharing Joys and Concerns with special consideration for the privacy of those they mention.

All of us have a role in making this a caring community, but Overseers have a special responsibility to nurture and counsel others within Third Haven Friends Meeting. We welcome the chance to be of service.

Respectfully submitted, Adrienne Rudge, Clerk  
The Meeting accepted this report with thanks.

#### **Outreach new leaflet for prospective members**

The new pamphlet presented today at Meeting came from the work of Overseers and Outreach. It seems the pamphlet has already been quite useful and possibly helped generate more interest in our recent influx of attenders desiring to be members. Several possibilities for how to distribute this were mentioned, including the anteroom near the entrance to the Brick Meeting House, in the rack of the vestibule, on benches in our meeting houses as well as in the Common Room. The question of distribution was referred back to the Outreach Committee. The pamphlet is very well done and the members and attenders are encouraged to read it.

#### **Treasurer's Second Quarter Report**

The full financials and the balance sheet will be made available online. In summary, for the first half of our 2014-15 fiscal year we have the following results:

Our member contributions total just over \$32,000 which is 64% of our Member contributions budget. Our Attender contributions total just over \$4,500 giving us 90% of our annual Attender contributions budget. Our total income totals just over \$38,700 which is almost 64% of our total income budget. Our expenses total almost \$23,000 which is only 38% of our expense budget. This gives us a net income of just over \$15,800 for the first half of our fiscal year.

On Balance Sheet as of 12/31/14, we had over \$54,600 in our operating account and almost \$42,000 in our Operating Reserves which is invested at Friends Fiduciary. Near the bottom of the Balance Sheet under "Equity" you can see the unrealized gains and losses on the investment account. As of 12/31 we had an unrealized gain of almost \$2,000. This figure will fluctuate with the investment market.

In comparing the first half of 2014/15 fiscal year to the prior fiscal year, our Member contributions were down by almost \$2,000 and our total income was down by just over \$1000. Our expenses were also lower by almost \$400 and our net income was down by almost 4700 over the prior year.

With no further items or new business to discuss, the meeting ended at 1PM after a brief silence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Burgoyne

#### Important Points

Three letters requesting membership read and turned over to Overseers for clearness  
Acceptance of THFM Annual Report  
Discussion regarding PYM Called Meeting on racism  
Acceptance of Overseers Annual Report  
New Outreach pamphlet on membership presented  
Treasurer's 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report given.

#### **Treasurer's recap**

Here is a recap of the treasurer's financials for the 2nd quarter of our fiscal year.

July – December, 2014

Member Contributions	=	\$32,223	=	64% of annual budget
Total Income	=	\$38,760	=	64% of annual budget
Total Expenses	=	\$22,908	=	38% of annual budget
Net Income	=	\$15,852		

Within the next week, I will be sending out the official thank you letters to all of the people who have made contributions to Third Haven Monthly Meeting during the 2014 calendar year so please watch for your thank you letter in the mail.

Thank you,  
Cynthia Quast  
Treasurer, Third Haven Monthly Meeting

## Save the Date!

The Third Haven New Member and Attender Luncheon is scheduled for First Day, March 1 in the Common Room at rise of Meeting. Please save the date and plan to attend. More details to come.

## Empty Bowls Community Dinner

To help raise funds for local food pantries the Seventh Annual Empty Bowls Community



Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 22, 2015 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Route 50, Easton. Your ticket includes a dinner of delicious soup and the hand crafted bowl in which it is served. Price is \$20 per person: ticket **MUST** be purchased in advance for either the 5-6 pm seating or the 6-7 pm seating. Purchase tickets by: mailing a check payable to Mid-Shore/Empty Bowls to the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, 102 E. Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601. (include a phone number on the check) or by purchasing tickets online at [www.mscf.org](http://www.mscf.org) (Events button at top of page).

*In case of inclement weather the event will be held Sunday, March 1st.*

The annual Empty Bowls community dinner benefits food pantries serving those in need in Talbot County. This year, every penny raised from ticket sales and donations will be distributed to nine food pantries, including the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ashbury Methodist Church, Scott's United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, the Neighborhood Service Center, Tilghman Food Pantry, CarePacks of Talbot County, Union United Methodist Church and the St. Michaels Food Pantry. Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/EmptyBowlsEastonMD](http://www.facebook.com/EmptyBowlsEastonMD)

1. You may donate to Empty Bowls through the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, 102 E. Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601 or online at [www.mscf.org](http://www.mscf.org) (Events button at the top of the page)

2. Paint a bowl at Clay Bakers in Easton through February 16th. Your bowl is used at the dinner and Clay Bakers donates a portion of the studio fee to Talbot County Empty Bowls as well. For more information, call 410-770-9091 or visit [www.theclaybakers.com](http://www.theclaybakers.com)



3. Bake cookies to be served at the dinner. Contact: Beth Mufson at [bmufson@atlanticbb.net](mailto:bmufson@atlanticbb.net) or 410.820.4752

**Announcements** <http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>  
Calendar of Activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>  
Online directory <http://www.thirdhaven.org/members/dir.php>



## A Message from the Clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on Recent Events in Ferguson, Missouri

Posted November 26th, 2014 • [Public Interest](#)



Having sat with parents who have lost a child due to illness, I cannot image the pain Michael Brown's parents are experiencing. Having to endure such a loss in a public manner is unthinkable. As we all try to process recent events, let us not forget that a family has lost their son. Let us honor and remember the grace that the Brown family has shown by asking for peace in the midst of dealing with their loss.

I find hope in the communal cries, tears and indignation. I hope they burn deep, leaving a mark so deep in our souls that we will seek to unearth the laws, institutional practices, actions and inactions that bred and continue to feed the climate in Ferguson, Missouri and the mindsets that enable such events to occur not just in Ferguson, but also in our own towns and cities; our own blocks, civic groups and workplaces; our own schools and government; and in our own Quaker congregations, our meetinghouses and our families. And in the shadows of our own hearts.

I cannot pray to ease our pain and discomfort, for when I do I hear the same response each time: "Get off your knees. This is your work. Go do it."

And so I pray:

*Dear God,*

*Please help us to be faithful. Hold us up when we want to use our privilege to shield against our discomfort. Help us to hold close this pain, as it is a reminder of our humanity, our connection with one another, a truthful view of the realities we have allowed to be built. May we humble ourselves to be teachable, to speak with love as we correct those who offend us and whom we have offended. May our desire to embrace justice be stronger than our clinging to the guilt of our privilege.*

*May this pain change us so we are compelled to do Your work after media attention wanes and news outlets have moved on to their next story. Let our hopelessness to undo the killing of Michael Brown, or the too many others killed before him, not prevent us from doing the to work to make him the last.*

To the Brown family we pray for your peace, justice and that our actions forward will be honorable in light of your loss.

In Peace,

*Jada S. Jackson*  
Presiding Clerk

## **We Can Do Better**

Let's take this as a given, that the color of someone's skin does not determine the content of their character. In other words, that the premise of racism is inherently false, and people cannot be accurately judged by their race. Now consider the following facts:

- African American children are three times more likely to live in poverty than Caucasian children.
- Unemployment rates for African Americans are typically double those of Caucasian Americans. African American men working full time earn 72 percent of the average earnings of comparable Caucasian men and 85 percent of the earnings of Caucasian women.
- The 1,217 deadly police shootings from 2010 to 2012 captured in the federal data show that blacks, age 15 to 19, were killed at a rate of 31.17 per million, while just 1.47 per million white males in that age range died at the hands of police.
- Black Americans are 3.6 times more likely to be arrested for selling drugs and 2.5 times more likely to be arrested for possessing drugs.
- One in every three black males born today can expect to go to prison at some point in their life, compared with one in every six Latino males, and one in every 17 white males.
- African-Americans With College Degrees Are Twice As Likely to Be Unemployed as Other Graduates
- The unemployment rate among blacks is about double that among whites
- Whites with felony records fare as well in job interviews as African American men with clean records

These facts point to systemic racism in American institutions. If you deny that racism is still a problem in America, I challenge you to offer another explanation for these statistics.

In the aftermath of the recent Michael Brown shooting, I want to share the following thoughts. First, the protests happening now are not only about the death of Michael Brown. They're about the statistics listed above, that people are tired of losing family members to violence simply because they happen to have the wrong skin color. Second, the comment that "Well, at least things are better now than they used to be." White Americans, surely we can do better than slavery, segregation, Jim Crow? Surely we can do better than that!

So let's do better. Let's call out racism when we see it, in our personal interactions with people and in institutions. Let's stop standing by and watching when African Americans get shafted. Let's LISTEN when black people try to talk to us about their experiences with race in America and not express disbelief that maybe they don't really know what their own experiences are.

Let's educate ourselves. Let's live with our eyes open, no matter how uncomfortable it makes us. Because our discomfort is not comparable to the suffering our willful ignorance allows to occur.

So... let's talk. Let's listen to each other. Let's be brave in our interactions, but not cruel. Most of all, let's be willing to learn.

Let's do better. Let's be better.

\*For sources of statistics, please visit the webpage

<https://lightandlotus.wordpress.com/2014/11/26/we-can-do-better/>

*By Tatiana Harrison*

## **We are our Committees...**



**T&C Committee meeting in January with presentation given by representative from Crossroads Community Mental Health.**



**Property and Grounds considers projects.**

## **our good fellowship...**



**and our seniors!**



**We are Friends.**

