



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

(410) 822-0293

Info@thirdhaven.org

## June 2012 NEWSLETTER

"Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could; some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall begin it serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense."

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 5th Month, 13, 2012**

1. Call to order: Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, called the meeting for worship with attention to business to order at 11:25 am after a brief period of silence.
2. Attending: Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Paige Bethke, Posey Boicourt, Molly Burgoyne, Lorraine Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Beth Mufson, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Mike Sorn, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, Winslow Womack.
3. Minutes: Minutes for meeting for business Fourth Month were approved.
4. Query: The Query on "Education" was read during meeting for worship. A Friend reminded us of the importance of supporting education. Both First Day School and the Scholarship Committee welcome all members and attenders to become more supportive of our educational programs. A Friend ask that we consider sharing more "stories" that "humanize" our Meeting and allow us to hear more about what is going on in First Day School and how others reach out to the wider community.
5. Overseers: A Clearness committee report regarding the membership of Cynthia Quast was given. Cynthia came to this meeting well read and well prepared. The committee felt very impressed by her knowledge and insight. She comes highly recommended by Overseers. The Meeting approved her membership and a welcoming committee consisting of Paige Bethke (convener), Rob Wieland and Gwen Beegle will be gathering together soon with Cynthia. We are all delighted with Cynthia becoming a member of our community.
6. PYM Interim Meeting: One of our current representatives to PYM, Rob Wieland, attended Interim Meeting in Philadelphia on the 12th of this month. He reports that the current financial crisis has been taken seriously. PYM has now fully repaid the funds borrowed from restricted assets and do not plan on "dipping" into these restricted assets again. The financial officers have proposed a much smaller operating budget for the next three years. Since the income has become smaller, the programs will be smaller too. A couple of years ago, PYM had

41 employees. This budget brings down the number of staff to 19 “full-time equivalent” employees to run PYM. The three year budget is balanced to spend only what is brought in as income. The officers spoke of this in terms of the ‘sanctity of the envelope’. The budget will not have money to fund Quarterly Meeting coordinators. This will affect Meetings far away from Philadelphia such as Susquehanna Meeting. In order to balance the budget and accommodate anticipated cash flow, PYM has cashed in some \$250,000 in capital and created a \$300,000 line of credit. There was unity among those attending that PYM cannot “go over what (we) can afford to spend”. Rob was impressed and encouraged by their efforts to not only balance the budget but also balance their books and plan to do so for the next three years.

7. Proposed fiscal year 2012-13 THFM Budget: (see copy of budget below). The Clerk of Budget and Finance, Sumner Parker, presented a draft for the upcoming fiscal year’s budget. The proposed budget is \$245 more than last year, the smallest increase in many years. The membership contributions line will stay the same. The budget includes the full amount requested by each committee. The line item for Property & Grounds has decreased \$2900 from last year due to the change in caretaker. That committee however, is still researching health care costs for our caretaker. Currently this figure of \$4500 is included in the total P&G budget but could go up depending on the cost of a health care plan ultimately selected. The question of the extent of health care coverage the Meeting will cover will be brought to the Meeting as a separate item, but is in budget at the moment to ensure that some funds are available..

Our PYM covenant will remain the same. Covenants by all Meetings range from \$60-\$160 per adult member. Our Meeting contributes \$135 per adult member or just over the average.

Eighteen percent of our members support the annual fund of PYM as compared to the overall average of all Meetings members of 20%. The line item for “contingency” is increased by \$1000. Outreach and Quaker Quest is still a combined committee and has asked for additional funding this year. The Scholarship committee has had an increase in requests for scholarships this year to twelve and has doubled their request for funding from the Meeting. Members were reminded that this amount is separate from the Scholarship Fund that is managed by the committee. This program is certainly growing and would like to be able to at least give some form of monetary award to those who request the aid. The comment was made that since our “scholarships” are not large, they might better be called “grants.”

There was a reminder that the membership contribution is a “plug-in” number that allows us to balance the budget. This fiscal year we will probably not achieve our goal of \$55,855.00. The B&F clerk estimated that if historical patterns hold true, member contributions will come in at about \$44,000, well below budget. Several agreed that it is desirable to achieve a more realistic member income number. The B&F Committee projects we will have a deficit this year of approximately \$2200. We have been under budget in member contributions for a number of years.

All in all, the committee feels this is a reasonable budget and recommends approval. Any questions regarding the budget should be directed to Sumner before next meeting for business when the budget will need to be formally approved. All thanked the committee for its difficult and diligent work.

8. Shoffner Fund Update: Gwen Beegle, as representative of Testimonies & Concerns Committee, gave an update on the Shoffner Funds usage. The committee has met with First Day School and created a novel approach to engage our younger members in charitable giving. They have put together a “Book of Concerns” that the children will use to discuss various projects and their merits. They will decide how to allocate \$500 to a charitable cause or causes between now

and Christmas. Adult members are encouraged to go through the book and perhaps volunteer to help explain different projects to the children. The ideas and decisions will be shared with the Meeting as a whole. The Meeting approved this idea.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne

**IMPORTANT POINTS:**

- Cynthia Quast approved for membership
- PYM fiscal crisis update given
- Discussion and overview of proposed budget for fiscal year 2012-2013
- Update on Shoffner Fund Project approved.

## **MIGRANT LABOR CAMPS**

Third Haven's date to deliver goods to the nearby migrant labor camps is August 27. Your donations must be clean and usable, and you can give them to Gwen Beegle or Ralph Young at Meeting. Keep in mind that these are people who are in an isolated location and work hard all day long. They need work clothing suitable for the heat and for protection from plants-- Lightweight pants, tee shirts, and old long sleeved dress shirts are useful. Men's clothing and good shoes for work are the most frequently needed items, based on last year's experience. Most, but not all, of the laborers are young men, who wear smaller waist size clothing (think 32-34ish not 40-44ish). There will be some women and large men, too. Soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes will also be needed. Hotel sized shampoo and soap are okay but so are just plain old bars of Ivory soap and regular shampoo. More information will be shared as we learn more about the people who come to work here this year and their needs.

If you are willing to help organize donations, sort clothing, prepare health/hygiene bags, and enjoy the company of other volunteers from Meeting, please let Gwen Beegle know. She can be reached at [gwenpb27@gmail.com](mailto:gwenpb27@gmail.com) or 410-820-7303.

## **QUAKER QUILTS**

Recently Third Haven received an inquiry from two women who write a blog about Quaker quilts. Although their main focus is 19th century quilts, they had seen a photo of our quilt made to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Old Meeting House and thought their readers would be interested in it, too. In the course of conversation they found out about the Caring Quilt made by First Day School children to comfort those going through illness or other difficulties, so they decided to feature both of our quilts! The blog is up at [www.quakerquiltshistory.com](http://www.quakerquiltshistory.com)  
Kudos and thanks to Third Haven needleworkers, artists and quilters for their fine work.

## **FIRST DAY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Participating in the First Day School activities is a joyful and uplifting experience and many Third Haven friends take the opportunity to join in. As co-clerks, Beth Mufson and Mark Beck take on the responsibility to organize the schedule however the other members of the committee are also very dedicated to participating in the programs for the children.

On April 22, the focus for those gathered was Peace. Catherine Cripps and Ralph Young planned this program and invited John Hutchison, vice-president of P.E.A.C.E. to talk about that

organization. The room was packed with all ages and sizes some sitting on the floor and some in chairs, with everyone considering what the word peace meant to them. The whole group was thoughtful and expressive over this fundamental Quaker testimony.

Following the initial gathering, young and old alike regrouped in the common room to create peace flags. Catherine explained that the origin of these flags is the mandala, an ancient symbol used in many religious traditions. The finished creations were hung in the windows of the common room and later carried to Idlewild Park for the Multicultural Festival.

Many Third Haven friends helped at the Multicultural Festival, setting up tables, hanging the peace flags and helping visitors to create their own peace flags to hang up next to those created at Third Haven. Lorraine Claggett, Paige Bethke and Beth Mufson helped organize the Third Haven display. Paige commented that some of the highlights of the event were the bagpipes, getting to meet the piper, seeing the many different cultures represented and being next to the P.E.A.C.E. table, which was the organization that founded the festival.



Another recent activity for the older students has been the study of world religions. Mark Beck, Aiyana Paterson-Zinkand and Catherine Cripps led the various segments of this program. The students first considered, “What is religion?” This question brought responses such as: a way of explaining the mysteries of life; and a way of explaining who or what created the world and all the living beings. The students were then invited to create a list of non-Christian religions which included Tribal religions, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. Aiyana followed this introduction with an overview of the major world religions. On subsequent First Days, Mark and Catherine presented in depth explorations of each of the religions.

Third Haven has a very dedicated group of First Day School leaders who work hard to present meaningful programs for the students. The students respond enthusiastically and are amazingly perceptive and thoughtful while participating in these programs. *Cynthia Quast*

## Third Haven Monthly Meeting Announcements

*Please remember to greet visitors to meeting – answer what questions they have about Friends, our buildings, our programs and activities. We are all emissaries of Third Haven.*

### Meetings for Worship

First Days 10am	Fourth Days 5:30pm
June 3	June 6
June 10	June 13
June 17	June 20

**Sally Claggett** writes, “Natural Resources Careers Camp (NRCC) is a partnership between Allegany College of Maryland and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources-Forest Service that offers high school students a co-educational opportunity to learn from industry professionals and develop contacts that could lead to future employment and a career in natural resources. The week-long camp in Garrett County helps students explore careers and college studies in natural resources. For more information and registration details visit the website: “

<http://www.marylandforestryboards.org/nrcc.cfm>

**Wanted: specific information** regarding coming events at Third Haven. There will be only one more newsletter between now and September. If you or your committee plan something soon, please send the details to [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com)

Weekly announcements will persist throughout the summer despite the absence of the editor. The meeting website <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> has much information for us. Members and attenders are reminded to check the directory on the website for updated addresses.

*Username is 3rdhaven*

*Password friends*

*all lower case*

**Ralph Young** writes, “We are always looking for books for the lending library in the local detention center. Particularly needed at this time are Westerns, Humor books, Spanish literature, and novels by popular mystery writers. Please place your donations in the book chest in the Common Room. Many thanks.”

"Afghanistan - The Forgotten War" available on DVD <https://www.createpace.com/294158>

The Forgotten War takes you where the mainstream media has failed to bring us so far. An up close look at the tragedy of this conflict, unfolding hour by hour, year after year." Afghanistan's Kandahar province is the seat of the Taliban and one of the most violent parts of the country. Over a three year period, video journalist Paul Johnson captured the encounters between Western soldiers and the traditional Pashtun society of Kandahar. While today's NATO soldiers bring with them the most sophisticated weapons and doctrine, they are merely the latest in a long line of foreign armies to try and prevail here.

**June 3 (Sunday) 11:30-12:30: Library Committee will be meeting to discuss: update on online catalog creation, book purchases, and the location of the pamphlet display. Anyone who's interested in our Meeting library is welcome to attend!**

**Please be sure to include your phone number in the binder when you check out books. This insures that Library Committee has an easy way to contact you if necessary.**

**June 3 Rise of Meeting is Moving Up Day-see below for details**

## **CONTINUED PLEA FOR THE FOOD PANTRY**

**Third Haven continues to make a meaningful donation to the Food Pantry each week. Thanks to everyone who remembers to share.**

A Vigil for Peace is held from 5p.m. to 6p.m. each Thursday on Washington St. in front of the Talbot Court House. You are welcome to come at any time during the hour and to stay only as long as you wish.

**Contributions to the meeting** can be made by way of the contributions box in the Brick Meetinghouse entranceway. Checks can also be sent to THMM, P.O. Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601. We are now able to receive donations by way of the website <http://www.thirdhaven.org/donate.php>

**Sign up for PYM Today Online** We are delighted to announce PYM Today Online, a new e-publication designed to strengthen communication, connections, relationships and knowledge among everyone in our yearly meeting faith community.

Just complete the sign-up form at <http://www.pym.org/pym-today-online>

### **ADDRESS UPDATES**

Sue Cherry Myers  
Wade L. Myers  
P.O. Box 1130  
Ridgely, MD 21660  
410-829-4384  
scherrymyers@yahoo.com

Merdith Olson  
mereditholson100@yahoo.com  
phone 410-822-2886-

## **5<sup>TH</sup> MONTH PYM INTERIM MEETING REPORT**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month, Interim Meeting met to discuss specific proposals to bring PYM's budget into balance and to address other financial issues facing Yearly Meeting. The Treasurer, Ron Ploeg, reported actions taken to resolve the Yearly Meeting's debt to restricted funds. Restricted funds have been made whole and have been placed in separate instruments. That required liquidating reserves that were part of Yearly Meeting's capital stock.

Income to restricted funds allowed the Yearly Meeting to smooth over short-term differences between income and operating expenses through the year. To replace that service, Yearly Meeting has obtained a \$200,000 line of credit which must be cleared at least once every 12 months.

The Clerk of Financial Stewardship discussed the development of a budget based on expected annual income three years hence. That committee, along with the Treasurer and Financial Oversight Working Group determined that income expectations should be pared back. They propose that it is practical to expect a 15 percent reduction in income in the coming fiscal year as compared with last year's budget. Their income estimate was then carried to the General Secretary as a limit for Yearly Meeting's spending in the coming year.

The General Secretary, working with others, developed a staffing budget that reduced spending in the coming year by 31 percent. Under that staffing plan, Yearly Meeting support for Quarterly coordinators will end. PYM staffing is also significantly reduced from its current level. The staffing plan is available at <http://www.pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/IM%205-12%20%288%29%20FY%202013%20Staffing%20Plan.pdf>

A great many comments were made on these proposals. But neither the need for a balanced budget nor Financial Stewardship's proposed income constraint was questioned. A friend suggested holding in the light those who will feel a hard impact from these decisions. The Meeting accepted the reporting of the Yearly Meeting's finances.

The Meeting then considered a minute from Upper Susquehanna Quarterly Meeting, who expect to suffer from the loss their Quarterly coordinator. Monthly Meetings in Upper Susquehanna are small and are separated by great distances and they are very pleased with their Quarterly coordinator's ministry. The discussion showed sensitivity to Upper Susquehanna's concerns. But Friends also were mindful of the budget constraint. The issue was referred to the Support and Outreach Standing Committee, with recognition that funding support would require counter-balancing reductions in spending elsewhere.

Your representative left at 1 PM, before the Meeting took up a "consent agenda". Documents distributed for Interim Meeting can be accessed on-line at: <http://www.pym.org/interim-meeting-may-12-2012>.

*Faithfully,  
Robert Wieland*

**SOUTHERN QUARTER MEETING** was held at Camden Meeting on First Day, 5-20-12. 8 member from THM attended.

The program at 10 am was on Creating Opportunities for Transformation by Rick and Rachel Greer-Reynolds from the Lewis, Delaware meeting. They spoke of their work in war-torn countries and also working with adults and school-age children on alternatives to violence and anger management. We participated in roll playing by pairing up in twos. One person represented the "tea party" and the other person a Quaker. The Quaker roll player was given a little bag with three Hershey kisses and a butterfly patch. The Quaker gave the tea party person a hershey kiss which softened their tone and views. Then a second hershey kiss was given to the tea party person to give to someone else. The butterfly represented being set free of anger and violence.

Dean Hoover gave out information on Friends Peace Team. Copies will be placed in the common room along with an update on the progress of water filters.

Dana Kester-McCabe went to Kenya for the World Conference of Friends and spoke of the Kabarak Call for Peace and Ecojustice. A copy of this report will be placed in the Common Room.

At 11 am we had meeting. This was followed by a delicious luncheon and sharing of news from each quarter. I encourage all to try to attend one of these meetings as it is a spiritual uplift and a wonderful time to interact with other Friends and share ideas.

*Connie Lewis*

### **Donation Appreciation**

Sabrina Zimmermann (President of Aguayuda, Inc.) writes, "We just received a check from Third Haven in the amount of \$100. Simón and I want to thank you and Third Haven for the donation. I assume, the donation was meant for a LifeStraw Family filter for a family in Colombia as offered in our last mass email. I wanted to confirm this assumption however. Can you please pass along our thank you to your wonderful group at Third Haven."

### **Inward Bound: A Summer Quiet Day**

Join us for a weekday retreat away from the busy-ness of everyday life. Worship and Ministry Committee is offering quarterly Quiet Days, facilitated by Katherine Johnson, Candace Shattuck, and others. "Inward Bound" is a day of listening for the Light within, reflection, reading, walking the grounds, writing, or self-chosen art activities in community with a shared, silent pot-luck lunch.

The summer session will run from 10 am until 3 PM, ending with Worship Sharing. Also, participants are welcome to come for part of a day, entering with respect for the silence of the group. This is a perfect occasion to savor the beauty of the Third Haven grounds and buildings and take time to be in community with Friends.

Date: Wednesday June 20, 2012  
Time: 10:00a.m-3:00 p.m.  
Place: Third Haven Friends Meeting Common Room  
405 S. Washington St., Easton, MD  
Lunch: Bring a pot luck item for shared lunch  
Future dates: September 19, December 12, 2012

To register: Contact Katherine Johnson: [katherinekai@goeaston.net](mailto:katherinekai@goeaston.net) or Candace Shattuck: [Candace.shattuck@gmail.com](mailto:Candace.shattuck@gmail.com)



Aiyana leaves us. Our loss is Kentucky's gain. Best Wishes!

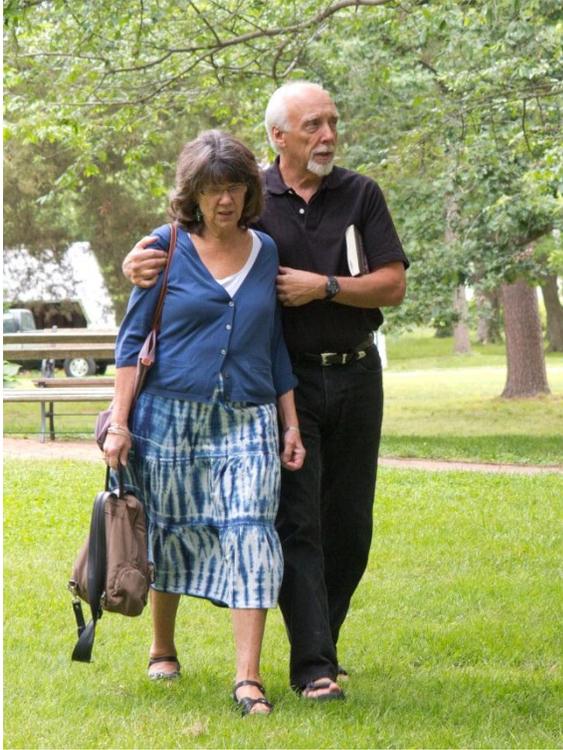


### **First Day School Move Along**

June 3 (Sunday) "Moving-Up Day" when we recognize students moving-up to middle school, high school, or college. A picnic outside the common room after meeting-for-worship will be held to help us celebrate. Most of it is pot-luck. Popeye chicken and lemonade will be provided. Please come and bring either a side-dish, a salad, or a desert. Looking forward to seeing you. Thanks, Heidi and Dona, Hospitality Committee

### **Friends Meet Everywhere!**





Faith Working Group confers



