



Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

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JANUARY 2007 NEWSLETTER

"Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need for this bright morning dawning for you. History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, and if faced with courage, need not be lived again. Lift up your eyes upon the day breaking for you. Give birth again to the dream."
From On the Pulse of the Morning Maya Angelou

Third Haven Friends Meeting Minutes of the 12th Month 10th, 2006 Meeting for Business

Attending: Paige Bethke, Cynthia Browne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Joe Davis, Leigh Ann Dodge, Doreen Getsinger, Tania Harrison, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Susan Leibman, Bob Marshall, Nancy Mullen, Sumner Parker, Anne Rouse, Jim Rouse, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, Ann Williams, Irene Williams, Helen Womack, Winslow Womack, and Ralph Young.

Clerk of the Meeting Anne Rouse clerked the Meeting for Business. The meeting opened at 11:40 am with a period of worship.

Query for Twelfth Month -- The twelfth query, "Integrity & Simplicity," had been read during Meeting for Worship. Friends were reminded of the special historical significance of "affirming" rather than "swearing" oaths -- the latter being suggestive that one might not always tell the truth, but swears to do so under oath. Quakers preferred to "affirm" the truthfulness to which they always held themselves. This distinction is largely lost on modern politicians, some of whom were recently witnessed to "swear or affirm" -- covering all bases, if somewhat humorously garbling usage. Another Friend reflected that this query really stands alone, underpinning all of our other queries and testimonies as Friends.

Approval of Minutes -- The minutes of the 11th Month 2006 Meeting for Business were APPROVED with two changes. In the discussion of holding Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at Third Haven, the named individual will instead be referred to as "a Friend." In the sentence describing the duties of Southern Quarter's Coordinator, the phrase "the Quarter's representative to PYM" will be struck.

Meeting treasurer Joe Davis gave the Treasurer's Report. During 11th Month 2006, the Meeting had income of \$4712.80 and expenses of \$2186.48, for a net surplus of \$2526.32. The \$400.00 for "Use of Facilities" is from the Unitarian Universalists. The annual trash bill (\$592.00) was paid to the Town of Easton this month. The Meeting has received \$4000.00 from the trustees toward the metal roof for the carriage shed, and has available cash of \$52,922.43. The Meeting

APPROVED the report with many thanks to the treasurer. Joe also notes that we received a refund from the IRS of \$115.00 in previously paid penalties.

The Clerk reminded Friends of the First Day School Christmas program and cookie exchange next First Day, 12th Month 17th. She then read aloud Correspondence from Peter Howell requesting membership, and from Stephen Gerni and Susan Dabney requesting marriage under the care of the Meeting. The Meeting received these letters with joy and referred both requests to Overseers.

Meredith Watters, clerk of Nominating Committee, presented the final report. The most pressing remaining need is for an interested individual to serve as Treasurer. Good organizational skills and computer literacy are all that are required; accounting experience and/or familiarity with the computer software "Quick Books" are helpful but not necessary. Joe will spend several months training the new Treasurer. The position needs to be filled by a member of the Meeting; interested members are encouraged to contact Meredith. Meredith also reported that Testimonies & Concerns Committee would pick a clerk at their January meeting. Meredith took over the clerkship of nominating committee a year early due to Bob Kemp's resignation. She has been asked to clerk the committee again next year in order to preserve the proper rotation of the clerkship. Joyce Zeigler served out the last year of Bob's term. The Clerk of the Meeting will appoint a third member to the committee. Finally, potential candidates for the position of Recording Clerk have been identified and will be finalized in the next few days. The current Recording Clerk was thanked for her service and the quality of the minutes. The Meeting APPROVED the report with thanks to the committee and to Meredith. The final report of the committee is attached to these minutes.

Property & Grounds – Committee clerk John Schreiner presented the annual report of the Property & Grounds committee, which is also attached to these minutes. A Friend wondered about the purpose of the lock box on the ramp of the brick meetinghouse; this box contains building keys for use by the Unitarian Universalists. A query was posed about the basis for determining the cost of member-contributed labor mentioned in the report and John explained that he had used an hourly rate of \$25.00 for his calculations. Friends inquired about what will happen if the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) contribution for the roofing projects comes in at the low end of the possible range. John assured Friends that all bills related to the projects have been paid from monies made available by the Trustees of Third Haven. It is hoped that the MHT contribution will be toward the higher end of the possible range, more in line with what was originally projected in discussions with them, allowing a higher level of reimbursement to the Trustees. The Meeting APPROVED the report with thanks to the committee.

The Meeting then received the annual report of the Worship & Ministry Committee from committee clerk Bob Marshall. The report is attached to these minutes. Some Friends agreed that more participation is needed, but found the committee's report judgmental and questioned any Friend's ability to determine that another is "under invested." A committee member commented that the committee's intention had been to speak powerfully to Friends. A Friend offered her experience of a damaged sense of sharing within the Meeting, and her sense that her vocal ministry sometimes shut down the Meeting for Worship rather than gathering it. Another Friend thanked the committee for their discernment and for having the courage to speak about and define uncomfortable truths in a way that casts a ray of light into our spiritual practice. Another Friend wondered what the individuals attending Meeting for Worship are seeking and offered that we might benefit from additional ways to share with one another our spiritual journeys. It was suggested that our new practice of asking for "Joys and Concerns" at the rise of

Meeting for Worship is one way that we are addressing this need. With respect to the specific language of the report, several Friends volunteered that the report makes assertions, not statements of truth, and discouraged Friends from rewriting the discerned work of a committee. Another Friend wondered aloud if we have enough love in our Meeting to undertake the dialogue requested by the committee in a meaningful way. The Clerk expressed her gratitude for the conversation triggered by the report, and encouraged the committee to consider the vocal offerings in their further deliberations. The Meeting APPROVED the report.

Overseers -- Doreen Getsinger reported that another round of "Friendly 8s" dinners would be scheduled beginning after the first of the year. Friends may indicate their interest on a sign-up sheet posted on the divider panel near the kitchen. For those unable to commit to full participation, there is a place to indicate interest in substituting when spots are available.

Southern Quarterly Meeting – Meeting representative Susan Claggett reported that a copy of *Minding the Light*, a collection honoring the thirtieth anniversary of Chester River Friends Meeting, is available in our library. The next Quarterly Meeting gathering will take place at Third Haven on 1st Month 21st., 2007. Worship will begin at 10:00 am; Friends are encouraged to arrive early to help with set-up and to also bring a dish for lunch. The afternoon will consist of "Shareshops" and will close with worship sharing. There will not be a business meeting. This gathering is intended to be intergenerational and children are encouraged to attend. A Friend requested that seafood dishes be limited and clearly marked due to allergy. In response to a question about the organizational structure of SQM, Susan explained that Dana Kester-McCabe from Wicomico Friends Meeting serves in a paid position as our Quarterly Meeting coordinator. Representatives to SQM from each Meeting meet prior to each Quarterly gathering. A smaller group, the planning and coordinating committee, has responsibility for planning gatherings and handling other business matters of SQM.

Marsie Hawkinson, one of the representatives to Interim Meeting, reported that Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) is making great strides in recovering from the internal crises and power struggles of the past year. Good people are in place and the YM is back on a positive track. Friends are encouraged to review the interim meeting reports of our representatives, and to be aware that contributions to PYM have declined, perhaps as a result of the turmoil, and that the YM is experiencing financial difficulties.

Other Concerns – Winslow Womack reported on a request from PYM that Meetings review their giving covenants and report their intended contributions to PYM. The YM is experiencing increases in fixed costs and projects a potential budget gap of \$150,000 for their fiscal year 2008. An increase of 9% of the aggregate amount of all Monthly Meeting covenants will be needed to close the gap. Budget & Finance committee proposes increasing Third Haven's annual contribution to \$15,000, which represents a 5.7% increase. After some discussion, Friends APPROVED the proposal. Friends believing the covenant to be insufficient are encouraged to contribute to PYM directly through the annual fund appeal.

Monimia Barker seeks the return of her loaned copies of *Elias Hicks, Quaker Liberal* by Bliss Forbush and *Philadelphia Quakers 1681-1981 A Tercentenary Family Album* by Robert H. Wilson.

No further business appearing, Friends concluded at 1:25 pm with a period of worship, purposing to meet next on 1st Month 10th, 2007, at which time the Meeting will receive the annual reports from Overseers and Library & Outreach committees.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Hersemann Leibman, Recording Clerk

Annual Report of the Nominating Committee for 2006

The Society of Friends has emphasized the importance of living ministry, a dedication to the service of God and man. The tasks associated with the life and heart of THFM does not get accomplished by paid staff. Instead we are a community of dedicated individuals serving each other and the future of our Meeting. In committee work we take on leadership rolls rather than passively being led. It is an exciting opportunity to experience the fundamentals of Quakerism such as “clearness”, “unity”, and “leading of the Spirit” as we wrestle with committee issues. What we learn in committee participation can also be an opportunity to take that knowledge into our daily/weekly lives.

Within these committees individuals will experience acts of deliberation, trust, and responsibility. This translates into smooth operational aspects of the Meeting at the same time as deepening our collective spiritual growth. We should thank those who have found the calling to exercise this opportunity during the course of their term on their chosen committee(s). We also should grateful to those who have completed their work on a committee.

2006 has been an “easy” year for Nominating Committee in that there were few vacant positions to fill. We tried to contact new and old attendees and members to let them know our Meeting would benefit from their participation if they felt so moved and called upon to participate in a committee. Members and Attenders could choose to join a committee at any time during the course of the year. Please contact the clerk of the committee which you are interested.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Clerks and Officers for 2007

Clerk – Monthly Meeting Anne Rouse

Assistant Clerk – Monthly Meeting Candace Shattuck

Recording Clerk- Molly Burgoyne

Assistant Recording Clerk Nancy Mullen

Recorder Laurence Claggett, Sr.

Treasurer Joe Davis

FCNL Frank Zeigler

Interfaith Housing Development Corp of the Eastern Shore Laurence Claggett, Jr.

TACL Ann Williams & Ralph Young

Southern Quarterly Mtg Representative Susan Claggett

NAACP, Talbot County Doreen Getsinger

AFSC- Mid Atlantic Region (representative from T&C) Valerie Mazur

Third Haven Website & Newsletter Editor John Hawkinson

QUNO (Quaker United Nations Office) Jim Paul

PYM Annual Giving Laurence Claggett, Jr.

PYM Interim Meeting Representative Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Norval Thompson & Cathy Thompson

Talbot Partners Lorraine T. Claggett

Committees

1. Worship & Ministry: Bob Marshall (Clerk) Molly Burgoyne, Tom Corl, Cathy Thompson, Jim Paul, John Schoffner, Meredith Watters, Paige Bethke, & Tania Harrison.
2. Budget & Finance: Winslow Womack (Clerk), Laurence Claggett, Jr., Joe Davis, Bill Lane, Allan Mielke, Sumner Parker, Tom Bartlett, John Hawkinson, & John Watters.
3. Overseers: Dee Rein (Co-Clerk), Doreen Getsinger (Co-Clerk), Nancy Mullen, Norval Thompson, Helen Womack, Marsie Hawkinson, Anne Williams, Irene Williams, Betty Jean Wheeler, & Katherine Johnson.

4. Testimonies & Concerns: Lorraine B. Claggett (Clerk), Rob Wieland, Norman Hackland, Valerie Mazur, Nancy Mullen, Karin Stoker, Chris Polk, Cindy Browne, Jamie Duhoffmann, & Ralph Young.
 5. First Day School: Susan Claggett – (Clerk), Lorraine T. Claggett, Sally Claggett, Christin Dickey, Samantha McCall, Beth Mufson, Candace Shattuck, Helen Womack, Marcie Malloy, Amy & Byron Crump, & Janice Shreve.
 6. Library and Outreach: Mary Cotton (Clerk), Lorraine B. Claggett, Mike Mullen, Peggy Walbert, Tylor Wrightson, Clay Owens, Janice Shreve, Frank Zeigler, Adrienne Rudge, & Joan Wetmore.
 7. Communications: John Hawkinson (Clerk & Editor), Paige Bethke, Nancy Mullen, Dee Rein, Ralph Young, Jacob Mullen, Peter Howell & Clay Owens.
 8. Property and Grounds: John Schreiner (Clerk), Laurence Claggett, Jr., Leigh Anne Dodge, Bob Kemp Sr., Clay Owens, Craig Smith, Rob Wieland, Sally Vermilye, Bob Kemp Jr., John Carr, & Joyce Zeigler.
 9. Hospitality: Ann Williams (Co-Clerk), Cathy Thompson (Co-Clerk), Lorraine T. Claggett, Cathy Marvel, Beth Mufson, Mike Mullen, Marie and Patrick Molloy, Janice Shreve, & Ann Womack.
 10. Common Room: Vickie Webster (Clerk), Beth Mufson, Ann Williams, Winslow Womack
- Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee: Meredith Watters (Clerk), Marsie Hawkinson & Joyce Ziegler.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Property & Grounds Annual Report 12/10/06



Some Background

It's been a busy 15 months since our last full report to the monthly meeting. We intend to bring you up-to-date on our decisions and activities. After all, we govern about 84% of our annual operating budget and are instrumental in overseeing major expenses of the Trustees. We're a committee of 10 men and women and a clerk who meet bi-monthly and sometimes caucus in between. Our mission is still one of preserving, and where appropriate, enhancing the utility and comfort of our facility as well as the peace/illness and beauty of our buildings and grounds. Today, in addition to myself, our members are: Larny Claggett, Leigh Anne Dodge, Butch Kemp, Bob Kemp Sr., Clay Owens, Peggy Paul, Craig Smith, Sally Vermilye, Rob Wieland, John Carr, and Joyce Zeigler. I'm grateful for their wisdom, energy, and generous spirit.

Activities & Accomplishments... both large and small:

- Brick Meeting House (BMH) underground oil tank removed and replaced w/ an above ground tank (situation caused by debilitating infiltration of water into fuel).
- Old, BMH boiler & furnace replaced w/ new efficient one; aided immensely by \$7,000 PYM grant
- New plantings (nandina) surrounding tank put in by Sally Vermilye
- BMH exterior painted including trim, shutters, fire escape stain, & re-glazing of damaged windows
- Spring Spruce Day attended by 24 hardworking souls
- New compensation package developed for the caretakers was shaped, approved, and implemented. It includes a raise and reduced costs for supplemental medical coverage for Vickie and cleaner accountability for utility payments. The change gives the Webster's \$2,000 more disposable cash; made possible largely due to reduced insurance premiums. The cleaner updated, more competitive compensation package adds approximately \$800 a year to THF meeting's budget.
- A biannual review of the caretaker's job description was held between committee members and the Websters. Changes were made to improve communication and accountability.
- Roofing needs were addressed in spades. Leaks and deteriorating conditions on the Old Meeting House (OMH), the south side of the BMH and the entire implement shed were studied, alternative solutions explored, bidders sought, grant funding requested, MD Historical Trust (MHT) requirements met, a contractor selected, volunteers marshaled and, work completed. About 150 member-hours were put on the shed project. All that remains is to secure final grant funding.

All Reports are in. Project cost overall: \$47,280. Of that, \$4,125 was "in-kind" Quaker labor. MHT will contribute as little as \$18,000 or as much as \$33,000 towards the entire project; depending on the grantor's interpretation of our final report submitted earlier this week. Work included pressure-treated red cedar shingles on the OMH laid in triple tiers; new sheathing, felt and asphalt shingles on the south side of the BMH, and ribbed painted metal on the shed. The results are widely viewed as sound, handsome, and fitting.

- First Day School 2nd floor interior was prepped and painted through-out.
- The interior of the OMH was repaired and painted along with exterior gables
- A new security light and pole was installed behind the Common Room by volunteers
- The BMH ceiling was insulated for the first time; w/ blown-in cellulose treated fiber glass. A major step at fuel and A/C conservation.
- Temporary clear plastic sheeting was applied to all 2nd floor windows in the BMH by the caretaker. This new seasonal practice worked cheaply and well at reducing drafts. Large, uniquely shaped, very loose windows don't lend themselves to practical alternative solutions
- A systematic "Walk-about" was conducted of our property in late summer. It was performed by Sam, Rob Wieland, and John w/ tape measure, camera and clip-board in hand. The results of this inspection will form the basis for future projects... as well as plain old watchful waiting.

Challenges Remaining:

- to actually secure the MHT funding for the roofing project; in order to re-reimburse trustee funds
- effectively lead and encourage caretakers to become more pro-active w/ job list (Larny & John are working on this)
- enlist member volunteers for some suitable projects

- to encapsulate other projects and get qualified contractors to perform a varied batch of painting and carpentry tasks which may exceed our caretaker & member capabilities
- this work includes painting of the caretaker's cottage exterior
- begin and complete a property-wide catalog of trees and planting forming a basis for identification and thoughtful landscape planning
- work w/ Beth and Meredith's task force to establish a new Children's Garden
- work on becoming more environmentally sensitive in our setting; e.g., examine Climate Action power alternatives
- bring on new members to the P&G committee; great opportunity for hands-on impact to our spiritual environment!

Special Thanks and Acknowledgement to;

- John Carr— electrical help & getting new utility pole in
- Vickie & Sam —for their gracious bending w/ UU"s as temporary co-users of our facilities
- Winslow — as a quality painter of the OMH and unsung master of Common Room lighting issues
- Sumner & Ralph & Vickie & Tylor — for lending willing hands to shed roofing and helping the P&G committee members
- Marsie Hawkinson, Nancy Mullen & Sue Leibman -as unsung OMH window washers /W <
- Ralph Young — as publicist & photographer of our roofing projects
- Craig Smith - as big saver to THF by regularly mowing Johnson grass and also plowing snow of lots and lanes as needed

Respectfully submitted by John Schreiner, Clerk

Annual Report of Worship and Ministry 10th day, 12th month, 2006

Members¹: Paige Bethke, Molly Burgoyne, Tom Corl, Robin Davenport, Bob Marshall (clerk), Jim Paul, John Shoffner, Cathy Thompson, and Meredith Walters

Dearly Beloved Friends of Third Haven Monthly Meeting,

Worship and Ministry primarily engaged in two activities in 2006. First, per the request of the meeting community and as an outgrowth of preparing a response to the second query, Worship and Ministry proposed a concise set of advices for members and attenders, and especially for clerks of committees and members of committees, regarding the Meeting for Business. After consultation with the meeting community, and substantial deliberation, a set of advices was approved by the Monthly Meeting in fifth month.

Second, there have been several adult interactions in the format of both worship sharing and open discussion. Topics have included unity, speaking and listening with love, and equality. Worship and Ministry will continue with facilitation of these interactions as the committee is led. In tenth and eleventh month, these interactions were prompted by a request from the committee of clerks. For the future, we aspire to seek ways for Worship and Ministry to support other committees in Grafting venues for interaction among Friends and, in addition, to provide assistance with discernment regarding broader outreach.

Finally, we offer an assessment of the spiritual health of the meeting. There is much for which we should be joyful. However, in what follows, we identify aspects of the meeting that may require additional attention and nurture.

- Meeting for Worship² It is well attended. The quality of vocal ministry is generally good, but variable. There is a sense that some of the meetings are less "gathered" or centered. We remind Friends that Meeting for Worship is best for all present when each individual prepares. Preparation can take many different forms and is left to the individual. Meditation and spiritual readings are two examples of preparation.
- Meeting for Business. There has been some small positive impact of the aforementioned Advices in terms of streamlining the Meeting for Business. However, there have been negative effects from it in that it has had a chilling impact on some offerings and has left a few with the impression that some within the meeting community view Meeting for Business as a largely non-spiritual activity, something that should just be rushed through so that we can all be on our way. We would like to remind Friends that Meeting for Business is practiced as a spiritual activity and a model for the business of our daily lives.
- Same gender issue. For some people this matter continues to cause disquiet. There appears to be an ebb and flow to the disquiet. This has been a difficult journey for the meeting community. It is the perception of Worship and Ministry that the issue cannot be productively discussed further at this time. We are where we are. However, it is also the perception of the committee that the same gender issue has identified a more fundamental deficiency in the meeting community. We each need to further develop our capacity to speak with love and listen with love'. This is especially true when we confront a controversy where Friends bring strongly held positions to gatherings and discussions.
- Time allocation and the meeting community. There are some within the meeting community who find various activities and discussions to be tedious and time -consuming. There are others who view the Quaker process as one that requires patience, where discernment of the Light-within is the preeminent focus of their lives. It is our perception that these two viewpoints do not coexist in harmony, and that currently these viewpoints are subadditive within the Meeting community.
- Readings, spiritual discussions, and spiritual nurture. It is the perception of the committee that Friends are individually underinvesting in their spiritual lives, and could invest more. The complications of daily life often push such activities to a low priority level. However, we believe that there are foundational texts, and passages within texts, that are an ongoing fountain of insight in illuminating the pathway to the Kingdom of God, which is to be found within each of us. We urge Friends to reexamine the testimony of simplicity to see if the lives they have chosen obstruct their pursuit of the Kingdom of God.
- Sharing our spiritual journeys. Some members are reticent to share aspects of their spiritual journeys because of a sense that these offerings may not be welcome, or even met with irritated response. This is the opposite of our aspirations for the meeting community in this regard. The sharing of our spiritual journeys could be the most valuable contribution we can make to one another. The less we feel open to one another the more difficult will be our deliberations on controversial issues. As we open ourselves to one another the easier it will be for us to find loving and peaceful resting places in those discussions.

Notes: ¹ Jim Rouse is a regular participant in committee meetings by explicit invitation of the committee clerk, but he is not a committee member. ² The comments here concern Meeting for Worship on first day. There is a Meeting for Worship on fourth day at 5:30PM that has a relatively small but regular attendance.

Respectfully submitted, Bob Marshall, Clerk, Worship and Ministry 2006

11/18/ 2006 Epistle from Called Session on Peace - To Our Brothers and Sisters
Around the World: Greetings in Love from a called session of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (the Quakers). We bring you good news of a process beginning with us to share the transforming power of God’s Love. Peace is possible – it is possible to end all forms of violence. We invite all who read this to gather in worship and prayer to test how God is calling us to live a testimony of peace more fully in the world.

We see how violence tears apart individuals, families, communities, nations, and the world. We acknowledge that our own experience of this is most often from a distance. We humbly seek the leading of the Spirit in a renewed engagement with all our neighbors. We want to move beyond the comfort of our safe meetings and communities to reach out to a suffering world.

If we are to move forward in the way of Peace, we need to move forward in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. We must choose not to do this by ourselves. We must hear God’s call to us to share our ministry beyond our Meeting house walls. We must actively seek also to witness to those who do not share our views. We need to do this because we want to share a vision of the Kingdom of God which we experienced in worship today.

We believe that Peace begins with each of us through personal accountability, responsibility, and witness. But we can not stop there. We must love one another. We must work for justice and nonviolent solutions to conflict.

We rejoice that we are being led to a new commitment to Peace. We know that we have a lot to learn about how to turn conflict into an opportunity for healing. We commit ourselves to the spiritual foundation of our testimony which is the transforming authority of Love. We have been called to reclaim the spiritual roots of our testimony as it was first witnessed by early Friends. Scripture told them and tells us still: Go you into the world to share the good news with all you meet.

To our brothers and sisters across the world in all faith communities, in fact to everyone regardless of your perspectives, we send you these greetings of Love. We invite you to join us in prayer and a discovery of personal and corporate action. We ask your help to find ways to heal the wounds that divide us and to learn together how we might end all forms of violence and coercion. (Signed on behalf of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting) Thomas Swain, Clerk

Interim Meeting Report To Third Haven Monthly Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business December 2006

Interim General Secretary Mark Myres shared a list of items that he ”senses are important to the body as a whole” He invites all comments or addition to these.(see hand out).

The Report of the Process Committee- This group was asked to recommend ways in which Interim Meeting and the Standing committees can work more productively with the new General Secretary. It suggested a self- evaluation of Interim Meeting in relation to its size, composition and functioning, and the same for the other committees.

The Director of Development –Elizabeth Foley reminded Friends to support the Annual Fund. As an example of how Friends benefit from the Annual Fund, she introduced Laura Baumann the new Young Adult Friends Coordinator. She was hired to support the spiritual vitality of a thriving group of young Friends age 18 –35. They are typically graduates from Friends schools

or from Quaker camps. They come together via a Yahoo chat community. MMeetings are encouraged to spread the word - www.quakeryouth.org.

General Secty. Search committee .IM clerk Arthur Larrabee a candidates left the room. Dana McCabe reported that the list of 40 has been reduced to 4 to be interviewed on December 9th and 10th, There is hopes of having 2 finalists for consideration in January..

Report on Called session of Yearly Meeting- clerk Thomas Swain reported on peace as a process beginning with each of us sharing the transforming power of God 's love. "Peace is possible- it is possible to end all forms of violence" He spoke of the significance of knowing peace by direct experience, that peace begins with a one to one process. The Epistle (see hand out) notes that " We must hear God's call to us to share our ministry beyond our Meeting house walls."

Financial Stewardship Standing Committee: clerk Jack Mahon reported of problematic budget issues for 2008. Cost of living adjustment increased from 3.% in 2004 to 4.1% in 2006, while the General Fund (Annual Fund23%,The Covenant58%,investment income 19%) has not kept pace. He request a 9% increase in the Covenant. PYM's policy is to provide fair wages, therefore the only solution is to reduce other costs and or staff (see draft) .

General Services Standing Committee: clerk A.Larrbee reported that all envisioning work for Arch St. will consolidated under Interim Meeting The current operation will remain in place. IM is encouraged to form the Arch Street Project Group for advise as to future uses. A naming committee is to be formed to consolidate existing plans into a single document, season the document through out PYM and to recommend a comprehensive plan. IM should allocate \$25,000 for the group's work.

Worship and Care Standing Committee : The committee request a Minute seeking to engage the Amish leadership in dialogue because of the "profoundly moving response of that community to the recent tragedy". Friends recommend caution as the Amish are very private. The Yearly Meeting's clerk Thomas Swain had already sent a letters expressing our concerns and empathy with that community.

Residential Yearly Meeting: There will be a March 22nd -23rd session of Yearly Meeting at Arch St. and a July27-30 Session at Rhowen University in 2007.

Respectfully submitted- Marsie Hawkinson, Doreen Getsinger, Cathy Thompson and Norval Thompson



Hersemann Leibman Clan



Susan & Stephen serenade

Christian Peace Witness for Iraq

March 16, 2007 Your Community and Washington DC

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We invite you to join thousands in a “Christian Peace Witness for Iraq.” As followers of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, our faith compels us to make our voice heard—to repent of our complicity with the invasion and occupation of Iraq and to renew our commitment to peacemaking. We ask you to join us in praying for peace, studying the scriptures, learning nonviolence, lighting candles of hope, and gathering together for an ecumenical public witness on March 16, 2007, the fourth anniversary of the war in Iraq. We stand in solidarity with sisters and brothers in other faith traditions and ask their prayers and support for our witness.

Search Committee for the General Secretary The clerk reports that the candidates are: Bruce Haines of Providence Monthly Meeting, Tom Hoopes of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, and Arthur Larrabee of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. The Search Committee is hosting a “Get to Know the Candidates” day at the Arch Meetinghouse on January 6, 1:00 – 4:45 PM for Interim Meeting Friends and for members of Yearly Meeting standing committees. Each candidate will be available for one hour for a time of self-introduction, responses to questions, and informal mixing. The Search Committee wants to hear your feedback.

Announcements

FRIENDLY EIGHTS NOW FORMED See the Common Room list for your group. A starter host will contact you for the first dinner. Those still wishing to substitute on occasion can sign up in the Common Room.

January 10 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

January 14 (first day) 10am meeting for worship followed by meeting for business. Annual reports from Overseers and Library and Outreach committees. Please have agenda items to Anne Rouse by January 10,

January 17 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

January 21 (first day) 9am Southern Quarter meets at Third Haven Meeting in Easton, MD
A multigenerational Sharehouse is planned along with meeting for worship, and midday lunch.

Contact: Susan Claggett 410-822-5964 or susan@dmv.com

January 24 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

January 28 (first day) 10am meeting for worship

January 31 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

Thank You! We would like to thank First Day School so much for the beautiful Christmas wreath. We love the extra special touches of pinecones and holly leaves and berries. We look forward to Christmas each year knowing you guys are making wreaths for Meeting buildings and hoping we will get one too. First Day School has always given us a lot of love and we love you back.
Sam and Vickie Webster



Third Haven for all ages