



## **Third Haven Friends Meeting**

*405 South Washington Street*

*Easton, Maryland 21601*

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*Info@thirdhaven.org*

## **JUNE 2008 NEWSLETTER**

"My heart did leap with joy" Kenneth Carroll

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting**

#### **Minutes for the 5th Month, 11th, 2008 Meeting for Business**

Attending: Sumner Parker, Clay Owens, Connie Lewis, Meredith Watters, Leonard Baynham, Dee Rein, Peg Walbert, Joe Davis, Stephen Gerni, Susan Dabney, Paige Bethke, Gwen beegle, Cindy Browne, Larny Claggett, Peter Howell, Mark Beck, Mary Cotton, Tom Corl, Joyce Zeigler, Frank Zeigler, Winslow Womack, Leigh Anne Dodge, Lorraine Claggett, Cathy Thompson, Molly Burgoyne-Recording Clerk, and John Schreiner- Clerk.

The Clerk of the Meeting, John Schreiner, opened the Meeting for Business at 11:35 AM after a brief period of silent worship.

Query: The Query "Education" was read during meeting for worship. There were no additional thoughts on the query.

Minutes: The minutes for business meeting 4th Month were approved without correction.

Afterthoughts: Please refer to the attached "Advice Regarding Vocal Ministry and Afterthoughts." (Editor's Note-this Advice will follow in a future publication.) The clerk of Worship & Ministry read the prepared advice to all. Several Friends gave additional comments including the relevance of sometimes holding one's afterthoughts over for another worship service, the appreciation for stillness and silence in our Meeting and the overlooked importance of experiencing doubt as the first stirrings of faith. One spoke of the helpfulness of "eldering elders" and how the advice correctly emphasized the importance of tolerance, understanding and patience. There was unity regarding the gentle and mindful work done by the committee to address this issue and how the advice could be used as a cornerstone for future discussions and expansion of our understanding. A Friend suggested that we change the last paragraph to read as a "Statement of Practice at THFM" rather than a "Statement to be read at the rise of meeting".

All present agreed with this change and approved the advice.

Overseers: Please refer to the Overseers' Report included. Overseers met to discuss the letter sent to Meeting by Tania Harrison. Three points from the letter are discussed. The Minute approved by THFM 2nd Month 2005 is included in the report. Several Friends felt that the Minute approved by THFM should be open for discussion again as it did not completely express the sentiments of all. The Meeting approved the handling of Tania Harrison's letter and wished to remain open to the rediscussing the prior Minute.

Scholarship Committee: This committee presented the Meeting with the first report on their work. There are 4 main goals for this committee; 1) to further Quaker values, 2) to fulfill the Query on "education", 3) to strengthen the Meeting as a whole, 4) to serve as a symbol to our youth/adults of support. They have begun to form broad guidelines, examine demographics and work to structure how gifts may be given for the scholarships. They have investigated criteria for awarding scholarships. Although Quaker schools will be looked on favorably, scholarships may not be awarded exclusively to Quaker institutions. The Meeting approved the committee to go ahead with work on fund raising efforts.

Caroline Historical Society: This September, Caroline Historical Society would like THFM to host a meeting for worship at the Neck Meeting House in West Denton. Frank Zeigler will work together with Mary Cotton from Outreach to present our Meeting with a proposal regarding the particulars of this event.

Approval for use of the facilities: Overseers has accepted a request and a deposit from Emily Butler and Michael Agosta to use the Brick Meeting House for their wedding on 1/10/09. The Meeting approved this use of the facilities.

Preliminary Budget: please refer to the preliminary budget report. The overall budget will increase by \$4695.00. The increase occurs for several reasons. The cost of utilities will go up. Overseers committee has a budget increase due to the cost of buying 6 months of the Friends Journal for our new members. The Scholarship Committee is a new line item. There was some discussion regarding clarification of the membership, donations, and testimonies and concerns line items. There was also discussion regarding the importance of addressing members who make no monetary contribution. Some suggestions were made regarding this but no decisions handed down on this matter. The preliminary budget is to be reviewed by all and the final budget will be presented in meeting for business 6th Month.

Interim Meeting Report: Please refer to included report.

Other Business: The Treasurer's Report and the Fresh Start Report will be tabled for the following month. There is a box now in the common room for food collection for the Neighborhood Service Center. Only nonperishable items are needed.

After a brief period of silence, meeting for business was adjourned at 1:05.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Molly Burgoyne*

## **Overseer's report 11<sup>th</sup> day, 5<sup>th</sup> month, 2008**

1. Tania Harrison's letter-

1. Tania is commended for her thoughtful, well written letter. Queries 2-6 which she posed are a useful life guide. Anyone is welcome to attend Third Haven Friends Meeting.

2. Query 1 in the letter speaks of fear, which Overseers does not perceive to be an issue in the meeting.

3. It is the opinion of Overseers that the Minute on the Celebration of Same Gender Unions approved by the meeting for business 2<sup>nd</sup> month, 2005 stands as a livable compromise. There is no reason to raise the issue at this time because it will not move the meeting forward and the minute was accepted with the understanding the issue would not be raised again for a period of time unspecified.

"Minute on the Celebration of Same Gender Unions

Third Haven Friends Meeting will accept requests from two persons of the same gender, who are members or regular attenders, to celebrate a ceremony of commitment to each other, to be

followed by the clearness process, as set forth in Faith and Practice. Members and attenders of the Meeting, may, if they wish to do so, take the commitment of the parties under their personal and collective care."

The Meeting APPROVED the proposed minute, with several Friends asking to be recorded as standing aside. There followed a period of silence. 2<sup>nd</sup> month, 2005.

#### Fourth Day Worshipers

#### Announcements



Third Haven Meetings For Worship	
First Days 10am	Fourth Days 5:30pm
June 1	June 4
June 8	June 11
June 15	June 18
June 22	June 25
June 29	July 2

June 1 (first day) First Day School will hold its annual Moving Up Day to honor those graduating from middle school and high school. The ceremony will take place at the rise of meeting followed by a picnic on the lawn. Please plan to bring a food item for this - the sign-up sheet is posted on the refrigerator in the common room.

June 7 (seventh day) 10am - 11:30 in common room - meeting of all clerks Saturday (the day before June meeting for business). Clerks unable to attend, please select a proxy from your committee. Please also let John Schreiner know of any issues for the agenda.

June 8 (first day) Meeting for business follows meeting for worship. Please send all agenda items to John Schreiner well in advance. This will be the last scheduled day for First Day School. Each Thursday evening from 5 to 5:30, there join us for a Silent Peace Vigil in front of the courthouse on Washington St. Weather conditions have never interfered with the vigil. Many signs are available or bring your own. Join this protest to support the cause of non-violence in the world.

- If you have an announcement, a website entry or a newsletter article, please submit it to hawkjm@goeaston.net Please forward e-mail and other address changes to this address. The directory on the Third Haven Website is updated every week. Please let us know if you have moved.

Asbury United Methodist Church, one of our Marilla's lunch partners, conducts after school classes which focus on completing homework assignments for six to eleven year olds each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:15pm until 5:30pm. Several children of Spanish - speaking parents are enrolled and the volunteer staff cannot speak fluent Spanish. The church is looking for someone who can help in this effort. Any time that a Spanish speaking volunteer can spend helping in this effort would be welcomed and appreciated. The class may continue for one day a week during part of the summer months. If you are interested in helping, please contact Edith Hayman, 410-822-4339.

The Talbot County Detention Center lending library is in need of your books that you no longer want to keep. Virtually any book from adventure to textbooks, with the exception of Readers Digest Condensed books, are needed. Please place your donations in the wooden chest in our Common Room under one of the East side windows. If you wish to have the books picked up, please call Ralph Young at 410-819-0050.

"War is not the answer" - We now have yard signs to publicly proclaim our desire for alternative solutions to world problems. The signs are 24" x 18", weatherproof, printed on both sides and come with sturdy holders that easily slip into the ground. A donation of \$5 is requested for each sign, and these donations are forwarded to the FCNL Education Fund. Contact Ralph Young, 410-819-0050."

The Claggett Family will be attending FGC in Johnstown, PA on June 30-July 5. If anyone would like to drive together, please see Susan Claggett

Starting in September 2008 -Quaker Journeys

The Worship and Ministry Committee proposed at the 4th Month Business Meeting that we form an occasion called "Quaker Journeys" to share some of the spiritual journeys and leadings of our THFM Members. Worship and ministry would like to begin the Quaker Journeys series beginning in September. We will gather in the common room at the rise of meeting and after brief refreshment we will meet to hear a 15 to 20 minute presentation from a member of Third Haven and then have time for some discussion. The topics will be as varied as the membership but will all be focused on a spiritual leading, experiences or work that is Quaker focused. If any of the committees would like to be responsible for a session, they can contact Meredith Watters or Paige Bethke, Co- Clerks for Worship and Ministry and discuss their idea for contribution. We hope to post a schedule of presenters in the common room in advance so you will know who will be presenting. We look forward to seeing you as we try this new form of exploring Quaker Journeys.

Friendly Welcomers make a big difference at meetings for worship. All one needs to do when you get to the meeting house is to turn, smile and shake hands with those approaching behind you. This important act passes on a genuine warmth and connection to those who've ventured

out on 1st day mornings or 4th day evenings. And the responsibility falls upon each of us; not just a clerk or elder. Five minutes after starting time just head on into worship.

- Please wear your nametag - if you need a new one please contact Candace Shattuck.

- Send a contribution payable to: Third Haven Monthly Meeting  
Mail to Third Haven Treasurer, PO Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601

- Send a contribution payable to PYM Annual Fund (mention Third Haven)  
Mail to PYM Development Office, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

-Our website is <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> It has been revised to make it easier to use. Please review it from your perspective: what would you like to see on our website that is not there. If you are involved with a committee, do you have a message that should be included?

- Please review full accounts of coming events listed by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and other major Quaker organizations which may be found on the Third Haven Website, <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> by clicking on Complete Text Material on the home page.

#### COMPLETE TEXT MATERIAL INDEX

Can I Repay God?

Phonathon Dates May 28, and June 4 and 12.

Fun-O-Thon, Anyone?

From the Greater Pennsylvania Climate Action Project

July 13-17, and July 20-24, Nancy Bieber Leads Spiritual Retreats at Pendle Hill

July 25-27 Pendle Hill Offers Quakerism Weekend

August 8 & 9 Teacher Training in Conflict Resolution

August 31, Byberry Meeting Celebrates Anniversary With Picnic

October 3-5, 2008 Tri-Quarter Gathering

Friends Opportunities:

French Quaker Center Seeks Resident Friends

Gardening at Fair Hill

#### NEWS ABOUT YEARLY MEETING SESSIONS

PYM Summer Sessions at DeSales University

From July 30 through August 3 we will come together as a Yearly Meeting at DeSales University near Allentown PA. The theme is "Sharing Our Journeys: In Light, Love, and Peace." In plenary Meeting for Business we will explore the Governance Report from Interim Meeting, the future of the Arch Street Meeting House, our testimonies, and the budget. We'll have information about the 2009 Gathering on Peace and epistles from the Standing Committees, and we'll experiment with a process for discerning the Yearly Meeting's priorities. We will continue delving into our understanding of the Peace Testimony while keeping lots of time for worship, for responses, and for moving with the Spirit.

And we will enjoy ourselves, of course! There will be workshops and good food and inspiring stories and speakers and music and fresh air and several generations living in loving community. For updates and details on the schedule for Yearly Meeting Sessions, please see our ever-evolving website:

<http://www.pym.org/annualsessions>

Online registration begins May 15 and the deadline for registration is July 1.

#### PYM Summer Sessions: Children's Sessions

Excitement is building for Children's Sessions at PYM Summer Sessions! Children's Sessions will meet morning and evening - at the same time as the adult plenary sessions. The afternoons will be free for us all to be together as a community ... there will be time for music, games, and relaxation.

All of the children's activities will be led by gifted, enthusiastic adults who will follow your child's age-defined group throughout the Sessions. We have a lot of great plans in the works to make sure that when your children attend sessions, they will learn about God and their Quaker faith, grow spiritually, and have fun at the same time! We are back at DeSales University this year, which means lots of green grass and open space to play outdoors. Mark your calendars for July 30-August 3, 2008! Children must pre-register by July 1!

For more information, or if you want to volunteer, contact Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, Children's Sessions Coordinator, at 215-241-7236 or [ChildrensSessions@pym.org](mailto:ChildrensSessions@pym.org).

#### PYM Summer Sessions: Young Adult Friends

YAFs will gather at PYM Summer Sessions, participating in the full Yearly Meeting Sessions, with additional YAF-specific opportunities. YAFs may again have the choice to be housed in a specific dorm, enhancing opportunities for informal fellowship time, in addition to offerings organized by the Young Adult Friends Coordinator. To give input about activities for YAFs at PYM Summer Sessions, please fill out an online survey at <http://www.pym.org/education/yaf/> or contact Sadie Forsythe, Young Adult Friends Coordinator, 215-241-7075, [sadief@pym.org](mailto:sadief@pym.org)

#### PYM Summer Sessions: Middle School Friends

Middle School Friends are having mini-ARTS CAMP!!! We'll be at the five-day Summer Sessions of PYM, enjoying art class, drama class, special evening features, singing, dancing, dress-ups, worship sharing, and good free-time options like KAPLAN BALL, 4-square, and all our usual favorites!! So if you're 11-13 years old and a rising 6th to rising 8th grader (please call to discuss exceptions), come on along and see what all the fun is about!!

For more information please contact Middle School Friends Program Coordinator Elizabeth Walmsley, 215-241-7171, [elizabethw@pym.org](mailto:elizabethw@pym.org)

#### PYM Summer Sessions: Young Friends

Young Friends will be staying in a designated portion of one of the dormitories, with the support of Friendly Adult Presences and staff: Becca Ethridge, Young Friends Program Assistant, and Cookie Caldwell, Young Friends Program Coordinator. We will join the adult community for many activities but will be in our own residence halls. Highlights of our week include hiking to the Glen Onoko water falls in the Lehigh Gorge, worship sharing, music and dancing, games, participating in the afternoon interest groups and workshops, and participating in environmental

service work with the Wildlands Conservancy. For more information visit <http://www.pym.org/youngfriends/index.htm> or contact Cookie Caldwell, 215-241-7222, [cookiec@pym.org](mailto:cookiec@pym.org)

## **NECK MEETINGHOUSE EVENT**

I have been asked by some members of the Caroline County Historical Society when Third Haven would be holding an event at the Neck Meetinghouse in Denton. I told them that the Monthly Meeting would have to handle the arrangements. I further suggested that the event should be held as close to the anniversary date which is September 23, 1802. Several families at Third Haven have roots in this old meetinghouse. The building has been stabilized by restoration which is still not quite complete. We need a committee to put together this event. *submitted by Frank Zeigler*

## **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Interim Meeting Report on Interim Meeting of May 22, 2008 for Third Haven Monthly Meeting**

General Secretary's Report: Arthur Larrabee announced the appointment of the following new staff: 1) Christie Duncan-Tessmer as Associate Secretary for Program and Religious Life, 2) Kathy Reilly as Associate Secretary for Business and Finance, 3) Ventina Hershey as Business Coordinator, and 4) Julian Brelsford as Data Maintenance Specialist. Departing Staff are Tom Hoopes, former Director of Education, who has accepted a teaching position at George School and Marissa Perrone, former Director of Business, leaving to pursue other professional endeavors.

General Secretary's Evaluation Committee Report: This committee reviewed Arthur Larrabee's portfolio and obtained feedback from staff about his performance since taking office over a year ago. Friends praised his dedication, high energy, deep spiritual care, gift of communication and visioning. Concern was expressed cautioning against burnout. It was recommended that he delegate more responsibilities to the new Associate Secretaries, freeing up more personal time.

Governance Project Group Report (GPG): IM received a 5-page report containing recommendations for changes within IM. GPG recommended approval of the total package. It was accepted and referred for discernment and approval at the Annual Sessions in July. It was also approved that this working group now be laid down.

Budget Process Group: (BPG) Last year PYM approved the releasing-over five years-all Designated Funds (\$17.73 million) into the General Fund. The BPG now recommends the establishment of a "Committed Fund" process, where working groups and others would present a budget for funding to their respective Standing committee, who would measure the merits against PYM's priorities. After review by the Standing committee and consultation with the Financial Stewardship Standing Committee, Interim Meeting has final Approvals. This was approved.

Arch St. Project Group Report: The group note that there are several groups overseeing different agendas at Arch St, It proposed the formation of a single Committee for them to report to. Functioning like a Board of Directors with considerable autonomy and responsibilities it would set policy, manage its own budget, including both the ongoing investment by the YM in the ministry of the programs and income from rentals and other operations; oversee, nurture and

support staff and volunteers; and set program priorities and direction. This proposal is to be taken to YM for seasoning.

Peace Tax Fund Report: IM approved a minute by Chester Quarter supporting the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act (currently HR 1921) that will allow Friends to pay 100% of their taxes into a fund created by the US Treasury that could be spent on anything NOT military. Peace & Concerns Standing Committee will review a letter submitted by Chester QM, to be sent to all Senators and Representatives of the Congress. Friends request this Minute be published broadly seeking help from QMs and MMs.

A copy of this submitted minute and letter is available in the Common Room.

Annual Fund Report: Wright Horne announced that we are about \$100,000 short of our goal and that 1,000 donors who gave last year have not contributed as yet. The deadline is June 30th, and he urged Friends to make a contribution as soon as possible. Contact details are available on a handout in the Common Room.

*submitted by Interim Meeting representatives: Marsie Hawkinson, Doreen Getsinger, Cathy Thompson, and Norval Thompson*

Devoid of all introductory material, the following gives the specific report of the Governance Project Group of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting which has deliberated for the past year. Their work is an effort to restructure the monthly sessions of Interim Meeting. We are asked to read and evaluate this work which will be acted upon at the Yearly Meeting sessions this summer

### **Aspects of Interim Meeting: Issues and Recommendations**

In undertaking the listening, worship, and deliberations over the last nine months, we found that our leadings and recommendations can be captured under five headings:

1. Organization, structure, and processes
2. Orientation and training
3. Culture
4. Composition
5. Practice

The body of this report will define issues of concern and resulting recommendations.

Please consider each of the following recommendations as an integral part of a comprehensive plan.

#### **1. Organization, Structure, and Processes**

For PYM to be able to clarify the concept of Yearly Meeting, to better organize and prioritize its work, support the staff, and to facilitate a consistency of purpose, the Governance Project Group recommends that PYM-IM have one clerk.

The Governance Project Group recommends that the Clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, alternate clerks, and the General Secretary constitute the "Agenda Committee". This committee would work to assist the clerk with particular attention to agenda setting to make the most efficient and effective use of meeting time. Right ordering of the agenda facilitates good Quaker business process and stewardship of resources. This group would assure that issues being presented or discussed are ready for consideration by the wider body. Through this process we should be able to reduce the length and number of sessions required to conduct our business



while continuing to make it possible for volunteers to do the work of Yearly Meeting and upholding the fiduciary responsibility of this body.

The Governance Project Group recommends that a new small committee be named and charged with responsibility to evaluate the performance of the General Secretary of the Yearly Meeting on an annual basis. This committee will make a recommendation to PYM-IM regarding the continued employment of the General Secretary. This will replace the current General Secretary evaluation process.

The Governance Project Group discussed the size of Interim Meeting and agreed that it is not a factor affecting the functioning of PYM-IM when all of the recommendations included in this report are implemented.

## 2. Orientation and Training

No organization - profit or non-profit, religious or lay - can be expected to function effectively for very long without paying attention to orientation of new members and training for its leadership. We recommend that PYM give attention to Quaker leadership training of yearly meeting clerks and all committee clerks. We also recommend that PYM-IM pay particular attention to the orientation of new appointees and to the guidance and nurturance of all participants in its sessions. The committee feels strongly that Quaker process is a blessing and that it works only when all in the meeting understand that they do not represent a particular meeting or their own views, but the sense of the meeting in which they are gathered - listening to be moved to carry out the will of God for the entire body of Friends. Friends can understand through training and guidance that they can be moved to speak to the body and that, once spoken, their words are not their own, but have been released to the discernment of the meeting. We suggest that a "Membership Day" be held annually for orientation of new appointees and that periodic consideration of the queries adopted by Interim Meeting to guide its members [Faith and Practice] be intentionally considered.

We recommend that a body of elders (or other name) contribute as a prayerful presence at all sessions holding the meeting in the Light, supporting the clerks, the General Secretary, and the participants in following the leadings of the Spirit, gently reminding us of good order, and intervening to clarify issues when difficulties arise.

## 3. Culture

The culture of an organization involves its customs and practices developed through time. Friends take joy from the opportunity to serve God and the greater good and to work with one another, supporting each other in difficult times, and acknowledging each person's gifts with gratitude. Friends seek to maintain spiritual unity and live in harmony with the Spirit. Friends are organized into meetings that rely on a core of seasoned members to provide leadership and continuity and to model the Quaker way for newcomers. Trust, transparency, and love are fundamental to friendly communication. Demonstrating our love for and trust in each other will enhance the quality and joy in our work. We must come to meetings with humility and grace, be open to the wonder of God's love, and show trust, courtesy, good humor, and love for each other. Our love and trust will be indicated by clear, honest, and transparent conduct of meetings for worship and business.

The members of the Governance Project Group named trust, action, positive results, and invigorating and transforming experience as aspects of the healthy culture they would like to see fostered among Friends in our yearly meeting today. We want to encourage the body to develop

a bias for action and be future-oriented and outward-looking in setting and meeting its goals while contemplating the Light of God in our neighbors and in each of us.

The Governance Project Group recommends that the General Secretary and Clerk of Yearly Meeting work closely together as partners for the greatest good of the Society of Friends.

Whether it is agenda setting, working on organizational priorities, policies and procedures with staff, and on and on, these two individuals need to be partners who are working to fulfill the mission of the Yearly Meeting.

We also recognize the importance of accurate timely communication with members concerning the work of yearly meeting and its accomplishments. For the benefit of all Yearly Meeting constituents we recommend that a reassessment of yearly meeting communication methods and processes be made, procedures documented, and expectations set and met (e.g. timely posting of meeting minutes on the web site). We also recommend that job descriptions be created for those called to service. New methods will be required to support the elements of this proposal and the renewed community it envisions.

#### 4. Composition

Designation of individuals as members of PYM-IM is working well. Appointment by monthly meetings encourages both continuity of attendance and seasoned judgment. Reporting back to monthly and quarterly meetings enhances communication and energizes their dialogue with PYM-IM. We do, however believe there is opportunity to improve on the overall organizational effectiveness through some modifications to composition. We recommend that term limits be established. This will enliven the community and bring fresh insight and diversity. It will also help to widen the base of Friends gaining experience in Quaker business process to further enrich our monthly and quarterly meetings. We recommend that those appointed to Interim Meeting by monthly meetings be understood to be appointees to Yearly Meeting sessions as well.

#### 5. Practice

The Governance Project Group acknowledges that attendance at Interim Meeting sessions is very strong, but notices a disproportionate number of older participants. To provide greater opportunity for participation by younger Friends, the Governance Project Group recommends that meeting times change from weekday evening to a weekend day. This change will help with travel issues and facilitate the involvement of younger adults.

We recommend that consideration be given to meeting four times a year. This time would include worship, meeting for worship for business, and fellowship over lunch. Planners would provide an active children's program as well. By having four regular meetings and two meetings of Yearly Meeting in Annual Sessions, we would meet as a Yearly Meeting six times a year.

As in Annual Sessions, attendance is open to all. Visitors will be introduced and welcomed, and, when appropriate, we recommend that the clerk or elders (or other name) will take steps to inform visitors about the good order of Friends' decision-making process.

To accurately reflect the fundamental purpose of Interim Meeting, the Governance Project Group recommends that the body and work be renamed "Yearly Meeting Continuing Sessions."

Renaming serves to unite our purpose and work with that of Yearly Meeting and reinforces the fact that all Friends belong to Yearly Meeting.

*Yours in joyful service, Interim Meeting Governance Project Group*

## Testimonies and Concerns

Caroline Packard from PYM met with most of the Testimonies and Concerns Committee on First Day, May 18, for a three-hour session. She was an extremely talented analyst of the problems with focus, direction, and stamina our committee has faced over the past couple of years. She used a large writing pad to record our impressions, thoughts, and ideas, and gradually narrowed down our concerns to a manageable list with ideas about how to solve them. She was especially astute when it came to taking comments and concerns



from several of us and distilling them into smaller, more comprehensive statements on which we were all able to agree. She quickly surmised that our committee was flagging and had excellent suggestions about how to re-energize. She also immediately picked up on our tendency to wander, and brought us back to the point several times, thereby pointing out to us one major reason why we might be running out of steam. When we finished we had decided that we would meet again as a committee to try to crystallize these larger ideas into more specific goals for ourselves, but Caroline offered to come again if we decided that we needed her. In any case, she was a lot of fun, and we would love to have her visit again. *submitted by Nancy Mullen*

## Southern Quarterly Meeting

Ten members of Third Haven attended Southern Quarterly Meeting on May 18 at Wicomico River Monthly Meeting in Salisbury, Maryland. During a thoughtful and spirit led meeting for worship many friends expressed their appreciation to Dana Kester-McCabe, honoring her five years as the Coordinator of the Southern Quarter. Both Camden and Wicomico meetings had good news about their building progress: Camden Monthly Meeting will soon move to a temporary location so that their new 'greening' project can be completed while the Wicomico Monthly Meeting intends to have moved into their new meeting house by this time next year. Following lunch and fellowship, Kate deRiel, who represents the 'Deepening and Strengthening of the Meeting' committee from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, led a program ..... We began as four groups from the individual meetings, and discussed the strengths and weaknesses which identify us.

Connie Lewis writes, "I have found Southern Quarter today to be very enlightening. I enjoyed listening to other people's points of view and the fellowship.

The four groups got together and here are some thoughts: Go to some of the Pendle Hill retreats, memorial services, weddings, and get to know people from other communities. When you are part of a meeting, you are a part of something bigger than yourself. Faith and Practice and the Quaker process are not only learning tools, but also how your life should be lived daily.

One of the Camden members found that giving the Clerk a 5 x 7 card with an announcement the person wanted to make after meeting cut down on the time( i.e. my son is getting married next week in Oregon, etc.), and did not take away from spiritual afterthoughts. Also, some meetings

said they send out a copy of the Agenda For Business Meeting ahead of time so anyone wanting to come and voice their opinion on a particular issue would be able to make arrangements to be there for that business meeting.

Other issues discussed were being 'open' and 'prepared' before meeting; for example, don't read the paper or listen to the news or radio. "Have Kindling" - set the tone for the meeting by being 5 to 10 minutes early. Every meeting can't be a "high" for everyone. Each person gives and takes away what they are in need of. The charts each meeting did of their meeting building was a wonderful idea. I especially liked the one with the open door and more windows to let the light in."

## **First Day School**

Cathy Thompson presents Godly Play, "Listening to God" to an engaged First Day School.



Third Haven Friends Meeting  
405 S. Washington Street  
Easton, Md. 21601

Meeting for Worship  
Sunday 10-11 a.m.  
Wednesday 5:30-6 p.m.  
Everyone welcome