



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

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## DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

On January 1st, 1894, a 15-year-old Irish girl named Annie Moore became the first person to be ushered through the gates at Ellis Island. The original Great Hall was built of southern yellow pine and served well until a fire in 1897 burned it to the ground along with all the country's immigration records dating back to 1855. The government rebuilt quickly with fireproof concrete this time. First- and second-class passengers arriving in the U.S. were waved pass the island and given just a brief inspection on board to check for obvious disease. After docking in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, the poorer third-class and steerage passengers were ferried to the island by barge where they underwent more thorough interviews. Officials observed the immigrants as they climbed the staircase into the main hall and marked a simple chalk code on the coats of those they suspected to be sickly. If you were in good health and your story checked out, processing might only take about five hours. Only 2 percent of all immigrants that passed through the gates were turned away, often for infectious disease.

*These are my people*

### Third Haven Friends Meeting

#### Meeting for Business

#### Minutes for the Eleventh Day, Eleventh Month

Call to order: The 11th Month Business Meeting was called to order by Clerk, Candace Shattuck. Attending: Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Paige Bethke, Cynthia Browne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Tom Corl, Debbie Dancer; Ed Dancer, Doreen Getsinger, Robert Gladney, Marsie Hawkinson, Connie Lewis, Beth Mufson, Nancy Mullen, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Rob Wieland, John Winterbottom, Ralph Young,

Minutes: 10th Month Minutes were approved as written. A discussion followed concerning THFM's Minute supporting Arthur Larrabee's attempt to create a Core Beliefs Statement.

Friends suggested the Minute be sent to the next Southern Quarter Meeting, to be held in Lewes, DE, for their consideration. Marsie Hawkinson suggested the Core Belief Statement be sent to PYM. Tom Corl offered to follow up on both.

Query: 11th Query on Stewardship was read and discussed. Larny Claggett spoke to the Query and reflected on the work done by the Property and Grounds Committee as being in keeping with this Query. Rob Wieland mentioned that Interim Meeting included a report on Eco Justice and two books that he recommends.

Property and Grounds Committee Annual Report: Committee members - Laurence "Larny" Claggett, Jr., clerk; Posey Boicourt, assistant clerk; Lorraine T. Claggett, Ed Danser, Bob Kemp, Butch Kemp, Priscilla Morris, Anna Osler, Clay Owens, Nancy Robbins, Sally Vermilye,

Meredith Watters, Joyce Zeigler.



Caretaker: This was the first full year under our new caretaker, Clay Owens. A subcommittee met with Clay in the spring. A summary of their report was that "we are fortunate" to have Clay as the caretaker. A more formal meeting with Clay was held 10th month 2012. Clay reported that he averages about 20 to 25 hours per week on caretaking duties. Clay says he gets much satisfaction from meeting and greeting visitors. It is agreed by all on the committee that the

property and grounds continue to be maintained in fine condition. Indeed, we have had periodic visits from the Maryland Historical Trust and they have complimented Third Haven on the care and maintenance given to the buildings and grounds. - Please note this is not strictly a caretaker function, indeed many of us contribute in many ways to make this happen. A final note, we are still blessed with the Webster's, even though all their stuffed stored in the common room attic, the carriage shed, Annie's house, and even the Betty Webster have been moved. They have been a big help in Clay's transition, and continue to help Clay with our mower maintenance and other Third Haven peculiarities. A major development in the caretaker position was the implementation of health insurance for Clay. With the addition of the health insurance, the monetary compensation the caretaker is receiving (directly as salary and indirectly by funding the insurance) is \$1,450. This compares to \$1,554 per month in 2010/2011.

Grounds: Care and maintenance of the grounds has continued basically as it has been. This year more attention has been focused on our old trees. A dead pine along the lane was felled with wood sawn into boards. The Trustees paid for the felling and the monthly meeting paid for the sawing. The net result was an additional \$100 was spent and we now have a stack of wide pine boards. The committee recommended to the meeting that the two unhealthy maple trees near our buildings should be taken down. This was brought to the general meeting. It is expected those trees will be removed in the near future after full consideration by the meeting. This spring the Trustees had approved paying for the tree removals. During a late summer storm a hollow tree fell over the brick wall into the graveyard, spilling honey bees everywhere. Clay, Winslow and possibly others dealt with the bees and disposed of the fallen limbs. The remaining trunk will be professionally removed. We are slowing trying to upgrade the grounds keeping equipment. Our old mowers require much maintenance. This year we fixed two riding mowers at an expense of about \$650, and bought a new string trimmer and push mower. A request of members and

attenders for a donation an unneeded mower was made, and would still be appreciated. In any event, we will continue to upgrade our fleet. Thanks go to Nancy Robbins for her small riding mower and to Molly Burgoyne for the use of her pick-up truck.

Buildings: Structural repairs and insulation of the caretaker's cottage were completed at the very end of last year, and Clay was finally able to move in. Repairs to the siding and painting of the gable ends of the old meetinghouse were made by Harry Heinsohn and Sons. Both projects were paid for by the Trustees. A dehumidifier was installed in the brick meetinghouse for use during the humid summer. Feedback on the interior environment of the brick meetinghouse would be appreciated. The committee has begun planning work on a truly handicapped accessible entry into the old meetinghouse. The meeting approved a ramp entry into the back in 1995. But the overall concept is being revisited and a more integrated, comprehensive access solution is being considered. This is a major undertaking, and like many changes, here, will not happen easily or quickly. Any thought or ideas from the meeting would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted, Larny Claggett

Larny announced that this coming Saturday, November 18th will be Clean Up Day for the Meeting House Grounds. All are encouraged to attend and to bring rakes and pruning shears. Discussion followed concerning the payment of the Health Insurance approved for Clay Owens. Larny will follow up with notice to Rob and Cynthia on the information and payment request. Tom Corl mentioned that Meredith Watters has designed the Handicap entrance for Oxford Church and recommends her design be considered for the THFM access. Tom Corl also noted that with no carpet on the floor in the Meeting House, noise is amplified and recommends some kind of carpet. There was also a suggestion that the door closer for the Meeting House could be quieter and perhaps a felt stripping would work.

Meeting expressed a thank you for the Annual Property and Grounds Report. A Minute of Appreciation was approved for Larny's years of service as Clerk of the Property and Grounds Committee.

A Minute of appreciation was also approved for the work of Sam and Vicki Webster for their years of service as Caretakers.

Nominating Committee Draft Report submitted by Dee Rein. The Nominating Committee, composed of Dee Rein as clerk, Susan Claggett, Norval Thompson and Michael Pullen, is tasked with facilitating the formation of committees and fulfillment of positions necessary for the functioning of Third Haven Friends Meeting. This process is executed with prayerful consideration of each individual's talents throughout the months of work. We began in September soliciting from each member and attender his or her past experience, desires for 2013 and any comments they chose to share by e-mail and in print. In October the committee canvassed members and attenders from whom we had not heard or who might serve as clerks of committees for the coming year. The resulting Draft presents the November Meeting for Worship for the purpose of doing Business with proposed officers, liaisons and representatives and committee clerks and members for the 2013 calendar year. Final approval will occur at the December Meeting for Business. The Nominating Committee continues to function as needed throughout the year should vacancies occur. We thank all those willing to share their talents in the service of the meeting. Please see attached file for detailed committee listings.

Report of the Ad Hoc Common Room Committee: Tom Corl

Approved at the Meeting for Business 11.11.12

Purpose: The 1.21.12 all clerks meeting called for the formation of the ad hoc common room committee. Clerk Candace Shattuck identified and recruited members for this committee. Posey Boicourt, Lorraine B Claggett, Tom Corl, Mary Cotton, Clay Owens, Nancy Robbins and John Schreiner served on the committee. Tom Corl convened and clerked the committee.

The common room has not had significant improvements for many years. The current conditions are disorganized, cluttered, shabby and unattractive. The purpose of the committee and this report is to:

- Assess and evaluate the uses, contents, arrangement and the conditions of the common room;
- Make recommendations to the Meeting about changes or improvements to these; and
- Achieve more effective use of the space, more flexible arrangement of contents, to make the common room more attractive and useful for Meeting activities.

The committee conducted a thorough and detailed assessment of uses, furnishings, contents, arrangements and conditions of the common room. The committee consulted with and invited the clerks of other committees to review this report and these recommendations.

Uses of the Common Room:

The ad hoc common room committee finds that principal uses of the common room are:

1. Fellowship and hospitality at the rise of meeting for worship
2. Committee meetings
3. Meeting events – worship sharing, adult religious education, silent retreats and other Meeting gatherings
4. Receptions for weddings and memorial meetings
5. First Day School
6. Museum – The Meeting does not have a dedicated museum space as such, but has many historic artifacts and works of art. Many of these are displayed in the common room.
7. Information – A wide variety of papers, brochures, leaflets, posters and other information resources are displayed or stored in the common room. This use is especially poorly organized and unattractive.
8. External uses – A variety of outside groups, usually with some connection to the Meeting or a Friend, are permitted use the common room, for uses consistent with character of Third Haven.
9. Storage – Many things are stored or left in the common room. The common room has become the junk room of Third Haven.

Proposed Minute:

Third Haven Friends Meeting authorizes the Property and Grounds Committee and the Facilities Use Committee to implement the recommendations set forth in this report. Implementation will proceed through established committees, consistent with available resources, and such additional Meeting approvals as may be needed.

Recommendations:

The committee considered a wide variety of recommendations and improvements to the common room, for the near and longer term. The following recommendations are prioritized as low cost, moderate cost and high cost. Implementation sequence should proceed accordingly, as resources become available. Proceeds from the carriage shed sale and special designated fundraising may be used for more expensive improvements.

The Report was approved and thank you was extended to Tom Corl and the Ad Hoc Committee for their work. It was suggested that bins be made available for Saturday, November 18th Clean Up Day so that the closets can be organized and Committee Materials stored appropriately. Rob Wieland raised the issue of what is kept as archive and what is thrown out; for example the Treasurers Reports. At issue is what materials are determined to be valuable to be sent to MD Archives versus those materials that are of interest and what should be done with them. It was agreed that the materials would be stored in the attic for the time being.

Interim Meeting: Rob Wieland (report attached) mentioned that he was pleased to run into Emma Leibman in Philadelphia and happy to report that she was filling a role. Rob mentioned that Interim Meeting addressed and discussed an article in the September "Friends Journal" by John M. Coleman, "When Quaker Process Fails" and Arthur Larrabee's response it. These materials have been added to the THFM website. <http://www.friendsjournal.org/when-quaker-process-fails/> and <http://www.friendsjournal.org/response-to-coleman/>  
It was suggested that members read these.

#### New Business:

Ralph Young asked if there would be any further impact to the THFM Minute on same gender union now that Maryland has legalized same gender marriage. Cynthia Brown requested that THFM consider the THFM Minute on Same Gender Unions.

Larny Claggett asked for guidance in reviewing donation requests of the Meeting that were passed to the Committees. All donation requests are reviewed by Testimonies and Concerns who brings their recommendations for Meeting contributions to Meeting for Business for approval.

Tom Corl raised the issue that THFM may not be legally incorporated as a nonprofit and has great concern for personal liability. Dee Rein suggested Tom Corl explore the matter and report back to THFM. Recommendations were made for the review of the current insurance status with Bill Lane and that Mike Pullen may also serve as a resource to determine the incorporated status of THFM and the liability coverage.

Meeting for business was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Paige Bethke, Assistant Recording Clerk*  
for Molly Burgoyne, Recording Clerk

#### IMPORTANT POINTS:

Property and Grounds Annual Report

Nominating Committee Draft Report

Report of the Ad Hoc Common Room Committee Report

Request that THFM consider effect of legalized same gender marriage in MD on THFM Minute on Same Gender Unions.

## **Eleventh Month Interim Meeting 11/10/12**

The complete agenda for this meeting can be seen at:

[http://www.pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/IM%2011-10%20\(1\)%20Agenda.pdf](http://www.pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/IM%2011-10%20(1)%20Agenda.pdf)

Under the first agenda item, the general secretary put in front of the meeting an essay published in Friends Journal critical of Quaker process as practiced at PYM and his written response to that critical essay. Both are listed in the minutes above.

Interim Meeting members were encouraged to worship share on the two documents. Thoughts about the style in which the critical essay was written, the veracity of some of its examples, and the obvious spiritual disquiet of the author were shared. The general secretary was praised for his friendly reply. THMM's representative voiced the opinion that the concerns raised by the essay seemed worthy of consideration and suggested that Interim Meeting hold those concerns in view. Although the power of challenging queries is integral to Quaker practice, it is not clear to this observer how willing Interim Meeting members will be to consider questions as disquieting as those expressed in the critical essay.

In another agenda item of potential interest to TH Friends, the Peace and Concerns leadership explained their ongoing Growth Dilemma Project, which seeks to promote a Quaker witness on ecology and the economy. Two books produced under this project were made available to each of the member Meetings. One has the title, "It's the Economy, Friend" and seeks to provide: "1) a context for examining [economics and ecology] based upon a history of Quaker witness, 2) a description of basic economic concepts...and, 3) reflections on ethics, ecology and economics." The second book is called "Beyond the Growth Dilemma: Toward an Ecologically Integrated Economy". Both books will be made available to the TH library as soon as possible.

The representative left before consideration of the agenda item: "Thread Groups Status", but the handout can be seen here: [http://www.pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/IM%2011-10%20\(10\)%20Thread%20Approach%20Overview%202012%2011%2005%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/IM%2011-10%20(10)%20Thread%20Approach%20Overview%202012%2011%2005%20(2).pdf)

Also attending Interim Meeting from Third Haven was Emma Leibman.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Robert Wieland, TH Interim Meeting Committee*

## **Announcements**

Please hold Tatiana Harrison in the Light as she comes to terms with a diagnosis of Crohn's Disease and the Gladney family as they meet personal challenges.

•Please hold in the Light Beth (Minga) Claggett, daughter of Pinny and Lorraine, and her husband Jonathan Borne as they travel to Palestine Nov 19-December 5 as part of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT). This trip is part of a larger exploration of where they might share a ministry somewhere in the world in the future. We are invited to support them both with prayer, and if we are able, financially through CPT. To contribute, go to CPT's website and click on donate. Include a note under "designation" saying, "This donation is to support the work of CPT

in the name of Minga and Jonathan Borne, who are volunteering." See Candace Shattuck for details.

Be sure to check out the Calendar for more events not listed here!

- December 2, at rise of Meeting for Worship: Fourth Religious Education session offered by Worship & Ministry: "Community", facilitated by Candace Shattuck, Clerk of the Meeting, and Dee Rein, Clerk of Overseers.

- December 12, 10am-3pm Inward Bound at Third Haven Friends Meeting:

A December Quiet Day will provide the opportunity for a weekday retreat away from the busyness of the holiday season. Katherine Johnson and Candace Shattuck will facilitate "Inward Bound", a day of listening for the Light within, reflection, reading, walking the grounds, writing, and self chosen art activities in community with a shared, silent pot-luck lunch and closing with sharing. 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 think and be inward in community of Friends. Email Katherine or Candace to let us know you are coming or with questions.

- From Pendle Hill:

Our many fall workshops include a variety of topics that may be of interest to Friends, such as: Five Spiritual Principles: Pay Attention, Expect to Be Changed, Honor Your Connectedness, Choose Beauty, Live Radiantly, and Open Heart, Peaceful Mind: A Retreat for Rest and Reflection, hosted by Valerie Brown.

- 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.

- 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; or by clicking on the button below:

- Are your names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail listings all correct in the Third Haven Directory? Please review your information at Directory. The online directory remains protected: please e-mail [taniahharrison@gmail.com](mailto:taniahharrison@gmail.com) or [hawkjm@goeaston.net](mailto:hawkjm@goeaston.net) if you need the password. If you have corrections for the Directory, please send them to [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com).

- Faith and Practice can be read and portions extracted from the PYM website at this link.

- If you have material for the newsletter, additional announcements, or added information about any of these posted events, please send it to [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com).

## **Maryland Beautiful People**

Jane Escher was recently recognized among nine volunteers who make Talbot County a better place to live and visit. She was nominated for the "Maryland You Are Beautiful" for Talbot County by Anny Williams and Sara McCafferty, who cited her long career in public health nursing as well as her participation in the Soroptimist organization and numerous other volunteer activities. The winner for Talbot was a Hospice volunteer who will represent the county in the statewide awards ceremony in April. *Submitted by Ann Williams*

## Talbot Interfaith Shelter

Our vision is that no one in Talbot County will ever have to spend a night on the streets, in a car or in the woods because he or she cannot find housing. The Talbot Interfaith Shelter is a voluntary interfaith-based service organization in Talbot County, Maryland. We are dedicated both to providing safe, temporary shelter to men, women and children who lack adequate housing, and to raising awareness of the issues of homelessness in our community.

Talbot Interfaith Shelter opens for the 2012-13 season on Sunday December 2nd. We are excited about the year ahead and thankful for all our supporters and volunteers, but we still face many challenges. As we enter our fifth year of providing cold-weather shelter and three meals a day we are taking steps to greatly increase the services we provide to the homeless in our community.

All this has been possible only because of the hundreds of volunteers and donors who are TIS.

We continue to depend on your generous support to help us fulfill our growing mission.

### 2012-2013 Shelter Sites

Dec 2 - Dec 30 Temple B'Nai Israel, Adkins Avenue, Easton

Dec 30 - Jan 13 St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 12095 Blades Road, Cordova

Jan 13 - Jan 27 Unitarian Universalist, 7401 Ocean Gateway, Easton

Jan 27 - Feb 10 Third Haven Friends Meeting, 405 S. Washington Street, Easton

Feb 10 - Feb 24 St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 100 Peachblossom Road, Easton

Feb 24 - Mar 10 Christ Church, Easton, 111 S. Harrison Street, Easton

Mar 10 - Apr 7 Shore Harvest Presbyterian, 9560 Black Dog Alley, Easton

### Contact Information:

Talbot Interfaith Shelter, P.O. Box 2004, Easton, MD 21601

[tisboard@talbotinterfaithshelter.org](mailto:tisboard@talbotinterfaithshelter.org) *submitted by Lorraine Claggett, Third Haven contact*

## Organizing and Learning



Some of the persons who delivered Thanksgiving Day dinners to the elderly and shut-ins. Absent in the photo is John Hawkinson. THFM persons who contributed food for the dinners included Cynthia Quest, Allan Mielke, Candace Shattuck, Helen Womack, Gwen Beegle, Catherine Cripps, and Susan Claggett.



Older First Day School members present to the Meeting their allocation of the Shoffner Funds.



Storyteller Cathy Thompson



Got Food?????



Joyful Clean Up Day





John Hawkinson delivers



Winslow Womack, Susan Mize, Steve Kanstoroom



Outreach meets and plans



Laurence Claggett, Katie Claggett, Elias Borne and Maya Claggett.