



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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Easton, Maryland 21601

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JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER

Our doors say "welcome," do we?

"Your freedom and mine cannot be separated."

Nelson Mandela

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 12th Month, 8th, 2013



1. Call to order: Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:30 AM after a brief period of silence
2. Attending: Molly Burgoyne, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Leigh Anne Dodge, Doreen Getsinger, Norman Hackland, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Peter Howell, Bill Lane Jr., Joyce Macijeski, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval

Thompson, Sally Vermilye, Rob Wieland, Ralph Young.

3. Comments on 12th Query, Integrity and Simplicity (read at meeting for worship): One Friend remarked he had problems with combining the two ideals of integrity and simplicity as they seem to represent two very different virtues and deserved their own query. He hoped that they would separate these in the next revision of Faith and Practice. Another Friend shared that the two principles, being placed together, was very meaningful to him as integrity seems to represent an intellectual idea and simplicity an action one carries out.

4. Minutes from previous Meeting for Business: The Meeting approved the minutes from the 11th Month.

5. Clerk's Desk: The past few months have seen a number of buses make their way up the lane to the meetinghouse, beginning with a group from Chestnut Hill Meeting (Philadelphia) in late June. They have extended an invitation for us to visit their new meetinghouse, opened this fall, featuring a James Turrell Skyspace. In late September, a large tour of 50 people from the Western Shore visited Third Haven Friends Meeting (THFM) as part of a tour organized by the Talbot County Visitors Center. Our Outreach Committee has supplied the Visitor's Center with a new "quick tour" brochure and this seems to be drawing more people to our grounds. Last week, two busloads of children from Saints Peter and Paul visited our grounds as well. We received about 18 thank you notes from students expressing their appreciation. The bottom line is that we are enjoying good visibility in the wider community.

Last week a small party of 5 people from our Meeting visited the historic sites in Odessa, DE, including Appoquinimink Meeting. This community, founded by Quakers, was an important site on the Underground Railroad. Encouragement is given to all who would like to make this trip and explore this area. We are also investigating a day trip to Chestnut Hill in Spring 2014.

6. Financial Update from the Treasurer: The Carriage Shed Sale brought in \$5,721.95. After expenses, there was \$5,001.95 left. Disbursements were made to Talbot Partnership, Teen Court, Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, Alternatives to Violence Program and THFM Scholarship Fund. After these disbursements were subtracted there was \$1,012.35. The Meeting approved that we keep this amount in reserve. It was suggested that \$500 be set aside for the next Carriage Shed Sale to help pay for expenses and that we keep the other \$500 for use as need arises.

On the Meeting's income and expenses budget vs. actual-YTD, we have only received 22.56% of our member contributions. However, we usually receive quite a bit in December. We have spent 39.03% of our budget thus far, so net income is -\$8,263.91. This should equalize if members remember their financial commitments to Meeting. A suggestion was made to reinforce the importance of giving this month. Bill Lane will write an announcement for John Hawkinson to publish. Scan and add both reports here.

7. Nominating Committee Final Report: Susan Claggett, Clerk of committee, gave an overview of responsibilities of the nominating committee before presenting the final slate. Meredith Olson's name has been added to the liaisons for Ridgeway House as she has been regularly contributing monthly lunches for some time now. One member of the Nominating committee brought to the meeting's attention that the name of the caretaker is not on the Property and Grounds committee this year, at the request of P&G. It was pointed out that the caretaker can be (and is) invited to committee meetings as needed. P&G is aware of the need to communicate with our caretaker. They are also in the process of developing a job description for this position which may clarify the caretaker's role. The Meeting approved the report with thanks.

<http://www.thirdhaven.org/committees.php>

8. Overseers: approval of revised Memorial Intentions Form: Below is a copy of the form approved by the Meeting. The only change made was to move the inquiry regarding military service to the area above Special Request. The Memorial Form is found below in this newsletter.

9. Testimonies and Concerns update: Lorraine Claggett, Clerk of committee informed the Meeting of two expenditures from the Shoffner Fund. The First Day School has "adopted" a child from the World Vision charity for 6 months at a cost of \$60 per month. They have also funded a project through Aquayuda to help insure twice monthly delivery of fresh water by truck to a remote village in Columbia, South America. This also costs \$60 per month.

A Friend gave an update on the group meeting to discuss the book *The New Jim Crow*. The group wants to stay actively involved in the issue regarding unfair incarceration of black males for minor offences that white males are not required to serve time for. Much material has been gathered regarding this pressing issue and will be shared with all interested in a variety of ways served to educate and inspire to action. A summary of the group's discussions has been published in a recent newsletter. Please also contact Leigh Anne Dodge or Tania Harrison for more information.

10. Property & Grounds update on accessibility to OMH: Nancy Robbins presented the committee's recommendation that as part of our efforts to improve accessibility to the Old Meeting House, railings be installed to the front entrance (south elevation.) She emphasized that this is separate from any ramp which may be recommended in the future. Simple wrought-iron railings are recommended, one on each side of the steps. She had samples available of sturdy square posts and a simple curved handrail. These would be sturdy, low-maintenance, and, being black, not intrusive visually. The use of additional vertical elements, called pickets, was discussed but not felt to be necessary. P&G has been in contact with the Maryland Historic Trust regarding this project, and it appears the Trust would allow simple iron railings to be installed. The Meeting approved this suggestion. The next step will be for P&G to submit a formal request to MHT for their approval.



11. Worship & Ministry Annual Report: The Meeting approved this report with gratitude. It is included below in this newsletter.

12. Draft of the 2013 Third Haven Annual Report: The draft of a report to be presented to Southern Quarterly Meeting in January 2014 is included below in this newsletter. Friends are urged to review the report to see if it accurately reflects our meeting this year. The final report will be presented for approval to meeting for business on 1st Month, 2014 once all the gaps have been filled.

13. New Business: We were reminded that the First Day School Christmas program will be held on December 22nd at the rise of meeting followed by a potluck luncheon. There was a brief discussion regarding the use of one of the sheds to store household belongings for a person who has been evicted from their home. A suggestion was made to disseminate this request out to the Meeting members to see if anyone could help with this need. A Friend present at this meeting suggested that he might be able to help with this problem.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 1:10PM.

Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- Approval to retain \$1012.35 in proceeds from the Carriage Shed Sale in reserve
- Approval of Nominating Committee Final Report
- Approval of revised Memorial Intentions Form
- Approval for P&G to move ahead on request to install railings to the Old Meetin Houses front entry
- Approval to W&M Annual Report
- Approval of the draft of 2013 THFM Annual Report



Third Haven Friends Meeting Worship and Ministry Committee 2013 Annual Report Approved – 12.8.13 Meeting for Business

Purpose

The purpose of the Worship and Ministry Committee (WMC) was approved at the 10.3.11 meeting for business. The (abbreviated) purpose is:

- Meeting for Worship: The WMC cares for the meeting for worship.
- Spiritual Nurture: The WMC nurtures and supports the Spiritual life of the meeting, and the Spiritual journeys of members and attenders.
- Adult Religious Education: The WMC provides opportunities for the Meeting community to learn about our Faith and Practice, the Religious Society of Friends, and Quaker and other Spiritual practices. The Committee offers and supports teaching and learning opportunities to support the meeting for worship, and the Spiritual journeys of members and attenders.

Worship and Ministry Committee

The participating members of the WMC for 2013 were: Luisa Adelfio, Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Tom Corl, Connie Lewis, Katherine Johnson, Mike Pullen and Rob Wieland. John Winterbottom participated the first half of the year. Tom Corl clerked the Committee. The WMC met monthly except for 8th month. Meetings opened and closed with silent worship. Members attended Committee meetings regularly and actively supported many WMC activities.

Meeting for Worship

The WMC provides greeters before the meeting for worship to welcome members, attenders and visitors. Greeters offer various pamphlets, brochures and information to visitors and those new to the Third Haven and the Quaker meeting for worship. Members of the WMC read the 12 Queries on the First Day of meeting for business, and the 4 Advices in meeting for worship during the year.

The attendance at meeting for worship varies from week to week and month to month. Based on regular counts by Robert Shattuck, attendance averages around 75-85, including children who go out for First Day School. The number of children varies a great deal. In the summer months, attendance is often less, around 50-60. In 2013, meeting for worship occasionally had attendance of around 100. The 4th Day meeting for worship usually attracts 4-5. Connie Lewis prepared a census of 4th month attendance at meeting for worship, with attendance on 4 consecutive First Days: 72, 85, 75 and 59. This report was prepared for and transmitted to Southern Quarterly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

All the members of the WMC attend the meeting for worship as regularly as possible, listen, experience and appreciate the meeting for worship, silence and vocal ministry. The WMC considers and discusses the meeting for worship and vocal ministry at each WMC meeting. When the meeting for worship is not gathered or when the vocal ministry seems inappropriate, the Committee discerns the matter very carefully and occasionally makes a tender response. The Meeting continues to grow in attendance at meeting for worship. The meeting for worship is vital and meaningful for members, attenders and visitors. The WMC finds the Third Haven meeting for worship consistently spiritual, rich and nourishing. The Meeting attracts many

visitors each year. Membership continues to grow. Newcomers and visitors frequently acknowledge the value and importance of the meeting for worship in attracting them and leading them into participation in Third Haven Friends Meeting. The Third Haven meeting for worship and participation in it are blessings, appreciated by members, attenders and visitors. The Third Haven meeting for worship is a great gift from each of us to all of us. The Committee seeks to nurture and sustain this blessed meeting for worship.

Worship and Ministry Activities

The WMC offered a variety of adult religious education opportunities and activities in 2013:

Discussions

Mark Beck facilitated and led several discussion sessions. These were open to the wider local community:

- 7.10 on Why Am I Here
- 9.10 on Presence
- 10.14 on Happiness
- 11.21 on Forgiveness
- 12.19 on Faith (scheduled)

The sessions averaged 8 participants, with as many as 16, and were very much appreciated.

Silent Retreats

Katherine Johnson and Candace Shattuck continued to offer quarterly Inward Bound silent retreats at Third Haven, reaching out to other Friends Meetings in Southern Quarterly Meeting. These quiet days provide the opportunity for weekday retreats away from the busy-ness of everyday life. These silent retreats are for listening for the Light within, reflection, reading, and enjoying the grounds of Third Haven. There is a silent shared potluck lunch and worship sharing to close the day. These were offered on 3.20, 6.13, 9.25 and 12.11 with 4-10 participants. A quotation illustrates an appreciation of the silence at Third Haven, "I find the quarterly Inward Bound days to be a blessing in my life. I love having the opportunity to spend time on the Meeting property gathering in silence with others to read, walk, meditate, create and pray. Third Haven feels like hallowed ground to me and being there in quiet for the day feeds my soul and enriches me." Inward Bound will continue in 2014.

Course in Miracles

The Course in Miracles is a self-study curriculum, consisting of the metaphysical framework, a workbook with 365 daily lessons for a 1-year study period, and a manual for teachers in question and answer format. The curriculum, gently teaches how to change our mind and undo the misperceptions of the ego through forgiveness, and healing our perceptions of separation from God and from each other. Mike Pullen continued to lead the Course in Miracles, in weekly meetings most of the year with 4-5 regular participants. This course, started in 2010, will continue in 2014.

Other Activities

Though the Third Haven Spiritual Formation program ended in 2011, one small group continues to meet and flourish. In 2014, the WMC plans to offer:

- Worship sharing on being a Quaker
- Modules on Quaker and other Spiritual practices
- 4-sessions on our Quaker faith and practice in the spring of 2014: 1) History and beliefs of the Religious Society of Friends; 2) Quaker silent worship and the Spiritual journey; 3) Testimonies, witness and action; and 4) Quaker organizations and decision-making in the manner of Friends.



Conclusion

Third Haven Friends Meeting has a long tradition of Spirit-led practice in its Worship and Ministry Committee, caring for the meeting for worship and the Spiritual journeys of members and attenders. The Committee encourages all members and attenders to come to meeting for worship as often as possible, with heart and mind prepared. Friends should participate in and support the meeting for worship, in expectant silence or with vocal ministry, as moved by the Spirit. Third Haven is blessed with a deep, rich and nurturing meeting for worship, and a vital and growing Meeting community. The Worship and Ministry Committee is grateful for the opportunity to nurture and support the meeting for worship and the Spiritual life of the Third Haven Friends Meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tom Corl, Clerk, Worship and Ministry Committee*

Announcements

<http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

For details of coming events, please review the

Calendar of Third Haven activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

Nominating Committee report: <http://www.thirdhaven.org/committees.php>

Online directory <http://www.thirdhaven.org/members/dir.php>

Username is 3rdhaven Password friends (all lower case)

We welcome notes, photos, questions and address information at 3rdhaven@gmail.com

Contributions to sustain the Meeting's annual budget may be sent to

Third Haven Monthly Meeting

P O Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601

Third Haven Friends Meeting

2013 Annual Report

Draft v2 – 11. 25.13

Worship – Meeting for worship was well attended, with an average of 75-85 on most First Days including children who go out for First Day School. In the late summer months, attendance drops to 50-60. On a few First Days, nearly 100 Friends attended. Meeting for worship is also held on 4th days, with a small (4-5) regular attendance. In 4th month Connie Lewis completed a census of attendance at the meeting for worship for transmittal on to Southern Quarterly Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM). The census report found that _____ [Connie Lewis]. Meetings for worship were consistently spiritual, rich and nourishing, occasionally deeply gathered. The Third Haven meeting for worship is meaningful and vital. The Worship Ministry

Committee cares for meeting for worship and offered a variety adult education opportunities helping Friends deepen their Spiritual practices and journeys: 4 silent retreats, the “Course in Miracles,” and discussion sessions on presence, happiness and forgiveness.

Community – 2013 was a year of growth and vitality in the life of Third Haven Friends Meeting. Membership totaled 153, with 2 new members. There were no deaths in the Meeting community in 2013. Overseers care for the wellbeing of members and attenders with pastoral care. Overseers examined how the Meeting cares for older members with a forum on the topic followed by a questionnaire. Overseers drafted a new Memorial Intentions form; its use will be reviewed with each member, and it will be available on the meeting web site. A rewording of the responsibilities of membership at Third Haven Friends Meeting, designed to be more descriptive, was adopted as well. Children – The Meeting cares for its children very well. Children have offered their appreciation of the Meeting, and their feeling of attachment to and support from the Meeting. First Day School attendance and program _____ [Beth Mufson] Scholarships _____ [Marsie]

Testimonies – The Testimonies and Concerns Committee is very active locally, effectively articulating our Quaker testimonies and witness in the wider community. The Committee engaged the Meeting community in wide variety of projects: local organizations working on peace and our other Quaker testimonies (including Neighborhood Service Center, Multicultural Resource Center and Agua Ayuda), assistance in the Talbot County Detention Center, assistance to local farm labor camps (Migrant Worker Ministry), host location and volunteer support for the Talbot Interfaith Homeless Shelter, local and regional advancement of the Alternatives to Violence Program (AVP), discussions of racism and incarceration, and support for Bolivian Quakers and other international humanitarian organizations. Many of these local projects are of long duration.

Outreach – The Outreach Committee revised and prepared attractive new brochures and pamphlets for Meeting outreach, including _____ [John Schreiner]

Communications and Business – The Clerk and Recording Clerk serve the Meeting community very well. Meetings for business are conducted in the good order used among us, with all difficulties handled with tender care. The minutes are carefully recorded and kept in very good order.

The Communications Committee produces an excellent and informative newsletter, with fine photographs, and distributes it each month by email (also mailed to computer-free Friends).

Communications provides weekly announcements, Meeting calendar updates and other information by email, and updates the valuable Third Haven Friends Meeting website – <http://www.thirdhaven.org>

Carriage Shed sale [Paige Bethke]

The Meeting is in good financial condition. The fiscal year 2012-13 ended on 6th month 30th with operating expenses of \$55,131 and income of \$61,600. The balance sheet showed current assets of \$70,627 and current liabilities of only \$267. The Meeting tries to keep one year’s expenses in reserve. The Trustees of Third Haven Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is a separate entity with financial assets that can be used to support specific Third Haven property and grounds projects. The maintenance and the character of the historic Third Haven buildings and grounds owes a great deal to the stewardship and generosity of the Trustees.

Conclusion – Third Haven Friends is a vital and growing Friends community, nurturing and supporting young and old members and attenders, and nourishing the Quaker Spiritual journey in the Meeting community.

**THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

Memorial Intentions Form

This form is intended to help THFM better understand your wishes for your memorial service. When completed, please make a copy for yourself and return the form to the Overseers Committee. Please use additional space if needed.

Full Name

Address

Date of Birth _____

Today's Date _____

Personal Representative I have directed to carry out my wishes at the time of my death

Do you wish to be cremated (preferred by THFM due to limited space)? If so, what do you want done with your remains?

Do you wish to be buried? If so, where?

Do you want a memorial plaque at THFM? If so, have you thought about placement?

Memorial Service Directions and Desires

Have you served in the military or been a member of another service organization that we should be aware of or that you would like recognition for during your memorial?

Special Requests (Music, Readings, Speakers, Prayers, Flowers, etc.)

Memorial
Donations_____

Funeral
Home_____

I understand that this form is not legally binding and that THFM has no duty to fulfill any of the above requests but shall act as a depository and advisor for the expression of personal wishes for procedures at the time of my death. I have executed this document for the purpose of guiding my family and the Meeting at the time of my death.

Signed_____

Witnessed_____

Date_____

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE USE OF THIS FORM

Friends are reminded that it is our responsibility to make clear our intentions for memorial services and other necessities with which our families and friends must cope upon our death. This form can be a great help to those who will miss us when we are gone. An Overseer will help you through the process of filling out this form as completely as you desire. It will be kept at THFM until it is needed and may be reviewed and amended as desired.

It is hoped that this form helps guides Friends through this important and delicate work. It is important to make sure that the completed form presents a clear understanding of your wishes and how you would like your memorial to be handled. The Overseers at THFM are ready to act as your advocate and your helpers in this process.

OTHER DOCUMENTS WE RECOMMEND

Advance Medical Directive

Five Wishes http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Wishes

Once completed, please make a copy of the form for your records and return the original for safe keeping with the Overseers Committee at THFM.

Paper and Pencils

It was a small, but extremely helpful group of Friends at First Day School on the second First Day, Twelfth Month when Mary Ann Hillier, Third Haven Attender and SSMM Member, brought a large bag of pencil boxes and goodies to class that morning. Since her nonprofit, Paper and Pencils, Inc., had been the recipient of a donation from the 2011 Carriage Shed Sale, she had been looking for something with which the children could help as a community service project, but timing was never right as the back packs donated every year to children in the MS Delta go out in August. Happily, for the first time four years it was possible to send Christmas gifts to those children who might not otherwise receive a present at Christmas, in the form of pencil boxes filled with pencils with Christmas designs, erasers shaped like Christmas tree lights, crayons and for a bit of fun, Christmas themed ink stampers and those cool rubber bracelets in red green and white with sayings like "Santa is coming!" and "Merry Christmas!". Greeted by teachers Susan Claggett and Lorraine Claggett and student Maeve Mufson, Mary Ann told them about her work in the Delta, showing the children's drawings and pictures of those who had received back packs, school supplies and books from Paper and Pencils over the years. Then they all pitched in and filled 30 pencil boxes to go with the 170 boxes already filled and waiting to be shipped. In the pictures you can see Susan and Maeve with the boxes they filled and children from Parks Elementary School, Cleveland, MS happily receiving those same gifts.





Help Here at Home

The Faith Sharing Group heard Walter Black of the Neighborhood Service Center and Walter Johnson of the Good Samaritan fund discuss the organizational goals, activities and needs of their respective organizations. They were assisted by Lorraine Claggett and Dawn Atwater of THFM, who arranged the meeting. A light lunch included time to discuss the needs of our own community and ways Friends might help.

First Day School presented a Christmas program at the Rise of Meeting December 21st. The teachers get kudos for helping our children lead us in this celebration followed by a pot luck luncheon. After all, Christmas is about the arrival of a child! Thank you all!





The **Peace Vigil** in front of the courthouse continues for an hour each Thursday at 5p.m.

