



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

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## April 2021 NEWSLETTER

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Fourteenth Day Third Month 2021**

**Opening Silent Worship** Molly Brian, Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 4 p.m. with a brief period of silence.

**Attending:** 18 attended: Molly Burgoyne Brian, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Stephanie French, Whitley Gray, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Connie Lewis, Beth Mufson, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Priscilla Sener, Dona Sorce, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, John Turner, Kevin Walsh

#### **Comments on Third Query**

Our groups and committees are most important in nurturing our spiritual journeys.

#### **Approval of minutes** from February business meeting **Approved**

#### **Clerks Desk-** *Molly Brian- In person meeting discussion*

Easter may be first opportunity for hybrid meeting. Some members have completed vaccination for Covid 19. Others have received one vaccination. We may facilitate an Easter Egg hunt for families on Easter also.

Another Spring celebration might be establishment of the Peace Pole perhaps with picnic on the grounds.

Another gathering will be Moving Up ceremony.

Volunteers for helping with Ken's memorial at 1 p.m. on May 8 should contact Molly.

Driveway talking for fellowship could happen from 9:30-9:50 on First Day.

#### **Facilities Use Annual Report** - *Larissa Kitenko Accepted*

Detailed information concerning usage and current policies may be found on the Third Haven website, <http://www.thirdhaven.org>

#### **CONSIDERATIONS:**

1 – Due to the COVID pandemic, Third Haven Meetings for Worship, Meetings for Business, FDS, and other meetings came to a standstill.

The buildings were closed to all activities on March 13, 2020.

The first on-line meeting was Meeting for Worship on March 22 using a Member's personal Zoom Account. Third Haven purchased a Corporate Zoom account on June 20 thus beginning the change from in-person to on-line Committee meetings. First Day School uses another Zoom account. Third Haven was innovative in developing its own style of "hybrid" meetings for Worship, viz., combining an outdoor with an on-line meeting all per state guidelines.

2 – Clerks of Committees receive Zoom links upon request for on-line meetings using Third Haven's Zoom account.

3 – The decreased usage of the facilities is reflected in the decreased number of in-person meetings

and the decrease in revenue.

4 - Planning Committee thought it would be useful to know the number of people attending various TH meetings in the 3 buildings.

Facilities Comm began this tabulation until it was interrupted by the pandemic.

5 - Scheduling on the Paper Calendar/Syncing with On-Line Calendar

Members are notifying Facilities Committee for the majority of requests for meeting times, Weddings, or Memorials.

Non-members leave a voice message on our answering machine or contact the web administrator. All such requests for facilities' use are forwarded to Facilities Committee.

6 - Appropriateness of facility donations

The current system of categorizing meeting/event types had been working well.

7- Donations

Donations had been forwarded by Facilities Comm/Friendly Presence to our Treasurer along with the event, date, and time.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1 – Consider the impact of using the same meeting link for all meetings as opposed to the current practice of assigning specific meeting links to each Committee.

2 – Members to continue informing Facilities Committee of desired dates/times for their on-line meetings/event. This ensures that each Committee has on-line time and a meeting link.

3- Continue the current donation schedule.

4 – Continue communications among Treasurer, Facilities and Communications Committees.

### **Planning Committee Update** – *Ben Tilghman*

The Planning Committee met on February 17 to restart the process of formulating a long range plan for Third Haven by considering two matters as follows:

1) The preservation/restoration of Annie's cottage.

2) A landscape plan for the grounds, taking into consideration the recent stream restoration project.

In doing so, we came to some thoughts about how to manage the Planning process going forward.

Annie's Cottage: We discussed the merits of investing funds in a structure that, at the moment, has no clear purpose or use other than to store tools, which can be kept pretty much anywhere. Annie's Cottage is thought to be one of the more interesting and historically significant structures on the grounds (Orlando Rideout thought so). There comes a time when the preservation, or at least arresting the decline of, a building for the future is a wise choice. It would seem that Annie's Cottage falls into that category, although that is a matter for Meeting to decide. Where the issue becomes a little more complex is the question of how Annie's Cottage fits into our master plan. While it is helpful to know that the Meeting believes the structure to be important, what would be its use? Tools, First Day School, hospitality, a library, a small museum, and where would we locate it? Does Third Haven feel that Annie's Cottage is important enough to the history of the Meeting to invest significant funds in its preservation without a clear understanding of its future use, or for that matter, its location?

Landscape Plan: As one Friend pointed out, the landscape plan is usually the LAST thing someone does in a renovation or expansion of the physical plant. However, as another Friend put it, if we consider the question of "How do we address our grounds (to be) a more open and welcoming space?", there is a fair amount that can be done that would have minimal impact on our long-term planning. These changes could involve walkways along the stream restoration, making sure we have vehicle access to the lane along the north side of the stream, cosmetic work along the driveway from Washington Street, and a general redo of our signage and entry, among other things. We felt that while obtaining and managing a Landscape Plan appropriately falls under Property and Grounds, the long-term implications of the project warrant involving the Planning Committee. As described by Property and Grounds, the plan consists of two components; a surveyed plat of the existing conditions (buildings, drives, trees, setbacks buffer, and a professional landscape design plan. The surveyed plat would contain useful information about the grounds in their current state, and would be helpful going forward, leaving the detailed design plan for later. In the meantime, does Meeting support a vigorous effort to ensure our grounds are inviting and indicative of our Quaker values? Does it make sense to undertake a fairly detailed survey plat, and undertake a detailed landscape plan once long term our design work is finished?

Additionally the committee stressed that we should not lose sight of the asset we have in the Brick Meeting House which is in need of some repair work in the entryway. As with the Old Meeting House, the preservation and maintenance of those buildings, with occasional exceptions, falls outside the scope of the Planning Committee, but we support any and all activity to that end.

In conclusion, we recommend that the Planning Committee provide a brief update at the next meeting for business, and entertain any questions or comments Friends may have about our activities going forward.

Our next meeting is to be determined.

Possibly a Lane engineering plat already completed may be of use. Preparation of an updated plat was **Approved**.

### **Property and Grounds Update** - Priscilla Sener

Rejuvenation Pruning Proposal, March 2021 **Approved** under guidance of Priscilla and committee

The full report with pictures was circulated in the weekly announcements prior to this meeting.

**SITUATION:** The Rhododendron is an evergreen variety which has grown over 100+ years to an overall height of 17—20 feet. Leaf size and bloom time suggest it is an eastern native: *Rhododendron Maximus*, although it could be a cross with a *catawbiense* type. It was planted by the Kemp family and has spread into multiple stems over time. The plant is overgrown for the area available. It is overgrowing the driveway, pushing the driveway towards the wall. The tall evergreen foliage keeps the south wall of the Brick Meeting House shaded year-round. The shade interferes with the building's ability to breathe, which has contributed to moisture damage to the interior of the building over the years. Repairs do not last as long as they should. Paint peels quickly.

Property and Grounds is working on another round of repairs this summer to the entrance, entrance hall and downstairs bathroom. Windows need painting again soon. In 2019, P&G aggressively trimmed the rhododendron away from the Brick Meeting house in the hope that it would help to reduce the moisture problem on the south east wall. It did not solve the problem because the building was still in the shade from the rest of the plant. Two years later, regrowth is vigorous.

**ISSUE:** The rhododendron needs pruning away from the wall again, it needs to be lowered in overall height to provide light to the building, and it needs to be pulled back from the parking lot.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The recommended treatment is rejuvenation pruning, which is a severe intervention, cutting the stems way back. The advice we have received varies from several feet to waist height. Regrowth will take two to three years and it may be several years before the plant re-blooms. The plant can be controlled for height as it regrows.

A further recommendation is that we stump grind the stems closest to the brick wall. Doing so would prevent the regrowth we have experienced close to the wall and would open a walking path from the front to the back of the building, a safer option than walking in the driveway.

Will rejuvenation pruning kill the plant? While surgery is always risky, the plant is vigorous, as shown below on a stem that was severely pruned (and should have been removed) in 2019.

A less intensive treatment style is serial trimming back, done over several years. Property & Grounds has been advised that this will not work in our situation because regrowth is vigorous and we will be continually pruning back the regrowth rather than incrementally reducing the plant size. It will prolong the number of years to full re-blooming beauty.

### **Burial Committee Update** - Dona Sorce

A family in Pennsylvania recently requested the father's urn be buried in our burial grounds based on ancestors who they believed were Eastern Shore Hicksites connected to

Third Haven. Following research into Third Haven history there was no evidence of connection to Third Haven, this request was denied. Our burial grounds policy limits burials to members and attenders and their families with exceptions only approved in certain circumstances.

**Scholarship Committee** Update - *Marsie Hawkinson*

Over the years Scholarship committee has maintained contact with recipients of funds. A note in the mail from Laurence Claggett expressed thanks for our support.

**New Business** none

**Closing Silent Worship** 5:15 p.m.

D. Rein, Recorder

**Announcements**

The Third Haven newsletter circulates during the first week of each month to enable readers to review the minutes of the most recent meeting for worship with attention to business. Bi-Weekly announcements are sent by email.

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

Calendar of Activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

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

**April 5 [Monday]**

**Caregiver Support Meeting**

We have a Caregivers Support Group for those who are caring for others (family members.) Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7 p.m. on Zoom. The purpose is to provide support during a time that can be isolating, as well as provide help in finding supports both within Third Haven and in the larger community. It is expected that the nature of the group will evolve as the needs evolve. You might not feel this is the right time yet, but when it is, feel free to join us.

**April 7 [Wednesday]**

**Wednesday Meeting for Worship 5:30 PM**

Inside the Brick Meeting House from 5:30 to 6pm with simultaneous virtual meeting. If you plan to attend in person, please observe preventive measures; Usually there are only 5-7 people joining in person on Wednesday and we expect these numbers will stay the same.

**April 9 [Friday]**

**Zoom Happier Hour 7 PM**

At 7 PM on Friday we will assemble for a Zoom Happier Hour

**April 11 [Sunday Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business** at rise of meeting for worship. Please forward agenda items to Molly Brian [mollybbrian@gmail.com](mailto:mollybbrian@gmail.com)

## **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Information**

<https://go.pym.org/webmail/791983/199007463/6e64a76522b14a2187d3f2f7c8db4b08cc7311215676153264a6b37d8e4f4d18> *Included:*

### **Pathways to Ending Gun Violence: Legislative Solutions**

*April 10 @ 11:00 am - 2:30 pm*

Sign up and be informed by the lived experience of Peter Murchison (Wilton Friends Meeting, CT) whose nephew was among first graders killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Hosted by the PYM's Legislative Policy Collaborative, the event features a panel discussion on gun control, breakout rooms to share ideas, and lobbying training by Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) staff.

## **Ken Carroll in My Life**

*by Bob Marshall*

When I first met Ken Carroll in 2001, I was still in the midst of understanding my relationship with God. There was much about the relationship that was uncertain for me at that time. I needed someone of deep spiritual seasoning with whom I could discuss my many queries. Ken was that person for me. No person has been more important in my spiritual journey than Ken Carroll.

Ken was always willing to have a discussion about any spiritual issue that was on my mind. We often talked about Bible passages. In the early days of our relationship, when Ken still had his vision, we would read aloud from the Bible, alternating the chapters read, and always discussing them as we went along. We also read Woolman's journal in this way.

Ken often spoke as a historian, compelled to answer a question from the beginning, with full texture and context. It was never a good idea to ask Ken a religious studies question with a sense of impatience. There was no rushing his answer. But there was also no projection of pride or ego in his answers. There was always a genuine desire by Ken to offer a complete answer, one that did not involve him in the answer.

Ken was an academic. As an academic myself, I was perhaps advantaged in understanding his style of communication. When I discussed spiritual readings with Ken, I was a student in his office hours. I suppose a non-academic might be uncomfortable with that style, but I always appreciated it. He understood religious materials much more deeply than I did -- I always respected that and was anxious to learn from Ken.

There are some difficult passages in the Bible for the apprentice reader. For example, early on I found Jeremiah and Ezekiel tough going. It seemed to me that God was terribly angry, often proclaiming that 'we will know his wrath'. When I expressed my confusion about these books to Ken, he pointed me to the amazingly beautiful proclamations of the New Covenant in both Jeremiah and Ezekiel, which emerge as brilliant Light from those prophets.

We often discussed the life and teachings of Jesus, and the guidance it provided in each of our lives. These discussions were perhaps the most important for me, reassuring me of the foundation of my spirituality.

It is rare in life to encounter someone who is so willing to offer their time and knowledge without ego and without judgment. I was lucky to have Ken as a friend. It was God's Grace to put him in my life. I loved him.

At the end, it was his time. I am left with a sense of gratitude and peaceful melancholy.

## In the Light



Jane's 93rd birthday

**Jane Virginia Escher** died peacefully on March 21, 2021 in her home surrounded by her family.

She was the daughter of Harold and Elizabeth Scudder and was born in Trenton, N.J. She is survived by her husband, Stephen and daughter Virginia Shaw, her husband, Douglas, their three children, William, Elizabeth and May and her son, Stephen and his wife Patti. She is also survived by her late brother Montgomery Scudder's family.

She and Stephen celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last year in October. They purchased the Bartlett family farm know as Lowes, which was part of Radcliffe Manor in 1955 to raise their family and to retire.

Jane was interested in the community's welfare as a health nurse and joined several different organizations in that effort. She was devoted to her family and friends. Donation in lieu of flowers may be sent to Third Haven Friends Meeting in Easton, MD. A memorial service will be held sometime during the summer months when people can gather more safely.

### First Day School

First Day School is happily looking forward to springtime, with the warmer weather and more possibility for being together on the horizon! In fact, for Easter, we were able to continue a favorite annual tradition - our Easter Egg Hunt! Pictures were included in the newsletter. We also held our monthly virtual storytelling session for families. March's Faith & Play story with Susan Claggett centered on the Parable of the Sower, a perfect match as we consider all that we are planting (seeds in the garden, and future plans in our hearts) right now. Looking ahead, FDS is considering the feasibility of summer camps and some special events outside at Third Haven. On the grounds, there are some swings and some garden beds waiting for some action! *Amy Owsley, clerk*

Hello from FDS- our annual Third Haven Easter Egg hunt held on Sunday was a "hoppy" success! We had 6 families and 12 kids!! Those families who showed up in their Easter finest with Easter baskets in tow were: Sarah Hilderbrand with Jackson; Kulveen Virdee with Daven and Fio; Lisa Kluepfel and Andrew Grundlach with Brody; Janna Schaefer won largest family award with her husband and 4 kids; James Womack, with Chelsey and Damian; Katie and Simon Consendine with Nora and Will. The weather was lovely and the kids had a blast romping around the grounds looking for all the plastic eggs and some chocolate ones too. Many thanks to all those who helped organize, picture take, hospitality and hiding eggs including Amy Owsley, Beth Mufson, Kevin Walsh, Molly Brian, Evan Claggett, Dee Rein, Heidi Wetzels and John Schreiner. A special thanks to caretaker Clay for preparing the grounds beautifully. What a grand morning!! Thanks to all the families and Friends, *Susan Claggett, Assist Clerk*



**“To love and be loved is a universal human urge. Is it any wonder, then, that we are moved to seek God’s love?...It is to this divine love that we are called....We are called into the deep enduring love of God and man and all creation. Worship is a door into that love. Once we have entered it, our every act is a prayer, our whole life a continuous worship.”**

*N. Jean Toomer, 1947 in Faith and Practice 1997, Writings on Experience*



