



Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

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DECEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'

Martin Luther King Jr.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business

Minutes for the Tenth Day, Eleventh Month

The 11th Month Business Meeting was called to order by Clerk, Candace Shattuck.

Attending: Mark Beck, Paige Bethke, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Deb Cox, Leigh Ann Dodge, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Nancy Mullen, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, Ralph Young

Minutes: 10th Month Minutes were approved as written.

Query: 11th Query on Stewardship was read and discussed.

Nominating Committee Draft Report attached and submitted by Susan Claggett.

The Nominating Committee, composed of Susan Claggett as Clerk, Norval Thompson and Rob Wieland, have been tasked with facilitating the formation of committees and fulfillment of positions necessary for the functioning of Third Haven Friends Meeting. The Committee has been at work all summer soliciting from each member and attender his or her past experience, desires for serving in 2014. 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 2014 calendar year. Final approval will occur at the December Meeting for Business. There is a key vacancy with no one to Clerk the First Day School. The Committee continues to work to find someone who would be interested in filling this role. Edits were recommended for length of service for some members and for participation in some of the activities. The Nominating Committee continues to function as needed throughout the year should vacancies occur. The Nominating Committee thanked all those willing to share their talents in the service of the meeting. A draft of their work is attached.





Overseer's Presentation of "Memorial Intentions Form" submitted by Clerk Adrienne Rudge

Adrienne Rudge presented the proposed new "Memorial Intentions Form" as recommended by Overseers. The initiative to update the "Memorial Intentions Form" was attributed to Molly Burgoyne. The "Memorial Intentions Form" was well received at Business Meeting. A very useful discussion followed with these suggestions: That "Personal Representative" be substituted for "Spouse, Person of Next of Kin" in the first question. That we clarify that THFM prefers cremation due to space limitation. That the use of Five Wishes and an advance medical directive be included with the Memorial intentions Form and that the final document be posted on the THFM website with a link to Five Wishes form. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Wishes

Tom Corl recommended an article title "Letting Go" by Antul Gawande, from The New Yorker, 8.2.10, "Letting Go." Tom mentions that the article is excellent and widely shared. This article was discussed in connection with the "The Emperor of All Maladies" (cancer), by Siddhartha Mukerjee.

Testimonies and Concerns Annual Report:

Lorraine Claggett presented the report as follows:

Testimony: A guiding principle of conduct that bears witness to the presence of God in the world and in our lives. . . .

Faith and Practice



This committee takes concern for the witness our meeting makes in the world. Again in this year, many activities have been interfaith in origin and expression. Others have involved the young people in First day School. A large responsibility has been oversight of the Shoffner International Education Fund. Another is a connection to the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund. We again participate actively in P.E.A.C.E., a local organization. Our Faith in Action simple lunch featured a speaker from P.E.A.C.E.

P.E.A.C.E. continues Thursday evening vigils outside the courthouse in Easton. Our young people joined the group in World Day of Prayer and with peace dove puppets in the town Christmas parade. We had a table at the yearly Multicultural Festival in May that involved a project enjoyed by kids attending the festival.

Two members of the Testimonies and Concerns committee, Ralph Young and LA Dodge, are trained as Alternatives to Violence Project facilitators. With support from the committee and also the larger Meeting, LA Dodge facilitated in a workshop in Washington D.C. in the spring

and in a large AVP experiment with 500 high school students in N.E. Philadelphia in the fall. Nationally gathered information about the Philadelphia experience will be linked to the T&C part of Third Haven's website.

Closer to home, and with seed money designated from a carriage shed sale of past years, the fledgling Mid-Shore AVP has begun a series of workshops aimed at connecting with local organizations who share a mission to work with children and young adults. MSAVP has partnered with Mid-Shore Mediation Services, Rural Cares, the Chesapeake Multi-Cultural Resource Center and P.E.A.C.E. to present three AVP workshops of two days each this fall and winter. Ralph Young is guiding this effort.

Every week, on either Friday or Saturday morning, either Mary and Ralph Young or Leigh Anne Dodge and Robert Wieland go into the Talbot County Detention Center and fill inmate requests for books from the detention center lending library. Third Haven Friends Meeting financially supports this effort. On any given week, ten to twenty percent of the inmates request new books. The detention center allows inmates to keep in their possession up to four regular books and two more books which are long term loaners such as bibles, meditation books and textbooks. A computer program enables the library staff to monitor all book loans. The library contains over 5,000 books and inmates select desired books from library lists located throughout the detention center. Most books in the library have been donated with many of the donations coming from Third Haven members and attenders. Funds donated by the Third Haven Friends Meeting is used both to purchase books which are in demand but not donated and for the binders which house the lists of lending library books from which inmates make their weekly selections. The lending library was created about 11 years ago. The library staff thanks the Meeting for it's continued support.

Again, in 2013, Third Haven Friends joined with six other faith communities in our area to gather items for delivery to three seasonal farm worker labor camps located nearby. Third Haven collected needed items, including clothing, toiletries and books, and had a designated giving day in July, where Friends put money in a hat to be used to buy necessities. Especially appreciated were bug spray, new towels and washcloths and new handkerchiefs. Terry and Maryann Stackpole, who have led this effort for many years, retired to Baltimore this year. It took two volunteers to fill their shoes, one of them is LA Dodge. The interfaith group prepared to continue this work met in September to share experiences and ideas and to make plans for next year. This group will meet next in April 2014.

The Meeting continues participation in the interfaith Hunger Coalition by providing lunches once every other month for as many as 100 people confined at home. In winter the lunches are soup prepared at Asbury Methodist Church with extras put in by the Meeting and for the rest of the year sandwich lunch bags are packed monthly at Third Haven. Members of the Temple B'nai Israel work together with our members and buy the food in the alternate months. Some Meeting members also fill a request of the Neighborhood Service Center to provide lunches monthly to Ridgeway House, a shelter for homeless in Easton. The Thanksgiving dinners provided by the Coalition are hot turkey dinners with all the trimmings. Members prepare pans of food at home and help distribute the meals.

Again last winter the Common Room was outfitted with cots and provided overnight shelter to Talbot Interfaith Shelter (TIS) guests for two weeks. The program is financed and run by TIS and volunteers were recruited by the Meeting and our partner Church of the Brethren for one week, the Baptist Church for the second week. We are doing it again next February in cooperation with two other faith groups. Frank Ryan, Lorraine Claggett, and Pete Howell co-chair this event.

The work that the older class of First Day School youth spent with Mark Beck in identifying and choosing organizations around the world that work for peace resulted in about \$700 of the invested Shoffner funds (SIEF) being disbursed to Doctors Without Borders, World Vision and Africare. A young boy from El Salvador, Kelvin Gonzalez, age 4, was adopted through World Vision for six months. The younger group chose animals from Heifer International to send abroad from SEIF funds.

For three years \$600 scholarships have gone to Bolivian Quakers as gifts from meeting members and friends. This year the Carriage Shed Sale amplified the scholarships by continuing one for next year. Our two current students are Isaac Limbert Poma Murga, who is in his last year of certification to be a chef and Vanessa Raquel Sirpa Pomacusi who is in her fifth year studying law and political science. The students write lengthy letters describing their studies and participation in their Quaker church youth groups.

This committee has been charged by Monthly Meeting with recommending the recipients of the donations item in the budget. It recommends that the donations to six or more national/international Quaker organizations be continued in the future as has been done for three years. Smaller donations this year came from the T&C budget and went to organizations in which members participate actively: the Neighborhood Service Center, the Multicultural Resource Center, Aguayuda, Detention Center Library, Migrant Worker Ministry, P.E.A.C.E., and Marilla's Lunches. The committee recommends that the Good Samaritan Fund be an ongoing line item in the budget so that it can be adequately funded and not subject to yearly decision-making.

A request to help a family facing eviction for money to pay disputed past rent was turned down by the meeting which does not keep funds available for this kind of emergency. The amount available from the Good Samaritan Fund was limited to \$100 and not enough to help.

The Testimonies and Concerns Committee: Cynthia Browne, Lorraine Claggett, Clerk, Susan Claggett, Susan Dabney, LA Dodge, Norman Hackland, Chris Polk, Connie Pullen, Nancy Robbins, Sarah Sayre, Nancy Wohlsen, Ralph Young. “

Friends noted with appreciation the number of activities Meeting members are involved in. It was noted that we also participate in Food Links, though that was not mentioned. Another Friend suggested that the budgetary recommendations – concerning donations to Quaker organizations and the Good Samaritan Fund -- be handled separately rather than approved as part of the report. This was agreed to. With these modifications, the report was approved with thanks to all.

Property and Grounds Report on Access to Old Meeting House

Meredith Watters, Clerk of Property and Grounds reported on recent activity completed by the Subcommittee to address access to the Old Meeting House. She was providing the information as way of an update. The Subcommittee had met and agreed to provide information about hand rails to Property and Grounds Committee. A style was recommended and a vendor was identified in the community who has a reputation for fine work. The recommendation is to install a set of black powder coat metal handrails on each side of the main entrance steps to the Old Meeting House. The Property and Grounds liked this recommendation and are considering whether to suggest an open railing or one with pickets. Property and Grounds are also considering several means of access or handicap individuals including lifts and various ramp designs. To provide a visual for how much room a ramp would take, a series of flags have been installed at the side entrance to the Meeting House. Meeting Members were encouraged to go out into our community and look at examples of railings and ramps. Especially to review the railings at the Academy of the Arts as example for what might be proposed for the Old Meeting House.

New Business:

Meeting for business was adjourned.

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

IMPORTANT POINTS:

Nominating Committee Preliminary Report

Overseers Proposed revisions to “Members Memorial Intentions Form”

Article from Tom Corl on “Letting Go”

Testimonies and Concerns Annual Report

Announcements -

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

For a thorough summary of coming events, please review the

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

Inward Bound Quiet Day

December 11, 2013 (Wednesday) 10am to 3pm (pot-luck lunch at 12 noon)

Common Room and grounds of Third Haven Friends Meeting

Join us this winter for a day of peace and inward renewal!



"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." Cynthia Quast reflects on her experiences during Inward Bound.

Third Haven Friends Meeting, Worship and Ministry Committee sponsors a series of Quarterly Retreats for the benefit of members, attenders and any interested friends. These "Quiet Days" provide an opportunity for a time away from the busyness of life so that we may reflect and grow spiritually in community. The December holidays are a particularly busy time, and a silent retreat offers a day of listening for the Light within, contemplation, reading, walking the grounds, writing, and self chosen art activities. We enjoy a shared, silent pot-luck lunch, and end our session with a short sharing session.

Quiet days run from 10 am until 3pm, and participants are welcome to come for all or part of a day, entering with respect for the silence of the group. This is a perfect occasion to reflect on the spiritual possibilities of the winter season, while savoring the beauty of Third Haven grounds and buildings. If you have questions please feel welcome to ask either Candace Shattuck candace.shattuck@gmail.com or Katherine Johnson katherinekai@goeaston.net

Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

A friend in Massachusetts writes, " At Swarthmore College, I roomed with a Robert ("Butch") Kemp. He came from Easton, MD, and was also a classmate of mine at Exeter Academy. He was an expert sailor. At the end of our senior year in high school, I took some friends including Butch Kemp sailing on my father's 23' sloop out of Gloucester. We sailed downwind for an hour or so, during which time the wind increased. Since we were running with the wind, we did not notice how strong it had become until we turned back upwind to return home. When sailing upwind, you have to zig-zag because a sailboat cannot sail straight into the wind. It's called beating to windward. You sail for awhile on one tack at a 45° angle to the wind, and then come about and sail on the other tack, repeating this maneuver until you get where you are going.

The wind was blowing so hard that each time we hit a wave, the spray would whip across the boat, so we had to duck every few seconds to avoid getting a face-full of salt spray. It was really hard to pull in the sails on the other side each time we tacked because of the strong wind, so once when we came about I pulled the sail in and cleated it before it filled with wind on the other side. When the wind filled the sail, the boat tipped so far that frigid sea water started to pour in over the gunwale. Robert Kemp pounced on the cleated rope and quickly released it, allowing the boat to right itself, half-swamped. We managed to bail it out and continued to sail home, taking care not to make the same mistake again.

By the time we reached the mooring, our hands were so cold and numb that we could barely use them. The next day the newspaper said that the wind had been gusting up to 50 miles per hour, the Coast Guard had enacted 100 rescues, and several people had drowned. So I owe a lot to Kemp-perhaps even my life! However, I don't know if he is related to Thomas Robinson's Robert Kemp who died in 1809."

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting news

We continue to be in need of folks willing to attend Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on behalf of Third Haven and briefly report back to the meeting. The basic structure, functions, and responsibilities of Interim Meeting are outlined in Faith and Practice. Meetings are held on the second Saturday of January, February, April, May, October and November at the Arch Street Meeting House.

Most members of Interim Meeting are appointed by the PYM monthly meetings, with three at-large members appointed by the yearly meeting plus several ex-officio members. All Interim Meetings are open to Friends and attenders of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and visitors from other Quaker bodies. This is an opportunity to visit Arch Street and steep in the history, then and now, of Philadelphia Yearly meeting. If you are interested in sharing in this occasional service to the meeting, please contact Dee Rein.

Remaining Interim Meeting dates for 2013-2014

- January 11, 2013
- February 8, 2014
- April 12, 2014
- May 10, 2014

Gathering begins at 9:00 am; worship at 9:30 am; business meeting generally begins by 10:00 a.m. and concludes by 1:30 p.m.

Reflections from Discussions on Michelle Alexander's "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness"

by Tatiana "Tania" Hamboyan Harrison

"The United States imprisons a larger percentage of its black population than South Africa did at the height of apartheid." pg. 6

"One in three young African American men will serve time in prison if current trends continue..." pg 9

"Between 1980 and 1984, FBI antidrug funding increased from \$8 million to \$95 million. Department of Defense antidrug allocations increased from \$33 million in 1981 to \$1,042 million in 1991. During that same period, DEA antidrug spending grew from \$86 to \$1,026 million, and FBI antidrug allocations grew from \$38 to \$181 million. By contrast, funding for agencies responsible for drug treatment, prevention, and education was dramatically reduced." pg. 49-50

"When the War on Drugs gained full steam in the mid-1980s, prison admissions for African Americans skyrocketed, nearly quadrupling in three years, and then increasing steadily until it

reach in 2000 a level more than twenty-six times the level in 1983... The number of whites admitted for drug offenses in 2000 was eight times the number admitted in 1983... Although the majority of illegal drug users and dealers nationwide are white, three-fourths of all people imprisoned for drug offenses have been black or Latino." pg. 98

"The racial basis inherent in the drug war is a major reason that 1 in every 14 black men was behind bars in 2006, compared with 1 in 106 white men... One in 9 black men between the ages of twenty and thirty-five was behind bars in 2006." pg. 100

"African Americans were more than six times as likely as whites to be sentence to prison for identical crimes... African American youth account for 16 percent of all youth, 28 percent of all juvenile arrests, 35 percent of the youth waived to adult criminal court, and 58 percent of youth admitted to state adult prison." pg. 118

This is the truth we have been hiding from: that our United States prison systems are mostly full of young African American men; and that they are full not because young African American men are more likely to commit crime, but because they're more likely to be arrested and incarcerated because of crimes committed. This is particularly the case with the "War on Drugs", which has been used disproportionately against African American males to imprison them in federal courts with mandatory minimum sentencing, whereas their white counterparts are instead more likely to be tried in state courts, where mandatory minimum sentencing rules may not apply.

Michelle Alexander's book, "The new Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness", argues that incarcerating young African American males through the "War on Drugs" was done intentionally as a method of control for African American males after the Civil Rights movement. While some may find her premise difficult to believe, what is made abundantly clear in her book are the statistics that show African American males are being imprisoned for the War on Drugs at an obscenely high rate compared to their white male counterparts. For anyone who cares about equality, justice, peace—which I would hope would be all Quakers everywhere—the system has to be changed.

The question then becomes: what can I do? What can we do?

The first step, as always, is education and conversation. Nothing will change if we are

unwilling to discuss race in our criminal justice system. We at Third Haven took this first step during our book discussion group on "The New Jim Crow". Leigh Anne Dodge and I will continue to make ourselves available to any who wish to discuss this issue further or who were perhaps unable to attend the discussions.

Other recommended books include:

- "Time on Two Crosses: The Collected Writings of Bayard Rustin", an African American Quaker who was instrumental in organizing the March on Washington;



- "The Soul Knows No Bars" by Drew Leder, a Baltimore Quaker who teaches philosophy in local prisons;
 - "Black Fire: African American Quakers on Spirituality and Human Rights";
 - and "Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice" by Donna McDaniel and Vanessa Julye;
- all of which are available in Third Haven's library; and "The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration" by Isabel Wilkerson, about the "great migration," the exodus of six million black Southerners out of the terror of Jim Crow to the North and Midwest, which is not available in Third Haven's library, but is available through the Maryland library system.

But what next? As individuals, there are two kinds of actions we can take: local and federal. Federal actions may include: rallies for social justice, emailing Congress and lawmakers to change the laws that support racism in our justice system. There are several non-profit organizations directly involved in ending mass incarceration and the racism in our justice system. They are:

- Drug Policy Alliance: See this link for a flier that contains a brief summary of "The Drug War, Mass Incarceration, and Race".
- Center for Constitutional Rights: They're the group that sued the NYPD for racial profiling in their Stop & Frisk policies.
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): Since the publication of "The New Jim Crow", the ACLU has become more involved in ending mass incarceration and racism. See this link for information about marijuana prosecution in Maryland.
- The Sentencing Project: This group is primarily involved in research about mass incarceration and racism. They're the group that funds the kind of studies that provide the statistics Michelle Alexander uses in her book.
- All of Us or None: Supports people in prisons and those released from prison, particularly those with children.

Local actions may include: investigating local policies regarding the War on Drugs, petitioning local agencies to become more aware of racial bias, encouraging venues to sponsor events about the subject, writing letters to the editor, supporting our local prisoners by donating books to the prison library or becoming involved in groups such as Alternatives to Violence, and more.

We can take any of these actions as individuals or collectively, as a Meeting. But what it all comes down to, Friends, is that we must care. We must open our eyes to the racial reality of our society. We must be willing to acknowledge race before we can confront racism. As Michelle Alexander says,

"Seeing race is not the problem. Refusing to care for the people we see is the problem. The fact that the meaning of race may evolve over time or lose much of its significance is hardly a reason to be struck blind. We should hope not for a colorblind society but instead for a world in which we can see each other fully, learn from each other, and do what we can to respond to each other with love. That was [Martin Luther] King's dream—a society that is capable of seeing each of us, as we are, with love. That is a goal worth fighting for."

2014 NOMINATING COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

CLERKS

Clerk of Monthly Meeting	Candace Shattuck
Assistant Clerk	Dee Rein
Recording Clerk	Molly Burgoyne
Assistant Recording Clerk	Paige Bethke
Treasurer	Cynthia Quast
Membership Recorder	Marsie Hawkinson

COMMITTEES FOR 2014

Budget & Finance: Bill Lane—clerk; Tom Corl, Doreen Getsinger, Neil Mufson, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast (Treasurer of the Meeting), Rob Wieland.

Communications: John Hawkinson; Clerk, newsletter editor; Tatiana Harrison, website manager; Molly Burgoyne, Dee Rein, Newsletter & Telephone, Ralph Young, photographer

Facilities Use: Ann Williams, Clerk; Molly Bond, e-mail contact, Dee Rein.

First Day School: Susan Claggett, clerk; Dawn Atwater, Mark Beck, Sally Claggett (story teller), Catherine Cripps, Beth Mufson, Jeffrey Rank, Cathy Thompson (story teller).

Hospitality: Dona Sorce & Heidi Wetzel (Co-Clerks); Dawn Atwater, Mary Coady, Mary Ann Hillier, Beth Mufson, Ann Womack, Helen Womack, Joyce Zeigler.

Librarians: Tatiana Harrison (technology), Joyce Macijeski (books), Dona Sorce, Norval Thompson, Frank Zeigler.

Nominating Committee: Susan Claggett, clerk; Norval Thompson, Rob Wieland.

Outreach: John Schreiner, Clerk; Dawn Atwater, Lorraine B. Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Peter Howell, Joyce Macijeski, Michael Pullen, Robert Rowe.

Overseers: Adrienne Rudge, clerk; Paige Bethke, Molly Burgoyne, Laurence Claggett, Jr., Deborah Cox, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Connie Lewis, John Schreiner, Norval Thompson

Property and Grounds: Meredith Watters, clerk; Posey Boicourt, assistant clerk; Laurence Claggett, Jr., Lorraine T. Claggett, Ed Danser, Priscilla Morris, Anna Ossler, Nancy Robbins, Sally Vermilye, Joyce Zeigler

Scholarship: Marsie Hawkinson, clerk; Lorraine B. Claggett, Benita Cooper, Debbie Danser, Doreen Getsinger, Peter Howell, Eric Neil, Sumner Parker, Sally Vermilye.

Testimonies & Concerns: Lorraine B. Claggett, clerk; Katie Claggett, Cynthia Browne, Susan Claggett, Susan Dabney, Leigh Anne Dodge, Norman Hackland, Connie Pullen, Nancy Robbins, Sarah Sayre, Dona Sorce, Sally Vermilye, Ralph Young

Worship & Ministry: Tom Corl, clerk; Luisa Adelfio, Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Molly Bond, Katherine Johnson, Bob Marshall, Joyce Macijeski, John Turner, Robert Wieland.

LIAISONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Alternatives to Violence : Leigh Anne Dodge, Ralph Young

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): Leigh Anne Dodge

Detention Center Library, & P.E.A.C.E.: Ralph Young, Leigh Anne Dodge, Robert Wieland.

Food Link: Beth Mufson, Heidi Wetzel, Winslow Womack.

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Frank Zeigler, Mike Pullen.

Interfaith Housing Corporation: Laurence Claggett, Jr., Dona Sorce.

Marilla's Lunches: Ralph Young, Molly Burgoyne, Willow Pittman, Helen Womack, Meredith Watters.

NAACP, Talbot Co: Doreen Getsinger

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM): Dee Rein, Dawn Atwater, Catherine Cripps, Robert Gladney, Emma Leibman, Dona Sorce

Ridgeway House Lunches: Ralph Young, Paige Bethke, Molly Burgoyne, Helen Womack.

Southern Quarterly Meeting: Connie Lewis, Winslow Womack

Talbot Assoc. of Clergy & Laity (TACL): Ralph Young

Talbot Interfaith Homeless Shelter (TIS): Lorraine B. Claggett, Peter Howell, Frank Ryan

Talbot Partnership: Ann Williams

Young People Present to the Meeting



Alternatives to Violence Project participants

