



## **Third Haven Friends Meeting**

*405 South Washington Street*

*Easton, Maryland 21601*

*(410) 822-0293*

*Info@thirdhaven.org*

## **JUNE 2009 NEWSLETTER**

"I just want to take time to express my gratitude for Habitat for Humanity. With all that's going on in the world today, with all the people that are losing their homes, I am eternally grateful for my home. I thank God everyday for the home he has blessed me with. A home that I can afford and don't have to worry about losing. A home that was well built and still standing. If it had not been for Habitat I probably would have still been living in a too small apartment or a home I most likely could not afford. Thank you Habitat for my home. Thank you habitat for blessing others as well as myself with affordable homes. Thank you for doing God's will (helping others!) may the favor of God rest upon you as you continue to do his will!!"

Sincerely grateful, Tasha B. and family

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes for the 5th Month, 10th, 2009**

1. Call to order: John Schreiner, Clerk of Meeting, called to order the meeting for business at 11:40am after a brief period of silent worship.
2. Attending: Mark Beck, Paige Bethke, Molly Bond, Molly Burgoyne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Mary Cotton, Joe Davis, Jamie duHoffman, Doreen Getsinger, Tania Harrison, Marsie Hawkinson, Peter Howell, Sumner Parker, Aiyana Paterson-Zinkand, Jim Paul, Peggy Paul, John Schreiner, Cathy Thompson, Meredith Watters, Heidi Wetzel, John Winterbottom, Winslow Womack, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler, Joyce Zeigler
3. Minutes: The minutes were approved from the 4th month.
4. Query: The Query "Education" was read during meeting for worship. The importance of having a Scholarship Fund was remarked upon. Promoting the individual education of a Quaker child as well as helping a Quaker school has much meaning to our Meeting. A recent visitor to Lansdowne expressed the importance of that education in her life as well as the impressiveness of their ongoing school programs.
5. Guidance and Support: The Clerk directed our attention to the Advices of Ministry and Worship from May 14th 2006. These Advices can be found on our website and will be reprinted in the newsletter. In essence, they call for remembering to be respectful listeners and finding a state of being teachable in our interactions with business of the Meeting. All should please let

the Clerk know at least a week in advance of any material that should be on the agenda for business and important points of committee work or actions should be in writing. Speakers should stick to the subject, speak clearly and loudly. All should consider the time committees put into threshing over details and try not to go back over all their work again. The Clerk wants to make better use of needful silence in these meetings for worship with attention to business.

6. Trustees: The Trustees recently met for their annual meeting. A letter was written to Jeanine Bartlett expressing our gratitude for the years of service Tom gave the Meeting. Property and Grounds has submitted a request for extensive pruning and the Trustees approved a bid of \$1700 for this job. They will also work with P & G on their request for grading of the driveway. The Scholarship Fund was allocated \$1500. Lawrence Claggett, Jr was named as the new Trustee replacing Tom Bartlett.

7. Treasurer's Report: (please see <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> Committee Reports, Budget & Finance) The 1st Quarter Report shows that we have a \$900 deficit thus far this year. We are under budget for members' contributions and we have had the extra expenses of the Good Samaritan Fund and the Scholarship Fund. We are down about 7% on revenue and up about 22% in expenses. The Carriage Shed Sale Funds have been zeroed out and spent. The B&F committee asked that we consider allocating the Camp Funds to 1st Day School. The Meeting approved this. After thanking Joe Davis and the treasurer for this report, the meeting approved this report.

8. Communications Committee: Thanks again to John Hawkinson and this committee for their diligent work on the beautiful, accurate, and current 325th edition of our Directory. Job well done!

9. Budget & Finance: (please see <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> Committee Reports, Budget & Finance). Joe Davis reviewed this preliminary proposed budget. In expenses, there is a break this year on worker's compensation, on appliances, water, sewer and utilities but an increase in trash costs. The committees not submitting a new budget have been given the same amount as last year. There are two new items; Quaker Quest and Meeting Anniversary Celebration. Resale items purchased has been increased to reflect what we actually spend. Member contributions have been increased by \$1500 and Attenders by \$150. There was discussion regarding whether or not to put the Scholarship Fund as a line item in the budget since it can be contributed to separately. There was some talk on committee that this may be objectionable to some Friends. B & F sought some guidance with this matter. Two Friends from the Scholarship Committee spoke of the importance of this to our children and the Meeting as a whole. There was a sense of the Meeting that this line item should be kept in the budget for the following year. Ralph Young will check to see if the website [whatsoeveryou.do.net](http://whatsoeveryou.do.net) is still functioning. The Homeless Shelter is not currently included in this year's budget proposal but Jamie duHoffmann is going to take that up with T&C. The Meeting thanked B&F for their work so far. These discussions will continue next month.

10. Interim Meeting Report: Priority Process Committee met and developed a report to be given to the Monthly Meetings. This will be printed in our next newsletter.

11. Use of Property: We have a formal request for the wedding of Greg Hildebrand and Sarah Toman on our property on Saturday, October 24th. . The Common Room will not be used. A deposit of \$100 was submitted along with the required forms. The Meeting approved this and Overseers will select a Friendly presence for that event.

12. Membership: Overseers has held Clearness committees for Constance and Mike Pullen and for Aiyana Peterson-Zinkand. The Meeting is overjoyed in welcoming and approving these

new members. The Welcoming Committee for Constance and Mike Pullen is Ralph Young, Molly Burgoyne, and Paige Bethke. The Welcoming Committee for Aiyana Peterson-Zinkand is Susan Claggett, Molly Burgoyne, and Marsie Hawkinson.

13. Quaker Quest: The Steering Committee for Quaker Quest has now been formed of 9 members. Some of these came from the Nominating Committee and some volunteered. They are charged with developing a minute for Quaker Quest as it pertains to our Meeting as far as time, money, manpower and commitment is concerned. They plan to meet this Saturday at 10am in the Common Room.

14. Other Business: We will be hosting SQM on May 17th. June 7th will be "Moving Up Day". The Children's Garden has begun! A labyrinth has been constructed. Benches made by John Hawkinson and a boat made by Winslow Womack will be used in the garden.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 12:40pm.

Respectfully submitted, *Molly Burgoyne*

The Treasurer's report and the proposed budget for the next fiscal year as presented on May 10, 2009 have been posted on the Third Haven website ([www.thirdhaven.org](http://www.thirdhaven.org)) under committee reports.

### **Third Haven Monthly Meeting Announcements**

Meetings for Worship

First Days 10am            Fourth Days 5:30pm

June 3

June 7

June 10

June 14

June 17

June 21

June 24

June 7 (Sunday) Moving up day when First Day School honors young people graduating from middle school, high school, and college with a short celebration at the rise of meeting. Potluck lunch will follow, outdoors if weather permits; please bring a dish to share. This is a good time to invite any family members back to worship as well as any family friends who may be interested in our Faith and the children who attend. Thank you, Susan Claggett, Clerk FDS

June 12 (Friday) 7 pm There will be a discussion of the book 'Conversations with God : An Uncommon Dialogue' by Neale Donald Walsch, in the common room, facilitated by Tom Corl.

June 14 (Sunday ) Final First Day School for the spring. Meeting for worship followed by meeting for business.

Lila's Lineup Care Committee is seeking Friends who would be willing to put their names on a transportation resource list. The transportation resource list will be used by the week's care committee captain to find a Friend who can pick up Lila Line for First Day Meeting for Worship and/or return her to her residence at the Envoy Nursing Home in Denton. If you can help in any way, please contact Dee Rein [dmr49@verizon.net](mailto:dmr49@verizon.net) 410-819-0529.

An opportunity for service has come to the meeting through Habitat for Humanity, which is asking us to consider choosing the level and type of participation suiting our meeting. We need a leader to coordinate this effort and to know if anyone would like to volunteer in general. Please contact Gwen Beegle at 410-820-7303 or [gbeegle@goeaston.net](mailto:gbeegle@goeaston.net).

Each Thursday evening from 5 to 5:30, there join us for a Silent Peace Vigil in front of the courthouse on Washington St. Weather conditions have not interfered with the vigil. Many signs are available or bring your own. Join this protest to support the cause of non-violence in the world.

Volunteers are needed to continue the library program at the Talbot County Detention Center. Contact Leigh Ann Dodge: 410-822-5998

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY** Do you have a knack for mentoring or tutoring? Do you like to drive others to appointments, or enjoy visiting the elderly? Are you artistic? Talbot County Department of Social Services is looking for special people to fill a variety of volunteer opportunities. Please call Pat Murphy, Volunteer Coordinator at 410-77-4958 or email [pmurphy5@dhr.state.md.us](mailto:pmurphy5@dhr.state.md.us)

The primary food pantry in Easton at the Neighborhood Service Center is in need. In the past year, the growing number of families served each week by the pantry has doubled to 150. Several faith communities in Easton are regularly collecting non-perishables for this pantry. On a bench along the east side of the common room is a plastic container marked "Third Haven Food Bank for the Neighborhood Service Center". It is hoped that members and attenders will bring at least one non-perishable each time they attend a Meeting for Worship.

If you haven't looked at the Third Haven website for a while, there are some new postings... <http://www.thirdhaven.org/>

## REMINDERS

Worship and Ministry would like to remind all members and attenders of the list of recommended reading material on the web site.

To contribute to our meeting please address your contribution to Third Haven Monthly Meeting, and mail to Third Haven Treasurer, PO Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601

To contribute to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Annual Fund (mention Third Haven) mail to PYM Development Office, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

**Scholarship Application Deadline** The deadline for Third Haven scholarship applications is June 15. Applications should be sent to the Scholarship Committee, c/o Third Haven. Anyone with questions can contact Pete Howell at 410-924-5752.

## Philadelphia Yearly Meeting DATES FOR 2009

July 29 to August 2, 2009 for the PYM summer sessions at DeSales University.

June 27-July 4, 2009 - Friends General Conference "Wings of Joy. Fire of Love" is the theme for the 2009 held in Blacksburg, VA. If you are interested in attending, please speak to Susan Claggett about early sign ups and financial aid. She plans to drive there this summer.

COMPLETE TEXT MATERIAL - updated March 15, 2009 features coming events listed by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and other major Quaker organizations which may be found on the Third Haven Website, <http://www.thirdhaven.org/> click on Complete Text Material on the home page. Find more information at [www.pym.org](http://www.pym.org)

## Remarks at the May 17, 2009 Southern Quarterly Meeting

" Quaker Meeting is a great experience for me growing up as a child because every Sunday I have the ability to get away from my school work , and sports and just sit and do nothing for a hour. Also I enjoy hearing the stories in Sunday School and I try to apply them to my daily life."

Brandt S. Bethke

"My speech was what I thought about Quakerism. I said I liked how it seemed on my generation people and kids could do active things outside, not just sit around and read from the Bible all day. Also I thought it was cool how nowadays Quakers use a lot of technology in different ways. So those were some things I thought and enjoy about the Quaker religion. "



Evan Claggett

Mike Richards recalls,

" When Quarterly Meeting was held many years ago at Little Creek Meeting (east of Dover - before Camden Meeting was established) in May, the mosquito's were so bad that the horses tried to get down and roll while they were still hitched to the carriages and buggies. It was decided that henceforth, spring Quarterly Meetings would be held at Third Haven and the fall Quarterly Meetings would be at Little Creek. (I also mentioned that the Delaware Bay, as opposed to the Chesapeake) does not have fast land that meets the bay for the most part - but has huge marshes that run inland 2 or 3 miles - before coming to fast land. These marshes are breeding grounds for mosquito's - and the Little Creek Meeting is very close to the marsh."

"My mother said that when Third Haven Friends were coming over for Quarterly Meeting - (a 3 or 4 day affair) in her grandfather's time, he always had to hide his violin under the eaves in the attic. At that time Friends did not approve of music - at least not in Meeting for Worship, so in order not to offend anyone the violin was hidden away."

"I also mentioned a little about Murderkill Meeting - near here (does not exist anymore) - and that Quakers did not like that name - so in order to make it better, they changed it to Motherkill Meeting! "

Frank Zeigler quotes from Kenneth Carroll's book "Three Hundred Years & More of Third Haven's Quakerism - (Page 45)

"The same spirit of simplicity expresses itself in the lack of heating, other than the natural heat thrown off by the bodies of those present, until 1779 when James Berry was requested to obtain a stove for Third Haven Meetinghouse. One of the Parvins, probably Benjamin, was so offended by this surrender of 'worldliness' and 'ease', that he developed a habit of hiding the abomination by covering it with his coat. One cold First Day morning some Friends who arrived early, lit a fire in the stove before Parvin tried to cover it - without his noting that a fire was started. The building was endangered by a fire which fortunately was soon extinguished."



## **Third Haven Friends Meeting Trustees Annual Meeting Synopsis March 26, 2009**

Present: Marsie Hawkinson, Clerk, Allan Mielke, Treasurer, Sumner Parker, Monimia Barker, Ken Carroll, Diana Rein, Secretary.

The following topics were covered:

A Letter of appreciation to Jeanine Bartlett. on behalf of her husband Tom Bartlett for his 41 years of service as a trustee was read and approved for mailing.

Minutes and Treasurers Report were approved. The Operating Statement for December 31, 2008 (attached) was presented by Allan Mielke. The Trust is solvent.

Property and Grounds Committee submitted requests:

Extensive pruning of significant trees and removal of a broken tree off a corner of the old building to be done by Angus Ford for \$1700 was approved.

Grading and stone for the meeting house lane may be supported in part by the Trustees once an estimate is received. Decision was tabled pending such an estimate.

Solar Panel installation is not currently a priority of the Property and Ground Committee.

Scholarship Committee progress was presented by Sumner Parker. The committee thus far has \$18000 in donations and another \$7500 in pledges plus the \$1500 pledged by the Trustees. Sumner expressed concern that the donations came from fewer than 20 contributors rather than the entire meeting community. Marsie suggested he report at the next Meeting for Business in order to raise awareness of the scholarship program. Monimia expressed concern that a call she received soliciting a donation was not presented in the manner of Friends. Ken indicated the importance of providing scholarship aid to adult inquirers interested in learning about Quakers. It was agreed that the Scholarship Committee had formed and been approved by the meeting, had begun its work and therefore met the Trustees stipulations from March 2008. Hence, Allan will write a check to the Scholarship Committee for the agreed \$1500.

A new Trustee, Laurence Claggett Jr. was approved.

Election of Officers by unity resulted in: President Marsie Hawkinson, Treasurer Allan Mielke, Secretary Diana Rein.

## **ADVICES REGARDING THE MEETING FOR BUSINESS**

A minute approved by Third Haven Monthly Meeting 5/14/06

Advices to members and attenders.

All members and attenders are encouraged to attend the Meeting for Business. Each of us needs to be aware of our responsibilities to the Meeting community and the impact we might have upon our Meeting for Business. Therefore, the following advices are presented for your thoughtful consideration:

- The Meeting for Business is held in the Spirit of a Meeting for Worship. Offerings in the Meeting for Business are akin to vocal ministry, except they concern our corporate actions rather than our spiritual being.
- Listen with care and tenderness to the words of each Friend. Hold these words in the Light. It is strongly suggested that there be a period of silence following each offering.
- Regardless of how any individual's viewpoint aligns with others, genuine love and tenderness must be offered to and received from each member and attender of the Meeting. All else is not Spirit-led and is inconsistent with the pursuit of truth in unity. Be prepared to release words of others that are not of the Spirit.
- We must keep from obstinacy and harshness of tone or manner and be ready to admit the possibility of being in error.
- Be aware that excessively long offerings, where one outruns a leading, unnecessarily consumes the time of many. Use the silence between offerings to prepare expressions of your discernment.

- When deliberations are in-progress, do not be timid in vocalizing either disquiet or lack of clarity regarding a proposal.
- When speaking, please stand and speak with full volume.
- Try to speak once to an issue. If a Friend has “spoken your mind”, simply note this. At the time the Clerk places an issue before the Meeting, you will then have an opportunity to voice your “I approve”.
- After a proposal has been approved by the Meeting, it should not be a common practice for the issue to be revisited.
- We must acknowledge that the search for truth in unity requires discernment in the Light. We must be open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the Meeting. We must be teachable.

#### Advices to committee clerks, Meeting representatives, and committee members

Much of what is brought to our attention during the Meeting for Business comes from the clerks of committees or through our Meeting's representatives to various local or Quaker organizations. These members of our Meeting take on an important and significant role in the smooth conduct and transparent processes of the business of our Meeting and, therefore, the following advices are presented:

- Committees are encouraged to be mindful of our testimonies and concerns in their deliberations, and this should be reflected in the reports of committee clerks. Committees serve the monthly meeting not only by carrying on routine delegated functions, but also by doing important background work in preparation for decisions at the monthly meeting for business. They examine designated matters in depth, identify the issues, gather the most useful information, and make seasoned recommendations for decision by the Meeting. When this work is done well, the monthly meeting in session is able to focus quickly on the matter at hand.
- Committee clerks and Meeting representatives are encouraged to submit agenda items to the Clerk one week prior to the Meeting for Business.
- It is suggested that reports at the Meeting for Business be concise and preferably written out for presentation to all attending the meeting. The value of written reports is significant and includes: (1) a more thorough and precise preparation of what is presented to the meeting; (2) those present at the meeting are able to read and follow along with each report, offsetting any need to repeat portions of the report; (3) the written report becomes a valuable aid to the recording clerk for preparation of minutes; and (4) a written report provides an item that can be easily included in the monthly newsletter and, when appropriate, in the weekly e-mailed announcements.
- If a committee is planning to present a matter to the Meeting community or is going to request that a potential action be taken, then the clerk of that committee is encouraged to distribute the proposal through the communications committee for the Meeting community to consider in advance of the next Meeting for Business.
- Committee clerks (or their designated representatives) are encouraged to report the outcomes, and the salient features of deliberations, of their committees at the Meeting for Business. Committee clerks are encouraged not to overstep these bounds by introducing topics that have not been previously brought before their committees, unless it is a matter of extreme urgency. We come together, not to hear everything that might be heard on a subject, but enough to move forward with it.

- Since we do not have clergy, we are jointly responsible for our Meeting community, our grounds and buildings, and our service to the community. Each of our committees is important to the health and spiritual well-being of our Meeting. In the weeks prior to the Meeting for Business, all committee members are encouraged to be mindful of their responsibilities in this regard and come to the Meeting for Business prepared to contribute to the discussion of issues that have come before their committee.

#### Advices to the Clerk of the Meeting

All of us need to be aware of what is expected of our Clerk during a Meeting for Business. We must recognize that any of us, at any time, might be called upon to serve our Meeting in this capacity. The following advices have been prepared for this position within our Meeting:

- An agenda should be prepared by the Clerk prior to the Meeting for Business, with copies made for distribution to all present at the Meeting for Business.
- During the Meeting for Business, be mindful that our committees are the place where much of the work of the Meeting is done. After a Spirit-led offering by a member or attender, if it is sensed that the matter warrants further attention, the Clerk may wish to suggest a committee where the issue can receive thoughtful attention.
- The Clerk is encouraged to allow for further offerings from members and attenders as the Spirit assists in defining the issue for consideration, but there should be a recognition that the Meeting for Business may not be the place for initial deliberations on the topic, unless it is a matter of extreme urgency that cannot be laid over to a subsequent Meeting for Business (which would allow time for the topic to be discussed by an appropriate committee).
- There should be silence after an offering. “Conversation” in Meeting for Business does not allow us to discern that which is of the Spirit in an offering. If a second offering is made directly after someone has spoken then ask for silence before proceeding. The Clerk asks for expressions of concern or disagreement before final approval. It is the Clerk's responsibility to acknowledge silence as agreement. Once an item is approved, it should not be a common practice for the Meeting to go back and discuss it further.

#### **Congratulations!**

Brandt Bethke was awarded the Country School Matthew Bly Cowdry Outstanding Athlete Award





Third Haven participates in the Multicultural Festival



Trying out the new maze



An old friend retires



Marilla's lunches, assembly line style with volunteers of all faiths



Talbot Co. Detention Center Lending Library Staff on the job



Leigh Ann Dodge meets a member of the first AVP workshop held 34 years ago at the National AVP Convention

Robert Wieland shares his personal journey at the Rise of Meeting

