

## ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWS

**Meeting Telephone:** (410-573-0364)

**Clerk:** Barbara Thomas

**Building Use Coordinator(BUC):**Lloyd Jones (410-266-5612)

**Annapolis Friends Meeting Website:**

[www.quaker.org/annapolis](http://www.quaker.org/annapolis)

**AFNews:** AFMeeting@yahoo.com

Mary Barbera (410-626-0732)

**Meetings for Worship:**

**Annapolis Friends Meeting House, 351 DuBois Road, Annapolis  
First Days, 11:00 A.M.**

**First Day School for Children**

**11:15 A.M. (Join Meeting for Worship from 11:00-11:15)**

**Nursery Care for Our Youngest**

**11:00 A.M. (For questions call Suzanne Spoor at 410 257 2379)**

**Meetings for Worship with a**

**Concern for Business:**

**1<sup>st</sup> First Day of Month at 9:00 A.M.**

**Adult Religious Education:**

**As noted in calendar below**

### MARCH 2008 CALENDAR

02	(1)	9:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		12:00 Noon	-	<b>Potluck &amp; Amigos de las Americas (page 7)</b>
03				<b>Meeting provides Lighthouse Shelter Supper (page 5)</b>
09	(2)	8:00 A.M.	-	Early Meeting for Worship
		9:00 A.M.	-	<b>Adult Meeting for Learning: Easter (page 4)</b>
		9:15 A.M.	-	<b>Quarterly Meeting Business Meeting (page 3)</b>
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		1:15 P.M.	-	<b>Quarterly Meeting Sessions (page 4)</b>
10		7:00 P. M.	-	Growing and Greening at Jordan's
16	(3)	9:00 A.M.	-	Committee Meetings
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		12:30 P.M.	-	CREC Committee Meeting
19		12:00 Noon	-	Lunch Bunch
20		7:00 P.M.	-	<b>Peace and Justice Center Meeting (page 7)</b>
23	EASTER (4)	7:00 A.M.	-	<b>Easter Early Meeting for Worship (page 4)</b>
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		12:30 P.M.	-	<b>Growing and Greening Committee Meeting</b>
		9:00 P.M.	-	<b>Newsletter Items Due:</b> email AFMeeting@ yahoo.com
30	(5)	<b>9:00 A.M.</b>	-	<b>Fifth First Day Coffee</b>
		10:00 A.M.	-	<b>Visitor's Sunday Gathering (page 4)</b>
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship

**Care of the Meeting House for Third Month: Meeting House and Lands**

### QUERIES FOR THIRD MONTH: THE MEETING COMMUNITY

Are love and harmony within the Meeting community fostered by a spirit of open sharing? Do you endeavor to widen your circle of friendships within the Meeting, seeking to know persons of all ages and at all stages of the spiritual journey? Does the Meeting provide for the spiritual refreshment of all members and attenders? Do Friends provide spiritual and practical care for the elderly, the lonely, and others with special needs? *Faith and Practice, p.38.*

**SECOND MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS MINUTES**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Day of the Second Month, 2008**

**Present:** J. Christianson, P. Schenck, W & M Candler, J. DeLorge, N & S Elsbree, D. Walizer, D. Sillars, L. Pickens, W. Jordon, C. Krafft, C. Mayer, L. Pickens, S. Oliva, M. Gerace, J. Mendelman, J. Hobbins, M. Leonard, S. Dapkunis, E. Albert, D. Evarrt, P. Caroom, B. Peregoy.

Meeting began with centering worship.

Mike Gerace held the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business in God's Loving Light.

**Pastoral Care:** Margaret Candler reporting::

The marriage of Carole Hitchings and Bill Kinzer joyfully took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> Month 8<sup>th</sup> day, 2007 at the Meeting House.

**Ministry and Worship: Dot Walizer reporting:**

The spiritual state of the Meeting will be compiled and sent to BYM; a request was made for clerks to send summaries of their committees to Dot Walizer by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Month, 2008 after committees meet. The worship sharing for this report will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> Day of Second Month, near the end of Meeting for Worship.

Recommendation for membership for Joanna Mendelman was joyfully affirmed.

**Peace and Social Concerns:** Sylvia Oliva reporting:

**MINUTE IN SUPPORT OF REPEAL OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN MARYLAND**

Based on the commandment "Thou shalt not kill," Annapolis Friends Meeting fundamentally opposes the death penalty. We believe no human being has the right to take the life of another.

Fundamental Quaker Testimonies recognize the divine creation and essential equality of all people. We also believe that the death penalty is contrary to our witness for peace and to our seeking to build community.

Annapolis Friends Meeting, of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), calls on the Governor and our representatives to the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates to enact legislation to repeal Maryland's death penalty statutes and, further, to enact an immediate moratorium on executions in Maryland until such legislation is ratified into law.

We as Friends, approved this Minute, with possible amendments to be made, with further consideration of the newsletter article "Killing Prisoners," addressing this concern. It will then to be distributed to our governor and all of our legislators. Gratitude was expressed to Ted Weber for his hard work on this Minute.

Generating FCNL priorities:

Friends Committee on National Legislation (a Washington, D.C. Quaker Congressional lobbying organization) is preparing priorities for its lobbying work with the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-2010) and is seeking recommendations from all Monthly Meetings. FCNL has asked our Meeting to identify five top priorities that should be the focus in 2009-2010 and to send them our response by April 30th. All Friends (Young Friends included) are urged to participate. An email and written notice will be distributed to inform Friends as to how to participate in a simple survey to indicate our recommendations. Included, will be a list of several of FCNL's current legislative priorities and other areas of concern. Choose from these and any other priorities. This same information about the survey will also be printed in the March Newsletter. [*See Newsletter pages 10-11*]

Please advise Sylvia Oliva of your choices by email or by phone or by placing your list in the PSC mailbox by the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Second Month. At the Forth Month Meeting for Business, the results of the survey will be presented and, following concurrence, will be sent to FCNL before April 30<sup>th</sup>. Enthusiasm for these suggestions to be sent to PSC, was expressed.

**Continued on following page)**

## Minutes Continued:

### **Reports:**

Friends House: Nan Elsbree reporting:

For the past five years Nan Elsbree has been the BYM representative to Friends House and will be ending her term this year. Friends House is situated next to both the BYM office and Sandy Spring School. The board is made up of Quakers nominated by BYM and the board, serving two 3 year terms to rotate off for at least a year. Friends House was conceived in 1946 for low income elders. The first building was constructed in 1867 with the help of HUD. For 40 years, Friends House has had an active assistance program, subsidizing rent, medicine, eye glasses and other expenses. Friends House constitutes a community of which half are Quaker and all are active. They even grow vegetables for meals and flowers for use in the buildings. There is a monthly residents meeting at which problems are discussed and often resolved. Residents help in running the library and driving groups or individuals as needed. One of the reasons Friends House was created was to assist those who had served Quakerism and needed help with a place to live in their later years.

BYM's Role with FUM: Barbara Thomas reporting:

For several years BYM has withheld financial contributions to FUM. This 8<sup>th</sup> Month, summaries of this relationship will be addressed at Yearly Meeting. The PSC committee of BYM has expressed sincere recommendations for funds to be released to support the work of peace in Kenya.

A report was read and the history reviewed. A worshipful discussion was commenced on the Query: "How can BYM best nurture meaningful relationships with other parts of the Religious Society of Friends as well as Friends in other countries while remaining true to our own leadings, expressions, convictions and testimonies on equality and diversity."

The following comments were noted: Perhaps BYM needs a larger presence at FUM, when they meet at the FUM Triennial. BYM has continued to be involved in a very positive way with FUM and needs commendation for such actions. FUM may need to be reminded of the teachings of Jesus. BYM may choose to ask to be recorded as 'not united' with particular aspects of FUM's determined policies. Change is a slow process and perhaps over time and exposure FUM will change. An urgent suffering in Kenya is calling us to respond now.

The 1964 statement "The Spiritual Basis for Unity" from BYM was read.

PSC was asked to consider a contribution from the Emergent Social Concerns Funds to assist in the remedy of the problems in Kenya.

It was recommended that M&W and Pastoral Care come together to set a Worship Sharing around the BYM and FUM, at a time which does not interfere with the 11am meeting for worship.

**Treasurer' Report:** Wes Jordon reporting

We ended 2007 with a surplus of \$8293.24, the use of which will be determined.

These minutes were read and approved during Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Meeting closed with silent worship.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Barbara Thomas, Clerk

Marcia Ormsby, Recording Clerk

---

## **QUARTERLY MEETING AT ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING**

The nine Monthly Meetings of the Chesapeake Quarter will gather at our Meeting House on Sunday, March 9 to build community and do business. Would you like to learn *How Stony Run grew so large? How Sandy Spring has been able to start schools, retirement centers, and new Meetings? How a tiny Meeting like Seneca Valley Preparative survives? How Peace and Social Concerns operates at Homewood? What Pastoral Care does at Little Falls? Why youth are so important to Friends at Patapsco?* Then come and join us!

Quarterly Business Meeting is from 9:20 to 10:50. Regional Friends will join us for worship and potluck (which is where you can ask all those questions—and others—to learn from our guests' experience). At 1:15, Phil Caroom, Pat Schenck, and Barb Thomas will speak about how we have gotten Annapolis Peace and Justice Center started. At 2:15 Will Candler will review his new book, *Global Warming, The Answer*, and at 3:15 Ted Weber and Karen Jennings will discuss MD state initiatives and actions options on environmental concerns.

There is something for everyone! Please join us for all or part. Come early, bring good food, and welcome our guests!

## MINISTRY AND WORSHIP CORNER

### EASTER SUNDAY AT ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING

Early morning worship will begin at 7 o' clock in the morning on 23 March. Please wear good walking shoes, as we will move into a walking meditation at approximately 0730. The walking meditation will take us down into the Ravine along the path that borders our property. If there has been a recent rainfall, the path may be slightly muddy in places. A light breakfast will be shared after everyone has returned.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING 2008

On February 17, in accordance with "Faith and Practice," we held our annual Spiritual State of the Meeting Worship Sharing. Our Worship Sharing centered around the queries of:

How Does Truth prosper among you?

How do we stand with each other in love and conviction?

How can we take reflections about the Spiritual State of the Meeting and put them into action?

If you were unable to be present for the Worship Sharing, or have a reflection that you wish to bring forward, please contact any member of Ministry and Worship, prior to 16 March. Comments can be written, or emailed to [dewalizer@msn.com](mailto:dewalizer@msn.com) or [pfavero@umd.edu](mailto:pfavero@umd.edu).

\*\*\*\*\*

### FIFTH FIRST DAY COFFEE

We have set aside every fifth First Day (March 30 at 9:00 am) for an informal gathering around the concern of membership: how one becomes (or why would you want to become) a member of the RSO (a.k.a. Quakers) or other questions regarding Quaker tradition and worship. If you have questions about membership -- or would just like a chance to talk about the Quaker tradition and what membership means, please come and join us for a cup of coffee. There is no set formal agenda. Everyone, Friends who are members or Sojourners and friends who are attenders or the merely curious, are most welcome and can drop in or out of the conversation anytime between 9:00 and 11:00. See you in the Library.

---

## OUTREACH CORNER

### VISITORS' SUNDAY AND FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

This year, AFM Outreach Committee will sponsor two Visitors' Sundays on March 30 and August 31. This is an opportunity to invite family, friends, and neighbors who have taken mild interest in Friends but would not normally seek us out. We will gather with you and your visitors at 10:00 a.m. over coffee and bagels to give a bit of background about Quakers prior to Meeting for Worship. If you let us know who you might be bringing, we can tailor our conversation to your visitors.

Outreach has selected not to have their annual "Newcomers' Sunday" in the fall as it didn't seem to serve its intended purpose of integrating newcomers into the life of the community. Instead, we have begun a "Friendly Connections" program, matching newcomers with more seasoned Friends who can guide them through the maze of acronyms, committees, and Quaker ways. If you are a newcomer and would like a "friendly connection" or if you would be willing to be a "friendly connection," please let a member of Outreach know: Barbara Thomas, Lee Lougee, Bonnie Peregoy, or Chris Rozycki.

---

*This is the reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you ... for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and love and of self-discipline. II Timothy 1:7*

## PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS CORNER

### ANNAPOLIS AREA MINISTRIES LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER, ANCHOR HOUSE SHELTER, AND PANTRY

AFM provides the shelter meal each first Monday (March 3<sup>rd</sup> this month). Peter Meredith (410-647-2487) and Marcia Ormsby (410-280-5025) serve as our schedulers to identify Friends to coordinate monthly meals. We also collect non-perishable food items to deliver to the pantry after each first First Day. These items may be placed in the container in the hallway of the Meeting House.

\*\*\*\*\*

### INTERGENERATIONAL LIGHT HOUSE BENEFIT DANCE, SATURDAY MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> 7 – 10PM

The caller and the band are contributing their talents. St. Anne's has waived the rental fee for the use of their parish hall. Now we just need you to show up and make our benefit event worthwhile! It doesn't matter if you have never done contra dancing, you don't have to come with a partner, and you don't even have to dance. Just come and have a good time. It would also be helpful if you would bring a plate of finger food to share. Leftovers will be packaged up and delivered to the Light House Shelter on Monday with our normal first Monday meal there. The main event is from 7 to 10 pm at St. Anne's Parish Hall (199 Duke of Gloucester St.), with \$2 parking available at the Hillman Parking Garage (150 Gorman St.). The minimum suggested donation is \$10 per adult, \$5 ages 10-18, under 10 free. Thanks to Bonnie Peregoy and Ken Mayer we have beautiful fliers and a web page for this event. Fliers will be available February 24<sup>th</sup> at meeting. If you want to post fliers before that, they are available at the web page, which you can access through the AFM website, or directly at <http://annapolis.quaker.org/lighthouseContra.html>. For more information, contact Cairn Krafft (410 257 2379; [cairnkrafft@comcast.net](mailto:cairnkrafft@comcast.net)). For more information or to RSVP for the pre-dance social event for Young Friends from 5 to 7, please contact Martin Krafft ([harpo\\_lives@hotmail.com](mailto:harpo_lives@hotmail.com); 410 257 2379).

\*\*\*\*\*

### ABRIDGED PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 2/17/08

We were reminded that PSC is sponsoring Martin Krafft's presentation on Amigos de las Americas during 3/2/08 potluck. Donations to Amigos will be welcome at that time if Friends feel so led.

#### **Kenya Peacemaking**

The issue of post-election violence and ethnic conflict in Kenya was discussed in 2<sup>nd</sup> month Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business, and Meeting requested that PSC consider using the Emergent Social Concerns Fund to respond to the crisis. Jean and Mike researched our options for financial assistance to Kenya, and PSC reviewed the possibilities. PSC committee agreed that \$300 to be taken from ESC fund for FUM and \$300 for AGLI, both specified for peacemaking in Kenya. Jean will complete the ESC Fund request process, and PSC will present this at 3<sup>rd</sup> month business meeting. Jean will compose letters for Meeting Clerk to send to FUM and AGLI with the donations. [See Newsletter page 9]

Jean will also announce possibilities for Kenya donations at rise of meeting and send checks Friends may offer together, to designated organizations, indicating Annapolis Friends offer their prayers and support. Jean will provide information for AFNews so Friends can independently make donations to address the crisis.

#### **Clerk's Reflection:**

Sylvia shared her vision for our committee as a body whose members have various functions and unique gifts to contribute to the whole. We are here to build a beloved community, to discern God's will for our committee, and discern the contribution we are called to make in God's world. Spirit is working within us. Friends must be encouraged to share insights and listen deeply to each other. The clerk's job is to help establish an atmosphere of openness to God and to each other, and to link our committee with other AFM committees, with the Meeting as a whole and with BYM PSC Committee. It seems that this reflection could be very helpful to us as we review and consider revising our mission statement/committee description in the future. We closed in silent worship.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **DARFUR UPDATE: MASS ATROCITIES THERE AND ELSEWHERE**

by Sylvia Oliva

Situation on the ground: Authorized by the UN Security Council, UNAMID peacekeeping troops began their deployment to Darfur in January. Although 26,000 troops were promised, only 9,000 have thus far arrived, largely due to obstructive tactics by the Sudanese government. The troops lack the helicopters and other equipment needed to do their job. Meanwhile, security in the camps continues to deteriorate, villages are still being bombed by Sudanese government planes, and humanitarian aid too often is hindered from reaching the people.

Save Darfur Coalition action: Jerry Fowler became the new Executive Director of the Save Darfur Coalition. The Coalition very often works in joint efforts with other organizations such as the Genocide Intervention Network, Amnesty International, Dream for Darfur, STAND, and many others. Two major campaigns—divestment and the China Olympics—are working: So far 22 states have passed divestment legislation, and regarding the Olympics, Steven Spielberg has resigned as artistic director for the opening and closing games in China.

Other African countries are suffering mass atrocities against their civilians. In Kenya the violence following the election continues as the death toll has exceeded 1,000, and more than 350,000 Kenyans have been displaced. In Eastern Chad thousands of rebels tried to overthrow the Chadian government in early February, and hundreds of civilians were killed. Somalia, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of Congo are other major violent hotspots in Africa; other places of the world include Myanmar (Burma), Sri Lanka, and—of course, Iraq. We don't forget these people.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **PROCEDURE FOR RECOMMENDING RECIPIENTS OF THE ESC FUND**

All Friends who wish at any time to recommend a recipient for funding from the Emergent Social Concerns Fund, are requested to send the following information in writing to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. This information may be placed in the PSC mailbox in the Meeting House office or sent by email to PSC clerk (Sylvia Oliva at [soliva@erols.com](mailto:soliva@erols.com)).

- Name of and contact information for proposed recipient (person, group, organization, or cause that would receive the funding).
- Brief description of purpose of recipient or how the funds would be used.
- Brief personal justification for your request.
- Your phone number and/or email address.

---

### **WANTED - LAWNMOWER FOR AFM**

Would like a used lawnmower for the Meeting. Type: 4 cycle (separate oil/gas), side discharge, mulcher capable. Consider a donation. See or call Sky Elsbree (410-647-3591)

## AN APPEAL FOR HELP WITH WINTER RELIEF IN NORTH COUNTY APRIL 7-13

Magothy United Methodist Church in Pasadena has again asked our Meeting to help it provide emergency shelter for the homeless through the volunteer Winter Relief program in North County. Every night from April 7 through April 13, about 25 homeless men and women will be bussed each day from an intake center in Glen Burnie to spend the night at the church. Friends were tremendously helpful last year in this effort, and Peter Meredith is again looking for Friends for the following roles:

- “Chaperoning”—staying at the church for one of the two night shifts each night. Shifts last about 4-5 hours and a minimum of two volunteers are scheduled for each shift. Winter Relief’s rules require all chaperones to be male.
- Cooking/serving dinner. Guests eat at 7. Last year, Friends signed up to provide an entire dinner on one night; that is again a possibility.

Please let Peter Meredith know if you can help: 410-647-2487 or [meredithp@att.net](mailto:meredithp@att.net).

---

### COME LEARN ABOUT AMIGOS DE LAS AMERICAS - from Martin Krafft

On Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, I will give a presentation about my Amigos de las Americas trip to Paraguay. This presentation will take place during the pot luck. If people wanted to bring Latin American styled food that would be great, but certainly don’t feel obliged. Included in my presentation will be a brief instruction in the art of the Paraguayan polka, for all you dance lovers.

Also, I am having another fruit/coffee/nut sale in February to support the Amigos organization. People interested in any of these healthy and wholesome products (oranges/grapefruit/mangos/fair trade coffee/honey roasted almonds/peanut clusters) should contact me at 410-257-2379. I greatly appreciate the Meeting’s support, and look forward to my next trip to either Panama or Mexico.

---

### ANNAPOLIS PEACE AND JUSTICE CENTER: UPDATE

Did you think we ended our peacemaking after the Annapolis Conference in November? Not at all. A group of 6-12 Annapolis Friends have been meeting monthly to search for the special gifts and opportunities Friends can offer to help “remove the causes of war” in Annapolis. Our listening and research phase has introduced us to local youth workers, the Boys and Girls Club, and Mayor Moyer. We are close to launching some initial actions from what we have learned and the partners we have gained.

*On Middle East initiatives*, we continue to explore (i) a sister city relationship with Annapolis, Ramallah (West Bank, Palestine), and Teverya (on the Israeli coast), (ii) water rights issues, and (iii) bringing Palestinian and Israeli youth pairs to Annapolis this summer. *On conflict transformation initiatives*, we are (i) locating Help Increase the Peace (HIPPP) trainers to offer sessions this summer through the Boys and Girls Clubs and (ii) considering a Youth Venture challenge with the Greater Annapolis Interfaith Network (GAIN) to empower area youth to identify and implement solutions to social problems in the area.

But what might we be missing? Possibly your interest and gifts. The umbrella of the Peace and Justice Center is purposely broad so that those among us who have a leading to address problems can explore it with Friends. Come and join us at the next meeting, Thursday, March 20, 7-9 pm.

---

***Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts. Zechariah 4:6***

## QUAKER QUEST

Do you ever have difficulty explaining what Quakers believe? Do you resort to saying what we don't have, e.g., no minister, no creed, no programmed worship? Our Outreach and Ministry & Worship Committees are exploring whether we could bring "Quaker Quest" to Annapolis.

Quaker Quest is a dynamic new approach to outreach that has brought seekers to meetings all over England and is catching on in America now through the support of Friends General Conference (FGC). It is "a spiritual path for our time—simple, radical, and contemporary." This educational, experiential, and lively outreach is a series of public open meetings on Quaker topics such as "*Quakers and Jesus, Quakers and Worship, Experience of God, Faith in Action, the Practice of Peacemaking.*" It is less intended to build numbers than to allow Friends to share what is essential to their experience of the Devine today through the Religious Society of Friends.

If you are wondering yourselves what Friends do think about those topics, then you will be happy to know that Quaker Quest is an in-reach program as well. FGC Friends will come to our Meeting for a 5.5 hour workshop, exploring the topics and the methods used in the Outreach program. After that workshop, we can determine if Annapolis Friends Meeting wishes to commit to this form of outreach. If we decide not to, then we still benefit from the enriching experience of our Meeting exploring these topics together.

In April, we will bring to Meeting for Business the question of organizing an exploratory workshop here. In the meantime, if you have questions, Barbara Thomas or Dot Walizer will be happy to explain more.

---

## MYSTERIES OF TAX EXEMPTION STATUS

During this election season, it is important to understand that our 501c3 tax exemption status disallows us from engaging in partisan politics. As we are all "ministers" among Friends and as that ministry includes our circle after Meeting for Worship as well as our messages during Meeting for Worship, we must protect our beloved community by keeping our joys and sorrows connected with candidates outside our worship service.

Here is what a recent IRS briefing states to provide guidance to charities and churches:

Nearly three-quarters of 82 examinations completed to date have concluded that the tax-exempt organizations, including churches, engaged in some level of prohibited political activity. Most of these exams concerned one-time, isolated occurrences of prohibited campaign activity, which the IRS addressed through written advisories to the organizations. In three cases, the prohibited activity was egregious enough to warrant the IRS proposing the revocation of the organizations' tax-exempt status.

Some of the specific instances of political intervention alleged and examined include the following:

- \*Religious leaders using the pulpit to endorse or oppose a particular candidate;
- Charities, including churches:
- \*distributing diverse printed materials that encouraged their members to vote for a particular candidate;
  - \*endorsing or opposing a candidate on their website or through links to another website;
  - \*disseminating voter guides or candidate ratings that encourage readers to vote for particular candidates;
  - \*placing signs on their property that show they support a particular candidate;
  - \*giving improper preferential treatment to certain candidates by permitting them to speak at functions;
  - \*making cash contributions to a candidate's political campaign.

We are a diverse community. We wish to embrace the spiritual journeys of all. Newcomers should not feel they need to be "politically correct" to worship with us. Each individual's decisions are encouraged and valued, but, please respect our Meeting's need to be apolitical when it comes to endorsements of particular candidates.

## SPRING MARKET THOUGHTS

It's time to start thinking about where we would like to direct the bountiful proceeds (positive thinking here) of our next market. Remember that 75% of the proceeds will be donated to a charitable organization outside of our Quaker meeting and 25% will be designated for projects or goals within the meeting. Please let us know which organization outside the meeting that you would like to support this Spring. It may also be helpful to let us know what you understand their mission to be and any specific activity they are involved in currently. The Market Committee will review all of the suggestions and choose one. You may e-mail or call Margaret Holmes, [Holmes.fam@verizon.net](mailto:Holmes.fam@verizon.net) or 410-721-5551. We look forward to hearing from you.

---

## ANNE ARUNDEL CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTER FUND RAISER

As many of you may already know, Annapolis Friends Meeting was an early supporter and continues to support with considerable personal and financial commitment, the work in the community of the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center (AACRC). AACRC aids in non-violent resolution of personal and community conflict. It provides mediation, anger management training, and other services to prisoners, individuals and various groups in the Anne Arundel County community, and models techniques of successful communication and conflict resolution so that members of our community can thereby learn, be and pass it forward.

Annapolis Idol, the upcoming AACRC fund-raising event is an area evening gathering centered about a talent competition a la the popular American Idol format. In addition to the main entertainment competition there will be entertaining musical side offerings, a silent auction and complimentary refreshments. This event will be held at Renditions in Davidsonville, Sunday, March 2, 2008, from 5.00 to 9.00 p.m. Contestants will show off their singing talent before a live audience of two hundred guests and a panel of three, local celebrity judges: City of Annapolis Mayor, Ellen Moyer; The Capital's After Dark columnist Jessica Pachler, and professional musician, Brent Law. Both celebrity decisions and audience votes will help determine the Annapolis Idol who will win a professional, full-day recording session at Phoenix Recording Studios. Featured guest performers are Harold Strong and Brent Law who will entertain the audience while votes are being counted.

Tickets to Annapolis Idol are just \$60.00 and include refreshments, a seat for the concert, and a chance to vote for your top two choices in the final rounds. They can be purchased over the phone by Visa/MasterCard from the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center at 410-266-9033. You may also purchase tickets with cash or check from Wes Jordan (410-721-1839, [wesjordan@comcast.net](mailto:wesjordan@comcast.net)). This will be a fun evening with your friends and neighbors that will also go a long way to supporting a very good cause.

---

## HOW TO HELP IN KENYA

The issue of post-election violence and ethnic conflict in Kenya was discussed in 2<sup>nd</sup> month Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business and has also been considered in Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Kenya has the largest concentration of Quakers in the world. Jean and Mike Christianson have researched options for financial assistance to Kenya. Friends are urged to consider personal contributions to the following organizations:

- 1) **Friends United Meeting:** FUM has a strong presence in Africa and is addressing the urgent need for basic necessities and safety in Kenya. FUM is trying to purchase medicines for 2 hospitals. Ann Riggs of our Meeting knows John Muhanji, head of African Ministries of FUM, who is on the ground trying to restore peace. John is Ann's close F(f)riend and protégé. He is respected as a young Kenyan leader with great

(Continued on the following page)

### **Kenya Continued:**

promise. Checks to support John Muhanji's peacemaking can be made out to FUM, earmarked for Kenya. FUM, Inc. is a 501 (C) (3) Public Charity. Address is FUM, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, IN 47374-1926. Donations can also be made online at [www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org).

- 2) **African Great Lakes Initiative** of Friends Peace Teams, one of our current Quaker Causes (also a 501 (C) (3) Public Charity), is active in Kenya. AGLI is known for reconciliation workshops and Alternative to Violence Programs. It is currently trying to address basic needs for food and blankets and firewood. David Zarembka, Coordinator, sent a recent letter updating Friends on the crisis there. Checks can be written to AGLI, earmarked for Kenya. Address is 1001 Park Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104. AGLI website is [www.aglionline.org](http://www.aglionline.org)

**American Friends Service Committee** (also a 501 (C) (3) Public Charity) has established a crisis fund for Kenya. AFSC donations will be directed to AGLI, FUM and a network of Kenyan non-profits. Checks written to AFSC and designated for Crisis Fund -Kenya can be sent to AFSC Development, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. Donations can also be made via the website at [www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org) or by calling 1-888-588-2372.

---

### **HELP FCNL SET ITS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

Friends Committee on National Legislation (a Washington, D.C. Quaker Congressional lobbying organization) is preparing priorities for its lobbying work with the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-2010) and is seeking recommendations from all Monthly Meetings. FCNL has asked our Meeting to identify **five (5) top priorities** that we believe it should focus on in 2009-2010 and to send them our response by April 30, 2008. All Friends (Young Friends included) are urged to participate.

#### **Current legislative priorities of FCNL are:**

- **Peaceful prevention and resolution of deadly conflict:** Shifting federal priorities from war to programs that will prevent war and build the U.S. capacity to manage conflicts peacefully.
- **Advancement of civil rights and liberties:** Opposing torture, illegal government spying, and working with Congress to prevent the erosion of civil liberties and human rights.
- **Nuclear disarmament:** Building congressional opposition to the development of new nuclear weapons.
- **A sustainable energy policy:** Working to reduce oil dependence, improve energy efficiency, and develop renewable sources of energy.
- **Native American sovereignty:** Advocating for fairness to tribes and equal rights for indigenous people.
- 

#### **Other FCNL areas of concern are:**

- Criminal justice reform and abolition of the death penalty.
- Rights of conscience (conscientious objection, withholding taxes for war).
- Promotion of just and fair elections.
- An end to institutional racism.
- The human rights and dignity of all immigrants.
- Addressing poverty, healthcare, education, employment, housing, etc.
- Working for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

You may recommend any of the above or other priorities. **Please choose only five (5).** More information on all of FCNL's issue areas and its statement of legislative policy can be found on its website at [www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org).

**(Continued on following page)**

## **FCNL Priorities Continued:**

### **PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE BELOW TO INDICATE YOUR PRIORITIES:**

1. Please advise Sylvia Oliva (AFM Rep. to FCNL) of your 5 priorities by: email ([soliva@erols.com](mailto:soliva@erols.com)), phone (410-224-6708), or by placing your list in the PSC mailbox in the meetinghouse office. **All responses should be submitted by March 16, 2008.**
2. At April business meeting I will present the results of the survey and seek concurrence on 5 highest priorities on which Annapolis Friends Meeting is united.
3. AFM's list of priorities will be emailed to FCNL before April 30. THANK YOU!

---

### **THINKING ABOUT RACE**

*Racism for Whites has been like a crazy uncle who has been locked away for generations in the hidden attic of our collective social reality. This old relative has been part of the family for a long time. Everyone knows he's living with us, because we bring him food and water occasionally, but nobody wants to take him out in public. He is an embarrassment and a pain to deal with, yet our little family secret is that he is rich and the rest of us are living, either consciously or unconsciously, off the wealth and power he accumulated in his heyday. Even though many of us may disapprove of the tactics he used to gain his fortune, few of us want to be written out of his will. The legacy of racism, which has been fueled and legitimized by our assumption of rightness, has haunted the house of collective White identity for centuries. (From "Decoding the Dominance Paradigm", page 52, **We Can't Teach What We Don't Know** by Gary R. Howard, Teachers College Press, Columbia University, New York, 1999)*

Remember that the Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Working Group on Racism is co-sponsoring, with William Penn House in DC, a workshop entitled **White Friends Confronting Racism: Doing Our Work**, Feb. 29-Mar. 2, at Wm Penn House. Flyers are available in local meetinghouses as well as at [www.williampennhouse.org](http://www.williampennhouse.org).

---

### **QUAKER POTLUCK & DIALOGUE AT WILLIAM PENN HOUSE**

You are invited to attend a potluck and Quaker dialogue at 6:30 PM on Sunday, March 2, 2008. Our Program this First Day is presented by David Zarembka on Relief, Reconciliation, and Healing from the Violence in Kenya. The talk will emphasize the Quaker response to the violence that occurred in Kenya after the December 27 election. This will include relief work such as the 62 families housed in the Eldoret Friends Church, reconciliation by Lumakanda Friends Church, violence prevention programs with the looters in Kakamega, and personal observations on the conflict and its aftermath. Means of supporting Quaker peacemaking work in Kenya will be outlined.

---

*To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracle, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.*

**I Corinthians 12: 8-11.**

*Remember, O my soul that the Prince of Peace is thy Lord, that he communicates his unmixed wisdom to his family, that they, living in perfect simplicity, may give no just cause of offense to any creature, but may walk as he walked. John Woolman (1720-1772)*

---

*Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in darkness. I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world."*  
**John 12:44-47**

---

IF YOU PREFER TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY **EMAIL**, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR AT [AFMEETING@YAHOO.COM](mailto:AFMEETING@YAHOO.COM). IF YOU ARE **NO LONGER INTERESTED** IN RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR AT [AFMEETING@YAHOO.COM](mailto:AFMEETING@YAHOO.COM) **OR** AT THE MEETING ADDRESS BELOW. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A **DONATION** TO COVER THE COST OF RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER FOR A YEAR (APPROXIMATELY \$12-15), PLEASE SEND IT TO THE TREASURER AT THE MEETING ADDRESS BELOW.

Annapolis Friends Meeting  
351 DuBois Road  
Annapolis, MD 21401

---

---