

## 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**

**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**

### SEPTEMBER 2008 CALENDAR

01					<b>Meeting provides Lighthouse Shelter Supper (page 5)</b>
07	(1)	9:00 A.M.	-		Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
		11:00 A.M.	-		Meeting for Worship
		12:00 Noon	-		Potluck
14	(2)	9:30	-		Early Meeting for Worship
		10:00	-		<b>Spiritual Journey Worship Sharing (page5)</b>
		11:00 A.M.	-		Meeting for Worship
21	(3)	9:00 A.M.	-		Committee Meetings
		11:00 A.M.	-		Meeting for Worship
		12:15 P.M.	-		Children's Religious Education Committee Meeting
		12:30 P.M.	-		Growing and Greening Committee Meeting
		12:30 P.M.	-		<b>U.N. International Day of Peace Activities (page 6)</b>
		9:00 P.M.	-		<b>Newsletter Items Due:</b> email AFMeeting@ yahoo.com
28	(4)	9:30	-		Early Meeting for Worship
		11:00 A.M.	-		Meeting for Worship
October 4					<b>SAVE THE DATE: Fall Work Day (page 5)</b>

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

### QUERIES FOR NINTH MONTH: The Social Order

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things? **Faith & Practice**, p.40

*For God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1: 7*

## SEVENTH MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS

MINUTES from Sixth Day of the Seventh Month, 2008

Present: B. Thomas (Clerk), M. Ormsby (Recording Clerk), N&S Elsbree, D. Walizer, W. Jordan, J. McKeown, J. Hobbins, L. Pickens, M. Gerace, E. Albert, M. Barbera, S&J Oliva, P. Schenck, A. Riggs, P. Caroom, K. Finch, M. Clarke-Swindle.  
Special Guest: Heather Moreland

Our Meeting began with centering worship.

### **Treasurers Report:** Wes Jordan reporting:

The first of this years' report, as scheduled, will represent our current year as 50% complete. Unrestricted giving is down by nearly 10%, as is usual, but disappointing as we set goals of increasing our unrestricted giving by 10% this year. However, passive income is increased through rentals and interest. Accelerated payments of apportionment, restricted funds transfers, and all but one of our Quaker Causes obligations have placed us temporarily at a deficit in income against expenses. We are challenged to meet our goal of unrestricted giving while also fully supporting the aggressive goals that our Peace and Justice Center is pursuing as well.

The details of this report are attached to this Months Report. Great appreciation was extended for this report.

### **Stewardship & Finance Committee:** Wes Jordan reporting:

After consulting with CREC, the sum of \$320, paid to the BYM camping program as a deposit for a camper, is to be converted to a donation of \$160 to the camping program and \$160 to the camp properties. As the Schmittles are moving to the west coast, their child had to be withdrawn from the camping program, after AFM's camping scholarship had been paid to BYM. S&F proposes that the funds disbursed be converted, even though this process constitutes an exception.

Meeting approved the suggested use of the funds as outlined.

### **Ministry & Worship Committee:** Dot Walizer reporting:

1. Announcement: The book table now has books available for purchase at a 20% discount. Please take notice.
2. Membership requests: Beth Anne Albert-Bruninga and A.J. Bruninga have been recorded as junior associate members at the request of their mother. In addition, Molly Finch has requested a clearness committee for full membership of Annapolis Friends Meeting.

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

1. Guest Speaker: Sylvia Oliva introduced Heather Moreland, who is requesting the use of our Meetinghouse, rent-free to present her program, "Peace Begins Here." This program is a public discussion, designed to encourage Christians, Jews and Muslims to live together in peace in their own communities. Speeches from local leaders and open discussions are planned. Consideration of this request resulted in an expression of concern, that we take the time for this program to be vetted through Peace and Social Concerns Committee. The talent within our Meeting was offered as assistance in moving forward with this program and it was agreed that, together, they will proceed as they are led. Great support was extended to Heather, for her courage and divine leadings.

2. Report on expenditure from the Emergent Social Concerns Fund: \$300 was donated to Doctors Without Borders USA to assist the victims of the Myanmar cyclone. These funds would be restricted to aid for the people of Myanmar (Burma) in the wake of the cyclone which struck their country on May 3, 2008. Doctors Without Borders is well known for their mission to care for the neediest people around the world. They provide urgent medical care to hundreds of thousands every year. They are financially efficient and are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

3. Minute of Appreciation for Sandy Curry: Annapolis Friends Meeting desires to express our deep appreciation of Sandy Curry and the time she spent among us. Her cheerful, willing, and careful work as a member of our Peace and Social Concerns Committee, and her love and enthusiastic support for each committee member, have been gifts for our Meeting. Sandy also leaves us her legacy of faithfulness in joining with others in Bridges for Peace, a weekly vigil on the Eastport

Bridge – a call for peace and an end to the war in Iraq. Her generosity, warmth and humble service will be long remembered.

4. The background of our Meeting's action regarding same sex marriages was read. We are now being asked to demonstrate our support for both marriage equality and for our Quaker Testimony. We noted California's decision.

"Minute of Support for California Supreme Court Decision Recognizing Same- Sex Marriages." In the year 2000, 61% of California voters approved a ballot measure (Proposition 22) that stated: "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid and recognized in California." On May 15, 2008, however, the California Supreme Court, in a 4-3 decision, struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage. This decision would invalidate virtually any law that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation. Annapolis Friends Meeting, led by our equality testimony, is being asked to support this decision by the California Supreme Court."

A discussion about this Minute ensued. It was agreed that we publish this Minute with the background information, within the newsletter, so that more people have an opportunity to become informed. We requested that the Peace & Social Concerns Committee continue considering this Minute and bring it back to Meeting for Business, once the information is distributed widely, and time is allowed for further consideration.

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 V. Ormsby, Recording Clerk

---

## **EIGHTH MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS** MINUTES from Third Day of the Eighth Month, 2008

Present: B. Thomas (Clerk), M. Ormsby (Recording Clerk), B&K Chandler, S. Elsbree, E. Geil, C. Mayer, P. Favero, R&T Hawkins, D. Walizer, M. Reid, J. Mendelman, M. Gerace, M. Barbara, E. Albert, P. Singer, N. Steetle, J. Oliva, J. Christianson, A. Riggs, C. Krafft, J&A. Chandler, S. DeAbreu

Our Meeting began with centering worship.

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

Clearness for membership committee, having met, joyously affirm Meredith (Molly) Finch for membership to Annapolis Friends Meeting. She was enthusiastically approved.

**Peace and Social Concerns Committee:** Jean Christianson reporting:

The proposed revision of the Mission Statement of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, was read and approved with gratitude and appreciation. The Mission Statement is as follows:

"As mandated by our Monthly Meeting, Peace & Social Concerns Committee makes annual recommendations to the Meeting for allocation of the funds in the Quaker Causes Budget and it exercises stewardship over the Emergent Social Concerns Fund.

With spiritual discernment, Peace & Social Concerns brings peace issues and social concerns to the attention of the Meeting for individual and/or corporate action in support of our Quaker testimonies.

PSC Committee takes a stand for truth, justice, and equality in specific situations; it advocates through public, educational and awareness-promoting activities; it campaigns for fair, effective, and compassionate legislation. It exposes and protests injustice and seeks to promote understanding and unity. It supports individuals and organizations such as the American Friends Service Committee and Friends Committee on National Legislation in their leadings for peace and justice.

Its mission is to foster a culture that acknowledges and responds to that of God in every person."

**Quaker Quest:** Elise Albert Clerking:

The goals of Quaker Quest were reviewed and included:

1. A nurturing of our Meeting
2. An invitation to others to experience the presence of God within the tradition of Friends.

The Quaker Core group of Volunteers was listed including some sixteen members and attenders of our Meeting. The Themes include three focus points:

1. God the Divine
2. Peace and alternatives to violence
3. Simplicity

The roles for these volunteers include presenters, facilitators, planners and organizers and administrators, advertising and budget, hospitality and fellowship.

The time line for the Quaker Quest Program includes a discussion at business meeting, today, seeking unity during our next business meeting, a Ninth Month, 13<sup>th</sup> in- reach workshop at Baltimore Stony Run Meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Month learning opportunities, 12<sup>th</sup> Month, 14<sup>th</sup>, a presenters workshop, facilitated by FGC, and a First Month, 2009, advertising effort.

Quaker Quest 1<sup>st</sup>: First Day afternoons: 1/25/09, 2/1/09,&2/8/09 :2-5pm

Quaker Quest 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fifth Day evenings: 2/20/09, 2/27/09,& 3/6/09 27 :6:30-9:30pm

Third and Fourth Month, 2009: Discussion and assessment of the Quaker Quest so far with consideration about whether to carry forth and continue.

**Update on Quaker Quest and seeking input for the plan going forward:**

**Educational opportunities:** Phil Favero presenting:

Should we proceed with Quaker Quest, we need to enrich our knowledge of our own Quaker History and Faith Tradition, reflect on our own spiritual journeys, and practice answering questions. A sub-group of some five people discussed framing ideas for practicality, base history and general setting and atmosphere for the meetings. An experiential base of discussion was stressed using some Quaker Literature and the wisdom of some of our seasoned Friends. These efforts will prepare us for meeting with interested seekers.

**Budget:** Phyllis Singer presenting:

The Outreach Committee is requested to consider providing the necessary oversight for Quaker Quest. The 2009 Proposal includes a total of \$1102 with the following breakdown.

1. Hospitality - \$400
2. Advertising - \$452 to include website, newspapers, Google ad words for 12 months, duplication of FGC flyers and brochures, and lawn signs.
3. Transportation Assistance - \$150 for our FCG trainer.
4. Materials and books - \$100.

A lively discussion ensued, including questions about how we might carry forward, as outlined, who we might include, and how we might reach those people. One Friend raised a concern about the speed with which we, as a Meeting, are moving forward. Another Friend reminded us that our Faith Community recognizes the leadings of the Inner Light, which focus upon discernment from a deeply seated understanding of contradictions. Are we ready? The work of outreach and education is already proceeding on a daily basis; questions about Quakerism are being answered because trust, love and faith exist within our community and within our own divine leadings. Quaker Quest gives an opportunity to speak with confidence in the larger community without an intermediary. One Friend believes that we are ready...now, and asked "is our Meeting ready to trust us?"

Another Friend commented that BYM is constructed of two Faith traditions – one emphasizing the continuity from past through present to future; and the other emphasizing the experience of the present generations. These two traditions of Friends exist here and thereby constitute our dilemma. If Quaker Quest proceeds, or not, the informational and spiritual aspects will be available to our Meeting. We were reminded to be tender about our differences and continue growing. A Friend wondered if part of the discomfort about Quaker Quest focuses upon the concept of proselytising and outreach to the larger community in which we live. We were reminded that early Friends could not keep quiet about the revelation of the inner light; perhaps we should remain flexible about our timing in speaking about our faith to others. Perhaps we fear that we may be changed or that we may change others. This discussion, in and of itself, is very a important aspect in building a spiritual community.

This discussion will be taken back to the Committees of Ministry & Worship and Outreach. Then, the discussion will continue within the Core Group.

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 V. Ormsby, Recording Clerk

## MINISTRY AND WORSHIP CORNER

### SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS CONCLUDE FOR THE SUMMER

For our final Spiritual Journey this summer, Phil Favero will share his story with us. We will gather on the second First Day, September 14, from 9:30 to about 10:45 am in the Children's Religious Education room.

In a typical Spiritual Journeys gathering, someone from our meeting recounts the story of his or her journey of spiritual connection. Usually we take some time toward the end for sharing reflections on the speaker's story.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to share your own spiritual journey in the future, please contact Beth Chandler, by phone at 240-391-6680 or by email at [beth@chandlernet.net](mailto:beth@chandlernet.net)

---

## PASTORAL CARE CORNER

### PLEASE HELP PASTORAL CARE TEND OUR FLOCK.

Pastoral Care is concerned about any wandering/wondering "sheep" among our AFM flock. Is that a plaintive bleating we hear? Someone looking for sustenance for the body, nourishment for the soul, loving understanding for mind and heart?

Mapquest is not necessary, but we do need a hint or two as to any needs, be they easily seen or omewhere off there in the weeds. Clerk Leo and/or one of his PASTORAL CARE helpers seek your help to better know each and every "sheep" carrying the AFM brand.

---

## MEETING HOUSE AND LANDS CORNER

### FALL WORK DAY: OCTOBER 4

Fall Work Day is Saturday October 4. (Rain date is Saturday October 18.) Gardeners and weeders are needed; and, of course, there's always the nature trail to maintain. Numerous other tasks, small and large are planned. MH & L is developing a list, and hopes for a LARGE turnout.

---

## PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS CORNER

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

AFM provides the shelter meal each first Monday (September 1<sup>st</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 near the front door of the Meeting House.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ABRIDGED PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 7/20/08

It was announced that the following **minute in support of marriage equality**, proposed by our clerk at July Business Meeting, was not approved. Business Meeting recommended further consideration by PSC and on the AFM discuss email list. PSC discussed the issue again, and clerk will collate email responses to help in our discernment as we continue to discuss it in the future.

We discussed our survey on "**Our Response/Responsibility to Help End the War in Iraq**," hoping many Friends will participate.

(Continued on following page)

**PSC MINUTES Continued:**

Clerk hopes that we will not think any responses we have made are insignificant, as every effort is important. When we become aware of all we have done collectively, it may surprise us! (See summary on page 8 and copies of the full survey in lobby.)

Cynthia and the Olivas have begun participating in **Bridges for Peace** on the Eastport Bridge, walking with FCNL *War is not the Answer* signs. PSC approved the purchase of 5 more signs for participants' use, and would encourage Friends to join us and put those signs to good use.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **United Nations International Day of Peace (IDP) Vigil** will be on September 21st. Lee Lougee, who helped this concept come to fruition years ago, joined us to consider ways AFM could commemorate the event.

We shared briefly about the recent incidents of **raids on immigrants** in Annapolis, hate crimes toward the homeless, and surveillance of local Quaker peace activists, which warrant our concern, as well as Harold Saunders' leading. We also considered the DVD's and books from *Free the Slaves* about modern-day slavery, which were recently provided to our Meeting by Adelphi Friends Meeting and are in the AFM library.

Friends were encouraged to read FCNL's newsletter # 722 which reviews *What Is the Answer?*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ABRIDGED PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 8/18/08**

**Silent worship and reading:** "Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Cor. 16:13-14).

**Death penalty hearings:** Carol Kinzer, visiting our committee meeting, offered to attend the September 5<sup>th</sup> public hearing in Annapolis and present AFM's Feb. 2008 minute opposing the death penalty.

**2009 Committee Budget:** We will request the same budget as 2008, with \$100 for Materials and \$500 for Peace, Race & Justice Activities.

**2009 Quaker Causes:** Jean recommended Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) as a Quaker Cause. PSC approved, especially as Jessa Finch and Ann Riggs of AFM have been actively involved. Jessa is participating in a Youth Pilgrimage this summer and Ann is planning a future conference co-sponsored by FWCC. PSC also agreed to include all the current year's Quaker Causes in 2009.

**Iraq War Survey:** Nine Friends participated in the survey, including one visiting from Maine. Sylvia read her report on the survey, with introduction and respondents' answers to the queries about individual's actions for peace in Iraq, AFM corporate actions, and leadings for future directions.

**United Nations International Day of Peace (IDP) Vigil:** Plans for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual IDP on Sunday, 9/21 are firming up. Outreach and Hospitality Committees are sharing the responsibilities with PSC.

**Harold Saunders' leading (minute):** Sylvia proposed a draft of a minute in support of Harold's petition and his accompanying quest to seek a million signatures and a million dollars. After discussing this, however, we decided more clarification from Harold was needed before we can go forward.

---

**UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE VIGIL  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2008**

**Schedule:**      12:30 – 1:30      AFM worship sharing for peace in Iraq  
                         1:30 – 2:00      Refreshments for Friends and community guests  
                         2:00 – 4:00      Silent vigil for world peace, open to the community

**Worship Sharing:**

Peace & Social Concerns Committee has recently conducted a survey on our Meeting's "Response / Responsibility to Help End the War in Iraq," seeking to bring to light all our efforts in working for peace in Iraq and in promoting healing, reconciliation and justice regarding the tragic consequences our war and occupation have caused at home and abroad. (See report on page 8.) The huge variety of our responses is published elsewhere in this Newsletter. At the worship sharing on September 21<sup>st</sup> as we hold in the Light especially the people of Iraq and our own country, we will seek to enlarge and deepen our sense of how we might draw on the Spirit to face these challenges, take action, and have hope for a better future.

## **A PRESUMPTUOUS AFM PEACE EFFORT SUCCEEDS! GENEVA INITIATIVE WATER DIALOG EARNS PARTICIPANTS' PRAISE**

As Israeli, Palestinian and U.S. governments struggle with the “track I” peace negotiations, Geneva Initiative (“GI”) nongovernmental (NGO) representatives have made great strides in a “track II” dialog on a central conflict between their people: how water should be allocated fairly and with cooperation to face drought and other environmental problems.

Palestinians and Israelis each sent five member delegations including engineers and representatives with close ties to the Israeli government and the Palestinian National Authority, for three days of intense discussions in Maryland on the difficult water issues between August 18 and 21, 2008. AFM recruited as advisors U.S. experts in the fields of engineering, economic, and water law, as well as mediators including a retired U.N. ambassador. (See list of participants at the conclusion of this article.) The results exceeded all expectations.

Annapolis Friends Meeting’s Peace and Justice Center, in November 2007, first contacted and invited GI representatives to speak at a public forum in Annapolis during the Bush Administration’s “Annapolis [Middle East peace] Conference”. This contact led GI and AFM to discuss the possibility of a mutual project for mediation of the unfinished water component of GI’s model peace treaty. After nine months of emails, research and experts’ consultations, the planned intensive water dialog came to pass.

“I’ve never felt we’ve been this close to a working agreement,” eminent Israeli engineer Hillel Shuvall exulted. Fadia Daibes-Murad, a Palestinian engineer and advisor to the Palestinian Water Authority agreed, “We are so much closer together than any time before.”

GI water experts agreed to finalize the draft within the coming three months. The draft water agreement then will be offered to official government negotiators as a possible framework for water cooperation in the “final status agreement” that would bring peace to Israelis and Palestinians.

Shaul Arlosoroff, a director of the Israeli national water company who participated in the dialog, stated, “Not much more is needed to submit [the draft] to the final negotiating team.” GI Palestinian executive director Nidal Fqaha added, “The [draft] agreement is beyond our expectations.”

GI was established in 2003 by former Palestinian Authority and Israeli peace negotiators. The 2001 talks were called off with the onset of the Intifada and lack of support by the Bush Administration. But some negotiators on both sides agreed, with support of the Swiss government, to continue their work. After many months, they completed a detailed model peace treaty--“the Geneva Accord”--which ultimately may represent the outline for an official treaty between the governments. (See [www.geneva-accord.org](http://www.geneva-accord.org) .) Today, they still pursue various programs in Israel and Palestine to support the peace effort, as well as making efforts such as the water dialog to complete and refine the model peace agreement.

Interestingly, informal talks with Israeli and Palestinian during the water dialog revealed more extensive Quaker influences than we knew:

- A senior Israeli engineer Hillel Shuval recounted, “Eighteen years ago, I attended my first Israeli meeting with Palestinians, which was suggested by a group of Quakers at the University of Michigan. And, here, the ultimate meeting is sponsored by Quakers from Annapolis.”
- Shuval also attributed some of his readiness to consider Palestinian claims to a more recent conflict resolution class taught by a Quaker.
- Also, a number of Israelis and Palestinians either attended Friends School in Ramallah, sent their children there, or grandchildren. One Palestinian has a son who will attend Earlham this fall. All expressed appreciation of Quaker process and support for peace initiatives, many asking questions about Quakers generally.

Participants in the recent water dialog included:

### Palestinian representatives-

Jamal Zakout, senior advisor to the Palestinian Prime Minister;  
Dr. Abedel Rahman Tamimi, director of the Palestinian Hydrology Group;  
Dr. Fadia Daibes-Murad, a Palestinian water law and policy expert;  
Dr. Samih Abid, former Palestinian Minister of Public Works; and  
Nidal Fqaha, executive director of the Geneva Initiative (Palestinian organization).

### Israeli representatives-

Dr. Saul Arlosoroff, board member of the National Water Corporation of Israel;  
Dr. Hillel Shuvall, former Chief Environmental Health Engineer of Israel;  
Shaul Arieli, former head of the Peace Administration in the Barak government;  
Gadi Baltiansky, former Press Secretary in the Barak government and executive director of the Geneva Initiative (Israeli organization); and  
Yuval Benziman, Director of Research and Policy Planning for Geneva Initiative.

**(Continued on following page)**

Advisors, mediators, dialog organizers-

John W. McDonald, (U.S. Ambassador, ret.), Chairman and CEO Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy (IMDT), Arlington, Virginia, mediator;  
Ed Modell, state judiciary ombudsman and attorney, co-mediator  
John Bernal, former U.S. engineer-commissioner for U.S./Mexico water cooperation;  
Franklin Fisher, Carlton professor of microeconomics, emeritus, of MIT and chair of Middle East Water Economics Project;  
Gabriel Eckstein, professor of international law, specializing in water rights;  
Doug Caroom, American attorney, specializing in water litigation and interstate compacts;  
Barbara Thomas, retired communications specialist for World Bank and Annapolis Peace & Justice Center clerk;  
Garrett Shields, IMDT Program Officer, Assistant, and  
Phil Caroom, state trial judge and Annapolis Peace & Justice Center coordinator.

Phil Caroom, with Barbara Thomas, a coordinator of the water dialog commented: “Although he was not designated as an ‘advisor,’ Stuart Green located the Bon Secours Spiritual Center, which was the ideal site for the dialog in many ways. And, Stuart led and coordinated meeting for worship each morning and evening of the conference, as well as Friends holding us in the light from farther away.

This project never could have happened without all the support – advice, insightful questions, donations, enthusiasm, and volunteer work of so many Friends.

---

**“OUR RESPONSE/RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP END THE WAR IN IRAQ”**

**(Abridged: Copies of the full report are on the table in the Meeting House lobby or by request from AFMeeting@yahoo.com)**

Most of us, if not all, believe the Iraq war and 5-year occupation by our U.S. military are profoundly wrong for many reasons, beginning with their human toll. As of August 12, 2008: 4,138 young men and women in our military have been killed (according to icasualties.org), and the Iraqi death count of civilians alone is estimated between 86,000 and 94,000 (according to the Iraq Body Count website). Iraqi refugees numbering more than 2 million have been pouring out of their country, and even more have been forced from their homes and internally displaced. Our occupation continues to be a catalyst for violence, and the Iraqi people want us to leave. Our occupation also destabilizes the Middle East. The U.S. has failed to rebuild Iraq or provide for Iraqis’ basic needs.

Further, the Iraq war and occupation are wasting resources needed for U.S. domestic programs. Community programs from our public schools to libraries to hospitals and transportation are being cut back; and as we saw when Hurricane Katrina struck, when our National Guard troops are called up for Iraq, we are ill-equipped to deal with disasters at home. These are just a few of the very bare-bones facts. Read between the lines to see the injustice, terror, misery – you name it! – that our nation has caused.

When the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Peace & Social Concerns Committee issued its “Call to Action” last year, it motivated us to try to bring to light all the efforts of Friends in our Meeting who have been working for peace in Iraq in so many different ways.

The survey, “Our response/responsibility to help end the war in Iraq,” which was printed in our July—August Newsletter and emailed on the announce list. We have gathered the information from the respondents in the full document which is available on the table in the Meeting House lobby. We hope it will be helpful for our Meeting, as we believe we are all deeply committed to “live in the way that takes away all occasion for war.”

---

**GROWING AND GREENING COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> AT 12:30**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT from Careen Mayer, Growing & Greening Committee:

Guess what is a major player in climate change amounting to 18% of all greenhouse gases, which is more than the entire transportation system, according to a UN report? Livestock!

---

**MARVA MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER- OCTOBER 17-19**

For husbands and wives: An opportunity to spend a weekend increasing the joy, love, and understanding in your marriage. Marva Marriage Encounter is an interfaith non-profit organization that provides information and support for improved communication and love in your marriage. More information is available from Esther Geil (410) 757-2444 or esthergeil@gmail.com. Or go to <http://www.marva-marriage-encounter.org/> MARVAcomments. website. Registrations are being taken now for the weekend.

## THINKING ABOUT RACE

If you are white, does it come easily to you to identify yourself as such? If not, why not, and what does it mean? Paul Kivel discusses this in his 1996 book, *Uprooting Racism – How White People Can Work for Racial Justice*, pp 12-13:

“Say ‘I am white’ to yourself a couple of times. What are the ‘but’s’ that immediately come to mind? Do you quickly add another identity, perhaps one where you might claim a victim status such as female, poor, lesbian or gay, Jewish or Italian? ....

“We are understandably uncomfortable with the label ‘white.’ We feel boxed in and want to escape, just as people of color want to escape from the confines of their racial categories. Being white is an arbitrary category which overrides our individual personalities, devalues us, deprives us of the richness of our other identities, stereotypes us and yet has no scientific basis. However, in our society being white is also just as real, and governs our day-to-day lives just as much as being a person of color. To acknowledge this reality is not to create it nor to perpetuate it. In fact, it is the first step to uprooting racism.

“Whiteness is problematic. All the fear, anger, frustration, helplessness and confusion we experience about admitting that we are white is the result of racism. Many of these feelings are what keep us from recognizing and talking about the effects of racism in our own lives and the devastation that racism wreaks in our society.”

Brought to you by the BYM Working Group on Racism. For information, see Pat Schenck.

---

## QUAKER POTLUCK & DIALOGUE AT WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

You are invited to attend a potluck and Quaker dialogue at 6:30 PM on Sunday September 7, 2008. Our Program this First Day is presented by Elaine Crauderueff of Friends General Conference. Elaine will share the excitement of the Quaker Quest program and how it will be offered in the Washington area.

---

## BYM FALL 2006 SILENT RETREAT: October 10 - 13

*True silence ... is to the spirit what sleep is to the body, nourishment and refreshment. William Penn, 1699*

Is your spirit in need of nourishment and refreshment? Come to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Silent Retreat at Dayspring. We will keep the silence from Friday evening until after worship on Monday, enjoying the beauty of God’s creation, reading, walking, resting, finding our own rhythms, listening for the Still Small Voice.

SPONSOR: Baltimore Yearly Meeting

FACILITATOR: Jean Christianson

WHERE: Dayspring Retreat Center, 11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20876 (301-428-9348)

ARRIVAL: 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7 p.m.)

DEPARTURE: 2:00 p.m. Monday

COST: \$245. The fee covers 9 meals, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 28 (if not filled earlier). Minimum number is 10 participants. Maximum is 18. Please register as early as possible. Friends will be enrolled in the order in which checks are received.

You will need toilet articles, casual clothes, walking shoes, and a flashlight. Some Friends bring devotional literature or journal. There are Bibles at Dayspring.

Questions? Call Jean Christianson at 410-544-1912 (e-mail @ [jschristianson@cs.com](mailto:jschristianson@cs.com) ).

DIRECTIONS TO DAYSPRING RETREAT CENTER: From I-270 take the Damascus exit (#15-A), Route 118 to the north. Go 8/10 of a mile on Route 118 to MD Route 355. Turn left on MD Route 355 and go a VERY SHORT block. Turn right on Neelsville Church Rd. Continue 6/10 of a mile on Neelsville Church Rd. to Dayspring Retreat Center. **OR** From I-70 take Route 27 south at Mount Airy. It will merge into 355 (Frederick Rd.) continuing south. Turn left onto Neelsville Church Rd. (just before reaching Route 118) and follow directions above.

The telephone number for Dayspring is (301) 428-9348 in case of emergency.

Make check for \$245 payable to **Dayspring Retreat Center** and send with registration form to Jean Christianson, 189 Edgewater Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122 (410-544-1912).

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: all food is vegetarian.)

*We were born to make manifest the glory of God within us. It is not just in some of us, it is in everyone and as we let our own light shine we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear our presence automatically liberates others.* Nelson Mandela

---

*And all friends everywhere this I charge you...live in peace...and therein seek the peace of all men and no man's hurt....And so...it is love that overcomes and not hatred with hatred, nor strife with strife. Therefore live in the peaceable life, doing good to all men, and seeking the good and welfare of men.* George Fox, 1659

*Love was the first motion, and then a concern arose to spend some time with the Indians, that I might feel and understand their life, and the Spirit they live in, if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of Truth amongst them. And as it pleased the Lord to make way for my going at a time when the troubles of war were increasing and when by reason of much wet weather traveling was more difficult than usual at that season, I looked upon it as a more favorable opportunity to season my mind, and bring me into a nearer sympathy with them. And as mine eye was to the great Father of Mercies, humbly desiring to learn what his will was concerning me, I was made quiet and content.* John Woolman, 1763

---

*In describing the concern that led him to visit the Indians, John Woolman wrote, "Love was the first motion." Love of our fellow man is more fundamental than international influence or economics or even the preservation of our nation. For 300 years Quakers sensitive to the spirit have endeavored to express a love that knows no limits of race or creed or nation. When motivated by this power, they have testified by word and deed to the dignity of all men everywhere.* Frank S. Loescher, *The First Motion*

---

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

---

---