

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:

1st First Day of Month at 9:00 A.M.

Adult Religious Education:

As noted in calendar below

SEPTEMBER 2007 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	-	Potluck
03				Meeting provides Lighthouse Shelter Supper (page 3)
09	(2)	9:30	-	Outdoor Meeting for Worship
		10:00	-	Spiritual Journey Worship Sharing (page 3)
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		12:30 P.M.	-	Friends Poetry Gathering (page 6)
16	(3)	9:00 A.M.	-	Committee Meetings
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
		12:15 P.M.	-	Children's Religious Education Committee Meeting
			-	Peace and Social Concerns Committee Meeting
		9:00 P.M.	-	Newsletter Items Due: email AFMeeting@ yahoo.com
19		12:00 Noon	-	Lunch Bunch
21		7:00 P.M.	-	Peace Pole Dedication/I.D.P. Vigil (page 4)
24-26			-	AFM Camping Weekend
26	(4)	9:30	-	Outdoor Meeting for Worship
		10:00	-	Spiritual Journey Worship Sharing (page 3)
		11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship

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

EIGHTH MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS

MINUTES from July 29, 2007

Present: C. Mayer, D. Walizer, S.& N. Elsbree, S. Oliva, J. Christianson, T.& R. Hawkins, W. Jordon, C. Krafft, C. Hitchings, P. Meredith, M. Gerace, C. Hitchings, B. Kinzer, C. Mayer, K&H Saunders, M. Leonard, J. DeLorge, E. Albert.

Meeting began with centering worship.

Jean Christianson was holding the meeting for worship with attention to business in the light.

Stewardship and Finance Committee: Treasurers Report: Wes Jordon reporting:

That report was given and is attached to these minutes. In general we remain ahead in the balance, due largely to an increase in the passive income. Expenses remain steady in budget, as well. We minute our continued and growing appreciation for the fine work relative to this budget information.

Ministry and Worship: Dot Walizer reporting:

Relative to opening and closing our meeting for worship, the committee is attempting to guide us to a spiritual and mutually agreed upon process therein. Worship sharing was begun to assist in suggestions for this process. From this worship the following ideas were voiced.

Our greeters may usher latecomers to the library, joining the worship when the young friends leave the meeting, thereby limiting the disruption. An audio transmission of our worship may be constructed in the library. Chairs near to the door may be reserved for latecomers. A sign may be posted in front of the meeting entrance, reminding us of the process. One additional entrance to the meeting may be made at seven minutes after the beginning of worship. A signal, such as a bell or gong, may be used to demonstrate the beginning of worship. The greeters are not just gatekeepers, but also welcomers to the process, to the people attending and to new comers. The committee will continue to labor over this process.

Clearness Committee for Marriage: Barbara Thomas reporting:

A letter was received requesting divine guidance and the approval of Friends for the marriage of Charles W. Kinzer and Carol H. Hitchings, under the care of Annapolis Friends Meeting. A clearness committee will be assembled by the Pastoral Care Committee.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee: Sylvia Oliva reporting:

1. The Darfur update was presented with letters and a poster representing the struggle. The report was given and is attached to these minutes. A request was made to add this information to the list serve in internet distribution of information.
2. The Peace Pole description was presented and is attached to these minutes. Plans for the dedication ceremony on the 21st day of the Ninth Month was announced and will be held in conjunction with the United Nations International Day of Peace. Flyers regarding this community event were distributed and will be widely made available. Although the camping weekend is, unfortunately scheduled at the same time, perhaps these events could be spiritually, combined through mirror activities with the young Friends. Suggestions were made to include various other groups, to assist in making the event as inclusive as possible. The conflict in scheduling, although disconcerting will be accommodated. Invitations will be distributed through the internet as well. Further suggestions, ideas, and offers to assist are welcome, and need to come to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

Great appreciation was extended for all the efforts and work to make this very important event possible.

Member Concerns and Announcements:

1. The community is invited to join the Muslim community for snacks, a video and a presentation by the Imam on the eighth day of Ninth Month. Ideas and suggestions are welcome. That invitation is attached to these minutes. Pamphlets and literature are available and will be distributed for those interested.
2. Those attending BYM were identified.
3. A calendar of events is available on the bulletin board, in the office, and on the internet. A suggestion for a year long calendar was made.
4. The lighthouse shelter is being relocated and reconstructed. An update on construction was presented.
5. Winter relief will again be offered and Friends are encouraged to participate as we are able.

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

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

There will be no adult Meetings for Learning scheduled in September. We will continue outdoor early Meeting for Worship from 9:30-10:30 on the 2nd and 4th First Days (September 9 and 23). Additionally, Spiritual Journey Worship Sharing will be scheduled on the same days from 10:00-11:00. Members are welcome to join the outdoor Meeting at 9:30 and leave quietly at 10:00 if they wish to attend the Spiritual Journey Worship Sharing,

Please mark your calendars for October Meetings for Learning.

Oct 14 - Holding in the Light and Healing in the Quaker Tradition

Oct 28 - Discussing the Testimonies - Integrity

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS CORNER

ANNAPOLIS AREA MINISTRIES

LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER, ANCHOR HOUSE SHELTER, AND PANTRY

AFM provides the shelter meal each first Monday (September 3rd 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.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 7/15/07 (Abridged)

We began in silent worship together. Then those attending shared some news.

Guided by the survey, which we had just taken, we chose the languages for our peace pole: Spanish, English, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Swahili, Russian, and Algonquin. We also decided on the wording for the dedication plate.

We then began reading the reports on 2007 Quaker Causes; research included contact information for the organization, a brief description of their purpose or how our money is being used, operational efficiency, if it upholds Quaker values in its operation, and anything else that we deemed relevant. Causes we approved of keeping so far are: Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center, the Lighthouse Shelter, Friends Peace Teams, Women for Afghan Women, Pendle Hill, and William Penn House.

We ended in silent worship and with greater appreciation of these organizations that we are blessed to support.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 8/19/07

We began in silent worship together. After announcements, PSC members want to review the meeting time for PSC committee. Those present would welcome return to 9:00 a.m. first day meeting.

Peace Pole and Vigil: Phil Favero has agreed to be Ministry and Worship liaison for the September 21st event. Outreach Committee will contact a list of organizations and individuals developed by Sylvia and provide PR. Hospitality Committee is handling refreshments. We decided in the PSC committee meeting to get a miniature peace pole for Stewart Weiss as a thank you. Sylvia will order the minimum 10 and we will use the others for additional thank-yous and future special occasions. We are planning a short (1/2-hr.) program and are looking for a facilitator for the event, which begins at 7 p.m. **(Continued on following page)**

PSC Minutes Continued:

Quaker Causes: We continued to review current Quaker Causes and approved Friends International Center in Ramallah, FCNL, AFSC, John Calvi, Washington Quaker Work Camps and UFUFUO. We will discuss Right Sharing of World Resources and Friends Committee for Consultation -Section of the Americas at our next meeting. We recommend that the Quaker Burial Ground be part of the AFM budget but not as a Quaker Cause, as we do not consider it a peace or social justice organization. Jean will forward this recommendation to Stewardship and Finance. We approved the addition of Save Darfur Coalition, Quaker House and Madison Quakers, Inc. to the Quaker Cause list for the coming budget year. We have received no Quaker Cause suggestions from Friends outside of our committee. It is suggested that the question of supporting many vs. fewer causes be discussed again in the future, though it is not a current issue.

PROCEDURE FOR RECOMMENDING RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING FROM THE QUAKER CAUSES BUDGET

Please submit in writing the following information to the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. This information may be placed in the PSC mailbox in the meeting house office anytime before our July 15th meeting, or it may be sent by email to the clerk of PSC, Sylvia Oliva, (soliva@erols.com).

Name of and contact information for proposed recipient.

Brief description of purpose of recipient or how the money would be used.

A brief personal justification for your request.

Your phone number and/or email address.

DARFUR ACTION UPDATE by Sylvia Oliva

As a member of the Save Darfur Coalition, AFM played a part in securing the passage of an important divestment bill (H.R. 180) in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Senate will take action on it when it reconvenes in the September. Meanwhile Darfur activists are intensifying their lobbying efforts, and you can help, too, by calling the Genocide Intervention Network Hotline (1-800-GENOCIDE) to get talking points and get connected with your Senators.

In July the United Nations-African Union hybrid peacekeeping resolution passed unanimously in the U.N. Security Council. It calls for 26,000 troops to protect the aid workers and civilians in Darfur, but will take months to deploy. Immediate actions such as a ceasefire, support for the weakened AU force there now, and political actions supporting the peace process, are desperately needed.

The Olympic Dream for Darfur campaign began torch relays in Chadian refugee camps and in Rwanda, to put pressure on China to help end the genocide. There will also be a torch relay throughout the U.S., beginning in New York City in September. Check out www.dreamfordarfur.org for easy ways to support this campaign.

Need I repeat again that the situation there is continually degrading! Please take a moment to help

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING PEACE POLE DEDICATION AND UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE VIGIL SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

WHAT IS A PEACE POLE AND WHY DO WE HAVE ONE AT OUR MEETING HOUSE?

Peace poles are simple handcrafted monuments, "planted" in the earth, as international symbols of peace. Each peace pole bears the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in different languages. It stands in silent vigil as a constant reminder for us to visualize and to pray for world peace, while it links us to a network of people all over the world who have planted a peace pole in their country.

The Religious Society of Friends is called to live by certain testimonies, among them the peace testimony. This means we are not only to renounce all wars and violence, but to practice love and work for peace. Too many lands are being devastated by injustice and war and other atrocities against humankind, and the destruction of our beautiful planet Earth. In our vision statement of 2003, Annapolis Friends Meeting, was led to envision a future peace and justice center. Perhaps our peace pole may be a sign post on the way to making this happen. **(Continued on following page)**

Peace Pole Continued:

HISTORY OF THE PEACE POLE PROJECT

Shortly after World War II, (in 1955), a Japanese man by the name of Masahisa Goi, of the World Peace Prayer Society (a non-profit, non-denominational organization) started the Peace Pole Project. The mission of the Project was to uplift humankind toward harmony rather than conflict, to remind us to keep thinking of peace and holding onto our vision of peace.

To date there are over 250,000 peace poles around the world, in more than 180 countries. They are made of many materials, such as wood or stone, in varying sizes. The languages are carved, etched, painted, or made in plexiglass plaques such as ours. They have been planted in such diverse locations as the North Magnetic Pole, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, the site of the Egyptian Pyramids, the United Nations buildings in NYC and Geneva, at the Pentagon, in Vietnam, in Baghdad, and there is a mobile peace pole that visited the Nevada Nuclear Test Site. They are at many houses of worship, schools, cities, community gardens, peace parks, retreat centers, etc. Our neighbors, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, have one in a little garden there, and there is one in the front yard of the William Penn House in Washington, DC. A peace pole was also planted in New York City to honor the memory of those who died on 9-11-01.

HISTORY OF OUR ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS MEETING PEACE POLE

Things started slowly in June 2005, when the Peace and Social Concerns Committee of AFM began to think about a peace pole for our Meeting. Rather than buy one, we wanted to see if someone in our Meeting could make it. In October 2006, Chris Rozycki told us about her friend, a carpenter by the name of Stewart Weiss, who would like to build us a peace pole out of wood from the home of his grandmother, Caroline Martin. Caroline is a beloved deceased member of our Meeting, considered a founder of AFM, as early Friends used to meet for worship in the living room of her home on Wilson Road.

Caroline's home was about to be demolished in a few days. Stewart salvaged a piece of heart pine timber from his grandmother's living room. He fashioned it into a peace pole and gave it several coats of oil and polyurethane. Then on Christmas Eve 2006, he surprised us by bringing it over to our meeting house and laying it on our porch. A beautiful white ribbon adorned it, into which was tucked a bit of greenery and a note which read: "This Peace Pole was made from a timber that stood next to the fireplace at Church Mother Caroline Martin's house on Wilson Rd. Merry Christmas! P.S. Please call for installation instructions. Stewart Weiss" In the April 2007 edition of Annapolis Friends News you'll find an interesting article by Pat Schenck about her recollections of Caroline and how this peace pole holds a special meaning for her.

The eight languages on the plaques were decided after PSC committee surveyed our Meeting as to our preferences. They are the languages that most Friends indicated they would like. Algonquin was pre-selected by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee in honor of the local Native American tribes on whose lands we are, and whom George Fox met when he and the first Quakers arrived in the U.S. on the shores of the West River. The other languages are: Spanish, English, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Swahili, and Russian. The language plaques should arrive in a few weeks. There will also be a small brass dedication plate on the peace pole in honor of Caroline Martin. It reads: "A beam from the home of Caroline Martin: fearless peacemaker & Meeting founder."

Our peace pole has been placed on the edge of the John Bartram Garden. It is just above-ground, fastened onto a concrete base to keep it water-tight and insect-free. Phil Caroom and Stewart Weiss, its builder, worked together to install it.

WHAT IS THE DEDICATION CEREMONY?

The dedication ceremony will take place on Friday evening, September 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to bring people together for an event that is positive and uplifting. It provides a focal point for a community to come together and talk about peace, sharing our hopes and dreams—as well as the hopes and dreams of the whole human family. Friends young and old of all nationalities, races, genders, faiths, cultures, and other diversities enriching our human family are all invited to participate. We will recognize our common longing for peace and be helped to visualize and hold on to our inner vision of peace for the whole earth.

In our peace pole dedication we want children to play a special part, as an expression of our desire to leave a better, more peaceful world for our children. We will also re-dedicate ourselves to the struggle for a new world where peace will prevail. The dedication ceremony will lead into the International Day of Peace (IDP) vigil.

HOW DOES THIS TIE IN WITH THE U.N. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE?

For the past several years, Lee Lougee has sponsored a vigil at our meeting house on the 21st of September to observe the International Day of Peace. In Lee's own words, "The brief history ... is that an organization called PeaceOneDay, from England, worked to get the UN to pass the resolution for the first annual International Day of Peace, with the primary purpose of having a cease-fire around the world." All peoples and organizations are invited to commemorate the day in an appropriate manner, especially by observing a 24-hour prayer vigil on that Day. The individuals or groups committed to sponsoring a vigil, register on the official website: www.idpvigil.com in order to raise public awareness and invite participation.

Therefore, after the peace pole dedication ceremony, and some time for mingling and refreshments, everyone will be invited to enter our worship room in the meeting house for a silent vigil, and are welcome to stay for as short or as long a time as they wish, until 10 p.m.

I'd like to sum up the whole endeavor of this day in the words of Sandra Cronk in *Peace Be With You: A Study of the Spiritual Basis of the Friends Peace Testimony*:

"The peaceable kingdom is by definition a vision of community.
It is a vision of renewed relationships: between people and God, among people,
and between people and the rest of God's creation...."

And again, in Lee Lougee's words: "Let's see that we are doing all we can do for peace—peace in our hearts, peace in our communities, and peace in our world."

YOUNG FRIENDS CORNER

WELCOME BACK, FRIENDS! We missed you while you were off on adventures.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

It was decided to call the year's curriculum "Quakers in the World," both past and present. Students could be given "Quaker Tools" to deal with the situations that come up in our culture – through focus on Testimonies, conflict resolution methods, the "clearness" process, stories of people who have made a difference both in Quaker history and the contemporary world. We will also bring in the subject of consciousness and the different levels (e.g. the level of "centering" can be seen as a particular body/brain process). Elyse Albert and Dot Walizer worked out an outline for the whole year (utilizing the Testimonies of PEACE and EQUALITY/racism) for middle and high school, which could be used for the elementary as well. A focus on role-play enables students to practice particular situations.

The program is for the first three Sundays, starting Sept. 9th; the fourth Sunday will be free for field trips or special events. However, in September the free Sunday will be the third, the 23rd, since a camping trip is already scheduled for that day. September will begin with *Faith & Practice* and the Peace Testimony; October will cover Peace Activism and conscientious objection; conflict resolution will be in November. After Christmas, college Young Friends will discuss issues on campus.

FRIENDS POETRY GATHERING

The Friends Poetry Gathering will be held every second Sunday in the library from 12:30 to 2:00. All poetry writers and listeners are invited to bring their lunch and poems and join in. For more information contact Dotty Doherty at 410-267-7266.

LIBRARY CORNER

BOOK REVIEW

-by Ria Hawkins

We have a new book *White China, Finding the Divine in the Everyday* by Molly Wolf. This is a collection of essays, none of them very long. The author is a Canadian Anglican, and some of her beliefs are not ours, but she has an open mind that can be appealing to Friends. In her introduction Molly Wolf explains the title of the book; the china she refers to is not the country, but dishes or figurines made of white clay.

Untranslated words like 'hermeneutics' are featureless, slippery, without life or color or realism; Language like that leaves you struggling in a landscape of abstraction and purity, intimidated and unsure of yourself. You don't feel comfortable handling the word. You might mispronounce it or use it wrongly, and then what would people think of you? It's a piece of pure white china, and you don't feel comfortable handling it. You might get it dirty. You might drop it and break it. . . ."

She then explains the meaning of the word in very ordinary language.

Her essays are about ordinary things, using ordinary language and are easy to read. Each of them contains a kernel that can get you thinking, some more so than others. Each of us will respond to different points. Take your time with this book, read one or a few essays until you reach a point that challenges you. Then stay with the challenge, do whatever is right for you; worship, think, meditate, journal, etc. But this is not a heavy book, she has a wonderful sense of humor and is very down to earth.

FOURTH ANNUAL LIGHT HOUSE SHELTER GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Friends of the Light House Shelter will host the Fourth Annual Light House Shelter Golf Tournament on Friday, Sept. 21, 2007. The tournament will be held at Renditions Golf Course in Davidsonville. A scramble format will kick off the event at 8:00 a.m.; lunch and prizes will follow. Online registration and sponsorship opportunities are at www.friendslhs.org. Please contact Ed Ponatoski at 410-295-3490, or Tom Shelton at 410-279-3553 if you have any questions. All proceeds from the Golf Tournament will be used to support the programs of the Light House Shelter. Your support for this important cause is greatly appreciated.

INTERFAITH SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

At Annapolis Friends Meetinghouse, Saturday, September 8 from 7 to 9:30 pm

Get to Know Your Muslim Neighbors, Saturday,

The Islamic Society of Annapolis and the Annapolis Friends Meeting (Quakers invite all interested to join us at the showing and discussion of *ISLAM: A Closer Look* and to meet members of the local Islamic community. The video features personalities such as Imam Hamza Yousef, Shaikh Abdullah Hakim, Dr. John Esposito, Nancy Ali (a former Catholic nun), and Hakeem Olajuwon (basketball star). It touches on many topics including the fundamental tenets, the role of the mosque, the family, and the importance of knowledge.

7:00 p.m. Light snacks and conversation

7:30 video: *ISLAM: A Closer Look*

8:10: Discussion, Questions and Answers with Imam Mohammed Arafa and others

9:00: Mingling

At Annapolis Friends Meetinghouse, Friday, September 21 at 7 pm

Peace Pole Dedication Ceremony and United Nations International Day of Peace Vigil

A simple and joyful ceremony to dedicate our new peace pole.

At Annapolis Boys and Girls Club, Sunday, October 28 from 2-5 p.m.

A Celebration of Faith Communities and Good Works, sponsored by the Greater Annapolis Interfaith Network (GAIN), will take place on Sunday, October 28 from 2-5 pm at the Boys and Girls Club of Annapolis, 121 South Villa Ave. Annapolis. The celebration is to share information about what is being done through our faith groups to benefit our community and to create opportunities for partnering and networking. Our AFM Outreach Committee will organize our display. If you have ideas you want us to include, please contact Pat Schenck or Barbara Thomas. Mark your calendars to attend and learn about the projects of our neighboring churches, synagogues and mosques and how we might complement one another in addressing poverty and injustice in Annapolis.

At Friends Meeting of Washington, Sunday October 7 from 1:30 to 5:00 pm

Interfaith celebration: Film and discussion. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Friends Meeting of Washington, through its Interfaith Group, is sponsoring a gathering Sunday October 7 from 1:30 to 5:00 pm, entitled "Abraham's Tent". This will be an opportunity for celebrating, learning about, and discussing the three faiths of "the Books". Segments of the film, "Three Faiths, One God: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", will be shown. This date was chosen because the close convergence this year of holy days – the Muslim month of Ramadan; the Jewish High Holy days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, plus Sukkot; and the Christian Feast Day of Saint Francis of Assisi and World Communion Sunday - will not occur again for over 30 years. Speakers will include Imam Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad of Dar-adh-Dhikr Mosque, Bethesda, MD (confirmed); Sarah Swick, student at American University and Treasurer of Dar-adh-Dhikr Mosque (confirmed); Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block, Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values, Rockville, MD (invited); and Reverend Louise Green, All Souls Church, Unitarian,

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSION: July 30-August 5, 2007, Frostburg, MD

Nine Annapolis Friends attended Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions this year: A. Singer, J. Finch, J. DeLorge McKeown, B. Peregoy, R. Dorrell, L. and D. Johnson, L. Lougee, and B. Thomas. Each had varied experiences as two attended the initial retreat, two were in Young Friends sessions, and in the Adult Young Friends. We attended various talks, workshops and interest groups as well as business meeting sessions.

New AFM Leadership appointments are Jennifer DeLorge McKeown as trustee to Sandy Spring Friends School and Jessa Finch as co-assistant clerk to Young Friends.

Some of the highlights of Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business were:

*Young Friends took a very interactive role this year, treating us to the Produce Department each evening and organizing a Saturday evening gala. Young and older Friends will review the Manual of Procedure together to plan changes and explore issues. Young Friends prepared a beautiful final epistle.

Continued on following page)

BYM Continued:

*Stewardship & Finance Budget: BYM's income in 2008 is predicted to fall quite short of its needs. The 1st reading of the 2008 budget had a \$72,000 deficit. Late night sessions brought that to a balanced budget by the 2nd reading, with Youth Programs taking an unacceptable cut and a planned fundraising staff position delayed. Friends decided instead to have all items receive the same percentage cut and consider raising appropriations to Monthly Meetings.

*FUM: BYM Reps to Friends United Meeting wrote a strong critique concerning the "inconsistency of corporate vision and resources; General Board not always being informed of key decisions; leadership demonstrating the lack of careful stewardship in investments (e.g., hospital in Kenya) and disguising the eroding financial base of FUM; and absolutism and theological correctness prevailing over openness to Spirit. One BYM rep. resigned feeling BYM cannot play a role in transforming FUM at this time. Others are very interested in finding Way forward together. An FUM couple (Eden and Jim Grace, missionaries to Kenya) were official visitors. The BYM Committee of Four Committees was unable to bring a recommendation. There was an outpouring of interest to attend the FUM Triennial in July 2008.

*Spiritual State of Meetings: Monthly Meetings expressed concerns about vocal ministry; BYM is planning help for troubled Monthly Meetings on committee work, clerking, and pastoral care. BYM is reinstating a visitation program on request.

*Peace and Social Concerns report was a worship sharing on two queries:

Do I live in the Light and Power that removes occasion for war?
What am I doing to end the war in Iraq and Afghanistan?

FRIENDS OF COLOR WORSHIP GROUP

The Friends of Color Worship Group meets the first First Day of every month at 9:15 in the Terrace Room at Friends Meeting of Washington, 2111 Florida Ave NW in Washington DC. All Friends of color (members or attenders) and their families are welcome.

QUAKER POTLUCK & DIALOGUE AT WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

You are invited to attend a potluck and Quaker dialogue at 6:30 PM on Sunday September 9, 2007 (Note the date is not the 1st Sunday due to Labor Day. Our Program this First Day is presented by Eric Goldman Alexandria Friends Meeting on Friends Peace Teams Service in Bududa, Uganda. Earlier this year, under the auspices of the Friends Peace Teams, Eric spent three months as a volunteer providing technical assistance and training in the development of a vocational school. He will talk about his experience in the small village in which he lived and worked, as well as address the on-going war in Northern Uganda. Eric was born and raised in South Africa. He has had a lengthy career in civic education, and also was principal of Thornton Friends School in Virginia. Eric attends Alexandria Friends Meeting.

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

BYM FALL 2006 SILENT RETREAT: October 5 - 8

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).

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.)

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. IF YOU ARE **NO LONGER INTERESTED** IN RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR AT 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
