

CHESTNUT HILL FRIENDS MEETING BULLETIN

May 14, 2009

The bulletin informs the Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting community of news and events as a supplement to the monthly newsletter. This interim communication focuses on time-sensitive information, usually semi-monthly.

CHESTNUT HILL FRIENDS COMMUNITY

QUAKERISM 101 will be offered at Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
Six Sunday evenings 6:15-8:00pm May 3, 17, 31, June 7, 14, 28

Topics to be covered:

- Introduction to Quaker History
- Spiritual Ideals in Quaker History
- Meeting for Worship and Discernment
- Nurturing the Inward Life
- The Testimonies
- The Facing Bench: Friends Ministry and Business

Each session will be led by a member of CHFM. To register for the class or for questions or suggestions, please email Jorge or Sue at Amigo.Jorge@aol.com or SusanBettsNJ@comcast.net. For the curriculum and reading list, please go to <http://www.austinquakers.org/q101/index.php?page=home>
From Adult RE Comm., Jorge Arauz, Sue Betts, helped by Ruth Pauley, Laura Melly and Jean Warrington.

TRIBUTE TO TRUDE FUCHS and her dream for a new meetinghouse

Sunday, May 31, 2009 3:00 to 5:00 pm

The Francis Cope House , Awbury Arboretum, 1 Awbury Road, Philadelphia 19138

Friends are invited to pay tribute to Trude and her long years of service to Quakerism and to Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. One of Trude's passions is a new meetinghouse for CHFM. At this event you will learn more about the project that Trude has staunchly supported for many years.

Invitations are being sent soon. All are invited. RSVP by returning the invitation's reservation slip with your gift to the new Meetinghouse Project NO LATER THAN MAY 15th .

Questions? Please contact the meeting secretary, Viv Hawkins at 215-247-1477 or secretary@chestnuthillquakers.org

If you have stories or pictures to share for the event, please contact Gay Johnson
_gayjohnson@verizon.net

CAPTITAL CAMPAIGN MESSAGE: Several documents related to the capital campaign have been uploaded for distribution, review, and revision. If you find instances where the material contains incorrect statements, please send an e-mail to the campaign manager [Diane Dunning](mailto:Diane.Dunning) with your corrections. We will have the materials professionally copy-edited, so this is not a request for copyediting! Please don't bother editing for grammar or style or otherwise word-smithing. We'll give the materials a final polish once we are assured of their accuracy. <http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/> gives you a list of the following documents, and you can download each from that page. Or, if you want to pick one of them from the list below, these are the direct addresses:

- http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/ADMINfactsheetFINAL-5_09.pdf
- http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/BUILDINGfactSHEET-5_09.pdf
- http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/CAMPfact_Sheet_FINAL-5-09.pdf
- http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/TURRELLFactSheetFINAL-5_09.pdf
- http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/USES&SRCSFactsFINAL-5_09.pdf

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- <http://www.philiphjones.com/CHFM/ddCASEdraft-5-09.pdf>

Please peruse the documents and make *factual corrections if needed*. The fact sheets are primarily for internal use; i.e., for the edification of campaign committee members/solicitors so they can wisely and intelligently answer most questions that come their way. The fact sheets are written, however, so that if someone should ask for more details on a subject, the individual fact sheets can be handed out. They are not intended to be part of the eventual 'package' of materials used in the external campaign. The Case statement is for internal and external distribution. We acknowledge the many people who contributed to creating these documents. - Submitted by Diane Dunning and Phil Jones.

OUR MEMBERS

WIDER QUAKER COMMUNITY

TESTING THE WATERS: A RETREAT DAY

Facilitated by core teachers of the School of the Spirit Ministry

Saturday, May 16, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm at the Gwynedd Friends Meeting in Philadelphia

This retreat day will be facilitated by the core teachers of the School of the Spirit Ministry's program "On Being a Spiritual Nurturer." The retreat day is intended for those discerning whether they are led to apply to the two-year program beginning in September 2009. Friends seeking a short retreat are also very welcome. There is a requested \$25 donation at the door.

The program "On Being a Spiritual Nurturer," now gathering its eighth class from across the country, is designed for those led to pay particular attention to God's transforming, guiding, and healing work. The program is grounded in the traditional Quaker practices of deep listening and of individual formation within community. The program begins in September 2009 with an application deadline of May 25. Late applications may be considered. Scholarships are available.

Much more information about the program can be found at www.schoolofthespirit.org or by contacting Mike Green at (919) 929-2339 or info@schoolofthespirit.org.

May 13 (Wed.; 5:30 p.m. – dinner at 6 p.m.) - **Quaker Artists Spring Gathering**. Arch Street Meeting House. Co-sponsored by the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Artist Zan Lombardo will be the guest speaker after dinner. There will be a \$15 charge to cover dinner. Invitations will be sent to FQA members. If you'd like an invitation or more information, call Elke Muller at 215-241-7223.

May 16 (Sat.) - **PeaceWay Festival at Providence Meeting**. Providence Meeting at 105 North Providence Road (Route 252) in Media PA will host its fourth annual PeaceWay Festival. Two speakers have been invited to start thoughtful, timely conversation about peace making in our homes, our nation and the world. Joe Sestak is a 3-star Navy admiral currently serving as U.S. Congressman from the 7th district of Pennsylvania. Bob Edgar is President of Common Cause, formerly Congressman from the same district (1975 – 1987), and formerly General Secretary of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. The day's program also includes peace and justice literature, food, music, children's crafts, a peace labyrinth and more. Public invited. Bring your friends. Watch for program details on www.peaceway.net.

Quaker Quest - Meetings Schedule Presentations. Quaker Quest, the new and exciting Inreach/Outreach program developed in England, has captured the attention of monthly and quarterly meetings throughout PYM.

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Two monthly meetings hosted Quaker Quest presentations in January; one quarter and three other monthly meetings have scheduled presentations before May 1st; and one meeting has already decided to begin planning its own Quaker Quest.

Contact: Lois and Harry Forrest, Co-clerks (Quaker Quest Working Group) at callighrf@medleas.com or 609-654-3673, to learn more about this new "spiritual path for our time" and its potential for your own meeting and for the Religious Society of Friends in general!

The Gathering Garden at Gwynedd Meeting. Gwynedd Meeting (PA) announces the following programs for spring 2009.

- May 16, 2009 (Sat. 9 a.m.-12 p.m.) - **A Spiritual Garden** — Herbs in Containers. Suggested donation is \$10.00. This year in our garden workshop, we will look at herbs and their interconnectedness with spiritual practices. Bring your own pots and you will be able to take home a container that will help you to build a relationship with herbs. Plants and potting soil will be provided. Space limited to 15 participants. Please pre-register (by May 9, 2009) Contact: Wayne Stratz 215-412-2838; e-mail: stratz@earthlink.net.

- Tuesdays (7:30-9:00 p.m.) - **Silent Meditation.** Come join the Meditation Group at Gwynedd Friends Meeting as we connect with the divine of the inner self through stillness and silence. Help and guidance is available for interested beginners. Contact: Ranvir Bakshi 215-699-325

GATHERING OF PARTNER FAITH COMMUNITIES Saturday, May 16 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Cookman United Methodist Church at 1201 W. Lehigh Ave, Philadelphia Connect with and learn from other people of faith working for peace in our streets and our communities. Hear a presentation from some dedicated young people currently working with youth in our communities. Share ideas and inspiration with each other. Get support and learn about resources for on-going and new partnerships of multi-racial, interfaith, cross-denominational, faith communities working together to prevent gun violence. The Partner Faith Communities of Heeding God's Call are growing and active!

- Five new Partner Faith Communities have joined us since February.
- Faith Community Partnerships are planning action in support of the Code of Conduct in gun shops in Philadelphia (Kensington), Chester, the "Main Line" suburbs, and central Pennsylvania.
- Partner Faith Communities are planning other events and actions focused on community peacemaking and gun violence prevention.

Much has happened since HEEDING GOD'S CALL began its efforts of coordinating and connecting faith communities for the work of gun violence prevention in our communities:

Jan 14-16: 12 people of faith arrested at Colosimo's Gun Center advocating for a code of conduct for responsible gun dealers

Jan 17: Simultaneous programming in 9 houses of worship, followed by plenary program march and rally at Colosimo's Gun Center

Feb 8: First Gathering of Partner Faith Communities

since Feb: Continuing witness at Colosimo's Gun Center every Saturday and Monday

April 10: Hundreds of people gathered for a Good Friday Prayer Vigil in front of Colosimo's Gun Center

April 18: Speaker training for "gun violence prevention evangelists"

April 25: Lancaster County prayer vigil at LiveFreePA event featuring Ted Nugent (wild and violent pro-gun advocate)

May 26: PLANNED rally & prayer vigil in support of the civil disobedience (Divine obedience) trial for the 12 arrested in January

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Heeding God's Call is committed to continuing this work and building on the relationships and momentum already begun. Let's get together to imagine what's next. Let's stay together to encourage and empower each other in this work of community peacebuilding. We've got work to do! For more information, please contact info@HeedingGodsCall.org 267-519-5302

SUPPORT THE HEEDING GOD'S CALL DEFENDANTS! Join the gun violence witness on May-26!

On Tuesday, May 26 twelve people of faith will face trial for an act of conscience witnessing against the plague of violence in our streets and our communities fueled by the availability of illegal weapons. In January 2009, 12 people were arrested while participating in nonviolent direct action to pressure Colosimo's Gun Center to sign a Code of Conduct for Responsible Gun Dealers. Following several weeks of discussion between the gun shop owner and a delegation of local religious leaders, these 12 individuals went to the store to once again ask the owner to sign the code. They remained there waiting for his agreement, and were arrested.

They were charged with a variety of crimes, including misdemeanor trespass, misdemeanor disorderly conduct, blocking a sidewalk and criminal conspiracy. They spent between 12 and 27 hours in jail before being released. The defendants include community advocates from Camden and Philadelphia, ordained Christian clergy from 3 denominations and a Jewish rabbi.

Please stand with us to *send a dramatic signal* on behalf of the young people that suffer most from this epidemic of violence. They've lost friends and siblings, they've lost hope. We need to show that we are willing to risk, to sacrifice, to struggle for ourselves, for them and with them.

8:00 AM Vigil of support, remembrance and prayer for the defendants and for the children and all whose lives are threatened and hearts are numbed in the face of the killing in our communities (*Arch Street United Methodist Church, 55 N. Broad St*)

9:00 AM Court opens, please come when you can for as long as you can (*Room 1003 in the Criminal Justice Center at 13th & Filbert*)

12:30 PM Rally – Inspiring HOPE, Raising VOICES, Taking ACTION! (*Northeast corner of City Hall at Broad & Filbert*)

Afternoon Trial reconvenes

For more information, please contact info@HeedingGodsCall.org 267-519-5302
www.HeedingGodsCall.org

AFSC CHINA SUMMER WORKCAMP

The AFSC China Summer Workcamp will be held July 27 to August 22, 2009. Details listed below. For more information go to: <http://www.afsc.org//ht/d/sp/i/70154/pid/70154/TPL/China/displaytype/raw> or e-mail: chinasummer@afsc.org Download China Summer application (PDF). Deadline for applications is March 15th.

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

CONVERSATIONS ON FAITH Join us at Good Shepherd Church for guest speakers and conversations about how faith enriches, illumines, complicates, and sometimes darkens lives in Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist cultures. Wednesdays May 13, 20, and 27 at 7:30 PM, 3820 The Oak Road, Philadelphia PA 19129. All events are free and open to the public – please invite your friends and colleagues for what promises to be a fascinating and challenging series.

Wednesday, May 20: Jackie Robinson and the Jews with Rabbi Rebecca Alpert, a Temple faculty member in the Religion and Women's Studies departments. Her topic will be how American Jews "adopted" Jackie Robinson as a myth representative of their

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experience of assimilation into American society and the relationship between Jewish and black experiences of integration and assimilation.

Wednesday, May 27: Buddhism and Mainstream Faiths: Common Ground?

Our guest will be Floyd Platton, from the Tibetan Buddhist Center of Philadelphia. His subject will be the common ground, as well as the differences, between Buddhism and Christian and Jewish belief and practice.

PERSONAL

STANDARD REMINDERS

Please help center Meeting for Worship: Friends are invited to arrive early for meeting for worship to help the meeting settle and provide a more meaningful worship experience for our children and adults alike.

On-line calendar for Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting can be viewed at <http://www.quaker.org/chestnuthill/e-calendar.htm> Please submit updates to calendar@chestnuthillquakers.org

Bulletin announcements Please submit copy-ready announcements to secretary@chestnuthillquakers.org or 215-247-3553 by Noon on Thursdays

Leaving the Meetinghouse.

Whenever you are the last one to leave the meetinghouse, you must turn off lights and lock doors. You can lock the meetinghouse and leave even if you not have a key. If you find yourself being the last to leave the meetinghouse but do not have a key, lock the other doors from the inside. Then, leave the building through the door beside the "office." This door can be opened from the inside but is always locked from the outside. Please check the door from the outside as you leave to be sure that the door is tightly closed.

Please leave the meetinghouse at least as orderly as you found it. The meetinghouse is used by several groups throughout the week. In order to respect their needs as well as ours, please move furniture back to the way it was when you moved it for your use and put all trash to the large can in the kitchen. If the large can is full, please take the trash to the dumpster across the driveway.

If you or your children remove things from the RE closet or the bookcases, please return them. If you use dishes in the kitchen, please wash, dry and put them away.

Stuff Left Around the Meetinghouse

"Stuff" has begun to appear in the meetinghouse. The property committee is charged with keeping the meetinghouse orderly and uses the tag sale to dispose of things (coats, furniture, dishes) that have no purpose. Please talk to someone from the property committee if you need to leave something in the meetinghouse and please label it (including a date when it will be removed) so that we won't think it was intended for the tag sale.

Tables and Chairs in the Social Room

Please return chairs and tables to the closets after an event in the social room. Please leave out four large tables and about 10 chairs in the social room. Read the instructions inside the table closet and chair closets. The instructions tell you what to do with the four tables that are to be left out.

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If you or your committee is having a meeting or hosting an event or pot luck, please be sure that someone is responsible for returning the tables and chairs to the correct configuration.

Assistive listening devices: A "hearing helper" system amplifies spoken messages in meeting. These devices can also be used for people in the gathering room who wish to hear spoken messages in the worship room. Contact a member of Worship and Ministry if you want to learn more.