

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

ANNUAL FOUR-DAY SESSIONS OPEN IN COMPATIBILITY, WHERE POSSIBLE,
WITH THE SCHEDULING OF WESTERN AND IOWA CONSERVATIVE YEARLY
MEETINGS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CONTINUING COMMITTEE

2004 Sessions will be held from 7/28/04 to 8/1/04
on Quaker Lane near McNabb, Illinois
at the Yearly Meetinghouse

YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS 2003–2004

Presiding Clerk:	Recording Clerk:	Reading Clerk:	Assistant Clerk:
Maurine Pyle	Beth Schobernd	Carol Zimmerman	Margaret Katranides

Treasurer:	Field Secretary:	Administrative Coordinator:
Roger Laughlin	Roxy Jacobs	Sharon Haworth

Teen Friends Co-Clerks:
Trevor Munroe,
Ken Nurenberg,
Alethea Tschetterwood,
Teen Friends Recording Clerk: Gaelan McQueen,

Trustees:
Richard Ashdown,
Carol Bartles,
Helen Jean Nelson,
Jerry Nurenberg,

Meetinghouse
IYM Website:

815-882-2214
www.ilym.org

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING 2003

Blue River Quarterly

B-N	CC	Co	De	P-G	St.L	SoI	U-C	Members & Att
								Average
5	12	21	5	5	54	7	14	Adults
1	1	1	0	0	7	7	2	Under 18 years
								Membership Sta
8	29	20	4	4	62	5	25	Resident Adult M
1	0	1	0	0	11	9	5	Resident Young
9	34	28	8	2	58	4	24	Non-Resident A
0	0	0	1	0	9	2	6	Non-Resident Y
18	63	49	13	6	140	20	60	TO
17	63	48	12	6	120	9	49	Total Adult Men
1	0	1	1	0	20	11	11	Total Young Fri
								NEW M
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	By Birth or Ado
0	1	2	0	0	5	0	0	By Request
5	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	By Certificate of
5	2	2	0	0	8	0	1	TO
								LO
0	1	0	0	2	3	0	0	Deceased
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	Released or Wit
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Transferred
1	1	0	0	2	3	0	3	TO

SUMMARY

Blue River Quarterly	369
Metropolitan Chicago	678
Wisconsin	<u>93</u>
TOTAL	1140

NUMERICAL STRENGTH CHART

	Metropolitan Chicago											Wisconsin		TOTALS
	DK	DG*	Du	Ev	57*	LF	McH	NoS	OaP	RoV	SB	Mil**	Osh**	
Members Statistics														
Attendance:														
	6	28	6	60	20	36	10	33	18	9	15	90	5	459
Old	6	5	1	12	1	20	2	4	4	0	5	25	0	104
Statistics														
Members	6	60	13	66	17	65	15	35	7	12	23	53	5	534
Friends	5	18	3	22	2	9	2	4	0	1	13	1	0	107
Adult Members	3	57	1	33	58	66	3	10	0	0	3	34	0	435
Young Friends	0	2	2	40	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	64
TOTAL	14	137	19	161	77	141	20	50	7	13	39	88	5	1140
Members	9	117	14	99	75	131	18	45	7	12	26	87	5	969
Friends	5	20	5	62	2	10	2	5	0	1	13	1	0	171
MEMBERS														
Option	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
	0	2	3	11	0	5	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	33
Transfer	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	19
TOTAL	0	2	7	12	0	5	1	3	1	0	5	4	0	58
ASSES														
	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
Withdrawn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	11
TOTAL	0	1	0	4	4	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	25

* These Meetings are affiliated with Western Yearly Meeting (Friends United Meeting) as well as IYM.

** Milwaukee and Oshkosh Meetings have dual affiliation with Northern Yearly Meeting (Friends General Conference).

Please Note: We are no longer reporting half-membership for dually affiliated meetings. The totals represent the entire membership of IYM.

DeKalb numbers are from 1993.

ADDITIONS AND LOSSES BY NAME AND MEETING

ADDITIONS

BY BIRTH/ADOPTION: Danielle Freire (Duneland) 6/03 Liam Cu'ong Brubaker (Northside) 8/02 Stella Rachel Narkiewicz (Northside) 8/02 Cecil Romano (Northside) 7/02 Lydia Thoroughman (St. Louis) 3/03 Nathan Lasersohn (Urbana-Champaign) 7/02 BY REQUEST: Elizabeth Bumgarner (Clear Creek) 9/02 Jeffrey K. Brotemarkle (Columbia) 1/03 Pearl Venetia John (Columbia) 3/03 Karl Zerfoss (Downers Grove) 10/03 Evelyn Zerfoss (Downers Grove) 10/03 Marjory Crawford (Duneland) 4/03 Noel Pavlovic (Duneland) 12/02 Priscilla Freire (Duneland) 6/03 Meredith George (Evanston) 2/03 Madelyn George (Evanston YF) 2/03 Monica George (Evanston YF) 2/03 Mason George (Evanston YF) 2/03 Marty Mercer (Evanston) 4/03 Myra Mercer (Evanston YF) 4/03 Ann Miller (Evanston) 6/03 Rebecca Conover (Evanston YF) 4/03 Molly Conover (Evanston YF) 4/03 Timothy Gordon (Evanston) 6/03 Harper Rose Gordon (Evanston YF) 6/03 Heather Nadig (Lake Forest) 1/03 Brandon Nadig (Lake Forest) 1/03 Tyler Nadig (Lake Forest) 1/03 Nathan Falck (Milwaukee) 6/02 David Munroe (Milwaukee) 4/03 Patricia McMillen (Oak Park) 5/03 Julia Carter (St. Louis), 9/02	Sean Richards (St. Louis) 9/02 Sally Schwartz (St. Louis) 10/02 Kiran Nwakanma (St. Louis) 5/03 Gwen Bueckendorf (St. Louis) 6/03 Brad Laird (South Bend) 4/03 BY TRANSFER: To Bloomington-Normal: Beth, Paul, Zeke, Zack & Zeb Schobernd from Friends Hill MM To Clear Creek: Bill Mize, from Providence, RI, 7/02 To Duneland: Fernando Freire from 57th St. Mtg., 12/02 Sandra Huntley from Northside Mtg. Pat Lucas from Northside Mtg. To Evanston: Audrey French from Takoma (MD) Prep., 4/03 To Lake Forest: Irene Freutel Sewell & Cynthia Nadig from Evanston Mtg., 1/03 To McHenry County: Peter Albright from Midcoast Mtg. (ME), 2/03 To Milwaukee: Chuck Rathman from Oshkosh, 8/02 George Owen from Santa Fe, NM, 10/02 To St. Louis: Elizabeth Pickard from Deer Creek MM, 3/03 Phoebe Thoroughman from Deer Creek MM, 3/03 To South Bend: The Thompson-Slaughter family (2 adults, 2 children), from Princeton, NJ, 9/02
--	--

LOSSES

BY DEATH: Audrey Whitney (Clear Creek) 8/8/02 Jeanne Maloy (Downers Grove) 1/03 William Buscombe (Evanston) 3/13/03 Meta Ruth Ferguson (Evanston) 3/7/03 Bob Bell (Rock Valley) 6/17/03 Elmira Stark (St. Louis) 11/11/02 James Stuart (St. Louis) 12/3/02 Antoinette Bryan (St. Louis) 3/11/03 BY RELEASE OR WITHDRAWAL: Jeff Knutson (Oshkosh) 1/03 Gene Doty (Rolla) 5/03 Joseph Allen (Urbana-Champaign) 7/02 Dan Gilmore (Urbana-Champaign) 3/03 Thad Bales (Urbana-Champaign) 3/03 BY TRANSFER:	From Bloomington-Normal: Wayne Benenson, to Albuquerque, NM From Evanston: Irene Freutel & Cynthia Freutel Nadig to Lake Forest Mtg., 1/03 From 57th Street: Fernando Freire, to Duneland Mtg., 12/02 Sabron & Robert Newton to Whittier MM, 12/02 Ashley Warner, to Concord MM, 2/03 From Oshkosh: Steven Point, to Northern YM, 1/03 From Northside: Sandy Huntley, to Duneland MM Pat Lucas, to Duneland MM Cathy Smith to Vancouver MM
---	---

IYM 2003 PROGRAM

Theme: *Answering that of God in Everyone: Quakers Responding to Conflict*

WEDNESDAY:

10:00 a.m. M&A Committee Mtg. (for M&A members only)
 2:00—3:30 Opening Session: Worship & Business Meeting
 3:30—6:00 Free time/committee meetings
 4:00 M&A Committee Mtg. (for M&A members only)
 5:30—6:00 Singing on front porch
 Early supper for children, kitchen volunteers
 Dinner
 6:00—7:00 Service Project for Kids
 7:30—9:00 Address by Chuck Fager
 9:00 New attendees Meeting (Registration table)
 9:00—9:45 Snacks

THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:

1:30—5:00 Recreation (see recreation schedule)
 2:45—5:15 Craft Tent
 3:45 Finance Committee meeting
 4:00 M&A Special Session
 7:30—8:45 Address by Marshall Massey
 7:30—9:00 Campfire
 9:00—9:45 Snacks

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:
 1:30—5:00 Recreation (see recreation schedule)
 2:45—5:15 Craft Tent
 3:45 Women's Theology Group Meeting for worship, business and discussion
 3:45 Development Committee Meeting
 4:00 M&A Committee Mtg. (for M&A members only)
 7:45—10:00 Dancing on front lawn
 9:00—9:45 Watermelon served outside during dancing

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY:

6:30—7 am Early Meeting for Worship
 6:45—7:45 Breakfast
 7:30 New Attendees Meeting on Saturday (Reg. table)
 8:00—8:45 Meeting for Worship (Memorials read Saturday MFW)
 9:00—12:00 Meeting for Business / FUN Program
 12:00—1:00 Lunch
 1:30—3:45 Craft Tent/Recreation
 1:30—2:15 Worship Sharing
 2:30—3:45 Workshops
 3:00—3:30 Snacks for children
 3:45—6:15 Free time/committee meetings
 5:30—6:15 Singing on front porch
 Early supper for children, kitchen volunteers
 Dinner
 6:15—7:15

SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:

1:30—3:45 Craft Tent/Recreation (see Recreation schedule)
 4:00 Area Planning Groups meet
 4:30—5:30 Talent Show
 7:30—9:00 Young Friends movies
 7:30—8:45 Address by Elizabeth Duke
 9:00—9:45 Snacks

SUNDAY
 6:30—7:30 Early Meeting for Worship
 7:30—8:30 Breakfast
 10:00—11:00 Plummer Lecture: Chris Jocius
 11:30—12:30 Meeting for Worship
 12:30—1:30 Lunch
 1:30 Cleanup and Farewells

Minutes of the Illinois Yearly Meeting
129th Annual Session
July 30 – August 3, 2003
McNabb, Illinois

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION: Wednesday, July 30, 2003

Minute 1 The 129th annual session of Illinois Yearly Meeting opened with silent worship.

Minute 2 We greeted visitors from Quaker organizations, including Elizabeth Duke, General Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation in London, England; and Susan Lee Barton of the FWCC Midwest Field Staff.

Minute 3 We welcomed first-time attenders from within Illinois Yearly Meeting.

Minute 4 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Western Yearly Meeting (2002); Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (2002); Ireland Yearly Meeting (2003); Japan Yearly Meeting (2002); North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative (2002); and Wilmington (Ohio) Friends Meeting (2002).

Minute 5 The Clerk shared corrections and clarifications from the spring 2003 Continuing Committee minutes. Greg Woods did not attend the FWCC Peace Conference. Julia Pantoga and David Westling were the Yearly Meeting's representatives. Bob Wixom also attended.

The Continuing Committee minutes noted that we accepted a letter from McHenry County Monthly Meeting concerning the Field Secretary Program. We appreciated receiving their concern, but did not necessarily endorse the letter's content.

At our 2002 annual sessions, a committee was charged with writing a letter conveying the Yearly Meeting's support for HR 1186, the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act. That letter was approved by Continuing Committee and sent to senators and representatives from the Yearly Meeting's constituent states. The Clerk read the letter as approved.

Minute 6 David Wixom will serve on the 2003 Epistle Committee, along with Reading Clerk Carol Zimmerman. One or two additional Friends are needed on this committee.

Minute 7 David Wixom and Michaelle Cooke volunteered to serve on the 2004 Epistle Committee.

Minute 8 The Clerk called for volunteers for the 2003 Exercises Committee. Since there were no volunteers at this time, we will revisit the membership of this group later in our sessions.

Minute 9 Jinny Laughlin, Clerk of Ministry and Advancement, asked that first-time attenders, members of the Welcoming Committee, and members of the Committee of Care make themselves known to everyone.

Minute 10 The Clerk reviewed the agenda as printed in the Advance Documents.

Minute 11 Friends were reminded that Ministry and Advancement will hold a feedback session on the Field Secretary Program at 4:00 on Thursday afternoon.

Minute 12 We closed with worship, intent upon our gathering theme, “Answering that of God in Everyone: Quakers Responding to Conflict.”

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION: Thursday, July 31, 2003

Minute 13 We welcomed the following additional visitors: Star Mary Castro, who joins us through the FGC Yearly Meeting Visitors Program. The Clerk read a letter from Deborah Fisch commending Star Mary to our care.

Mary Ellen McNish, the General Secretary of American Friends Service Committee. Mary Ellen will be available during the Friday afternoon workshop time to discuss the work of AFSC.

Dave Miller, formerly of Illinois Yearly Meeting, now of Byberry Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

J.E. McNeil of Friends Meeting of Washington and Executive Director of the Center on Conscience and War. J.E. will be working with the High School Friends and presenting a workshop on War Tax Resistance, both on Thursday.

Marshall Massey, who will be our Thursday evening speaker. Marshall worships with Fort Collins Monthly Meeting and Iowa Conservative Yearly Meeting.

Peter Idwasi, of Quaker United Nations Office, New York, and a member of Nairobi Yearly Meeting. Peter will be sharing his gifts during the workshop time.

The Clerk read Susan Lee Barton’s traveling minute from Clear Creek Monthly Meeting, Richmond, Indiana, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Minute 14 Roy Treadway volunteered to serve on the 2003 Epistle Committee with David Wixom and Carol Zimmerman.

Minute 15 We welcomed first-time attenders from within the Yearly Meeting.

Minute 16 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Alaska Friends Conference (2002), Australia Yearly Meeting (2003) and InterMountain Yearly Meeting (2002).

Minute 17 Marti Matthews reported for Quaker Volunteer Service, Training, and Witness Committee. The committee provides oversight for the Steering Committee of the Quaker Volunteer Service and Witness Network and for Project Lakota. In the past year, the committee has questioned its relevance. They are not comfortable with laying down the committee until the Steering Committee program is settled; however the Steering Committee has been inactive this year. Project Lakota has been successful and has expressed its appreciation for the oversight and support provided by QVSTWC. Marti also summarized Greg Wood’s report to QVSTWC on Project Lakota.

Minute 18 We approved a letter read by the Clerk renewing our endorsement of Candy Boyd’s work with Project Lakota.

Minute 19 Jinny Laughlin reported for Ministry and Advancement. Among the concerns considered by M & A this year are communication within the Yearly Meeting, committee membership terms, child safety, the Field Secretary Program review, and their continuing ministry of visitation among monthly meetings and worship groups. M & A suggests that an IYM monthly newsletter be posted to the web site with a hard copy sent to each monthly meeting and worship group. The committee is also creating a packet of orientation materials for new members of Ministry and Advancement. Friends were reminded that the committee will return during Saturday’s session with a report on the Field Secretary Program.

Minute 20 Roxy Jacobs presented her Field Secretary's report, appended. In addition to those activities noted in the printed report, Roxy has shared her photographs and has carried on active correspondence with Friends of all ages. In her visitations, she sees her role not as an observer but as a fellow seeker with Friends and meetings to come to resolution on their various issues.

Minute 21 Carolyn Smith Treadway reported that Nominating Committee is still seeking an Assistant Treasurer for the Yearly Meeting, as well as Friends to serve as our representatives to AFSC and FCNL. Rachel Mershon's name was omitted from the Ministry and Advancement appointments listed in the Advance Documents. Nominating Committee will return with a final report later in our sessions.

Minute 22 The Naming Committee sought and received approval from the Spring 2003 Continuing Committee for Bill Brown to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee. In today's session, we approved Marlou Carlson and Janice Domanik as additions to the Nominating Committee.

Minute 23 The Maintenance and Planning Committee report was presented by Brent Eckert. M & P has had a very busy year, working closely with the Trustees and the Site Envisioning & Building Committee on numerous issues with the Meeting House and other IYM structures and grounds. Friends were reminded that Site Envisioning & Building was asked to conduct thorough evaluations of all buildings and services. Maintenance and Planning then worked to begin correcting deficiencies that these evaluations disclosed. Among the problems discovered were further water and termite damage to the Meeting House. Re-grading of the ground around the Meeting House is needed to improve drainage. M & P recommends that work on the termite and water damage begin next summer. The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency grants, for which IYM had applied to help fund some of this work, were not awarded this year due to State of Illinois budget constraints. \$50,000 to \$100,000 will be needed to address these repairs. The electrical deficiencies identified in the evaluations have been corrected, and work to bring the site into compliance with Health Department regulations is progressing. The Work Weekend was successful, with numerous improvements made to the kitchen and dining area among other tasks. A mini-Work Weekend was held in July to complete unfinished projects. Brent explained that the decision not to use the dormitory was based on a letter of concern from a monthly meeting and the results of the evaluations.

Friends appreciated Maintenance and Planning's article in the recent *Among Friends* detailing the problems with using the dormitory. We expressed our gratitude for the work of Maintenance and Planning in this year with an unusually daunting work load.

Minute 24 Marcia Nelson reported for the Peace Tax Fund Oversight Committee. She noted one change from the report printed in the Advance Documents. The interest on the Fund has not yet been distributed to the Quaker United Nations Office (New York) and the Chicago Fellowship of Friends. Marcia asked whether advocacy is a function of the Peace Tax Fund Oversight Committee or whether that is the purview of the Peace Resources Committee. The two committees are directed to review the minutes concerning the development of the current structure and to continue working together to clarify responsibilities.

Minute 25 The Youth Oversight Committee report was given by Ann Eckert.

Young Friends are learning and living Quakerism through a variety of activities. Among these was the Martin Luther King Weekend Quake. Young Friends from Illinois Yearly Meeting, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and Northern Yearly Meeting participated. Our Young Friends enjoy attending gatherings outside IYM and the opportunity to interact with other Young Friends. Youth Quake will be held this winter in Estes Park, Colorado. Katherine Trezevant is working with Dorothy Day to provide a stronger unprogrammed element to this conference. The FGC-sponsored Young Quakes Conference will be held near Nashville, Tennessee, in October. The Clerk reminded us that there are some funds available to help Young Friends attend these activities.

Minute 26 Dawn Amos reported for the Electronic Communications Working Group, referring Friends to the complete report in the Advance Documents. While the group did not meet this year, items continue to be posted to the web site, including *Among Friends*, Plummer lectures, Project Lakota, and registration forms. The group still needs to develop guidelines for publishing certain information such as photographs, email addresses and personal writings.

We approved the following recommendations from the group:

- Continue the Electronic Communications Committee for another year and solicit volunteers to develop the Electronic Publications Guideline. At the minimum, the ECC members really must include a member of the Publications Committee, the *Among Friends* editor, and a webservant.
- Renew the ilym.org and illinoisyearlymeeting.org domain names for five years at approximately \$13.50 per name per year. Continue storing the actual site files at ilym.quaker.org until we need more complex technology.
- Solicit volunteers to help write web pages for the site. Continue publishing IYM-related program information online as human resources are available.
- Continue publishing *Among Friends* online, notifying the submitting authors of this. Protect email address in the articles, if the author chooses, by instead publishing an ilym.org forwarding address. Use the practices developed for publishing *Among Friends* online to determine the most appropriate way to publish the Minute Book online.
- Continue publishing Plummer lectures online, with permission from the authors.

Friends were reminded that there is information in the “About” section of ilym.org for Monthly Meetings about the availability of free web space. FGC now provides QuakerFinder.org for locating Friends meetings.

Minute 27 Daniel Hall read Northside Monthly Meeting’s epistle concerning their Sabbath year. Illinois Yearly Meeting supports Northside in their work and we extend our offers of love and assistance.

Minute 28 The Clerk reminded us that Elizabeth Mertic of Lake Forest Monthly Meeting is currently serving as clerk of FWCC’s Section of the Americas. We also have in our midst Elizabeth Duke, General Secretary of FWCC. The Triennial will be held in New Zealand during January 2004. Illinois Yearly Meeting’s representatives are Liz Oldham and Nancy Wallace. Elizabeth Duke asked us to consider, “What is important in the life of the Yearly Meeting and its members?” We settled into worship on this query with several Friends sharing their thoughts. The Clerk then asked if a committee comprised of David Finke, Bill Howenstine and Ann Eckert would prepare a letter for our representatives to the Triennial to carry to the gathering. This commit-

tee will bring the letter back to us by Sunday morning.

Minute 29 David Wixom reported for Religious Education. The committee met twice this year. They will soon be distributing to all monthly meetings a copy of *Meeting Safety*, published by Britain Yearly Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SESSION: Friday, August 1, 2003

Minute 30 We welcomed Bonnie Nicholson of West River Monthly Meeting, Indiana Yearly Meeting, who is among us representing AFSC. Bonnie has brought information packets on the Emergency and Material Assistance Program. There is a packet for each monthly meeting. AFSC has infant quilts for sale here, the proceeds from which go to the Literacy Program for Afghan Women. There are other resources available in the display area. Bonnie will be presenting a workshop tomorrow on the Emergency and Material Assistance Program. The clerk read a traveling minute for Bonnie from West River Monthly Meeting.

Minute 31 We welcomed first-time attenders from within the Yearly Meeting.

Minute 32 The Clerk read a letter from the FWCC Section of the Americas Visitation Planning Committee announcing the participation of Susan Lee Barton and Elizabeth Duke at Illinois Yearly Meeting.

Minute 33 The Clerk read a response from U.S. Senator Russell D. Feingold (Wisconsin) to our letter concerning the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act, conveying his appreciation for our correspondence.

Minute 34 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Pacific Northwest Women's Theological Conference (2002); North Pacific Yearly Meeting (2002); the 3rd Annual Quaker Consultation on Peaceful Prevention of Violent Conflict held in Burundi (2002). We also heard an email from David Westling, Columbia Monthly Meeting, who is performing volunteer service in Burundi.

Minute 35 The Clerk read letters of introduction for Mary Ellen McNish and David R. Miller from Byberry Monthly Meeting.

Minute 36 Ann Eckert was brought forward by the Naming Committee to serve as clerk of Nominating Committee. We approved this appointment.

Minute 37 The Clerk clarified that the Yearly Meeting did accept the laying down of Thorn Creek Monthly Meeting at last year's sessions (see Minute #30, 2002). Ministry and Advancement is taking custody of the records from Thorn Creek.

Minute 38 We approved the Minutes from Thursday's session.

Minute 39 Tom Paxson, acting clerk of Faith and Practice, reminded Friends that there are four documents in the Advance Documents pertaining to this issue. Two were requested by Continuing Committee. The first recounts the consideration of and support for devising and adopting a Faith and Practice for Illinois Yearly Meeting. The second is a brief history of the Illinois Yearly Meeting experience with books of discipline. The two sections of a book of discipline being brought forward for the Yearly Meeting's consideration are the Introduction and a section on Membership. Faith and Practice proposes a five year, interim adoption of these sections to see if they fit the

Yearly Meeting's needs. Tom reminded us that a Faith and Practice is not a static document and will continue to change as we follow God's leadings.

Tom read the Introduction. After much prayerful discussion, we approved instituting this section provisionally for the recommended five years.

Minute 40 Tom then began reading the Membership section, including parts on Attending Meeting, Applying for Membership, and Membership of Children. Friends raised concerns as well as expressed agreement about these parts. We particularly lacked unity over Membership of Children. After much prayerful consideration, we decided to delay further discussion of the Membership section until Saturday's session. Friends were invited to attend a "threshing session" this evening to continue the discussion of Membership for Children. The Clerk clarified that as we begin to adopt sections of our own Faith and Practice, these sections will supplant corresponding sections in the current edition of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. For those sections not yet accepted into an Illinois Yearly Meeting book of discipline, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice will continue to be our guide.

Minute 41 Roger Laughlin presented the Treasurer's report. Roger pointed out that the balance on hand reflected in the Advance Documents is less than last year because at the point the report was created several meetings had not yet made their annual contributions. The report to be printed in the Minute Book will be adjusted to show the contributions that have been made since the original report.

Minute 42 The Finance Committee report was given by Cathy Garra. Among the issues dealt with this year were interest-free loan arrangements, additional insurance, updating the travel policy to reflect the increased allowable mileage rate to \$.36, and incorporation. We approved the following recommendations by the Finance Committee;

- To establish an ad hoc committee to prepare a long-term plan and budget for the Meeting House and other structures. This allows us to save up for predictable expenses in the Site Fund and other funds, such as painting, roofing and mechanical equipment replacement over the years. This committee will include representatives from Maintenance and Planning, Finance, the Trustees and Clear Creek Meeting. This group will report to Continuing Committee before the next annual session.
- That Finance Committee proceed with the paperwork to file for incorporation, after reviewing the application with an attorney. That review will also include the advisability of pursuing 501.c.3, or non-profit, status. Our designated signatory will be the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and the two youngest Trustees residing in Illinois. The Treasurer will serve as our registered agent. After filing for incorporation, Finance Committee will work with the Trustees on updating the property title and other related business paperwork.
- To establish a Property Improvement Fund to accept designated gifts to meet our historic and new building needs at our property at McNabb, Illinois. The Fund will be spent over time for the major maintenance, restoration and improvement of the property, including any new structures approved by the Yearly Meeting. The Fund will be spent under the direction of the Trustees, Finance, Maintenance and Planning and other committee(s) designated by the Yearly Meeting. Site Envisioning and Building Committee, for its duration, will also participate. Routine upkeep on the Yearly Meeting buildings and grounds will continue to be paid from the Site

Fund.

Cathy Garra and Carolyn Smith Treadway (as Clerk of Nominating) will identify members for the ad hoc committee to prepare a long-term plan and budget for the Meeting House and other structures.

Minute 43 Cathy Garra then reviewed the proposed budget for the coming year, noting some slight adjustments from last year. We will return to the budget on Saturday.

Minute 44 Bill Howenstine reported for the Site Envisioning and Building Committee. Bill expressed the committee's thanks to Chip Rorem who served as an architectural advisor to the committee. The committee perceives that there are two visions for the future of Illinois Yearly Meeting. One vision is of growth and endurance; the other is of maintaining the status quo or perhaps a decline. The committee has chosen to espouse the first vision.

Bill reviewed the committee's work from 2001/2002. (See Committee report, pp. 38-39, 2002 Minute Book). As charged last year, the 2002/2003 committee carried out:

- Structural engineering inspections
 - Architectural review for entire site by architect specializing in historic buildings, including building safety
 - Termite and other insect damage inspection
 - A review of Meeting House repair by contractors specializing in heavy timber construction
 - Electrical evaluation for the entire site
 - A consultation with the Bureau and Putnam County Health Departments
- The reports of these inspections are available in the display area.

In response to the guiding principles put forth at IYM 2002 and the committee's continuing work, Site Envisioning and Building recommends the following:

- That a new building be constructed on the southern portion of the newly-acquired property. The building would be approximately 8000 square feet and include new kitchen and dining facilities, limited dormitory space and restroom/shower facilities for year-round use, and Clear Creek meeting space. The cost is estimated at roughly \$1,000,000.
- In the next twelve months, move the upper floor of the current dormitory across Quaker Lane to the southeast quadrant of the north property. This structure could be used as summer sleeping quarters, and in the future as space for the Young Friends, or other meeting space.
- Cover and retain the existing restroom facilities on the lower level of the current dormitory for as long as needed.
- Improve the bathhouse facility on the north property by adding hand-washing facilities and supplementing with portable toilets as needed.

The committee requests that the Yearly Meeting approve the following:

- Continue the Ad Hoc Site Envisioning and Building Committee for another year.
- Approve \$50,000 to move the upper floor of the dormitory and make necessary improvements to the bathhouse and existing dormitory lower floor restrooms.
- Authorize Site Envisioning and Building to interview and hire an architect at a cost of approximately \$10,500 to complete a schematic design of a new building or buildings to be presented at our 2004 annual sessions.

- Approve the start of a capital campaign for a new building or buildings with an initial target of \$1,000,000.
- Support funding for necessary repairs of the Meeting House as determined by the Maintenance and Planning Committee.

Site Envisioning and Building will be available during the workshop time today for further discussion on its proposals. The presentation from today's Business Meeting will be repeated this evening. The committee will return during Saturday's session for action on their recommendations.

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SESSION: Saturday, August 2, 2003

Minute 45 The Reading Clerk shared epistles from Lake Erie Yearly Meeting (2002), the Religious Society of Friends in Britain (2003), and the Monteverde Monthly Meeting (2002).

Minute 46 The Clerk asked Carol Bartles, Bill Brown and Patricia McMillan to serve as this year's Exercises Committee. We approved these appointments.

Minute 47 We approved the minutes from Friday's session.

Minute 48 The Clerk asked that we minute our appreciation to Clear Creek Friends. Not only did they help with preparation of the site for this year, they also provided dry bedding for Friends whose bedding was soaked in yesterday's storm.

Minute 49 Peter Lasersohn continued the report for Faith and Practice Committee. Arising from last night's "threshing session," Faith and Practice proposed the following minute:

Given the disparate policies on children's membership currently employed by the various monthly meetings across Illinois Yearly Meeting, we recommend that the Yearly Meeting embark on a process to explore the possibility of coming to a unified understanding of children's membership. To this end, we suggest that a committee be appointed to meet with the monthly meetings, consider this issue, and make a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting within four years.

The Membership section of Faith and Practice could then be revised at the end of the five-year provisional period, to reflect any decision made by the Yearly Meeting.

Friends suggested that Ministry and Advancement serve as this committee, with the support of Faith and Practice. We approved that Ministry and Advancement explore with meetings over the next four years the issue of child membership and participation, and bring a unified policy on child membership to the 2007 session for our consideration.

Minute 50 We approved the adoption of the section on Membership for the provisional period of 2003-2008, with the following changes (changes in italics):

To Membership of Children, the second paragraph;

Parents who are members may request membership for their children.

Some monthly meetings consider children to be full members. Others consider them to be associate members. Still others offer parents

the choice of either full or associate membership for their children. Associate membership differs from full membership in that it does not extend indefinitely, but must be re-affirmed by the individual at some point. Illinois Yearly Meeting has not felt clear about setting any particular age at which associate membership is dropped, and leaves this difficult matter to the discretion of monthly meetings. Meetings are responsible for continuing a caring relationship with associate members as they mature, and for encouraging them to apply for membership when they are ready, whether before or after the end of associate membership.

To Sojourning Members, Transfer of Membership, Isolated Friends, the last paragraph:

Both members and persons interested in Friends sometimes live too far away from a meeting to attend regularly. *The mere fact of living at a distance from one's meeting does not alter membership.* Options for such persons include establishing a relationship with a meeting near enough to visit periodically, participation in Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and conferences of various kinds, and forming a small worship group with others of like mind in the area. Many of the monthly meetings of Illinois Yearly Meeting began in just this way.

Friends are reminded to hold our Faith and Practice Committee in the Light as they continue their difficult work for us.

Minute 51 Carolyn Wilbur Treadway presented her Pastoral Counselor's report. The Reading Clerk read the Pastoral Counselor's report from Beth Burbank. We continue our endorsement of their work.

Minute 52 Jinny Laughlin reported for Ministry and Advancement on the Field Secretary Program review. Ministry and Advancement recommended wholeheartedly that the Field Secretary position be continued. The position should be filled by an Illinois Yearly Meeting Friend, and will only be filled if we find that someone is truly called and committed to serve Illinois Yearly Meeting in that capacity.

Ministry and Advancement also asked us to consider that the Field Secretary position is budgeted for one-fifth time (or 33 1/3 hours monthly), but our current Field Secretary is putting in at least twice that amount, occasionally up to 105 hours per month. The position currently is paid \$5600 annually. Ministry and Advancement feels that the current hourly allotment is insufficient. The work of the Field Secretary is an important complement to the work of Ministry and Advancement and to Illinois Yearly Meeting in general. Ministry and Advancement recommended that Finance Committee study the need for an increase in hours allotted to the Field Secretary position to more accurately reflect the time spent on behalf of the Yearly Meeting.

After some discussion and clarification, we approved that Ministry and Advancement will consult with Finance Committee on hours to be worked by the Field Secretary and appropriate compensation for those hours and report back to the Yearly Meeting at its next annual session. We also approve the continuation of the Field Secretary position, within the parameters suggested by Ministry and Advancement.

Minute 53 Bill Howenstine, from the Site Envisioning and Building Committee,

reviewed that committee's recommendations from Friday's session (see Minute 44). Friends raised several concerns and asked for clarifications on some issues. We heard concern that we prioritize our monetary needs for our facilities. We received a suggestion to increase the proposed architect fee to \$20,000. We were asked to keep the presence of God in the midst of this process. We heard expressions of excitement for the plan and the vision. And we heard serious reservations about the wisdom of moving the second floor of the dormitory. After much discussion we settled into worship where we considered "How is God leading us to prepare for the future of the Yearly Meeting." We then approved the following:

- Support the funding for necessary repairs of the Meeting House as determined by the Maintenance and Planning Committee
- Continue the Ad Hoc Site Envisioning and Building Committee for another year.
- Authorize Site Envisioning and Building to interview and hire an architect to complete a schematic design of a new building or buildings to be presented at our 2004 annual sessions. The architect could help us investigate ecologically sound materials and methods and help educate people working on the project of our desire for protecting the environment. We approved funding for this project up to \$20,000.
- Approve the start of a capital campaign for a new building or buildings with an initial target of \$1,000,000.

We were not in unity on the proposal to move the top floor of the dormitory to the north parcel and to make necessary restroom improvements in relationship to that move. Because we will not be using the dormitory again next year, we entrust to Maintenance and Planning the provision of alternative sleeping arrangements.

Minute 54 Cathy Garra reported for the Development Committee. The Property Improvement Fund approved in Friday's session will provide an extremely flexible fund for receiving gifts designated for the maintenance and improvement of the property. The committee is in need of fund raising expertise, either volunteer or paid. The committee requests permission to promote individual giving among Friends, and is considering the advisability of conducting a feasibility study to identify the capacity to raise the suggested \$1,000,000. In the coming year, the committee will develop materials that may be distributed to prospective donors providing information on how to give to Illinois Yearly Meeting and what our financial priorities are. They will also be meeting with meetings and individuals.

Minute 55 Carolyn Smith Treadway presented the final Nominating Committee reports, with additions and corrections. We approved the report which will appear in its final form in the Minute Book. Nominating Committee will name one more person to serve as a representative to AFSC. We agreed that Nominating could contact this person as soon as the decision is made so that he/she may make arrangements to attend the Corporation meeting the end of October. Continuing Committee will formally approve that appointment at its October meeting.

Minute 56 We regret that we had no time to hear the report of the new Peace Resources Committee. Friends are asked to review the report of that committee in the Advance Documents. We express our deep thanks to those who have served on the committee this year and for their excellent work.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION: Sunday, August 3, 2003

Minute 57 Sandra Huntley brought the following proposal from the Finance Committee: In consultation with the clerk of Ministry and Advancement and the Treasurer, the Finance Committee recommends the following:

- Raise the hourly rate from \$14.00 to \$15.00 per hour for the Field Secretary and the Administrative Coordinator.
- Raise the number of hours from 400 to 500 per year for the Field Secretary.
- Increase the recommended monthly meeting contribution per adult resident member to the staff fund from \$50.00 to \$55.00, increasing the total gift to \$145.00

This change would go into effect immediately. We approved this proposal and the budget for the coming year.

Minute 58 We received the epistle from the high school Friends.

Minute 59 Roy Treadway shared the Illinois Yearly Meeting epistle. We approved the epistle with some minor changes and expressed our thanks to the Epistle Committee.

Minute 60 The Clerk read the epistle from the 6-8 year-olds.

Minute 61 Alicia Holmes shared the epistle from the 3-5 year-olds

Minute 62 The Clerk read the Exercises. Several suggestions were made and we then approved the Exercises with thanks to the committee.

Minute 63 We received the epistle from the Junior High Friends.

Minute 64 We joyfully received an epistle from the newly reconstituted Adult Young Friends group.

Minute 65 David Finke read the letter which our representatives will carry to the FWCC Triennial in New Zealand next January. We approved this letter.

Minute 66 We approved the minutes from Saturday.

Minute 67 We approved the minutes from Sunday.

Minute 68 Fall Continuing Committee will meet Saturday, October 18, 2003, in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois. The 2004 Annual Sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting will be held July 28 through August 1, near McNabb, Illinois.

Minute 69 We closed our 2003 sessions with silent worship.

EXERCISES

This has been a very productive 2003 Annual session for IYM.

We have had many changes in the ways we can use our facilities. This has been a challenge and a blessing. Our dormitory has been closed for overnight sleeping due to fire safety concerns. Participation and attendance did not diminish due to this hardship. We approved, however, a capital fund campaign to provide us with the buildings we require. This will entail seeking outside assistance with fund-raising and a goal of one million dollars.

A great storm occurred Friday afternoon serving to remind us of how small we are in God's earth. The men's sleeping tent blew down and the Women's Theological Meeting ended promptly due to this wind and rain. However, the Spirit prevailed and the evening dance on the lawn proceeded as scheduled despite slippery grass.

During the week, an ad hoc gathering of youth and adults was called to confront youth on a boundary issue. We were reminded that we expect our youth to confront those who they feel are disrespectful of them and that this be done respectfully. We also expect that adults in return will confront our youth with the same respect.

Special thanks to Friends in Clear Creek Meeting for the instant response bringing dry linens for the teens. We pull together under trying situations.

Our evening addresses challenged us to reexamine how we live our testimonies. Director of Quaker house in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Chuck Fager, reminded us of the need to be as disciplined as the people who challenge our peace testimony, the military. This includes long-range planning which Chuck framed in the vision of a hundred year's Lamb's war. In addition we must secure our spiritual base and establish clean priorities such as a Spirit-led training for peacemaking which includes teaching first-day school, attending meeting for business and other meeting activities not traditionally considered peacemaking.

Marshall Massey, who worships with Fort Collins Monthly Meeting and Iowa Conservative Yearly Meeting, opened our eyes to witnessing as a way of holding up and examining conflict. He used the story of Nathan and King David from the Old Testament as an example of effective witnessing. In response to King David's abuse of power, Nathan served as witness and drew King David in as a collaborative witness. We as Quaker Peacemakers are challenged to examine how we witness. When we ourselves become the witness, our witness is more powerful than strategizing power plays.

Elizabeth Duke, General Secretary of FWCC in London, England, spoke about Friends from around the world. She shared how Friends in different cultures and places engage in peace building.

Our annual Plummer lecture, named after Jonathan Plummer, first presiding clerk of our Yearly Meeting, was given by Chris Jocius and entitled *Friends and Strangers – a Time of Gifts*.

Our workshops were diverse and dynamic. Topics included war tax resistance, witnessing, building nonviolent communities, disarmament, AFSC programs, QUNO work, peacemaking in Burundi, and building a department of peace. Mary Ellen McNish, General Secretary of AFSC, held an open house on AFSC to help attendees better understand the workings and programs of the organization.

EPISTLES

2003 Epistle of Illinois Yearly Meeting

To Friends Everywhere:

Friends from the states of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, and elsewhere met for our 129th annual yearly meeting sessions, July 30 to August 3, 2003, on the Illinois prairie, surrounded by fields of corn and soybeans. As we gathered in our meetinghouse, built in 1875, we were mindful of both the heritage and the vulnerability to time, other natural forces, and changing expectations of our buildings. We chose not to use our 40-year-old dormitory for safety and health reasons. Friends discovered the joys and challenges of expanded tent-camping or nearby motels.

In our meetings, we addressed “Answering that of God in Everyone: Quakers Responding to Conflict.” The 2003 Iraq war, the “War on Terrorism,” increasing threats to our civil liberties, and, in the United States and around the world, long existing social injustices all permeated our consciousness. We sought ways to respond. Several of our speakers pointed to the early Friends’ vision of “The Lamb’s War” to which they were called. Christ, as “The Lamb of God,” was the one who conquered by self-sacrifice rather than through violence.

Chuck Fager urged us to take up a century-long, well-developed struggle for peace. Earlier Quakers, such as, George Fox, John Woolman, Lucretia Mott, and others, spent their entire lives building Quakerism and struggling against slavery and for women’s equality. We were challenged to build our base as Quakers in the long effort for making peace, that is, in the “Lamb’s War.”

Marshall Massey called on us to develop our skills in “witnessing” to pursue this “Lamb’s War.” A tradition, spanning many millennia, starting with the Hebrews and Jesus, and followed by Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr., witnessing goes beyond protesting by appealing directly to those in power with truth and integrity. Witnessing is a way we can respond to conflict by answering to God in others, by becoming empowered.

Elizabeth Duke invited Friends to weave networks for Friends throughout the world. Through these networks, Friends can be strengthened in their calling to address conflict and violence for many years ahead.

In small ways we have taken up these challenges to address conflict by supporting our yearly meeting members working with the Lakota Native Americans, dealing with civil violence in Burundi, or assisting the efforts of many Quaker organizations. Youth, from vigorous high-schoolers to recently-born, enlivened our sessions, but more importantly made us aware of our need to envision a long-term future for Quakers, as part of the “Lamb’s War.”

Thus, we addressed the strengthening of our Quakerism. For many of us, our meetinghouse represents a spiritual center in addition to serving as a physical center. We pledged to renovate and restore our historic meetinghouse and move forward on planning for a new year-round, environmentally-friendly dormitory and eating facility.

As another aspect of our center, we addressed who we were as a yearly meeting as we continued slowly to write an Illinois Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, something we have not had for almost a half century. Symbolically, this represents the core of our being – our base. After considerable thought and prayer, we adopted the first two sections of this Faith and Practice: an introduction and a section on membership.

As we have looked back on our history, we stand ready to move forward to the next century. We invite Friends everywhere to join us in moving forward – focused, empowered, centered – for the next century.

In peace and with loving greetings to all.

- Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends

Adult Young Friends' Epistle

After some years of nonexistence, the Adult Young Friends (AYF) program would like to announce its triumphant return. Many AYFers have conflicting schedules in the morning that prevent an organized program at the normal time. However, our goal is to create an AYF program to encourage the high school folk to come back after they finish high school. Even with the lack of numbers, we had a blast playing cards, taking pictures, throwing Frisbees, and socializing with Friends of all ages.

After dusk we fight crime, but don't tell anyone. We have secret identities to maintain.

High School Young Friends Epistle

Dear Friends,

As always this year at IYM has been an enjoyable experience for new friends and old. High schoolers began trickling in on Wednesday and Thursday, convening in the shade to briefly enjoy Will's new chair and catch up on the past year. We continued many of the wonderful traditions of past years including walks to the railroad tracks, dinner at Edgewood, watching movies and playing tag in the graveyard. Some of us also enjoyed a day at the pool with some of the younger members of the community. We enjoyed a workshop led by J.E. McNeil on conscientious objection.

This year we've had the largest snack budget we can remember. It even bought enough junk food and drinks to curb our disappointment at being beaten by Will and Casey at spades each passing night. While that tradition may stand for years, there were several new surprises as well. This was the first year that the dorms were inaccessible due to fire hazard. Instead two tents were erected behind the dorms. However, in the middle of the week a particularly severe storm leveled the boy's tent and drenched everyone's belongings. Clear Creek Meeting was kind enough to provide us with blankets and pillows and sleeping accommodations were moved to the Junior Yearly Meetinghouse. Our out-trip didn't go as planned, but we worked out all the issues and spent the afternoon socializing.

This year was the first that several adult Young Friends have returned to IYM after leaving the high school group. While a program was not provided this year, we are working on organizing one for next year.

The trials and tribulations of this year have worked to bring us together, not just within the High School Program, but among the greater community. It is our hope that mistakes made this year will help things to go more smoothly in years to come.

Junior High Friends Epistle

Dear Friends Everywhere,

When we first met on Thursday we found out that we were going to make a mural

for the Jr. High meeting house. We first brainstormed on what we were going to put in the mural. We included the most important component which was the name among other things, which was The Penn House (named after William Penn.) The next thing that we did was we painted the mural which will stand outside the Penn House for many years. We feel that having a place where the Jr. High group meets is really nice especially since some of us helped build it. Now the mural will be another addition in our environment.

Friday we went on a field trip to a wildlife conservation area because we know that IYM is looking to restore our own prairie. We also did this because we wanted to know what our meeting grounds looked like a long time ago. We saw big bluestem grass, also known as turkey feet, and we saw yellow cone flower. We also visited wet lands where we saw that in just 3 years we could restore our own wet lands.

There was also an observation deck which had 49 steps. From the deck we could look out on all the wildlife and plants. We hope that when our meeting restores the land that there is also an observation deck or porch where we can look out over the prairie. We also hope that the future Jr. High groups enjoy the new mural.

- Ashlee, Meg, Trent, Emily, Brian, Rose, Caryn, Lucas,
Christina, Maria, Steve, Martin

6 – 8 Year Old Friends Epistle

Theme: “Who Are the Quakers?”

Peter Idwasi came to our group and talked about how Quakers were in Africa and about the United Nations. (We learned that a nation is the same as a country and that “united” comes from “unity.”)

Elizabeth Duke answered our questions. One was about if she knew any Jews and she did – in New Zealand. She talked about traveling and showed us cloth and a mitt you put money in.

We made leaf rubbings. Also, Alice Howenstine showed us how to make stationary out of envelopes and shared stories. David Wixom showed us things we could make with wood and talked with us.

- Delia, Annie, Gabe, Laure, Claire, Lindsay, and Billy

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 7/1/02 to 6/30/03

GENERAL FUND

BALANCE ON HAND 6-30-02 (FOR BUDGETING '02-'03)		\$28,188.15
INCOME		
Contributions – Meetings		\$22,380.30
Contributions – Individuals		1531.00
Interest – Friends Meetinghouse Fund		400.00
Interest – First State Bank Ck. Account		713.41
Interest – First State Bank CD		207.56
Book Sales – '01 Session		75.16
Less Returned Check		-60.00
Total Income		\$25,247.43
EXPENSES – Operating	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Publications	\$4700.00	\$3937.35
Committees	200.00	91.33
Religious Education	1000.00	512.76
Travel – IYM Representatives	4500.00	6000.11
FWCC Triennial	1000.00	1000.00
Office	1300.00	620.09
Trustees	2500.00	2500.00
Staff Travel	3500.00	4103.14
Staff Fund Transfer	1000.00	1000.00
Site Fund Transfer	2008.15	2008.15
IYM '02 Session Deficit	0	772.18
Total Operating Expenses	\$21,708.15	22,545.11
EXPENSES – Contributions	BUDGET AND ACTUAL	
Friends General Conference (FGC)		\$3200.00
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)		400.00
Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)		400.00
Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)		400.00
Friends World Committee for Consultation, Midwest		130.00
Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR)		300.00
Assoc. Comm. Of Friends on Indian Affairs (ACFIA)		250.00
Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns (FLGC)		50.00
Chicago Fellowship of Friends Scholarship Fund		100.00
Pro-NICA		100.00
Olney Friends School		100.00
Scattergood Friends School		200.00
Earlham College		200.00
Earlham School of Religion (ESR)		100.00
Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)		50.00
Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN)		150.00
Friends Peace Teams		150.00
Project Lakota		200.00
Total Contributions Expenses		\$6480.00
Total Expenses (Operating and Contributions)		\$29,025.11
BALANCE ON HAND 6-30-03 (FOR BUDGETING '03-'04)		\$24,410.47

Special Funds: Income and Expenses 2002—2003

SITE FUND		FWCC TRIENNIAL	
Balance 6-30-02	\$7086.52	Balance 6-30-02	\$3330.00
INCOME		Transfer from General Fund	1000.00
Contributions – Meetings	14,565.00	EXPENSES -Travel	3340.00
Contributions – Individuals	1948.25	Balance 6-30-03	\$990.00
Sale-Centennial Samplers	8.00	WOMEN'S WEEKEND	
Transfer from General Fund	2008.15	Balance 6-30-02	\$474.89
Duplicate Check Correction	42.94	INCOME -registration	430.00
Total Income	\$18,572.34	EXPENSES	
EXPENSES -Repairs & Maint.	4065.05	Food and program	425.67
Balance 6-30-03	\$21,593.81	Site Fee	225.00
YOUTH FUND		Total Expenses	650.67
Balance 6-30-02	\$4922.07	Balance 6-30-03	\$254.22
INCOME		COUPLES WKND – no activity	
Contributions – Meetings	1917.00	Balance 6-30-03	64.11
Contributions – Individuals	230.00	ENVIRONMENTAL WKND – no activity	
Total Income	\$2149.00	Balance 6-30-03	367.92
EXPENSES		SUFFERINGS FUND -no activity	
Postage/mailling	88.80	Balance 6-30-03	\$25.00
Travel	1090.58	TRUSTEES FUND –no activity	
Clerking Workshop	400.00	Balance 6-30-03	-295.00
Quake refund	74.70	MEN'S WEEKEND	
Total Expenses	1654.08	Balance 6-30-02	\$0.00
Balance 6-30-03	\$5414.99	INCOME -Registration	205.00
STAFF FUND		EXPENSE -Site Expense	205.00
Transfer Field Secretary Balance	1868.56	Balance 6-30-03	\$0.00
Transfer Adm. Coord. Balance	17,925.42	PEACE RESOURCES COMMITTEE	
Balance 6-30-02	\$19,793.98	INCOME -Reg. & Donations	4360.00
INCOME		EXPENSES -Prog., Travel, Trainer	4087.42
Contributions – Meetings	17,659.70	Balance 6-30-03	\$272.58
Contributions – Individuals	1210.00	LEADERSHIP RETREAT	
Transfer from General Fund	1000.00	INCOME -Reg. & Donations	2396.75
Total Income	19,869.70	EXPENSES -Camp Menno Haven	2396.75
EXPENSES		Balance 6-30-03	\$0.00
Salary	21,000.00	'02 SESSION	
Total Expenses	9732.27	INCOME —Registration	\$9615.43
Balance 6-30-02	\$18,663.68	EXPENSES	
SPECIAL GIFTS		Prepaid	3928.07
Balance 6-30-02	26,362.29	'02 Session	6459.54
EXPENSES		Total Expenses	10,387.61
Inspection, assessment,		Balance 6-30-03 (Deficit)	-\$772.18
Consultations, recommendations,		(shown as expense in General Fund)	
And grant application for			
Building restoration	6016.67		
Balance 6-30-03	20,345.62		
EXPENSES –Salary	12,100.00		
	17,925.42		

Monthly Meeting Contributions

Meeting	Total	General Fund	Site Fund	Youth Fund	Staff
Bloomington-Normal	1770.00	786.00	296.00	62.00	626.00
Clear Creek	4060.00	1740.00	725.00	145.00	1450.00
Columbia	2800.00	1200.00	500.00	100.00	1000.00
Decatur	540.00	240.00	100.00	0.00	200.00
DeKalb	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Downers Grove	3500.00	1500.00	625.00	125.00	1250.00
Duneland	700.00	300.00	125.00	25.00	250.00
Evanston	6157.00	3218.30	838.00	138.00	1962.70
57 th Street	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lake Forest	13600.00	3600.00	6700.00	300.00	3000.00
McHenry County	1375.00	660.00	275.00	55.00	385.00
Milwaukee	4860.00	2090.00	875.00	170.00	1725.00
Northside	4480.00	1920.00	800.00	160.00	1600.00
Oak Park	840.00	360.00	150.00	90.00	240.00
Oshkosh	200.00	86.00	36.00	7.00	71.00
Peoria Galesburg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rock Valley	1120.00	480.00	200.00	40.00	400.00
St. Louis	3520.00	1200.00	1070.00	250.00	1000.00
South Bend	2660.00	1140.00	475.00	95.00	950.00
Southern Illinois	840.00	360.00	150.00	30.00	300.00
Urbana-Champaign	3500.00	1500.00	625.00	125.00	1250.00
Totals	56522.00	22380.30	14565.00	1917.00	17659.70

RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

FUND BALANCES		CASH IN BANKS	
General	\$24410.47	First State Bank Ck. Acct.	68271.52
Site	21593.81	First State Bank CD	11152.35
Youth	5414.99	Friends Meetinghouse Fund	10000.00
Staff	18663.68	Accounts Total	89423.87
Special Gifts	20345.62		
FWCC Triennial	990.00		
Women's Weekend	254.22		
Couples Weekend	64.11		
Environmental Weekend	367.92		
Sufferings	25.00		
Trustees	-295.00		
Peace Resources Comm.	272.58		
Prepd. Expenses for '03 session	-2683.53		
Total Fund Balance	89423.87		

Respectfully Submitted,
Roger Laughlin, Treasurer

2003-2004 BUDGET

OPERATING EXPENSES

Publishing	4,500.00
Committees	200.00
Religious Education	600.00
Travel—IYM Representatives	4,500.00
FWCC Travel transfer (triennial)	1,000.00
Office	1,000.00
Trustees transfer	2,500.00
Staff Travel	3,500.00
Peace Resources transfer	100.00
Miscellaneous	<u>30.47</u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$17,930.47

CONTRIBUTIONS

Friends General Conference	3,200.00
American Friends Service Committee	400.00
Friends Committee on National Legislation	400.00
Friends World Committee for Consultation	400.00
Friends World Committee for Consultation, Midwest	130.00
Right Sharing of World Resources	300.00
Associated Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs	250.00
Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns	50.00
Chicago Fellowship of Friends Scholarship Fund	100.00
Pro-NICA	100.00
Olney Friends School	100.00
Scattergood Friends School	200.00
Earlham College	200.00
Earlham School of Religion	100.00
Quaker United Nations Office	50.00
Friends Committee on Unity with Nature	150.00
Friends Peace Teams	150.00
Project Lakota	<u>200.00</u>
Total Contributions	6,480.00

TOTAL BUDGET

\$24,410.47

ANNUAL REPORTS

Yearly Meeting Committees

QUAKER VOLUNTEER SERVICE, TRAINING AND WITNESS

(See Minute 17)

For the second year in a row we must report almost no activity for this committee. We met once this year, before fall Continuing Committee. We currently see two important functions to the committee:

- 1) oversight of the national steering committee for the Quaker Volunteer Service and Witness Network (QVSWN), and
- 2) oversight of Project Lakota.

Regarding the first, we have failed to adequately give oversight to the QVSWN steering committee.

Regarding Project Lakota, we have maintained contact with them and they report to us: "You, QVSTC, are an incredible immense benefit to us." (Candy Boyd)

We as a committee question our relevance to the Yearly Meeting for several reasons, but do not feel clear to be laid down, at least until the national committee is clear on its own status. The national steering committee for QVSWN has been inactive this last year but has not been laid down. Clerk of the committee David Finke has agreed to assess with the other members and with Earlham the status of the national steering committee and report to us by fall Continuing Committee. Project Lakota could receive oversight from Columbia Monthly Meeting, where it began. As far as fostering volunteer opportunities in Illinois Yearly Meeting, we observe that service projects seem to arise organically, spontaneously, in the Yearly Meeting, without our initiative or support, and perhaps this is the wisest way for these to happen.

The original vision of Illinois Yearly Meeting for this committee was to foster opportunities for Friends to do our own volunteer work in the world as part of Quaker spirituality. It is not in our tradition to pay other people to do our responsibilities. Paid personnel, at best, are hired to facilitate our own work. We had seen the demise of opportunities for Friends to do volunteer work in the manner of Friends: with the accountability of oversight, with business handled as worship, with daily spiritual practices as part of work, and the practices of our testimonies of equality, simplicity, and integrity.

In recent times issues of war and peace, terrorism, and strife have come to the fore of our nation's concerns. Various Quaker projects have arisen in response to this and offer opportunities for volunteer peacemaking in the world. What are still lacking to Friends, though, are opportunities to deal with the eternal presence of poverty in the world, the general inadequate conditions of life for so many people.

Quite a number of people from Illinois Yearly Meeting have traveled to South Dakota and worked on Project Lakota construction projects. Evanston Monthly Meeting sent a van with a large amount of clothing and blankets to the reservation. Project Lakota seems like a worthy project that offers many opportunities for IYM Friends to be of service in the world. However, it is still far away, not easily available to all of us. There could still be a place for the development of a service project in the Midwest that would have the good characteristics that make Project Lakota so successful.

We have observed some of the wonderful effects that Project Lakota has had in our Yearly Meeting. Our involvement with this service project began when Greg Woods felt a leading to go to South Dakota to participate in the volunteer work that

was already going on there. There was an established, ongoing service project already at the reservation under the supervision of a competent Quaker who has a clear commitment to our highest ideals. Mike Grey is a released supported coordinator/facilitator of the ongoing work of Friends on the Lakota reservation. Out of this experience, Greg has grown into an extraordinary committed young Quaker leader, who further facilitates other Friends' involvement. This is the kind of structure we like to encourage – the facilitation of stable service opportunities with competent released facilitators where we can send either young people or adults to do service and grow in their own leadership abilities as servants. Out of Greg's leading to participate in the service project of Intermountain Yearly Meeting, Greg's monthly meeting has been greatly enriched, Candy Body was pulled into this work which has enriched St. Louis Monthly Meeting, and altogether many others now in the Yearly Meeting have been enriched.

For their part, Project Lakota feels it benefits from Yearly Meeting oversight. Candy says that in their fundraising it helps them to be able to report to other yearly meetings that they are under the care of Illinois Yearly Meeting. We are providing them with a financial audit, done by Judy Jager. They appreciate our suggestions, questions, and concern, and that we carry their concerns to the Yearly Meeting when they cannot be present. Candy will be permanently relocating, but maintaining her membership with us and Greg will be attending Earlham College this fall. They both take the initiative to stay in touch with us, including by phone and in person when possible.

These are a variety of thoughts which bring us to see, again, the opportunities we could develop. In 1999 there was a discussion of the need to have a supported released friend to coordinate the efforts of the national steering committee. This did not happen, and so the volunteer efforts are floundering. Nor was there time at the Burlington Conference to develop an adequate structure for the national steering committee. We are distressed to see these opportunities for good in the world passing us by, as it seems. We seek for guidance from Spirit, the Source of All Life, regarding the future of what has been started. Candy assures us we have made a big difference in the issues we have raised and in the awareness among Friends of the need for these kinds of opportunities. She says Illinois Yearly Meeting has quite a reputation across the country and especially in the West, and so we seem to have done some good. Perhaps we have finished our work, or perhaps we have not. We ask your thoughts and prayers with us regarding the future of the work of this committee.

MINISTRY & ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE (Re: Field Secretary Position)

We would like to invite Friends to a special meeting of the M&A Committee on this Thursday afternoon (7/31/03) at 4 p.m. in the Meetinghouse on the continuation and role of IYM's Field Secretary.

BACKGROUND. The Field Secretary (FS) is one of two IYM employees (the other is the Administrative Coordinator who has an oversight committee). The FS has a 1/5th time position (about 390 hours per year) and reports to the M&A Committee, which reports to IYM. This position is up for renewal every three years, and this year is a renewal year. The M&A Committee invites all IYM Meetings and attenders to contribute to a discussion about whether to continue the position of the FS, and if so what work the FS should be given for the coming three years.

RECENT WORK. In the past year the FS (Roxy Jacobs) has made about 20 visits. These included visits to 11 monthly meetings (giving 5 workshops, leading a discus-

sion, attending a 50th jubilee year celebration, attending a memorial service, attending a called meeting for business, sharing her gift of photography, and providing a listening ministry for individuals struggling with personal or IYM-related difficulties). She also attended two M&A meetings, participated in an ecumenical discussion with a Western Yearly Meeting monthly meeting, attended an IYM Continuing Committee meeting, and attended a meeting of Metropolitan Chicago General Meeting. She mailed First Day School materials and offered assistance in organizing monthly meeting library and other materials. From January 2001 through July 2002 Roxy visited many IYM meetings, worship groups, and meetings of IYM, Blue River Quarterly, or IYM Committee meetings. During these years she attended a class at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary on Family Systems Theory which she reports has been very helpful to her in her work. Before January 2001 this position was filled by Barry Zalph (Louisville Monthly Meeting), who also visited Meetings and provided workshops.

FUTURE ROLE. Should the position of Field Secretary be renewed? If it is renewed, should the FS continue to work as she has during the past year and a half, or is there other work the FS might do? Please come and share your comments and suggestions, which will contribute to M&A's evaluation and recommendation regarding this position. We will present our report at Saturday's business session. Jinny Laughlin, Acting Clerk of the M&A Committee, will prayerfully clerk this special meeting. Please be aware that this session is meant to address the role of the FS in general terms and is NOT a supervisory evaluation of Roxy's job performance. If you have any personal concerns, please bring them discretely and privately to Jinny or to any member of the M&A Committee.

MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT (See Minute 19)

The M&A Committee met three times during the past year: at IYM; in late January in Oak Park (with a retreat led by David Shiner and Nancy Wallace of Lake Forest on "This I Affirm" statements); and in mid-May at 57th Street Meetinghouse (with a special focus on the upcoming renewal of the Field Secretary position). Along with Field Secretary oversight and visitation reports, M&A addressed issues requested by other IYM individuals and Committees.

IYM communication difficulties have been experienced, especially by those who do not have or choose not to use e-mail. We suggest that an IYM monthly newsletter be e-mailed to the listserv with a hard copy mailed to each monthly meeting and worship group, and have forwarded this suggestion to the Administrative Coordinator Oversight Committee.

Ambiguities regarding committee nominations were brought to our attention, and we have forwarded to the Nominating Committee the suggestion that any new IYM Committee submit a written work description and expectations of members, including length of term.

The Religious Education Committee asked M&A to look at its work on issues of child safety in meetings. As we considered the concern conveyed to us, about safety of our children from potential sexual abuse, we became aware of a number of resources available to us within IYM and the wider Quaker community. We were reminded – and take this opportunity also to remind Friends – that M&A has a subcommittee on "Sexual Abuse and Misconduct" since 1995. Its members, Roxy Jacobs and David Finke, have been called on by at least one Monthly Meeting to facilitate a 2-day workshop, and they also have access to materials from a number of Friends groups. They

stand ready to consult with the Religious Education committee, any other of our monthly meetings or worship groups, or individuals. Additionally, our Field Secretary has a Minute of endorsement from both her monthly meeting and this yearly meeting to do counseling and training in this difficult area.

As Sandy Bowles, M&A Clerk, laid down her work to prepare for and move to North Carolina, we welcomed Jinny Laughlin as Acting Clerk. Jinny joined us at our Spring meeting, which Sandy was able to attend as well. Although we are sad that Sandy has left, we are grateful for her years of faithful seeking for God's Will for this Committee.

The M&A Committee has struggled with a significant lack of time, energy, and commitment throughout the past 3 years. We have tried to be faithful to our ministry of visitation, but we acknowledge that some IYM meetings and worship groups have not been visited during this time. Although we currently have 9 members, some have not been able to attend M&A meetings. Some have had many other commitments and could not make more than one or two visits. The terms of 4 members expire at the end of this IYM session. However, we look forward to welcoming at least 3 new members, including the Acting Clerk, and she plans to undertake new approaches this coming year to lessen the strain on members. We also plan to give a folder of orientation materials to each new member. We thank David Finke for sharing his collection of visitation-related materials, which we have found to be inspirational and insightful.

Although M&A meetings and work continue to reflect the difficulty of its members to find the time and resources to visit IYM meetings and worship groups, and to attend to other IYM requests, we marvel at the devotion and ministry of Roxy Jacobs, IYM Field Secretary. Since last August she has made 20 visits, to 11 IYM meetings, to IYM Continuing Committee, to Metropolitan Chicago General Meeting, and to Chicago Monthly Meeting (in Western Yearly Meeting). An M&A member (often Sandy Bowles) usually accompanied her on her visits.

She spends hours preparing workshops, driving to distant meetings, and usually either leaves materials for further study or follows up later in some other way. She has received the records of Thorn Creek Meeting to look through them for membership information and to give them to Brent Eckert for archiving. She has spent hours of her own personal time assisting Friends in need. Whether she is giving a workshop, sensitively listening to the struggles of an individual, or simply joining in fellowship, she graciously witnesses to God's love in our midst. We trust that she has been helpful to many members of IYM and the wider Quaker community throughout her 2-1/2 years as IYM Field Secretary. (Please note that there will be a separate M&A report with an evaluation and recommendation on whether to renew the Field Secretary position for another 3 years.)

As we turn toward a new year, we feel God's blessings through fellowship with Friends. Although change can be difficult, we perceive a need for change ahead and have faith that it will produce greater fellowship. We strive to be faithful to our various ministries, wherever they take us.

MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT (See Minute 52)

Ministry and Advancement held an open meeting on Thursday at 4:00 p.m. In attendance were Friends from most if not all monthly meetings at IYM sessions. Based upon the input received at this meeting the following recommendation is now being

brought forward:

As we approach the end of the three year term of the field secretary, M and A, which oversees the work of said field secretary, recommends wholeheartedly that this position be continued. We believe that the position should continue to be filled by an IYM member and only if we find that someone is truly called and committed to serve IYM in that capacity.

The field secretary position is budgeted for one fifth time, but our current field secretary is putting in at least twice that amount, occasionally up to 105 hours per month. The job is now paying 5600 dollars annually. We feel that the 33 1/3 hours monthly allotment is insufficient. The work of the field secretary is an important complement to the work of M and A and to IYM in general. We therefore also recommend referring to the finance committee the study of the need for an increase in hours allotted to the field secretary position to more accurately reflect the time spent on behalf of the yearly meeting.

MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT (Re: Book Sales)

This year's IYM book table sales totaled \$1642.79. IYM gets to keep 10% of the total sales which equals \$164.28. Shipping to return the unsold books cost \$89.12. Thus the net profit to IYM was \$75.16. A check for this amount has been sent to the IYM treasurer. FGC has acknowledged receipt of the unsold books and the accounting has been reconciled.

Sales this year were less than last year. I presume one reason is that many Friends went to FGC Gathering this year (since it was in Illinois) and spent their "book allowance" there.

- Respectfully submitted, Brent Eckert

MAINTENANCE & PLANNING (See Minute 23)

This has been a busy year for the M&P Committee. We have tried to work together and communicate frequently with the Trustees and the Site Envisioning & Building Committee. Our first meeting this year was held jointly with SE&B. Last year that committee was charged with obtaining a thorough evaluation of all our facilities by a team of professionals. That was accomplished and, of course, the findings are relevant to M&P Committee, as well. (I urge you to read the reports which have been nicely assembled into notebooks by Carol Bartles.) The major finding was that there is more damage to structural timbers in the Meetinghouse, by both termites and water, than we previously thought. Basically, the work entails replacing rotted floor joists and sill plates and installing a "termite shield" between the foundation and sill plates throughout the building. A related problem is moisture getting into the building and providing an attractive home for termites. We need to install a moisture barrier in the crawl space under the floor and re-grade around the Meetinghouse to get rain water to run away from the building. This is a restoration and preservation project which will go a long way toward making the Meetinghouse last another 128 years. Rough estimates for this work are \$50,000 to \$100,000. We applied for a \$25,000 grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency but due to the State's budget problems no grants were awarded this year. The work would take several months to complete and should be started in the late summer, due to weather considerations. The Committee feels that we should have this work done as soon as possible, which means trying to be ready to start the work next summer.

Orkin has inspected and sprayed for termites and powder post beetles at least

twice this year. An electrician has checked all of the wiring on the property and all deficiencies have been corrected. We are in consultation with the Health Dept. and have made several improvements related to meeting sanitation requirements: added a tankless water heater for the Meetinghouse restroom sink, added hot water to the sink in the dining room, added a mop sink in the trash/recycling area, added an air gap to the kitchen sink drain. Some of the wooden cabinets and tables have been replaced with stainless steel tables (which were donated by Monacles Pizza, thanks to Chip Rorem's initiative). We also confirmed that our septic system and grease trap meet code and are of sufficient capacity. Chip Rorem, who is food coordinator this year, has completed a food service sanitation course and has received a food service sanitation manager license. Also, yesterday we received a temporary food service permit from the Health Dept. for this annual session. We have some more work to do but we are well on our way to meeting all the Health Dept. requirements.

Our annual Memorial Day Work Weekend was very successful with participation of 24 Friends. Our accomplishments included: kitchen walls and ceiling cleaned and painted (and cracks sealed and holes filled), kitchen light fixtures painted, protective tubes installed over fluorescent tubes in kitchen and dining room, kitchen wall cabinet removed, illuminated exit signs/emergency lights installed in dining room, cabinets in dining room refinished, two air conditioners (donated) installed in dining room, a portion of east exterior Meetinghouse wall primed and painted, split rail fence repaired, weeds behind Meetinghouse removed, herb garden planted (by well), native prairie garden planted (east edge of property), trees trimmed, three trees planted on campground (red bud, sugar maple, and Ohio buckeye), old flood lights removed from campground pole, broken light receptacle in Fox Hole replaced, broken light receptacle in shower house replaced, screen repaired in shower house, memorial benches refinished. We also had a one-day "mini work weekend" in July to finish up some projects.

We realize that some Friends may not agree with our decision to not use the dormitory for sleeping this year, but we felt that we could no longer ignore the potential safety hazard of sleeping in this structure. The professional architect's evaluation deemed the dormitory to be not safe for overnight lodging in its present state. We also received a written concern from one monthly meeting regarding the safety of continuing to use the building as a dormitory. We know that the "dormitory tents" which we are using this year are less than ideal, but we could find no better option for this year.

The Maintenance & Planning Committee strives to provide a safe and attractive facility to meet the needs of Friends. We feel that our work this year has contributed to that goal and we hope that you agree.

IYM PEACE TAX FUND (See Minute 24)

The Peace Tax Fund of Illinois Yearly Meeting has the following purpose, as minuted in the 1989 IYM Sessions: "Certain members of the Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, having examined their consciences regarding participation in war, feel led to refuse to pay taxes used for military purposes. Wishing to stand in unity with these members and attenders of Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends Meetings in their efforts to maintain the Quaker peace testimony, and in recognition and support of efforts other groups have made to redirect taxes to peaceful purposes, Illinois Yearly Meeting establishes the Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends Peace Tax Fund"

The fund's current status is as follows:

- Balance as of 5/30/03: \$5,934.51

- Place of deposit: ShoreBank, Chicago, a socially responsible institution
- Interest earned in 2002 available for distribution to groups whose work furthers Friends' life-affirming principles: \$80
- Amount deposited in 2002: \$10 (deposited to avoid dormancy service fees)
- Number of depositors: 6, none of whom made deposits in 2002
- Activity in 2002: Friends Media Project, a fledgling project lifting up Quaker witness in the media, and Compassionate Listening Project, a Mideast citizens dialog group founded by Gene Knudsen Hoffman, a Quaker, received interest earned in 2001.
- Activity in 2003: One Friend new to the fund has made a peace tax witness this year.
- Interest earned in 2002 will be distributed to: Quaker United Nations Office, New York and Chicago Fellowship of Friends.

- Marcia Nelson, Clerk

YOUTH OVERSIGHT (See Minute 25)

Our Young Friends are attending conferences, and learning about Quaker values and process even when the adult co-clerks have been, as one Friend put it, sunk up to our ears in life. Some of our youth attended Young Quakes Conference, fall 2002, in Boston. There was a Quake over Martin Luther King day weekend 2003, in Evanston. IYM youth oversight did not plan or lead this Quake. I understand that it was a wonderful time. Young people from three Yearly Meetings were gathered: I.Y.M., Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, and Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. Kri Anderson, of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, was one of the planners. She has worked with Young Friends at FGC, and with our high-schoolers during our Spring 2002 Quake, here on our IYM grounds. Young Friends attended FGC, and even did some of their own IYM business during sessions. Something else that we have come to understand is Young Friends and adult leaders really enjoy the possibility of attending workshops and conferences at Pendle Hill and other places out. For some this may be their first time east to "Quaker Land." I remember as a youngster traveling with my family for FWCC It was quite a thrill. This winter we have Youth Quake 2003, in the Rockies of Colorado. Dorothy Day is our program Rep. Youth Quake brings together Friends from diverse Quaker backgrounds. Our young people will need to prepare for this 6 day conference. They will need to write responses to queries as part of their application for registration, and pay \$100.00 deposit. All of this will need to be done by a deadline of 9-15-03, or a late deadline of 10-15-03.

Will Alsop was nominated and approved to serve as Young Friends Co-Clerk through this ('03) IYM Louis Aquisto was also nominated and approved as another Co-Clerk. When he found that he would not be able to attend these sessions, Young Friends brought forward and approved Ken Nurenberg, to serve as Co-Clerk in his place. Ken will continue through '03 to IYM '04. Tim Kuhn was nominated and approved as Recording Clerk in '02, and has been able to serve during this session, but was not interested in continuing. There were three names brought forward as nominations for Co-Clerks for '03-'04 and beyond. One withdrew her name as she realized that where she lives is too far away, making coming to planning meetings not possible. The Young Friends agreed to take advantage of having so many interested nominees, and after checking with each other as to their ability to work together, decided to approve the names of Alethea Tschetterwood and Trevor Munroe, as Co-Clerks working alongside Ken Nurenberg. Early on in the Meeting, Gaelan McQueen, was nominated

and approved for Recording Clerk.

The Youth Oversight Committee will see some changes as well. Katherine Trezevant and Marti Matthews are the recommended nominations for Co-Clerks. In '03 a number of us are due to cycle off the committee, including Mark Robinson and myself. We have developed some procedures and program schedules that hopefully will be helpful. I am sure that they too will need some adjusting as IYM grows to meet with Good News our youth. I am honored, as I thank you for the trust that you have given this committee, with our children.

- In Peace, Ann Eckert

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS (See Minute 26)

Overview

In a nutshell, the ECC was unable to meet this year, and its primary task is still outstanding. IYM is still in need of an "Electronic Publications Guidelines" document, which would address privacy concerns and which would provide both a process for discerning when permission is required to publish a document electronically, and a process for obtaining such permission. IYM is also still in need of donated web publishing skills, if IYM would like to expand its web site resources significantly. In the meantime, we have begun publishing IYM-related program information online (Project Lakota, retreats, workshops, and gatherings) including Electronic Registration for this year's IYM sessions. We have also published *Among Friends* and some Plummer Lectures online.

1. An Electronic Publications Guideline.

The function of such a guideline would be to help an IYM Friend understand the ramifications of publishing a document, picture, or name on the IYM web site, and to choose the appropriate form of publication. Additionally, by discussing privacy issues it assures IYM Friends that we will do our best to prevent misuse of their email addresses, pictures, or writings, and that this requires that we abide by a set of conventions to achieve this. Examples of these conventions include using blind-copy addresses to send them email, using masking techniques when publishing email addresses on the web site, and obtaining their permission to publish their pictures or writings online.

In the software world, plagiarism is an art, and a means for avoiding reinventing the wheel. There are many non-profit organizations on the web and certainly a few of them will have published a privacy policy that IYM could adapt for its own needs. I estimate that a future working group could develop a publications guideline and privacy policy by committing approximately 60 person hours of research and drafting, and a day meeting to fine tune the wording amid worship.

2. Permissions to publish online.

At the IYM sessions in 2002, we came to a consensus providing for publishing the Minute Books, Plummer Lectures and *Among Friends* on the web site. Several issues of *Among Friends* are now available online, and they are beautiful. However, there are writings, pictures, and email addresses published in those issues – and strictly speaking, we have not obtained explicit permissions from the individual authors and subjects to publish that information online. Is implicit permission (the consensus of IYM to publish *Among Friends* online) sufficient? This is the prime example of why we still need a Publications Guideline. Folks who submit content for *Among Friends* would

use the guideline tips to craft their submissions so that the online version would be unlikely to be misused.

Please note that by far the greatest threat of “misuse”, at present, is the risk that an email address published online will be discovered by automated processes and fed into a junk email (spammer) database. There are at least two ways to reduce this risk almost completely in IYM publications. However, virtually any meaningful use of web resources puts your email address at risk of receiving spam. It is an inherent downside to the generally beneficial tool that is the World Wide Web.

3. Current and future online publications.

This year, we have had barely sufficient resources to publicize IYM-related program information. This began by converting IYM mailing list announcements to web pages, but later it included publishing forms and flyers in PDF format, and even our first-ever electronic registration form for the IYM 2003 sessions. This area of electronic publication is “safe” territory (in terms of privacy and permissions) as long as email addresses are protected, and it's one of the best uses for the web.

We can do more of this in the future, but it would be extremely helpful to have more volunteers who are comfortable working with HTML and/or professional layout.

We would love to put past Plummer lectures online. This requires, in addition to volunteer time, some or all of the following skills: scanning/OCR, page layout, HTML authoring, and/or PDF generation. It also requires the permission of the lecturer.

To put the Minute Books online would require first resolving the permissions and privacy issues. Second, it requires a new process, to generate an online version as an offshoot of the paper publication process. This is also true of *Among Friends*; generating it into HTML is time consuming. For both publications, we should explore whether PDF files are a better solution for the online versions.

Recommendations

1. Renew the ilym.org and illinoisyearlymeeting.org domain names for one, two or five years at approximately \$13.50/year apiece. Continue storing the actual site files at ilym.quaker.org until we need more complex technology. (For example, we would need to investigate other hosting options if we wanted to manage databases for registrations or subscriptions.)
2. Continue the ECC for another year and solicit volunteers to develop the Electronic Publications Guideline. At the minimum, the ECC members really must include a member of the Publications Committee, the *Among Friends* editor, and a webservant. This effectively means (if possible) David Finke, Cindy Reynolds and Dawn Amos, plus others who have interest and time. Dawn Amos is willing to serve, but hopes there will be another person to serve as convener.
3. Solicit volunteers to help write web pages for the site. Continue publishing IYM-related program information online as human resources are available.
4. Continue publishing *Among Friends* online, notifying the submitting authors of this. Protect email addresses in the articles, if the author chooses, by instead publishing an ilym.org forwarding address. (Requires communication between the *Among Friends* editor and a webservant.) Use the practices developed for publishing *Among Friends* online to determine the most appropriate way to publish the Minute Books online.
5. Continue publishing Plummer lectures online, with permission from the authors.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (See Minute 29)

RE committee met at the home of Grayce and Neil Mesner in Lacon, IL on Octo-

ber 12, 2002 and again on March 22, 2003 for discussion and planning of topics and concerns regarding religious education in meetings in IYM.

For IYM meetings with children we distributed the British Yearly Meeting publication "Meeting Safety: a code of good practice for volunteers working on children and young people's activities and events". In our note, included with the book, we concluded with this statement: "We hope that readers of this publication will find the experience of our Friends in Britain helpful in developing perspectives and ideas about ways to address a concern for children's safety in meeting programs and activities."

For an IYM workshop by Betty Clegg and Chris Jocius copies of the Pendle Hill pamphlet by Mary C. Morrison "Gift of Days: Report of an Illness" were distributed to all attendees. The essay and other handouts on aging and dying were read aloud and discussed.

- for the Committee, Chris Jocius

FAITH AND PRACTICE (See Minute 39)

Rationale for the Illinois Yearly Meeting Effort to Write a Faith and Practice

The Faith and Practice Committee of Illinois Yearly Meeting received a request from the Continuing Committee via a letter from IYM Clerk, Margaret Katranides, March 3, 2003. The relevant passage is as follows: "...we thought it might be useful to publish a thumbnail history of IYM experience with books of discipline, and a rationale for the current decade-plus effort...." A thumbnail history has been prepared by the Faith and Practice Committee and is being made available together with this "rationale." This rationale is structured by three questions.

1. What functions does a yearly meeting's book of faith and practice serve for that yearly meeting?

A book of "faith and practice" typically serves many functions for a yearly meeting. These include, among others, guidance for handling special occasions; information for seekers as to who the Friends are, especially Friends within the Yearly Meeting which adopted the faith and practice book; guidance for groups in the process of becoming monthly meetings; and practical directions in situations where a meeting is faced with doing something quickly and/or publicly as in the case of memorial services and weddings. Such a book serves as an educational resource not only for young Friends and new Friends but also for all who want to grow deeper. In addition, a book of faith and practice provides a connection among Friends and among meetings. It is an expression of the faith of the members of the yearly meeting and of how they endeavor to express this faith in their practice. A yearly meeting's book of faith and practice is an expression of its identity during the period it is in use.

2. What are the differences between a book of faith and practice and the Illinois Yearly Meeting Handbook?

The Handbook includes descriptions of the committees and officers of the Yearly Meeting and their duties. It is a descriptive document intended to be useful to those considering accepting nominations and for those newly named to positions or committees. The Handbook is not intended for, nor does it satisfy, the functions listed above for a book of faith and practice. As it happens, the current Illinois Yearly Meeting handbook gives guidance on how a group becomes a meeting. This guidance would probably be better placed in a book of faith and practice. The Handbook is neither comprehensive nor concerned to articulate general principles underlying Quaker faith and practice, but is instead concerned to describe in very brief compass details of cur-

rent IYM structure and practice.

3. Why should Illinois Yearly Meeting produce its own faith and practice book?

Given the value that we place on participation, integrity demands that we participate in the shaping of our own practices and in the expression of our faith rather than yielding to Friends in another yearly meeting the responsibility for decisions which a book of faith and practice reflects, a yearly meeting in which we have no part and whose members were not thinking of our situation in their deliberations. The spiritual work of coming into unity on an articulation of our own faith, structure, general procedures, and identity is of intrinsic value; however similar the result of our own discernment process to that of other yearly meetings, we are mindful of the ancient Quaker challenge, "What canst thou say?"

Apart from the demands of integrity and authenticity, our meetings are widely scattered and many are small, making structure designed in a region where Quakers are "thicker on the ground" less relevant here. Thus books of faith and practice written for more geographically compact and demographically larger yearly meetings tend not to fit our situation very well.

A further consideration is that yearly meetings' books of faith and practice are periodically revised. As we have found, adopting another yearly meeting's book of faith and practice leaves us subject to their revision schedule. It is not just that the books are revised on schedules not of our choosing; changes in content may be made which we might not have been led to make. Conversely, changes may not have been made that we might be led to have made, had we been writing our own revision. Indeed, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice has changed since 1955 as a result of changes within Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and, more importantly, through careful spiritual labor that we have not participated in or done on our own. The other possibility might occur as well, namely, that Illinois Yearly Meeting may work through an issue with deep spiritual labor that has not yet been done by another yearly meeting.

The spiritual growth of a yearly meeting as a religious community often requires the prayerful labor to come into unity in God, not the avoidance of such labor. In this respect, the effort to find an expression of faith and practice with which the whole yearly meeting can unite is an important and ongoing process. A book of faith and practice is not so much the conclusion of such a process, but a milestone along the way.

Thumbnail History of IYM Experience with Books of Discipline

"Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends was established the 13th day of the Ninth month, A.D. 1875, at Clear Creek, in Putnam County, Ill., under minutes of approval from Baltimore and Indiana Yearly Meetings, by the joint action of the members of Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting, Iowa, and Blue River Quarterly Meeting in Indiana and Illinois."

-from *Rules of Discipline and Advices*
of *Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends*, 1878

Illinois Yearly Meeting was established in 1875 and adopted its first book of discipline three years later, in 1878. The book included "as a bond of union... a statement of faith and principles as held by our body." It included statements on gospel ministry; speech, deportment, and apparel expected of Friends; and testimonies regarding war, oaths, secret societies, days and times, gaming and places of diversion, and civil gov-

ernment. It provided for "Overseers and treatment for deviations" as well as for "appeals" of disciplinary actions. More familiar elements of the book of discipline addressed procedures for membership, marriage, meetings for business, and the organization of the yearly meeting.

In 1892 Illinois Yearly Meeting published a slightly revised version of its Rules of Discipline and Advices of Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends. A quick comparison identified only two changes in the Discipline. The last sentence of the discussion of war was changed to improve its clarity and the part of the section on Representative Committee that dealt with what constituted a quorum was changed, a change that had been approved already in 1881. Otherwise, the two editions appear to be identical. Apart from these two changes, the original book of discipline served Illinois Yearly Meeting for 45 years. During these years the Yearly Meeting grew at first and then settled into a long decline in both numbers of individuals and numbers of monthly meetings. These trends were tied in some measure to the demographic changes taking place in Illinois as a whole, but it is likely as well that Illinois Yearly Meeting like other yearly meetings had lost its vitality and needed renewal.

One force for renewal was brought about by the inauguration and growth of Friends General Conference. In 1927 the seven (Hicksite) yearly meetings "co-ordinated in the Friends' General Conference" drew up a uniform book of discipline: *The Book of Discipline of the Religious Society of Friends: Christian Practice [and] Business Procedure*. This was adopted by Illinois Yearly Meeting in 1927 and by the other six yearly meetings at about the same time. It provided for revision by the yearly meeting and there seems to have been no expectation that the discipline would continue to be uniform throughout the future. The 1927 book of discipline differs from the original Illinois Yearly Meeting book of discipline. Perhaps most note-worthy, is a difference in the tone used to describe the duties of Overseers. These duties are in 1927 to be essentially pastoral in character and to involve encouraging members to be faithful in the performance of their duties. No provision was made for appeal, perhaps because the Overseers were not expected to take the sort of action that it would make sense to appeal.

Friends General Conference never revised the uniform discipline. A new spirit of ecumenism was working its way through the Religious Society of Friends. For example, when Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (Hicksite) reprinted the 1927 discipline in 1942, it added some material on United monthly meetings, meetings which had become affiliated with another yearly meeting in addition to the (Hicksite) Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. As time went by yearly meetings from different streams of the Society which shared the same, or overlapping, geographical areas united. This required much prayerful consideration of the faith and practice of Friends in both yearly meetings. The two Philadelphia Yearly Meetings united and produced in 1955 a thoroughly new *Faith and Practice of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends: A Book of Christian Discipline*. Other unified yearly meetings did likewise. The uniform discipline of 1927 ceased to be uniform.

Books of discipline within the Religious Society of Friends change over time to reflect the changes within the yearly meetings which have them. Whether these changes are welcome or not, this change in books of discipline is a matter of both integrity and utility. The 1927 *Discipline* became out of print and badly dated. Illinois Yearly Meeting was faced with the choice of writing its own, new or revised, book of discipline or adopting another yearly meeting's book of discipline.

In 1957 Illinois Yearly Meeting adopted the 1955 Philadelphia *Faith and Prac-*

tice. The immediate advantage of doing so, escaping the arduous work of writing its own, was obvious. The disadvantages were evident as well. Illinois Yearly Meeting was, and is much different than Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. It is much smaller in number of meetings and number of individual members, while at the same time covering a much larger geographical area. The Illinois Yearly Meeting monthly meetings are much more widely dispersed, making quarterly meetings more difficult to attend. The real and financial properties of the yearly meetings, their quarterly meetings, and their monthly meetings are vastly different. It was necessary for Illinois Yearly Meeting to employ Philadelphia's *Faith and Practice* as a guide, rather than a governing discipline. A page was drawn up listing differences in procedure between Illinois Yearly Meeting and those described in the formally adopted Faith and Practice from Philadelphia. This page was also approved in 1957 as an addendum to the Faith and Practice. So developed a trend toward operating without a discipline and toward looking to books of faith and practice for "guidance" of how to proceed, but guidance that is disregarded if it seems at odds with IYM practice.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting adopted a significantly revised Faith and Practice in 1972, but Illinois Yearly Meeting continued to look to the 1955 edition for its guidance. Finally, in 1991 Illinois Yearly Meeting approved the following minute:

"Currently we look for guidance to the 1955 edition of *Faith and Practice* of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) with an additional page listing differences in procedure in IYM. The problem is this edition is no longer in print and many Meetings currently use the 1972 edition of the PYM *Faith and Practice*. Much discussion followed as to how to best address this problem. Subsequently approval was given to adopt the current PYM *Faith and Practice* as our working document. It is acknowledged that there exists a need to update material in the current PYM *Faith and Practice* so it is pertinent to the IYM constituency...."

It is instructive that Illinois Yearly Meeting never published a page listing differences between the 1972 book of discipline and IYM practices. Furthermore, monthly meetings in Illinois Yearly Meeting have consulted and continue to consult the books of discipline of many different yearly meetings. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting adopted a significantly altered *Faith and Practice* in 1997, and its most recent version was published in 2002. No careful study of the differences between IYM faith and practice and those laid out in the most recent Philadelphia books of discipline has been made by Illinois Yearly Meeting. (Note: Adopted Faith and Practice sections in "Other Documents from Business Sessions", page 58.)

FINANCE (See Minute 42)

Finance Committee has arrangements in place for securing interest-free loans from within Illinois Yearly Meeting, should we need to use them to meet our financial needs. With the Trustees, we have been reviewing our insurance situation, including obtaining additional types of coverage. This work is ongoing. We wish to thank Marie White and others for their fine work on the historic preservation grant application for \$25,000 for termite repairs. We received many compliments on its clarity, but unfortunately none of the grant applications were funded this year, due to the State budget situation.

Our travel policy should be updated to the IRS 2003 mileage rate of \$.36 per mile.

We understand that the IYM travel budget is primarily intended for the needs of those persons appointed by the Yearly Meeting to the business of wider Quaker organizations, as listed in the Minute Book.

We recommend that the Yearly Meeting establish an *ad hoc* committee to prepare a long term maintenance plan and budget for the Meetinghouse and other structures. This way we can save up for predictable expenses, such as painting, roofing and mechanical equipment replacement over the years in the Site and other funds. This committee should include representatives from Maintenance and Planning, Finance, the Trustees and Clear Creek Meeting. This group should report to Continuing Committee before the next annual session.

We have studied the issue of incorporation, which has been undertaken by several of our Monthly Meetings. Our present trustee system of ownership dates from the founding of the Yearly Meeting in the 1800's. Incorporation would have the advantages of having the property consistently owned by the Yearly Meeting as an entity, rather than by the changing body of Trustees. Less personal liability will be incurred by those who volunteer to serve the Yearly Meeting.

The process of doing this is straight-forward and would not affect our current Trustees or way of doing business. No by-laws are filed. We file a simple one-sentence statement of purpose, pick at least three persons to list, and a registered agent to handle correspondence with the State of Illinois, together with a \$50 filing fee. Each year the registered agent would update the names and renew the incorporation for \$5. We propose that we incorporate with the State of Illinois as "Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends," list the Clerk, Assistant Clerk and the two youngest Trustees residing in Illinois as our signatory, plus the Treasurer as our registered agent. We recommend that Finance Committee proceed with the paperwork to file for incorporation, after reviewing our application with an attorney. That review will also include the advisability of pursuing 501.c.3 status. After filing for incorporation, Finance Committee would work with the Trustees on updating our property title and other business paperwork.

We recommend the establishment of a new Property Improvement Fund. The Illinois Yearly Meeting's Property Improvement Fund would be established for designated gifts to meet our historic and new building needs at our property at McNabb, Illinois. The Fund would be spent over time for the major maintenance, restoration and improvement of our property, including any new structures approved by the Yearly Meeting. The Fund will be spent under the direction of the Trustees, Finance, Maintenance and planning and other committee(s) designated by the Yearly Meeting. For its duration, we recommend that the Site Envisioning and Planning Committee be added to this list. Routine upkeep on the Yearly Meeting buildings and grounds will be continued to be paid from the Site Fund.

We recommend no change in the following monthly meeting contributions per adult resident member:

General Fund	\$60
Site Fund	25
Youth Fund	5
Staff Fund	<u>50</u>
Total Gift	\$140

We encourage monthly meetings and individual Friends to be mindful of our Special Gifts and Property Improvement Funds and will explain them in our fall letter to

the monthly meetings.

We recommend the following budget: (See Budget p.24).

SITE ENVISIONING AND BUILDING (See Minute 44)

During the 2002 Annual Session, IYM asked the Site Envisioning and Building Committee to do a thorough evaluation of all the existing facilities by a professional team consisting of an architect, general contractor, structural engineer, termite inspector, and a member of the Site Envisioning and Building Committee.

IYM was inspected by the following contractors since the 2002 IYM Annual Session:

- Michael Lambert, Arris Architects, historic architect, Plainfield, IL
- Rick Collins, Old Blue Construction, Timber framer contractor, Knoxville, IL
- Roger Keyes, historic preservation contractor, Elgin, IL
- David Wickersheimer, Structural Engineer, Champaign, IL
- Mark Kuella, General Contractor, Ottawa, IL
- Orkin Exterminating Co., La Salle, IL
- Jim Fussinelli, S and J Electrical Contractors, Electrician, Spring Valley, IL
- Putnam County Health Department

Three sets of all inspections and reports will be available for review at IYM Annual Session and sitting on a table near the Advanced Documents.

Summary of a few items in these reports:

- IYM Meetinghouse is needing attention to restore its structural integrity.
- Get rain water to move away from the Meetinghouse.
- Termites are a problem in the Meetinghouse; additional treatment has been applied.
- The electrical wiring all across the IYM property must be upgraded to be safer; this has been completed.
- The dormitory is unsafe to function as a dormitory as currently configured.
- The Jr. Yearly Meetinghouse has powder post beetles but no visible sign of termites.

IYM applied for a \$25,000 Illinois Heritage Grant with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. No grants were approved because of Illinois budget limitations.

A Committee was formed to review the various recommendations of how to restore the Meetinghouse. A general outline of this restoration project is included in the report folder. The Committee members were: Brent Eckert, Bill Howenstine, Chip Rorem and Carol Bartles.

- Carol Bartles

DEVELOPMENT (See Minute 54)

Development Committee had its full membership approved at spring Continuing Committee and we're off and running, planning our work on getting Illinois Yearly Meeting better known among our meetings, expanding giving opportunities, and encouraging giving to meet IYM needs.

We have minuted our unity on the need to maintain and improve our facilities in a safe and sound way to serve IYM and Clear Creek Friends and to nurture the Spirit within us.

We have worked with the Finance Committee on forming the Property Improvement Fund, approved at Friday's session.

We will continue to seek volunteer expertise from within the Yearly Meeting,

from friends of the Yearly Meeting and from other Quaker organizations to establish a sound development program of communication and fundraising. We urgently request that Friends with fundraising expertise or knowledge of a capable fundraising professional contact our committee soon.

We request permission from the Yearly Meeting to promote individual giving and solicit gifts from IYM Friends on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, especially for the Special Gifts and Property Improvement Funds. We are starting from a very limited tradition of individual giving for IYM. This work will need to involve many Friends beyond those serving on the Development Committee.

Our upcoming year's work will involve substantial planning and preparing of materials explaining how to give to IYM and about our current priorities approved by this session before we work with Meetings and Friends.

At the point that the Yearly Meeting is clear on proceeding with a new building we will need to spend money (perhaps \$25,000) to conduct a feasibility study of our capacity to raise a large amount of money. This relates to the point above on the need to locate an experienced fundraiser to help us.

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

These are the actions about which we reached clarity. When "little things" come up and the AC desires guidance the ACOC clerk should be contacted for input and a decision made together. The ACOC clerk will decide if further consultation is advisable.

Appropriate announcements will continue to be sent out via email as they are received. NOTE: By appropriate we mean this to include births, marriages, severe illnesses, deaths, change of address, upcoming MM events to which IYM Friends are invited—major events.

To meet our commitment to keep Friends who do not use email in the information loop we agreed that Sharon would send, via regular post, a monthly "announcement digest", a compilation of the email announcements. The monthly digest will be sent only to IYM Friends listed in the IYM Directory and having no email (or choosing not to receive email). One copy will also be sent to each Monthly Meeting. The first edition will request that Friends notify the AC if they wish to continue receiving the monthly digest.

We discussed what kind of emails should be forwarded to the YM email list by the AC. It was agreed that news regarding IYM F/friends, actions/announcements from IYM monthly meetings and IYM Committee related messages would be forwarded.

- Dawn Rubbert

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE (ECC)

Our IYM-ECC has been more or less on the quiet phase this past year. Five IYM Friends went to the fall annual FCUN Meeting at Burlington, VT, October 20, 2002 (see FCUN Report for IYM). A November conference telephone call completed other plans for our future activities. Five Friends went to the spring conference of FCUN at Guilford College, NC (see the FCUN Report). Our whole IYM committee met with IYM Maintenance and Planning Committee for the Memorial Day longer weekend (May 23-26, 2003) of painting, repairing, pruning trees and enjoying the cheerful gathering of Friends.

Following an earlier frequent practice, we rose early, drove to nearby Putnam

County Forest Preserve and enjoyed hearing the morning symphony of birds singing. They seemed to be saying “All is well in our world of tall trees, forest edges, open fields, wildflowers and pond. We enjoy and respect this interplay of God’s creations. We wish that all humans would do likewise.”

We will present a Workshop on “The Earth Charter – Challenge to Our Spiritual Life” at IYM, July 30-August 3, 2003. What do the 16 Principles in the Earth Charter mean for the lives, practices, and Testimonies of Friends? We decided to study this year the Earth Charter, its 16 Principles, its status in the United Nations and its value to Friends.

On the September 12-14, 2003 weekend, we will meet at excellent Dixon Mounds State Museum, south of Peoria, near Hwy. 24. We will camp nearby on Friday and Saturday nights. The theme will be “The Spiritual Life of Native Americans.” We invite families with teenagers to join Nathan and Emily Pavlovic plus Jon and Caryn Wixom.

- Robert L. Wixom

PEACE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PRC Objectives - As approved in Minute 33 of IYM 2002 sessions, and listed on page 59 of the MinuteBook:

1. To develop a proactive conscientious objection counseling program;
2. To assist young Friends in expressing their personal peace testimonies and documenting these beliefs for the spiritual growth as well as for a draft board should one be reinstituted;
3. To share these processes with junior high, senior high, and young adult Friends in cooperation with the Youth Oversight Committee;
4. To explore possibilities of working with existing peace building activities such as the Quaker Volunteer Service Training & Witness Committee, Project Lakota, and the AFSC/Inter Mountain Yearly Meeting Joint Service Project to enhance peace building with a spiritual and service oriented basis for young Friends;
5. To encourage Friends to examine and reexamine the meaning of the Peace Testimony in the context of our response to modern terrorism and war which has made it possible to wreck major devastation on people and their environment with minimal direct human involvement;
6. To become a source of knowledge and to encourage Friends’ considerations of the options for and rationale to payment of war taxes; and
7. To serve as a resource for monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, regional meetings, and IYM’s program committee in identifying knowledgeable speakers and workshop leaders on the above topics.

Background

Survey of Monthly Meetings & Worship Groups

In order to better understand how PRC can work with IYM monthly Meetings and worship groups, we determined that we should conduct a survey to find out what peace concerns are currently being addressed.

- We identified information resource persons for every MM and worship group in IYM.
- We developed survey questions and provided our survey in both hard copy and electronic format to each MM representative.
- Reviewed our first returns in December 2002. About half of those surveyed had responded.

- We plan to provide a compiled report of survey results at IYM in July 2003.
- Financial & In-Kind Contributions & Support and Expenses.** We are grateful for the generous financial and in-kind support from 57th Street Meeting, American Friends Service Committee, Clear Creek Monthly Meeting, Sauk Valley Peace Action, St. Louis Peace & Social Concerns Committee, Northside Monthly Meeting, participants in our CO trainings, private individuals, and others ranging from \$50 to \$1000. We've been able to break even on our trainings - thanks to the support from AFSC.
- Committee Meetings.** During our first year, PRC has met in Chicago, St. Louis, McNabb, and Bloomington as well as via conference call.
- Phone Number.** We have experimented with a stand-alone phone number but have found it more sensible, at our current level of activity, to use member's home phone numbers as published PRC contact.
- Email / Web.** Dawn Amos has worked hard to provide us with email set up through IYM's web site. We anticipate that a full-fledged counseling program will need its own web site since the web will be the major source of information accessed by our likely audience.
- Post Office Box.** Our post office address is established in St. Louis.
- Current Members.** PRC members as of July 15, 2003 are: Elizabeth Sprague, Clerk (Northside), Bridget Rorem (57th Street), Chuck Hutchcraft (Lake Forest), David Finke (Columbia), Dawn Rubbert (St. Louis), Bob Wixom (Columbia), Trevor Munroe (Milwaukee), Ruth Marquez (Downers Grove), and Greg Woods (Columbia).

Activities To Date

Develop a Proactive CO Counseling Program; Share processes with young Friends; Assist Young Friends in expressing their personal peace testimonies and documenting these beliefs for their spiritual growth as well as for a draft board should one be reinstituted.

Developing a full-fledged counseling program is a major undertaking—the bare bones of which we have been able to put into place this year. PRC is meeting in a weekend retreat in September 2003 to envision and discuss components of a counseling program for the Midwest in collaboration with other organizations.

Focus. We agreed at our first committee meeting that our focus for this objective is Midwest population including young women and men, reservists, and those in active military service.

Draft Counseling Trainings. Our first session on January 25th was led by J.E. McNeil, an attorney and the Executive Director at the Center on Conscience & War (CCW). The March 15th training in St. Louis was led by Bill Galvin from CCW.

PRC has organized and facilitated training of 55 people representing 6-8 faith practices (Quaker, Methodist, Southern Baptist, Mennonite, Catholic, Episcopalian, Brethren, and Buddhist) from at least seven states. Most of those trained have faith practices other than Quaker. We have trained attorneys, veterans and COs of three military conflicts, experienced CO counselors (Viet Nam & Gulf Wars), parents, teachers, psychotherapists, and social workers. We have access to Spanish translators and have reached both urban and rural populations. Monthly Meetings represented to date include St. Louis, Columbia, Downers Grove, Northside, Lake Forest, Milwaukee, and Madison.

At the Chicago training, a lunch time session on effects of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" on the rights of gay and lesbian service members was lead by Joe Schuman, an attorney formerly with Midwest Committee for Military Counseling.

Informational Sessions. J.E. McNeil conducted three sessions on Sunday, January

26th: Downers Grove before Meeting (25 people including four teens), Downers Grove First Day School, and Sterling Wesleyan Methodist Church (35 people including four or five teens and students). Bill Galvin conducted one informational session in St. Louis on March 26th.

Communication & Invitations. Communication/invitations to attend training were sent to all IYM monthly Meetings and worship groups and included hard copy flyers and applications mailing to every Clerk, email to every monthly Meeting, two email announcements via IYM list serv, two email announcements via Metropolitan General Meeting listserv, hard copy to key IYM people who may not have email access. Dawn Amos worked with us to make sure that flyers and applications for both trainings were on the IYM website in four formats and worked very well for us for both workshops. Announcements and promotion of informational sessions in Downers Grove and Sterling, Illinois, included one radio interview; newspaper calendar listings, a newspaper editorial, and an offer of a live television interview. Carol Bartles provided all media announcements for McNeil's engagements at Downers Grove and Sterling in January. Other communication/announcements included listings on Grass Roots Voices & United for Peace web sites.

Attorneys. We have developed a referral relationship with a Chicago attorney, Marian Neudel, who has for years successfully represented both military and civilian COs. We have forwarded one referral to her in January from a reservist who contacted us in January. Ms. Neudel has attended one PRC meeting to assist us in understanding how the current climate with regard to terrorism and the Patriot Act may inform activities associated with fulfilling PRC objectives.

Evaluations. Trainings conclude with evaluations so that PRC can improve the way the sessions are offered. The evaluations from Chicago's sessions were overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic.

Young Friends. A workshop about selective service and conscientious objection for Young Friends will be held on July 31st. This workshop is co-sponsored by Young Friends, Youth Oversight, and PRC.

Young people attending the informational sessions in January were very enthusiastic. A young woman at the Sterling session wrote an article for her school newspaper. We have become aware, during this year, that we need to understand how we can more successfully welcome young Friends into full, active, and consistent participation on PRC. We are working with Nominating Committee on this.

Collaboration With Other Organizations

PRC has enjoyed close collaboration with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in Chicago and St. Louis for the draft counseling training workshops. We'll continue collaboration with AFSC to organize military counseling training (G.I. Rights Hotline) in 2003. During our trainings we were in touch with Brethren, Mennonites, and Pax Christi.

Encourage Friends to examine and reexamine the meaning of the Peace Testimony in the context of our response to modern terrorism and war which has made it possible to wreck major devastation on people and their environment with minimal direct human involvement.

With results of our survey of IYM monthly Meetings and worship groups in hand, we will be looking at ways to encourage IYM Friends to examine the extent to which our Peace Testimony speaks through us in our daily lives and our religious practice.

Resource for War Tax Options

Friends are encouraged to attend an IYM workshop about war tax resistance (July

31st) at McNabb to be facilitated by J.E. McNeil.

Resource for IYM Meetings & Worship Groups

We anticipate completion of a recommended standard collection list for Meeting libraries by July-August. Subject matter to include bibliography (print, video/film, web, brochures and pamphlets), CO basics and how to connect with counselors, and war tax basics. We will provide a basic set of materials for each Meeting and worship group library.

PRC is ready to respond to requests for information and resource assistance about peace education, selective service, and support materials. All questions and requests are both welcomed and encouraged.

PRC can be reached via email at peaceresources@ilym.org or at 773-274-9684.

Next Steps

A Fully Developed Draft Counseling Program. In our first year, PRC has put a foundation in place from which to build a viable CO/military counseling program. From this foundation our next steps include working with AFSC and other organizations to:

- Develop referral, quality control, team-building, and advanced skills with those we've already trained.
- Promote the availability of the counseling.
- Facilitate subgroups of counselors who are especially interested in working with young people to document their beliefs so as to start, maintain, and defend a file in anticipation of registration with selective service.
- Organize a military counseling training workshop with CCW for those who are interested in working with the G.I. Rights Hotline.
- Collaborate with other organizations on counter-recruitment activities and support.

Young Friends. Develop ways in which Young Friends can work more closely with us.

Welcome New Members. Work with IYM Nominating Committee to invite experienced new members to PRC, especially those with organizing experience or who can bring military and CO backgrounds, who are Young Friends, and who have the enthusiasm (and endurance) to be part of a working committee.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Our 2002 report could be repeated this year, although at shorter length, because everything is substantially the same: we refer you to that document, on p. 41 of the 2002 minutebook. The quantity of our print output is the same: 2 *Among Friends*, 1 Plummer lecture, and 1 Minutebook, with the repeated good news that our costs have continued to inch downward. Greater stability in our personnel situation, both committee and staff, has increased the likelihood of timeliness, and we continue to save money by volunteer distribution systems to supplement what we pay for in shipping.

Last year we reported that *Among Friends* has stabilized around 28 pages: this year, that was the average between one issue at 20 pages and one at 36, each benefiting from wonderful photos being submitted to us.

The biggest news in publication, however, is the significant increase in how we use electronic means to supplement, and often to precede, what we issue in print. Thus, we refer you to this year's significant and detailed report from our sister committee with which we work closely, the Electronic Communications Working Group (page 32 of this present book.)

- David Finke

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

ASSOCIATED COMM. OF FRIENDS ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (ACFIA)

This year I wrote ACFIA reports for both issues of *Among Friends* – Fall 2002 Pg. 12 and Summer 2003 Pg. 29. I hope you have read them if you are interested. Keith Kendall, the executive secretary of ACFIA, has written a report for all Yearly Meetings and it is in the advance documents.

Of special note (I always consider the MOWA Choctaw Center as special since we had teen workcamps for a week down there for two summers) that I read in Keith's report is that the MOWA Choctaw Friends Academy has declined, and there are not enough students projected for the lower grades class for this fall. An adjustment is being made. K-1 will be a class and 3-5 will be together. Reasons for the decline in enrollment? Fewer children in the immediate Sanktown area, better public schools now with free transportation, no tuition, offering breakfast and lunch, and a much better road into the area which encourages people to get out more, are some of the reasons.

I attended the spring annual meeting near Kokomo, IN, hosted by the Sycamore Friends Meeting. Next year the meeting will be at Olney Friends School in Barnesville, OH. Neil informed me that he and I were both appointed to represent the Great Plains YM (formerly Nebraska YM) at the annual ACFIA meeting, so hopefully he'll be able to go with me next year.

- Grayce Mesner

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (FAHE)

Friends Association for Higher Education gathered for its 24th Annual Meeting on June 26-29, 2003. We met at Pendle Hill and Swarthmore College—a friendly mile apart that facilitated both meeting rooms, dining rooms and campus residential halls. This conference was a shared meeting of FAHE members and Friends Council on Education (FCE)—about 300 participants with many mutual or cross-over areas in worship, plenary sessions, workshops and free time to explore our theme, “Seeking a Praxis of Peace: The Sacred and the Secular.”

The opening plenary session heard a presentation by Paula Green, founder and Director of Karumlov Center for Peacebuilding, VT. “We are called to be peace builders”—by translating for the inner and outer peace, by teaching students about war, self-concerns and conscience, and by aiming for mutuality, exploration, clarity and courage. She provided personal examples from her earlier work in Vietnam, Japan and Bosnia. Bishop Tutu emphasized forgive and forget, i.e., reconciliation, to interrupt the cycles of intolerance and hatred. “Peace is a process; we must create over and over again the message for each generation. Peace requires compassion and understanding.”

A panel of K-12 FCE teachers spoke in a plenary session “Collaboration - Learning—Laying the Groundwork for Peace”. Some valuable steps include: recognize the problem at the school, define the problem and then ask students on who has a good idea - to find common ground in a possible solution. Collaboration involves listening and accepting, learning and service. Such collaborative learning starts early in life, whether school, (or homes or Friends First Day Schools—added by Bob). Jane Stavis, and others at Westtown School emphasized the interactive roles for senior high school students of: a formal Religion/Quakerism Curriculum, the Quaker influences on choices of pedagogy, the necessity of Quaker practice in Meetings for Business, Clear-

ness meetings and service learning.

Many of the individual Workshops focused on: peace/war issues, spirituality of teaching, path to power, cultural immersion as a road to peace, draft counseling, etc. Bob Wixom spoke on “Challenges for the Quaker Peace Testimony”—their recognition and ways to meet them.

Swarthmore College has a unique, “Learning for Life” program that is a campus-based community service program that pairs students with staff members in Dining Services, Environmental Services and Campus Facilities. These “learning partnerships,” which started in 1999, meet on campus for about two hours per week, and have facilitated bridge-building and learning, but also becoming friends in atypical manners.

The FAHE highlights selected for this Summary reflect approaches that might be followed in IYM Friends’ homes and in our group interactions. FAHE will meet next June, 2004 at George Fox College, Newberg, OR, with the theme, “Act the truth...” (G. Fox).

- Robert L. Wixom.

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC)

Friends General Conference continues to show impressive vigor, organizing annual Gatherings, the Traveling Ministries Program, an expanded book store, Ministry on Racism, and FGC’s traditional programs. Last September a small conference on “Nurturing the Meeting Community: Attention to the Care of the Meeting” was held in Rosholt, Wisconsin. In January (2003) a powerful training session, “Beyond Diversity 101 Training Experience,” was facilitated by Niyonu Spann under the auspices of the Committee for Ministry on Racism. Representatives from all affiliated yearly meetings and from most of FGC’s program committees participated. Davis Monthly Meeting (Pacific Yearly Meeting) was accepted as a directly affiliated Monthly Meeting within Friends General Conference (joining the Sacramento Meeting as the second PaYM Monthly Meeting to be so affiliated). The Nurturing Quakerism Campaign to strengthen the financial foundation of Friends General Conference drew to a successful conclusion at the Oct. 31-Nov. 3 Central Committee meeting.

The Christian and Interfaith Relations Committee is supporting the ecumenical work of those from the Historic Peace Churches responding to a call from the World Council of Churches to help its member churches understand more about how they can contribute to building peace. This work is being done both at the level of theological discussions and in support of the WCC’s Decade to Overcome Violence. In addition, “the committee hears another call from Friends to reach back to FGC Friends groups (local meetings) to help them participate in ecumenical efforts and interpret Friends beliefs to other denominations” and faith groups.

As this report is written Friends around FGC-Land are preparing for the Gathering in Johnstown, PA. The 2004 Gathering is scheduled for July 3-10 at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Finally, the Central Committee expressed its gratitude to IYM’s Janice Domanik “for the spiritual gifts that have been given to Janice Domanik that have enabled her to serve so faithfully as our presiding clerk for the past six years.....” She has been succeeded in this position by Marian Beane.

- Submitted by Tom Paxson

FRIENDS FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND QUEER

CONCERNS

During the February 2003 Midwinter Gathering, discernment continued on the renaming of our community. This renaming is part of a continuing process that calls us to examine who God calls us to be as a community. As have the previous three renamings, this current change has required us to struggle with ourselves and Spirit. It had long been recognized that the name FLGC was not inclusive of our community.

After prayerful consideration, tender listening, and patient laboring, the name Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns was approved as the new name for our community. We recognize that the questions of who we are as a community, how we manifest our inclusiveness, and how we witness and communicate within the wider Quaker world deserve continued focus.

Another matter of business was the decision to print the second edition of *Each of Us Inevitable*. This second edition will include each of the original 11 keynote addresses from previous Midwinter Gathering of Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns. In addition it will include 8 addresses not included in the first edition. One Friend's skills in use of technology that allows downloading from internet web sites and on-demand printing have provided the opportunity to publish this edition without the financial, space, and procedural difficulties that had stalled progress on publishing this edition.

The second edition of *Each of Us Inevitable* will be available through the FGC bookstore and possibly the Pendle Hill Bookstore. This cost will be approximately \$14.00.

We thank Illinois Yearly Meeting for its contribution of \$50.00. Donations from monthly and yearly meetings mean a great deal to us and allow us to continue to publish our newsletter and to support Friends wishing to attend Gatherings who otherwise could not afford to attend.

The 2004 Midwinter Gathering will take place at Chesapeake Center in Port Deposit, MD, over Presidents' Day weekend.

- Colleen Reardon, IYM representative to FLGBTQ Concerns (formerly FLGC)

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS (FPT)

Friends Peace Teams remains committed to giving individuals the opportunity to witness to the Quaker Peace Testimony in teams around the world.

As the 2003 Illinois Yearly Meeting sessions gather, Friends Peace Teams has peace teams working in Colombia; Kibimba, Burundi; and Bubuda, Uganda. Since we met last summer, we have had peace teams working in Kakamega, Kenya; Burundi; Bubuda, Uganda; and Rwanda. Later this year we will be working with Friends for Peace and Community Development to help establish AVP-Nairobi in Kenya.

This has been an eventful year for Friends Peace Teams administratively. We have just received notification that we are now officially incorporated in New York State. We will now be applying for 501c(3) status.

Earlier this summer, we published on our website a re-entry handbook, *Caring for Yourself Too: A Handbook for Western Peace Team Members*. This handbook will be on display at Illinois Yearly Meeting and is available at our website – www.friendspeaceteams.org.

Colombia Project. The goal of this team is to leave enough trained facilitators in Colombia for them to begin to form an AVP organization and to carry out AVP work on their own. The Friends Peace Team delegation is working with Justapaz, which is an agency of the Mennonite Church of Colombia.

2003 DIRECTORY OF MONTHLY MEETINGS AND WORSHIP GROUPS

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL MONTHLY MEETING

10:30am Call for location
Business: First Wednesday, 7:30pm

CLEAR CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

Quaker Lane, McNabb IL 61335
11am 815-882-2214
Business: varies

MACOMB WORSHIP GROUP

(under the care of Clear Creek Mtg.)
10am

COLUMBIA MONTHLY MEETING

6408 Locust Grove Rd. East, Columbia MO
573-474-1827

10:30am (9:30 2nd First Day)
Business: Second First Day, 10:30am

DECATUR MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

10am at DOVE, 800 E. Clay St., Decatur (call)
Business: varies (call for directions and schedule
above number or 217-877-0296)

FRIENDS MEETING OF SPRINGFIELD

(under the care of Decatur Mtg.)
First Day worship, 10:30am in homes

DEKALB MONTHLY MEETING

Gurler House, 2nd and Pine Sts in Dekalb
10:30 am 2nd and 4th Sundays

DOWNERS GROVE FRIENDS MEETING

5710 Lomond Ave, Downers Grove IL 60516
10:30am 630-968-3861
Business: 2nd First Day, 9am

DUNELAND FRIENDS MEETING

813 George St., Valparaiso IN 46385
10am
Business: 3rd First Day, 11:30 - 12:45pm (call
ahead)

EVANSTON MEETING OF FRIENDS

1010 Greenleaf Street, Evanston IL 60202
10am 847-864-8511
Business: 3rd First Day, 11:30am

FIFTY-SEVENTH ST. MEETING OF FRIENDS

5615 S. Woodlawn, Chicago IL 60637
10:30am 773-288-3066
Business: 3rd First Day, 1:00pm

LAKE FOREST FRIENDS MEETING

Old Elm and Ridge Rds., Lake Forest IL 60045
10:30am 847-234-8410
Mail to: PO Box 95, Lake Forest IL 60045
Business: 1st First Day, 9am

McHENRY COUNTY FRIENDS MEETING

4614 N. Pioneer Rd., McHenry, IL 60050
10:00 am 815-385-8512
Business: 4th First Day, 11:15 am

MILWAUKEE MONTHLY MEETING

3224 N. Gordon Pl, Milwaukee WI 53212
10:15 am 414-263-2111
Business: 2nd First Day, noon

IN ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

NORTHSIDE FRIENDS MEETING

4427 N. Clark, Chicago IL 60640 11:00am
Mail to: P.O. Box 408429, Chicago IL 60640
773-784-2155
Business: 1st First Day, 1:00 pm

OAK PARK MONTHLY MEETING

Oak Park Art League, 720 Chicago Ave.,
Oak Park IL 10am
Mail to: P.O. Box 3245, Oak Park, IL 60303-3245
Business: 2nd First Day after worship

OSHKOSH MONTHLY MEETING

419 Boyd St., Oshkosh WI 54901
4:00 pm 920-232-1460
Mail to: PO Box 403, Oshkosh WI 54903
Business: 2nd First Day, after worship

PEORIA-GALESBURG FRIENDS MEETING

10 am In homes
Call for information

ROCK VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING

326 N. Avon St, Rockford IL 61101
11am
Business: 2nd First Day after worship

ST. LOUIS RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1001 Park, St. Louis MO 63104
10:30am 314-588-1122
Mail to: 1001 Park, St. Louis MO 63104
Business: 2nd First Day, 12:15 pm

Friends Meeting of ROLLA (Preparative)
(under the care of St. Louis Mtg.)
Wesley Foundation, 1106 N. Pine St., Rolla,
MO 10:30am
573-341-2464 or 364-5322
Business: 3rd First Day, after worship

SOUTH BEND FRIENDS MEETING

Charles Martin Youth Center
914 Lincolnway West, South Bend, IN
10:30 a.m. 574-255-5781
Business: 2nd First Day, 9:00 a.m.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Mail to: Interfaith Center, 913 S. Illinois Ave.,
Carbondale IL 62901 10am
Business: Last First Day in July, Sept., Jan.
& April, 11:00 am

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN FRIENDS MEETING

Illinois Disciples Foundation, 610 E. Springfield,
Champaign IL 217-328-5853
11am
Mail to: P.O. Box 34, Urbana IL 61803
Business: 3rd First Day, 12:30pm

INDEPENDENT WORSHIP GROUPS

HEARTLAND WORSHIP GROUP

11am in homes

THORN CREEK WORSHIP GROUP

Call for information

Kibimba Workcamp. The goal of this workcamp is to rebuild houses in Kibimba for those who fled violence in the area in 1993. Most houses in the area were destroyed during fighting at that time. David Westling of Columbia Monthly Meeting is a member of this workcamp team.

Bubuda, Uganda, Workcamp. The goal of this workcamp is to build two classrooms for a School supported by Uganda Friends. This team will also participate in a Basic AVP workshop and help facilitate a peace camp for local Ugandans.

AVP and Trauma Healing work in Rwanda. The Spring 2003 Progress Report from the African Great Lakes Initiative provides great anecdotes and detail about the peace team work that is happening in Rwanda. Friends Peace Teams are bringing what they have learned about Trauma Healing work in Burundi to work with Rwanda Yearly Meeting to develop a Trauma Healing program. In preparation of the release of approximately 30,000 prisoners from the gacaca courts, AVP-Rwanda began working last year with judges and prisoners, hoping to provide 1,000 AVP workshops, providing training for almost 20,000 individuals.

- Julia Pantoga

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON UNITY WITH NATURE (FCUN)

FCUN has moved along this year with many e-mail messages, committee meetings and two major meetings of the FCUN Steering Committee. The first meeting was held October 11-14, 2002 at the Episcopal Conference, Burlington, VT. We enjoyed walks along the shore of Lake Champlain. FCUN has now 1200 supporters!

FCUN sent a June 2002 letter to "Fellow Citizens of the World" to follow up our earlier FCUN approval of the Earth Charter. "...We see our appeal to embrace the Earth Charter, as even more urgent since the tragic events of September 11, 2001..."

Ten years ago, FCUN reported on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, June 3-14, 1992, Rio De Janeiro) (see earlier FCUN reports.) Four Friends from FCUN attended the follow-up UN Conference – the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg, South Africa, August 26-September 4, 2002. This WSSD conference had the participation of 191 countries, 104 heads of state and government (but not the U.S. President) and about 8000 NGO's. Our 4 Friends (Mary Gilbert, Ann Mitchell, Jack Bradin and Hollister Knowlton) reported on the general recognition of WSSD of the backward role of the United States (failure to sign the Kyoto Global Climate treaty, our ban on the landmine treaty, our nuclear policies in space, etc.) Such displeasure led to merciless heckling of Secretary of State Colin Powell during his plenary address. UNCED focused on protecting the national environment by a "global partnership to conserve, protect, and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem." By contrast, the WSSD documents stressed poverty eradication and related areas of water supply, food and agriculture and the need to generate more clean energy. "The deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability..." (Johannesburg Declaration)

Our second meeting was held on the friendly Guilford College campus, May 15-17, 2003. Our spirits soared as we gazed at the stately trees across this campus. The 37 Friends present reviewed the reports of the 7 administrative committees that "hold our house together," and 8 Projects (a Program Com.) The Greenfire Project led by Dick Hagan near Athens, Ohio, had Bylaws, is incorporated with Trustees, has now an FCUN Clearness Com., and has purchased 75 acres. Their vision is to be a

“community for ecovillage and earth regeneration center in services to the saved earth community and the unfolding Ecozoic Era.”

After deep explorations, the Sustainability Committee found that we (some 12 members) were having emphases: contemplating/worship, education, action and support for each other. Hence we decided to change our name to FCUN Sustainability – Support and Action Com. Noel Pavlovic will be our Clerk and Mary Gilbert, Co-Clerk. Mary Gilbert, New England YN, Jack Bradin, New England YM, and Hollister Knowlton, Philadelphia YM, will continue to focus on the United Nations and its steps related to UNCED, WSSD and sustainability. Being further from the United Nations, the rest of the Committee will send loving support and try to decipher our future roles.

It is hard to believe that our growth has been gradual. FCUN now has 7 standing (administrative) committees plus 8-9 project (program) committees and the “publishing the truth” steps have led to active Representatives from at least 12 Yearly Meetings. Their leavening spirit is ministering to the whole Society of Friends. The details described in their 1-2 page FCUN Reports are too long for this Report; please see a FCUN Steering Com. Member for this joyful development.

IYM continues to provide leadership within FCUN. After 7 years of dedicated service, Alice Howenstine has stepped down as Treasurer and passed this torch last October to Sarah Pavlovic, our new Treasurer. Bill Howenstine serves now as Clerk of the Ad Hoc Long Range Planning Committee. Bob Wixom served as the Clerk of the Sustainability Com. from 1992-98 and is glad to announce that Noel Pavlovic is the new Clerk of FCUN Sustainability Com. Roy Treadway serves on the FCUN Population Com. John Hackman, McHenry Mo. Mtg. joined FCUN Steering Com., October, 2002, and serves on the Outreach Com. Kim Carlyle, from SAYMA, serves another year as overall FCUN Clerk. Thomas Berry was a welcome guest speaking at Guilford. To paraphrase his thoughts, “...A sense of the sacred is found in the story of the universe.... Since we do not understand the earth as a sacred reality, we must place the creation story at the center of our lives, rather than the values of the extractive, industrial economy, based on profit that surrounds us...” For more of Thomas Berry, see his latest book, *Visions of Utopia – The Great Story*.

FCUN started last year an Ad Hoc Committee on Long Range Planning with Bill Howenstine, Clerk, Noel Pavlovic and Kim Carlyle, members. Their lengthy deliberations led to the adoption of a statement that may (will) appeal to all Friends:

VISION AND WITNESS: *“We are called to live in right relationship with all Creation, that the entire world is interconnected and a manifestation of God.*

We want to integrate into the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends the Truth that God’s Creation is to be respected, protected and held in reverence in its own right, and the Truth that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the Earth’s ecological integrity.

We promote these Truths by being patterns and examples, by communicating our message, and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in the compelling task of transforming our relationship with the Earth”.

- Approved FCUN Steering Com., Guilford College, NC, 5-18-03.

Friends are invited to ask questions and express concerns to the above-mentioned IYM members of FCUN.

- Robert L. Wixom

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (FWCC)

Over the weekend of March 20-23, the Friends World Committee on Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas Annual Meeting was held in Houston, Texas. Emotionally speaking, it was not easy to fly into George Bush Intercontinental Airport, but it was satisfying to hold a peace vigil in front of it.

The theme of this year's meeting was "Hope in a Culture of Fear." David Brindle, the associate director from FWCC International in London, was our speaker. While we were there the bombs started falling in Baghdad, adding poignancy to our theme. We continued to conduct our business, since the business of FWCC is to keep people with different orientations and beliefs in discussion with each other and particularly keeping all the branches of Friends connected. If *we* cannot stay in dialogue, given our common Testimonies, we can hardly hold out hope to those who have even greater differences.

Our work included scheduling visitations between yearly meetings, encouraging our youth to expand their commitment to the various Religious Societies of Friends, publicizing and promoting further developments with the Peace Conference, and figuring out how FWCC can stay afloat during tough financial times.

FWCC is the Quaker organization that gives the Society of Friends its international status. The corporate structure of Friends (monthly meetings feeding into quarterly meeting feeding into yearly meetings) does not by itself allow us to have an international presence as a religious organization. There is no Yearly Meeting that has the size or presence necessary to allow us to be represented at the UN as QUNO (Quaker United Nations Organization) does. There is no Yearly Meeting of sufficient size or presence to allow us to work with other national and international churches and religious groups as equals. Since FWCC includes members from most Yearly Meetings throughout the world, it allows us both of these.

IYM selects representatives to FWCC each year for a three year term. The FWCC Youth Committee has encouraged each Yearly Meeting to consider "Young Friends" (ages 18-40) as our future representatives.

The Section of the Americas (Elizabeth Mertic, Clerk) includes all Friends from North, Central, and South America. Next year's Annual Meeting will be in Ottawa, Canada.

Each third year FWCC holds a meeting attended by representatives from all over the world. The next meeting will take place in Auckland, New Zealand, next January. We in IYM need to consider what issues we wish to bring to that meeting. In prior years, issues of slavery, peace, racism, child soldiers and Aids have been discussed and held in the Light. Are there any issues that we would like to be considered?

The question that we representatives have been sent back with from the Houston meeting is, "Do we as the Society of Friends, want to continue to be an international force at the UN and with other church groups?" If so, we, the MM and YMs and individuals of the Society of Friends, need to financially support the FWCC. This is the second consecutive year that FWCC has run a deficit budget. If financial support does not come, programs will have to be cut next year. Some of the programs that FWCC supports include:

- Visitation of members between yearly meetings of different traditions, where both visitor and visited get to see how much we all have in common.
- Visitation between North, Central, and South America. Speaking Spanish is no longer a requirement to attend yearly meeting in South and Central America. For

those who do not, translation services will be provided. Visitors from South and Central America have been attending yearly meetings in the US and Canada as well.

- The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage. Last summer it was in North Carolina, Virginia and Washington D.C. In 2004 the participants will be going to England and Germany.

Can we increase our support to help alleviate FWCC's shortfall? Would individual Friends consider supporting the work of FWCC? If you have any questions, please ask Elizabeth or me.

- Nancy Wallace

OLNEY FRIENDS SCHOOL

There was also an Olney report in both issues of *Among Friends*: Fall 2002, pg. 12 and Summer 2003, pg. 30. In the latter I reported that Richard Sidwell would be the new head of the school as of July 1, 2003, Dick Stratton is the new business manager and Peggy Conant the assistant head with specific focus on outreach and academic development.

They graduated 19 seniors on Sat. June 8th. Close to 100 people enjoyed a carry-in supper followed by the historic Olney slide show. About 100 people also showed up Sun. morning for brunch and personalized omelets. Their next big activity was Volunteer Work Week, June 14-21. Here is a partial list of projects they hoped to work on: Repair windows and paint in boys dorm, Clean up the debris at the demolished shed site on the Towe Farm, Apply preservatives to the Paul's Island bridge, Repair sidewalks, Replace ceilings in three rooms of boys' dorm, Paint Towe house, Work in boys dorm bathrooms, Install towel racks in dorms, Haul scrap steel, Insulate attic of main building. They also had work for experienced plumbers and electricians.

At last report they were still looking for a chemistry/biology teacher for the next school year.

For the 2003-2004 school year they are hoping to have 65 students. It will depend on whether or not the accepted international students will get their visas. About a quarter of the student body are from other countries, including Ecuador, Canada, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ukraine, Serbia, Japan, Rwanda, South Korea, Palestine, and Tibet. About a quarter are from Alumni or Friends families; students come from more than 7 different yearly meetings. They have full sophomore, junior and senior classes and can still use several more freshman students.

Quakers founded Olney Friends School in 1837. Their worship, decision making process, and community rules all reflect a deep commitment to the Quaker values of simplicity, truth, and peace.

- Grayce Mesner

SCATTERGOOD

Last month, 14 students graduated from Scattergood, marking the end of another good year at Scattergood. This graduation was particularly emotional as Ken Hinshaw, the director, is leaving after 16 years at the school. The school and its finances have evolved tremendously under his leadership.

The new Director is Sean Egan who has a wealth of experience, most recently as a vice principal in the Chicago public school system. The search committee completed its work early in the year, so Sean and Ken have had a significant transition period. We are all looking forward to working with him in the coming years.

The downturn in the economy was not kind to Scattergood, but we ended the school year with the budget nearly in balance. The hard work on improving finances over the past decade is showing results, but we clearly need to continue to build the endowment.

Scattergood is now listed with Midwest Boarding Schools, and we are seeing applications from a wider group of students, enabling the school to be more selective. Erin Lane, Director of Admissions, said in her most recent report to the school committee, "The Admissions Committee has been impressed with the maturity, talent and insight of our prospective students." We expect an enrollment of 60 students for the fall.

Last year's Family weekend, where interested families and their children spent an overnight on campus with staff and some students, getting to know the school and having fun, was a rousing success, so we did it again this year. We appreciate the extra effort put in by the school staff, after a long school year. It is enthusiastically received by the families who attend, and we hope it will assist in attracting more local Quaker students. I strongly recommend it to families with preteens who might be interested in the school. If you need more information, consult the school's web site (see below) or contact me.

Remember the formative role Quaker schools play, not only educating students about academic subjects, but also shaping students' understanding of the interdependence of the individual and the community. Living in a community governed by Quaker principles, with each student a vital part of making it work, is a transforming experience. It is important to support Quaker education, particularly by sending our children – the benefits are mutual.

Scattergood's homepage: <http://www.scattergood.org>

Questions or comments are welcome, either directly or via email: joda@ieee.org.

- Joe Davison

REPORT OF INDIVIDUALS TO IYM SESSIONS

FIELD SECRETARY REPORT (See Minute 20)

This year Illinois Yearly Meeting will evaluate the position of Field Secretary, specifically with regard to the question, "Should the position of Field Secretary be continued?" In preparation for these discussions, the Ministry and Advancement Committee which oversees the work of the field secretary has prepared a comprehensive list of my activities for submission in the advance documents. I will not detail that recounting here, but rather give you a sense of my work.

As your field secretary, I've traveled many miles since I reported to you during last year's sessions. I've made 20 visits to eleven different monthly meetings. I've given several workshops, shared in the joyous occasion of a 50th Jubilee year, the celebrations of a life in a Friend's Memorial Service. I've attended meetings for business of various monthly meetings and attended a few meetings of IYM committees.

A real joy for me is taking photos of individual Friends and their activities both as I travel and here at IYM. I share these with you and with our IYM publications. I enjoy a considerable correspondence with Friends of all ages – the youngest of whom are 4 and 8 years of age.

Thank you for inviting me and including me in the life of your meetings. Through shared work and worship, my time with you is not that of an observer. I do not come

with all the answers and instant solutions to the complex problems that we all face as individuals and as a faith community. I do come to seek with you and support you as you labor together toward resolution.

Many things are happening throughout the yearly meeting. I have often felt that we are on a new path, one that takes us deeper into the Divine Mystery and ultimately brings us closer together. Some meetings have begun to ask themselves, “*How does the Truth fare with thee?*” Sometimes this movement, this *examin*, seems frustrating, hopeless, confusing, or even very painful. I see this “deepening” as a direct result of the time we spent together in our monthly meetings, seeking, listening, and formulating the responses to the questions that were sent to us in preparation for last year’s sessions. Those questions were “How does Truth fare in our Meeting? What is the most severe concern or growing edge your meeting is facing? What is keeping you as a monthly meeting from growing/moving forward?”

Throughout this year of work and travel, my sense is that some meetings are growing numerically at the same time that they are seeking to grow in the Spirit and be open to the discovery of who they are. This is very challenging. I see us becoming more tender with one another. Some Friends are beginning to reclaim their Christian heritage and its language while being lovingly supported by their meetings. Several meetings are grieving the deaths of longtime and committed Friends. For small meetings, such loss has many ramifications. There is much laboring among meetings with dual affiliation as they seek to be faithful to the promptings of the Spirit. I continue to be amazed when individual Friends or small meetings take on large tasks and accomplish all, and even more, than they visualized when they took up the work. How could I have forgotten that *with God all things are possible*?

- Roxy Jacobs, Field Secretary

PASTORAL COUNSELORS (See Minute 51)

Dear Friends:

As in previous years, I am writing to update Illinois Yearly Meeting about my pastoral counseling ministry which is under the ongoing endorsement of Illinois Yearly Meeting. As always, I will need a letter from the Clerk of IYM documenting this continuing endorsement and quoting the 2003 business meeting minute which notes this endorsement. I would be glad to present my report in person on Saturday morning, or to have this letter suffice if you would prefer to address my request at an earlier time in the week.

I am happy to be able to tell you that my private practice of pastoral counseling, Connections Counseling and Resource Center, continues to thrive and to keep me busy indeed. Having left a very constraining agency, I continue to feel a wonderful integrity and freedom in being able to do pastoral counseling as I am led to create it out of my own values, spiritual beliefs, and forty three years of counseling experience.

This year I have added something new by opening a practice of personal life coaching, GraceFull Life Coaching. I coach people toward lives of simplicity, serenity, and sustainability, especially in life transition times. My training as a life coach from Coaches Training Institute has truly been a transformative process. To me, coaching as well as counseling is a spiritual process. I am very excited about coaching and the many ways it helps persons create the lives they deeply want and offer to the world the gifts they are called to give!

Out of my coaching networks, I have participated in Circles of Ten: Women for World Peace, and I have completed training to become a leader of these Circles. Envi-

sioned by Coach Sarah Hartzell of Boulder, CO, Circles of Ten is a simple yet very profound process of peacemaking, quite different from anything I had previously experienced in other peacemaking groups. In a Circle of Ten, women meet either in person or by phone one hour each week for six weeks. The Circle process deepens our inner peacefulness, develops our sense of ourselves as peacemakers, and empowers us to take small courageous acts of peacemaking in our daily lives which contribute to world peace. The goal of Circles of Ten is to have peacemaker women become a major force in world peace, with ten million women, including at least ten from every nation on the planet, trained in this process within the next ten years. Already there is a Circle group starting in Kenya! It is a beautiful and powerful process which I would be glad to share with persons who are interested.

For those of you interested in QPCC, Quakers in Pastoral Care and Counseling, the dates for our next annual gathering are scheduled for April 1-4, 2004 with Margaret Kornfeld as our likely presenter on a theme relevant to personal and community response to violence. Our gathering is held at Quaker Hill in Richmond, IN. All Quakers doing counseling or pastoral care and interested in the interface of spirituality and their work are invited to attend the conference, and to become part of QPCC. See me if you want further information, or information about our book, *Out of the Silence: Quaker Perspectives on Pastoral Care and Counseling*, written by many of us in QPCC, edited by Bill Ratliff, and published by Pendle Hill Press. I have one chapter and part of another in the book, and the cover photograph.

Since I am now in solo rather than agency practice, my spiritual community and my accountability to my denomination through IYM continue to be all the more important in maintaining my pastoral identity. In my work and in my life, I try to be faithful to the leading of the Spirit. Your ongoing endorsement of my pastoral counseling continues to make my ministry possible, as it has since 1978.

Thank you so very much!

Sincerely, Carolyn W. Treadway, LCSW
Pastoral Counselor, Personal Life Coach

Dear Friends, (July 27, 2003)

We have just passed our one year anniversary here in Port Orchard. It's been a challenging year as you may imagine. We changed many significant strands in our life all at once. Setting up a business in our home has kept us very busy and made it difficult to meet people, although we are getting to know our neighbors around the lake at last.

Kyran and I made it to the Gathering at the end of June. It was so wonderful to be there and feel at home and see familiar faces. There are no children in the Tacoma Meeting, except a couple of wee ones, so it was important for Kyran to be at Gathering and connect with the Quaker children he has grown up seeing every year. I had a wonderful visit with Nancy Duncan at Gathering, as well.

I am once again reporting upon my endorsement and asking for your continuing support for the time being. Kyran and I are sojourning members of Tacoma Monthly Meeting, with our primary membership continuing at Northside. We took that step because I wanted the meeting to get to know me better. Transferring my membership also means asking for endorsement and I thought that Tacoma Meeting needed more time to get to know me before making such a request. And until very recently, my formal involvement in pastoral care was a few consultations for programs in the area.

My news is that I begin tomorrow (Monday 28th) supervising army chaplain resi-

dents. I was approached by the Chaplains department at Madigan Army Hospital to put in a civilian contract bid to teach their chaplain residents for the coming year. I asked if they really thought they wanted a Quaker and they said they thought it would be a good learning experience for all! It is a part-time position, which makes it possible for me to be home when Kyran gets home from school.

So far I have been surprised by the warmth and welcome that I have received from the army—granted most of it has been with the Chaplains office. I expect the experience will be challenging for me, as well as the students. A number of their chaplains are deployed to Iraq and one of the incoming residents has just returned from the war. Morale is mixed and they're all concerned about the ongoing nature of the war at this point.

Marti's image of God as fox has certainly come to mind this summer. Thinking of you all as you meet and wishing especially we could be there with you. We're in a beautiful spot and are in the traveling directory, so if you're out this way we'd love to see you.

I love staying in touch via the e-mail messages. I have a sense of IYM's activities through them.

Peace and love,

- Beth Burbank

OTHER DOCUMENTS FROM BUSINESS SESSIONS

NORTHSIDE EPISTLE (See Minute 27)

Greetings of Peace.

Northside Friends Meeting has entered into a Sabbath Year. We have decided to lay aside much of our normal business, suspending our normal committees, in order to liberate more time for our community to grow together as a community of faith.

The poet W.B. Yeats wrote in his poem *The Second Coming*: "Turning and turning ... things fall apart, the center cannot hold." To a great degree this was the experience of Northside Friends.

Our State of Society Report shows an active, growing Meeting: individually and corporately we were striving to do good things in the world, to nurture one another, and to keep true to the Light. What the State of Society does not show is that we were finding much of our activity fruitless, our attempts to nurture empty, our faithfulness to the Way frustrated. We suspected that our apparent unity – our ability to do things and do projects – was hiding a deeper disunity.

And so we were inspired to take a year's Sabbath rest. During this time, we hope to listen more closely to the Spirit in worship and in dialogue with one another. We desire to clarify our understanding of what it means to be Quakers – members of a peculiar religious community.

We want to take on those really big issues: membership, marriage, faithfulness to the Testimonies, the meaning of ministry. We so often assume these important concepts have common meanings but we have found in theory and practice that we often lack a common understanding about how they operate in and among us. We wish to find a way to clearly articulate the unity we find in worship and thereby find a direction for our future.

If all this sounds more like Sabbath *work* than Sabbath *rest*, we can assure Friends that we are committed to *work*. We also joyfully share with Friends that, as we have labored through the difficult process to initiate this special time we have found that, indeed, the burden has been light and sweet. We take comfort in the fact that other Friends meetings have taken this path and found renewed vitality.

Because we are part of you, we ask that you share this dedicated time with us.
Come worship with us. Invite us into your Meetings for worship and fellowship.
Above all, lift us to the Divine Light: as the work we undertake is a spiritual work,
the support we seek is spiritual as well.
We are Your Loving Friends.

ADOPTED FAITH AND PRACTICE SECTIONS

Concerning this Book of Faith and Practice (Introduction, See Minute 39)

Early Quakers had a vivid sense of the Holy Spirit as an active presence, transforming themselves, their dealings with each other, and the entire world. They honored each person's direct access to the Light, yet were aware of the frailty of human judgment. Their response was to develop practices of communal listening, seeking, and discerning. Meeting for worship, meeting for business, and some more specialized practices were all developed to allow the group to clarify and support individual guidance and revelation. Today, Quakers continue to revise, refine, and hand on their characteristic practices of corporate listening and waiting, because these practices work.

The practical details of this corporate listening and waiting are of immediate concern to all Quakers. We have insisted on an open and freely shared ministry; as a result, the on-going life of our meetings is shaped to an extraordinary degree by each meeting's members. Caring for ourselves and one another well—calling forth the Holy Seed effectively—requires (and elicits) very careful attention. Each situation is a fresh opportunity, yet our experimental approach has led to a body of experiential learning.

Quakers have naturally supported each other by sharing approaches that have worked well in the past: methods of listening, discerning, and acting that have reliably embodied our core leadings, especially in situations that recur again and again. A book of Faith and Practice records such shared learnings, brought together for the guidance of meetings and their members, and endorsed (in this case) by the Yearly Meeting. Books of Faith and Practice exist to coach Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups, individual members and attenders, in how to care for themselves and each other in basic ways. Books of Faith and Practice have proved to be effective means to convey our faith, inspiring and guiding expression of the Spirit's leadings.

This *Faith and Practice* is intended as a guide to Friends' characteristic practices, embodying the wisdom and experience of Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends. Not every detail of every practice described here will fit the real life situation of every Meeting or Friend. It would be unfaithful to insist that they be followed in preference to the Spirit's present guidance! Nevertheless, we have tried to assemble here descriptions of tested ways of doing things, practices it would be good to follow whenever practical, apart from unusual circumstances or special leadings. This *Faith and Practice* also includes perspectives on the spiritual meaning and underlying coherence of our current practices, often in the form of excerpts from Friends' writings. Glimpses of this deeper pattern can illumine our usual practices, and can guide improvisation in exceptional cases or new circumstances. These practices and perspectives have empowered our meetings to find unity and move forward in that unity – both unity with each other, and a deeper unity in and with the Holy Spirit.

Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by, but that all with a measure of the light which is pure and holy may be guided, and so in the light walking and abiding, these things may be fulfilled in the Spirit, - not from the

letter, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life.

Meeting of Elders, Balby, Yorkshire, England, 1656

MEMBERSHIP (Faith & Practice section, as approved in Minute 50)

Attending Meeting

Visitors to meeting should be welcomed, and care taken to help them understand and relate to Friends' ways. Study groups in which newer attenders mix with experienced members can help, as can easy access to Quaker books, periodicals, and pamphlets. Regular attenders should be invited to participate in the life of the Meeting – to observe and take appropriate part in our distinctive ways of worship, business, and committee work, and in our potlucks, work projects, and ministries. Membership in the Society of Friends is membership in the monthly meeting community. The best orientation to a meeting may be the opportunity to be with its members while they do what they care about.

Attenders may wish to discuss their spiritual goals and concerns with Friends before making an application for membership, or before feeling any clear interest in applying. Experienced Friends should be alert to this possibility, and make themselves available for such discussion. Attenders who find themselves nourished by their involvement with Meeting, comfortable with Friends' approach and testimonies, and interested in taking up the responsibilities of membership, should be encouraged to consider membership.

Sometimes long-time attenders act with the responsibility and commitment hoped for in members, and feel that they are members in all but name. A Meeting might gently encourage such attenders to join, as a matter of truth-telling and integrity. But occasionally committed attendance is the right choice for someone, and should be respected.

Applying for Membership

An attender who wishes to join begins by making a formal request to the monthly Meeting. Usually this takes the form of a letter, which often will describe the nature or history of the applicant's interest in Friends. The clerk of the meeting shares this request with the Meeting during a meeting for business.

A clearness committee to visit with the applicant is either appointed directly by the meeting for business, or (especially in larger meetings) by the Meeting's ministry and oversight committee. An effort should be made to choose discerning Friends; the applicant's closest associates will not always be the ones best suited for this service. In a very small meeting, it will often be best for the Meeting to act as a committee of the whole.

The clearness committee visits with the applicant in a spirit of expectant waiting and tender searching. Beginning and ending the visit in silent worship is appropriate, as is taking time, during the conversation, to center down and to seek guidance.

The clearness that is sought is two-fold: Is this the right step for the applicant? and, Is this the right step for the Meeting? Topics that may help shed light on this include the applicant's knowledge and expectations of the Meeting and of Friends generally, his or her religious background and journey, consonance with our testimonies, and degree of comfort with the variety found among Friends.

In some circumstances, a single visit with the applicant will be sufficient; in others, multiple visits may seem appropriate. Sometimes the committee will find it help-

ful to meet together before or after the visit. The clearness committee and the applicant should keep in mind that they seek a solid clarity and easiness about the decision, not any pre-determined result. At times, a solid clearness is reached quickly and easily; other times, clearness comes only after labor, but may be just as strong. Sometimes, the clearness that is reached will be that the time is not right for membership – that the applicant or the Meeting is being led to wait. Occasionally the clearness may be that membership in the Society of Friends is not the Spirit's leading for an applicant. If applicant and committee remember that the goal is the clearness that allows faithful action, then these outcomes can be seen as positive ones.

If the visitors were appointed by a ministry and oversight committee, that committee generally hears their report and makes a recommendation to Meeting. If the clearness committee was appointed by meeting for business, it makes its report directly to meeting for business, optionally including a recommendation.

In either case, the decision to accept a person into membership is made and minuted by the Monthly Meeting in its meeting for business. Although the meeting for business needs enough information to make a faithful decision, personal information not directly pertinent to the decision should not be included.

Membership of Children

Children in our midst, regardless of their membership status, should be treated as full participants in the life of the Meeting. Meetings do well to nurture all children and young adults in making informed decisions with regard to their membership, when the time is right.

Parents who are members may request membership for their children. Some monthly meetings consider children to be full members. Others consider them to be associate members. Still others offer parents the choice of either full or associate membership for their children. Associate membership differs from full membership in that it does not extend indefinitely, but must be re-affirmed by the individual at some point. Illinois Yearly Meeting has not felt clear about setting any particular age at which associate membership is dropped, and leaves this difficult matter to the discretion of monthly meetings. Meetings are responsible for continuing a caring relationship with associate members as they mature, and for encouraging them to apply for membership when they are ready, whether before or after the end of associate membership.

A request that a child or children be recorded in either category of membership may be made at the time of the child's birth or adoption, or at the time of the parent(s) acceptance into membership, or later. A child may be recorded at the request of one parent and with the permission of the other. Parents requesting full or associate membership for their children should intend to raise them as Friends within a meeting community. Parents may also choose to request no enrollment for the child, leaving the matter to the young person's own leadings, as he or she matures. Monthly meetings should adopt clear policies about the membership status of members' children for whom no request is made. The Meeting has a responsibility to see that children recorded in membership, along with other children among us, have opportunity to reflect on their commitment as they grow toward adulthood.

Monthly meetings are encouraged to respect and support parents' decisions regarding their children's welfare in these matters. Sometimes (especially when a family of Friends transfers from another meeting) this respect and support will involve wrestling with a category of membership, or a conscientious choice, not previously used in the meeting.

There is no minimum age for applying for membership for one's self. Some young people are ready for membership at an early age; others take longer to mature into a sense of clearness about their spiritual path. Associate members, and young people not recorded in membership, may request full membership for themselves using the procedure described above, at any age at which they feel a leading to do so.

Sojourning Members, Transfer of Membership, Isolated Friends

Friends living temporarily at a distance from their home meeting, and near enough to attend another meeting, should usually request sojourning membership in the meeting they are attending. Members who have moved permanently to another area should transfer their membership to their new meeting. These arrangements go beyond record-keeping, allowing the individual to be forthright and honest about his or her real commitments, and helping meetings care for members in a practical way. Either change is initiated by requesting a letter from one's previous or home meeting, to the new meeting. Unless there is compelling reason, a letter recommending the Friend to the new meeting is prepared (by overseers, clerk, or in another appropriate way), signed by the clerk, and forwarded to the new meeting. Meetings generally treat Friends sojourning among them as members, but notify their home meeting when they leave the area. A home meeting drops a transferring member from its rolls when it receives confirmation that the new meeting has received him or her into membership.

Both members and persons interested in Friends sometimes live too far away from a meeting to attend regularly. The mere fact of living at a distance from one's meeting does not alter membership. Options for such persons include establishing a relationship with a meeting near enough to visit periodically, participation in Quarterly and Yearly Meetings and conferences of various kinds, and forming a small worship group with others of like mind in the area. Many of the monthly meetings of Illinois Yearly Meeting began in just this way.

Termination of Membership

A person may resign from the Society of Friends, and should do so if he or she feels strongly out of accord with the faith and practice of Friends, or remains unwilling to participate in meeting for a very long period of time; a meeting may terminate membership if it becomes clear that this is the case with a person. Real life circumstances are usually ambiguous and difficult to interpret. Friends may drift away until their lives show no evidence of interest in continued membership, yet feel reluctant to break with the past—perhaps for sentimental reasons, but perhaps from a deep, if dormant, sense of calling. Some distance themselves after a conflict in Meeting and never fully return; others find that they are led to put their energy exclusively into another spiritual path, yet retain membership. Often Friends need years to come to clarity about such issues. The underlying truth is often at least a little different from the explanations offered quickly and casually. Sometimes old hurts need to be healed before any real clearness is possible. There is much potential for hurt in inquiring into an inactive member's intentions—but there is also much potential for hurt in ignoring such situations. Meetings should explore such situations with real tenderness, taking however much time is necessary.

When it becomes clear that someone no longer intends involvement with the Society of Friends, the integrity both of the meeting and of the former Friend will generally be best supported by releasing that person from membership. Friends recognize that faithful pursuit of God's leadings may engage us in outwardly different paths; ideally, a termination of membership can help the former member focus more clearly on the

path to which he or she is actually led. The possibility of affectionate relationship with the meeting community, and with friends within it, is by no means terminated by such action.

LETTER TO FWCC TRIENNIAL IN NEW ZEALAND (See Minute 65)

Illinois Yearly Meeting has been asked if there are concerns to forward to the upcoming Triennial of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, for consideration and mutual endeavor by this wider body of Friends. During our annual sessions in 2003 we took an extended time of open worship to reflect on what central issues, arising from the life of our Meeting, we would wish to emphasize. The following remarks are distilled from spoken ministry, were united with by the body, and urged to be conveyed by our representatives:

I. Because we are a part of FWCC, we were able to have participants in the Section of Americas' recent "Conference on Quakers' Responses to the Growing Danger of Global War and Terrorism" (the "Guilford Peace Conference" last January). Reflecting how one of our Young Friends—a delegate from this Yearly Meeting—responded to the Witness of God in that gathering, we see three important strands coming together that are dear to the life of Illinois Yearly Meeting, and which we commend to Friends everywhere. At that conference, this young man who grew up among us heard of the massive suffering from genocidal strife in the Great Lakes region of Africa, and he also learned of Quakers' cooperative efforts involving Burundi Friends and the Alternatives to Violence project. God led this young man to seek the clearness and support of his Monthly Meeting to participate in a workcamp project for rebuilding and reconciliation. We are inspired by the convergence of (1) a concern to learn more about and to express our historic Peace Testimony, (2) the availability of creative Spirit-led Quaker projects for hands-on volunteer service to alleviate suffering, and (3) the valuable resource of energetic young people being nurtured in our midst and growing into leadership for our Religious Society.

II. Illinois Yearly Meeting speaks from the land of prairies, where fires set by Native Americans and lightning burned back the forests, and permitted the deep roots of the prairie vegetation, which formed the rich soil which is now a breadbasket of the world. The corn and soybeans which surround our historic meetinghouse and stretch to the horizon remind us of our wealth in a world of resource inequity. For 13 years our yearly meeting has had a growing concern for a right relationship with all of God's creation. We have established an Environmental Concerns Committee and instituted a recycling program. On our grounds we are planting native plant species. In our planning of a new building and renovation of the old, we are trying to be environmentally sensitive, utilizing recycled materials and energy-efficient construction. We have approved a minute on population and the environment. We have expressed our concern in the North American "Friends Committee on Unity with Nature" through 5 members serving on the FCUN steering committee. One of our members is treasurer of Right Sharing of World Resources.

We provide this background to underscore our belief that many of the world's problems—war and poverty especially—find roots in the overconsumption of the world's resources by our growing population, and the tremendous disparity in access to these resources among the world's people. As we fight for still greater shares of the world's fossil fuels, our larger society seems unmindful of the impact of environmental stresses, such as global warming, on all people—indeed all life on the planet.

This growing concern has fed our long-standing Quaker concern for peace, a central focus for our yearly meeting.

We have shared these concerns with the hope that the FWCC Triennial will address these issues:

- the unsustainable growth in use of our natural resources by an unsustainable growth in the world's population.
- the degradation of God's creation brought about by this resource consumption.
- the growing inequity in distribution of the world's wealth.
- the need for increased devotion to the peace testimony of the religious society of Friends.

III. During the past year as the United States has pursued a course of war, many Friends in this country have also felt attacked, angered, fearful, and isolated; we want Friends and other people of the Earth to know of this. Friends have also shown a continuing concern about racism. These two issues seem to unite in a desire of Friends to take responsibility for the behavior of our larger society. How can we find our way into increasing international community in such a way as to help our country transform its arrogance and violence? Can Friends help us know that we are not alone in this, and that our dissident voices in this country are heard and embraced by the world's peoples?

IV. Our incoming Clerk spoke of a clear vision that came to her as she sojourned and worshipped where Margaret Fell and George Fox had stood. She became even more aware of the Christian roots of Quakerism. And even without an insistence that all become Christians, she deeply felt that when we are ignorant of our roots, it harms us: it impedes our relationship with other (non-Quaker) Christians, and it prevents us from hearing genuine ministry from some in our own Meetings. We were urged to meet the fear that some of us have from the abuses in some versions of Christianity, and let God overcome this in us.

V. We ask the prayers of Friends as we resist and try to change policies of our government. And we are aware that for our efforts to be well-grounded and rightly-ordered, our social witness must grow out of the witness of God in our hearts, and that Presence in our gathered Meetings.

- Bill Howenstine, David Finke, Ann Eckert

MEMORIALS

ROBERT LEE BELL

Robert Lee Bell, known as Lee to his family and Bob to us, was born January 20, 1949 in Rockford, Illinois. He was the oldest of the eight children of Robert and Faith (Nelson) Bell. He had many challenges in his life. His father left the family early on and then there was an abusive step-father. Bob, in some ways, took on the role of father to his siblings. While growing up Bob attended two churches: a Baptist church and an Evangelical Free church. (As Bob joked, he went to the one for the girls and the other for the softball team!) He graduated from Auburn High School in Rockford in 1967 and the following year attended Aurora College (now Aurora University) in Aurora, Illinois, majoring in pre-veterinary medicine. After one year at Aurora he continued his education at Rock Valley College in Rockford and eventually earned an Associate's Degree.

In 1969 Bob was drafted by the U.S. Army. He felt that taking human life was against the gospel of Jesus as he had heard it preached in the churches of his youth and his conscience would not allow him to participate in war. When he sought help from his clergy he found that they did not believe in conscientious objection to war and would not help him. While a student in Aurora Bob met the Finke family who supported conscientious objection and directed him to the American Friends Service Committee's office in Chicago. He quickly became active in AFSC's Draft Refusers Support Group. David Finke, who worked at AFSC's Chicago office, referred Bob to the Peters family and the Friends meeting in Rockford. He soon became good friends with Hans Peters, who was also a draft counselor, and began attending meeting for worship. Ultimately Bob's CO application was denied by Judge Julius Hoffman and beginning in 1973 Bob was incarcerated for a little over a year at Sandstone Federal Prison in Sandstone, Minnesota, and briefly at Leavenworth Federal Prison. He was released in July 1974 and returned to Rockford and in October of the same year became a member of Rock Valley Friends Meeting.

In 1979 Bob married Maryjane Bicksler and they had two children, Dane and Autumn. Having a family and children was very important to Bob. He derived a lot of satisfaction from being a father and spoiled his children in his attempts to be a good father. The separation and divorce from his wife in the early 1990's was very difficult for Bob. It was a wound that never healed and affected the rest of his life. The death of his 15-year-old daughter, Autumn, in an automobile accident in 2000 was another tragedy that left Bob wounded and devastated.

Along with many other convicted draft resisters Bob was pardoned by President Ford which opened up many opportunities from which he otherwise would have been barred. In his early career Bob worked in maintenance for several different companies and organizations in Rockford. Eventually he was hired by the postal service and made a career as a mail carrier. He was very active in the Rural Letter Carriers Association of Illinois, serving as a union steward and treasurer. Through this career he also met his life companion of the last ten years, Dianna Rosborough.

Bob was a "do-it-yourselfer." He did roofing, plumbing, wiring, auto repair, etc. While in prison he received training and became a licensed steam engineer. He put his skills to good use at home and at Rock Valley Friends Meeting's meetinghouse where he installed a new boiler system, re-wired most of the building, and did most of the maintenance work for decades. He also used his skills to the benefit of Illinois Yearly

Meeting where he was a member of the Maintenance & Planning Committee for many years and a faithful participant at work weekends and site-prep. He and his children participated in the week-long work camp to repaint the IYM meetinghouse in 1996.

Bob was a faithful attender and participant in his monthly meeting. He served as clerk for many years and was treasurer twice, most recently at the time of his death. He was a loyal friend who would help with any task at any time. He was a libertarian and believed that government interfered too much in his life. He was often at odds with City Hall over his lifestyle choices. He loved to provoke discussions (some would say arguments). He passionately distrusted lawyers and politicians. He voraciously read science fiction. He was an enthusiastic proponent of alternative energy technologies. He was an early subscriber to *Mother Earth News* and had a complete collection. He was continuously cutting, splitting, and stacking wood to heat his house. He loved plants and animals and had a house and yard full of both.

In November 2002 Bob was diagnosed with cancer and despite surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy, the cancer was unstoppable and he died June 17, 2003.

ANTOINETTE ADAMS BRYAN

Tony Bryan was born and grew up in Oak Park, Illinois. The closeness and fun she had with her sisters and friends in Oak Park carried on throughout her life. She was a conscientious student from grade school on. Her father and a favorite teacher told her to “Do a good job, but don’t try to be perfect,” and she worked for this balance. She graduated from Northwestern University with academic honors, and remembered her excellent professors there all her life. She also remembered her college friends, both for their ideas, which she treasured, and for the fun they had together. After graduation, she went to work as a social worker for the Chicago Relief. In 1938 she married the late Dr. James H. Bryan and moved to St. Louis. They had four children, Jim, Joanne, Ruth, and Carole.

Tony valued the challenges of raising her children. As her children, we could always count on her to keep her word, and always, always knew she loved us and welcomed us. She taught us to love nature, art, music, and literature; to believe that life could be positive and that human beings are basically good; and that we could follow our paths to interesting destinations, fulfillment, and happiness. She loved reading, interesting discussions, bird watching, and keeping in touch with her family and friends. One of her valued accomplishments was caring for her husband at home through his long illness.

Tony always made the effort to listen carefully. As Ruth said, “Even at the end, when I had something I needed to figure out, I’d tell her about it and she’d listen and pay attention.” Even when she could scarcely talk, she still paid attention. It was as if she wanted to keep on being here for us.

Although Tony never felt that she did enough, throughout her life she did her best to work for peace, racial equality, and the protection of the environment. She taught English as A Second Language and GED preparation. She was a long-time member of the League of Women Voters, the PEO, and the St. Louis Society of Friends. The Quakers were very important to her, providing inspiration, friendship, and spiritual community.

In later years, Tony lost her strength and her voice. She was cared for by her children and their families, first in the home of Joanne in Newburyport, Massachusetts and then in Ruth’s home in New Rochelle, New York. She died peacefully at home three

days before her 88th birthday, with Ruth and Jim at her side.

Surviving are her three daughters: Joanne Becker of Newburyport, MA; Ruth Green of New Rochelle, NY; Carole Martini of Portland, OR; her son, James Bryan of Charlottesville, VA; five grandchildren, two of her three sisters, nieces and nephews and many friends.

WILLIAM FREDERICK MINETT BUSCOMBE

February 12, 1918 - March 13, 2003

William Frederick Minett Buscombe, 85, professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University and longtime member of Evanston Meeting of Friends, died March 13, 2003 following a massive stroke. Bill's stately manner, his steady gaze and articulate, direct speech are already missed by his large circle of friends, colleagues, students and acquaintances, as well as his fellow spiritual travelers at Evanston Meeting.

The only son of Ethel Minett and William Henry Buscombe, Bill was born in 1918 in Hamilton, Ontario and was raised in Toronto, where he earned his degree in astronomy from the University of Toronto in 1940. An agnostic as a youth, Bill had become a Quaker prior to the beginning of World War II, and upon graduation, he qualified as a conscientious objector. For the next five years, Bill devoted his scientific skills to the service of Canada as a civilian meteorologist, forecasting the weather for convoys crossing the Atlantic and for planes flying to England via Newfoundland and Ireland.

After the war, Bill taught astronomy at the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon, before accepting a scholarship for the Ph.D. program at Princeton University. Immediately upon earning his doctoral degree, he started work as a postdoctoral fellow at the Mount Wilson Observatory near Pasadena.

Bill had married Royal Kee, also a graduate of the University of Toronto, in 1942 under the care of Toronto Monthly Meeting. In 1952, with their growing family, they moved to Australia, where Bill accepted a position at the Mount Stromlo Observatory near Canberra. (This observatory was recently destroyed in the bush fires that devastated the capital city of Australia.) At Mount Stromlo, Bill began his pioneering work in the spectral classification of stars visible in the southern hemisphere. He continued this work until the end of his life, compiling results obtained by other astronomers into fifteen catalogues used by researchers around the world.

When Mount Stromlo Observatory was absorbed into the newly-formed Australian National University, Bill began to teach graduate students, and in 1968, accepted a position as Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University where he expanded his teaching to undergraduates. Though he retired officially at age 70, he was a familiar figure on the campus until his death.

Bill's love of astronomy and of young people combined to make him a popular speaker representing the American Astronomical Association to primary school classes as well as to students at many small colleges around the Midwest. At Evanston Meeting, he held the children in First Day School spellbound with his slides and talks about the planets and stars.

Bill's deep devotion to Quakerism was shared by his wife Royal, a former Clerk of Illinois Yearly Meeting, and wherever they went, they attended Quaker Meetings or set up worship groups in their home. They were founding members of the Canberra Meeting of the Society of Friends and attended Evanston Friends Meeting from 1968

to the present. As the official Quaker representative on the Northwestern University campus, Bill established a midweek Meeting for Worship in the Student Union and tended it for a number of years, despite the noise level and general unpredictability of student scheduling. He also encouraged Northwestern students who had Quaker ties to attend Evanston Meeting and, with Royal, frequently hosted teas or breakfasts to welcome them.

Over the years, Bill served several terms on several committees at Evanston Meeting, including Ministry and Counsel, which he also served as clerk, Trustees and Recording Clerk. For five years, Bill and Royal wrote and mimeographed a weekly Sunday morning bulletin for the Meeting. For over twenty years, Bill acted as Meeting Recorder and faithfully sent cards with handwritten notes to acknowledge the birthdays and anniversaries of those in the Evanston Meeting community. He served as representative to Friends World Committee on Consultation, Metropolitan General Meeting and the Evanston Ecumenical Action Council.

Above all, Bill will be remembered at Evanston Meeting for his spiritual depth and the fervor of his commitment. He often stood during Meeting for Worship to read from the scriptures and to share what he always referred to as “the good news.” He took an active interest in the business of the Meeting, speaking out with conviction even when his views were in opposition to the flow of ideas. He refused to compromise for the sake of conformity or comfort, yet he gracefully acknowledged when the Meeting reached a clarity he did not share.

Bill’s expressions of his faith could be impulsive and deeply moving. One memorable Sunday morning during worship, he unexpectedly took Royal by the hand and drew her to her feet, where the two of them repeated their wedding vows, “promising with Divine assistance” to be unto each other loving and faithful partners. On their 60th wedding anniversary, to honor their example of a robust and living marriage, Evanston Meeting provided Bill and Royal with a celebratory cake at coffee time. In keeping with their love for this Meeting – and their sense of drama – Bill and Royal surprised us all with a concert of chamber music, right here in the meeting room.

Bill is survived by his wife Royal, and by seven of their eight children, Dawn, Eve, and Peter in Australia, Martin, Lucy, Kathy and Timothy in the U.S., as well as eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by a son, Andrew. Together with his family, those who knew Bill at Evanston Meeting will long cherish our memories of his dignified and passionate incarnation of the Light that dwells in us all.

META RUTH FERGUSON

Meta Ruth Ferguson, who maintained her membership in Evanston Meeting long after she moved to California, died peacefully on the morning of March 7, 2003, at the age of 95.

Born July 14, 1907, Meta Ruth, along with her sister Marie Ferguson Parker, and her parents Cora and Sylvester Ferguson, all of whom are now deceased, played a very active role in the life of Evanston Meeting during the 50s and 60s. Upon moving to California, she continued to correspond with a number of Evanston Friends. She could never bring herself to transferring her membership from Evanston Meeting. She remained a regular contributor, read the newsletter faithfully, and took a great interest in the issues being discussed during our Meetings for Business. Phone conversations with her were always appreciated, during which she showed great interest in what was

going on and in the children's activities.

Meta Ruth's Quaker ancestry went back to the beginning of this country. As long-time editor of the Children's Page in Quaker Life magazine, she shared family stories about the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the journey of two generations participating in the Westward Movement. She was senior editor of the Penn Series, widely used in Children's Religious Education throughout American Quakerism.

Meta Ruth received her Bachelor's degree from Friends University in Wichita, after which she found her true calling working in Religious Education. She led numerous religious seminars, workshops, developed curricula, traveled, wrote, and studied. Both she and her sister Marie attended Hartford Theological Seminary, and they both offered their services to Quakers throughout their lives. They both took active roles in Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) as well as in Yearly Meetings wherever they were living, most recently in Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Meta Ruth took an active interest in art and music, in birds and in genealogy. While living in Evanston, the Ferguson sisters planned many picnics and bird walks through the forest preserves with us Young Friends. While Marie served as Evanston Meeting's pastoral secretary, Meta Ruth watched over the children of the Meeting with a sensitive, caring concern for their well being and religious education, and she always attended the meetings of the Woman's Society. One of the things she enjoyed most about Evanston's Meeting for Worship was the ministry that came through a called for hymn and then settling back into the silence.

Meta Ruth wrote poetry all of her life and led several poetry workshops. She was still taking art classes up until the very last few years of her life. Many Friends possess her very carefully drawn greeting cards.

Her self discipline, which she started practicing at the age of five, was a widely acknowledged attribute. It was reported that one of her favorite stories is her recollection of being five when a little friend broke her doll. She could clearly remember telling herself, "I mustn't hate her, I mustn't hate her. I must still love her. I am a Quaker and Quakers don't hate." Her prayer for our current president was typical; not angry or vengeful, but a prayer and a trust that the Light could be given to him as well as to anyone. Her life had a wholeness—an integrity—which is rare and wonderful.

HERB AND JAN LOTZ

Peoria-Galesburg Monthly Meeting met in the Lotz home at 220 North Chambers in Galesburg for more than two decades. But they provided more than a comfortable and convenient place for worship. Herb and Jan were the kind of people one thinks of when visualizing Quakers at their best.

Herb died January 22, 2003, following a fall in his home. Jan followed him in death on March 5, from cancer. They had three sons—Steven Lotz of Tower, Minnesota; Richard Lotz of Galesburg; William Lotz (and his wife Stacy) of Galesburg—and a daughter, Kathryn Lotz (and Ed Keller). Jan had one surviving brother, David (and Barbara) Howell of Riverside, California; and a sister, Julia Cady of Yellow Springs, Ohio. The members of the meeting were all pleased that Jan lived to see her first grandchild, Sophie, the daughter of Bill and Stacy Lotz.

Herb was born in Gunterode, Germany, March 14, 1920. He served in the United States Army in the Pacific and became a U.S. citizen in 1944. He graduated from Iowa State University and earned a master's degree in psychology at the University of Iowa. He was a clinical psychologist, first for the state of Iowa, then for Illinois, and finally

for the Henry-Stark Special Education Co-op. He retired in 1981 and was named the psychologist of that year by the Illinois Psychologists Association. Herb worked at the prison in Galesburg, befriending many inmates and becoming known to others for his distributing the magazines he had collected for them. He once told a story on himself having asked why the prisoners treated him, but not the prison officials and employees, courteously and respectfully; they said that it was because he treated them like they were equals and human beings!

Jan was born June 4, 1923, in Springfield, Ohio, the daughter of Folger and Catherine Tordt Howell. She attended Earlham College and graduated from the University of Iowa—from which she later earned a master's degree in psychology. She worked for the Knox-Warren Education District as a school psychologist and as a consulting psychologist for the Knox County Council for Developmental Disabilities, Head Start, and several state agencies. She continued to work with Fulton County Head Start until shortly before her death.

Jan and Herb were married May 29, 1948, in Kansas City, Missouri. They had a summer home on an island in northern Minnesota, which allowed Herb to follow his great passions—enjoying the great outdoors and following the recovering wolf population. Herb was also passionate about the situation of Native Americans, a feeling he communicated by wearing appropriate sweatshirts to meeting for worship.

Over the years Herb and Jan were hosts to numerous international students at Knox College. They remained close to many of them, exchanging letters and occasional visits. They loved to travel, but always did so Quaker-style, visiting friends rather than places.

Herb had quiet surprises in his interests. Though a Quaker, he was an active member of the Ralph M. Noble American Legion Post 285, and he pursued a love of target practice and was a member of the NRA until its political stances became too extreme. He was an active member of Rotary International and a Paul Harris fellow; he saw to it that the views presented by visiting Republicans were suitably balanced by programs presented by Democrats. He wanted to learn to fly a home-made aircraft, and he bought a fire engine which ultimately made its way to Minnesota, where his son Steve was a volunteer fire fighter. Jan could regularly be seen on her bicycle on the streets of Galesburg, combining exercise and frugality in a Quaker manner. She was an avid gardener and our meetings for worship were enhanced by her spectacular dahlias.

Herb and Jan were widely known in the Galesburg community and Illinois Yearly Meeting. They will be sorely missed.

JEANNE MALOY

January 6 1943 - March 11, 2003

Jeanne was born at the Hinsdale Hospital, January 6, 1943. Her parents were Edward and Triones Maloy. Jeanne grew up in Summit not far from the home where her father was raised with his brothers and sisters. Her parents moved to LaGrange in the 70's and Jeanne remained there until 2001 when she moved back to the family home in Summit after her mother passed away. Jeanne Graduated WITH HONORS from Argo-Summit High school in 1961 where she excelled in many extracurricular activities. Later in life, Jeanne had severe health issues, beginning with congestive heart failure that started in 1980 and was not diagnosed properly until 1987. She had severe osteoarthritis, which limited her functioning; a much hoped-for hip replacement surgery was in her plans in order to restore her mobility. This surgery was to have taken

place in early spring of this year. Jeanne was a member of the Society of Friends, Quakers, and was an active member of Great Books Discussions, which she enjoyed immensely.

Jeanne was extremely proud of her Irish heritage and the Maloy name: “I’m black Irish”, she used to laugh and say—referring to her black hair and olive complexion. With her phenomenal memory for detail she was an expert on aunts, uncles, cousins and the Maloy family trivia. Jeanne had 27 cousins, and is survived by 24 cousins. They were her family.

Jeanne had exceptional communication skills. She loved a good conversation and especially a good kibitz. When someone spoke, Jeanne listened with full attention. She always looked directly at the person with steady eye contact and allowed them to finish their thoughts. She’d ask questions and one knew that what one had said mattered to her. Jeanne was extremely well read. She nurtured her intellect with all types of books. The past few years she participated in a Great Books discussion group at the local high school and truly enjoyed the discussions that ensued. Genieve Maloy and Triones, Jeanne’s mother, were best friends from early school days. Triones married Edward Maloy, Genieve’s brother, and joined a family of eight siblings. Summers were spent up at a cottage at Eagle Lake, Michigan since early 1920s. Jeanne loved the Lake, and the time she spent there with aunts, uncles and 27 cousins. Eagle Lake was a place filled with memories of much family get-togethers. She had planned to spend time there after her surgeries were completed and she was mobile again. Her warm generous spirit will be missed.

The date of Jeanne’s first attendance at Downers Grove Friends meeting is not recalled, but she quickly became a presence in the meeting. She became a member in 1996. Jeanne was very interested in learning more about Chicago area Friends and always attended Metropolitan Chicago General Meetings whenever she was able. Jeanne had a great sense of humor that readily became evident in conversations or during her sharing in meetings. At her home in La Grange, as she prepared to move to Summit, were found war protest buttons, equal rights amendment buttons and even NOW buttons. Jeanne lived a full life even though this might be belied by her failing physical and health conditions. Jeanne was thrilled to be enabled by the Meeting Conference and Scholarship fund to attend FGC in Canada. She attended the workshop on Quakers and Conflict Resolution and her subsequent disposition was impacted by the experience. Her interest in our “restoration journeys in Western Yearly Meeting” was also related to her FGC experience. After the recent FGC Gathering in Illinois, she was visited by a favorite High School teacher, Hilda Findley, also a Quaker.

A great Friend has departed this life; her great spirit will be missed. Jeanne was a Friend.

ELMIRA WOOD (CORKY) STARK

1924 to 2002

Elmira (Corky) Stark was born in 1924 in Woodbridge, NJ, where her father was employed as a chemist. Her father, Galen Wood, a graduate of Penn State University, came from an old Quaker family in Lancaster County, PA. Her mother, Verna Way Wood, a graduate of Swarthmore College, was also from an old Quaker family in an area named Half-moon Valley near State College, PA. In her family there is an older brother (deceased), an older sister and a younger brother. In 1928 her family moved to

Media, PA, near Philadelphia and later on to St. Louis, MO, in 1941.

Formal education began at Media Friends School and continued at high school at George School in Newtown, PA. The high-school years were very important for her, and she recounted many happy stories of close friends, other students and teachers at George School. She then went on to college at University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1946 with a degree in Art History. Education continued at Philadelphia School of Occupational Therapy (1946-1948), and she became a certified Occupational Therapist in 1949.

She worked as an OT at the Wadsworth VA Hospital (near Leavenworth, KS) in 1949-1950, at the Wichita, KS, VA Hospital in 1950-1951 and again for a short time at the Wichita Institute of Logopedics in 1967-1969.

Elmira (Corky) was married to Kansas physician, James R. Stark, in 1950 and moved to Wichita, KS. The marriage produced three children: a son in 1952, a daughter in 1954 and a second daughter in 1958. For many years her activities centered on children, home and school – PTA, school volunteer, endless trips for music lessons, language lessons, Wichita Swim Club workouts, Campfire Girls, etc, etc, etc! All children attended Wichita public schools. However she provided much “home schooling” during these years. Other family activities included travel, camping, hiking, swimming, and reading.

In addition to home and school she was involved in many other organizations: Society of Friends, American Society of Occupational Therapy, AAUW Book Club, Medical Society of Sedgwick County Auxiliary, Kappa Alpha Theta, PEO, Thursday Afternoon Music Club, Women’s Society – Wichita Symphony, Wichita Art Museum, and University Friends Church.

She enjoyed travel to many parts of the world and many trips in connection with medical meetings. After her husband retired in 1985, Elderhosteling was a favorite activity for several years.

Sometime in the late 1970’s she enrolled as a graduate student in the School of Fine Arts at Wichita State University working toward an MFA. She completed many academic hours in painting, drawing, composition, color, theory, etc. However the onset of Alzheimer’s in the early 1990’s made it impossible for her to complete this project.

The last four years of her life were spent in an Alzheimer’s care facility and she died on November 11th, 2002. She is survived by her husband, three children, and one grandchild.

JAMES EDWARD STUART December 14, 1941- December 3, 2002

Jim was born in Rock Island, Illinois to James and Dorothea Stuart. He lived in the Quad cities until college. Jim was raised in the Disciples of Christ Church and started a path to the ministry. He soon changed his mind and paths. He studied English Literature at the University of Chicago. Later, He received his Ph.D in clinical psychology from Southern Illinois University. Jim then settled into a practice in Paducah, KY.

While in Paducah, Jim founded a hospital, Goodman Hill, for the treatment of alcohol and drug addiction. It was also in Paducah that Jim met and fell in love with Leslie Vick. In 1985, Jim left Paducah to open a private practice in St. Louis. Jim and Leslie were married and she joined him in St. Louis.

Jim was a pragmatic psychologist. He was open to and employed many different modalities, knowing each patient had different needs. He especially enjoyed couples

counseling and had a particular gift for helping people who experienced deep trauma. Over the years, Jim's studies of religious beliefs led him to an affinity with the Religious Society of Friends, and with a deep desire to experience worship with Friends. He and Leslie began attending St. Louis Friends Meeting in 1985. They joined the Meeting in 1987. In his letter requesting membership, Jim said, "Most of the time, waiting in expectant, prayerful silence in Meeting for Worship is a sweet, rewarding experience for me. What I am looking for is a greater sense of connectedness to God and my fellow man through Christ".

Jim and Leslie adopted 10 day old Serenity and 14 month old Jacob in 1988. This was the fruit of a Brazilian adventure. The adventure continued with the adoption of Jacob's sister, 6 year old Sebastiana.

Jim was at his best when he had a project to do—whether it was founding a hospital, negotiating foreign adoptions, or getting St. Louis Friends Meeting moved. He loved a challenge and a sense of accomplishment. He loved fishing and woodworking. Some of his woodworking projects are part of the Meeting House today. Over the years, Jim served the St. Louis Meeting on several committees, and responded in many other ways to the needs of the Meeting.

Jim suffered a heart attack on November 22 and died on December 3, 2002.

ROBERT TOMLINSON

Robert Tomlinson died on Good Friday, April 18, 2003, at the age of 82. He had been a gentle presence in the St. Louis Monthly Meeting for about three years, and had quietly and modestly made a deep impression on us.

Bob was born and raised a Friend, and was a member of Abington Friends Meeting, Abington Quarter, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. He graduated from the George School and from Pennsylvania State University. He shared with us that one of his favorite memories of college was being the Assistant Student Manager of the Penn State football team the year that they went to the Cotton Bowl. During his marriage, he attended various churches with his wife, but after her death he returned to Friends, and found the St. Louis Meeting.

Bob served on the Finance and Library Committees, and on the committee to write our 2002 State of Society report. His intelligence, good humor, and quiet helpfulness were earmarks of his participation. He was genuinely interested in other people, and unfailingly considerate. He bore the discomfort and diminishment resulting from his final illness and its treatment without complaint, and then faded swiftly away, as if to spare us. A meeting for remembrance was held on May 15, 2003.

STATES OF SOCIETY

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Our meeting greatly enjoyed the camaraderie of assisting with preparations and local arrangements and participating in the 2002 Friends General Conference Gathering at Illinois State University last July. It was wonderful to be joined by so many Friendly folks in our small city. We particularly appreciated the fellowship with Friends from Heartland Worship Group that grew out of that participation.

Members of our meeting have been very active in peace-making and social justice activities in the community and state including protesting the war in Iraq, advocating for the abolition of the death penalty, and training for draft counseling.

Our meeting moved locations from the local Western Avenue Community Center to the peaceful conference room of the business of one of our members which provides a cozier atmosphere.

Our meeting enjoyed several new attenders and the transfer in membership of the Schobernd family during the year. However, during the past three months attendance at Meetings for Worship has been very small as members and attenders have been drawn away by personal, work, family, peace-making and other activities. Some of our members also still struggle with health problems. We have not been able to sustain First Day School which has created hardship for our Friends with children.

CLEAR CREEK

One of the many challenges of Clear Creek Meeting is to gather its many members from far distances. Clear Creek Meeting covers a broad district in Illinois, from Dixon to Peoria and all points in between. As a result, there are few local members of the meeting.

One of the challenges of having such a broad area is being involved in each other's lives. Clear Creek strives for an intimate involvement with its members. The effort used to meet this challenge strengthens us.

Clear Creek Meeting congregates at the meeting house in McNabb, the location of the Illinois Yearly Meeting. Because of our intimate connection with the meeting house, we have a sense of urgency for the present as well as the future. Clear Creek has the sense of being the repository of the history of IYM through its connection with the meeting house.

Clear Creek has a desire to seed the present so that IYM is nurtured for future generations. By its location, the meeting house in McNabb is surrounded by the quiet and calm of the rural environment. Away from the hustle and bustle of the urban surroundings, members of Clear Creek can find peace and quiet for meditation and solitude for spiritual growth.

Clear Creek is a relatively small meeting. Because of its modest size, the pain of loss is felt by all the members. Some of our members have experienced personal loss and we are doing the work of grieving of these losses.

Clear Creek is few but strong in heart. They remember the past, are in the present and hope for the future.

COLUMBIA

We again used queries addressed by the whole meeting to assess our spiritual state, as organized by Ministry and Counsel. Responses revealed 5 areas of our corporate life.

I. The Sunday meeting for worship is deeply satisfying to many, but not all. Some tell of its leading both to inward transformation and occasionally interpersonal healing. Friends find God's presence in a Living Silence, but also in much of spoken ministry. A strongly gathered sense may indeed be there when not a word is spoken; words may either interrupt or add to what is found in waiting worship. Having the meeting room available for an early hour is appreciated, but we still have trouble ending adult R.E. in time for a settled and orderly beginning of prayerful worship. There are times when Friends experience us as a collection of individuals, with the same message weekly, rather than a body listening for new promptings from the Divine. A Friend has suggested we should be more focused on God than on the world or ourselves. We

sense a desire to encourage more to share their gifts via spoken ministry.

II. Meeting for worship with a concern for business has shown both improvements and also areas yet needing attention. We've been newly encouraged to rise when speaking, which may increase both thoughtfulness and audibility. A much greater number are attending, and our average meeting length has decreased, probably a benefit of greater discipline. The gift of recording has been noted, showing excellent listening skills. A group of younger adults has given significant leadership in the recent life of the meeting, including in our business. They bring vision as well as energy, and we are blessed.

And yet persistent challenges remain: Gospel Order requires constant reminding for staying focused on a topic. We sometimes descend into open discussion, mistaking free speech for waiting upon God's guidance. We sometimes neglect our follow-through, and have difficulty remembering previous deliberations and decisions.

III. Our organizational life, as shown in committee work, is a mixed story. Negatively, we had several committees that simply didn't meet. Some had difficulty attracting or retaining members, leading to questions of whether our size can sustain our present structure. Our generating of this report missed the usual Quarterly Meeting target for accountability. Those charged with nominating often felt they were pushing uphill, with human resources spread too thin.

Positively, though, we witnessed the following: Our Peace and Justice committee had a new infusion of participants. In the face of continuing and threatened war, it gave consistent leadership to the Meeting, which supported its initiatives in the community (public witness, advertising, draft counseling, inter-organizational cooperation, sharing funds). Two ad hoc committees were appointed and brought us results. One group looked at planning for our physical facilities, and started some longer-term recommendations. The other examined possible "seeds of war" in our energy use as Americans, and concretely organized carpooling as well as a fresh look at our use of property.

We are still seeing if we can consistently maintain our housekeeping with volunteer effort; the responsibilities are not well-enough assumed throughout the Meeting.

Financially, we are fortunate in having regular contributors, and the base is growing somewhat. We've been able not only to meet our budget, but also respond to some new situations arising.

In our communication, we have effectively been using e-mail, with clear policies, although phone-tree usage is still desired by some. We've added a regular web-site (<http://quakers.missouri.org>) hosted for free, which has helped others to find us. Our newsletter has achieved a predictable publication schedule, and is helpful to both regular and less-frequent attenders. We're indebted to the 4 workers who make this possible.

IV. In our life as a community of Friends, we report great caring extended to families dealing with elders, health crises, and changes in circumstances. Parties, cards, visits, and mementos usually mark these passages and are welcomed. In retrospect, we all learned much by the presence for several years of a Friend in a wheelchair, benefiting from her gifts and humor, and becoming sensitized in new ways. Families with children are relatively rare among us, and we suffer from this distortion. It is difficult to put the energy into planning a First-Day School program when so few children are ever present. And yet we know this does not create a welcoming environment for families with children.

Adult religious education has a constant core of participants and presenters, but does not meet the needs of all. We've often tried to use it to introduce Quakerism, but the time never seems sufficient.

Friends have a social life together: This has included an annual spring picnic breakfast, an eagle watch, and an Ozark float trip with Friends from other meetings. We have enjoyed a monthly Fun Night with activities that often are multigenerational. For some, this embodies our community at its strongest. Others would question, though, whether we ever can get beyond "chumminess" to experience a transformative spiritual community.

We continue to support several of our youth who conscientiously object to war and conscription, and who are also acting constructively on their peace witness.

Those who represent us to, and participate in, the larger bodies and projects of Friends find

it satisfying. Columbia Friends who take seriously our quarterly and yearly meeting responsibilities wish more Friends from the Meeting were involved. Several Friends have participated in national and international Quaker gatherings, and are eager to share their experiences.

Overt conflicts among us, or contentious issues, have not been apparent recently. However, we find it bewildering when some, experiencing alienation, simply withdraw without giving us opportunity either to learn or to improve.

V. In the larger community, we continue to assess the balance between witness for social justice by individuals, and giving a corporate witness as a Meeting. Quakers have wide influence here within the anti-war and alternatives to violence movements, and continue to give leadership against the death penalty. Tragically, the nation's rush to war creates greater openness to bearing our historic peace testimony, as typified by FCNL yard signs seen around town, made available for free to all. Quaker presence continues to be disproportionately large in the Interfaith Council and Interfaith Peace Alliance.

We continue to seek and find ways to address issues in the community around us, and give expression to our social witness: We remain participants in attempts to alleviate hunger locally and globally; Earth Day was occasion for distributing much material about conscientious objection, and raising Friends' visibility; Our heightened profile includes regular newspaper, phone book, and Internet presence.

But we still find a hunger to discover how we can unify as a Meeting behind tangible programs implementing our testimonies, making us a City on a Hill. Becoming deeper and more faithful as a worshipping community is suggested as a key to that outreach. If we allow God to create a beacon of Light through us, that will make us more than an internal fellowship.

DECATUR

The three families of Decatur Friends have been able to carry on as in recent years, meeting in the basement conference room of the Dove agency, or in homes. When we need to change plans, a few phone calls or emails suffice.

In the fall of 2002, Cindy Reynolds brought to Monthly Meeting a concern that we seek means to oppose preemptive military action against Iraq. From her many contacts in the Decatur community, a group of about a dozen people began meeting every two or three weeks. Results have been a quarter-page ad in the local newspaper; a mailing to all the religious congregations in the area; participation in public demonstrations in Decatur and in Springfield; and a series of Wednesday noon prayer vigils. These have been held in turn in three Catholic and five Protestant churches. In collaboration with a Millikin University student group, we sponsored a lecture by a history professor from the University of Illinois at Springfield on "Getting Iraq Right - A Most Difficult Decision".

We do not know the outcome of our efforts; nevertheless, it has been encouraging to become better acquainted with these men and women of varied faith traditions in Decatur who promote peacemaking, not war-making, by all appropriate means.

DOWNERS GROVE

This year was an active and vital one for our meeting, with challenges, joys, and sorrows. We currently enjoy a resident membership of 54. We were pleased this year to welcome Ruth Marquez, Karl and Evelyn Zerfoss, and Lillie Mae Schadle as new members.

Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, our First Day School embarked on a study of Islam, involving a good amount of reading and discussion. The program of study culminated in a visit to the Islamic Foundation in Lombard, where we enjoyed a tour of the mosque and a lively discussion about both Islam and Quakerism. The members of our group and our hosts both were surprised and pleased to learn about the strong commonalities between the two faiths, including the belief that God is present in each person.

We also recently enjoyed our annual First Day School family canoe trip on the Fox River.

We were blessed to celebrate the marriage of Andrea Wolfe and Tim Bretl at the meeting-house, on a beautiful, warm Saturday afternoon in September. The meeting for worship was

lively and full of love, and followed by a gathering under a tent on the meetinghouse grounds with much good food and good fellowship. Our Young Friends Music Ensemble provided lovely music before and after the meeting for worship.

We mourn the recent death of our good friend Jim Sprinkle, who passed away after a heroic struggle with leukemia. Many of us attended the memorial service for Jim at the Lombard Mennonite Church, a congregation with which, along with our meeting, the Sprinkles have long shared their joyful presence. Our thoughts and prayers are with Donna, Heather, and Samantha Sprinkle, and their extended family, as they cope with Jim's untimely death and move forward with their lives.

Last fall we determined to intentionally explore the spirituality of our meeting. With gracious assistance from FGC and Marty Grundy and Deborah Fisch of the FGC Traveling Ministries Program, we met for a retreat during which we discussed issues of spirituality, and explored how to recognize and rediscover the inherent strengths of our meeting, and how to create new opportunities for us to grow spiritually together. Marty Grundy and Deb Fisch joined us to facilitate the retreat, and in Marty's following report to us she noted the widespread acknowledgement that we would enjoy simply being able to spend more time together. In the months following the retreat, a number of us met in small worship sharing groups, in that spirit.

Earlier this year we hosted representatives from the AFSC for a discussion of the continuing impact of sanctions on the Iraqi people. We approved a minute in support of the Campaign of Conscience for the Iraqi People, which is co-sponsored by AFSC, Pax Christi, Fellowship of Reconciliation and other organizations. The Campaign of Conscience seeks to provide humanitarian aid to Iraq, focused particularly on water purification. We are deeply concerned about the prospect of our government starting a war with Iraq, and a number of us have been engaged in efforts to avoid that war.

We also approved a minute of support for Evanston Meeting as it works on issues related to same sex marriage. The minute stated that we could not unite with Western Yearly Meeting's Executive Committee Report which determined that Evanston Meeting be laid down as a WYM member meeting.

Our New Meetinghouse committee continued this year to proceed deliberately to explore plans for a new building. The committee has met with an architect to discuss our needs and priorities and to sketch out preliminary plans, which we hope to discuss at a called meeting for business in the relatively near future. We foresee many challenges and opportunities as we continue with this process.

DUNELAND

Duneland Friends Meeting has continued in 2002 to nurture the Spirit and let our outward work arise from the leading of the Spirit. We experience weeks of silent worship and occasionally Meetings with spoken ministry. We struggle to abandon our worries to find God's messages, when the concerns of the outer world are so pressing and sometimes discouraging. We pray that the peace we find in meeting for worship can be transformed into a witness to the world.

We have only had Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business every other month. Monthly Bible study has been increased in frequency with two sessions every month. We have found the Larry and JoAnn Spears' "Friendly Bible Study" to be a meaningful way to share our beliefs and vision, and experience of God and the wisdom of Jesus' teachings.

During this last year we have become the worship home for new attenders including Marjory Crawford, Pat Lucas, Sandy Huntley and Priscila and Fernando Freire. This has been a joy because we have not been actively seeking new attenders, and yet God provides! Noel Pavlovic became a member of the Meeting in November.

This fall the Spirit has led us to a number of activities. In October we hosted a public program with Pat and Kathy Floerke from the Center for Development in Central America based in Nicaragua. They shared the community service work they do for displaced people. In November, long time F(f)riends were invited to a special potluck to get reacquainted. In December we met with the local "Meditation Circle" (Bhuddist) to assemble hygiene kits for Iraq to be distrib-

uted through AFSC. Potluck gave us time to get acquainted and be introduced to each other's spiritual practices.

The Meeting, and Sandy Bowles in particular, have continued to care for Sylvia Way, who moved to Fountainview in Portage. Sylvia celebrated her 87th birthday in November.

Benjamin White graduated from Scattergood Friends School in May and started at Guilford College in the fall. Janna White commenced her senior year at Scattergood. Nathan and Emily Pavlovic join us fairly regularly in Meeting for Worship.

Members continue to serve in various ways in our community, at the Yearly Meeting and wider Quaker organizations. We have among our number the clerk of IYM Ministry and Advancement Committee, IYM Field Secretary, Treasurer of the Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN), Clerk of the FCUN Sustainability Committee, Friends who serve as a Quaker voice on the Religious Communities Task Force of Valparaiso, Indiana, and one who expresses her concern about war through art and writing.

EVANSTON

On September 8, 2002, Members and Attenders of Evanston Meeting of Friends (EMF) gathered to share thoughts and reflections about the life of the Meeting. Friends agreed that Evanston Meeting has significant strengths: 1) The Meeting offers prayerful and practical support to Members and Attenders; 2) Plentiful social and worship-related opportunities provide multiple opportunities for meaningful interpersonal connection; and 3) Friendship dinners continue to create fellowship and welcome newcomers. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee has created a clear and powerful revised mission statement and continues to support many individual and corporate leadings, from peace activism to the Friends of Latin America scholarship program to Right Sharing of World Resources fundraisers. During this time of geopolitical unrest, the Meeting is trying to reach out more effectively to the broader community. In November, the Meeting for Business approved a minute, drafted by Peace and Social Concerns, opposing war on Iraq. A Communications Committee has formed to facilitate stronger connections between EMF and the larger community and to improve communication between committees and among Members/Attenders. Although it is impossible to list all our activities of the past year, highlights include an expanded commitment, supported by a budget line, for Friends General Conference; planning for the debut of Pendle Hill Midwest, bringing workshops from Pendle Hill to Friends across our region, beginning in January 2003; and the development of plans for significant improvements to the Meetinghouse.

In response to the request of a same gender couple in our Meeting, EMF experienced a sense that Spirit was calling the Meeting to take their marriage under its care. With a listening sensitivity to members who did not share in this sense, the Meeting moved forward and performed the marriage, which occasioned a great celebration and sense of community.

EMF was challenged this past year as a result of its conflict with Western Yearly Meeting over the issue of authority. After lengthy, thoughtful attempts to work through the conflict, Western Yearly Meeting decided to "release" EMF as a Meeting of WYM. While Members and Attenders have struggled to maintain a listening spirit during this process, Friends agreed that the Meeting has grown through the experience. EMF continues to seek ways to tend and support the 3-4 Members who, having actively participated in WYM over the years, regret EMF's changed relationship with WYM. Though we are no longer part of WYM, we remain committed to maintaining a loving, cooperative relationship with WYM.

The number of young attenders and members at our Meeting has grown to approximately 32. The Meeting has responded to this growth by offering 3 First Day classes: preschoolers, K-3; and late elementary/middle schoolers.

The Religious Education Committee and the meeting as a whole are working to bridge the gap between "upstairs" and "downstairs." We have recruited talented First Day School teachers, and family nights at the meetinghouse have been highly successful. Religious Education seeks creative ways to maintain a sense of connection between the Meeting and our high schoolers. We are experimenting with providing employment opportunities within the Meeting for these

Friends.

During our reflective time together, we generated the following queries to aid us in moving toward further growth and development:

*Do our committees work in productive relationship with Business Meeting?

*How can we nurture the spirit of divine guidance in Meeting for Business and Meeting for Worship?

*How do/can we respond when Members or Attenders stop coming to Meeting?

*Should the Meeting commit to making personal contact with newcomers? How could this happen?

*How can we effectively support individual and corporate leadings to activism?

*How could we better focus and coordinate our peace-making efforts? (Perhaps we need to shift from seeing ourselves as an organization with activities to envisioning ourselves as part of a movement that strategizes.)

*Is there a way of developing and conveying more of a unified voice as a Meeting?

*How can we access the wider world of Quaker tradition and history that help clarify the differences and similarities between “unity,” “consensus,” and “sense of the Meeting”?

In sum, the quality of our worship together seems rich, and we address issues concerning Meeting for Worship as they arise. The meeting remains committed to preserving the “safety” of Meeting for Worship, ensuring that there is no criticism of messages during Meeting. The Meeting experienced a brief period in which an unusual number of messages were being given with an unusually brief period of time between messages; this was followed by more gathered Meetings. The Meeting plans to explore the nature of messages and vocal ministry in a worship-sharing format. Meeting for Worship provides spiritual nourishment in abundance to Members and Attenders, and our sense of community is strong.

-Jean Petrolle, for Ministry and Counsel, Evanston Meeting of Friends

HEARTLAND

The Heartland Worship Group meets in homes of its five attenders. Our worship tends to focus on spiritual and personal growth and enrichment, although attenders have been involved with social concerns, particularly the war in Iraq. We meet Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m., followed by fellowship.

Roy and Carolyn Treadway became grandparents in July, when Oliver Ross Stratton Treadway was born to Nathan and Caroline.

- Roy C. Treadway, Co-Convenor

LAKE FOREST

This past year has been an abundant one for Lake Forest Friends Meeting—abundant with love and concern for our neighbors including those in other parts of the globe suffering from war, disease, hunger; those in our own county who are homeless; and the person sitting next to us whose hand we shake at the close of meeting.

In October, 2002, at our 50th anniversary Jubilee celebration, we admired the courage of the Vietnam War protestors photographed in Market Square during the early 1970's. Little did we know that the following month, our meeting would once again be making signs and heading to Market Square for a peace vigil, protesting the planned war against Iraq. Lake Forest Meeting has been called to act on our peace testimony. All ages from toddlers to those in their eighties have been taking part. Besides the Market Square vigils, many have joined the every other Saturday vigils along Green Bay Road, rallies in Chicago, and other protests. Kerry Hall has been an inspirational guide; organizing the Market Square vigils, and keeping us informed on the political situation.

Our meeting for worship has been growing, mainly since people have been coming more regularly. More visitors are joining us as well; some have mentioned the Iraqi crisis drew them to seek out Quakers. We generally have 40 - 50 adults attending, plus 20 or more children in the First Day School. Anne Galloway transferred her membership to Burlington Meeting, Vermont.

We gained two new members: Irene Freutel Sewell and Cynthia Freutel Nadig. We were blessed with two lovely marriages under the care of the meeting: Bill Dawson, Jr. and Lori Parnes Dawson in September, and Tim Sewell and Irene Freutel Sewell in February. Samuel Dawson was born in October to Paul and Kathleen. We held a memorial service for Janice Domanik's mother, Dorothy Young, at the beginning of this year.

Lake Forest Meeting has had an abundance of meetings and forums this past year. A Mid-week meeting, started in October, is thriving. Friends gather Thursday mornings for a half hour meeting for worship followed by a light breakfast. Forums were wide-ranging: Quakers and Money, Rufus Jones' life and writings, AFSC's Afro-Colombian tour, the organization Play for Peace, challenges facing the Friends Committee on National Legislation, strategic plans of the American Friends Service Committee, Quaker perspectives on mental health, and a talk by Moshe Ram, Israeli Consul General of the Midwest.

In addition, we have two discussion groups: a pre-meeting one on Sunday morning, and Wednesday evening "Silent Worship/Quaker Values" classes. The pre-meeting group discussed a series of "On Vocal Ministry" essays from North Carolina Meeting, and is reading *Listening Spirituality, volume II: Corporate Spiritual Practice Among Friends* by Patricia Loring. This book has inspired discussions on the nature of community, vocal ministry, a gathered meeting, the role of elders, business meeting, and discernment.

The First Day School children join the meeting for worship for the last ten minutes or so. At the close of meeting, each class gives a report to the meeting. This practice continues to unite the children and adults, plus give the children a chance to articulate what they have learned. The youngest group frequently shares an art project. The middle group has been memorizing prayers and psalms, plus studying Bible stories and Quaker values. The High School class has learned about building consensus, "Faith and Practice", and queries. The Meeting can take pride in the active First Day School, reflecting the dedication and hard work of the Religious Education Committee.

The highlight of the year was our 50th anniversary celebration held over Columbus Day weekend. The Jubilee, Hospitality, Building and Grounds, and Archives Committees worked hard for this gala event! Guests from other meetings, near and far, came, as well as our out of town members Linda Lyman and Emma Burton Cadbury. "Lake Forest Friends Meeting celebrated its 50th anniversary with joyous enthusiasm on the weekend of October 12 and 13, 2002. We remembered our elders with pictures displayed on the wall and in photo albums. We read old letters and old guest books. We shared our memories of the Meeting. We visited the log cabin where the first Meetings took place and walked in the prairie around it. We understood how the spirits of our elders are still very much a part of our meeting and continue to inform us. We celebrated our lives today with games, singing, performances, and lots of delicious food. We felt unity with the Spirit, the past warming our hearts as we face the future together." (Jubilee Committee Report, "Lake Forest Friends Meeting Newsletter", November, 2002)

Another intergenerational event was the annual Christmas Tree outing to the Howenstine farm in McHenry. The Christmas pageant was especially well done this year. It helps to have an actress, Betsey Means Wills, plan and direct it.

The architect of our meeting house, Lewis Walton, would be pleased with the work done this past year. Ceiling fans now cool us in the hot weather. Moreover, in true Quaker spirit, they are quiet! Building and Grounds had many workdays in the fall and Stephen Domanik donated his time to paint the interior of the meeting house. We also have a new roof.

Sallyann Garner has worked tirelessly, writing short biographies of meeting members. These are included in our monthly newsletter and have helped us to know and understand each other better. Her labor of love has built a stronger sense of community to our meeting over many years.

The Committee of Care informs the meeting when someone in our community needs assistance, whether it be meals brought, rides given, and/or concern shown through cards and phone calls.

Our work with PADS continues; the third Monday of the month, we cook and serve a meal

for forty to fifty guests at St. James Greater Church of God and Christ in North Chicago. The PADS committee works hard to coordinate the volunteers. Sometimes, the children help with cooking and/or serving—a wonderful opportunity for them and the adults to put faith into practice!

In our Meetings for Business, we have discovered that achieving a sense of the meeting can be difficult, and sometimes impossible. After months and months of discussion as to how to help victims in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we could not agree on how to fairly donate money. Finally, a new way opened; we are reaching out to Israeli, Jewish and Palestinian/Arab leaders in the Chicago area by sending small delegations from our meeting. Chuck Hutchcraft and Maurine Pyle met with the Consul General and Deputy Consul General of Israel. Elizabeth Mertic is in the process of contacting Palestinian leaders in hopes to set up a meeting time. Our emphasis is on listening to these leaders in a non-threatening, non-judgmental manner.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee is also working on letting young adults both in the meeting and the wider community know that we are a resource for information on alternatives to joining the military if a draft is reinstated. Several members of our meeting have attended a training workshop in conscientious objector counseling.

In an effort to streamline the Meeting for Business, each committee no longer reports at every business meeting. The committee convener notifies the clerk ahead of time if the committee should be on the agenda. This procedure has simplified the business meeting, and saved a lot of time.

The Meeting passed a minute encouraging everyone in Lake Forest Friends Meeting to pray every day at noon for our world leaders to seek a nonviolent solution to the Iraq crisis. Besides, hopefully, helping the world situation, this practice has strengthened the meeting as we pray together each noon, even though we are not physically gathered.

Many of our members are active leaders in Illinois Yearly Meeting and other Quaker organizations. Maurine Pyle is Assistant Clerk of Illinois Yearly Meeting. Cathy Garra is Clerk of IYM's Finance Committee. Chuck Hutchcraft is the Chicago Area Coordinator of the AFSC. The Clerk of the Americas Section of Friends World Committee for Consultation is Elizabeth Mertic. We are enriched and informed by the reports of all those who serve in the wider Quaker fellowship.

The Meeting for Worship is the core of our faith community. We constantly strive for a gathered meeting in which the messages come from the depths of our being and spring from a living silence. Some meetings for worship come much closer to a gathered meeting than others. Sometimes, it is difficult to hear the message, so Friends are urged to speak loud and clear.

We feel renewed after the meeting for worship, ready to face the challenges in the week ahead. The threatening world situation has made the Meeting more focused and energetic. When the winds of war have died down (which, we trust, they eventually will), let us retain our enthusiasm and commitment.

- Jane Rockey

MILWAUKEE

Where is Meeting spiritually?

To respond to this query we look at Meetings for Worship and Business, the tone and responsiveness of the community life, and the quality of our individual spiritual lives. Sometimes worship is deep with centered vocal ministry. But not all messages shared have enhanced the stillness. Some have been deliberately challenging. We are having trouble conveying the sacredness of Quaker worship to some who attend our meeting. We all need to remember when we speak that we are interrupting the prayer and meditation of others, so the message should be short, direct, and Spirit led. We also need to be accepting of differences in theological framework. Newcomers often have a learning curve, which we accept. We need to do more education about vocal ministry.

In Meeting for Business, the Clerk has regrouped our many activity reports and action items, with readings for each grouping. This enhances our sense of worship while conducting business. With the building process finished, the kinds of decisions we make are less urgent and

long-term, so attendance has fallen off a little. We note Friends can be passionate about small items as well as big projects.

The responsiveness of people in the Meeting community to one another is strong. Those who are unemployed or experiencing significant illness have received support. The sharing of requests to “hold in the light” is from the heart, and involves all ages. There are many circles of friendship evident. We hope to draw our newer attenders into the many aspects of Meeting life. We miss those who have moved (Bob & Barbara Greenler to Madison, Amy Crofts to Black River Falls, Alissa & David Rowan to St Louis MO and Julie Nelson & Brady Christoph to Portland OR), and those who have left.

In our individual spiritual journeys, we are challenged to live in the present moment, to let go the judging voice in the head that labels others and self, and to find silence during the day to connect with spirit. It helps when we express gratitude, laugh a lot, connect with nature, art and music, and make opportunities to meet in small groups and get to know each other’s journey.

What have been Milwaukee Meeting’s major accomplishments during 2002?

- Coming to clearness about what kind of new community use we wanted in the renovated building took many months and several committees. That work begins to bear fruit. Life-ways Child Care is finishing up its first year in the lower level. The fledgling Peace Learning Center held its first programming with children from Gaenslen School.
- The International Gift Shop was amazing, yielding over \$8000 for AFSC. It is still the Meeting event with the broadest base of involvement.
- Welcoming many new families. People are staying. Fifteen families with babies and young toddlers each received a small quilt which everyone signed.
- An outstanding Adult Religious Education program and Wednesday evening Invitation to Stillness, which is a community outreach activity.
- Religious education for the children is core. The dedicated coordinators and core teachers have done a marvelous job though they are eager for able and willing adults to share in teaching. The curriculum has centered on important stories.
- There have been transitions in leadership – a new Presiding Clerk, new clerk of Ministry and Counsel, new International Gift Shop coordinators. Also, new concerns have gathered supporters – a Committee on Conscientious Objection / Military Counseling has formed, and a Committee on Accessibility, called That All May Worship. Peace & Social Concerns has been reconstituted.
- Communications committee helped us reach clearness on release of directory information.
- Just keeping all the “old” pieces going with what often feels like a skeleton crew– Hospitality, Meetinghouse, Quaker Grants, Land, Finance, MICA, Library, Communications, Ministry & Counsel, Religious Education, Prison Visitation.

What major challenges lie ahead?

- Integrating newcomers. A new subcommittee has formed, to try new approaches, enriched by the sharing at the Sep02 FGC workshop on Nurturing the Meeting Community. We want to create a climate of trust so people can reveal themselves. We also want to make space in our structures and lives for new people to join us.
- Getting people to feel responsible for spiritual health of Meeting and Meeting community life
- Expanding involvement in MICA (Milwaukee Innercity Congregations Allied for Hope)
- Communicating in a large Meeting community
- Helping our unemployed members and attenders
- Supporting resistance to war in Iraq
- Becoming more racially diverse
- Dealing with conflicts and tensions
- Supporting spiritual journeys of such a diverse group
- Exploring in greater depth what it means to be a Quaker
- Continuing support of west side worship group and Racine-Kenosha worship group

Attendance: Sun. mornings: Adults: 90; Young people: 25; Mtg. for Business: 26

New Members: Requests: Nathan Falck; Transfers: Charles Rathman (from Oshkosh), George

Owen (from Santa Fe)

Marriages: Barbara Coyle and Jill LeStarge

Births & Adoptions: Maya Simone Freedman (3/27/01), Indigo Dawn Lubotsky (4/26/02), David Newell (2/10/03)

Deaths: Benjamin Newell @ 6 yrs. (11/2/02)

NORTHSIDE

We at Northside Friends Meeting (NFM) feel ourselves to be at a crossroads, acknowledging our history of following and supporting individual leadings but being led into greater sensitivity to corporate discernment and faithfulness. Beginning with work by our House and Space committee, NFM has been led this year to ask deep questions about its identity. Following small group meetings, NFM members were asked at a fall retreat to create a vision of who we want to be and what we need to fulfill that vision. Concurrently, the Education and Development committee embarked on its own vision sessions for creating a vital First Day program. Their exploration resulted in a recommendation to lay down First Day School until such a time as more people feel called and ready to do this important work. Likewise, Nominating Committee and Ministry and Counsel, meeting together to address disunity between them, came to wonder why it was difficult to fill the Meeting's committees and why those serving often felt frustrated and drained rather than feeling spiritually nourished by their service. Our process of opening up to one another brought us to the awareness that the very fabric of our community has become fragile and needs careful attention.

Nominating Committee and Ministry and Counsel came to unity on our need for deep listening. These committees jointly brought a minute to the October Meeting for Business recommending laying down normal business in order to establish a Jubilee Year to discern who the meeting is as a religious community. This minute was held over for further discernment. In January the following minute was passed: **With a view toward coordinating the work of the Meeting until September 2004, (Northside) Friends will direct Northside to: lay down all (non-essential) committees and offices...; Nominating Committee bring to the February meeting for business the job descriptions (for two committees-Spiritual Ministry and Community Care); bring to the March Meeting for business nominations for service on two standing committees (Spiritual Ministry and Community Care); and these two committees will coordinate the work of the Meeting until September 2004.** As this report is being written, we continue to labor with how we want to conduct this time of reflection and rededication. The way forward has not yet become clear to us. The State of Society Committee developed the following queries in an attempt to discern where we are at this time in the process.

Queries:

What attracted you and keeps you coming back to NFM?

How would you assess the spiritual vitality of NFM?

How would you assess the quality of community life here?

Friends come to Northside to worship, to learn, and to hear God. While the lack of permanent space was seen as a value by some and a lack by others, the themes that emerged in the worship-sharing on the state of society attest to what we see as being a uniquely Quaker faith community: the lack of answers, the absence of preaching, the lack of structure and dogma, the members' diversity, the witness and support for each others' spiritual growth, intimacy, and imperfection. While recognizing our limitations—the lack of elders and a related lack of ability to foster elders, our difficulties in putting our belief in community into practice except in times of individual crises or needs for assistance in discernment, and the uneven quality of vocal ministry—there remains a strong hope that we may grow into our potential.

Queries:

Do you see service to the community as an important part of your spiritual development?

Are political and/or social beliefs central to your spiritual life?

Is political activism central to your spiritual life?

Many present felt that we put the cart before the horse in how we phrased this question.

Spiritual life is the core from which we act and is essential to inform what we do. The Quaker testimonies provide a basis for a system of ethics that is relevant to social and political beliefs and action in the world. Some at NFM desire greater corporate witness in the world. Others feel that service to family and friends is the higher value and has priority over societal duties. There did seem to be agreement that NFM, as a community, has a responsibility to support those who act for us. It also seems important to achieve some visibility to let people know that we, Quakers, are here.

Queries:

How does your committee service feed you spiritually?

Is this committee effective?

Besides the worship-sharing, individuals serving on committees over the past year were asked to respond to these written queries. Five individuals did so. They made a clear distinction between support committees and standing committees: service on the support committees was discerned to be quite nourishing while service on the standing committees of Meeting was not. Another distinction was made between the work of the committee, which could be quite enriching, and the committee function and dynamics of interaction.

In the midst of these concerns and questions, there have been many riches at NFM this year. We welcomed 11 new members (see SOS 2002) at a summer picnic at the lake. The men's group has met twice monthly throughout the year and a women's group has met a few times without settling into a regular pattern.

In addition to continuing Mid-week Meeting for Worship, the 4th week of which is Meeting for Healing, we approved the start-up of a worship group at North Park University under the guidance of Charley Earp. Under the leadership of Pat Monaghan and Daniel Hall, Friends gather almost every six weeks for a Meeting for Friends in Nature at the Chicago Botanical Garden.

We heard from many Friendly visitors: Natalia Cordona shared her experiences with AFSC's Latin American program; Deanna Boyd shared her experiences as part of a Christian Peacemaker Team delegation to Palestine; Mary Kay Rehard and Patrick Nugent presented on their leading to work as the co-principals of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, as well as their experiences at the FUM Triennial in Nairobi; Fran Henderson of Bethel AME Church and Jeanette Baker of Evanston Friends Meeting joined Sophie de la Mar, Brayton Gray, and Luis Vera to share the joys and challenges received from their respective prison ministries; NFM hosted the Friendly Folk Dancer annual meeting and dance.

Anna Poplawska and Michael Lawrence led an ongoing discussion group on whether Friends actually welcome diversity, especially in political views. Brayton Gray presented his photos, stories, and a videotape from his experience as a Christian Peacemaker Team delegate to the Mideast to NFM, to Evanston Friends Meeting, to Lake Forest Meeting, to Oak Park Monthly Meeting, and to the Lions Club of Waterford, Wisconsin, and continues to explore opportunities to tell his experience of witnessing for peace and standing in the way of violence.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12, 4-7.

Service in the Wider Quaker Community

FGC Gathering: Sophie de la Mar, workshop committee; Brayton Gray, worship committee; Dale Hayes, evening program committee; Terry Miller, movies; Anna Poplawska, interest group leader (Dream Interpretation) and Yoga instructor.

IYM: Committee on Faith and Practice, Colleen Reardon; Finance Committee, Robert Foulkes; Maintenance and Planning Committee, co-clerk, Robin Johnson, Marie White; Ministry and Advancement, Faith Romano, Tom Stabnicki; Naming Committee, Judy Jager; Nominating Committee, Marti Matthews; Oversight Committee for Administrative Coordinator, Judy Jager; Peace Resources Committee, clerk, Elizabeth Sprague; Religious Education Committee, Michaelle Cooke; Quaker Volunteer Service, Training and Witness Committee, co-clerk, Marti Matthews and Judy Jager; Youth Oversight Committee, co-clerk, Mark Robinson and Michaelle

Cooke; Electronic Communications, co-clerk, Brayton Gray and Pam Melick; Development Committee, Tom Stabnicki; IYM Women's Weekend, co-clerks, Michaelle Cooke and Charlotte Wood-Harrington; IYM Men's Retreat, co-clerk, Brayton Gray, workshop leader, Jim Depies. In addition, Marie White performed a grant writing function in an attempt to get funding for our historic meetinghouse.

Friends Association for Higher Education: Pat Monaghan.

Friends Committee on National Legislation: Tom Dix

FLGC: Colleen Reardon and Doug Tipton

Friendly Folk Dancers: Sophie de la Mar, assistant. clerk and handbook coordinator.

Social Witness:

Pro-peace, anti-war: deserving of special mention are: Brayton Gray's travel to the Mideast from July 25 through August 6 as a member of a Christian Peacemaker Team delegation to witness for peace and stand in the way of violence; Elizabeth Sprague's work with the Horizons Community Services Anti-Violence Project which includes writing the protocols to be used statewide by agencies working in the field of domestic violence; she also was instrumental in organizing the workshop on conscientious objector counselors' training; and Pam Melick's call to be a peacemaker in preparation for which she is attending the three Pendle Hill Midwest weekend workshops on peacemaking.

Anti-racism: Pam Melick

Anti-Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (formerly School of the Americas): Paz St. John and Ben Graham.

Anti-death penalty: Robin Johnson, Paz St. John, Sophie de la Mar.

Prison ministry: Sophie de la Mar, Brayton Gray, Anna Poplawska, Luis Vera.

Literacy training/tutoring: Joe Grissom.

Food pantry (The Common Pantry): Ray Wang

Care for the Earth: Bruce Kanarek, service trip leader for the Sierra Club (Grand Canyon), Robert Foulkes and Robin Johnson, planting trees in Ireland

Pilgrimages:

Pendle Hill: "Gospel Order" weekend workshop, Bruce Kanarek

Young Quakers: "Circle of Love" weekend gathering, Alethea Tschetterwood.

Mennohaven Retreat: "Leadership, Responding to Leadings", Charlotte Wood-Harrington, Doug Tipton, Elizabeth Sprague, Brayton Gray, Sophie de la Mar, Daniel Hall, Bruce Kanarek, Marti Matthews, Tom Dix, Kim Kurrus.

Archival Data:

Average attendance First Day Meeting for Worship: 35-40

Average attendance Meeting for Business: 20-25

New Life:

Cecil Romano was born to Emil and Faith Romano 7th month, 24th day, 2002. He was welcomed into the Northside community 9th month, 15th day, 2002.

Stella Rachel Narkiewicz was born to Tim and Elke Narkiewicz 8th month, 25th day, 2002.

Liam Cu'ong Brubaker was born 5th month, 25th day, 2002, in Vietnam, and adopted by Kevin and Debbie Brubaker 1st month, 9th day, 2003 after Kevin and Debbie made two trips to Vietnam to arrange the adoption.

Weddings: Jess Cohen and Michael Palmer 6th month, 8th day, 2002, at Evanston Friends Meeting under the care of NFM.

Memberships:

Transfers: Sandy Huntley from NFM to Dunelands MM.

Pat Lucas from NFM to Dunelands MM.

Cathy Smith from NFM to Vancouver MM.

Sojourning: Malcolm Pacey from Westminster Friends at Hop Gardens, London.

Moves:

Beth Burbank, Bill Esler, and Kyran Esler to Port Orchard, WA.

Amy Hostler to Olean, NY.

Jen Chapin-Harris to Silver Spring, MD where she is now employed by FCNL.

Other news:

Marti Matthews published an article "What is Worship?" in the December *Friends Journal*.

Pat Monaghan published *The Red-Haired Girl from the Bog* after seven years of writing and research.

Anna Poplawska published 2 articles in *Quaker Life*: "Teaching Ethics" and "Books as a Form of Community-Building"; Anna exhibited her drawings at FGC Gathering and at the Harrison St. Art Co-op in Oak Park.

Joe Grissom's photography was exhibited in The Know Show and in a solo show at A Taste of Heaven.

OAK PARK

Oak Park Meeting of Friends has experienced a year of growth, both spiritually and in numbers of attenders.

A highlight of the year was the hosting of the Metropolitan Chicago General Meeting that brought together Friends to celebrate peace through song and dance. Other community outreach beyond the meeting house walls included several community events sponsored by the Oak Park Coalition for Truth and Justice. Many members and attenders contributed time and energy to the peace rallies and marches that continue to teach us lessons about resistance to war.

Our education programs have flourished, both for adults and with the First Day School. The adults have focused on several educational opportunities both after the meeting for worship and worship sharing in Friends' homes. The shared reading of John Punshon's *Encounter with Silence* was recently completed. A workshop provided by Roxy Jacobs on vocal ministry encouraged members and attenders to better discern the source of our own spoken ministry. Questions such as "When do I hear the Divine voice?" and "What turns the waiting worshipper into a minister?" continue to help us grow together in the Spirit. Reading passages from George Fox's *Journal* and the history of the Quaker peace testimony has strengthened attenders' understanding of Quaker history.

The First Day School utilized *Walking Cheerfully* and *Growing in the Light*, two curricula that recognize and nurture the light within each of us for student attenders ranging in age from 4 years to 12 years. Students presented a skit after worship to demonstrate the lessons of George Fox's imprisonment and resistance to war. In addition music and crafts are incorporated into the curriculum to teach Quaker values to our youth. Helen Dickinson also plays flute music informally before meeting for worship for early arrivers.

Our work with other churches, mosques, and synagogues in our community has strengthened our community spirit. We continue to serve dinners at the Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS) on the fifth Friday of the month. The Christmas adopt-a-family program generated much discussion about the values symbolized by gift giving. The group resolved a conflict concerning gift choices and the gift-wrapping was enjoyed by the First Day School attenders. Continued letter-writing to Governor Ryan concerning the death penalty contributed to the commutation of all death sentences imposed under the Illinois capital punishment system. A new priority is to show support for our Muslim neighbors in the Chicago region who are suffering due to the political climate. In addition we learned of firsthand accounts of injustice to Palestinians. Brayton Gray gave a seminar on his experiences with the Christian Peacemaker team during travels in the Middle East.

In conclusion, Oak Park Friends Meeting is blessed with Spiritual fellowship and service to others. However, we continue to strive for deeper Spiritual guidance and communion.

OSHKOSH

We begin this report with the following: "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his or her stature?" Matthew 6:27

We have not gained new members. We lost two members to transfer to another monthly. We have not had anyone married in the meeting. No children are present in the meeting. At present we have four members with about five people who attend.

Milwaukee Monthly Meeting Prison Committee approached us last year to see if we could visit with prisoners at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution. The meeting has established a Quaker presence at the prison, Tom Barlow of Oshkosh and Doris Lincoln of Milwaukee. This has grown from two to fifteen men in January, with the help of Chaplain Susan Clark, a Catholic nun.

Oshkosh Friends, acting through AFSC, packaged boxes of school supplies to send to Colombia Quaker Action in a rebel held area.

The neighborhood around the meeting place was invited to celebrate, with the Oshkosh Friends, the 350 years of Friends with them, "I saw that there was a great people to be gathered", George Fox. Several families from the neighborhood joined us for a hot dog and brat lunch and to view a video of the work by AFSC.

As the year was ending, Oshkosh Friends took part in weekly war protests in downtown Oshkosh trying to be true to our testimony against all wars.

-Tom Barlow, Clerk

ROCK VALLEY

We continue to deepen our experiences with the Quaker practice of peaceful conflict resolution. Whether with terrorists or school children, we need to get to know the needs and similarities of one another and share in life-building activities. We find that there is often a need to "keep our mouths shut" and trust the process. Three Friends in our Meeting are actively involved with Friends House Neighborhood Center for Creativity and Nonviolence, which provides community-building programs for children in the neighborhood. We spend most of our Meeting's funds on programs and organizations that promote our values of peace and justice. When others are shocked at our opposition to actions taken by the President, we speak up and strive to recognize that of God in them. And we find that sometimes long term respectful relationships develop. One of our longtime members died in June of this year and the full impact of this loss has not yet been felt by the Meeting. As we move forward we ask you to hold us in the Light.

ROLLA PREPARATIVE MEETING

Our meeting continues to steadfastly meet most every First Day. We also gather for special occasions, everything from birthdays to political and social concerns. Though we do not offer religious education for younger attenders, we hope to reinstitute some form of First Day School this autumn. We continue to be a meaningful presence for each other in diverse ways.

-Alex Primm, Clerk

ST. LOUIS

At this time of uncertainty as to whether a war on Iraq can be averted it is natural that the mood of the Meeting is somber. So much of our efforts and prayers go into this immediate crisis that there is not the usual energy available for other matters. We continue to address our own and our community's racism in practical ways. The Peace Committee suggested that Quakers should be more visible at Afro-American and other Minorities functions and this was put into practice almost immediately when about 18 Friends marched in the annual Martin Luther King Parade behind a banner saying "St. Louis Quakers." We distributed fliers and attended the speeches. Since rumor has it that Quakers are extinct we have determined to make sure that people know we are, in fact, very much alive.

Our own lovely Meeting House is a source of worry as well as pleasure. The dreadful acoustics make a mockery of our verbal witness but we have established a fund to pay for a solution to the problem and it is gathering money fairly rapidly. The Fund Raising Committee has had a lot to do with this. Private contributions have helped a great deal. We are loath to borrow from reserves in order to speed the work, because our finances are still precarious. The cost of special tuck-pointing we had to have last year was a huge drain.

One friend who is a sexual offender has been able to come back to Meeting after a long absence and this has been a cause of joy amongst some of us and fear and apprehension amongst

a few. However we are trying to deal with the issues of safety and healing in a very practical manner and hope that all will be well.

We have had several new babies in the Meeting and have set up a special “infants” room as a consequence. The babies are passed from hand to hand which they accede to with perfect equanimity. It is not possible by looking at the Mother to know which baby will be in her arms or in the sling. If only all babies had the experience of belonging to a loving community.

The Meeting is growing and we have had several requests for Membership. We still seem only to attract, in general, white, liberal middle-class people but we are hoping that our outreach and higher visibility will result in more minorities joining us.

One of our young men, currently in the Air Force, has declared himself a Conscientious Objector and the Meeting is being as supportive as possible in helping him in the brave stand he is taking.

Our connections with other countries and peoples continue. La Mesa de Abajo in Mexico, the Lakota nation in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, an Evangelical Quaker school in Burundi and support for Nicaragua through Pro-Nica to name four.

Although the Meeting feels the sadness and weight of the current war preparations, we are doing what we can both practically and prayerfully to avert this horror and are encouraged by the outpouring of anti-war sentiment here and abroad. The meeting, as always, is a source of strength and joy.

All verbal messages are valuable, if not to everyone, they touch the hearts of someone we believe, and some messages are given through by God's good grace and we are enlightened.

SOUTH BEND

After a year and a half of deliberation, South Bend MM laid down the plan to remodel and lease the basement of a recently moved historic building. The minute of the decision cited Friends' concerns about accessibility, room for present activities and future growth, proximity of the meetingspace to the noise of other activities, and adequacy of restrooms. Our unity in laying down the idea seems very broad, though tinged with sadness. Reflecting on the process, we realized that the hard work of imagining the specifics of this possibility had sharpened our understanding of our needs and wants. It also prompted us to begin talking about the ways in which work is actually distributed among meeting members, and about our “vision” for our meeting community. Some Friends sense that this issue has helped us move toward a deeper listening to each other, grounded in worship. Conversations with a consultant who works with church groups seeking to acquire property also helped clarify a number of practical issues. An ad hoc committee is presently developing specific scenarios of a few different paths to acquiring a meetinghouse of our own.

Two Quaker families have transferred their membership to South Bend MM in the past year: the Thompson-Slaughters (from Princeton MM) and the Meyer-Lees (from New Haven MM). One person has applied for, and been granted, membership: Brad Laird. These Friends' presence, energy, and varied experience have been both delightful and useful. New attenders have been finding their way to South Bend meeting in a steady trickle over the past two years; many of them have become regular attenders. Their presence, interest, questions, and participation are very much appreciated.

We have a lively group of children, spread (as usual) over many ages. Friends involved with First Day school seem energetic. Children show growing enthusiasm, and are forming friendships within the meeting. Most adult Friends have been willing to take a turn at summer childcare. Discussions for junior high and high school youth last year were valuable, but variably attended. We are realizing that these older young people can profitably sit through meeting for worship; we are moving toward offering more activities outside of meeting time for them. A rock-climbing weekend is already scheduled!

The national and international political climate seems to have been one factor in attracting new attenders to us. We have had several discussions and worship-sharing sessions around themes of peace, non-violence, conscientious objection, and restorative justice. Many of us have participated in demonstrations and other volunteer activities, or have explored links with other

local groups sharing these interests and activities.

Our concern to care for each other well, both spiritually and in other ways, is growing. This past year, as an experiment, we divided our old "Worship, Ministry, and Advancement" committee into two new committees: "Worship, Ministry, and Adult Education" and "Oversight and Caring." Our hope was that this might allow the committees to focus more easily on their tasks. This experiment remains to be evaluated; we may wrestle for some time to come with the functions mentioned in those committee names, and how best to accomplish them.

In the past few months, immediately after meeting for worship, we have begun inviting Friends to share joys, concerns, and personal thoughts arising from worship. We appreciate this deeper sharing, and the bridge it builds between worshipping together and after-meeting conversations over coffee, and also the fact that our children are usually present during this sharing. Friends report that worship seems richer as a result; we hope that it may also lead to more spoken ministry in meeting for worship.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

As with Friends the world over, the Southern Illinois Society of Friends found itself challenged by the global and national political environment in the past year. On the first anniversary of the September 11 attacks, we joined with a wonderful array of Carbondale area organizations in a day long observance in remembrance of victims everywhere. Our portion of the community program included a brief introduction of the Friends' peace testimony and concluded with ten minutes of silent reflection. Many of us accompanied the local Peace Coalition visiting our U.S. congressman Jerry Costello where we urged him not to support the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Most everyone associated with our meeting has continued to participate in peace vigils and demonstrations.

We have enjoyed sharing worship with newer regular attenders, and find ourselves blessed with visitors' questions because it challenges us to articulate our spirituality and processes. First Day School includes a teen group led by Tom Alexander that explores philosophical and religious tracts and poetry, and a younger group led by Tom Leverett and Mark Amos that enjoys stories, walks to the SIU campus Japanese Garden, and singing. Our potlucks remain a monthly highlight where our ranks swell to twenty at a table. Last summer, our co-clerk Jayme Long moved to Missouri, and this spring our other co-clerk Lisa Zee moved to California. How we miss them both in worship and in fellowship! We held our annual Easter camp-out and after a stormy night, we welcomed the sun during worship around the campfire. Light in many forms.

A highlight of each year is our annual Young Friends play. This spring Tom Leverett wrote and produced yet another great one: "Turning Point," the story of the bombing of Sterling Hall at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1970. The kids enjoyed wearing tie-dyes and bandanas, and saying "Far out!" and "Groovy!" At the same time, they explored the painful social ramifications of war, including massive protests, military draft issues, and the difficult question of how far protest can and should go. There were two Viet Nam era veterans in our audience, who were impressed and said that the play evoked vivid memories. We hope to share all of Tom's great Young Friends play scripts with other meetings.

- Dawn Amos, clerk

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The big news is that we held our groundbreaking festivities for the new meeting house March 15. We gathered in fog at the Lot at 1904 East Main, Urbana, at 11:30, with as many spades and shovels as we could muster, because we had decided this would be a do-it-yourself groundbreaking—everybody digging in. Silent worship followed. After the symbolic groundbreaking, about 40 Friends converged on Wesley Foundation for the pizza party. We have raised almost \$100,000 for the new meeting house from 95 contributors. Our thanks go out to all those contributors. We are considering going ahead now to install the commercial kitchen the city codes require churches to have if they serve the public, and also putting in the room dividers for the Sunday School spaces. We may have to take out a small mortgage to finish the meeting

house, but we have some Friends offering us small interest-free loans. Perhaps those loans will allow us to finish building without taking on a mortgage. We expect the excavator to begin work any day now, and the structure is supposed to be completed by July 15. (NOTE: The contractor is behind schedule. So what else is new?) This is an exciting time in the life of the meeting.

Nathan Richard Lasersohn was born May 27, 2002, at two pounds, two ounces to Sharon Haworth and Peter Lasersohn. He spent several months in NICU. Meeting helped by carrying in food when he was born and again when he came home from the hospital. He sometimes attends committee meetings and gifts us all with his baby smile. Nathan made his first public appearance at the groundbreaking pizza party.

The prayer circle began its existence in order to pray for Nathan, but we rapidly realized we had lots of things needing prayer. For awhile we met twice a week, on Sundays at 10:00 and also on Thursdays at noon at the Mittenthals. Later we agreed to lay down the early Sunday prayer circle and instead invite Friends to request prayers for their concerns during worship.

The study group has just completed reading Lloyd Lee Wilson's *Essays on the Quaker Vision of Gospel Order*, and on April 1 will begin reading *The Cloud of Unknowing*. We particularly enjoyed Wilson's chapter on Discernment and Leadings, which spoke to many of us in a special way. We have appreciated the attendance at study group of Gardiner Stillwell, who blesses us all with his knowledge and experience.

We have taken advantage of the conferences offered nearby this spring: Mariellen Gilpin and Glori Yoder went to the Clerking workshop with Arthur Larrabee at Pendle Hill Midwest-Evanston; Mariellen Gilpin also went to the Leadership and Responding to Leadings workshop with Janice Domanik near Princeton, Illinois. Helen Satterthwaite attended the Nurturing the Nurturer workshop in Wisconsin last fall, and Jay Mittenthal has attended the Peacemaking and Prayer workshop, also at Pendle Hill Midwest-Evanston. Charlotte Green, Joan Nelshopp and Jay Mittenthal also participated in a Fellowship of Reconciliation workshop, "From Violence to Wholeness." These conferences enrich all our lives, not just the lives of the actual participants.

The Religious Education committee planned two parties for the entire meeting: a Strawberry Fest last spring, and Christmas caroling at the Champaign County Nursing Home. We also had a Christmas party together, and the annual Peace Bazaar under the inspired leadership of Joan Nelshopp again raised over \$3000 for seven peace and justice organizations.

Peace and Service has sent several letters opposing militarism to newspapers and government officials. Cam Satterthwaite and Merlin Taber responded to newspaper interviews about religious pacifism. We have all appreciated the exposure for the meeting that these efforts have provided.

We have welcomed some new attenders: Doug Clough, Charlotte Green, and Jeremy and Hether Sebens.

Mariellen Gilpin continues to edit *What Canst Thou Say?*, a newsletter on Quakers, mysticism, and contemplative prayer. This publication is put together almost entirely by email, since the editorial team lives widely distributed across the country, and even in Belize. Several members of our meeting wrote articles for the May 2003 issue on Birth and Rebirth: Terri Mittenthal, Jay Mittenthal, Dorothy Neumann, and Gardiner Stillwell (who wrote about the life of Charlotte Green's mother, Janet Sawyer). In addition, Beth Schobernd and Carolyn Wilbur Treadway from Heartland Worship Group wrote for the May issue, and Marti Matthews of Northside meeting, Chicago, has written an article for the August issue. Mariellen was asked by one of the other editors of WCTS, "I notice several articles from Urbana-Champaign meeting, Mariellen. Is that your meeting, or is it just a particularly rich source?" Mariellen's answer: "Both!"

STANDING COMMITTEES

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: Clerk: Bob Wixom

2004 Alice Howenstine
2004 Bill Howenstine,
2004 Roy Treadway,
2004 Bob Wixom,
2005) Nancy Halliday,
2005 David Westling,
2005) David Wixom
2006) Sandy Bales,
2006 Ted Smith
2006 Anne Comiskey,
2006 Noel Pavlovic,
2006 Sarah Pavlovic,

COMMITTEE ON FAITH & PRACTICE Clerk: Tom Paxson

Peter Lasersohn,
Tom Paxson,
Colleen Reardon,
Larry Stout,
Bob Wixom,

FINANCE COMMITTEE Clerk: Sandy Huntley

2004 Cathy Garra,
2004) Sandy Huntley,
2006 Judy Jager,
2006 Nancee Miller,
2006 Jerry Nurenberg,

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE: Co-Clerks: Bobbi Trist, Larry Stout

2004 Clance Wilson,
2005 Pam Kuhn,
2005) Larry Stout,
2006 Bobbi Trist,

MAINTENANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Co-Clerks: Brent Eckert, Robin Johnson

2004 Robin Johnson,
2004 John Knox,
2005 Chip Rorem,
2005) Marie White,
2006) William Alsup,
2006 Ann Eckert,
2006 Brent Eckert,
2006 Bill Howenstine,
2006 Tim Narkiewicz,

MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT Clerk: Jinny Laughlin

2004 Jerry Nurenberg,
2005) David Finke,
2005 Margaret Katranides,
2005 Rachel Mershon,

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Clerk: Ann Eckert

2004) Scott Searles,
2004 Bill Brown,
2005) Ann Eckert, 3
2005 *Jon Wixom,
2006 Marlou Carlson,
2006 Janice Domanik,

PEACE RESOURCES COMMITTEE		Clerk: Elizabeth Sprague
2004	Bob Wixom,	
2004	Greg Woods,	
2005	Adam Bee,	
2005	Dawn Rubbert,	
2005)	Elizabeth Sprague,	
2006	David Finke,	
2006	Chuck Hutchcraft,	
2006)	Ruth Marquez,	
2006	Bridget Rorem,	

PUBLICATIONS AND DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE: Clerk: David Finke
2006 Pat Wixom,
2006 David Finke,

2004 Candy Boyd,
 2004 Judy Jager,
 2004 Bob Wixom
 2004 Greg Woods,
 2004 Carol Zimmerman,
 2006 David Finke,
 2006 Marti Matthews,
 2006 Jerry Nurenberg,

YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE: Co-Clerks: Marti Matthews, Katherine Trezevant

2004 Jerry Nurenberg,
 2005 Michaelle Cooke,
 2005 Katherine Trezevant,
 2006 William Alsup,
 2006 Dorothy Day,
 2006 Stephen Domanik,
 2006 Marti Matthews,

AD HOC COMMITTEES

DEVELOPMENT

Clerk: Cathy Garra

(Clr Crk) Robert Bartles,
 (Finance) Cathy Garra,
 (at large) Nancy Duncan, 7
 (Site En) Sallyann Garner
 (M&A) Tom Stabnicki,
 (at large) Frank Young,

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP Convener: Cindy Reynolds

Dawn Amos, 310 Union Grove Rd., Carbondale IL 62901 618-457-8726
 David Finke,
 Peter Lasersohn,
 Pam Melick,
 Cindy Reynolds,
 Beth Schobernd,

LONG TERM MAINTENANCE PLANNING COMMITTEE Clerk:

(Trustee) Richard Ashdown,
 (Clr Crk) *Jeannie Marvin,
 (M&P) Tim Narkiewicz
 (Finance) Jerry Nurenberg,

SITE ENVISIONING AND BUILDING COMMITTEE Clerk: Bill Howenstine

Richard Ashdown,
 Carol Bartles,
 Betty Clegg,
 Sallyann Garner,
 Bill Howenstine,
 Jeannie Marvin,
 Dennis McQueen,
 Jerry Nurenberg,
 Beth Schobernd,
 Matthew Smith,

APPOINTMENTS TO WIDER QUAKER ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE CORPORATION: 4 Representatives

2004 Linda Sizemore,
2005 Carol Bartles,
2005) Dawn Rubbert,
2006) *Robert Godsey,

ASSOCIATED COMMITTEE OF FRIENDS ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

2005) Grayce Mesner,
2006) Jeff Brotemarkle,

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

2006 Patricia Monaghan,

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON UNITY WITH NATURE: 1 or 2 Representatives

2006 Alice Howenstine,

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION: 6 Representatives

2004 David Westling,
2005 Tom Dix,
2005) Matthew Smith,

FRIENDS FOR LESBIAN AND GAY CONCERNS

2004 Colleen Reardon,

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE CENTRAL COMMITTEE: 4 Representatives

2005 Casey Kashnig,
2005) Nancy Jordan,
2006) Dorothy Day,
2006) Janet Means,

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

2006 Julia Pantoga,

FRIENDS SECONDARY SCHOOL LIAISON

Scattergood School:

2005 Joe Davison,

Olney Friends School:

2005 Grayce Mesner,

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

2004 Nancy Wallace,
2005) Liz Oldham,
2006 Dawn Amos

NOTE: * indicates appointment not officially approved until Continuing Committee 10/03

YEARLY MEETING SESSION COMMITTEES

2003 EPISTLE COMMITTEE:

Roy Treadway, David Wixom, Carol Zimmerman

2003 EXERCISES COMMITTEE:

Carol Bartles, Bill Brown, Patricia McMillan

2004 YEARLY MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES:

Friends Under Nineteen & Recreation: Chicago South

Food and Adult Program: Blue River Quarterly

Site Preparation/Housekeeping/Cleanup: Chicago North

OTHER YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS

AMONG FRIENDS EDITOR:

Cindy Reynolds,

RECORDS LIBRARIAN:

Brent Eckert,

REGISTRATION REPORT FOR IYM 2003

TOTAL REGISTRATION: 209 (163 adults, 46 YFs under 19 representing 128 households).

REGISTRATION BY QUARTER:

Blue River	46 Adults	
	16 Young Friends	Total: 62
Chicago North	61 Adults	
	14 Young Friends	Total: 75
Chicago South	39 Adults	
	11 Young Friends	Total: 50
Other	18 Adults	
	4 Young	<u>Total: 22</u>

209

Housing: 17 stayed in the Young Friends tent, 83 camped, 109 used motels or local housing.

TRAVEL POLICY

Friends are not to be hindered from traveling on IYM business as official representatives or committee members due to lack of funds. However, in view of the limited amount of funds available in the budget for this purpose, the Travel Fund should be used according to the following guidelines:

1. Requests for travel funds should be made well in advance to the Treasurer.
2. The amount to be advanced or reimbursed is based on the current IRS business rate per automobile mile (36 cents per mile in 2003) or reasonable commercial fares. Friends are encouraged to be prudent.
3. Conference registration fees may be reimbursed.
4. Any ordinary expenses for food or lodging may be reimbursed.
5. Questions of travel reimbursement for committee business should be cleared through that committee in advance of the travel and reported to the Treasurer.
6. Friends World Committee for Consultation Triennial travel will be handled from its own fund.

RATES FOR USE OF IYM FACILITIES

Facilities are available April 15—October 15

Site fee for IYM groups:	\$ 25
Site fee for non-IYM groups:	\$ 50
Fee per person, per night:	\$ 5
Maximum fee per IYM group:	\$500
Gas and electric startup fee, and dumpster fee (at cost, according to size) if necessary.	