

would require a 40 % match from us and must be applied for in advance of the project. The Maintenance and Planning Committee is researching this potential resource for IYM.

The Friends Fiduciary Corporation in Philadelphia is expanding its services to Friends' organizations. Finance Committee is looking into planned giving tools that they may be able to offer to individuals that would benefit IYM's finances over the long term. In addition, Friends Fiduciary sponsors an ongoing computer discussion group for meeting treasurers at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Qtreas>.

To help the Finance Committee develop our budget for the upcoming fiscal year, please let us know your committee needs and requests for contributions to wider Quaker groups in advance of the IYM session. Likewise, please submit your IYM bills to our Treasurer, Roger Laughlin, well in advance of the end of the fiscal year in July. His address is at the front of the Minute Book.



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## Site Envisioning and Building Committee

By Carol Bartles

Illinois Yearly Meeting (IYM) recently formed the Site Envisioning and Building Committee.

This committee was asked to develop a plan for the property and facilities of IYM at McNabb, Illinois.

Ideas under consideration include repairing the buildings, satisfying fire codes, providing handicapped access, replacing the kitchen and dining facilities, building a multi-purpose facility with conference space and sleeping accommodations.

These ideas grew out of contributions from workshops, field trips, a focus group, committee meetings, an IYM survey and much prayerful consideration.

The Committee has had help from members and attenders with interests and expertise in architecture, construction, organizational development, land use, historic preservation, finance, Quaker history, and youth concerns.

These are some of the ways our committee has been actively seeking the guidance of every IYM Friend, young and old, as we embark on this project.

Our Committee will submit a report to the IYM 2002 Annual Session for prayerful consideration.

IYM Site Envisioning and Building Committee members: Dick Ashdown, Carol Bartles - clerk, Brent Eckert, Roxy Jacobs, Jeannie Marvin, Jerry Nurenberg, Jim Ray, Bob Wixom, Andrew Wolf

## Religious Education

By Chris Jocius

This spring the RE committee will distribute two titles to meetings in IYM.

An essay pamphlet by Marty Walton "The Meeting Experience: Practicing Quakerism in Community" (Argenta, 1997, 34 pages). Com-

munity is used in the broader sense of the practical functions and religious aspects of a Friends meeting.

A second edition of a storybook edited by Ed Brody and others "Spinning Tales, Weaving Hope: Stories, Storytelling and Activities for Peace, Justice, and the Environment"(New Society, 2002, 296 pages). This is mainly a collection of 29 stories from around the world with a list of activities and exercises to use in First Day group discussions about compassion, care for the Earth, conflict resolution, etc.

## **Olney Friends School**

By Grayce (Haworth) Mesner

Olney Friends School is an accredited, co-educational, college preparatory learning community for residential and day students, in Barnesville, Ohio.

Olney has started a "Renewal from the Roots" campaign which has two purposes: 1) raising \$2,000,000 over five years to assist the school in rebuilding enrollment to 75-80 students which will assure its viability; and 2) visiting every alumni, parent, and friend to bring them up to date on Olney in the 21st century and to invite them into the renewal process. As of June 30, 2001, the campaign total stood at \$1,465,000

The hope is to complete visits to alumni and others by December 31, 2003, although campaign pledge payments will be counted until June 30, 2005. A team of campaign visitors is presently at work in Ohio, where by far the greatest number of Olney alumni reside; and others are beginning in Michigan, Arizona, Maine and New Hampshire.

Olney is looking for a new head starting in June of 2003. Ken and Katharine Jacobsen will be moving on to new positions (maybe even at Olney). His gifts were suitable for beginnings - "building the foundation and framing the

house". It is hoped that someone will come in and develop the fourfold curriculum - academic, social, practical and spiritual.

If you know of someone who might be interested contact Doug Huff, Clerk, P.O. Box 459, Barnesville, OH 43713-0459. mhuff@1st.net

For more information about this school write to Olney Friends School, 61830 Sandy Ridge Rd., Barnesville, OH 43713.

<MainOffice@OlneyFriends.org> www.

~~OlneyFriends.org~~

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## **Missions:**

### **Project Lakota**

By Greg Woods

One of the things Americans value about living in the US is having a nice comfortable house in which to raise our families. Sometimes, when we get used to our towns and lives, we begin to think that every family in the US has a comfortable house to call home. But on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, comfortable housing is only a distant dream for many families. The poverty and housing figures for Pine Ridge rivals some Latin American countries. 40% of the housing on Pine Ridge is either inadequate or overcrowded. The average number of people living in a house is 17.

Project Lakota is trying to help families on Pine Ridge by providing the AFSC-IMYM

(Intermountain Yearly Meeting) joint service project (workcamp) with money for supplies and materials. With our help last year, the workcamp was able to help Zeno and Sonya Little. They live in a house that Zeno brought for \$1 from the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) a couple of years ago, because the building was abandoned. They live in the house with their children and extended family.

The house has no running water. The workcamp tore off the original siding and put on new. Also, money given by Project Lakota helped to buy materials for insulation that Zeno installed later. Project Lakota also donated \$500 each to eight families involved in a housing program called Self-Help. The money helped with the cost of a deck for each of the eight families.

This year, we have a larger goal. We want to raise \$20,000 to build a house for Gerald and Ingrid One Feather's family. Gerald and Ingrid have been very active. Gerald has worked for AFSC for more than a decade and has worked for the BIA in several different jobs. They were both teachers. Gerald taught at the college level and Ingrid at the K-12 level. Also they both are active with traditional ceremonies such as the sweat lodge, vision quest, and the sun dance. Right now, Gerald is working with UN and other groups on indigenous rights throughout North America and the World.

In August, Candy and I toured their log cabin, that Gerald built forty plus years ago. A lot of work needs to be done on it. It looks like it will be cheaper and easier to build a new house instead of repairing the old one, because of rotting logs and other problems. The \$20,000 alone won't be enough to finish the house but it will be put with funds from the family, loans, or from the tribal government. The needs of the One Feather family became more urgent in January, when Gerald had to be hospitalized due to complications from diabetes. The work

would be done by the workcamp.

In April Project Lakota met a \$5,000 match. As of April 20th, we have \$10,300. We are so thrilled that we reached that match and want to thank everyone who has donated to the project. We are doing another \$5,000 match. The deadline for that match is June 15.

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***In April, Project Lakota met a \$5,000 match. ... We are doing another \$5,000 match.***

— *Project Lakota*

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For more information please contact Greg Woods at rwoods@sockets.net or Candy Boyd at candyboyd@aol.com. Donations to Project Lakota can be sent to Pat Wixom, Treasurer, Columbia Friends Meeting, 6408 Locust Grove Rd, Columbia, MO 65202.

## **Nugent-Rehard to Kenya**

By Patrick Nugent

Friends in Illinois Yearly Meeting may remember Mary Kay Rehard and Patrick Nugent, formerly members of 57<sup>th</sup> Street Meeting. For the last several years Patrick has been teaching at Earlham College, and Mary Kay has been active in community work, home education, and in West Richmond Friends Meeting, to which the family now belongs.

Patrick and Mary Kay have accepted an assignment from Friends United Meeting to share the position of Principal at Friends Theological College, Kaimosi, and to serve as FUM Representatives in East Africa. They will provide administrative and teaching leadership at the College and travel among Friends in Kenya, helping FUM to communicate with its various mission projects. The initial commitment is for three years.

It is not yet certain when they will settle in Kaimosi. They will travel to Kaimosi in mid-March for a week of orientation, then again with the children in July for the FUM Triennial. They will return to the United States for some

months while they raise funds for their salary and ministry expenses. (Friends interested in contributing to this support may do so in care of Friends United Meeting, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, Indiana, 47374 USA.) Their names should be written on the memo line of the check.

After this fundraising period, they will attend Swahili language school for several weeks before taking up duties in Kaimosi. The entire family is excited about living in Kenya, experiencing a new culture, and learning what it means to be Christian and Quaker in East Africa.

Working among Friends in Kenya will be an adventure for the whole family. The students at Friends Theological College are dedicated and bright, eager to learn and to serve in Friends' meetings. One important need at the college is for a deepened appreciation of Quaker faith and practice, and an understanding of the gospel that encompasses concerns for justice and peace. As Friends rooted in the unprogrammed tradition but with significant experience among pastoral Quakers, Patrick and Mary Kay hope to help provide this. They look forward to much listening and learning among Kenyan Friends, and ask for the prayers of Friends in Illinois YM, where their roots have been nourished.

They will publish a regular newsletter from Kenya. Those interested in being on the mailing list (which may include an electronic version!) should write to Patrick at [nugenpa@earlham.edu](mailto:nugenpa@earlham.edu), or call Kristi Nicholson at FUM, 765-962-7573.

## **ProNica**

by Ruth Paine

Many Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends have supported the Quaker project in Nicaragua, "ProNica" over the years. This project, which is under the guidance of Friends in Southeastern Yearly Meeting and St. Petersburg Monthly

Meeting, works hard to try to meet the continuing needs of the poor and marginalized in Nicaragua.

Nicaragua seems to go from crisis to crisis. There have been two years of severe drought. Southern Pine Beetles, intruders from Florida, have killed millions of trees in northern Nicaragua. The drop in world coffee prices has devastated the coffee industry.

The good news is that the Nicaragua Coordinator of the ProNica project will be at Friends General Conference. Lillian Hall is a remarkable woman who moved to Nicaragua in 1985 and now makes here home there.

Susie Wicks (St. Louis Meeting) heard Lillian talk at the Southeastern Yearly Meeting annual sessions in March, 2002. There was such interest in enabling more people to hear her message that a Friend donated funds to enable Lillian to fly up for Intermountain Yearly Meeting (she comes from Tucson) and then attend Friends General Conference. Take this opportunity to hear what is happening now and how Friends are helping!

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## **Proposals/Minutes: Blue River Quarterly Peace and Conscientious Objection Proposal**

Proposal: Blue River Quarterly, during its 4/20/02 meeting for business agreed to request that Illinois Yearly Meeting reestablish a standing committee to foster peace and conscientious objection during its sessions in 7<sup>th</sup> month (July) 2002. This entity would be named the Peace and Conscientious Objection Committee.

Background: Within our yearly meeting Friends in monthly meetings and other organizations have developed a variety of responses to the tragic violence which occurred on September

11, 2001.

Statements in the press suggest the undeclared war is spreading and will likely continue for the foreseeable future. Friends are called to examine our Peace Testimony and consider its place in our lives and our spiritual development. Likewise we must hasten to reach out to young Friends who may soon be facing a military draft.

Specifics: The IYM Peace and Conscientious Objection Committee would neither duplicate nor replace the work done within our monthly meetings. An early task would be to identify the work currently being done by constituent monthly meetings. Over time a liaison relationship may develop between monthly meeting committees and the yearly meeting Peace Committee.

2. Friends interested in serving on this committee are encouraged to contact a member of the IYM Nominating Committee. Members of the Peace Committee should be Friends with gifts, skills, knowledge and strong leadings regarding the following objectives.

Objectives:

- To develop a proactive conscientious objection counseling program;
- To 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 reinstated;
- To share these processes with junior high, senior high and young adult Friends in cooperation with the Youth Oversight Committee;
- To explore possibilities of working with existing peace building activities such as the Quaker Volunteer Service Training and 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;

- 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 wreak major devastation on people and their environment with minimal direct human involvement;
- To become a source of knowledge and to encourage Friend's consideration of the options for and rationale of resistance to payment of war taxes;
- 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.

### **Columbia Friends: Minute in support of conscientious non-registrants**

Approved, Meeting for Business 3/10/02

Almost since its inception, Columbia Friends Meeting and its members have given financial support to national organizations, such as the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors and the Center on Conscience and War (formerly the National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors) that provide counseling and other assistance to young people facing the possibility of military conscription or desiring discharge from the military for reasons of conscience. For decades, Meeting has contributed to Mid-Missouri Fellowship of Reconciliation which does similar work locally and to the Fund for Education and Training which provides loans to conscientious non-registrants nationally. The need to continue this support is reiterated.

At a time when our national leaders appear to visualize our nearly perpetual involvement in wars around much of the world, the primary purpose of the present Minute is to make explicit the intention of our Columbia Friends Meeting, in a manner consistent with our Faith

and Practice, to provide religious support, counseling, and, as needed, financial support to long-term members or attenders of our Meeting who resist cooperation with registration and/or conscription and to those who are willing to perform civilian work as conscientious objectors.

At present, the main punitive action imposed upon those who fail to register for possible military conscription is the denial of federal or state loans or grants for post-secondary education or training. To the extent that family or other resources are unavailable or insufficient to meet the educational fiscal needs of our conscientious non-registrants, Meeting will attempt to make or secure loans or grants, for a period of up to four years per individual, in lieu of loans and grants which, except for non-registration, would be available from federal and/or state sources.

## Health Care Minute

By Paul Buckley - paulbuckley@att.net

The following was adopted last summer by Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting:

“Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is concerned that many persons in the U.S. receive inadequate healthcare. In a country with immense wealth, the situation is incomprehensible. Such a condition is contrary to our duty to care for the weak and vulnerable. We urge Friends, with divine assistance, to work to transform our healthcare system so that everyone in the U.S. has access to healthcare that is comprehensive and of high quality. We will share this concern with all U.S. yearly meetings, public officials, and our fellow citizens. We seek the leading of the Spirit to discern the way forward on this concern.”

This minute was adopted a month before 9/11, when our national government seemed to think its biggest problem was how to spend the (now apparently vanished) surplus. It may have been reasonable at that time to think that this was a problem whose solution would come from the government. The likelihood of political leader-

ship on this problem now seems greatly diminished, but the problem remains.

Early Friends believed that they were called to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. They were not waiting for some future event to usher in an age of peace and justice. It was up to them to act. I believe that OVYM's challenge is an opportunity to return to that vision of who we are as a people. We can see our role as merely prophetic – calling this problem to the attention of the wider society – or we can see ourselves as patterns and models for that society. Rather than urging others to do something to solve this problem, we can start to do it ourselves.

I am asking individual Friends, Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly Meetings to pledge themselves to provide for those within our society. Can we minute our intention to provide the financial resources to make sure that all members of the Religious Society of Friends will have access to appropriate medical care? Such an action is not without precedent – from our earliest days, we have had Sufferings Funds to care for Friends who needed help.

This could be a small start to solving a large problem that goes beyond our society, but one that we can accomplish.

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## Announcements: Position Open Director, Scattergood Friends School

Scattergood Friends School, a co-educational, college-preparatory boarding high school, is seeking a director beginning 1 July 2003. Located in rural Iowa, the school enrolls approximately 60 students in a close, caring community. The campus includes an 80-acre organic farm and orchard, as well as a large restored prairie. The University of Iowa, only 20 minutes away, provides diverse cultural attractions.

Learn more about the school at [www.scattergood.org](http://www.scattergood.org).

For more information contact: Richard Johnson, Search Committee, 1210 Grant Court, Iowa City, IA 52240, [rjohnso@kirkwood.cc.ia.us](mailto:rjohnso@kirkwood.cc.ia.us).

## **An Invitation to Read (and Write for) *What Canst Thou Say?***

by Mariellen Gilpin

*What Canst Thou Say?* is a newsletter on Quakers, mysticism and contemplative living. It's like a worship-sharing group in print, with each writer contributing his or her experience in response to a central theme. *WCTS* is \$8 for four issues a year. Subscriptions can be sent to Amy Perry, 6180 N. Ralston, Indianapolis, IN 46220. *WCTS* depends on its readers to write for the publication. Articles can be from 350-1500 words long. Themes for upcoming issues are as follows:

**PRAYER METAPHORS:** November 2002  
Sometimes an experience in our past becomes a living metaphor in our prayer life. Thus, a young mother remembers floating safely through rapids on an inner tube and finds the courage to go with the flow through the hazards of raising young children. Life experiences can become metaphors drawing us closer to God. What was your prayer metaphor--how did it arise, and how has it helped you? What metaphors have you been given, what were the circumstances giving rise to the metaphors, how have the metaphors changed your relationship to God? Deadline: Aug 15.

**DEATH AND DYING:** February 2003  
In the presence of death one can be opened to the sacred and find oneself standing, awestruck, on holy ground. How have you experienced the movement of the Spirit when being present at the death of a loved one or a stranger, when facing the inevitability of your own death, or reflecting on the cycles of living and dying? Has

your prayer and contemplation or a mystical experience yielded transcendent insight into the nature of death? In this issue we hope to stand on holy ground together looking through the gateway through which all will pass. Deadline: Nov 15.

**BIRTH AND REBIRTH:** May 2003  
The miracle of birth renews us again and again – a spiritual rebirth, the birth of a child, the start of a new year, the blossoming of spring. How has an experience of birth or rebirth connected you with God, brought mystical insights, or rewarded you with awareness? We welcome your personal experiences and receive them in the spirit of worshipful sharing. Deadline: Feb 15.

Don't worry about writing perfectly. Just get your story on paper and send it to us. You can send it directly to me at [m-gilpin@uiuc.edu](mailto:m-gilpin@uiuc.edu). Sometimes it helps to talk through an article idea before you start writing – give me a call at 217-352-2082, or email me. Articles should be in electronic form, if at all possible, but we're happy to accept a handwritten story, if necessary.

I have a few extra copies of back issues, and would be happy to mail you a sample as long as my supply lasts. Send your name and address to Mariellen Gilpin, 818 West Columbia, Champaign IL 61820. Or email me. If you can open attachments in Word, I can email a back issue to you. Save a stamp and save a tree. Check out *WCTS*. It's a good publication.

## **Nurturing the Meeting Community**

The Ministry and Nurture Committee of Friends General Conference will present a conference on *Nurturing the Meeting Community* in Rosholt, Wisconsin, September 19-22, 2002. Subtitled "Attention to the Care of