

to an important chapter of IYM history. The new siding of the cabins (covering salvaged dormitory plywood) is stained “mushroom” color, blending harmoniously with the campground setting. Friends who attended the Clear Creek Meeting Open House on October 8 praised the appearances of the buildings, including the recently painted Meetinghouse with its renovated front porch and steps. As a side note, it is worth pointing out that almost \$1,100 was received from the sale of scrap metal from the dismantled dormitory. Throughout all this building project, a strong effort was made to be environmentally “green.”

The ground where the Junior Yearly Meetinghouse and the dormitory stood has been graded, and during a work day on October 18, members of the Environmental Concerns and the Maintenance and Planning Committees raked and seeded in a turf grass mix to protect the soil from erosion. Now that plot of land is ready for the next phase of the IYM vision – the construc-

tion of the “Peace House on the Prairie”, which will have new kitchen and dining facilities, meeting rooms for use by both IYM and Clear Creek Meeting, and year-round indoor sleeping. The Development Committee, and the Site Envisioning and Building Committee, together are laying the groundwork for a major fundraising campaign for this purpose.

2006 Quaker Youth Pilgrimage Epistle, August, 2006

“I feel...in possession of a large measure of hope for the future of Quakerism” — Cristina Van Regenmorter, leader, 2006 pilgrimage

To all Friends everywhere,

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage 2006 brought together 26 young Friends and four leaders from Europe and the United States. Over the month spent together

the group traveled in and around Ohio, Indiana and Illinois exploring the diverse branches of Quakerism.

We met meetings, some programmed, some unprogrammed, for worship, discussion and potlucks. The potlucks were just one of many ways in which Friends fed our bodies and souls. We were provided with gracious hospitality through home-stays in



Ground being prepared for next phase of IYM vision



Young Friends from Pilgrimage being introduced at IYM

Cincinnati and Indianapolis. The opportunity to experience different branches of Quakerism brought up many questions, some of which were easy to answer, but for others further thought is needed.

During our travels we learned about a network of escape routes for those fleeing enslavement, known as the Underground Railroad. We visited museums and heard people speak about the support Quakers and others gave freedom-seekers trying to reach Canada.

A much-needed break came in the form of working alongside Habitat for Humanity in Richmond, Indiana. This was a very hot but enjoyable time, where

we all learned new skills such as building walls and roofing. On leaving the house it was rewarding to see the progress that had been made in just three days.

Being able to attend Illinois Yearly Meeting provided us with an insight into how other yearly meetings work. We were warmly welcomed and included and saw a strong sense of community at work.

The pilgrimage has taught us a lot and also provided time for a great deal of fun. We found enjoyment in playing existing games and making up new ones.

A few days were spent in Chicago. While there we visited Chicago Public Radio, heard Voices for Creative Nonviolence and played in Millennium Park fountains to



Friends on Quaker Youth Pilgrimage arriving at IYM.