

Among Friends

Summer 2006



Gathering at Illinois Yearly Meeting on July 31, 2005

Published by Illinois Yearly Meeting

Among Friends provides a forum about activities within the various meetings and worship groups which make up Illinois Yearly Meeting. It also provides pertinent information provided by Quaker organizations and by interested readers of our publication. Readers are reminded that signed articles and letters express the views of the writers, and not official positions of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

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Please read: All submissions for the Winter Issue 2006-2007 need to be in the hands of the editor NO LATER THAN October 20, 2006. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Informal articles about your meeting or worship group (NOT States of Society Reports), plus poetry, black ink artwork, and photos are encouraged and received with appreciation.

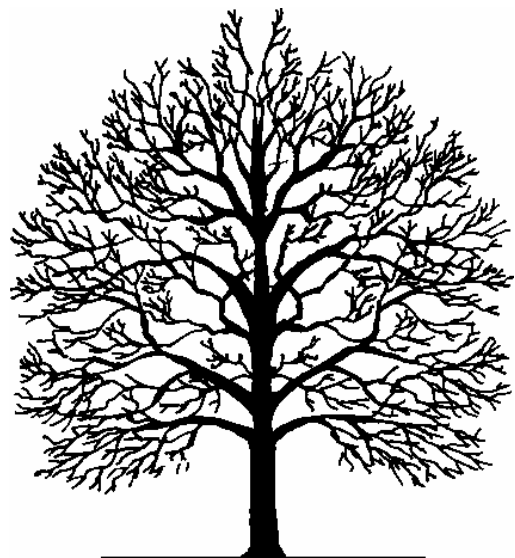


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Gathering at Illinois Yearly Meeting 2005

2006 Illinois Yearly Meeting will gather on July 26 - 30 at McNabb, IL

Workshops at IYM 2006

By Dawn Amos

The 2006 Yearly Meeting theme “*Integrity: Toward Leading a Seamless Life*” has inspired many exciting workshop proposals. While the details are still being finalized, here is just a taste of what you might enjoy at yearly meeting this summer!

Peter Lasersohn, **Historical Changes in the Function of Quarterly Meetings**

Review and discussion of changes in the officially listed functions and responsibilities of quarterly meetings, in London Yearly Meeting up to 1783, Baltimore and Ohio Valley Yearly Meetings up to 1875, and Illinois Yearly Meeting up to the present; and implications of these changes for current and future quarterly meetings in IYM.

Carolyn Wilbur Treadway, **Slowing Down to the Speed of Life**

An interactive workshop addressing issues of slowing our fast paced lives, learning to sustain our energies and the resources of the planet too.

Leave with an action plan for your personal next steps.

Joan Pine, **An Invitation To Integrity: Matthew 5-7**

How might these teachings of Jesus speak to our personal quest for integrated lives? Do they represent unattainable goals or a pathway to wholeness?

Ian Harris, **Essential Components of Peace Education**

This workshop will allow participants to discuss their peace education practice. It will describe different aspects of peace education and discuss the effectiveness of peace education as a strategy to deal with violence. The challenges of education for nonviolence will be presented.

Jim & Ginger Kenney (FCNL), **Our Two Cultures**

Carl Menninger established a foundation 30 or so years ago to study the Native American culture saying, “They have the insights needed to help our mainstream culture move toward our

next stage of evolution.” With the help of the new American Indian Museum in DC, our society is beginning to have a deeper level of interest in these right-brained ways of understanding our place in the world we share. Within this egalitarian tradition we hope to share with one another the wisdom each of us brings to the workshop.

Ginger Kenney (FCNL), **Effective Lobbying**
Bob Edgar, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches refers to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) as one of the two (along with Jewish lobby) most effective faith based lobby groups in the country. This workshop will incorporate the insights gained over FCNL’s 61 year history to make your input into the political process about our Quaker Peace Testimony as effective as possible.

Michael McConnell (AFSC Chicago)

Nancy Diaz (Pendle Hill)

Chris Jocius, **Friends and Integrity: a reading and discussion group**

Resource: Wilmer Cooper’s Pendle Hill pamphlet “The Testimony of Integrity in the Religious Society of Friends”. This will be pro-



Youth stuffing backpacks at IYM 2005.

vided at no charge.

Dawn Amos, **If You Can Edit an Email, You CAN Update the New IYM Web Site!**

Converting the ilym.org web site to use a collaborative technology called “Wiki” means that any IYM Friend can update the site using a very simple online edit pane. No more waiting for the webservant to make updates. Come see just how easy it is!

Peace Resources Committee, **Renewing Our Commitment to the Peace Testimony**

We will lead Friends through an exercise that moves them to explore their spiritual grounding in the Peace Testimony.

Roy Treadway and Environmental Concerns Committee, **Environmental Concerns Bicycle Ride**

This Friday afternoon bicycle ride will cover approximately 26 miles of rural roads in Putnam County, including hills to the Illinois River and a stop at the Hennepin Wetlands on the Illinois River, leaving from and returning to the Yearly Meeting grounds. Participants should experience integrity in how they live with nature in this experience. For adults, and high schoolers accompanied by an adult.

Faith and Practice Committee, **Review and Discussion of Proposed Faith and Practice Section on Marriage**

Participants will receive a copy of the proposed Faith and Practice section on marriage and have the opportunity to share with committee members their responses to this draft.

Cathy Garra & Judy Jager, **Resources for Monthly Meetings on Political Activity, Not-for-Profit Status, and Finances**

Cathy and Judy have worked with the IYM attorney on considerations of not for profit status and political activity, as well as other financial matters. The attorney has given us useful information to share with Monthly Meetings.

IYM Speaker Jocelyn Bell Burnell



Jocelyn Bell Burnell will be our Saturday evening speaker at the annual sessions this year. Jocelyn has been a Quaker all her life – she was born and brought up in Ireland Yearly Meeting, moving to London (now Britain) Yearly Meeting about 40 years ago. She has also been a sojourning member in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. She went to a Quaker girls boarding school (The Mount School, York) and has subsequently moved many times and has belonged to about 10 different meetings in Britain. She currently worships with Bradford-on-Avon meeting.

Jocelyn is an Elder in her local meeting and a member of its Clerking Team. Once a clerk always a clerk, and so one of her Quaker interests is how Quakers do meeting for business. Her other Quaker interests are worship and ministry, faith and belief, as shown in our relationships with other churches, the spiritual basis of our testimonies, how we handle pain and suffering, and science and religion.

At national level she has been Yearly Meeting Clerk, Clerk of the Committee on Christian Relationships and is now Co-clerk of

Testimonies Committee. In 1989 she gave the Swarthmore Lecture (“Broken for Life”) on the ministry of the wounded. She attended the World Conference in Honduras, the 100th FGC Conference and Yearly Meetings in Canada, Ireland, North Pacific, Norway and Philadelphia, and was a keynote speaker at several of these.

Her interest in science and religion stems from her career as a scientist. Jocelyn retired from the University of Bath as Dean of Science and is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford and a Professorial Fellow at Mansfield College, Oxford. She earned a PhD in Cambridge (UK) in Radio Astronomy. During her time there she was involved in the discovery of pulsars, opening up a new branch of astrophysics — work which was recognized by the award of a Nobel Prize to her supervisor. Jocelyn combined raising a family with a fruitful scientific career, winning many awards and honors, including election as a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences in 2005.

The public appreciation and understanding of science have always been important to her, as well as encouraging more women to consider a career in science. In her spare time Jocelyn walks, gardens, listens to choral music.

IYM Speakers

By Sue Styer

- Wednesday evening’s program will consist of a panel of IYM Friends speaking on integrity in their lives.
- On Thursday night, Friends from various national organizations will update us on their initiatives.
- On Saturday evening, Jocelyn Bell Burnell from BYM will give the evening presentation.
- Plummer speaker for IYM will be David Rutschman from 57th Street Meeting.