



Community Meetinghouse

# OHIO VALLEY YEARLY MEETING NEWSLETTER

A publication of the Religious Society of Friends

Volume 30, no.3

*Quaker Quill*

October 2005

## Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting 2005 Epistle

To Friends everywhere,

We gathered at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio between July 26 and July 31, 2005 for the 185th sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Worship under-girded all our activities: workshops and business sessions, plenary sessions and meals, singing and interest groups and everything in between. We interspersed our outward actions with time to turn inward, toward God.

The theme of the Yearly Meeting invited us to move "Beyond Tolerance" and to seek "Common Spiritual Ground." In our worship/sharing groups, guided by common queries, we discovered some of the joys and challenges of the search. Afternoon workshops focused on particular aspects or skills needed for the search: conflict resolution, biblical and historical study, self-care and empowerment.

We began some business sessions with quotations from the history of Whitewater Monthly Meeting, which was laid down in the winter of 2005. In this way we remembered the faithful Quaker lives of these Friends even while we grieved the passing of an historic Meeting. We were, in other ways, frequently reminded of the precious and precarious nature of life, and of God's sustaining love in the midst of sadness and trial.

During our business session we heard reports from Quaker organizations near and far. We considered proposed changes in the ways we fund our Yearly Meeting activities, and discussed alternatives to our budget process. We will return to these matters between now and the next Yearly Meeting.

Discussion of the revision of our Yearly Meeting Discipline at times presented profound difficulties, and offered us opportunities to apply the practices and ideas generated by our conference theme.

Our first plenary speaker, Cecile Nyiramana of Rwanda Yearly Meeting, shared movingly of the suffering she and her family experienced during the genocide of 1994. Yet in the midst of their suffering she found courage first to encounter and then to forgive her enemies. Slowly, and with the help of Quaker sponsored workshops, her spirit began to heal. With renewed strength, she reached out to other wounded Rwandan women. Together they broke down the boundaries between them, and found common spiritual ground.

In our second plenary Michael Birkel spoke with humor and directness, challenging us to engage in genuine interfaith and intrafaith dialog. He spelled out the steps required, both inner and outer, and urged us to join in this crucial work. When we prize our own distinctive spiritual treasures and listen with open hearts, we will discover deep within the path to common spiritual ground, which is love.

We reveled in the fruits of one of our own ministries, Friends Music Camp. Students and faculty from the camp performed a Concert for Peace and Justice. The beauty and power of their music lifted our hearts, and reminded us that hope can sustain us, even in time of war.

As Yearly Meeting comes to an end we find ourselves refreshed by our time together. We have experienced some of the obstacles to moving beyond tolerance.

*Cont. on p.2*

*Quaker Quill* is published three times a year in February, June, and October by the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of the month prior to each publication month. Editor: Barbarie Hill, 6921 Stonington Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45230; (513)232-5348 (bhill@one.net)

OVYM officers for 2004-2005:

Virginia Wood, Presiding Clerk  
Rex Sprouse, Recording Clerk  
J.P. Lund, Treasurer  
Paul Buckley, Ass't Treasurer

Quarterly Meeting officers:

Miami  
Ben Griffith, Presiding Clerk  
Deb Kociszewski, Recording Clerk  
Frank Huss, Treasurer

Whitewater

Jane Haldeman, Presiding Clerk  
Sherita Campbell, Recording Clerk  
Paul Kriese, Treasurer

Monthly Meeting Clerks:

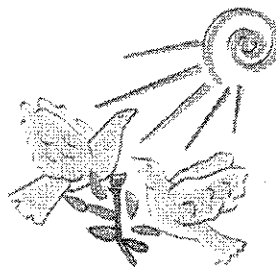
Terry Reynolds, Bloomington  
Terry Miller, Campus  
Erica Pearson, Clear Creek  
Deborah Jordan, Community  
Carolyn Applegate, Dayton  
Tom Hill, Eastern Hills  
Diann Herzog, Fall Creek  
Caroline Taylor, Green Plain  
Marc Wilson, Hopewell  
Karen Atcheson, Lafayette  
Claire Carpenter, Lexington  
Kathy Wood, Louisville  
Julia Dunn, Maple Grove  
Milton Cook, Miami  
Dinah Duvall, North Meadow Circle  
Steve Angell, Oxford  
Murray Cox, White Rose  
Dale Blanchard, Yellow Springs

Paul Buckingham, Fort Wayne WG  
Owensboro WG



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 15-16 OVYM and Wilmington YM  
Middle Youth camp out at  
Cincinnati Monthly Meeting.
- Oct 16 Miami Quarterly Meeting.  
Community Meeting, Cincinnati
- Oct 16 Whitewater Quarterly Meeting.
- July 14 - Quaker Youth Pilgrimage  
Aug 10, 2006



---

*Epistle continued from p.1*

We have seen that even unimaginable suffering can be transformed into new possibilities for life together. When "love is the first motion" we can find the way forward together.

We say, with Margaret Fell in her Letter to William Osborne, 1657, to Friends everywhere:

"The eternal God of power keep thee faithful, that a pure growing up in the eternal thou may witness, that so an instrument for God's glory thou may be."

## Clerk's Page

— Virginia Wood, Presiding Clerk

I've just returned from a wonderful weekend spent with Friends from Fall Creek MM, White Rose MM, Fort Wayne WG, and a worship group that has formed in Amboy, IN. We had gathered together to be with Deborah Fisch, a traveling minister visiting among our meetings. Perhaps your meeting benefited by Deborah's presence last fall when she traveled to some of our larger monthly meetings. Deborah challenged us to live in community...to seek out opportunities to gather at which time we might share from our experiences and invite each other to share in our spiritual journey. As we worshiped together and came to know one another better over the weekend it was heartening to see strangers become friends in more than name. If the number of e-mail addresses being exchanged is an indicator, a number of spiritual companionships were also started.

For me the words of the song More Love, More Love came to life.

*If ye love not each other, In daily communion,*

*How can ye love God, Whom ye have not seen.*

*If ye love one another, Then God dwelleth within you,*

*And ye are made strong, To live by his word.*

I watched people become stronger last weekend as they became part of a community, just as I was made stronger during the summer by knowing that I was being held in the Light by so many of you.

This issue of the Quill contains the Epistles from our recent Yearly Meeting Sessions. For the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, these sessions are the end of their year. For the rest of us they are the beginning. As one Friend commented on the evaluation sheets, "My spirit is on fire." How can we keep that fire going? By gathering with others, each person was made strong. God dwells within that person, and there is a desire to live the Word. Another Friend's comment reads "Wish there were one hundred

more of us." Let us this year make it one hundred more of us!

We are given opportunities during the year to gather together at Quarterly Meetings, the A&N Spring Workshop, as hosts for youth activities, and through committee service. Be there. If you are not available for that specific date or time, then encourage your monthly meeting to visit with another meeting. North Meadow Circle of Friends, Oxford MM, and Miami MM are three meetings that I know of who have frequently invited others to join them for worship or have sponsored an activity nearby. Speak with them about how they have managed these opportunities. We need one another.

---

## 2005 Teen Epistle

The teen team arrived the first day with the cool familiarity that was to be expected. We played cards and caught up until night fall, when a hunt was joined by all for ice cream, cookies, various foods as well as a frisbee. High spirits were shared by all, as we returned, clutching our goodies.

The next day we attended an event of great importance: the canoe trip. A journey between two points on the Little Miami River traveled twice, once on a bus and once in a boat. Its purpose was sun, companionship, water, exercise, and rope swings, not to mention the tipping. Hoo Hoo! I know tipping is customary, but that was ridiculous. That evening, we heard Cecile recount her experience of the Rwandan genocide and of her efforts to bring the two alienated groups to an understanding that might not have been reached in any other way. She also spoke with the teen group about the young people of Rwanda and their experiences. We are extremely grateful that she was willing to share so much of herself over an issue of such emotional magnitude. After sunset, we had a game of wink on the lawn and we then realized how bad we had been sunburned that day.

Friday, the teen group was joined by some new recruits, and there was much rejoicing; there

was a business meeting in which we discussed a lot of top-secret stuff; we played sports until our meals were writhing in our tummies. Then we learned about Islam and many myths were dispelled surrounding this foreign religion. After this, after teens joined in a fun information workshop on transformation of hatred, we then played more sports and were soon meandering down to the bonfire where all ages convened and had a good time.

Saturday started with a division of the beloved group. Five stunningly awesome teens stayed behind to paint a banner depicting an abstract representation of our last service trip, while the rest of the tremendous troupe displayed a feat of strength, previously unheard of, to clear a trail of undergrowth in time to walk back for lunch. Such hard labor was commended and stamped with the JT seal of approval before the Simply Speaking committee scampered off to prepare for that workshop which happened 2 ½ hours later. I'd tell ya how this went, but that's not allowed so we will skip to movie night/concert which was approved by all attendees. That night, the epistle committee labored over a hot piece of paper to prepare this jambalaya of events for you to digest and hopefully enjoy. All in all, a consensus of approval from all the teens.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **2005 Middle Youth Epistle**

There were four of us, ages 11 to 13, who met, had fun, engaged in deep discernment, and grew close during the 2005 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting sessions. We had two great staff, James and Ann, and we thank you!

Cathy Habschmidt met with us, and we talked about the New Testament. We found that Matthew 25:35-36 spoke to us: "When I was hungry, you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, when I was a stranger, you took me into your home, when naked you clothed me, when I was ill you came to help me, when in prison you visited me."

For our service project, we anoned and kayaked part of the Little Miami River, picking up trash along the way. Unfortunately, the project was a great success: we found three bags of cans, five bags of trash, a tire, a radio, a piece of siding and lots of fishing line. We paddled past Fort Ancient State Memorial, a place used by Native Americans many years ago.

We wonder why people leave so much behind along the river. Perhaps the reason is that many people seem to think only of themselves and don't think about what their actions do to others or our world. Perhaps people in the United States think the whole world is their trash can. We also wonder if the people who used to live at Fort Ancient shared different values than those we see around us today.

We seem to go through life with our eyes closed so we don't have to see what we're really doing to our world. We only seem to be thinking of ourselves today, rather than thinking of the future.

We spent much time learning about Rwanda and the genocide there. We watched the movie "Hotel Rwanda" and discussed it afterwards. We all went to at least part of Cecile Nyiramana's talk and some of us followed Cecile to the teen dorm to listen to her some more.

We learned from Cecile and the movie "Hotel Rwanda" that one caring person taking the initiative can make a tremendous difference in the world. Good done in a small place can spread out all over the world.

Sometimes we make judgments about people we've just met, or have known all our lives, which are very hurtful. We realized after watching "Hotel Rwanda" and talking with Cecile, that these judgments can even result in war or genocide. Then we realized that our earlier judgments about people who leave trash behind on the Little Miami River could actually be part of the reason our own eyes may be closed to what we do in the world.

We urge Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting to open the eyes of the world to the problems in our shared environment and take some initiative in correcting them.

We were so deeply moved by listening to Cecile that we invited her to our dorm to talk with us. She taught us a simple hymn in Kinyarwanda, which we would like to sing for you now. We encourage Friends to rise and participate as they feel moved.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2005 Children's Epistle

Greetings to Friends everywhere,

Ten school-aged Young Friends met at the 185th session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio, from July 27th to 31st, 2005 to consider the theme of "Beyond Tolerance: Seeking Spiritual Common Ground."

We shared many concerns. We are concerned that we are losing our popularity. We are concerned that some people eat beans and rice every day. We are concerned that there are not more Quaker vegans, and we are concerned that there are not enough glow-in-the-dark beads.

We shared many hopes for the future. We hope we are not homeless. We hope we can donate money to the poor so they can eat pizza. We hope there is a talent show next year at Yearly Meeting, and we hope we can come back to Yearly Meeting next year.

Sincerely,

The Young Friends of OVYM

Rachel Logan

Dylan Cahalan

Isaac Hines-Willimas

Kirk and Andrew Hardy

Tobias and Charlotte Dean

Cecilia and Elana Branson

Noah Winold

## Planning Committee Report

— Diann Herzog, Clerk

OVYM Planning Committee met Ninth Month, 10th, 2005. We heard the registrar's report of our sessions at Wilmington College, that things went much better this year, but that there were still some concerns, especially regarding the physical condition of the dorms. The simple meal provided a donation of \$600 to RSWR. Late publication of the schedule created a stumbling block for Friends and this committee intends to improve that situation.

It was suggested that a scholarship fund be established from a designated contribution option on the registration form, to provide financial assistance for Friends who need it to attend Yearly Meeting. It could also be drawn from the general fund, for simplicity in bookkeeping. No keys were lost and there was agreement between OVYM and the college regarding charges. Lisa Cayard has been named Registrar for the 2006 session with David Wood assisting. Thirty-nine evaluations were reviewed and the information and suggestions disclosed will be taken into consideration. There was a clear call for more worship during YM. The Talent Show was also clearly missed and will be re-instated next year, with some thought to advance preparation of offerings. We were brought into a tender concern for new attenders and shy Friends, that we become more sensitive and aware of our fellow travelers and make increased efforts to engage them in the life of the Yearly Meeting.

Attendance was down slightly for adults and dramatically for children and middle youth. We will be doing more outreach and hope to increase attendance of OVYM 2006 session. We are committed to an Earthcare theme for 2006 and will be working with members of the Earthcare Committee to develop the title for the theme, develop workshops and worship sharing, and secure speakers and workshop leaders.

## Monthly Meetings' Feedback Requested

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee would like to determine what actions have been taken by our Monthly Meetings to address the Peace Testimony, military recruitment, the draft, and conscientious objection in order to support further education on these concerns. **Please send this information to Deborah Jordan ([jordandh@email.uc.edu](mailto:jordandh@email.uc.edu) or to 601 Enright Ave., Cincinnati, OH. 45205) by December 1st.** Our committee will compile a list of resource people in our Yearly Meeting and be available to support Meeting efforts.

1. How many youth (over 12) are part of your Meeting?
2. Please check what information has been provided to the youth, in what form, in the last 2 to 3 years about the following:

Topic	Letter	Flyer, pamphlet, video, etc.	Presentation	Resource Person	Clearness Committee	Other (please specify)
Peace Testimony						
Military Recruitment						
Draft						
Conscientious Objection						

3. Have youth been encouraged to record their C.O. beliefs?  
Have any done so, and, if so, who?
4. Who are resources in your Meeting (C.O., draft counselors, concerned and informed youth)?
5. What, if anything, have you done to share and witness in your larger community?

### Quaker Heights Care Community

– Wendy Waters-Connell, Executive Director

QHCC is looking for nominations to serve for Corporate Board Membership. The Corporate Board consists of 50-75 members who meet once a year in Fourth Month. It is the entity from which committee members and Trustees are sought.

If you know of someone who would be interested, please have them contact me at [wwatersc@quakerheights.org](mailto:wwatersc@quakerheights.org) or 513-897-6050.

## Treasurer's Notes

– Paul Buckley

1. My email address in the directory is incorrect. Unfortunately, it is on an email system that does not inform people when it is unable to deliver a message. Emails sent to that address (which we dare not print here) simply disappear into the ether and are never seen again. I don't know they were sent, and the sender doesn't know they were not delivered.

**I have created a new email address for all OVYM treasurer's business: [ovymtreasurer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ovymtreasurer@sbcglobal.net)**

2. Many Friends may not know that donations over \$250 cannot be deducted from your income taxes unless you have a receipt from the organization. This includes donated travel expenses. To meet this need, I have created two new forms. The first is a Travel Advance Form and should be filled out by anyone who needs money before travelling. The second is a Travel Expense Report and should be filled out by everyone who travels on behalf of the yearly meeting -- whether they want to be reimbursed or not -- and including everyone who has received a travel advance.

Copies of these forms will be available at the Executive Committee meetings and will be sent to the clerks of each committee. Additional copies can be obtained from Krystin Schmidt ([ovymsec@insightbb.com](mailto:ovymsec@insightbb.com)).

---

## Budget and Finance Committee Report

This year, the Budget and Finance committee is proposing an **Assessment of \$90 per Budget Member**. This is up from \$85 last year. However, the largest increase is in the salary and benefits for our employees. Another increase over last year is in the Middle Youth program.

Last year, the budget showed a deficit of over \$4800. We under spent the budget, and ended up with a modest surplus. This year, the committee is again recommending a modest deficit in the budget. If we spend all that we budget, we will still have plenty of reserves to manage the yearly meeting operations; however, the committee anticipates that we will come out about even.

Table B1 shows how the money will be distributed at the end of the year, if all goes as planned.

**Table B1  
End of Year Balances**

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Budget
<b>Activity Funds</b>					
General Fund	\$ 1,785.57	\$ 2,637.56	\$ 3,632.75	\$ 2,274.55	\$ 10,823.08
OVYM Rep Travel	\$ 4,309.29	\$ 793.77	\$ (390.90)	\$ 147.42	\$ 447.42
FWCC Triennial	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 3,670.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 1,670.00	\$ 2,670.00
Teen Program	\$ 10,513.36	\$ 14,882.36	\$ 7,583.40	\$ 10,883.53	\$ -
Yearly Session	\$ 21,333.38	\$ 16,068.34	\$ 12,591.31	\$ 15,454.40	\$ 14,004.40
Alaska YM Youth Travel	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
WGYF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
<b>Activity Funds Total</b>	<b>\$ 45,141.60</b>	<b>\$ 41,052.03</b>	<b>\$ 27,086.56</b>	<b>\$ 30,929.90</b>	<b>\$ 27,944.90</b>
Increase (decrease)	8,224.82	\$ (4,089.57)	\$(13,965.47)	\$ 3,843.34	\$ (2,985.00)

**See the 2005 OVYM Minutes booklet for the complete FY2006 budget.**

## **MONTHLY MEETING NEWS**

### **Bloomington Meeting**

*– Terry Reynolds, correspondent*

The summer of 2005 brought joys and sorrows to Bloomington Friends. Through it all, we have noticed our worship becoming deeper and richer.

We welcomed the opportunity to share our meetinghouse and our grounds with the children and teachers of Harmony School, while their own building was undergoing renovation. We felt blessed by the presence of the children.

We have continued our visitation to other meetings, and several Bloomington Friends received a Quaker history lesson when they visited Plainfield Meeting in July.

In August, we were visited by Bill Cahalan and Jamie Fota, who gave a presentation on earth care as a religious calling.

We grieved over the fire bombing of the local mosque. We approved a minute expressing our sympathy and our sense of solidarity with the Bloomington Muslim community.

Friends enjoyed touring each other's gardens this summer, and we also enjoyed each other's company at our fall welcoming picnic.

The meetinghouse was overflowing with friends and family members attending the memorial service of Millard Qualls, husband of long-time attender, Betty Qualls.

Transferring the membership of Lillian Henegar was bittersweet for us. Lillian has lived in California for many years and is active in a meeting there.

Now that summer is at an end, we look forward to our annual fall retreat. We also look forward to the opportunity of hosting the FWCC Section of the Americas Finance Committee in October. Some of us will be sharing our homes with these visitors for a weekend. All of us will be sharing our hearts.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Campus Meeting**

*– Jim and Millie Ramsey, correspondents*

The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary all-day celebration of the Peace Resource Center on campus was held September 21.

We regret losing two members, Bill and Caroline Guthrie who have moved to Louisville.

A celebration and opening of the Quaker Heritage Center and meeting room on campus was held at 1:30 on September 25.

In October, the monthly spiritual journeys meetings are being resumed. The October meeting is held at the home of Roy Joe and Ruth Stuckey. The query discussed is "Are our friendships spiritual so that the love of God grows with them?"

Levi Tkach returned from two weeks in Geneva, Switzerland, where he was an intern for young friends at the Quaker United Nations office. The school was comprised of twenty students 20-26 years old. Levi is a Wilmington College student.

Richard Coleman is doing well recovering from bone surgery on his ankle.

Phil Holmes is staying at the home of his daughter in Texas while he undergoes chemotherapy and radiology treatments for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The meeting has been holding first day worship in the meeting room of the newly completed Quaker Heritage Center on campus.

Canby Jones spent the latter part of July and early August in Tokyo, Japan. While there, he attended the observance of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

This past summer Steve Potthoff attended a conference in Cincinnati dedicated to a discussion and enlightenment of the connection between ecology and spirituality. He also attended the annual meeting of the Friends Association of Higher Education at Haverford College.



Roy Joe and Ruth Stuckey attended the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting at Bluffton University as representatives of FWCC.

---

## Clear Creek Meeting

— *Cecile Holvik, correspondent*

Clear Creek Meeting warmly welcomed Lane Gehrig and Wendy Renish as members. The couple transferred from Hopewell Friends Meeting.

During the summer we met for worship in the Quigg Room of ESR because Stout Meetinghouse was undergoing renovation. Things are back to normal now.

In the past months, several members of Clear Creek Meeting had an opportunity to travel outside Indiana. Among them was Marya Bower, an Associate Professor of Philosophy and also an Associate Campus Ministries member. She spent eight days walking an ancient pilgrimage in Spain. Named the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, the trek covered 125 miles as a Peace Pilgrimage. The group rose daily at 5 am, and were ready to hike carrying a full backpack by 6 am. The hike ended at noon. The afternoons and evenings were given to visiting cultural sites, meditating and resting.

Said Marya Bower, "Each woman experienced the pilgrimage differently but each seemed profoundly moved by the opportunity and the accomplishment of the pilgrimage." She added that for her it was a time of gratitude and transformation. "I am still living the gifts of the Camino" she said.

Mariah and Erin Miller had the pleasure of meeting each other in Durban, South Africa. Mariah is a student at the University of Freiburg and will be studying in Durban for the next three months. Erin was able to meet up with her sister for a few days.

Susan Lee Barton has been very busy with her work as Midwest Field Staff Member of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Section of the Americas). Her travels this summer took her to Philadelphia, PA; Barnesville, Canton and Wilmington, OH; McNabb, IL; Mt. Pleasant and Plainfield, IN.

Tracy Peterson and Krystin Schmidt attended the gathering of Young Friends in England. Krystin plans to report on this experience to some of the meetings under OVYM.

Meanwhile, back in Richmond, Friends are participating in "second hour" examination of the Queries, using the worship sharing method of discussion. The inter-generational trash pickup project continues to be active, and the midweek meeting for worship continues at Friends Fellowship Community.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Community Meeting

— *Jean Stoffregen, correspondent*

Our meeting has been experiencing more than usual turnover in attenders and members this year, but thankfully comings and goings have balanced out. Almost every First Day we have visitors who come to experience a Friends meeting for the first time.

The committees have been faithfully caring for our beloved house and spacious grounds. There has been painting and many needed repairs and set up of a new playground center for children. In May the Community Committee sponsored a musical evening at which many young people from local meetings performed. What talented youngsters are growing up in our midst.

Two study groups met regularly, one with Tom Bennett to study Jesus and the Gospels. A second met bimonthly February through May, focusing on Prayer and Worship with the guidance of Roland Kreager and Cindi Goslee. A third group titled Quakerism 101 continues to introduce our newer attenders to Quakerism, this year under the guidance of Kate Anthony.

We were all worried when Roland Kreager suffered a life-threatening attack of appendicitis but are happy to report that he now is on the mend and able to resume his work with Right Sharing of World Resources.

A carry-in meal featuring locally grown foods gathered Friends together on September 4<sup>th</sup> to start the fall activities.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Dayton Meeting

— *David Wood, correspondent*

Our meetings for worship this summer have been better attended than in previous years, and we have been blessed with several visitors who may become involved in our community. Yearly meeting sessions saw the majority of our active members, including our two teenagers, participating, at least for a day or two.

We missed the talent show, but enjoyed the FMC concert in Yellow Springs.

It has been a difficult summer for many of our members, who have experienced health issues themselves or in their families. We received an invitation from Mack Memorial Brethren Church to move to their building and cooperate in both first day school and peace and justice activities. We are looking carefully at our needs and the new opportunities in making our decision.

We continue to prepare and serve meals at Saint Vincent's homeless shelter, which has moved to a new facility capable of serving many more people. We are pleased that Anna Henry is becoming more involved in the yearly meeting, having participated in the teen work camp at Olney and organized a trip to King's Island for OVYM teens. Second hour discussions this year will focus on the parables in the synoptic gospels.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Eastern Hills Meeting**

*- Franchot Ballinger, correspondent*

In addition to yearly meetings and vacations, Eastern Hills Friends kept busy with various summer time Quaker activities.

On June 4, Lyn and Dick Day hosted a potluck dinner and silent auction to raise money for Rachel Dean's trip to England as an OVYM representative to the World Gathering of Young Friends. Quakers from Eastern Hills, Oxford, and Community meetings attended. The auction was for a wide array of craft and art items and services ( a total of 50) provided by Eastern Hills and Oxford Quakers including handcrafted jewelry, a reflexology session, hiking staffs, a book of poems written by a member, a member's weaving, servers, picture frames, hand woven towels, cookies, and more. The donations for dinner, other contributions, and the auction raised a total of \$1,326 for Rachel.

Also in June, Daniel Montgomery and Jeremy and Nathan Coppock joined six other Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting teens for a week of work at Olney in Barnesville, Ohio. In addition to painting a historic Quaker house, they visited Raven Rock, an intentional community, and participated in Meeting for Worship in Stillwater Monthly Meeting's old meetinghouse.

The July Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business also became an opportunity for some summer fellowship as we met at the home of Alice and Wilson Palmer for a carry-in, business, and swimming.

Linda Coppock is hosting mid-week worship at her home. Following a simple supper provided by Linda, Friends worship for about 45 minutes.

Finally, in September, Suzanne Carnwath moved from Cincinnati to Cambridge, England where she has taken a teaching position. We were saddened at her departure but wish her well in her new home.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Fall Creek Meeting**

*- Diann Herzog, correspondent*

Fall Creek Meeting is still very much in the re-seeding process, but we are beginning to see some sprouts and that gives us great hope and encouragement! From our appeal to Friends for help with funds for repair of our meeting house we have been gifted with over \$13,000. We will never feel that we have been adequately able to express our deep gratitude, but accept this gift with the grace in which it is given, and will use it in the most thoughtful and careful way. After the eviction of thirteen furry friends and a huge honey bee hive, repairs are scheduled to begin in Ninth Month and we will keep everyone informed of the progress. We hope to have a great open house event in the spring to which you are all invited.

In Seventh Month we were visited by Friends Priscilla and Enoch Makhino, from Moisbridge, Kenya. Seeing our abundance through their eyes was enlightening and brought home the meaning of the phrase, "an embarrassment of riches". We were greatly blessed by the sincerity and depth of their ministry. We also learned a lesson about putting yourself in God's hands and then having enough faith not to worry. Their travel plans changed from hour to hour and while we worried and fretted over how and when and if they were to get from place to place, they demonstrated a calm and easy spirit and never once seemed concerned or lost their joy.

By the time this is printed, we will have finished the Quakerism 101 course and undertaken another course of study, still under consideration. Our Middle Youth group is beginning a comparative religions study, which has been opened to the public. Our home

school group, Seeds of Growth, is going strong with many activities planned for the year. This outreach effort has brought two young families into meeting, which is a blessing to all of us. One of the young couples asked for the meeting to take their marriage under our care and to have a meeting for marriage. The meeting for marriage has deepened and strengthened our bonds of love for one another. It feels like we have all been joined together in holy relationship.

In Ninth Month we were blessed by the visit of Deborah Fisch from FGC Traveling Ministries Program and her traveling companion, Fran Taber from Ohio Yearly Meeting. We shared hours of conversation, worship, home visits and meals and met with other Friends from small meetings and worship groups, to the edification of us all. Visit each other Friends, especially remembering those who are in most need of companionship.

We look forward to the annual teen retreat the first weekend of Eleventh Month. Teens, wear your work clothes!

*When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Proverbs 16:7*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Hopewell Meeting**

*— Sherita Campbell, correspondent*

Because of illness, travels and concerns, Hopewell, while being very busy with Meeting activities and projects, has not been able to chronicle and send this exciting news to Quaker Quill. Now, as we are settling into our fall programs, all members safe and working hard, we have more time to send in our report.

Our education committee has provided an excellent First Day curriculum, and the Meeting is taking turns, a month at a time, at instruction in the children's class. We are sharing the leading of discussion of the second hour.

Our children's First Day school has between 6-8 young Quakers attending, creating an inter-generational atmosphere, which is increased by some of the children being grandchildren and great grandchildren of members. The education committee has planned projects to include all ages, plus special events even for the youngest ones. Children will spend some time in activities in the

First Day classroom, time in Meeting for Worship with the entire Meeting. There are activities planned during the discussion hour after Meeting. Each month there is scheduled a special service project that the children will be working on with help from the Meeting.

The August service project was a field trip to buy school supplies for children at a local school. It was brought before Meeting that several children in this local area school could not afford the basic school supplies. The First Day School children discussed this and decided to purchase the required items and did an amazing job selecting book bags, crayons, pencils, paper, scissors, glue and other items.

When hurricane Katrina hit, the school asked us if we would send the items to a school in the distressed area that was adding children affected by the hurricane to their school. The school thought the need was greater there. The Meeting decided this was another good project and so the materials are being boxed up for shipment to the school. The First Day class will send supplies to the local school at a later time.

We are preparing for our second open house, October 2. All former attendees and members of Hopewell are invited to attend, bring table service and a favorite food. Hopewell will furnish drinks and meat. We will have the usual unprogrammed meeting and lots of talking and visiting afterward. The Meeting will have a clean-up and preparation day Saturday, October 1.

One of our, now grown up, Young Friends and Earlham graduate is getting married October 8, 4:00 pm.

A member is attending ESR. A sojourning member from Columbia is attending ESR and is under the care of Meeting. We have a new grand baby whose coming was explained by a six-year-old sibling-to-be during Meeting concerns.

Some of the members of the young First Day class and adult chaperons took a field trip to Knightstown for a picnic and to ride the train after Meeting. So we are energized for fall, winter and spring.

We are holding in the Light, and prayerful thought, the people in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and the states and people that have sheltered those affected by the hurricane, as well as those workers who have been toiling 24 hours a day to rescue and save people. We are also holding in prayer always those who walk for

peace from New Castle to Washington D.C. and those among us who are working everyday in thought and deed for peace. May Spirit Bless.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Louisville Meeting**

— Donna Bisset, correspondent

We are enjoying monthly Potlucks on third Sundays, frequently with a theme and/or activity.

We mourn the loss of Violet Windell, one of our founding members. She attended our 50th Anniversary Celebration last year and continued to lead an active life until the day of her death. Her enthusiasm and sense of humor was apparent in her conversations and writings, and she is loved and missed by many.

Changes are taking place within our Meetinghouse—a dedicated Library Room is in the works; repairs are being made to our Children's room following water damage.

Kathy Wood, our recent-former clerk, moved to New York City in August. Her laughter, sense of humor and love of music has served this Meeting well and she is dearly missed.

Our Peace and Social Concerns Committee held a session concerning conscientious objection for our young Friends and interested others.

Friday evening book discussions that were started as a summer activity are continuing into the fall.

Our active Hospitality Committee continues to look for ways and means to gather Friends together in fellowship.

We are helping support another refugee family, thanks to efforts of our Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

James Deng, one of the Sudanese refugees whom we supported some years ago, now lives across the street from the Meetinghouse with his wife and daughter. They join us frequently for worship, Potluck and fellowship activities.

We will be saying farewell to Beth O'Hara and husband Michael Waddell much too soon. Though they have been with us only a short time, they have quickly become an active part of our meeting family.

Michael is our newsletter editor and Beth is active on Hospitality Committee. They are moving to Cincinnati at the end of September.

We recently approved sponsoring a Worship Sharing Group meeting in Corydon, Indiana, on the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 am. More information is available by calling Donna Bisset at 502-425-9864.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Miami Meeting**

— Lonny Burger, correspondent

Miami Monthly Meeting's concentration continues to be built around education. Adult First Day School sessions and our last Wednesday of the month Quakerism sessions have delved deeply into the Peace Testimony as well as what George Fox meant when he referred to "that of God in every man." The sessions have been highly informative and participation has been lively. In a recent special session Travis Cook shared his international experiences and feelings from his trip to Europe with a jazz band. Other topics covered recently have come from portions of Howard Brinton's Quaker Theology and Lynn Cope Roberts' The Little Quaker Sociology Book. Children's First Day School sessions have been highly fluid because of the fluctuation of number of children from week to week.

Reaching out to community organizations, a number of highly educational tours of the Museum and both Meetinghouses were conducted by Milton Cook and Eula McDermott in recent months for groups interested in Quakerism, area history, or their own family ancestry.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Oxford Meeting**

— Camilla Flintermann, correspondent

We are especially pleased to receive a transfer of membership for Bill Wines from the Boise, Idaho meeting. Bill has become a valuable and enjoyed member of our meeting family, whose conscience is balanced by a great sense of humor.

A primary concern just now is, of course, trying to see how we can most effectively respond to the needs of hurricane victims on the Gulf coast, as individuals and as a meeting.

During the summer, some of us were able to attend OVYM sessions, a valuable experience as always.

We look forward now to hearing reports from Rachel Dean, who was a delegate to the World Gathering of Young Friends, and from Serrin Anderson, a frequent attender here, who carried our traveling minute with her to Kenya.

As always, some of us participated on September 17th, in the local Crop Walk, the 15th year this has been held in Oxford. On Sunday September 11th we journeyed to West Elkton to help Friends there celebrate their 200th anniversary. This is the oldest established church in Preble County, and we have often enjoyed intervisitation with these good Friends from FUM.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Yellow Springs Meeting

— Carl Hyde, correspondent

Friends meet for worship on Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 am and Wednesday at 7:00 am. At 10 am we have First Day School and Adult Bible Study. Friends gather for fifteen minutes before the 11 o'clock meeting to sing hymns.

In June a memorial service was held for Allen Treadway. Allen and his wife Carolyn had

transferred to our Meeting from Decatur Illinois, where Allen had been clerk.

Good people continue to join the Meeting. These include Alan Palmer, Seth and Ellen Duell, Katy Kola, and Veronica Frost. Victoria Burke transferred from West Richmond Meeting. Kathy Angell is a sojourning member from Madison Meeting. Hardly a week goes by without a few visitors, including an occasional student from Antioch or Wittenberg.

Bryan Eastman transferred from Yellow Springs to Florida Avenue Meeting in Washington.

The Meeting supported Eve Williams in her plan to visit Cuba. With Meeting support to document the religious purpose of the visit, federal authorities approved the trip.

A First-day school kickoff is planned for Saturday September 10 with a sleepover in the meetinghouse for all children in grades K-6. Teens will have an overnight in one of the members' homes.

A meeting retreat will be held at the Glen Helen Outdoor Education Center, October 7-9.



## NEWS FROM OUTSIDE OVYM

### Greetings from Wilmington College's Watson Library!

— Jean Mulhern, Director

As the new director of Wilmington College's Watson Library, I bring extensive experience as an academic library director, an organizer and champion of college special collections, and an amateur local historian. I am writing to share with you information about our Quaker Special Collection services. Because of the 2004 staff realignment, casual visitors can no longer have walk-in access to the Quaker Rare Special Collections. Quaker Rare includes the archived records of Quaker Yearly Meetings as well as rare books and printed materials. Without a curator, these non-circulating Special Collections now are opened only by appointment. This is not an unusual arrangement in small private colleges. Behind the scenes, our cataloging and reference librarians are continuing to organize and catalog Special Collections materials for improved identification through our online catalog. We are cooperating in planning projects with the WC Quaker Heritage Center staff and are strengthening our bonds with the Clinton County Historical Society and other area libraries.

The good news is that access to Quaker Rare materials is easy to arrange. You will want to plan your research visit to the Special Collections in advance so that a reference librarian can organize materials prior to your visit or mail/email to you query responses. We make available an information request form online (<http://www.watsonlibrary.org/hours.html>) and an informational brochure. You may make an appointment or communicate your Quaker research requests to the Watson Library by mailing to WC Pyle Center Box 1227, Wilmington OH 45177, by calling the main Library telephone at 1.800.341.9318, ext. 345 or 937.382.6661, ext. 345, by faxing the Library at 937.383.8571, or by emailing: [library@wilmington.edu](mailto:library@wilmington.edu)

Genealogy inquiries should be directed first to the Clinton County Historical Society, 937-382-4684, Wednesday through Friday, 1 - 4 p.m.  
<http://www.clintoncountyhistory.org/>

I encourage you to share with me your ideas about enhancing the Watson Library's Quaker Special

Collections. I can be contacted at [jean\\_mulhern@wilmington.edu](mailto:jean_mulhern@wilmington.edu) or 937-382-6661, ext. 346.

### Indiana Friends Committee on Legislation

The Indiana Friends Committee on Legislation will be hold an Annual Conference on October 29, 2005 at First Friends in Indianapolis, at 3030 East Kessler Blvd. from 10:00 AM till 2:00 PM. The featured speaker will be Kathy Guthrie, the Field Program Secretary for the FCNL. Lunch will be what some call a Carry-In, others call a Pitch-In, but all call a great Meeting for Eating. The morning program will feature a talk and Q & A by Kathy Guthrie. The afternoon will have the results of the IFCL Questionnaire and a decision on the IFCL Issues for the 2005-2006 Legislative Year.

- 10:00 AM Worship with a Concern for Legislation  
10:15 AM Kathy Guthrie  
                    Current National FCNL Issues  
                    How FCNL Chooses Issues  
11:30 AM Meeting for Eating - Carry-In  
12:30 PM Results of IFCL Questionnaire  
                    Issues for IFCL 2005-2006 Legislative

### Just Published

While its plot is set in 19th Century Quaker Philadelphia, *Tunnell's Boys* has marked relevance with the war in Iraq today. Its story takes place before and during the United States' war with Spain in 1898, which historian Thomas Schoonover cites as our nation's first excursion into globalization and empire. On the Pacific front, the US occupation army in Manila became bogged down in battling three years of "postwar" grass-roots insurgency, involving thousands of deaths and numerous atrocities by our soldiers.

Quaker author and peace activist George Lakey writes of *Tunnell's Boys*:

"With pro-war hysteria rising around him, a young pacifist man with a history of brawling embodies the yearnings and contradictions

of those around him. Like Tony Junker's adventurous protagonist, I found myself challenged anew: when to fight and by what means? When to question cynically my government's posture and when to join my neighbor's true hopes for democracy? How to express my passion and still listen for the inner voice? This book is for anyone who loves peace and finds 'integrity' as much a verb as a noun."

Quaker author and historian Margaret Hope Bacon adds:

"For one who loves both sailing and the history of Quaker Philadelphia, *Tunnell's Boys* brings alive a time, a place, and a culture which I have lived in through my imagination. An exciting and absorbing human drama which kept me turning the pages."

*Tunnell's Boys* is widely available online and through local bookstores. It is listed by Friends General Council bookstore. Author Tony Junker is a member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. More information can be found on his website: [www.tonyjunker.com](http://www.tonyjunker.com).

---

## **OVYM Friends at Sierra Friends Center's Woolman Semester**

Sierra Friends Center, in Nevada City, California, has become the home of OVYM Friend and Earlham graduate, Bill Henry, who teaches World Issues for The Woolman Semester. It is also a "home away from home" for Woolman graduate Ollie Klarer, who has since returned to his hometown of Georgetown, Kentucky to finish his senior year of high school.

Bill and Ollie both arrived at Sierra Friends Center in the fall of 2004 to begin their work at the Woolman Semester. They struck an immediate bond due to their relationship with OVYM and having grown up in "unabashedly red states."

Ollie came to The Woolman Semester in search of kindred souls and meaningful courses. In the context of a small Quaker community striving to live out Friends values, Ollie gained a greater understanding of himself and the world.

Bill's experience at Earlham College influenced his decision to teach at The Woolman Semester, the only Friends semester school. Bill and his colleagues at Woolman aspire to offer both the kind of academic rigor and personal growth so highly valued at Earlham.

The Woolman Semester holds quite a few connections to Earlham College. Two of the teachers and one Board member were Earlham grads and two Woolman Semester graduates were accepted to Earlham this year. In addition, Paul Lacey was the keynote speaker for the first graduation of the Woolman Semester in the spring of 2004. Paul enjoyed the opportunity of sitting in on classes during the week prior to graduation. He expressed his joy upon witnessing one of his former students teach Peace Studies and Humanities & Ethics. Paul also spoke highly of the Woolman students and their aspirations to effect change on issues of peace, justice and sustainability-- the three core themes of The Woolman Semester.

Ollie and Bill will always be welcomed "home" to Sierra Friends Center as part of the Woolman Semester family. All Friends are welcome to visit to find out more about The Woolman Semester. If visiting in person isn't likely, please visit us on the web at [www.woolman.org](http://www.woolman.org).

We hope to see you soon!

Kathy Runyan  
Admissions Director  
The Woolman Semester

---

## **FGC Position Available**

Conference Coordinator, Friends General Conference for Annual Gathering of Friends. Works with several committees, many volunteers, and university staff, requiring some weekend work, travel. Manages \$1 million budget; supervises two regular plus seasonal staff. Administers complex operations and logistics, solves problems, manages crises, consulting extensively with volunteer leadership. Should be active in Friends' meeting. Send resume to General Secretary, FGC, 1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia, PA, 19107, or [bruceb@fgcquaker.org](mailto:bruceb@fgcquaker.org). Deadline 1/20/06.

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting  
6921 Stonington Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45230

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CINCINNATI, OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 5889

---

FWCC announces the **2006 QUAKER YOUTH PILGRIMAGE** will take place in the Midwestern United States, July 14-August 10, 2006. The Section of the Americas is seeking 14 young Friends who will be ages 16-18 at the time of the pilgrimage, and two adult facilitators.

For more information contact Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas, 1506 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19102, (215)241-7250, [QYP@fwccamericas.org](mailto:QYP@fwccamericas.org).

The deadline for applications for adult leaders is December 15, 2005; deadline for pilgrim applicants is January 15, 2006.

***A PILGRIMAGE BEGINS A LIFETIME OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH***