

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Meeting Telephone: 410-573-0364

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Annapolis Friends Meeting Website:

<http://www.quaker.org/annapolis>

Newsletter ed.: Phil Caroom – contact at annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com

Meetings for Worship:

Annapolis Friends Meeting House
351 DuBois Road, Annapolis, Md. 21401
First Days, 11:00 A.M.

First Day School for children

11:15 A.M. (join meeting for worship from 11:00-11:15)

Nursery care for our youngest

11:00 A.M.

Meetings for Worship with a

Concern for Business:

1st First Day of month at 9:00 A.M.

Adult religious education:

As noted in calendar below

SEPTEMBER 2010 CALENDAR

05	9:00 A.M.	-	Meeting...for Business – See agenda, p. 2
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship followed by potluck & <u>DISCUSSION OF FIRST DAY SCHOOL!</u> – (See p. 3)
06		-	<i>Meeting provides Lighthouse Shelter Supper (See pg. 5)</i>
12	8:00 A.M.	-	Early Meeting for Worship
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
19	9:00 A.M.	-	Committee Meetings
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
26	8:00 A.M.	-	Early Meeting for Worship
	11:00 A.M.	-	Meeting for Worship
	9:00 P.M.	-	Newsletter items due: please email!

Care of the Meeting House for Ninth Month: Meeting House and Land

QUERIES FOR NINTH MONTH: SOCIAL ORDER

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things? **Faith & Practice**, p.40

See more Quaker quotes on page 2.

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Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes - First Day of the Eighth Month, 2010

Leo P. (Acting Clerk), Marcia O. (Recording Clerk) and 23 other Friends and attenders participated. Our Meeting began with centering worship.

Ministry and Worship Committee-Marcia O. reporting: A survey, earlier this year, sought to determine how spirituality and attendance could be increased at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. A summary of results from 33 respondents indicated: it is clear that our current time and day for were most convenient. Overwhelmingly, child care should be provided, if necessary on a paid basis, as most were not anxious to volunteer. A call for silence more often to let 'Spirit in' was often mentioned. Speaking only once to an idea, was stressed as was the general request to follow Quaker principles. The Clerk should call for clarification, following questions. When conflict arises, the clerk may call a separate meeting for threshing or worship sharing to resolve the conflict. Traditionally, decisions do not arise from threshing sessions or worship sharing. We were reminded to trust our committees to do their work, and to trust in the work they produce. We were also reminded to engage in active listening and spiritual discerning.

Children's Religious Education Committee- Carin K. reporting: Our meeting found unity with the Child Welcoming Session to be held on the 7th Day of the Eleventh Month, 2010. In the last 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship, the certificates are read, the children are asked to share. There is then a worship sharing response and the signing of the certificates conclude the process.

Home Schooling Report -Kimberly Be. reporting: The Annapolis Friends Meeting ad hoc Home Schooling Committee successfully provided oversight for the educational experiences of two families and two students during the 2009/2010 academic school year. The Bl. family home schooled E. for a second year, successfully transitioning her from her early educational experience at a private institution and preparing her to enter Southern Anne Arundel County High School as a 10th grader this Fall. The Be. family completed their first year of home education with K. the Kindergarten level. The ad hoc Committee, during the 2010/2011 academic year will consist of Kimberly Be., Sarah Bl., Mardy Bu., Cairn K., and Joanna T. We anticipate the participation of at least two students this academic year. Kallan will be home schooled for 1st grade and her brother R. will begin Kindergarten education. Eleanor Bl. is excited to be attending public High School this Fall. The Committee has had conversation with another family that has significant experience with Friends. They are considering Kindergarten education for their son under the auspices of AFM. We have, however, recently heard that they will be attending another program. The Committee is interested in limited expansion and appreciates the approval granted during business meeting in the Eighth Month of 2009, allowing the Committee discernment to extend oversight to families who do not attend AFM. AFM is the only Quaker-affiliated umbrella organization available in Maryland, and the Committee acknowledges and accepts the responsibility to offer service to the greater Friends community in the state. However, the Committee remains cognizant that expansion of the program should be undertaken mindfully and not overburden the expertise or resources available. Ultimately, the focus must be on providing appropriate support to promote the success of each student, their families, and the overall program.

Comments made include the following:

Reaching out to all of Maryland is exciting and provides an outreach opportunity. We are listed with the state as an umbrella organization. Some geographic limitations are being considered. The family and the student fit, as well as the desired commitments, seriously affect the decision.

The meeting approved our pilot program that included H. and her son, who were not members of the AFM community. We did not pursue more general approval at that point, since we wanted to wait and see how the program evolved. Two years down the road, we are interested in revising the guidelines to reflect what we have learned through S.'s full year with an established home schooling organization and our own experiences over the course of the last two years, as well as our vision for the future. We see a need for a Friends' umbrella group that would not be limited by geography within the state (as long as they are willing to travel to Meeting for a limited number of Meetings for Worship), and we would like to be able to address that need on a small

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Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes - Eighth Month (CONTINUED FROM P.2)

scale. Kimberly Be., the current clerk of the home schooling committee, will take the lead on revising the pilot guidelines, in conjunction with the home schooling committee.

The Meeting found unity with this report and expressed appreciation.

Pastoral Care Committee- Leo Pickens reporting: Announcement of a workshop for Conflict Resolution, to be held on the Tenth Month, 17, 2010 led by Ramona Buck 9:00 to 10:45am. This workshop had previously been approved, preempting regular committee day. The clerks, in particular, are encouraged to attend, providing tools to more efficiently resolve these conflicts, rather than to separate us. Of course everyone is encouraged to attend.

A Meeting for Learning on End of Life Issues is being presented this Fall. Questions to be addressed include: Are we prepared for our own end of life? Queries include the presence of a will, advance directives, relationships in life that are requiring attention, prior to its end. The date is the 14th of Eleventh Month at 9am. Perhaps a support group will follow, as this offering is thought to be an introduction, only.

A comment was offered that this process is more involved than expected as it can be emotionally laden, and more lengthy than otherwise thought. Another comment from a Friend related her experience, and that this important process can offer amazing results.

Great appreciation was offered to Pastoral Care for preparing this topic. Many of the projects remain in the planning phase and feedback is requested.

Clerk's Suggestion for Committee Sharing and perhaps for a Potluck- Leo P. reporting: Two ideas were offered: One, that new attenders have committee overview day at potluck with handouts and reports to the newsletter. Second, to invite committees seeking input and fresh ideas to assist in their functioning. Opportunity of some 15 minutes after Meeting for Worship, for each committee, for a number of weeks, beginning 9/5/10, or another date and then, thereafter. Adequate time will be available for all committees to present, and for committees to share with Friends, old and new, the work of their committees, their mission, accomplishments, obstacles, and needs. The focus would be on what work the committees accomplish as well as a recruitment of new Friends to seek membership on those committees. Those attending will share ideas and resources, for new attenders and those wishing to change committees. These sessions would provide time for the presentation of Committee work and to request feedback from Friends to obtain a fuller idea of that which is accomplished. As Nominating Committee is preparing to offer its new slate, newcomers will obtain an overview of what Friends' do. We are reminded that we have a newsletter, wherein these ideas can be distributed to our entire community. We could even feature a Committee of the Month to inform Friends of this work. Another idea offered was to visit committee meetings to see what is being done and to generate interest in joining. An ad hoc meeting, consisting of all clerks of the committees may assist in this discussion. There is value in offering an opportunity vs. instituting an artificial construct, which may become an obligation.

Outreach Committee and the Clerk will meet to season these ideas and to come up with a decision.

Announcement- Leo Pickens reporting: BYM and Monthly Meeting Visioning Session Eighth Month, 22 with Meg Meyer, current clerk of interim meeting is presenting. "Baltimore Yearly Meeting is visiting every Monthly Meeting this summer and fall. Yearly Meeting wants to listen to Monthly Meeting members and to talk about the Yearly Meeting organization. Yearly Meeting hopes to discover what vision Friends have for our larger organization and hear Friends' thoughts about the relationship between Monthly Meetings and Yearly Meeting. Meg Meyer will join us at 9 a.m. on First Day, Eighth Month, 22nd. No prior experience with Yearly Meeting is needed to participate. "

These minutes were read and approved during Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully Submitted, Leo P., Acting Clerk & Marcia O., Recording Clerk

ANN RIGGS REPORTS ON HER MISSION TO KENYA'S FRIENDS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE(FTC)

Ann Riggs returned to AFM on August 12, bringing news from Kenya, photos of FTC activities, and requests for assistance. About 20 Friends and other interested persons listened.

Ann began by noting there are four times as many Quakers in Kenya than in all of the U.S. Five percent of all Kenyans are Quaker.

When Ann arrived more than one year ago to begin serving as "Principal" managing FTC, there were few students due to political unrest and FTC funding shortages. Now, there may be up to 150 resident students at one time, studying at all levels ("certificate," "diploma," "bachelor" and "masters"—the higher degrees are awarded in a cooperative program with Nairobi University).

FTC graduates may serve as "chaplains" for Quaker congregations or other groups such as schools, seamstress groups, or auto repair programs. They also may provide counseling and practical advice to patients from HIV and tuberculosis clinics, as both diseases are widespread in Kenya. And, FTC has sent students to teach an "Alternatives to Violence" field program in nearby Rwanda.

The school also has its own "football" (soccer) team and, Ann brags, "They beat someone this year!"

Special events at FTC have been held with other African denominations. On one occasion, the international executive directors of FUM and FGC met at FTC, held discussions at dinner and actually danced together at an FTC social hour.

The financial troubles have presented more trouble for Ann. After some staff layoffs and budget cuts, FTC again is solvent. FTC earns some money by selling tomatoes from its greenhouse and milk from its 9 dairy cow herd to a nearby hospital and to villagers. FTC women quilters hope to earn more money by sale of



handmade quilts, t-shirts, and headscarves. (See photo of Ann with quilt.)

But, even money cannot solve some FTC troubles: The local electric company often has outages due to their own mismanagement, running out of diesel for its generators. The electricity loss also interrupts the water supply and requires water to be brought via buckets from a nearby river.

With advice from AFM's Doug M., Ann hopes that FTC may acquire locally manufactured solar-electric panels to supply its own electricity. Donations of \$7500 to \$10,000 could make FTC electrically self sufficient.

For her own support as FTC Principal, Ann also needs to raise \$70,000 for the coming year. Donations may be sent via FUM's website, putting "FTC-Ann Riggs" or "FTC-solar panels" in the program block.

FALL CAMPING PLANS GET UNDERWAY

Traditionally we have held our meetingwide camping trip at Catoctin Quaker Camp the 4th weekend in September. But Catoctin again is available this year on 24 - 26 September. Friends typically arrive Friday afternoon/evening, or as they are able. Meals and chores are communal Saturday morning through Sunday morning. It sounds like we might be able to include a gentle canoe/kayak trip on the Antietam on Saturday. Are Friends interested in attending? Helping to organize? So far two families have offered to take the lead on organizing a meal. Since there are four communal meals total, we need two more families to volunteer to take the lead on a meal. Also, if you have a canoe and/or kayak you could bring, please talk with Cairn K. of CREC. The fall camping trips are a great opportunity for community fellowship. All ages are welcome!

**NEW LIGHTHOUSE SHELTER BUILDING NEARS COMPLETION!
MEAL PREPARATION PLAN CHANGES, BUT OTHER NEEDS CONTINUE**

The Light House is finally moving to our incredible new facility after 4 years of preparations and 2 years of building. The new shelter at 10 Hudson Street will open in October. Expanding to 60 beds (including family apartments) and opening for day use by the chronic homeless, the shelter expects to help five times as many people as it does now.

Because of this, many changes will occur the shelter uses volunteers, beginning in October. In particular, evening meals will be handled in a completely different way. All food must be prepared on site under supervision required by health department regulations. The number of meals will more than double. Service will be cafeteria style with dinner available from 6 through 7:30. The cost and time commitment for those providing dinner will increase significantly.

While we no longer will donate homemade dinners in the traditional way (which was greatly appreciated!), other new volunteer opportunities will be offered to us:

As one example, the Light House is trying to find a way to distribute these lunches downtown so people don't have to trek out to Hudson Street. Also, a mentoring program will match residents with volunteers who will meet with them at least once a week and make themselves reasonably accessible by phone to help navigate through basic life skills. And the shelter is looking for volunteers with skills in many areas, notably computers, cooking and gardening. Our liason soon will pass on more details of these opportunities.

There are several upcoming events that have traditionally drawn volunteers from our Meeting. One is the Ride for Shelter, which begins at noon on Sunday Sept. 26. The second is the Pumpkin Patch; our day looks like being Thursday Oct. 14. Please let Peter Meredith or Carol Brantley know if you are interested in helping with either of these.

The Lighthouse also is asking its supporters to participate in a "SHELTER SHOWER" on Sept. 12, between noon and 4 p.m. Supporters are invited to use a "shower registry" links on the Lighthouse "Support the New Shelter" website. Items such as sheets, towels, pillows, kitchen utensils, laundry detergent all are needed initially to stock the new facility in preparation for its guests. Those contributing items are asked NOT to arrange their delivery to the new shelter, but instead to bring them on 9/12. On 9/12, the facility will not yet be ready for a full tour, but those delivering shower items may get a "sneak peak" of the shiny new commercial kitchen and pantry. For questions regarding the registry or to schedule an alternate registry delivery date, please send an email to newbuilding@annapolislighthouse.org or call 410-349-5056 x 24.

The shelter's fund raising needs will increase; annual operating costs will top \$1million. The Light House will be asking congregations like ours for an annual commitment upfront, so it knows what to expect when it does its budget, but congregations will set their own level of commitment. And the organization's old name, Annapolis Area Ministries, will be dropped in favor of Light House, which is the name everybody knows it by anyway. In the meantime, the existing Lighthouse shelter reports a severe SHORTAGE OF BOTTLED WATER and invites supporters to bring bottles to the old 206 West Street location. Because of the severe heat, Lighthouse guests have used the entire normal supply as of mid-August. Shelter staff are available to help carry in donations from the curb.

Friends have asked when they can tour the new shelter. The answer is Tuesday Oct. 19, 4 to 7 p.m., 10 Hudson Street. We think you will like it!

CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING IN ELLICOTT CITY ON 9/12

All are cordially invited to the upcoming Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting hosted by Patapsco Friends Meeting on 9/12/10 at Hebron House, 2331 Calvin Circle, Ellicott City, Maryland:

- 8:45 am Welcome
- 9:15 am Quarterly Business Meeting
- 11:00 am Meeting for Worship
- Noon Lunch _ provided
- 1:00 pm Quaker Witness on Mental Health

Recently, Patapsco Meeting formed a group called the Mental Health Ministry. The program to be presented at the Quarterly Meeting will share the rich legacy of Quaker efforts to improve the lives of people suffering from mental illness and explore the challenges to their well_being. (Do you know that one in five U.S. families is affected by mental illness? Is this your family or another one you might be acquainted with?)

To learn more about this important mission, be present for the program which will feature a panel discussion made up of a Volunteer associated with Springfield State Hospital; mental health providers; family members; local officials of NAMI (Nat'l Alliance on Mental Illness); and public policy advocates - all from Patapsco Friends Meeting

For directions to Hebron House, contact Minette (minette3@cs.com) or refer to announce list from 18 Aug 2010.

9/11 DISCUSSION BY BYM'S PEACE & SOCIAL ACTION COM.

All are invited to join the Yearly Meeting's Peace and Social Action Committee on 9/11 from 10:00 to 3:00 pm at Sandy Spring Friends Meeting's Community House to hear Nathan Harrington speak from his experience of social justice and action.

Nathan is a member of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting who is creating an intentional community in Congress Heights section in Anacostia DC to work on social justice issues. He also works at a challenging public school in Prince George's County.

After a delicious lunch, we will gather to share each other's experience throughout the past year as we worked for peace and social justice. All are welcome. You do not need to be a member of your Peace and Social Action committee.

If you do plan to come, please contact Ellen Atkinson (mewa42@aol.com or 301-774-3636) by Tuesday September 7 so that they know how much food to prepare.

Gifts and Leadings Workshops

On the second and fourth First Days of September and October at 9:00, Barbara Thomas and Pat Scheck will lead a series on determining what gifts we have to offer and how Spirit is leading us to offer them.

The series will be based on two workshops offered at Friends General Conference, one that Barbara attended this summer and one that Pat led several years ago (and wrote about in a 2006 Pendle Hill Pamphlet).

The timing of this series will allow Annapolis Friends to consider what committees they might want to serve on as Nominating Committee begins approaching people about that service. It also will help Friends discern how they want to serve the larger community and world. There are so many needs--peace, the environment, justice, and on and on, that we can feel overwhelmed. We need to set personal priorities and think carefully about our own special places in meeting those needs.

It will be helpful if Friends commit to the entire series, although if you must miss any, you will be welcome when you can be there.

QUAKER QUOTES FOR SEPTEMBER:

For God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1: 7

We were born to make manifest the glory of God within us. It is not just in some of us, it is in everyone and as we let our own light shine we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear our presence automatically liberates others. Nelson Mandela

And all friends everywhere this I charge you...live in peace...and therein seek the peace of all men and no man's hurt....And so...it is love that overcomes and not hatred with hatred, nor strife with strife. Therefore live in the peaceable life, doing good to all men, and seeking the good and welfare of men. George Fox, 1659

Love was the first motion, and then a concern arose to spend some time with the Indians, that I might feel and understand their life, and the Spirit they live in, if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of Truth amongst them. And as it pleased the Lord to make way for my going at a time when the troubles of war were increasing and when by reason of much wet weather traveling was more difficult than usual at that season, I looked upon it as a more favorable opportunity to season my mind, and bring me into a nearer sympathy with them. And as mine eye was to the great Father of Mercies, humbly desiring to learn what his will was concerning me, I was made quiet and content. John Woolman, 1763

*In describing the concern that led him to visit the Indians, John Woolman wrote, "Love was the first motion." Love of our fellow man is more fundamental than international influence or economics or even the preservation of our nation. For 300 years Quakers sensitive to the spirit have endeavored to express a love that knows no limits of race or creed or nation. When motivated by this power, they have testified by word and deed to the dignity of all men everywhere. Frank S. Loescher, *The First Motion**

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HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – PLEASE NOTE NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR & EMAIL ADDRESS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by the deadline listed above in the calendar.
Phil Caroom is the new editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to him at annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com
- Friends also are asked to watch your email for announcements of meetings and to listen for announcements at the rise of meeting.
- Event and activity organizers, please also post your announcements on the bulletin board for those who do not use electronic mail!

Announce List: announce@annapolis.quaker.org

Discuss List: discuss@annapolis.quaker.org

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