

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER — OCTOBER 2011

CALENDAR

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m.
- First Day School for children: 11 a.m. (Joining meeting for worship from 11:45 a.m. to noon)
- Nursery care for our youngest: 11 a.m.
- Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business: 1st First Day of month at 9 a.m.
- Adult religious education: As noted in calendar below
- Care of the Meeting House for Tenth Month: Peace and Social Concerns

OCTOBER 2: 9 a.m. Meeting for worship with attention to business; 11 a.m. Meeting for worship; 1 p.m. Potluck lunch

OCTOBER 9: 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

OCTOBER 16: 9 a.m. Committee Meetings; 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

OCTOBER 23: 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship; Newsletter items deadline: please email!

OCTOBER 30: 11 a.m. Meeting for Worship

QUERIES FOR TENTH MONTH: THE PEACE TESTIMONY

Do you endeavor to live “in virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars”? Do you work to make your peace testimony a reality in your life and in your world? Do you weigh your day-to-day activities for their effect on peacekeeping, conflict resolution and the elimination of violence? Are you working toward eliminating aggression at all levels, from the personal to the international? (Faith & Practice, p. 41)

QUAKER QUOTES

Let your lives and conversation preach, that with a measure of the spirit of God you may reach to that of God in all. (George Fox, 1675)

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)

A good end cannot sanctify evil means, nor must we ever do evil that good may come of it. Let us try what love will do. (William Penn)

If each of us, individually, simply decided not to fight, not to let anger take over our hearts, to act always out of love and not out of fear or hate, then the world would be at peace. Isn't this all Jesus asked? This is my prayer. (John Andrew Gallery, Reflections From A Prayer Vigil For Peace, p. 22.)

We utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretense whatsoever. And this is our testimony to the whole world. ... The spirit of Christ, by which we are guided is not changeable, so as to once command us from a thing as evil and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know and so testify to the world, that the spirit of Christ which leads us into all Truth will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for any kingdoms of this world. (From the November 21, 1660, declaration made to Charles II by George Fox and other Friends)

MEETING FOR WORKSHOP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS MINUTES

FOURTH DAY OF THE NINTH MONTH, 2011

Present were: Elise A. (Clerk), Phyllis S. (Recording Clerk), and 23 other friends and attenders. Our Meeting began with centering worship.

BYM Yearly Meeting (Pat S. and Karen C. reporting): From the June 18 Interim Meeting at York, PA: Monongalia (WV) Monthly Meeting and Buckhannon Preparative Meeting were welcomed into BYM Membership. They formerly were members of Lake Erie YM.

Development director Robinne G. announced that donations to BYM are down compared with last year. Individual Friends are reminded to include the YM in their annual giving. Friends are encouraged to sign up for monthly electronic donations.

Attendance at both YF and JYF conferences has grown. JYF has added a session to their annual schedule. The YM has been working on a visioning statement for nearly two years. The purpose is to give direction to staff. The process included visits to individual monthly meetings and reports on these visits can be seen on the BYM website. Meg M. visited us last August and her report is posted on our bulletin board.

The Yearly Meeting agreed to “embrace” the ministry of Ann Riggs (in her work as principal of Friends Theological College in Kenya). This means that she will be able to raise money within the YM. Her ministry will not be in the YM budget, however. BYM will appoint both a support committee and an oversight committee. Marcia O. of AFM will serve on the support committee.

From the recent annual sessions of BYM, held August 1 through 7 at Frostburg State University: Like all organizations today, BYM is having a budget crisis. They have let one employee go, gotten less expensive health insurance, and staff have taken three furlough days. Their budgeted expenses have been cut in many categories. Most dramatically, contributions to membership organizations—FGC, FWCC, and FUM—and to other Friends organizations have been slashed dramatically.

A new proposed apportionment method has led to changes in monthly meetings’ apportionment. Our apportionment for 2012 is \$12,340, a 17.3% increase. This is somewhat greater than the average increase of 3.9%, and the difference is due to the new method of determining amounts. Ultimately, the new method was not approved as Friends requested that meetings have a greater opportunity for input into their meeting contributions. However, the final method will probably be similar to that proposed. Karen C. described the method that was proposed. The apportionment method is attached. Pat reported that the Intervisitation Committee needs new leadership and more money. It has been very effective and has built strong ties with other FUM Yearly Meetings. At the FUM triennial, Friends asked BYM to train them in running an intervisitation program similar to ours.

We are asked to hold in the Light Indiana Yearly Meeting and West Richmond Monthly Meeting in Richmond, Indiana, the meeting attended by Ted and Betty Lou Riley when they were at Earlham School of Religion. West Richmond has declared itself a welcoming and affirming community with regard to gay couples, and they feel clearly led to this decision. The rest of IYM believes the Bible forbids homosexuality and they feel led to remain firm in their position. Both are feeling great pain over a possible separation, and they need our prayers.

Wayne Finnegar of the BYM staff is the new webmaster. Thanks were given to Jim Rose for his years of service.

Two small group sessions were offered to consider the proposed BYM visioning statement. The statement was accepted with the understanding that proposed changes would be made.

Ministry and Worship Committee (Tricia R. reporting): AFM’s Ann Riggs/Friends Theological College Committee has been established under the care of M&W. The committee consists of Marcia O., Clerk; Phil F.; Joanna T.; Wes J.; and Doug M. The Committee sees its role as being a communication link

between FTC and the AFM, plus fundraising for support of Ann Riggs, as BYM Embraced Friend and the FTC. Ann is becoming a force to improve conditions at the school and surrounding area.

Previously (April 2011), after discussion, Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business gave approval for financial support of solar project at FTC. A solar water heater will provide adequate hot water for FTC staff and reduce the very expensive cost of electricity. This will save enough money to employ an IT person to work on the website, which will facilitate communication with Meetings and be a resource for the student body. The cost for the solar water heater is \$1,200. Though it is the expectation that the Ann Riggs /FTC committee will not be asking the Meeting for funds in the foreseeable future, they will review this leftover solar project financial request and let M&W know their decision. M&W will review the solar hot water expenditure at their committee meeting and subsequently communicate with S&F before their committee meeting on September 20.

Meetinghouse and Lands/Growing and Greening (Bill K. reporting): On August 18, the ad hoc committee for purchasing the North Lawrence Avenue property met and reviewed recommendations from Andrew Garve Associates as to three major issues with the property.

The ad hoc committee and MH&L recommend that AFM exercise our pre-agreed option to withdraw from the purchase of the North Lawrence Avenue property, based on the results of the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment. We will now focus on our own environmental stewardship. It was recommended that, prior to engaging in legal contracts in the future, AFM have the benefit of legal counsel. AFM will consider asking environmental lawyer Susan Ford, if we should request the right of first refusal when we withdraw from the contract to purchase.

We express appreciation to Bill K., Careen M., Bob B., and the rest of the ad hoc committee for their untiring work on this project.

ACTION: AFM is in unity to exercise our pre-agreed option to withdraw from the purchase of the North Lawrence Avenue property. Will C. is standing aside. We will follow the process suggested by Ms. Ford.

Stewardship and Finance Committee (Karen C. reporting): S&F is requesting approval of the new Committee Contingency Fund. Using this system, S&F will have authority to approve committee requests for less than \$500; MfB will consider committee requests of \$500 and above.

ACTION: Friends approve the new description of the new Committee Contingency Fund.

ACTION: Meeting unites with sending the balance of the camping assistance fee line item (\$1,600) to support the construction of a swimming hole at Shiloh.

Committees are requested to review and submit their budget requests for 2012 to the clerk of Stewardship and Finance, Mary K., by Tuesday, September 20. Friends are reminded that the new Committee Contingency Fund will support contingencies such as guest speakers. Committees are requested NOT to include speaker fees and other "possibilities" in their budgets unless there is a plan for those activities.

AFM received \$31,000 towards the purchase of the North Lawrence Avenue property. Meeting has incurred approximately \$5,000 in environmental assessment and legal costs to this point. Friends who have contributed to this activity are asked to notify the Treasurer or Clerk of Stewardship and Finance (by Fourth Firstday of Ninth Month, September 25) of how they would like their contribution handled. Some possibilities include: allocating some or all of it to the costs already incurred, returning it to the contributor, classifying it as a general unrestricted contribution, or allocating it to another restricted fund such as the Building Fund.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Elise A., Clerk, and Phyllis S., Recording Clerk

LIGHT HOUSE "RUN FOR SHELTER"

The Light House is holding a Run for Shelter on October 2 at 7:30 a.m. One of the events is a half-marathon; the other is a 4.2-mile fun race. The neighborhood is Quiet Waters/Hillsmere.

For more details, visit <http://www.active.com/cycling/annapolis-md/annapolis-run-for-shelter-at-quiet-waters-park-2011>.

SERVING OUR BELOVED AFM COMMUNITY

'Tis the season to locate Friends who wish to serve Annapolis Friends Meeting (AFM) in the important committee work that is our life blood. Do you like to reach out and tell newcomers about our way of worship and activities? (Consider serving on the Outreach Committee.) Would you like to develop Adult Education programs? (Consider Ministry and Worship.) Are you interested in our children's development and integration with our Meeting? (Children's Religious Education.) Do you wish to ensure we have the materials in our library that we need to nurture us? (Library Committee.) Are you a gardener or fix-it person? (Meeting House and Lands.) Do you wish to support and nurture individuals in our AFM community? (Pastoral Care.) Are you eager to work with issues of peace and social concerns in our broader community? (Peace and Social Concerns.) Do you have a talent for finances and budgeting? (Stewardship and Finance.) Do you have skills in technology (website) or data gathering (directory). Might you wish to liaison with regional and national Friends organizations as our representative? (BYM, FGC, FCNL, and AFSC.)

Would you like to know what those acronyms mean? On October 2, at our monthly potluck, Friends familiar with various committees will sit together and encourage interested Friends to drop by their tables and learn more about the work of those committees. Please join us. Also, expect a call from one of our Nominating Committee members to learn how your interests and leadings may match AFM committee needs.

Or, better yet, proactively contact one of our Nominating Committee members and let them know what you are interested in. Here are the contacts: Lee L. (M&W and Outreach), Cairn K. (CREC and MHL), Phil F. (Peace and Social Concerns and Pastoral Care), Margaret H. (S&F and Library), Barbara T. (Officers, Trustees, and Nominating).

We look forward to working with you to find the best place for you to engage in our Meeting's work. Read more about our committees on our website: <http://annapolis.quaker.org/committee.html>.

As we strive to nurture our "Blessed Community," with love,
AFM Nominating Committee

THURSDAY EVENING MEDITATION MEETING: NEW FORMAT & SESSION

Beginning October 6, we will use Jack Kornfield's book "A Path With Heart (A Guide Through the Perils and Promises of Spiritual Life)" as a guide for our mediation. The book is ecumenical. It draws from a wide range of spiritual traditions. It is chock full of humor, and practical tidbits. It is available on Amazon.

Previous to each meeting we will read a short section of the book for preparation, then work with the guided meditations offered at the end of each section during our 40 to 45 minute meditation period. At the close of each meditation, we will then spend 15 minutes or so discussing the section of the book we read during the week in more detail, and sharing reflections from our own past week's walk down our individual spirituals paths.

All are welcome to join us. No previous meditation experience is necessary. Call Leo P. for more info.

DAYSPRING SILENT RETREAT FOR BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING FRIENDS

Dear Friends,

As a last call, there are still a few openings for the beautiful autumn retreat at Dayspring, which is fast approaching on October 7. I hope you can take advantage of this precious opportunity to enjoy God's creation, worship in community, and refresh your spirit in solitude.

Yours in the LIGHT, Jean

P.S.: If finances are an obstacle, please consider scholarship help through AFM's Stewardship and Finance Committee.

True silence ... is to the spirit what sleep is to the body, nourishment and refreshment. (William Penn, 1699)

Is your spirit in need of nourishment and refreshment? Come to the Silent Retreat at Dayspring for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends. We will keep the silence from Friday evening until after worship on Monday, enjoying the beauty of God's creation in meadows and woods, reading, walking, resting, praying, finding our own rhythms, listening for the Still Small Voice.

WHERE: Dayspring Retreat Center, 11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20876 (301-428-9348).

FACILITATOR: Jean Christianson, Member of Annapolis Friends Meeting

ARRIVAL: 4 to 7 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7 p.m.) DEPARTURE: 2 p.m. Monday.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Individual room in the Inn with Bible, bed, desk, sink, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth. Nine vegetarian meals in the Lodge dining room. Gatherings in the Yoke Room for community worship and shared solitude by the fireplace. Two hundred acres for roaming.

COST: \$280 REGISTRATION: Deadline October 1 (if not filled earlier). Minimum number is nine participants. Maximum is 18. Friends will be enrolled in the order in which checks are received.

BRING: Toilet articles, casual clothes, walking shoes, and a flashlight. Long socks and hats are recommended to deter ticks.

QUESTIONS? Call Jean Christianson at 410-544-1912 or e-mail jschristianson@gmail.com.

DIRECTIONS: From I-270 take the Damascus exit (#15-A), Route 118 to the north. Go 8/10 of a mile on Route 118 to MD Route 355. Turn left on MD Route 355 and go a VERY SHORT block. Turn right on Neelsville Church Rd. Continue 6/10 of a mile on Neelsville Church Rd. to Dayspring Retreat Center. OR From I-70 take Route 27 south at Mount Airy. It will merge into 355 (Frederick Rd.) continuing south. Turn left onto Neelsville Church Rd. (just before reaching Route 118) and follow directions above. The emergency telephone number for Dayspring is 301-428-9348.

Make check for \$280 payable to Dayspring Retreat Center and send with registration form to Jean Christianson, 189 Edgewater Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122 (410-544-1912).

Name(s) _____ Meeting _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Special Needs _____

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP STAFF THE PUMPKIN PATCH

This is a fund raising event that benefits both the Light House shelter and the Navajo Nation, from whom we buy the pumpkins. The location is St. Martin's Lutheran Church at Spa Road and Hilltop Lane.

Our Meeting's day to staff the Patch this year is Thursday, October 13. It's open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and typically people sign up for two-hour blocks; afternoons are always busier than mornings. We usually get by with about 8 people from Meeting over the course of the day (we need more, but we had a good thing going with All Hallows Church from South County last year, so we decided to work together again this time around). We usually have fun even though we've occasionally had very rainy days (a killer for pumpkin sales).

In the past, donations of cookies and handcrafts that can be sold at the Patch have been welcome. The rules have changed slightly this year regarding food items, but as soon as I get clarity on this I will let people know.

Please let me know if you are available and can help.

Peace, Peter
410-647-2487

AFM FUNDRAISING CONTRA AND SQUARE DANCE

SPECIAL DANCE: A fundraiser to help Annapolis Friends Meeting keep the floor in good repair will be held on Saturday, October 15, at the Meeting Hall (351 Dubois Road, Annapolis). The Annapolis Open Band will provide high energy music for traditional American contra and square dances called by local callers.

POTLUCK AT 5 p.m.: Please join us for a potluck dinner before this special dance. Bring your favorite dish to share. Microwave oven available for warming food.

The evening dances include a free introductory session at 6:30 p.m.; dance 7 to 10 p.m. Admission for the dance is \$10, with discounts for seniors, students, families, and members of the Annapolis Traditional Dance Society (ATDS). All ages welcome. All dances taught and walked through. No experience or partner required. Snacks to share at the break are welcome!

Questions?? Contact Jan Scopel (443-540-0867 or janscope@hotmail.com) or Ann Fallon (410-268-0231 or aefallon@verizon.net) or visit www.contradancers.com/atds.

FIFTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF ANNAPOLIS FAITH COMMUNITIES AND GOOD WORKS

Please join with us in the fifth annual gathering and celebration of Annapolis faith communities and service organizations to share information about what your group is doing to benefit our community. The event will be held at the 'Pip' Moyer Recreation Center, 273 Hilltop Lane, Annapolis, Maryland 21403 on Sunday, October 23, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Learn what other faith communities are doing and share information about your faith community outreach programs
- Identify opportunities for partnering and networking to increase the impact of each faith community project
- Meet and get to know members and leaders of other Annapolis-area faith communities
- Identify areas on which our community needs to focus, and explore ways to make our Greater Annapolis Community even better

For more information, or if you wish to have a table, please contact:

- Dianne Crews (at dmackcrn@verizon.net or 410-268-9741) or
- Sandy Solomon (at annapolisandy@gmail.com or 410-263-2471)

THINKING ABOUT RACE: "MUCH ENERGY"

"People find that there is much energy when talking about race. Why? Because it takes so much energy not to talk about it, so when we do, that energy is released."

This quote, whose origin I don't know, struck me as relevant to the many discussions people are having about the book and the movie, "The Help." In general, I believe that the more conversations we in America—and, indeed, around the world—have about race, the better the chance that we can move beyond stereotypes, taboos, and misunderstandings and can appreciate how both our differences and our similarities serve us all and can be used to our mutual advantage.

Elizabeth DuVerlie, Clerk,
Working Group on Racism

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Working Group on Racism meets most months on the third Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bethesda Friends Meeting or Friends Meeting of Washington. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk Elizabeth DuVerlie at eduverlie@jhu.edu.

NOTE: Friends who wish to comment on this or any other "Thinking About Race" items may do so at <http://racism.bym-rsf.net>. To leave comments, register first by emailing webmanager@bym-rsf.net.

BYM WORKING GROUP ON RACISM VISIT TO SLAVE MUSEUM

Join the Yearly Meeting's Working Group on Racism on Saturday, November 19, for a visit to the Sandy Spring, Md., Slave Museum (<http://www.sandyspringslavemuseum.org>). All ages are invited, and the visit will begin at 9:30 a.m. The cost will be \$5 (cash or check only). Following the visit, there will be light refreshments at 11 a.m. at the Sandy Spring Friends Meeting Community House, followed by the Working Group's monthly meeting at 12:15 p.m., at which all are welcome. Childcare is available if requested in advance. To RSVP, contact Ellen Cronin (202-251-1750 or ecronin343@gmail.com). For more information, talk with Pat Schenck.

PLANS FOR HOLIDAY MARKET

Our next Holiday Market will be Saturday, December 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. In preparation for this market our committee is asking for suggestions for the work you would like to support locally, nationally, or internationally. As in the past, 75% of the net proceeds will go to support nonprofit work outside of the Annapolis Friends Meeting and 25% will support the needs of our own AFM gathering. Please respond as soon as possible by contacting Margaret Holmes at Holmes.fam@verizon.net or 410-721-5551. Please give as much information as possible about the work of the organization you suggest and why you are suggesting this group at this time.

Don't forget to :

- 1) Start putting aside the gently used or new items in your home that you don't need and would like to donate to the market. We will accept toys, games, jewelry, sports equipment, books, CD's, DVD's, holiday clothes, household items, small appliances, and technology. We can not accept large furniture or tv's more than 10 years old.
- 2) Start thinking about which soup recipe you would like to dust off and make for the "Quaker Quafe." We have a reputation to keep up for the best soups in town.
- 3) Put the date on your calendar. We will also be sorting and setting up Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday before the market if you want to put that on the calendar too.

Thanks to each and every one of you.
Margaret

9/11 DIALOG WITH FUTURE LEADERS

On September 10, Annapolis Friends Meeting's Peace & Justice Center called approximately 138 USNA Midshipmen, college and high school students, plus some concerned public attenders, to meet and hear from nationally recognized experts in the "war on terror" to consider lessons our nation should have learned in the past 10 years.

We had enthusiastic interest from attenders, a number of letters to the editor, and ongoing internet presence for the program. See videos at <http://www.youtube.com/user/911dialogue> and on the webpage <http://annapolis.quaker.org/911/index.html>.

LIBRARY CORNER

"Let Evening Come, Reflections on Aging" by Mary C. Morrison

We are all maturing, or just down-right ageing. In my own life and in my work I've been learning the process can take a huge amount of courage. For each of us it is a journey into the unknown, even if we've have wonderful models in our lives who seemed to mature seamlessly. My guess is, it was not seamless for them either. So, in this culture of ours that is so youth oriented, how do we make it through the blind corners and surprises of being not the YOUTH but the ELDERS?

"Let Evening Come" is a down-to-earth support for this life challenging process of ageing (and surviving it). The author talks about her different experiences and observations of different decades of ageing. She was in her 80s writing this so she has lots to share.

In old age we have already begun to experience time differently, but there is still another time change waiting. We have been governed by chromos time, clock time, calendar time that dictated waking and sleeping, work, and rest. Now it is kairos time that guides us—kairos, the right time, the appropriate time, as decided not by clocks but by the rhythm of life itself.

How do we make the most of having the responsibility and power to decide about time itself? It puts ageing into a perspective that is special and precious. This is a small, valuable sharing of support for the wide unknown of being the elders of our culture. I am buying this to have for myself and to share with friends and my patients.

Respectfully submitted,
Colette M.

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by October 23.
- Phil Caroom is the 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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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