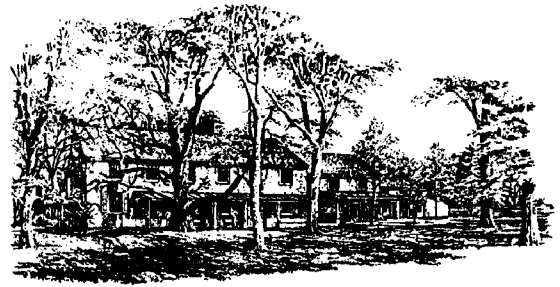


NEWSLETTER

of
Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of Friends



Feb. 2002 Connie Lezenby, Clerk
8 Haycroft, Spring House, PA 19477

Meeting for worship: 11:15 AM First Day School 9:45 AM
Foulkeways - Thurs. 10:00 AM September through May

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the need of others, open my ears that I may hear their cries, open my heart so that they need not be without succour. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed, and use me to bring them to those places —Alan Paton



The Coffeehouse returns

Join us on Saturday, February 2 to celebrate Groundhog Day and listen to the beautiful voice of jazz singer Jeannie Brooks. Jeannie will be joined by a few of her fellow jazz musicians as she sings many well known favorites. Doors open at 7:30 P.M., music begins at 8:00. We still ask for only a \$3 donation and give half to a Quaker charity. **Future dates:** March 3 will feature swing and jazz music with *Girls from Mars*, and April will see the return of *Broadside Electric*.

Report from the Youth Group

On December 9, Gwynedd Friends Youth group presented "It's a Wonderful Life." It was very nice to sit back with a bag of popcorn and watch a great holiday movie with friends and family. The children should be commended for how hard they worked to arrange this family event. All had a fun time and the youth group raised \$128. The next week they met at McDonald's to discuss over lunch how to split up the money to buy the things they needed for their service project. Their shopping spree took place at Walmart, and they very graciously contributed to Community Housing's Kits for Christmas and Toys for Tots.

It is obvious that Gwynedd young people have wonderful ideas, warm hearts and are an important part of the Meeting. We, the adults, thank you for all you contribute.

I would like to thank all the parents who helped us with the holiday service project. Please keep coming back to our meetings. We need your support. The Youth Group also thanks the Gathering Garden for so kindly sharing their DVD equipment with us. Without their help, movie night would not have happened.

As of January, the Gwynedd Friends Youth Group will meet 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM every third Sunday of the Month in the FDS room across from the kitchen. We will be planning several fun outings for the upcoming weeks. Hopefully these will include ice skating, bowling and a ski trip. All youth, 1st grade through high school, are welcome to join in on the fun. Also any adults are welcome to help guide our youth.

Any questions contact Pauline Rosa-Martir at 215.855.2284.

State of the Meeting Report

by Connie Lezenby, Clerk
January 20, 2002

The prophet and priest Ezekiel, cast out of Jerusalem and living in exile in Babylon, had a tremendous vision by the banks of a river. Part of what Ezekiel saw were four wheels. "The wheels had the sparkling appearance of chrysolite, and all four of them looked the same: they were constructed as though one wheel were within another. They could move in any of the four directions they faced, without veering as they moved. The four of them had rims, and I saw that their rims were full of eyes all around. When the living creatures moved, the wheels moved with them; and when the living creatures were raised from the ground, the wheels also were raised. Wherever the spirit wished to go, there the wheels went, and they were raised together with the living creatures; for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels" (Ez. 2:15-21) *cont'd page 2*

FEBRUARY 2002

<u>2 Saturday</u>	8:00 pm	Coffeehouse: Jazz singer Jeannie Brooks and Friends
<u>3 SUNDAY</u>	9:00 am	Meeting for Worship.
	9:45 am	Abington Quarterly Meeting at Gwynedd
	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship.
	7:00-8:30pm	Dream-work Group meets.
<u>4 Monday</u>	9:30-11 am	Worship sharing at the home of Carolyn Moon
	7:30 pm	Overseers meet @ <i>Meetinghouse Library</i>
<u>6 Wednesday</u>	7:00-9:30pm	Interfaith Forum @ Tiferet Bet Israel “Creating a Caring Community”
<u>7 Thursday</u>	10:00-10:30am	Meeting for Worship @ <i>Foulkeway's Beaumont Parlor.</i>
<u>10 SUNDAY</u>	9:00 am	Meeting for Worship.
	9:45 am	Adult First Day School: Intergenerational Breakfast
	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship.
	12:30-?	Painting at Hilltop – all welcome (and appreciated)
	7:00-8:30pm	Dream-work Group meets.
<u>11 Monday</u>	7:30 pm	Peace & Social Action Committee meets @ <i>Nina Braxton's apartment (E-12).</i>
<u>12 Tuesday</u>	7:30 pm	Preschool Committee meets
<u>14 Thursday</u>	10:00-10:30am	Meeting for Worship @ <i>Foulkeway's Beaumont Parlor.</i>
	10:00 am	Sort and Pack Clothes @ <i>AFSC.</i>
<u>16 Saturday</u>	7:30-10:00 pm	Abington Quarterly Meeting Square Dance
<u>17 SUNDAY</u>	8:30-9:00am	EARLY Meeting for Worship.
	9:00 am	Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business.
	9:00-9:45am	Children---games on the playground.
	9:45 11:00	Children's First Day School.
	11 am - noon	Gwynedd Friends Youth Group Meets.
	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship.
	2:30-6:00pm	Interfaith Forum @ North Penn Mosque “Why Do People Hate in the Name of Religion?”
	7:00-8:30pm	Dream-work Group meets.
<u>18 Monday</u>	9:30-11 am	Worship sharing at the home of Carolyn Moon
<u>21 Thursday</u>	10:00-10:30am	Meeting for Worship @ <i>Foulkeway's Beaumont Parlor.</i>
<u>24 SUNDAY</u>	9:00 am	Meeting for Worship.
	9:45 am	Adult First Day School: Kundalini: The Eastern Concept of Holy Spirit Connie Lezenby & Marcelle Martin
	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship.
	7:00-8:30pm	Dream-work Group meets.
<u>25 Monday</u>	7:30 pm	Worship & Ministry Com. meets @ <i>home of Nina Braxton (E-12).</i>
<u>26 Tuesday</u>	7:30 pm	Property Committee meets @ <i>the Meetinghouse.</i>
<u>28 Thursday</u>	10:00-10:30am	Meeting for Worship @ <i>Foulkeway's Beaumont Parlor.</i>

MARCH 2002

<u>2 Saturday</u>	8:00 pm	Coffeehouse: Swing and Jazz music with “Girls From Mars”
<u>3 SUNDAY</u>	9:00 am	Meeting for Worship.
	9:45 am	Adult First Day School: Worship & Ministry
	11:15 am	Meeting for Worship.
	7:00-8:30pm	Dream-work Group meets.
<u>4 Monday</u>	9:30-11 am	Worship sharing at the home of Caroline Trueblood
<u>7 Thursday</u>	10:00-10:30am	Meeting for Worship @ <i>Foulkeway's Beaumont Parlor</i>

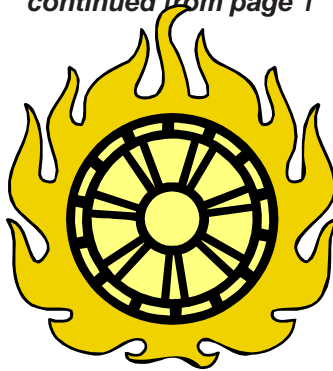
I thought of this story when I was having lunch with Verna Tweddale. I had asked her what metaphor she would think of when considering the past year of Gwynedd's spiritual community. Her answer came quickly. "We are all spokes on a wheel, and the more spokes the stronger the wheel."

As I've prayed with this image of Gwynedd Meeting I can see how God is at the center holding all of us together, allowing our various gifts to be focused to create a vehicle for the spirit. The rim is our willingness to link arms and hearts with each other so that "wherever the spirit wishes to go, there the wheels go." In Ezekiel's vision there are eyes all around. One of my favorite spiritual writers, Thomas Kelly, wrote about simplicity, "Simplification comes when we 'center down,' when life is lived with singleness of eye, from a holy Center, where the breath and stillness of Eternity are heavy upon us and we are wholly yielded to God. Some of you know this holy, recreating Center of eternal peace and joy and live in it day and night. Some of you may see it over the margin and wistfully long to slip into that amazing center where the soul is at Home with God. Be very faithful to that wistful longing. It is the Eternal Goodness calling you to return Home."

Each of our "eyes" sees a different angle of God as we gaze toward Home and our work takes on a character suited to us. At Gwynedd, so many new spokes have joined us, and this has made us stronger. Our spinning has brought us a wonderful new kindergarten to join the 2, 3 and 4-year old classes begun by the Preschool Committee and teachers, a new property of 7 acres adjoining the land that was settled 303 years ago, new programs such as lectures, film festivals and silent

Meeting Annual Report

continued from page 1



retreats from the Gathering Garden Spirituality Center, new musicians to our coffeehouses sponsored by the Fellowship and Outreach, and a new committee called "Helping Art Reach Peace."

Some spokes have taken the wheel in the directions of prison ministry, visiting men who have no other visitors, helping ex-offenders as they seek to reintegrate into society, and training prisoners and community members in Alternatives to Violence. We have worked against the death penalty. We have cared for and given shelter to the members of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Ambler and raised funds for a family to live in a transitional apartment at Hope Gardens.

Our First Day School is vital and spinning also, responding to the needs of the community almost as quickly as they are known. Teachers spend precious hours preparing lessons, activities and field trips so that minds and hearts might be opened and see the Eternal Goodness at the Center of us all. Our rim grows stronger through intergenerational activities such as plays, potluck suppers, the Christmas tea, game day, New Year's celebrations and square dancing. The children have been moved by the spirit to raise funds for others in need. In their

enthusiasm they show us the way.

On the morning of September 11 this year we watched televisions, in shock, as buildings collapsed and a plane crashed. Attacks by terrorists on the New York World Trade Towers, the Pentagon in Washington and a plane flying over Pennsylvania brought us together in wrenching grief over the loss of life. Many who had never been to a Quaker meeting were drawn to come and worship in the silence and, as quoted from George Fox, to turn thy mind to the Lord God, whereby thou wilt receive God's strength and power from whence life comes; whereby thou mayest receive God's strength to ally all blusterings, storms and tempests.

Out of that great love we responded with threshing sessions and opened the Meetinghouse in the evenings for prayer. Worship and Ministry created a space to share feelings. We collected blankets and money for the Afghan people. We began the process of educating ourselves. Some felt led to witness for peace holding signs and praying in front of the meetinghouse and downtown at the liberty bell. Friends we had made from the summer's youth exchange with North Wales wrote us beautiful letters of support. Our peace testimony is no longer just words as we grapple with our country's response to the attacks with war in Afghanistan.

Many of us were resolved to do the small tasks we are given with more love and more determination than ever before. The library committee has continued to bring important books to our attention. The house subcommittee and property committee have cared for our buildings and trees. The treasurer, stewardship committee, and trustees work toward creating a balanced budget and letting us

continued on page 4

State of the Meeting Cont'd

know what funds are needed to do our work. Volunteers for American Friends Service Committee have increased the number of visits and the amount of clothing they sort and pack for those in need. The preschool parents have formed a Parents Serving Community group to meet the needs of our society. Our secretary has kept us up to date with timely e-mails and performed the myriad tasks required to keep the wheel of spirit spinning. Overseers have strengthened our caring circles, formed clearness committees and provided assistance in whatever way they are asked.

My mind is spinning with all that I could mention about our life here in community. We have struggled this year with what it means to make decisions in

meeting for worship with a concern for business. As our relationships deepen and become real we run into conflict. As scary as that is, it is also a sign of hope. As Parker Palmer wrote in 1977: "In true community we will not choose our companions, for our choices are so often limited by self-serving motives. Instead, our companions will be given to us by grace. Often they will be persons who will upset our settled view of self and the world. In fact, we might define true community as that place where the person you least want to live with lives!..."

"Community will teach us that our grip on truth is fragile and incomplete, that we need many ears to hear the fullness of God's word for our lives. And the disappointments of community life can be transformed by our discovery that the only dependable power for life lies beyond all human

structures and relationships . . . not commit yourself to community, but commit yourself to God In that commitment you will find yourself drawn into community."

Last night I had a dream of children of all different colors playing together and hugging each other. Then I dreamed that Judy Flanigan was teaching me to knit in a circle. It feels like a new image of the wheel as we are knitted together by love.

This is my fourth year serving as your clerk. I feel I am called to move out of that role and allow a new person to experience the wonder of the work. It has been a real blessing in my life to have experienced the grace that each of you bring. How beautiful you all are and how deeply God loves each one of us.

The past in Gwynedd minutes

selected by Ginny Bergey

Second Month - 1702 - That all be Cautious & Carefully they do not encourage Servants to buy their time by lending them money . . . and if Masters deal hard with their Servants, that such be dealt with, by the friends appointed or other friends when it comes to their hearing, and that the Servants make complaint to the said friends, or others, when they are aggrieved.

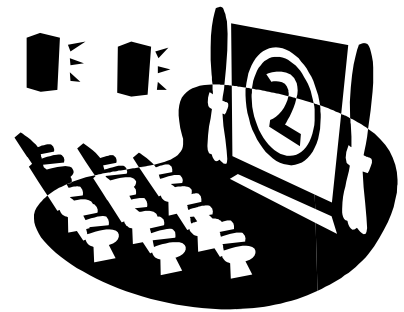
Second Month - 1802 - Job Hallowell and Hannah Thomas appeared at this Meeting the second time and Declare they Continued their Intention of Marriage with each other and as nothing appearing to obstruct they are at Liberty to accomplish their Marriage to good order

Second Month - 1902 - The committee appointed to visit Daniel Cleaver report that some of them have had an interview with him, to whom he made many promises to leave off his former habits and live a more consistant life in the future. The committee has waited long to see the promises fulfilled but have failed to see any improvement. Also he has recently been engaged as the bar-tender in a hotel, and that his conduct otherwise has been entirely inconsistent with the rules and testimonies of our Discipline. The committee not seeing any improvement in his conduct believe that further labor by them would not be beneficial.

Second Month - 1952 - The matter of the driveway is continued in the care of the Property Committee. A proposal was presented asking the Meeting to consider making part of the Beaumont Tract available for homestead development

Come see

Like Water for Chocolate



The Gathering Garden is showing our third film, *Like Water for Chocolate* on Saturday, February 23, at 7:00 with a Mexican dinner beforehand at 4:00.

Register for the dinner by calling Connie Lezenby at 215-393-9192 or e-mail at lezenby@aol.com by February 22. Donation: \$5.00.



Calling all artists and photographers



If you are a visual artists working in photography,

watercolor, oil, pastel, sculpture, printmaking, and so on, and would be interested in participating in a First Day School devoted to Quakers and the visual arts, **please call John Gist 215.643.3757.**

Do not leave cash at the meetinghouse!

Friends are advised to keep no cash in the Meetinghouse. If you have Meeting related cash you can take it home for safety, or you can write a check to Gwynedd for the exact amount of the cash, and the Treasurer will pay any related bills with a Gwynedd check. Please attend carefully to this.

--The Stewardship Committee

PYM seeks person to speak on Peace Testimony

Gene Hillman, PYM staff person for Adult Religious Education, is compiling a list of Friends who would be willing and able to speak at Monthly Meetings about the peace testimony; the goal is to make each Meeting a place where it is safe to talk about matters of faith and conscience. Please let him know if you are willing and feel this would be something you could do. His number: 215.241.7182 or geneh@pym.org.

Address change:

John Sprouse now lives at 15 Kearney Rd., North Wales, PA 19454. (215) 362-0260

Meeting Bulletin Board

Thank you expressions from Hope Gardens

Carolyn Moon writes: "To those persons who expanded their gift giving at Christmas to include a family in need, I want to thank you. This family's holiday was made brighter because of your generosity. It is because of responses like yours that Inter-Faith of Ambler is able to continue their work with persons in need, and I am grateful."

Vivien Williams from Hope Gardens has sent a thank you card to Meeting members for the gifts we gave her in December. She added at the bottom, "Thank you so much for my gifts for Christmas. May God bless you. Love, Vivien." Vivien's card is posted on the bulletin board outside the community room.

The Pantry at Hope Gardens is in great need of household products, such as paper towels, toilet paper and tissues. Can you help?

The doll house is still up in the First Day Room. Your donations will help defray the cost of rent for our apartment at Hope Gardens. Please make checks payable to Gwynedd Monthly Meeting with the notation for Hope Gardens, put in an envelope, seal and give to Joan Johnson or Carolyn Moon.

Scholarship aid

Parents of children attending Friends Schools who are requesting financial aid from Gwynedd Meeting and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting need to forward the forms by February 15 to Marty Wilcockson, Clerk of Overseers. If you need a copy of the form please contact Marty at 215.699.1266.

Peace publications available

Gwynedd Meeting subscribes to the following two publications:

Peacework, the monthly magazine of the American Friends Service Committee's New England office, covers "Global Thought and Local Action for Nonviolent Social Change," and especially focuses on the northeastern United States. In the December/January issue, see especially "Speak Truth to Power" excerpts from the classic AFSC report first published in 1955 and subtitled, "A Quaker Study of International Conflict."

The second is a **newsletter of the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund**, a quarterly report on the legislative progress of the House bill as well as other news and opinion related to matters of war, peace and conscience.

Both of these publications are available on the table outside the library.

Want to help with the Coffeehouse?

Fellowship and Outreach is looking for people to assist with the Coffeehouse as part of a regular sub-committee. Participants can be as active as they wish, both with the set-up as well as planning input. To volunteer, call Betsy Lowe at 215-256-4762 evenings or weekends.

Monthly Meeting for Business First Month

The sixth query regarding equality was read, with a response by Gary Lapreziosa and considered by the Meeting. Appreciation was expressed for Gary's very thoughtful comments on this query.

Deep appreciation was expressed for the Clerk's very moving State of the Meeting Report.

A minute congratulating the rabbi, David Ackerman, of Tiferet Beth Israel, on his tenth anniversary was read and approved. Renee Flanagan will be asked to sing at the service.

A letter was read from Terry Sikora requesting membership and a clearness committee was approved. A clearness committee for marriage was also appointed for Jasa Porciello and Jon Petruschke. In addition the Meeting approved the memberships of Patrick Flanagan and Russell Nicolaysen.

Jim Quinn presented the new Gwynedd Monthly Meeting web site he created www.gwyneddfriends.org. After a demonstration the meeting approved using the Australian webserver for \$5 a month. Overseers will consider the various issues that relate to the website. Any comments about the site can be e-mailed to Jim Quinn.

Ginny Bergey reported for the joint ad hoc committee of Worship and Ministry and Overseers with a concern for Business. The first half of a pamphlet created by Beth Binford and reviewed by the committee was read to the meeting by Margot West. Gratitude was expressed for the work this committee has done.

Neil Trueblood gave a report for the Property Committee. The William Penn Inn has decided not to continue to use the Meetinghouse parking lot Penn Dot is continuing to discuss issues around the widening of Rt. 202 and Sumneytown Pike. A site survey is going on at this time to determine the boundaries of the Meeting's property.

Neil also reported the Hilltop ad hoc committee will be circulating a new improved questionnaire and hopes that every member or attender who has not responded previously will do so. Gwynedd Mercy College is not interesting in using the house for dormitory space. The committee recommends the house and barn be made ready for rental as soon as possible. Rental and use of the barn will be taken up in Property Committee. There was concern expressed for signing a one-year lease on the house given the reality that we might have to sell the property before the expiration date of a lease. The clerk recognized that it is important to address every detail as we go forward in this proposed new direction. To ready the house for use, there will need to be exterior painting and some interior painting by a professional, and other improvements made as well. Potentially a budget of \$15,000 to \$20,000 might be required to complete the work. The estimated rental is between \$1,200 and \$1,600 a month. An update on **fundraising efforts and commitments that have been made was held over until 2nd month.** Several options are being explored for use of the property. Ideas would be welcome. All committee meetings are open and anyone who has an interest is encouraged to attend.

Regina Peasley explained that Trustees and Sam Swansen have worked out a way of forming a separate non-profit corporation to hold the financial assets of the meeting as a way of protecting the meeting as the meeting joins the Fiduciary Committee.

Query for February

#7. Social Responsibility and Witness

How does our Meeting work:

--to overcome social, legal, economic, and political injustices, locally and in the wider world?

--for the funding of community services that does not rely on gambling income?

Does our Meeting serve the community through action on concerns for civic improvement? What actions are we taking to assure everyone equal access to education, health care, legal services, housing, and employment as well as equal opportunities in business and in the professions?

When a member has lifted up a concern how does our Meeting respond?

Does our Meeting encourage those seeking clearness for their convictions of conscience to hold up such convictions with prayerful openness to the Light?

Am I mindful of how my lifestyle and my investments can contribute to the improvement of the human condition, or to the exploitation of others?

Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience and to assisting others in doing so? How do I respond and support one who acts out of a clear leading when I am under the weight of another?

What am I doing to work for the betterment of my community to assure the maintenance of effective public services which do not rely on funding from gaming?

Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leadings?

Quarterly Meeting website

Check out Abington Quarterly Meeting's website: www.pym.org/abington-qm/index.html. You'll find a page for each Monthly Meeting, area Friends Schools, a calendar, resources, a photo album and a message board. If members or committees wish to submit materials contact Alan Folsom of Horsham Meeting at alan@folsoms.net.

FWCC Annual Meeting

Friends World Committee for Consultation of the Americas will hold its annual meeting in Philadelphia March 14-17 at the Radisson Hotel, 1701 Locust St. All Friends are invited to attend. Registration is required for stays at the hotel or for meals with the group. For information call 225-241-7250 or e-mail Americas@FWCC.Quaker.org.

Attention Quaker artists!

Your work could be part of a wonderful exhibit at the Da Vinci Gallery in Philadelphia, March 1-31. There will also be an opportunity for writers and musicians to read and perform their works at a special Gallery reception Saturday, March 9, from 1:00-5:00 P.M. **Submit registration form no later than February 10.** Deadline for artwork delivery is February 15. For information e-mail www.quaker.org/fqa or write to Friends Center, 1515 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

Case manager position open

Indian Valley Housing Corp. is seeking a full-time Case Manager for 8 to 12 families. Resumes should be mailed to PO Box 64183, Souderton, PA 18964 or call 215-723-8750.

New Attenders

Donna Harvey & Daniella Land
202 Brunswick Ct.
Lansdale, Pa. 19446

Among Friends . .

Friends workcamp in China

Deb and Joan Faulkner had this experience last summer. Now you can join with other Americans, and college students from China, at the Friends Workcamp in Xiaoshicun. Dates: July 29 to August 17; cost \$2,200. For more information contact Adam Clark-Valle at Chinaworkcamp@PYM.org or call 215.241.7236.

Worship, Ministry and Eldering

This periodic gathering of Friends called to ministry and the spiritual nurture of their meetings will be held Saturday, February 2, from 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at Upper Dublin Meeting, Fort Washington Ave. at Meetinghouse Road, in Fort Washington, PA. All are welcome. Bring a bag lunch. There is no fee, but donations are needed and welcome to cover expenses. For child care, please call one week in advance. For more information contact Laurama Pixton, 215-646-7879.

Quaker Action Conference

To prepare Friends for effective social activism, a conference will be held February 2 from 9 to 1:30 at Arch Street Meetinghouse. No fees or pre-registration, or even lunch, but plenty of munchies and a chance to meet other activist Friends. The keynote address will be given by Joe Volk, Director of the FCNL.

Indian Valley Library, Telford, hosts Islamic speakers

Feb. 3 - Growing up as a Palestinian Saed Atshan, now a senior at Westtown, will tell about his experience growing up on the West Bank. See Deb Faulkner for complete schedule.

Young Friends peace gathering

The peace gathering for young Friends—9th grade (or age 14 by September 1) through college age—will take place February 22-24 at Burlington Meetinghouse. An experiential workshop will be led by George Lakey. Topics include: defending ourselves, chilling out fights without getting in other people's business, and standing up for what is right. A flyer and registration form are available on line at www.pym.org/youngfriends or call Cookie Caldwell at 215.241.7222.

Switch to the phone service that will support Friends General Conference

If you switch your long distance service to Enhanced Communications Group, ECG will automatically contribute 5% of your phone bill to FGC each month. In addition, savings to you should range from 20-50% of your current phone bill, e.g. interstate calls 5.5 cents per minute (all the time), international rates vary but to England 5.9 cents a minute, Canada 7 cents a minute. There are no monthly fees. Go to www.fgcquaker.org/phone for complete information about rates and how to sign up, or call Ken Miller at 888.704.9998.

Order books on line from FGC

Friends General Conference has renamed their bookstore to Quaker Books at FGC. Any book can be ordered here through their website Quakerbooks.org. With increased orders FGC can lower their subsidy to the book store and have funds for other purposes.

New Attender

Stanley B. Kintzelman
308 Baker Road
Ambler, PA 19002

The Hilltop Committee

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting

Second Month, 2001

Dear Friends:

Recently, we tried to circulate a version of the enclosed questionnaire by e-mail and by placing “hard” copies in the meeting, but we realize that not everyone could be reached in one of those ways. We also got some constructive comments on how the questionnaire itself might be improved. Behold, the new and (we hope) improved version. If you have already filled out the previous one, know that your responses to it have been read and will be reflected in our summary report to the meeting at First Month’s Meeting for Business (1/20/02). At the same time, feel free to fill out this version as well if you would like to.

By way of introduction to this questionnaire, our committee feels that any decision the Meeting ultimately takes regarding the use or disposition of the Hilltop property will be better if it grows out of the collective sense of the meeting about some broad, fundamental questions. We think it is important that we have as a context for this process of discernment an understanding of what our gathered hopes, dreams and concerns are, along with an understanding of what we, in aggregate, see as our strengths and our mission as a Meeting.

The last two questions deal specifically with the Hilltop project and process. They reflect the fact that many of us were concerned with the pace of the decision-making process that led to acquiring the property, which was imposed by Mrs. Fogel’s timetable. The Hilltop Committee wants to be sure that the discernment and funding process going forward is done with deliberation, broad-based input, and considerable opportunity to “thresh out” the issues involved, recognizing the need to keep the process moving.

While Friends are engaged with this questionnaire and in the continuing process of discernment, we also need to recognize that the Meeting does own the property now and there are carrying costs to be borne as we move toward clearness. Several Friends have already made generous contributions to those costs, and more will be needed before our formal fundraising effort is

clearly defined and initiated. If you are able and willing to contribute, please contact a member of the committee.

The Hilltop Committee: Neil Trueblood, Co-clerk, Russ Bishop, Co-clerk, Mitch Alden, Steve Baumgartner, Henry Beck, Rol Henderson, Janet Henderson, Al Hubbs, Connie Lezenby, Reba Mohan, Mike Peasley, Regina Peasley, Tom Penn, Karen Russell, Sam Swansen, Cheryl Zabinsky

Russ

(215) 628-9200; Fax: (215) 628-8404

russb@harvestadvisers.com

A Questionnaire from the Hilltop Committee

Opportunities: What do you see as the most promising areas of opportunity for Gwynedd?

Challenges: When thinking about the future of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, what are the biggest challenges we face?

Strengths: What do you think are our most important strengths at Gwynedd? Be as specific as you can:

Mission: What, specifically, are the most important ways in which we put our faith into practice?

Process: What concerns do you have about the Hilltop decision-making process up to this point? What needs to be done to assure that the continuing process of discernment and decision-making is as thorough and inclusive as possible?

The Hilltop project: Do you have any questions or concerns about the Hilltop project? Please share with us any ideas you have for the use of the property?

Thanks for your help in completing this questionnaire. Doing so is another contribution you are making to the future of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting. Please put it in the "Hilltop" box outside the Meeting library or drop it in the mail to Connie Lezenby, Clerk, Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, P.O. Box 142, Gwynedd, PA 19436



Abington Quarterly Meeting Square Dance

Saturday, February 16, 2002

7:30 - 10:00 P.M.

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting
Sunneytown Pike and Route 202

It is not necessary to bring a partner, you can find one at the dance.

Caller: Lane Neubauer-Schwartz

Music: HOBO PIE and other interested musicians

(If you are interested in joining the other musicians to play for the dance, please call Carl Baron at 215.699.7835.)

**Deadline for the
March Newsletter
is February 17**

Please sign the notes you submit so we can call if we have questions.

Thank you.

**Whom to contact with
newsletter items:**

Sandy Snyder (sfsnyder@erols.com)
does the calendar

All other items may be given to **Beth Binford** or sent to her e-mail address:
oriental@erols.com.

The printing, distribution and mailing of the newsletter is under the care of **Sandy Snyder**, and proofreading by **Eleanor Hiebert.**

Proofreader: Eleanor Hiebert

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Address Correction Requested