

# Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of Friends Newsletter



**April 2003**

**www.gwyneddfriends.org**

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Meeting for Worship 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
Foulkeways: Thursday: 10 a.m.  
First Day School: 9:45 a.m.

Clerk: Lea Stabinski  
1885 Meredith Lane  
Blue Bell, Pa. 19422

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Since all human beings are children of God, Friends are called to love and respect all persons and to overcome evil with good. Friends' peace testimony arises from the power of Christ working in our hearts. Our words and lives should testify to this power and should stand as a positive witness in a world still torn by strife and violence.

*Faith and Practice 1997*

## **Roger Buchanan Bible Course**

**April 6:** *Aggression, Violence and Survival*

A look at the stories of Cain and Abel, Noah's Ark, the Burning bush and the call of Moses.

**April 13:** *The Building of an Empire and the Issue of Excess Violence*

A study of how King David used, abused rewarded and punished his generals.

**April 20:** *Easter Sunday – No class.*

**April 27:** *Assertiveness, Resistance and Non-aggression.*

A study of the politics of the Jews at the time of Jesus and in the teachings of Jesus.

**May 4:** *The Rise of the Militant Church and the Concept of the Just War.*

It has been suggested that the class run for approximately 2 hours on Sunday afternoons from 3 to 5 or 3:30 to 5:30.

## **Preschool and Kindergarten News**

### ***Pay-As-You-Go Preschool Scholarship Potluck***

Please come on Thursday April 3rd to the Preschool Scholarship Fundraiser Potluck Dinner in the great room at the meetinghouse. Bring your family, including children, and friends for a wonderful evening of good food and good deeds. In addition to your potluck dish, we hope you will bring a contribution for our scholarship fund. This is our only fundraiser this year. We appreciate how supportive meeting members and attenders have been over the years. If you haven't signed up or called 215-699-5392 to let us know how many are coming, just COME anyway. We would like preschool alums to come out for the dinner. We will only ask them to stand as a group. If you have alums in your family please encourage them to come. The preschool has budgeted \$10,000 for scholarship this year, but it is anticipated the need will be greater than that.

# Meeting Bulletin Board

## Spring Work Day

**COME ONE, COME ALL TO  
THE SPRING WORK DAY!**

On APRIL 26, 8AM-12PM, rain or shine, there will be a variety of indoor and outdoor jobs and the usual fellowship and refreshments. There will be interior and exterior painting jobs, waterproofing outdoor benches, cleaning lanterns, clearing branches from the grounds, changing storm to screen windows, gluing pegs, doing repairs, cleaning windows, walls and woodwork, dusting and polishing furniture, and cleaning and organizing the kitchen. Your help is needed! Arrive as early as you can. Property Committee hopes for a big turnout.

## Youth Exchange News

**April 13<sup>th</sup>:** Hoagie sale- young people will be making and selling hoagies to raise funds for future exchanges-see order forms in FDS room or call Laura Taylor.

**May 10<sup>th</sup>:** Rummage Sale and Car Wash- bring your attic treasures the first week of May to donate to our sale

This summer the daughter of one of our hosts in Wales would like to come visit our area. If anyone is interested in hosting or showing this young woman some of the sights in this area, please contact Marcia Wise.

## Free Individual Dream Work

I am starting a dream work practice open to the public. I have done group dream work for years. But I need to gain some experience, and hopefully confidence, in individual dream work. To that end I am offering people in the meeting free individual dream work for a period of time. If interested, please call me. Lea Stabinski 610-279-4601

## Pendle Hill Chorus

If you love singing and will commit to regular Wednesday evening rehearsals, come sing with us! No audition necessary. We begin Wed., April 2 at 7:30; concert is Wed., June 4. Featured work is Schubert's G Major Mass. Contact Jackie Coren: (215) 843-5254 or Robyn Josephs (610)565-4058.

## Environmental Working Group supports Renewable Energy

Buying renewable electricity is one of the most IMPORTANT things consumers can do to reduce pollution that contributes to global warming, acid rain and respiratory illness. It is also in agreement with the Minute of Concern for Energy Stewardship in Meeting Facilities and Households that was approved by Interim Meeting in its January session. Renewable Electricity is now available throughout the PYM region, in DE and MD by buying a certificate and in NJ and PA in two ways: by switching your electric supply company or buying a certificate. At least two people in your Meeting should have received a card specific to your Meeting's state. This card gives details about how you can buy renewable electricity. PYM's Environmental Working Group is glad to provide to your Meeting as many cards as your Meeting wants. Email or call Ed Dreby at drebymans@igc.org or 609/261-8190 with your request.

## Gwynedd Youth Group News

### April 13 SAVE House Visit

This is a house built by Souderton High School SAVE club (Students Against Violating the Earth Club). This is designed to model the latest in environmentally sound technologies using recyclable materials and alternative sources of energy. We would leave Gwynedd at 12:30 and arrive by 1:00Pm. We would tour the house and then help out with a project.

### April 26 (tentative date): Hawk Sanctuary Mountain

This is Hawk's earth day celebration and there will be other events going on the mountain that day. We could hike, climb the cliffs and/or take part in the events. The service project we will most likely be involved with is pulling a plant called Garlic Mustard. This is an alien invasive plant. Our help is needed. We would meet at Gwynedd at 9:00a.m and help out from 10:00a.m until 1:00p.m. Then we would have lunch and then be free to roam the mountain. We would leave around 5:00p.m.

### April 27 Business Meeting

We will be discussing our craft and bake sale at the rummage sale (May 10th). I know 4/27 is the High School quarterly meeting. This will be over by 12:00. If high schoolers miss our meeting which will start at 11:00 stop by the room just to let me know what you will be bringing to the sale and ideas as to which organization we wish to donate the funds to.

Pauline's new email address is cassandra.night@verizon.net.

**Any child 1st - 12th grade is welcome to join the youth group. For more info contact: Pauline Rosa-Martir Scheperd (215) 855-2284 or Laura Taylor (215) 283-0783.**

## *Highlights from Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business*

Third Month 2003

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends meeting for worship with a concern for business was held on the 16th of March 2003 at the Meetinghouse in Gwynedd, Pennsylvania.

The seventh query regarding social responsibility was read and responded to by Ron Bakshi and was considered by the meeting.

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The clerk's annual report of the State of the Meeting was read and accepted by the Meeting.

The clerk is planning a Coordinating Committee review of the structure and function of the committees. The purpose is to see 1) where there are redundancies or overlaps in functions, 2) where there are needs of the meeting that are not yet assigned to a committee and 3) where it might be to the benefit of the work of the meeting to change the structure. The process will probably take 2-3 months and will include a review the Plan of Organization. A report of our findings will be given to the meeting with suggested changes, if there happen to be any. Lea will clerk the meeting and the following people have volunteered: Jeanetta Bicking, Karen Russell, Judy Flanagan, Marty Wilcockson, Pegene McFadden and Carl Baron.

### **Fellowship and Outreach**

Carl Baron read the annual report for the committee and it is bound with these minutes.

Carl opened the question about providing fellowship for the meeting on First day mornings now that we have returned to the former schedule. The question was asked if a coffee for fellowship is needed on First day. The ongoing adhoc committee to consider the first day schedule will address First day fellowship opportunities. Carl will represent F&O on the committee.

### **Overseers Committee**

Martha Wilcockson reported that the annual report for Overseers would be given in April, as will the suggested changes to the plan of organization.

The welcoming committee of Deb and Doug Faulkner and Judy Flanagan met with Laurel Doran and her children. Laurel was given the pertinent meeting papers. The welcoming committee for Mary Julia Street consisting of June Hallowell and Pegene McPhadden met with her and gave her the pertinent meeting papers. Lea Stabinski, who was to be part of this committee met with Mary Julia during a Friendly 8's dinner last month.

Regina Peasley welcomed Barbara and Saul Jacobson into meeting when she met with them on her trip to Key West, Florida.

Debra Schroeder Thompson requested the transfer of her membership to Gwynedd from Arch Street Meeting. The release from Arch Street Meeting was received. A welcoming committee of Mickey Edgerton, Caroline Moon, Marie and Al Hubbs will meet with her.

Marty Wilcockson read the report for Deb Faulkner and Roger Leimbach on their meeting with Joyce Bilinski on her clearness for membership. They recommend her for membership. The meeting approved. A welcoming committee of Carol Pye and Martin and Margy Trueblood was appointed.

JB Baker McAllister, Meghan McAllister and Connor McAllister have requested membership in the meeting. A suggested clearness committee is Deb and Doug Faulkner and Mary Margaret Bailey. Marty will ask Cinda Edgerton to join this clearness committee.

A letter of release has been sent to Plumstedville Monthly Meeting for Jonathan Trueblood, who has transferred his membership there.

### **Nominating**

The clerk spoke for Judy Flanagan that there is a need for a representative to Abington Quarter for Middle School Friends conference. She requested any interested persons to call Judy.

### **Trustees**

Gina Peasley announced that Henry Beck and Sandy Snyder will be moving to Lower Pottsgrove. The cottage will be available. Give your ideas to Gina.

### **Property**

Neil Trueblood reported on the insurance claim and the work needed to make repairs from the water leaks. To facilitate scheduling and pre-school needs, the repair work will wait until preschool year is over. It was mentioned that Interfaith will be using the facilities in July.

Ken Heibert is working on updating the sign in the front of the building to include the kindergarten and designing it so that we can add temporary signs, such as coffee house, visitor's day, peace vigils, etc.

### **Hilltop**

Neil Trueblood gave a report on the rental of the Hilltop property. He has a list of applications he is currently going through.

Janet Henderson has been doing more painting at the house

### **Hilltop Finance Committee**

Neil Trueblood reported the committee met and discussed how to move forward with fundraising. He read a memorandum for the committee on the status of the committee's plans clarification of the amount of liquid assets was asked and responded to. The memorandum reported that \$350,000 was in liquid funds. Ken Taylor clarified that it is closer to \$100,000. This will be corrected in the memorandum.

### **Hilltop Discernment Committee**

Connie read the minutes from the March 5<sup>th</sup> committee meeting to consider potential time lines for the uses of the Hilltop Property. The lengthy and detailed minutes contain evaluations of the ideas being considered for Hilltop. A copy of the minutes will be available on the bulletin board. Connie will email a copy to anyone that would like one. The committee will meet on April 9 at 7:30 PM until 9:00. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the completeness of the committee report.

### **Religious Education**

April 6 is the date Secret Friends are revealed.

### **PYM Interim Meeting**

Martin Trueblood reported that the January meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. The agenda will be carried over to Yearly Meeting, March 27-30.

## Flash from the Past

Fourth Month excerpts from the minutes of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting

**1803** - Love and unity subsists amongst us in a good degree and we hope friends are generally Careful to discourage tale bearing, back biting and spreading evil reports ...

**1903** - The Queries have all been read with answers from each of our Preparative Meetings, the following summaries were united with... 3rd Sum. Most Friends maintain a faithful testimony in favor of a free gospel ministry and against the system of a professional one.... 7th Sum. We believe friends are careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances, punctual to promises and first in the payment of their debts... 12th Sum. We have two schools... Five teachers are employed, 4 of who are members. 86 pupils enrolled. 28 are members and 14 have one parent a member. Teachers and pupils attend mid week meetings.

**1953** - Gwynedd Mtg Young Friends' Committee '53 Report by Dick Ott, Chairman

During the Christmas vacation the Young Friends decorated the meetinghouse with greens and candles. On Christmas Eve we held a short service in the meetinghouse then went caroling: ending up at Zimmerman's for refreshments. The members and friends of the meeting had a bird's eye view of what was going on at school and college from our Young Friends on school and college day.

## FGC's 2003 Gathering of Friends

*June 28 - July 5, Johnstown PA.*

Friends General Conference will hold the 2003 Gathering of Friends at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, June 28-July 5, 2003. The theme is "Coming to Peace." Johnstown is located in Central Pennsylvania. The campus is situated on a plateau in the Allegheny Mountains, promising cool breezy nights and warm pleasant days. Friends General Conference has financial support for Gathering attendees.

Detailed information about the Gathering will be available in the Advance Program, mailed to all monthly meetings and to Friends on FGC mailing lists as well as all Friends in nearby Yearly Meeting. It should arrive by 1 April 2003. Request an Advance Program by contacting Friends General Conference at 1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 561-1700 or email: [gathering@fgcquaker.org](mailto:gathering@fgcquaker.org).

More information about the Gathering and FGC is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fgcquaker.org/gathering/>. Access to the World Wide Web is often available at your local library.

## Yearly Meeting News

*April 11-13:* Intergenerational Women's and Girls Gathering - Seeking Peace Inside and Out. \*\* Burlington Conference Center. Friday night, 2 options; Saturday workshops. Special time for cross-generational activities. Sign language provided. Questions answered at 215-241-7222\*, 1-800 220 0796 ext 7171 or [melanied@pym.org](mailto:melanied@pym.org).  
*Saturday, April 26, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM:* The Treasurer's Planning Group is sponsoring a hands-on training for Meetings to learn how to keep the Meetings financial records with Quickbooks - at Friends Select, 17th & the Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Registration is limited! You can register by calling or emailing Connie Brookes at Friends Fiduciary Corporation ([CABFidCorp@aol.com](mailto:CABFidCorp@aol.com)) (215) 241-7272) or Kathy Reilly at Philadelphia Yearly Meeting ([kathyr@pym.org](mailto:kathyr@pym.org)) (215) 241-7205\*). There is no childcare provided.  
*August 21-24, 2003* - The 27th Annual Quaker Lesbian Conference will be held at a conference center near Toms River NJ. The theme will be "Listening to Our Evolving Inner Voices." QLC is a time and space in which Quaker women and women familiar with Friends, who are lesbian, bisexual, or moving towards those identities, can connect to spirit and each other. For more information look at the website: [www.quaker.org/QLC](http://www.quaker.org/QLC), send e-mail to [QLConf@aol.com](mailto:QLConf@aol.com), or write QLC, 6906 Sherman St., Philadelphia, PA 19119.

## Summer Events: Young and College Age Friends

*China workcamp: 7/8 to 8/24 - deadline April 1:* Twelve American volunteers (16 and older) are needed to work alongside college students from China, Japan and South Korea. Together we will undertake a joint environmental project in cooperation with local residents, and tutor children at a local girl's school in rural Hunan Province. Cost (including airfare): \$2,200. Applications due: April 1.

*Peace & Justice Think Tank: 8/8-16 - deadline May 15* for young Quakers and "serious sympathizers" (high school and college age) who are already involved in peace and justice activities and would like to learn more about changing the world. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions, raise issues and share ideas. Space is limited to 12 participants. Cost: \$175. Applications due: May 15.

## **Pendle Hill Lecture Series**

Monday night lectures continue.

*April 7:* 4th & Arch. Daisy Machado, Cuban

*April 21:* Pendle Hill, Elizabeth Ellis.

*May 2-4:* Weekend conference. "Racial Justice as Economic Justice" featuring Cornel West and others. Contact Pendle Hill about registration at 610-566-4507. Reduced registration until April 7th.

For more information: [www.pendlehill.org/Monday.html](http://www.pendlehill.org/Monday.html)

## **Volunteer needed**

General Services Standing Committee announces a need for a data entry volunteer to help in PYM office on any day but Wednesday. Contact Monica Firely, 215-241-7213\*, email [monicaf@pym.org](mailto:monicaf@pym.org)

**Remember  
Deadline for May Newsletter is April 16**

Please contribute newsletter items to Editor Amanda Vail:  
[shevaile@netscape.net](mailto:shevaile@netscape.net) or place in the newsletter mailbox.  
Please remember to sign your notes.

Please send event information for the calendar to  
[Gwyneddfriends@rcn.com](mailto:Gwyneddfriends@rcn.com) or place in Jeanette's mailbox.  
Thank you.

**Save Trees  
Read the E-Mail Edition**

If you'd like to receive the e-mail edition or your e-mail  
address has changed, please send an e-mail with your  
address to [gwyneddfriends@rcn.com](mailto:gwyneddfriends@rcn.com)

If you're having any difficulty receiving the e-mail  
edition, please contact Jeanette de Richemond at  
[gwyneddfriends@rcn.com](mailto:gwyneddfriends@rcn.com) or 215-699-3055 for help. I'd  
like to know if you're having trouble because others may  
be having the same problem. Thanks, Jeanette.

*Psalm 131*

My soul is longing for your peace,  
near to you my God.  
Lord you know my heart is not proud,  
and my eyes are not lifted from the earth.

Lofty thoughts have never filled my mind,  
far beyond my sight are ambitious deeds.

As a child rests at its mothers knee,  
I place my soul in your loving care,

My soul is longing for your peace  
near to you my God.

*Paraphrased by  
Marilyn Alfonso*

Gwynedd Friends Meeting  
P.O. Box 142  
Gwynedd, Pa. 19436

Address Service Requested

