

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of Friends

June 2003

Meeting for Worship: 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Summer Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Foulkeways: Thursdays: 10 a.m.

First Day School (Sept-June): 9:45 a.m.

www.gwyneddfriends.org



In witnessing to the Inward Light, guard against religious intolerance. Strengthen a sense of kinship with everyone and make service, not self-promotion, the chief aim of our outward lives as Friends, as employees or supervisors, and as citizens.

Faith and Practice 1997

New Meeting for Worship hours for summer

Meeting for Business approved the change to summer hours starting June 8 and ending August 31. During this period, there will be only one Meeting for Worship on First Day and no First Day School. The Meeting for Worship will be from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.. Meeting for Business will immediately follow Meeting for Worship on the third First Day of the month. Fellowship time will be held at the rise of Meeting except when Meeting for Business occurs.

Annual End of the Year Potluck Breakfast

Gwynedd Meetings annual end of the-school-year potluck breakfast takes place Sunday morning, June 1st at 9:30a.m. In addition to the traditional First Day School presentations by our teachers and students, this year we will also officially welcome 13 new and transferring members! Please bring a dish to share (preferably healthy) and come enjoy a wonderful morning of fellowship, food, family and fun."

E-Newsletter to be delivered through Topica

Several members and attenders have experienced difficulties either receiving or opening the electronic versions of the newsletter. Some internet services, such as America Online, will not deliver unsolicited bulk e-mail, and unfortunately our newsletter falls within this category. ("AOL does not authorize the use of its proprietary computers and computer network (the AOL Network") to accept, transmit or distribute unsolicited bulk e-mail sent from the Internet to AOL members.") In some cases, I have received messages from the Internet service providers saying e-mail from gwyneddfriends@rcn.com will not be accepted.

In the future, I will distribute the newsletter through our discussion list at gwyneddfriends@topica.com. Please opt-in to the list by emailing: gwyneddfriends-subscribe@topica.com so that you can receive your newsletter through Topica.

Meeting Bulletin Board

Farewell Luncheon

A farewell potluck luncheon to show our love and care for Sandy and Henry will be held at the Rise of Meeting on June 29.

Children's First Day School Parent and Teacher Community

On June 8, 2003 the Children's First Day School Teachers will meet to summarize the 2002 - 2003 year and to begin efforts to plan programming for the 2003 - 2004 school term. This called meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m in the community room. Childcare will be available. All parents and teachers from our community are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. Your input and participation is essential in keeping our Children's First Day School programming active and inspiring.

Alternatives to Violence program seeking newsletter editor

AVP has suffered a lot of loss in the past few years. First, with Lloyd Bailey's passing, then Ann Richan (from Swarthmore), now with Don's illnesses...One of the things sustaining the organization is the quarterly newsletter put out by the Delaware Valley Council, of which I am a member.

But now the newsletter is in jeopardy, too. Scottie Stuart-Whistler (at Foulkeways) is the editor and she must now give it up because her husband is so ill and she must focus more energy on his needs. Do you know of anyone who could take this job on?

Interfaith Hospitality Network Coming to Gwynedd

We need many hands to ensure a successful and smooth stay for our guests from Interfaith. Please volunteer. More information is enclosed with the

Junior Friends Conference

JFC will take place this year from June 15-June 20 at the George School. This is an overnight program which Quaker children in 2nd through 6th grades are eligible to attend. Due to the large number of snow days this past winter, some schools will still be in session during that week; however, it may be possible to attend on Sunday and also later in the week. Information and registration packets are available from Peg Haussmann (phone 215-233-1176, email haussmannP@aol) and Cinda Edgerton (phone 215-643-1058, email cedgerton@comcast.net).

Gwynedd Youth Group News

In April the youth group held a used book drive to benefit Andi's Free Books in Upper Chichester. A good amount of books for adults and children were donated making the drive a success. Thanks to those at Gwynedd that donated books and to the preschool for donating a bag of books as well.

May 10th at the rummage sale the Youth Group held its annual bake/craft/plant sale. We raised \$97. Thank you to all those who passed our table and were kind enough to donate. Thanks to all who baked such delicious items and to those who donated plants. Also, thank you to the children who spent their Saturday selling our wonderful treats.

The children voted to donate the funds to the Cat Park Rescue, which is an organization that rescues cats from state and local parks. They clean them up, feed them, medicate them if necessary and then try to find them caring safe homes. These cats are housed in temporary cages at Petsmart stores in hopes that customers might choose to adopt these precious animals.

Laura and I thank all the children and teens in the group for your strong commitment to making a difference and building community. We also thank you parents for reminding your children of meetings and nudging them to attend events.

Interfaith Hospitality Network Hosting Families During July

Gwynedd Meeting will host IHN families during July. Our buddy congregation Tifert Bet Israel will assist us during the second half of the month July 17-31.

Gwynedd members and attenders may volunteer July 1-16 as supper volunteers, overnight volunteers or as drivers. Additionally, help is needed with shopping and laundry.

Sign up calendars are available in the First Day School room to volunteer. For more information call any of the following:

Ginny Bergey, laundry coordinator: 215-641-9739

Jan Henderson, set-up/clean up: 215- 699-9186

Marcia Wise, transportation coordinator: 215-699-8153

Carl Baron, overnight coordinator: 215-699- 7835

Judy Flanigan, host coordinator: 215-699-4592

????????????, supper coordinator:

Financial contributions may be made to support Gwynedd's participation in IHN. Checks, payable to Gwynedd Monthly Meeting and designated for July IHN, may be submitted to the treasurer.

Lakota Summer AFSC – IMYM Joint Service Project

Dates: July 20-August 16 begin and end your project participation on dates of your choice within this time frame.

Where: Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

Cost: \$35/day for Workcamp costs on the project; your transportation costs are separate.

This Workcamp is not only to help build homes, but is a time for spiritual growth. Worship, worship sharing and friends' testimonies are incorporated onto our experience. It is intergenerational and open to all ages 14 and up.

For more information contact:

Mike Gray: 520-212-4696, (cell) 520-907-6321

Email: mgray@afsc.org

Snail mail: 2852 W. Gamez Rd.

Benson AZ. 85602

Flash from the Past

1803: The Extracts from our last yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia was now produced and read; also a minute from our last Quarterly on the subject of Distilled spirituous liquors... Divers pertinent remarks were made...

1903: the representatives appointed to attend our late Quarterly meeting report they all attended. A minute was adopted directing the different Monthly Meetings to forward their quotas to the womens fund of the Yearly Meeting....

1953: The 4th Query was read and considered. ... When on occasion speedy or unquestioning action is taken it sometimes proves to be the fruit of acquiescence rather than true unity of spirit. Those named to call on William and Carol Pye reported these friends are acquainted with our Society, measurably in accord with its principles and eager to inquire further. After consideration they and their son David were accepted as members. Certificates were received from Race Street Meeting for John Baer and his sons, John Charles and Robert Way, from Cleveland Meeting for Dorothy Way Baer and from Des Moines Monthly Meeting for Mary Ellen Sarbaugh.

Highlights from Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business

Fifth Month 2003

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends held meeting for worship with a concern for business on the 18th of May 2003 at the Meetinghouse in Gwynedd, Pennsylvania.

The ninth query regarding outreach was read and considered by the meeting.

Overseers Committee

Membership

A clearness committee of Deborah and Douglas Faulkner, Mary Margaret Bailey, and Cinda Edgerton met with JB Baker McAllister, Meghan McAllister and Connor McAllister on April 27th. They have been recommended for membership. The meeting approved. A welcoming committee of Donna and Sam Swansen, Caroline Trueblood was appointed. Laurel Doran will also be asked to serve. A request was received from Philip Edgerton for transfer of his membership from Gwynedd Meeting to Plainfield Vermont Monthly Meeting. Phil attends Craftsbury Friends Worship Group, which is shortly to come under the care of Plainfield Vermont Monthly Meeting. Overseers recommended that we approve this request and the meeting did so. The clerk will send the letter of transfer.

A request for release from Gwynedd Meeting from Julia King was read in which she spoke fondly of Gwynedd. The meeting approved her release. She would like to continue to receive the Gwynedd newsletter.

Marriage

A clearness committee of Caroline and Arnold Trueblood, Martha Wilcockson and Lea Stabinski met with Diane Bancroft and William Thomson to consider their intended marriage on August 2. The committee felt the couple was clear to marry. The meeting approved. Caroline and Arnold Trueblood and Marty Wilcockson will serve on their

Nominating Committee

Judy Flanigan reported the following recommendations:

Fellowship and Outreach: Joanne Penn, Pat Davis, Beth Binford, Deborah Thompson

Library: Rich Himmer

Overseers: Arnold Trueblood, Marty Wilcockson, Betty Browning, Pegene McPhaden, Pat Dawe, Beth Binford, Roger Buchanan, Connie Lezenby.

Peace and Social Action: Rich Himmer, Gary Lapreziosa, Joan Johnston, Lauren Dize

PreSchool: Marcia Wise, Sandy Sudofsky, JBMcAllister, Kathy Alden, Laurel Doran.

Property: Richard Ott, Janet Henderson, Al Hubbs, Jr., Emily Johnson, Bill Evans.

Religious Ed: Pegene McPhaden, Laura Taylor, Jeannie Hansberry.

Stewardship: Walt Hallowell, Peter Wilcockson, Tom Penn, Peter Vail.

Worship and Ministry: Ginny Bergey, Craig Trueblood, Kay Bacon.

An updated list will be published in the newsletter and put on our web site.

Property

Neil Trueblood read the Annual Report for the Property committee, including the House Subcommittee Annual Report prepared by Janet Henderson. He did not read the report for the burial grounds.

Hilltop

Neil Trueblood reported that the current interested party has paid through May 31st to hold the property while they consider options. There is another family that has expressed interest in occupying Hilltop as well

Religious Education

It was approved that **starting June 8 and going through August 31, 2003, there will be one Meeting for Worship from 9:30 to 10:30 am.** There will be fellowship time at the rise of meeting (currently being worked out). On the third First Day, Meeting for Business will begin immediately at 10:30 a.m. and there will be no fellowship time.

It was suggested that someone from Worship and Ministry should still be here at 11:15 to greet itinerant guests who might show up at the winter hour for worship.

Trustees

Regina Peasley reported on the status of the cottage and asked people to spread the word of its availability, especially to local Quakers.

Peace and Social Action

The Annual report was held over until June. Joan Johnston announced the committee had \$400 in their budget. AFSC will receive \$200 and FCNL \$100. Their budget request next year will be reduced because of this year's overage.

Preschool:

The potluck dinner in April raised \$1300.

A moment of silence was observed to acknowledge Hank Faulkner's support in the purchase of the Hilltop property. A member of Abington meeting, Hank died recently.

Henry Beck reported that twenty people responded to his appeal with contributions to PYM to help with their budget shortfall. He sent \$2000 from Gwynedd.

As there was no further business the Meeting adjourned at 11:00AM

Hilltop Discernment Committee News

The following minute is an amended version of the minute presented for consideration last month. It was considered and approved by the meeting:

- 1.** The committee recommends that expanded educational opportunities be made available over the next ten years at Gwynedd, possibilities include: a summer peace camp, after school enrichment and overnight camping on the land by Gwynedd families. We are open to the idea of the preschool expanding to include elementary or middle school grades as land and financial opportunities become available. We recommend the formation of a committee to address the opportunities, in small steps, toward expanding educational opportunities at Gwynedd. This subcommittee will report to the Hilltop Committee. Stacy Wycoff has volunteered to convene the first meeting. The subcommittee have a liaison member from the Preschool, Peace and Social Action and Religious Education committees. The following names have been suggested: Laurel Doran, Mitch Alden, C'Anne Stevenson, Pauline Rosa-Martir, Kristen Trueblood, Doug Faulkner, Laura Taylor, Cinda Edgerton, Roger Sternfeld and any on the school research group who would like to continue. The committee will be open to others with a leading to do this work.
- 2.** The committee recommends keeping the use of the house flexible at this point in time rather than committing it to a permanent use (such as permanent housing for the disabled), but to keep in mind and hold in our hearts service to under served persons in the community in finding occupants over the next few years.
- 3.** The committee recognizes an already thriving peace center at Gwynedd and recommends a more formal recognition of that evolution be acknowledged by the meeting. A study should be undertaken by a special ad hoc committee in how the meeting can more effectively support the hard work persons on that committee are doing including spiritual, physical space, and staff support needs. This committee would report to the Peace and Social Action committee and coordinate ideas with the Hilltop committee. Members suggested for this committee are: Cynthia Blumenthal (?), Laura Roberts, Mickey Edgerton, Neil Trueblood, Roger Buchanan, Gary Lapreziosa, Sharon Frame, Steve Baumgartner, Eleanor and Ken Hiebert.
- 4.** The committee suggests that the meeting look at ways to integrate the two properties physically and that the Hilltop Committee take up this task. The idea of a playing field will be considered as part of this work.

The minute was approved the Hilltop Discernment Committee was laid down. Two committees will be created: Expanding Educational Opportunities at Gwynedd Committee and Ad Hoc Committee to aid Peace and Social Action and to integrate with the educational opportunities. These committees will pursue and consider the above options. The Meeting should continue to be open to new ideas.

Hilltop Fundraising Committee

Russ proposed a draft minute for the Meeting's consideration in the

April meeting for business: "The members of Gwynedd Monthly Meeting affirm our purchase and express our desire to retain ownership of the Hilltop property, 1717 Sumneytown Pike, Gwynedd, Pennsylvania".

Discussion followed:

- There is no continuing financial drain on Meeting funds to cover the cost of retaining the Hilltop Property.
- The property continues to be tax exempt due to the ultimate uses proposed for the property.
- Abington Meeting has agreed to make a long-term, low-cost loan to Gwynedd Monthly Meeting. We have a good arrangement with them that will run for another three years. This will give us time for discernment and for fundraising.

Following a brief discussion this month, the minute was approved.

Friendly News and Events: Near and Far

Pendle Hill High School Youth Camp

July 6-13, 2003 for students ages 15-18.

This week will be a time for young people from all over the country to unite in exploration of Quaker service and community life in profound ways. It is a time to grow spiritually, to raise your consciousness about social issues, and to affirm core commitments.

Activities include:

- * A Workcamp, through the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Friends Workcamp Program, involving work with local residents on low-income housing improvement projects, an educational tour of Philadelphia, and new insight into urban social realities

- * Group discussions of community, spirituality, service, Quakerism and social concerns with young people from across the country, and with guest speakers from social justice organizations and movements

- * Meaningful service projects at Pendle Hill

- * Meeting for worship and journaling with the Pendle Hill community and the Young Adult interns

- * Art projects in our arts studio, games, a campfire circle, a swimming field trip, and other community-building and connecting activities.

Contact person: Blake Lipsett, Pendle Hill Youth Programs, 338 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA 19086-6099; (800) 742-3150/ (610) 566-4507, extension 149; email youthprogram@pendlehill.org or check out our Web Page at :

http://www.pendlehill.org/youth_programs.html

Waste not Want not

For those of you blessed with outdoor green space at home or lots of houseplants, here is a way to save on resources. Have a bucket of a size that you can handle in your kitchen sink. As you run water to get it hot for dish washing, wash vegetables etc. catch the water in the bucket. Use the water on your plants. Not only does this save on your water bill, but you never know when the next drought is going to start. This could also be done in a shower to catch the initial cold water. This comes from your friendly PYM Environment Working Group.

Germantown MM Peace and Social Concerns Committee seeks assistance

The Germantown Monthly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee is asking for help with a Refugee Sanctuary-related matter. One of our members, who lives in Bala Cynwyd, has been housing on and off for the past 15 years a woman from Central America whose son was in Sanctuary under the auspices of a Mishkan Shalom, a member who has since died. The woman is in her 60s, very hardworking, honest, cheerful, energetic and caring, but she speaks only Spanish. The son is alcoholic and in and out of hospital and jail and thus unable to be of much help to his mother who could use more employment or another part-time or full-time living situation, and has some dental needs. Our member (who is already overwhelmed with anti-war and other activities) could use help dealing with these needs. It could be in the form of a small committee of people willing to assist with appointments, helping to find work, following up on leads, etc, identifying more cleaning or care giving jobs (live-in or by day), locating free and low-cost dental care, providing transportation to appointments, and other occasional needs. It is not a lot of work, but more than one person can handle. If you can offer to be on such a small committee, help with transportation or phone calls or have any leads in the areas of employment or living situation, please call Phoebe at 610-668-9886 or email her at phoebejs@crossroadswomen.net

Summer Reading suggestion from PYM

PYM's Publications Services Group has recently republished *Virginia Exiles* (by Elizabeth Gray Vining) - the timeless story of religious freedom and the exiling/detention of Friends who wouldn't take a loyalty oath. The group encourages those who are concerned about civil rights to read the historical novel. Their American Revolution story foreshadows current world incidents in which people are targeted for their race or religion.

Virginia Exiles is available through our distributor, QuakerBooks at Friends General Conference - 800-966-4556, friends@fgcquaker.org, or online at www.quakerbooks.org.