

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of Friends Newsletter



December 2002

Meeting for Worship :11:15 a.m.
Foulkeways: Thursday 10 a.m.
First Day School: 9:45 a.m. (December)
www.gwyneddfriends.org

Clerk: Lea Stablinski,
1885 Meredith Lane
Blue Bell, PA 19422

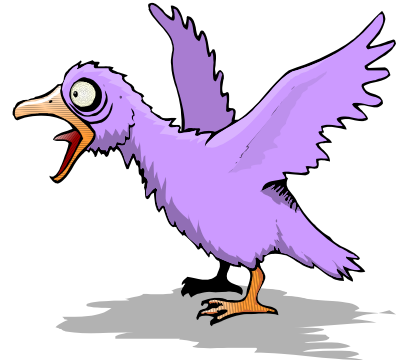
God is the answer who implants the question in order to be found.
-Abraham Heschel : Man in Search of Meaning

December News and Events

New Sunday schedule starts in January

Starting January 12, until the end of First Day School in June the schedule will be as follows:

- 8:30 - 9:00** Early Meeting for Worship
- 9:15-10:30** First Day School
- 10:30- 11:00** Fellowship
- 11:15-12:15** Late Meeting for Worship



On the third Sunday, Meeting for Business will begin after Early Meeting for Worship.

Christmas Tea

Sunday, December 22, 5 p.m.

Bring family and friends to celebrate the season with song and theater presented by the First Day School.

Afterwards we will gather in the social room for fellowship and (of course) food.

Please remember to bring finger foods, which should be dropped off in the kitchen on your way to the program.

This is one of the highlights of the year. Come join us!

December First Day at a Glance

- 12/1 9:45 Youth Exchange
- 12/8 8:30 Called Meeting for Business
- 12/15 9:45 Children's Christmas Program
- 12/22 9:45 Historic Overview of the Bible:
Abraham - Present by Roger Buchanan
- 12/29 9:45 College Students Panel
- 1/5 No FDS due to Retreat at Burlington

Note New Time for FDS!

- 1/12 **9:15** Lives and Callings - Worship & Ministry

Meeting Bulletin Board

The what? The House sub-committee!

You may never have heard of the House sub committee. It is under the Property Committee and is concerned with the interiors of the buildings. The Plan of Organization described as its responsibilities as caring for the general appearance of the Meeting House and school building, posting a list of requirements to be met by groups using the property, keeping an inventory of furniture and furnishings that belong to the Meeting, and recommending advisable improvements or other changes. This year, members include representatives from Property (Janet Henderson, co-chair), Preschool (C'Anne Stevenson, co-chair), Religious Education (Laura Taylor) and Fellowship and Outreach (Carl Baron and Margaret Haussman). Caroline Trueblood and Emily P. Johnson are also members of the House Sub-committee. Additional members may be co-opted at any time. If you or your committee would like to see some changes or additions to the furnishings, storage areas, supplies or decorations of the building please contact a member of the House Sub-committee. We would like to be better known!

Gwynedd Committee List

For a complete listing of Gwynedd committees and their members visit our web site at www.gwyneddfriends.org and scroll to the bottom of the education page. If you receive your newsletter via U.S. mail the list is enclosed with the newsletter. If you are interested in joining a committee talk to any member of the nominating committee.

Not so Random Acts of Kindness

A group of Gwynedd Friends Preschool parents known as Parents Serving the Community helped organize and run a 5K race on World Run Day, November 10th. There were over 200 participants, and close to \$10,000 raised. The majority of this money will go to the Fetal Diagnostic Center at Children's Hospital, and a small percentage will go to the PSC, which helps support Hope Gardens and local, needy families. Thanks go to Gwynedd's high school students who came to run or help with the race, and to Gwynedd for the use of tables and facilities.

Gwynedd Friends Youth Group

Consisting of about 23 youths Gwynedd's Youth Group offersthe meeting a wealth of enthusiasm, a creative surge of energy and great determination to make a difference within the community.

The group planned two fund raising events in order for this holiday season's shopping spree. The first was the Mystery Dinner held in October. Many meeting members as well as family and friends from the wider community attended. We managed to shock a few of the diners and it was crazy and hectic in the kitchen, a great time was had by all.

The smiles and laughter made it evident that much more than simply raising money was taking place. Our youth had created an opportunity for community building within the meeting as well as between the meeting and the community around us.

Taking their talents to the kitchen they baked delicious items available during workday for which donations were accepted. A few of the children also created beautiful Christmas greeting cards. Their efforts were quite successful. They now have a sufficient amount of funds to offer to the Community Housing Services in Lansdale who will pair us with families and then we will go shopping to help make their holidays more joyous.

The children put so much of their heart and souls into planning everything that we do. It is evident that the meeting stands behind the Youth Group's efforts and we thank you Gwynedd for your continued support.

Still More Meeting Bulletin Board

First Day School Time Change!!

Just in case you missed it on the front page the starting time for First Day School will be 9:15 a.m. beginning January 12 thru June.

New Year's Eve Party and Meeting for Worship

Ring in the new year with fun, fellowship and silent reflection. The fun begins at 9 pm. Bring any favorite board or group games as well as your favorite munchies to share. Meeting for worship will begin at 11:15 p.m. to see the old year out and the new one in. Afterwards, we will have punch and cookies to celebrate. All are welcome to come and go at any time throughout the evening. Please note the party is shorter this year as we have an overnight the next weekend in Burlington, but there is still time for lots of homemade fun. If you have any individual or group activities you wish to share or any questions, contact Mary Adelle or David Himmer at 610-272-2164.

FYI From the Clerk

The clerks of committees, the secretary, the newsletter editor and the new office manager had lunch at the meetinghouse on October 27th. We exchanged our experiences of what has worked well in clerking our committees and talked about ideas that would enhance the flow of information between committees. It was a rich and rewarding time and we agreed to meet again in January to continue this exchange.

A Flash from the Past: Twelfth Month

1802:

The friends appointed to enquire into Benj ??? clearness reports they did not find anything to obstruct except that her father withholds his consent for which he gives as a reason that they are not of the same religious per?? As himself which this Meeting doth not think a sufficient ground to prevent their further proceeding.

Abington Quarterly Meeting Square Dance

On Saturday, February 15, 2003 from 7:30- 10:00 p.m. in the Community Room Gwynedd will once again host the annual annual Abington Quarterly Meeting Square Dance. It is not necessary to bring a partner, you can find one at the dance. Please bring some food or drink to share. This year the caller is John Krumm. John, a well known musician and caller locally as well as nationally, teaches music at the Miquon School in Conshohocken. The music will be provided by Hobo Pie featuring Carl Baron of Gwynedd Meeting, Barbara Johnson, Ray Frick and Bob Woodcock of Plymouth Meeting and other interested musicians. If you are interested in joining the other musicians to play for the dance, please contact Carl Baron at 215-699-7835 or cbaron@mail.med.upenn.edu.

Monday Night Pendle Hill lecture series

Arch Street: 7:30 p.m.

December 2, *Race in America: Beyond Black and White*

January 6: *Broadening the Dialog: Religion, Race and Gender*

Pendle Hill: 7:30 p.m.

January 20: *Justice in the Local Community*

visit www.pendlehill.org for more information

Notes from Meeting for Worship
with a concern for Business

Eleventh month

Yearly Meeting News and Events

Young Friends Events

December 27-30, 2002: *Young Friends Christmas Gathering* at Burlington Meeting House.

February 24-26, 2003: *Young Friends Peace Gathering* at the Burlington Meetinghouse, NJ. Limited to 80.

Please consider being a FAP (friendly adult presence) at a Young Friends event. Some of you have been a part of this community and WE MISS YOU!!! I hope you will make some time for this valuable part of our wider PYM worship community- they are the light of the world.

Other Friendly News and Events

To spread peace on earth in 2003, Earlham School of Religion offers Christian Reconciliation: Conflict Resolution in Church and World in four locations January 6-17, 2003. This graduate course can be taken for 3 credits or audit and will meet M-F 6-9p and Saturday, January 11th 9a-4p in Hartford, CT, Greensboro, NC, Marshalltown, IA and Pasadena, CA. In addition, Israel's David: King or Crook? will be offered at the Greensboro, NC and Marshalltown, IA sites at the same dates/costs. The admission and registration process deadline for this course is December 6, 2002. If interested please initiate the process soon. Course costs include: \$35 application fee, \$80 student fee, \$50 technology fee, \$175 audit or \$756 credits (3). For more information or to apply visit <http://www.esr.earlham.edu/> or call Sue Axtell, ESR Admissions at (800)432-1377.

January 17-19 2003: *Friends' Peace Witness in a Time of Crisis* sponsored by FWCC Section of the Americas. A conference on our responses to the growing danger of global war and terrorism" at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC over the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend (January 17-20, 2003). Information about the conference as well as the registration form is available on-line at www.friendspeace.org.

Yearly Meeting sessions 2003:

Saturday March 29: 4th and Arch

Tuesday, July 29 to Sunday, August 3: Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pa.

Yearly Meeting is a time when Friends from our 104 Monthly Meetings in four states gather for worship, business, workshops, social activities, and children's programs. In preparation for Yearly Meeting sessions in 2003, PYM is starting a conversation among Meetings around the theme "Finding the Power to Make Peace in Every Aspect of Our Lives." Friends are being challenged at the present time to find Spirit-led ways to be active participants in building peace at home and abroad. There will be a **one-day session** of Yearly Meeting on Saturday, March 29, 2003, at the Fourth and Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia. Later we will gather from Tuesday, July 29, to Sunday, August 3, at Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. At the residential Yearly Meeting there will be interest group meetings on topics that will support Monthly Meetings in becoming even stronger and more Spirit-based.

December 14, 2002: 43rd Annual Nazareth to Bethlehem Walk the Road of Peace: For over 40 years people who believe in the importance of peace have been gathering in Nazareth to walk the ten miles to Bethlehem, Pa. In addition to the walk, there is a traditional hymn singing in the heart of Historic Bethlehem at the Zinzendorf Platz, Main and Church Streets. After the singing, there is a simple supper at the United Church of Christ, Market and Center Streets. Liz MacAllister, the guest speaker will talk on "Walking, Believing, Hoping". Participants will meet in the parking lot at 520 E. Broad Street, Bethlehem (corner of Broad & Elm). Buses will transport pilgrims to Nazareth Moravian Church on Center Square. You may join at any point along the way, but keep in Church St. Dress appropriately for the weather. For more information call Fran Dreisbach at 610-258-7313 or Bethlehem Council of Churches at 610-867-8671 or visit our web site: www.peacewalk.org

Deadline for January Newsletter is January 19. Please sign the notes you submit.

If you can please submit copy either electronically through email or on disk.

Whom to contact with newsletter items.

Calendar items: Sandy Snyder
Email sfsnyder@comcast.net

Newsletter items: Amanda Vail
Email: shevail@netscape.net or
place in box. Please make sure all
items are in by the deadline as I may
not be able to check my mailbox af-
ter that. Any late notices should be
emailed.

January 2003 Newsletter
Gwynedd Friends Meeting
P.O. Box 142
Gwynedd, Pa 19436

Address Correction requested