

# Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of Friends Newsletter



March 2003

[www.gwyneddfriends.org](http://www.gwyneddfriends.org)

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Meeting for Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
Foulkeways: Thursday: 10 a.m.  
First Day School: 9:15 a.m.

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

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## First Day School Schedule

**The Meeting has decided to return to the "old" FD schedule as of March 2, 2003.**

This schedule will be:

### Early Meeting:

9 a.m. except on the 3rd First Day of the month when it will be at 8:30 a.m.

### Meeting for Business:

9 a.m. on 3rd First Day of the month.

### First Day School:

9:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

### Late Meeting:

11:15 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.

- 3/2 Good News from Project WIN by Peace and Social Action
- 3/9 Lives and Callings by Worship and Ministry
- 3/16 Meeting for Business
- 3/23 Thom Jeavons of PYM
- 3/30 "War, Money and Conscience" presented by Gary Lapreziosa.
- 4/6 Secret Friends by HARP

RE is planning for a four-week Bible course to be given at the Meeting on First Day afternoons beginning April 6. Roger Buchanan will be the presenter.

## Preschool and Kindergarten News

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

This year, calls for scholarship aid have been greater than usual. With the current economic climate, we expect this will be the case next year as well. To help provide scholarships, the Preschool Committee is sponsoring a Pay-As-You-Go Potluck Supper.

The potluck will start at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 3 (note date change). Bring a tasty dish to share AND a contribution for the scholarship fund. Enjoy food and fellowship with meeting and preschool people. Bring your family, friends, and children. Have a fine multigenerational time and a delicious meal while helping the scholarship fund.

If you plan to come, please let us know by calling 215-699-5392 or using the sign-up sheet on the preschool bulletin board. If you can't let us know in advance, just come anyway...all are welcome.

# Meeting Bulletin Board

## Spring Work Day April 26

Mark your calendar for Spring Work Day April 26 from 8 a.m to Noon. There will be indoor and outdoor jobs-something for everyone! Families welcomed. Refreshments served.

## Bible Course Offered

Starting April 6, Roger Buchanan will be presenting a Bible Course at the Meeting on First Day afternoons for 4 weeks. Each class will run for 2 hours from 3 to 5 p.m. and is open to all members and attenders.

The proposed classes are:

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.

## Youth Exchange Meeting

March 16: 12:15 p.m. Meeting for parents of young teenagers who may be interested in Gwynedd's British/American Youth Exchange.

Come help us plan fundraisers and hosting possibilities for the next exchange. We need your help to make this a success!

## Photo Directories

The new Photo Directories are now available.

## Hope Gardens

The need at Hope Gardens this month is for laundry detergent, either liquid or granular. Also needed is dishwashing soap.

Thanks for your ongoing support

## Gwynedd's Youth Group News

January and February were busy months for the youth group. In January we braved the cold and went skiing at Bear Creek. I am pleased to report all had a great time. In February, we had our first workshop/pizza lunch and were very fortunate to be visited by Christie Duncan-Tessmer. We went on a treasure hunt searching for God all around us and then settled into quiet visualization to search for God within. Later in February, the group went rock climbing at the Phila. Rock Gym. Fifteen very brave youths climbed treacherous walls of rock. There was much laughter and excitement.

March 8 we will be planting with the elderly at the Silverstream Nursing Home.

March 9 is a very important business meeting. We will be discussing upcoming events such as:  
Hawk Sanctuary Mountain March 22 (tentative date)

Save House in Souderton April 13 (tentative date)

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

## Do you remember?

When placing the Cottage, several years ago, a Meeting member was there taking video pictures of the whole procedure. I am seeking a copy of this videotape for the Meeting's archives. No one seems to know the person making this video. Do you know? Who has a copy of the tape? Please give me a call or E-mail, Dick Ott at 610-279-1247  
E-mail: ka9do@aol.com

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

Second Month

Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends meeting for worship with a concern for business was held on the 16th of February 2003 at the Meetinghouse in Gwynedd, Pennsylvania with 43 persons attending.

*Overseers*

A request for transfer of Jonathan Trueblood from Gwynedd Meeting to Plumsteadville Monthly Meeting was approved. A request for transfer of Debra Schroeder Thompson from Arch Street Meeting to Gwynedd is recommended. We are waiting to receive the release from Arch Street. We will eventually need a welcoming committee and Mickey Edgerton would like to be on it. Katherine Penniman and Danile Lanpher have requested to be married under the care of the meeting. They will be married in Winthrop, Maine on August 9, 2003.

*Nominating*

The committee heartily approved of Judy Flanigan continuing as its Clerk.

Mickey Edgerton is recommended as a member of the Worship and Ministry Committee. The meeting approved.

*Hilltop Property Update*

Connie Lezenby reported a meeting will be held at the meetinghouse on March 5, at 7:30 PM, to consider timelines for integration of the various ideas for use of the Hilltop property. All are welcome.

Neil Trueblood reported the township has still not made a decision about refunding the taxes paid at the time we purchased Hilltop. Sam Swansen is applying for a forgiveness of these taxes. Hilltop has not yet been rented, but income continues from rental of the barn. Russ Bishop announced there will be a called meeting on March 23 to discuss repaying trustees and retiring the mortgage. A graphic rendering was shown on possible future campus use for the Hilltop property and for dealing with the widening of Rt. 202.

*Hilltop Discernment Committee*

Connie Lezenby reported that a meeting to consider possible timelines for integration of the various ideas for the use of the Hilltop property will be convened at 7:30pm on March 5<sup>t</sup> at the meetinghouse. This meeting is open to all of those who are interested

*Stewardship*

Henry Beck provided the committee's review of the requests for Trustees Funds and the committee's recommendations. Committee recommends to the Fiduciary Committee that the Thompson Memorial Capital Fund be established for the m left to the Meeting in the Thompson bequest. This fund would provide money for long-term capital repairs.

The meeting approved. The report is bound with these minutes.

**Income from members is down from projected budgeting and members are asked to make an effort to meet this shortfall.**

*Property*

There were plant emergencies at the meetinghouse in this past month. There was a plumbing leak in the attic that flooded classrooms and the Community Room. Trueblood & Co. will be handling the insurance claim for the meeting.

A report was made to the insurance company for \$27,000 worth of repairs and the committee is waiting to hear from them. A report on this matter will be presented next month. Two auxiliary units for heat were not turned on upstairs that led to a heating problem in the Community Room. This led indirectly to a Sprinkler system problem.

A suggestion was made to send a \$300 donation to the North Penn Fire Department who came to the aid of the meeting in the aftermath of the plumbing problem.

*Religious Education*

Pegene McPhaden reported that the new time schedule for First Day has resulted in a significant decline in children's attendance in many of the classes. RE proposed that we return to the previous schedule ASAP and no later than March 2, 2003, and that we send the scheduling question back to the joint ad hoc committee for reconsideration. She pointed out that this reconsideration was planned for June anyway. The meeting approved of returning to the old schedule as of March 2, 2003

*Gwynedd Fiduciary Corporation*

Ken Taylor read the annual report. The report was accepted by the meeting. It is bound with these minutes.

*Peace and Social Action*

Sherry Taylor and her children have moved into Hope Gardens. She needs the support of members of Gwynedd. The Wednesday evening peace prayer vigil continues and all are invited to attend.

*Trustees*

Regina Peasley read the annual report and Margot Faye West reviewed the report

## Gwynedd Youth Group Upcoming Events

Events in February include rockclimbing and hopefully a special lunch/workshop based on children centering themselves. February 23rd is the date for rockclimbing. The special lunch/workshop based on children centering themselves will hopefully take place on February 9th. This date will take the place of our regular youth group business meeting. If you are in the youth group you will have already received info about this. If you are interested in your child attending and they are not attending the youth group meetings, please contact Pauline immediately at (215)855-2284.

## Other Friendly News and Events

Support Friends General Conference with a New Long Distance Phone Service. This is an opportunity to contribute money to FGC each month at no cost to you. By switching your long distance service to Enhanced Communication Group (ECG), you will also be contributing to FGC. ECG will automatically contribute 5% of your phone bill to FGC each month. Check the bulletin board for rates and more information.

## **Pendle Hill Lecture Series**

Racial Justice series:

\* Monday, March 3, at Arch St. Meeting House, Nancy Richardson of Harvard Divinity School will speak. Why Racial Justice Matters for White Folk.

\* Monday March 17, at Pendle Hill in the Barn, Ed Nakawatase, longtime AFSC staff, will speak. Race and Identity: the Asian American and Native American Experience.

\*You are also invited to attend the weekend confrence May 2-4, Racial Justice as Economic Justice featuring Cornel West and others. Contact Pendle Hill about registration deadline at 610-566-4507. For more information:

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

## Yearly Meeting News

March 27-30: Yearly Meeting Sessions Children's Program needs **VOLUNTEERS!** Interested in giving just a few hours of your time to the children at Yearly Meeting Sessions? Please contact Brenda Rose Simkin at [brendar@pym.org](mailto:brendar@pym.org) or 215-241-7075. Helpers needed for moving tables and chairs as well as for working with the children. **Also VOLUNTEERS** are needed for Dining Room Aides and for Ushers. Friends with restricted mobility can easily pass out the material for sessions. Other opportunities require Friends to be alert and mobile. To volunteer, please contact the following no later than March 15, 2003:- Dining Room Aides-DE & PA: Helen File, (215) 627-2667 or NJ: Jarry Jones (856) 235-4535 Ushers:-George Houghton, (856) 478-2550 or [houghtonNJ@aol.com](mailto:houghtonNJ@aol.com) <<mailto:houghtonNJ@aol.com>>

## Young Friends Expedition and Spirit Journey Concert

Help bring 8 Alaska Young Friends to join Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Young Friends on a Young Friends Expedition and Spirit Journey (this summer; last summer PYM youth went to Alaska; this summer Alaska youth are coming here). This will be an evening of excellent talent, superb Equal Exchange coffees, teas and hot cocoa, with homemade cookies and desserts. It is for ALL AGES ! Elders and all ages will enjoy the Illumination Band ,a group of about 9 Sufis who are friends of the Friends in western Chester County and Philadelphia City. Michael Green, the Illuminator of "The Illuminated Rumi" will read from his exquisite book, and the Band will accompany him with creative renditions in both the traditional Persian and modern Rock manners! They played to a full house at West Grove in November, and were very well received!

Come DANCE! Everything from Sufi turning to hard core rock 'n roll.. BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY! This is a cheap date in Philly, drug free and smoke free, and PARKING FREE! You can go out on the town afterwards! IF YOU CAN BAKE COOKIES or provide other really yummy food we really need you! Contact Helen Fields (610-486-6420 or [helenf@earthlink.net](mailto:helenf@earthlink.net)) as soon as possible.

IF YOU KNOW HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG FRIENDS WHO MIGHT WANT TO JOIN US ON THIS TRIP (July 5-20, 2003), HAVE THEM CONTACT HELEN FIELDS. THERE WILL BE INFO ABOUT THE EXPEDITION AT THE CONCERT/DANCE.

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

Address Service Requested

Deadline for April is March 16

Whom to contact with items:

Calendar: Jeanette de Richemond at  
gwyneddfriends@rcn.com or place  
items in office managers mail box.

Newsletter: [shevail@netscape.net](mailto:shevail@netscape.net) or  
place in newsletter mailbox.

Please sign the notes you submit.

