

# Community Companion

Community Friends Meeting

Volume 15, Issue 5

(513) 861-4353

May 2009

**Presiding Clerk:**

Ken Bordwell

**Assistant Clerk:**

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Jamie Fota

**Recording Clerk:**

Betty Waite

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Ken Bordwell (ex officio)

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*Submissions due May 26th  
for June newsletter*

## Calendar

All events and meetings take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise noted.

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** **Carry In Meal** following Worship

**May 9<sup>th</sup>** **12 noon Crafter Noon** sponsored by Community Committee. Simple crafts for people of all ages to make, take, and learn a new craft. Welcome other crafters to share/show. Fun for all. RSVP to Rachel Ernst (ph. 604-9250)

**May 9<sup>th</sup>** **7pm Fundraiser for Shannon's Africa Trip** Contact Jamie Fota (ph. 559-9642) for info (see p. 3)

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

**May 16<sup>th</sup>** **10 am to 12 noon Peace Churches Brunch #2** Will be a picnic, weather permitting. Childcare available. RSVP to Linda Coppock (ph. 321-3696) or Mary Kay Rehard (ph.376-7768)

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** **Miami Quarterly meets at Miami Meeting. 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** (see p. 2)

**May 24<sup>th</sup>** **Second Hour: "Spirit Lives!: Sharing Spiritual Experiences "** with Eileen Bagus (see p. 3 )

**May 30<sup>th</sup>** 8am to 2pm **Rummage Sale:** Fundraiser for Alaska trip. You can donate items for sale or you can sell your own at a booth and pay a donation towards the Alaska trip. The more the merrier. RSVP to Lynn Funck (ph. 317-8042) or Deborah Jordan (ph. 251-2558)

**May 31<sup>st</sup>** **Second Hour: "Metaphysics"** with Brian Bedwell

## Joys to Share

Bret Marshall became an Eagle Scout (see p. 4)

Marlane Souder has a new grandson, Luke

Nick Rhein graduates from Northern Kentucky University May 9<sup>th</sup> in teacher education

Shannon McKelvey Isaacs graduates from Olney Friends School

David Funck's business, CertaPro Painters, will be on **Clean House** July 1<sup>st</sup>

### Miami Quarterly Meeting Meets Fifth Month 17<sup>th</sup>

Hosted by Miami Monthly Meeting, Waynesville, OH

#### **Schedule:**

9:30: Early arrival. Coffee, bagels, etc.

10:30: Meeting for Worship.

12:00: Lunch. *Traveling Friends may bring desserts.*

1:00: Commemorate 200 year anniversary of Miami Quarterly Meeting.

1:30: State of Society Reports.

2:45: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

4:15: Close

#### **Children and Middle Youth:**

Miami Monthly Meeting will take children and middle youth to the Caesar Creek Visitor Center to view exhibits of Native American history and natural sites in the area. This may include a movie and visit to the reservoir dam. *One or two adult volunteers are needed to drive and accompany young Friends.* Children will spend the first 15 minutes in Meeting for Worship and then adjourn for First Day School. Please send an email to Linda Wager with the number of young Friends who will attend and adults who may wish to volunteer to assist, [miraclessisters@yahoo.com](mailto:miraclessisters@yahoo.com).

#### **State of Society Reports:**

Monthly Meeting representatives will read State of Society Reports from worshipful silence beginning at 1:30 pm.

#### **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business:**

An agenda will be forthcoming and will include possible action to be taken on the minute regarding "Seeking Right Relationship with Food and Land." Monthly Meetings may submit additional items to the Presiding Clerk.

#### **200 Year Anniversary:**

The first session of Miami Quarterly Meeting was convened on Fifth Month, 13<sup>th</sup>, 1809 at Miami Monthly Meeting. 200 hundred years later, Miami Quarterly Meeting convenes again at Miami Monthly Meeting. A display table will hold historic memorabilia and photos. Friends are requested to bring their old "Friendly" photos and other memories for the display table.

#### **Location:**

Miami Quarterly Meeting will be held at Miami Monthly Meeting, White Brick Meeting House, which is located at the corner of Fourth and High Streets in Waynesville, Ohio. Waynesville is located at the intersections of U. S. Route 42 and Ohio Route 73 in Warren County.

Note: There was no Fourth Month Business Meeting to report on.

## Adult Education: Spirit Lives! May 24th

Please come to Second Hour on Sunday, May 24, for a time of sharing spiritual experiences facilitated by Eileen Bagus. As Quakers we believe that there is that of God in everyone. We believe that religion should be experiential/experimental, not a matter of catechism or book learning only. We believe that Divine revelation is continuous in our time and did not stop with the Bible. All of these beliefs imply that within our Meeting, people must be having some spiritual experiences.

This will be an opportunity to share your own spiritual experiences, or perhaps those of someone close to you (with due respect for privacy), or perhaps the experiences of Quakers about whom you have read. Some possibilities might be a mystical experience or feeling of the Divine Presence, a healing, an event that seemed miraculous. If you have experienced the presence of departed spirits/souls, which increased your belief in the possibility of survival of physical death, that may also be appropriate to share. You be the judge of what constitutes a spiritual experience for you, and we will receive it respectfully.

Eileen is gathering information, experiences and questions as the basis for a mini-course for our Meeting sometime later this year.

## Service Work in East Africa This Summer

Dear Friends,

For many years I have felt deeply led to join the African Great Lakes Initiative and Friends Peace Teams in their community service in east Africa. This summer I will finally be able to go to Kamange (an impoverished suburb of Bujumbura the capital) Burundi and help to build an HIV/AIDS clinic.

I am writing you to ask for your financial support of this project. The work camp requires that participants raise \$4300 to cover air fare, and building materials. Originally I had intended to use money I saved from working over the summers however AGLI requires that the participants raise the money. This is to raise awareness about the work camp and the broader issues the work camp seeks to address. Currently I have raised \$2394.

I believe that projects like these help to promote peace in a way that goes beyond the absence of war. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries Africa was greatly oppressed by European colonialism. This colonialism has lead to genocide, (300,000 people died in Burundi in 1993) poverty, and the destruction of cultures – which tears apart people's very lives. I am going to Burundi in the spirit of service to a people who have been wronged by my ancestors. I am going to listen, to try to understand the experience of people who were oppressed to the point where they rose up and killed their neighbors, friends, and family. I am going to work with Burundians to help fight a disease that has torn apart families and hurt communities.

If you are interested in being a part of this project through donating, checks can be made out to AGLI and in the memo line should say S. Isaacs Burundi. All donations are tax deductible. Checks can be mailed to: Friends Peace Teams/ AGLI 1001 Park Ave. St. Louis MO 63104-3720 or given to me or Marjorie at meeting.

I will also have an email list from which I will send (short!) updates about what I am doing. If you would like to receive these emails or communicate with me while I am in Burundi send me an email at [shanisaacs@gmail.com](mailto:shanisaacs@gmail.com).

Thanks, Shannon Isaacs

## Quaker Heights Care Community Develops Strategic Plan

Over the last several months, Trustees for Quaker Heights have engaged in strategic planning. Consultants have been hired to help facilitate the data gathering process to ensure decisions are evidence based. Facts, not hunches, must determine the future of resident care. Some of the main goals of the early plan have included staff support and retention (continuing education, benefit and wage analysis, job satisfaction, conflict resolution training), research about who and how we serve (offering new programs like Home Health Care, technology use in long term care, alternative care models, private rooms), and sources of financial support for the mission. These are complex issues.

While Quaker Heights has been in existence for more than 100 years and is financially solvent and operationally sound, the future is uncertain. Trustees understand the viability of the mission rests with visionary leadership and calculated planning. Admissions and referrals to the organization are strong now, but the competition is changing rapidly and more choices are available than ever before. OVYMs' promotion and support of their largest ministry is a critical ingredient in the recipe for sustainability. Quaker Heights Care Community provides a higher percentage than average of Medicaid sponsored care. The commitment to continue this legacy rests in the minds and hearts of those who support the mission now and in the future. Charting a course for future sustainability is why a strategic plan is being developed by the Trustees. There will be ways to help Quaker Heights in the future. In the meantime, Trustees ask that you continue to talk about the good work happening on the campus and encourage referrals. Word of mouth promotion is one of the best ways to help; tell others about the place you know "where love is made visible by service." *If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Wendy Waters-Connell at [wwatersc@quakerheights.org](mailto:wwatersc@quakerheights.org) or call at 513.897.6050.*

## Daydream Becomes Eagle Scout Project

From an area newspaper:

"Bret Marshall used to look out the windows of Whitaker Elementary School and see potential in a mostly desolate court yard. When he moved on to Finneytown Middle School, Marshall, now an eighth-grader, decided to make his ideas a reality. He recently transformed the courtyard area into an outdoor classroom for his Eagle Scout project. . .

Marshall designed a three-section outdoor classroom, with picnic tables, a garden section, and a mini-arbor of pear and apple dwarf fruit trees." He is one of the youngest Eagle Scouts.



*Photo of bluebells taken outside the Meeting House by Eugenia Mills*