

Community Companion

Community Friends Meeting

Volume 16, Issue 2

(513) 861-4353

February 2010

Presiding Clerk:

Doug Burks

Assistant Clerk:

Ken Bordwell

Recording Clerk:

Betty Waite

Ministry & Counsel:

Eileen Bagus

Doug Burks (ex officio)

Byron Branson

Lisa Cayard

Jamie Fota

Evie Hoffmann

Frank Huss

Paulette Meier

Sunny Rhein

Treasurer:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Newsletter Editor:

Deborah Jordan

(djordan@fuse.net)

next submissions due 3/2

Calendar

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

Singing 9:45am.

Meeting for Worship 10am Second hour @11:40am

Feb. 7th **12:30pm Friends' Education** with Dr. Mary Ellen Newport, Assistant Head of Olney School and Director of Admissions and Lucy Hartsock, featuring an Olney slideshow (*following carry-in potluck*) (see p. 4)

Feb. 9th **6:30pm Adopt a School training** (see p. 3)

Feb. 13th **Spiritual Companionship: All Meeting Renewal** (see p. 4)
Feb. 13th, 14th **OVYM Teen Retreat at Lexington Friends**

 **Feb. 14th** **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

Feb. 21st **Second Hour: Spiritual Practice** led by Kate Anthony
Feb. 21st **Miami Quarterly at Miami Meeting, Waynesville, OH.**

Feb. 26th **(tentative) Movie Night: Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action and A Force More Powerful**

Feb. 28th **Second Hour: Book discussion: "Spirituality, Mythopoesis, and Learning"** with one of the authors, Tim Leonard

Hold in the Light

Eugenia Mills after the death of her mother
Byron Branson as he recovers from his cracked hip
Jennifer Chase after the death of her father
Marlane Souder as she deals with health concerns

Summary of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business – First Month 10

15 in attendance for Monthly Meeting for Business, with Doug Burks clerking.

1. Action Items

- a. Discussion of Treasurer's report and 2010 budget (see attached), presented by Mary Anne Curtiss. Ratio of cash to budget is up to 21%. Contributions were made at double what we budgeted because of a friendly rate of giving in December. A discussion ensued regarding the refund from Duke Energy, with a refund of \$2,000 received in December, which was included as contributions instead of being offset against the gas and electric expense. Also discussed was the reversion to the optimistic budget for 2009. Treasurer's report for 2009 was accepted.

Questions were entertained regarding the nonprofit status of a few organizations proposed for contributions in the budget. It was noted that the budget included both a conservative and an ambitious budget. Eric Wolff suggested that the individual contributions be tabled and sent to Peace and Social Concerns to refine. Doug noted that his thought was that the dollar amount be discerned, and that the distribution of that amount be sent to Peace and Social Concerns for refinement. Frank Huss suggested that we go ahead and add the two new organizations to the conservative budget, bringing the total to \$1,600. Paulette Meier noted that our library budget might deserve a second look as well. Kate Anthony noted that Peace and Social Concerns may not be able to address this for a few months.

Mary Anne noted her process for determining the various budget amounts, which was mostly what we spent last year with an adjustment for inflation. Byron expressed a concern about library and advertising. Eric Wolff questioned where the funds for the web site were included in the budget. Deborah Jordon noted that the FUN committee usually likes a little bit of a budget and inquired as to whether or not we should make a contribution to Miami Quarterly Meeting. Frank Huss noted that such a contribution was not necessary as he is the treasurer of that Meeting. It was noted that the library budget is mostly entirely consumed for the Friends Journal. Doug suggested an increase of the budget for the library to \$200. Advertising was also discussed with the possibility of finding more targeted advertising, perhaps in the campus newspapers. Frank Huss volunteered to clerk an ad hoc committee to consider our advertising needs. The budget was raised to \$250. Doug will recruit committee members to ensure that the committee gets off the ground. The budget for the FUN committee was raised to \$200. The budget for the music committee was increased to \$150. Eric noted that the cost for the URL, which was noted as fairly minimal, would also be a cost this year. Mary Anne reminded the meeting to submit in kind donations. The 2010 Budget was approved with changes noted above. Mary Anne requested guidance on how to pay contributions during the time that the budget is refined. It was determined that Mary Anne would continue as she is doing using the conservative budget amounts for the groups through Right Sharing.

b. Request for funding for Phil Gulley visit (see attached) A discussion ensued regarding the cost of supporting this visit, and within what budget that cost would fit. Byron suggested that a few of us Quakers raise the funds outside of the budget in order to fund support for this effort. It was noted that this project would help spread the word about Quakerism and would be of a potentially great benefit to our meeting. Ken Bordwell and Betty Waite volunteered to assist Byron in this endeavor. A fund will be set up by the treasurer to track these efforts so that those efforts will be tax deductible.

2. Committee reports

- a. Religious Development-Doug Burks reporting that they requested that we celebrate the play in December. Tim Leonard reported that Paul Chapell will be giving leadership in the peace movement talks on January 30th-the Peace Church Brunch.
- b. Ministry and Council-Kate Anthony reporting, January 31 is the next meeting, February 13th is meeting renewal, spiritual companionship and mentoring.
- c. Stewardship- Mary Anne reporting. The Cannon Fund loan was paid off. It was noted that we have only replaced ½ the single pane windows, and that the other ½ might be the next project of the capital campaign and the remaining outstanding pledges be used for that project.
- d. Nominating committee-Mary Anne Curtiss reporting that the committee is formed and meetings have been scheduled.

3. Wider Quaker bodies

- a. FCNL-still looking for an executive secretary
- b. AFSC-the general secretary has stepped down and a search has ensued for a new general secretary.

Closing Worship

Adopt a School Program

Peace and Social Concerns invited Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center (IJPC) to introduce their “Before You Enlist” Adopt a School Program on Monday, January 18th, Martin Luther King Day. The group from Community Friends was pleased to see AFSC materials being used and enthused about working with this program. Our 2 hour training is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 9th at 6:30pm. All are invited. Our adopted school is yet to be finalized.



Spiritual Companionship: The All-Meeting Renewal on Sat., Feb. 13th

Presenters for the renewal will be Cathy Barney and Donne Hayden.

Cathy Barney is a member of Cincinnati Friends, where she has facilitated spiritual nurture groups for adults and children since 2001. She completed Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's School of the Spirit on Being a Spiritual Nurturer in 2006 and has led workshops and retreats on nurture and extended worship.

Donne Hayden, MDiv., graduated from Earlham School of Religion in 2006. A convinced Friend with Hicksite leanings, she has, since July 2008, joyfully served Cincinnati Friends Meeting as minister and public Friend.

This is Community Friends Meeting's first ever all-meeting renewal. We are inviting all Quaker meetings in Cincinnati to join with us so we can have another opportunity to know one another. There will be a catered lunch. Though there is



Ideas to Help Food Prep

Community Committee and FUN have a few ideas to make First Day "Carry In" run more smoothly and have more meaning.

- Please try to use local foods whenever possible. There are 3x5 "index cards to fill out to let others know your dish is: local grown, home grown, organic, and/or vegetarian
- Community would appreciate (and needs) any cooking instructions, such as "Heat in oven 350 degrees" or "Warm on stove" or "Serve at room temperature" etc. Post it notes will be on the table for your convenience.

Also thanks for helping with set up and clean up. Many hands make Light work!

Submitted by Sue Brungs, Community and FUN

no charge for the renewal, we welcome donations to help defray the cost of the meal.

The day will begin at 9:00 and end at 4:00. The morning will be devoted to spiritual nurture or guidance, relationships in which seasoned Friends offer nurture to others. The afternoon will focus on spiritual friendship, in which two individual mutually nurture each other over a period of time. There will be a rich mix of presentation and small group discussions. By blending a larger number of Friends from all the meetings, and giving people an opportunity to share, we are hoping that some who attend may find a spiritual friend or nurturer.

We welcome early registrations to help us plan for lunch and room set ups that will be needed. You can register by calling Eileen Bagus at 513-891-8780 or emailing eileenbagus@gmail.com.

Quaker Education and Olney Friends School

Ever wonder about your high school choices?

What about boarding school?
What about a Quaker school?
What about independent school?
What about college-prep?

What about Olney Friends School?

Find out more about Quaker education, independent school education and Olney Friends School in eastern OH

Sunday Feb 7 after Meeting for Worship
Worship starts at 10am
Conversation and potluck 11:45am followed by presentation

Woodland Meeting

On the third Saturday in January, six of us from Friends in Unity with Nature Committee, plus Mary Ann, met at our meeting house for a woods work session. For a few years we have been cutting bush honeysuckle, as well as euonymus and ivy, from the soil and tree trunks, clearing the way to plant native trees, shrubs and wildflowers. Small trees grow in the garden nursery until strong enough for transplanting. We're trying to help the forest resume its succession toward naturally-evolved diversity and complexity, eventually reaching relatively stable maturity. So most of the work will be done by the woods itself if we just minimize the non-native plant presence.

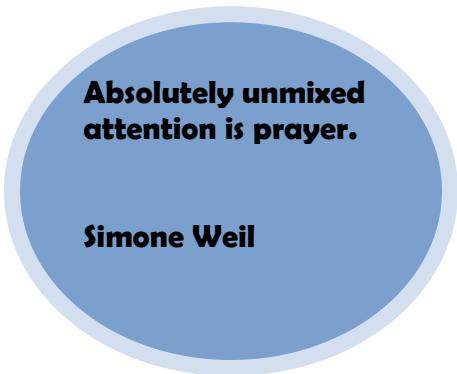
“. . . most of the work will be done by the woods itself if we just minimize the non-native plant presence.”

When I first arrived I walked in slow, silent listening mode around the woods trail. The air was nippy, but above freezing. On the southern slope of the land, northern white ash, buckeye and hackberry trees towered in the grey sky, swaying gently. Many were covered all the way up with ivy or euonymus. Passing the grove of pawpaw trees, I wandered around to the north slope with its larger beeches, oaks and hackberries. The winter woods seemed lifeless at first until I began sensing the still-growing roots and dormant insects and seeds everywhere, waiting for the spring thaw.

I began cutting vines from trees on the south slope. Others spread across the slope doing their own snipping. Tom Orr had been the first to arrive and begin working. Judy, Jamie, Kate and Mary Ann easily fell into the rhythm as well. Morgan and John David were playing in the house. The clouds thinned and the day warmed a little. I sensed the spirit moving within and among us: sun, breeze, upright primates, trees, birds, and soil creatures, along with sleeping insects and reptiles. All are part of one communion within living earth and vibrant cosmos, manifestations of one presence.

After a few hours, with some leaving earlier, we sat in the kitchen eating tasty soup and warm bread prepared by Elizabeth and John David. It's an ongoing work, and you're welcome to join us next time.

Bill Cahalan



Absolutely unmixed attention is prayer.

Simone Weil

2010 Community Friends Meeting Budget

Income Total	2010 Budget	
Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 30,492.50	
Restricted Contributions	unbudgeted	
Coffee Profits	\$ 75.00	
Krogers	\$ 1,140.00	
Use of House	\$ 100.00	
Interest/Dividend income	Unbudgeted	Building Reserve
Income Subtotal	\$ 31,807.50	

Meetinghouse Expense	
Gas and Electric	\$ 5,652.00
Telephone	\$ 1,150.00
Water/Sewer	\$ 1,385.00
Insurance	\$ 2,430.00
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 463.00
Subtotal, Meetinghouse	\$ 11,080.00

Committees and Programs	
Administrative/Clerical	
Ministry and Counsel	\$ 560.00
House and Grounds	\$ 4,500.00
Religious Development	\$ 860.00
Adult Education	\$ 150.00
Community	\$ 200.00
Library	\$ 200.00
Newsletter	\$ 100.00
Advertising	\$ 250.00
Directory	\$ 150.00
Nominating	\$ -
Peace and Social Concerns	\$ 150.00
Music	\$ 150.00
Friends in Unity with Nature	\$ 100.00
Stewardship	
Treasurer's expenses	\$ 35.00
Subtotal, P&C	\$ 7,405.00

Budget (continued)

Contributions and Special Expense		
	2009 Budget	
Parent Bodies		New OVYM July 09-July 10 \$ 8,662.50 or \$722/mo
Friends General Conference	\$ 3,160.00	
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting	\$ 8,662.50	
Miami Quarterly Meeting	\$ -	
Subtotal, Parent Bodies	\$ 11,822.50	
Contributions:	Budgetted	total to be paid if 2010 income permits
Pendle Hill	\$ 25.00	\$ 100.00
MARCC	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00
AFSC	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
FCNL	\$ 150.00	\$ 300.00
FWCC	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Right Sharing of World Resour	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00
CCCO	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Center on Conscience and W	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Quaker Knoll	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Wilmington College		\$ 25.00
FreeStore/FoodBank	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00
Friends Music Camp	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Bridges for a Just Society	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Drop Inn Shelterhouse	\$ 75.00	\$ 150.00
Inter-Community Justice Center	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Quaker Bolivia Link		\$ 25.00
Quaker Inn City Schl Endwmn	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Quaker House Ft Bragg	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Council of Christian Communions	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Community Dev Nic	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Ceasefire Cincinnati	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Out of the Crossfire	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Cinti Initiative to Reduce Violence	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Subtotal, Contributions	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,100.00

Final Thoughts

Greeters and Closers for Feb.

Greeters: Teens

Closers: Paulette Meier



Tim Leonard has a reflection in the Feb. Friends Journal called "Wrestling with God"

John Sniegocki and Tim Leonard each have had books published recently.



Community Friends Meeting
3960 Winding Way
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229

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Websites:

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting:
<http://ovym.quaker.org/>

Community Friends:
www.communityfriendsmeeting.com