

Community Companion

Community Friends Newsletter



Quaker House: 3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950
(513) 861-4353 Volume 16, Issue 8
www.communityfriendsmeeting.com

August 2010

Presiding Clerk: Doug Burks Assistant Clerk: Eileen Bagus Recording Clerk: Betty Waite Treasurer: Mary Anne Curtiss	Ministry and Counsel: Eileen Bagus Byron Branson Doug Burks (ex officio) Lisa Cayard Evie Hoffman Frank Huss Paulette Meier Sunny Rhein	Newsletter: Deborah Jordan Email: djordan@fuse.net Jean Crocker-Lakness Email: j.crockerlakness@gmail.com Submissions for September newsletter due by: Friday, Aug. 27
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Calendar

All events and meetings take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise noted.
Singing 9:45am, Meeting for Worship 10am

August 8 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business following Worship

Save this Date: Annual Renewal planned for Nov. 6 or 13

HOLD IN THE LIGHT:

Tim and Mary Leonard's son, Sean
MARCC during these financially challenging times
Former member Lynn Newsom after her fall

"(Friends) are called to live and love in ways that help bring divine healing to this world. To do so, we must become deeply rooted in that Mystery we speak of variously as God, Spirit, the Light, the living Christ, Love, the Good."

—Marcelle Martin, "Deeply Rooted; Alive in the Spirit"

EIGHTH QUERY FROM OVYM BOOK OF DISCIPLINE:

Do you encourage and support the educational activities of Friends? Are you interested in the schools of your community and concerned to establish practices in these consistent with the values you cherish as Friends? What efforts are you making to increase your understanding of your Quaker and other religious heritages and their relation to other religions?

SPIRITUAL COMPANIONSHIP

In February, Community Friends held a renewal on Spiritual Companionship. We focused on Spiritual Friendship and Spiritual Mentoring / Nurturing. Since then, Ministry and Counsel Committee has been working to develop a group of spiritual mentors or nurturers from the three Cincinnati meetings who are willing to serve anyone from any of the meetings. Each month we will feature a nurturer in Community Companion.

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SPIRITUAL NURTURER



NAME : Eugenia M. Mills	MONTHLY MEETING : Community Friends Meeting	COMMUNITY OF RESIDENCE : Fairfield, OH
PHONE : (513) 861-4353 [COMMUNITY FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE]	EMAIL : CFMMINISTRYANDCOUNSEL@GMAIL.COM	
INTEREST (NURTURING/MENTORING, FRIENDSHIP OR SMALL GROUP): MENTORING		
AVAILABILITY (WEEKLY, MONTHLY, DAY OF THE WEEK, WEEK OF THE MONTH, ETC., IN PERSON, PHONE OR E-MAIL) : Variable. Retired so have time – usually can be adjusted to meet need. I prefer not to state a rigid day or week, as I would like to be flexible to other's schedule, and I want to keep my own commitments flexible so that I can take off on travel for my photography as the way opens.		

Summary of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Seventh Month 11, 2010

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

1. Approval of proposed agenda was requested, after being acknowledged by Doug Burks. It had been emailed to all prior to meeting for worship with attention to business. The agenda was approved with one addition.
2. Clerks report-Doug Burks reporting:
Minute of appreciation for Ken Bordwell was read by Doug Burks for his work as clerk and asst. clerk over the past four years. Minute approved wholeheartedly.

3. Action Items

Letter from Adam Funck regarding being a Conscientious Objector. A discussion point was raised regarding the possibility that certain aspects of the letter may contain a need for minor fact checks, which should be resolved before the letter is printed and disseminated. **Everyone thought the letter was excellent.** Also noted was that girls should be encouraged to write these sorts of letters as well. Religious Development was lauded for encouraging our young people to write these letters. It was noted that Conscientious Objector would be a good topic for second hour this fall. The letter was accepted, approved and recorded. A discussion of how to support Adam in his pacifism and Conscientious Objector ensued. A minute of support was approved. See the letter on page 4 of this newsletter.

4. Committee reports

- Treasurer -MaryAnne Curtiss reporting, general funds have risen giving us the resources necessary to make a few necessary repairs. We paid off our debt to OVYM. Mary Anne appreciated the efforts of everyone for contributing both monetary and in kind donations. A question was raised and resolved regarding the Phil Gulley Fund, which has been closed because its function has been served.
- House and Grounds-Eric Wolff reporting, rain barrel was damaged, and is being reconsidered. Certain drainage issues continue. A meeting work day is scheduled for August 28th. We have a new blueberry patch. Additional information was provided regarding the new windows. For the same cost we will get double the windows. Further news regarding the windows will be forthcoming.

5. Wider Quaker bodies

OVYM is coming up soon from 7/28-7/31 at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana. 15 people registered and 3 people visited FGC, which was a wonderful and rewarding event. Those that went encouraged others to attend next year at Grinnell College in Iowa. The theme will be Meeting at the Center.

Dear Friends,

I am an attendee of Community Friends Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a male United States citizen. As such I would like to inform you that I have made a conscience decision regarding war. I object to war and going to war in all forms and fashions! The decision that I have made is based upon religious, moral and ethical beliefs about war and violence in general, that I have formed.

There are many religious reasons why I believe that killing is the wrong thing to do. Being a Quaker I believe that we humans are all brothers and sisters and should not harm one another. I believe that there is a "Light within us" or "that of God is within each of us." We should never try to diminish or extinguish that light for any reason. The Sixth Commandment within the Ten Commandments states that, "Thou shall not kill." We human beings have the power to take another life, yet I believe that this power should not be exercised because death is something that does and should happen on its own.

I believe that it is morally wrong to kill another person. The loss of a life is also the loss of what that life could have done in the future, and brought into the world.

Going to war costs billions of dollars a year; loss of brain power and creativity. I don't believe that war is worth these sacrifices. The mental and physical issues that war veterans have to deal with if they make it back home also factor into the equation of why war is unethical.

One main reason that led me to my belief and decision to officially state my conscientious objection to war was my exposure to the Quaker sect of Christianity. Two others are an informative presentation/discussion about experiences lead by Byron Branson, who is a Quaker and a registered conscientious objector during the Korean War, and a presentation/discussion at a Peace Brunch led by Paul Chappell, a West Point graduate, who served in Iraq. Since Paul Chappell retired from the Army he is working with a peace organization based in California, and strongly believes that war is unnecessary. Historically, throughout the centuries, war has not provided anything positive. War has only created human misery and economic hardship. In reality, it would be far better to attempt and exhaust all other avenues related to peace than to go to war.

My beliefs about war and violence help me live my life as a pacifist, a Quaker, and a Christian. I respect human life and practice non-violence. I feel that our minds and bodies can be utilized in a better way than being trained to kill. I would like to go into a career that helps society in some way. Going into the military would not be one of the ways I believe I would be of the greatest use to society. These are my reasons for not wanting to serve in or be involved in the military or supporting the military in any way. I would like to clarify that I would not object to serving my country in another way.

I affirm the foregoing statements about my beliefs are true. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely holding you in the light,

Adam Funck

From the larger Quaker Community:

Joint Quarterly Meeting, October 9 and 10, 2010 at our special gathering place- Happy Hollow Camp (somewhere in rural Indiana). Lots of friends (of all ages), fellowship, nice cabins, food, and light business. For more information contact Deborah Jordan at ovymsec@fuse.net

FGC GATHERING (Jean Crocker-Lakness reporting)

I took photos of all folks from Community Friends- some more willing than others. I am working on the technology to insert the photos- I should get better with each newsletter. There were 21 adults and children from Community Friends attending this year's Friends General Conference Gathering held this year at Bowling Green State University from July 4 through the 10th. It was a week filled with activity and all appeared to be enjoying themselves. There were 57 different morning workshop to choose from. The day began with morning outdoor worship or yoga or psycho-calisthenics at 7 am. Then Bible half hour at 8 am. Breakfast had to be squeezed in between 7-9 am to get to the morning workshop at 9 am.

In the afternoon were many more choices such as field trips, the gathering store with a very large collection of Quaker books and book singing events (Paulette's new CD had a wonderful presence at the store), singing films, interest groups such as: "Everything you wanted to know about nontheist relaxation, Jewish worship, open 12 step various Quaker on Right Sharing of more.



After supper
PLENARY.
the first night,
second night
up just to hear
photo below).
Showcase of
Paulette
her new CD of

to chant.
the powerful
Franklins” It
the slaves held
and their
others across

the evening there were choices including folk dancing, contra dancing, singing, films



there was a
George Lakey spoke
Phillip Gulley the
(Ken Bordwell came
Phillip Gulley- see
The third night was a
Quaker Talent where
performed music from
Friends Quotations
transformed/transferred
Thursday evening was
play: “Show me the
explored the lives of
by Benjamin Franklin
relationships with
racial divides. Later in



Dylan Cahalan says that the FGC Gathering was being around like-minded people for a week. His favorite part was the emotional teen worship responding to the query "how do you give and receive gifts of the spirit" where people could express themselves without being judged. Another highlight was playing soccer with the Young Adult Friends in the rain.





We learned very quickly to be selective in our activities if we were going to survive the week. The accommodations were in dormitories. We had a double room in a suite with 2 other rooms. We shared a shower and 2 bathrooms. Luckily we had opted for an air-conditioned room. The programs were spread out all over the campus so we got a lot of exercise. There were also golf carts driven by volunteers from the dorms to the major programs to give assistance to those who needed help with getting around the large campus.



The next FGC Gathering will be July 3-9 at Grinnell College in Iowa. More information will be available in late 2010 at www.FGCgathering.org





Karen Arnett had a wonderful time at FGC Gathering and in her workshop reading "Song of Myself" by Walt Whitman, who had Quaker roots. She would like to get a group together to read the poem. Contact her if interested.

