

# Community Companion

## Community Friends Newsletter



Quaker House: 3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950  
 (513) 861-4353 Volume 16, Issue 4  
[www.communityfriendsmeeting.com](http://www.communityfriendsmeeting.com)

September 2010

**Presiding Clerk:**  
Doug Burks  
**Assistant Clerk:**  
Eileen Bagus  
**Recording Clerk:**  
Betty Waite  
**Treasurer:**  
Mary Anne Curtiss

**Ministry and Counsel:**  
Kate Anthony  
Eileen Bagus  
Byron Branson  
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Paulette Meier  
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Submissions for October newsletter due by:  
Monday, September 27, 2010

### Calendar

All events and meetings take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise noted.  
**Singing 9:45am, Meeting for Worship 10am**  
**Second Hour or Carry in Potluck @ 11:40 am**

- Sept. 5** **Carry In Potluck Meal after Meeting for Worship –**  
 FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible
- Sept. 12** **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**First Day School begins**
- Sept. 17** **Young Adult Potluck- see article on page 7**
- Sept. 19** **Second Hour:** Religious Education leads a 2 part discussion on  
**“Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting “** (Pamphlets available at meeting.)
- Sept. 26** **Second Hour: (Part 2) “Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting “**

- October 9 & 10 Joint Quarterly Meeting, Happy Hollow Camp
- October 17 and 24 Discussion of “A Hidden Wholeness” by Palmer Parker
- November 6<sup>th</sup> Fall Renewal “Weaving Community; Welcoming the Soul”

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#### Ninth Query from OVYM Book of Discipline:

Do you hold your meeting for business in a spirit of worship? Do you seek the guidance of God, rather than acceptance of a previously formed opinion? Do you help one another in your search for unity by speaking briefly and without repetition? Are you tender and considerate of differing views, coming to a decision only when you have, with Devine assistance, found a sense of unity?

Summary of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
Eighth Month 8, 2010

12 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.
2. Clerks report-Doug Burks reporting: Doug needs to hear from committee clerks to prepare for the Clerks committee meeting. He would like to communicate with the recording clerks of each committee in order to train them to post their minutes to the website.
3. Action Items
  - a. Ministry and Council –Membership
    - i. Recommendation for youth membership for Lucas Bertaux-Skeirik Ministry and Council has met with him. Membership approved.
    - ii. Recommendation to remove Jenifer Hatch from youth membership. Jenifer has taken membership with Cincinnati Friends. Removal from membership rolls approved.
  - b. Nominating
    - iii. Tim Leonard was nominated to be on Ministry and Council and Peace and Social concerns. Change was approved.
4. Committee reports
  - House and Grounds-Eric Wolff reporting in absentia, please see attached report. There are some wonderful things being done in the yard, with special appreciation to Elizabeth Groppe for her hard work. A workday is coming up on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ministry and Council-Renewal is coming up, in early November but the exact date was not yet available.
  - Cannon Fund, reported by Carol Burks, supported 2 adults and 2 youths members totaling \$1,350 to FGC. The fund supported 3 adults for OVYM totaling \$323. Stock market has been volatile. Remaining funds available for this year from the Cannon Fund is around \$3,000.
  - Religious Development, reported by Deborah Jordan. They are meeting next Sunday to decide the upcoming year.
  - Adult Education- request for event. Greg Woods sent an email about Teyvyn East who does a one woman show about faith, economics and our relationship to the environment. This information is being disseminated in order to reply to Greg Woods in a timely manner.

On a separate note, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, a second hour is planned for attendees of FGC to give a flavor of the event.
  - Newsletter-reported by Deborah Jordan, the new newsletter editor is Jean Crocker-Lakness who is a member of our meeting, but attends Cincinnati Friends, but wants to do our newsletter. She is very active with OVYM and took lots of pictures.
5. Wider Quaker bodies

At OVYM, a called business meeting was held in order to appoint Shannon Isaacs to OVYM as our meeting representative. The meeting approved her as our representative for 2010.

Cincinnati Friends is asking for volunteers to be Friendly Adult Presence at the youth game nights. Our youth are frequent attendees at these fun events. Because of the large numbers of male youth, it is hoped that a male Friendly Adult Presence can be found.
6. Minutes were approved.

**From the Treasurer:** Mary Anne Curtiss

The Quaker Inner City School Endowment Fund

You may have noticed in our Treasurer's report every month a line under "Charitable Contributions" for Quaker Inner City School Endowment Fund. This fund was founded in 1993 and now has assets of \$775,000. It funds five small schools, all Quaker, all in inner city neighborhoods. I would like to share a story from one of these schools, in its own words, in the report it submitted this year.

"Frankford Friends School (PA) believes that giving to their school is an investment in inner-city miracles. The way they realize that may sound overly ambitious but at Frankford Friends School, miracles grow out of day-to-day activities that teach children to believe in themselves, enjoy their lessons, respect one another and face the world compassionately. Together, we are sending young people into the world who are equipped to make it a better place. Middle school teacher Jonathan Clifton tells how his meeting with Aldo Magazzeni, an extraordinary man who travels the world taking food, water, and other supplies to families in war-torn areas like Afghanistan so moved him that he asked his students to help. Two 8th graders suggested making a video; the result was a 9-minute video in which students share their research about the importance of fresh water- almost 90% of the sickness in the world is caused by unclean water. Jonathan wrote a song for the video "Every Little Drop Counts" to which 8th grade student Branden, dances. The video has been shown to churches and schools and has inspired others to raise money and help Aldo Magazzeni's work".

All contributions to the Quaker Inner City School Endowment Fund are used entirely to match endowment funds raised by the schools.

Our Meeting is tentatively committed to contribute \$25 to this fund this year, or \$50 if generous end of the year giving makes it possible, as it did last year. Peace and Social Concerns has been assigned the responsibility to recommend which of our charitable donations we should fund, and in which order, this year, and Meeting for Business will decide.

I invite anyone with questions regarding our charitable donations to speak to Peace and Social Concerns or to me, as we have further information that will make us all feel proud of the support we as a Meeting give to these initiatives.

## **FROM PAULETTE MEIER**

*Dear Friends,*

*In the course of finalizing my recently published CD, Timeless Quaker Wisdom in Plainsong, I was asked to write up my personal story of what led me to undertake this project. This story is included in the digital liner notes on the CD, and many Quakers have read it now. I realized that I would like members of my own meeting to have the opportunity to read it too, as it reflects the important role that Community Friends played in my Quaker development and in my leading to create this CD. The story exemplifies in many ways the historic Quaker process of an individual's leading being recognized and supported in community.*

*Writing up the gratitude section of the liner notes was the most difficult thing, because I was encouraged to keep it on the shorter side for readability. So many of you came to mind as I was writing this! I want to say now that without the support of this meeting, this recording would never have happened. I am so, so grateful to each of you!*

*Here's a tribute from my liner notes that I would also like to share with you:*

*My local meeting, Community Friends in Cincinnati, has provided ongoing structural, financial, and spiritual support for me in this developing music ministry. I'm forever grateful for this and for all the support I've received from members of this meeting over the last decade in my journey as a developing Quaker, including each member of my current oversight committee: Eugene Marquis, Evie Hoffman, Eugenia Mills, Marjorie McKelvey Isaacs, J.P. Lund, and Lisa Cayard. Lisa has served as clerk for this committee and for several of its predecessors, and I'm particularly grateful for the ongoing support of this loving and seasoned Friend.*

# MY JOURNEY TO THIS MUSIC

By Paulette Meier

This recording is a new and unusual music endeavor for me. I have been a folk singer much of my adult life, following the traditions of Pete Seeger, Holly Near, and Bernice Johnson Reagon by using song to raise awareness and give heart to the struggle to heal a hurting world. Though I lack musical training, I have been given a strong singing voice, good for uniting large crowds in song! My two previous recordings, *Harmony for Social Justice* and *Come Join the Circle: LessonSongs for Peacemaking*, represent classic “music with a message” type songs. As a peace educator working in schools, I have written many songs for children.

The journey that brought me to this endeavor began about ten years ago, when I began to explore the faith of Quakers, also known as the Religious Society of Friends. This came after a number of years of giving up on finding a spiritual home for myself. For a long time my interests pulled me between the inward experiences that came through meditation and dreams and the outward use of my passions and gifts as an educator/activist in the world. In my work for peace and justice over the years, I’d known and greatly respected Friends (Quakers) I’d met, but I didn’t know much about the spiritual roots of the faith. I was drawn to it when I learned of the strong elements of mysticism inherent in its faith and practice.

I was thrilled to discover in this Quaker faith a religious tradition, based in primitive Christianity, where inward mystical experience of the Divine Light was grounding and sustenance for the outward work to be done in the world. I found it astounding that from their beginning over three hundred years ago, Quakers have honored women’s voices equally to men’s as revealers of spiritual truth. And I was eager to discover what it was about this tradition that rooted its people so firmly in faith that they risked life, comfort, and security over the centuries to take nonviolent stands against violence and oppression of all kinds.

In the Quaker practice of centered stillness, I began to appreciate the openness to shared revelation that grew out of the silence in Quaker meeting for worship. I also noticed that Friends shared my values for simple living and desire to practice peacemaking. I loved the structures that Quakers had developed to support each other in living out these values. Over time, I realized I had indeed found a spiritual home, and in 2004 I became a member of the meeting I’d been attending, Community Friends, in Cincinnati.

In that same year, I was faced with the threat of losing my job and at a loss for what to do. My local meeting formed a clearness committee for me. Four members met with me and tenderly listened to my struggles. After hearing of my deep spiritual longing, they urged me to meditate daily and suggested I go for a short retreat to Pendle Hill, a Quaker center for study and contemplation in Pennsylvania. Both suggestions turned out to be blessings. One morning in meditation, I saw an image of a beautifully wrapped ornate Swiss clock in a gift box. I realized it symbolized the “gift of time.” That same day I was told that I would no longer have a job. I remembered the clock image and felt comforted and protected. Following this, a brief stay at Pendle Hill kindled a desire to live and study there for a longer period. At the advice of my spiritual counselor there, I applied for and ultimately received the Minnie Jane Artist in Residence scholarship, providing the opportunity to become a student at Pendle Hill in 2004-2005.

Friends in my meeting encouraged and helped me in many ways, including convincing me that I really am an “artist.” Their help was essential as I prepared to rent my house and undo all the tangles in my life that needed to be gotten out of the way.

But I was still worried about going so long without a steady income. On the day that the call came from Pendle Hill offering me the scholarship, I still did not see how I could do it. In the midst of that morning’s anxiety, the thought came to me that perhaps I could provide some programs in nearby schools to earn extra cash. Within an hour my phone rang--the principal of a school near Philadelphia was inquiring about my CD. She said they’d love to have me do a workshop for their teachers if I were in the neighborhood!

Quakers have a language for these kinds of synchronicities. When we feel called by the Spirit to do something or go somewhere, we call it a “leading.” And when things begin to work out to make that leading possible, we call it “way opening.” Way continued to open for my leading as it continued to develop.

My plan for my time as Artist in Residence at Pendle Hill was, in part, to write more songs and to better accompany myself on the guitar. Upon arrival, I was encouraged to remain open to the Spirit and not feel compelled to follow my own plan just for the sake of following through. As it turned out, I found myself wanting to take advantage of their classes to learn more about spirituality and the Quaker faith. Through studies in Quaker history and rich conversations with fellow students, in particular Quaker historian Gerry Guiton from Australia, I grew to understand and appreciate the roots of the Quaker faith in Seventeenth Century England. Rex Ambler’s class, “Experiment with Light,” introduced a meditation practice based on the writings of George Fox that helped me to experience first hand this early Friend’s directives for following the work of the Light within. In a deep listening prayer session, I received a clear message that this Quaker faith was needed in our world, and I was to play a role in helping to make it more known.

In the entire nine months at Pendle Hill, I only wrote two songs, and I barely touched my guitar. I struggled with feelings of self annoyance that I wasn't being more musically creative during this precious gift of time. As Artist in Residence, I did feel free to let the songs in my heart find spontaneous voice in group settings, and I started a "Meeting for Singing" on Sunday mornings. Toward the end of my time at Pendle Hill, I met a gifted intuitive, Dr. Darya Fuenches, who told me without knowing anything about me, that she foresaw me singing for Quakers and composing new songs of "Spirit in the world." She strongly encouraged me to keep singing. It never occurred to me that the knowledge I was gaining about early Friends would someday feed my musical creativity.

Further serendipities resulted in my coming back to the Philadelphia area in the fall of 2005 for ten more months. I visited many Quaker meetings and schools, providing song programs and workshops. I also began volunteering as a docent at the historic Arch Street Meetinghouse in Philadelphia. Speaking to individuals and large groups of tourists about the Quaker faith and the role that William Penn played in the founding principles of this country seemed in total alignment with the message I'd received in prayer while at Pendle Hill. But doubts plagued me: was it a huge mistake, at my age, to have taken another year away from steady work with regular income?

One morning I woke up and, with eyes still closed, I saw an image of a bird with its yellow beak wide open, holding a pearl on its tongue. In this vision, the bird silently communicated that it had held the pearl there a long time, and it was now time for it to be revealed. That same morning, preparing for prayer, I listened to a meditation CD of Rex Ambler's that surprisingly began with words of George Fox: "Seek the pearl within." This was the first of many encounters with robins and pearls, in both meditations and in real life, I was to have in the next year.

A few months later, still suffering with anxiety about my unknown future, I read the words of Fox: "Be still and cool in thy own mind and spirit, from thy own thoughts. . . ." "I needed to soak myself in these words, to use them as a healing balm, as a reminder to trust in the Spirit. I wanted to commit these words to memory, and when I did, a melody came with them. And thus began a practice of turning Quaker passages into chant-like songs.

At first I put these early Quaker texts to song as a way to nurture my own spirit. But soon I found myself moved to sing them as vocal ministry, out of the silence of Quaker worship. Friends responded encouragingly, sometimes glad to hear forgotten-or unfamiliar passages, sometimes telling me that these song/chants helped them understand the meaning of the words in a deeper way. I began to recognize that by sharing these texts in this way, I could bring alive the core truths and experiences of early Friends. Soon I began selecting quotations that I felt were important for understanding of Quaker spirituality.

I learned in a book by Ted Andrews (*Animal Speak*, Llewellyn, 2002) that for Native Americans, it was commonplace to receive messages from animals, usually based on the qualities of the animal itself. Andrews says that robins claim their territory through singing louder than the other birds around, and if robins are coming to you, it means you have a song to sing out loud to the world. Reading this heightened my growing sense that these pearls of Quaker wisdom, so little known in the world, were to be my song, and I was being led to sing it out as loud as I could.

In the four years since returning home from Philadelphia, these song/chants have soothed my spirit through intensely difficult times, reminding me of my inner Guide and of "that which is eternal." But they have also provided a basis for presentations to Quaker and other groups about the faith and practice of the Religious Society of Friends. I have been pleased to be able to share my spiritual beliefs in this way.

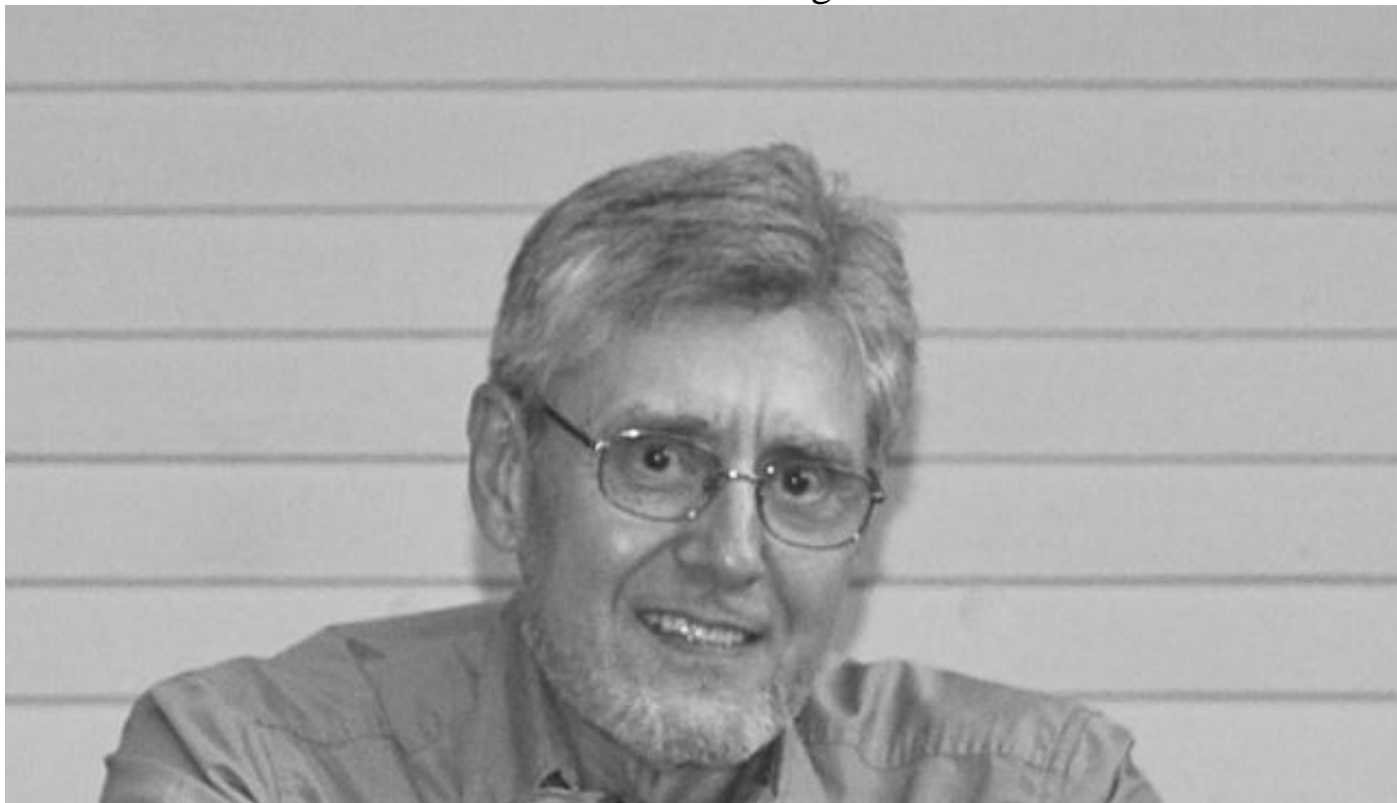
In the summer of 2007, I took part in an "unprogrammed retreat" in Barnesville, Ohio, where I had a chance to share these songs in a worshipful atmosphere. The response from both conservative and liberal Friends was enthusiastic, and a small group gathered to support me in this ministry, and to help me think about making a recording.

About a month later, Barbara Mays, the then Publications Manager of Friends General Conference, attended a workshop that I led in Richmond, Indiana. Barbara invited me to submit a proposal to the Publications Committee of Friends General Conference for publishing a CD. A musician herself, she had been one of the primary editors of *Worship in Song*, the Quaker hymnal published in 1996 by FGC. Barbara's enthusiasm led the way for this first music CD to be published by Quaker Press.

The evolution of this recording's creation has clearly been what Friends call a "spiritual leading." I believe I was led by the Spirit, being given what was needed step by step. Words of 18th century Quaker Caroline Fox, wonderfully set to song by Susan Stark, have helped me in the course of following this leading: "Live up to the Light that Thou hast!" And looking back on it now, my story exemplifies much about the best in Quaker process: how an individual's leading is verified, supported, and sustained in a community of Friends. I feel humbled by the generous support I've received and am grateful to be able to play a small role in spreading the wisdom of early Friends out on the wings of song to the world.

**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.

**SPIRITUAL NURTURER****Franchot Ballinger**

Name: <b>Franchot Ballinger</b>	Monthly Meeting: <b>Eastern Hills Meeting</b>	Community of residence: <b>Hyde Park</b>
Phone: (513) 861-4353 [Community Friends Meeting house]	Email: cfmministryandcounsel@gmail.com	
INTEREST (NURTURING/MENTORING, FRIENDSHIP OR SMALL GROUP): Nurturing/mentoring, friendship. Others should know that I am a (relatively liberal) Christ-centered Friend.		
I could be available monthly, perhaps bi-monthly. Except for Wednesday and Friday, I could probably be pretty flexible about availability. I much prefer meeting in person. I don't know if I'm a "seasoned" Friend or not, but here's my experience. If someone thinks that any of this makes me worth talking to, great. A Quaker for 19 years. Served as Presiding Clerk of Community Meeting, as well as on various committees. Facilitated 1 or 2 (can't remember which) workshops at OVYM. Served on OVYM Executive committee. Served as OVYM representative to FCNL. Presently on Eastern Hills MM Ministry and Counsel. Served as Presiding Clerk of Miami Center (Wilmington YM). Served on Peace and Society Board of Wilmington YM. Currently Clerk of Training and Recording (Wilmington YM) and on WYM Ministry and Counsel. Facilitated and/or participated in 3 or 4 spiritual nurture groups at Cincinnati Meeting. Delivered the message at Jamestown, Springfield, and Cincinnati Monthly Meetings. Have attended 3 spiritual nurture group workshops at Pendle Hill, 2 at Quaker Hill, 1 under the care of Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative) at Barnesville. Completed the Bethesda North Hospital Ministry Education Program (for spiritual care in healthcare settings). Currently a Spiritual Care volunteer with Hospice of Cincinnati.		

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:****Calling All Clerks**

Please tell Clerk Doug Burks who the clerk and recording clerk of your committee is. He wants to have a clerks' meeting in September and also work with the recording clerks to help them with posting the committee minutes on our website.

**Cannon Fund Update**

The Cannon Fund has disbursed about \$1600 this summer for Friends to attend FGC Gathering and OVYM. They have approximately \$3000 available for helping Friends' enrichment and action.

**First Day School starts Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>**

Just as preparations are being made for the start of school, Religious Development is preparing for the start of First Day School on Sept. 12th. Those of us who were at Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting heard from Max Carter of Guilford College that many young adult Friends don't think they were adequately introduced to the Bible as Quaker children. Our committee cycles through a 3 year curriculum, under the loving care of Lisa Cayard. This year the theme is, once again, the Bible. We welcome Friends to sign up for an opportunity to help teach the children during 5 to 6 week blocks.

We are thankful Wilhelmina Branson will, once again, be coordinating the teen group.

**On composting and carry-in:**

Friends in Unity with Nature asks that you help the composting process by tossing your paper napkins and towels into the compost bucket. These materials contribute carbon to the compost pile, and they are rapidly "eaten" by the decomposers in the pile.

**Quakerism 101:**

Community Friends Meeting Adult Education Committee will offer a Quakerism 101 class this fall or winter. This class will be led/facilitated by Kate Anthony in 5 sessions of 1.5 hours each. Dates and times will be determined by the group of folks who sign up for the class. Kate and I discussed setting the dates to either precede or follow Cincinnati Friends' Quakerism 101 (six Thursdays beginning Nov.4, 7:00-9:00 pm) so that any folks who'd like to get in on both classes may do so.

We need a minimum of 6 participants in order for Kate's experiential and interactive approach to be most meaningful to those taking the class. We welcome Friends associated with any of the Cincinnati meetings to attend.

Please contact me, Karen Arnett, if you would like to participate. Thanks, Karen  
931-7373

**ADULT YOUNG FRIENDS (AYF) POTLUCK****WHO?**

Anyone 18-35 interested in food & fellowship with other Young Friends

**WHEN?**

6 pm, third Friday of each month (9/17, 10/15, 11/19, etc.)

**WHERE?**

We will take turns hosting, starting with Erin Bagus  
2071 Trailwood Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45230 (Mt. Washington)

**WHAT TO BRING?**

Yourself + a dish to share + games, crafts, anything you'd like to share with the group!

**RSVP**

Erin at [ebagus@gmail.com](mailto:ebagus@gmail.com) or 513-600-3760

I'd like to have an idea how many are coming. Please let me know what kind of dish you'd like to bring so we don't get ten salads and no entree. Thanks and hope you can join us!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Other Events in the Greater Cincinnati Area of Interest****Greg Mortenson:**

The Cincinnati Public Library is partnering with Xavier University to co-sponsor a visit from bestselling author Greg Mortenson on Wednesday, September 29th, 7:00 p.m. at Xavier University, Cintas Center. Mortenson is the co-founder of the nonprofit Central Asia Institute, founder of Pennies For Peace, and co-author of Three Cups of Tea, the August Featured Book of the Month.

About the event (and how to get tickets):

<http://www.xavier.edu/cfi/A-Cup-of-Tea-with-Greg-Mortenson-Peace-through-Education.cfm>

**Ticketing**

Tickets are free and may be picked up beginning August 2, 2010 at the Cintas Center Ticket office ([map](#)) on Xavier University's campus from 11am-5pm on weekdays. You may also send a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to request up to 2 free tickets:

Cintas Center  
C.O. Greg Mortenson Lecture  
1624 Herald Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45207-7510

About the book, and Mortenson's "Stones into Schools" and "Books not Bombs" -- working for peace in Central Asia:

<http://www.threecupsoftea.com/>

**"America I AM" exhibit at Cincinnati Museum Center.**

This outing is organized by Martha Viehmann, a member of Eastern Hills Friends Meeting in Anderson Twp. Please contact Eastern Hills Friends Meeting has been studying the history of the relationships between African Americans and Quakers in America. They have been reading and discussing:

*Fit For Freedom, Not For Friendship* - Paperback

*Quakers, African Americans And The Myth Of Racial Justice*

BY DONNA MCDANIEL AND VANESSA JULYE

[http://www.quakerbooks.org/fit\\_for\\_freedom\\_not\\_for\\_friendship\\_paperback.php](http://www.quakerbooks.org/fit_for_freedom_not_for_friendship_paperback.php)

Members of Eastern Hills Friends Meeting recognize that believing in equality is not enough. We need to take action to reach out across the divides (geographic, cultural, and more) that separate Americans of African and European heritage. Our history also shows that learning more about the perspectives of African Americans is one important step. In that spirit, Martha is organizing a group tour of the exhibit "America I AM: The African American Imprint," which is at the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal. Please join us if you can!

When: Saturday, 9/18, 10am

What: Group entrance time for "America I AM: The African American Imprint" **followed by discussion at 11am**

Cost: \$5 per person, plus parking fee of \$6 per vehicle

RSVP: By 9/1, reserve a space at the group rate and **indicate interest in the discussion** by contacting Martha Viehmann, [marthaviehmann@fuse.net](mailto:marthaviehmann@fuse.net) or (513) 231-9866

For more information about the exhibit, visit

[http://www.cincymuseum.org/explore\\_our\\_sites/special\\_exhibits\\_events/current\\_exhibits/](http://www.cincymuseum.org/explore_our_sites/special_exhibits_events/current_exhibits/)

To receive the reduced group rate, we need a minimum of 15 attenders to RSVP by 9/2.

## Quaker author Phil Gulley will speak at Cincinnati Friends Meeting

**Sat. October 23, 2010**

3:30 p.m. "If the Church  
Were Christian"

7:30 p.m. Keynote Address

[Christian Universalist](#)[Association](#)

Annual Conference

Cincinnati Friends Meeting

8075 Keller Rd.

Cincinnati, OH 45243-1039

513.791.0788

**Sun. October 24, 2010**

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Phil Gulley is the author of:

*If Grace is True*

*If God is Love*

*If the Church Were Christian*

Learn more or order a book at:

<http://www.philipgulley.org/BOOKS.htm>

[Fire and Ice Picnic](#)

Cincinnati Friends Meeting invites members and attenders of Community Friends meeting to a Fire & Ice Picnic On Saturday, Sept. 11 from 4:00-8:00 PM. Dinner will be at 6:00

It will be at the home of Debbie & Bob Miller, 808 Woodlands Lane, Loveland, Ohio

- BYOIG-Grills will be available for people who want to bring an item to grill for themselves/families
- Please bring a side dish to share
- Drinks, ice, paper products will be provided
- Play corn hole, croquet, badminton
- Bring chairs or blankets and other lawn games
- RSVP to Donna Kimmel @759-2476 or Joan Effertz @321-1185

**Living with Ecological Vision**

Living with Ecological Vision: A Retreat at Highlands Nature Sanctuary, Facilitated by Bill Cahalan, Craig Goodworth, and Debbie Miller on Sept 17-19- Friday 8:00 pm thru Sunday at 2:00 pm. Three meals Saturday and two meals on Sunday are provided. Lodging in Beechcliff Lodge. The cost is \$160.00 which covers all. The check is due by Sept. 10 Limited to 10 participants (5 rooms). Questions: Contact Bill Cahalan 513-251-2558 or awakentoeearth@gmail.org

To register: Mail check with name, phone number and email to Bill at 601 Enright Ave., Cincinnati OH 45205

**Quote**

Sow a thought and you reap an action;

Sow an act and you reap a habit;

Sow a habit and you reap character;

Sow character and you reap a destiny

---Ralph Waldo Emerson

**2010 OVYM July 28-August 1****By Jean Crocker-Lakness**

Thirty folks from Community Friends attended yearly meeting this year at Earlham College. It appeared a great time was had by all. A high light for us all was Byron and Wilhelmina Branson as they presented their "Living Witness" on Saturday afternoon.



Byron said to this newsletter reporter that "OVYM was fine, except I had to do the Living Witness"

Lynn and David Funck were able to come for the day to hear Byron and Wilhelmina's testimony. They said it was "phenomenal" a living, breathing witness to the Quaker testimony.



Dylan was overheard saying that the dorm rooms were much nicer than Bowling Green.

Jennifer Wolff enjoyed setting up her bed in her dorm room (with her brother Eric watching). Eric says he came for the canoe trip, which didn't happen this year, but he will be back next year for the canoe trip.



Jamie Fota came with her guitar ready to sing and show her talent



Bill Cahalan busily prepared for his workshop "Ecological Vision for a sustainable Faith"  
Jim Crocker-Lakness enjoyed his free time by exploring the Earlham Library



Rachel Dean, Tim Leonard, and Jean Crocker-Lakness enjoyed Bill's workshop

OVYM was a place for families and kids of all ages and families. Rachel Dean said it was a “summer camp” for adults. Her husband, Jason worked with the middle school youth and said he felt energized by the experience. He also said it was easier to get centered while at OVYM



Friends enjoyed getting together at meals: Rachel Logan Woods, Deborah Jordan, Lisa Cayard and Paulette Meier. Deborah says she and her family have been attending OVYM for 13 years since Dylan was 3 years old. It is a rich spiritual journey with each yearly meeting. Rachel enjoys time with the teens playing M90. Paulette appreciated the meeting for business, particularly hearing the reports from the discipline committee and proposed revisions which were written with such careful and profound thinking.



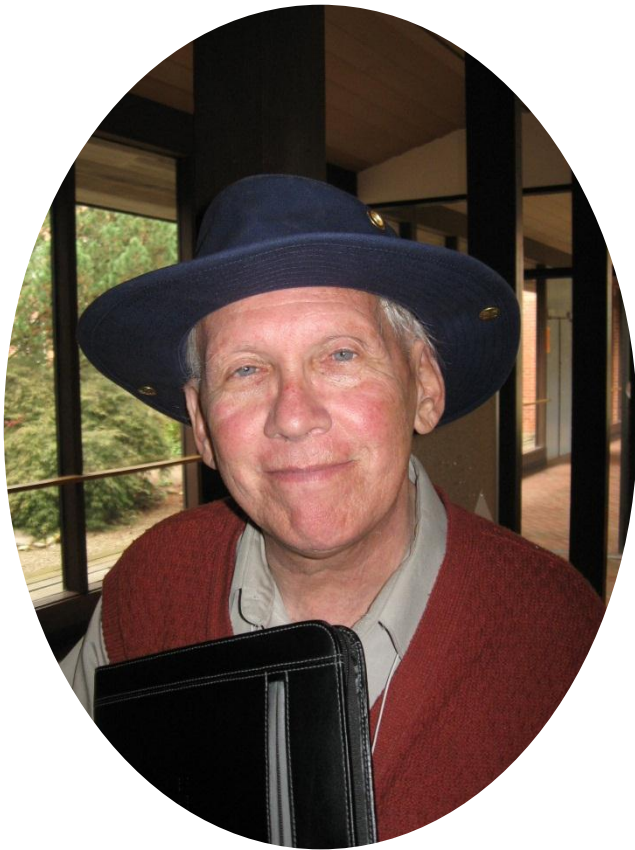
It was good to see Cindi Goslee and Roland Kreager at OVYM. Cindi says that it was good to see friends at OVYM and particularly old friends from Community.



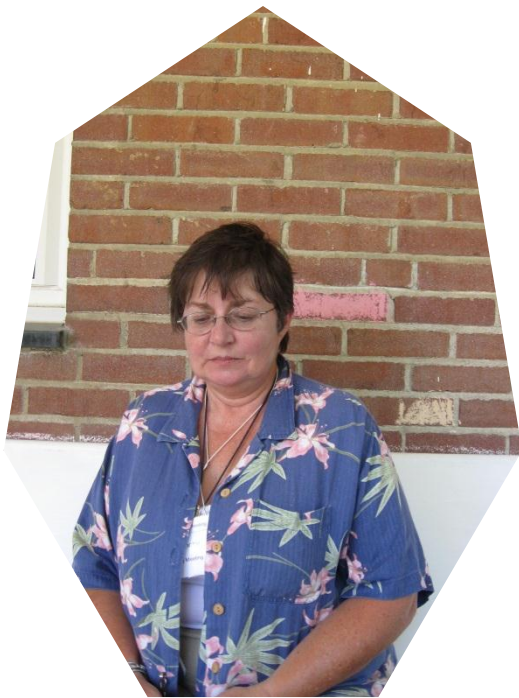
Young adult friends: Rachel Ernest and Shannon Issacs, Shannon was appointed to OVYM as our meeting representative for 2010.



Good to see first timer Susan Gerke at OVYM



Paul Kriese, OYVM clerk sends greetings: "Community Friends Meeting is a dynamic meeting with lots of points of view...some of which are right... and if they are right,email me at [pkriese@iue.edu](mailto:pkriese@iue.edu)"



Kate Anthony finds time for quiet reflection



Marjorie Issacs attends Meeting for Worship with attention to Business

Jean Crocker-Lakness poses for one last photo at Earlham College

Frank Huss preparing to leave OVYM. Frank says that he especially enjoys seeing people that I see once a year. This year he says that the Plenary sessions have been great, especially the theme of helping people understand what Quakers are and the emphasis on youth.

