

Community Companion

Quaker House:
3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950
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www.communityfriendsmeeting.com



Volume 18, Issue 3

March, 2012

Presiding Clerk:

Frank Huss

Assistant Clerk:

Kate Anthony

Recording Clerk:

Ken Bordwell

Treasurer:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Ministry and Counsel:

Eileen Bagus

Erin Bagus (SA)

Byron Branson

Lisa Cayard

Rachel Ernst

Evie Hoffmann

Frank Huss (ex officio)

Tim Leonard

Sunny Rhein (SA)

(SA) is special assignment

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Submissions for the April, 2012 newsletter due by: Monday, March 26, 2012

Calendar

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

Singing 9:45 am, Meeting for Worship 10 am

Second Hour or Carry in Potluck @ 11:40 am

- March 4 Carry in Meal after Meeting for Worship
FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible
- March 10 10am to 12 noon Introduction to Quakerism with Tim Leonard (RSVP to Tim) (also 4/7)
- March 11 Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
- March 18 Second Hour: TBA
- March 25 Second Hour: Illustrated talk about the Freedom Rides (in 1962) by David Fankhauser
- April 14 & 15 Renewal at Quaker Knoll

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Third Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Social Relations: Universal Love

Are love and unity fostered among you? Do you manifest a forgiving spirit and a care for the reputation of others? If differences threaten harmony among your members, is prompt action taken in a spirit of meekness and love? Do you visit one another frequently? Do you keep in touch with inactive and distant members?

First Month 8, 2012 Summary of Minutes of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

- **Opening worship** with 20 persons present.
- **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was APPROVED
- **Minutes of the Twelfth Month:** APPROVED.
- **Action Items:**
 - Cindi Goslee's request for transfer of membership to West Richmond Friends' Meeting. Frank read the letter. Ministry & Counsel has approved the transfer. The meeting APPROVED with our expressions of gratitude for Cindi's years of service to our meeting.
 - Roland Kreager's request of transfer of membership to West Richmond Friends' Meeting. Frank read the letter. Ministry & Counsel has approved the transfer. The meeting APPROVED with our expressions of gratitude for Roland's years of service to our meeting.
 - Moving ahead with the Quaker Quest process. There were questions about the involvement needed and the money it might cost. Is the meeting ready to move forward? Tim Leonard explained that a core group would be formed that would be making decisions about moving forward. Matching funds would be available from FGC. Cost would be about \$1200 - \$2000. It was explained that the process would help us develop our beliefs and help us find our voice to express those beliefs. Do we want to grow? It is a huge question. The item was referred back to Ministry & Counsel for further discernment and a determination on how to move forward.
 - Appointment of Barbara Wood and Richard House as Cannon Fund Trustees, and Mary Anne Curtiss, as Treasurer, to withdraw funds from the Pax World Fund.
- **Treasurer's Report:** We are at the bank balance/annual budget ratio of 10%. We met the budget for 2011. The question is still open as to whether we have paid for or still owe FGC for the flights of their personnel for our Quaker Quest workshop. The treasurer's report was ACCEPTED, with gratitude.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - Peace & Social Concerns: Marlane Souder reported that they will be planning the 2012 program.
 - Ministry & Counsel: Tim Leonard reported that they will be doing the annual review of the work of the caretakers. They will also be dealing with the problem of latecomers disrupting the meeting for worship.
 - House & Grounds: Eric Wolff announced the next meeting and the 1/21 work day. John Sneigocki reported that gas usage was down by 70% and electric usage by 57%.
 - FUN: Kate Anthony reported that they will be investigating solar power for the electricity for the composting toilet. They are also looking into insulating the meetinghouse. They would especially like to minute our appreciation for the caretakers' careful stewardship of our resources
 - Community Committee: Tom Zalla announced that the winner of the First Day recipe contest is the vegetarian chili. The recipe will be published in the newsletter.
 - Newsletter: Mary Anne Curtiss asked that if we are going to be seeking permission to publish drawings in the newsletter, what about photographs?
 - Sara Hofmann reported that Stewardship is continuing to meet.
- **Wider Quaker Bodies:**
 - No Quarterly or Yearly Meeting reports.
 - FCNL: The packet for the annual priorities setting process has been received by the meeting and referred to Peace and Social Concerns for recommendations. Youth Lobby Day will be March 10. We need to let the teens know that the meeting can help with financial assistance on teen trips.
- **Announcements:**
 - March will be our annual corporation meeting
 - Saturday and Sunday, 14 & 15 of April will be our renewal at Quaker Knoll.
- **Thanks** to all who brought food for our sustenance. No more desserts though.

Summary of DRAFT of Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, Second Month 12, 2012

- **Opening worship** with 14 persons present.
- **Minutes of the First Month:** APPROVED.
- **Items from The Clerk's Table:**
 - Received a letter of thanks from FGC for our contribution.
 - Received a letter of thanks from the Quaker Inner City Secondary Education Fund for our contribution.
- **Action Items:**
 - Shannon Isaacs' request for adult membership was APPROVED with pleasure, noting that she has been very active in the meeting and with FGC. The welcoming committee will be the meeting as a whole, with Sue Brungs convening.
 - Marjorie McKelvey Isaacs presented the Stewardship Committee's request for permission for the Treasurer to share with the Stewardship Committee how much individuals contributed last year to assist in their fund raising activities. After discussion, the request was APPROVED, with Stewardship charged with the responsibility to develop the procedure by which individuals can opt out of either having their contributions shared with the Committee, or being contacted by the Committee concerning contributions.
 - Bill Cahalan presented FUN Committee's request that the meeting consider sponsoring the publication of the CORVA local food guide, which includes a \$250 contributions. The meeting APPROVED the request, with the money to be taken out of the FUN Fund, which money should be replaced by individual contributions to the FUN Fund.
- **Treasurer's Report:** In the absence of the Treasurer, the report was ACCEPTED, after one question about whether any funds were going to the Building Reserve Fund at the end of 2011.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - Peace & Social Concerns: Marjorie McKelvey Isaacs reporting. They will be setting up a threshing session concerning the meeting's feedback to FCNL on their legislative priorities for lobbying in the next 2-year session of Congress.
 - Ministry & Counsel: Tim Leonard reported that they will be setting up a Clearness Committee on membership for Pam Richards, and will be looking at whether the meeting is interested in growth and whether we want to move ahead with the Quaker Quest process.
 - House & Grounds: Eric Wolff announced that the Committee has finished the big job of painting in the basement. They are talking about the possibility of tapping into solar energy.
 - Religious Development: Lisa Cayard reported that the Committee is talking about evening programs for the younger children and possible even sleep-overs. The teens went to "The Quake that Rocked the Midwest" in Chicago, and are planning more weekends coming up.
 - Adult Education: They have been giving input to the Quaker Quest planning process. The Committee also plans to do another "Fundamentals of Quakerism" series on March 10 and April 7.
 - FUN: Kate Anthony reported that they will be planning more woods restoration in the spring and a "Walk in The Woods". They are still looking at solar power.
 - Community Committee: No report
- **Wider Quaker Bodies:**
 - OVYM- The Executive Committee will meet the first Saturday in April at Earlham.
 - Miami Quarterly Meeting will meet next Sunday in Lexington.
- **Announcements:**
 - March will be our annual corporation meeting
 - Saturday and Sunday, 14 & 15 of April will be our renewal at Quaker Knoll.
FGC Gathering will be in Rhode Island on the 4th of July weekend.
- **Thanks** to all who brought food for our sustenance.
- Frank Huss, Presiding Clerk, Ken Bordwell, Recording Clerk

NEWS FROM THE MEETING

We have celebrity in our midst

Rachel Logan-Wood's film, *The Real Crime of America* got picked as one of the finalists in the "If I had a trillion dollars" contest hosted by AFSC. This means that she will be going to D.C for free (the "free" part is very important to her) Check out her film on Facebook <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPjac6-YPHg> Rachel Logan-Wood is a sophomore at Olney Friends School.

Calling all Friends: FUN Fund Forever

At Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on 2/11/12, Friends agreed to buy an ad in the 5th edition of the Central Ohio River Valley (CORV) Local Food Guide. The ad would promote Community Friends Meeting and support the guide both. "CORV" was initiated by Deborah Jordan largely through a grant from the Cannon Fund in 2008; the history of the Cannon Fund's connection to the land and initiating the publication will be in the guide this year. There will be 40 to 45,000 copies printed, the majority being distributed as an insert in City Beat in April.

Friends then decided how to fund the \$250 for the ad from our budget. Thanks to the annual Friends in Unity with Nature (FUN) committee plant sale (through the efforts of Kate Anthony's Friendly Garden Nursery and others who contribute plants), we have set aside a fund of \$360 to use for future sustainability projects like the woodland restoration work. Friends agreed that the money would temporarily come from this fund. This seems appropriate since FUN has also promoted local food and is supportive of "CORV."

This is where we call on Friends to help replenish this fund for the upcoming woodland restoration work.

Donations can be given to our Treasurer. Help the gift keep moving as we "strive for sustainable lives in order that all living beings, as well as those yet to be born, might flourish." (Community Friends Meeting and Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Sustainability Minute)

Learn more about the woodland restoration work at an upcoming Second Hour in April, plus the plant sale is planned for May 6th.

Simple Meal and Right Sharing of World Resources

Submitted by Eileen Bagus

On the First Sunday of February our monthly carry-in lunch was a simple meal of plain and inexpensive food like rice and beans and local fruits. The meal was the culminating experience for the First Day School class which had just completed a unit of study on "simplicity," part of our year of study of Friends' testimonies. The class learned about Right Sharing of World Resources, the Quaker organization which works to improve the lives of some of the world's poorest people who live on \$1.00 a day or less. The children spent the prior two weeks collecting small coins to help Right Sharing, and during the simple meal, some of the teens joined in and took up an all-Meeting special collection. Together we raised the grand total of \$149.16, which will be forwarded to the Right Sharing office in Richmond, Indiana. Thank you all, Friends!

With Lots of Help, Basement Gets a New Look and Has Some New Needs

Submitted by the Religious Development Committee

Take a look at the basement, and admire the work of many hands. With the leadership of House and Grounds and Eric Wolff, the basement now has a new coat of paint (blue and white). Thanks to Kate Anthony, Frank Maher, Eugenia Mills, Rhonda Pfalzgraff-Carlson, Jim Rhein, and Tom Zalla!!!

So you know what that means – we 2 need "new" area rugs to match the walls. Also, we want to freshen up our toys and games. We welcome Quaker appropriate toys and games that are newish or gently used. Talk to Lynn Funck or Jim Rhein, co-clerks of Religious Development about any details.

FCNL LOBBY

Last December Community Friends hosted Matt Southworth, staffer at FCNL, for a day-long training on lobbying. The agenda included a role play of planning a lobbying visit. Mary Anne Curtiss, Eugenia Mills, Pamela Richards and I decided that we would keep it real: this would be the start of the process of cultivating a real relationship with at least one of our legislators. We followed up that first meeting with a few more, and were joined along the way by Tim Leonard and Peter Seidel who were similarly inspired to really follow through on what the workshop had set in motion. We cast about for a focus: what would we be asking of our legislator? Way opened: we learned that FCNL had chosen, for a main lobbying focus this year, to urge, persuade, and convince Congress by all means possible to hold to the federally mandated \$1 trillion cuts in projected Pentagon spending through 2021. (After the budget super committee failed last year to come to an agreement, and the defense contractors are lobbying hard to weaken or overturn these spending caps mandated by the 2011 Budget Control Act.) An information laden FCNL conference call led by FCNL veteran Ruth Flower presented itself at just the right time to educate and focus our group.

By our third meeting together, we had secured scheduled times with both Ohio Senators; Tim and Peter would meet with one of Portman's aides on January 30th, and our group of four with Sen. Brown's staff on the 31st. Both meetings went well. We talked about the detrimental effects of the out-of-control military spending on our own lives – such as Eugenia's concern with state funding cuts at Quaker Heights, Mary Anne's perspective as a physician working with the indigent. We shared from our own experience, and provided materials that FCNL has created, to help bolster our ask



that the Senators keep the military cuts intact. It was clear that the staffer who met with us was learning: she seemed eager to receive our handouts from FCNL.

The folks at FCNL project that this matter of the military cuts (we are calling it a peace dividend) will not be resolved before the November 2012 election, so we let the staffers know that we would like to see our meeting as the start of an ongoing dialogue. Our Friends in Washington believe that we are at a critical time, possibly an unprecedented opportunity for scaling back and reprioritizing our military behemoth. Their work on the Hill is supported by grassroots lobbying efforts, and we'd like to encourage other Friends and those among the Cincinnati Peace

Churches to join us in putting another drop in the bucket.

Pictured in the photo, from left to right: Jessica Pauley, Staff Assistant for Sen. Brown, Liz Shouvin, Intern w/Brown, Eugenia Mills, CFM, Pamela Richards, CFM, Mary Anne Curtiss, CFM, Karen Arnett, CFM.

Not pictured is Tim Leonard, CFM, who met with Sen. Portman's staff assistant on another day.

(End note: we highly recommend looking at FCNL's website if you wish to get informed on this topic.)

Peace Church Hymn Sing - Food, Fellowship & Song

Friday, March 9, 2011

6:00-10:00 p.m.

Home of Patrick Nugent & Mary Kay Rehard

548 Howell Ave, Cinti OH 45220-1924

(513) 376-7768 (home)

We'll have soup, bread, salad, and drinks. Please bring finger-food appetizer or a dessert to share. For those who wish to make a small contribution of cash or canned goods, we can take up an offering for the Free Store/Food bank to help those in need. We'll have a variety of hymnals, and *Rise Up Singing*. Feel free to bring your own hymnal, so that you can call out your favorite hymn requests! You can bring a guitar or other instrument if you like. Patrick can play piano, and others are welcome to take a turn accompanying as well. Invite other members of your church/meeting, and any friends who like to sing! You are also welcome to come and listen if you don't enjoy singing! Come for any/all of the evening.

The Community Committee is publishing each month in the *Community Companion* newsletter the most requested recipe for the item provided for the First Day Carry-in for that month. This month's most requested recipe was for Monster Cookies. In respect to Quaker concerns de-emphasizing the individual we have agreed that the recipe should not mention the cook by name.

This makes a LARGE batch but you can ½ or even ¼ the recipe if you didn't want to make so many cookies.

Monster Cookies

12 eggs	4 c. white sugar
2 lb. brown sugar	2 Tbsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. white syrup	8 tsp. baking soda
1 lb. butter	3 lb. peanut butter
18 c. oatmeal	1 lb. M&M's candies
1 lb. chocolate chips	

Use ice cream scoop to drop cookies on the cookie sheet. Bake 12 minutes at 350. Makes 100 to 120 cookies.
Takes a very large bowl to mix, like a dishpan. (No flour: dough can be frozen)

AN EVENT OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

Adult Spiritual Formation Gathering
Wednesday Evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Includes dinner free of charge.
Beginning Wed., February 29, 2012.
All are welcome! Childcare will be provided.

Study and discussion of
Richard Foster's
A Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth

Cincinnati Church of the Brethren
950 Nassau St., Cincinnati OH 45206
(in Walnut Hills/Eden Park, 2 blocks up the hill from Andy's Mediterranean)
Contact: Patrick J. Nugent, facilitator
Tel: (513) 549-6843
Email: patrick@cincinnati-brethren.com

For more info about the book: <http://www.quakerbooks.org/RichardFoster>

Richard Foster is a Quaker pastor. Now over twenty years in print, this book served as the catalyst that re-introduced the practice of the spiritual disciplines into contemporary religious life. For each of the disciplines, Foster considers the biblical basis for the practice, examines its expression in the lives of Jesus, the Apostles, and practitioners throughout church history. He also provides practical guidance in the practice of the disciplines in contemporary life.

Copies of the book will be available at the first meeting. Or you can go to Joseph Beth Books (Rookwood) to purchase a copy at 20% discount (tell them at the register that you're with the "Quaker Study Group" for the discount). Ask for it among Book Group titles on hold, at the information desk toward the back of the store. The cost will be about ~\$22.50.