

Community Companion

Quaker House:
3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950
(513) 861-4353
www.communityfriendsmeeting.org



Volume 19, Issue 5 May, 2013

Presiding Clerk:

Frank Huss

Assistant Clerk:

Kate Anthony

Recording Clerk:

Paul Buckley

Treasurer:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Ministry and Counsel:

Eileen Bagus

Erin Bagus (SA)

Byron Branson

Doug Burks

Lisa Cayard (clerk)

Evie Hoffmann

Frank Huss (ex officio)

Tim Leonard

Sunny Rhein (SA)

(SA) is special assignment

Newsletter:

Deborah Jordan

Email: djordan@fuse.net

Editor & Photographer unless noted otherwise

Jean Crocker-Lakness

j.crockerlakness@gmail.com

Submissions for the June newsletter due by:
Monday, May 27, 2013 to Jean Crocker-Lakness

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

- May 5 Carry in Meal after Meeting for Worship: FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible.
- May 9 Tender Mercies: Contact Lynn or David Funck for more info or to help
- May 12 Second hour: Meeting for worship with attention to business
- May 19 Second Hour: Spiritual Journey of Aging, follow-up: see page 7
- May 19 Miami Quarterly Meeting at Campus Meeting: see page 8
- May 25 Hike near Yellow Springs, led by Kim Frances: see page 5
- May 26 Second Hour: "Recognizing the Gifts of Ministry in our Meeting" "Do we have Ministers?" "What is the community's role?" Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson: see page 6
- June 2 8:45 Pancake breakfast (bring toppings or juice), Outdoor meeting for worship, intergenerational volley ball game. Possible tour of Spring Grove Cemetery: See pages 6 & 8

In This Issue:

Pages 2-3	Summary of minutes from meeting for business, fourth month, fourteenth day
Page 4	2012 State of the Meeting Report
Page 5	2012 State of the Meeting Report continued. Re-register your Kroger card People around the Meeting: Kim Frances
Page 6	Ministry in the Meeting, Queries for the May Meeting for Business, Soccer game
Page 7	Work at Gabriel's Place in Avondale, From Lynn Newsom
Page 8	Interim Caretaker(s), Miami Quarterly Meeting, Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat
Page 9	Spiritual Journey of Aging, Ad Hoc Committee report
Pages 10-12-	Guidance at the time of Death Form

Fifth Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco; Use of Time, Recreation

Do you examine thoroughly your behavior in regard to work, leisure, diet and the use of drugs, alcoholic beverages and tobacco, thus trying to avoid and to discourage practices that interfere with health, sensitivity or social responsibility? Remembering the parable of the talents, do you exercise fully those that God has given you? Do you endeavor to minister humbly and sensitively to the needs of other that they may attain their full potential?

Summary of Minutes from the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Fourth month, fourteenth day, 2013

[Note: These minutes have had personal names removed. The official version is in the files at the meetinghouse.]

Present: 15 including the presiding clerk and recording clerk

The business meeting opened with a period of worship.

1. Items from the Clerks' Table
 - Friends Music Camp will be held from July 7 to August 4, 2013. Brochures are available in the meetinghouse.
2. Kate Anthony read the 2012 State of the Meeting Report.
 - One minor change to the text was made and the report was **approved**. See pages 4-5
3. Nominating Committee has proposed that the position of archivist be eliminated and those duties be transferred to the Library Committee.
 - In discussion, the duties of the archivist were clarified.
 - The question was raised of how electronic storage of documents would change the situation.
 - It was noted that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting could provide guidance on what needs to be archived and where it is stored.
 - The elimination of the position was **approved**.
4. The Library Committee was tasked with researching the guidelines and developing procedures for archiving our records. **Approved**.
5. Nominating Committee also suggested that a new position, Peace & Social Concerns Information Coordinator, be established. This person would be a point of contact for the various *ad hoc* P&SC activities within the meeting and for those outside the meeting.
 - It was asked if P&SC Committee was being laid down – if only temporarily.
 - It was suggested that we try this new position in place of a P&SC Committee for the coming year.
 - Our current practice is for *ad hoc* committees to act independently. It was re-emphasized that this new position would provide a point of contact between them.
 - It was suggested that the P&SC Committee simply take on this role, rather than creating a new position – perhaps with a reduced committee membership.
 - A member of nominating committee said that clear definitions of our various roles are needed if the committee is going to be able to fill them appropriately.
 - More communication between the *ad hoc* committees and with the meeting as a whole is clearly needed. This would provide better coordination of our activities.
 - The creation of the new position was **approved**.
 - Additional seasoning of these issues is needed. It was suggested that Ministry & Counsel Committee could consider how to proceed.
 - Each *ad hoc* committee could name a representative to the P&SC Committee.
 - We could not find unity to take any other action at this time.
6. Long Range Planning Committee reported on their work to date.
 - Over the past seven years, the meeting has spent an average of more than \$15,500 per year on repairs and maintenance of the meetinghouse.
 - In that same period, we budgeted about \$5,000 for House & Grounds Committee's work and only \$300 per year for the Building Reserve Fund.
 - Looking ahead, the committee estimates that we will need to spend at least \$50,000 in the next five years – quite possibly more. We can either save up for these anticipated expenses or wait until they are upon us and rush around as if it was an unforeseeable emergency.
 - Stewardship is caring for things that do not belong to you – as the meetinghouse doesn't really belong to any of us. We received it from those who were here before us and hold it in trust for those who will come later.
 - It seems clear that we are not allocating sufficient funds to provide proper stewardship for the building. Therefore, the LRP Committee suggests that we add an additional \$5000 to the budget for the Building Reserve Fund each year.
 - It was noted that this would represent \$5-10 per month per member – less for each as the number of members who support the meeting financially increases.

- Community Companion May, 2013 Page 3
- Summary of Minutes from Meeting for Worship with attention to Business, Long Range Planning Report
-
- Since we have already approved the 2013 budget, it was suggested that this item be added to future budgets and restricted contributions be sought for the current year.
- Adding \$5000 to the 2014 budget for the Building Reserve Fund was **approved**.
- An article will be put in the Community Companion outlining this issue and soliciting contributions.
- The LRP Committee will clarify which expenses should be paid out of the Building Reserve Fund and possibly a better name for the fund.
7. The Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati (MARCC) Annual Report has been received and is available in the meetinghouse. It was noted that representatives from Community Friends Meeting have been active with MARCC for many years.
8. Treasurer's Report
- Contributions so far this year are pretty close to budget, but expenses (notably for tree removal and the gas bill) are low, so we are in good shape going into our summer "slow" months.
- The report was accepted.
9. Cannon Fund Report
- There was \$5775 available at the beginning of this year and \$695 has been disbursed.
- Friends are encouraged to make use of the remaining 2013 funds.
- It was noted that a trustee needs to be appointed to fill the seat formerly held by Barbara Wood. Nominating Committee was asked to take this task.
- The report was accepted.
10. Committee Reports
- House & Grounds Committee
- o There will be a workday on May 4th.
 - o Both the upstairs and downstairs showers are now working.
 - o The committee is arranging for an energy audit of the meetinghouse.
- Religious Development Committee
- o Our four graduating high school seniors will be recognized after meeting on June 9th.
- Adult Education Committee
- o All second hours have been filled through May.
- Friends in Unity with Nature Committee
- o Plans are proceeding for a plant sale in May.
- Ministry & Counsel Committee
- o Second hours on ministry are planned for April and May.
 - o The State of the Meeting Report has been completed. See pages 4-5
- *Ad Hoc* Prison Ministry Committee
- o Eileen needs to step down and focus on her health. Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson has agreed to take on the leadership of this work
- *Ad Hoc* Lobbying Committee
- o The group met with Senator Portman's liaison for military affairs.
- *Ad Hoc* Committee on Aging will have another second hour presentation on May 19th.
- Nominating Committee will bring nominations next month.
11. OUYM
- The Budget & Finance and Executive Committees met last Saturday
- The expected costs of the annual sessions at Wilmington College this summer are higher.
12. Miami Quarterly Meeting will meet next at Campus Meeting in Wilmington on May 19th.
13. The business meeting closed with a period of worship.


Paul Buckley, Recording Clerk

COMMUNITY FRIENDS MEETING

2012 STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT

Community Meeting experienced another year of transition as the older generation is passing the torch of responsibility to a new generation. We mourned the loss of Norman Matthews and Barbara Wood. One of our treasured elders, Agnes Moon, moved to Yellow Springs to live with her daughter's family. Other faithful meeting elders are experiencing serious health issues, and are not able to attend meeting regularly. We are deeply grateful for the many years of spiritual leadership, wisdom and mentoring that these elders have given the meeting. Their gifts continue to guide us and inspire us in our own spiritual journeys.

We have welcomed six new members this past year, including a family of four, and we also have several new attenders including young people and families with children. These newcomers bring new gifts and energy, and provide a sense of vitality to our community.

Community Meeting includes a rich diversity of spiritual experiences, and we appreciate the many ways of expressing our understanding of how the Inner Light works in our lives. There is even a sense that making room for diversity currently defines our Meeting community. However, as one member recently noted, there is also a tension between our great desire to be in community and our great desire to do our own thing!

In the past year, we have developed a strong spirit-led Prison Ministry. This ministry has expanded by the formation of a Jail Ministry Worship Team of eleven members, which meets once or twice a month with groups of up to 64 prisoners at the Justice Center and various other facilities. The prison ministers bring back some deeply moving experiences from their worship with prisoners. One Meeting attender has taken on the daily care of an incarcerated woman's newborn baby.

The Meeting continues to carry a strong concern for sustainable living. Our Spring Renewal focused on the theme of gardening, local food, and care of the Earth, as well as community-building through games and singing around a campfire. The Friends in Unity with Nature committee has presented several second hour discussions and movie nights bringing awareness to issues such as fracking, the impact of local foods, the importance of native species, and living sustainably. The committee held plant sales, installed a beehive and continues work to restore our woods by removing vines and invasive species. We also planted trees to help replace trees lost to disease and weather.

As a follow up to our Quaker Quest workshop, we have formed five ongoing Spiritual In reach groups that are meeting regularly and plan to continue for about a year. These small groups are giving us opportunities to share more deeply, and are resulting in a fundamental deepening of our spiritual lives. Also as a result of the Quaker Quest experience, Adult Education Committee planned several second hour discussions on in reach-related themes to encourage deeper sharing about our spiritual journeys. Adult Education also offered a two-session course on the Fundamentals of Quakerism for newcomers in the spring and in the fall. A member of our meeting presented a series of classes on Quakerism at Cincinnati Friends Meeting which was attended by fourteen people from Community Friends.

Religious Development Committee had a busy year planning lessons and activities for our children and teens, as well as providing a monthly "Children's Meeting" to give children experience with centering into worship, and leading a monthly intergenerational activity to help children and adults get better acquainted. The theme for First Day School this year has been Quaker history, enriched by "Faith and Play" stories, an original song about William Penn, and a puppet play about John Woolman. Our First Day School class consists of up to nine energetic and delightful children aged 7 to 10 who greatly enrich our Meeting community. We also have a group of gifted and mature teens who meet regularly and also participate actively in OVYM teen activities and other wider Quaker activities such as the FGC Gathering and the Quake that Rocked the Midwest. Six teens participated in the OVYM teen service trip to Washington, DC.

Peace and Social Concerns committee has continued its commitment to the Tender Mercies service once each month, providing and serving an evening meal for 35 residents of a local shelter for homeless people with mental illness. The committee has also been investigating socially responsible investing, and various approaches to voting rights. Other concerns in the Meeting led to a spontaneous growth in lobbying efforts and prison ministry. In light of these efforts, we have been reconsidering a proper role of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, as perhaps a small committee that calls attention to options available for peace and justice service and advocacy, and keeps track of the various peace and social concerns efforts that emerge.

2012 STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT, Continued

House and Grounds Committee has continued to work with Friends in Unity with Nature Committee to create a more sustainable Meetinghouse. We have purchased a new all-function copier and a projector for general use. Improvements to the Meetinghouse included replacing the cork board and a major effort to rehab the basement playroom. Trees on the property continue to be a major concern, and several trees had to be cut down this year including the large buckeye behind the house, which was a loss due to squirrel fun. General work on the Meetinghouse included lots of plumbing and some repairs to the elevator. Regular workdays were held to do major cleaning and maintenance tasks around the house and grounds.

Community Committee faithfully made sure that food was set up for snacks and meals after meeting for worship each Sunday, that dishes were washed, and that the kitchen and dining room were cleaned up after meals. The committee also hosted several special events such as Easter egg dying and pumpkin carving parties, and assisted Ministry and Counsel with refreshments after the memorial service for Barbara Wood.

A large number of us attended Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and were enriched by sharing and learning with this extended family of Friends. Meeting for worship continues to be the deep center of our shared spiritual life. We are often blessed with vocal ministry that is rich and spiritually led. We are grateful for the continuing gifts and challenges of learning to live in a diverse spiritual community together.

2013 Kroger Community Rewards Program

Please be sure to re-register your Kroger Plus Card for the new rewards period which began 5-1-2013

Beginning April 1, you will need to re-register your Kroger Plus Card to benefit Community Friends Meeting for the 2013 Kroger Community Rewards Program starting May 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014. Kroger's is dedicating \$4 million to assist local charitable organizations of all sizes. The more people that we have registered in the program, the bigger the piece of the pie that we receive. It is easy to register your card for this new program. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com to enroll your Kroger Plus card online at Kroger's secure website. Once a household member enrolls his or her card, all linked Kroger Plus Cards within that household will begin earning funds. Our organization number is 80890.

PEOPLE AROUND THE MEETING: KIM FRANCES

Kim attended Meeting in the late 80's. She returned this January because she wanted to be part of a spiritual community. Her interests include her 4 grandchildren, hiking and other outdoor activities. She will be joining the House and Grounds Committee this July. She is on the FUN committee and has organized a hike at Yellow springs- either the Gorge or Glen Helen. We will meet at the Meeting House at 8:00 AM and car pool to our hiking location. If you are interested in attending the hike, contact Kim at kfrances1122@yahoo.com

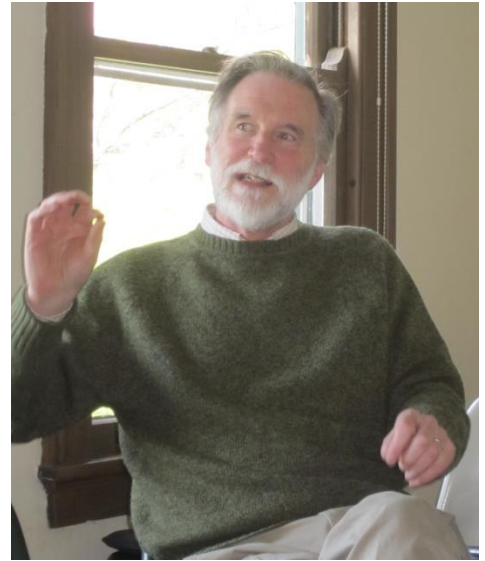


From Ministry and Counsel Committee

Ministry and Counsel is giving a series of 3 second hours on Ministry, "The Meaning of Ministry Among Friends." . Paul Buckley presented the history of Elders, Ministers and Overseers in April.

Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson will present a second hour on May 26: Recognizing the Gifts of Ministry in our Meeting, What is the community's role? Do we have Ministers?

The following queries on Young Adult Friends, the Young Children program, and Parents and Families will be discussed at the May Meeting for Business

**Young Adult Friends**

Young Adult Friends (YAFs) are those Friends who are between the ages of 18-35 years old. Are Young Adults encouraged to be fully engaged in your meeting community by serving on committees, attending meetings for business, and serving in other important roles in the life of the meeting? Is there encouragement and support for those Young Adults who bring a gift of vocal ministry? Do we listen to one another with open ears and hearts to the new ideas and energy brought by all Friends in our meetings, realizing that Spirit-led gifts of wisdom and discernment are not limited by age?

At sessions, some YAFs are parents with young children, some work full-time with the children's programs, some are single and find it difficult to leave summer employment to attend sessions, some are college students and some are professionals. They are a diverse and scattered group! Would your meeting like to see a programming change at sessions that would make it possible for all YAFs to find time to meet together? Does this encourage a harmful segregation from the larger yearly meeting body or does it enable YAFs to find an opportunity to find a voice for concerns specifically related to their age group?

Our yearly meeting has offered a 50% reduction in the cost of attending yearly meeting sessions to YAFs. We have made some intentional efforts to include this group in committee work and travel to the wider Quaker world. What other ways can you think of to encourage and support our Young Adult Friends?

Young Children Program

- / We have relied on the faithful work of one Friend in particular to organize the program for the littlest children at our sessions for many years. This person has followed a leading! Beyond our everlasting and ever-present gratitude for a led Friend, are there things the yearly meeting should be doing or considering for our Young Children Program?

Parents and Families

- ♥ In what ways can the yearly meeting better serve parents and families? Is there interest in forming discussion groups for parents or organizing gatherings to bring parents together to talk about issues confronting Quaker parents today?

June 2 intergenerational soccer game

Religious Development will organize a June 2nd intergenerational soccer game at the rise of Meeting. Coach Jim Rhein will try to get us to play by the rules. All levels of experience and inexperience are welcome. Bring a good attitude and please wear or bring appropriate clothing and footwear.

Photo of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting teen group and Friendly Adult Presences who worked to build a raised bed garden at Gabriel's Place in Avondale. **Photo: thanks to Eugenia Mills**



From Lynn Newsom: They put on a play here in Fayetteville, NC called "The Parchmont Hour" about the experiences of the Freedom Riders in the Parchmont prison in Mississippi (I'm not 100% sure of my facts here, sorry) . There on the wall along with enhanced photos of the others (Abernathy, Lewis, Carmichael, etc.), was David Fankhauser's photo. We're proud that we know him!





Job opportunity:

Interim resident caretaker (s)

Community Friends Meeting

3690 Winding Way, Cincinnati 45229.

Dates: August 1 2013 – June 30 2014

This position, which involves caring for the inside and outside of the house, is best handled by a couple or an energetic individual. The individual or couple holding this interim position will be provided living quarters in the meeting house throughout the time of employment as compensation for their work.

To apply for an interview, contact

Frank Huss, 513-871-8653; or John Sniegocki , 513-351-4939; or Tim Leonard, 513-871-0219

Miami Quarterly Meeting

Campus Friends Meeting

1870 Quaker Way

Wilmington, OH 45177

The Meetinghouse is on College Street, one half block south of US Route 22 and Ohio Route 3, east of downtown.

The Program will be consideration of the State of the Meeting Reports from Monthly Meetings.

For More information, contact Bill Cahalan.

Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat

Day Quest: Finding your way in Nature With Forrest Gilmore

May 18, 9:00-3:30 (Rain date: June 1)

We all have moments when we feel drawn within, times when a still small voice calls us to listen. The Day Quest is an ancient practice used throughout the world to allow nature to help us discover our inner wisdom. Through the simple experience of solitude in nature followed by the opportunity to share with others, you will come away with a deepened connection to self and a renewed energy to move forward.

Forrest Gilmore has a background in outdoor education and wilderness rites of passage. The retreat property includes 60 acres of creeks, woods, and wetlands—a bit of wilderness that is ideal for seeking messages through nature.

Please bring a brown-bag lunch, a journal to write in, clothing suitable for the weather, and, if you like, a portable chair to sit on. Drinks will be provided.

Location: Mt Gilead Friends Retreat

Fee \$45. Scholarships Available upon Request.

Register by May 13 by sending a check to: Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat,

3363 N. Mt. Gilead Rd.

Bloomington, IN 47408

For more information, call (812) 679-6835 or (812) 332-4074

or e-mail mtgileadretreat@gmail.com or eder@indiana.edu

Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Aging

1. May 19th will be a second hour on check in and support for the nuts and bolts of aging. Have you filled out the Guidance at the Time of Death form? If not, you have a second chance. There are forms available at the Meeting House and also included in this newsletter. Your newsletter editors have been procrastinating on completing theirs. We will also have available other forms such as the Durable Power of Attorney and living will. Leanne Montgomery did an excellent job of telling us all that we need to know. We will check on our progress.

The committee is considering a tram tour with a docent at Spring Grove Cemetery the first Sunday in June (after the volleyball game). There is a Southern Magnolia tree at the site of our burial area which should be in full bloom by then. We would also look at the "other" Quaker burial site where Levi Coffin is buried. There is some money left over from the Grant, and we are hoping to be able to also include lunch.

Photos from the March "Nuts and Bolts of Aging" presentation with catering from Venice on Vine. Ad Hoc Committee on Aging members: Jean Crocker-Lakness, Eugenia Mills, Deborah Jordan, and Sarah Hoffmann (not available for photo).



Guidance at the Time of Death

Name: _____

Date: _____

Community Friends Meeting
3960 Winding Way
Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950
(513) 861-4353

www.communityfriendsmeeting.org

*Adapted from and used with permission of
Cincinnati Friends Meeting*

Guidance at the Time of Death

I am providing the following guidance in order to assist those making arrangements in the event of my death.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Next of kin other than spouse: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

I have a Health Care Power of Attorney: Yes No Location: _____

I have a Living Will: Yes No Location: _____

I have a Will: Yes No Location: _____

I would like the following persons notified:

Name/ relationship	Telephone	Email

Personal Information:

Date of birth: _____

Place of birth (city & state): _____

Mother's maiden name: _____

Father's name: _____

Location of important documents:

I would like the following funeral director (choice):

I prefer the following disposition of my body:

- ☐ burial ☐ donate my organs to the living
☐ cremation ☐ donate my body to medical science

I own a lot in _____ cemetery.

I prefer my body

- ☐ be viewed by my family and friends.
☐ by viewed only by my family.
☐ not be viewed at all, except for purpose of identification.

I would prefer

- ☐ a funeral service, with my body/ashes present.
☐ a memorial service, after the manner of Friends.

I prefer my funeral/memorial service take place at

- ☐ Community Friends Meetinghouse
☐ funeral home
☐ graveside
☐ other location _____

Attach any other information that you would like the Meeting to know.

I would like my funeral/memorial service to include:

Scripture _____

Hymns _____

Other _____

I prefer that any memorial gifts take the form of

☐ Flowers

☐ Gifts in lieu of flowers to

☐ Community Friends Meeting

☐ Specific charities _____

☐ Other _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Copies on file with:

☐ family member _____

☐ attorney _____

☐ Community Friends Meeting office

Feel free to attach another sheet with any further suggestions or requests.

Reviewed, date, initials _____

Photos by Eugenia Mills of some of the wild flowers in our woods: wood poppy and trillium. We are grateful to Elizabeth Groppe who has planted some of the wild flowers and tended them. We are grateful for all her garden and woods work.

