

Community Companion

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

www.communityfriendsmeeting.org

Volume 19, Issue 7 July, 2013

Intergenerational soccer game, photo by Eugenia Mills



Newsletter:

Deborah Jordan

Email: djordan@fuse.net

Editor & Photographer unless noted otherwise

Jean Crocker-Lakness

j.crockerlakness@gmail.com

Submissions for the August newsletter due by: Monday, July 29, 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 @ 11:40 am

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| July 7 | Carry in Meal after Meeting for Worship |
| | FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible |
| July 14 | Second hour: Meeting for worship with attention to business |
| July 14th | 10am Annual Meeting for Worship under the care of Miami Monthly at Ft. Ancient. Potluck to follow. |
| July 21 | Second hour: a threshing session on the role of Community and Music Committees, facilitated by Kate Anthony and Tim Leonard. |
| July 28 | Second hour: a threshing session on the role of Peace and Social Concerns, facilitated by Lisa Cayard and Deborah Jordan. |
| July 31- Aug. 4 | OVYM at Wilmington College |

In This Issue:

Pages 2	Summary of Minutes from Meeting for Business
Page 3	Children's outdoor worship, News from Quaker House
Page 4	Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Sessions
Page 5-6	Tour of Spring Grove Cemetery

Seventh Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Religious Fellowship

Do you fulfill the responsibility of membership in our religious society by regular attendance and support of its meetings? What are you doing to strengthen the spiritual life of the meeting and to invite others to share in its fellowship? Do you recognize and encourage the development of the spiritual gifts of your members? Are you active in advancing the religious principles of our society and in applying the social and political implications of those principles?

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

Sixth month, ninth day, 2013

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

Nineteen in attendance including the Clerk

Clerk, Frank Huss led in Centering Worship.

- Nominating Committee: After much animated discussion, the approval of the nominating committee report was only partial, as described below.
 - The proposal to have Ministry and Counsel name the Nominating Committee was approved for 2013, to be revisited in 2014.
 - Frank Huss requested to be added to Ministry and Counsel to fill the number of members required on that committee.
 - Friends expressed concern about a lack of clarity with regard to the role of Peace and Social Concerns coordinators, a possibility of redundant roles, and uncertainty about the status of Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Clarity about the functions of several existing committees was also requested.
 - Frank Huss stated that he perceived a discrepancy between how the committees define themselves as contrasted with what the meeting would like the committees to do and called for silent reflection.
 - A motion was made to accept the Nominating Committee's report, to request changes, and for the meeting to offer to assist the nominating committee in clarifying those areas in question.
 - A proposal was made for a threshing session to address friends' unanswered concerns about committees. This was the sense of the meeting. Regarding the items not approved, the nominating committee is requested to refer the matter to Ministry and Counsel to arrange a threshing session. Friends request existing committees to continue as they have been until the matter is resolved. These proposals were seconded and approved by acclamation.
- Pocket Doors: Eric Wolff reported that the pocket doors have repeatedly locked in an open position. The carpenter who responded was unfamiliar with type of pocket doors at the Meeting House. Eric wanted to know whether friends feel it is important that the doors be able to open and close, as this project may incur costs greater than anticipated. The sense of the meeting is that it is important for the purposes of the Meeting House to be able to use the pocket doors. The matter was returned to House and Grounds for further study.
- Treasurer's Report: Mary Anne Curtiss stated that, firstly, we are currently running behind in anticipated contributions. Summer is coming, and donations tend to decrease. We are in need of more unrestricted donations. Secondly, OVYM has increased our suggested annual contribution to \$8,800. Friends approved the suggested increase by acclamation.

Committee Reports

- Community--considering a Quaker Fest with music and a barbecue to be held after meeting.
- House and Grounds--Four action items were approved:
 - Will renovate a room for John Sniegocki as a temporary living space with a closet.
 - The decision about the interim caretaker(s) will be finalized on Tuesday.
 - Tree issues need to be further researched.
 - Door issues--will be researched as stated above.
- Religious Development—It was reported that activities for the children in the summer are needed.
- Ad Hoc Committees
 - Lobbying Group--Frank Huss reported ongoing visits to Portman and a continuing weekly contact providing additional information to his office.
- Music—It was reported that the piano has been scheduled for tuning within the next two weeks.

Wider Quaker Bodies

- Miami Quarterly Meeting: Bill Cahalan reported a joyful reunion of Friends and urged anyone interested to attend future meetings, whether designated a delegate or not. The host meeting will be responsible for providing informative sessions for the upcoming meeting.
- OVYM: Eric Wolff announced that the OVYM website is now accepting applications and payments for this year. Or, they can be sent to the postal address listed on the website, or a check can be given directly to Eric Wolff.

Minutes of Thanks:

The meeting wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to Jean Crocker-Lakness and the Committee on Ageing for their effective efforts to surface issues of ageing among Friends and to support us by providing information and urging us to follow our leading in this matter..

The meeting expresses thanks to Pam Richards for standing in as recording clerk. This was the sense of the meeting.

Closing Worship led by Frank Huss.

Semi-Annual meeting of the Corporation known as Community Monthly Meeting of Cincinnati of the Religious Society of Friends

Officers are listed as follows:

Clerk: Kate Anthony

Treasurer: Lynn Funk

Recording Clerk: Paul Buckley

Canon Fund: Carol Burks, Mary Anne Curtiss, Sarah Hoffmann

Tim Leonard moved to adjourn the meeting, Mary Anne Curtiss seconded.

Eighteen people present including the Presiding Clerk and Recording Clerk

Children's Outdoor Worship

submitted by Lisa Cayard

On Sunday June 2 during outdoor worship, the intermediate class (Toby, Charlotte, John David, Reid and Bing) met on blankets under a tree in the front yard. We did a brief review of what we had learned about this past year, and the children remembered that George Fox had discovered that we could find God in our own hearts, and that God can speak directly to each person if we listen for that still small voice. We talked about the different names that Quakers use when speaking about that of God in each person, such as the Inner Light, the Seed, the Divine, Christ, Spirit, or Love. We talked about what it means to "hold someone in the Light."

We settled into worship together, with the children sitting or lying comfortably on the blankets. We imagined what it would feel like to be covered by a waterfall of light as the warm sun washed over us. The children spontaneously began stroking one another's backs and arms and legs, pretending to be kitty-cats. They snuggled quietly together into a heap in the sunlight. Some of the words that came out of this worship were:

We worshiped in a waterfall of light in the warm sun.

We feel warm.

When we worship we are being hugged.

We worship in each other's arms.

We connected with arms and legs (and tickled with sticks...but very gently!)

We worshiped in a big pile all snuggled together like kitties.

God's love feels like a big pile of hugs!

Quaker House News

Lynn and Steve Newsom, Directors

Quaker House was invited to have a table at the 528th Sustainment (Special Operations) (Airborne) Brigade SHARPP Stand Down training. SHARPP stands for Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program. There were 5 classes that the soldiers took in "round robin" turns and Lynn was invited to talk about Quaker House's domestic violence support program (as well as our other work) at each of these groups. She was rewarded with warm applause after each presentation and was able to have some good conversations with the men and women after the training. Many of the soldiers picked up our GI Rights Hotline information. It was a wonderful opportunity and we are very thankful that we were able to be a part of the day.

Our domestic violence victim's support program has begun. Our therapist, Joanna, has been able to provide individual counseling to the victims that have contacted us. Word has spread throughout the community and the military about this wonderful service that we are able to offer. Joanna has even been invited by a military chaplain to go to Ft. Bragg to counsel a couple there.



Photos by Elyce Benke of the pancake breakfast and Meeting House garden

Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**2013 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Sessions, July 31-August 4**

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Sessions are five days of spiritual refreshment, intellectual stimulation, and Quaker community as OVYM's monthly meetings gather at Wilmington College to participate in activities designed to support and sustain the spiritual lives of Friends.

As a member of your Monthly Meeting, you are also a member of the Yearly Meeting and are warmly invited to participate in the 2013 meeting sessions. Friends from Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky gather for all or part of the sessions, depending on employment and other commitments, with attendance swelling as Friends arrive for Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday morning sessions.

- Meeting for worship with a concern for business is at the heart of the yearly meeting sessions, beginning on Wednesday evening. Thursday and Friday will also include workshops each afternoon and plenary speakers in the evening. Small worship sharing groups meet each morning to discuss queries related to the theme of the sessions. Shared meals provide informal opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences, and to
- continue discussions beyond the workshops and business sessions.

The Yearly Meeting bookstore offers opportunities to examine books for sale by and about Quakers and Quakerism not commonly found in a single location. Included are those authored by or chosen by plenary speakers and workshop leaders. Pick up a few books for your own reading or to add to your meeting's library.

During the week each age group helps prepare several acts for the Saturday evening talent show. This is an event participated in, and enjoyed, by everyone. In spite of a full schedule, you will still find time for quiet walks around Wilmington's campus or a short nap. Friends with special interests are encouraged to post notices on the registration bulletin board for late evening interest groups. Bring an instrument to play in the Variety Show or later in the Afterthoughts Cafe. Take time to look at the exhibit tables and gather for group singing after dinner. Volunteer to join the teens on a canoe trip, to go swimming with the children or to join the middle youth in a game or art project.

For the third time, the yearly meeting sessions will begin with a Service Project, this year with the Grow Food Grow Hope program right on the Wilmington College Campus. 10 am to 2pm on Weds. has been set aside for this.

For more info: Kate Anthony, rainbowgardener2@gmail.com

Middle Youth program: Martha Viehmann, marthaviehmann@fuse.net

Teen program: Carol Simmons, ovymyouth@yahoo.com

registration available on www.quaker.org/ovym

Please do not contact Wilmington College for information



Tour of Spring Grove Cemetery

The final event of the ad hoc committee on aging with financial support from the Friends Foundation for Aging was a docent led tram tour featuring the 2 Quaker Areas in Spring Grove Cemetery. The docent was extremely well prepared on Quaker history.

How big is that tree? Photo by Eugenia Mills



Elaine and Louise: docent and tram driver (photo by Ann Benke) Quaker marker (photo by Ann Benke)

Tram photo by Ann Benke, other photos by Jean Crocker-Lakness



Levi Coffin's marker



Southern Magnolia tree in bloom