

Community Companion

Quaker House:

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www.communityfriendsmeeting.org

<https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/community-friends-meeting>



In Memory of
Eileen Bagus
May 19, 1946
Oct. 3, 2014

Volume 20, Issue 11

November, 2014

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Kate Anthony

Assistant Clerk:

Lisa Cayard

Recording Clerk:

Paul Buckley

Treasurer:

Lynn Funck

Ministry and Counsel:

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Submissions for the December newsletter due by:
Monday, Nov. 24, 2014 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

- Nov. 1 Eileen Bagus Memorial will be 2pm Saturday at Cincinnati Friends Meeting, 8075 Keller Rd., Cinti 45243.
- Nov.2 Meal Carry in after Meeting for Worship: FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible. Community Committee asks that if you bring something that needs to be heated before eating, please attach brief instructions to your container. Also, it's helpful to mention the name & ingredients of the dish - thanks!
- Nov. 4 7:30pm Inreach group led by Tim Leonard. *First Paul: The writings of Paul that show how close he was to Jesus*
- Nov. 5th 4:30pm to 5:30pm mid-week worship organized by Paul Buckley
- Nov. 5 Interfaith gathering to pray for peace: see page 4
- Nov. 8th 5pm Inreach group led by Pam Richards: *Unlocking Potential*
- Nov.9 Second hour: Meeting for worship with attention to business
- Nov. 16 Second hour: Bill Cahalan shares: *Communion with the Living World: An Animist Quakerism*
Nature walk after second hour: see page 4
- Nov. 19 4:30pm to 5:30pm mid-week worship organized by Paul Buckley
- Nov. 23 Second hour: Rachel Ernst Stahlhut and Quaker Quest
- Nov. 30 Second hour: Spiritual Journey

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Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe Childcare: Katelyn Buckman & Rachel Piepsny

Eleventh Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Peace and Cooperation

Do you live in the life and power which takes away the occasion for all wars? Do you, on Christian principles, refuse to participate in or cooperate with all military effort? Do you work actively for peace and the removal of the causes of wars? Do you endeavor to cultivate good will, mutual understanding and equal opportunities for all races, creeds, and nations? Have you examined your life style and possessions to make sure that the seeds of war are not found within them?

October 12, 2014 Business Meeting Summary, prepared by Paul Buckley, Recording Clerk

- The meeting opened with thirteen Friends present. In the opening period of worship, the acting presiding clerk read from “A Guide to Quaker Practice” by Howard Brinton on the unifying action of the Holy Spirit in response to participants’ prayers, meditation, and worship during the business meeting.
- The **Friends General Conference Committee for Nurturing Ministries** is seeking a location for a meeting to be held in March or May, 2015. They would use the meetinghouse from Friday evening through Saturday afternoon. Many would stay for our meeting for worship on Sunday. Members of the FGC committee are willing to make a Second Hour presentation on ministry. Meeting **approved** hosting on May 28-29, 2015.
- The **Treasurer** reported, “Things continue to look good.” The bank balance is currently 12% of the annual budget – double the target of 6%. Contributions to the Building Reserve Fund continue to trickle in. It was clarified that the \$5,000 for the Building Reserve Fund that was added to the 2014 budget was intended to be in addition to any contributions designated by individuals for that fund. Because there had been confusion about this, we will apply those designated contributions to the \$5,000 target for this year. In looking at the report, it seemed that we may also need to change the way the bank balance to budget ratio is calculated. The treasurer will report on these questions next month. The report was **accepted**.
- The **Cannon Fund** trustees reported there is still \$4,614 available for grants in the current year. They are hoping that this money will be used. The monies in the Cannon Fund are now all invested in the Pax World Fund instruments that were discussed last month.
- The **Peace & Social Concerns Committee** has reviewed their participation in the World Peace Festival this year and felt it had been valuable. The event was well attended by Friends, as a wide distribution was represented. While the event was primarily attended by the “congregation of the faithful,” that was valuable as participants got an opportunity to meet people from other groups in the Cincinnati area that are concerned about peace-related issues. They believe broader participation might be possible if the event were held in a different location next year.

P&SC suggested the meeting increase its contribution to Quaker House in North Carolina next year from \$25 to \$75 and add a new organization, Whole Again, with a contribution of \$25. Whole Again is a faith-based organization that feeds and educates children during the summer. They also recommend Bridges for a Just Society and Quaker Inner City School Endowment be removed from the list of contributions. **Approved.**

AMOS Projects has an upcoming public meeting to launch the Exodus Campaign, a movement of the church and faith community to end childhood poverty in Greater Cincinnati. This is currently at 53% - the second highest rate in the nation. The meeting will be at Tryed Stone New Beginning Church on October 21st from 7 until 8:30 p.m. Friends were urged to attend and to fill out the AMOS community survey.
- A memorial service will be held for Eileen Bagus at Cincinnati Friends meetinghouse on November 1 at 2PM under the care of **Ministry & Counsel Committee**.
- **Adult Religious Education Committee** has sent out the inreach group participant lists.
- **House & Grounds Committee** will conduct a meeting work day on October 25th from 10am to 4pm.
- The **Library Committee** reported that the red crate intended to hold incoming mail has been moved out of the library into the front vestibule. It may move further in the next month. The committee is seeking volunteers to help with cataloging library materials. They promise it is not hard to do.
- **Community Committee** reported the Quaker Fest held on October 5 “was great.”
- The **Web Clerk** reminded Friends that he merely facilitates use of the meeting website by those of us in the meeting. He does not control it nor author the material on it himself. His work on the website was greatly appreciated.

October 12, 2014 Business Meeting Summary, Continued

- The **Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee** met in the Community Friends Meetinghouse on October 4.
The OVYM Budget & Finance Committee has committed itself to bring a balanced budget in the next year. As part of that effort, they may recommend some changes in the way the annual sessions are paid for.
The Teen Activities Committee reiterated their intention to hold their 2015 service trip in Costa Rica. This will require serious fundraising.
The Middle Youth Committee is still seeking a MY Coordinator. Friends are asked to help identify candidates.
- The **Joint Quarterly Meeting** is currently in session at Happy Hollow. There was concern that too few people were registered to cover the costs of the sessions.
- The **Friends Committee on National Legislation** annual meeting will be held on November 20-23. Three members of CFM are planning on attending.
A representative of the Young Friends program at FCNL enjoyed a very valuable potluck on Wednesday, October 1st with some CFM Friends and spoke to peace studies students at Xavier University.
- The meeting closed with silent worship.

EILEEN BAGUS



Eileen with Rachel Ernst Stahlhut
at OVYM, July, 2012

Photo below: 1984 was a bumper year for babies: Nan Hatch with Hilary, Eileen with Erin (center), and Jean Crocker-Lakness with Jimmy
Not pictured: Sunny Rhein with Nick



Eileen was incredibly generous, loving, dedicated and wise. I am blessed that she was my friend. May her family find comfort in her beautiful new granddaughter; I know Eileen will always be her guardian angel.

~Lynn Newsom,
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Eileen was a devoted volunteer at River City Correctional Center where I was a teacher. My life is better for having known her.
Ann Plyler



Eileen as a MARCC delegate at the fall planning meeting in 2011
Clockwise from Eileen: Mary Anne Curtiss, Patty Moore from Cincinnati Friends, Frank Huss, Jean C-L, Ken Bordwell



Eileen center with Eugenia Mills and Deborah Jordan at OVYM, 2013

Eileen was a dear friend and Friend. She loved her family and was moved to help the world be a more just and nurturing place. She intuitively knew when and how to reach out to others in need. I appreciate her deep spiritual sense of life and know her presence will continue to be felt.
Deborah Jordan
~ Cincinnati, Ohio

Nature Walk - to enjoy nature, exercise & fellowship - Sunday, November 16

Sue, Kim & Elyce were talking about how much we enjoyed the trip to Yellow Springs last year; there are so many great parks in the Cincinnati area, we decided to get together after the second hour on Sunday, November 16 to take a walk at Mt. Airy Park to enjoy nature, exercise & fellowship. All are welcome; we hope this may become a monthly activity. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Sue Brungs, Kim Francis or Elyce Benke.

Quakerism 101

We will be offering a series of four Introduction to Quakerism sessions. These are particularly intended for people newer to Quakerism, but are also good refreshers for people that have been around awhile.

They will be Sat AM's from 10 AM to 11:30 and will be held Nov 1, Nov 8, Nov 22, and Dec 13.

Everyone is invited. If you have friends that are interested/ curious about Quakerism, but haven't come to Meeting, this would be a good introduction for them too.

Greater Anderson Promotes Peace and Eastern Hills Friends Meeting announce an

Interfaith Gathering to Pray for Peace

Wednesday, November 5th, 7pm

Eastern Hills Friends Meeting, 1671 Nagel Road, Anderson Twp.

Following prayers, please stay for refreshments and fellowship.

All are welcome to the first of our monthly events.

In November, we will focus our prayers on peace in the Middle East.

We will gather again on December 3 for prayers focused on bringing peace to another area.

*Alone, we feel powerless to respond to the violence in our communities and in the world.
Together we affirm that the desire for peace is strong and that God's love and light may enter
where we cannot.*

For more information, contact Martha Viehmann @ fuse.net

News from Paulette Meier: she will be co-facilitating a workshop: *Streams of Living Water: Renewing the Contemplative Tradition through Meditation and Plainsong* with contemporary contemplative Cynthia Bourgeault at Pendlehill. It promises to be a weekend of experiencing and exploring the Christian mystical tradition. "Refresh yourself with Centering Prayer and Quaker silence. Open your heart and mind by singing Paulette's haunting and singular chants. And absorb reflections on how the rich streams of the Christian mystical experience flow together with an internationally known scholar and practitioner of that tradition."

March 27-29, 2015.

For more information, go to <http://www.pendlehill.org/events/streams-living-water-renewing-contemplative-tradition-meditation-plainsong/#.VFHlwfnF-Sq> or call 610-566-4507

ESR to Host War Tax Objection for Peace and Justice Conference



The weekend of November 7-9th, ESR will host the *War Tax Objection for Peace and Justice Conference*, which is an annual gathering sponsored by the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee.

Whether or not to pay taxes for the military is a difficult question for Quakers and others wanting to build a just and peaceful world. This conference provides lectures and workshops on the many ways people respond to taxation for war.

For more information on the conference and to register, visit this link: <http://www.nwtrcc.org/meetings.php>. More information can also be received by contacting Lonnie Valentine at [765-983-1353](tel:765-983-1353) or valenlo@earlham.edu.

Friends Center of Ohio Yearly Meeting
Adjacent to Stillwater Meetinghouse near Barnesville, Ohio
Transformation and the New Birth
 A weekend facilitated by
Marcelle Martin
November 7-9, 2014

During this weekend we will seek to understand the spiritual transformation that occurs when Friends allow the Light of Christ to be active within and among us. We change from being conformed to society and out of touch with God to being filled with the Spirit and responsive to divine promptings. In particular we will consider elements of spiritual rebirth: Openings, the Refiner's Fire, and being Gathered into Community. By reading and discussing passages from the writings of early Friends, we will learn how to better embrace these elements of transformation in our own lives and in our time. There will be opportunities to share our experiences and to explore how we might be more faithful and obedient to the work of Christ within us. We will listen for how we are being guided today.

MARCELLE MARTIN is a member of Chestnut Hill Meeting in Philadelphia. She is currently finishing two books, one telling the story of the beginning of Quakerism and the other about essential elements of the Quaker spiritual journey. For four years she was the resident Quaker Studies teacher at Pendle Hill and has led retreats at Quaker meetings across the country. She is the author of two Pendle Hill pamphlets, including *Invitation to a Deeper Communion*.

For information:

Email Katharine Jacobsen at kenkatharine@earthlink.net;
 Or write Friends Center Coordinator, 61388 Olney Lane, Barnesville, Ohio 43713;
 Or go to: <http://www.ohioyearlymeeting.org/programs/friends-center/>

Quaker Fest, 2nd annual

Marjorie Isaacs announced at the Quaker Fest on October 5 that we will be the first local religious group in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana to divest. The next day, Community's Friends endowment will be in fossil fuel free socially responsible mutual funds. No more investments in coal, petroleum, or natural gas. No fracking! It is official. We are the only Quaker Monthly Meeting west of Philadelphia to divest. Note her special "Super Quaker" outfit that she wore for a skit to expand on the divestment theme.



We also had some great food. There is Donald Rucknagel with a plate full of food. Great music by above photo: Eugene Marquis playing the soprano saxophone and Oz on guitar (2/3 of the Ed Moss Trio). Photo to the far left: Paulette Meier with Jamie Fota on guitar. Center Photo: Guest artist- Chris Collier. Near left photo: Franchot Ballinger from Eastern Hills Meeting playing Native American flute music.



Flower arrangement by Sue Brungs.

Shannon McKelvey Isaacs makes the official announcement of our divestment of investments in fossil fuels .

EQAT, PNC, BLAM, and U

Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT) [pronounced "equate"]

Earth Quaker Action Team is a grassroots, nonviolent social action group founded by Quakers and inclusive of people of all faiths or no faith, who join with millions of people around the world fighting for our threatened planet.

Earth Quaker Action Team yearns to move toward a place of integrity and right relationship. . . The enormity of the problem we call climate change is daunting. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has just hit an all-time high of 400 parts per million, which scientists say the Earth has not seen in 3 million years – prior to the emergence of humans. We face certain catastrophic harm to the commonwealth of life if we do not take immediate action.

PNC PNC Bank, now the fifth largest bank in the United States, has a historical connection to the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). PNC Bank was founded in 1982 in the merger of Pittsburgh National Corporation and Provident National Corporation, a financial services company founded by Quakers in mid 1800's and informally known as "[The Quaker Bank](#)." Today many Quaker individuals and Quaker organizations still have accounts with PNC. PNC positions itself as an engaged corporate citizen committed to the environment. PNC is also one of the top financiers for companies that practice mountaintop removal coal mining, which has destroyed more than 500 mountains and 2,000 miles of rivers and streambeds in Appalachia.

BLAM! Bank Like Appalachia Matters!

EQAT's current campaign is BLAM! -- a strategic effort to get PNC Bank out of the business of financing mountaintop removal coal mining. EQAT is challenging PNC to bring its investment practices into integrity with its publicly stated environmental values and is committed to taking the profit out of financing climate change. .

U You can participate in an important witness here in Cincinnati. On Dec. 6, people from Florida to the Midwest to the East Coast are invited to show PNC that wherever they have branches they can expect to be confronted for financing mountaintop removal coal mining, a deadly practice now [directly](#) linked to lung cancer and climate change. Organizers are preparing more than twenty actions in 15 cities across 8 states. **Talk to Kate Anthony or Bill Cahalan for more information about plans for Cincinnati.** (They both recently participated in weekend training on nonviolent action with George Lakey.)

Information compiled and adapted by Deborah Jordan mainly from EQAT website

Autumn Queries from AFSC (American Friends Service Committee)

- How can I **be more thoughtful** about what I need and what I acquire?
- Do I know **when to say no** to work I cannot adequately attend to?
- In what ways do my interactions with other people reflect my **beliefs and values**?

Joint Quarterly Meeting at Happy Hollow Camp

Even though Community Friends were not as well represented as in previous years, those of us who attended had an enjoyable time and were able to make some new friends. The weekend was lite on business and heavy on fun and fellowship.

Terrie Holada leading us in Quaker Trivia: like what was the birthdate of Wm. Penn?



Jean C-L with new friend Carol Simmons talking about how wonderful the food is at this great camp. Below: Diann Herzog- presiding clerk of Whitewater qtr. Veronica Frost- presiding clerk of Miami qtr. (our Quarterly Meeting)



Jim Crocker-Lakness reading a Quaker mystery book he brought. Above: one of the charming rustic cabins with the leaves just beginning to turn. Marjorie Isaacs having an animated conversation with Cecilia Shore who edits the Quaker Quill. Marjorie wants everyone to know that she has finally mastered the drive to the camp and is willing to share her driving directions. The directions are very tricky because there are several Old Nashville roads and they all look alike.

Kate Anthony says that "It is always a wonderful chance to connect with people I don't see very often. The food is wonderful- they cater to everyone's needs. I joined the singing group and had a great time singing the oldies. The Eldering workshop lead by Pat Zarowin was very good and it was good to hear examples from different Meetings."