

# Friendship Times

February 2008

## Calendar

- Sun, Jan 27 10:30 am Meeting for Worship  
4:00pm Quaker Book Club, Meetinghouse
- Thu, Jan 31 7:30 pm Joe Volk, New Garden Meeting
- Fri, Feb 1 7:30 pm Joe Volk, New Garden Meeting  
Experiment with Light, Group 1 meets today
- Sun, Feb 3 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel,  
and House and Grounds meet  
9:15 am Peace and Social Concerns meets  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship  
Experiment with Light, Group 2 meets today
- Sun, Feb 10 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship, A potluck meal  
follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Fri, Feb 15 Experiment with Light, Group 1 meets today
- Sat, Feb 16 9:30 am to 5:00 pm All Meeting Retreat  
Meetinghouse
- Sun, Feb 17 10:30 am Meeting for Worship  
Experiment with Light, Group 2 meets today
- Mon, Feb 18 7:30 pm Ann Riggs, New Garden Meeting
- Tue, Feb 19 Last day to send newsletter materials to Editor
- Sun, Feb 24 10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Child care available for Worship and Business Mtgs.  
7:30 pm Fourth Day, Midweek Mtg. for Worship, in  
Prayer Room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes,  
occasionally followed by discussion at 8 pm.  
9:00 am fifth First Day (when there is one), Extended  
Meeting for Worship.

**Winston-Salem Worship Group.** Meeting for  
Worship, 9:30 a.m. First Day, at The Blessings, 823  
Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem.  
Contact: Louise Harris/John Cardarelli. 750-0631

## Quaker Book Group

The Quaker book club will meet Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the meetinghouse, and will discuss the first chapter of *The Holy Way* by Paula Huston. For further information: Judy Heitfield, 643-0257.

## In this Issue

Minutes from First Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. The minutes include an annual report from the Care and Counsel Committee. In addition, there are reports on the meeting's Christmas and New Year celebrations, announcements of upcoming events (including the annual meeting retreat), issues for action, letters from Nan Bowles, news of Friends in Kenya, photos of interest to meeting members, and updates for the *Handbook*.

### From the Editor:

My intention is to distribute the newsletter two weeks before Monthly Meeting, which will be February 24<sup>th</sup> for the March issue. Material for the newsletter should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than Tuesday, **February 19<sup>th</sup>**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help. Cyril Harvey, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

### Delivery Options (ESP)

You may receive your copy of the *Friendship Times* in one of three ways: (1) **E**mail delivery, (2) **S**nailed mail delivery (US Postal Service), or (3) **P**ick up at the Meeting House (**P**ersonal delivery is possible at Friends Homes/Guilford). If you would prefer to change your current mode of delivery to either of the other options, please let me know: Cyril Harvey, 925 New Garden Road, #2110, Greensboro, NC 27410, (336) 299-8269, or [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

## Second Month's Query Meeting for Worship

*Are we faithful in our attendance at meetings for worship and are we careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting by our late arrival? Is our behavior therein that of open submission to God in silent communion?*

## Minutes

### FRIENDSHIP MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup> OF FIRST MONTH 2008

Meeting began with silent worship. In attendance were Betty Austin, David Bailey, Gay Bowles, John Bowles, David Brown, Mae Brown, Maureen Burns, Judith Harvey, Kembra Howdeshell Claire Koster, Martha Lang, David MacInnes, Sidney Lee Kitchens, Harry Nagel, Janet Nagel, Chris Nelson, Rodney Owen, Bonnie Parsons, Richard Phillips, Susan Phillips, Sam Phillips, Don Smith, Rebecca Sullivan, Carole Treadway, Ray Treadway, Daryl Waisner, Lisa Waldman, George White and Marilyn White.

David Bailey read query #1 from *Faith and Practice*:

*Do we faithfully uphold our testimony for worship which is based on silent waiting, and for a free and unprogrammed ministry that may be shared by all? Is there a living silence in which we feel drawn together by the Light of Christ, the power of God in our midst; and is this inspiration carried over into our daily lives? Do we come to meeting with hearts and minds open and ready to worship in silence or in vocal ministry or prayer as the Holy Spirit leads us? Does our Meeting encourage those who may have a gift in the spoken ministry?*

Many Friends responded out of the silence. The following minute serves as a summary of the discussion:

In general our meeting feels that we are doing well in this area, that our vocal ministry nurtures us deeply as does our silent ministry. In our consideration of this query Friends noted that the ability to have a settled, gathered meeting for worship that is divinely guided is heavily dependent on individual spiritual preparation outside of meeting through regular spiritual discipline and inquiry. In meeting for worship we find there are three forms of ministry: vocal ministry, silent ministry and the ministry of holding the space of the meeting itself. When considering vocal ministry, questions were raised about how to best support Friends who offered this ministry and how we discern gifts in this area Friends noted that silent ministry is essential do our meeting, especially in a world that becomes increasingly hectic, noisy and chaotic. Friends noted the importance of the ministry of holding the space of the meeting and some asked whether our worship would be enriched by more mindfully following this practice.

Friends approved the minute. Kembra Howdeshell will revise the minute over the course of the next month.

Ray Treadway presented the **Treasurer's Report** for Twelfth Month which was accepted. The complete report is attached to the minutes; a summary follows:

<u>Twelfth Month</u>	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$8,042.00	\$1,867.99	\$ 15,310.34
All Funds:	\$8,972.00	\$1,867.99	\$ 26,789.06

Expenses of note during the month are: \$400 for assistance for travel (one person to FCNL meetings twice and two persons to Pendle Hill Board meetings), \$450 in donations recommended by the Social Concerns committee (Prisoner Visit & Support, Interfaith Worker Justice, Quaker House Capital Campaign, and New Garden Friends Meeting for the immigrant family), \$100 to Quaker House for operating expenses, and \$150 to Friends Homes, \$150 for the People for Faith against the Death Penalty, and \$254.71 for repairs.

As a result of several generous contributions during the last month of 2007, the total income to the general fund for the year was \$23,356.03, which exceeded the budgeted amount by \$146.03 and exceeded the total spent by \$3,705.34. Part of this excess will be transferred to the contingency, emergency assistance, and building funds which allow us to serve others and prepare for future expenses as our building plans require.

The Treasurer's report was accepted with thanks.

Clerk David MacInnes read a letter from Stephen Phillips requesting financial assistance to attend the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in 2008. Friends agreed to provide \$1,000 of support for him and to increase next year's travel budget to \$2,000.

#### **Finance Committee Report**

Ray Treadway presented the Finance committee report it is as follows:

The Finance Committee, consisting of David Brown, George White, Ray Treadway, and David MacInnes (ex officio) met on First Month 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, to consider the issues of long-distance service, a proposed budget for 2008, and the status of a pledge of \$1,000 to North Carolina Yearly Meeting FUM, a pledge which was put on hold in 2006. First of all, the Meeting received a bill for service

charges of \$12.50 from Sprint for long-distance charges for the first time in December. A spokesperson for Sprint informed us that unknown person had "authorized" a change of long-distance telephone service to Sprint in November. Since having long-distance service is no longer necessary and does not justify the monthly service charge, the Finance Committee recommends that long-distance service from any carrier be blocked. If a long-distance phone call from the Meetinghouse is necessary, we can use a cell phone or a calling card.

We reviewed the summary of income and expenses for the year 2007. Generally, the actual amounts needed and spent in 2007 were \$3,500 less than the budgeted amounts for 2007. We agreed, in principle, that there is no need for a committee to spend funds which are not needed, but this should not affect the budget for 2008. We noted that for the *general* fund, the income of \$23,356.03 was *very close* to the 2007 budget of \$23,210.00. However, we were not aware of reason to believe that income will be higher in 2008. Given the uncertainty of any major increase in income, we decided to make only the few changes to the budget and to leave other items at the 2007 level. We propose a budget which is slightly lower than the 2007 budget, for a total of \$22,860.

The committee examined the budgeted amounts and the actual amount spent in the various budget categories and looked at the income to the various funds. We considered specific requests for committee expenditures and made adjustments based on these suggestions. \$1,500 will again be budgeted as scholarships to support two of our members attending the School of the Spirit. We received no specific requests from members and attenders to change the amounts to be given to support organizations, so these were left at the same amounts. (Note that the \$3,600 budgeted last year for North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative included a special donation of \$100 for the hearing-assistance fund, so as approved in Sixth Month, 2007, the amount for NCYMC was left at \$3,500.) We did respond to a special request from the Quaker House Capital Campaign by budgeting \$500 for the that purpose, over and above the contribution of \$1,200 for operating expenses. We increased the projected amounts for utilities by modest amounts, taking into consideration rising

costs.

The Finance Committee discussed the continuing issue of the unpaid pledge of \$1,000 over five years to support the Quaker Lake Conference Center of NCYM-FUM but came to no conclusion. We suggest that this be discussed more fully by the monthly meeting as a whole. If the original intent of our decision was to show our cooperation with NCYM-FUM in general and our desire to assist in financing the new building at the Quaker Lake Conference Center in particular, might we consider redirecting the money to other worthwhile activities of NCYM-FUM, such as humanitarian aid to Quakers in Kenya and Jamaica or financial support of MOWA Choctaw Friends Center in Alabama? Would such support be inconsistent with our witness against the troublesome policies of NCYM-FUM toward the GLBT community?

This budget represents the best "guess" that we will have for the needs of the monthly meeting in the coming year. If the situation warrants, the meeting can always adjust the budget at a later time. At the beginning of the year the excess in the general fund will be transferred to other funds according to the "beginning of the year" policy, so that the balance in the general fund will be one-half of the budget for the year. The proposed budget is given here.

Friends agree to block long distance calls from our telephone and the proposed budget was accepted with the corrections noted.

Friends addressed the question raised by the Finance Committee about funds for the Quaker Lake Conference Center capital campaign that have not been reallocated. The clerk raised the question of whether and in what context we can support worthy programs when we disapprove of some of the policies of their parent organization. After some discussion it was clear that this issue needed further seasoning and it was sent to Worship and Ministry for seasoning.

### **Worship and Ministry Committee Report**

Daryl Waisner presented a report from Worship and Ministry it is as follows.

Planning is underway for the All Meeting Retreat. A Planning Committee has been formed. Second Month, Sixteenth Day, 2008 is the planned date with Third Month First

Day as a back-up date. If anyone has thoughts or questions, please direct them to any of the Ministry & Worship committee members.

Worship & Ministry continues to work with School of the Spirit alumnae to aid in their further using their gifts/talents in service to the Monthly Meeting.

Friends accepted the report with thanks.

### Care and Counsel Committee Annual Report

Members: David Bailey, Gay Bowles, Maureen Burns, Al Carwile, Steve Hayes, Rebecca Valla, George White, & Priscilla Zuck

Somehow last fall, I became Clerk of the Care & Counsel Committee just as we were scheduled to travel (California twice for starters) and I was suffering from a painful sciatic nerve that required back surgery. I don't know what the Committee did during the year so I will do what I usually do and I will just make it up. Instead of an "Engineering Report," I will submit a "Novel."

The first month I was Clerk, a member reported that she needed "Care Giver" relief for her husband's medical transportation twice a week. Meeting volunteers provided the sixteen trips needed for the first month. This gave her time to make other long term arrangements for the next months. Another member asked for and received a small short term loan which was repaid at the end of the next month.

Early in the fall, the Meeting, in its infinite wisdom, told the Committee to contact inactive members to determine if they desired to continue their membership. Two members of the Committee drew up drafts of possible letters but consensus is missing. Quakers have a long history of kicking out members which may explain why there are only 125,000 Quakers, worldwide. Indeed, my Great-Grandfather was "read-out-of-Meeting" back in 1854 because he married a Baptist. Luckily he and his bride continued attending Piney Woods Friends Meeting or I would be a Baptist now. In 1863, they came back as full Members. We will continue our search for consensus.

The Committee worked with Worship & Ministry to sponsor the Christmas Eve service at Friends Homes. There were "readings, music, worship based on silent waiting, a fire in the fireplace, and at the end, refreshments."

A joint memorial service with New Garden Meeting was held May 6<sup>th</sup> for Caroline McHardy Elliot, wife of David Bailey. Caroline suffered a sudden case of Rocky Mountain spotted fever that took her life on

May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I am told there were no marriages this year but David Barron was welcomed as a new member.

George White, Clerk  
Care & Counsel Committee

Friends accepted the report with thanks

### House and Grounds Committee Report

Rodney Owen

They are holding off on major work because they do not know what the future is of the meeting-house. The question of replacing the sign was raised. Friends agreed that they could go ahead and replace it. A leak in the roof over the men's room needs to be patched and there is a leak under the kitchen sink. The trim around the door will need to be repainted. The committee seeks guidance from the meeting on replacing burned out bulbs with compact fluorescents. Friends also asked the committee to consider these repairs as well as replace broken storm windows. A friend noted, and others agreed, that keeping up the building is in keeping with our integrity as a meeting. The report was accepted with thanks.

### Membership Committee

David read two letters requesting release from membership for Alice Myer and Harry Myer. Friends approved. The clerk will write to them acknowledging their requests.

### New Years Eve Celebration



(photo by David Brown)

**REPORT ON FRIENDSHIP MEETING'S CHRISTMAS PARTY,  
DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Over 40 members and friends joined us for the Christmas program. Our special guests were the Burmese family that has been sponsored by New Garden, First Friends and Friendship Meetings. Christmas gifts were given to the family and were very much appreciated. The gift camera was put into use that night.

Our program started with carol singing. Several people brought musical instruments and played during the singing. A number of our Young Friends also joined in; some also doing solos during the rest of the program. They included Michael Heitfield and Stephen Phillips. Moe Owen read the Christmas story from Luke.

Stories, songs and poems, some serious, some humorous, were shared by members of the Meeting, as well as the annual reading of King John's Christmas.

After the program there was a bountiful selection of delicious food, which was enjoyed by all.

In order to share some of our bounty, we collected non-perishable food, which was donated to the Salvation Army food bank.

Mae Brown

Maureen Burns

Claire Koster

Darryl Waisner

**Ad Hoc Committee**

David MacInnes reported that the committee will be meeting Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. We have received word that the City of Greensboro has grandfathered our property and that we are now in compliance with the city watershed ordinances. Now that the urgency to action has been removed, Friends encouraged the committee to proceed more as a long range planning committee. Questions were raised for the committee to consider. Rodney Owen has been appointed to the committee. The topic of future plans was also suggested for the upcoming retreat. Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Mae Brown reported that the New Years party at the Browns' house was a great success.

After a brief period of silence Friends adjourned, purposing to meet, God willing, 12<sup>th</sup> month 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha E. Lang  
Recording Clerk

David MacInnes  
Clerk

**Friendship Meeting Celebration  
New Years Eve with the Browns**

As the year 2007 ended 15 revelers gathered at the home of Mae and David Brown for the annual Friendship New Years Eve celebration. Games, puzzles, fellowship and tasty treats were shared by all.

Sid Kitchens again jumped his way to a Chinese Checkers victory as he challenged five other players.

As the new year approached the group gathered for a time of shared readings that ranged from the humor of Phil Gully and Tom Mullins to the wisdom of Gerald Manley Hopkins and the Psalms. After the readings Friends settled into worship and quiet contemplation of the passing year offering their prayers and hopes for themselves and the world in the year to come.

**Our thoughts and prayers are with**

Darlene Stanley and Jessie Garvin on their recent loss of Jessie's father, Jim Garvin. The meeting sends them our love and support.

Ernest Miller who recently has spent a week in the hospital undergoing a series of tests. He is home at Friends Homes/Guilford and delighted to be back in his apartment.

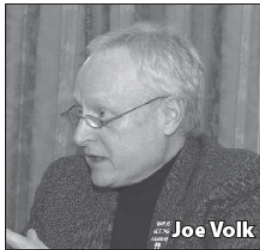
## Upcoming Events

### Two Lectures by Joe Volk Executive Secretary of FCNL

January 31 & February 1 at 7:30 pm

### James L. Fleming Lecture Series

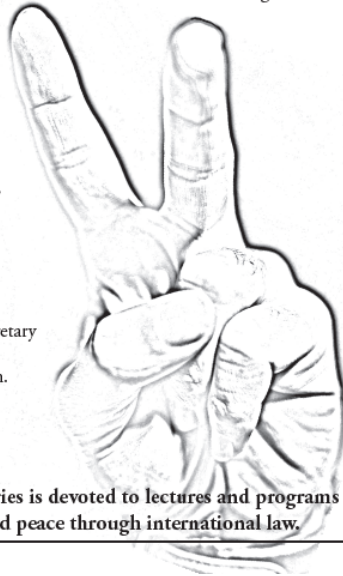
*Presents*



#### *My Journey to Iran: Practicing Hope in an Age of Fear*

Joe Volk, Executive Secretary of FCNL (Friends  
Committee on National Legislation)

Thursday, January 31, 7:30 -9:00 p.m.  
New Garden Friends Meeting



#### *Making Peace an Election Issue: How to Be a Catalyst for Change*

- FCNL panel discussion with
- Joe Volk, Executive Secretary
  - Ruth Flower, Legislative Director
  - Jim Cason, Campaigns Director
  - Kathy Guthrie, Field Program Secretary

Friday, February 1, 7:30-9:00 p.m.  
New Garden Friends Meeting



The James L. Fleming Lecture Series is devoted to lectures and programs  
designed to bring about world peace through international law.

### Annual All Meeting Retreat

**Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Alternate date of Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

#### Agenda

- 9:30 Arrive at the meetinghouse; coffee and tea
- 9:45 Worship
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Panel and discussion on the role of the elder: historical roots and contemporary practice
- 12:00 Potluck lunch setup
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:00 Physical work on the meetinghouse and grounds
- 2:00 Worship sharing groups with new queries
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 Threshing session: consideration of the kinds of spaces we need to answer the call of last year's threshing session
- 4:00 Break and snack
- 4:15 All meeting environmental game
- 5:00 Close

### Paint and Pray

Woodland, NC

Fourth Month 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008

#### A WEEKEND OF LOVING SERVICE And Spiritual Nurture of and by women

Join with F/friends in historic Woodland, NC, birthplace of our yearly meeting. We will work together painting the interior of the meeting's lunch-room and share times of prayer in the Cedar Grove Meeting House. On 1<sup>st</sup> Day morning we will worship with Rich Square Monthly Meeting and join them for lunch at the rise of meeting.

**Meals and lodging are provided**

For more information, contact Carole Treadway

### Experiment with Light

There has been a positive response to the Experiment with Light, a program for building spiritual friendships, as described in last month's issue of *Friendship Times*.

Two light groups have been formed. The groups meet once every two weeks for two hours. Group 1 will meet next on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and again on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Group 2 will meet on Sundays, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The plan at this point is to hold a joint gathering of the two groups after the third meetings for a general discussion and evaluation and to plan for continuing, if there is interest in doing that.

Please contact Janet Nagel (3nagels@bellsouth.net or 292-9699) for more information.

## Friends Center Events during February

**Ann Riggs**, 2008 Judith Weller Harvey Quaker Scholar, will be at Guilford College February 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>. Ann Riggs is the Associate General Secretary for Faith & Order with the National Council of Churches USA. For five years she served the US Roman Catholic Bishops in their ecumenical work with historically black churches and peace churches.

Ann Riggs will speak at College Meeting for Worship, Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm, Moon Room, Dana Auditorium.

She will also speak on "Ecumenism in Quaker Perspective" at New Garden Meeting, 7:30 pm, February 18<sup>th</sup>.

**James Newby** of the Trueblood Yokefellow Academy will speak in Greensboro February 24<sup>th</sup> for the Piedmont Interfaith Council, with time spent later that day and the next on the campus of Guilford College. For more information, contact Friends Center at 316-2445, or email Max Carter: [mcarter@guilford.edu](mailto:mcarter@guilford.edu)

## Announcements Religious Education Committee

### *Dolls for Young Friends*

The Religious Education committee would like to add Waldorf style dolls of both genders and several ethnicities to the toys in the Young Friends room. Would you like to help make them from kits? Experienced and inexperienced doll-makers are welcome. Depending on those who take part, we can gather as a group and/or work individually. Many hands will mean more imagination and more love to share with our youngsters. If you'd like to be part of this project please speak to Janet Nagel, 292-9699, [3nagels@bellsouth.net](mailto:3nagels@bellsouth.net)

### *Out of the Living Silence* FGC Religious Education Institute

August 14<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Bradford Woods, near Indianapolis, Indiana

The institute is held once every four years for parents, adults and young adults interested in working with young Friends. There will be a camp for children three years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Friends from all over the USA and Canada will attend.

<http://www.fgcquaker.org/2008-religious-educators-institute-out-living-silence>

## Letters from Nan Bowles

18 December 2007

Dear members of Friendship Meeting,

18 December 2007

Four days before the Winter Solstice. Winter skies are clear, cold and crisp. The air is pure and clear. Breathe deeply and listen. Walk in the winter sky. Walk in the moon light. Walk in the star light. Come home and get warm by the cozy woodstove. Cheeks aglow with the cold winter air. Breathe in the starlight and the moon light. I find walking helps purify my thought and feelings. Walk. Touch the Earth, touch Spirit. Touch the Earth. Touch Spirit. The magic of winter frost crystals greets us this morning. To us it is a world transformed. We give thanks and are filled with Love, Compassion, Wholeness and Gratitude.

A memorable swan encounter took place at dusk one December evening. Twilight came and went with darkness settling in over the marsh. Suddenly I heard swan voices ringing out across the night sky as if a hundred thousand bells had sounded. Some were high, some low and some even cracked. Yet all together the swan voices combined to create a comforting, rolling rhythm of chaos, reverberating in the cold air.

Swan truth was spoken. Wildness was here. They flew directly overhead long necks stretched out. Large wings carried them through the night sky silhouetted against a blue and purple evening. Wind whistled through feathers while they passed by. Swan energy tingled up and down my spine. A winter evening with the swans.

Winter greetings and prayers go out to all of you, my home meeting. May the Love and Light of the season touch you all.

Nan Bowles

23 January 2008

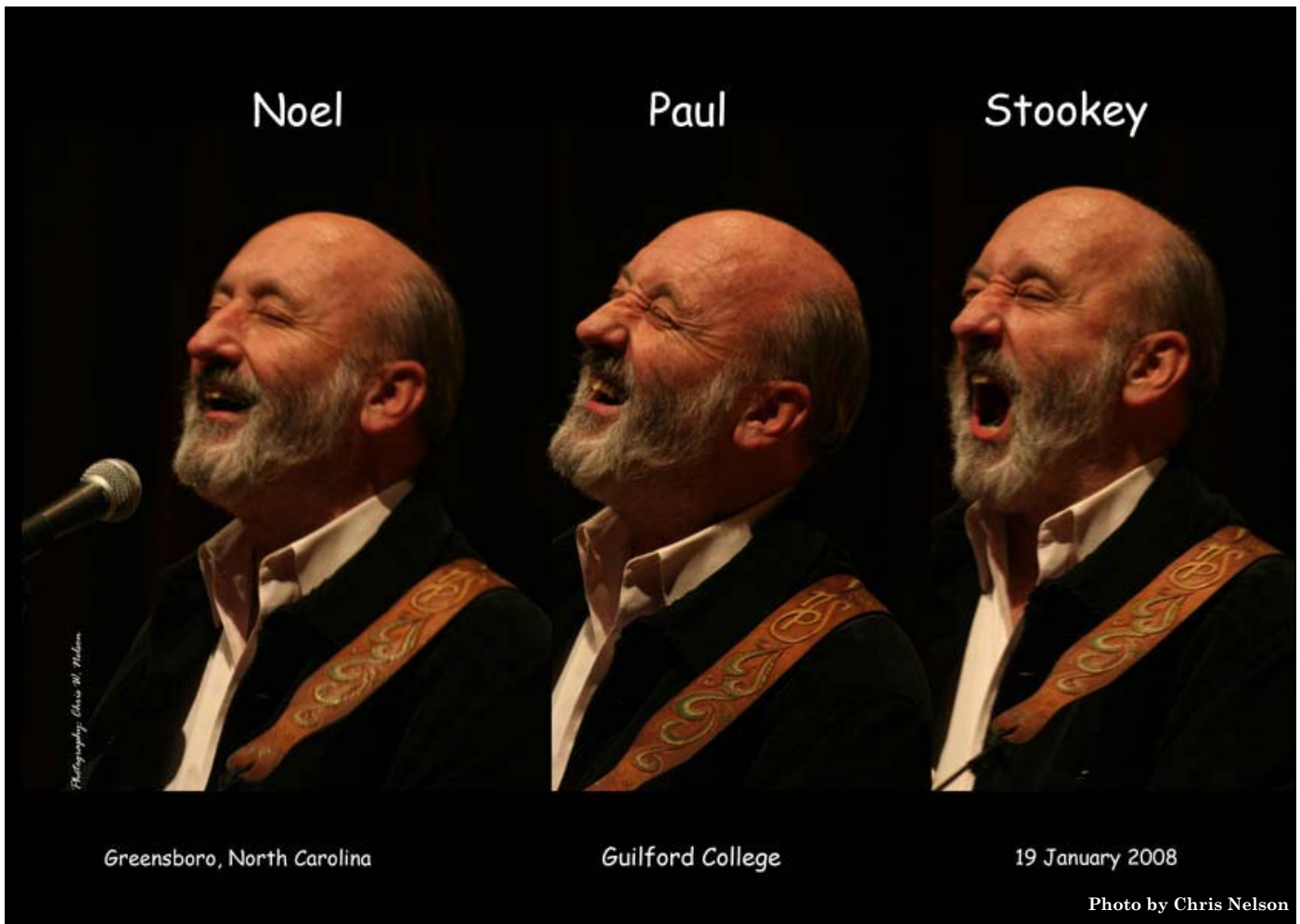
***Touch the Earth. Touch Spirit. Listen to the Earth. Spirit Speaks***

***Somewhere, somewhere, somewhere,***

***A small bear is listening.***

***Are we aware?***

I am in the process of listening to a message that comes to me from a small bear member of our neighborhood. We have never met, but I am aware of his/her presence from an adventure that came on Christmas Eve day, involving tracks: the hidden



**Noel Paul Stookey in Concert — January 19, 2008**  
**Luby Casey Campus Visitor — Religious Emphasis Week at Guilford College**

story. Walking, walking, we are walking on a sand road. There. There in the sand. Gentle imprints of a small bear. A child bear. Feet shapes left there in the soft sand. We put our hands over the prints, still warm with small bear's spirit. Bear child where are you? What fragrances of the Earth fill your sensitive nose? What mushrooms have you found? Did you hear the swans too? Did you find a place? A place in the scented pine needles to warm your black back? Was your summer full of blueberry feasts and insect grubs? Did Jenny wren's song tease you awake? Bear Child where is your mother? All this I wonder as I hold within me the image of your footprints. Small bear tracks. Subtly, gently held in the sand. Bear Child.

I have held the small bear in Love and appreciation prayer because it feels that is what Spirit is asking me to do. Maybe on some level small bear can feel it, I don't know but I want to be faithful. It is simply what I am being asked to do. However, I did go to the library and found a children's book on bears and thus learned that bears have acute hearing. They must for their survival. So there it is. Small bear is out there listening and so

am I. Perhaps we will hear one another, connected through our sense of sound.

A question comes up within me, of why the words Bear child and not bear cub are used. Spirit responds that the term, Bear child; yes, it's anthropomorphic on one level, but on a deeper level it serves to awaken and alert me to find the common areas of our lives. The places where our edges merge. One example is that we live in the same community. Another is to love the Bear Child neighbor as myself, I am to consider his or her needs as well as my own. We are both breathing living mammals out there listening. Deep listening.

Peace be with you Friendship Meeting!

Nan Bowles

P.S. I invite you to respond or comment by contacting me at:

[nantommarsh@yahoo.com](mailto:nantommarsh@yahoo.com) or postcards are always welcome: 429 Fir Ridge Lane, Beaufort, NC 28516



### Current Issue for Action

The **Peace and Social Concerns Committee** will often highlight issues of current importance that we would like to bring to the attention of the Meeting. Our hope is that Friends can use this information to educate themselves and take action where they feel led. There are two issues this month.

1. FCNL has begun a five month letter-writing campaign to persuade Congress to work for peace. This month the topic is funding civilian peace builders.

The failure of the war in Iraq has fueled a growing understanding that the US needs diplomatic tools to help prevent war, but Congress has not yet invested in programs that can lead to a lasting peace. As a result, FCNL is encouraging letter writers to contact their representatives and ask them to support the Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act (H.R. 1084). Instead of sending the military to countries on the verge of or emerging from conflict, the US could send civilian experts to strengthen public institutions. This would be a more effective response to deadly conflict, save lives and resources, and help these states move towards a more sustainable peace.

2. The Care Team for the Aung family is looking for donations of electric sewing machines. One has already been donated to Tuza and it turns out that she and other Burmese women in her complex have training in sewing. This might become an area of possible employment for them. Therefore, if anyone has a working sewing machine that they are willing to donate, that would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Neil Swenson at 834-0890, or [nswenson@aol.com](mailto:nswenson@aol.com).



Friendship Meeting Christmas Celebration 2007

### Friends in Kenya report first-hand on post-election violence

By now many Friends are aware of the ethnic violence that erupted in Kenya following the presidential election on December 27<sup>th</sup>. The FWCC World Office has created a blog where you can find commentary on events, with links to additional sources of information. The prevailing message in communications coming out of Kenya asks for Friends around the world to pray for the situation. Kenyan Friends have been both directly, and indirectly, affected. Most of the violence has been directed towards the Kikuyu, while the majority of Kenyan Friends are Luhya. John Muhanji, Kenyan Director of the Africa Ministries Office of Friends United Meeting, wrote on January 2<sup>nd</sup>: *"Friends when you see yourselves enjoying the peace you have now wherever you are praise God for everything. Because that can be taken from you in a twinkling of an eye as it happened here in Kenya. Peace is something that needs to be guarded with a lot of care from everybody in the world."*

More information is available on the FWCC blog: <http://fwcckenyanews.blogspot.com/>

(FWCC Section of the Americas Newsletter, 11-Jan-08)

### Handbook Changes

Please call Claire Koster (766-9769), clerk of the Handbook Committee, if you have questions about the *Handbook*. Give corrections, additions, or deletions for the *Handbook* to Claire, or email them to the editor, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com).

#### New Email Address:

Liz Yeats  
[lizy@2quakers.net](mailto:lizy@2quakers.net)  
Carey and Judy Reece  
[jcdivots@yahoo.com](mailto:jcdivots@yahoo.com)

#### New Address:

Harry and Janet Nagel  
P.O. Box 10323  
Greensboro, NC 27404-0323  
Tartt Bell  
Friends Nursing Home, Room 229B  
17340 Quaker Lane  
Sandy Springs, MD 20860

#### New Address and Phone number:

Marsha Heck  
P.O. Box 7111  
South Bend, IN 40634  
(219) 291-1746

**FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING (336) 854-5155**

Friendship Friends Meeting  
Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 29419  
Phone: (336) 854-5155

Dave MacInnes, Clerk  
Ray Treadway, Treasurer  
Claire Koster, Recorder  
Martha Lang, Recording Clerk

David Bailey Co-Clerk/Reading Clerk  
George White, Assistant Treasurer  
Richard Phillips, Assistant Recorder  
Cyril Harvey, Newsletter

Friendship Friends Meeting  
P. O. Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 27419

Address Correction Requested

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**