

Friendship Times

March 2008

Calendar

- Fri, Feb 29 5:30 pm Friday Light Group meets at the home of Carole and Ray Treadway
- Sat, Mar 1 7:00 pm Game Night, at the Meetinghouse
- Sun, Mar 2 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
4:00 pm Quaker Book Club, Meetinghouse
- Fri, Mar 7 5:30 pm Potluck for Friday and Sunday Light Groups followed by discussion of Experiment with Light, at the Meetinghouse
- Sun, Mar 9 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse
10:30 am Meeting for Worship, A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Mar 16 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Wed, Mar 19 8:00 pm Open Forum on FCNL priorities, following mid-week meeting for worship, Prayer Room, Woolman Hall, Friends Homes/Guilford
- Sun, Mar 23 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tue, Mar 25 Last day to send newsletter materials to Editor
- Sun, Mar 30 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, 7th 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, March 2nd at 4:00 pm in the meetinghouse, and will discuss chapters 2 and 3 of *The Holy Way* by Paula Huston. For further information: Judy Heitfield, 643-0257.

In this Issue

Minutes from Second Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. In addition, there are pictures from the annual meeting retreat, a reflection on issues discussed at the retreat, announcements of upcoming events, issues for action, a letter from Nan Bowles, an update for the *Handbook*.

From the Editor:

My intention is to distribute the newsletter two weeks before Monthly Meeting, which will be March 30th for the April issue. Material for the newsletter should be submitted, preferably by email, **no later** than Tuesday, **March 25th**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help. Cyril Harvey, cyrilhh@triad.rr.com

Delivery Options (ESP)

You may receive the *Friendship Times* in one of three ways: (1) Email delivery, (2) Snail mail delivery (US Postal Service), or (3) Pick up at the Meeting House (Personal delivery is possible at Friends Homes/Guilford).

The annual cost of printing and mailing 11 issues of *Friendship Times* is \$10. Email delivery costs the Meeting nothing.

If you would prefer to change your current mode of delivery, please let me know: Cyril Harvey, 925 New Garden Road, #2110, Greensboro, NC 27410, (336) 299-8269, or cyrilhh@triad.rr.com

Third Month's Query Love and Unity

Do we follow the teachings of Jesus and seek the inspiration of His Holy Spirit in our daily lives? Are love and unity maintained among us? Do we cultivate a forgiving spirit, and do we avoid and discourage needless and destructive criticism of others? When differences arise, do we endeavor promptly to resolve them in a spirit of love, honesty, and humility?

Minutes

FRIENDSHIP MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 10TH OF SECOND MONTH 2008

Meeting began with silent worship. In attendance were John Bowles, Sandy Bowles, David Brown, Mae Brown, Mary Ellen Chijioke, Craig Fox, Judy Harvey, Steve Hayes, Kembra Howdeshell, Claire Koster, Martha Lang, David MacInnes, Harry Nagel, Janet Nagel, Chris Nelson, Don Smith, Rebecca Sullivan, Carole Treadway, Ray Treadway, Lisa Waldman, Daryl Waisner, Don Smith, George White and Marilyn White

The Clerk read Query 2 from *Faith and Practice*:

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?

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

We continue to attend meeting faithfully and are assembled for worship in advance of the official start of worship. We also have come to understand that arriving for meeting is not just a question of our physical arrival in the meeting space but also entering the meeting room spiritually ready to worship. In addition, the ending of meeting includes a careful process of discernment on the part of the Clerk.

Friends approved the minute. Ray Treadway will revise the minute over the course of the next month. Mary Ellen Chijioke has volunteered to do Query 3 next month.

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

First Month	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$1,048.04	\$3,365.72	\$ 9,612.32
All Funds:	\$1,343.04	\$3,643.57	\$ 21,807.66

Expenses of note during the month are: newsletter and postage (four months) – \$230.29, scholarship for two members attending the School of the Spirit – \$1,500, donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses – \$100, special contribution to the Quaker House Capital Campaign – \$500, and

payment for property and liability insurance – \$604. The Meeting expended \$277.85 for emergency assistance to a member of the Meeting and received \$270 in contributions to that same fund.

Adjustments were made to fund balances at the beginning of the fiscal year, in view of the surplus of income at the end of last year – general fund \$11,930, contingency fund – \$3,000, and emergency assistance fund – \$2,000. Additional amounts were moved to the reserves: \$650 to the general reserves and \$2,030.87 to the building reserves. Our investment in PAX World increased by \$227.57 during the three month period from 10/1/07 to 12/31/07, and this was placed in the building reserve.

Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Ray Treadway also read a letter from Nan Bowles, thanking the meeting for her scholarship to School of the Spirit and describing her deep appreciation for all the ways that she and other Friends have been enriched by the experience.

Clerk David MacInnes brought up the question of our financial donation to Quaker Lake. The minute that was approved by meeting in May 2007 states that business meeting had reached unity on not giving money to NCYM-FUM for Quaker Lake. At the time Friends sent this question back to Finance Committee. Last month, the Finance Committee reported its concerns back to the meeting and the issue was then referred to Worship and Ministry.

The Clerk then addressed the selection of next year's **nominating committee**. Five names have been suggested by the Meeting Clerk as well as the Clerks of Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel and the Treasurer. They are: Craig Fox, Lisa Waldman, Kembra Howedeshell, Mary Ellen Chijioke and Jim Hood. These people have been named but not yet consulted and the Clerk welcomes feedback from the meeting. Other names may be suggested and there may be withdrawals. The Clerk will report back to the meeting in Third Month for final approval.

Worship and Ministry Committee Report

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

The Worship & Ministry planning committee for the All Meeting Retreat has completed its work and we are awaiting to experience the worship, activities, and fun planned on



Lined Up at the Meetinghouse for the All Meeting Retreat (Photo by David Brown)

Second Month, Sixteenth Day, 2008 (the upcoming Seventh Day).

Worship & Ministry discussed the matter of the funds that the Monthly Meeting pledged to the Quaker Lake Capital Campaign. It was felt that this matter needs to be discussed in a larger group rather than just one specific committee. Therefore, Worship & Ministry is working on the possibility of a forum seeking to find way for this matter to be resolved.

Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

Meeting received a letter from Santa Cruz California Meeting, Pacific Yearly Meeting, commending Rebecca Sullivan to become a sojourning member of Friendship Friends Meeting.

Friends welcomed Rebecca Sullivan to become a sojourning member of Friendship Meeting.

Kembra Howdeshell, Lisa Waldman and Mary Ellen Chijioke volunteered to be Rebecca's welcoming committee. Kembra will convene the committee.

Deborah Shaw wrote requesting a travel minute. She will be leading Atlanta Friends Meeting's annual retreat on the subject of "Building Community Through Spiritual Listening" on third month, 6th to 9th, 2008. Friends approved this request.

Care and Counsel Committee Report

George White delivered the report from Care and Counsel. It is as follows:

- 1) The Care & Counsel Committee is in the process of trying to make a personal contact with each person on the attached list. If anyone knows if any one listed should be considered active, let me know.
- 2) We discussed the feeling that mid-week meeting would like to feel more connection to the meeting. One suggestion was that the

Meeting Clerk at the break of meeting mention that mid-week meeting is a function of the meeting and that, if possible, folks should attend mid-week meeting to show the meeting's support.

- 3) One member at Friends Homes has told a member of the Care & Counsel Committee that she felt forgotten by the meeting. We encourage meeting members to 1) Let Care & Counsel know any time they hear that someone might be feeling lonely and needs a visit, and 2) Try to remember to visit those who aren't able to make it to meeting.

Friends accepted the report with gratitude.

The Clerk requested that Friends make an effort to attend mid-week worship at Friends Homes on a more regular basis. Friends also brought up other ideas for Care and Counsel to consider about how to welcome mid-week worship attenders into the life of the broader monthly meeting.

Announcements

Marilyn White reported on behalf of Neil Swensen that FCNL will be requesting that the meeting identify the five legislative issues that we feel are of highest priority for FCNL to pursue.

It was reported that repairs & renovations to Darlene Stanley's home are going well.

After a brief period of silence Friends adjourned, purposing to meet, God willing, 3rd month, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha E. Lang
Recording Clerk

David MacInnes
Clerk

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. Once again the Friends Committee on National Legislation has asked for input from their constituents about what their legislative priorities should be for the upcoming Congress (2009-2010). They have asked each Meeting to send five priorities that they believe should be the focus of FCNL's work in the 111th Congressional session.

The Peace and Social Concerns committee would like input from as many members of the Meeting as possible before drafting a response, and are, therefore, hosting an open Forum on Wednesday, March 19th at 8:00 pm in Prayer Room of Friends Homes-Guilford, immediately following mid-week Meeting for Worship. We invite everyone to attend to share their thoughts and concerns.

To give some perspective on this discussion, FCNL's legislative priorities for the 110th Congress were:

- We seek a world free of war and the threat of war.
- We seek a society with equity and justice for all.
- We seek a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled.
- We seek an Earth restored.

If you have suggestions for these priorities and are unable to attend the forum, please contact Neil Swenson to share your thoughts at nswenson@aol.com or 834-0890.

2. Also, as part of their five month letter-writing on Persuading Congress to Work for Peace, this month Friends Committee on National Legislation urges us to encourage Congress to fund reconciliation programs. For example, the U.S. government's "Reconciliation Program" supports a YMCA program in Jerusalem that brings together young people from Israeli and Palestinian backgrounds to play sports, get to know each other, and to begin to establish bonds of understanding. Please contact your representative to ask him or her to work to double funding for "Reconciliation Program" in the State Department's funding bill.

Offering One's Gifts to the Meeting

During the All-Meeting Retreat on February 16th, Friends considered our yearly meeting's supplemental query on what we do to support the Society of Friends and our monthly meeting. In at least some worship-sharing groups, this led to reflection on individual gifts – naming those of others around us and discerning how we might each be led to grow and contribute to our corporate spiritual endeavor.

As we move into the period when Nominating Committee will be asked to identify the contributions that each member and attender can make to the life of Friendship Meeting, all are asked to consider the following queries:

What are the ways that I am, at this time, able to support the life of the Meeting?

What gifts do I feel I have to offer that may not have yet been recognized by the Meeting as a body?

What gifts do I feel called to develop further, both for my personal spiritual growth and for my ability to contribute to my monthly meeting and the wider Society of Friends?

The responsibility of the Nominating Committee goes far beyond filling committees and offices to ensure the continued smooth work of the Meeting. The spiritual growth of each individual and of the body of Friends depends upon careful discernment of gifts and leadings; discernment that allows the body to make use of developed gifts and that allows each individual to grow in the Spirit. Nominating Committee can only succeed in its work with the support of all members in identifying their own potential leadings and gifts and their assistance in naming those of others.

— Mary Ellen Chijioko



Upcoming Events

Invitation to Dollmakers, Quilters and Other Crafters

Those interested in making Waldorf dolls for our meeting's Young Friends program will meet for the first time from 7:00 to 8:30 pm during Game Night on March 1st. We will review photos, techniques and the "philosophy" of these special cloth dolls, and possibly begin the first step of making the dolls' heads. If you are interested in making the dolls, or making clothes for them, please join us if you can that night. Other crafters, including those who are working on the Friendship Meeting Quilt or other projects, are invited to join us to share about their projects.

If you cannot come to Game Night, or want more information, contact Janet Nagel:

336-292-9699, 3nagels@bellsouth.net

Experiment with Light

Two light groups have been formed. The Friday Light Group will meet next at 5:30 pm on February 29th, at the home of Carole and Ray Treadway.

On the next Friday, February 7th, both groups will gather at the Meetinghouse for a potluck dinner at 5:30 pm, followed by a joint discussion.

Please contact Janet Nagel for more information.

336-292-9699, 3nagels@bellsouth.net

Paint and Pray

Woodland, NC
Fourth Month 4th to 6th, 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 lunchroom and share times of prayer in the Cedar Grove Meeting House. On 1st 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

Letter from Nan Bowles

Dear members of Friendship Meeting,

It is winter, or is it spring? Blueberry bushes are blooming and the maple trees are well out in a soft haze of red or orange flowers over the landscape.

Next month, March, Tom and I travel to Oklahoma for our nephew's wedding. Then we will visit our Cherokee friends in the Tahlequah area. It would be nice to be able to share with you sometime the amazing journey to connect with and interact with the Cherokee people. We want to be conscious of being observant and respectful, waiting to see how this journey will unfold before us. I am still learning the Cherokee language. In the fall the Cherokee Nation is offering a level four class and that should be exciting

How is Truth finding you today?

Take care of yourselves,

Nan Bowles

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

nantommarsh@yahoo.com or postcards are always welcome: 429 Fir Ridge Lane, Beaufort, NC 28516

A Message from Janet Nagel

Friends are invited to look in the sunroom for "Another Perspective," a gift from Nan Bowles and a delightful reminder that in business meeting and everywhere there is always another way to look at things.

Third Month Birthdays
of our Young Friends
Daniel Hood, 3/1/89

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.

New Address:

Sheri Grace
180 Thacker Road
Rural Hall, NC 27045

FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING (336) 854-5155

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Box 8652
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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

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Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL