

Friendship Times

March 2009

Calendar

- Sun, Feb 22 9:30 am Presentation on Quaker Youth Pilgrimage, New Garden Meeting
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
3:00 pm Memorial Service for DeWitt Barnett, Friends Homes West
- Fri, Feb 27 Annual All-Meeting Retreat
Sat, Feb 28 Meetinghouse
- Sun, Mar 1 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns meet
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Mar 8 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse
10:30 am Meeting for Worship, A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Mar 15 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Forum on planning for death, Holly Stevens and Kathleen Overman-Jeske, Meetinghouse
- Fri, Mar 20 7:00 - 10:00 pm, Game Night, Meetinghouse
- Sat, Mar 21 4:00 pm Shower for Esther Shyaka's expected baby girl, Parsons' house
- Sun, Mar 22 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tue, Mar 24 Last day to send newsletter materials to Editor
- Sun, Mar 29 10:30 am Meeting for Worship

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

Salem Worship Group

Meeting for Worship, 9:30 am, First Day, at The Blessings, 823 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem
Contact: John Cardarelli, 761-0222

Link to archived back issues of *Friendship Times*:

http://www.geocities.com/friendshipmeeting/friendshiptimes_newsletters.html

Provided by Chris W. Nelson - Web Clerk

In this Issue

In this issue are the Minutes from Second Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business. In addition there are announcements of a memorial service for DeWitt Barnett, the agenda for the annual All-Meeting Retreat, Game Night, a baby shower, and an upcoming forum; an issue for action; a minute of appreciation from the Friends General Conference Youth Ministries Committee, and a list of additions to the Directory.

From the Editor:

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month, which will be March 29th for the April issue. Material for the newsletter should be submitted, preferably by email, **no later** than Tuesday, **March 24th**. 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).

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 8TH OF SECOND MONTH 2009

Meeting began with silent worship. In attendance were: Gay Bowles, John Bowles, Nan Bowles, David Brown, Mae Brown, Judith Harvey, Joanne Holden, Kembra Howdeshell, Tom Kirmeyer, Sidney Lee Kitchens, Claire Koster, Martha Lang, David MacInnes, Richard Miller, Hannah Logan Morris, Bonnie Parsons, Neil Swenson, Carole Treadway, Ray Treadway, Lisa Waldman, George White, Marilyn White, Mel Zuck, Priscilla Zuck.

Out of the silence clerk David MacInnes read Query 2 as follows:

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?

The following is a summary of the Meeting's response to this query:

Friends expressed feeling very positive about answering this query corporately and that we do a good job overall in coming on time and the tone of messages.

Friendship Meeting does very well with people arriving on time and so-called interruptions are something that can be absorbed.

Greeters help latecomers by welcoming them, giving them the ability to settle in quickly.

The phrase "open submission to God" was felt to be an intangible question and is partly dependent on meeting for business and other work outside the meeting for worship.

Friends are not sure what constitutes an interruption and feel that interruptions are only a bother if they are accepted as such. Our community has a graceful way of accepting what could be an interruption.

Sidney Lee Kitchens volunteered to revise this query answer and forward it to the Worship and Ministry Committee.

Ray Treadway read the **Treasurer's Report** for the month of January, which was accepted. The complete report is attached to the minutes; a summary follows:

<u>First Month</u> Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund: \$ 400.00	\$ 3,858.74	\$ 7,948.76
All Funds: \$ 400.00	\$ 3,783.74	\$ 18,725.87

Expenses of note during the month: Supplies and stamps — \$53.71, partial payment of support to North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative — \$1,750.00, annual payment to Piedmont Friends Fellowship — \$350.00, donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses — \$100.00, new dishwasher — \$645.30, electricity — \$26.56, gas — \$239.04, telephone — \$58.81, and payment for property and liability insurance — \$616.00. The Meeting received a loan repayment to the emergency assistance fund of \$75.00.

Adjustments were made to fund balances at the beginning of the fiscal year, following the Meeting's policy that the beginning balance for the year in the general operating fund will be one-half of the annual budget and the beginning balance in the operating reserve will be equal to the annual budget of \$22,815.00. The net result was to move \$114.44 into the general operating fund, \$1,045.00 out of the general reserve, and \$930.56 into the building reserve. Our investment in PAX World received no capital gains nor dividend in the three month period from October 1st to December 31st, 2008, and it lost \$8,577.50 in market value.

Contributions to the Meeting were significantly down in January from what is needed. Contributions to meet our 2009 expenses are needed and welcomed now. Checks can be made out to Friendship Friends Meeting and sent to POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419 or left in the contributions basket in the meeting house.

Friends approved the report with thanks.

Nan Bowles gave a report on her experiences with the School of the Spirit, covering an outline of each day's activities, and describing some of the teachings she went through. A written report she submitted will be put on the website. Her sharing was much appreciated by those present and we are grateful for the time she took to present this. Nan extended an invitation to further pursue dialog with members of Friendship Meeting.

Nan Bowles asked to be released from service on the Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee. The meeting approved.

Memorial Meeting

A Memorial Meeting for member **Louise Harris**, arranged by the Salem Worship Group, was held on Saturday, February 7th, 2009 in Winston Salem.

People came from many groups and organizations that Louise was involved in, and in fact, more came than were able to be accommodated with chairs. Messages, both spoken and sung, were given covering the many aspects of Louise's life and John Cardarelli, her husband, gave a stirring reflection on their life to-

gether. North Carolina Yearly Meeting (C) was well represented.

Worship and Ministry Committee

Finalized plans for the annual All-Meeting Retreat were announced by the Worship and Ministry Committee. The retreat is to be held on Second Month 27th and 28th, 2009. The agenda is as follows:

Second Month 27th (Friday evening)

- 7:00 Meeting for desert – hopefully chocolate fondue
- 7:30 Scattering of the Seeds, a multimedia presentation by Nan Bowles

Second Month 28th (Saturday morning)

- 9:30 Arrive at the meetinghouse, coffee and tea
- 9:45 Meeting for Worship
- 10:30 Break with physical movement
- 10:45 Panel and discussion on understanding the various ways meetings have met their spiritual formation needs. Synopsis of sections of Pat Loring's Listening Spirituality on Spiritual Formation.

- 12:00 Potluck lunch setup
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:00 Clean up

Second Month 28th (Saturday after lunch)

- 1:30 Intergenerational games and movement
- 2:00 Focus groups addressing ways we can turn what we have learned on corporate spiritual formation into Meeting programs for nurturing the life of the spirit for all ages
- 2:45 Break and movement
- 3:00 Working session: We use the results from previous sessions to plan programs to serve the needs of the Meeting. Our goal is to come up with drafts of proposals we will eventually bring to the Monthly Meeting for Business.
- 4:30 Close

Care & Counsel Committee

Steve Hayes presented the following report on behalf of Care and Counsel:

Care and Counsel continues to reach out to Friends who are unable to regularly attend Meeting due to health issues. Several members of the Meeting are particularly faithful in their visits with these Friends and the Committee wished to thank Judy Harvey, Marilyn White and Priscilla Zuck for their continued support and for their reminder of the responsibility of all members of the Meeting to reach out to those unable to attend.

Care and Counsel is requesting that the library committee obtain a copy of the British Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice* for our library. (This can be done online through a link from the New Garden Friends

Meeting website). It was also asked that they be sure that we have several copies of our own *Faith and Practice* available in the library.

There is a sign-up sheet for the upcoming dinner circles, which will be available next week.

A forum will be given by Holly Stevens and Kathleen Orman-Jeske on end of life care and decision making after the rise of meeting on March 15th, 2009. Care and Counsel encourages all members to attend.

A party to welcome Neil Swenson and his two children, Ann Joy and Sean, into the meeting, attended by Mae and David Brown and Mel and Priscilla Zuck, was lots of fun.

A shower for Esther Shyaka's new baby will be planned by Bonnie Parsons for April 18th.

This report was accepted.

Membership

The Welcoming Committee for **Neil Swenson and his children, Anne Joy and Sean**, consisting of Priscilla and Mel Zuck and David and Mae Brown, reported having a wonderful meal together to welcome them into the meeting.

The Clearness Committee for **Hannah Logan Morris** met with her on Tuesday, January 27th, 2009 at the home of Maureen Burns. The committee, consisting of Maureen Burns (convener), Bonnie Parsons and Steve Hayes, found Hanna to be ready for membership with a vitality and curiosity that was refreshing and enjoyable. She exhibited an understanding of the principles of Friends and a desire to participate fully in the life of the Meeting. No obstacles were found to her membership.

The Meeting approved accepting Hannah Logan Morris into membership. Her welcoming committee consisting of Kembra Howdeshell, Don Smith, and Gay and John Bowles, was also approved.

The following communication was received from **Lisa Waldman**:

Dear Friendship Meeting:

I have been asked to sit with my discomfort with the peace testimony regarding the situation in the Middle East and found the sharing at monthly meeting for business and discussing this with Clerk of Care & Council helpful. My main reason for requesting to be released from membership has to do with our moving from Greensboro next year. In discerning on where to move, I have realized that Carrboro will offer us access to Chapel Hill Kehillah which is a Reconstructionist Temple. I need to reconnect with my Judaism in worship as there has been a void there for me. I want to thank Friendship Friends

Meeting for their continued spiritual support and nurture. I look forward to our continued relationship and worship sharing during my remaining time in Greensboro.

In the Light, Lisa Waldman

The Meeting approves, with regret, accepting Lisa Waldman's request for release from membership. The Membership Recorder will be notified of this action.

A request from **Gavin MacInnes** for release from membership was accepted. The Membership Recorder will be notified of this action.

The **Naming Committee**, consisting of the Clerk, Treasurer and Clerks of Care and Counsel and Worship

and Ministry Committees, will submit names for approval to serve on the Nominating Committee next month.

The **Clerk, David MacInnes**, read the minutes of Twelfth Month 7th business meeting from the Salem Worship Group, bringing us up to date on what is happening at their meeting.

After a brief period of silence, the Meeting then adjourned at 2:10 pm, purposing to reconvene on Third Month, 8th, if consistent with Divine Will.

Respectfully submitted,
David MacInnes, Clerk
Claire Koster, Recording Clerk

Upcoming Events

Eli, Brett and Stephen will make a presentation on their **Quaker Youth Pilgrimage** to Great Britain at 9:45 am, on Sunday, February 22nd, 2009 at New Garden Meeting.

The annual **All-Meeting Retreat** is scheduled for February 27th and 28th, 2009, with a backup date of March 6th and 7th. The theme will be "Nurturing the Life of the Spirit: A Lifelong Commitment. Considering way forward in matters of religious education for children and the whole meeting."

Agenda details for the retreat are given on page 3 of this issue of the newsletter, in the Minutes, under the heading, Worship and Ministry Committee.

ANNOUNCING a **Sunday Forum** on the Quaker approach to planning for the inevitable — when death occurs. Forum leaders will be Holly Stevens and Kathleen Overman-Jeske. Mark your calendars and plan to attend on Sunday, March 15th, at the rise of worship.

All are invited to the Friendship Friends Meeting **Game Night** at the meetinghouse on Friday evening, March 20th from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Bring your favorite game to share, or just enjoy the selection of board games and card games provided. Friends of Friends, family, and guests are welcome. Contact Don Smith and Kembra Howdeshell should you have questions about this event (323-1537).

Shower for Esther Shyaka, who is expecting a baby girl in April. Esther is from Rwanda and was co-sponsored by Friendship Meeting about 10 years ago.

March 21st, 2009 at 4:00 to 5:30 pm
Parsons' home, 1502 Nathan Hunt Road
RSVP 852 - 4257

Current Issue for Action

In order to respond to the growing needs in our community during this recession, the **Peace and Social Concerns Committee** has joined with New Garden Friends School to organize an **ongoing collection** on behalf of two local programs in our area doing important work, **the food pantry at St. Paul's Catholic Church** and **the Newcomers School**. The list of suggested items is below.

St. Paul's food pantry
Any nonperishable goods

Newcomers School
bath soap, shampoo
toothbrushes, toothpaste
new or gently worn blankets and pillows
new or gently worn jackets
new or gently worn shoes (8 and up)
socks
toilet tissue
pots and pans

Boxes are located under the display table next to the piano. The Peace and Social Concerns committee will deliver the items to the appropriate place as the boxes fill.

Water Conservation

Last year the Peace and Social Concerns committee hosted a Forum on water conservation that included a grid of suggestions that could be used as a personal tool for reflecting on and setting goals about water conservation. There were requests to publish this grid again since not everyone was able to attend that Forum. We encourage Friends to use this list to think about their own water usage, and pass along any questions or suggestions to a member of the Peace and Social Concerns committee. A copy of the grid is attached to this issue (email deliveries include the grid formatted as an Excel spreadsheet).



DeWitt Barnett

Our beloved member, DeWitt Barnett, died on Monday night, February 16th. DeWitt was committed to Quaker peace work and his faith was guided by a spirituality deeply grounded in the Light within. His ministry in meeting always gave us a sense of what it means to be a seeker of the Light. DeWitt will be missed but his spirit will remain with us. DeWitt and his wife, Becky, were active and attentive members of Friendship Meeting. She is with us now in our hearts and prayers. We send her and her family our love.

A memorial service will be held for DeWitt Barnett at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 22nd, in the gathering room at Friends Homes West. For those who have not been there, the entrance to Friends Homes West is on West Friendly Avenue, just west of Guilford College and New Garden Road. Go in the entrance, turn right and go down to the building entrance just across from the pond. There are places to park on the left past the entrance. Someone will be at the door to direct you to the service.

Minute of Appreciation to Friendship Meeting

The Youth Ministries Committee of Friends General Conference is grateful to Friendship Meeting for its warm and attentive hospitality that supported us as we gathered this weekend. The gracious willingness to arrange housing, airport shuttle service and the many other logistical details on the part of the clerk and many others in the Meeting allowed us to move into our work seamlessly. A Friday night meal that coalesced from the kitchen's of many of the Meeting's members and a Sid soup that appeared unexpectedly on Saturday noon helped sustain our bodies. Our hearts, likewise, were fully enlivened by the good company, warm fellowship, and grace of spirit of our many hosts. We have also been particularly grateful for the childcare which allows us to gather as an intergenerational community, supported in our various needs. We were nurtured by the region's many flavors of Friends that formed the appreciative audience for our Saturday night offering. And all of this has taken place in the beautiful surroundings of your lovely meetinghouse in relatively warm weather, particularly welcome for those of us who have traveled from the cold and snowy northlands of our country.

On Behalf of The Youth Ministries Committee of
Friends General Conference,

Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch
Maia Carter Hallward, co clerks.

Directory Changes

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

New Contact Information:

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mattm@ngfs.org

New Address and Phone Numbers (in Nigeria):

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Enugu HG, Enugu State
Nigeria
+234-806-278-7238 (Mark)
+234-706-59-3344 (Mary Ellen)

Mailing Addresses on File are Not Valid
Please contact Claire Koster or Cyril Harvey
If valid address is known:

Brynne Kirk
Tommie Magrinat

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

The theory of vocal ministry is simple. As the worshipers sit together in silence to wait upon the Lord, anyone among them may find arising in his consciousness a message which he feels is intended for more than himself alone. It is then his obligation to deliver that message and to cease speaking when he has delivered it. He must learn to recognize the unique sense of urgency which is evidence of a divine requirement. If a thought comes to him with peculiar life and power, he may be justified in assuming that this is a sign from God to speak. He may sometimes be mistaken. . .

Howard Brinton, *Friends for 300 Years*

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

Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL