

# Friendship Times

September 2009

## Calendar

- Sun, Aug 30 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Sep 6 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns meets  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Sep 13 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship. A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Sep 20 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship.
- Tue, Sep 22 Last day to send newsletter materials to Editor
- Sat, Sep 25 Annual joint retreat of Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel Committees
- Sun, Sep 27 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship.
- Weekly 10:30 am each First Day, 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

## Delivery Options (ESP)

You may receive 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, 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)

## In this Issue

In this issue are the Minutes from Eighth Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business, including reports on Yearly Meeting sessions and our recently updated meeting *Handbook* and *Directory*. In addition you will find a photo of Sasha, daughter of Ester Shyaka, an announcement of a new printing of Pat Loring's book, *Listening Spirituality*, a description of a concert performed in honor of Ernest Miller's one hundredth birthday, and additions to the *Handbook*.

### From the Editor:

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month, which will be September 27<sup>th</sup> for the October issue. Material for the newsletter should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than **Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help. Cyril Harvey, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

## Ninth Month Birthdays

of our Young Friends

Artan Hebner, 9/2/07

Laurel Holland, 9/6/03

Timothy Michael Washburn, 9/25/91

## Ninth Month's Query

Manner of Living

*Are we mindful of Friends testimonies against alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other harmful drugs; and do we refrain from using them or dealing in them, realizing that abstinence is the clearest witness against overindulgence? Do we seek to avoid all kinds of gambling and places of diversion that tend to be demoralizing? Do we keep in mind how diverse and widespread are the temptations to grow richer at the expense of others? Are we faithful to our testimony against taking oaths?*

## Minutes

### FRIENDSHIP MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> OF EIGHTH MONTH 2009

Friends in attendance included: Patricia Loring, Chris W. Nelson, Marilyn White, David Brown, Mae Brown, Darryl Waisner, Claire Koster, Judith Harvey, Deborah Shaw, Sidney Lee Kitchens, Gay Bowles, John Bowles, David Bailey, Ray Treadway, Carole Treadway, Darlene Stanley, Maureen Burns, Anne Morris, and Hannah Logan-Morris, David MacInnes, Benji Hebner.

Meeting opened with a period of waiting worship. Friends considered Query #7:

*Do we endeavor to live in the life and power that takes away the occasion for all war, seeking to do our part in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations? Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against nuclear and all other military preparations, the bearing of arms, and all participation in war?*

Friends united in the following response:

Peace and Social Concerns committee is one of the largest committees in our meeting, so our concern for this query is obvious, but blanket statements are difficult since warfare underlies so much of our culture and hence our lives. Friends expressed a positive approach to this conflict, however, affirming a focus on our day-to-day and moment-to-moment decisions through which our lives bear witness to peace and reconciliation, as well as the larger scale efforts of organizations such as FCNL, which friends are encouraged to support, both monetarily and through contacting each of our governing representatives. All of this is actively supported through the spiritual nurture of our meeting community..

Ray Treadway read the **Treasurer's Reports** for Sixth and Seventh Months, which were accepted. The full report is attached to the archived minutes; a summary follows:

<u>Sixth Month</u>	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$2,007.00	\$1,032.57	\$8,448.16
All Funds:	\$2,007.00	\$982.57	\$19,625.27

Expenses of note during the month: attendance at a committee meeting for a Friends organization — \$50.00, supplies for sandwiches for Urban Ministry — \$45.44, printing of the newsletter and postage (3 months) — \$221.94, donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses — \$100, donation to Center for Development in Central America — \$100, donation to Faith Action International in Greensboro — \$100, payment for transfer of title for a donated car to the Aung family — \$78.70, electric-

ity — \$83.48, gas — \$13.76, telephone — \$60.00, and water and sewer — \$9.80. The Meeting received one loan repayment to the emergency assistance fund of \$50.00.

Contributions to the Meeting in June exceeded \$2,000 for the second straight month.

<u>Seventh Month</u>	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$1,050.00	\$2,073.04	\$7,425.12
All Funds:	\$1,050.00	\$2,083.54	\$18,591.73

Expenses of note during the month: scholarship for Jesse Garvin to attend New Garden Friends School — \$1,000.00, supplies for sandwiches for Urban Ministry — \$29.14, child care — \$90.00, one year's payment for Friendship Meeting's new web site — \$74.26, donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses — \$100, donation to Pendle Hill — \$500, electricity — \$83.48, gas (two months) — \$20.00, telephone — \$60.00, and water and sewer — \$14.25. The Meeting received one loan repayment to the emergency assistance fund of \$50.00. The Meeting purchased books for the library for the amount of \$60.50 from the "flow through" fund.

The second quarter report (April-June, 2009) from PAX World was received in July. It showed that a dividend of \$381.91 was posted to our account and the market value increased by \$3,766.87 so that as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009, the PAX World fund was worth \$39,293.89

Contributions totaling \$1,050 to the Meeting in July were down considerably from the previous month. Income to the general fund of the Meeting after seven months is \$9,838 while \$13,309 should have been received by this time in order to meet the budget for in the fiscal year. Contributions to the general fund and to our special funds would be appreciated. Checks can be made out to Friendship Friends Meeting and sent to POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419..

Friends approved the report with gratitude.

### **Nominating Committee**

Marilyn White reported for the Nominating Committee. Richard Phillips is approved to continue as assistant recorder for 2009-2010.

### **Care and Counsel Committee**

Maureen Burns reported for Care and Counsel Committee:

The date of 9<sup>th</sup> Month 26<sup>th</sup> has been decided upon for the annual retreat of the Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel committees. Maureen Burns and Gay Bowles will work with two Friends from Worship & Ministry.

Ernest Miller will be celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Eighth Month, and Care & Counsel has made a card available for all to sign.

John Bowles had further foot surgery, but is doing well.

Midweek meeting for worship needs to be emphasized more and encouragement given to people who can attend.

Many of the dinner circles have gotten under way. Care & Counsel will endeavor to get all the hosts at a meeting to explore further gatherings.

It was reported that Maureen Burns and Gay Bowles will work with Neil Swenson and Dave MacInnes to plan the retreat.

### Report on Yearly Meeting Sessions

Claire Koster gave a report and some personal observations of the Yearly Meeting, which met in Wilmington NC with the theme of "Which Way Now?" Her report is attached. After her report those present noted that Yearly Meeting Clerks Sid Kitchens and Deborah Shaw did their usual fine, sensitive job and have completed their terms.

#### YEARLY MEETING, 2009

Our most recent gathering, held in Wilmington, had as its theme, "Which Way Now?". Whether this was corporately answered is up for question, however, to me personally Yearly Meeting is much more than any suggested theme.

We were blessed with mostly wonderful weather this time around, which gave much encouragement to many to walk back and forth from the dorm to the building where our business sessions were held. For those who could not do so, much appreciation was felt for those Friends who volunteered as drivers of the golf carts provided for transportation.

#### BUSINESS SESSIONS

Some of the responses by the various monthly meetings to the queries seemed to me to be more thoughtful this year, and the longest responses, by far, came from our meeting, but this is certainly preferable to the "yes" or "no" responses received from some. When our response to Query #4 was read, it became apparent to those of us from this meeting that things had changed since the time this query was answered, and brought home to us how quickly things can change. What was of special interest to me, personally, was the fact that West Grove Meeting indicated that members of their meeting had some difficulty with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, as do I. Our Peace Testimony also came up for some discussion. Included in some responses was the fact that a number of monthly meetings have prob-

lems with attendance at their Ministry/other committee meetings. In a communication from Ohio Yearly Meeting it was mentioned that they either had or were going to have a meeting of clerks on how to answer their queries more succinctly.

There did not appear to be a central theme in the State of the Society Reports. Greenville is the only meeting that reported an increase in size. I did notice, however, more questioning of Friends' spiritual journeys. Friends approved having Davidson Meeting join our Yearly Meeting and lost no time in persuading one of their members (David Perry) to be nominated as Recording Clerk.

Much time was spent on the consideration of the suggestion by the Finance Committee/Treasurer to add a line item for the School of the Spirit. There was no consensus on agreement to do this, so this item has been laid over for Representative Meeting. The Financial Report was shown electronically, so there were no paper copies available.

#### OTHER YEARLY MEETING ITEMS

During the afternoon on three of the days, the Yearly Meeting Committee on Ministry & Oversight organized small groups for the purpose of considering how those called to exercise spiritual gifts as ministers, elders and overseers do so in accordance with our Faith & Practice. Using a "fish bowl" format, those agreeing to serve as resources sat in a center circle of chairs. Each group had three queries to answer. Other participants were seated around them, prayerfully listening and when there was time, responding to things said and asking questions.

There seemed to be much less "free time" this year, although I am not able to figure out why. There were some display tables set up by, Quaker House, F.W.C.C., Friends School of Wilmington, Quaker Earthcare Witness, School of the Spirit, Pendle Hill and the Southern State Worship Group. There were presentations by Chuck Fager of Quaker House, Ray Treadway for F.W.C.C.

It was reported that F.C.N.L. has had to downsize, due to loss of income, so no staff members were able to come to our Yearly Meeting. They are endeavoring to make up for this somewhat by increasing the number of internships.

On Thursday evening there was a panel presentation facilitated by Lloyd Lee Wilson. Susan Wilson gave an introduction to the subject (Convergent Friends in The Emergent Church Movement) and Tyler Hampton from the Detroit area and Betsy Blake, member of First Friends Meeting gave more input and answered questions. As well, there was a keynote speech by Brent Bill on the subject

### "Discerning Which Way Now".

For me, one of the highlights of our time together was a performance by our young Friends (who numbered about 20 plus) which covered a brief history of Quakerism. It included many well-known historical figures including George Fox and William Penn. To say this performance was hilarious, is an understatement. Most evenings there was intergenerational singing, during which time we warbled songs ranging from "Simple Gifts" to "Puff the Magic Dragon." On the subject of young Friends, at breakfast on Sunday, I was invited by a tousle-haired blond 4-year old to sit next to him, an invitation which, of course, there was no way I could refuse. We had some serious conversations, including the subjects of Dr. Seuss and pets.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Representative Meeting in 10<sup>th</sup> Month will be at Rich Square (October 24<sup>th</sup>), no destination has yet been decided for the Representative Meeting in 4<sup>th</sup> Month, 2010 (April 24<sup>th</sup>). Yearly Meeting will be at Guilford College, July 7<sup>th</sup> — 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

During this Yearly Meeting, I came to the very humbling realization, that I am fulfilling the role of an Overseer in Friendship Meeting, through my deep concern with the good order of things. Whether coincidentally or not, more than at any other Yearly Meeting, many Friends shared much about themselves, their lives and their life's journeys, bringing me to a place I had never been before.

Concern was voiced that our long-standing relationship with New Garden Friends School should be closer. The clerk will take this matter under advisement.

### Handbook Committee

Claire Koster gave the annual report for the Handbook Committee, as follows:

Due to the fact that this committee is a very small one, and only minor changes were brought up this year, we were able to do all of our business via email.

Changes to the *Handbook* were:

The physical address and mailing address of our Meeting were separated since each has a different zip code, making it easier to refer to. Our webpage address has changed and this was updated.

It was determined, during a Meeting for Business, that people serving in certain positions had to be either a member or sojourning member of Friendship Friends Meeting. A statement to this effect has been added to the description of Clerk, Co-Clerk, Treasurer, Recording Clerk, clerk of

the Nominating Committee and members of the Board of Directors.

The section of the *Directory* entitled "Non-Resident Members and Friends of the Meeting" was reviewed and names of those Friends/ others living within approximately 50 miles of Greensboro, were moved to the "local" section.

Since there were only a couple of changes to the *Handbook*, we were able to print a number of replacement pages instead of the whole document. We had 15 copies of the complete *Handbook* and 7 copies of the replacement pages and 22 copies of the *Directory* printed, giving us a few copies of the *Handbook* to give out during the year. When more copies of the *Directory* are needed these get printed on her computer by the clerk of this committee. Electronic copies of the *Handbook* and *Directory* have been or are being sent to approximately 65 people.

The cost of printing was \$66.74 and together with other expenses of this committee, comes to a total of \$72.07. This may go up after some mailing costs. Our budget allotment was \$200.00.

Please continue to pass on any changes needed in the *Directory* to a member of the Handbook Committee as well as suggestions for improvements.

The report was gratefully accepted

### Response to Queries

Dave MacInnes read the revision of our response to Query #6, which was approved with a single editorial amendment.

Meeting closed with a period of waiting worship, purposing to reconvene on Ninth Month, 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009, if consistent with Divine Will.

David MacInnes, Clerk

Benji Hebner, Recording Clerk

### Our thoughts and prayers have been with John Bowles and Ernest Miller

John had an emergency second surgery on a foot. He is healing well and we are happy to see him as usual at Meeting for Worship.

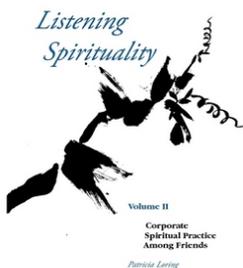
Ernest Miller recently had surgery to relieve severe gout in his right hand. The surgery has been helpful but recovery is taking time. Until Ernest has more fully recovered he is at the Whittier Nursing Center at Friends Homes/Guilford. He looks forward to returning to his room in Fry Hall as soon as possible. In the meantime he welcomes visitors.



Ester Shyaka's daughter, Sasha, 3-months

The book, *Listening Spirituality (Volume II), Corporate Spiritual Practice Among Friends*, written by our member Pat Loring, has been out of print for several years, but it has recently been reprinted and is now available. While the preliminary materials and appendix have been modified, the Introduction and Chapters 1-8 remain the same as in the first printing.

In particular, Pat has added a new paragraph of appreciation for Friendship Meeting in the section entitled Celebrations, as follows:



The 2009 printing of Volume II owes its existence to the generosity and perseverance of members of my new meeting, Friendship Friends Meeting, in Greensboro, North Carolina. When the disk for the final copy of the book could not be found and subsequently back up files were provided by [the

original graphic designer,] Bob Schmidt, Ray Treadway learned how to manipulate the software which had been used for the original preparation of this book sufficiently well to reconstruct formatting, link the figures, and make corrections. He received professional help from Chris Nelson. .... Throughout, I have been kindly supported by members of my new meeting and by our profoundly alive silences.

Currently *Listening Spirituality (Volume II)* can be purchased on-line at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com).

## 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday for Ernest Miller

Our beloved member, Ernest Miller, was 100 on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009! A memorable celebration was held at Friends Homes/Guilford on July 30<sup>th</sup> when his daughter, Sandra Miller, gave a wonderful flute concert in his honor.

Sandy Miller is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and the recipient of numerous prizes and fellowships. She has performed extensively in the United States and abroad with well known period-instrument ensembles. For many years she was Professor of Music at Purchase College's Conservatory of Music (SUNY) and this fall she joins the faculty of Juilliard's new Historical Performance Program.

Sandy performed a concert featuring Mozart, J.S. Bach, Bartok, Ravel and Faure. She was accompanied by Andrew Willis who is on the faculty of UNCG. Sandy is an expert on the baroque flute and she demonstrated and played on this flute (a reproduction) in a solo piece. All who heard the concert were deeply moved by the beauty of the music and the expertise of the musicians. Ernest said the concert was one of "the great events of my life". To Ernest we again send all good wishes on the occasion of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## Handbook 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](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com).

As reported in the Minutes, the Handbook Committee has quite recently distributed a new edition of the *Directory*, **updated for 2009-2110**. Changes, however, continue to occur.

### Change in House Number:

Benji and Sue Hebner  
413 Guilford Avenue  
Greensboro, NC 27401

### Change in Phone Number:

John Cardarelli  
replace 761-0222 with 287-6630

### New Email Address:

Hanna Hobson  
[hanna.hobson@gmail.com](mailto:hanna.hobson@gmail.com)

**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  
Benji Hebner, Recording Clerk

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

Friendship Friends Meeting  
P. O. Box 8652  
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Address Correction Requested

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**