

*Minutes  
of the business sessions of*

***Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends  
(Friends General Conference)***

“Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”

The 193<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sessions

Seventh Month 31 to Eighth Month 4, 2013

Wilmington College  
Wilmington, Ohio



## Table of Contents

Agenda .....	2	American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Report .....	63
Minutes of the 193rd Session .....	3	Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Report .....	66
Attachments to Minutes .....	17	Friends General Conference (FGC) Report .....	68
Roll Call of Monthly Meeting		Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Report .....	68
Representatives .....	17	Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Report .....	69
Letter to Indiana Yearly Meeting .....	18	Quaker Heritage Center Report .....	71
Letter to New Association of Friends .....	18	Executive Committee Minutes 2012-13 .....	75
Letter to Wilmington Yearly Meeting .....	19	State of the Meeting Reports .....	93
Letter from Wilmington Yearly Meeting .....	19	Bloomington Friends .....	93
OVYM Statement on Abolition of Nuclear Weapons .....	20	Campus Friends Meeting .....	94
Registrar's Report .....	21	Clear Creek Monthly Meeting .....	94
Letter to Wilmington College .....	22	Community Friends Meeting .....	95
2014 OVYM Nominations .....	23	Dayton Friends Meeting .....	97
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Report .....	26	Eastern Hills Friends Meeting .....	98
Miami Quarterly Meeting Report .....	27	Englewood Monthly Meeting .....	99
Audit Committee Report .....	27	Fall Creek Meeting .....	100
Budget and Finance Committee Report .....	28	Fort Wayne Friends Meeting .....	101
Treasurer's Report .....	30	Green Plain Friends .....	102
Statistical Report .....	36	Hopewell Friends Meeting .....	102
Summary of Epistles Received .....	38	Lafayette Monthly Meeting .....	102
Website Administrator's Report .....	41	Lexington Friends Meeting .....	103
Clerical Support Staff Report .....	41	Friends Meeting of Louisville .....	105
Quaker Quill Report .....	42	Miami Monthly Meeting .....	107
Publications Coordinator Report .....	42	North Meadow Circle of Friends .....	109
Records Coordinator Report .....	42	Oxford Friends Meeting .....	110
Middle Youth Committee Report .....	43	White Rose Monthly Meeting .....	111
Teen Committee Report .....	44	Yellow Springs Friends .....	112
Planning Committee Report .....	45	State of Society Report .....	114
Earthcare Committee Report .....	46	Memorial Minutes .....	115
Faith and Practice Committee Report .....	47	Doris Ferm .....	115
Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report ..	52	Warren Henegar .....	116
Religious Nurture and Education Committee Report .....	53	Rosemary Keily .....	117
Quaker Heights Care Community Report .....	60	Mary Elizabeth Morgan .....	117
Friends Peace Teams (FPT) Report .....	61	D. Russell Palmer .....	118
Friends Music Camp Report .....	63	Frankie Ritter Ruopp .....	119
		David Truax .....	120
		Paul William Wagner .....	120

## Business Sessions Agenda for 193rd OVYM session (2013)

<b>Wednesday 7/31</b> <b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b> <b>McCoy Room</b>	Centering Worship Greetings Roll Call of Representatives Welcome, Introductions, Letters of Introduction Gratitude to youth workers Delegates to youth business Review of Agenda Welcome from Quaker Heritage Center Epistle Summary <b>Reports:</b> Whitewater Quarterly Miami Quarterly Initial Nominating Committee Report Naming Committee Religious Nurture and Education Committee State of Society Summary Announcements Closing Worship
<b>Thursday 8/1</b> <b>10 am – 12:15 pm</b> <b>McCoy Room</b>	Centering Worship Greetings, Roll Call Welcome, Letters <b>Reports:</b> Quaker Heights Care Committee Statistician Treasurer Proposed Budget from Budget and Finance Friends Music Camp Earthcare Committee American Friends Service Committee Friends Committee on National Legislation Announcements Closing Worship
<b>Friday 8/2</b> <b>10 am – 12:15 pm</b> <b>McCoy Room</b>	Centering Worship Greetings <b>Reports:</b> Faith and Practice Committee Planning Committee Peace and Social Concerns Personnel Committee Quill Publications Records Coordinator Web Administrator Announcements Closing Worship
<b>Saturday 8/3</b> <b>10 am – 12:15 pm</b> <b>McCoy Room</b>	Centering Worship Greetings <b>Reports:</b> Quaker Earthcare Witness Friends World Committee for Consultation Friends Peace Team Friends General Conference Youth Secretary Teen Committee Middle Youth Committee Children's Committee Announcements Closing Worship
<b>Sunday 8/4</b> <b>10 am – 11 am</b> <b>McCoy Room</b>	Centering Worship Greetings Final Nominations Minute of Appreciation for those leaving service to OVYM Site for 2014 Registrar's Report 2013 Epistles from the Youth Middle Youth Teens Young Adult Friends 2013 OVYM Epistle Closing Worship in McCoy Room

# Minutes of the 193<sup>rd</sup> Session

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Seventh Month 31, 2013; 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm

## 1. Opening of Session

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting gathered in waiting worship at Wilmington College in Ohio for its 193<sup>rd</sup> annual session. The Clerk called us all to centered worship, then shared from *Quaker Faith and Practice, The book of Christian discipline of the Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain*. William Charles Braithwaite wrote “the outer garments of organization which Quakers wear...have its importance...but the springs of life lie deeper.”

## 2. Greetings and Welcome

The clerk greeted Friends assembled for the 193<sup>rd</sup> session of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

## 3. Roll Call of Representatives

The clerk called for the roll of monthly meetings. A list of Friends who identified themselves over the course of the sessions as designated representatives of their respective monthly meetings is appended to the minutes. The following visitors were also welcomed: Jerry Knutson, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting; Ali McTar, Williamstown Worship Group, under the care of Old Chatham, New York; Elaine Crauderueff, Friends General Conference.

## 4. Staff and Volunteer Gratitude

The clerk thanked staff and volunteers who will work with the young people of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting during the 193<sup>rd</sup> session.

## 5. Delegates to the Youth Business Sessions

Susan Lee Barton will visit the Middle Youth program. Rex Sprouse will visit the Teen program. The clerk thanked Friends who agreed to visit the business meeting or other activity of the youth programs.

## 6. Welcome to Wilmington College

Ruth Brindle-Dobyns welcomed us to the campus and invited Friends to visit the Quaker Heritage Center which has extended hours this week. There is also a binder where friends may sign up to receive information about the Westheimer Peace Symposium.

## 7. Whitewater Quarter Report

Rex Sprouse presented the report from Whitewater Quarterly Meeting, noting that the past year has seen a period of smooth sailing. With the success of 2012, Joint Quarterly Meeting will be held again this year at Happy Hollow Camp and Miami Quarter has invited Whitewater Quarter and it may come to pass that Joint Quarterly Meeting will become a yearly event. Maple Grove Friends Meeting is nearer to being laid down and Friends are working to do this in an appropriate way including drafting a history and preserving documents.

## 8. Absent Friends

Friends were reminded to hold in the Light those Friends who are not able to be at this year's session.

#### 9. Miami Quarter Report

Please save the date for Joint Quarterly Meeting October 12 and 13, 2013.

#### 10. Nominating Committee Initial Report

Thanks were given to all who are willing to serve. Friends were reminded that at the end of these sessions, these nominations take effect. The complete list is in Reports in Advance. The Epistolary Committee will be Richard Mitchell and Gail Koehler. The Memorial Meeting will be lead by Paul Kriese and Bill Shetter.

#### 11. Naming Committee

Betsy Neale presented the names of Ben Griffith, Jamie Fota, Diann Herzog and Paul Kriese to serve on the Nominating Committee. Sandra Ward Angell has had to resign. Changes were approved. Thanks was expressed to the Naming Committee.

#### 12. Religious Nurture and Education Committee

Diann Herzog presented that the merger of the two committees has been beneficial. They have been busy and have visited many Meetings. Materials have been developed to be shared with Monthly Meetings in Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. Friends were asked to save the dates of April 25 thru 27, 2014 for a spiritual retreat. There is a great effort to hire another staff person to help with the Middle Youth program.

#### 13. State of Society Summary

David Garman presented the summary of the State of the Meeting reports received from the constituent meetings of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. The reports affirm the Centrality of the Meeting for Worship and Monthly Meetings' efforts to strengthen the experience for all. Many Meetings have major efforts to care for their property. Quaker traditions and efforts for caring for children, individuals and their local communities were also a focus for many. Another recurring theme was transition, though there were a variety of transitions. There is hope for Spirit-led transformations. Report was accepted.

#### 14. Executive Committee Report

The clerk shared some minutes from past Executive Committee Meetings. He also shared that he attended Indiana Yearly Meeting last weekend as a representative of OVYM and Earlham School of Religion in support of Friends in light of their recent changes. [Editor's Note: A letter from the clerk to Indiana Yearly Meeting has been attached to these minutes.] Friends were asked to hold all those involved in the Light. Friends who wish to aid in the drafting of letters to the New Association of Friends and Wilmington Yearly Meeting will meet tonight. We are all united in sending our loving greetings to Wilmington Yearly Meeting when they meet tomorrow.

#### 15. Closing Worship

The session closed at 4:50pm with a brief period of waiting worship. Friends will reconvene Eighth Month 1, 2013 at 10:00am as way opens.

---

Eighth Month 1, 2013 10:00am – 12:30pm

16. Opening of Session

Friends gathered at the appointed hour in waiting worship. The clerk shared a passage from *Quaker Faith and Practice* of British Friends. “The kingdom of heaven did gather us and catch us all, as in a net.” Francis Howgill.

17. Roll Call of Representatives

The Clerk called for representatives from Monthly Meetings not previously recorded to introduce themselves. A list of Friends who identified themselves over the course of the sessions as designated representatives of their respective monthly meetings is appended to these minutes. Other Friends present from the various meetings were recognized at this time.

18. Traveling minutes

Traveling minutes for Elaine Crauderueff, from Friends General Conference and Rae Lawrence, from Multnomah, North Pacific Yearly Meeting in Portland were read.

19. Quaker Heights Care Community

Wendy Waters-Connell presented the report from the Quaker Heights Care Community. Trustees were recognized and Friends were told to approach them later with questions and comments. Finances continue to be a major concern, yet service and quality of care continue to improve. The facility is changing to meet the trends of levels of care and duration and focus of care. Short term care will be expanded to offer single-occupancy rooms and a loan from HUD is expected to be approved so construction can begin to accomplish this goal. The Pumpkin Bowl, a fundraiser, was held for the first time last year. Lisa Gooding shared historical information of donations. There was a classroom established to teach Developmentally Disabled students independent living, employment, and social skills. Wendy shared slides of residents, students and volunteers. Friends were directed to their website at [www.quakerheights.org](http://www.quakerheights.org). Friends accepted the report with thanks.

20. Letter to Wilmington Yearly Meeting

Steve Angell and some Friends gathered to write a letter of greeting to Wilmington Friends Yearly Meeting who are meeting concurrently. The letter was approved with thanks. A letter to the New Association of Friends from Indiana Yearly Meeting was shared and approved with minor changes. These letters will be attached to these minutes.

21. Statistician’s Report

Frank Huss presented the Statistician’s report noting that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting has experienced a net loss of 20 members in the past reporting year. Total membership was 718. Friends accepted the report.

22. Treasurer’s Report

Wilson Palmer presented the Treasurer’s Report. The projected deficit was included to draw down the surplus. Wilson drew attention to the increased costs for the 2013 Annual Sessions. There was thanks expressed to Monthly Meetings for their contributions to the Yearly Meeting. The report was accepted.

### 23. Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Wilson Palmer presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013-2014. Some friends felt that the reserve could be better used for many worthy concerns; others felt it should be kept in reserve for honoring our budget commitments. It was pointed out that we have not always spent our full budget which may mean we are not doing the work that the Yearly Meeting should be doing. Friends with concerns were invited to attend the budget meeting in April to discuss these concerns, or join the committee. Friends approved the budget.

### 24. American Friends Service Committee Report

Jana Schroeder presented the report. AFSC is nearing the end of their transition to a smaller organization, and there is new stability and a new ability to serve. There are now four regions, not nine. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is in the Midwest region, housed in Chicago. The board has 25 members, down from over 40. There is a new strategic plan featuring more coordination among the programs which include immigration, healing and criminal justice, and concern for the Middle East. There is a strong emphasis on including young people in projects such as the "If I had a Trillion Dollars" project. Idea and information packets were given out for Friends to take back to their Monthly Meetings to help them become more involved in AFSC. There is a search for a new Clerk; names can be submitted on the website at afsc.org. The report was accepted.

### 25. Earthcare Committee

Bill Cahalan reported that the committee continues to work toward their goals - growing local food economies, conserving water and designing more ecologically. Concerns grow over climate change, moving away from fossil fuels and creating better local communities centering on care for the Earth. There will be a special interest group meeting Friday evening.

### 26. Welcome and Introduction to Wilmington College

Jim Reynolds told us that they are one of only two Ohio colleges to offer an undergraduate degree in agriculture including a sustainability minor. They are working on bringing students who fit their identity to the campus from a wider geographical base. Mr. Reynolds answered questions from Friends. Appreciation was expressed for the lovely campus and the plethora of flowers.

### 27. Closing Worship

The session closed at 12:26 PM with a brief period of waiting worship. Friends will reconvene Eighth Month 1, 2013 at 3:30pm as way opens.

---

Eighth Month 1, 2013 3:30pm – 5:00pm

### 28. Opening of Session

Friends gathered at the appointed hour in waiting worship.

### 29. Faith and Practice Revision

Betsy Neale reported that the committee has been looking closely at where they are in the process of revising the entire book as a working Table of Contents. Rex Sprouse explained the process of the revisions as they pass through the committee, the Monthly Meetings and the Yearly Meeting before being published. The 5th draft of Close Relationships, Part II, was read and given final approval with the

deletion of the word “professional” in the Addictions paragraph. The 2nd draft of the Peace Testimony was read and threshed.

### 30. Closing Worship

The session closed at 5:00pm with a brief period of waiting worship. Friends will reconvene Eighth Month 2, 2013 at 10:00am as way opens.

---

Eighth Month 2, 2013 10:00am – 12:30pm

### 31. Opening of Session

Friends gathered at the appointed hour in waiting worship. The clerk read from *Quaker Faith and Practice* of British Friends, James Naylor's experience of following the leading given him by the Spirit and his final message of forgiveness and peace.

### 32. Roll Call of Representatives

The Clerk called for representatives from Monthly Meetings not previously recorded to introduce themselves. A list of Friends who identified themselves over the course of the sessions as designated representatives of their respective monthly meetings is appended to these minutes. Other Friends present from the various meetings were recognized at this time.

### 33. Delegate to the Children's Meeting for Business

There was no person designated to visit the children a few days ago. Heather Snediker-Morscheck has accepted this responsibility.

### 34. Friends Committee on National Legislation Report

Frank Huss presented the report. The workshop on lobbying in November 2012 was well received. The next spring lobbying weekend will be about drones. Richard Lugar, a former senator from Indiana, was given a Peace Award. Friends accepted the report.

### 35. Planning Committee

Kate Anthony expressed her pleasure at being a part of such an inspirational and Spirit-led committee. She urged everyone to complete the evaluations because they are very important for the planning committee. 2014 sessions will be at Earlham College. Thanks were expressed to the committee for all their great work.

### 36. Friends Music Camp

Victoria Burke presented the report from Friends Music Camp, sharing that Peg Champney is currently at Friends Music Camp and all is well. The music camp is still a beloved experience for adults and children alike. Friends accepted the report.

### 37. Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Jane Stowe shared information about current committee concerns. She invited Friends to visit the letter writing table and if there is not time now to write letters, there is information to take home. There is an emphasis to have a liaison in each Monthly Meeting. They have developed a pamphlet about the Peace Tax Fund that is available on their table. There is a minute titled "Proposed OVYM Statement on

Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" that was distributed and will be attached to these minutes. The committee took comments and the statement was approved and the committee will edit the statement.

#### 38. Personnel Committee

Paul Kriese reported that there is a suggestion from the Middle Youth Committee Clerk to increase the pay for the Middle Youth Staff, which led to the evaluation of salaries for all Yearly Meeting staff. The report was accepted.

#### 39. Quaker Quill Report

Deborah Jordan reported that she has been responsible for the Quaker Quill, but there is a need for a person to accept the responsibility of the Quill with help from Deborah. Report was accepted with gratitude.

#### 40. Records Coordinator

Susan Hyde told Friends that records that need to be archived and should be sent to Patti Kinsinger at Wilmington College. Please send them with a list of the enclosed documents and your contact information. Susan and Christine Snyder would like to know who will serve as a liaison between this committee and each Monthly Meeting. Patti Kinsinger will be at the library today at 4pm to 5pm for an introduction to the archives.

#### 41. Publications Report

David Pfalzgraff-Carlson thanked those who gave him their reports on time which gave him more time to prepare the Reports in Advance and Minute books. Report was approved.

#### 42. Website Report

Lonny Burger reported that in September and October last year, there was a concern about the security of email addresses on the website which led to Lonny preventing our website from being attacked. This is a concern about publishing the entire directory on line. The website is being used more and more. Average visits a day in 2011 were 26, 32 in 2012, and in 2013, there is an average of 51 unique visits a day. Our website was cited as one of the best Quaker sites. Thanks were expressed to Lonny. The report was accepted.

#### 43. Closing Worship

The session closed at 11:40am with a brief period of waiting worship. Friends will reconvene Eighth Month 3, 2013 at 10:00am as way opens.

---

Eighth Month 3, 2013 10:00am – 12:15pm

#### 44. Opening of Session

Friends gathered at the appointed hour in waiting worship. The clerk read from *Quaker Faith and Practice* of British Friends, two selections about the Universal character of the Light by Mary Fisher and Marjorie Sykes.

#### 45. Traveling Minutes

Traveling minutes were read for Maureen Pyle from Southern Illinois Meeting and Paula Deming from Lake Erie Yearly Meeting.

#### 46. Personnel Committee

Paul Kriese brought a proposal of a raise of \$5.00 a day for those who serve at Yearly Meeting Sessions and 5% for contract workers who work year-round with Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. This was approved.

#### 47. Roll Call of Representatives

The Clerk called for representatives from Monthly Meetings not previously recorded to introduce themselves. A list of Friends who identified themselves over the course of the sessions as designated representatives of their respective monthly meetings is appended to these minutes. Other Friends present from the various meetings were recognized at this time.

#### 48. Quaker Earthcare Witness Report

Ria Collee presented the report of Quaker Earthcare Witness, a national organization. There is a lot of information available including pamphlets, books, a lending library and the newsletter Befriending Creation; many of these are available on the website at [www.quakerearthcare.org](http://www.quakerearthcare.org). They are doing a lot of social media networking hoping to reach younger Friends. The committee works with many other bodies involved in ecological issues and there is a bounty of information, activities and events that Friends are encouraged to take advantage of, and information is available on their website. Befriending Creation is an excellent resource and is also on the website. The report was accepted.

#### 49. Young Adult Friends

Adam Togami and Howie Baker shared the group's efforts to promote joint visitation with other young adult friends and growing spiritually through activities including a retreat and a storytelling venture. They asked to be held in the Light as they work to further this new focus. They can be found at OVYM YAF on Facebook. They gave a proposal to the Executive Committee about this working group becoming a committee. Report was accepted.

#### 50. Friends Peace Teams

Susan Lee Barton presented the report. The team's focus is on transformation – God's peace in action. They struggle to find balance between local and international efforts. She drew attention to the list of “Ways to Be Involved with Friends Peace Teams.” One or two more representatives from OVYM are needed to attend the Friends Peace Team's meetings. Report was accepted.

#### 51. Friends General Conference

Shannon Isaacs reported that there are many great activities for Friends to be involved with including Quaker Quest and there are grants available. Friends General Conference has a “New Meeting Tool Kit” on line that is also a great resource for established meetings. Elaine Crauderueff, visiting from FGC, spoke about other programs including support for those wishing to attend White Privilege Conference which focuses on changes that this group should be thinking of incorporating in their lives. “Sparkling Still” is a great children's program using beloved children's books. The Gathering in 2014 will be in Pennsylvania and there is money available, but please apply early.

#### 52. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Teen Committee

Carol Simmons, the Youth Secretary, presented the report of the Teen Committee. One of the main themes from this past year has been Community. She and the teens agreed that this year has been a time of great Spiritual growth partly due to the spiritual and financial support for the teens from the Yearly Meeting and Monthly Meetings. Appreciation was expressed to Nikki Coffee-Tousley for her wonderful contributions of time and love for the past many years. They had a service trip and Isaac Hines-Williams spoke of his experience helping an elderly disabled man improve his home. He really enjoyed the big dinner and the appreciation! Rachel Logan-Wood spoke of the opportunity for Spiritual growth in the evening small worship sharing groups followed by individual time walking, enjoying music and fellowship. Nikki asked for more communication between the committee and monthly meetings. There is a teen activity newsletter on the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting website. The 2014 service trip will be to Philadelphia.

#### 53. Friends World Committee for Consultation

Howie Baker gave this report. There will be a Quaker Youth pilgrimage to Bolivia and Peru, please check the website for more information at [www.fwccamericas.org/QYP-Andes.shtml](http://www.fwccamericas.org/QYP-Andes.shtml). Steve Angell drew attention to the Kabarak statement prepared by Friends World Committee for Consultation at the world conference in Kenya in 2012 about ecojustice which is available on the website.

#### 54. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Middle Youth Committee

Martha Viehmann presented the report of the Middle Youth Committee. At the beginning of these sessions there were only two youths registered, but a miracle brought three more. Martha explained how adults can be involved without having to give up doing adult things to help. There are a multitude of opportunities available at other times than during sessions. There are also many things that don't involve direct care with these future Quaker adults. Report was accepted with great gratitude.

#### 55. Children's Committee Report

Susan Hyde said that at this time, the children were at a nursing home sharing home-made flowers and singing for the residents. The Children's Committee also invites Friends to help by joining the committee. The report was accepted with thanks.

#### 56. The New Foundation Fellowship Representative

Rae Lawrence reported that the foundation sprang from the work of Lewis Benson who studied George Fox's work which led to a revival of Fox's teachings. The New Foundation Fellowship is publishing new works. The report was accepted.

#### 57. Closing Worship

The session closed at 12:00pm with a brief period of waiting worship. Friends will reconvene Eighth Month 4, 2013 at 10:00am as way opens.

---

Eighth Month 4, 2013 10:00am – 11:00m

#### 58. Opening of Session

Friends gathered at the appointed hour in waiting worship. The clerk read from *Quaker Faith and Practice* of British Friends, a selection from William Penn's *No Crown, No Cross*.

#### 59. Roll Call of Representatives

The Clerk called for representatives from Monthly Meetings not previously recorded to introduce themselves. A list of Friends who identified themselves over the course of the sessions as designated representatives of their respective monthly meetings is appended to these minutes.

#### 60. Final Report of the Nominating Committee

Ben Griffith presented the final report of the Nominating Committee. Please note that there are still some openings for Friends to serve. Friends accepted the final report of the Nominating Committee and approved the nominations with much gratitude to the committee and Friends' willingness to serve.

#### 61. Minutes of Appreciation

The clerk read two minutes of appreciation recognizing the service of Paul Kriese and Deb Kociszewski to Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. These minutes are as follows and were enthusiastically approved:

Paul has shared his clerking skills with OVYM since 2009, first as assistant clerk, then for two years as presiding clerk. Out of his great love and enthusiasm for this yearly meeting and its members, he has given painstaking attention to all of the details of yearly meeting business and organization, and faithful attention to discernment of the Spirit's leading. We express great gratitude for his service.

Deb has been recording clerk or assistant recording clerk since 2008. She has been a wonderful and comforting presence for clerks and the main body of Friends alike during her many years of service. She had a knack for coming up with just the right phrases to express the many nuances of our action, and she also had a great sense of humor and deep love for the yearly meeting. We express profound gratitude for her service.

#### 62. Registrar's Report

Eric Wolff presented the Registrar's Report. The 193rd annual session was attended by 170 Friends. Of these, 10 were children, 5 were middle youth, 18 were teens, and 20 were young adult Friends. The 194th annual session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting will be held in 7/30 – 8/3 2014 at Earlham College. Friends accepted the report with praise and gratitude. [Editor's Note: Statistical information presented by the registrar has been attached to these minutes.]

#### 63. Epistle from the Children's Program

The young people of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting's Children's Program presented their Epistle.

Ten school age Young Friends met at the 193rd annual sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio from July 31 – August 4, 2013 to consider the theme of "Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." The peaceful campus of a historic Quaker college was the background for a time of fellowship and deep spiritual sharing and learning about Quakerism, ourselves and each other.

Children and adults experienced the strength of community in their activities and the power of their imagination to explore and express Quaker values of past, present and future. They learned how to give joy through sharing music with elderly adults in a nursing home.

Children had feelings of happiness and sadness as they reflected about injustices in the world in the past, and present. Inspired by strong Quaker figures and events they have hope for making changes in their lives and communities by being living examples of love and equality.

The epistle was accepted.

64. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Visitor to Children's Program

Heather Snediker-Morscheck visited the Children's Program. She was very impressed with the children, the adults and the program itself. Friends accepted the report.

65. Epistle from the Middle Youth

Greetings from the Middle Youth who attended the 193rd session of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting held at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio from the 31st day of the Seventh Month to the 4th day of the Eighth Month 2013. Five Middle Youth Friends from Bloomington, Dayton, North Meadow, Yellow Springs, and Lafayette monthly meetings were present.

We enjoyed doing many things in and around the Wilmington campus. Our first stop was a visit to Christine Snyder's historic Quaker Farm where we saw real Quaker simple dress from the 1800s. On Thursday morning we visited Quaker Knoll camp where we saw giant lily pads, a blue heron, and monarch butterflies. We also learned how to play Frisbee golf.

Upon our return, we met with Stephen Pothoff for a session on dreams and mandalas. He showed us examples of circles found throughout nature such as fossilized plants and animals, bird nests, shells, and pine cones. We learned how dreams can tell us things about ourselves that we may not already know. Then we participated in a guided dream exercise where we created our own dream mandalas.

Another meaningful experience was our visit to the campus peace resource center. We watched a video about Sadako and her thousand paper cranes. We learned about the terrible consequences of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This helped us to better understand the importance of the Quaker Peace Testimony.

Next, was the annual and infamous Middle Youth canoe trip. We canoed six miles on the Little Miami River and counted a hundred and eight turtles. It was more turtles than any of us had ever seen in our entire lives! Competition was fierce as the three canoes each tried to be the first one to land. Although we had fun racing and splash fighting, we decided to wait up for the last canoe so that it could be a three way tie.

We want to thank all of our Middle Youth Program visitors Bill, Maureen, Susan, Stephen, Eric, and Elaine.

Overall, we had a busy but meaningful week. We are looking forward to a larger Middle Youth Group next OYVM.

Middle Youth of the Eighth Month, 2013

The Epistle was accepted.

66. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Visitor to Middle Youth Program

Susan Lee Barton visited the Middle Youth program. She shared that Friendship is one of the most important things for our middle youth.

67. Epistle from the Teen Program

Rachel Logan-Wood presented the Epistle from the Teen Program.

Greeting friends. This year seventeen teens enjoyed the hundred-ninety third annual session of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting at Wilmington College from The last day of the seventh month to the fourth day of the eighth month. This is the first time in eight years that OVYM sessions were at Wilmington. Over the course of the weekend the teens grew to appreciate the campus, but are excited to return to Earlham next year.

Teens had numerous activities including leading the community wide get-to-know-you program and having an intergenerational service project with the Wilmington organization Grow Food, Grow Hope, where we built benches with recycled wood and installed the framework for future hoop-houses in several garden beds. We extended an invitation to Young Adult Friends and adults for the continuing tradition of a canoe trip. This year we traveled ten miles along the Little Miami. Activities on the river included meditation, turtle seeking, connecting canoes, swimming, and the occasional capsizing. Teens organized an intergeneration games night with Middle Youth and created sand-art and played volleyball well into the night.

Teens also engaged in a tie-dying session that was incredibly successful. Along with displaying their creativity, excess shirts and socks will be sold as a fundraiser for our service trip coming up next summer.

During our business meeting, we decided on next years service trip's location to Philadelphia on the last week of the Sixth Month. This is partly in order to encourage increased attendance at next years FGC Gathering. Other points of business were the establishment of a year long Nurture Committee and the appointment of new clerks. Dylan Cahalan and Lucy Grace, as clerks, have been invaluable aids to our group. We would like to extend an official thank you, and as they move onto the Young Adult Friends, we welcome Rachel Logan-Wood and Hanae Togami as new clerks. Andrew Hardy will replace Rachel as recording clerk. We would also like to thank Nikki Coffey Tousley for her service on the Teen Committee as clerk, and are excited for Peter Hardy to continue as Committee Clerk.

Both plenary sessions were incredibly moving, and the teen group would like to thank both Stephen Pothoff and Maurine Pyle. The process for deciding plenary speakers is a difficult task, and we appreciate the work of the Planning Committee.

We continued leading Simply Speaking, sparking thoughtful discussions on a wide degree of topics. This year's question related to parenting and Quaker Process. There has been discussion about passing

over leadership of Simply Speaking to the Young Adult Friends. As always, we encourage more adults to attend the event.

One of the highlights of Yearly Meeting has always been Worship Sharing. This year this continued with small groups sharing thoughts on Quakerism in regular life. The theme of Quakers past, present, and future was prevalent in our activities during the weekend where we drew from the past by rejoining Wilmington College, danced in the present and dreamed of the future.

The epistle was accepted.

68. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Visitor to Teen Program

Rex Sprouse visited the Teen Program. He was deeply moved by the centered and worshipful Business Meeting. Friends accepted the report.

69. Report from the Young Adult Friends of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Nathan Coppock read the epistle.

Hey OVYM!

Momentum is increasing for the Young Adult Friends Group here at this yearly meeting, as our meeting for worship with attention for business produced many forward looking results with minimal bloodshed and teeth gnashing. From a spiritually nurturing space, we examined what we need from ourselves and our community.

We began the meeting by introducing ourselves and our favorite body part. After much laughter at the word “phalanges” we then affirmed our presentation for OVYM, drafted earlier by an ad hoc committee consisting of Shannon Isaacs, Howie Baker, Julia Thompson, Nathan Coppock, Silas Brunner, and Adam Togami.

We then tackled the question of who we are and what we need; the following list was the result of the following short, yet intense brainstorm.

Who we are:

A loving community of a wide variation of ages, a shelter from the outside world for collective healing and ministry. We are individuals who can provide mentorship and guidance for the Teen and Middle Youth groups, and help to create a new paradigm for the yearly meeting at large.

What we need:

Resources to develop leadership skills and enhance outreach for the purpose of enriching our community to be a place of healing and self discovery. We also need mentors and elders for our struggling seekers, and spiritual support from the community at large.

We then created an email contact list and assigned the aforementioned ad hoc committee to plan the program for the upcoming joint quarterly meeting at happy hollow.

Overall, we are confident that our community has the strength and talents to enrich our community as we learn to heal, educate, and lead. We are optimistic, we are ready, we are the young adult friends.

Friends accepted the epistle.

70. Epistle of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Richard Mitchell and Gail Koehler presented the Epistle of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

Greetings to Friends Everywhere:

On the 31<sup>st</sup> day of 7th month 2013, unprogrammed Friends from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio convened the 193rd annual sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. We gathered on the campus of Wilmington College, a Quaker College in Wilmington, Ohio. The theme of our sessions was “Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” A statue on the Wilmington College campus served as a starting point for our reflections. It commemorates an 1862 trip to Washington by vision-inspired Quaker farmers Isaac and Sarah Harvey. Upon arrival in Washington, they shared their witness against slavery with Abraham Lincoln. The Harveys are but one example of how faithful Quakers of the past lived out their leadings.

In worship sharing during each of the next four mornings, we considered ways in which earlier Friends inspire us and how their witness affects what we want to carry forward into the future. Leadings of the Spirit are central to us. We recognize our obligation to test leadings that arise among us, but we also asked ourselves how we can better support and nourish those who have leadings.

At our Living Witness session Christine and Gene Snyder shared fascinating and inspiring stories and reflections from their lives and life together. Their life journey is a rich example of following one’s leadings. Christine pointed out how many times she took a new direction in her life, not knowing where it would lead, only to find each time that she was being prepared or positioned for a new endeavor and challenge.

Our plenary speakers helped us to explore ways to become more sensitive to the promptings of the Spirit. Stephen Potthoff in his presentation, “Dreaming, the Natural World, and Lives of Early Friends,” provided examples of early Friends who experienced dreams and visions as a call to radical faithfulness.

Plenary speaker Maurine Pyle urged us “to listen deeply to what is hidden.” In her presentation “Opening and Hearing Our Stories,” she shared parts of her research into the vocabulary Friends use when telling their stories. Through interviews with Quakers who identified themselves as liberal Christian, neo-pagan, non-theist, Conservative, Orthodox, and Evangelical, she discovered common themes that suggest these Friends share significant common ground that can be the basis for reconciliation. Maurine urged us to open our minds and hearts when we face language that might initially seem off-putting. She invited us to ask the question “I wonder what you mean by that,” and to listen deeply to the answer.

This spirit carried into our business sessions as we received reports of the work of Friends and Friends’ organizations. We were repeatedly urged to support these labors not only with our budgets and time, but also to take their work into our hearts as Friends work to heal this broken, suffering world. During our sessions we approved our budget, threshed a section on peace for our revised *Book of Faith & Practice*,

and approved a statement that urges the abolition of nuclear weapons. It is a joy to report that a sense of loving unity prevailed – we were able to hear the loving concern that lay behind our varying opinions and ideas.

In general, we are optimistic about the prospects for our communities and for the Religious Society of Friends. As we look to our future, there is also apprehension. On the large scale, many of us are concerned about impending global climate change, increased economic inequality in our nation and worldwide, and about the roles our nation and the “American empire” play in both of the preceding. Nearer to home, we live in states where too many workers, particularly minorities and the young, are unemployed or under employed and where budget cuts are unraveling the social safety net for the poor.

Although our Yearly Meeting is graying, we have begun to attract and involve younger members. Our Young Adult Friends Working Group has submitted a proposal to become a committee of our Yearly Meeting. The challenge for older adult Friends is to be ready to mentor and to assist, but first need to step back so that younger Friends have more frequent opportunities to lead.

Our overwhelming impression of the 2013 Sessions of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is that of joy. Many older Friends sense and the youth themselves report that the love they share for one another has grown and blossomed. In spite to the state of the world in which they are about to enter our teens (in particular) are optimistic and committed. These are good reasons to be optimistic about the future of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

In the Light,  
Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

Friends accepted, with thanks, their fine epistle.

#### 71. Meeting's Expression of Gratitude

The clerk will send a letter of gratitude to the college and their staff. That will be appended to these minutes.

#### 72. Closing Worship

The session closed at 11:10am and moved to the T. Canby Jones Meeting House for worship. The Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting will reconvene in Seventh Month 30 through Eighth Month 3, 2014 at Earlham College for the 194th annual session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terre Holada, Recording Clerk, with patient and loving assistance from Steve Angell, Paul Kriese, Deb Kociszewski and all Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends in attendance

## Attachments to Minutes

### ***ROLL CALL OF MONTHLY MEETING REPRESENTATIVES***

(See Minutes 3, 17, 32, 47, 59)

#### **193rd Session of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting of Friends Seventh Month 31 through Eighth Month 4, 2013**

##### *Miami Quarterly Meeting*

Campus	Dale Hayes
Community	Rhonda Pfaltzgraff-Carlson
Dayton	Barbara Robinson
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Englewood	Sent Regrets
Green Plain	<i>No Representative</i>
Lexington	Richard Mitchell, Betsy Neale
Louisville	Beth Parrish
Miami	Milton Cook
Oxford	Paul Kriese
Yellow Springs	Deb Kociszewski, Victoria Burke

##### *Whitewater Quarterly Meeting*

Bloomington	Bill Shetter
Clear Creek	David Garman, Jane Stowe
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne	Bob Holada
Fort Wayne Worship Group	<i>No Representative</i>
Hopewell	<i>No Representative</i>
Lafayette	Erik Cleven
Maple Grove	<i>No Representative</i>
North Meadow	Dinah Duvall
White Rose	Vaughn Peebles

## ***LETTER TO INDIANA YEARLY MEETING***

**(See Minute 14)**

8 October 2012

Indiana Yearly Meeting  
Attn: Greg Hinshaw, Clerk  
4715 N. Wheeling Avenue  
Muncie, IN 47304

Dear Greg Hinshaw and Indiana Yearly Meeting Friends,

Friends of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting wish to extend our loving care and concern to all Friends of Indiana Yearly Meeting, as you wrestle with painful conflicts and weighty decisions. As fellow Quakers, we honor our shared religious heritage, grounded in the teachings of Jesus. We hold you in love, as you seek God's will with integrity and faithfulness.

Please know that we are holding all of Indiana Yearly Meeting in our loving prayers.  
In Christ's Love,

Stephen W. Angell

## ***LETTER TO NEW ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS***

**(See Minute 20)**

6 August 2013

New Association of Friends  
Attn: Margaret Fraser, Clerk

Dear Margaret Fraser and Friends of the New Association,

Friends of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting wish to extend our loving care to all Friends of the New Association, as you are in the midst of a process of organizing a new association. As fellow Quakers, we honor our shared religious heritage, grounded in the teachings of Christ Jesus. We hold you in love, as you seek God's will with integrity and faithfulness.

Please know that we are holding all of the New Association of Friends in our loving prayers.

Blessings,

Stephen W. Angell

***LETTER TO WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING***

**(See Minute 20)**

August 1, 2013

To Friends, meeting at Wilmington Yearly Meeting:

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting sends our loving greetings to Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

We are gathered on the Wilmington College campus to consider our theme of “Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” We pray that your gathering will be covered by the Spirit of God, and we look forward to hearing about your sessions.

In Christ’s love,

Stephen W. Angell

***LETTER FROM WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING***

2 August 2013

Dear Friends of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting:

In loving friendship, we welcome you to Wilmington College.

We pray that your time together in workshops, fellowship, business sessions, and worship be a time of refreshment and renewal in the Spirit.

Blessings,  
The Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting

Patricia Thomas  
Presiding Clerk

## **OVYM STATEMENT ON ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

(See Minute 37)

Each of us and our Meetings are encouraged to contact our leaders about the urgent need to abolish nuclear weapons. Furthermore, we will send the following statement to the leaders listed in the last paragraph, to Quaker Yearly Meetings everywhere, and to members of the media in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

Members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), who are part of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, which consists of 19 Monthly Meetings in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, follow early Quaker George Fox in that we seek to live in that “life and power that took away the occasion of all wars.” With Fox we seek to “come into the covenant of peace which was before wars and strifes were.”

As a consequence of the preceding, Friends have worked for 350 years for an end to war. We have sought practical ways to achieve this end. Consequently we have long worked for disarmament through reduction of all kinds of weaponry and, in particular, for the elimination of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

In this statement, we speak to an issue that at the beginning of the second decade of the 21st Century has become particularly urgent. Herein, we beseech our leaders to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons on an accelerated time table.

The case for abolition in law and morality is widely recognized. For example, in 1996 the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion that governments "must never use weapons that are incapable of distinguishing between civilian and military targets." The Court held the threat or use of nuclear weapons to be generally illegal under humanitarian and other law. As such our nation's production and accumulations of nuclear weapons and repeated threats to use these weapons are violations of international law.

During the past few years, leaders who had formerly supported nuclear weapons have reconsidered. In 2008, a set of retired U.S. officials who in the past supported nuclear weapons (George Shultz, William Perry, Henry Kissinger, and Sam Nunn) wrote that the U.S. needs to work for a nuclear-free world for the practical reason that they have become convinced that the very existence of these weapons is a danger to our country. These leaders and others offer detailed rationales, but the essence of their argument is that the very existence of these weapons: 1) encourages proliferation of weapons to previously non-nuclear states thereby increasing the risk of nuclear war between states and 2) increases the opportunity for terrorists to acquire nuclear weapons.

These arguments are convincing to all those who, like Quakers, seek an end to war. We believe they should also be convincing to those who simply want our nation to be safe and secure.

We urge our President, the Secretary of State, the ambassador to the United Nations, and our congresspersons to work vigorously for a rapid abolition of nuclear weapons. Although we applaud the U.S. Senate's 2010 ratification of the New START disarmament treaty between the U.S. and Russia, we urge deeper cuts in the number of weapons in future treaties. As essential steps to a safer world, we ask our U.S. Senators to finally ratify the Nuclear Nonproliferation and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaties. We ask our Senators to prayerfully consider the danger to peoples of our own country and the World of failing to ratify these treaties.

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

(See Minute 62)

Registrar's 2013 Report OVYM 193rd Session									
Description	Count	Description – OVYM financial support	Count		Meals			Totals	
					B'f	Lun	Din		
0-6 Children	1	Youth @100%	31	Wed	0	0	114	114	
7-11 Youth	9	Staff @100%	13	Thu	105	128	136	369	
12-14 MY	5	New @50%	13	Fri	124	134	142	400	
15-18 Teen	18	YAF @50%	13	Sat	122	135	128	385	
19-35 YAF	20	Discounts	\$11,462.00	Sun	117	121	0	238	
36-99	117	Gifts	\$ 1,590.64	Totals	468	518	520		
TOTAL	170								
		Reg Fees	\$ 4,860.00			Beds			Totals
Men	77	Meal Fees	\$12,724.00		Friends	Village	Denver		
Women	92	Housing Fees	\$12,505.00	Wed	43	48	20	111	
Volunteers	23	Total Cost	\$30,089.00	Thu	48	58	21	127	
				Fri	46	59	21	126	
Fees	162	Service Work	6	Sat	45	56	21	122	
Visitors	7	Displays	18	Totals	182	221	83		
		Vegetarian	32						

## **LETTER TO WILMINGTON COLLEGE**

(See Minute 71)

6 August 2013

Jim Reynolds, President  
Wilmington College  
1870 Quaker Way  
Wilmington, OH 45077

Dear Jim Reynolds,

On behalf of Ohio Yearly Meeting, I want to express our gratitude for the hospitality of Wilmington College, during our annual sessions this past weekend.

We wish personally to thank you for welcoming us. We are also grateful to all of the staff in the food and housing services, audiovisual and technology services, the Wilmington College archives, Quaker Heritage Center, and all others who helped to make our yearly meeting sessions this past weekend a success.

In peace,

Stephen W. Angell  
Clerk, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

## 2014 OVYM Nominations

**OFFICERS**  
(thru '14 YM)

<b>Presiding Clerk</b>	Stephen Angell
<b>Assistant Presiding Clerk</b>	<b>Rex Sprouse</b>
<b>Recording Clerk</b>	Terre Holada
<b>Assistant Recording Clerk</b>	<b>Paul Buckley</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Wilson Palmer
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	x

<b>2013 SESSIONS</b>	<b>2013</b>
Epistolary Committee	Richard Mitchell, Gail Koehler
Summary of Epistles received	Betsy Neale
Memorial Meeting	Bill Shetter, Paul Kriese

2014	2015	2016
<b>RELIGIOUS NURTURE AND EDUCATION</b>		
Diann Herzog* (1W)	Andy Garrison (1M)	David Garman (1W)
Marjorie McKelvey Isaacs (1M)		Rex Sprouse (1W)
<b>YEARLY MTG PLANNING</b> (ex-officio, Clerks of Teen & Junior Yearly Mtg. Comm.) <b>(9)</b>		
<b>Richard Mitchell (PM)</b>	Kate Anthony (1M)	<b>Paul Kriese* (1M)</b>
<b>Heather Snediker Morschek (PM)</b>	Kay Wheeler (1 M)	<b>Dinah Duvall (2 W)</b>
Martha Viehmann (1M)		
<b>CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (6)</b>		
Beth Parrish (3M)	Susan Hyde (2 M)	<b>Hannah Branson (6M)*</b>
Carey Bryson (1W)	Gloria Bruner (2 W)	
<b>MIDDLE YOUTH (9 - Maybe 6)</b>		
Martha Viehmann (1M)*	Rachel Dean (1M)	<b>Charles Moore (1M)</b>
Richard Mitchell (1M)	Victoria Burke (1M)	<b>Brenda Furnas (1M)</b>
<b>Paulette Meiers (1M)</b>	<b>Carey Bryson (1W)</b>	<b>Susan Gerke (1M)</b>
<b>TEEN ACTIVITIES (9) + 6 teens</b>		
	Russ Wheeler (1M)	
Nathan Coppock (1M)	Chance Duvall (1W)	
Heather Snediker-Morschek	Peter Hardy (1M)*	
Emmett Olis-Cartmel (1M)	Anna Margaret Green (1W)	<b>Zachary Collopy</b>
<b>6 teens to named at sessions</b>	<b>Rachel Logan-Wood</b>	<b>Hanae Togami</b>
<b>Andrew Hardy</b>	<b>Isaac Hines-Williams</b>	<b>James Clevon</b>

2014	2015	2016
<b>PEACE &amp; SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE</b> This committee will submit its own nominations at our yearly sessions for approval.		
Richard Mitchell	Marjorie Isaacs	<i>Jane Stowe (convenor)</i>
Bob Vetter	David Duvall	Frank Huss
Nathan Coppock	Marshall Gibson	Ron Haldeman
<b>EARTHCARE COMMITTEE</b> This committee will submit its own nominations at our yearly sessions for approval.		
Marci Ankrom	Janette Shetter	<i>Bill Cahalan (convenor)</i>
David Duvall	Ria Collee	Nani Ball
Sue Brungs, observer	John Kunkle, observer	
<b>AUDITING COMMITTEE</b>		
Bob Holada (1 W)	Veronica Frost (2M)	<b>Donita Barnes (2 M)</b>
<b>BUDGET &amp; FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> (ex-officio, Treasurer, Assist.Treas,[-- who is Clerk of B&F] (3+ )		
Fred Feitler (1W)	<b>Ben Griffith (1M)</b>	<b>Paul Buckley (2M)</b>
<b>FAITH AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE</b>		
Rex Sprouse (3W)*		<b>Betsy Neale (4 M)*</b>
Mary Garman (1W)		<b>Lisa Cayard (3M)</b>
Paul Buckley (2W)		
Wilson Palmer–Invited Mmbr		
<b>FRIENDS MUSIC CAMP BOARD</b> (ALL reps named by FMC) ** (6)		
	Carl Hyde (1M)	<b>Victoria Burke (1M)</b>
Gail Miller (1M)		<b>Carolyn Stanley (1M)</b> <b>Anne Whitaker (1M)</b>
<b>QUAKER QUILL EDITOR</b>		
		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<b>RECORDS COORDINATOR</b>		
Susan Hyde & Christine Snyder	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<b>STATISTICIAN</b>		
Frank Huss	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<b>PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR</b>		
David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
<b>YM WEBSITE</b>		
Lonny Burger	Assistant Webmaster Emmanuel Greene	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

<b>REPRESENTATIVES TO FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS (4)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (4)</b>		
Jana Schroeder (2M)	Peter Fosl (2M)	
<b>FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (up to 4)</b>		
JP Lund (2M)	Howie Baker (1M)	<b>Josh Medlin (1W)</b>
Rachel Ernst Stahlhut (1M)		
<b>FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (3)</b>		
Shannon Isaacs (1M)		<b>Rachel Ernst Stahlhut (1M)</b>
<b>FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (4)</b>		
Ken Bordwell (2M)	<b>Julia Thompson (1W)</b>	
Frank Huss (Co-opted)	<b>Paul Kriese (1M)</b>	

The following are one-year YM appointments to the named organization

<b>FLGBTQC</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>WILLIAM PENN HOUSE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Carrie Shaver</b>
<b>QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS</b>	<b>Paul Kriese</b>
<b>FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS</b>	<b>Ria Collee</b>
	<b>Frank Huss</b>

M = Miami Quarter; W = Whitewater Quarter; **1 or 2** = 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term; **P** = Partial term; \* = convener or clerk; Usually 3 year-term appointment slots are limited to 2 terms.

### **Committees Nominated by Executive Committee (Not Nominating Committee)**

#### **Nominating Committee- (6)**

- 2014-
- 2015- Jamie Fota (1M)
- 2016- Ben Griffith (2M) Paul Kriese (1M)

**Presiding Clerk's Support Committee** (one year renewable)- **(3)** (1 from A&N Committee), (1 from Yearly Meeting Planning), (1 at-large from YM)

**Clerical Staff Support Committee** (one year renewable)- **(3)** (1 from Clerks Table), (1 at-large from YM), (1 from monthly meeting or spiritual community of CS)

**Youth Secretary Support Committee** (one year renewable)- **(3)** (1 from Teen Committee), (1 at large), (1 from monthly meeting or spiritual community of YS)

# Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Report

Sixth Month 15, 2013

Over the course of the last year, Whitewater Quarterly Meeting held three sessions: Tenth Month 13, 2012, at Happy Hollow Camp near Nashville, IN; First Month 20, 2013, in Fort Wayne Friends Meetingroom in Fort Wayne, IN; and Fourth Month 21, 2013, at Hopewell Friends Meetinghouse, near Straughn, IN. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Friends gratefully acknowledge the faithful service of the Joint Quarterly Meeting Planning Committee, Fort Wayne Friends, and Hopewell Friends who participated in hosting these sessions, as well as those who attended.

Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Friends found unity surrounding three (3) primary items of business this year: (1) a minute supporting the cuts to military spending mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011 and opposing any exemption for military spending from any cuts mandated by the lack of a negotiated settlement of the United States government's financial crisis; (2) agreement that the time had come to lay down Maple Grove Friends Meeting and to turn our attention to discerning an appropriately respectful way to carry this out, including proper preservation of Maple Grove records and the drafting of a history of that meeting; and (3) joyful acceptance of an invitation to join Miami Quarterly Meeting Friends for a Joint Quarterly Meeting in Tenth Month 2013 at Happy Hollow Camp. Friends are invited to read the minutes of the three business sessions for more details about these items.

Our fall 2012 session was embedded within the rich and joyful experience of the Joint Quarterly Meeting. The winter 2013 session coincided with the Martin Luther King Day weekend, and after we had gathered for worship, business, and a pitch-in lunch, we made an inspiring visit to the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, which featured a special art exhibition on the Freedom Riders. We received the State of the Meeting reports after lunch at the spring 2013 session and then broke into two smaller groups to discuss some of the issues and concerns facing our meetings.

My sense is that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends find our Joint Quarterly Meeting gatherings to be particularly helpful in building and sustaining our spiritual connections, and that there is an almost unstoppable movement afoot to hold a Joint Quarterly Meeting every year, rather than every other year.

Our financial situation remains very modest. Our total assets are virtually never as high as \$1000 and occasionally dip dangerously close to about \$100. Our primary expenses are related to travel costs for occasional invited speakers and to costs associated with the Joint Quarterly Meeting. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting currently suggests a \$50 annual contribution from each constituent monthly meeting, which should be sent to David Duvall, 7811 Kimlough Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Rex Sprouse is the Presiding Clerk of Whitewater Quarterly Meeting, and David Duvall is the Treasurer. Both have been approved to serve through the end of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting sessions in summer 2014.

Rex Sprouse, Presiding Clerk  
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting

## **Miami Quarterly Meeting Report**

Although Miami Quarterly now has permanent Co-Clerks, all three meetings were still clerked by different people. Steve Angell stepped in for the Joint Quarterly meeting for Tenth Month since Veronica Frost wound up not being able to attend. Veronica clerked for the Second Month meeting in Louisville and Faith Morgan clerked the Fifth Month meeting in Wilmington. The new Co-Clerks are gradually learning their responsibilities and appreciate the patience of Friends. The support from OVYM staff has been invaluable.

Joint Quarterly (fall 2012) was enjoyed so much that a tentative reservation was made for 2013. At the Second Month meeting, Miami Quarterly decided to host Joint Quarterly at Happy Hollow in Indiana, Tenth Month 2013. We will also be investigating a more eastern location for 2014. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

We continue to encourage fellowship among Monthly Meeting members. Several members stayed overnight for the meeting in Louisville. The program for Second Month consisted of queries relating to the aging process and was appropriate for all ages. The Fifth Month meeting State of the Society reports were read and time was allowed for reflection and sharing. Roy Joe Stuckey asked Friends at the beginning to ponder the question "Is there still hope?" Although some Meetings have gone through difficult times, the reports gave Friends a sense of the vitality and engagement of fellow Friends. At the end, Roy Joe summed it up, "Yes, there is hope!"

We believe there is much value in gathering like this to meet regularly as a large body. It strengthens our community to have such contact and sharing. We hope that it will also increase communication among the Monthly Meetings. An e-mail group has been created to try and facilitate increased communication.

## **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee met today, October 3rd, and successfully completed an audit of the books for OVYM for fiscal year 2011. We were able to audit all categories except the one for Yearly Session.

Overall, the treasurer is doing an excellent job of accomplishing a difficult, time-consuming responsibility. We continue to believe that this should be a paid, longer term position.

We did discover one mistake in the final report. Under the Religious Education committee category (Table 19) is the amount of \$69.37 for the Lending Library. That actually was a travel cost for a member of the Religious Education committee and should have been accounted for under Travel-Reimbursed in Table 15.

We would like to request that the members of the Teen Committee take more responsibility for documenting their income sources. A simple Income Summary that reflects a list of donations, monies raised by fund-raising and a listing of payments by participants would be sufficient.

At the present time, stamps purchased by the treasurer are subsumed in the Treasurer's expense account, whereas stamps and mailings done by OVYM are reflected in a Postage category within Clerical Support. We believe that moving the amount spent by the Treasurer on stamps to the overall Postage

category would result in a more accurate reflection of Postage costs.

Along the same lines, we believe that Copying expenses should reflect all copying done by any Committee, except for the Minute books and Directories.

There was one large bill for printing of the Minutes and Directory that we were unable to locate. There is some question about whether it was ever received, since it was paid during Yearly Session. We would like to suggest that all persons requesting reimbursement from the Treasurer at Quaker events should make sure to submit the bill at some point later when it can more easily be dealt with.

The Audit Committee thanks everyone for the opportunity to be of service.

Donita Barnes and Veronica Frost

## **Budget and Finance Committee Report**

Budget and Finance Committee's General Fund projection for 2013-14 expenses is \$85,450, a 0.57% increase from last year's budget. Last year's proportional share per member should have been \$114.17, but because we have a surplus from previous years, we suggested \$110 per budget member. This year, with a slightly larger budget and fewer members the number should be about \$120.00 per budget member. We decided again to use our surplus and left the proportional share amount at \$110.

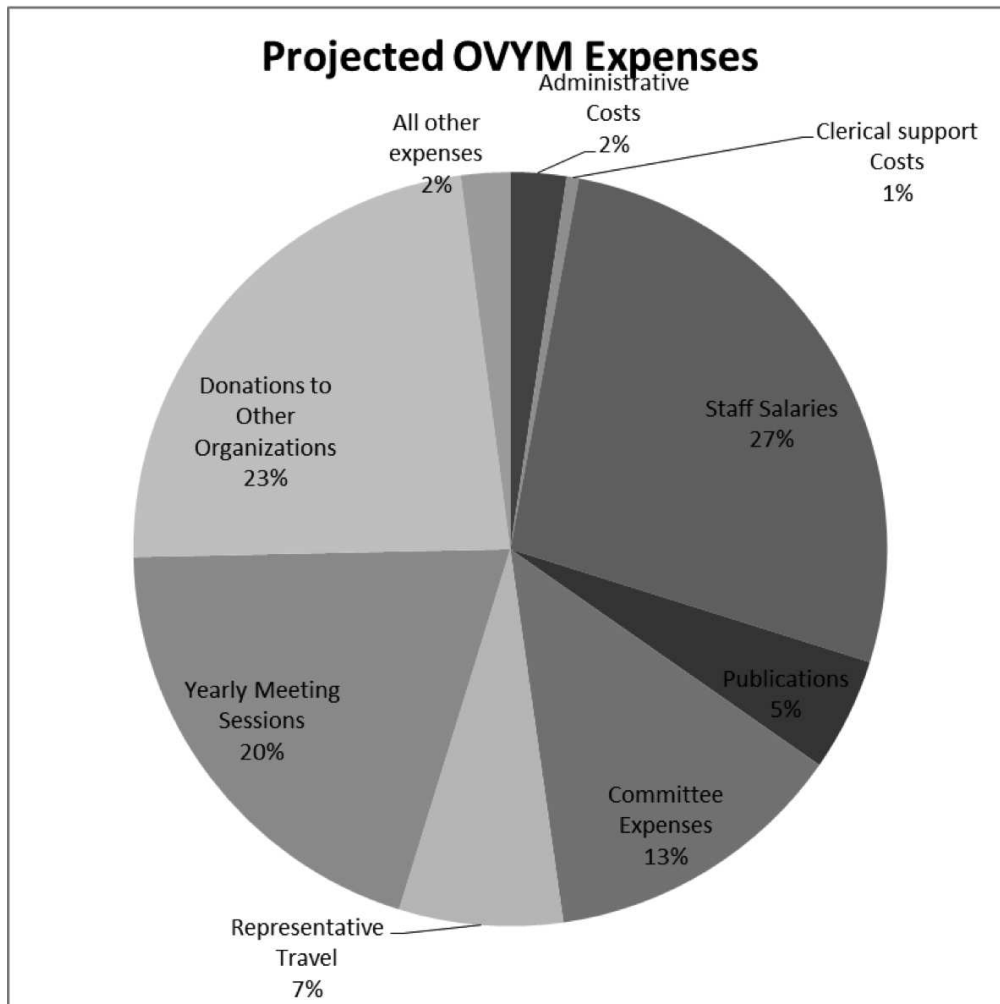
The committee is attempting to increase the accuracy of our budgets. All committees are now asked how they plan to spend their budget, along with total amount. Non-responders will have their budgets changed to match previous years' actual expenses. This should help resolve some of the past differences between budgeted and actual expenses. Committee budgets are best guesses but not fixed limits. The yearly meeting encourages its committees to be active and some spending over budget is acceptable. Another change this year is the inclusion of a pie-chart in our April proportional share/covenant letter, to more clearly explain how we spend our money. (See below. Note: The complete details of the proposed budget are contained in the right-most column of the spreadsheet tables under the Treasurer's Report in Advance.) As shown below, three items account for seventy percent of our expenses – our staff (the clerical support person and the youth secretary), our support of 18 other organizations (for example, Quaker Heights, Friends General Conference, Friends World Committee for Consultation, etc.), and our annual sessions.

The largest increase in expense in the new budget is due to differences between charges for Yearly Meeting Sessions at Wilmington versus Earlham. The planning committee anticipates a one year, \$2650 cost increase. The only other substantial increase is in the committee expenses. The Religious Nurture & Education Committee is hoping to offer a retreat for yearly meeting members this year. They will present more details of their plans at the annual sessions this summer. Most of the other expenses will stay about the same or decrease. Overall, we are projecting an increase in total expenses of \$960.

Our General Fund reserves are more than adequate to cover the \$8000 deficit proposed in this budget. Budget and Finance Committee plans to continue to monitor our budget and actual expenses to improve the accuracy of this report. We thank the Meetings for their donations toward the OVYM budget. We also thank those Meetings that responded to our request for a covenant pledge for the next fiscal year.

## Proposed 2013-14 OVYM Budget Summary

	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget	Change from Last Year
<b>General Fund Summary</b>						
<b>INCOME</b>						
Meeting Contributions	\$76,367	\$74,031	\$70,001	\$71,398	\$72,570	\$2,569
Donated Travel Costs	\$6,121	\$2,850	\$4,000	\$5,223	\$4,500	\$500
Other Income	\$1,565	\$683	\$200	\$242	\$200	\$0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$84,054</b>	<b>\$77,563</b>	<b>\$74,201</b>	<b>\$76,863</b>	<b>\$77,270</b>	<b>\$3,069</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Administrative Costs	\$2,007	\$1,352	\$2,400	\$1,650	\$2,050	-\$350
Clerical support Costs	\$264	\$161	\$650	\$140	\$450	-\$200
Staff Salaries	\$22,380	\$22,180	\$22,940	\$22,311	\$23,000	\$60
Publications	\$2,868	\$1,329	\$4,650	\$2,501	\$4,150	-\$500
Committee Expenses	\$8,046	\$9,932	\$10,050	\$11,222	\$11,150	\$1,100
Representative Travel	\$6,275	\$4,853	\$7,000	\$5,335	\$6,000	-\$1,000
Yearly Meeting Sessions	\$13,143	\$13,808	\$14,350	\$14,464	\$17,000	\$2,650
Donations to Other Organizations	\$18,950	\$20,150	\$20,650	\$20,650	\$19,850	-\$800
All other expenses	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$75,733</b>	<b>\$75,563</b>	<b>\$84,490</b>	<b>\$80,073</b>	<b>\$85,450</b>	<b>\$960</b>
<b>Net General Fund Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>\$8,321</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>-\$10,289</b>	<b>-\$3210</b>	<b>-\$8,180</b>	<b>\$2,109</b>



## Treasurer's Report

The OVYM fiscal year 2012-13 ended on June 30, 2013. Our General Fund budget projected a deficit of about \$10,000. Clear Creek and Green Plain Meetings generously contributed more than their pledge amounts. This income more than covered the Meetings that gave less than their pledge amounts, so our income was about \$1,400 more than expected. Our General Fund expenses were about \$5,000 less than expected: Operating Expenses were about \$4,000 less and Representative Travel was about \$1,700 less, but Committee expenses were about \$1,000 over. Therefore, we ended the year with actual General Fund deficit of about \$3,200, which is \$7,000 better than predicted.

In the following charts, the third to last column is the 2012-2013 budget. This can be compared against the second to last column, which shows the actual income and expenses for fiscal year 2012-13. The last column is the Budget and Finance Committee's proposed 2012-13 budget. The numbers in italics in this last column are budget items that changed since last year. The Meetings that responded with their support pledge for next year are listed in bold typeface in table 9.

Table 1 shows all of the funds related to the Yearly Meeting. Tables 2 through 6 are the details of the income and expenses for those funds. Table 8 is a summary of the General Fund, our main account. The rest of the tables are details related to the General Fund.

Although this is supposed to be the final report for fiscal year 2012-13, Teen committee activities and expenses bleed into July. The numbers in Table 20, and therefore General Fund expense and grand totals could be different in the report I submit to OVYM Executive Committee in October. At that time all the numbers for fiscal year 2012-13 should be stable.

Submitted by Wilson Palmer, Treasurer, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

	2010-11 Budget	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Budget	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget
<b>Table 1. Fund Balances at Year End</b>							
FWCC Triennial (Table 2)	3,516.00	3,516.00	4,516.00	175.67	1,175.67	1,175.67	2,175.67
Benevolent Fund (Table 3)	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,803.21	5,800.00
Peace Witness Fund (Table 4)	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Capital Fund (Table 5)	5,718.00	5,605.76	5,630.76	5,626.53	5,651.53	5,629.64	5,639.64
Faith & Practice Printing Fund (Table 6)	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,500.00
Fr. Property Corp. \$1361.84 donated to Q Heights		1,436.84		-		-	
General Fund (Table 8)	31,319.00	50,422.16	31,543.63	52,422.39	42,133.39	49,212.85	41,032.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,853.00</b>	<b>71,280.76</b>	<b>52,490.39</b>	<b>69,024.59</b>	<b>60,260.59</b>	<b>67,321.37</b>	<b>60,648.16</b>

<b>Table 2. FWCC Triennial Fund</b>							
Starting Balance	2,516.00	2,516.00	3,516.00	3,516.00	175.67	175.67	1,175.67
Transfer from General Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Disbursements (Kenya 2012)				4,340.33			
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>3,516.00</b>	<b>3,516.00</b>	<b>4,516.00</b>	<b>175.67</b>	<b>1,175.67</b>	<b>1,175.67</b>	<b>2,175.67</b>

<b>Table 3. Benevolent Fund</b>							
Starting Balance	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00	5,800.00
Income	100.00	17.59	25.00	15.07	25.00	3.21	20.00
Disbursements to QM (65%=Miami, 35%= WW)	100.00	17.59	25.00	15.07	25.00		20.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>	<b>5,803.21</b>	<b>5,800.00</b>

<b>Table 4. Peace Witness Fund</b>							
Starting Balance	2,500.00	2,600.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Income	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Disbursements - Peace Tax Fund	100.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>

<b>Table 5. Capital Fund</b>							
Starting Balance	5,618.00	5,591.24	5,605.76	5,605.76	5,626.53	5,626.53	5,629.64
Income	100.00	14.52	25.00	20.77	25.00	3.11	10.00
Distribution							
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>5,718.00</b>	<b>5,605.76</b>	<b>5,630.76</b>	<b>5,626.53</b>	<b>5,651.53</b>	<b>5,629.64</b>	<b>5,639.64</b>

<b>Table 6. Faith &amp; Practicee Printing Fund</b>							
Starting Balance	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
Transfer from General Fund	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Distribution							
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>

<b>Table 7. Teen Committee Fund</b>							
Starting Balance							
Teen Fundraising/Contributions from Table 20							
Extra Funds needed for Teens (To Table 20)							
<b>Ending Balance</b>						-	

	2010-11 Budget	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Budget	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget
--	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

**Table 8. General Fund Summary**

<b>INCOME</b>							
Meeting Contributions (Table 9)	76,303.00	76,367.28	74,232.00	74,030.64	70,001.00	71,398.00	72,570.00
Interest	100.00						
Other Income		601.31		10.00			
Cash and purchases contributed to OVYM	200.00	964.06	200.00	672.60	200.00	217.14	200.00
Donated Travel Costs	3,500.00	6,121.26	5,000.00	2,850.08	4,000.00	5,223.27	4,500.00
Sales of Disciplines						25.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>80,103.00</b>	<b>84,053.91</b>	<b>79,432.00</b>	<b>77,563.32</b>	<b>74,201.00</b>	<b>76,863.41</b>	<b>77,270.00</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Operating Expenses (Table 10)	32,040.00	27,818.85	30,640.00	25,320.94	30,940.00	26,901.81	29,950.00
Committee Expenses (Table 15)	9,800.00	8,046.39	10,500.00	9,931.71	10,050.00	11,222.57	11,150.00
Representative Travel (Table 21)	8,500.00	6,275.13	7,250.00	4,852.77	7,000.00	5,335.06	6,000.00
Yearly Meeting Session (Table 22)	14,513.00	13,143.01	14,350.00	13,807.67	14,350.00	14,463.51	17,000.00
Transfer to FWCC Triennial Travel	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Transfer to Faith & Practice Printing Fund	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Donations by OVYM (Table 23)	19,350.00	18,950.00	20,150.00	20,150.00	20,650.00	20,650.00	19,850.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>85,703.00</b>	<b>75,733.38</b>	<b>84,390.00</b>	<b>75,563.09</b>	<b>84,490.00</b>	<b>80,072.95</b>	<b>85,450.00</b>

<b>Net General Fund Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>(5,600.00)</b>	<b>8,320.53</b>	<b>(4,958.00)</b>	<b>2,000.23</b>	<b>(10,289.00)</b>	<b>(3,209.54)</b>	<b>(8,180.00)</b>
-------------------------------------	-------------------	-----------------	-------------------	-----------------	--------------------	-------------------	-------------------

**Table 9. Meeting Contributions**

<b>Bloomington</b>	5,624.00	5,624.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	<b>8,140.00</b>
<b>Campus</b>	1,810.00	1,810.00	1,817.00	1,819.00	1,760.00	1,660.00	<b>1,650.00</b>
<b>Clear Creek</b>	11,539.00	11,907.40	10,900.00	12,331.50	10,560.00	13,365.00	<b>10,560.00</b>
<b>Community</b>	8,484.00	8,484.00	8,856.00	8,862.00	8,470.00	8,482.00	<b>8,800.00</b>
<b>Dayton</b>	1,703.00	1,703.00	1,477.00	1,477.00	1,430.00	1,430.00	<b>1,210.00</b>
<b>Eastern Hills</b>	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,214.00	2,200.00	2,090.00	2,100.00	<b>1,320.00</b>
Englewood							825.00
Fall Creek	300.00	487.00	300.00	675.00	1,320.00	1,320.00	1,430.00
<b>Fort Wayne</b>	450.00	450.00	454.00	454.00	550.00	440.00	<b>660.00</b>
<b>Green Plain</b>	450.00	300.00	450.00	250.00	300.00	560.00	<b>275.00</b>
Hopewell	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	1,210.00	300.00	1,210.00
<b>Lafayette</b>	2,000.00	1,817.00	1,817.00	1,760.00	1,760.00	1,760.00	<b>1,650.00</b>
Lexington	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,655.00	4,655.14	4,400.00	4,400.00	4,400.00
<b>Louisville</b>	9,050.00	9,050.00	9,083.00	10,000.00	8,800.00	8,800.00	<b>8,000.00</b>
Maple Grove	-		-				
Miami	6,109.00	5,400.00	6,131.00	4,769.00	4,681.00	4,681.00	4,510.00
<b>North Meadow</b>	4,299.00	4,299.00	4,315.00	4,330.00	4,070.00	4,070.00	<b>4,070.00</b>
<b>Oxford</b>	1,584.00	1,584.00	1,249.00	1,250.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	<b>1,760.00</b>
White Rose	500.00	1,000.00	1,362.00	500.00	1,320.00	750.00	1,320.00
Yellow Springs	13,801.00	13,851.88	13,852.00	13,398.00	11,880.00	11,880.00	10,780.00
<b>TOTAL Meeting Contributions</b>	<b>76,303.00</b>	<b>76,367.28</b>	<b>74,232.00</b>	<b>74,030.64</b>	<b>70,001.00</b>	<b>71,398.00</b>	<b>72,570.00</b>

	2010-11 Budget	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Budget	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget
--	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

**Table 10. Operating Expenses**

Administration (Table 11)	2,550.00	2,007.47	2,100.00	1,351.64	2,400.00	1,650.18	2,050.00
Clerical support (Table 12)	800.00	263.94	650.00	160.66	650.00	140.56	450.00
Staff (Table 13)	22,940.00	22,379.54	22,940.00	22,179.72	22,940.00	22,310.53	23,000.00
Publications (Table 14)	5,450.00	2,867.90	4,650.00	1,328.92	4,650.00	2,500.54	4,150.00
Archives	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,040.00</b>	<b>27,818.85</b>	<b>30,640.00</b>	<b>25,320.94</b>	<b>30,940.00</b>	<b>26,901.81</b>	<b>29,950.00</b>

**Table 11. Administration**

Bank Charges	50.00		50.00		50.00		50.00
Liability Insurance	1,000.00	958.00	1,000.00	904.83	1,000.00	811.14	1,000.00
Background Checks	300.00	36.00	150.00	54.00	150.00	54.00	100.00
Clerks' Expenses	800.00	668.68	500.00		800.00	365.00	500.00
Treasurer's Expenses	400.00	344.79	400.00	392.81	400.00	420.04	400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,550.00</b>	<b>2,007.47</b>	<b>2,100.00</b>	<b>1,351.64</b>	<b>2,400.00</b>	<b>1,650.18</b>	<b>2,050.00</b>

**Table 12. Clerical Support**

Office Expenses	700.00	159.99	500.00	38.33	500.00	62.17	300.00
Postage		65.91	80.00	78.27	80.00	34.36	80.00
Copying	100.00	38.04	70.00	44.06	70.00	44.03	70.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>263.94</b>	<b>650.00</b>	<b>160.66</b>	<b>650.00</b>	<b>140.56</b>	<b>450.00</b>

**Table 13. Staff**

Compensation	21,000.00	20,519.64	21,000.00	20,519.64	21,000.00	20,469.64	21,000.00
Tax							
Workers Comp	360.00	325.75	360.00	333.33	360.00	315.90	360.00
Cell Phone	480.00	408.02	480.00	396.00	480.00	431.00	540.00
Internet Access	400.00	400.75	400.00	420.00	400.00	423.00	400.00
Travel	200.00	725.38	500.00	510.75	500.00	670.99	500.00
Professional Development	500.00		200.00		200.00		200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,940.00</b>	<b>22,379.54</b>	<b>22,940.00</b>	<b>22,179.72</b>	<b>22,940.00</b>	<b>22,310.53</b>	<b>23,000.00</b>

**Table 14. Publications**

Quill	3,300.00	909.23	2,500.00		2,500.00	976.79	1,500.00
Web site expenses						478.19	500.00
Minute Books and Reports in Advance	1,650.00	1,512.85	1,650.00	1,021.84	1,650.00	1,025.46	1,650.00
Directory	500.00	445.82	500.00	307.08	500.00	20.10	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,450.00</b>	<b>2,867.90</b>	<b>4,650.00</b>	<b>1,328.92</b>	<b>4,650.00</b>	<b>2,500.54</b>	<b>4,150.00</b>

**Table 15. Committee Expense**

Religious Nurture & Education (Table 16)	400.00	276.47	400.00	-	400.00	161.38	1,000.00
Middle Youth (Table 17)	600.00	166.00	600.00	-	600.00	257.34	400.00
Peace & Social Concerns (Table 18)	600.00	35.32	550.00	122.57	550.00	229.78	250.00
Religious Education (Table 19)	200.00	-	200.00	119.37	-	-	-
Teen Program (Table 20)	5,800.00	4,683.81	5,800.00	8,081.53	6,300.00	6,318.36	6,300.00
Joint Quarterly Meeting Children's Program	200.00	166.00	200.00		200.00	50.00	200.00
Travel - Donated	1,000.00	2,024.14	1,750.00	857.21	1,000.00	2,765.30	2,000.00
Travel - Reimbursed	1,000.00	694.65	1,000.00	751.03	1,000.00	1,440.41	1,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>9,800.00</b>	<b>8,046.39</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>9,931.71</b>	<b>10,050.00</b>	<b>11,222.57</b>	<b>11,150.00</b>

	2010-11 Budget	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Budget	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget
--	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

**Table 16. Religious Nurture & Education Committee**

Pamphlets, copying and printing	150.00	41.56	150.00		150.00		100.00
Gatherings, Retreats, Honorariums	150.00		150.00		150.00	75.00	800.00
Resource Materials	100.00	234.91	100.00		100.00	86.38	100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>276.47</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>161.38</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>

**Table 17. Middle Youth Committee**

Joint Quarterly Gathering		41.00				50.00	
Staff	400.00	125.00	400.00		400.00	200.00	300.00
Supplies	200.00		200.00		200.00	7.34	100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>166.00</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>257.34</b>	<b>400.00</b>

**Table 18. Peace & Social Concerns**

Workcamp and Pre-YM Workshop	370.00		370.00		220.00	229.78	100.00
Postage	180.00	2.62	130.00	32.57	130.00		50.00
Display for YM Sessions and other Materials	50.00	32.70	50.00	90.00	200.00		100.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>35.32</b>	<b>550.00</b>	<b>122.57</b>	<b>550.00</b>	<b>229.78</b>	<b>250.00</b>

**Table 19. Religious Education Committee - combined into RN&E**

Lending Library				69.37			
RE Newsletter							
Postage	50.00		50.00				
Fall Retreat & Spring Workshop	150.00		150.00	50.00			
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>119.37</b>		<b>-</b>	

**Table 20. Teen Program**

<b>INCOME</b>							
Contributions		477.00		1,215.00			
Fundraising	300.00	1,270.50	500.00	751.96	500.00		500.00
Registration Fees	1,200.00	1,550.00	1,200.00	4,310.00	1,700.00	1,470.00	1,700.00
OYVM contrib to expenses (\$6300 max)	5,800.00	4,683.81	5,800.00	8,081.53	6,300.00	6,318.36	6,300.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,300.00</b>	<b>7,981.31</b>	<b>7,500.00</b>	<b>14,358.49</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>	<b>7,788.36</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Publicity	100.00		100.00		100.00		100.00
Teen Events	1,700.00	664.98	1,400.00	545.40	1,400.00	467.44	1,400.00
Service Trips	5,500.00	6,714.08	6,000.00	13,482.63	7,000.00	7,320.92	7,000.00
Cost of Fundraising		602.25		330.46			
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>7,300.00</b>	<b>7,981.31</b>	<b>7,500.00</b>	<b>14,358.49</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>	<b>7,788.36</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>

<b>Teen Funds saved or used (Table 7)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
---	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

**Table 21. Representative Travel**

Normal (\$300 per trip)	3,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,200.00	2,500.00	2,435.19	2,500.00
Additional Reimbursement	2,000.00	705.25	1,500.00	659.90	1,500.00	441.90	1,000.00
Coopted Representatives	1,000.00						
Donated Travel	2,500.00	3,569.88	3,250.00	1,992.87	3,000.00	2,457.97	2,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>	<b>6,275.13</b>	<b>7,250.00</b>	<b>4,852.77</b>	<b>7,000.00</b>	<b>5,335.06</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>

	2010-11 Budget	2010-11 Actual	2011-12 Budget	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	Proposed Budget
--	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------

**Table 22. Yearly Meeting Sessions**

<b>INCOME</b>							
Contributions	500.00	735.10	500.00	1,334.98	500.00	1,260.80	900.00
Registration	2,500.00	2,750.00	2,800.00	2,151.60	2,800.00	4,740.00	3,400.00
Room & Board Charges	13,700.00	11,998.00	12,500.00	11,468.50	12,500.00	12,876.95	12,500.00
Bookstore Income	2,000.00	1,312.12	1,400.00	1,520.68	1,400.00	1,909.51	1,900.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,700.00</b>	<b>16,795.22</b>	<b>17,200.00</b>	<b>16,475.76</b>	<b>17,200.00</b>	<b>20,787.26</b>	<b>18,700.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Administration	250.00	15.00	50.00	143.07	50.00	10.00	50.00
Adult Program	1,800.00	1,324.30	1,600.00	1,225.87	1,600.00	1,022.39	1,000.00
Extra Facilities Costs							3,000.00
Teen Program	1,400.00	1,538.29	1,400.00	1,313.13	1,400.00	1,486.20	1,500.00
Middle Youth Program	1,233.00	1,315.00	1,400.00	1,282.62	1,400.00	1,304.00	1,325.00
Children's Program	2,765.00	3,155.19	2,800.00	2,272.76	2,800.00	3,105.30	3,000.00
Adult Room & Board	13,000.00	12,148.41	13,000.00	11,909.30	13,000.00	12,488.26	12,500.00
Room & Board Subsidies						300.00	
Children, middle youth, teens	5,125.00	5,092.20	5,100.00	7,488.00	5,100.00	9,052.40	7,475.00
Staff and officers	1,600.00	1,860.00	1,800.00	2,142.00	1,800.00	2,716.20	2,500.00
Guests	466.00	300.00	400.00	476.00	400.00	1,041.20	700.00
YAF attenders subsidy	1,420.00	997.40	1,200.00	521.60	1,200.00	1,122.40	1,000.00
First-time attenders subsidy	1,626.00	994.10	1,000.00	243.30	1,000.00	340.20	400.00
Simple Meal Donation	600.00	431.50	500.00	415.00	500.00	278.85	250.00
Bookstore Expenses	1,928.00	766.84	1,300.00	850.78	1,300.00	983.37	1,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>33,213.00</b>	<b>29,938.23</b>	<b>31,550.00</b>	<b>30,283.43</b>	<b>31,550.00</b>	<b>35,250.77</b>	<b>35,700.00</b>
<b>Net Cost of Session</b>	<b>14,513.00</b>	<b>13,143.01</b>	<b>14,350.00</b>	<b>13,807.67</b>	<b>14,350.00</b>	<b>14,463.51</b>	<b>17,000.00</b>

**Table 23. Donations by OVYM**

<b>OVYM Ministries</b>							
Quaker Heights Friends Home	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Friends Music Camp	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
Lauramoore Home	400.00		-				
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>	<b>3,700.00</b>
<b>Major Quaker Organizations</b>							
AFSC	2,650.00	2,650.00	2,650.00	2,650.00	2,650.00	2,650.00	2,650.00
FCNL	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
FGC	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Friends Journal	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
FWCC	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Quaker United Nations Office	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>	<b>13,250.00</b>	<b>13,250.00</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>	<b>12,750.00</b>
<b>Quaker Education and Outreach</b>							
Earlham College	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Olney Friends School	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Quaker Heritage Center	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Wilmington College	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>
<b>Quaker Peace and Social Concerns with specific focus</b>							
FLGBTQC (Lesbian & Gay Concerns)	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Friends Peace Teams	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
William Penn House			200.00	200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	200.00
Indiana Friends Com. On Legislation	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Quaker Earthcare Witness	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Right Sharing of World Resources	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>19,350.00</b>	<b>18,950.00</b>	<b>20,150.00</b>	<b>20,150.00</b>	<b>20,650.00</b>	<b>20,650.00</b>	<b>19,850.00</b>

# Statistical Report

## Miami Quarter

Monthly Meeting:	CAM	COM	DAY	EH	ENG	GP	LEX	LOU	MIA	OX	YS	MQM
<b>MEMBERSHIP 12/31/11</b>	31	77	20	38	28	11	40	80	41	11	98	<b>473</b>
<b>Correction by addition</b>								10				<b>10</b>
<b>Births/Adoptions</b>												<b>0</b>
<b>Request of parents</b>		2								3		<b>5</b>
<b>Convincement</b>		3					1			2		<b>6</b>
<b>Children accepted as adults</b>		1										<b>1</b>
<b>Transfers to</b>		1			2		1					<b>4</b>
<b>TOTAL GAIN</b>	0	7	0	0	2	0	2	10	0	5	0	<b>26</b>
<b>Correction by subtraction</b>								17				<b>17</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	1	1		1			1					<b>4</b>
<b>Removal by request</b>				6	1		2					<b>9</b>
<b>Children becoming adults</b>		1										<b>1</b>
<b>Transfer from</b>		2					1					<b>3</b>
<b>Loss of contact</b>				7	4							<b>11</b>
<b>TOTAL LOSSES</b>	1	4	0	14	5	0	2	19	0	0	0	<b>45</b>
<b>Net gain or loss</b>	-1	30	0	-14	-3	0	0	-9	0	5	0	<b>-19</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP 12/31/12</b>	30	80	20	24	23	11	40	71	41	16	98	<b>454</b>
<b>Resident members Over 18</b>	20	50	11	17	16	4	31	43	24	11	52	<b>279</b>
<b>Resident members Under 19</b>	0	14	0	4	3	0	2	3	4	3	10	<b>43</b>
<b>Non-resident members Over 18</b>	10	14	9	3	4	7	7	25	13	2	31	<b>125</b>
<b>Non-resident members Under 19</b>	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	<b>7</b>
<b>Regular attenders Over 18</b>	6	23	6	3	4	0	69	9	10	5	10	<b>144</b>
<b>Regular attenders Over 18</b>	0	5	3	0	0	0	27	7	8	4	5	<b>59</b>
<b>United Meetings</b>	*			*	*							<b>3</b>
<b>Budget members</b>	15	80	20	12	11.5	11	40	71	41	16	98	<b>415.5</b>
<b>Worship attendance</b>	11	45	11	14	13	0	27	27	14	7	30	<b>199</b>
<b>Non-member attendance</b>	3	15	4	2	2.5	0	15	15	5	2	12	<b>75.5</b>
<b>First Day School</b>	0	10	2	1	6	0	7	12	6	2	4	<b>50</b>
<b>Friends in school/college</b>	0	3	4	0	1	0	0	4	7	0	11	<b>30</b>

## Whitewater Quarter and OVYM

Monthly Meeting:	BL	CC	FC	FW	HPW	LAF	MG	NM	WR	WQM	OVYM	PRIOR YR
<b>MEMBERSHIP 12/31/11</b>	73	96	13	6	11	16	0	38	12	265	738	752
Correction by addition										0	10	2
Births/Adoptions										0	0	0
Request of parents										0	5	5
Convincement	2									2	8	4
Children accepted as adults										0	1	0
<b>Transfers to</b>										<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL GAIN</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	28	6
Correction by subtraction										0	17	0
Deaths	1							1		2	6	5
Removal by request										0	9	8
Children becoming adults										0	1	0
Transfer from										0	3	3
<b>Loss of contact</b>						1				<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TOTAL LOSSES</b>	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	48	20
<b>Net gain or loss</b>	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-20	-14
<b>MEMBERSHIP 12/31/12</b>	74	96	13	6	11	15	0	37	12	264	716	738
<b>Resident members</b>												
Over 18	58	27	12	6	11	7	0	33	7	161	440	440
Resident members Under 19	3	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	52	49
<b>Non-resident members</b>												
Over 18	9	66	0	0	0	6	0	4	5	90	215	230
Non-resident members Under 19	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	11	7
<b>Regular attenders</b>												
Over 18	48	12	0	0	0	9	0	24	0	93	237	242
Regular attenders Under 19	22	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	29	88	87
<b>United Meetings</b>										<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Budget members</b>	74	96	13	6	11	15	0	37	12	264	679.5	698.5
<b>Worship attendance</b>	53	28	12	10	7	13	0	16.7	2	139.7	338.7	323.7
<b>Non-member attendance</b>	28	8	17	4	0	5	0	6	0	68	143.5	141
<b>First Day School</b>	14	3	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	24	74	69
<b>Friends in school/college</b>	5	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	13	43	45

## Summary of Epistles Received

This year we have received and collected epistles from 16 yearly meetings and Quaker gatherings across the United States and in Australia, Britain, Central and Southern Africa, Central Europe, Cuba, Nairobi, Norway, and Switzerland. This summary presents themes that appeared within this collection of epistles and comments, perceptions, and developments that struck the writer as valuable to Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Friends.

Several yearly meetings grappled with issues of *integrity and seeking to live in the peaceable kingdom or the kingdom of God*. Both Ohio Conservative and Iowa Conservative yearly meetings sought ways to live in the kingdom of God. Switzerland Yearly Meeting hosted Daniel Hatton from Woodbrooke-on-the-Road, who spoke to them powerfully about his experience of prophecy and the Christian Peacemaker Teams. They report

He reminded us that we can speak truth with power as well as to it, but must always do so in love. The powers of this world are fallen, so our role is to raise them up again before God. He also challenged us to consider how far we would go to follow our leadings. Would we go to prison for our beliefs? Would we invite a homeless person or a drug addict in for tea? How radical is our hospitality – who are we excluding from our table? We should be careful that our comfort and our fear do not stop us from reaching out to all people, and instead consider how our privilege allows us to “get in the way” of injustice. The price of the peace we have in Europe is often paid by the poor and non-white, but in the Peaceable Kingdom we seek, no-one shall be excluded from Christ’s table.

Both New York and New England yearly meetings focused on issues of integrity. New England Friends write, “The theme, ‘Choose Integrity! Living with Integrity in a Time of Change,’ has focused our engagement with each other. This means faithfully taking risky steps into unknown and difficult places for Truth.”

New York Yearly Meeting reports on integrity in their search for honest communication on issues of disagreement.

Through several years of extended worship, we have been building a capacity for trust that is beginning to bear the fruit of disagreement without estrangement. We can now drop the fig leaves of euphemism and abstraction that protect us from conflict and hide our pain. Although work remains, we are speaking more plainly about God, Christ, non-theism, atheism, and recorded ministry.

Those fig leaves that may once have protected us from divisive pain, now keep us from being whole. We acknowledge that when the children and teens enter worship they too often feel unwelcome. We are not whole without everyone. We wait upon, and work for, that wholeness, asking: Are we willing to bear the prophetic witness that, were it a crime, would convict us? Are we willing to bear the love that overcomes the fear and anger of a broken world?

Many yearly meetings mentioned the benefits they received when delegates attended the *Sixth World*

*Conference of Friends in Nakuru, Kenya.* Alaska Friends reported that their representatives described a “common transformational journey that Pastoral, Evangelical and Unprogrammed Quakers experienced while meeting together. They reported a strong sense of connection with Quakers throughout the world united in a common movement toward peace, justice; an experience of the peaceable kingdom here on Earth rather than in a nebulous future.”

North Pacific Yearly Meeting notes that its representatives brought back messages that “unity is possible out of great difference through common dedication to love and light.” The Yearly Meeting of Quaker Friends in Cuba shared that the conference contributed to the great work of “building the Kingdom of God in the midst of a broken world.”

Norwegian Friends noted that gifts from this international Quaker fellowship had brought inspiration to their meetings and that the acknowledgment of what is broken in ourselves carries the opening for a new start. In New England attendees at the conference welcomed Friends in multi-lingual worship.

Issues of *climate change, sustainable living, and earth care* occupied Friends in Australia, Iowa Conservative, New England, New York, and SouthEastern yearly meetings. Australia expressed concern for the excessive use and depletion of earth’s resources. Conservative Friends in Iowa asked how to answer God’s call to care for earth and noted their recognition that travel to the World Conference is harmful to environment. New England Yearly Meeting was challenged to look at the world through the lens of “sustainable abundance,” and urged that spiritual grounding, dialogue, forgiveness and love are essential.

SouthEastern Yearly Meeting’s theme was “Friends Leading: Climate Change – A Crisis of Spirit,” led by Roy H. Taylor III, a member of the Atlanta Friends meeting and rising clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness. New York Yearly Meeting approved seasoned queries and advices on earth care witness for inclusion in their *Faith and Practice*.

Australia Friends noted the relationship between peace and earth care. Central and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting reported they are led to focus on a few issues of peace and eco-justice, possibly along the lines of the Kabarak call, which came out at the Sixth World Conference of Friends.

*Listening and discernment* were important themes in several epistles. British Friends wrote of the need for listening and patience and that “bringing our uncertainties into the presence of God is part of the search for truth.” The letters of both the Central Europe Gathering and Central and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting mentioned using Rex Ambler’s “Experiment with Light” process as an aid to discernment. Both noted that painful experiences can be learning opportunities and stops on the search for truth.

Norwegian Friends noted

Closely connected to becoming aware of that of God in ourselves, is the opening to finding what special talents, abilities and capacity God has given us. These gifts are our spiritual heritage. They can be hidden from ourselves and others. In listening for and being sensitive to what gifts exist and can grow in us and others, we can find and open them. These gifts are not limited by age or physical capacity. The Spirit will help us discover what we are. If the wish to do a special service is deeply planted within us, God will provide the power and ability for us to perform it. Gifts are not static, they must be

cultivated and cared for, and getting where we want to go requires time and effort. But when we use our gifts, they generate creative centres of life and we will experience being transformed. We release strengths we did not know we had, towards doing our part in changing the world around us.

Both giving and receiving are gifts to the fellowship. We must, however, be aware of relationships and feelings that hinder us in seeing and applying our gifts. These could, for example, include feelings of jealousy, fear or inferiority. The traditional concept of *eldering* can be renewed in our tender leading of each other through the positive process of finding our gifts, while we help one another to open ourselves to God. We can be spiritual midwives for each other, and again and again contribute to releasing the Spirit among us.

The theme of North Pacific Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions was 'Listening in Tongues.' These Friends were asked to let go of their fears of what they don't understand and to listen deeply to the meaning of messages from other Friends, the wider world, and importantly, to each other. Their Friend in Residence, Benigno Sánchez-Eppler, taught them "we are closer to each other than language allows." The yearly meeting's Nontheist Friends Network encouraged Friends to be open to "the possibility of new, adventurous religious thought and practice" and affirmed that "theism and non-theism need not be adversarial viewpoints but may be seen as different ways of seeking, finding, and expressing meaning and purpose in our lives."

A couple of yearly meetings reported interesting new projects. The Yearly Meeting of Quaker Friends in Cuba reported the establishment of the Cuban Quaker Institute for Peace, which is their contribution to promoting peace in the Latin American context, with emphasis on the transformation of conflicts. Norwegian Friends noted that they are preparing for their bicentennial and for writing a Norwegian *Faith and Practice*.

Getting down to essentials, Alaskan Friends appreciated improved facilities for their meeting including a "new, level, spacious double outhouse."

Both Switzerland and North Pacific yearly meetings noted the difficulty of finding Friends to fill all positions and committees to carry out the work of yearly meeting, a challenge that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting also faces. Swiss Friends feel that both a decline in active members and the need for greater spiritual depth have contributed to this problem. In response they have restructured their yearly meeting functions.

Reading this array of epistles from bodies of Friends around the globe is a valuable exercise. We share many concerns and challenges. We can also be inspired by the spiritual insights and experiences of Friends in other locales. I heartily recommend that Friends read some epistles in their entirety as a way to learn about other yearly meetings and Friends in other parts of our nation and world. Many, if not all, can be found on the internet. My thanks to Deborah Jordan for compiling this collection for my review.

Betsy Neale

## **Website Administrator's Report**

Administering the OVYM Website has been both a challenge and a blessing during the past year. We have maintained the standard of a 24-hour turn-around on requests for website updates, many of which have come from committee leadership--Middle Youth and Teens, for example--and others have come from outside organizations, such as the Quaker Heritage Center at Wilmington College.

Regular visitors will have noticed some subtle changes to the site's appearance and updates to the calendar, coming events, and latest news areas of the site at least weekly. We've also cleaned up the layout of the Children's, Middle Youth, and Teens tabs on the Ministries Page.

Last autumn, American Mensa sent a warning out to webmasters of local Mensa chapter websites that at least one of the Mensa websites had suffered an attack by a malicious web bot that searches website source code for anything that looks like an email address, then sends out spam or malicious emails to those emails. In response to this warning, we immediately encrypted all email addresses displayed on our website to prevent this from happening to addresses on our site. This was a preemptive measure, and there were no reports of any such attack on our site.

In May, Joshua Brown of West Richmond Friends did a review of North American Yearly Meeting websites, published on Wordpress.com, and rated OVYM as one of the best.

Visits to the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Website have increased over the past two years. We had a daily average of 26 in 2011, 31.5 in 2012, and 50 so far in 2013.

Lonny Burger

## **Clerical Support Staff Report**

First let me say, all is well. Although I never aspired to do this kind of work, this job has worked out well for me and my family these past 6 years, and, hopefully, for the yearly meeting. It's not that I'm perfect in this role, but I try to remember there are Quakerly ways to proceed, even in the many details that make up this job.

I started this part time position in 2007 when our son Dylan was homeschooling since this job allowed me some flexibility and an opportunity to be of service to my dear Friends. This year, Dylan graduated from high school. As he goes away to college, I'm listening to where the Spirit will lead me. Right now, I'm content to try to be helpful to the Yearly Meeting as a whole and am grateful to all those I work with and for who serve our spiritual community.

Deborah Jordan

## **Quaker Quill Report**

Thanks to Dan Cartmell for his service; the Quill needs a new editor.

## **Publications Coordinator Report**

As the new Publications Coordinator for OVYM, I've been learning all that's involved in compiling the Reports in Advance and Minute Book each year. I'd like to thank those who sent me their reports on (or ahead of) schedule—that makes a big difference. I'd also like to thank Deborah Jordan for facilitating the collection of reports and answering my many questions. My goals in producing the two documents I'm responsible for are to keep them as simple and clearly readable as possible. Toward that end, this year's Minute Book will be produced at the same size as the Reports in Advance. If you have any thoughts about how future editions of these documents could be improved, please let me know.

David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson

## **Records Coordinator Report**

The Records Coordinators are: Christine Snyder who can be reached at [snyderbrvc@aol.com](mailto:snyderbrvc@aol.com) and Susan Hyde who can be reached at [Susanhyde@aol.com](mailto:Susanhyde@aol.com).

We have not met this year. We are available to answer questions or give guidance on how to preserve Monthly Meeting minutes, Quarterly Meeting minutes, Yearly Meeting minutes, historical documents and photographs.

Meetings are reminded to preserve, compile and submit materials to the Quaker Archives with attention to Patti Kinsinger, in Watson Library at Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio. Please include with the submitted materials an itemized list with details of whence the items came. Also include your name and a phone number or e-mail address where Patti can reach you if she has questions. If you want to drop off a box of materials please contact Patti ahead of time at [patti\\_kinsinger@wilmington.edu](mailto:patti_kinsinger@wilmington.edu) to set a time when she will be there to accept them.

If you have someone in charge of your meeting archives, please send that person's name, e-mail address and phone number to either Christine Snyder or Susan Hyde.

Thank you for your assistance,

Susan Hyde and Christine Snyder  
OVYM Records Coordinators

## **Middle Youth Committee Report**

The Middle Youth Committee consists of Martha Viehmann, clerk, Bill Shetter, Richard Mitchell, Rachel Dean, and Victoria Burke. Although Linda Olis is nominally on the committee, she has not been active since Fall 2011; Erik Clevin was recruited by a former clerk and served through the summer of 2012 before other obligations required that he, too, drop out. Only Richard and Rachel (appointed via the Nominating Committee) and Victoria (recruited by the clerk) are scheduled to continue on the committee after the 2013 annual sessions; it is not clear that any of them are able to step into the role of clerk. Martha will continue as co-clerk through 2014, serving the remainder of Linda Olis's term. A co-clerk is needed now for a smooth transition to continue offering MY programs. OVYM's commitment to serving its middle school age children has not yet been made manifest in new leadership arising for this committee.

The MY Committee met twice during annual sessions, to update the committee charge, to assess the yearly meeting program, and to look ahead to Joint Quarterly and the next yearly meeting. We met via conference call and relied on email to conduct our business. We provided a program during yearly meeting, serving 6 youth, and during Joint Quarterly, serving 4 youth.

We came to unity on allowing the Task Force on Committees to reduce our numbers and on continuing with appointment via the nominating process; however, the clerk also recruits additional members or people for specific activities. We agreed to expand our reach to 10 year olds, who may choose to remain in the children's program or move up. We revised our committee description to more accurately describe our goals and responsibilities. Our 2012 staff, Jason Dean and Carrie Griffith, reported the need for improvements to the printed schedule and to their support during sessions. In consultation with staff and past committee members, we created a checklist of duties that has proven helpful in planning for the 2013 sessions. During the 2012 yearly meeting, we also began planning for Joint Quarterly and completed this work via conference call and email. Although email is best for practical matters, conference calls are effective for discernment. Spirit was clearly at work as an idea for a First Day school lesson related to the theme of the quarterly program emerged during our conversation.

During Joint Quarterly, Terre Holada of Ft. Wayne MM provided instruction and supplies for making cards, which both youth and young adults enjoyed. The youth decided to send proceeds from card sales to Right Sharing of World Resources and easily raised \$90 as adults snapped up their creations. Philip Herzog did an excellent job as our staff person but sometimes found the responsibilities stressful. As a committee, we need to do a better job communicating expectations and providing support to our staff.

Since Joint Quarterly will occur again this fall, we are eager to have other adults join us to share their interests for an hour or so during the adult business meeting or after dinner. If you have a game, craft, activity, or song to share, the Middle Youth are eager to have fun!

In planning for the 2013 sessions, we are hiring at least one staff member and will finalize most of the details of the yearly meeting middle youth program in June and July.

## Teen Committee Report

Although the teen committee has met less regularly this year, the teen program continues to be robust. We hope to return to a more regular schedule in the 2013-14. The teens gather often, including Yearly Meeting sessions, weekend retreats, regional gatherings with other Yearly Meetings, and the annual service trip. Our teen clerks for the year were Lucy Grace Kokenge and Dylan Cahalan, with Rachel Logan-Wood as assistant clerk. Dylan is also clerk of the Friends General Conference Summer 2013 teen program. All three clerks are going on to college in the fall, and we thank them for their leadership over the past few years. Other teen leaders serve on nurture committees formed at each event to care for the community and a committee of teens planned the food for this year's trip. We are also thankful for a talented pool of adults who join the teens as Friendly Adult Presences. Attendance is lower at our retreats than at summer programming. We had to cancel our November retreat due to low numbers, but the teens gathered in October at Joint Quarter and at Community Meeting in April, as well as joining teens from Illinois and Lake Erie Yearly Meeting for Youth Quakes in January and May. The May Quake was hosted and planned by Earlham College. Programming at the retreats this year focused on Earthcare and discrimination, as well as other topics.

As this report is written, 13 teens and five adults are headed to Barnesville, Ohio for the annual service trip. The group will stay at the Ohio Yearly Meeting Friends Center, a small house on the campus of Olney Friends School. Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative) is celebrating its 200th year, so there will be an opportunity to learn local Quaker history as well as becoming aware of social and environmental issues in Appalachia. The group has been matched with a family in need of home repairs by the Sowers Mission, a United Methodist work camp program at the nearby Epworth Center. The group will also travel to West Virginia to learn about mountaintop removal from a Sierra Club activist. We expect the trip to be within budget, without the need for fundraising, thanks to the generosity of Ohio Yearly Meeting and reduced transportation costs. The teen program will continue fundraising in the coming year with the hope of planning an international trip in 2015.

Several teens graduate this year, but we continue with a strong, slightly smaller, core group. We are happy to see our teens involved in Friends General Conference and the annual Quake that rocked the Midwest. The majority of the teens graduating this year are going on Quaker Colleges. We hold each of our young people in the Light as they venture off to the next stage of life and hope that Quakerism continues to be a part of their journey. We appreciate the extensive commitment that this Yearly Meeting makes to its teens.

Nikki Coffey Tousley and Peter Hardy  
Teen Committee Clerks

## Planning Committee Report

The Planning Committee includes Kate Anthony, Dinah Duvall, Dale Hayes, Tunia McClure, Barbara Robinson, Martha Viehmann, and Kay Wheeler with registrar Eric Wolff and a Teen Committee representative also regularly attending. Martha has a dual role as Middle Youth Committee clerk. Our planning would be enhanced by occasional participation of or communication with a representative from the Children's Committee. We met five times and relied on email updates in between. Our meetings include worshipful, spirit-led discernment and attention to practical details.

Planning for each annual session begins at the close of Yearly Meeting, where we report our impressions of strengths and weaknesses, say goodbye to parting members, welcome new ones, and select a clerk and recorder/secretary. We gratefully accepted Dinah's continuation as recorder and struggled to identify someone to replace Tunia as our clerk. Many of our members lack the time or skills to lead this active committee. With gratitude, we accepted Kate Anthony's offer to serve as clerk; Tunia has provided substantial support.

Our fall meeting begins with review of evaluations, an affirming and humbling process. The setting of our annual gathering always poses challenges beyond the committee's control; we work to alleviate what problems we can and hope that attenders find the discomforts outweighed by the gifts of the spirit that consistently arise from being together. In October, we united on the theme "Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" and identified potential plenary speakers who could weave together our history, our current condition, and our hopes for the future. Stephen Pothoff of Campus Meeting will share with us work based on his study of historical Quakers and dreams; Maurine Pyle, a released Friend from Illinois Yearly Meeting, brings to us her engagement with listening to friends with the aim of bridging divides. Our location on the Wilmington College campus led us to invite Ruth Dobyms to present a workshop in the Quaker Heritage Center. Suggestions on the evaluations were a great help in determining possible plenary speakers and workshop topics. Our committee's work is also aided by having one member, Dale, who is knowledgeable about current Quaker spiritual leaders. In our January meeting, we united on inviting Christine and Gene Snyder as our Living Witnesses and drafted a roster of likely workshop leaders. We considered how to increase physical activity for adults.

The return after many years to the Wilmington College campus required campus visits. College staff have been helpful but were never able to provide all the information we needed. We could not view all rooms, our student guide had no information on costs, and other unanswered questions required considerable phone and email exchanges. Nonetheless, at our March meeting, we drafted a schedule and largely completed our roster of workshops, striving to include a range of topics from Bible study to social concerns and alternative spiritual practices. During the spring meeting, we also looked at registration concerns and began to develop queries. The move to Wilmington College results in many questions.

During our final meeting, we reviewed the schedule and queries, assigned site managers and proposed names for worship-sharing leaders. A final walk-through of the campus helped us see how our days together will progress and provided a final opportunity to clear up concerns. Preparing for the Yearly Meeting requires attention to many details; with the good effort of each member of the committee, a devoted clerk, and God's grace, we have striven to plan for OVYM's spiritual and physical needs. We eagerly anticipate gathering for our 193rd Annual Sessions and look forward to your feedback and helpful suggestions on the evaluations to start our planning again.

## Earthcare Committee Report

The Earthcare Committee continues to follow the vision of our 2002 sustainability minute and our book of discipline in seeking harmony with all fellow Earth beings and communities. We recognize more and more that peace among people requires right relations with the web of creation which sustains us all.

Given our recognition of the fact that the human race's rate of consumption and pollution continues relentlessly beyond the sustainable carrying capacity of Earth, we remain faithful to supporting local food economies, addressing soil and water conservation, and promoting ecological design. We also have an increased concern about the growing climate crisis. Replacing fossil fuel-based industrial agriculture with local food economies is a major way of addressing this crisis.

In our spring meeting/retreat, two goals emerged which show promise of advancing the above concerns. Recognizing that personal change toward low carbon lifestyles is not enough to impact the climate crisis, we have followed the efforts since 2009 of the world-wide coalition 350.org to convince governments to regulate fossil fuel corporations and our own fuel consumption as effort is redirected toward renewable energy and energy efficiency. As these corporations now have turned to more hazardous methods to extract the less accessible remaining coal, oil and gas, essentially polluting the atmospheric commons for free, 350 has been encouraging colleges, governments and churches to replace their financial investments in these corporations with less damaging or with constructive alternatives. So in the interest of encouraging the exploration of such fossil fuel divestment (this strategy helped end apartheid in South Africa), we are showing the "Do the Math" film in an evening discussion group here. We encourage all of you who don't see it here to watch the film at the 350.org website and discuss it in your monthly meeting.

The second goal that emerged this spring is to explore and encourage you to explore creating resilient neighborhood communities and economies in which we connect more directly for our sustenance with natural sources, including the soil and water, in the local ecosystem. A workshop called "Grounding our faith: Contemplative work with the land" explores how such reconnecting with each other within a grounded sense of divine presence in creation may help us face the seemingly inevitable decline and collapse in the way of life we Americans have taken for granted. Such community rootedness and fellowship may be essential to sustain us as we engage in the grassroots political activism that seems called for, including perhaps the divestment movement and beyond.

More than twenty years ago Wendell Berry wrote "To live, we must daily break the body and shed the blood of Creation. When we do this knowingly, lovingly, skillfully, reverently, it is a sacrament. When we do it ignorantly, greedily, clumsily, destructively, it is a desecration. . . The great, greedy, indifferent national and international economy is killing rural America, just as it is killing America's cities—it is killing our country. Experience has shown that there is no use in appealing to this economy for mercy toward the earth or toward any human community. All true patriots must find ways to oppose it."

Bill Cahalan, clerk

# Faith and Practice Committee Report

**Committee Members** Paul Buckley, Lisa Cayard, Mary Garman, Betsy Neale (co-clerk), Wilson Palmer, Rex Sprouse (co-clerk).

## ***Work of the committee and monthly meetings, 2012-2013***

At its August and September meetings the committee decided to develop only one text for monthly meetings to review this year—the first draft of the section on the peace testimony. This text was distributed to monthly meetings in the fall.

The other major task of the committee this year has been to review the overall project of revising our book of *Faith and Practice*, comparing the content and structure of the 1978 *Discipline* to our working Table of Contents, which outlines the structure and topics for the revised *Faith and Practice*.

As part of beginning to develop texts on the testimonies, we discussed how this material will appear in our revised *Faith and Practice*. Our working Table of Contents includes a section entitled, ‘Letting Our Lives Speak.’ Within this section, we envision sections on the major Quaker testimonies (for example, Integrity, Peace, Equality) followed by Areas of Application (for example, Close Relationships, Seeking Harmony with Creation, Social Responsibility). This would replace the section, ‘Principles and Application,’ which appears in the 1978 *Book of Discipline*. We feel that this structure will permit us to retain much of both the spirit and the letter of the 1978 *Discipline*, while opening space for a more transparent expression of the spiritual underpinning of the actions we are called to take as Friends today.

In the spring the committee reviewed monthly meeting responses to the first draft of the text on the peace testimony and developed the second draft, to be considered at this summer’s annual sessions.

## ***Presentations at the 2013 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Sessions***

*Close Relationships, Part II:* At the 2012 OVYM Sessions, Friends accepted *Close Relationships, Part II, draft 4*, with minor revisions to be made following the sessions. Draft 5 incorporates these revisions and was published in the 2012 Minute Book for a year of seasoning. At our 2013 annual sessions Friends will be asked to approve *Close Relationships, Part II, Draft 5*, for inclusion in the OVYM book of *Faith and Practice*. The text of this document appears below. [Editor's Note: The text has been replaced with the approved version.]

Once Part II of the section on *Close Relationships* has been approved, Parts I and II of *Close Relationships* will be joined into one document and incorporated into the *Faith and Practice* on our website. Material from the 1978 edition that has been superseded will be removed.

*Peace Testimony, Draft 2* The document on the peace testimony has been revised after consideration of the responses of monthly meetings to *Peace Testimony, Draft 1*. The resulting document, *Peace Testimony, Draft 2*, will be presented for threshing at the 2013 OVYM sessions. This document appears below.

***In closing*** We thank Friends for their participation in the work of *Faith and Practice* revision this past year. We look forward to a productive year in 2013-2014. Monthly meetings can again expect assignments for their review.

## **Close Relationships (Part II)**

The Book of Faith and Practice of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

5th Draft

Approved 8th Month 1, 2013

### **Supporting marriages and other steadfast commitments**

Meetings have a responsibility to lift up the importance of love, trust, and mutual respect in marriage and other steadfast relationships. As time passes and individuals change, relationships will also change. These changes offer opportunities for spiritual growth and for the deepening of the relationship. Meetings can nurture this process in a variety of ways. This support might range from home visitations, to celebrations of anniversaries, to holding workshops and retreats, to referring couples to resources offered by wider Quaker bodies.

If particular needs or difficulties arise, Friends are advised to hold the couple in prayer and to offer gentle encouragement. It is our experience that a confidential clearness committee offered by the meeting can assist a couple (or an individual) in seeking God's guidance in the relationship. Meetings should be aware of their limitations and be prepared to refer couples to specialized resources beyond the meeting.

### **Sharing a home**

Friends recognize that shared homes include a variety of possible relationships, such as single-parent, two-parent, blended, and multi-generational households, as well as adults living without children. We rejoice and are nourished in homes full of friendliness, refreshment, and peace, where the Light can be felt by those who live there and by all who visit. Such homes reflect caring, trust, and commitment in an atmosphere of good humor and play. The efforts of making a home should be shared with tender regard for the needs and abilities of all members and with appreciation for their unique contributions, recognizing that needs and abilities grow and diminish over the course of each person's life. In the home our beliefs and practices are tested on a daily basis, and conflicts within families are inevitable. Learning ways to resolve them through openness, honesty, and mutual respect helps strengthen our relationships. Friends are reminded that the guidance of the Light Within is at all times available to lead us into greater love.

### **Special needs and long-term illness**

Special needs and long-term illnesses can arise at any time in a person's life and may entail physical, cognitive, social, or psychological challenges. Caring for a child, adult, or aging family member with special needs or a long-term illness can bring unanticipated blessings, but it can also exhaust and isolate the caregiver and can put strain on relationships within the household. Realizing that families may be reluctant to ask for help, Friends should reach out with sensitivity to offer support and nurture to each family in a way appropriate to its unique needs.

### **Addiction in a home**

Addiction to alcohol and other substances poses unique challenges that can seriously undermine the health of a household. Friends are encouraged to inform themselves about addictive behavior in

order to provide appropriate types of support to addicts and their loved ones. Addiction requires treatment, and support of an addict requires support for treatment. Even with the best of intentions, providing shelter and sustenance can merely perpetuate the addiction. Meetings should support members who are undertaking the difficult actions required to make recovery possible for members of their households.

## **Divorce**

Friends are cautioned against divorce or separation except under extreme circumstances. Escape from domestic unhappiness through the all too common practice of divorce repudiates an agreement entered into for life, and gives countenance and support to a usage demoralizing to home life. Friends should rather strive, through frequent communication on a deep and honest level, to reconcile differences when they arise. Even when anger and resentment arise, these feelings may be dealt with in constructive ways which contribute to self-knowledge and improved interpersonal relationships.

Although Friends may make every effort to reconcile differences, there are times when close relationships end. Meetings can play a constructive role in these transitions by extending compassionate care to all those involved and responding to that of God in each person. Friends should recognize that children in these situations may be especially in need of the meeting's love and care.

## **Abuse in a home**

The exercise of inappropriate power in close relationships can result in physical, psychological, or sexual abuse. In the face of the social isolation often associated with an abusive home, those victimized may feel alone and desperate. Meetings are advised to educate themselves about domestic abuse and to become particularly sensitive to signs of such situations and to be bold in offering assistance. Meetings are encouraged to create communities of trust in which those who are being abused can seek the support of the meeting.

## **Nurturing children**

To watch the spirit of children, to nurture them in Gospel Love, and labour to help them against that which would mar the beauty of their minds, is a debt we owe them; and a faithful performance of our duty not only tends to their lasting benefit and our own peace, but also to render their company agreeable to us.

(John Woolman, 1758)

Our children are given to us for a time to cherish, to protect, to nurture, and then to salute as they go their separate ways. They too have the light of God within, and a family should be a learning community in which children not only learn skills and values from parents, but in which adults learn new ways of experiencing things and seeing things through young eyes. From their birth on, let us cultivate the habit of dialogue and receptive listening. We should respect their right to grow into their own wholeness, not just the wholeness we may wish for them.

(Elizabeth Watson, 1980)

Every child deserves physical, intellectual, and spiritual nurture. To this end, parents and other adult caregivers must establish themselves as loving and reliable sources of guidance. Caring for

children is a life-transforming responsibility, bringing joys, challenges, and experiences of personal and spiritual growth for adult and child. Through good example and consistent teaching, we can counteract many of the negative influences children inevitably encounter. Children are greatly influenced by parents who lead faithful lives, discerning and following the Light Within. Our inward faith is made manifest through practicing simplicity, honesty, nonviolence, service, and love.

To guide our youth toward a life of fulfillment and service, it is essential that Quakers teach their children about creative responses to conflict, the consequences of violent behavior, discernment in sexual activity, the dangers of addiction, and the importance of living in harmony with creation. At the same time, parents and other caregivers should not impose on their children their full range of expectations but rather should have a deep appreciation of who their children are in their own right and support the unfolding of each child's unique gifts. We believe that by nurturing the development of self-worth, self-confidence, and self-discipline, we help children to grow into responsible and compassionate adults. Parents and other caregivers should teach their children about the faith and practice of the Religious Society of Friends, and meetings should support children's participation in Quaker youth events and activities. The habit of quiet waiting upon God, both in meeting for worship and in regular family devotion, tends to strengthen and develop the spiritual life of a child.

### **Preparation for Death**

An awareness of our mortality may help us to find life richer in the present, to cope better with the deaths of those we love, and to accept death with dignity for ourselves. Friends are encouraged to talk openly about death and its meaning for our spiritual lives. Many find that as they face impending death, they are drawn to invite their loved ones into exceptionally frank and open conversations, often leading to emotional healing and forgiveness.

Meetings are encouraged to provide practical education about preparations for death. We can ease the impact of our death on those we love by making certain preparations. Each adult Friend is encouraged to consider making advanced directives, to make a will, and to express preferences regarding organ donations, the disposal of the body, and a memorial meeting. Meetings may wish to keep copies of these documents on file and be prepared to contact relatives in the case of a member's death or other emergency.

### **Bereavement**

Not even the most careful preparation can alleviate the natural sorrow and grief felt by surviving loved ones. Grieving family and friends will welcome the strength provided by the spiritual, emotional, and practical support of the wider family of Friends. Meetings are advised to recognize that not everyone grieves the death of a loved one in the same way, and Friends are advised to be sensitive to the unique feelings and needs of each grieving person. Friends may be called upon to be compassionate listeners and to help those grieving appreciate how much the gifts of their loved one enriched the lives of others. Friends are advised to be sensitive to grieving survivors during potentially tender times of the year or on particularly tender occasions. All can find support and joy in continuing to celebrate the life of the deceased person while acknowledging his or her death.

**Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Discipline Revision Committee**  
**The Peace Testimony**  
2nd Draft  
2013-04-21

From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of the lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not; ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and ye receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

James 4:1-3

I told them I lived in the virtue of that life and power that took away the occasion of all wars...I told them I was come into the covenant of peace which was before wars and strife were.

George Fox, 1651

Our principle is ... to seek peace, and ensue it, and to follow after righteousness and the knowledge of God, seeking the good and welfare, and doing that which tends to the peace of all... this is our testimony to the whole world.

Declaration to Charles II, 1660

Friends believe that God calls us to live together in a covenant of peace, as envisioned by George Fox. We seek to follow the teaching and example of Jesus—love, self-sacrifice and resisting the temptation to use coercion and violence. This path is grounded in deep spiritual listening for the guidance of the Inward Teacher, humility, and openness to multiple perspectives. Living this way requires patience, perseverance, and courage, but it also opens the door to participation in God's Peaceable Kingdom.

If violence and war are to be avoided, the spirit from which they proceed must be recognized. The seeds of conflict are in our hearts and are sown by insecurity, fear, greed, injustice, intolerance, and ignorance. The beginnings of strife must be resolved through non-violent means. Quaker peace witness seeks to respond to coercion and violence with courage, compassion, and justice. This applies to conflicts between individuals, groups, or entire nations.

We believe that God has called us to lead lives of strict non-violence and to seek non-violent resolution to the conflicts that arise in our lives. We must recognize that the path of non-violence is in many ways at odds with the world around us and may lead us to act in ways that challenge some of the values of our culture. On occasion, it may also require patience as we lovingly hold the tension of an as-yet-unresolved conflict, awaiting a transformation of mind and heart within others and within ourselves.

Friends have a special responsibility to nurture the spirit of love in young people and teach them to practice non-violence in their own lives and to stand for peace. In this way, we seek to foster a future rooted in peace and freed from historical cycles of violence, resentment, and strife.

Our peace testimony leads us individually and corporately to work for the abolition of practices rooted in violence and coercion, such as torture and the death penalty, and to strive to create the conditions of peace, such as justice, cooperation, and the right sharing of the world's resources. As our understanding of God's leadings for us continues to grow, specific expressions of the peace testimony will emerge, develop, and mature.

## Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

We hope many of you will come a little early to Yearly Meeting to participate in our traditional pre-yearly meeting workshop, this year on Wednesday July 31 from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. (lunch provided). This year's topic is citizen lobbying – how it works, why it is important, and how to do it (with role plays for practice). This will be led by Matt Southworth of the FCNL staff. Last year's pre-yearly meeting workshop on the Equality Testimony & the Occupy Movement brought about 30 Friends to learn and discuss with Greg Coleridge from AFSC's Northeast Office, Carol Hunter (nonviolent history professor) and Bob Hunter (youth minister).

This Spring our committee supported the teen service project at Community Friends Meeting by paying for their lunch. Several of us planned to join them for all or part of their day though only one was able to attend. We hope to have more interactions with youth in the future, either through service projects or educational programs or a combination. We invite interested teens to attend our committee meetings at OVYM sessions and bring your ideas.

A new goal of our committee is to have more communication with monthly meetings by inviting a person from each monthly meeting to be a liaison with our committee (preferably a Peace & Social Concerns monthly meeting contact or committee person or their FCNL or AFSC representative). The liaison person could join our conference calls and would get our meeting and conference call minutes; it is hoped that they could report on what we are doing to their monthly meeting and tell us what their meeting is doing re: peace and social concerns. We had two liaisons this year and hope to recruit more in the future.

Our letter writing table had a bigger sign and more prominent place in 2011 but only slightly more people (a dozen or so) stopped to write letters. Please make a point of stopping this year. Writing letters is a good way to let your Congress persons and other public officials know where you stand; they can be reasoned factual arguments, faith-based or moral arguments or just short opinions. When officials get lots of letters on one side of an issue, this may be a persuading factor to change minds or moderate positions.

Our committee will have a table at yearly meeting with relevant literature, including updated copies of the description of our Peace Witness Support Fund. We will post a flyer with a list of our activities during yearly meeting at the registration desk and elsewhere. We often sponsor interest groups, films and/or minutes for approval on the floor of yearly meeting (check the web site to see some of our past minutes). We usually hold several committee meetings during yearly meeting during lunch; we invite interested Friends to join us for one or more of our meetings.

Our committee consists of Ron Haldeman, Frank Huus, Majorie Issacs, Richard Mitchell, Bob Vetter and myself, Jane Stowe. Our liaisons this year are Peggy Squires and Shannon Murray. Meetings needing liaisons with our committee are Campus, Dayton, Eastern Hills, Englewood, Louisville, Miami, Yellow Springs, Fort Wayne, Hopewell, Lafayette and White Rose. We especially seek liaisons from the larger meetings. Please discern whether you or someone you know from your meetings might come to one of our lunch meetings at OVYM or consider this liaison possibility.

## **Religious Nurture and Education Committee Report**

This has been a year of major change for this committee. Following two years of leadings and suggestions brought forward by OVYM friends, Two committees (Advancement and Nurture, Religious Education) merged our experiences, leadership, and experience to form a single committee with the charge of nourishing the spiritual life of Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, and the Yearly Meeting. The formal charge, brought to Executive Committee, is appended to this report.

We spent the year responding to this charge, visiting Monthly Meetings when invited, facilitating a workshop on diversity and inclusion, seeking clearness about an individual leading to releasement for ministry, helping the Youth Programs assess their effectiveness and their needs.

We acted on a request to consult on a document on Quaker testimonies. We consulted with Monthly Meetings on a special program on meditation for children. We prepared a workshop on spiritual leadership in meetings for business, presented at this year's OVYM sessions.

We began preparation for a retreat open to OVYM, to be offered at St. Meinrad's or the Franciscan Retreat in Oldenburg, Indiana.

A summary of the Monthly Meeting's discernments about our youth programs is appended below. From our review of these responses, we see a clear indication that Friends are ready to consider the hiring of a Middle Youth Secretary to provide year-round programs for pre-teen Friends: retreats, Quarterly activities, and Yearly Meeting sessions programs. It is widely understood now that the volunteer activities of a few overworked individuals is not enough to support the increasing enthusiasm of these young Friends. We look forward to this year's sessions as an opportunity to establish and fund this position.

### **Charge of the Religious Nurture and Education committee**

The Religious Nurture and Education committee will discern, identify and respond to the spiritual and educational needs of the yearly meeting. This charge includes educating children and adults in Quaker spiritual practices. To accomplish this, tasks of this committee may include

- Visitation of monthly meetings
- Support diversity and inclusion in the body of the yearly meeting
- Support yearly meeting members with particular leadings to ministry within and beyond the yearly meeting
- Encourage and support intervisitation and traveling ministry
- Offer outreach and consultation to monthly meetings in response to their needs and concerns.

At yearly meeting sessions, the committee will serve as ministry and counsel committee for the session. These duties include:

- provide support to the yearly meeting clerks
- consult with authors of the yearly meeting epistle
- offer workshops
- In advance of sessions, read monthly meetings' state of meeting reports and prepare the state of society reports.

## Monthly Meetings' Discernment of the Needs of OVYM Youth Programs Report to Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting 2013 Sessions

This is a summary of our Monthly Meetings' responses to this committee's queries re the present usefulness and perceived needs of our youth programs. Many meetings in both quarters responded to our queries, which I include in italics.

### I. Middle Youth Program.

*At a number of recent sessions we have heard very moving reports from the Middle Youth Committee for more involvement. (Most all of this year's record number of teens passed through the Middle Youth Program.) Some have suggested that it is time to hire a Youth Secretary for middle youth as we have already done for the teens. Is your meeting ready to support the additional cost of a new Middle Youth Secretary? (This could lead to a suggested increase in the proportional share per member or \$10-\$13.)*

With only one exception, monthly meetings recognized the value of the middle youth program and support the appointment of a paid Middle Youth Secretary along the lines of the current Teen Secretary. Even most meetings with no current middle youth children are willing to share in the added expense. Some expressed concern about the cost of the proposed position, and it was suggested that the position of the Teen Secretary might be expanded to include services to middle youth. The need for more unpaid support was also noted: adults (not only parents) who get involved with middle youth activities within and beyond their home meeting, and meetings who would sponsor and host middle youth activities.

### II. Teen Program.

*The teen program is very active and robust right now. Has your meeting ever had any teens involved with the program? Has your meeting ever had any adults active in working/ volunteering in the program? Does your meeting feel well informed about the teen program? Are there ways the program can be improved? Are there any concerns about the program? One goal the teen program has adopted is to try to raise funds to pay for one major trip once every four years. (The last major trip was taken to Alaska in 2009.) Is your meeting aware of this effort? If any of your teens have ever traveled on an OVYM teen trip, did your meeting take the time to hear a report on his/her experience?*

While monthly meetings recognize that the teen program is active and benefits many teens, there is frequent frustration with insufficient communication about the aims and activities of the program. Some meetings with teens would like more outreach from the program; others are well-informed and enthusiastic. Most meetings seem willing to support more ambitious activities such as service trips, but wish the teens would share their experiences more widely by reporting back directly to the monthly meetings who supported them.

### III. The Intergenerational Yearly Meeting

*There has been a higher level of interest in creating a more genuinely intergenerational YM, with room for aged-defined groups to gather separately, but also more opportunity for everybody to come together more often. Are adults, in particular, willing to give up some of our usual activities for more intergenerational ones? Are there ways to do this outside of yearly meeting session?*

In principle, intergenerational activities at sessions and year-round are well-regarded. In practice, existing opportunities are widely supported. However, there was concern from some monthly meetings

that successful IG activities need careful planning and selection or risk being boring or irrelevant to younger friends. Just bringing young friends to business sessions is not enough. Several voices suggest that the initiative for youth involvement should come from the young members themselves: the current “Simply Speaking” activity at YM sessions was cited as an example of a successful activity guided by the teens. Monthly meetings offered a rich variety of suggestions for activities:

- Adults should involve themselves in youth activities as helpers or Friendly Adult Presences
- To engage youth in business sessions, eliminate the repetitive reading aloud of committee reports, which should be in advance reports anyway. It was observed that adults would find this practice more engaging too!
- Retreats and events for whole families; the old practice of a Fall campout was remembered.
- Expand the intergenerational functions at Quarterly Meetings.
- Intergenerational recreation: games, informal discussion.

### **Responses from Monthly Meetings from OVYM Youth Programming Queries**

We submit the following responses from our monthly meetings for Friends’ consideration. This report includes only the Fall set of queries and response. The Spring set of queries did not receive an adequate “follow up” from RNE to produce a good number of responses. Perhaps there is enough cud to chew from the first set.

We are not empowered to make any recommendation, but do feel free to encourage the Yearly Meeting to seriously consider the question of adding a paid staff position for the Middle Youth. There seems to be wide spread support for the idea, though there is a concern about what the position might cost.

Responses to the queries concerning the Teen program and Intergenerational activities are interesting and full of nuggets to ponder. There is no single upwelling that would suggest a specific course of action, but a number of serious and thoughtful ideas that merit further discussion.

In summary, the responses from Part One concerning Middle Youth, Teen, and Intergenerational programming elicits one specific question for the Yearly Meeting to consider- adding a paid staff for the Middle Youth. We invite you to read every response received in the section below:

#### **I. Middle Youth Program**

**From Miami-** (I have lost email, they supported the idea of MY sec).

**From Lexington-** Middle Youth- We felt very strongly at this discussion that OVYM should create a new Middle Youth position. If the yearly meeting wants to develop young people programming, this seems to be common sense. The job of organizing a good program for middle youth for sessions and during-the-year retreats demands more energy than we should ask of volunteers.

**From Community-** It was noted that there are 6-9 children in our meeting who are likely to participate in this program in the next several years. Given their very different needs, having separate teen and pre-teen programs is considered important. Friends are willing to invest more in our youth.

**From Oxford-** Friends said that they thought that, if there were a paid leader, other adults would be

more willing to volunteer. So, if we want year-round events for middle youth, we should pay for this. We recognize that such work needs to be paid, because otherwise families cannot afford to donate time. We think that this cost is reasonable. A year-round program could be a place to expose youth to a broader community not only of Friends, but also other religious organizations. We think that overnight events are especially good for bonding.

**From Eastern Hills-** Money by itself will not be enough to strengthen the MY program. A committee of active volunteers is essential. Given decreasing funding available to the YM, it's hard to imagine an expansion of the budget to add a MY Secretary. \* The paid staff at YM are essential- providing mentors, supervision, energy and imagination to the gathering beyond what parent volunteers and the committee provide. Because there are fewer intergenerational sessions for MY, a larger part of the program and planning is required. \* If YM decides to provide funds for a part-time staff person, we feel that our Meeting would support the additional cost.

**From Louisville-** We are absolutely clear that Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting would benefit from hiring a Middle Youth Secretary. Considering the cohesive community that Nikki has been able to build and sustain, considering that many YAFs at my last retreat were there to be with the people they grew up with, it's a slam dunk.

Travel might be an issue to bring the Middle Youth together for a retreat, but there are ways to account for this. If the Secretary were to travel throughout OVYM, could meetings provide hospitality? Louisville Friends Meeting would be happy to host.

This comes with a caveat from Louisville Friends Meeting. We are currently auditing our rolls, and anticipate striking about 20 names from our list for the next Statistician's Report (due at the same time as these questions). These are the easy names (moved to Denmark, converted, haven't heard from them in over five years, aged out of Associate Membership, etc.). You can expect more cuts in the next year or two. Personally I'm optimistic that others might join, but that's not something I can guarantee. So our numbers are dropping, and so is our proportional share. We can absolutely support our share of the cost of hiring a Middle Youth Secretary, and are enthusiastic about the work that can be accomplished by a gifted Friend in this position.

**From Dayton-** Although we felt that the projected \$10-\$13. increase in the proportional share per member is not an extremely large increase, we agreed that due to the small size of our meeting and our current financial state, we do not feel able to support the additional cost of a new Middle Youth Secretary.

**From Yellow Springs-** Friends expressed strong support for Middle Youth programming and concern for the cost of hiring an additional staff member. Friends discussed the option of expanding the roll of the Teen Secretary to include Middle Youth programming. Yellow Springs Friends Meeting enthusiastically support strengthening the Middle Youth program but financial support is a concern. We would like more information on what the position would look like and encompass before we sign on for a financial commitment.

**From Lafayette-** The Lafayette Friends Meeting has no middle schoolers at this time, but we'd like to let you know that we think that having a Middle Youth Program Secretary is a very good idea.

**From Fall Creek-** Fall Creek Friends would be comfortable with establishing a paid Middle Youth Secretary, as outlined in the query.

## II. Teen Program

**From Lexington-** Our meeting is very active with this program right now. We have many teens involved and a parent serves as co-clerk of the Teen Committee. We felt that maybe other ways of informing the larger meeting about the Teen activities might improve our awareness of the program's effectiveness. We thought it might be good to find new ways to recruit youth in the more isolated meetings. We should make sure that bulletin boards, newsletters, websites, and newcomer 'packets' all mention the existence of the yearly meeting programming for Teens and Middle Youth so that visitors with children might see that there is an active program for these youth. Adults should be encouraged to be welcoming to younger people as well as adult visitors. We asked the question, "What would motivate us who don't have kids to be supportive of the youth programs?" The most positive experience for our meeting in this regard was a report from our teens who went on the service trip to Washington DC this summer. Our one teen present for this discussion participated and helped us all understand these discussions from a Teen perspective.

**From Community-** A series of queries regarding the Teen Program were considered. In response, frustration was expressed related to communications with the OVYM Teen Secretary. The Teen Program co-clerks have not effectively addressed these problems. Improved communications and additional accountability are needed. Monthly Meeting / Yearly Meeting communications also need to be improved.

**From Oxford-** Yes, we have had a teen in the past, and currently one family joins with Cincinnati teen Friends. Yes, one adult has had considerable engagement with the OVYM teen program and a parent is currently involved with the Cincinnati teen group. We do not feel well informed about the teen program, but we will nominate a teen liaison with our statistical report. A year-round program could be a place to expose youth to a broader community not only of Friends, but also other religious organizations. We think that overnight events are especially good for bonding. We were not aware of the effort to have a major trip every 4 years. We think that it would be a good idea for a regular news article in the Quill. We think that if they intend to go on a major trip this summer, they need to get going on organizing. It would be helpful to partner with a specific group of Friends there, as we did in Alaska.

**From Eastern Hills-** Service trips are major events and help build the Teen community. The Alaska Trip is not perceived as universally positive. We question whether such travel really the most effective use of our limited time and resources. Our Meeting is not fully aware of all the current activities of the Teen Program but our general impression is that the program is an excellent part of YM. Increased communication directly with the parents would be helpful beyond the Facebook presence.

**From Louisville-** These questions were almost painfully easy for us. We haven't had any teens attend a Yearly Meeting event in over ten years. Due to this lack of involvement, we haven't been well-informed about their activities. We have no input for the second question (improvements, concerns) because we haven't had any involvement with the Teen program. While our meeting is aware of the Teens' efforts to raise funds to go on a major trip every four years and has provided funds for the Alaska trip, we haven't heard a report from them.

**From Dayton-** We have had teens involved with the teen program, most recently, William Henry. Nikki Coffey-Tousley has been very actively involved in volunteering her time to help with the program and she keeps us well informed about it. We do not have any current concerns about the program. William travelled with the teens on at least one of their trips. Due to his busy schedule, he did not report to us on his experiences.

**From Yellow Springs-** Yes, we have had teens active in the past, but not nearly as many as we would like. Yes, we have an adult active in the program (Carol Simmons). No, our meeting does NOT feel well informed about the teen program at all. Outreach to parents and teens needs to be improved. Getting more people to go to Quarterly and Joint Quarterly Meeting is important. In addition to electronic information, one-on-one encouragement is critical. No concerns about the program itself. That is very high quality. The concern is all about communication. We had two teens who participated in the last trip and they both had wonderful and transformative times. We would have welcomed a report from any teen participants but we do not believe that this happened. We will be sure to ask that of any future participants.

**From Fall Creek-** Fall Creek Friends currently have no regularly attending teens. In the past, however, we have had teens who actively participated in the OVYM Teen Program. We feel that the Teen Program was a significantly enriching experience for the Teens directly and for the entire Meeting indirectly.

### III. The Intergenerational Yearly Meeting

**From Lexington-** We took a slight detour and decided to individually respond to the question of what was our best intergenerational experience. People shared freely to this question. We noted it takes a good planner, quite often an activity instead of discussion is involved, and stories of our personal experiences seem to be more able to cross intergenerational lines than do other kinds of discussions. We felt it is worth the effort to keep trying to make intergenerational activities happen. We also discussed a number of activities our own meeting could try.

**From Community-** There has been some interest expressed in having more intergenerational activities at the OVYM annual sessions. The OVYM Planning Committee feels that added opportunities have been built into the 2013 program. It was not clear if this concern was raised by the youth or the adults. Why should the youth want to do the activities we plan? The usual practice of the teens is to sleep little and eat poorly during the annual sessions. This may conflict with the goal of intergenerational activities. Do we have responsibilities to the teens to have activities that they might not choose to engage in?

Increased involvement of the youth in the planning process is essential for successful intergenerational activities, but finding ways to include them – having them present and feeling free to play an active role in the planning committee – may be difficult. Giving sage advice from a distance is easy, but we may seem judgmental and critical when we do so. Our personal involvement is also needed.

**From Oxford-** Continue to have intergenerational workshops, e.g., “simply speaking”. Encourage adults to go along on service trips. Make the evening singing time intergenerational.

**From Eastern Hills-** Expanding these opportunities should emerge from leadings. If creating

opportunity means doing business more efficiently, we would welcome that. We reviewed the program and see many IG times, especially for the Teens at YM- worship led by the Teens, canoe trip, get acquainted, meal time, ice cream social, plenary session, swim time, workshops, variety show and interest groups. We noted that programs are only truly intergenerational if careful planning ensures that those who show up are split into groups that include members of more than one generation. The service project prior to YM needs more careful planning and could be more than a Teen-Adult event. The continuation of intergenerational singing is encouraged. The children's program would benefit from male volunteers, especially to help with trips to the pool to oversee the boys in the locker room.

**From Louisville-** The thought that we heard the most was that Business Sessions, which dominate the adult program, are BORING. Especially the report readings. Is it really worth the time to call a Friend, no matter how weighty, to read a report that's already in the Reports in Advance? If you cut the report readings out of the Business Sessions, or if you limit each report to five minutes (including questions), then you could gain LOTS of time which can be used for more productive activities. Let me remind you that this not the concern of a few young'uns who have no patience for business. Our regular attenders at Yearly Sessions are also the most experienced in our Monthly Meeting for Business. This discussion included a charter member of our meeting and five Friends who are either serving in a clerkship role or who are seasoned in such roles. If WE find the reports painful, imagine how they feel to a younger Friend. Get the adults to read and digest the Reports in Advance in advance, before they come to Business Sessions.

We'd need more of a design change than plugging youngsters into adult programming. There wasn't much discussion on exactly how we could structure a more intergenerational Yearly program. There was clarity that we can't just plug an intergenerational activity into a slot in the adult program. Perhaps this question would be better taken up by Planning Committee, or our religious nurture people. There was interest in Experiments with Light and in Meeting for Healing, but we should follow the lead of our youth educators.

We'd like to see more interaction between generations of Friends, and more leadership from the younger generations. Simply Speaking, done by our Teens, was held up as a nourishing activity which benefits from their leadership. Worship Mentors, done between seasoned Friends and the Middle Youth, could be done at a Monthly Meeting level.

Visiting between meetings also played a role in this discussion. Worship Mentors who traveled between meetings and did programs of their own, who played with the kids, who had Queries and who could provide perspective from another meeting would be wonderful. We could do a thing at Quarterly Sessions. We could do retreats for families (entire families), or do other retreats between major events. FGC offers resources for planning intergenerational retreats. Visiting would also help the discernment process that these questions address. There was a feeling that we might be more productive if we were addressing a person who would report back to Executive Committee than if we were answering questions on a document that can't talk back to us.

**From Dayton-** There is some interest in more intergenerational activity at YM sessions, but hesitancy because we're concerned that instead of some of the usual activities being given up, the YM session time might likely be extended and we might lose participants as a result. We do think that many YM attenders have probably felt the desire for more time for fellowship rather than so much time on programming and business. There have been good intergenerational activities at Quarterly Meetings,

especially at the joint Quarterly Meeting sessions. Perhaps we should continue this and possibly expand on this.

**From Yellow Springs-** We at our meeting wonder where this impulse is coming from? If it is coming from adults, we feel that we should allow the teens their community building time. If it is coming from the teens who are hungering to spend more time with their elders, then we are all for it!

**From Fall Creek-** In principle, Fall Creek Friends welcome both age-defined and multigenerational opportunities at Yearly Meeting sessions. Friends urge that multigenerational activities occur in natural, unforced settings and that potential generational differences be de-emphasized, not highlighted. Concrete examples might include sports, other games, or discussions, where effects of differences in the ages of the participants might be partially complementary and partially overlapping.

## **Quaker Heights Care Community Report**

Quaker Heights Care Community mission statement begins with -- *One commitment of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Quakers to provide ministry to the aging and chronically ill takes form in services and programs of the Friends Home Community.* We have continued our care of the elderly and chronically ill through the skilled nursing facility and assisted living. Looking to present and future needs of this population, we are hoping soon to break ground for a rehabilitation wing. This will allow us to provide greater rehabilitation resources to our residents and outpatients living in the area. Additionally we shall be able to provide 30 private rooms, something that is continuously requested. Once we have received approval from HUD for funding, we will break ground.

We have renovated one hall to meet the needs of elders who have been hospitalized and released while still very ill. We have a nurse practitioner providing more hours to assist in caring for these acutely ill residents, and we are gradually adding more registered nurses to help us in providing high quality care.

As a part of our mission to assist disabled and chronically ill persons, we partnered with Warren County to assist developmentally disabled young adults learn self-care and daily living skills. This past year one of our apartments was used by the school system to teach these daily living skills. Once students were ready to interact and work with others, they were placed with our dining and laundry staff to work on skills in these departments. It has been wonderful to see staff sharing with these young adults and the young adults showing increased self-confidence and skill abilities. One group of students put in several small vegetable gardens which the assisted living residents will tend during the summer while school is out, and the residents will enjoy the products of the garden.

This is the first year we have had a director of development, and Lisa Gooding has assisted us in fund raising activities. One great success was the Pumpkin Bowl Fundraiser. She reworked and developed public relation materials to build awareness of QHCC as a not for profit mission in Waynesville. She is putting much energy into synergizing fundraising activity as we need to raise \$40,000 in donations in 2013.

The Board Governance has been strengthened through productive and thorough committee work that has refined recruitment and orientation processes for new members, developed a clinical excellence

committee to promote benchmarking and continuous improvement in resident outcomes and satisfaction, and finance/ audit work yielded benchmark monitoring for stronger financial performance analysis.

We also note with pride that our CEO, Wendy Waters-Connell, has had her abilities recognized by a wider Quaker body. She is currently serving as Clerk of Friends Services for the Aging – the first time in FSA history to have a clerk from a Quaker facility outside the eastern United States.

## **Friends Peace Teams (FPT) Report**

Friends Peace Teams (FPT) began 19 years ago as a way to support individual Friends' callings to international peacework. It has developed into an organization with three distinct initiatives, similar in many ways and also very different as local teams adapt to changing needs and support new projects and areas of work.

Peacebuilding en las Americas (PLA) currently works in Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. We have some contacts in Nicaragua, and recently received an invitation to work with Colombian refugees in Ecuador. We hope to send an exploratory team to Ecuador in the coming year. Our work focuses on Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) and Community Based Trauma Healing workshops, working in communities torn by war, with former combatants, with gangs, with children, and in prisons. We have country coordinators in Colombia, El Salvador, and Honduras. A New Zealand Friend who was coordinating the Guatemalan teams had to return home for cancer treatments, and we are working with our Guatemala partners to take on coordination of their work. We are happy to explore short-term and extended volunteer service with any of you sensing a call to this work. One continuing challenge is funding. Numerous workshop facilitators have been trained, so we have many requests, trainers ready and willing, and not enough funding.

The African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) currently works in Burundi, the eastern Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda. Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities (HROC) training is the main focus. Many Friends are aware of the Kenyan citizen observers trained and voter education workshops Friends did preceding the recent Kenyan election. In Rwanda and Burundi, goats, sand water filters, and microcredit projects are used as part of the community healing process. In Rwanda AGLI is also working with schools, establishing Peace Libraries where students can learn English (a new government requirement) and parents, students, and teachers can learn peacebuilding skills together. AGLI has been busy in Burundi as refugee camps in Tanzania have closed, sending refugees back home to Burundi. Their former lands have been claimed by others, and they now live in so-called "Peace Villages" where AGLI is working to build communities rather than stewpots for a renewal of violence. In Burundi HROC staff and others submitted detailed recommendations as part of the formation of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (such as in South Africa). FPT has been recommended to do as many HROC workshops as possible, in preparation for TRC and elections. In North Kivu, Congo, AGLI continues to work with rape survivors from the continuing violence there.

The Asia/West Pacific Initiative (AWPI) has grown the most in the past year. Last year I reported that the Indonesia Initiative was expanding beyond Indonesia. AWPI is now active in Afghanistan, Australia, Indonesia, Nepal, New Zealand, and the Philippines, and has invitations for possibly working in North Korea and Papua New Guinea next year. In addition to AVP they are doing Discernment Workshops (Interfaith decision-making), Community Based Trauma Healing, and community water filter projects.

All three initiatives have also sent trainers to Canada and the U.S.A. to do trauma resiliency/HROC, discernment, and AVP workshops. Please let me know if you would like to host a speaker or workshop facilitator, or coordinate a tour in OVYM. There is interest in strengthening bonds with AVP International, offering more on trauma healing (or trauma resiliency workshops as they are now called in the U.S.A. and Canada), and translating AVP materials into many languages for local use. As “trauma healing” has become a more common phrase and some mental health professionals focus on individual healing. FPT has much to offer toward a process of community healing. Our teams bring torn families and communities together to build a new future with community solutions and support. Healing is not just a workshop, it is a process, and I invite all of you to contribute to this process. Below is a partial list of ways you can get involved, whether sitting at home or traveling abroad.

Plan to attend FPT’s 20th anniversary celebration the 20th-22nd of June, 2014 in Baltimore. Our OVYM Nominating Committee also needs another representative to the Friends Peace Teams Council. Please talk with me for more information, news, and ideas.

### Ways to Be Involved with Friends Peace Teams

**Pray for our work, workers, and communities as you are led.**

**Be informed :** Read FPT PeaceWays and AGLI PeaceWays, visit us online (<http://friendspeaceteams.org>), join our listserves, and follow us on Facebook.

**Spread the word :** Distribute PeaceWays, schedule and host FPT speakers and help organize tours, and share FPT work on Facebook.

**Help the Friends Peace Teams Council :** Website and social media development, webinar technology, publicity, bookkeeping and financial consultation, become the FPT archivist, interpreters for meetings, videography for YouTube and more. Offer your skills and interests! Think about serving on the council as a representative from OVYM.

**Volunteer development for the initiatives :** Publicize opportunities in your meeting, help discern leadings in your meeting that might meet the needs of FPT, serve on a clearness committee, support your local volunteers, join a workcamp, volunteer on an initiative team or service trip (2 weeks to 6 months) in East Africa, Central and South America, or the Asia/West Pacific region.

**Financial :** Donate to the FPT General Fund, or to a specific initiative or project, become a sustainer of the FPT and/or one of our initiatives, encourage others to give, let us know of grant opportunities and offer grant-writing support. (Friends Peace Teams, 1001 Park Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63104)

Submitted by Susan Lee Barton, [susanleebk@juno.com](mailto:susanleebk@juno.com), 215-438-6433

## **Friends Music Camp Report**

Friends Music Camp is excited for its 34th summer session. Camper, staff, and alumni enthusiasm for FMC is high, with the community holding strong through visits and digital communication throughout the year. We are eager to welcome all our campers this year, and note that providing scholarships to both new and returning campers is key to the attendance of many. We are grateful for the support of the yearly meeting as well as our many individual donors, all of whom enable us to provide these scholarships.

This year's campers come from eighteen different states and will be taking lessons on over twenty different instruments altogether. They will participate in large ensembles such as chorus, musical theater, band, orchestra, and jazz band, as well as a number of smaller groups. Like last year, our main musical theater production is being adapted for our campers by the musical theater director. Further, we all look forward to our annual visit to Yellow Springs for the concert to benefit the Glen Helen ecology center. Our campers appreciate giving back with their gift of music.

Musically, FMC continues to flourish. We continue to welcome campers at all levels of musical ability, proud of each student's success. A new addition is the ability for students at Yellow Springs High School to include their experiences at Friends Music Camp for academic credit. We are pleased to partner with families to make this happen. Our staff recitals display the wide variety of talents among both our teaching staff and our dorm staff, who collectively play in many different genres. Staff recitals also continue to help us reach out to the local community in Barnesville, who are invited to attend through notices in the newspaper.

The staff community is strong and is pleased to welcome four more FMC alums to the group this year. Bonds among staff members, both musical and friendly, help to sustain the larger camp body from year to year. The New River Ensemble, a trio made up of longtime staff members, continued its outreach efforts this year with a series of concerts in North Carolina, and continues to perform several times a year outside of camp.

Friends Music Camp appreciates for the yearly meeting's continued sponsorship and support of our musical growth and our community.

-- submitted by Drea Gallaga, co-director

## **American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Report**

All three OVYM-appointed members of the AFSC Corporation attended the AFSC annual meeting in Philadelphia on March 1 and 2. The epistle from that gathering is attached to this report. We additionally wish to call OVYM Friends' attention to several other items.

Last year the Service Committee initiated the AFSC-Quaker Meeting/Church Liaison Program to invite greater connection and coordination of Friends' work for peace and justice. All meetings are encouraged to appoint a liaison to receive information from AFSC and share news of the meetings' activities. AFSC provides periodic suggestions of projects for children, youth and adults. Anyone who wants to sign up as a liaison or to receive more information about the program can send a message to [friends@afsc.org](mailto:friends@afsc.org).

Acting in Faith is a wonderful blog that blends posts about AFSC current activities with AFSC history and guest posts from Friends of all backgrounds on topics related to spirit-led work for justice and peace. The tone of the short pieces is personal and contemplative. Many could serve as the basis for individual or corporate reflection. Acting in Faith can be found at [www.afsc.org/friends](http://www.afsc.org/friends) with options to subscribe to receive posts via email.

Erin Polley, coordinator of AFSC's Indiana Peacebuilding Program, continues to play a key role with the If I Had a Trillion Dollars project. The IHTD festival asks young people to speak out on the federal budget via short videos that answer the question "What would you do with \$1 trillion—for yourself, your family, and your community?" In making their videos youth considered the \$1 trillion spent yearly on the U.S. military; the \$1 trillion spent on the wars abroad and the \$1 trillion plus in tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. This year, the third year for the contest, finalists were invited to participate in a leadership and lobbying training in Washington, D.C. A video made by participants from across the country, "Dear Congress, Invest in Me," won a People's Choice Award from Looking at Democracy. The project has developed excellent materials that groups of all ages can use to explore current spending priorities and their ideas for shifting those priorities along with help on how to plan and create a video that powerfully conveys ideas using visuals, words and music. For information on the 2014 contest, open to youth ages 10 to 23, and to watch this year's videos, visit [www.ihtd.org](http://www.ihtd.org).

The AFSC Corporation continues to consider and season possible changes to the structure, size, composition and purpose of the Corporation. Arlene Kelly, clerk of the AFSC board, has announced her intention to retire from this role next year. A committee has been formed to search for a new clerk. Jana Schroeder has agreed to serve on the clerk search committee and would welcome thoughts and suggestions from OVYM Friends .

Finally, we report with sadness the death of Michael McConnell, Regional Director of AFSC's Midwest Region, who died on April 7, 2013 after a prolonged dance with cancer. Michael joined the staff of AFSC as the Executive Secretary of the Great lakes Region. In the words of AFSC General Secretary, Shan Cretin, "When Michael McConnell came to work for the American Friends Service Committee in January 1990, this ordained minister of the United Church of Christ found more than a job. He found in this imperfect Quaker organization the perfect place to live out his calling. ... We remember Michael as a prophetic voice, a fearless witness, and a creative genius who could capture the heart of complex issues in a few words or an image. If we are to be faithful in carrying on Michael's work--and we must be so faithful--then we also need to understand the source of Michael's genius. It is this: Michael was, first and last, a minister. His activism was not separate from his ministry; it was his ministry. ... Most importantly, Michael's ministry was directed towards strengthening AFSC's witness in the world. Our witness, he knew, was most effective when it was grounded in our faith. An activist for peace and justice can remain on an abstract plane, but a minister for peace and justice must connect with human beings, addressing their needs, their aspirations, and their fears with love and compassion. As a minister, Michael was there to help each of his flock fulfill their highest calling--and his flock was the whole world." As Friends remember or hear for the first time of the life and witness of Michael McConnell, we hope that you will consider how you might become better acquainted with the American Friends Service Committee and connect your own particular ministry for peace and justice with the work of an organization which seeks to embody Quaker values in action.

Jana Schroeder, Clear Creek Friends Meeting  
Leslie Liszak, Clear Creek Friends Meeting  
Peter Fosl, Louisville Monthly Meeting

## **To Friends Everywhere: an Epistle from the American Friends Service Committee**

“People can be transformed by being open and human. We believe that people have a need to be heard, but how they are heard really matters – if they take the risk of telling their story, it needs to make a difference.” – Denise Altvater

On March 1 and 2 more than 100 of us gathered at Friends Center in Philadelphia for the AFSC Corporation Meeting. For two days, Quakers and AFSC staff worshipped together, engaged in business, and learned ways to work in partnership for peace and justice. A strong spirit of mutual respect and common cause drew us together as Friends and staff spoke about how to be effective allies and explored actions that individual Friends, meetings, and churches might be led to take in working alongside AFSC.

On Friday we spent the evening exploring trauma healing and reconciliation. Denise Altvater, a member of the Passamaquoddy tribe of the Wabankai, who has worked for AFSC for 18 years told the story of her work in Maine with Wabanki and state child care workers to establish a truth and reconciliation commission—the first between a sovereign tribal nation and a U.S. state, and the first in which victims and perpetrators have proceeded in unity. On February 12, it was seated in Hermon, Maine. Preceding it was a day of reflection and prayer for the telling of the hard stories of children who had been taken from their homes, from their people, from their ways, and placed into foster homes with white families.

The foster care system was a tactic to eradicate the culture of the few Wabanaki who had survived physical genocide. The intention was, as Richard Henry Pratt, founder of the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania said, “to kill the Indian, but save the man.”

Many of the children are now adults and still suffer from the trauma of being taken. Denise says, “Across the board, however you were taken, in a real good way or a real bad way, whether you were taken from a good home or a bad home, whether you were placed in a good or bad foster home, the people taken didn’t feel like they knew where they belonged. The trauma that had the deepest impact was the trauma of being taken. It was a real strong and real life-long traumatic event.”

Denise is clear that the harm done was part of the system: “During the boarding school era, the foster care era, child welfare workers were doing their jobs and they thought they were doing the right thing. It’s not an issue of them being good or bad, right or wrong.”

The focus of the truth and reconciliation process will be the healing of the Wabanaki through the telling and receiving of their stories, the healing of the child care workers, and changes in policy and practice.

Child welfare workers and tribal members have worked together on developing the declaration of intent; they were mistrustful at first, but when they told each other stories about who they are as people, their hearts opened to one another, and they have moved together to make the commission a reality.

As the tender, difficult stories are told and really heard, the healing can begin, the reclamation of the birthright of all people: to one’s own culture, to one’s own heart, to a sense of belonging.

Denise says, “No amount of money could make up for what happened to me.” For her, it’s all about feeling joy again, reclaiming that birthright, which has been elusive since the trauma of being taken from

her home and the trauma of the abuse she suffered at the hands of her foster parents.

Moving from harm to healing is a focus of AFSC's work all over the world. In 13 countries and 38 U.S. cities, AFSC works from the understanding that peace begins with healing from the trauma of war, violence, and other forms of harm. The interruption of cycles of violence through healing lays the foundation for peace. Our work, drawn from Quaker faith and testimonies, arises from the understanding that people have the answers they need within and listening undergirds all transformation. At its best, our work reveals the power of love.

We appreciate our deepening connection to Quaker monthly meetings, churches, yearly meetings, and Friends everywhere. Last year we launched an AFSC-Quaker meeting/church liaison program to work with Quaker congregations for peace and justice. The program has been well received and we hope that many more meetings and churches will join with us in the coming year. If you are interested, email [friends@afsc.org](mailto:friends@afsc.org).

Please hold us in your prayers, challenge us, and engage with us. None of this work can happen without communities reaching out in love to help make peace possible.

In Peace,  
Shan Cretin Arlene Kelly  
General Secretary Clerk, the Board of AFSC

## **Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Report**

FCNL had a record gathering in November of 2012, with 325 Quakers from 32 different states joining together with allies to send a key message to Congress that our country is spending too much on the Pentagon and not meeting the needs of our communities and our world.

Congressional staff said we need to continue to be really, really loud and engaged to make sure that members of Congress understand we want them to cut at least \$1 trillion from the Pentagon over the next 10 years. As we've been reviewing the lobby report back forms, we've been amazed by the stories that Friends and our allies have been carrying to Congress about the connection between your own local priorities and the decisions made in Washington about the shape of federal spending.

*Stay Engaged, Bring the Message Home*

This Sunday morning in our final business session, many Friends spoke about the importance of following up these visits in Washington with emails and letters to our elected officials, letters to the editor and efforts to engage others in our communities in this important work.

The lobbying that we all did was without a doubt the high point of the 69th Annual Meeting of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. We heard many stories of the first visits individuals have made to greet their elected officials. But the briefings, trainings and lobbying on Friday were just a part of a weekend of Spirit-led discernment, worship and governance.

### *Intern Speeches*

The speeches of our interns, many of us felt were a highlight of the weekend. They tell the story of the journey of their lives to the point where they are interns with us at FCNL.

### *Legislative Priorities for a New Congress*

We developed the final Statement of Legislative Priorities for the 113th Congress that we hope you will share with your meeting, church or other group. The General Committee also approved a budget for the next two years, affirmed the membership of General Committee and appointed officers to both the Executive Committee and the various standing committees that govern our organization.

### *Peace Award to Indiana Senator Richard Lugar.*

The link between leadership in Congress and grassroots action was also theme when FCNL provided Indiana Senator Dick Lugar with the Edward Snyder Award for National Legislative Leadership in Advancing Disarmament and Building Peace.

During a sweeping discourse on the importance of continuing efforts to reduce the danger of nuclear, chemical and biological war, Senator Lugar thanked FCNL for our lobbying here in Washington and around the country in support nuclear nonproliferation efforts and ratification of the New Start Treaty with Russia.

### *Lives that Speak: Transforming Ourselves and Transforming FCNL*

The transformation of the life of one individual can often have unexpected consequences on the lives of others in their communities and, sometimes, many thousands of others in the world, explained Diane Randall in introducing an evening celebration this weekend of lives that speak. Diane then introduced the stories of the Quaker businessman Lee Thomas, our grassroots lobbyists Burt and Birdie Kisling and Ken Alexander, our retiring development and finance director Arthur Myer Boyd, and Amanda and Nick Wilcox. Their stories this evening led others to recall the transformative effect other individuals had on their lives. This was a most inspirational session.

### *Setting Priorities for the Next Congress*

The FCNL General Committee also came to unity at this annual meeting on the Legislative Priorities for our work in the next Congress. After several workshops and two public sessions, Friends agreed to the priorities and made plans to review our policy statement during the next year.

The committee also approved a budget for the next two years, affirmed the membership of General Committee, and appointed officers of both the Executive Committee and the various standing committees that govern our organization.

Submitted by Ken Bordwell

## **Friends General Conference (FGC) Report**

In the past year Friends General Conference Central Committee has approved a new organizational vision statement.

“We envision a vital and growing Religious Society of Friends – a faith that deepens spiritually, welcomes newcomers, builds supportive and inclusive community and provides loving service and witness in the world. Through Friends General Conference, we see Quakers, led by Spirit, joining together in ministry to offers services that help Friends, meetings, seekers to explore, deepen, connect and serve within the context of our living faith.”

It is important to note that the body representative of our fellow associated yearly meetings of the FGC branch came to unity that we were to grow the Religious Society of Friends. This relates to the New Meetings Project directly as well as many other programs that Friends General Conference is currently engaged in. While the New Meetings Project is focused on new worship groups, it is also relevant to the wider vitality of the Religious Society of Friends. It is engaging people in the process of discerning regarding several key questions to friends everywhere. What is at the core of Quakerism? How do we communicate our faith? How do we build strong vital Quaker worship communities? What do people need to know to engage in Quaker faith and practice?

Another service, new this year from FGC, is the Quaker Cloud Service. Through the Quaker Cloud FGC is hosting monthly meeting websites. It allows each meeting to have an easily updated, professional, website for outreach purposes. The Quaker Cloud also provides a minute manager which allows you to archive, search and share minutes within your meeting as well as, if desired, Friends around the world.

Friends General Conference continues to provide services to meetings, friends and seekers through their programming. These programs include: the Traveling Ministries Program, the Summer Gathering, Quaker Quest, Quaker Finder, Quaker Press, Ministry on Racism, Friends Meeting House Fund, Quaker Books, Couple Enrichment, Stewardship Services, Religious Education, and Faith and Play. Friends travel in the ministry with the New Meetings Project, the Traveling Ministry program, and Quaker Quest. Meetings may invite ministers to visit their meetings through the Traveling Ministries Program. FGC’s programs and services provide spiritual nurture to Friends, meetings and seekers across North America.

Respectfully Submitted by Shannon Isaacs, OVYM representative to FGC Executive Committee

## **Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Report**

The FWCC Section of the Americas met March 14-17, 2013 at Waycross Episcopal Camp and Conference Center outside of Morgantown, Indiana. The theme was “Let the Living Waters Flow! Friends Serving God’s Purposes”. A large percentage of the yearly meetings in the section sent representatives, though a few, including nearby Central Yearly Meeting, were notably absent.

Among the representatives from Cuba was Kenya Casanova, who sent greetings which included the following:

Many brothers and sisters share our joy because we have recovered the buildings/ruins of the former Quaker School, “Colegio Wilmington” in Puerto Padre, Cuba. We trust that God will help us in the reconstruction with the contribution of many Friends.

In response, Miami Center Quarterly Meeting (of Wilmington YM) has decided to start raising funds to help with the reconstruction of this school, originally built under the leadership of Friends from this quarterly meeting.

The section continues to work to integrate the Latin Americans more fully into its operations. For example, key committees, which meet primarily through conference calls, now include representatives from Latin America. The section has decided to hold an all-section meeting less frequently, partly to save money, but also to ensure that these meetings will always have full participation from Latin America. Next year, the section will hold smaller regional “Section Consultations” in place of the international business meeting.

The 2014 Quaker Pilgrimage for young Friends will go to Peru and Bolivia. Application forms can be found on the website: <http://www.fwccamericas.org/QYP-Andes.shtml>.

One item of interest to many of us was the break up of Indiana Yearly Meeting. People from both sides of the impending divide were present at the section meeting. Representatives of what was to become the “New Association of Friends in Indiana” held an interest group, where the situation was discussed. This has been a painful period for Friends in this region.

For me, the heart of the gathering lies in the small worship sharing groups. It is here that we can deal most forthrightly and constructively with the differences among us, enriching the lives of those of us lucky enough to participate and strengthening the Quaker movement as a whole.

Respectfully submitted  
JP Lund

## **Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Report**

As OVYM’s representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness I attended the 2013 QEW Annual Meeting at the Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center in Chicago, Oct. 4-7. In the spirit of keeping my carbon footprint low, I took the Megabus from Indianapolis to Chicago, which also involves taking the Shuttlebus from Bloomington to the Indy airport, a city bus from the airport to the Megabus station and a Chicago citybus to the Cenacle Center. It takes a fair amount of time but it is doable and gives one time to relax and read.

This was the third year I attended and it was a heartwarming experience to greet and be greeted by the many attending members that have become good friends and who are so knowledgeable about all matters of Earthcare and work diligently for an Earth restored. This year’s theme was a continuation of last year’s theme on Food and Biodiversity. We also joyously celebrated QEW’s 25th anniversary. Friends recalled the first 25 years of the organization from its founding in 1987. Songs were sung and stories were shared from old Friends who witnessed the beginning years of QEW, when it was named

FCUN. Those at that first meeting in 1987 concluded, "There is a need for Friends to give forceful witness to the holiness of creation and to demonstrate in their lives the meaning of this testimony." The epistle from that gathering went on to say, "We believe right relationship with our natural environment is basic to the achievement of peace and a just social order, and the equitable distribution of the world's resources, both today and through generations to come."

Three speakers gave wonderful presentations--José Aguto, Legislative Secretary on Sustainable Energy and Environment for FCNL's , spoke on "Transforming Beliefs into Advocacy," Jim Kessler, a farmer and environmental educator from Iowa Yearly Meeting (FUM), explained "Why Native Plants Matter" and Noel Pavlovic from Illinois Yearly Meeting talked about "Tending the Garden: A Quaker Ecologist's Reflection on Biodiversity and Food," speaking from his experience as a Quaker and naturalist at the Indiana Dunes. Jim and Noel presented wonderful Power point presentations with pictures of the land they restored, and explained how this restoration work needs to be embraced. It not only heals the soil but also provides more food for all creatures and helps maintain biodiversity. Another Friend, Tom Small, had brought with him copies of a book that he co-wrote with his now deceased wife Nancy. It is called Using Native Plants to Restore Community in Southwest Michigan and beyond.

The Worship Meetings with Attention to Business were often long, but also informative. I am on the Nominating Committee and our clerk Barbara Letsch was not able to come. It meant that I spend more time getting to know people I didn't already know and try to fill some still open positions on Committees and Working Groups.

The FCNL Support Working Group has been working closely with José Aguto of FCNL to support the "Earth Restored" priority within FCNL. QEW has received special status with the UN Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Support Working Group will continue attending UN meetings.

In March 2013 QEW set up an ad hoc long-range planning committee (AHLRPC). The AHLRPC has a mandate of one year to work with the various standing committees and projects of QEW to develop a statement of where QEW wants to be in three to five years, along with the resources and skills needed to help us get there. QEW wants to remain relevant to Quakers and others who are concerned with living in right relationship with Earth; yet there are many organizations with similar goals. What is unique about QEW? Here are some of the answers we've heard so far: We want to engage and connect with Quakers, other faith groups, and secular organizations who share our concerns. We want to deepen spiritually. We want to live our testimonies, change what we do and how we do it, and get in right relationship with Earth. We want to speak out. We want to be more relevant to young people. We want to use our website and social media more effectively. We want to turn to our roots, pose the right queries and questions, and develop a Quaker response plan that gives us hope. QEW first needs to figure out a vision for itself and then we can work with others to see how we can connect the dots for a peaceful and sustainable future. If you have thoughts on what this vision for QEW should be or what you think is unique about QEW, please get in touch.

I hope you will stop by at the QEW display table where copies will be available of many trifold publications and pamphlets. There is one new trifold called Earthcare : our Spiritual Journey Home, written by Mary C. Coelho and Mary Jo Klingel. It reminds us that our current psychological and spiritual disconnection from the natural world is at the root of the global ecological crisis. This inward alienation must be healed before significant outward changes can be effective.

If you haven't already done so, I invite you to explore the QEW website at: <http://www.quakerearthcare.org> to see a listing of all their publications. QEW also publishes a bi-monthly magazine entitled BeFriending Creation. It's a wonderful publication with always inspiring articles. You can read the publication on-line or you may want to order a subscription for your Meeting. We have a brand new Publications Coordinator Katherine Murray and many changes are being made to make the website more interactive. You can also explore QEW on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Quaker-Earthcare-Witness>. A new bi-monthly enewsletter, Resources for Earthcare Action, is posted on Facebook. Or you can sign up to receive it by e-mail.

Submitted by Ria Collee  
Bloomington Friends Meeting

## Quaker Heritage Center Report

Every year when I sit down to write this report, I find something new that amazes me, that inspires me, that makes me excited about the future of the Quaker Heritage Center. This year, that inspiration comes from the wonderfully talented and energetic students I have the privilege to work with every day. I hope that through these following paragraphs, you will see how blessed the Quaker Heritage Center is to be a part of the Wilmington College campus, how the work that I do and that I love would never happen without the help of **more students than I can name**.

Since last year's report, we have hosted six different exhibits in the Quaker Heritage Center Gallery. *A Sky Full of Cranes* (July 9—September 28, 2012) incorporated 1500 paper cranes, oversize photographs, and a "river" with memorial lanterns as visual ways for visitors to the Center to learn about the ways that the people of Japan remember those affected by the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II. The text for the exhibit was written by **Rachel Kent**, Wilmington College Class of 2012, Quaker Leader Scholar, and Quaker Heritage Center staff. The theme of remembering war and those who suffer in war continued with two concurrent exhibits (October 8—December 14, 2012), *Searching for Peace* (an exhibit by Canadian photographer Peter Davis) and *Broadside Prints from Volume IV, "You Are Not My Enemy"* (created by the Combat papermakers Project, and loaned by The Missing Peace Art Space). The stunning visual design for these exhibits was created by **Karay Martin**, Wilmington College History major, Quaker Leader Scholar, and Quaker Heritage Center intern. After a short break in January, we opened *Frederick Douglass, From Slavery to Freedom: The Journey to New York City* (a traveling exhibit from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History) and *Freedom Stories*, a complementary exhibit featuring the stories of individuals who worked for freedom (February 4—March 1, 2013). We continued telling stories and ended the year by featuring the stories of **Wilmington College students**, faculty, and staff who have traveled with the assistance of the Isaac Harvey Fund in *We Travel to Learn* (March 18—August 5, 2013).

In addition to the changing exhibits mentioned above, I have also begun presenting smaller, year-long exhibits designed to draw in "niche" audiences, who may not otherwise visit the Center. This year those exhibits were *Patterns and Prints: Quaker Quilts and Textiles* (April—December, 2012) and *Bridges of Friendship: How Children Learn About Other Cultures* (April—December, 2013). In the coming year,

and with the assistance of **Sarah Gilfilen**, Wilmington College History major and Quaker Heritage Center Intern, I will be revitalizing and reinstalling the Meriam R. Hare/Walthall family exhibit, with a focus on migration to Clinton County in the early 1800s, to serve this purpose.

I am pleased to share that I was able to work with the staff of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) to install a traveling version of the Center's *Beyond Birmingham: Friends and the Civil Rights Movement* exhibit last summer. This is the second traveling exhibit from the Center hosted by FCNL, and I am looking forward to ways to strengthen this partnership in the future.

We have a wonderful calendar of exhibits in the coming year: *Inspired by Cranes: The Art of Craig Dove* (August 12—September 27, 2013) will feature the printmaking skills of Craig Dove inspired by the cranes hanging from the gallery ceiling; *A Show of Respect: A Body of Work Painted for the Children of War* (October 7—December 13, 2013) is a traveling exhibit from The Missing Peace Art Space timed to coincide with this year's Westheimer Peace Symposium; *Journey Stories* (January 8—February 7, 2014) is coming to Wilmington from the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street program, courtesy of the Ohio Humanities Council and will allow for a collaboration on programming with the Wilmington Public Library; *Freedom Riders* (March 19—April 16, 2014), from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and *The Long March* (March 19—May 2, 2014), from the Herb Block Foundation, will help us commemorate the 50th anniversary of The Freedom Summer; and *The Pity of War: Words and Images of World War I* (July 28—September 26, 2014) will be researched, developed, and designed by the **members of my Introduction to Public History: Practice course** in the spring.

Another important part of our work is preserving the artifacts that are so important to the history of Friends in our region. With two new student staff members this year (**Isaac Garrison**, Wilmington College Communications/Public Relations major and Quaker Leader Scholar, and **Bri Knisley**, Wilmington College Sustainable Development major and Honors Program Scholar), we worked together to develop a plan for processing the backlog of collections work and reorganizing our collections storage space. The major collections project facing us in 2013/2014 is building new shelving units for large collection items...so if you have construction experience and a desire to volunteer, let me know!

Each year, we touch the lives of hundreds through visits, tours, and programs at the Quaker Heritage Center: I presented a session for the Friends Association of Higher Education (25) in June; hosted "An Evening for Peace" Japanese dinner Hiroshima/Nagasaki memorial program (15) in August; presented a panel of guest speakers for "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" (82) and provided programming for the International Day of Peace in September (57); hosted the *Searching for Peace* exhibit opening in October (20); hosted the "We Have Some People You Should Meet!" Isaac Harvey Fund program (45) and a tour group from the Van Wert YWCA (37) in November; welcomed a visit from Representative Steve Stivers and his staff (3) and international visitors touring the United States with the World Friendship Center of Hiroshima (13) in January; hosted the *Frederick Douglass* exhibit opening with guest speaker Gary Kersey (57) and a visit from Cub Scout Pack 777 (14) in February; welcomed guests from "Dinner with President and Mrs. Lincoln" (57) in March; hosted "Journey to Pine Ridge" (52)

program, presented “The Quaker Story at Wilmington College” for Wilmington Middle School students (252), and coordinated the dedication of the Marble Hall Ohio Historic Marker (75) in April; and welcomed Junior Campers and their counselors from Quaker Knoll (23) in June.

In addition to on-campus programming, I also: provided programming for members of the Ohio Local History Alliance in workshop sessions during the Annual Meeting and Conference in Columbus (50) in October; presented a program on Quakers and the Underground Railroad for the Warren County Historical Society’s Lunch & Learn Program (30) in February, for the Martinsville Lions Club (11) in April, and the Warren County Genealogy Society (25) in May; and provided programming on Quakers around the world for Beginning and Day Campers at Quaker Knoll (50) in June.

For the third year in a row, the Quaker Heritage Center hosted an AmeriCorps member from the Ohio Local History Corps program sponsored by the Ohio Historical Society. Cathy Harrelson, the regional coordinator for South Central Ohio, organized “Freedom Day” on February 8. Building on the success of last year’s “Abraham Lincoln Day,” we welcomed over 250 4th graders from Wilmington City Schools, Wilmington Christian Academy, and homeschoolers to a day-long living history event. Students arrived on campus prepared to learn about life during the era of the Underground Railroad thanks to a dedicated group of teachers who were happy to incorporate a variety of pre-visit activities prepared by myself and approved by the Wilmington City Schools Curriculum Coordinator. The day was paid for by a fundraising dinner with President and Mrs. Lincoln at the General Denver Hotel. Everyone who participated in these events – students, teachers, parents, and dinner guests – had a wonderful time. Those experiences – combined with teacher responses gathered through a formal survey system – have reinforced the need to make this an annual program.

In addition to serving other historical organizations in the 8-county region, the majority of Cathy’s time this year has been spent promoting, raising funds for, and organizing “Reflection of Time: Southern Ohio Civil War Day” on July 13, 2013. This community event will bring visitors to Wilmington, will highlight the strengths and assets of the local history community, will provide a day of entertaining public history for visitors from throughout the region, and will support Wilmington businesses. Because of the Quaker mission of the Center, special emphasis has been placed on the stories of Wilmington and Southern Ohio’s role in the abolition movement and the Underground Railroad in the programming for the event.

After almost two years of work with the Clinton County Regional Planning Commission, volunteer historian Christine Hadley Snyder, and project manager Sonja Koehler, in May, the Center finally submitted an application to the Ohio Department of Transportation for the designation of a Quaker Scenic Byway to run through Clinton and Warren Counties. The 50-mile route includes museums, homes, scenic vistas, parks, and neighborhoods that all help to illustrate the impact Friends have had on the lives of those in Southwest Ohio. The project has been made possible by a very generous gift which will cover the expense of signage and publicity once the project is approved. In addition, the Center has been selected as a host site for a Clinton Community Fellow this summer. The Fellow will be working

on the public relations and marketing plan for the byway.

As usual, I spent quite a bit of time this year “on the road” sharing the mission and vision of the Quaker Heritage Center with individuals at the Friends Association of Higher Education conference here at Wilmington College in June, members of Ohio Valley and Indiana Yearly Meetings at their annual sessions in July, participants in Earlham School of Religion’s Quaker Leadership Conference in August, members of the Ohio Local History Alliance in October and March (**Amanda Middleton**, Wilmington College Class of 2012, and **Mitchell Dorsten**, Wilmington College History major and Honors Program Scholar, were able to attend with me), and individuals who participated in FCNL’s Annual Meeting in November.

As a part of the Wilmington College campus community, I was able to provide training in Public History for **Karay Martin**, who completed an internship with the Center this academic year. I have continued as a member of the Isaac Harvey Fund Committee, a member of Staff Council, the Work Program Committee, and the WISE Planning Group, and served as the Coordinator for the Westheimer Peace Symposium, where I worked closely with **Zach Glendening** (Wilmington College Class of 2011), **Jared Gregory** (Wilmington College English major and Honors Program Scholar), and **Bri Knisley** (Wilmington College Sustainable Development major, Honors Program Scholar, and Quaker Heritage Center student staff member) as student representatives to the committee. In the wider Quaker community, I continue my involvement as a Trustee for Friends United Meeting.

The Center has been blessed this past year by the generosity of a number of groups and individuals who have made financial contributions to the work of the Center, trusted their treasures to the Center so that they can be shared with the community, and volunteered their time and energy to our programs and exhibits. Two particular volunteers stand out: **Cain McCoy** (Wilmington College Class of 2012), who routinely ended up climbing ladders, hanging cranes, and changing lights in his free time; and **Rachel Beck** (Wilmington College Culture, Communications, and Sustainability major and Quaker Leader Scholar), who is volunteering with the Quaker Heritage Center student staff to plan a special day of programming on sustainability for this fall. 2012/2013 has been a banner year for the Quaker Heritage Center, thanks to your continued support. I can’t wait to see what 2013/2014 has in store!

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth M. Brindle Dobyms  
Curator, Quaker Heritage Center of Wilmington College  
1870 Quaker Way  
Pyle Center Box 1182  
Wilmington, OH 45177  
(937) 382-6661 x 719  
qhc@wilmington.edu  
[www.wilmington.edu/qhc](http://www.wilmington.edu/qhc)  
[www.facebook.com/QuakerHeritageCenter](https://www.facebook.com/QuakerHeritageCenter)

# Executive Committee Minutes 2012-13

Dear Friends,

Your Yearly Meeting Executive Committee has been faithful and diligent this year. Some of the items from these minutes will find a place in this year’s sessions. There are others, such as the proposal for hiring a Middle Youth staff person (IV-9), that the Executive Committee is still in discernment on, and are likely to come to the yearly meeting floor next year or in a future year. But here you will be able to read our body of work for this past year.

In the Light,  
Stephen Angell, clerk

**Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee  
Tenth Month 6, 2012  
Community Friends Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio**

**1. The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.**

Presiding Clerk, Steve Angell, shared a part of *Christian faith and practice in the experience of the Society of Friends* from London early Meeting.

The first that enters into the place of your meeting ... turn in thy mind to the light, and wait upon God singly, as if none were present but the Lord; and here thou art strong. Then the next that comes in, let them in simplicity of heart sit down and turn in to the same light, and wait in the spirit; and so all the rest coming in, in the fear of the Lord, sit down in pure stillness and silence of all flesh, and wait in the light... Those who are brought to a pure still waiting upon God in the spirit, are come nearer to the Lord than words are; for God is a spirit, and in the spirit is he worshipped... In such a meeting there will be an unwillingness to part asunder, being ready to say in yourselves, it is good to be here: and this is the end of all words and writings to bring people to the eternal living Word. Alexander Parker, 1660

**2. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee	Representative
<b>Miami Quarterly Meeting</b>	
Campus	Dale Hayes
Community	Deborah Jordan
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	Martha Viehmann
Englewood	No representative
Green Plain	Caroline Taylor sends regrets
Lexington	Ben Griffith
Louisville	No representative

Miami  
Oxford  
Yellow Springs  
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter

Lonny Burger  
Paul Kriese  
Peg Champney and Deb Kociszewski  
Veronica Frost sends regrets

**Whitewater Quarterly Meeting**

Bloomington  
Clear Creek  
Fall Creek  
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg  
Hopewell  
Lafayette  
North Meadow Circle  
White Rose  
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter

Janette Shetter sends regrets  
David Garman  
Diann Herzog  
Terre Holada  
No representative  
No representative  
Elaine Troth sends regrets  
No representative  
Rex Sprouse

**Yearly Meeting Officers**

Presiding Clerk  
Assistant Clerk  
Recording Clerk  
Assistant Recording Clerk  
Treasurer

Steve Angell  
Paul Kriese  
Terre Holada  
Deb Kociszewski  
Wilson Palmer sends regrets

**Standing and Special Committees**

Budget and Finance  
Faith and Practice  
Nominating  
Peace and Social Concerns  
Religious Nurture and Education  
YM Planning  
Children  
Middle Youth  
Teens

Paul Buckley  
Rex Sprouse  
Ben Griffith  
Richard Mitchell sends regrets  
Diann Herzog  
Dale Hays  
No representative  
Martha Viehmann  
Nikki Coffey Tousley

**Yearly Meeting Staff**

Clerical Support  
Youth Secretary

Deborah Jordan  
Carol Simmons sends regrets

**Liaisons**

Friends Home, Inc. Liaison  
Friends Music Camp

No representative  
Peg Champney

**Not required to attend Executive Committee but welcome:**

Audit	Veronica Frost sends regrets
Records Coordinator	No representative
Statistician	No representative
Web Administrator	Lonny Burger
Publications Coordinator	No representative
Quill Editor	No representative

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Paul Buckley read a report from Wilson Palmer. Different items were mentioned and Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting is on track with our budget. The report was accepted.

**4. Audit Committee Report**

Paul Buckley read the report from the Audit Committee on the audit that was conducted this week. Some issues to help the treasurer were sent back to the appropriate committees. Receipts needing reimbursements are asked to be turned in after events, not during events to prevent loss. The report was accepted.

The treasurer was found to be doing an excellent job and there was a recommendation to make this position a paid position with a longer term. This recommendation is passed to the Budget and Finance Committee for further research and to make a more detailed recommendation at the April 2013 Executive Committee Meeting. The minute was approved.

**5. Naming Committee Report, David Garman**

The naming committee brought forward the name of Sandra Ward-Angell to serve on the Nominating Committee. Now there are three members. Friends approved. From worshipful silence, more names were raised.

**6. Religious Nurture and Education, Revised charge for Religious Nurture and Education, Diann Herzog**

The Religious Nurture and Education committee will discern, identify and respond to the spiritual and educational needs of the yearly meeting. This charge includes educating children and adults in Quaker spiritual practices.

To accomplish this, tasks of this committee may include:

1. Visitation of monthly meetings
2. Support diversity and inclusion in the body of the yearly meeting
3. Support yearly meeting members with particular leadings to ministry within and beyond the yearly meeting
4. Encourage and support intervisitation and traveling ministry
5. Offer outreach and consultation to monthly meetings in response to their needs and concerns.

6. At yearly meeting sessions, the committee will serve as ministry and counsel committee for the session. These duties include:
  7. provide support to the yearly meeting clerks
  8. consult with authors of the yearly meeting epistle
  9. offer workshops
  10. In advance of sessions, read monthly meetings' state of meeting reports and prepare the state of society reports.

Thanks were expressed to the committee for preparing this charge and the committee will take recommendations and bring them back to the February Executive Committee meeting. Friends are comfortable with the committee using this current charge to conduct their service to the Yearly Meeting in the interim.

7. **Clerical Staff , Deborah Jordan**

Minutes Books were prepared by David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson and are ready for distribution. Those present were asked to take 2 to 4 copies per meeting. The report was enthusiastically accepted.

8. **Youth Committee and Teen Committee, Nikki Coffey Tousley**

Report is attached. Report was accepted.

9. **Web Administrator, Lonny Burger**

Security was increased on our homepage to avoid email addresses being abused. Please share future events and news items. Report was accepted with appreciation and compliments.

10. **Faith and Practice Committee, Rex Sprouse**

The committee is only distributing one draft this year. The committee wants to focus their efforts this year on the actual format of the future Faith and Practice Book. Report was accepted.

11. **Religious Nurture and Education, Diann Herzog**

Report is attached. Queries on Youth Programming are being shared for Monthly Meeting's to discuss. Report was accepted. Diann also shared information about the Diversity and Inclusion working group.

12. **YM Planning, Dale Hayes**

The committee has begun work for 2013 and workshop proposals from individuals and committees are welcomed and should be submitted soon.

13. **Middle Youth, Martha Viehmann**

Victoria Burke has joined the committee and work is being done to prepare for JQM. Middle Youth is defined as Age 10 to 14, but age 10 and 14 may choose to stay or move on. Report was accepted

**14. Friends Music Camp, Peg Champney**

The camp was successful in terms of accomplishments and lack of problems, but financially it was not because attendance was lower. Friends helping with recruitment would be helpful. Report was accepted

**15. Whitewater Quarter and Miami Quarter, Diann Herzog**

Joint Quarterly Meeting is next weekend. Diann reported on behalf of the JQM planning committee of Whitewater Quarter.

**16. Draft letter of support to Indiana Yearly Meeting from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (laid over from annual sessions)**

After silent consideration, the Executive Committee accepted Steve Angell's offer to draft and send a letter to Indiana Yearly Meeting based on the first two sentences of the first two paragraphs of the draft letter presented this past summer at Yearly Meeting Sessions. Diann Herzog and Dale Hayes will travel as a worshipful presence to West Richmond Friends Meeting. Friends approved.

**Next meeting of Executive Committee:** Second Month, 2, 2013, Conference Call

**Closing Worship**

Respectfully Submitted by Terre Holada, Recording Clerk

**Report to Executive Committee October 6, 2012  
OVYM Religious Nurture and Education Committee**

The Religious Nurture and Education Committee is off to a good, solid start. Our current members are Andy Garrison, Ben Griffith, Rex Sprouse, Marjorie Isaacs, Elaine Troth, David Garman and Diann Herzog. Our last meeting was on September 8, 2012. We had a full agenda and were able to fulfill it with needed decisions being made and future plans undertaken.

1. We discerned that Diann Herzog would be clerk of the committee and discussed the expectations we hold for our Clerk.
2. We determined the charge of this committee – see hand out.
3. We took a Young Adult Friend who is seeking to be released for service to OVYM under our care and are in the process of educating ourselves on this traditional Friends practice.
4. We have begun assessing the needs of our youth programs through a set of Queries that will be sent to each youth committee and to monthly meetings. See hand out.
5. We have taken the Working Group for Diversity and Inclusion under our care and appointed a liaison to communicate with them.

We have already accomplished a workshop at OVYM session, visitation to the Diversity and Inclusion workshop at Englewood Friends Meeting, a workshop for Bloomington Friends Meeting and have a presentation and Friendly presence scheduled for Ft. Wayne Friends retreat. We are available and willing

to travel for visitation, listening, discussion, presentation and education. Please call on us.

### **Teen Committee Report 10-6-12**

August and early September is quiet for the teen program and time for the Teen Secretary to recover from summer activities, but we are gearing up for the coming year. The committee met on 9/22, where Peter Hardy was approved to join Nikki Coffey Tousley as co-clerk of the committee. We are happy to have the energy of new members, especially several teens, on the committee.

There will be a teen program at Joint Quarter and a retreat at Fall Creek the weekend of November 16-18. As we have had issues with low numbers at winter retreats, we will not have a retreat in February, but will encourage the teens to attend the Quaker that Rocked the Midwest on January 18-20. The third retreat of the year will be April 20-21, possibly in Bloomington. Tentative plans for the summer service trip are to stay closer to home in southeast Ohio and West Virginia, likely staying at Olney and returning to Work at Raven Rocks the week of June 14-21. We also formed a subcommittee to explore our options and logistics of an international trip in 2014 or 2015.

As we reported at OVYM sessions, the teens had a full and rich experience in Washington DC this summer; however, we left with concerns about the leadership of William Penn House. We paid the WPH Quaker Workcamp Program to coordinate the activities and provide reflection. Carol, Nikki and Peter had drafted a letter to WPH, which the committee agreed to send. The letter noted problems of organization; lack of leadership for community building or spiritual deepening; and that more money was asked for than originally contracted. We asked that we be refunded \$140 Carol was asked to add for our adult leaders, as our understanding was that we would pay only for the teen participants. The letter concludes that we recognize that this may be our experience, rather than a larger problem with their program.

Nikki Coffey Tousley  
Co-clerk

### **OVYM Executive Committee Second Month 2, 2013 Conference Call**

Friends gathered in the virtual space of the conference call. Friends entered into a period of silence.

#### **1. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee

Representative

### **Miami Quarterly Meeting**

Campus	Dale Hayes sent regrets
Community	Deborah Jordan
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Englewood	No Representative
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Betsy Neale and Richard Mitchell
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	Lonny Burger
Oxford	Steve Angell
Yellow Springs	Peg Champney
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Veronica Frost

### **Whitewater Quarterly Meeting**

Bloomington	No Representative
Clear Creek	Jane Stowe
Fall Creek	Rex Sprouse
Fort Wayne	No Representative
Hopewell	No Representative
Lafayette	No Representative
Maple Grove (inactive)	No Representative
North Meadow Circle	No Representative
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse

### **Yearly Meeting Officers**

Presiding Clerk	Steve Angell
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Deborah Jordan substituting
Assistant Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski sent regrets
Publications Coordinator	No Representative
Quill Editor	No Representative
Treasurer	Wilson Palmer
Assistant Treasurer	No Representative

### **Standing and Special Committees**

Budget and Finance	Wilson Palmer
Faith and Practice	Betsy Neale and Rex Sprouse
Nominating	No Representative
Peace and Social Concerns	Jane Stowe

Religious Nurture and Education	Rex Sprouse
YM Planning	No Representative
Children's Program	No Representative
Middle Youth	Richard Mitchell
Teen	Nikki Coffey Tousley

**Yearly Meeting Staff**

Clerical Support	Deborah Jordan
Youth Secretary	Carol Simmons

**Liaisons**

Friends Home, Inc.	Wilson Palmer
Friends Music Camp	Peg Champney

**Not required to attend Executive Committee but welcome:**

Webmaster	Lonny Burger
-----------	--------------

**2. Treasurer's Report** Wilson Palmer reported that 1/3 of Monthly Meeting contributions are in which is about right for this time of year. The Yearly Meeting sessions came in under budget amount of \$14,000 at \$13,480. There was a note from Whitewater Quarter of expenses at Jt. Quarterly being over income with youth related expenses not reimbursed yet; Wilson will accept a request from Whitewater Quarter's treasurer for reimbursement.

**3. Joint Quarter** The clerk requested that each quarter put the possibility of an annual Joint Quarter Meeting (instead of biannual) on their agenda. Second Month Seventeen, if Miami Quarter unites on a minute to do this, Veronica Frost will forward this to Whitewater Quarter for their Fourth Month meeting.

**4. Teen Committee and Youth Secretary** Nikki Coffey Tousley and Carol Simmons co-reported. There is a newsletter and pictures on the OVYM website. Summer teen gatherings have been well attended, but the annual Fall Creek retreat had to be cancelled due to lack of registrations. Peter Hardy is surveying youth about this; some teens have said that having a gathering 2 months in a row is difficult due to their busy schedules. Since 10 teens attended the Quake that Rocked the Midwest over Martin Luther King Day weekend in Chicago, there won't be a winter retreat. Thanks to David Funck who arranged for the van rental to Chicago. Next gathering will be Fourth Month 14, details to be decided. Planning for the summer service trip is for a low cost, local gathering at Friends Center in Barnesville, owned by Ohio Yearly Meeting. There is already a subcommittee planning an international trip in a year or two. Our teens are involved in the wider Quaker world with Dylan Cahalan as co-clerk of Friends General Conference Teen group, and Rachel Logan Wood serving on the FGC Long Range Planning committee. Lake Erie Yearly Meeting is inviting all those Yearly Meetings who participated in the Quake that Rocked the Midwest to gather over Memorial Day weekend.

5. **Middle Youth** Richard Mitchell reporting for Martha Viehmann. There won't be a Middle Youth program at Miami Quarter. Cincinnati Monthly Meeting has a monthly gathering first Friday of the month for youth ages 12 to 18.
6. **Peace and Social :** Jane Stowe reporting that there are several possible workshops in the planning stages: an intergenerational gathering for service and education sometime this spring, a workshop on health care at Yearly Meeting sessions, as well as a pre-workshop on lobbying with Friends Committee on National Legislation.
7. **New meeting consultation** Paul Kriese shared his experience at Pendle Hill. Friends General Conference received a major grant to organize these efforts led by Brent Bill with help from Barry Crossno. There were 15 to 20 reps total with every Yearly Meeting represented. What are new meetings: Friends who have never been involved with FGC and want to do so. There are plans to set up regional groups of 3 to 4 Friends who are willing to travel and help nurture preparatory meetings in their region with requests for those who want to be involved and trained coming out this spring.
8. **The Quill** It was not published in fall. What does the editor need? Clerk will speak with editor to see how to proceed in a timely manner.
9. **Whitewater Quarter** Rex Sprouse reporting from 1-20-13 gathering at Ft. Wayne Monthly Meeting. Several activities were planned by Ft. Wayne Friends to highlight Martin Luther King Day. Friends united to thoughtfully laydown Maple Grove Meeting with an ad hoc committee to report back on details at spring meeting.
10. **Miami Quarter** Veronica Frost reminding us the Quarter will meet in Louisville 2-17-2013.
11. **Planning Committee** Carol Simmons reported that "Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" is the theme. Steven Pothoff will be one of the Plenary speakers. Three fourths of workshops are firmed up for annual sessions at Wilmington College this year.

The meeting ended with a brief period of silence.

The next meeting of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee will occur on Fourth Month 6, 2013 at the Earlham School of Religion, with budget review open to all at 10:00 AM and business meeting at 12:00 noon.

Submitted,  
Deborah Jordan  
Acting OVYM Recording Clerk

**OVYM Executive Committee**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Month, 6<sup>th</sup> Day, 2013**  
**Earlham College, Richmond, IN**

1. **The meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.**

**2. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee

Representative

**Miami Quarterly Meeting**

Campus	No Representative
Community	Deborah Jordan, Kate Anthony
Dayton	No Representative
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Green Plain	No Representative
Lexington	Betsy Neale, Richard Mitchell
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	No Representative
Oxford	Steve Angell, Paul Kriese
Yellow Springs	Peg Champney, Deb Kociszewski
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Veronica Frost sends regrets

**Whitewater Quarterly Meeting**

Bloomington	Marcia Ankrom, Janette Shetter sends regrets
Clear Creek	Jane Stowe, David Garman
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog
Fort Wayne Friends Mtg	Fred Feitler
Hopewell	No Representative
Lafayette	No Representative
Maple Grove (inactive)	No Representative
North Meadow Circle	No Representative
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse

**Yearly Meeting Officers**

Presiding Clerk	Steve Angell
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Terre Holada sends regrets
Assistant Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski

Publications Coordinator	No Representative
Quill Editor	No Representative
Treasurer	Wilson Palmer

### **Standing and Special Committees**

Budget and Finance	Wilson Palmer
Faith and Practice	Rex Sprouse, Betsy Neale
Nominating	Diann Herzog
Peace and Social Concerns	Jane Stowe
Religious Nurture and Education	Diann Herzog
Personnel	No Representative
YM Planning	Kate Anthony
Children's Program	No Representative
Middle Youth	Richard Mitchell
Teen Activities	Nikki Coffey Tousley sends regrets

### **Yearly Meeting Staff**

Clerical Support	Deborah Jordan
Youth Secretary	Carol Simmons

### **Liaisons**

Friends Home, Inc. Liaison	Wilson Palmer
Friends Music Camp	Peg Champney

### **Not required to attend Executive Committee but welcome:**

Auditor  
Braddock Trustees  
Personnel Committee Representatives  
Yearly Meeting (Property Corporation) Trustees  
Records Coordinator  
Statistician  
Webmaster

### **Guests**

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Wilson Palmer presented the Treasurer's report. The annual budget meeting was held fourth month 6, 2013. Wilson reviewed the details of the tables in the budget. Committee budgets reflect actual spending by committees. Committee clerks should provide any changes to the Treasurer. The Treasurer encouraged committees to be active. The amounts shown on the Treasurer's Report are not

limits to committee activity, but are reflections of actual activity. Friends discussed the demands placed upon those appointed to represent Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting to the wider body of Friends. Friends agreed to form an *ad hoc* committee to prepare a document stating the yearly meeting's guidelines both spiritual and practical for those who accept an appointment to represent Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. Rex Sprouse and Fred Feitler offered to serve on the *ad hoc* committee. Friends accepted the Treasurer's report with gratitude.

#### **4. Youth Secretary's Report**

Carol Simmons expressed thanks to the yearly meeting for its support and nurture of the Teen Program. Ten Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting teens attended the Quake That Rocked The Midwest in Evanston, Illinois. The teens will hold a retreat at Community Friends Meetinghouse that will focus on care for the earth. Twelve teens attended the Joint Quarterly Meeting. The Memorial Day week-end will see the "Quake That Rocked Earlham", a joint project of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and Illinois Yearly Meeting teens. Friends accepted the report.

#### **5. Clerical Support**

Deborah Jordan reported that all is well. She received a copy of "The Intelligence" from Baltimore Yearly Meeting with an article by Barbarie Hill, now of Charlottesville Friends. Deborah also reported that electronic registration for Yearly Meeting sessions could be coming soon. Friends accepted the report.

#### **6. Quaker Quill**

Friends expressed concern that there has not been a Quaker Quill for some time. The June issue is very helpful and important with its information about the yearly meeting sessions. The Clerical Staff Person offered to help with the Quaker Quill on an interim basis. Friends accepted the offer and agreed to thank Dan Cartmell for his service. Friends discussed the need for a paper copy of the Quill. Friends agreed to publish a June copy of the Quaker Quill with an electronic option for E mail.

#### **7. Faith and Practice Committee**

The Faith and Practice Committee will meet in two weeks.

#### **8. Nominating Committee**

Diann Herzog reported that the Nominating Committee currently is working with three members and would like to have more members.

#### **9. Peace and Social Concerns Committee**

Jane Stowe reported that Peace and Social Concerns will hold a pre-yearly meeting workshop on lobbying with a resource person from Friends Committee on National Legislation. Peace and Social Concerns is planning to support the Teen Program's gathering at Community Friends Meeting on April 27, 2013.

**10. Religious Nurture and Education Committee**

Diann Herzog reported that Religious Nurture and Education will present a workshop at the yearly meeting annual session. An overnight retreat is being planned for the spring of 2014.

**11. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee**

Kate Anthony reported that the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee is working hard on plans for the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting annual sessions. The theme for the 2013 annual session is “Living as Quakers: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” The Plenary speakers are Stephen Pothoff and Maurine Pyles. The annual sessions will be held at Wilmington College.

**12. Middle Youth Committee**

Richard Mitchell reported that the Middle Youth Committee is looking for staff for the yearly meeting annual sessions.

**13. Naming for the Nominating Committee**

David Garman reported that all of the people approached to serve on the Nominating Committee have declined to serve. Friends entered into a period of silence to lift names of Friends to be contacted for possible service on the Nominating Committee. Friends recommended that the names be contacted in the best way possible.

**14. Friend’s Home, Inc.**

Wilson Palmer reported that the census for hospitals and care facilities is declining. Cuts to Medicare and Medicaid are forcing careful consideration of Medicaid patients. Short term rehab is the future. Quaker Heights is planning to add a wing, and is doing everything possible to plan for the future.

**15. Friends Music Camp**

Peg Champney reported that Friends Music Camp is alive and well. The financial health of the camp is the greatest challenge. 51 campers are confirmed for 2013. It has been noted that 85% of campers advise they heard about Friends Music Camp through “word of mouth.” Friends Music Camp staff members have formed the New River Ensemble.

**16. Statistical Report**

Wilson Palmer summarized the statistical report, which was prepared by Frank Huss.

**17. Miami Quarterly Meeting Report**

Steve Angell reported that Miami Quarterly Meeting met in Louisville in February, 2013. Miami Quarterly Meeting will lead the planning of the Joint Quarterly Meeting to be held in the fall of 2013 at Happy Hollow Campground.

**18. Whitewater Quarterly Meeting Report**

Rex Sprouse reported that Whitewater Quarterly Meeting will meet on April 21, 2013 at Hopewell Friends. They will review the state of the meeting reports and consider the invitation from Miami Quarterly Meeting to attend the Joint Quarterly Meeting in the fall of 2013.

Friends approved the minutes.  
The meeting closed in silent worship.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held sixth month 1, 2013 at North Meadow Circle of Friends in Indianapolis.

Submitted,  
Deb Kociszewski  
OVYM Assistant Recording Clerk

**OHIO VALLEY YEARLY MEETING**  
**Executive Committee**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Month, 1st Day, 2013**  
**North Meadow Friends, Indianapolis, IN**

**1. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship.**

**2. Roll Call of Meetings and Committees**

Meeting/Committee:	Representative(s):
<b>Miami Quarterly Meeting:</b>	
Campus	Dale Hayes sends regrets
Community	Deborah Jordan sends regrets
Dayton	Nikki Coffey Tousley
Eastern Hills	Wilson Palmer
Green Plain	Caroline Taylor sends regrets
Lexington	Richard Mitchell, Betsy Neale
Louisville	No Representative
Miami	No Representative
Oxford	Steve Angell, Paul Kriese
Yellow Springs	Veronica Frost
Presiding Clerk Miami Quarter	Veronica Frost

**Whitewater Quarterly Meeting:**

Bloomington	Janette Shetter sends regrets
Clear Creek	Jane Stowe sends regrets
Fall Creek	Diann Herzog sends regrets
Fort Wayne	Terre Holada
Hopewell	No Representative
Lafayette	Ann Pellegrino sends regrets
Maple Grove (inactive)	No Representative
North Meadow Circle	Dinah Duvall, Evalyn Kellum
White Rose	No Representative
Presiding Clerk Whitewater Quarter	Rex Sprouse sends regrets

**Yearly Meeting Officers:**

Presiding Clerk	Steve Angell
Assistant Clerk	Paul Kriese
Recording Clerk	Terre Holada
Assistant Recording Clerk	Deb Kociszewski sends regrets
Publications Coordinator	No Representative
Quill Editor	No Representative
Treasurer	Wilson Palmer

**Standing and Special Committees:**

Budget and Finance	Wilson Palmer
Faith and Practice	Betsy Neale
Naming Committee	Betsy Neale
Nominating Committee	No representative
Peace and Social Concerns	Richard Mitchell
Religious Nurture and Education	Diann Herzog sends regrets
Personnel Committee	Paul Kriese
Yearly Meeting Planning Committee	Kate Anthony sends regrets
Children's Program	No Representative
Middle Youth	Richard Mitchell
Teen Activities	Nikki Coffey Tousley

**Yearly Meeting Staff:**

Clerical Support	Deborah Jordan sends regrets
Youth Secretary	Carol Simmons sends regrets

**Liaisons:**

Quaker Heights Care Community	Wilson Palmer
Friends Music Camp	Peg Champney sends regrets

**Not required to attend Executive Committee but Welcome:**

Auditor  
Braddock Trustees  
Records Coordinator  
Statistician  
Webmaster  
Veronica Frost

**3. Agenda**

Agenda was approved.

**4. Staff Reports**

**Administrative Report, Deborah Jordan**

Memorial minutes and other reports are due by June 15th for Reports in Advance. Please note the format request as well as sending as a Google document. David Pfaltzgraff-Carlson, our publications coordinator, is planning to produce a full size Minute Book this year (instead of half size), after checking with a Wilmington College archivist about this change of format.

**5. Treasurer's Report, Wilson Palmer**

1. Report is attached.
2. It is hoped that Monthly Meetings will get their contributions to the Yearly Meeting before the fiscal year ends June 30th.
3. Some meetings have reported their covenant pledges for the next fiscal year. Those that have not, will be budgeted the proportional amount.
4. Report was accepted.

**6. Faith and Practice Committee, Betsy Neale**

1. The second draft of the Faith and Practice section on the Peace Testimony will be presented at Yearly Meeting sessions next month.
2. The Yearly Meeting will look at Close Relationships, Part Two for final approval.
3. The committee is looking at the remaining sections to decide which sections need minimal revisions or drastic revisions.
4. Report was accepted.

**7. Naming Committee, Betsy Neale**

1. Several candidates for the Nominating Committee have been raised. The committee brought forward these names for nominating committee: Jamie Fota has agreed to a first three-year term on the committee; and Ben Griffith will serve a second term.
2. These two names were approved.

**8. Peace and Social Concerns, Richard Mitchell**

- 1. There will be a workshop prior to Yearly Meeting Sessions. This will be a citizen lobbying training by Matt Southworth from Friends Committee on National Legislation on July 13<sup>th</sup> 10am to 2:30 pm at Wilmington College. Information was passed out to share with Monthly Meetings.
- 2. Report was accepted.

**9. Religious Nurture and Education Committee**

- 1. A report was distributed with the results of the fall set of queries to Monthly Meetings about the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Youth Programs. The report included a summary and emails from many Monthly Meetings. This report is attached.
- 2. There is encouragement from Religious Nurture and Education Committee to seriously consider the hiring of a staff person for the Middle Youth program.
- 3. There was discussion about what the responsibilities of that person would be. The Middle Youth committee was charged to prepare a report describing their vision of what new things could be accomplished with a paid staff person. The committee is asked to keep an eye on the ideal and the economical. This will be presented to the Executive Committee in the fall.

**10. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, Dinah Duvall**

- 1. There is a concern because no one is clear to become clerk of this committee for the 2014 sessions.
- 2. Paul Kriese was asked, and is willing, to accept the clerkship of this committee for the 2014 sessions. He will attend the committee meeting after this year’s sessions. There was concern that Kate Anthony, the current clerk, needed help now, but the Executive Committee was told that there is support now and the concern is for next year’s sessions. But if possible, Paul will attend the next committee meeting in two weeks.
- 3. The Executive Committee would like to hear a report in the fall from this committee about the clerkship with a possible co-clerk for the 2014 sessions and following sessions.
- 4. The theme for this year is Living as Friends: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

**11. Youth**

- 1. Teen Committee, Nikki Coffey Tousley
  - i. Report is attached.
  - ii. Report was accepted
- 2. Middle Youth, Richard
  - i. The Middle Youth concern for the payment of staff during Yearly Meeting sessions has been referred to the Personnel Committee. The Personnel Committee will meet soon to deal with the issue.
  - ii. Report was accepted.

**12. Quaker Heights Care Community, Wilson Palmer**

There is a high expectation that the proposal for a 3.4 million dollar loan from HUD to add a wing for

short-term rehabilitation and/or more rooms will be approved and lead to the continued operation of the facility. There is a need for more single-occupancy rooms instead of double-occupancy rooms. Rehabilitation rooms are also more cost effective. Medicaid residents are actually causing the facility to lose money.

**13. Miami Quarter, Veronica Frost**

Joint Quarterly Meeting will be offered again this fall, since last year it was so successful. It will be the second weekend in October. The dates were wrong on Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting web site and were announced incorrectly at Whitewater Quarterly Meeting. Since there is confusion about the dates, they will be confirmed and accurate dates will be communicated. It is also possible that the event may begin Friday night.

**14.** Friends were informed of the passing of Doris B. Ferm.

**15.** Work has begun on the renovation of the Lexington Meeting House.

**16.** The next Executive Committee meeting will be October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at noon at Community Friends in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**17.** The meeting ended in grateful worship.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terre Holada

**Teen Committee  
Report to Executive Committee  
6/12/2013**

The annual service trip will take place June 14-22. Registration will be sent out soon. Please let us know if there are teens in your meetings who may not be in contact with the program. The trip this year will be to southeastern Ohio, where the group will be stay at the Ohio Yearly Meeting Friends Center, a small house on the campus of Olney Friends School. OYM is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> year, so it will be an opportunity to learn some local Quaker history. We will be matched with a family in need of home repairs by the Sowers Mission, a United Methodist workcamp program at the nearby Epworth Center. The group will also learn about mountaintop removal from a Sierra Club activist. We expect to be within budget, without the need for fundraising. We would still like to do an international trip, but not next year.

There were two retreats this spring, one at Community Friends in April and one in May at Earlham. The latter was a joint retreat with teens from Illinois and Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. The group will be somewhat smaller, as several teens graduate this year, but we still have a strong core group.

# State of the Meeting Reports

## *BLOOMINGTON FRIENDS*

Like all Friends meetings the state of Bloomington Friends Meeting can best be described by the transitions the meeting has experienced this year.

One important transition has been the addition of new members and the passing of members of many years standing. We welcomed as new members Ruth Kelly and Deborra Sanders; the Meeting suffered the loss of an early member, Warren Henegar, and the passing of Susan Edgerton (daughter of long-time member Bill Edgerton).and Anthony Ankrom (son of long-time member Marcia Ankrom).

We have been pleased by the arrival of new attenders. One of these attenders described her first Meeting in terms of feeling the Light moving her to speak and then being placed in a rest never before experienced. We were blessed with two new families in the meeting. The focus of First Day classes this year has been "Nurturing Worship and Spirituality".

The Meeting is also in a state of transition with respect to the ways in which Friends follow the leadings they experience in terms of charitable work and community development. The Meeting continues to support Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) (which operates child care and preschool services for those working at minimum or near minimum wage jobs) and the Community Kitchen (which provides meals to any who need it) as well as a number of other organizations. Laura Gleason revitalized Young Friends with quarterly meetings; the importance of sustainability was the reason Earthcare Witness (created some years ago) was active this year.

Another transition is the realization that the Meeting House, based on a residence built in the 1950's to which a meeting room was added in the 1960's and which was renovated in the 1990's, needs substantial renovation and repair in order to meet the current and future needs of the Meeting. The Meeting has begun a long-range planning exercise with the assistance of Kirkwood Design Studio; two forums have been held which were distinguished by great tenderness between Friends and which greatly assisted the architect in preparing a proposal.

The financial challenges of the past few years have been serious. At first it appeared that contributions would not be sufficient to meet goals for calendar year 2012 but in the last few months the annual goal was met (although the goal has been significantly reduced from previous years). A major renovation of the Meeting House, however, will be a substantial new challenge to the meeting.

Bloomington Friends Meeting is facing the transitions described here, and others not described, in a spirit of cooperation and careful, tender discussion. The most important goal of these efforts is to try to maintain and improve the Meeting as a place where Friends can find the Light within and have that Light illuminate the paths ahead of them. If the Meeting succeeds in this goal then it can be said that the Meeting has truly fulfilled its purpose.

## ***CAMPUS FRIENDS MEETING***

February 24, 2013

**Query One:** How does our meeting recognize, develop and nurture the gifts of our members and attenders of all ages?

Campus Friends Meeting finds itself in a transition period with folks no longer participating in the life of the meeting for a variety of reasons, and with new attenders and members coming into our fellowship. This presents a challenge for developing a deeper and more meaningful relationship with each other as a Friends meeting. Because Campus Friends is in the unprogrammed tradition, it falls to Ministry and Counsel to serve as a conduit for recognizing and nurturing the gifts of our members and attenders.

Ministry and Counsel responds to concerns brought to its attention and reaches out to individuals in the monthly meeting. Four clearness committees were appointed in the last six months in response to a request for guidance. The clearness committees have completed their work. M&C also serves as a standing clearness/oversight committee for the ministry of one of our members. M&C facilitates an annual retreat for the monthly meeting which in turn nurtures and uses the gifts of those asked to take leadership for this event.

Campus Meeting uses the fifth Sunday as an opportunity for getting to know individuals better. New members and steady attenders as well as “old-timers” are invited to share an aspect of themselves in an informal manner at the rise of worship. The Fifth Sunday Friend is a delightful way to learn about our gifts and has led to deeper appreciation for and connection with each other as a worshipping community.

**Query Two:** How do we encourage a life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends?

Campus Friends encourages such a life by holding a time of worship which is conducive to deep spiritual seeking. Campus Friends Meeting is blessed with individuals who are outstanding examples of what it means to live one’s life in the manner of Friends. There is deep respect for each other, and our life together as a meeting is strengthened by the variety of ways in which each individual lives an authentic life of faith. The monthly Book Club provides an opportunity to consider works by Quaker authors. This year’s annual retreat is entitled *Living the Silence*. In the morning we focus on listening/centering in the silence, followed by a session in the afternoon on taking silence out into the world.

These queries serve as a reminder of our life and ministry together as a meeting community, and will be revisited throughout the year.

Patricia Thomas, Presiding Clerk

Linda Sears, Clerk of Ministry & Counsel

## ***CLEAR CREEK MONTHLY MEETING***

April 2013

Worship continues to be the center of our community. We often experience a deep silence out of which vocal ministry regularly enriches the felt presence of the Spirit. A description of our fellowship from

one of the young members of our community: “it is simple there”. This description seems to get at how we hold to simplicity while striving to be faithful to the work that we are called to do for care of our world. Midweek Meeting for Worship continues as another opportunity for spiritual reflection and discernment.

We have had the joy of new members joining us this year and the ever-changing Earlham and Earlham School of Religion communities provide us with new attenders who take an active part in the life of the meeting. The year brought the memorial remembrances of two long-term members of the meeting; their gifts to our community leave special legacies.

We join with our sister meetings in Richmond for a joint worship in the summer and the annual Christmas Eve service of the Friends Meetings and the Richmond Church of the Brethren. These occasions provide for times of worship, fellowship, and reunion. An intergenerational gathering to decorate cookies warmed the cold season of advent. We continue to have the Winter Solstice Labyrinth Walk, which provides an opportunity for reflection, prayer, and spiritual nurture.

Members of our community continue to serve as volunteers, board members, activists, and in many other ways in our community, in Friends organizations, and other venues.

We continue to nurture and encourage small groups. Themes over the year have included a book group, poetry and writing as a spiritual practice, and a group that discusses the gifts and insights that come from other religious traditions. Folks have met to participate in nature walks, and there also have been gatherings with attention to fun that serve to assist in getting to know one another in new ways.

The Ministry and Oversight Committee organized listening sessions with members and attenders of the meeting. The committee plans to use the results to explore current and future actions to deepen our fellowship as our future evolves. We are taking part in the Quaker Cloud sponsored by FGC to expand the role of how our website can tell the world about Clear Creek.

Religious education continues to be an emphasis and we are providing activities for adults and for young children. Second hour programs have included members of our community sharing spiritual journeys and topics related to social action facilitated by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. These times provide opportunity for thinking and working together on ways to merge quiet and simplicity with care for our community and the world.

We also experience our struggles and note the changing nature of Clear Creek. The community is getting older and we note fewer student attenders. This raises questions for us as we look to the future. Our plan is to consider some of these questions in our annual retreat. We experience engagement with these issues as challenges that provide energy in the ongoing life of our ever-changing community.

### ***COMMUNITY FRIENDS MEETING***

Community Meeting experienced another year of transition as the older generation is passing the torch of responsibility to a new generation. We mourned the loss of Norman Matthews and Barbara Wood. One of our treasured elders, Agnes Moon, moved to Yellow Springs to live with her daughter’s family. Other faithful meeting elders are experiencing serious health issues, and are not able to attend meeting regularly. We are deeply grateful for the many years of spiritual leadership, wisdom and mentoring that

these elders have given the meeting. Their gifts continue to guide us and inspire us in our own spiritual journeys.

We have welcomed six new members this past year, including a family of four, and we also have several new attenders including young people and families with children. These newcomers bring new gifts and energy, and provide a sense of vitality to our community.

Community Meeting includes a rich diversity of spiritual experiences, and we appreciate the many ways of expressing our understanding of how the Inner Light works in our lives. There is even a sense that making room for diversity currently defines our Meeting community. However, as one member recently noted, there is also a tension between our great desire to be in community and our great desire to do our own thing!

In the past year, we have developed a strong spirit-led Prison Ministry. This ministry has expanded by the formation of a Jail Ministry Worship Team of eleven members, which meets once or twice a month with groups of up to 64 prisoners at the Justice Center and various other facilities. The prison ministers bring back some deeply moving experiences from their worship with prisoners. One Meeting attender has taken on the daily care of an incarcerated woman's newborn baby.

The Meeting continues to carry a strong concern for sustainable living. Our Spring Renewal focused on the theme of gardening, local food, and care of the Earth, as well as community-building through games and singing around a campfire. The Friends in Unity with Nature committee has presented several second hour discussions and movie nights bringing awareness to issues such as fracking, the impact of local foods, the importance of native species, and living sustainably. The committee held plant sales, installed a beehive and continues work to restore our woods by removing vines and invasive species. We also planted trees to help replace trees lost to disease and weather.

As a follow up to our Quaker Quest workshop, we have formed five ongoing Spiritual Inreach groups that are meeting regularly and plan to continue for about a year. These small groups are giving us opportunities to share more deeply, and are resulting in a fundamental deepening of our spiritual lives. Also as a result of the Quaker Quest experience, Adult Education Committee planned several second hour discussions on inreach-related themes to encourage deeper sharing about our spiritual journeys. Adult Education also offered a two-session course on the Fundamentals of Quakerism for newcomers in the spring and in the fall. A member of our meeting presented a series of classes on Quakerism at Cincinnati Friends Meeting which was attended by fourteen people from Community Friends.

Religious Development Committee had a busy year planning lessons and activities for our children and teens, as well as providing a monthly "Children's Meeting" to give children experience with centering into worship, and leading a monthly intergenerational activity to help children and adults get better acquainted. The theme for First Day School this year has been Quaker history, enriched by "Faith and Play" stories, an original song about William Penn, and a puppet play about John Woolman. Our First Day School class consists of up to nine energetic and delightful children aged 7 to 10 who greatly enrich our Meeting community. We also have a group of gifted and mature teens who meet regularly and also participate actively in OVYM teen activities and other wider Quaker activities such as the FGC Gathering and the Quake that Rocked the Midwest. Six teens participated in the OVYM teen service trip to Washington, DC.

Peace and Social Concerns committee has continued its commitment to the Tender Mercies service once

each month, providing and serving an evening meal for 35 residents of a local shelter for homeless people with mental illness. The committee has also been investigating socially responsible investing, and various approaches to voting rights. Other concerns in the Meeting led to a spontaneous growth in lobbying efforts and prison ministry. In light of these efforts, we have been reconsidering a proper role of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, as perhaps a small committee that calls attention to options available for peace and justice service and advocacy, and keeps track of the various peace and social concerns efforts that emerge.

House and Grounds Committee has continued to work with Friends in Unity with Nature Committee to create a more sustainable Meetinghouse. We have purchased a new all-function copier and a projector for general use. Improvements to the Meetinghouse included replacing the cork board and a major effort to rehab the basement playroom. Trees on the property continue to be a major concern, and several trees had to be cut down this year including the large buckeye behind the house, which was a loss due to squirrel fun. General work on the Meetinghouse included lots of plumbing and some repairs to the elevator. Regular workdays were held to do major cleaning and maintenance tasks around the house and grounds.

Community Committee faithfully made sure that food was set up for snacks and meals after meeting for worship each Sunday, that dishes were washed, and that the kitchen and dining room were cleaned up after meals. The committee also hosted several special events such as Easter egg dyeing and pumpkin carving parties, and assisted Ministry and Counsel with refreshments after the memorial service for Barbara Wood.

A large number of us attended Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and were enriched by sharing and learning with this extended family of Friends. Meeting for worship continues to be the deep center of our shared spiritual life. We are often blessed with vocal ministry that is rich and spiritually led. We are grateful for the continuing gifts and challenges of learning to live in a diverse spiritual community together.

## ***DAYTON FRIENDS MEETING***

Fourth Month 2013

Dayton Friends Meeting shares in deep and fulfilling worship experiences grounded in a depth of wisdom and spiritually rich practice. We gather in space rented from the Brethren and make that space a welcoming place for worship and fellowship. Our meetings for business are conducted in a climate of spiritual care.

While we continue to have concerns about our long-term future, we are also given hope by the attendance of families with children and by our relationship with Englewood Friends Meeting. We also are encouraged by the pursuit of a meeting space that might be located in a place to enhance our growth. Still, we have many members who are older, retired, or facing retirement. Some of these members have already moved out of the area and others plan to do so in the coming years. Some remain in Dayton but are less able to participate in all aspects of the life of the meeting. Our financial resources are also affected by this change in our demographics.

Much of our energy is focused on the pastoral care of our members. We have had members with health and personal concerns, and our prayerful support is important to them.

We provide First Day programming for children when they attend. The children who occasionally attend span a wide age range and bring joyful energy to the meeting. We have several young adults who, while living out of town, are still well-connected to Quakerism, and we are pleased to see them moving from the base they have formed in the meeting to new and rich opportunities for spiritual growth. One of our young adults is now working with Quaker Voluntary Service in Atlanta.

We find time for study and fellowship. We are reading *A Living Faith*, by Wilmer Cooper, for second-hour discussion and growing in our understandings of Quaker faith and practice. We celebrate Christmas and Easter together, sharing a meal as well as worship. We occasionally meet together with Englewood Friends for worship and shared meals. We also had a joint retreat with them. We have reinstated our “Evening With” series, hosting an evening with Sam Johnson.

Our Peace and Social Concerns Committee has focused on writing letters on issues of concern. We continue to provide food and service to a local homeless shelter on a monthly basis.

We are thankful for the presence of the Spirit in our midst. We share deep affection for each other and together hold in the light all who suffer, while also taking joy in each other and the gift of all creation.

### ***EASTERN HILLS FRIENDS MEETING***

11. How does our meeting recognize, develop, and nurture the gifts of our members and attenders of all ages?
12. How do we encourage a life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends?

Eastern Hills Friends Meeting (EHFM) remains a small but active meeting. Many of our small number serve the broader community of Friends in our region and the world. Committee membership in two yearly meetings, two quarterly meetings, FWCC, service to Quaker Heights and attendance of the 2012 World Conference of Friends weave our meeting into the rich tapestry of Quaker diversity. EHFM includes members and attenders with diverse gifts and interests.

To prepare to represent Wilmington Yearly Meeting at the FWCC 2012 World Conference in Kenya in April, J.P. Lund met with a support committee, which helped him prepare for the blessings and challenges. Support continued upon his return. Our meeting and area Friends have benefited from J.P.'s sharing of the inspiration he found in the gathering and his visit to an African Great Lakes Initiative peace and reconciliation workshop.

This spring Franchot Ballinger applied to and was accepted for participation in the 2012-2014 School of the Spirit program “On Being a Spiritual Nurturer.” School of the Spirit serves the Religious Society of Friends and is dedicated to helping all those who wish to be more faithful listeners and responders to the inward work of Christ. EHFM'S support of Franchot began with a letter of recommendation. Our support continues in the form of a spiritual care committee that meets with him regularly. Our meeting has also supported him financially. We look forward to learning about and benefitting from his experiences.

Our First Day School Class has only one regular teen this year, Seth Boyce. To encourage his

participation we have put together a curriculum focused on his interest in learning about world religions and other Christian denominations. We are seeing the fruits of his attendance in his activities in the wider Quaker world and his hopes for his future. Recently two young visitors have attended and provided favorable reports about their First Day Class experience. We hope to continue to grow and tailor our program to students' needs and interests.

The Meeting is engaged in several service projects. We are now entering our second year of service to the Jimmy Heath House located in Over the Rhine near downtown Cincinnati. Mike Henson's ministry through his work there led us to this engagement. Jimmy Heath House provides stable housing to those struggling with alcoholism and other afflictions associated with homelessness. EHFMM coordinates the preparation and sharing of a monthly luncheon and joins residents in games of chess and Scrabble. Jimmy Heath House was selected to receive our 2012 Christmas donations. Second, the Women's Group is sewing dresses for young orphan girls in Haiti. We have been led to this by Kate Lester's involvement with this work. We also continue to strive to decrease our impact on the environment by planting native trees and expanding our gardens to decrease the amount of mowing needed.

The Peace Ministry is an area of active member participation. Martha Viehmann expresses her commitment to this work through her participation in Greater Anderson Promotes Peace (GAPP). This group continues to hold a portion of their programs at the meetinghouse. She also assists in Cincinnati's annual celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday. Several Eastern Hills Friends, notably Linda Coppock, have been active in the Peace Church gatherings and planning for the Help Increase the Peace Workshop, a program to teach alternatives to violence to youth in high crime neighborhoods.

Throughout our history, music has been part of our worship and activities. We are especially enriched by JP Lund's musical ministry. The foundation established through his past choral direction and on-going piano playing has helped develop our singing into an integral part of our meeting for worship that often inspires spoken ministry. When he has been absent this year, we have enjoyed ukulele accompaniment provided by our teen member or his father. Our holiday gathering provides another opportunity for friends to share vocal and instrumental talents as well as a venue to share creative talents and volunteer experiences.

This year we have enjoyed having frequent visitors as well as the return of a young adult Friend and her infant daughter to our First Day meeting for worship. We are pleased that several visitors have chosen to attend on a regular basis as well as participate in various meeting activities. Our meetings for worship have continued to be enriched by messages from members. We have had spirit-led messages from both long-time attenders and those new to the Friends' worship. Both bless us.

### ***ENGLEWOOD MONTHLY MEETING***

This time last year Englewood Friends Meeting was in the process of moving. This year we are unpacking boxes and getting settled. We are officially no longer a part of Indiana Yearly Meeting. Fortunately, we are able to keep our Meetinghouse. Unfortunately, the roof is in need of immediate, and costly repair. A great deal of our efforts in the coming months will be focused on raising the money needed for that project.

Currently we are engaged in the formation of The New Association of Friends. We are participating in these meetings to see if we will be able to dually affiliate with them, and also in the hopes of adding our perspective to their development.

Our Meeting, as a collective, continues to focus on being a supportive presence for our members. Some people are grieving losses, while others celebrating personal achievements. Some members are struggling with sudden changes while others are excited about the new paths they are embarking on. What we all share though is our deep concern and compassion for one another. As a community of Friends we continue to celebrate and mourn together.

Rick Miller has taken a sabbatical, and we have been having Open Worship, with a prepared message occasionally offered by other members of the Meeting. We are excited that two regular attenders became official members this year.

Now that we are more settled as a Meeting, it is time for the next phase of our journey. It is time for us to become more involved in the life of Miami Quarter of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting as well as the New Association of Friends. We will continue to be a welcoming and affirming place of worship open to ALL people.

### ***FALL CREEK MEETING***

April 20, 2013

Our meetings for worship gather smoothly and easily, both physically and spiritually, with a sense of readiness for the hour. Members and attenders continue to travel distances, make openings in busy schedules and leave families and loved ones at home to give life to our meeting and what we find together there. Each one contributes to the variety of expression and depth of worship. We find unity, not uniformity, in the Spirit when we worship together. We are blessed with rich, living vocal ministry as well as rich ministry within the silence. Both members and attenders are motivated to inform themselves about Friends worship and practices and we are blessed with a number of experienced Friends. There is a good balance between vocal ministry from a variety of speakers and times of living silence. We welcome vocal ministry with open ears and open hearts and endeavor to support emerging gifts of ministry. Our experience of vocal messages is that they lead us into a deeper state of connection with the Divine in worship. We have occasionally heard vocal messages that have lacked spiritual content, but the speaker has still been surrounded with love and compassion and sometimes gently elderd and aided in understanding speaking in meeting for worship. The irrelevant messages lose energy and fall away. We don't have a sense of any pressing needs for our meeting. There are always the ongoing building maintenance issues, fluctuations in attendance, continuity of first hour discussion, but our care for one another, our weekly fellowship after worship and our connectedness contribute to a sense of wholeness in our community. We read the queries at each business meeting, often our only agenda item and track our growth personally and corporately by our honest responses.

## ***FORT WAYNE FRIENDS MEETING***

April 2013

Despite being a relatively small Meeting, Fort Wayne Friends have been strengthened, nurtured, challenged, and supported by each other through joys and sorrows together during the past year. Yearly and Quarterly Meetings, contacts with wider groups of Friends, provide support, love, and encouragement to the 10-12 persons who regularly attend our Meeting for Worship. Being small in number, our Committees, projects, and social events further our sense of community and common sharing of ideas and experience.

We struggle with personal health issues, family crises, and impacts from situations we seem to have little control over. We rallied behind one member and family whose son was taken away in an auto accident. Two members happily welcomed grandsons into their lives. In June the Meeting supported a member's family by assisting with a joyful wedding held in a wooded clearing. Several of us experience the effects of aging and are saddened to know of parents and others close to us who are similarly afflicted.

We are at our best in service to others and in our social interaction with each other. We collaborate with Plymouth Congregational Church, our meeting site, by helping with the Interfaith Hospitality Network, an agency in support of homeless families. At Christmas we provide gifts and clothing for a needy family. Recently we all contributed ingredients for toiletry kits to Trinity House, an agency committed to helping recently released prisoners. Individually and as a Meeting we support other worthy causes and groups that address hunger, young children, and others, as the way opens.

We are at our best holding pot luck Sundays, at least once a month. The Meeting had a member led series of seven sessions that addressed issues of retirement and how to create fiscally sound support for such an endeavor. Our annual Fall Retreat, held on Lake Wawasee focused on recognizing and using our "nurturing gifts." Diann Herzog provided a well organized and thoughtful program as facilitator.

We are becoming accustomed to using committees effectively in support for our activities and business requirements. We are especially grateful to our Communications Liaison, Paul Ricketts, who has provided us with an attractive and useful web site and Yahoo Group that allows meeting members and attenders to communicate regularly with each other.

Finally, we look forward to the summer, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, and opportunities for fellowship and nurturance with other Quakers, not just our Meeting regulars. We hope you will join us in the year ahead.

Fred Feitler, Clerk

## ***GREEN PLAIN FRIENDS***

Green Plain Monthly Meeting has a very small membership and many of the members reside in other states. However, contact is maintained with all the members during the year. They are asked to share any thoughts and concerns that they might have at any time. A summary of the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting reports and events is provided to all the members. The members that reside in the area maintain the Meeting House and grounds. The non-resident members serve the Meeting in other capacities.  
Caroline Taylor, Clerk

## ***HOPEWELL FRIENDS MEETING***

Hopewell Friends remain a committed circle of families and fellows. We have shared the joy of a marriage under the care of the meeting and the return of regularly attending friends from Ohio. Personal joys and concerns alike are shared as one between members.

Kate Glen, our clerk, also runs a young friends group for the youth of Richmond, IN. They came and visited our meeting in the Fall, assisting with the relocation of our fire pit and camping out in the meeting house. Hopewell retains an active interest in this group and plan to support them this Spring with their participation in the 30-Hour Famine.

Friends have continued the exploration of world religions during second-hour. We recently completed a study of Mormonism and received a friendly visit from Elders. The meeting is now looking to become active within the local community again, possibly focusing study and efforts towards the problem of confined feeding operations.

Hopewell Friends Meeting continues to be more than a quaint building far out in the country. We are a supportive, caring community who seek the Light, wherever it may lead.

## ***LAFAYETTE MONTHLY MEETING***

In an effort to get to know the members of our meeting better we have had our first worship sharing experiences. We are using the technique to explore the Testimonies and have had two sessions, one on the Peace Testimony and one on the Community Testimony. We plan to cover the rest of the testimonies in the months ahead.

The lack of a vibrant vocal ministry has been a recurring concern over a number of years. We invited Rex Sprouse to come and lead us in a discussion of vocal ministry. Friend Sprouse was very helpful and we are continuing to reflect on his ideas. While open to more vocal ministry, we are still a fairly quiet group.

We have experienced an increase in regular attendance in the past year from about 10 each First Day to 12-15, and we have more young adult attenders than in the recent past. We have just welcomed a young adult friend into membership, thereby increasing our membership by almost 7%! (-:

We continue to have an active collaboration and friendship with the Farmers Institute Friends Meeting in Shadeland. They are now a viable meeting and are enjoying unprogrammed worship as well as a renewal of their former social activities. They are also restoring their century old buildings.

Good work is being done on our own meeting house, by one of our members. Insulation and new door hardware have been added, as well as an ongoing reorganization of the clerk and treasurer's space. (Upright piano, free to good home!)

We have neglected our First Day School room due to a lack of children in the meeting. Recognizing that we cannot welcome a new family with children in a room that has become storage space for our meeting house tenants, we have started the clean-up process. New curricula will also be considered.

While installing the insulation, a box of interesting documents and items were discovered in the attic. Much of it belonged to the couple that left us their home for a meeting house, and we will keep it lovingly in trust. Some of it is a puzzle, however. School and university diplomas and the wedding certificate of Murray Shipley Wildman and Olive Stigleman Wildman were found in a roll. As the Wildmans were programmed Friends from the turn of the previous century, we are not sure how they ended up in the attic of our relatively new unprogrammed meeting. A visit to ancestry.com allowed us to trace the Wildmans and their daughter Mary from Ohio to Indiana to Illinois to California, where both Murray and Daughter Mary taught at Stanford. We had hoped to give the documents to Wildman descendants, but Mary died without children. As the Wildmans graduated from Earlham, we asked that school if they wanted the documents and were glad to discover that the college historians there have been doing a study of the Wildman family and they are very pleased to add the material in their collection. We may never know how the Wildmans came to be in our attic, but we are glad that they have found an appreciative home.

Ann Pellegrino, Clerk  
Michele Tomarelli, Quarterly Reporter

### ***LEXINGTON FRIENDS MEETING***

May 2012 – April 2013

Overall, the spirit has fared well in Lexington Friends Meeting this past year, in spite of – or perhaps because of – several challenges. We have a faithful core of members and attenders, as well as occasional newcomers, several of whom seem drawn to stay with us.

Our Ministry and Worship Committee has chosen to center our report this year on the guidance for state-of-the-meeting reports provided in our OVYM Faith and Practice, namely on queries asking us to consider various aspects of our meetings for worship. The meeting's brainstorming discussion in March addressed the five queries and gave our committee food for thought for the coming year.

Our meeting is rich in vocal ministry almost every week, and the silence too is pregnant with unspoken messages. During introductions, individuals sometimes share a message that hadn't quite come together during the previous hour. Friends often comment afterward that messages given that day were helpful to them. Though occasional messages arise from first-hour discussion topics or the morning's newspaper, they nonetheless seem to be led by the spirit and not overly prepared.

We provide several ways to help attenders new and old understand and appreciate the silent meeting. The weekly greeter hands a short explanatory description of worship to newcomers. A discussion group on Discovering Quakerism, with a more experiential focus than our prior Quakerism 101 classes, was particularly well received this year. We also hold a potluck discussion once every year or so on vocal ministry and discernment of messages.

Our singing during 15 minutes before the hour of worship is much appreciated, and the last instrumental piece, with piano and sometimes cello, provides a transition to the silence that can help people to center down. To further promote a silence without disruption, people have asked if Friends might be more punctual and less inclined to going in and out during the hour of worship.

Young Friends generally stay for 30 minutes of worship (and sometimes more) before departing to their First Day School classes. Our Religious Education program is staffed primarily by two committed but overworked parents. Recognizing their likely burnout, our Ministry and Worship Committee feels called to help soon with an RE retreat to plan curriculum and recruit new teachers and assistants. Before the December holidays, as has become our tradition, the children staged an original Christmas play that had been scripted by a talented parent.

Our meeting community faced multiple challenges this past year, including moving forward with our plans for a big building renovation. The Meeting was able to raise \$475,000 in pledges and donations two years ago and to complete plans for an extensive renovation of our building; this year we applied for and received bank financing. In a meeting for business in January, we approved devoting \$32,000 to documenting our green building project so we can request Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) certification, though we initially struggled with whether such an expenditure was consistent with our testimony on simplicity. Thanks to meticulous preparation by the renovation committee, the final renovation proposals were given ready approval by Friends at a called meeting in March. Since it was the culmination of six years of planning, this was a wonderful moment to celebrate. We are still trying to discern how to help young Friends feel ownership of the project.

The renovation will take about 12 months to complete, during which we will meet in temporary quarters across town. As approved by meeting for business last July, we will begin Quaker Quest training workshops during the time we are out of our meetinghouse, in hopes of being ready to share our

experience as Quakers more widely once back in our renovated space in May of 2014. Throughout the years of planning and fund-raising, we have tried to maintain a spiritual focus and equilibrium, both in terms of a budget that will allow us to continue supporting important Quaker organizations and local charities and in viewing the renovated building as an anchor for Quakerism in central Kentucky in years to come.

A major challenge this past year was how to deal with inappropriate messages from several individuals on the Yahoo group that had been set up unofficially several years ago as Lexington Quaker Conversation (LQC). A Social Media task group was charged with developing recommendations for intervening when necessary. LQC has now been taken on as an official function of the meeting; it also has four moderators and clear procedures for handling inappropriate messages that may be posted to the group.

A second challenge came when we found that an attender with a chemical addiction had been living in our basement. After multiple discussions among concerned Friends and a learning session with a recovering addict, we encouraged the attender to move out of our building and to seek help at the nearby Hope Center, which he was finally able to do. In dealing with both of these challenges, we struggled to discern how best to elder when it was called for, and indeed, how to reassume eldering responsibilities that we had been weak in meeting in recent years.

As we move forward, we remind ourselves that we all minister to one another and that our spiritual community depends upon holding all in the Light.

## ***FRIENDS MEETING OF LOUISVILLE***

Fifth Month 2013

Louisville Meeting is, probably like all Meetings, a work in progress—but there is progress, there is life, in the community. Attendance for Meeting for Worship rose slightly during the last year. The silence has been rich, and at the same time a wider number of worshippers seem to have found clearness to share vocal ministries. For many, First Day worship is sometimes a wondrous part of their spiritual path. For others, alternative paths help. Though the numbers are far smaller, we have a Women's Worship Sharing group and a Bible Study Group. Children's Religious Education is largely made up of the children of Burundi Evangelical Friends who worship with us. A dedicated group of teachers has helped them feel more welcome in our midst, and engaged them and a few other children in creative activities as well as study of our historical testimonies and Quaker figures.

Participation in First Hours/Adult Religious Education has also risen, and we've considered many topics for enrichment and growth. They included: vocal ministry; several themed issues of Friends Journal; multiple discussions of chapters from A Force More Powerful; and a firsthand account from Howie Baker's participation in FWCC's gathering in Kenya--as well as a separate session on that gathering's eco-justice statement. We also revisited the Peace Testimony, discussed how we welcome new visitors

and attenders, considered how to get work done through alternatives to our historical committee structures, and shared our understandings of the meaning of membership in the Religious Society of Friends.

Collective clearness on that last topic—membership—eludes us and influences the energy and direction of Louisville Meeting. There are many views on what membership is for individuals, and for the Meeting itself in the larger Friends bodies. For some, keeping the doors open for a weekly spiritual refuge and recharge open to all is purpose enough. Others seek a more connected spiritual community, at once challenging and supportive. Still others draw comfort primarily from association with our traditional testimonies.

In the midst of this, though, we currently have two new membership clearness committees, and there have been rich experiences within our community during several events with other Meetings. We had the largest group in recent memory attend Yearly Meeting, and all found it spiritually enriching. We hosted both All Kentucky Gathering (of the three Meetings in Kentucky, two of which are in OVYM) and a Miami Quarterly Meeting. The events also had programs on helping each other and ourselves move through grief and loss, and on aging. Both topics were relevant and useful to our Meeting. As with the First Hour discussions, the process of working together on hosting these two events brought together many people in the Meeting, and gave them a better chance to get to know each other than occurs in the friendly confusion that is “the rise of Meeting”.

On the other hand, only about 30% of Meeting members who live in the area worship with us regularly. The challenges we have finding a common understanding of membership and our community vision are manifold. All in our community would call themselves Seekers, but the amount of participation in our corporate worship, preparation for worship, taking on of Meeting responsibilities, and types of personal witness vary tremendously. Also, we have Friends from FGC, FUM, and Evangelical Friends traditions. While some of these variations are not uncommon in every Meeting, we have yet to find a way to coalesce around this breadth of diversity. In the meantime, several committees and Meeting roles are dormant, and most others have no clerks and/or no regular meetings—relying on e-mails or quick “rise of Meeting” conversations.

As a result, we continue to struggle with maintaining representatives to wider Quaker bodies, with engaging our members and attenders in the ongoing necessary roles and chores, and with finding clearness in the face of conflicts on corporate leadings. Specifically, we continue with diverse, multi-year struggles on, for example: how to increase transparency and clarity in Meeting finances; how to resurrect or lay down the Friends Committee on Social Concerns (FCSC, a now-dormant 501c3 body that was a vehicle for supporting several new organizations, such as the Peace Education Program, the Friends School, and Squallis Puppeteers); and whether we can work through conflicting issues around state registration of marriages under the care of our Meeting. We can’t even seem to unite on whether or not we would benefit from trying to develop a Meeting vision.

We are looking at how other Meetings address these hurdles. Individually, we have some wonderful gifts and witnesses in our Meeting. We are trying little experiments to move us toward fuller community, as

well as supporting individual initiatives. Friends readily supported *ad hoc* groups coordinating care this year-- for example, one helped a struggling single parent understand her finances and resources, and another gives solace and support to a long-time Meeting couple who lost two children and had their own serious health struggles. We have several younger families again, and one of those parents is now our associate clerk. Another young adult Friend is trying to show us the value of role-playing games in sharing Quaker values with the young adults among us.

We continue to engage as a community, and know way will open.

## ***MIAMI MONTHLY MEETING***

1<sup>st</sup> Month 2013

The Spirit prospers among us at Miami. Though our numbers are small, active members and attenders gather weekly in the spirit of love and loyalty toward one another. Ministries are encouraged and nurtured in a supportive atmosphere of open hearts and minds. A strong sense of stewardship exists in the Meeting, obvious not only during Meeting for Business, but also during days set aside for maintenance and cleaning of our facilities and grounds. We have also deepened our commitment to the environment by the addition of trees to replace those that had died and had to be removed.

For our faith community, 2012 was a year of renewal. During the year, Miami Monthly Meeting deepened its commitment to nurturing spiritual growth and development among its members and attenders. To this end, we have conducted regular adult religious education. Adult First Day School has been well-attended with lively discussions. We started off the year with an in depth study of the Gospel of John. After an overview of the Gospel and its authorship, we settled into weekly discussions of each chapter, using curriculum written in-house. Following this, we held a Quakerism 101 class with our own curriculum created from a variety of resources, including materials from a similar class offered by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. On occasion, as our members may suggest or Yearly Meeting committees may request, we have used the First Day School time to review the State of the Society Report, discuss queries sent by committees, or study and comment on portions of *Faith and Practice* under review.

We are a caring community, responding quickly and lovingly to one another when needs arise. We continue to provide tuition assistance to our members attending college and contribute to the local food pantry and Habitat for Humanity. We also have provided financial assistance to needy members and attenders for housing, food, and medical bills. Additionally, we have provided financial support and nurturing guidance to several needy individuals and families who have brought their needs before the Meeting.

Miami works to ensure that individual ministries are nurtured and recognized in areas such as religious education, Meeting for Worship, and outreach efforts. Meeting for Worship continues to be deep and rich, with regular vocal ministry arising from the silence during most Meetings for Worship, and sharing

original and varied messages. Our ministries to the wider community include our participation on various committees at Quaker Heights Care Community, as well as providing Quaker worship to the residents on a regular basis. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Day nearest to Christmas, we include Quaker Heights in our annual Christmas Program with carol singing and readings of the Christmas Story from Scripture. We also provide a facilitator for the annual Memorial Service to remember those residents and staff of Quaker Heights who passed away during the year. Members also serve as trustees of the Waynesville Area Cultural Center.

We were saddened by the February 17<sup>th</sup> passing of Elizabeth Sue Willey Cook, wife of our Clerk. Her Memorial Meeting was held on February 25<sup>th</sup> with more than 200 in attendance, including a number of her students from Wilmington College and Miami University. We were also saddened by Russell Palmer's passing in August 14<sup>th</sup>. Though a member of Eastern Hills, he had been attending Worship at Miami since he moved to Quaker Heights.

Joy filled the Meetinghouse on 8<sup>th</sup> Month 11<sup>th</sup> as Valerie L. Lucas and member Michael S. Furnas exchanged their wedding vows, witnessed by a capacity crowd of friends and family in the White Brick Meetinghouse. There were so many in attendance that we had to open the shutters between the Adult First Day School classroom (formerly the women's and children's side) for the first time in more than a decade.

Friends gathered at Fort Ancient for our annual outdoor worship and picnic for which the weather was perfect. Friends from several Monthly Meetings gathered under the trees of this ancient Native American site on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Following a well-centered Meeting for Worship, Friends enjoyed food and fellowship, and a hike around the grounds of the historic site. Friends are invited to put this event onto their calendar for next year, usually held on the Sunday nearest the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, so that you don't miss out on this much-loved event.

The Christmas Program was held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and included *Lessons and Carols*[1] at Quaker Heights Care Community, and a finger-food luncheon and Christmas Program after the Meeting for Worship. Many, including several out of town guests who were raised in the Meeting, lent their voices to the singing at Quaker Heights and joined in our Meeting for Worship and luncheon.

The Advancement Committee reported a complete rebuild of Miami's Website (<http://miami.quaker.org>), including preemptive implementation of security for the Contact Us Page and encryption of email addresses to prevent spam and malicious software attacks by web bots that have attacked other websites during the past year.

Friends have a major concern about our facilities. Our buildings are showing their age and susceptibility to the weather. Twice during the past year we have had to repair the damage caused by burst pipes at the White Brick Meetinghouse. Deterioration to the Red Brick's flue and chimney required that we plan to

seal up the fireplace. The Red Brick's storm windows and doors have also experienced weather-related deterioration and plans for their repair and replacement have been made.

Friends served in multiple roles and on multiple committees. Milton Cook continued to serve as Clerk of Miami Monthly Meeting and Lonny Burger as the Assistant Clerk and Webmaster. Margaret (Peg) Schorreck continued in her as Treasurer and Bill Hoch remained involved as Assistant Treasurer. The Assistant Clerk participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> month 20<sup>th</sup> Miami Quarterly Meeting at Yellow Springs and the 10<sup>th</sup> month 6<sup>th</sup> OVYM Executive Committee, as well as Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions at Earlham College, both as our Meeting's Representative and as the OVYM Website Administrator. The Clerk participated in some of the Annual Sessions at Earlham as well. The Clerk also served on the Board of the Waynesville Area Historical Society and the Miami Cemetery Trust Board of Officers.

---

[1] A traditional Christian program that involves reading Old and New Testament Scriptures that narrate the Christmas Story, interspersed with Christmas Carols.

## ***NORTH MEADOW CIRCLE OF FRIENDS***

Spring, 2013

Dear Friends

North Meadow Circle of Friends has had some wonderfully enriching times and some less than great times. However, all told, it has been a very good year.

We have struggled the past couple of years with finding unity regarding outreach and how to grow our meeting. Some have wanted to do much more regarding outreach than we have in the past and really wanted to be very active in including and seeking others to be a part of our community. However, no one wanted to lead. However, even without expanded outreach efforts, our meeting has grown and attracted more visitors. These new folks have brought us benefits, including some theological diversity.

This year we returned for a retreat in the lovely setting of the Peace Learning Center at Eagle Creek Park. We were led by a very grounded elder, Peg Champney around the theme of "Living Simply". This was a rich time to be with each other.

One of our members has enriched our meeting and our lives in so many ways, and all through her leadings. She has organized our library which has also become a place for retreat and also a resource for understanding not only our own rich faith but faiths of others as well. That member also was led to assemble a series of resources and sharings about many aspects of Quakerism, including the rarely talked about etiquette of Quakerism -- the practical aspects of dealing with each other in Friendly ways. She also conducted a survey of our members and attenders in an effort to determine whether and how we

are meeting each person's spiritual needs. This survey will provide Ministry and Counsel with valuable guidance for its future work.

The meeting will be focusing on other Friends identifying their own leadings and empowering them to act on them. We look forward to the richness of this sharing in the next year.

In the Spirit

## ***OXFORD FRIENDS MEETING***

May 2013

The strength of Oxford Friends is evident in the tenderness for one another as we have expressed concern and compassion through our various life changes over the past twelve months. Many of our members endured health crises, either personally, or among their family members. As we all continue our own sometimes difficult growth into maturity, we were strengthened in our belief that, "We are one in the Spirit."

Spiritual highlights of our past year included the following:

We experienced both the loss, and the celebration of the life, of Nancy McDowell, in conjunction with Clear Creek Friends in Richmond.

We welcomed the Murray family to membership: Shannon and Cassie and their children: Ian, Caleb and Jillian. The process was impressive and moving. The children were very engaged and articulate. They deeply process what happens in First Day School and report back the ways they have been opened, and this serves as a ministry to us. The children's garden delighted all, from its planting outside the Campus Ministry Center through the fall. We especially remember the unit about Jesus and how people today would receive his message. The children occasionally stay through meeting for worship. Other highlights of our First Day School program: Learning more about the Bible, the Arabic language and writing, Quakers in Africa and the Middle East, Quaker testimonies, and care for Creation and the Environment.

We grieved with two of our attenders who lost sons this year.

We worked on the Oxford Habitat for Humanity "build," from its planning to its Completion Celebration in the fall.

We again were proportionally over-represented at the Empty Bowls fundraiser for assistance in feeding the hungry, and the School Bags and Health Kit assembly projects sponsored by Church Women United.

The Life of our Meeting continues to be enriched by our gatherings in the fall, winter and spring, where we share a potluck meal and an inspiring theme and activity. Our Advent Event featured the children's

play entitled “Silent Night,” based on a story about Christmas as experienced by soldiers in the trenches during World War I. It was educational for the kids and moving for us.

Our members and attenders continue to be very active in both Quarterly and Yearly Meeting gatherings.

Our Meetings for Worship have been deepened and made even more meaningful by an increase in vocal ministry in the last few months.

Although as a Meeting we are mindful of being supportive to members and attenders in need, there are some with whom we have apparently lost contact, and we are not sure how to interpret this.

We also have individuals who are very active locally: Barbara with MS Walk, Crop Walk and Church Women United; Mary, Andy, and Nani with Oxford Citizens for Peace and Justice; Nani with the MOON Co-op and the Campus Ministry Center (CMC).

Our Second Hour Adult education programs continue to challenge us and inspire Friends to become more engaged in the concerns of our world. Steve went to Cuba to teach pastors about Quakerism, and reported his experiences to us. Josh Mannix, a Miami University student, reported to us about the CMC Alternative Spring Break trip to Arizona to learn about immigration issues as a “thank you” for our contribution. Several of our members presented programs on Friends organizations, including AFSC, FCNL, and the William Penn House in Washington, DC.

We visited other meetings: Fort Ancient in July hosted by Miami meeting; West Elkton in May and in December for a communal Christmas potluck; and occasional visits with Englewood Friends near Dayton.

The Campus Ministry Center continues to host us for our weekly gathering for worship and other activities. We are grateful for the current director at CMC and for the new energy and entrepreneurship that is building a stronger financial base for its ministry.

Like the garden our children planted in the spring, Oxford Friends hopes to continue to be a welcoming home for the Spirit in our hearts and in the community.

---Sandra Ward-Angell, Clerk; Cecilia Shore, Recording Clerk; and Steve Angell

### ***WHITE ROSE MONTHLY MEETING***

White Rose Meeting remains a small gathering of Friends. We meet the first and third First Day of each month for fellowship and worship. We are presently at three regular attendees. Three of our members make up the Ft. Wayne Worship group, and they on occasion meet with us in Wabash, and we on occasion join them in Ft. Wayne.

Due to the activities of each, we do not meet some of our scheduled days by mutual agreement. The size of the meeting does not easily allow participation by the meeting itself in many activities, but we believe the commitments of the individuals to their various organizations takes the place of these responsibilities, which are usually fulfilled through the meeting. We remain, each in our own way, active in Christ's and Quaker's affairs.

Murray Cox, Clerk

## ***YELLOW SPRINGS FRIENDS***

April 2013

**First Day Program** — Our children's group, which is held before Meeting for Worship, continues to learn through the "Godly Play" and "Faith and Play" curriculums and our middle school youth's strong interest in music is being encouraged. Our children join Meeting for Worship for the first 15 minutes and then enjoy time outdoors with supportive adults. Our younger group was reduced recently when a family with three children left the area. We are concerned with maintaining the program with smaller numbers.

**Ministry and Advancement** — Our adult programs at 10:00 o'clock have been better attended this year and have led to further outreach and learning. An evening book study of *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship* (by Donna McDaniel and Vanessa Julye) includes fourteen participants. Worship Sharing has continued on Thursday afternoons. An all day retreat led us to institute new practices during our social hour including a group grace before the potluck after Meeting, often with song, and a table set aside for those who might want to continue reflection with others on the messages from Meeting for Worship.

**Membership and Pastoral Care** — The committee continues to prayerfully approach members with whom we are out-of-contact and maintain good order with our membership lists. One member regularly visits with those in need in our Meeting. The Committee recognizes a need to help members/attenders be more aware of Meeting resources for pastoral care, including Clearness Committees. We are considering making an announcement each month that pastoral care is available.

**Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting**— Several individuals and families carry on our connections and responsibilities to OVYM. We would like to see more of us involved. Two of our members, Faith Morgan and Veronica Frost became co-clerks of the Miami Quarterly Meeting in 2012.

**Peace Witness**—Carl Hyde continues to lead an ecumenical group witnessing against the death penalty during Ohio executions. A number of Quakers also continue the steadfast interdenominational witness against war each Saturday in downtown Yellow Springs. In the fall of 2012, attender, Steve Roberts, led an ecumenical program to commemorate the International Day of Peace. The program was held at the local Presbyterian Church and was well attended by the wider Community.

**Fellowship**—In addition to some simple meals in Friend’s homes, we hold a monthly lunch at a local café, and a monthly inner journey group that writes and reflects on spiritual prompts. An inter-generational event-pizza and game night brought families to the Meeting House for a fun evening.

**Death and Dying Concern**—The Meeting was challenged when a beloved and long time member, Paul Wagner, asked for support in his decision to end his life due to the severe and chronic pain he developed after cancer treatment coupled with his advanced age. Although the entire Meeting was not clear around this profound issue, we did feel called to give Paul the support he requested. With the loving care and support from his family and the Meeting, Paul felt led to stop eating and drinking and died within two weeks.

Paul had also requested that after his death the Meeting work to find ways to give dying individuals the information and support they need for such difficult decisions. After his death the Meeting formed a committee to carry his concern forward – reporting back to Monthly Meeting for Business. The result was a gathering to which the larger Yellow Springs community was invited, where several individuals shared their experiences of end-of-life choices. The Meeting House filled to capacity. Seeing the need and concern some Meeting members joined with community members to continue the dialogue on this concern with additional gatherings and to explore connections to the national group “Compassion and Choices.”

**Other Concerns**— We continue to reflect on our awareness that we are a Meeting comprised of European-Americans including little diversity. We honored the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bayard Rustin’s birth with a public showing of the film, “Brother Stranger: the life of Bayard Rustin,” a documentary of his life and work. Rustin was an African-American Quaker-affiliated leader and teacher of non-violence. It was followed by a discussion led by two local African Americans and our Meeting member Jim Keen. More than 100 people attended from the community and our Meeting. We also planned to continue learning from the book, “Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship.”

Respectfully submitted, Pat Dewees

## State of Society Report

In reviewing this year's State of the Meeting reports, members of Religious Nurture and Education Committee were struck by the centrality of the meeting for worship. Some constituent meetings express a clear sense of appreciation and joy for the depth of worship and the gift of Spirit-led vocal ministry. Other meetings also discuss the efforts they have made during the past year to come to better understanding of vocal ministry or more disciplined practices (for example, timely arrival) in order to strengthen the experience of the meeting for worship for all.

For some meetings, care of the meetinghouse property is an important concern. This has led or may lead to renovation plans designed to allow the meeting to better serve a changing community or simply to maintain an adequate home for worship and other meeting activities.

Several State of the Meeting reports discuss activities designed to deepen the bonds of spiritual Friendship within the meeting and efforts at religious education for both children and adults. Many Friends seek a better understanding both of the Quaker Way and of other religious traditions. Some meetings explicitly identify the challenge of balancing individual and communal identity and spirituality. In some cases, specific challenges have arisen, and additional expertise has been required. Several meetings also spoke of their involvement with Quarterly and Yearly Meeting and with the wider Quaker world.

We also read of the search for clarity on how to interact with the wider community in which meetings are located. This may involve exploring Quaker Quest; it may involve web-based presence; it may involve participation in locally based ecumenical consultation, service, or social action organizations. While some meetings mention the arrival of new members or attenders, we were unable to discern a pattern of intentional outreach to seekers or attempts to make meetings visible to potential Quakers. A final recurrent theme is that many meetings feel that they are in "a time of transition." However, the nature of these transitions seems to vary from meeting to meeting. Examples include the passing of some Friends, the addition of new Friends, an aging meeting community, the influx of children and youth, changes in the physical space where Friends gather, and new leadings for how we serve one another or the wider world. Let us hold one another in the Light and let us pray for Divine Guidance so that we may hear and respond to the leadings of the Inward Teacher, hoping that these transitions will yield not just change, but Spirit-led transformation.

## Memorial Minutes

### ***DORIS FERM***



Doris Ferm was a devoted and beloved member of Lexington Friends Meeting throughout the 1980s and 1990s. When Doris and her husband, John, arrived in Lexington in 1979, Lexington Friends Meeting was quite small. Doris brought her deep knowledge of Quakerism to the task of revitalizing our meeting, and over the two decades she was among us, our meeting grew several-fold.

Under Doris's guidance the meeting developed a number of traditions that knit us as a loving community—personal sharing at the rise of worship, frequent potlucks, and annual retreats. The meeting grew large enough that in 1990 we had to purchase a meetinghouse to provide space for our growing First Day School. By the year 2000, the meeting had outgrown this first building. Doris was wary of our taking on a mortgage on a building, but she supported us in taking this step.

Doris Lippincott Bye grew up in a Quaker family in Philadelphia. She graduated from Swarthmore College with honors, and earned an M.S. in Geology from Penn State University. She met her husband, John Charles Ferm, while both were students attending the Pennsylvania State geology field camp. In June 1949, Doris and John married. They had three children and raised them in Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, and South Carolina, returning to Kentucky in 1979. Living in Kentucky, South Carolina, and Louisiana during her adult life, she mentored many newcomers to Quakerism. Doris helped found the Columbia, SC, Friends Meeting in the early 1970s.

Doris was a tireless advocate for peace and social justice, especially for the abolition of the death penalty and the preservation of the environment. She was active in the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Quakers for Kentucky Legislation, and Quaker Earthcare Witness, among other organizations.

In November 1999 John passed away, and in 2000 Doris moved to Bellingham, Washington to be near her two daughters, their partners, and her two grandchildren. She returned to OVYM in 2006 to deliver a plenary on that year's theme, "Seeking an Earth Restored: The Spiritual Path of Stewardship." The text of that talk can be found on the OVYM website.

Doris died on May 3, 2013 at the age of 88. Fifty Bellingham Friends serenaded her outside her window in her last hours. Doris's loving spirit inspired love and respect among those who knew her. She is sorely missed.

## **WARREN HENEGAR**



Warren Prentice Henegar, 85, died August 21, 2012, in Bloomington, Indiana. He was born November 30, 1926 in Hale County, Texas, on his parents' tenant farm, the son of Wallace and Venera Tays Henegar. The Dust Bowl threw the family off their farm and into despair. Warren's father died in a workplace accident in 1930 and his pregnant mother and her five children survived, barely housed and fed, with her stubbornness and the migrant field labor of Warren and his siblings.

The New Deal and World War II pulled Warren and his family out of poverty. He enlisted in the Navy, and served in the South Pacific Theatre. Warren attended Stanford University and Texas Tech before completing his undergraduate degree at Oklahoma City University. He obtained a Master's in Agronomy from Purdue University in 1969.

In 1951, at a civil rights rally in San Francisco, he met fellow Texan JoAnna Nix, and they were married three months later.

During the McCarthy Era, Warren became a Quaker and a "mostly" pacifist. Observing that it was Quakers who were making the most sense and doing so publicly, he and JoAnna began attending Quaker Meeting for Worship in Eugene, Oregon and briefly in Baltimore (Maryland).

An early career with the Social Security Administration carried Warren and JoAnna across the country. They settled in Bloomington, with its inexpensive farmland and fertile intellectual community.

Warren and JoAnna lived a full life together on a cattle farm in southern Monroe County. Warren worked a variety of jobs until his semi-retirement at age 79, including Soil & Water Conservationist, Fieldman for the Farm Bureau Co-op and soil scientist and waste water sanitarian for the county Health Dept. He was a force behind the recycling effort and a juvenile center, and served in county elected office since his first election to County Council in 1970.

He campaigned for a Peace Monument on the Courthouse Square, and stilled any questioning with the remark "I'm a Quaker, and Quakers are for peace." He served on national boards dedicated to ending world hunger, and led tours to China in the early 1970s. During the Vietnam War, he offered Conscientious Objector counseling. Always generous with his well-informed opinions pulled from wide and varied interests, Warren could both learn from and teach nearly everyone he met. In the last few months of his life he decided to openly share his experience of dying from cancer, to minister to the full human experience of living and dying.

Warren and his family started attending Bloomington Meeting in 1957, became members two years later, and so have been members for nearly all of the Meeting's existence. As a long-time member, Warren served in various ways, including a term on Ministry and Counsel and leading of a long-lived Bible discussion group. Bloomington Friends will all remember communal gatherings at the Henegar family farm of all sorts, which always included good food and nature hikes through its woods and hills.

Because of his work in the county Health Department, he was able to be of considerable service and support to the newly-formed Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat, a 60-acre retreat center a few miles from town.

Warren is survived by his wife of 62 years, JoAnna Nix Henegar, his daughters and sons-in-law: Lillian Henegar, Anna Henegar, Alice and Chris Eads, all of Bloomington; Jane Henegar and Matt Gutwein, Indianapolis, and by his seven grandchildren.

### **ROSEMARY KEILY**

Rosemary Keily attended Eastern Hills Friends Meeting with her husband Hu. She died under the gentle care of Hospice of Cincinnati and Twin Towers. Rosemary was a zoo volunteer for 35 years at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, the Columbus Zoo, and the Smithsonian National Zoological Park. She always had a love of animals and became a vegetarian at age 16, 74 years ago. Her motto was that she did not eat anything that could walk, swim, crawl, or fly. Through work and volunteerism, she made many friends from around the world. She loved opera and enjoyed learning foreign languages, she spoke Italian and German. She also found time to be an accomplished artist, meeting many more people through her painting classes via the Cincinnati Art Academy.

She is survived by her loving husband, Hubert; her son, George Almer; step-son, Mark Keily; their wives, 3 grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren.



### **MARY ELIZABETH MORGAN**



Mary E. Morgan died peacefully at the Yellow Springs Friends Care Community nursing home on June 16, 2012. Her husband Ross was present.

Mary was born On Nov. 12 1922, only four years after the end of WWI, the second child of Jacob and Anna Schneider in the small, predominantly Swedish town of Galva, Ill. Mary's parents were children of second-generation German immigrants.

Many of Mary's lifetime interests were fostered at a remarkably early age. At six or seven, she printed and distributed handbills soliciting votes for her father. In her teens she taught Sunday school at the Galva Congregational Church and led story-telling sessions at the library. Her second job after college was teaching third grade in Winnetka, Ill, where, she met her future husband Ross Morgan; they were married on Dec. 20, 1947.

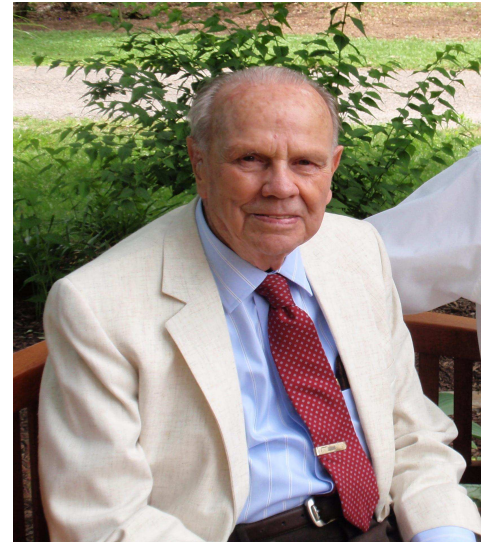
In 1951, Mary and Ross moved to Yellow Springs where they raised their children and became involved in the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting. For over 50 years, Mary actively participated in the Religious

Education Committee of the Friends Meeting, teaching First Day school for many years and also served as the focal person for holiday programs, especially the Christmas Eve program.

Throughout her life, Mary's driving force was her deep, spiritually-based empathy for people — an ever-abiding love of people. While Mary's interest and focus was her family. She mothered eight children, five by birth and three "by selection" (by foster parenting over 50 years), all with profound skill and love. She was instrumental in establishing the Yellow Springs Historical Society and a variety of activities promoting interest in local history and community pride.

### **D. RUSSELL PALMER**

D. Russell Palmer, 95, on August 14, 2012, in Waynesville, Ohio. Russell was born on January 9, 1917, in Chester, Pa., the seventh son and last child of Arletta Cutler and Charles Palmer. From childhood, he was interested in air travel, and he filled scrapbooks with articles about airplanes, pilots, blimps, and balloons. His father's family had been Quakers in North America for eight generations, and he grew up in Chester Meeting [later attended Goshen Meeting in Goshenville, Pa., enjoying Young Friends activities and meeting many who stayed in touch through the years, still calling themselves "Young Friends" even in old age. Recognizing that learning to fly was expensive, and finding a pilot job uncertain, he went into aviation mechanics and spent most of his working life maintaining small aircraft. He was a conscientious objector during World War II, managing forests, welding pipelines, and working as a nurse's aide for the Civilian Public Service. Until Congress passed a law prohibiting COs from leaving the country, he was part of the China Unit, studying Chinese and learning how to maintain and operate a charcoal-powered ambulance. When he was working at the Alexian Brothers Hospital in Chicago, he met Ruth W. Coppock in a Young Friends group. They married in 1945 and moved to Missoula, Mont., and he worked as a smoke jumper to finish his CPS obligation. After the war he operated his own business for a while and worked in a lab experimenting with ultrasonics, moving his family from place to place for some years. He finally settled down as head mechanic at an airport near Lansdale, Pa., where he stayed for 19 years before retiring at age 65. During this time he was a member of Gwynedd (Pa.) Meeting. Russell was a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector and a licensed hot-air balloon inspector whose integrity and diligence served his airborne travelers well; after he signed off on an aircraft repair, there were no injuries or fatalities from mechanical failure.



Although he seldom spoke about religion or theology, he took Quaker testimonies seriously, and he served as treasurer of meeting as well as on several committees, including the property committee. He did most of the work on his cars and houses himself, and he always had a garden for the fresh vegetables he liked. He used the little free time he had to travel and to take his family on camping vacations.

Although his life of hard work did not leave much time to play, he was a playful person, enjoying company, card and table games, jigsaw puzzles, and table tennis. After the children grew up, he and Ruth became active in square dancing and a local theatrical troop. He also became interested in sailing. He upgraded his boat from a Sunfish to a 22-foot Catalina and retired to Chestertown, Md., to be near

open water.

He joined Chester River Meeting in Chestertown and volunteered for Meals on Wheels and the READ literacy project. He belonged to the area Council of Churches and AARP. When Chester River Meeting went from gathering in a small rental space to owning their own building, he aided in that transition.

Russell and Ruth traveled all over the United States in an old van that contained a kitchen and bed and went on sailing vacations in the Caribbean, New England, and the Chesapeake Bay. They traveled to Hawaii, New Zealand, and Alaska and cruised through the Panama Canal.

In 1994, they moved to the Cincinnati area, joining Eastern Hills Meeting. He continued to serve Meals on Wheels and tutor for the Literacy Council. One young woman he helped had been unable to read even the labels at the grocery store, and not long before he died, she sent a note saying that she was attending college. Russell had a wry sense of humor, high integrity, and a sense of responsibility to others. He taught his children fiscal management, home improvement, and general maintenance skills. Money was always tight, yet he expected his children to attend college, and he shouldered the costs. He faithfully supported Ruth during the challenges of her mental illness and dementia. During her long seven-year decline, he visited her every day, taking the long walk from his assisted living room at Quaker Heights Care Community to her nursing home cafeteria three times a day to help her eat, regardless of his own health issues. He was a strong, silent man who showed Ruth great tenderness when she was most vulnerable. His steadfast care of her is an example to all of us of fidelity and commitment to helping others. Ruth died in 2011.

Russell is survived by four children, David Palmer, Ralph Palmer, Wilson Palmer, and Patty Greenwald; 7 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

### **FRANKIE RITTER RUOPP**



Frankie Ruopp, a former member of the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting, died at her home in Tucson, Ariz., on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013. She was 85. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Phillips Ruopp and by her father, Deckard Ritter; both had been active members of the Friends Meeting while in Yellow Springs.

Frankie and Phil raised four children in the Yellow Springs Meeting. She also worked as a college English tutor and a Head Start teacher in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Ohio. She was a graduate of Antioch College.

As her children grew older, she became increasingly involved in helping to create and strengthen local resources in Yellow Springs, where she lived for many years. She was a leader in the establishment of the Yellow Springs Friends Care Center; a non-profit nursing home institution founded by the Friends Meeting, and spearheaded the effort to make it the first nursing home in Ohio to admit AIDS patients. She chaired the local credit union board and the community activities board. Because of her interest in affordable housing, she also served on the board of the county housing authority.

## **DAVID TRUAX**

David Truax was born into a Quaker family in Mooresville, IN and was an active member of North Meadow Circle of Friends during the 1980's, where he was especially active in the First Day program. David was dearly loved by the children and frequently took them on camping trips. He was also active in Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and Whitewater Quarter. David had been attending Mooresville Friends Meeting in the years before his death. He is remembered with affection by those who knew him at North Meadow.

## **PAUL WILLIAM WAGNER**

Paul Wagner died peacefully at home on July 25, 2012 with his wife, Carolyn Treadway, at his side, both members of the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting. He was 91.

Paul was born on July 23, 1921, in Trotwood, Ohio. The family was a member of the Church of the Brethren. A rural childhood and loving parents launched him into a positive, productive life, filled with hard work and appreciation for the natural world.

Paul learned to play the trumpet, becoming active in his high school band. He was also director of his church choir. At Antioch College he joined the orchestra and studied engineering. He went on to obtain a master of science in engineering degree at the University of Cincinnati.



World War II brought to Paul the realization that he was a conscientious objector. He served his country in the Civilian Public Service, working in forestry in several states, followed by an assignment in the Virgin Islands teaching electrical shop in a high school. Here he developed a love of sailing.

While Paul was in graduate school he met and soon married his first wife, Betty Lavell. They were married nearly 60 years, until her death in 2005. They lived in Puerto Rico while Paul taught at the University in Mayaguez, after which they settled in Yellow Springs in 1949, becoming active members of the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting.

In addition to work and family, Paul was very active in the Yellow Springs community. He was the driving force in envisioning and founding of the Friends Care Community nursing home, through the Friends Meeting. His involvement continued as he chaired the board of that institution through the first two terms. Later he participated in fundraising for needed improvements.

When Yellow Springs Friends (Quakers) gave Paul the task of figuring out where there was space for a literature rack in tiny Rockford Chapel, he soon came to this conclusion: "We don't need a literature rack; we need an addition!" The resulting structure has since been well used by many, both within and outside of the Quaker congregation.

A year after Betty's death, Paul married the second love of his life, lifelong Friend and also a member of the Yellow Springs Meeting, Carolyn Treadway.

Paul was in excellent health until the unfortunate consequence of radiation for skin cancer on his shins in November and December 2011 resulted in severe and excruciatingly painful leg burns that could not be healed. Nearly wheelchair bound and in constant pain, Paul chose, after great practical and spiritual thought, to end his life by stopping eating and drinking. This decision was supported by his wife and children, his hospice team, and the Yellow Springs Friends Meeting (his beloved spiritual home). He was clearly at peace with his decision, and several times during his final days expressed gratefulness for the wonderful life he had lived, his loving family, friends and community, and for the beauty that surrounded him.