



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

"Now I see there is a people risen that I cannot win with gifts or honours, offices or places; but all other sects and people I can."

Oliver Cromwell quoted in The Life of George Fox

Third Haven Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Thirteenth Day Eleventh Month 2016

Candace Shattuck, Co-Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:45 a.m. after a brief period of silence.

Attending: 24 attended: Gwen Beegle, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Connie Crow, Robert Day, Leigh Anne Dodge, Marsie Hawkinson, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Dona Sorce, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Paige Tilghman, Bob Wack, Joan Wetmore, Robert Wieland, Winslow Womack, Mary Yancy, Ralph Young.

Comments on Eleventh Query, Stewardship of Resources (read at Meeting for Worship)
Appreciation to Worship and Ministry for having the Query read and its inspiration to us all.

Approval of minutes from Tenth Month business meeting

The treasurer's report was amended to read "Our expenses to date are just over \$16,000 which is about \$2,200 more than last year and our net income is a negative \$8,800 which is a \$5,000 bigger deficit than at this time last year."

Approved as amended.



Clerks' Desk

Operating Guidelines streamlined language will be shared with committees and individuals. Member concern has been expressed about the future of the meeting given the low number of families with young children.

PYM Continuing Sessions Report - No report, was presented. Minutes are published at PYM.org. Friends who would be willing to commit to attending these sessions and reporting back would be welcome.



Nominating Committee Preliminary Report – *Adrienne Rudge*

The newly revised version reflecting corrections requested at Meeting for Business and elsewhere will be circulated by email for everyone's perusal and comments next week. Conversation also covered committees which do not yet have designated clerks or who have a shortage of members. Members and Attenders are encouraged to share their gifts by participating in the life of the meeting.

Testimonies and Concerns Annual Report – *Leigh Anne Dodge*

From the Third Haven website:

“The purpose of Third Haven Friends' Testimonies & Concerns committee is to help members and attendees of our Meeting intentionally enact the major testimony of Friends' practice of "letting one's life speak" one's spiritual belief.

The Committee's work, therefore, relates to Friends' testimonies of simplicity, peace, integrity, community and equality, especially as they pertain to social justice concerns in today's world. Quaker values sit at the heart of what we try to accomplish in T&C.”

Friends have worked for peace, equity and social justice from the early days of the Religious Society of Friends. Motivation for this work comes from individual experiences and leadings, and our belief in Quaker testimonies and teachings. Teachings based on the unimpeachable belief in the worth of every person and in the faith of the power of love to overcome violence and oppression.

Third Haven's Testimonies and Concerns Committee tries to build bridges between historic Quaker testimonies and individual concerns and leadings and the involvement of those in the meeting community and the meeting as a whole. The Committee is an open committee, meaning





that while it has named members that meet monthly, all are welcome to attend a committee meeting at any time, no long-term commitment is required.

To describe our work and to borrow from a page from FCNL : We seek a world free of war and the threat of war, a society with equity and justice for all. We seek a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled. We seek an earth restored.

Our committee organizes speakers and fundraisers and participates in broader community events such as the annual Multi-cultural Fair in May and the Thanksgiving meals prepared for our neighbors in need. We encourage the meeting to maintain supportive relationships with local organizations with similar interests like the Talbot Interfaith Shelter, the Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center, Asbury United Methodist, the Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity and the lending library at the Talbot County Detention Center.

T&C attempts to stay current with and engage with the national peace and social justice initiatives of the Friends Committee on National Legislation and the American Friends Service Committee. Examples of this from the past twelve months include AFSC's "Let Your Lives Speak" program and their "Love Thy Neighbor" effort. We worked with FCNL in their "The World We Seek" drive this past spring as we asked Third Haven Friends what their priorities might be for the upcoming legislative session in Washington. We kept friends informed of webinars and conference calls that AFSC, FCNL and Pendle Hill held over the year.

T&C is charged with the care of the Shoffner International Education Fund, established in 2010 with a bequest from Friend John Shoffner. This year our donation of \$756.89 went to the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, to support a student in Bolivia.

This year we had two unrelenting issues on our agenda, month after month. One was the horrendous plight of refugees fleeing Syria. We tried to engage the meeting with our concerns here by circulating a powerful letter written by a Friend from Westfield Monthly Meeting; by alerting our meeting to a conference call arranged by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and a Google Group that was created following that call. We followed and shared fund AND consciousness raising ideas from other meetings and organizations; we wrote a letter of concern and mailed it to elected officials, both national and local, and had it published in the local newspaper. And twice we organized a fund raising effort and sent our donations to the Nationalities Service Center, a group supporting refugees arriving in the Mid-Atlantic region.

The other continuing concern is the grim obstinacy of racial injustice in our country. T&C holds the belief that if you are neutral in a situation of injustice then you have chosen the side of the oppressor. I can't report that we made any progress with this concern but we did continue trying to build a stronger relationship with the congregation from Asbury UME in Easton. We invited them to participate in our Carriage Shed Sale this year and shared the proceeds with them. This money was gratefully used by Asbury to help pay for the new stained glass windows in their church.



Individual members of the committee also followed with interest the TACL's "Conversation on Race" and the debate over removing the "Confederate Boys" statue on the courthouse lawn. We had a participant attending, with the meeting's help, the 2016 "White Privilege Conference" held in Philadelphia in April. We also brought the "Birmingham Pledge to End Racism" to the attention of Third Haven and provided wallet sized cards with the pledge to all those interested. Information from the organizations "Showing Up for Racial Justice" and the "Maryland Alliance for Justice Reform" were shared throughout the year using our on-line announcement format. We read and discussed the Pendle Hill pamphlet written by George Lakey, "*Powerful Beyond Measure*", which challenges us to confront how class prejudice influences Friends' approach to leadership in the work of realizing social justice. We've purchased a handful of this publication and encourage all to read it.

We also shared and discussed the article in the *Friends Journal* from January 2016 entitled "Why Have a Peace and Social Concerns Committee?" and another from December 2015 entitled "Talk Less, Do More". Part of the reason that these articles spoke to the committee is the weariness we sometimes feel, as a committee and as individuals, with the ceaseless social justice problems we encounter. We spent many meeting hours discussing what we felt were the more urgent issues and how we might alert, inspire and involve the larger meeting in these issues. Some of us were frequently frustrated at what we felt was a lack of attention or curiosity from the meeting at large and our inability to better engage the meeting. Sometimes we wondered if our only purpose was to gather monthly and share our spirit-led feelings amongst the ten of us, and if indeed that was purpose enough.

We discussed changing the name of our committee to "Peace and Social Justice Committee", thinking that that might clarify our work and attract more Friends to it. These articles from *Friends Journal* reminded us that there are many Quakers across the country facing these very same issues: how to truly live our testimonies in the 21st century, how to actually let our lives speak, how to clearly articulate our beliefs and attract others to them. Both articles remind us that "as Quakers we must live our principles. We must reach out with our hands, because in the end, it is only our actions that will define who we truly are."

Accepted with thanks

New Business

Possible hosting of FGC Nominating Committee in 2017 - *Lorraine Claggett*

A member of Southern Quarterly Meeting, Howard Von Bremen, has asked Third Haven to host the Friends General Conference Nominating Committee Meeting in February or March with 5-10 people. This would include Third Haven members and attenders providing meals for them as a group and overnight hospitality for a Friday through Sunday meeting. Volunteers are requested once the dates for this event are revealed. Members indicated willingness pending a designated date.

Meeting closed at 12:45p.m. with silent worship.

D. Rein, Recorder



Nominating Committee preliminary list

Here is the preliminary THFM committee list for 2017. We invite members and attenders to read the listings and make any corrections before it is distributed at Meeting for Business on December 11. We still have several spots on committees and welcome any additional members. If you have not recently served on a committee, please think about your interests and how you might contribute. For those of you who have already embraced committee work, thank you for volunteering to keep our meeting vital and functioning.

Adrienne Rudge - adriennerudge@gmail.com

Dona Sorce - dyesorce@yahoo.com

Paige Tilghman – [prt1313@earthlink.net](mailto:pri1313@earthlink.net)

THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING 2017

CLERKS

Clerk Monthly Meeting Molly Burgoyne Brian

Assistant Co-Clerks , Paige Tilghman, Adrienne Rudge

Co-Clerks Recording Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins

Treasurer Cynthia Quast

Membership Recorder Marsie Hawkinson

COMMITTEES

Budget & Finance: Bill Lane, Clerk; Doreen Getsinger, Neil Mufson, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast (Treasurer of the Meeting), Bill Schauer, Bob Wack, Winslow Womack.

Charitable Contributions: Molly Burgoyne Brian, Clerk; Lorraine B. Claggett, Norval Thompson, Paige Tilghman.

Common Room: Candace Shattuck, Clerk, Mark Beck, Bill Lane, Jr., John Schreiner, Joan Wetmore.

Communications: John Hawkinson, Clerk, newsletter editor; Tatiana Harrison, website manager, Dee Rein, Newsletter & Telephone, Ralph Young, photographer.

Facilities Use: Ann Williams, Clerk; Adrienne Rudge, Larissa Kitenko, e-mail contact.

First Day School: Susan Claggett, Clerk, Amy Owsley, Assistant Clerk, Alyssa Ehrsham, Martha Holthousen, Beth Mufson, Katie Theeke, Sally Claggett & Cathy Thompson (story tellers).

Hospitality: Dona Sorce, Susan Dickinson, Co- Clerks;, Catherine Cripps, Beth Mufson, Adrienne Rudge, Dolores Wack, Heidi Wetzel, Helen Womack, Winslow Womack, Lainie Wrightson, Mary Yancey.



Library: Joyce Macijeski, Clerk, Lorraine B. Claggett, Susan Dickinson, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler. *On-Line Library:* Tatiana Harrison

Nominating Committee: Paige Tilghman Clerk, Bill Lane, Jr., Dona Sorce..

Outreach: Lorraine B. Claggett, Jeanne Halpin, Peter Howell, Mary Yancey.

Overseers: Dona Sorce, Clerk, Adrienne Rudge, Assistant Clerk, Laurence Claggett, Jr., Lorraine B. Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Connie Lewis, Nancy Robbins.

Property and Grounds: Robert Wieland, Clerk; Ben Tilghman, Co-Clerk; Laurence Claggett, Jr., Ed Danser, Bob Day, Susan Dickinson, Bill Lane, Jr., Priscilla Morris, , Clay Owens, Amy Owsley, Nancy Robbins, Phil Sayre, Bob Wack, Joan Wetmore

Scholarship: Marsie Hawkinson, Clerk; Lorraine B. Claggett, Benita Cooper, Debbie Danser, Doreen Getsinger, Peter Howell, Neil Mufson, Sumner Parker, Sally Vermilye, Joan Wetmore.

Testimonies & Concerns: Paige Tilghman, Clerk; Cynthia Browne, Ryan Ewing, Jeanne Halpin, Beth Mufson, Amy Owsley, Dona Sorce.

Worship & Ministry: Gwen Beegle, Clerk; Mark Beck, Tom Corl, Catherine Cripps, Susan Dickinson, Jeanne Halpin, Katherine Johnson, Valerie Sypula, John Turner, Mary Yancey.

REPRESENTATIVES

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): Leigh Anne Dodge

Detention Center Library: Ralph Young, Molly Burgoyne Brian, Leigh Anne Dodge, Beth Mufson , Robert Wieland.

Food Link: Heidi Wetzal, Winslow Womack

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Frank Zeigler, Norval Thompson, Brandt Bethke

Interfaith Housing Corporation: Laurence Claggett, Jr., Dona Sorce.

Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger: (Marilla's Lunches)Ralph Young

NAACP, Talbot Co: Doreen Getsinger

P.E.A.C.E.: Ralph Young

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM): Dawn Atwater, Lorraine B. Claggett, Catherine Cripps

Southern Quarterly Meeting: Connie Lewis, Winslow Womack

Talbot Assoc. of Clergy & Laity (TACL): Jeanne Halpin

Talbot Interfaith Homeless Shelter (TIS): Peter Howell (Point of Contact), Lorraine B. Claggett,

Hunger Coalition Thanksgiving

People from Third Haven Friends Meeting played a very large role in the success the Hunger Coalition's Thanksgiving dinner. One hundred and thirty meals were delivered from Cordova to St. Michaels and fifty-six more meals were available for walk-ins from the neighborhood. Our gratitude to you is without bounds. Thank you. *Ralph Young*

Thanksgiving workers prepare and deliver dinners, prepping turkey carcasses for future soup:



First Day School

First Day School would like to thank the following volunteers for helping the children assemble the holiday wreaths for the Meeting Houses on 11/27. They were Lorraine Claggett, Martha Holthousen and Ralph Young for the photography. The children who helped were Finley and Liam Ewing, Ember and Finn Theeke. We appreciate all members who thoughtfully donated greenery, berries and oyster shells from their yards to make the wreaths vibrant. Many thanks. The children were also able to deliver a homemade greenery swag to Clay and personally thank him for his service to the Meeting.





Announcements

Announcements <http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

Calendar of Activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

Online directory <http://www.thirdhaven.org/members/dir.php>

December 4, 25 (Sunday) First Day Conversations 8:50-9:50 a.m. Every other week, Worship & Ministry will host a different topic of discussion. Please visit the Announcements page for weekly topics: <http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

December 11, (Sunday) 9:15am – 9:45am We will sing Christmas Carols in the Common Room. All voices welcome.

December 11 (Sunday) Meeting for Worship with attention to business at the rise of Meeting.

December 18 (Sunday)

First Day School will be holding it's annual Holiday program at the rise of Meeting on Sunday December 18. There will be Christmas cookies and hot cider in the common room to follow. All are welcome.

The Faith and Practice Session on Historical Background will be rescheduled in the spring.

**Please consider making a contribution for the meeting budget to:
Treasurer, Third Haven Monthly Meeting
P.O. Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601**

Fall Clean Up Day Volunteers

Thanks to everyone who raked, dug, pruned, painted, washed, buffed, and treasured our wonderful property.



Representatives from PYM led a discussion of a Spiritual Foundation Program to be held at Third Haven in 2017. For details contact Gwen Beegle or Katherine Johnson.





*Merry Christmas to all from
Third Haven Friends Meeting!*