



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

(410) 822-0293

Info@thirdhaven.org

## February 2012 NEWSLETTER

"If a man will begin with certainties, he shall end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin with doubts, he shall end in certainties."

*Sir Francis Bacon*

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Minutes for the 1st Month, 8, 2012**

1. Call to order: Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, opened the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:35am after a brief silence.
2. Attending: Molly Burgoyne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Tom Corl, Mary Cotton, Debbie Danser, Ed Danser, Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Peter Howell, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Candace Shattuck, Robert Shattuck, Sally Vermilye, Meredith Watters, Rob Wieland, Winslow Womack, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler.
3. Minutes: Minutes for meeting for business 12th Month, 2011 were approved.
4. Query: The Query, "Meeting for Worship", was read during business meeting. One Friend expressed concern regarding an incident taking place just before Christmas, in which two small children became very rambunctious, to the point that the clerk indicated they should be removed from Meeting. Although this was done kindly, many are concerned that we be tolerant of disturbances inevitably caused by young children. A tender discussion ensued during which Friends discussed whether there are limits to what should be tolerated in order to respectful both of adults trying to worship and young families, in this case one headed by a single mother who could sometimes be overwhelmed by the demands of two young, active children. A number of ideas for being supportive came forward, such as a basket of soft toys and the addition of sound-absorbing carpet. Several Friends offered to contact the mother to see what we can do to support her. Worship and Ministry will discuss this issue. Some noted that there have been not been as many children present recently. This will be discussed at an upcoming Clerk's meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report: Posted on the Third Haven Website are four reports which include: the Treasurer's comments regarding the budget update, the Balance Sheet, the Income & Expenses Budget Actual vs. YTD and the Income & Expenses-Prior Year comparison. Our financial news is good in that our year's end donations reached close to \$24,000, which is the best amount we have received in some time. Also, our mid-year income is at 53% while our expenses are at 45%. The Treasurer will soon be sending the Scholarship Committee a list of donations that have been recently made and will be sending a check to the FFF to make the asset

and liability columns agree. The use of money allocated the International Investment Fund will be discussed further in T&C committee and presented to the Meeting in the near future.

6. Overseer's Annual Report: The complete report is attached below. This report was approved with appreciation towards Overseers for all the tasks this committee takes care of.

7. Property and Grounds committee update: Our caretaker and several members of P&G have recently met for the first 90-day job overview. In summary, the committee feels we are very fortunate to have Clay working with us. The caretaker's cottage renovations have been completed and Clay is in the process of moving in.

P&G has recently received a request by an individual wanting to do some metal detecting on our grounds. This request is not felt to be in our best interest. Clay has already asked an uninvited person using a metal detector to leave our grounds recently. Another informal request for "geo-caching" has been made. Geo-caching involves the use of a GPS placed on our site. The unit location is published and used to attract those interested in finding these devices. It could be a noninvasive way to attract visitors to our grounds. P&G suggests that we consider a more formal presentation from this group so we could make an informed decision regarding this. Other ongoing issues include consideration of carpeting in the Brick Meeting House and the frequent malfunctioning of the boiler. The carpet issue is under further advisement. The boiler has malfunctioned several times recently. P&G is aware of the issue and is working with the caretaker and Wise Oil to straighten the problem out.

8. Proposed minute in support of "Occupy" movement: The complete minute approved by Wicomico Friends Meeting has been published online on our website under T&C committee. Lorraine Claggett brings this minute to our Meeting requesting consideration of approval from THFM. As business meeting for SQM occurs next First Day, it was felt that our approval could garner support for this minute to be approved by the quarterly meeting as a whole. There was much discussion regarding the minute. Dee Rein requested to be recorded regarding her



**Testimonies and Concerns meets**

Taking someone else's resources using governmental powers is tantamount to pointing a gun at them, a violent approach underneath it all." Others agreed with the sentiment expressed by the minute. Most felt that they did not know enough about the "Occupy" movement to be comfortable agreeing with the minute. Although unity approving the minute did not occur, the matter is referred back to T&C to gather more information about the movement and bring this information back to us for further education. Frank Zeigler will attempt to get as much

opposition to the minute and that her statement be included in these minutes as written. "My basic issue is that 'economic justice' can become a code for governmentally enforced redistribution of wealth. Our constitution guarantees life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Government is obligated to provide a level playing field, but then it's up to folks to take personal responsibility. The world is inherently inequitable. That's just the status of the natural world. Giving to those less fortunate is an appropriate thing to do but is up to individuals and the organizations they create; it should not be enforced by government.

information on the subject from FCNL as he can. The “Occupy” movement may represent the beginning of a movement that will have broad implications for all of us and our continued education and discussion on this matter will be of importance.

9. **New Business:** Our attention was brought to an article recently published in our newsletter regarding the financial status of PYM. The title is, “A Letter to the Members of PYM Respecting the Yearly Meeting’s Finances”. It was felt to be an excellent summary of PYM’s progress in moving forward with some resolutions to their financial situation.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 12:50pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne*

**IMPORTANT POINTS:**

- Mid- year Treasurer’s report given
- Overseer’s Annual report approved
- Proposed minute supporting “Occupy” movement not approved

### **Mid - Year Treasurer’s Report: Balance Sheet**

We’ve zeroed out our ING accounts, so those no longer show on the Balance Sheet. The approximately \$20,000 that the Meeting used to hold in the ING account is now in our Talbot checking account. It is not earning much interest income but it wasn’t earning much at ING either. Since that is the money that we pay our bills with and income does not necessarily track spending by the month, it needs to be fairly accessible.

The Queenstown Bank CD continues to earn about \$360 interest income per quarter.

The difference in Scholarship Fund Investments and Scholarship Fund Liabilities is contributions that have been booked but not yet transferred to Friends Fiduciary. (About \$475)

Note that there is still \$2,000 in the Carriage Shed Sale liability account.

Income & Expenses (Budget vs. Actual) see <http://www.thirdhaven.org/Incexp2ndqtr12.pdf>

Member contributions are almost one half annual expectations at mid-year. Attender contributions exceed annual expectations and “other contributions” are close to 90 percent of annual expectations. Total income is above one half annual expectations.

Total expenses are somewhat below mid-year expectations. We have net income of \$5,285.29.

Income and Expenses (Prior Year Comparison)

Except for interest and dividends, all of our income sources are up over the prior year. Expenditure is up as well, but this is more than balanced by income.

## **Overseers Annual Report for Calendar Year 2011**

During the year 2011 the Overseers Committee, attended to pastoral care, keeping in touch with members via a calling tree by dividing the membership directory alphabetically, publishing that in the directory and online, and also responding to answering machine and website messages. Should inclement weather take place it is agreed that the clerk of meeting and communications clerk will e-mail closing information to the meeting and Overseers will contact local computer free members and attenders. Friendly support was offered privately to members experiencing a variety of life challenges. Oversight committees from marriages in years past are reminded to continue their oversight as part of the couple being "under the care of the meeting."

The file of Declarations of Memorial Intentions was maintained by Nancy Mullen and Marsie Hawkinson. Members wishing to complete a Declaration of Memorial Intentions for death may complete the form in the upcoming newsletter.

Memorial Meetings for Worship were held for Irene Williams and Jim Paul. Betsy Harrell requested a plaque for her deceased husband "Pete" per previous arrangements, a situation handled by Marsie Hawkinson.

Under the organization of John Hawkinson with contacts made by the Overseers the directory is continually updated online and a new print version was distributed to all households.

The clearness process as detailed in Faith and Practice was followed for membership requests and marriages under the care of the meeting. Clearness committees may also be used to resolve issues between members in conflict or for confidential clearness around personal discernment issues.

Clearness committee volunteers were Norval Thompson, Adrienne Rudge, Candace Shattuck, Meredith Watters, Jim Paul, Nancy Robbins, Cynthia Browne, Mark Beck  
Overseers also ordered a few copies of the pamphlet "Spiritual Discernment" which can be borrowed from the library.

No new members were welcomed during 2011 following a bumper crop year in 2010 when each new member family received a 6 month gift subscription of Friends Journal from the meeting. One request for membership was withdrawn when the individual moved away. Greg Leibman withdrew his membership.

The Wedding of Amelia Corl and Joel Larson was celebrated under the care of the meeting.

Clearness Committees to address personal issues were held for 3 members.

The John Martin Trust guidelines were reviewed and aid offered to a member who declined.

Transportation was facilitated for seniors with the help of the membership..

Care Committees were explained and offered as a support strategy for members who might benefit from organized support from our meeting members and attenders as well as their own friends and relatives.

A New Members (for 2010) and Attenders recognition luncheon was well attended on March 6th. Speakers included Tom Corl, Rob Weiland and Candace Shattuck as well as comments by members. The pot luck was sumptuous and the attendance joyful in celebration of the sense of community at Third Haven Friends Meeting.

Friendly Eights created four groups for March-June 2011 and were enjoyed by the 21 participants.

A Quaker schools working group formed, consisting of Norval Thompson , Marsie Hawkinson, Molly Bond, Larny Claggett, and Greg Leibman with the intent of familiarizing families with Quaker Schools and financial aid available for them. This group organized and hosted a Quaker Schools Open House with Sidwell Friends, Westtown, George and Sandy Springs schools' representatives in attendance.

Members were contacted intermittently by phone and mail throughout the year in an effort to keep in touch and encourage participation in the aforementioned events.

During the year the committee thoughtfully considered varied topics, including Clearness committees and "Spiritual Hospitality," proffered by Frank Zeigler. Upon this basis a Newcomer Integration Plan was developed and shared with other participating committees. This progress. Action steps include:

A Ask each visitor to sign the register at the entrance and to include his or her e-mail if local.  
Responsibility: Clerk of Monthly Meeting

B Make evident the little brochure that is about Quakerism and ask visitors to take one if they wish.  
Responsibility: Clerk of Monthly Meeting

C Round Robin introductions at rise of meeting: Responsibility: Clerk of Monthly Meeting

D Name Tags: Outreach. Responsibility: Candace will contact

E Reminder to members and attenders to greet newcomers placed in newsletter and announcements.

Responsibility: Dee newsletter article

F Offer Quakerism 101 at least once a year. Responsibility: Worship and Ministry,  
John Schreiner will contact

G Handouts available on Quaker Process on the hall rack, Library table, or by e-mail.

Responsibility: Library

Norval will contact

H Free Reading materials labeled as free and available. Responsibility: Library

Adrienne will contact

I Overseers check the visitor register to find new people, check their name and follow up with them. Contact by e-mail, mail or phone. Responsibility: all Overseers.

(Mailing info on those desiring to receive the newsletter sent to John Hawkinson or [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com) )

Per Faith and Practice, "A Committee of Overseers is appointed to assume leadership in maintaining a caring community, helping all members to find their right roles as nurturers of others." Overseers goals include providing oversight to the ministry of the life of the meeting and acting as a conduit for clearness, especially in cases of membership, unions (marriage/commitment) or personal discernment. All members and attenders are encouraged to allow Overseers to be of service in times of need. We stand at the ready to help and welcome your ideas for future efforts on behalf of the meeting. We thank all Friends who minister to each other as that is the essence of the Religious Society of Friends.

*Respectfully submitted, Dee Rein, Clerk, Nancy Robbins, Assistant Clerk, Doreen Getsinger, Marsie Hawkinson, Molly Bond, Larissa Kitenko, Norval Thompson, Adrienne Rudge, Lorraine Claggett, Ann Williams, Betty Jean Wheeler, and Candace Shattuck.*

## Third Haven Monthly Meeting Announcements

### Talbot Interfaith Shelter

**January 28 (Saturday)** 10 to 11 am Shelter training session - all should attend. Frank and Lorraine will see you there. It's time to sign up for Third Haven's volunteer week at the Talbot Interfaith Shelter. THFM will host the shelter January 29-February 4, the first week of the shelter's three-week stay at the common room. Two other churches, Christ Episcopal and Shore Harvest Presbyterian, will host and staff the second and third weeks.

You may sign up on the chart posted in the common room or on a list beside the chart if you are uncertain of the day(s) on which you can volunteer. Be sure to add your e-mail address to your name. A printed volunteer information sheet, which you may fill out and leave in the white notebook, can be found on the table near the chart. Volunteers of the three groups helping during the stay at Third Haven will be asked to attend an orientation/training session from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, January 28, at Third Haven. The times most in need of volunteers are the evening and night hours.



**Lorraine goes over the schedule**



### Volunteer Training Session

The evening supervisor will be on site from 5:30-11:00 p.m. (or, if requested, from 7:00-11:00), and the overnight supervisor will be onsite from 11:00 p.m.-7:30 a.m. These positions require background checks, for which a permission form can be found next to the notebook on the table. Please fill one out. Thanks to the many who have volunteered for duty when the shelter opens at the common room.

Contacts: Lorraine B. Claggett: phone 410-822-0669;  
e-mail [claggett@goeaston.net](mailto:claggett@goeaston.net)  
Frank Ryan phone: 410-819-3779;  
e-mail [f\\_ryan@msn.com](mailto:f_ryan@msn.com)  
Pete Howell: phone 410-924-5752;  
e-mail [piratepete@goeaston.net](mailto:piratepete@goeaston.net)

**February 11 (Saturday) 9 am – 1 pm** Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Called Session at Arch Street Meeting House. Clerk Thomas Swain has announced a Called Session of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to consider our yearly meeting programs and concerns. Our current financial situation and efforts to better align our expenses with our income in support of Quaker faith and

work will be presented and considered. Discernment and consideration by members is important to this work. Gathering begins at 9:00 am; the Meeting begins at 9:30 am. Junior Interim Meeting will be held concurrently and childcare will be available. This Called Session replaces the previously scheduled February Interim Meeting. Parking is available at Arch Street Meeting House (enter from 4th Street). Attached are a number of notices from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

**February 26 (Sunday) 5 to 7 pm Empty Bowls Community Dinner:** The fourth annual Empty Bowls community meal to benefit Talbot County food pantries will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Easton (located on the westbound lane of Rt. 50, west of the Maryland State Police barrack). In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held on Sunday, March 4. Tickets for the Empty Bowls meal are \$20. In exchange for the cost of a ticket, diners will receive a meal of home-cooked soup and the handmade bowl in which it is served. Advance reservations are required. Purchase tickets by mailing a check for \$20 per person to the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, 102 E. Dover Street, Easton, MD 21601. Make checks payable to Mid-Shore/Empty Bowls. Please include your phone number. You can also order tickets and make a donation online at [www.mscf.org](http://www.mscf.org) For more information, contact Anna Harding, 410-822-6452.

#### **Food Pantry**

**Weekly updates of suggested items to bring will be posted in announcements**

#### **Budget and Finance Committee**

**'In the all too near future we will begin working on a budget for the fiscal year beginning on 7th month first. Each Committee Clerk and anyone else who wishes to suggest items not within a Committee's responsibility, should have his/ her request into my hands no later than 3rd month 15th.**

**Sumner Parker, Clerk, Budget and Finance Committee'**

**Contributions to the Meeting** can be made by way of the contributions box in the Brick Meetinghouse entranceway. Checks can also be sent to THMM, P.O. Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601. We are now able to receive donations by way of the website <http://www.thirdhaven.org/donate.php>

#### **Children's Meeting for Worship Soft Toy Basket**

Dear Parents

All children are invited to our meeting for worship.

After the initial 15 minutes of worship, children leave the worship service for our First Day School.

We understand it is often hard for the young to sit "in silence", so please borrow one of our "quiet toys" to use during worship.

The toys may be returned to the basket on your way to First Day School.

Donations of soft, quiet toys for the basket are welcomed.

Dear Third Haven,

Thank you very much for the familiar sight of our old meetinghouse on the Christmas greeting postcard sent from my "friends at Third Haven and Overseers!" I do appreciate the being so greeted. I hung your card along with many others on a string that runs around the top of my living room walls. They all look very charming to my eyes.

On Oct. 8 there was a memorial-celebration for Bryant (nickname Pete) here in our Friends House library. Twenty-four of his & my relatives came, plus some out-of-town friends! The occasion was organized by our daughter Avis & me, with much help with photos of Bryant from Avis' husband, Sri. The weather was perfect. Of course, lots of Friends House residents attended. The memorial began & ended with silence, as is our wont with all meetings here at F.H. Afterwards, I (the MC) invited everybody to adjourn to a deck under a huge campus Valley Oak for refreshments & dancing in the light of a near-full moon. Some of our college-age grandchildren had chosen & provided the music.

Thanks so much,  
Elizabeth (Betsy) Harrell  
New Address  
Apt. 45, Friends House  
Santa Rosa CA 95409  
[harrell@friendshouse.org](mailto:harrell@friendshouse.org)

## **Clerk's Annual Report for 2011**

If there was a theme for Third Haven Friends for the year 2011, it was introspection and deepening our community. This was, in no small measure, the outcome from a series of gatherings including the offering of a course in miracles with its weekly sessions, a pair of day-long silent retreats, spiritual journey sharing by members, and an 11 month long Spiritual Formation program.

The Spiritual Formation Program was organized by seasoned Friends from our Worship and Ministry Committee. Some 22 members and attenders participated. The program was introduced by a team from PYM who conducted beginning, ending, and mid-point retreats. It involved extensive readings on Quaker and other religious thought and practice. This was followed by regular meetings of small sub-groups for discussion. In addition, five smaller friendship/accountability groups formed and met monthly. In testament to the impact of this Spiritual Formation group, a number of these cohesive smaller groups have chosen to continue to meet monthly well into 2012.

2011 was a busy year for our Property and Grounds Committee, not only in keeping our grounds looking good (including orchestrating spring and fall spruce-up days) but in particular, overseeing substantial improvements to our brick meeting house, including dealing with

dampness and mold in the crawl space, a major upgrading of the entry-way and refinishing of the wooden floors and new cushions for the benches. In addition, owing to the retirement of Sam & Vicky Webster as our caretakers (over 30 years), selection of a new on-site caretaker took a widespread search and careful winnowing resulting in the selection of a member, Clay Owens, as our new caretaker.

Every 18 months or so, we as a meeting undertake a Carriage Shed Sale. It's fair to say it's a big deal; one involving our full Meeting. At the outset, our Testimonies & Concerns Committee selects three charitable organizations worthy of splitting the proceeds; one local, one national, one international. The sale involves gathering, organizing/display and pricing all kinds of items, some suitable for auction. Quaker Dogs are sold along with sweets, and plants. Lots of fun. Lots of work. We raised \$5,000.

We as a meeting took the time and brought deserved attention to honor our own Ken Carroll as departing head of the Friends Historical Association by inviting those attending an annual session to meet in our Old Meeting House. It was a fitting occasion to pay tribute to Ken's contribution over the years to that body. Several members stepped up to make possible the addition of a new cherry table for the remodeled Talbot County Library's "Maryland Room" where Ken's works on local Quaker history reside. It was a full day for all followed by a luncheon, one of many, orchestrated and served up during the year by our inconspicuous, yet effective Hospitality Committee.

Our official membership tally remained virtually unchanged at 149 owing to deaths, resignations, relocation... as well as folks moving in and new members signing up. The clerk's unofficial tally of attendance at first day Meetings for Worship indicated an uptick from previous years. It ranged from a minimum of about 45 to well over 60 on several occasions.

Overseers Committee successfully sponsored Friendly 8's offering small, in-home dinners among participants. In addition it offered Friendly guidance for a wedding and memorial services during the year. Two unheralded, yet important functions Overseers orchestrates are clearness committees for members in need and welcoming sessions for new members.

Our Scholarship Committee raises funds and evaluates potential recipients to benefit members in furthering their education. It manages some \$45k endowment and \$5k in operating funds. In 2011 it award 10 scholarships (2 adults & 10 children) based upon need and academic credentials. Area Quaker schools were invited to present themselves one first day following worship.

First Day School (with some 8-12 regular attenders-- amongst a broader range of 4-30) focused on books of the bible (a PYM curriculum) and a survey of world religions. Godly Play was offered monthly for the younger ones. For the first half of the year our theme was "Building Bridges" which included active help with service projects for the local migrant community, tornado victims in Alabama, pennies for polio, and collecting food for the local food pantry. We salute the dedicated volunteers who prepared and presented these subjects/activities.

We are blessed with a dedicated and skilled Communications Committee which issues frequent email announcements and a monthly Newsletter. It also publishes a Directory each year. We are proud of the colorful, well organized and up-to-date web page accessible to visitors and the curious at [www.thirdhaven.org](http://www.thirdhaven.org) .

The Outreach/Quaker Quest committee focused this year on how seekers find and perceive us; and how we interact with them. The committee supervised redesign of the lobby area of the brick meeting house to make it more welcoming and inviting. A larger, newly designed sign will be an attractive informative addition on Washington St. In 2012 we see us offering notice in the community to our activities. It will also see us continue fully participating in local cross-denominational events within the area.

Finally, our small and hard working Nominating Committee is to be applauded for compiling a fresh list of willing committee heads and members for the coming year. It also included an imaginative and useful list of Skills Bank/Friendly Offerings. This is a compilation of members/attenders with their special talents for access and use by committees needing help in a variety of areas.

In summary, the year 2011 offered some challenges, but mainly opportunities for us to enrich their spiritual lives and become a more connected part of our religious community.

*Submitted in Friendship --- John Schreiner, Clerk*

## **Celebrate Black History Month with Our Library!**

When one thinks of Quakers and African Americans, our involvement in the Underground Railroad is often the first thing to come to mind. Many of us are unaware of our involvement and how instrumental Quakerism was to the Civil Rights movement. Most of us know of Martin Luther King, Jr., and his dedication to the Christian principles of love and non-violence. But how many of us know that one of his closest friends and colleagues was an African American Quaker named Bayard Rustin?

In fact, Bayard Rustin was the chief organizer of the 1963 “March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom” and a leading strategist of the Civil Rights Movement. He taught Martin Luther King, Jr. strategies of non-violence. His Quaker faith was essential to his dedication to the ideals of nonviolence, equality, and peace.

To learn more about Bayard Rustin, Library Committee invites you to check out “Time on Two Crosses: The Collected Writings of Bayard Rustin”, which is available in our library.

*And in other Library news...*

We've got new books in stock and new books coming! Two new books currently available on our shelves are “The Heart of Christianity” by Marcus Borg and “Sacred Compass: The Way of Spiritual Discernment” by Quaker author J. Brent Bill. Two additional books will be added to our library within the next few weeks: “Occupied with Nonviolence: A Palestinian Woman Speaks” by Jean Zaru, clerk of Ramallah Friends Meeting in Palestine; and “Spirit Rising: Young Quaker Voices”, an anthology of Spirit-led writings of Young Adult Friends (ages 18-35).

More information about our library can be found on our website at <http://www.ThirdHaven.org/library.php> .

**Overseers Calling Tree 2012** As part of their oversight of the meeting, Overseers maintains a calling tree to facilitate contact with members. Should a weather event or other emergency occur this tree would also be used. It is provided here for your information since a change in committee membership has caused it to be updated as follows:

**OVERSEER**

Doreen Getsinger  
Marsie Hawkinson  
Molly Bond  
Larissa Kitenko  
Cynthia Browne  
John Schreiner  
Nancy Robbins  
Mary Cotton  
Norval Thompson  
Molly Burgoyne  
Dee Rein  
Adrienne Rudge  
Ann Williams

**RESPONSIBILITY**

(All names in the Third Haven Directory inclusive of these letters)

**A-Br**  
**Bu-Co**  
**Cr-Fe**  
**Fo-Har**  
**Haw-Ke**  
**Ki-Mc**  
**Mi-My, asst. clerk**  
**O-Ro**  
**Ru-S**  
**T-Wh**  
**clerk of Overseers, answering machine**  
**Wi-Z**



**Happy Birthday Maya and Frank!**



**At Rise of Meeting, Winslow talks with Robin Mahr,  
Executive Secretary of the Americas Section of the Friends World  
Committee for Consultation (FWCC).**