



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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March 2014 NEWSLETTER

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 2nd Month, 10, 2014

1. Call to order: Candace Shattuck, Clerk of Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:40AM after a brief period of silence.
2. Attending: Dawn Atwater, Mark Beck, Molly Burgoyne, Cynthia Browne, Lorraine Claggett, Benita Cooper, Mary Cotton, Catherine Cripps, Debbie Danser, Ed Danser, Leigh Ann Dodge, Marsie Hawkinson, Peter Howell, Bob Kemp, Bill Lane, Connie Lewis, Joyce Macijeski, Sumner Parker, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Robert Rowe, Adrienne Rudge, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Brian Shean, MK Shean, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Sally Vermilye, Meredith Watters, Heidi Wetzell, Anny Williams, Mary Yancey, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler.
3. Query; Additional Thoughts: The Second Query, "Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business" was read during meeting for worship. Additional comments were not made.
4. Minutes from previous Meeting for Business: Friends approved the minutes for meeting for business 1st Month, 2014.
5. Clerk's Desk: The Clerk read a letter from Aiyana Paterson-Zinkand requesting marriage under the care of the Meeting on Saturday, July 19th of this year. The letter was given to Adrienne Rudge, Clerk of Overseers to discuss in committee.

WAMU has contacted THFM to be part of their upcoming series, "Faith on the Shore". A delegation from the radio station will be attending meeting for worship next First Day. They will want to speak with a small number of Friends at the rise of meeting. Please discuss this further with Candace if you would like more information. An "All Clerks" meeting was held recently. The Clerks of committees discussed what we do well and what we would like to do differently. The purpose of this meeting was to begin to envision our future and ways we could make this vision happen. More information regarding this meeting will be coming to everyone soon.



6. Membership Recorder's Report: The Recorder gave the following annual report on our membership. We began the year with 151 members. Two new members, Dawn Atwater and Donna Sorce were added and we had no members

taken off our Meeting roll giving us a total of 153 members at the end of calendar year 2013. We currently have six of our childhood members; Maggie Neal, Robert Burgoyne, Norval Thompson, Sara Morgan Watters and Andrew Watters who are now over 20 years old. The Meeting approved this report.

7. Outreach Committee Annual Report was given by the Clerk of Outreach. The Meeting approved this report. (report below)

8. Southern Quarterly Meeting report: The annual meeting for business for SQM was held January 19th. Six people from THFM attended. About 30 people stayed for the annual reports. The Meetings of SQM include THFM, Wicomico, Chester River, Camden and Cadbury at Lewes. THFM is the largest of the Meetings. Camden Meeting is mid-sized and sponsors Cadbury, which is a preparative Meeting. Wicomico and Chester River are small meetings. Camden and Chester River Meetings asked if THFM still wants copies of their newsletters. It was suggested that these be sent to Connie Lewis and she will disseminate to our Meeting. Chester River Meeting has had some difficulties this past year. Friends asked if there was more we could do to be supportive of Chester River. The Clerk suggested the John Schreiner, Frank Zeigler and Connie Lewis sit down and talk about possible help for this Meeting. PYM has sent out some statistics on the Monthly Meetings within PYM. There are currently 105 Monthly Meetings in PYM. During the past several years 35 of these Meetings have grown. THFM is one of those whose attendance has grown. The average PYM First Day attendance at all the Monthly Meetings is 25.8 people. The average attendance at THFM is 64. The Meeting approved this report.

9. Interim Meeting Report is below. The Annual Sessions this year will be held July 23-27.

10. Guidelines for Meeting Contributions: There was a sense of the Meeting at our January 12th meeting for business that it might help to clarify the process of how we choose charitable contributions. Some members have compiled a list of contributions we have made over the past 7 years. It seems that we have several sources that our contributions come: the Donations budget, The Carriage Shed Sale, the Shoffner International Education Fund and occasionally the T&C budget. The number and types of contributions have ranged widely through the years. There was a proposal that an ad hoc committee of limited time duration be gathered to draft guidelines regarding our charitable funds. This committee should be ready to discuss their ideas as early as meeting for business 3rd Month. The committee will be composed of Molly Burgoyne (convener), Norval Thompson, Mary Cotton, Sumner Parker and Cynthia Quast. The Meeting approved this proposal.

11. Overseers Work on Procedures for Membership: The Clerk of Overseers disseminated the following information sheet titled "Becoming a Member of Third Haven Friends Meeting". It can be read in its entirety below. This is a work in progress and Overseers welcomes any input into the project. Please contact Adrienne Rudge if you have additional thoughts or comments regarding this work. The information will be used in the future on our website, in the directory and as possibly as a separate informational pamphlet. (add membership info here).

12. Property and Grounds: Update on Handicap Access: Clerk of P&G went through the current process and recommendations of the subcommittee delegated to study a handicap access to the Old Meeting House. Many Friends shared their thoughts and comments. There is a clear understanding now that whatever the Meeting decides to do, the exterior of the Old Meeting House and grounds within 100 feet are under the jurisdiction of the Maryland Historical Trust. Any changes we want to make to the outside of the building must be approved by the MHT. At this point, all changes to the outside of the building are merely in the discussion stage. Many

feel that it is important to our Quaker values to make sure that the building is accessible to any person at any time the building is open. Others feel that any changes to such a historic structure could be very detrimental to the historical nature of the building. At this point, all present felt it would be best to further study the issue. The committee's report is available in full below. A suggestion was made to construct a "model" of the possible changes so it would be easier to "see" what it would look like. P&G agreed to do this. Another Friend suggested that we wait to see how much of a change it makes to the building once the two railings are in place at the front steps. It could be that the new railings will make a major difference to those who currently have some physical impairment getting into the building. The Meeting felt this issue should "season" at this point in time.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 1:15PM

Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- Aiyana Paterson-Zinkand request for marriage under the care of Meeting given to Overseers
- Membership Recorder's annual report approved
- Outreach committee's annual report approved
- Ad hoc committee to study guidelines for charitable contributions formed
- Update on handicap access given

Third Haven Friends Outreach Committee Annual Report February 9, 2014

Our Mission (taken on and accepted from the 1985 PYM Outreach Manual): "Outreach refers to those activities that make the general public more aware of Friends' existence; more knowledgeable about Friends' beliefs; and more welcome at Friends meetings. Outreach is simply a sharing of information and experience outside the circle of Quakerism. As one Friend puts it: Bringing the community into the meeting and the meeting into the community." Having said that, I'd like to put it into the context of our activities in the past year; our short-term objectives and accomplishments:

Appropriately increasing our presence in the community—We have re-ordered some 2,500 additional copies of the colorful letter-fold pamphlet: "A Quick Tour of Third Haven's Building and Grounds" which has proved popular with visitors and tourists and are needed by the visitors' center and other distribution points. Increasing our visibility we acted in unity and published an open letter in the opinion page of the Star Democrat lauding the words and actions of Pope Francis. In it we linked Third Haven Friends meeting and us as local Quakers to the values of peace and simplicity practiced openly by Pope Francis. We are working with the Overseers committee in developing a fresh written guide for seekers on: "Becoming a member..." (setting forth clearly and warmly, the steps involved in joining THF). Experimenting with fresh ways to bring families into our orbit; working with Paige and the organizers of the Carriage Shed Sale to advertise and provide actual carriage rides for kids at the sale. Dawn Atwater helped pull this together and we were fortunate to get the Amish to provide the carriage, horses and a driver for very little. It may have helped bring folks in. However owing to the complexities of pulling it off

and the limited attendance by kids, I doubt we'll push to pull it off for a subsequent sale. It was a fun college try.

We recognize we need to continue a focus upon the guests and visitors who might be called seekers. These attenders we recognize as ever present but often not readily identifiable as to their intent. Further we see the need to make them both comfortable and informed about our faith and community. This we see as needing to be a meeting-wide effort. We've begun this effort through the publication (and re-order of 500 additional copies) of the sepia colored 8pp booklet "Your Guide to Quakers". This is the newly written offering suitable for seekers which briefly introduces our faith and community to those interested. We encourage members to judiciously and directly distribute them. The challenges before us in the year ahead include: A broader and full engagement of the meeting in our efforts to appropriately greet and connect with new attenders. Part of this is significantly broader use and dissemination of name tags. And much more can be done through coordination of greeters and Worship and Ministry, relating to invitations to engage post meeting in the Common Room, etc. This may involve a brief check list to enable comfortable and appropriate connection of the new and curious. Consideration and planning for an "Open House" event of some kind in 2014. This could include an outside speaker or informal discourse central to our faith today. Our Outreach has begun the process of collecting and categorizing frequently asked questions relative to our organization and beliefs. It's been enlightening and potentially useful in preparation for such an event. We welcome feed-back on the idea of an open house. *Respectfully submitted by John Schreiner, Outreach Committee clerk and its members: Dawn Atwater, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Pete Howell, Joyce Macijeski, Michael Pullen, and Robert Rowe*

Becoming a Member of Third Haven Friends Meeting

We welcome and encourage attenders to request membership at Third Haven whenever the time seems right to commit to a spiritual journey in the manner of Friends. In so doing, we invite you to please take your time to experience our faith. This is best accomplished through attendance at meetings for worship and by reading Faith & Practice as well as Friends Journal and other books and brochures available from our library. Further, participation in activities such as helping with Hospitality, Property & Grounds clean-up, and by witnessing various informational meetings would be helpful. In these ways you will begin to get a sense of Quaker beliefs and values as well as our place among religious organizations and should begin to feel at home in our faith community. Once you have decided to join Third Haven, these are the procedures:

- 1) Write a brief letter to the Clerk of the Meeting stating your request for membership. This step provides an opportunity to explore your reason for the request. Please share any background material relating to your spiritual path. Parents who desire that their minor children become members should request it.
- 2) Your letter will be read at Meeting for Business, where the Overseers Committee will be asked to meet with you.
- 3) A small group, called a Clearness Committee, will then meet informally with you for an hour or so. At this gathering, the committee will listen to any more background you may wish to share, in confidence, about your intentions. This session offers you a chance to ask any questions about our faith and the responsibilities of membership.

- 4) This Clearness Committee may recommend that your membership be approved at the next Meeting for Business. In the unlikely event that new important questions are raised and there cannot be immediate approval, a subsequent Clearness Committee meeting will be held for further seasoning.
- 5) You will be invited to a small informal gathering of caring Friends to welcome you to the Religious Society of Friends here at Third Haven Meeting.
- 6) Please also consider the responsibilities we members take upon ourselves:
 - Regular attendance at worship and adjunct programs.
 - Membership on at least one standing committee (please check the front of our directory for a listing &/or talk with members or clerks to discern their functions).
 - Regular participation at our monthly Meeting for Business and in the wider Quaker community.
 - Financial support for our basic needs and activities (heat, electricity, utilities, caretaking, maintenance, outreach efforts, etc.) Every member is asked to contribute by directing checks to our treasurer. The amount is less important than doing so regularly.

Accessibility Improvement Issues and Options to the Old Meeting House

Property and Grounds Committee Report, January 20, 2014

Introduction

Property and Grounds (P & G) was asked by Monthly Meeting to examine options for providing access to the Old Meeting House to all members and visitors who have impaired physical mobility. To help the Committee, a sub-committee was formed of interested parties who did a great deal of research on accessibility improvement options. Findings, solutions, and recommendations would then be presented to Third Haven Trustees and Monthly Meeting for their consideration.

It was agreed by the Subcommittee, Maryland Historic Trust (MHT), and P & G that the primary goal of any modifications to the building should alter the historic building in the least way possible. As per MHT's expressed preference during the June site visit, they favored the two western entries as possible locations for access improvements, ramp included. Both the MHT and Friends agree to strive for simplicity in the final design. As outlined in the MHT easement documents we will need their final approval. We will also need Town of Easton's Historic Commission approval.

Summary

The P&G Committee reviewed the Accessibility Subcommittee's findings and recommendations. The Subcommittee researched, discussed, and evaluated all possible accessibility methods. However, P & G found that there were fundamental questions that needed to be asked. We needed to think through our position and philosophy regarding accessibility to the building. Questions such as: At what level do we provide access into the building? At all times? Only for meetings for worship? Only when we know a visitor or attender with mobility limitations is coming? If this building is a nationally recognized historically significant place, how serious are we about providing full access? Isn't this what Quakers stand for? Consulting PYM, there is a helpful query in an article titled: Pastoral Care Support: Ideas for Retaining Physically Challenged Members of Meeting. How can your Meeting help each of us during our times of physical limitation continue to participate in worship and other meeting functions? Are we

making the Meeting more welcoming and accessible and increasing the attendance and active participation by Friends with physical challenges?

We concluded the Meeting should provide easy access for all, at all times, without ancillary help by those operating anything that requires transporting, storage, or auxiliary mechanical or complicated technology. This eliminated methods such as a “lifts”, “Tracs”, and temporary ramps. **P & G’s recommendation to Monthly Meeting and Trustees is for a permanent ramp and of the three entry doors the southern west door was preferred.** It should be pointed out that P & G weighed considerations such as economics, demographics, frequency of use, number of visitors, and number of members vs. the humanity dimension. It was felt that even though a ramp may hardly ever be used, it would be a welcoming, all inclusive solution in perpetuity for our Meeting members and visitors.

Sub-Committee’s Background Research

To provide the reader knowledge of the various methods for assisting those with mobility limitations to enter the OMH, below are their descriptions including the pro and con features. Each of the first 3 solutions (lift and 2 different “Tracs”) completely met the main goal of not significantly altering the exterior facade of the building in that they are visible only when brought out to be used on an “as need” basis and then removed when not in use. This means they do not need to be permanently attached to the building. The lift or Trac could also be placed at any of the 3 entrances. However, a minor point is they would require small modifications to the building façade: electricity and permanent (probably brick) platform landing at the top entry to the door. Methods 1, 2, and 3 need to be stored in a dry, auxiliary building or in the Common Room and a trained operator needs to be present. Basically all 3 are designed for indoor use.

1. Genesis Stage wheelchair lift, is a standalone commercial grade hydraulic or electrical unit. It would be rolled up to the side of the steps (it takes 1 to 2 people to transport it from indoor, dry storage) and a wheelchair is wheeled into the machine’s cage, a door closes, mechanically lifts up, another door in front opens up to a new permanent platform. The permanent platform would have to have railings to prevent the user from rolling off. The “portability” is questionable due to its small wheels in that it might be quite difficult to cross grass as well as the fact it might take 1 to 2 people to move it. Walkers and cane users can be accommodated.

2. Garaventa Super-Trac Chair is a track that climbs up the existing steps as the wheel chair occupant is resting on a large metal platform which is attached to the track. The platform design will accommodate all types of wheelchairs, including power, child, sports and conventional adult wheelchairs. Of the 1,,2, and 3 design options, this one seemed to be the best for wheelchairs and it is smaller than #1. This Super-Trac cannot go across grass and needs to be stored in a dry place. It requires 1-2 people to transport this almost 300lbs machine. This Trac does not accommodate those using a walker or cane.

3. Garaventa Stair-Trac is designed to attach underneath most manual (not electric) wheelchairs. Its motor allows a small attendant to safely transport a larger passenger up and down stairways. The chair will have to be in an almost 45 degree reclined position while in operation. This Trac cannot go across grass and it is almost 100lbs. This trac does not accommodate those using a walker or cane.

4. Ramp – must comply with Americans with Disability Act (ADA) design standards. Portable temporary/modular and permanent ramps were examined by the Subcommittee. The temporary/modular ramps were examined because they could possibly meet the goal of not

altering the architectural significance of the building in that they are removable. however, they were neither really “portable” nor easy to assemble and dismantle for all visitors, at all times. **A permanent ramp was, therefore, preferred.**

Ramp location: There was much discussion as to which of the 3 entrances might best provide full access at the same time as to accomplish the goals of welcoming visitors at all times, minimizing overall site disturbance, and the least visual impact to the building. The 3 entry options are: front (southern), 2 west exposures: a northern and a southern. All three entries have the same elevation and design constrictions so therefore, all have equal design requirements. Good water drainage, crawl space ventilation, and building maintenance can be accommodated. In terms of what the ramp should be made out of, there are a number of possible options. MHT and P & G favored brick bordered with a matching railing like the front door steps. By raising the existing soil 9-10” the ramp would be approximately 17lf and, therefore, it could be a single ramp in all design options.

Option 1. West – northern entry – pro: It is the least visible disturbance when viewed from the front and driveway entry lane’s approach. Cons: further to traverse; longer walkway, longer to traverse once inside the building where most attendees prefer to sit. The opening between operable panels is exceedingly tight for wheelchairs (31” vs. 36”) required by normal wheelchair standards). It was mentioned in a P & G meeting that there is a stigma of visitors relegated to the “backdoor”.

Option 2. West – southern entry – pro: It would be closer to the driveway creating less distance to travel on a walkway and it allows direct entry into the primary sitting area. The walkway would tie in well to the existing walk. Con: somewhat invisible from the front and entry drive lane approach. **P & G recommends this option to Monthly Meeting and Trustees for the permanent ramp.**

Option 3. Front (southern) entry – Pro: This entry is the closest to the parking. All users would be brought in to the front door. Shrubbery could possibly lessen the ramp’s visibility from the entry lane view. The walk and ramp would tie in well into the existing walk. Con: Recent discussion in June with MHT indicated the front entry would not likely be approved by the MHT Review Committee in that they felt the front entry driveway approach was the most visually important and, therefore, any alterations or additions here would have the most site and aesthetic disturbance. It could be argued that all entrances have equal site significance, site authenticity and/or site integrity. If THMM and Trustees favor the front door approach, being told it is not likely to be approved is not a basis to not consider it. However, P & G felt a ramp at the southern entry would most disturb the primary view of the building and, therefore, was not in favor of this option.

**Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
Interim Meeting Report February 8, 2014
Clerk Jada Jackson
General Secretary Arthur Larrabee**

Friends are reminded that all items discussed are available on the PYM website under Interim meeting <http://www.pym.org/interim-meeting/materials/2014-2/february-8-2014/>. Comments may be forwarded to the appropriate clerks as indicated on the documents there that apply to each topic.

Minutes and Accountability for their implementation was considered during Worship Sharing. Queries covered included: Are we clear on the process of bringing minutes of concern to monthly, quarterly and yearly meeting? How do we hold one another lovingly accountable to do the work outlined in our approved minutes? Are we bound together by what we believe or by the process by which we come to our statements and concerns? Do we need to be in agreement to be community in unity with the spirit? Who or how many Friends or Meetings need to be present in order for controversial decision to be valid? If one Friend who disagrees, or even a whole meeting is not present for a decision, is the decision valid? If these Friends are not bound by decisions made by the body, what does this say about the testimony of our community? Do we consider Faith and Practice or our testimonies a source from which the Clerk of Yearly Meeting or the General Secretary can speak about our yearly meeting's position as a body on a given issue? The General Secretary currently does not feel the EcoJustice minute on the Keystone pipeline was sufficiently seasoned for him to speak on our behalf on the issue. He reviewed the use of Foundational Minutes as a method for carefully seasoning positions throughout all monthly meetings so their approval at Sessions will carry with it active support by the entire PYM community.

Faith and Practice Revision Working Group alerted that the draft of the bulk (several hundred pages) of the revision will be available electronically March 15th and all monthly meetings are asked to form groups to review it and comment using the Survey Monkey online tool by May 15th. The proposed text will be posted with advance materials for general sessions in July where the agenda will include a "first reading."

Long Range Planning Group presented details on the anticipated roles of the Monthly, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, Administrative Council, Quaker Life Council and Continuing Sessions (annual and interim) as well as Nominating Committee and General Secretary, receiving extended comments from members present. It is anticipated a year would be needed to implement this restructuring.

The Treasurer presented a paper account of finances and stated all is in order.

The General Secretary's program assistant presented that Thread Gatherings to support the work of various committees continue and are successful with enthusiastic responses from attendees.

The clerk reported: An interim clerk for the nominating committee had not yet been found.

Junior Interim Meeting will be held on March 8 and looks forward to the presence of adults as part of their event that day. All are invited. Assistant Clerk Sallie Jones was recognized for her excellent work.

Respectfully submitted, Dee Rein, Catherine Cripps

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

Calendar of Third Haven activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

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

Username is 3rdhaven Password friends (all lower case)

We welcome notes, photos, questions and address information at 3rdhaven@gmail.com

Third Haven Friends offer series on Quaker faith

From The Star Democrat, Friday, February 21, 2014 1:08 pm

EASTON — To help explain the history, beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), Third Haven Friends Meeting in Easton is offering a four-part program titled “Essentials of Quaker Faith and Practice.”

Guest speakers will make presentations and facilitate discussions at noon Sundays March 30, April 6, April 27 and May 4. The public is invited. Parking is available on site. All programs are free.

March 30: Linda Chidsey — “Worship and the Spiritual Journey”

Chidsey is a member of Housatonic Friends Meeting in New York and former head clerk of New York Yearly Meeting. She is a longtime teacher in the School of the Spirit and leads retreats and workshops on spirituality.

April 6: John Andrew Gallery — “Testimonies, Witness and Action”

Gallery is a member of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting in Philadelphia and the author of several articles and pamphlets on Quakerism, among them “Reflections from a Prayer Vigil for Peace” and “Living in the Kingdom of God.”

He formerly was the executive director of the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia. He wrote “Sacred Sites of Center City.”

April 27: Patty Levering — “Quaker Meeting as a Faith Community”

Levering is a member of Davidson Meeting in North Carolina. She teaches at the School of the Spirit and lectures widely on Quaker topics.

May 4: Thomas Swain — “History and Beliefs of the Religious Society of Friends”

Swain is a member of Middleton Meeting in Lima, Pa. He studied with the Shakers and taught at a Friends school in New Jersey. He has taught and spoken on Quakers throughout Britain and Scandinavia and is an associate tutor at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Center in England. He served as clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting for six years.

For further information about these programs, contact Tom Corl, clerk worship and ministry committee, at 202-215-1684 or tom.corl@gmail.com



Skyspace: Religion Meets Art

The decision by Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting to incorporate a James Turrell Skyspace light installation in the design of their new meetinghouse harks back to a tradition of pairing religion with art and architecture. *Greeting the Light* is Turrell's 76th Skyspace and the second to be located within a Quaker meetinghouse. The installation opened to the public October 20, 2013. It is viewable one hour before dawn to dawn and at sunset to one hour later. Turrell's interest in light is a testament to just how deeply his Quaker roots and faith have informed his art. This Skyspace's title is a direct reference to his grandmother's instructions to "go in and greet the Light" back when Turrell attended Meeting in his youth.

A major setback for the Chestnut Hill's projected construction occurred when the building site suffered extensive vandalism in December 2012. The builder,

Robert Reeves Jr., had experienced weeks of aggressive confrontation with members of the Philadelphia ironworkers' union prior to the attack. He decided to pursue a criminal case. Last week federal authorities announced a sweeping racketeering conspiracy case against 10 members of Ironworkers Local 401, alleging top leaders had doled out violent retribution for years against contractors who refused to hire their members and damage to the property of their clients. The following are links to several news articles which explain the installation of the Skyspace and the controversy following the destructive acts.

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/local/nw-philadelphia/60845-turrell-skyspace-pairing-light-and-space-set-to-open-to-the-public>

<http://www.fbi.gov/philadelphia/press-releases/2014/racketeering-and-arson-charges-filed-against-members-of-ironworkers-union>

http://media.philly.com/documents/ironworkers_indictment.pdf

http://articles.philly.com/2014-02-20/news/47493591_1_union-workers-union-president-nonunion

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20140224_Union_violence_in_Philadelphia_area_rarely_prosecuted.html

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20140223_Ironworkers_local_is_stuck_at_an_earlier_evolutionary_state.html



Soup Day Seen at Asbury Methodist Church: l to r - Ralph Young measuring portions, next to him is Edith Hayman, the Asbury Soup Kitchen head chef who is responsible for making over 15,000 gallons of soup over the past 12 years. Assisting Edith is Willow Pittman, a THFM attender.





A letter from the Sheridans in Alaska:

“It's nice to hear from you. Life in Kodiak (yes, that's where we are) is good. We arrived here at the end of December and were in temporary housing until a couple of weeks ago, when we moved into our "permanent" apartment in the middle of town (I've attached a photo of the view from our dining room). Tate is busy with his new job at Kodiak College, where he has a lot of responsibilities but also a lot of opportunities to have a positive impact for the students and the community. Iris turned five months old earlier this month and increasingly entertains us with her often silly personality. I am continuing to stay home with her while I work out the logistics of completing my final externship for my master's degree in speech-language pathology.

Kodiak is, of course, beautiful, and we have found the community to be friendly and welcoming overall. We haven't seen any Kodiak bears yet, but eagles abound, and we've already had glimpses of interesting sea birds and mammals. And it hasn't been nearly as cold nor as cloudy as I'd feared! Please share our greetings with the Friends. We are excited about our new community but miss all of you.”

Peace, Jennifer, Taten, and Iris

AVP...details

For Friends who have heard the acronym AVP and wondered what exactly the Alternatives to Violence Project might be, please use the following two websites to acquaint yourselves with AVP, both regionally and internationally. Both of these articles were written by Quakers, one who has worked with AVP for decades and another who has been recently introduced to the project. AVP workshops use the shared experiences of participants, interactive exercises, games and role-plays to examine the ways in which we respond to situations where injustice, prejudice, frustration and anger can lead to aggressive behavior and violence.



Originally designed for our incarcerated population, AVP is now used in many settings. The Mid-Shore AVP chapter has recently finished its first round of workshops held at THFM, with an intentional aim at bringing the wisdom and practices of the project to the youth in our community. Please continue to hold this project in the Light as move forward with this mission, and be sure to pass on hearty congratulations to Ralph Young for his dedicated work for AVP. This link (<http://qvsvolunteers.wordpress.com/2013/12/>) is to a young Quaker's reflections on attending a Basic workshop last December at Patuxent Institution in Jessup, MD. And this link (<http://aglifpt.org/rfk/>) is to an article by David Zarembka, the Coordinator of the African Great Lakes Initiative of the Friends Peace Team, who works and resides in Western Kenya. “Report from Kenya, January 3, 2014. An Expanded Vision of AVP” Blog #260. For more information about AGLI, please check out this site: www.davidzarembka.com <<http://www.aglifpt.org/>>).



Bryan Russo of Public Radio Station 88.3 Coastal Connections interviews Third Haven members on Worship in the manner of Friends at Third Haven



Third Haven members help take down TIS shelter equipment.



Mary Cotton conducts Birding First Day School



Testimonies and Concerns deliberates.



John Schreiner uses an environmental friendly means of transportation to Meeting for Worship