



## Third Haven Friends Meeting

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Easton, Maryland 21601

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## September 2011 NEWSLETTER

"We must support what supports local life, which means community, family, household life—the moral capital our larger institutions have to come to rest upon. If the larger institutions undermine the local life, they destroy that moral capital just exactly as the industrial economy has destroyed the natural capital of localities—soil fertility and so on. Essential wisdom accumulates in the community much as fertility builds in the soil."

*Wendell Berry*

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Business Minutes for the 6th Month 13, 2011**

1. Call to order: John Schreiner, Clerk of Meeting, called the meeting for worship with attention to business to order after a brief period of silence at 11:30am.
2. Attending: Gwen Beegle, Molly Burgoyne, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Benita Cooper, Debbie Danser, Ed Danser, Joe Davis, Leigh Ann Dodge, Doreen Getsinger, Tania Harrison, Marsie Hawkinson, Connie Lewis, Beth Mufson, Sumner Parker, Connie Pullen, Michael Pullen, Nancy Robbins, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Karin Stoker, Cathy Thompson, Norval Thompson, Sally Vermilye, Rob Wieland, John Winterbottom, Winslow Womack, Ralph Young, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler.
3. Minutes: The minutes for the meeting for business 5th Month were approved.
4. Query: The 6th query "Equality" was read during meeting for worship. This query generated many comments. Eleven different Friends made comments and the variety of comments were rich and varied as the meaning of equality is important for so many of us. Friends have struggled with the awareness of their own prejudices and realized they must overcome these prejudices first in order to begin to treat all equally. One friend noted that the times he had been excluded caused resentments, which led to further isolationism. The upcoming events honoring Fredrick Douglas were noted with joy. Another Friend spoke of the great inequality in this country regarding the distribution of wealth and how much more work towards needs to be done in this area. Another Friend felt that the motto "To live and let live," helps us all to be less judgmental as we do not have the right to tell others how to live. Others felt that inequality is deeply institutionalized in this country and cited the Pendle Hill pamphlet of "Moving Towards a Moral Economy" as helpful reading. In conclusion, the Meeting notes that all inequality harms the individual and much work can be done to help us move personally and then collectively towards the true meaning of equality.

5. First Day School Annual Report: (below). There has been an average of 19 children participating in 1st Day School each week. This annual report was approved with many thanks to all the work involved.

6. Treasurer's Report: (posted on Third Haven Website). We are in fair shape financially for the end of the fiscal year. We did not meet our targeted goal for member contributions this year.

7. Presentation of Annual Budget for July 2011- June 2012 from Budget and Finance Committee: (posted on Third Haven Website). Please note that the Property & Grounds budget could fluctuate this next year as our situation with a new caretaker(s) may require flexibility. It is quite possible that the figures for the caretaker position may need to be altered. There has been much debate the past several years about how we form our budget. We place a figure in for member contributions that brings our budget into balance. We rarely meet that figure but often our committees under spend so we don't often go over our budget to a great extent. Some Friends feel strongly that we should make a more realistic budget rather than simply balance the numbers. This year, we have approved the current budget as proposed by the committee. The Clerk of B&F will make a footnote to the budget regarding the P&G items and delete the line for "appliances" and "MD United for Peace & Justice". Several Friends thought it might be helpful for the B&F committee to come up with a realistic figure for member contributions so that we can have a better understanding of the gap between that number and how much we need to budget. There was helpful discussion regarding the formation of a "Stewardship Committee". One function of this group could be sending quarterly reminders to members regarding donations and helping to promote regular contributions from members. The Clerk would like to formulate a minute regarding this to be presented to business meeting in September.

There was additional discussion regarding the line item "donations" for the fiscal year ending now. The \$1500 allowed for donations has not yet been allocated. The Meeting relies on the recommendations from Testimonies and Concerns to do this. After a lengthy discussion particularly regarding our need to support Quaker organizations, the Meeting approved the allocation of this fiscal year's donations as follows: \$250 each to AFSC, FCNL, Pendle Hill, Friends Journal, Quaker Earthcare Witness, and Friends General Conference. The Meeting asked the T&C committee to present us with a donation list for the upcoming fiscal year during the meeting for business in December 2011.

8. Testimonies and Concerns Recommendations: The members of committee have deliberated regarding the remaining \$3000 of the Shoffner bequest. Their report included \$1000 to be given to Aquayunda, \$1000 to the Migrant Ministry, and \$1000 to the African Great Lakes Initiative. Information about all of these organizations will be placed on our website and through our newsletter. The committee will work with the Carriage Shed Sale clerks to present a unified slate of recommendations for the sale proceeds and will present these choices by September business meeting at the latest.

9. New Business: There is a brief report from Interim Meeting regarding the state of financial problems with PYM. They have reduced their staff from 40 to 30 and will still have a shortfall of \$40,000 this year and possibly \$300,000 next year. The Clerk of PYM, Arthur Larabee has sought an invitation to stay in touch with our Meeting and seek advice and suggestions. Nancy Robbins has volunteered to be a liaison for this.

Overseers has updated the Burial and Bereavement form and this is now on our website. This can be filled out and sent to Nancy. The Memorial Wall has a reservation and sign up book as well.

Meeting for business was adjourned at 1:15pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Molly Burgoyne*

**IMPORTANT POINTS:**

- First Day School Annual Report approved
- Budget for July 2011- June 2012 approved
- T&C recommended allocation for remaining Shoffner bequest monies
- T & C to present donor list for upcoming fiscal year in December 2011
- T&C to work with Carriage Shed Sale committee to present donor list for Carriage Shed Sale in September 2011
- Proposed minute for formation of Stewardship Committee to be presented September 2011

**First Day School: REPORT 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

Summary - very positive year

average attendance was 19 from 20 different families

welcomed two new families who have become regular attenders:

the Neil girls- Juliette and Anna Sofia

more recently, Ember Theeke, daughter of Katie

theme for year was "Building Bridges to others" organized into three categories - some of the things we did:

- spent fall focusing on our interactions with family and close friends
- looked at our roles within family
- everyone views things from their own perspective
- talked about how we listen to others
- how we can improve our communication skills
- dealt with ties to our local community from end of November thru January
  - studied diversity
  - conflict resolution
  - collected food and other items for local families in need
  - Stackpoles discussed migrant community and their needs
  - made wreaths for Meeting
  - put together hygiene kits for tornado victims in Alabama
- on an international level
  - need for clean water in developing nations
  - founders of Aquayunda, Sabrina Zimmermann and Simon Zimm
  - unrest in Middle East and Quakers' work in Ramallah, Susan Claggett, Tania Harrison and Marsie Hawkinson

- pennies for polio with Paige
- Minga Claggett Born's work in Bolivia
- Greg Mortenson's work building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan and importance of educating women and girls

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED!!!

-with older children: Paige Bethke, Mark Beck, Catherine Cripps, Susan Claggett, Tania Harrison, Marsie Hawkinson, Ralph Young, Larney Claggett, the Stackpoles and the Aquayunda folks

-with younger children: Cathy Thompson, and a few others, did Godly Play once a month, familiarizing the children with Bible stories, April Claggett, Candace Shattuck, Jessica Rice, Jen Miller, Tom McCall, Janet Shreve and myself

Had several pool parties over the course of the year; our thanks to: Mark Beck and Molly Burgoyne

*submitted by Beth Mufson*

### **News from Afar**

Betsy Forman Harrell writes about her husband, "Bryant – aka 'Pete' to all those relatives and friends who knew him before he went to Turkey in 1963 – lived at home for exactly a year after he had small strokes and an operation in 2010. His sight was badly impaired so that he could no longer read for pleasure. He started relying on a cane to walk around our apartment and a walker for daily afternoon strolls on our lovely campus (Friends House in Santa Rosa, CA). Gradually he grew thinner and weaker. Though he appreciated the home ambiance and routine, and never complained or experienced pain, and still maintained his pointed sense of humor, his life had mostly lost zest. He lost appetite too and took his final walk under the sun on June 26, was carried to the hospital on June 27, and passed away there, looking very peaceful, on the morning of June 28. Son Chandlee Harrell, who lives much closer to Santa Rosa than Alvis and Beth do, was holding one of Bryant's hands while Betsy was holding the other. He died of old age; his systems had worn out. Earlier he had planned to eschew futile life-prolonging measures, & to donate his body parts for medical research & education. He had been raised in a medical family and had devoted his life to education." Betsy Harrell's address will change in September to Apartment 45, Friends House, 684 Benicia Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Her e-mail address is [Harrell@friendshouse.org](mailto:Harrell@friendshouse.org)



**The Support and Outreach Standing Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) meets at Third Haven.** The charge of this committee is to oversee efforts to produce a healthy, vibrant Religious Society of Friends that naturally attracts new and existing members creating a strong faith community.

## **Third Haven Monthly Meeting Announcements**

September 8 "The Worship and Ministry Committee will meet on Thursday 9.8 at 5:00 pm in the Common Room."

September 18 (Sunday) at the rise of meeting, Simon Zimmer, of the local organization Aguayuda ([www.aguayuda.org](http://www.aguayuda.org)) will speak as part of Testimonies & Concerns *Faith in Action* series. A simple meal of soup and bread will follow the presentation. Please join us to learn more about the work of this organization, to whom we have contributed funds. The mission of the organization is to "improve life and health in poor and rural communities through clean water and education. Aguayuda's core values are represented by the word 'RESPECT' because it is crucial that we respect the communities and environment where we work, as well as the investment from our generous donors. Listening, understanding and working together as a team are important components of any project, which can only be successful if there is mutual understanding and respect."

**Responsibility:** We share a commitment with each community to plan, implement, operate and maintain the project based on mutual trust and accountability.

**Education:** We teach essential health and income generating workshops to empower the people with the knowledge to save lives and to reduce poverty.

**Sustainability:** We design appropriate water, sanitation and education solutions that maximize local resources and that can be maintained by the community.

**Potential:** We provide opportunities for the community to develop the skills needed to enhance their physical, mental and economic well-being.

**Excellence:** We achieve high quality results by balancing efficiency, simplicity and practicality as we address the unique needs of each community.

**Commitment:** We follow up with each community on a regular basis to evaluate the status of each project and to make adjustments where necessary. We also assure investments from our supporters have been and continue to be used effectively and responsibly.

**Technology:** We use, teach and share technical solutions, including wells, windmills, filtration systems, rain harvesting systems and sanitation facilities."

**September 21(Wednesday) 9:45 am Marilla's Lunches will be prepared at Asbury Methodist Church. Please join us in the preparation and delivery.**

The **Worship and Ministry Committee** will continue to sponsor discussion by Friends of their spiritual journeys at the rise of meeting for worship on first day. Sally Claggett will share her spiritual journey on September 25.

**Susan Claggett writes, "I have cleaned out the closet in our Common Room and have gathered a large pile near the sofa. There are quite a few electronic "things" (camera, projector, CD player) that I don't believe belong to THFM. There is a black binder and a large box of THFM minutes from around 2002. Please claim these items or we can put them out in the Carriage Shed Sale on Sept 24. Thank you."**

**September 24(Saturday) rain or shine** It is time again for Third Haven's Carriage Shed Sale! Friends can begin bringing their contributions to the Common Room beginning Monday the 19th. The Common Room will be staffed by volunteers every afternoon the week preceding the sale, sorting and pricing all the items. We are accepting all types of goodies, from boats, bikes and cars to funky little gizmo that you have been around for thirty years. (No clothes, A special treat this year will be the of items from around the world that our Spouse have donated, due to their recent a smaller home. Remember, those who week prior to the sale will be first in line preview & sale on the Friday evening the sale! Come and join the fun beginning on the 19th. Sign up sheet for week will be available in the Common next First Day. Please contact Leigh Anne Dodge (410-822-5998) or Susan Claggett (410-200-6345) with questions or comments. [lad.dodge@gmail.com](mailto:lad.dodge@gmail.com)).



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### **Letting Go of Negative Habits Retreat**

**October 1 (Saturday) 9:00 am – 4:00 pm** at Third Haven, a One-Day (or half-day) Silent Meditation Retreat suitable for both beginning and experienced meditation students, this silent meditation retreat includes guided meditation periods, silent sitting and walking meditation, dharma talk in the afternoon, and question-and-answer session.

This day of practice will include direction in mindfulness of the breath, body, emotions and thoughts as a way of becoming aware of the habits and compulsions that we have developed to cope with life's challenges. Through the practice of insight meditation and concentration, it is possible to work with habits of behaviors, thought and emotional patterns and substances. In this way, instead of the old ways of reacting to life's stresses, you develop more skillful ways of responding to them that will bring you increased meaning, joy and freedom no matter how stressful your life may be.

Teacher: Larissa Kitenko will lead the Letting Go of Negative Habits meditation retreat. She is currently participating in the Community Dharma Leader Study program at Spirit Rock Meditation Center in California. Kitenko has been teaching mindfulness meditation throughout the Eastern Shore for many years.

No Registration Fee; there will be an opportunity to make a donation towards the support of the practice of the teacher & for Third Haven Friends Meeting House. Bring cushions & pillows, chairs will be available; a bag lunch & drink if staying for the full day. Register by Phone or E-mail: 410-430-2005 or [lkitenko@yahoo.com](mailto:lkitenko@yahoo.com) or <http://eastonmeditation.wordpress.com> Please indicate time of attendance:  
 FULL DAY (lunch 12:15 - 1:00) MORNING SESSION (9:00 - 12:15) AFTERNOON SESSION (1:00 – 4:00)

**October 2 (Sunday)** Meeting of representatives of Quaker Schools including Westtown with interested school age Third Haven members and attenders.

**October 16 (Sunday) 9:05am - 1:00pm Southern Quarterly Meeting - to be held at Third Haven Monthly Meeting.**

**Rob Wieland writes, "PYM's Eco-Justice Working Group has a Friendly Household Project that seeks to survey PYM Friends who work on eco-justice concerns about their work and experiences. Friendly Households is looking for Friends who are committed to working toward right relationship in terms of: 1) spiritual grounding, 2) peace, 3) social and economic justice, 4) earthcare and sustainable living, and 5) community and civic engagement.**

**Connie Pullen and I have submitted our names to be surveyed and any other members or attenders who have an interest are encouraged to either contact me at [robert.wieland@gmail.com](mailto:robert.wieland@gmail.com) or express your interest directly to my contact for this information, Paige Menton, at [menski@sprynet.com](mailto:menski@sprynet.com). Additional information on the eco-justice working group can be found at <http://www.pym.org/committee/eco-justice-working-group>**

**October 29 (Saturday)** We Can Do It Day at Arch Street Meetinghouse: an opportunity for Friends to come together for learning and fellowship. The focus will be on healthy, effective and spiritually grounded committee functioning and it is being planned under the care of the Nominating Committee of PYM. Workshops will include such topics as clerking, conflict resolution, developing community and bringing in new members.

Share your ideas! We have consistently received suggestions for additional workshops. For example one Friend asked "Will there be a workshop on what to do when two committees are having a turf war?" I have to admit that such a workshop had not occurred to the planners! However, from this question came the idea for a workshop that focuses on how committees can work together within a meeting.

Please share thoughts about what topics We Can Do It Day should cover in the future (the last two focused on Outreach and on Children respectively). Contact: Christie Duncan-Tessmer [hpcell2@gmail.c](mailto:hpcell2@gmail.c)

**The Traveling Brushes, including Joyce Zeigler, Martha Hudson, Mary Ekroos, Bobbi Seger, and Barbara Jablin have a show at the Old Brick Inn, at the corner of Talbot and Mulbery Sts. in St. Michaels from July 16th to October 5th. Visitors are welcome any time and there is no admission.**

**Cathy Thompson has a lead on someone in the St. Michaels area seeking a position as a cleaning lady. For information please call Cathy 410-714-3657**

**The Neighborhood Service Center has an ongoing pantry to help those less fortunate than we with food for their families. Each week Ralph collects non-perishable items which we bring in and takes them to the Center. Please notice the gray tubs at the entrances to the meetinghouse and add something to them. We don't want him to go empty handed! Thank you. We wish to thank the Meeting members and attenders for your generosity to the Food Pantry. Your gifts are truly appreciated by the Neighborhood Service Center.**

We are always looking for more books to put into the Talbot County Detention Center lending library. If you have a quantity of books, I can pick them up or bring what you have to Meeting on First Day. We can use a wide variety of books. We have 30 different categories of books in the library including categories such as: poetry, fiction, multicultural, foreign language, philosophy, textbooks, non-fiction, etc. etc. etc. If for any reason we do not put a book in the library, we find an appropriate home for the book such as the Goodwill organization. There is a beautiful chest for book donations under the window next to the literature table in the Common Room and books can be placed in my truck, a white pick up usually parked near the Common Room on First Day. Thank you for remembering. *submitted by Ralph Young*

The 2011 directory is available at meeting for worship each Sunday.

Please send text to be included in the announcements and newsletter to [3rdhaven@gmail.com](mailto:3rdhaven@gmail.com)

## **Thank You**

Hi everyone,

Just wanted to let you know that Cassie and I attended the meeting on Sunday and she stood up and thanked every one for helping her with this scholarship. She also mentioned how much finishing up her senior year at George School means to her. As Cassie will be starting school next Sunday, she made sure to make it to this meeting to give her appreciation to all of you.

Thank you again for all of your help,

*Beth Thompson*

## **Testimonies and Concerns and Overseers meet monthly**



## **Called Meeting September 4, 2011 RE Caretakers Position**

At a Called Meeting for Worship for the purpose of Conducting Business the Property and Grounds Committee led by Larny Claggett presented a minute (to be published in the next newsletter) nominating Clay Owens to replace outgoing caretakers Sam and Vickie Webster. The minute was approved after some discussion and the Websters thanked heartily for their 29 years of service. Clay welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the meeting community as his grandparents had done when he was a child.



**Retired caretakers Sam and Vickie Webster      Clay Owens receives the original gold key to the old meeting house.**

## **Declaration of Intentions**

Friends are reminded that it is our responsibility to make clear our intentions for memorial services and other necessities with which our families and friends must cope upon our death. Below is a copy of the Declaration of Intentions which can be a great help to those who will miss us when we are gone. Please ease their burden by filling out the form if you have not yet done so and returning it to Overseers. It will be placed in a confidential file until it is needed.

THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING  
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
Declaration of Intentions

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Birthplace \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Military Service # \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad Employment? \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Discharge \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse, Next of Kin or other person I have directed to carry out my wishes:

I hereby direct that the following disposition be made of my body after my death:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Service Directions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like the following undertaker to aid in carrying out these arrangements, and have filed a copy of this declaration with him:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send a notice of my death to the following newspapers and journals:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in my name may be sent to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this Declaration of Intentions is not legally binding, and that Third Haven Monthly Meeting has no duty to fulfill any of the above requests, but shall act as a depository and advisor for this expression of personal wishes for procedures at the time of my death. I have executed this document for the purpose of guiding my family and the members of Third Haven Monthly Meeting at the time of my death.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Copies of this Declaration are on file with:

\_\_\_\_\_



**Emma Leibman** is heading off to Westtown for a new school adventure. Good luck to you and to all our Quaker Youth starting a new school year!

**Committee Activity** is part of a vibrant meeting. Hence the Nominating Committee is beginning its annual task of proposing committee memberships for the year 2012. Are you interested in a particular committee's area of activity? Want to stay on the committee where you currently contribute? Time to try something new or return to an old love? We need your heart, head and hands, as well as your input as we ready the slate for next year. Please complete the e-mail survey coming to you soon by separate e-mail and send it to one of the Nominating Committee members: Molly Burgoyne, Susan Claggett, or Dee Rein, or print and drop it in the Overseers mailbox in the brick meeting house.