

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

March, 2013



## Monthly Query:

*How do I discern whether a project or interest is a true leading to act? What guidance do I seek from others?*

*How can your committee help the Meeting become more diverse and more inclusive of youth, young adults, and young families this year?*

## Contents:

Upcoming Forum Schedule .....	1
Needing Each Other: Fruitful Discoveries of Friendship .....	2
A REMINDER: Save April 6-7 for Richard Barnes .....	2
Home Needed for Two Loving Cats .....	3
Quaker Worship at Orange Correctional Center - updated .....	4
Piedmont Friends Fellowship Annual Retreat .....	4
Be a Commentator on WCHL .....	5
Monthly Envirotip From the ECC .....	6
News on North Carolina's Death Penalty .....	6
Exciting and Growth-ful Programs for Quakers - Shotts Committee and Financial Assistance .....	6
Muslim Journeys Bookshelf at the Library .....	7
Book Review: Visit Sunny Chernobyl.....	7
Pete Street Volunteers Teach Energy Saving Strategies.....	8
<b>Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business .....</b>	<b>9</b>
(membership of Crites/Dunlap, McNeil, Seagraves, Halpern, Graham; marriage of Lauren Hart & Will Stanley; CRE report, Treasurer's report, buying comfy chairs, climate change letter to senators, Pink Dandelion minute, PFF retreat, hosting FGC nominations committee)	
Poem: Nature's Silences.....	18
Directory Updates .....	18
Calendar.....	19

## Upcoming Forum Schedule

**March 3** - "Radical Simplicity" - a book club reports on its discussions of Jenny Radcliff's book and views on sustainable eating

**March 10** - "The Care Relationship: Friends Schools and the Religious Society of Friends" - discussion of the findings of the Friends Council on Education and this Meeting's relationship with CFS

**March 17** - "Needing Each Other: Fruitful Discoveries of Friendship" - This Meeting's efforts and personal impact on the ministry of prisoners in Orange County (see page 2)

**March 24** - Business Meeting (rescheduled from March 17)

**March 31** - Ruth Zalph reports on her Witness for Peace service in Columbia, South America

**April 6** - WORKSHOP, 1:30-4pm, **advanced registration required**, "Finding Unity Amidst Diversity of Belief" -Richard Barnes of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (see page 2-3)

**April 7** - "Finding Unity Amidst Diversity of Belief"- follow up from April 6th workshop by Richard Barnes

## **March 17 Forum: Needing Each Other**

We will invite current and former residents of Orange Correctional Center (OCC) who have attended CHFM and CHFM members or attenders who visit OCC to talk about mutual learning, sharing and the growth of friendship. We will explore how individuals and communities have made new paths by walking together and how the riches of understanding our common spirits have allowed us to grow together. We will also discuss how we can explore what we have yet to learn about and from each other and what that means in terms of spirit and action. All who have watched and participated in these matters will invited to join the discussion.

## **A REMINDER: Save April 6-7 for Richard Barnes**

### **Workshop description:**

Almost all General Conference Friends cherish the fact that the Religious Society of Friends does not have a creedal or doctrinal statement of uniform beliefs. Some Friends are more tolerant of this ambiguity than others. Many even welcome the diversity of religious beliefs and philosophies held by its members and attendees.

When someone asks the question "What do Quakers believe?", do you have difficulty in articulating a clear and convincing reply? At the close of the workshop, hopefully you will be able to confidently answer, "Friends do not have a uniform set of beliefs, but let me share with you what Friends "do". We have five our unique group spiritual practices for discerning Divine guidance."

### **Workshop Queries**

- \* What is the difference between 'spirituality' (experience of God) and 'religion' (beliefs about God)?
- \* What is the difference between 'orthodoxy' (commonly held set of beliefs) and 'orthopraxis' (commonly held set of practices and behaviors)?
- \* What does it mean to be a Christian? Do you have to be a Christian to be a Friend?
- \* What does it mean to be a universalist? Can you be a universalist Christian?
- \* What are the spiritual practices and behaviors that we as a Religious Society of Friends share in common?
- \* Can a monthly meeting experience unity in the Spirit without uniformity of beliefs?
- \* How can we nurture a unity of Spirit in practices and behaviors amid a welcomed diversity of beliefs in our local meetings?

### **Richard's biography:**

Richard Barnes, a convinced Friend of 38 years, was born in Richmond, Virginia, received a B.A. from the College of William and Mary, a M.Ed. from the University of Rochester, and did extensive graduate work at the Boston University Graduate School of Religion. He and his wife, Mary and their two children, were students at Pendle Hill on an Eli Lilly Foundation grant for a year in 1977-78.

A founding member of Maury River Friends Meeting in Lexington, Virginia, he has served as clerk of his monthly meeting and Virginia Half-Years Meeting. In 1997, he and his wife, Mary, served as co-clerks of the FGC Gathering of over 2200 Friends at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He served as clerk of the Quaker Universalist Fellowship for 10 years and has been a workshop leader at several FGC Gatherings and at three different yearly meetings. He and his wife, Mary, served as Friends in Residence at Pendle Hill during the spring term of 2011.

After serving 24 years as a teacher, counselor, and administrator in Virginia public schools, he served five years as director of development at Pendle Hill, a Quaker Center of Study and Contemplation, in Wallingford Pennsylvania from 1997-2001. After leaving Pendle Hill, he served seven years fundraising for various Friends organizations and as a fundraising consultant with HFreeman Associates. He estimates that he has made personal face-to-face visits in the homes of over 300 Friends in over 20 states.

As a former clerk of the Quaker Universalist Fellowship, Richard Barnes is concerned when Friends use the phrase "Christian or universalist" and even more regrettably, "Christian vs. universalist." Personally, he welcomes into the Religious Society of Friends individuals with a wide diversity of religious beliefs and doubts. However, he also feels that we need to better articulate the unity of our spiritual 'roots', our spiritual life, and the practices that we hold in common. We cannot simply rest in the unity of the 'fruits' of our testimonies and social action concerns.

**This workshop is April 6 from 1:30 to 4pm** in the Schoolhouse. Richard will also lead the forum on Sunday, April 7, to continue the theme of unity and diversity.

**NOTE: Advanced registration is necessary** so that Richard will know how many prints to make of workshop material. Please register by March 31. The fee for Saturday's workshop is **\$5** (not \$10 as previously stated). Register by calling Marilyn Dyer (919-918-3622) or by signing up on the sheet on the Meetinghouse door.

## **Home Needed for Two Loving Cats**

Judy Purvis needs to find a good home, or homes, for her two cats—Lyta and Tabitha—because of allergies in her household. Lyta is about 11, shy but affectionate; Tabitha is about 3, friendly and full of personality. They are healthy, have their shots and their claws, and have been indoor cats. Please let her know at [judypurvis921@gmail.com](mailto:judypurvis921@gmail.com) if you know anyone willing to take one or both. They will need a home by the end of March.

## **Quaker Worship at Orange Correctional Center - updated** **Sunday, March 10, 6:45 (set up), 7-8pm worship in Peace Center at OCC**

Orange County Correctional (OCC) has invited Chapel Hill Friends Meeting to hold a Meeting for Worship at the OCC. This is a wonderful opportunity to worship outside of our meeting house with members of the OCC community.

For those who wish to carpool to the meeting, please be at the Meeting House in Chapel Hill at 6pm. We will ride together and intend to arrive by 6:45pm.

Directions to the institution for those wishing to drive directly there:

- OCC is at 2110 Clarence Walters Road, Hillsborough NC.
- Take I-40 to Hillsborough, and take exit 261. Travel towards Hillsborough about one half mile and the prison will be on your right by the Department of Transportation.
- From I-85, take exit 164 and turn towards McDonalds. The unit is one quarter mile down old N.C. 86 on the left.
- Clarence Walters Road is a horseshoe entering and leaving the east side of Old 86. There is a sign at the side of Clarence Walters Road pointing the way to the Peace Center. The meeting will be in the Peace Center.

**Please DO bring a picture ID. Please DO NOT bring phones, purses or bags. OCC has indicated that only those over 18 years of age are invited.**

We are also asking that those wishing to bring sandwiches email Pam Schwingl (pschwingl@yahoo.com) so we can keep a tally. We expect that we'll need sandwiches for about 100.

Questions: Call Paul Munk at 919 918-3589.

## **Piedmont Friends Fellowship Retreat** **March 15-17, CFS campus**

The Piedmont Friends Fellowship Spring Retreat and Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of March 15-17 at the Carolina Friends School in Durham. The retreat will encompass adult, teen, and children's programs; the adult program theme will be: "Recognizing and Affirming Our Spiritual Gifts." Teens are invited to spend the night at a retreat "lock-in." Look for registration and program details to follow in the coming weeks.

Our meeting is charged with creating and staffing the program at the retreat for children ages infants through fifth graders. If you can assist the CHFM volunteer leaders for one of the weekend sessions and/or groups (nursery/preschool, 5-7 year olds, 8-10 year olds), we would be most grateful. Please contact Leslie Rountree or Kathleen McNeil.

# Be a Commentator on WCHL

Submitted by Pam Schwingl

Pam Schwingl was a “commentator” on WCHL and spoke about Climate Change. The commentator segments loop throughout the day, so her message was played repeatedly.

Being a commentator is very easy. You simply send an email to Ron Stutts at WCHL (rstutts@wchl.com) with your 90 second commentary and ask to set up a time to record. It took Pam 15 minutes at the station start to finish. He's always looking for new voices and wants folks to come in monthly. Wes Hare is a regular - a Chapel Hill activist known by many in the meeting, and he just had a very good commentary recently on gun control. This is a wonderful way to get our voices heard! Pam highly recommends folks use this great medium to get our message out. It must be a local issue, but with the "State" of things being as they are these days, there are many to choose from.

Here is Pam's segment:

*This is Pam Schwingl. Last week, on a segment of “What You’re Saying on the Street” folks responded to a question about how they felt about the weather by saying that cold temperatures were inconvenient, and expressing hopes that “good” weather would be on the way; no one included any mention of climate change. It appears that the doubts raised about the existence of climate change, funded by the fossil fuel industry, has numbed even the minds of well-educated Chapel Hillians!*

*But now the truth about climate change is available! The just released congressionally mandated National Climate Assessment draft report confirms what many of us have already observed – the climate is changing. This report, compiled by a large number of notable U.S. scientists, evaluates and interprets the vast amount of information available about climate change and its impacts across the U.S.*

*In the southeast specifically, temperatures are rising and the number of extreme heat events have increased since 1970. Frequency of days over 95 degrees F and nights above 75 degrees F have significantly increased; while the number of extremely cold days has decreased. The NCA asserts with high confidence that this increase will continue to impact environment, energy, agriculture, and forestry, and human health for the foreseeable future. Human Health? Yes, increased temperatures in the observed range and beyond result in higher mortality from cardiac events, more asthma; increased waterborne and mosquito borne illnesses, at a minimum.*

*While we may love 70 degree days in January, it's time to see these unusual events through the prism of a changing climate. While climate change is global, the impacts are local, and the evidence is now clear that the U.S. and NC is heating up. Let's observe, google the draft national climate assessment, and prepare to act soon to mitigate these impacts before it is too late. Signing off - Pam Schwingl.*

## Monthly EnviroTip from the ECC

Submitted this month by Emily Buehler

Recycling fans may be familiar with the “**A-Z Recyclery**” list on the Orange County Solid Waste Management website (<http://www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling/a-z-recyclery.asp>). This is a tantalizing list of how to recycle everything from packing peanuts to batteries! The A-Z Recyclery answers the question "How do I recycle...?" with a (mostly) local, web-based alphabetical resource list. It's been updated with re-use resources and brand new entries, including a comprehensive explanation of plastics recycling (see "Plastics Recycling Explained": <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling/a-z-recyclery.asp#plasticsexplained>). Find out what that chasing arrow symbol with the little letters and numbers is all about!

## News on North Carolina's Death Penalty

Did you know?

- North Carolina has not executed anyone since 2006.
- Last year was the first year in the history of the State of North Carolina that no one was sentenced to die.
- The NC Racial Justice Act of 2009 calls for court reviews of racial bias in death penalty cases and has been reaffirmed in every case brought before the courts under the RJA.
- Efforts are underway to restart executions in North Carolina and to repeal the Racial Justice Act.
- So far, nearly 1,000 NC congregations, businesses, community groups and local governments have passed resolutions calling for North Carolina to repeal the death penalty.

Congregations and people of faith across North Carolina are coming together to call for repeal of the death penalty. Join the call. To sign a letter as a person of faith or a letter as a faith leader for repealing the death penalty in North Carolina visit [ncrepeal.org](http://ncrepeal.org). For more information visit [pfadp.org](http://pfadp.org).

## Exciting and Growth-ful Programs for Quakers - Shotts Committee and Financial Assistance

If you're feeling led to continue your growth as a Quaker, please explore the 2013-2014 programming at Pendle Hill and a silent retreat sponsored by the School of the Spirit. Both links are below. (Lynn and Matt Drake have attended the silent retreat if you'd like more info.) The Shotts Memorial Fund and Leadership Development Committee invites Friends to apply for assistance if you're interested in attending: [www.chapelhillfriends.org/ShottsLeadershipFunds.html](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/ShottsLeadershipFunds.html).

<http://www.pendlehill.org/blog/906-2013-2014-catalog>  
<http://schoolofthespirit.org/programs/silent-retreats-2/>

# **Muslim Journeys Bookshelf at the Library**

**From the Chapel Hill News, February 3, 2013, page 5A**

**Submitted by Marilyn Dyer**

The Muslim Journeys Bookshelf--a collection of books, films, and other resources featuring Muslim culture in the UNited States and around the world--is now available at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

The Chapel Hill Public Library, in partnership with the UNC-Chapel Hill School of INformation and Library Science, is one of 12 public libraries in North Carolina to receive this collection. SILS is also involved with helping the library schedule speakers and presenters for upcoming programs in the fall.

Developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association (ALA) based on the advice of scholars, librarians, and other public programming experts, the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf is intended to address both the need and desire of the American public for trustworthy and accessible resources about Muslim beliefs and practices and the cultural heritage associated with Islamic civilizations.

## **Book Review: Visit Sunny Chernobyl**

**By Andrew Blackwell**

**Submitted by Emily Buehler**

If you lie awake at night, worrying about the annihilation of the planet's resources, the mountains of trash produced by the human race, and the clouds of pollution hovering overhead, then you should read *Visit Sunny Chernobyl* by Andrew Blackwell. Blackwell, a journalist from New York, spent three years visiting "the world's most polluted places" so he could report on them to the rest of us, which he does in an honest, descriptive, and extremely funny way. Reading the book, the horrors you imagine will be reduced to a manageable size.

Blackwell's visits include the oil sands mines of Canada, the garbage patch in the Pacific Ocean (it's not an island – it's an area where ocean currents deposit refuse, resulting in a higher-than-normal concentration of plastic items floating in the water), a city in China where electronics are dismantled and recycled (which releases things like lead dust), and the book's namesake, the Chernobyl nuclear reactor. Blackwell gives interesting discussions of the issues involved in each situation, and repeatedly uncovers ironies such as the fact that, devoid of people, Chernobyl has become a lush garden. He also meets the locals and relates their insider perspectives and the adventures he has with them.

He reveals many of the situations to be more complicated than at first glance. For example, in the Amazon rainforest, he encounters a grassroots initiative to save forest by allowing villagers to harvest trees. Since their livelihood depends on the survival of the forest, they log responsibly and protect the forest from poachers. He discovers that the

global corporation Cargill is responsible for the success of a law restricting farmers from clearing 80% of their land; when Cargill stopped buying from soy farmers who broke the law, the farmers were forced to follow it. He talks to long-time farmers who are troubled by the newer soy farmers, who use harsher chemicals and clear vast tracks, eliminating all traces of shade. But where to draw the line becomes unclear; one day the soy farmers might be on the "good" side of the fence, better than the next industry to come along.

Blackwell presents a lot of information with a minimal amount of judgment and bias. He allows us to see places that most of us will never go to visit. And perhaps best of all, he does it in an easy-to-read way.

The Chapel Hill and Orange County Public Libraries both have this book.

## **Pete Street Volunteers Teach Energy Saving Strategies**

At their regular meeting on 2/24/13 the Environmental Concerns Committee agreed to support a new and exciting way for us to promote energy savings in our community: "Pete Street", offered through the WISE energy retrofit program.

If you are a resident of Chapel Hill or Carrboro, interested in learning home energy savings tips, and are willing to teach your neighbors how to save money on energy, you can be part of this new, free training program .

Pete Street™, developed by Clean Energy Durham, will train up to 10 residents to become "Elite Pete" energy volunteers. Elite Petes learn basic facts about how household energy is typically used and wasted, no-cost and low-cost ways to reduce home energy bills, and how to teach easy, do-it-yourself projects. The model has been successful in over 2,100 households across 40 urban and rural North Carolina neighborhoods. Residents who have attended neighborhood Hands-On Workshops , given by Elite Petes, use an average of 17.5% less energy than residents who didn't participate.

Elite Pete energy volunteers will be asked to teach at least one short, do-it-yourself workshop per month between March and May. Additional opportunities to teach workshops may be available after that timeframe. They also will be looking for hosts to sponsor workshops in their homes.

Training classes will be held in March for up to 10 people. There are a total of 18 hours of training delivered during a series of weekday evening sessions. Applications are available by calling 919-525-1405 or emailing [wise@petestreet.org](mailto:wise@petestreet.org). Applications are due by Monday, February 25, 2013 (check to see if the deadline has been extended); additional opportunities for training may be offered in the future.

For more information contact Tom Smith: [homesmithnc@bellsouth.net](mailto:homesmithnc@bellsouth.net).



**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
Minutes**

Carolyn White, clerk; Robin Harper, recording clerk  
17 February 2013

**Worship and query:** Have I considered joining the Meeting? What if anything, holds me back? If I am a member, how do I encourage others to consider this step?

One Friend spoke to our need to be more welcoming when newcomers arrive; that most people come spiritually searching and at a moment in their lives when they feel a need to be part of a community. Another Friend, who is considering transferring his membership, spoke that on his first visit, he felt welcomed and was even escorted to the parking lot by two members. Another Friend mentioned that we are a community on a seeking journey, with no rigid behavioral or creed expectations, and that we should welcome all who wish to join in this journey.

**1. Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda**

We welcomed first-time attender Lawrence Schaffer.

**2. Review of minutes for January Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

Approved.

**3. Recommend transfer of membership of Savannah Crites from Clear Creek Meeting, Richmond, IN; membership for Lolly Dunlap; and familial memberships for Rowan, Isaac, and Adrian—Judy Purvis**

The Crites/Dunlap family's clearness committee included Bonnie Raphael, Carolyn White, Perry Martin, and was convened by Judy Purvis. The family biographies are attached below.

The family's adoption of a fourth child, Mason, is pending. Mason is 16, and was not included in the request for familial membership because of her age, but will of course be encouraged to consider either familial or full membership in the fullness of time.

Approved.

A welcoming committee consisting of Leslie Rountree and Jennifer Leeman was established.

**4. Recommend membership of Kathleen McNeil and familial membership of son Finn James—Lynn Drake**

Kathleen and Finn's clearness committee consisted of Susan Ingliss, Chris Stanley, Leslie Rountree, Joyce Munk, and was convened by Lynn Drake. Their biographies are attached below.

Approved.

A welcoming committee consisting of Leslie Rountree, Jennifer Leeman, and Kitty Bergel was established.

**5. Letter of transfer of membership for Roxanne Seagraves from CHFM to Santa Fe, NM, Meeting**

We spent some time in worship, sharing our memories of our beloved Roxanne. Carolyn will send a letter recommending Roxanne's transfer to Santa Fe Friends Meeting. Approved.

**6. Letter of transfer of membership for Michael Halpern from Manhasset, NY, Monthly Meeting to CHFM**

Approved.

A welcoming committee consisting of Dottie Heninger, Carolyn Stuart, and Kathleen McNeil was established.

**7. Request for membership of Linda Graham**

The clerk received a request for membership for Linda Graham, which was referred to Ministry and Worship.

**8. Recommend marriage under the care of the Meeting for Lauren Hart and Will Stanley—Jeff Brown**

Lauren and Will's clearness committee consisted of Jennifer Leeman, Tom Munk, Lolly Dunlap, Nancy Martin, Leslie Rountree, and was convened by Jeff Brown. The committee reached unity with joy and enthusiasm that marriage is the right path for this couple at this time. Friends expressed love for Will and Lauren and joy at their having met as children in the Meeting. Their wedding date has been set for April 13.

Approved.

A wedding planning committee will be determined.

**9. Friends Center at Guilford: proposed benevolence of \$125—ARE Committee**  
Postponed.

**10. Treasurer's Report—Judy Purvis (Attached)**

Matt confirmed that it appears we will indeed make our budget this year, based on contributions and commitments. Therefore he asks committees to look at their established budgets and plan their spending accordingly.

Judy reminded us that she will be stepping down as Treasurer, effective July 1. She would be happy to talk about the duties of the job to anyone who may feel led to step into this role.

Accepted.

**11. Annual Report of CRE Committee—Kathleen McNeil (Attached)**

Kathleen reminded us that this committee is actually now a combination of CRE and YRE.

Friends expressed appreciation for the First Day School leaders and teachers, in particular their very successful efforts to bring the children more into Meeting for Worship, and to welcome young families. Leslie invited us to share with her any thoughts we may wish to pass along to the teachers at next weekend's FDS teachers' retreat.

Accepted.

**12. Proposal to spend \$2100 on 25 comfortable chairs for the Meeting room—Lynn Drake for B&G**

Lynn described the committee's efforts to purchase chairs that are environmentally friendly, made in the US, fair-traded, and stackable. In addition, chairs with arms have been particularly requested by Friends. Therefore, 15 of the proposed 25 chairs will have arms. All of the chairs will be for use in the meeting room, library, downstairs, or wherever needed. The manufacturer is Berolini, which is the same company that the Durham Meeting has bought from. The total cost will be closer to (but will not exceed) \$2235, once fluctuating shipping costs have been finalized. Lynn offered further specs on chairs if people would like to read them. A Friend questioned purchasing so many. Lynn reported that 25 is the minimum order, but that the committee feels we can easily use them. Lynn will check on whether or not the chairs are made with fire-retardant materials, and let us know.

Approved.

**13. Letter to Senators regarding climate change—Jennifer Leeman, for the ECC (Attached)**

Friends suggested exploring FCNL's position on climate change, which is a carbon tax v. cap in trade, and considering letting this be published in the papers, as an open letter to the Senators. Jennifer will take these suggestions to next week's ECC meeting.

The Meeting did approve the letter as written.

**14. Minute about Pink Dandelion—Dottie Heninger, for M&W**

In response to the Meeting's request to M&W to craft a letter to Ben Pink Dandelion, minuting our thanks for his guidance at a retreat for our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, M&W submitted the attached letter.

Approved.

**15. Piedmont Friends Fellowship Retreat at CFS: March 15–17—Jeff Brown**

PFF's Spring Retreat and Annual Meeting will again be held at the Carolina Friends School, with the theme "Recognizing and Affirming our Spiritual Gifts," led by Frank Massey. This is a chance for family, fellowship, and fun, with Friends from across NC. The CHFM is responsible for registration, children's programming (Kathleen McNeil, Leslie Rountree, Wendy Michener), and care for infants and toddlers. Everyone is urged to volunteer to help with these activities! Registration information will be coming this week.

**16. Friends General Conference Nominations Committee to meet in Chapel Hill March 15–17—Judy Purvis**

CHFM is hosting this committee for FGC. These folks are looking forward to being able to also spend a little time at PFF. Judy asked for volunteers to help provide some meals, transportation to and from airports and train stations, and hospitality for five or six attenders of this meeting.

A suggestion was made to ask if CFS would consider hosting this meeting as well, to simplify transportation needs—Judy will look into this.

We approved the following minute: In order to support the annual retreat of Piedmont Friends Fellowship, MWAB will be moved from March 17 to March 24, 2013.

Carolyn will let ARE know of this change as soon as possible, for forum planning needs.

## 17. Messages and Announcements

- a. Nominations Committee has begun meeting to determine needs of the Meeting, as well as an ad-hoc committee led by Buffie Weber to find a new clerk of the Meeting. Friends are encouraged to contact Buffie if they feel led to serve in any capacity.
- b. Dwight Cooley died January 19, 2013. A memorial service was held at Carol Woods on February 15. Dwight and his wife Elizabeth were active in our Meeting for almost ten years. Elizabeth died a few years ago. Many family and Friends shared at his service on a life well lived.
- c. Spiritual State of the Meeting meeting will be held March 2, from 9:00am to 12:00pm at the Schoolhouse. Our query for the year will be our focus.
- d. Glenn Snyder died at Carol Woods on February 14.
- e. Miriam Thompson and Lois Ann Hobbs are both doing better.
- f. Help is needed with clean up at potlucks—please volunteer!
- g. Meeting for worship will be held at Orange Correctional Facility on March 10. Friends will meet at the Meetinghouse at 6:00pm to carpool. Only people age 18 and above may attend. If you can provide sandwiches for the meeting, they would be welcome.

## Worship and greeting

**Attending:** Judy Purvis, Nancy Elkins, Hank Elkins, Noah Lavine, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Pam Schwingl, Pat Mann, Kitty Bergel, Tom Ludlow, Jeff Brown, Lawrence Schaffer, Bill Jenkins, Emilie Condon, Jennifer Leeman, Dottie Heninger, Richard Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Jan Hutton, Leslie Rountree, Kathleen McNeil, James Harper, Joyce Munk, Melvin Burton, Curtis Rucker, Jr., Tom McQuiston, Rodney Burrell, Bettie Flash, Francis Coyle

**Biographies of Lolly Dunlap; Savannah Crites; and Rowan, Isaac, and Adrian Crites**  
Lolly was born to evangelical missionary parents in Laubach, Germany in 1977. Returning to the US when she was 4, the remainder of her childhood was spent running wild on a working horse ranch and camp outside Norfolk, VA. After high school, she attended Columbia International University, where she got a BA in anthropology and intercultural studies. She then proceeded to become a white water raft guide in western North Carolina, where she met Savannah in the summer of 2000. They were married in the manner of Friends in 2002, and moved to Chapel Hill. Here she attended nursing school and became an ER nurse at UNC Hospitals where she still works.

Savannah was born to tree farmers in Sylva, North Carolina in 1979. She grew up with her sisters in the mountains, and attended North Carolina School of Science and Math for high school. She studied biology and math at Earlham College, and worked as a white water raft guide during the summers while in college. She and Lolly moved to

Chapel Hill in 2002 to attend medical school at UNC, which is when they started attending this meeting.

Savannah and Lolly adopted their first child, Rowan, in September 2005 from Philadelphia. They moved with Rowan to Oregon, where Savannah did her family medicine residency for 3 years. While there, they adopted Isaac in July of 2007. Missing their families and the warm sunny south, they moved home to the triangle (Pittsboro) in 2009 and returned to CHF. Lolly returned to the UNC ER to work, and Savannah got a job at the Moncure Community Health Center with Piedmont Health Services.

In 2010, they adopted Adrian, also of Pennsylvania, who was warmly welcomed by this meeting. Rowan is now 7 and a 1st grader at Pittsboro Elementary school. He loves to read and play Legos and is a very fast runner. Isaac is in kindergarten this year, and loves to build with rocks and wood and grow plants in the garden. Adrian is a bright and delightful 2-year-old who loves to dance and read about animals.

They are currently in the process of adopting Mason, who is 16 and a junior at Northwood Highschool. She loves to drum and dance and is a gifted poet. She is a camp counselor at Clapping Hands Farm Camp in Pittsboro, and is enjoying getting to know Quakerism through the CHF.

### **Biographies of Kathleen McNeil and Finn James**

Kathleen:

I am an identical twin from North Carolina. I have worked in some form of writing, editing, or advocacy work my entire adult life. I currently work for the UNC Curriculum for Environment and Ecology. As a book-worm, I am fatally attracted to bookstores, libraries, and nerdy scholarly publications. Finn and I have been attending CHF meeting since 2006 shortly before he entered Kindergarten. During that time, I have had the privilege of teaching FDS. We attended a Quaker meeting in Winston-Salem for four years before moving to Chapel Hill. Quaker meeting has inspired and nurtured our family as we challenge ourselves to find that of God in everyone.

Finn:

I am a 13 year old seventh grader at Smith Middle School. Like my mother (it must be genetic), I have loved books from an early age. I am a master Lego Craftsman and enjoy writing in my journal, playing board games, programming and creating computer graphics, and all sorts of art projects. I hope to be a neuro-scientist one day. I have been attending Quaker meeting for as long as I can remember and try hard to incorporate the testimonies into my daily life.

### **CHF Treasurer's Report, Second Quarter+, 2012-2013**

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>July 1-Jan 31</b>	<b>Other Income</b>
Contributions <sup>a</sup>		\$44,335.90	

Building rental			\$1,265
Parking space rental			\$5,657
Miscellaneous YRE			\$1,465
<b>TOTAL Contributions</b>		<b>\$44,335.90</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2012–2013 budget</b>	<b>Expenditures to date</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>
<b>Committees:</b>			
Adult Religious Educ.	200.00	0	200
Buildings & Grounds <sup>b</sup>	17,470.00	8,176.34	9,293.66
Care & Counsel	100.00	0	100
CRE/YRE <sup>c,d</sup>	5,350.00	2,203.90	3,146.10
Environmental Concerns	200.00	95.70	104.30
Finance	300.00	106.36	193.64
Hospitality	350.00	32.16	317.84
Library	400.00	191.90	208.10
Ministry & Worship	500.00	107.15	392.85
Nominations	25.00	0	25
Peace & Social Concerns	200.00	0	200
Prison Visitation	500	127.24	372.76
Publications & Records	2,000.00	1,119.01	880.99
<b>Total Committee Expenses<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>\$27,595.00</b>	<b>\$12,159.76</b>	<b>\$15,435.24</b>
<b>Special Funds:</b>			
National Quaker Service	2,000.00	1,400.88	599.12
Meeting for Suffering	135.00	-	135
Contingency Fund	1,000.00	100	900
<b>Future Needs of Meeting</b>			
Leadership Development	100.00	-	100
Physical Plant Replacement	4,000.00	-	4,000
<b>Wider Q Comm'ty Benev's</b>		-	
	\$26,170	13,085	13,085
<b>Local/Regional Org Benev's</b>		-	
<b>BUDGET TOTAL</b>	<b>\$61,000</b>	<b>\$26,745.64</b>	<b>\$34,254.36</b>

<sup>a</sup>Includes CFS OWASA rebate.

<sup>b</sup>Includes insurance, maintenance, utilities, and landscaping.

<sup>c</sup>Primarily compensation for First Day School Coordinator and Nursery Care person.

<sup>d</sup>Budgeted amount does not include the YRE \$3,500.

## **Children's Religious Education / Youth Religious Education Committee Annual Report**

### **Covering January 2012– January 2013**

The Young People's Religious Education (CRE/YRE) Committee provides guidance for the First Day School (FDS) program for children from pre-kindergarten through the fifth grade, the middle and high schoolers' group, as well as the care for infants and toddlers in the nursery. With our teachers and FDS coordinator, Leslie Rountree, the committee develops the curriculum, selects materials, and monitors the overall health and progress of our First Day School. Our aims are threefold: to build a vibrant spiritual community within the First Day School for families with children and teens, to strengthen links between our youth of all ages through coordinated curriculum and activities, and to nurture First Day School's integration into the Meeting at large.

#### **Committee Membership**

Kathleen McNeil remains the clerk of the committee. Leslie Rountree also continues in her duties as the FDS Coordinator. We welcomed Sean Chen to our committee this year as we said good-bye to Andrea Wuerth. Eloise Grathwohl, Meredith Tomlinson, Jochen Wachter, Bill McDonnell, Lauren Hart, Wren Hendrickson, and Kathleen McNeil continue on the committee, with Leslie Rountree serving in an ex officio capacity.

#### **First Day School Curriculum**

Since our last official report, we have finished both a spring and a fall semester. There are four classes within the First Day School: the pre-K pod for children ages 3 through 5, the K-2nd grade pod, the 3rd-5th grade pod, and the teen group. We have been blessed with wonderful, dedicated teachers in each pod who provide continuity, consistency, and creative energy for our young people. Current teachers include (for pre-K): Nancy Martin, Eloise Grathwohl, Lauren Hart, and Allie Scales (for K-2nd grade): Wendy Richesin-Dodd, Margot Stern, Jasmine McKewen, and Cecilia Carver-King; and (for 3rd-5th grade): Kathleen McNeil, Herbert Struemper, and Mark Hulbert. The teens are lead by John "the Quaker" Hite, Leslie Rountree, and Andrea Wuerth. The younger three groups continue to follow a tried but true curriculum format throughout the academic school year: the first twelve weeks cover Quaker testimonies and history; late November through the New Year brings community building and outreach activities revolving around the holidays; beginning in early January, twelve more weeks cover the Old or New Testament (2012 was Old Testament); lastly, in the remaining twelve weeks the children learn about world religions. Each pod tailors these themes with lessons and activities appropriate to the ages of their students. Many teachers continue to incorporate the Godly Play or Faith and Play stories in the Quaker or biblical units; we have had guest speakers from other faiths (Islam, Judaism, and Buddhism) come to talk to the students about their beliefs during the multicultural unit. The highlight of the year had to be the fabulous Old-Testament Field day planned and directed by Leslie Rountree. The teens discuss issues, participate in service projects, express themselves through art, music, and video, and work together to raise money both for the meeting (game parking) and for causes they believe in (through the alternative gift mart).

#### **Field Trips**

Two years ago, we decided to initiate visits, or "field trips" to other religious communities as part of our study of world religions. In spring of 2012, we visited the beautiful Won-Buddist Meditation Temple in Chapel Hill. Many thanks to Meredith

Tomlinson for arranging the tour for our FDS students, teachers, and parents. This excellent, thought-provoking experience, gave the children a full-body movement experience, and many expressed a desire to return to the temple.

### **Teacher Inspiration**

Last February, Leslie Rountree led a teacher retreat for FD teachers. She shared some published materials, helped everyone learn about available resources within our curriculum library, and gave the teachers time to share lesson and activity ideas. We are planning to have another teacher retreat this February. We are grateful for Leslie's hard work and dedication. Indeed, we are grateful for the dedication of all our teachers as well as the joy and passion these young people bring into our lives.

### **Holiday Activities**

During the holiday season in 2012, FDS children delighted in making handmade ornaments for a Christmas tree in the multipurpose room. We also made and wrote cards to shut-ins and prison inmates, and rehearsed and presented a Nativity play for the Meeting's annual holiday party. We were particularly pleased to have the teens lead our audience in the carols that served as a joyful accompaniment to the play. On First Day prior to Christmas, several children went caroling at Carol Woods Retirement Community and sang to resident Meeting members, staff, and anyone who wanted to stop and listen. Kudos go to teen, Michael Grathwohl, who accompanied us on guitar for the entire outing. This was our third year caroling, and we plan on continuing the tradition. The teens once again sponsored the alternative gift mart, bringing in close to \$3,000 to contribute to Quaker House, Interfaith Council, Heifer International, Amnesty International, and other worthy projects. Finally, Tom Munk headed up several intergenerational game days, some of which were held during FDS. As always, these were a favorite with all ages. (Additionally, in the spring we held our annual Easter egg hunt, which pairs older and younger children in both dyeing eggs and hiding them from one another.)

### **Summer Activities**

During the summer, Friends who are not FDS teachers are invited to lead classes for children of all ages. The purpose is twofold: it gives our regular FDS teachers a much-needed break, and it introduces to Meeting members an opportunity to share their passions and interests, and to have fun with our wonderful children. Last summer, volunteer teachers offered game playing, nature walks, crafts, cooking, and storytelling. Thanks to Kathleen and Leslie's organizational efforts, we were able to find plenty of volunteers to lead these classes. We are extremely grateful to all Friends who participated. In addition, the FDS planned a camping trip for all families in the meeting in Grayson Highlands Virginia in August. Six families were able to attend and were rewarded with a meteor shower!

### **Nursery Care**

UNC student and CFS Early School staffer, Brittany Allen, provides loving childcare to the youngest Meeting attendees in our nursery. Our recent steps to ensure consistent coverage have made nursery care more available for both Forum and Meeting for Business.

### **Additional Fellowship Activities**

In both spring and fall semesters, our middle school students continued our newly found tradition of going on retreats at the Ringwalt cabin at Hyco Lake. 8-10 youth and two-



three chaperones spent two weekends enjoying nature, quiet and fellowship together. Also, we organized a kick-off family picnic after the rise of Meeting at the return of FDS classes in the fall. CRE/YRE remains dedicated to integrating the youth and families into the larger Meeting community. In that spirit, the youth lead two forums: one a Godly Play Story and one a game called Consensus or Testimony building. By conducting these on the floor and inviting the adults to participate as if they were FDS students, the children were really able to interact with the adults and share some of their perspectives and experiences. These activities brought a bit of levity to a usually rather serious gathering. Another wonderfully inter-generational activity has been the teens interviewing (on video) members of the meeting. They have been working on this project since last May and are uncertain as to the exact "release date." This has been a wonderful opportunity for the meeting members who are no longer or never involved in the FDS to come and interact with our youth.

### **The Year Ahead**

We will continue to make a special effort to integrate our young people into the life of the meeting as well as to integrate our adult members into the lives of our youth. We would be very grateful to see more adult members without children in FDS attend our potlucks, outings, and activities. The teens will be showing a trailer of sorts of their video at the state of the meeting event, and will be presenting more of their material at a forum later in the spring.

In summary, the Young People's Religious Education Committee strives to foster spiritual nourishment, friendship and fellowship among our Meeting's youth and members, and to deepen the connection and sense of belonging between these young attendees, their families, and the Meeting at large. We look forward to the joy the children bring to the Meeting, and to the lessons they teach us.

Respectfully submitted by the CRE/YRE committee:

Eloise Grathwohl, Lauren Hart, Wren Hendrickson, Bill McDonnell, Kathleen McNeil (clerk), Leslie Rountree (ex officio), Meredith Tomlinson, Jochen Wachter, John Hite, and Sean Chen.

### **Proposed Letter to Senators Hagan and Burr**

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_,

There is no longer a question that rapid climate change is a threat to human life, as well as the lives of the other species with which we share our fragile planetary ecosystem. The congressionally mandated National Climate Assessment draft report confirms what many of us have already observed - the climate is changing. This report, compiled by a large number of notable U.S. scientists, evaluates and interprets the vast amount of information available about climate change and its impacts across the U.S. As a faith community, we are called to recognize and reverse humankind's contribution to climate change.

We ask you to make action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions a top priority for your office in the next year. Can you please let us know what legislation you plan to introduce or support in the Senate this year to address this concern?

The Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends,  
Carolyn White, clerk  
Tom Munk, clerk, Environmental Concerns Committee

## **Minute from the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

February 17, 2013

We note our gratitude to Ben Pink Dandelion for the direction and inspiration his work and his presence provided for our Meeting during our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Our year was enriched by studying three of Ben's pamphlets from February through October. His thoughts stimulated our reflections as we evaluated where our Meeting is and where we want to go. The journey culminated in Ben's seminar in November.

Ben, you engaged us in your writings; your presence inspired us. And now we're ready to engage with a new query about inclusion of diversity and our youth in our Meeting. We remain energized from our engagement with you.

We send this minute with great gratitude.

Carolyn White  
Clerk  
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## **Nature's Silences**

by Dirk Kelder

Nature speaks to us with its silences.  
Just as we read between the lines,  
Between the sounds of nature there are  
Silences filled with messages:

Messages that speak to our soul  
Of things long past and into the future,  
But mostly of what the present holds for us  
Of its possibilities, patiently waiting for us to hear.

Nature's silences resonate deep within me;  
My inner self responds by perking up its ears  
To listen and pay attention to my own inner silences  
That have long been longing to be heard.

## **Directory Updates**

Due to privacy concerns, directory updates will not be included in the newsletter. Directory updates are posted on the bulletin board in the Meetinghouse foyer. If you are unable to get to the Meetinghouse, email [directory@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:directory@chapelhillfriends.org) or call Emily Buehler for a copy of current updates.

# Calendar

*(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)*

Sun. 3/3 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Radical Simplicity  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
12:30pm Potluck & IFC donations  
Tue. 3/5 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins  
Thurs. 3/7 9am-1pm CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter  
Fri. 3/8 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

**\*\*Daylight Savings Time Begins 3/9-3/10 - set clocks ahead 1 hour\*\***

Sun. 3/10 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: The Care Relationship  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
7-8pm Meeting for Worship at OCC (see page 4)  
Tue. 3/12 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins  
Fri. 3/15 5-6pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd  
Fri. 3/15 - Sun. 3/17 Piedmont Friends Fellowship Annual Retreat (see page 4)

Sun. 3/17 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Needing Each Other (see page 2)  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
noon Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness - Schoolhouse  
Tue. 3/19 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins  
Fri. 3/22 5-6pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

Sun. 3/24 8am Meetinghouse open for worship  
8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
**9:00am Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business**  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
12:30pm Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse  
Fri. 3/29 5-6pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

Sun. 3/31 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Ruth Zalph reports  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
10pm Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!  
Tue. 4/2 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins

Thur. 4/4	9am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 4/5	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sat. 4/6	1:30-4pm	Workshop with Richard Barnes - Schoolhouse (see page 2)
<b>Sun. 4/7</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Richard Barnes
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**  
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 929-5377

Meetings for Worship at 8:30 and 11:00am  
Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30am-12:15pm  
First Day School from 11:15am-12:00pm  
Clerk of the Meeting: Carolyn White (919) 967-4926  
Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

- Newsletter. This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. Paper copies are available at the Meetinghouse and a PDF is posted on the Meeting website, [www.chapelhillfriends.org](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org). The deadline for submissions is 10pm on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org) or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756. Please include "newsletter" in the subject line.
- Listserv. To send a news or "In the Light" announcement on the Meeting listserv, contact [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Please include "listserv" or "in the light" in the subject line. This listserv goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the listserv at [www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html).
- Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).