

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

April, 2014



## Monthly Query:

*How do I make my home a place of friendliness, peace, and renewal, where God is real for those who live there and those who visit?*

## Contents:

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee .....	1
Upcoming Forum Schedule .....	2
IFC News: Groundbreaking Ceremony and more .....	2
Freedom Fund Banquet.....	2
Celebrating the Earth as Sacred Community .....	3
Friends & Family of Those with Mental Health Concerns .....	3
Stephen Zunes to Speak on Nonviolence .....	3
What are the kids up to?? .....	4
This I Believe, Quaker Style .....	5
FGC financial assistance for 2014?.....	5
Quaker House Alternative to Violence Project Training .....	5
Report from Fathers' Day at OCC .....	5
Shout Out to Quaker House at PopularResistance.org .....	7
Tending Your Relationship .....	7
Calling for Book Reviews.....	8
Directory Updates .....	8
<b>Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business .....</b>	<b>9</b>
(Benevolences, Carl Hintz CO letter, Archives, Hospitality AR, Changing Bylaws, more OCC services, ARE's FCGC benevolence, P&R name change)	
Calendar .....	15

## Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

"Let us see what love can do." William Penn

## Upcoming Forum Schedule

### **April 6: IFC: The Food Pantry** (one of the four missions of IFC)

What are we doing now and is there more that we could be doing? Karen Merrey and other IFC staff will be here to answer your questions.

### **April 13: A Private Path to Higher Education for Undocumented Students**

Nancy Milio will introduce the founding head of The Tomorrow Fund for Hispanic Students. She will describe how she came to start the Fund and what has been done for students and their families.

### **April 27: Love is the First Motion**

When conflicts arise in our Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business, how do we deal with them? What happens when individuals suffer hurt feelings, or go away bruised and feeling "not a part of the whole"? How can we make this conflict transformational?

## IFC News: Groundbreaking Ceremony and more

You are invited to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the New Community House on Monday, May 5, 2014 8:00 am at 1315 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Continental Breakfast immediately following the ceremony. Please RSVP by April 28th at [www.ifcweb.org/rsvp](http://www.ifcweb.org/rsvp) or 919.929.6380 x15. Parking will be available at United Church, Orange United Methodist Church (rear lot only), and the UNC parking lot adjacent to the site off Homestead Road.

### **Updates on the new building:**

IFC has received a gift of \$1,000,000, bringing the total raised to \$5.3 million out of the 5.76 million needed. This amount includes paying off the mortgage on the Douglas Building (110 West Main Street, Carrboro) as well as furnishings for the new men's shelter as well as the construction. There are several outstanding applications for funding, and UNC Health Care has pledged to give \$100,000 at the time of the groundbreaking.

Concerning new construction on the site of the Douglas Building, the IFC has started the process of getting Carrboro to amend its Land Use Ordinance to accommodate IFC's plans to have all its food services, i.e. the Food Pantry and the Community Kitchen, at one location. The new mayor of Carrboro is amenable. Lawyers are working out the details. The new men's shelter will have its own cooking arrangements separate from the Community Kitchen.

### **April canned good: canned fruit**

## Freedom Fund Banquet

Tickets for the banquet are on sale before April 26. The featured speaker for the evening will be Rev. William Barber, President of the State NAACP, and there will be plenty of good food. No tickets will be sold at the door. The banquet will be held on Friday, May 2, 2014 from 6-9pm at the Friday Center. For more information, contact Ruth Zalph.

## **Celebrating the Earth as Sacred Community**

An idea for transformation and new directions of the Environmental Concerns Committee--  
Maybe even a new name: Earth Celebration Committee

Finding a balance in our Meeting Community between working on difficult issues and ways of celebrating the wonder and fun of connecting with Nature and each other...

The ECC, over its young life, has done much good work. We have encouraged the Meeting to plant an edible garden in the playground, start composting our garbage, to make renovations in our Meeting House environmentally sustainable. We have invited members to measure our carbon footprints, recycle our unused items, and minimize energy use in our homes and travel. We have presented films on mountaintop removal, energy use and fracking, and offered suppers of locally grown food. But our global problems are so immense, so overwhelming that we burn out and drop away.

Now may be the time to offer the Meeting some more positive energy, creative activities that nurture us, energize us, bring us together for more play. We humans depend on the natural world not only for our lives. but also for our source of inspiration and wonder. Now is a crisis time when we can play our part in healing the earth. Is this a worthwhile direction to consider? Contact Jennifer Leeman, Clerk of the nominating committee to let her know you want to help with this new adventure.

Dirk Spruyt, Perry Martin, Tom Smith

## **Friends & Family of Those with Mental Health Concerns**

We meet for potluck the 4th Sunday of the month. All Meeting members and attenders are welcome to join us. Upcoming program: We will next meet April 27 for a program on the effects of solitary confinement on mental health.

Questions? contact Alice Carlton at (919) 641-5507 or [amberalice@mindspring.com](mailto:amberalice@mindspring.com).

## **Stephen Zunes to Speak on Nonviolence**

Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 pm at the Carol Woods Fitness Center: Stephen Zunes, Professor of Politics and International Studies at University of San Francisco (SFU), will speak on "The Role of Strategic Nonviolent Action in Global Democratization." Steve is a graduate of Carolina Friends School and a former student of CHFM member Bettie Flash. A strong advocate of nonviolence, Steve was involved in the development organizations to establish democracy in Serbia. Steve serves as coordinator of program in Middle Eastern Studies at SFU, as a senior policy analyst for Foreign Policy in Focus project of the Institute for Policy Studies, an associate editor of Peace Review, a contributing editor of Tikkun, and co-chair of the academic advisory committee for the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. See more about Stephen Zunes at <http://stephenzunes.org/>.

## What are the kids up to??

Here's an update on what's been going on and what's in the works with the CHFM First Day School, from Leslie Rountree, our First Day School Coordinator.

### **Saturday, April 12, 5 pm: First Day School Family Potluck**

Come join in the bedlam at our First Day School family potluck! Leslie Rountree, David, Grace and Henry Schneider invite you (and your food!) to their home. Child-friendly and/or allergy-sensitive dishes are encouraged. Hopefully the weather will be nice and we can enjoy the big porch. Please come! Details to follow.

### April 13: Old Testament Field Day

It's back, and it's wackier than ever!!! To celebrate the recent completion of our unit on the Old Testament, we're cutting loose with crazy fun and games on a (hopefully) beautiful spring day. Come smite the giant, run the 10 Commandments obstacle course or the Ruth and Naomi three-legged race, (arm) wrestle an angel or nosh at the Garden of Eden snack station. We also have some spiffy new games as well this year! Parents: please have your children wear appropriate dress for running around and (potentially) getting messy. If you'd like to volunteer for this insanity, Leslie is looking for adults to help set up early that morning and/or man the stations. Please let her know as soon as possible.

### April 20: Easter Eggstravaganza

It's time for our annual Egg Dyeing and Hunt Eggstravaganza! Each year we pair the wee-est of the wee ones to the taller-than-trees ones, then the kids work together to dye Easter Eggs and hide them from their partner. Bring a camera!

### April 25-27: SAYF retreat, Celo, NC - Arthur Morgan School

The next retreat of the Southern Appalachian Young Friends will be at Celo's Arthur Morgan School. The program will be provided by Celo Young Friends. Teens in 7th through 12th grade are eligible to participate, and scholarship funds are available. For more info contact CHFM's SAYF coordinator, Margot Stern at [margot@mstern.com](mailto:margot@mstern.com). For more info about SAYF, visit their website [www.awesomesayfers.org](http://www.awesomesayfers.org).

### Coming in May

#### May 9-11: Teen retreat at the beach

Catherine Elkins has graciously invited our group to use her beach house this weekend for a retreat. Details to come!

#### TBA: Multicultural Field Trip

The entire FDS will visit a faith community one morning. More to come soon.

If you have any questions, just ask Leslie. As always, thanks to her and all of the dedicated First Day School teachers for their heroic efforts on behalf of our children!

## **This I Believe, Quaker Style**

April 10, May 8, June 12

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting is a gathering of people who have diverse beliefs, practices, and experiences about what is spiritual, about “God,” and about the “Light.” However, most of us can only guess, or really don’t know much, about the spiritual beliefs and practices of one another. We are creating an opportunity to begin conversations with each other in a safe and non-judgmental environment in the Meetinghouse. We will begin with worship, then a Query which those attending can discuss in small groups and end with worship sharing, leaving space for any vocal ministry resulting from your time in groups. We hope you can join us for this ongoing journey, meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Contact Jan Hutton (919-967-1959), Pat Mann (919-489-1802) or Robin Harper (919-768-9870) if you have questions.

## **FGC financial assistance for 2014?**

The Shotts Memorial and Leadership Development Committee would like to know if any members and attenders will be seeking financial assistance to attend Friends General Gathering (FGC) this year near Pittsburgh, PA: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering> . Registration begins the first of April. As Committee members, we want to be good stewards of our available funds, so knowing how many may people may request support would be helpful to us. Please see our page on the CHFM site for more info: <http://chapelhillfriends.org/ShottsLeadershipFunds.html> and then let me know if you're considering this: [janhutton@earthlink.net](mailto:janhutton@earthlink.net)

By the way, the 2015 FGC will be in Cullowhee, NC at Western Carolina University.

## **Quaker House Alternative to Violence Project Training**

Quaker House will be sponsoring a series of Alternative to Violence Project (AVP) training sessions including a Basic Course (Apr 4-6), an Advanced Workshop (Apr 25-27), and a Training for Facilitators (May 30-June 1). AVP is a training program enabling participants to deal with potentially violent situations in new and creative ways. If interested or if you want more information, contact Lynn Newsom at [qpr@quaker.org](mailto:qpr@quaker.org) or call her at 910-323-3912. Register early before space becomes limited.

## **Report from Fathers’ Day at OCC**

Melissa Radcliffe, Executive Director of Our Children's Place and chair of the pre-release committee at OCC, has written a wonderful piece about the last Fathers' Day at the prison. A number of our own members and attenders participated in this activity, as well as people active with Our Children's Place. To read the article, go to <http://www.ncreading.org/parent-day/> or see below.

To read more about the work of Our Children's Place, go to <http://ourchildrensplace.com/>

Part of the work that Melissa and Our Children's Place are involved with is the issue of children and families of incarcerated men and women.

“Yes, we have markers!”

By Melissa Radcliff

“Do you have markers,” the child asked a volunteer. “I want my dad to write a message in my books.” As the word spread, other children asked their fathers to do the same.

An event at the library, a parent and child program at school, story time at the bookstore? No, it was Parent Day at a minimum security men’s prison. Children enjoyed time with their fathers assembling and painting coin banks and games, making greeting cards, playing board games, watching a Sesame Street DVD (with a new Muppet, Alex, whose father is in jail), eating a yummy lunch (prepared by men from the prison’s cook school), having their pictures taken, playing intense games of corn hole toss, talking, laughing, crying, and more – exploring books together.

They chose books from a table overflowing with donations from community members. Some of the more precocious children actually sat and read with their fathers. All took a collection of books home with them, with the messages inside a reminder of their day together.

Having books available and free is intentional. We encouraged the children and their fathers to spend time looking at the books together, opening the covers, flipping through the pages, talking about the books. By doing this fathers learn more about their children and what their interests are. Sometimes conversation came more easily when there was a book to share.

Having the books available creates an opportunity for community members and organizations to be part of these special days, to support relationships between children and their incarcerated parents, and to emphasize the importance of literacy even when a parent is incarcerated.

Having books at Parent Day put literacy on equal footing with crafts, board games, and corn hole toss, and gave fathers the chance to show children the value of reading.

Having books there means that children can proudly practice reading and show their fathers how well they read. Unfortunately for children separated from their parents due to incarceration, those chances are few and far between.

Having books there reminds the men of the importance literacy plays in the lives of their families.

Having books there also raised questions. How do fathers who are unable to read handle that part of Parent Day? How do fathers encourage reading beyond Parent Day when they aren’t in the home? Are there other adults in a child’s life who can fill this role? Can incarcerated parents talk about books during phone calls and visiting days and when they write letters home?

Yes, we do have markers! And a continued commitment to creating reading and book experiences for children of incarcerated parents and their mother and fathers.



Melissa Radcliff is the executive director of Our Children's Place, an agency focused on raising awareness about children of incarcerated parents. The agency works to coordinate Parent Day. She can be reached at [ourchildrensplace@gmail.com](mailto:ourchildrensplace@gmail.com).

## Shout Out to Quaker House at PopularResistance.org

“Remarkably, the U.S. Army War College has published a report ([PDF](#)) that makes an overwhelming case against enlisting in the U.S. Army. The report, called “[Civilian Organizational Inhibitors to U.S. Army Recruiting and the Road Ahead](#),” identifies counter-recruitment organizations that effectively discourage young people from joining the military. “This is the highest honor the Army could give these groups, including Quaker House, the Mennonite Central Committee, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Veterans For Peace, and Courage to Resist. Activists often disbelieve in the effectiveness of their own work until the government admits it explicitly. Well, here is that admission. And counter-recruitment activists [really](#) do [seem](#) to [appreciate](#) it.”

Read the whole article here:

<http://www.popularresistance.org/army-admits-counter-recruitment-works/>

## Tending Your Relationship

When was the last time you took time out to tend your relationship? How do we witness to our testimonies of peace, equality, and community in our relationships? Do we seek the Divine in our relationships and why does it matter?

If these questions pique your interest then time out with your beloved to explore them at this event, offered under the care of the Couple Enrichment program of Friends General Conference and with the support of the Durham Friends Meeting:

A contemplative retreat (Friday dinner –Sunday lunch), May 9-11, Montreat, NC (near Asheville) (\$300 per couple, \$15 discount for registration before April 1)

Facilitated by Mike and Marsha Green, trained leaders in the FGC-CE program since 1998, this event will deepen intimacy, identify areas of growth, and develop listening skills in a safe and loving setting. The event is open to any couple in a committed relationship, regardless of legal status. In both events, couples will worship and work together individually and in small groups. The longer retreat in May will include opportunities to rest and rejuvenate in the beauty of a mountain setting, as well as times to share deeply with your partner.

More details on the May 9-11 weekend retreat available at [http://bit.ly/CoupleEnrichment\\_Montreat](http://bit.ly/CoupleEnrichment_Montreat)

For more about FGC-Couple Enrichment, visit [www.fgcquaker.org/services/participate-couple-enrichment-event](http://www.fgcquaker.org/services/participate-couple-enrichment-event) or email Mike and Marsha at [marshaquaker@gmail.com](mailto:marshaquaker@gmail.com).

## Calling for Book Reviews

Have you read an inspiring book from the Meeting library lately? Or have you read a book we don't have in the library that you feel would be worthwhile to have in the collection? The Library committee would like to invite members and attenders to consider writing brief book reviews for the newsletter. Share the insight or inspiration you received from your readings. Please send a copy of your review to the library committee as well at [library@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:library@chapelhillfriends.org). We are always looking for suggestions for new books to add to our library. Thank you. The Library Committee

## 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.

The 2014 directory will be printed in July. Electronic copies are available.



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

**March 16, 2014**

**Minutes**

**Tom Munk, clerk; Robin Harper, recording clerk**

**Worship and query:** *How do I identify, develop, and use my particular gifts for the good of all?*

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

There were no first time attenders.

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

*Approved.*

**3. Proposed benevolences for 2013-14, for approval—Dottie Heninger**

Ministry & Worship Committee proposes the same budget figures, totaling \$1400, as last year for their benevolences. The figures are:

Friends General Conference:	\$600
Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns:	100
Friends Journal:	200
Piedmont Friends Fellowship:	300
School of the Spirit:	200
Total:	<u>\$1400</u>

The only change made to the Benevolence descriptions that were published last month is under the description of the Carolina Friends School: "This school year, CFS is running a three-unit training in Quaker clerking for staff; and will offer a course in Quaker Advocacy in our Lower School, which will include attending the Friends Committee on National Legislation's Spring Lobby Weekend in Washington, DC." In this paragraph, "Upper" was changed to "Lower."

Matt Drake reminded Friends that Carolina Friends School contributes to our Meeting in the form of building maintenance on the schoolhouse. Last year their contribution took the form of the addition to the schoolhouse building, which was the goal of their \$80,000 capital campaign.

*Friends approved the proposed benevolences.*

**4. Annual report from the Peace and Justice Committee—Naveed Moeed (Postponed)**

**5. Proposed Burma-Shave-style message boards in front of Meetinghouse—Naveed Moeed (Postponed)**

**6. Annual report from the Environmental Concerns Committee—Ryan Jarrell (Postponed)**

**7. Conscientious Objector Letter—Carl Hintz (Attached)**

Friends thanked Carl for the gift of his careful and thoughtful commitment to a life of peace, for his inspiration to us as Friends and individuals, for distilling what is the essence of our Quaker faith, for approaching the problem of creating peace both spiritually and practically (the need to work with the existing systems), for truly embodying the values he espouses, and for the power of his letter. John Hite talked about witnessing Carl living his beliefs on a daily basis at CHHS, by helping other students. There was praise for the atypical "assumptions" Carl mentioned in his letter, that he brings any time he meets new people. We all felt proud that we have made our Meeting a place that encourages this kind of growth and ability to articulate such beliefs, and at the same time were humbled by this letter. Carl's mother

Margaret Vimmerstedt spoke to his forging his own path, and his parents' love and support for him in all his endeavors. She reminded us all that, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

The Meeting's support goes with him as he heads off to college and into the world. We will keep a copy of his letter in our archives, if it is ever needed. It was signed and witnessed by two of our trustees, Bettie Flash and Emilie Condon, and will be kept in our Library's lock box.

Emilie reminded Carl of his remaining tasks, such as mailing a copy of the letter to himself. He will be in touch with Curt Torell to find out all he needs to do to complete this process.

*We accepted Carl's letter with great thanks.*

#### **8. Archives Committee Requesting Boxes—Robin Harper**

Robin reminded Friends of the work the committee is doing to cull and preserve important documents for the Meeting. In order to slow deterioration of the papers, the committee is requesting funds to purchase archival, acid-free boxes. She recommended five 12" x 12" x 6" boxes, which will cost about \$100 plus shipping.

*The Meeting approved using the contingency fund to buy the boxes.*

#### **9. Annual report from the Hospitality Committee—Alice Carlton (Attached)**

Friends spoke to the difference Hospitality has made in our Meeting, in offering a warm welcome to visitors and attenders alike.

Alice requested guidance with the Thanksgiving potluck, because it has been poorly attended the last couple of years. In the past it had been led by the Greens, as more of a family event with Hospitality's assistance. Friends suggested it might be better if it came about this way, as a family or families are led to host it.

*The report was received with thanks.*

#### **7. Change to Bylaws for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting—Matt Drake**

A modification of the language in our bylaws was presented last month. The goal is to more clearly and succinctly define our "board of directors." It was proposed that Dottie Heninger, Buffie Webber, Hank Elkins, Pat Mann, Matt Drake, and trustee Bettie Flash form an ad-hoc committee to discuss and bring a recommendation next month. Matt Drake will convene this group.

*Friends approved this proposal.*

#### **8. Proposal for more meetings for worship at OCC—Hank Elkins and Dottie Heninger**

Currently, we have occasional opportunities to sponsor Meetings for Worship at OCC. A petition to have more opportunities for Quaker worship, circulated by the residents of OCC themselves, has encouraged the Transition and Support Committee to request more frequent Meetings for Worship there. Richard Miller met with Chaplain Nichol at OCC, and there is definitely a desire to have more frequent and regular Quaker meetings for worship.

In response to questions raised, Richard said that training would not be required to attend these meetings for worship, unlike attendance at Yoke Fellows. All that is needed is that your name be put on the attending list a few days ahead of time. Friends can do this by contacting Richard.

Based on his experience volunteering at Sing Sing prison, Hank believes that intensive support opportunities such as offering college courses cannot be successful with the few passes that are currently allowed for the men to attend our Sunday meetings.

*As a result of the interest in and request made by 26 residents at OCC, we approved the following minute: CHFM proposes holding more frequent and regular Quaker worship services at OCC.*

CHFM requested that Tom, our clerk; Emilie Condon and/or Bettie Flash, our trustees; Hank Elkins, Richard Miller, and Tom McQuiston, of the Transition & Support Committee; Dottie Heninger, of Ministry

& Worship; and any interested others meet with Dave Nichol, the OCC chaplain, to make a formal request. Hank will convene.

Men from OCC attending today's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business spoke to the need for the support, non-judgment, and simple peace and quiet that are key parts of Quaker worship. One man said, "It really means a lot. I've been coming for a while, and the more I sat, the more I started thinking. I need it." All of the men expressed great appreciation to us.

#### **9. ARE proposes keeping the benevolence to FCGC as is (\$125)—Wendy Michener**

More information was requested on the Friends Center at Guilford College. Wendy Michener described the center as existing specifically for Quakers and those interested in Quakerism who wish to be involved in Quakerly activities. Some examples include Max Carter's tour of the New Garden Friends cemetery, where a Revolutionary War battle was being re-enacted. Young Friends there now also re-enact the Quaker role in that battle, which was to care for the wounded from both sides. FCGC also offers a Quaker Leadership Development program, which was attended by our own Stuart Ringwalt and James Bartow. More can be learned at [FriendsCenterGuilfordCollege](#).

*Friends approved maintaining last year's benevolence to FCGC.*

#### **10. Publications and Records Committee proposes changing its name to Publications and Communications—Robin Harper**

The recently formed Archives Committee has taken on the record-keeping duties formerly assigned to the Publications and Records Committee. Therefore, P&R would like to change its name to reflect its current duties more accurately. Its current duties still include old-fashioned publications such as the newsletter and directory. They also include new methods of publication, which might also be seen as communication platforms, such as the listserv and website. Therefore the committee proposes changing its name to the Publications and Communications Committee.

*Approved.*

#### **11. Announcements**

- On April 8 at Carol Woods at 7:30pm, Stephen Zunes, graduate of CFS and professor at the University of San Francisco Center for Middle Eastern Studies, will speak on "Non-Violence and Organization for Establishing Democracies."
- March 22 is the Crop Walk, and it's not too late to walk or support walkers!
- Joyful announcement that a resident at OCC recently received his GRE! And a reminder that volunteer tutors are needed at OCC.
- 2014 Directories are available electronically. To get a directory, email [directory@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:directory@chapelhillfriends.org). If you do not have access to a computer, please contact Publications and Records.
- The Nominations Committee has begun its cycle for the coming year. Contact one of the members of the committee if you feel a leading for a particular area of service. The Environmental Concerns Committee is in particular need.
- Jimmy Farris and Amber Sneed will be married after the manner of Friends on May 3 here in the meetinghouse. A CHFM clearness committee met with them; all are welcome to attend.
- April 5 is the Compassionate Listening workshop. Sign up with Jan Hutton, Naveed Moed, or Lynn Drake. Advanced registration is required.
- March 22 is the Spiritual State of the Meeting meeting. There will be refreshments beginning at 8:30; the meeting starts at 9:00 and will be over by 12:00.
- Newcomers' Lunch on Sunday, March 23, at the rise of late meeting. If you are a relative newcomer or recent visitor to Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, please join us! The Hospitality Committee will provide a light lunch and beverages. All are welcome—new, old and in-between. Old-timers and especially those walking in the CROP Walk, please bring savory finger food or sweets to share! If you have questions, contact Alice Carlton.

- Although we are delighted at the increased attendance at potluck on First Sundays, we are concerned to notice we have come close to running out of food the last two months. The Hospitality Committee asks that you please remember to bring an extra-large dish to future potlucks so we can have plenty to share.
- The Clerk received a letter from Ann Fong at the Honolulu Friends Meeting. She is looking for Bob and Winifred Simmons. Speak to Tom afterward if you have ideas about where they may be living now.

## **Worship and Greeting**

**Attending:** Perry Martin, Dirk Spruyt, Max Drake, Marilyn A. Dyer, Ruth Zalph, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Jennifer Leeman, Richard Miller, Ken Grogan, Naveed Moeed, Margaret Vimmerstedt, Loren Hintz, Carl Hintz, Larry Tabor, Carolyn Stuart, Julia Cleaver, Nancy Elkins, Hank Elkins, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, John Hite, Emilie Condon, David Curtin, Alice Carlton, Bettie Flash, Kenneth Peaks, Joyce Munk, Paul Munk, Kerry Parkmore, Leslie Rountree, Grace Schneider, Henry Schneider, Tom McQuiston

### **CARL HINTZ, CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR LETTER**

Tomorrow, March 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 I will turn 18 years old and will be required to register with the selective service. It feels unnerving and disturbing to me that young men my age can be called by the draft to fight in war, to risk their own life and to take the lives of others.

For much of my life the US has been at war, but as a child war seemed distant and imaginary. Now, I have peers who will join the military. I would be considered eligible for the draft. I can imagine what it would be like to fight in a war. What would it be like to be ordered to shoot at another person? How helpless would it feel to know that I was responsible for someone's death? How could I fight in war?

I value human life. I'm amazed by the compassion humans can show. I'm fascinated by the curiosity and wonder with which we explore the world. I'm proud of what humans can create, invent and imagine. My moral framework is centered around my value for human life. I believe that by being nurturing towards others I can create a mutually beneficial future. How could I destroy the lives of humans when they give me meaning. How could I fight in a war?

I try to maintain a generosity of spirit. When I meet someone I make a certain set of assumptions; I assume that they are unique, they are interesting, they have value and they have made mistakes. I believe that if I listen to the needs of others then I can resolve conflict. How could I view other people as enemies if I recognize the uniqueness and humanness of individual people? How could I fight in a war?

I could not participate in a war of any kind. I love life too much. Not just my life, but human life in general. My conscience will not allow me to participate in War. I recognize that sometimes people need to use protective force in matters of self defense. I know that there is violence in this world, but I also know that there are empowering peaceful alternatives.

I was fortunate to grow up in a nurturing and peaceful environment, everyone deserves to feel safe, to feel loved. Growing up with friends meeting helped build my moral framework. I give my thanks to friends like Curt and John were there to listen to my thoughts.

My parents and the environment I grew up in played a large role in forming my views. Many of the folk songs we sang when I was a child had messages about peace. I remember the day before my seventh birthday was also the day before the US went to war in Iraq. My mom and I went to a peace vigil and sang, "Every man neath his vine and fig tree, shall live in peace and unafraid."

Music has always been important to me. When I was 13 I discovered a topical singer song-writer named Phil Ochs. His music and convictions influenced mine. Songs like "I ain't a marching any more." and "What are you fighting for?" gave a melody to my beliefs about violence and war.

I gained perspectives by reading about conflict and nonviolence. One book I read, "Beyond War", described from an anthropological perspective how humans are capable of resolving conflicts without war. Books like that expanded and impacted my thinking.

While I learned my beliefs and moral frameworks from my parents and my community, I want to be independently consistent and critical. I want to be able to discern for myself what is a productive way of looking at the world. To some extent I have been freely able to introspect on my own thoughts and values and decide how they fit together with the world. I try to test my moral frameworks and values against other philosophies and systems of thinking.

One perspective I find useful as a test of moral decision making is to ask whether an action is Universalizable. What would the outcome be if everyone took a certain action or if everyone used a certain decision making strategy? Fighting in a war is not universalizable: at the extreme, in a war in which everyone fought, everyone would die. In contrast if everyone refused to fight in a war, there would be no war.

There are many sides to human nature. I focus on the nurturing and caring side of human nature, because I believe it is possible to amplify and encourage those characteristics. It is true that humans are capable of both wonder and of atrocity. By being nurturing towards other people, by providing people with positive ways to fulfill their needs, and by providing the resources and infrastructure for nonviolent conflict resolution it is possible to lessen the likelihood of violence among individuals and among nations.

Central to my being is that I value life and I am optimistic of other humans. I could not fight in a war. Both economically and socially I will avoid contributing to war. I wish to help humans have a better chance. I want to build, create and imagine because there is so much more that is possible.

### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 2014**

The Hospitality Committee's mission is to create a welcoming and supportive atmosphere within our Meeting. To that end, we manage the potluck lunch on the first Sunday of each month, schedule greeters before the 11 am Meeting for Worship, welcome visitors and newcomers to our Meeting, assist with special occasions such as holiday parties, weddings, and memorial services, and work with the Care and Counsel Committee to provide meals for members

**Potlucks:** Committee members oversee potlucks on the first Sunday of each month following the 11 am

Meeting for Worship. We are grateful for help with set up and clean up which seems readily available. We keep track of and purchase supplies such as lemonade mix, utensils, etc. We follow the detailed checklist for clean up requested by the director of the CFS Early School. The list is posted in the kitchen for any Friends who use the space.

**Greeters:** Committee members take turns as greeters for the 11 am Meeting for Worship. They welcome

people into the meetinghouse, giving special attention to visitors who are invited to sign the guest book, make a name tag, and given written material to help orient them to worship. Greeters also acquaint visitors with children to the options for childcare and First Day School. Greeters arrive at the door at 10:45 am, ring the bell at 11 am to signal the beginning of worship, and guide latecomers to wait in the library until the children leave at 11:15 am.

**Visitors and Newcomers:** Hospitality has begun hosting Fellowship after Meeting to foster community and give visitors and newcomers an easy way to meet more of us. The scheduled greeter brings a plate of

something enticing to the library and we keep extra cookies and snacks on hand to supplement that offering.

Fellowship has been well received. We hosted a newcomers lunch in November but had low attendance. We will host a newcomers lunch March

23 on the day of the CROP Walk, with a special invitation to walkers

as well as old-timers and in-between to join us. We did this last year with good attendance. We are also experimenting with

giving a special welcome to newcomers at our monthly potluck with a star on their name

tag to facilitate identification as a newcomer. Visitors who leave their mailing address also receive a handwritten note of welcome with a special invitation to the monthly potluck on the first Sunday. With Dave's help, Alice has created note cards with the photo of the Meetinghouse on the front. If they leave an email address, it is sent to publications to add to the listserv. We provide materials

for making name tags and urge

all members and attenders to remember to wear their name tags.

**Special Events:** Hospitality assisted Children's Religious Education Committee with the December 15 holiday party, organizing finger food and helping with set up and clean up. Hospitality has also in the past organized a potluck at Thanksgiving, although interest has recently declined and we did not do so in 2013. We intend to start earlier in the fall this year to see if there is interest and need for Friends to gather at the Meetinghouse at Thanksgiving. We also provided refreshments for the memorial service for Nick and Bob Gwyn on August 31, 2013.

**Care:** We collaborate with Care and Counsel to provide meals to members and attenders in need for extra support and invite everyone to volunteer in this effort as needed.

Respectfully submitted: Alice Carlton (convenor), Dave Curtin, Nancy Fisher, Jasmine McKewen, Karen Merrey, Wendy Michener, Stuart Phillips, Joanna Selim, Carolyn Stuart, and Buffie Webber.



# Calendar

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

<b>Sun. 4/6</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: The Food Pantry
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations
Tue. 4/8	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
	7:30pm	Stephen Zunes at Carol Woods (see page 3)
Thurs. 4/10	7-8:30pm	This I Believe, Quaker Style - Meetinghouse
Fri. 4/11	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sat. 4/12	5pm	FDS Family Potluck
<b>Sun. 4/13</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: A Private Path to Higher Ed. for Undocumented Students
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
Tue. 4/15	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 4/18	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
<b>Sun. 4/20</b>	8am	Meetinghouse open for worship
	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business</b>
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
Tue. 4/22	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 4/25	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Fri. 4/25-Sun. 4/27		SAYF Retreat in Celo (see page 4)
Fri. 4/25-Sun. 4/27		Alternatives to Violence Project Training (see page 5)
<b>Sun. 4/27</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Love is the First Motion
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	noon	Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness - Schoolhouse
	12:30pm	Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Thur. 5/1	9am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 5/2	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
	6-9pm	Freedom Fund Banquet (see page 2)
<b>Sun. 5/4</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: tba
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)

	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse
Mon. 5/5	8am	IFC Groundbreaking (see page 2)
Tue. 5/6	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Thurs. 5/8	7-8:30pm	This I Believe, Quaker Style - Meetinghouse
Fri. 5/9	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

**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: Tom Munk (919) 929-9135  
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).