

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter



August 2008

Monthly Query:

Are the Meeting's concerns and energies adequately directed toward correcting social, economic, and political injustices, and to lessening the divisions of race, financial resources, and opportunities?

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Forums

The newly established Summer Forums will finish on:

August 3 –The Meaning of Equality, presented by the Environmental Concerns Committee

August 10 – The Meaning of the Light Within

The new series of forums this coming academic year will start off with the theme of what it means to be a Quaker:

August 24 – “Why Quaker Membership”, a discussion of the reasons for membership, benefits, responsibilities, and impact on a spiritual community. Matt Drake, Judy Purvis, and Carolyn Stuart.

August 31 – “Connecting to the Larger Quaker Community”, understanding the broader Quaker fellowship in regional and national settings. Curt Torell, Mike Green.

September 7 – “Project Homeless Connect”, homelessness in Orange County. Jamie Rohe. (tentative)

September 14 – a personal sharing

September 28 – “Doin’ Time Through the Visiting Glass”, a play and discussion of how prisons affect families. Ashley Lucas.

Memorial Service for Ruffin Hobbs

August 3

The family of Ruffin Hobbs and his wife, Barbara Holt Hobbs, invite you to his memorial service to be held at McBane Mill this Sunday, August 3, at 2:00 pm. If you have questions, you can contact Louise Hobbs at 542-6162.

The directions to McBane Mill are:

From Chapel Hill: Turn right at the stop light on Jones Ferry Road west of town onto Old Greensboro Highway. Travel about 20 minutes until you are about a mile from Whitneys Crossroads. A group of new houses is on the left. Turn left on McBane Mill Road. Follow this as it goes down into the Cane Creek valley, and turn right onto McBane Mill Lane.

From I-85: turn south on #87. Go about 20 miles through Whitney’s Crossroads (yellow blinking light), and a couple of miles after that, take a left

onto Perry Road. McBane Mill Road turns left off of Perry Road after about a mile. Cross over the bridge of Cane Creek, and take a left on McBane Mill Lane.

Project Homeless Connect

August 3, September 7, and September 25

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one-stop event that provides a broad range of services to people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, including housing, employment, health and dental care, mental health care, veterans' and social service benefits, legal services, ID's, and more. Guests will also receive lunch and personal care gift bags, and are offered haircuts, showers, coats, and other clothing.

The event plans to serve 200-250 guests and have over 40 social service agencies participating. This event will be held on Thursday, September 25 from 10:00 - 5:00 at the Hargraves Community Center. It supports Orange County's Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

Volunteers can participate in a variety of ways including helping to plan PHC, preparing and serving food, escorting guests through the event, setting up and cleaning up. A wide variety of donations is also needed, from water bottles to personal care items and clothing. All ages can participate.

Please join Dottie Heninger Sunday, August 3rd at the rise of late meeting to see what we can do. Volunteers are needed! There is also a poster with more information in the lobby of the meeting house, and donation "sign up" sheets are available with lists of items needed. There will be a forum on September 7th about this event and the Ten Year Plan.

Memorial Service for Tom Perry

August 10

Tom Perry, a long-time member of our meeting, died on July 28th. A reception to honor him will be held in the social lounge at the Carol Woods Retirement Community on August 10, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. The obituary in the *News & Observer* notes that memorial contributions maybe made to the American Friends Service Committee, the Union of Concerned Scientists, or the Nature Conservancy.

Celebrate Carolyn Stuart!

August 17

All girls and women of all ages in the meeting are invited to celebrate Carolyn on Sunday afternoon, August 17th, 3:00 -5:00 in the meeting schoolhouse. Her wedding is approaching and we want to give her a party. Please bring your stories to share: stories of what your life as a girl/woman has been, what you've learned, what was funny or joyful. Or a poem, or whatever sharing you feel moved to bring. Please join us for a wonderful celebration!

Library Needs Computer

The Library Committee requests Meeting members/attenders who are upgrading their desktop PC computer system (Windows 2003 or newer) to consider donating it to the Library. The donation of a combination printer/scanner/copier (hp) would also be gratefully accepted. Having this equipment in the Library would help the committee work more efficiently. Please contact the Library Committee at: library@chapelhillfriends.org; or call Candace Kern: 919.942.1795.

Join us for the First Quarterly Meeting

September 4

In July, we approved the addition of Thursday night Quarterly Meetings to our usual schedule of monthly Sunday Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business. The first Quarterly Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4th, in the Meetinghouse. The purpose of these meetings is to extend the time we have to conduct business. The Thursday meetings will begin with silent worship followed by continued worship with attention to business. The clerk will send out an agenda for the Thursday meeting, just as she does for the Sunday meetings. We would like to use these Thursday meeting to complete business not completed during Sunday Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business. We also hope that these meetings will be an opportunity for us to consider issues in greater depth.

High School Group Wish List

The Meeting high school group has been considering purchasing a digital camera to record and share the enthusiasm at many of our youth activities. As we have debated whether or not to make this purchase, we have discussed such questions as: (1) Do we really need a camera? (2) Is a camera a high priority compared to other youth group wishes/needs? (3) As thoughtful members of Earth's community, attempting to reduce our environmental impact on the planet, should we purchase a camera or other items?

At a recent YRE meeting, it was suggested that members/attenders of the Meeting might have items they would be willing to donate to the high school youth program. If so, we can reduce our consumption by re-using what others no longer need. At a recent youth activity (work day at Quaker House followed by a retreat at the Elkins' beach house), we generated a list of items that we would appreciate having. Thus, if you are down-sizing, re-decorating, or for other reasons have any of the following used-items-in-good-condition, please consider donating them to us.

Youth Wish List:

- Comfortable couches, loveseats, armchairs, or bean bag chairs (GOOD or EXCELLENT condition, please!)
- Floor lamps
- Foam pads (to be used for lock-ins, when youth and FAPs sleep on the hard floor)
- Large blankets for cozying up in the winter months. The youth room tends to run cold, and in winter we would rather snuggle under blankets than push up the thermostat.
- Piano in good condition OR electronic keyboard
- Digital camera
- Markers for white board
- Stereo system
- Shelves
- Lava lamp and/or disco ball

UNC Student Invites Meeting Participation in Focus Groups

UNC junior Hameka Canady sent the meeting information about her Human Rights class. The class is seeking participation in focus groups about making Chapel Hill-Carrboro into a “Human Rights City.” More information from Hameka is below:

“What are human rights cities? Imagine living in a society where all citizens have made a pledge to build a community based on equality and nondiscrimination; —where all women and men are actively participating in the decisions that affect their daily lives guided by the human rights framework; where people have consciously internalized the holistic vision of human rights to overcome fear and impoverishment, a society that provides human security, access to food, clean water, housing, education, healthcare and work at livable wages, sharing these resources with all citizens— not as a gift, but as a realization of human rights. A Human Rights city is a practical viable model that demonstrates that living in such a society is possible!”

To find out more or set up a focus group, you can call or email Lizzy Adkisson (336-707-3156, Lizzy.Adkiss@gmail.com) or Dr. Judith Blau (jrblau@email.unc.edu). Also, information is posted in a blog: <http://humanrightscity.blogspot.com/> and <http://www.unchumanrights.bigbig.com/>.

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

July 20, 2008

Query: Are the Meeting’s concerns and energies adequately directed toward correcting social, economic, and political injustices, and to lessening the divisions of race, financial resources, and opportunities?

The meeting began with worship. Out of worship, the following business items were covered:

1. June Minutes

The meeting approved the minutes for the June Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business with one correction: Candace Kern's name was misspelled on first reference.

2. Request to Approve Lauren Hart as new First Day School Coordinator.

On behalf of the Children's Religious Education and Youth Religious Education committees, Carolyn Stuart recommended that the meeting hire Lauren Hart as the FDS coordinator, succeeding Sarah White, who has returned to Earlham College for a master's degree. Lauren has been serving as interim FDS Coordinator since Sarah's departure.

Lauren has attended meeting since she was in middle school. She recently graduated from Earlham College and is now Hispanic Services Coordinator at IFC. She will be entering UNC for her master of social work. The duties of the First Day School Coordinator include:

- assisting teachers in planning curriculum and finding/ordering materials
- recruiting teachers
- coordinating first-day activities and ensuring children get to the right places
- communicating with parents
- attending CRE and YRE committees

Friends shared their excitement at having Lauren work with the First Day School, and approved hiring her as FDS Coordinator.

Friends asked CRE and YRE to consider the tradition of creating a support committee for people hired by the meeting. Ministry & Worship will ensure that CRE and YRE are given a copy of the "Hiring of Paid Staff" document created by the meeting several years ago, which outlines how the meeting supports paid staff.

3. Report from Care and Counsel on the Clearness Committee for Marriage under the Care of the Meeting for Carolyn Stuart and Richard Miller.

The members of Care and Counsel approved this report of the Clearness Committee for the marriage under the care of the Meeting of Carolyn Stuart and Richard Miller:

On Friday, June 13th, Deborah Gibbs, Hank Elkins, Pat Mann, Tom

Smith, and Lynn Drake met with Carolyn Stuart and Richard Miller to seek clearness on their desire to be married under the care of the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. After an opening worship, Carolyn and Richard spoke of their long friendship that grew into a loving and committed relationship. Using the document "Marriage Under the Care of the Monthly Meeting" as our guide, we shared a tender, thoughtful meeting with Carolyn and Richard. The committee reached clarity that Carolyn and Richard love and respect each other and are prepared for a harmonious and faithful marriage. We joyfully recommend that Care and Counsel ask the Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business to approve the marriage of Carolyn Stuart and Richard Miller under the care of the Meeting and that a Committee for the Marriage Oversight be appointed.

Meeting accepted the recommendation from committee and approved moving forward with the marriage of Carolyn and Richard under the care of the meeting. Carolyn and Richard are planning the wedding for September 13. Lynn will work with Carolyn and Richard to establish a marriage committee.

4. Ministry & Worship Committee's Proposal for Timing of Quarterly Meetings.

Mike Green, on behalf of Pat Mann, clerk of M&W, presented the following recommendation:

Ministry & Worship Committee's Proposal for Quarterly Meetings
At the February 2008 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business the Meeting approved continuing with the current schedule for Business Meeting with Meeting for Worship at 8:30 a.m. followed by Business Meeting at 9:30 and second meeting at 11:00. In recognition of the limited time this allows, we approved supplementing the current schedule with four quarterly, afternoon business meetings, which would be more open in length and could be used to (1) hear and consider committee annual reports with reports grouped to maximize interchange among committees (e.g., might group CRE, YRE, and ARE) and (2) consider major concerns or new proposals. The Ministry & Worship committee requests approval for the following plan to implement this change beginning in September 2008. Please note that we are suggesting that meetings occur on Thursday evening rather than the originally approved Sunday afternoons.

Proposal - Quarterly meetings will occur at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the following months: September, December, February, and May.

We will implement this provisionally for one year and then review.

After clarification that the quarterly meeting would be in addition to the Sunday business meeting held the same month, Friends approved holding quarterly meetings on Sunday afternoons in September, December, February and May.

5. Treasurer's Report

Judy Purvis provided the treasurer's report for June (attached). She pointed out that our monthly income was \$4747.95, and monthly committee expenses were \$4141.11. However, because the meeting paid \$10,675 to meet the amounts budgeted for several large benevolences, our total expenses for the month were well above what the income was.

The finance committee will be giving its annual report in September, and plans to have continuing conversations with the meeting around our stewardship of funds.

The Meeting approved the treasurer's report with thanks.

6. Adult Religious Education Committee Annual Report

Lloyd Kramer presented the ARE committee annual report (attached). Friends accepted the report with appreciation for the committee's work, and for their responsiveness to the meeting's needs. Lloyd noted that the ARE always welcomes ideas for new forums, and that during the coming year the ARE committee hopes to focus on the theme of what it means to belong to the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting community.

7. Library Committee Annual Report

Candace Kern presented the Library report (attached).

The meeting accepted the report with thanks for the committee's work. Three additional questions were brought forward, for discussion between the library committee and other committees of the meeting:

1. Out of which budget should pamphlets and other annual subscriptions come?
2. Who has management and responsibility of meeting archives?
3. How can the library committee engage other committees in helping to make decisions about what material should be in the library?

8. Peace & Social Concerns Request to Designate Tom Munk as Meeting Representative to HKonJ Partner Retreat.

Hank Elkins presented a recommendation from the committee to have Tom Munk serve as a meeting representative to the Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HKonJ) partner retreat. This annual rally in Raleigh is organized by 40+ organizations who wish to work together for social justice. The Meeting approved having Tom serve as our representative to HKonJ.

9. Peace & Social Concerns – Report on an Intern for NC Choices for Youth

Hank joyously shared that after almost of year of searching, NC Choices for Youth has found a young woman to serve as an intern. The meeting had previously minuted our support of using part of the bequest money from Gerry Gourley and Charlotte Adams to support an intern for NC Choices for Youth. Hank reported that Terry Johnson, a native of Greensboro, will serve as intern. She has been involved in social justice and civil rights for many years. After high school, she enlisted in the army to get money for school, intending to train to be a lawyer. Her conscience led her to go AWOL from basic training the day before graduation. With help from the Quaker House Hotline, she was able to turn herself in and get a “less than honorable discharge.” She is passionate about educating youth about alternatives to the military. She will be attending Forsyth Community College this fall, and will work for 25 hours a week out of the AFSC office in Greensboro, with continuing support and supervision from NC Choices.

Because NC Choices for Youth is now an independent, secular, non-profit organization, the meeting has no authority over their hiring practices. However, the meeting cheerfully approved asking the treasurer to release the bequest money designated for support of an intern to NC Choices.

10. Peace & Social Concerns – Request Approval to Post a Banner on Raleigh Road.

Peace & Social Concerns brought forward a proposal to post a large banner outside the Meeting House on Raleigh Road. The banner is on loan from the church of reconciliation and says “Torture is Wrong.” The proposal included having a box containing leaflets about Quakers and our concerns about torture. Peace & Social Concerns proposed having the leaflets written jointly by Ministry & Worship and Peace & Social Concerns.

Friends raised several questions. How long will it take to write a

pamphlet and bring it back to the meeting for approval? If we are going to have a banner on Raleigh Road, should we expand the plan and have a series of rotating banners and information about our forums and queries? Will the banner be stolen or damaged? Do we need to check with the town council regarding ordinances about signs? (We have been told our current signs are “grandfathered in”).

The meeting asked Peace & Social Concerns to investigate these questions and determine whether to bring the issue back to business meeting.

11. Letter on Iran

Because of lack of time, a proposed letter to the media about Iran from Peace and Social Concern was distributed, but not discussed. It is attached. The clerk asked Peace and Social Concerns to discern whether they wanted to move ahead with the letter, signed by the committee, or wait until next business meeting to bring it forward for approval from the entire meeting.

12. Announcements

- On Saturday, July 19, the meeting held a memorial service at Carolina Friends School for Lily Mannis, a recent graduate from Chapel Hill High School, a participant in our youth group and a participant in the Southern Appalachian Young Friends group. Lily was killed by a drunk driver on July 12. Buffy Webber, on behalf of the Mannis family, thanked everyone who was involved for the outpouring of love and support.
- Jennifer Leeman reported that Tim Henniger’s ashes were buried in the memorial garden on the morning of Saturday, July 19.
- Tom Munk announced that another intergenerational games night will be held Saturday, July 25 from 6:30 – 10.

The meeting closed with worship.

Attending:

Mike Green, Jan Hutton, Maria Darlington, Kathy Davis, Jeff Brown, Lloyd Kramer, Carolyn Stuart, Richard Miller, Lauren Hart, Sue Fletcher, Christy Morgan, Dan Darnell, Asta Crowe, Emilie Condon, Ken Grogan, Judy Purvis, Catherine Elkins, Nancy Jeannechild, Anne Smith, Paul Munk, Joyce Munk, Candace Kern, Jasmine McKewen, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Tom Munk, Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Buffy Webber, Marsha Green (recording clerk pro tem), Jennifer Leeman (clerk).

Treasurer's Report: 6/15/08

	May 1–31	June 1–13
Income		
Designated	0	
Undesignated	\$3,130.75	\$2,922
Transfer	0	\$9,000
Total Income	\$3,130.75	\$11,922
Expenses		
Buildings & Grounds	\$1084.69	\$1644
Library	\$48.50	\$17.95
Finance		\$12
YRE	\$690.08	
CRE	\$192.09	\$192.09
Publications & Records	\$192.16	
Ministry & Worship	\$95	\$340.98
Benevolences	\$5170	\$11,275
Total Expenses	\$7,469.52	\$13,482.02

(Total: May 1 to June 13 = \$20,039.83)

Expected reimbursement from CFS for OWASA bills: \$574.95

Balance in checking June 13th = \$20,039.83

Total of outstanding bills = ~13,099.44

**Adult Religious Education Committee (ARE) Annual Report
for 2007-08**

The Adult Religious Education Committee seeks to nurture the spiritual growth of Friends and help members and attenders develop a deeper understanding of the traditions, history, social concerns, and actions of people in the Religious Society of Friends. The committee also strives to connect the spiritual and social concerns of our local Quaker community with the beliefs and actions of both past and present Quakers around the world; and the ARE works to foster a deepening sense of community in the life of our Chapel Hill Meeting. These goals shape the themes of weekly forums between the two Meetings for Worship during the school year and lead to the development of other discussion groups and special events.

The Meeting's weekly forums continued to benefit from the expansion of the forum meeting time to a full hour—a change that we had adopted in the previous year. After using the expanded time framework for two full

years, the ARE committee can now report that this revision of the weekly schedule has made a major contribution to the vitality and depth of forum discussions. We expect the one-hour forums to become the permanent format for these conversations, though these forums will probably be augmented from time to time by other events that allow for longer periods of reflection and sharing.

The ARE organizes forums to help Friends reflect on the rich diversity of Quakerism, on the spiritual journeys of persons within our Meeting, on the connections between Quaker beliefs and social action, on the work of Quaker organizations, and on the activities of the Meeting's various committees. Forums in 2007-08 thus focused on themes such as Quaker spiritual practices, "personal sharings" in which members of the Meeting describe their personal spiritual journeys, and regular forums on current social issues, which the Peace and Social Concerns Committee usually organized for one Sunday of each month.

The forums this past year generally attracted about the same numbers as in the previous year, averaging about 20 to 30 persons each week. As usual, the personal sharings drew especially large numbers, but special forums which feature our young people (for example, the annual graduation week panel with young Friends) draw the largest and most diverse audiences. The Committee tries to include forums with younger people as speakers or panelists, but forums usually draw a community of somewhat older Friends. A complete list of the 2007-08 forums is included at the end of this report.

In addition to the weekly forums, the ARE committee organized a fall series of Sunday afternoon conversations or workshops called "Introduction to Quakerism." The committee sought to develop a "sense of connection" among the participants in these events by having a lunch before each afternoon meeting and including small group conversations on the themes of each session. The main text was a pamphlet by Marsha Holliday (Exploring Quakerism), but excerpts from other Quaker writings were used to supplement Holliday's overview of Quaker faith. Lloyd Kramer served as facilitator for each meeting, and the topics ranged from early Quaker history to the Quaker testimonies, Quaker process, and traditions of Quaker social action. We are pleased to report that about 50 people participated in these conversations and explored the meaning of Quaker history and beliefs.

The ARE committee was also pleased to see the continuation of the Meeting's spiritual enrichment program, "Plumbing the Depths of Quakerism"

(PDQ). The committee did not organize this program, but one of our members, Jan Hutton, served as a co-organizer and facilitator of PDQ. Finally, the ARE decided to experiment this year with another innovation—a new series of summer forums on the Quaker Testimonies. Members of the Meeting had expressed interest in continuing forums during the summer months, so the ARE created a plan for would-be summer Forum leaders simply to sign up for particular dates and facilitate conversations on specific Quaker Testimonies. Although this experiment is still ongoing, the early results have been encouraging and we may well return to this plan in future summers. The regular, ARE-organized forums will continue to follow the local school calendar, running from roughly late August to mid-June.

As always, the ARE Committee welcomes suggestions for future forums; and we appreciate the many ways in which members of the Meeting contribute to the success of these weekly conversations. We see the programs of the ARE as one of the places in which members of the Meeting build their sense of belonging to the Society of Friends, and we have begun planning the themes for new forums that will contribute to our community in the coming year.

Members of the committee for 2007-08 were Marnie Clark and Lloyd Kramer (co-clerks), Francis Coyle, Dan Darnell, Linda Gryzynski Jan Hutton, Ann Kessemeier, Hank Elkins, and Nancy Elkins. Linda Gryzynski and Ann Kessemeier will go off the committee this year and Dan Darnell will serve as clerk.

List of Forums in 2007-08

August 26	The 2007 FGC Gathering: Panel with Hank Elkins, Mike Green, Marsha Green, Jennifer Leeman, Tom Munk, and Judy Purvis
September 2	Introducing “Introduction to Quakerism” and “Plumbing the Depths of Quakerism (Lloyd Kramer, Jan Hutton, Mike Green)
September 9	Workers Rights are Human Rights (Steve Bader, United Electrical Workers)
September 23	What’s Happening in Columbia (Mila Seckinger)
September 30	Right Sharing of World Resources, Susan Inglis
October 7	Is the Congress Moving on Quaker Priorities? (Nancy Milio)

October 14	Sharing our Diverse Spiritual Journeys (Ministry and Worship)
October 28	The Community Success Initiative, Dennis Gaddy
November 4	Personal Sharing, Margie Brache
November 11	Bolivian Quakers, Hank Elkins
November 25	Young Friends International: Thea Mann, Eric Elkins, Grace Stanley, Miranda Parker
December 2	"Belonging," a documentary film on Palestine by Tariq Nasir
December 9	Personal Sharing, Asta Crowe
December 23	Quakers look at Christmas, From Mithraism to Consumerism (Lloyd Kramer)
December 30	Peace and the Inward Journey: A collective sharing as we enter the New Year (Dan Darnell and Jan Hutton)
January 6	The Psalms (Marsha Green)
January 13	End of Life Issues (Matt Drake, Catherine Elkins, Buffy Weber)
January 27	Quaker Values and International Justice (Brian Schaefer)
February 3	Contemporary Quaker Authors (Matt Drake)
February 10	What can the Meeting offer me; What can I offer the Meeting? (Renee Prillaman, Ministry and Worship)
February 24	Is there Hope for Peace and Justice in Election Year Gridlock? (Nancy Milio)
March 2	North Carolina Quakers, Max Carter (Guilford College)
March 9	Personal Sharing (Catherine Elkins)
March 23	Transitions from Prison (John Collins, Eddie Lenyear)
March 30	Meeting Benevolences for the Coming Year (Peace and Social Concerns)
April 6	What Are We Teaching our Children About the Old Testament? (Children Religious Education Committee Mark Hulbert, Carolyn Stuart, Sarah White)
April 13	Quaker Theology (Chuck Fager, Quaker House)
April 27	Piedmont Friends Fellowship, No Forum
May 4	Personal Sharing, Pat Mann
May 11	Exploring Possibilities for Our Meeting's Spiritual Enrichment (Spiritual Enrichment Committee)
May 25	Quaker Concerns in an Election Year? (Nancy Milio)
June 1	Growing up as a Quaker: Panel of High School Graduates
June 8	Personal Sharing: Jan Hutton

Summer Forums:

June 22	The Meaning of Simplicity: Treading Lightly on the Earth, Population and Family Planning (Peace and Social Concerns, with Nancy Williamson, Cari Boram)
July 13	The Meaning of Peace (Dirk Kelder)
July 27	The Meaning of Community (Environmental Concerns Committee)
August 3	The Meaning of Equality (Environmental Concerns Committee)
August 10	The Meaning of Integrity

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Library Committee -
Annual Report July 2008**

The Library Committee maintains and improves the Meeting's collection of books, periodicals, pamphlets, audio/visual materials, etc. to further the work and life of the Meeting and its members/attenders. It works with the Ministry and Worship Committee and the three Religious Education Committees to provide resources specific to their programs.

The Library Committee continues in transition, although it has begun to recover from the loss of Nancy Post's leadership and her store of knowledge about the tasks that are the library committee's responsibility.

The biggest challenge has been cataloging books. Asta Crowe learned to use Nancy's catalog system, but there was general dissatisfaction with it. Moreover, Asta rotated off the committee. When Candace Kern joined the committee, she agreed to take over the job of cataloging books. With the help of Buffy Weber, Candace transferred the data from Word Perfect to an Excel spreadsheet. As this year ends, we are planning to replace the cumbersome card file of books with a notebook containing lists of books by categories, e.g., author, subject, title.

As of June 2008, a sub-committee is working on converting the book catalog from analogue to digital formats, (i.e., from paper/WordPerfect to Excel or another commercial library catalog software program). The first step is to document how the system should work to make book cataloging simpler and more reliable based on the established library organization and usage. One goal for the conversion is to make the library catalog accessible via the Meeting website.

In addition to the book catalog conversion project, major accomplishments for 2007-2008 are:

1. Removing old books from the shelves, allowing members and attenders to choose ones for their own libraries before donating the rest to the public library for its sale.
2. Clearing out the library to make it a more inviting place to browse for reading materials.
3. Updating and making more specific a document listing the committee responsibilities so that there can be smoother transitions when the committee membership changes.
4. Beginning a "Policy and Procedures Manual" that gives step-by-step instructions for on-going tasks and documents policies such as accepting book donations.
5. Assigning Library Committee liaisons to work with the other committees.
6. Inviting Meeting members, who are professional librarians, to be Library Committee Consultants: Lynn Drake, Anne Filiaci, James Harper, and Carolyn White

2007-2008 Committee members include: Karen Durovich, Kay Eager, Susan Fletcher, Candace Kern, Nancy Martin, Anne Smith, and Polly Ulin. All have contributed generously of their time and interest.

Letter on Iran

Using our words to avoid a third U.S. war in the Middle East

In preschool, some of our children were taught to avoid fights by "using their words." Five former secretaries of state and the bipartisan Iraq Study Group have recommended that the U.S. do the same by initiating direct negotiations with Iran. We are gratified that a high-ranking U.S. diplomat attended face-to-face talks with Iran last week, but discouraged that it appears to have been a one-time event. Efforts in Congress to require serious negotiations with Iran, such as Representative David Price's Diplomatic Surge bill (HR 3797), co-sponsored by Rep. Brad Miller and Rep. Bob Etheridge, have garnered little of the support that they deserve. In fact, Congress is poised to do just the opposite. H. Con. Res. 362, currently cosponsored by all of North Carolina's Republican Representatives, as well as Democrats Miller and McIntyre, demands "that the President ... [prohibit] the international movement of all Iranian officials not involved in negotiating the suspension of Iran's nuclear program." This would effectively prohibit face-to-face talks about Iraq. In

addition, the bill urges the president to initiate what amounts to a land, sea, and air blockade of Iran. Without U.N. authorization, this would be an act of war. Even with U.N. authorization, it would create a grave risk of an incident that could lead to a third bloody U.S.-created military crisis in the Middle East. We offer thanks to Representatives Price, Miller, and Etheridge for their support for a diplomatic surge. Senatorial candidate Kay Hagan has also vocally supported such a surge. We ask all of North Carolina's Republican Representatives, along with Representatives Miller and McIntyre to reconsider their support for dangerous H Con Res 362. We are ready for leaders who know how to use their words in Washington.

Tom Munk, for Peace and Social Concerns Committee of the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

cc: News and Observer, Durham Herald-Sun, Chapel Hill News

Yes, the Directory is Here...Are You?

The Meeting Directory is finally out! But we're sure there are things missing--namely, you! If you don't see your name in the directory or if your contact information is incorrect, please send your info to news@chapelhillfriends.org. We will publish errata in the newsletter on a regular basis. We are especially eager to include our many newcomers!

Also, as decided in June's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, we will publish two other pieces of information in later newsletters:

1. The list of elected officials, which normally appears at the back of the directory. This will be published after the November election.
2. The list of committee clerks, which is normally indicated in the committee list in the directory. After the committees have had a chance to meet in the new committee year and choose clerks, we will publish a list of those names.

Thanks for your patience and for the assistance of many people which helped us to finally get the directory to you!

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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: Jennifer Leeman (929.9135)
Resident: John Hite (929.5377)

This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. The deadline for submissions is evening, last Sunday of the month. Please email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org, or call James and Robin Harper at 919.768.9870.

To send Meeting News and In The Light announcements via email, or to get your name on our listserve, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org.

This and past issues of the newsletter are available online at www.chapelhillfriends.org. To get items posted on our website, send the information to news@chapelhillfriends.org.

Monthly Query:

Are the Meeting's concerns and energies adequately directed toward correcting social, economic, and political injustices, and to lessening the divisions of race, financial resources, and opportunities?

Calendar:

Sun. 8/3	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: The Meaning of Equality
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	3pm	Memorial for Ruffin Hobbs - McBane Mill
Wed. 8/6	10am	Quaker Women's Gathering - Marnie Clark's
Thurs. 8/7	11am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Sun. 8/10	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: The Meaning of the Light Within
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	3pm	Memorial for Tom Perry - Carol Woods
Sun. 8/17	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:30am	Meeting for Worship w/ Attention to Business
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	3-5pm	Celebrate Carolyn Stuart - Schoolhouse
Wed. 8/20	10am	Quaker Women's Gathering - Marnie Clark's
Sun. 8/24	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Why Quaker Membership?
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	Sun. 8/31	8:30am
9:45am		Forum: Connecting to Quaker Community
11am		Meeting for Worship (Late)
11am		Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
10pm		<i>Deadline to Turn In Items for the Newsletter!</i>
Wed. 9/3	10am	Quaker Women's Gathering - Marnie Clark's
Thurs. 9/4	11am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
	7pm	Quarterly Mtg for Worship w/Attention to Bus.
Sun. 9/7	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Project Homeless Connect
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods