

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

August, 2012

Monthly Query:

*How does Spirit lead our actions
in the Meeting?*



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Help for New Committees

New committees are beginning to shape up with their new rosters, and there are lots of things to think about at the beginning of the new committee year. One of your first items of business may be the discernment of a new clerk. If so, we hope your second item of business will be to send that new clerk's name and email address to news@chapelhillfriends.org. This is so that your clerk can receive email messages intended for your committee, and there are all kinds of things you will miss, if you don't! New clerks should also make it a point (a third item of business?) to check out the "Clerking 101" guide on our Meeting's website. This will give you answers to MANY questions you may have about committee clerking. Your fourth item of business is up to you. Thank you!

Conversations on the Writings of Ben Pink Dandelion

The 75th Anniversary Reflections Continue

Conversations on the writings and reflections of Ben Pink Dandelion will continue in the fall of 2012. We'll be discussing his new pamphlet, "Living the Quaker Way," at meetings on September 9 and October 7. The first discussion (Sept. 9) will begin at 1:00 PM and continue until 3:00 PM. The second discussion (Oct. 7) falls on the day of the October potluck, so it will begin at 1:15 and continue until 3:15 PM. These discussions, which will be facilitated by Lloyd Kramer, will be part of the preparation for Ben's visit and daylong workshop on November 10.

If you would like to attend the fall workshops and purchase a copy of the new pamphlet, "Living the Quaker Way," please sign up by August 19 on the sheet that has been posted on the inside of the Meeting House front door.

The cost will be \$5 per copy; and pamphlets will be available by late August.

IFC Needs

The need for food at IFC does not decrease in the summer and donations often lag. So let's get it together to bring tuna, first on their list of needs, throughout August. Thanks!

New Library Books

The Meeting Library has two new books on the new book shelf:

War Tax Resistance: A Guide to Withholding Your Support from the Military
Letters to a Fellow Seeker: A Short Introduction to the Quaker Way

Links to the Global Non Violent Action Database

At Swarthmore College, Submitted by Nancy Milio

Home Page:

<http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/content/about-database>

To see list of 200 methods with links to more info on each:

<http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/browse.methods>

Uses of the database:

<http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/content/uses-database-0>

Help with Yard Work and Chores

If you need some help with yard work, chores, or odd jobs, both Jimmy Farris and Reggie Thomas would like to help. Both are settling into our community, you will know them from attending Meeting, and they would like an opportunity to help you and to supplement their income. You can contact them at these numbers:

Reggie -- (919) 360-2420

Jimmy -- 919-525-4970

Reggie is available all day Monday/Tuesday and in the late afternoon/early evening; Jimmy is available on weekends. They need our help and are willing to work.

Visit to Quaker House

Saturday, August 11, meet at 8:30am at the Meetinghouse

On Saturday, August 11 our meeting, as part of its 75th Anniversary events, will visit Quaker House in Fayetteville, NC, along with the Special Operations Museum and Ft. Bragg. Our meeting helped found Quaker House in 1969.

We will plan to leave by carpooling from CHFM at 8:30 AM, returning about 4:30. If you need more flexibility or feel you can't stay for the full day's adventure, you may decide to drive on your own. Curt Torell will provide maps and information for the visit. This will be an intergenerational event.

A contribution of \$5.00 is suggested to cover the catered lunch at QH.

Sign up sheets for carpooling and numbers for lunch are posted at the meeting.

Contact Curt Torell (curtnpatty@aol.com or 919-968-2174) if you have questions.

Update on CHFM 75th Anniversary Tapestry

What is it? A plan to create an embroidered wall panel illustrating events and outreach of CHFM since the beginning, made in the manner of the 77 panels of the original Quaker Tapestry.

Where is it? In the hopes, aspirations and fingers of a small group of dedicated CHFM sewers (aka the "Sowers").

How is it? The Sowers have met since January to immerse ourselves in QT lore. Each member is working on a small personal embroidery as an experiential intro to creating the larger tapestry. We have drawn on several sources in the meeting - committees, longtime member stories, FDS - for items for inclusion on the panel. The designers are discerning what to choose.

When is it - going to be started? In fall 2012 we hope to have a design on fabric.

What can I do for the Tapestry? Keep asking where it is! Join the Sowers! Commit to (at least) one stitch when the time comes! And accept our gratitude for your continuing support.

What else? We intend a fall forum to share the story so far. Our mentor in England, director of the QT, is excited by our progress. We have a contact in Willamette, Oregon, who has just finished 20 years of work on a tapestry for her meeting as part of the American Quaker Tapestry!

How can I learn more? Contact Allie Scales: gingerbred@mindspring.com

Crop Walk News

Congratulations to all our intrepid Crop Walkers and our generous sponsors. Chapel Hill Friends Meeting exceeded our contributions this year:

2011	\$1,914
2012	\$2151

Total contributions overall were down:

2011	\$47,412
2012	\$40,463

...so we more than did our bit. Let's be sure we keep it up for 2013.

--Karen Merrey and Asta Crowe, Co-organizers

Article from *The Nation* about Quran

Submitted by Marilyn Dyer

The July 2-9, 2012, issue of "The Nation" is largely given over to the growing problem of Islamophobia in America. In enlightened Chapel Hill we may not be aware of the degree to which Islamophobia is occurring elsewhere in America. The information in "The Nation" is alarming, and Friends need to read the special issue.

Some good news is to be had in the following article from the June 22, 2012, issue of "The Christian Century." One way we can help lessen tensions is to support efforts to "unlock" the Qur'an (as scholars in the West have so ably done with the Bible). We all need to know what is and isn't in the Qur'an as a means for reducing abuse of this holy book.

Progressive Muslims around the world will be deeply appreciative of the action initiated by the Society of Biblical Literature.

Bible scholars back more critical studies of Qur'an

The Society of Biblical Literature, the largest international body of scholars of the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament and related texts, hopes to assist experts on the Qur'an in creating an independent body for fostering research on Islam's holiest book.

The SBL announced May 29 that it was awarded a \$140,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to provide travel expenses, meeting space and other assistance over a three-year period, allowing scholars to explore creation of such a network.

"It cannot be overstated that the agenda of the scholars in this consultation will not be directed by the SBL," said John Kutsko, executive director of the Atlanta-based biblical society. The guidelines aim to allow scholars "to use their own research and publishing agendas" that may transcend institutional and international lines, he said.

"The level of interest in the Qur'an and Islam in the West today is unprecedented," said Emran El-Badawi, assistant professor of Arab studies at the University of Houston and co-director of the consultation. Although a growing number of web-sites and online forums discuss the meaning and interpretation of the Qur'an, "no learned society dedicated to the study of the Qur'an exists," El-Badawi said.

The envisioned Society for Qur'anic Studies would encourage scholars of various perspectives to present "cutting edge research on the Qur'an's language, its dialogue with other scriptures, and the context in which the text arose," said the other co-director, Gabriel Said Reynolds, an associate professor of Islamic studies and theology at the University of Notre Dame.

"By approaching the Qur'an as a historical, literary and religious text," Reynolds said, the society will demonstrate the "wide-ranging scholarly value of the Qur'an."

The first formal meeting of the ten-member steering committee will take place in Chicago in mid-November during the annual meetings of the Society of Biblical Literature and the American Academy of Religion.

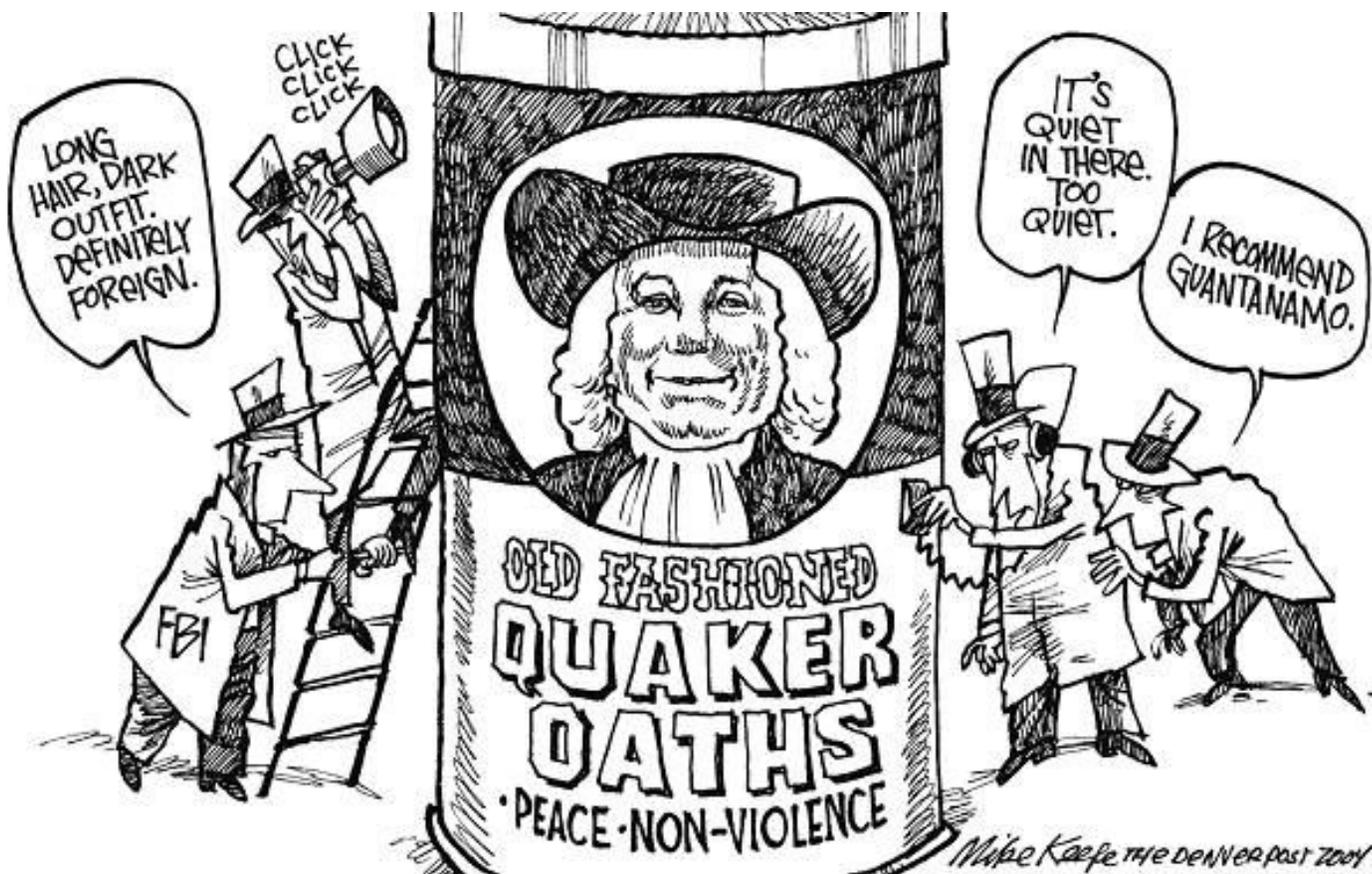
Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

Sun. 8/5	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations
Tue. 8/7	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 8/10	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sat. 8/11	8:30am	Visit to Quaker House - meet at Meetinghouse
Sun. 8/12	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
Tue. 8/14	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 8/17	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 8/19	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
Tue. 8/21	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 8/24	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 8/26	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Fri. 8/31	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 9/2	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse
Tue. 9/4	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Thur. 9/6	9am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 9/7	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

Quaker Humor

Submitted by Robin Harper



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

- This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. The deadline for submissions is 10pm on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756.
- To send news on the Meeting Listserv or as an In The Light announcement, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org.
- Subscribe to our listserv at www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html.
- PDFs of all newsletters are available online at www.chapelhillfriends.org.
- To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.