

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

July, 2013



Monthly Query:

How do we witness to the power of non-violence and against the glorification of violence in our culture and against the militarization of our society? Do we adequately support conscientious objectors and tax resisters?

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

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Upcoming Forum Schedule

Regular forums will return in the fall.

August 18 Lynn and Steve Newsome Co-Directors of Quaker House will give a talk about their work. They will tell us about their new projects and how they are reaching out to the Fayetteville community and beyond.

Monthly EnviroTip from the ECC

As a part of our Quaker testimony of Simplicity, we should try to follow the old New England maxim: "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." Emily McClements, a blogger "who is passionate about caring for God's creation while saving money" has some ideas about how to live into this. <http://green.yourway.net/old-wisdom-for-modern-green-and-frugal-living/>

June Quaker House News

Submitted by Lynn and Steve Newsom, Directors

Quaker House was invited to have a table at the 528th Sustainment (Special Operations) (Airborne) Brigade SHARPP Stand Down training. SHARPP stands for Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program. There were 5 classes that the soldiers took in "round robin" turns and Lynn was invited to talk about Quaker House's domestic violence support program (as well as our other work) at each of these groups. She was rewarded with warm applause after each presentation and was able to have some good conversations with the men and women after the training. Many of the soldiers picked up our GI Rights Hotline information. It was a wonderful opportunity and we are very thankful that we were able to be a part of the day.

Our domestic violence victim's support program has begun. Our therapist, Joanna, has been able to provide individual counseling to the victims that have contacted us. Word has spread throughout the community and the military about this wonderful service that we are able to offer. Joanna has even been invited by a military chaplain to go to Ft. Bragg to counsel a couple there.

We have many more wonderful news items to share with everyone! Watch for our summer newsletter coming out in July. If you are not on our mailing list, please contact us at qpr@quaker.org or 910-323-3912.

Nursery Worker Needed

Our beloved Brittany Allen has moved on to new adventures, and CRE needs your help in locating a new nursery worker. The job announcement is below; please share it with anyone who might be interested. Questions? Contact Leslie Rountree or Kathleen McNeil.

Nursery Worker Needed

Sunday Mornings

Are you good with babies and toddlers? The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (Quakers) needs to hire a part-time responsible childcare provider Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 12:30. He or she will provide care for Meeting children of all ages during the forum, and for infants and toddlers (ages birth to three) during the second Meeting for Worship. Net pay is \$12 an hour. Interested? Please contact childrensre@chapelhillfriends.org. Thanks!

Moral Monday Logistics (updated)

Many of us are feeling the need to make our presence and voices known as the NC General Assembly is re-shaping the caring legal landscape of our state. It is an empowering experience (a change from feeling powerless) for those who who attend. You will not be arrested unless you choose to do so; those who do so, have made the decision ahead of time. You WILL feel empowered and your respectful voice WILL be heard, among many, many others. Even if you cannot attend, spread the word – that, too, is empowering. Check with <http://www.naacpnc.org/> for times and location.

Consider carpooling with friends and neighbors. Contact Hank Elkins, hank@elkins.com, for carpooling from Carol Woods at **4:00 on Mondays**, returning by 8pm, or so. The leave time may change so do check with Hank. For those in Chatham Co., please contact Jan Hutton, janhutton@earthlink.net, for carpooling info, with a departure time of 4pm.

Jan Hutton, Jennifer Leeman, Tom Munk, Carolyn Stuart, Carolyn White

Moral Monday News **Submitted by Miriam Thompson**

On July 1, Labor (AFL-CIO) will be pulling out all the stops (see the AFL-CIONC website) as 70,000 workers will be dropped from unemployment rolls so they can't avail themselves of extended FEDERAL unemployment benefits. Over 100,000 more workers whose benefits end between July and December will lose their Federally financed extended benefits. At the same time, unemployment is 10-15% in many NC counties, and more and more jobs are part time and/or low pay without benefits - while the proposed tax breaks from Legislative leaders are going overwhelmingly to the rich and corporations. (See NC Justice Center/Budget and Tax Center).

These attacks are in addition to legislation passed and signed in February that reduces unemployment benefits: number of weeks and amount per week. And of course we are watching (and protesting) legislative leaders' other savage attacks on our public schools, health care, environment etc. Stay tuned. Forward Together/Moral Monday's next leg of its historic justice campaign will be moving out across the state, educating and mobilizing in key legislative districts AND registering voters - focusing on movement building and 2014 elections.

A Moral Monday Note **Submitted by Deborah Gibbs**

Thanks to all of you going who sent messages or cheered me on as I volunteered to be arrested in the civil disobedience last Monday. I can report that the entire experience was a light burden. The NAACP handled all logistics flawlessly, including transportation to/from Pullen Church and legal representation. One is handcuffed for part of the time, but the officers respected requests to be handcuffed in front for those who had any need to do so.

Beyond the logistics, I found the experience uplifting and moving. Although I have no illusions that our actions will change the hearts of the legislature, I do believe that the demonstrations and arrests are getting the attention of voters. Lacking any reason not to go, I felt it was my turn. I met some lovely people, enjoyed a good visit with the friend who was arrested with me, and learned that you can do the hokey-pokey while in handcuffs. I also gained the feeling of integrity that comes from committing your actions to your principles, as so many of you do. And THAT, as the song says, is what it's all about.

Rags to Bags Project

ECC is planning to get the entire community involved in our Rags to Bags project. Clear out your drawers and donate all clean, but unwanted t-shirts in any adult size. A basket with a Rags to Bags sign will be placed in the meeting house foyer to collect the t-shirts. Please have all your donations in by July 21. Along with FDS we will be converting these t-shirts to reusable shopping bags that will then be given back to the Chapel Hill Friends community at large. Advance thanks to everyone for your support in this project.

Any questions, you can contact Margot Stern at margot@mstern.com

Save the Date: Camping Trip

Friday - Monday, August 9th -12th

This August, we will return to the beautiful Mt. Rogers recreational area for our annual FDS-sponsored, Meeting-wide, weekend-long camping trip at Grayson Highlands State Park. We had a great time last year, and we are planning an even better trip this year. CHFM member Tom Smith is heading up a 17-mile bike ride on the Virginia Creeper Trail in conjunction with our camping! This is a lovely trail that runs mostly down hill through cow pastures, national forests, and creek crossings. And don't forget, we'll get to see the annual Perseid meteor shower, the highlight of last year's camping trip! (For a longer description of the meteor shower, please see the May or June newsletter.)

Upcoming School of the Spirit Events

Silent Retreat, Sept. 27-30, St. Raphaela's, Haverford, PA - Registration Open
Spiritual Renewal Retreat, Nov. 14-17, Avila, Durham, NC - Past program participants should have already received their invitations. If not, contact us: info@schoolofthespirit.org

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 or call Emily Buehler for a copy of current updates.

Looking to Rent a Home

Andrea Wuerth's parents, Hans and Ursula Wuerth, are hoping to rent a furnished apartment or home beginning in August. They are thinking of moving to the area to be closer to their grandkids but would like to "test the waters" first. They are hoping to rent for a few months-- up to 7 or 8. If anyone has plans to leave town for a while or knows someone looking for very conscientious renters who love to garden, please let Andrea know. They also have a cat but he may live with her if that's an issue.

Book Review: John Woolman Biography

Submitted by Marilyn Dyer



John Woolman's Path to the Peaceable Kingdom: A Quaker in the British Empire

By Geoffrey Plank

University of Pennsylvania Press,

320 pp., \$39.95

This is a lovely book, a wonderful example of careful yet accessible history.

John Woolman, a Quaker of 18th-century New Jersey, is well known as an early abolitionist and an advocate of material simplicity. His journal, a spiritual autobiography, is an American and Christian classic, and people tend to remember Woolman as a heroic individual, as both a reformer and a saint.

Geoffrey Plank takes a broader view. His book situates Woolman in his many contexts and communities—with other early abolitionists; in transatlantic economic discussions; with farmers and shopkeepers, slaves and sailors. A professor of American studies at the University

of East Anglia, Plank also reminds us of the wide range of Woolman's interests—from Native Americans to seafaring, from agriculture to eschatology.

Many of Woolman's concerns are remarkably timely today. The 18th century was, after all, the beginning of the modern age in many respects. It was a time of economic expansion, which affected land use, communities and religion. It was also an age of globalization when European empires were building worldwide economic networks. Woolman and others saw how consumer purchasing was tied to global commerce and how global commerce shaped even the smallest local transactions. Knowing this, Woolman reflected carefully on how to travel and on what to wear and use, what to buy and sell. His decisions were not just matters of personal purity but were meant to affect worldwide systems.

Woolman's political concerns are also surprisingly contemporary. For example, Woolman and other reformers gave up on legislative processes in favor of dire-

action, and issues like local food production, the export of staple food and the conduct of effective boycotts also have contemporary resonance. On the other hand, Woolman and others struggled with the implications of the Quaker peace testimony, which were less than clear-cut. The Seven Years' War, which affected Pennsylvania directly, raised far-reaching questions about war taxes, police action and the proper role of government. Quakers agreed that they should not bear arms or serve in the military. But what about paying someone else to serve in one's place? What about letting the army commandeer your horse and wagon?

Even in his rural location, Woolman was part of a large intellectual universe; he did not think alone. Through reading, correspondence, travels and Quaker intervisitation, he was acquainted with a wide circle of conversations about all these issues, both within and outside Quakerism. His reading included the likes of Isaac Watts, Thomas à Kempis and John Locke. And his personal inspiration—which Plank explores with great sensitivity—was tempered by community. He honored Quaker institutional structures and worked within them. His major decisions, such as undertaking ministerial journeys, were submitted to Quaker bodies for approval. So were his publications, including his seminal works on slavery and poverty. At times he held back, whether for strategic reasons or for the good of the community. He did not insist on being prophetic at all costs.

Yet his prophetic witness did grow more intense over the course of his life. In his early work as a shopkeeper, he gradually ceased dealing in the products of slave labor—especially sugar and rum, the latter being so widely used that one contemporary shopkeeper said he couldn't make money without it. He also eliminated from his trade many things he considered frivolous or unnecessary. Woolman came to believe that if people would resist luxuries—and the concomitant sins of greed and covetousness—the world would produce enough for all without excessive labor for anyone. There would

then be no need for slavery or indentured servitude or animal suffering. (Present-day readers might reflect on petroleum and sweatshops instead.)

Later, Woolman began wearing undyed clothing, not only because dye was a luxury but because it made the cloth less durable, so that one had to consume more. He rejected the use of silver, a move that complicated his work as a merchant and legal executor. He became concerned not only about the institution of slavery but about whether he owed slaves a personal debt.

Another example of Woolman's moral thinking unfolds in Plank's remarkable chapter on oceangoing travel. Woolman began with a biblical worldview: waters were a place of danger, and seafarers, who depended on divine protection, had to be in tune with God's purposes. In many ways they were not. Travel was conducive to sickness; food and other useful items were often lost in shipping; sailors risked their lives and lived in squalid conditions. On a larger scale, most maritime commerce was enmeshed with the slave trade. The goods that were traded for slaves were often unnecessary luxuries. And many ships carried guns in order to protect their cargo.

At the same time, Woolman felt a call to travel overseas in the ministry. How might he do this without profiting from the slave trade, indulging in luxury, exploiting labor or contravening God's will? At one point he offered to pay extra for his passage so that it would not be subsidized by immoral trade. On another voyage, he traveled in steerage with the sailors.

Woolman's ideals were thus intimately entwined with material things and expressed in material ways. His witness was visible and public—yet, as Plank points out, its meaning was not self-evident. Without an explanation, it could look like mere eccentricity, not symbolism. Plank does not speculate about the patterns of Woolman's spiritual life, but I wonder how Woolman's increasing intensity might be understood in light of classical spiritual direction. Did his intensity arise from spiritual growth, a deepened relationship with God? Could it have been a spiritually destructive perfectionism or a kind of compulsiveness?

We can't, of course, make such judgments about a historical figure, but if we undertake an activist witness ourselves, we might ask such questions about our own practice. Then again, many of us might see ourselves in the pragmatic Quakers who shrugged and continued to deal in liquor and lace, silver vessels and decorative furniture.

This book rewards slow reading and group study. An adult class or small group would find much to reflect upon—as when Woolman observes that a meeting of 300 people running one minute overtime wastes the equivalent of five hours for one person; or when he says that wealthy people ought to practice “humility and plainness.” It also rewards a second reading. The book is organized thematically, not chronologically, so later chapters illuminate earlier ones as well as the reverse. Thus when we learn that Woolman walked from London to Yorkshire to avoid abusing stagecoach horses, we find new meaning in the earlier material on animal husbandry and the spirituality of walking. Readers might want to make a timeline to keep track of chronological overlaps.

The book also invites reflection on a larger scale. What is divine inspiration, and how do we recognize it? Is compromise possible on moral and political issues? What is best done privately, what publicly, what in a small community? What happens when your testimony of simplicity makes your life more complicated? How is religious conviction acted out in everyday practices? Family and church, work and business, nature and possessions: Plank's account of John Woolman teaches us how political and economic thought was grounded in the particulars of one life.

From *Christian Century*,
June 26, 2013

Reviewed by Patricia Appelbaum, a historian of American Christianity and a research scholar at the Ronin Institute.

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

June 16, 2013

Minutes

Carolyn White, clerk; Robin Harper, recording clerk

Worship and query: Do I choose recreations that strengthen my physical, mental, and spiritual lives and avoid those that may prove harmful to myself and others?

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

We welcomed first-time attender, Naveed Moeed.

2. Certificate from IFC

Carolyn read a certificate that was given to CHFM by the IFC, in recognition of and thanks for our work with them over the years, and in celebration of their 50th anniversary. In particular Martha Gwyn, Tim Heninger, Gerry Gourley, and Mildred Ringwalt were recognized for their tremendous efforts.

3. Last MWAB for Clerk

Carolyn noted that this is her last MWAB as clerk. She recognized the work of all the committees that keeps our Meeting going, and thanked them for their support during her term. She praised the vibrancy of this Meeting, as experienced at the 75th anniversary events, and expressed her thankfulness for it.

Friends shared their appreciations of Carolyn, and for her discipline and care that have kept us a growing as a Meeting.

4. Review of minutes for May Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Approved.

5. Nominations Report—Buffie Webber (Attached)

The Peace & Social Concerns list and the Carolina Friends School Board list are not correct.

Approved with the exceptions of P&SC and CFS.

6. Proposed budget—Matt Drake (Attached)

The only change from last month is the addition of \$200 to Benevolences, as approved at the May MWAB.

Approved.

7. Proposed Minute from ECC—Ryan Jarrell

“We, the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, will be mindful of our use of disposables, and will strive to avoid them at Meeting gatherings that involve food.”

Friends asked about the virtues of compostable paper products as compared to dishwashing. ECC would prefer not even using compostables, and in light of that has committed to always helping with dishwashing at monthly potlucks. After some

discussion on the merits and demerits of disposable products, we agreed that this minute presents an opportunity for more education on the subject. Ryan agreed to take this opportunity back to the ECC.

Approved as revised above.

8. Traveling minute for these CHF M Friends going to Britain: Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Peter Malone, Emilie Condon, Jimmy Condon–Malone, Pam Schwingl, Pat Mann, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Wendy Richensin–Dodd, and Catherine Alguire (Attached)

Approved.

9. Proposal from M&W to link the CHF M website to gaychurch.org—Dottie Heninger

This suggestion came to us from the Raleigh Friends Meeting. Gay Church’s website states that it is “...dedicated to ministering to the gay and lesbian Christian community (GLBT) and friends of our community. We feature the largest gay and lesbian affirming Christian church directory in the world.”

Approved.

10. Annual Report of Publications & Records—Emily Buehler (Attached)

Accepted with thanks.

11. Spiritual State of the Meeting report—Dottie Heninger (Attached)

Accepted with thanks.

12. Annual Report of Library—Anne Smith (Attached)

Friends are urged to carefully look through their books and consider them for appropriateness (for example, books whose information is very dated) before donating them to the Meeting.

Accepted with thanks.

13. Annual Report of Building and Grounds—Don Hopper (Attached)

B&G will be meeting with various committees in the next few months to discuss their proposals for renovations. After digesting the input of other committees, they will hold a forum. Then they will make a presentation to a future MWAB with a plan for renovations.

Accepted with thanks.

14. Messages and Announcements:

- a. Volunteers are needed to teach FDS this summer: contact Kathleen McNeil

Worship and greeting

Attending: Dottie Heninger, Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Bill Schweke, Ann Miller, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Deborah Gibbs, Melvin Koger, Ryan Jarrell, Richard Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Emily Buehler, Wendy Michener, Anne Smith, Ken Grogan, Judy Purvis, John Schoonover, Tom Ludlow, Linda Graham, Lloyd Kramer, Susan Inglis, Kitty Bergel, Ruth Zalph, Naveed Moeed, Jan Hutton, Barbara Williamson, James Harper, Don Hopper, Tom McQuiston, Pam Schwingl

	Term		Term		Term
Adult RE		Environmental Concerns		Ministry & Worship	
Barbara Williamson	14	Lauren Carreto	14	Dottie Heninger	14
Dirk Kelder	15	Perry Martin	14	Bonnie Raphael	14
Max Drake	15	Michael Jokinen	15	Lynn Drake	15
Ryan Jarrell	16	Emily Nelson	15	Marilyn Dyer	15
Jamie Jacobs	16	Margo Stern	15	Pam Schwingl	15
Wendy Michener	16	Ryan Jarrell	15	Susan Inglis	15
		Andy Nelson	15	Lloyd Kramer	16
Bldg & Grounds		Pam Schwingl	16	Linda Graham	16
Bill Cleaver	14	Mary deCoster	16	Tom Munk	x
Jeff Brown	14	Catherine Alguire	16		
Lynn Drake	14	Dirk Spruyt	16	Peace & Social Concerns	
David Schneider	15	Tom Smith	16	Francis Coyle	14
Richard Miller	16	Robert Albury	16	Bill Jenkins	14
Don Hopper	16			Hank Elkins	14
Kathy Davis	16	Finance		Miriam Thompson	14
Tom Smith	16	Kitty Bergel	14	Nancy Elkins	15
Wendy Michener	16	Ann Miller	14	Ruth Zalph	15
Beth Kurtz-Costes	16	David Brower	14	Barb Fedders	15
John Hite	x	Bob Durovich	14	Ann Shy	15
		Matt Drake	14	Sarah Grimme	16
Care & Counsel		Tom Ludlow	15	Tom Ludlow	16
Bill Schweke	14	Loren Hintz	16	Naveed Moeed	16
Deborah Gibbs	15	Maura Murphy	X	Jane Harwell	16
Chris Stanley	15				
Jeff Brown	15	Hospitality		Publications	
Julia Cleaver	15	Karen Merrey	14	David Curtin	14
Madelyn Ashley	16	Buffie Webber	14	Ed Bowen	14
Jennifer Leeman	16	Jasmine McKewen	14	Emily Buehler	16
Andrea Wuerth	16	Reggie Thomas	15	James Harper	16
Gwynne Pomeroy	16	David Curtin	15	David Schneider	16
Tom Munk	x	Joanna Selmin	15	Sean Chen	16
		Nancy Fisher	15	Robin Harper	x
Children's RE		Alice Carlton	16	Recorder	x
Lauren Hart	14	Stuart Phillips	16		
John Hite	14	Ann Kessemeier	16	Shotts Leadership	
Jochen Wachter	15	Bonnie Ludlow	16	Stuart Phillips	14
Sean Chen	15	Wendy Michener	16	Gwynne Pomeroy	14
Eloise Grathwohl	16	Renee Curry	16	Lynn Drake	14
Kathleen McNeil	16	Carolyn Stuart	16	Jan Hutton	15
Meredith Tomlinson	16			Roberto Quercia	15
Bill McDonnell	16	Library			
Leslie Rountree	x	James Harper	15		
		Ann Miller	15		
		Hannah Ardysen	15		

	Term		Term
IFC		Friends' Transition and Support Committee	
Emilie Condon	14	Melvin Burton	16
Ann Drake	14	Emilie Condon	16
Dottie Heninger	14	Asta Crowe	16
Francis Coyle	14	Maria Darlington	16
Lauren Hart	14	Michael (Hakeem) Dalton	16
Karen Merrey	15	Hank Elkins	16
Marie Hopper	16	Barbara Fedders	16
Asta Crowe	16	Thomas Charles (TC) Jones	16

Nominations (Recruited by Naming Comm.)

Terry Mehlman	15	Joyce Munk	16
Leslie Rountree	15	Paul Munk	16
James Palmer	15	Cris Skinner	16
Karen Merrey	15	Byron Stevens	16
Buffie Webber	15		
Annette Broadwell	15		

CFS		Quaker House		PFF	
Matt Drake	14	Maria Darlington	16	Jeff Brown	14
Buffie Webber	14	Curt Torell	15	Annette Broadwell	15
Pat Mann	15	Pam Schwingl	15		
Bill Jenkins	16	Ruth Zalph	15		

FLGBTQ		Coalition of Clergy		AFSC	
Terry Mehlman	15	Alice Carlton		Kitty Bergel	16

FDS Teachers (Recruited by FDS Coordinator)

Allie Scales	Mark Hulbert
Nancy Martin	Kathleen McNeil
Margot Stern	John Hite
Wendy Richesin-Dodd	Carolyn Stuart
Cecilia Carver-King	Carolyn White
Jasmine McKewen	Andrea Wuerth
Herbert Struemper	Leslie Rountree

Clerks, Treasurer, Trustees & FDS Coordinator

Tom Munk, Clerk
 Robin Harper, Recording Clerk
 Maura Murphy, Treasurer
 Emilie Condon, Corr Clerk & Trustee
 Bettie Flash, Trustee
 Lois Ann Hobbs, Trustee
 TBD, Recorder
 Leslie Rountree, FDS Coordinator

CHFM BUDGET		2012-2013 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2013-14
COMMITTEES			
Adult RE		200	200
B&G Total		17,470	17,970
Care & Counsel		100	100
Children's RE		5,350*	5,350*
(Youth RE)		(3,500**)	(3,500**)
Env'nmental Concerns		200	150
Finance		300	300
Hospitality		350	300
Library		400	400
Ministry & Worship		500	500
Nominations		25	10
Peace & SC		200	200
Transition & Support		500	500
Pub & Records		2,000	2,000
TOTAL COMMITTEE		27,595***	27,980***
SPECIAL FUNDS			
Nat'l Q Service		2,000	2,500
Meeting for Suffering		135	135
Contingency Fund		1,000	1,000
FUTURE MTG NEEDS			
Leadership. Dev.		100	2,000
Physical Plant Fund		4,000	4,000
TOTAL MEETING NEEDS		34,830	37,615
BENEVOLENCES			
Wider Quaker Comm'ty		26,170 (Total for all benevolences)	26,370 (Total for all benevolences)
Local & Regional			
TOTAL		\$61,000	\$63,785

*Primarily first Day School coordinator and child care

**Expenses for YRE activities: balanced by income from football parking and donations

***Minus YRE \$3,500 total

Traveling Minute

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
531 Raleigh Rd.
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
USA

June 16, 2013

Dear Friends in Britain,

Greetings. We commend to your loving care these travelers from our meeting: Catherine Alguire, Jennifer Leeman and Tom Munk, Lynn Drake and Matt Drake, Pam Schwingl and Pat Mann, Wendy Richensin-Dodd, Emilie Condon and Peter Malone, Jimmy Condon Malone. They are participating in a "Quaker Pilgrimage to the 1652 country," with teachers from the Carolina Friends School and members of the Durham Friends Meeting.

We pray that their faith is strengthened by visiting places of significance in Quaker history, by meeting you, and hearing your stories and that the bonds among our meetings and school are strengthened by these Friends' shared experiences.

We send our loving greetings to you through these Friends. May your time together be blessed. We look forward to hearing of their experiences among you when they return.

In Friendship,

Carolyn White, Clerk
Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friend

This traveling minute was approved by the June 16, 2013 Meeting For Worship with Attention to Business.

Publications and Records Committee Annual Report, May 2013

This past year, P&R continued to manage the biweekly listserv, the website and online calendar, In The Light announcements, monthly newsletters, and the annual directory.

Highlights:

- Newsletter

Print numbers are slowly dropping. We hope this means Friends are using the online version. When a new newsletter is posted online, a link to it is given in the listserv. Friends can follow the link to download the newsletter as a PDF, which they can keep on their computer to reference.

- Friends can also request the Directory as a PDF. (It is not online for privacy reasons.) Just email publicationsandrecords@chapelhillfriends.org and ask.

- With the help of many Friends, we produced the 2012 directory by New Years. We used a mass email to reduce the number of homes we had to call. Next year, we're going to try texting the young adults.

New Directions:

- We plan to update the website design and will start by talking with members and attenders about what improvements they would like to see.

- We have begun a discussion with Ministry and Worship, Care and Counsel, and the Record Keeper about codifying the role and duties of the Record Keeper.

- Friends have mentioned the potential use of social media by our Meeting. We think a good way to begin this discussion is with a forum. Look for one soon (date?).

- P&R began investigation of FGC Quaker Cloud software. The software is currently deployed to a limited number of test sites. Members of P&R are on the mailing list to receive additional information as it becomes available. The FGC price for using the Quaker Cloud is \$240/year for a meeting with over 50 members and attendees. The online directory, information security, and inter-meeting networking

capabilities of the software may be of value to CHFM. P&R hopes to be making a recommendation to the Meeting for Business on if/when to join the Quaker Cloud in the near future.

We want to thank non-committee members who helped with directory phone calls and verifying other directory information last December: Jan Hutton, Asta Crowe, Anne Smith, Marilyn Dyer, Julie Mobley, Bill Jenkins, Nancy Milio, Beth Kurtz-Costes, Jeff Brown, and John Hite. Also, thanks to the people who pick up our newsletters at the printer: Maria Darlington, Anne Filiaci, and Lynn Drake.

We want to remind Friends of how to contact us:

- Newsletter, listserv, and In the Light announcements go to news@chapelhillfriends.org
- Directory updates go to directory@chapelhillfriends.org
- To reach the P&R clerk, please email publicationsandrecords@chapelhillfriends.org

Submitted by Publications and Records: Emily Buehler (Clerk), Terry Mehlman, James Harper, Ed Bowen, David Curtain, Robin Harper (Recording Clerk), Julia Cleaver (Recorder)

Spiritual State of the Meeting Summary, 2012 Presented at June 2013 Business Meeting

We gathered on Saturday, March 2, in the schoolhouse for our annual Spiritual State of the Meeting meeting. Our guiding query was “How can your committee help the Meeting become more diverse and more inclusive of youth, young adults, and young families over the next year.” The query evolved from our anniversary year’s experiences and the comments from the culminating forum Dec. 9, 2012 which explored our Meeting’s future.

The highlight of our meeting was the youths’ video of the interviews of members/attenders. This video is their 75th anniversary project. We were excited and delighted with the questions the youth posed and their technological expertise in editing the footage. Their understanding of Quaker testimonies and their affection for the Meeting were palpable. We felt blessed indeed with our youth’s engagement. They will complete this project with additional interviews and it was suggested that the final video be shown at forum and possibly be posted on our Meeting website. The other significant spiritual influence on our year was the grace-filled presence of the men from OCC. They are a blessing in our community.

From our worship sharing we came to understand that many committees are planning ways to be more engaged with our youth. Among the suggestions offered were: provide Quaker House with technological help, gardening, provide suggestions for youth to participate in work days, appreciate youths’ engagement in the alternative gift mart and in supporting the sports parking endeavors, and clarify the status of familial membership.

Later as we broke up into small groups a re-statement of the query was proposed: “How can we celebrate our vibrant diversity” and engage different life styles of attenders/members of all ages. Supporting this interpretation, most small groups also mentioned the need to be more welcoming of everyone. Nametags for – visitors, members, attenders, youth -- was a common theme. Attenders want time to check in with each other: perhaps enjoy “simple lunch” after Meeting in the school house (not Hospitality’s responsibility). At the least, we should be sure to speak to visitors after meeting, listening to what brought them to our Meeting. What gets them excited, what are they looking for? Assure that Meeting can be a place to grow. It would also be helpful to have a Quaker presence on UNC campus. “Tabling” during orientation was one idea.

We were also encouraged to participate in FDS. Get to know the names of our children and listen to them. Be able to articulate what we gain from our Meeting as we engage visitors, youth, and each other. CRE members emphasized their willingness to meet with committees as they think about ways to include youth. It was also stressed that we need to know to better support CRE as

they go about their work. We were reminded that our youth, their teachers and families lead extraordinarily busy lives.

Another common theme related to membership. It was suggested that Ministry and Worship meet with graduating seniors about the process for becoming members. And that the membership process should be flexible to meet the needs of those applying for membership.

After coming together to hear reports from the small groups, our gathering closed at Noon. We came to renewed appreciation of the vibrancy of our youth. We hope to know them better and find appropriate ways to have them participate in our Meeting life, just as we want to be more welcoming and inclusive of everyone who comes to us.

We remain a vital, caring, spiritually engaged Meeting. Further discernment will continue as we strive to become a more hospitable meeting to all those who come to our Meeting community.

**Library Committee
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Annual Report, June 2013**

The Library Committee maintains and improves the Meeting's collection of books, periodicals, pamphlets and other resources to further the life of the Meeting. The only purchase this year was the book "If God Is Love" by James Mulholland and Philip Gulley. The Library Committee plans to contact other committees to request suggestions for future purchases. The library continues to receive donations of books from members and attenders, which are appreciated. It also features new or timely books on the New/Featured Books shelf.

Due to limited space in the library, the committee has culled outdated books and materials and those less relevant to Quaker-related topics. It has almost completed re-labeling the spines of books and rearranging books and materials to make the library more attractive and user-friendly. The committee has made some progress in organizing archival material.

In considering the query from the Spiritual State of the Meeting gathering—"How can your committee help the Meeting become more diverse and more inclusive of youth, young adults and young families over the next year?"—the committee decided to take the following actions:

- Make families aware of books and pamphlets which address family life
- Support the work of other committees, including obtaining materials for the library
- Coordinate with CRE to make children and youth aware of books in the library and to order others
- Feature books on diverse populations and on the topic of diversity
- Facilitate forums to discuss particular books that address the query.

Library Committee members:

Hannah Ardyson, James Harper, Paul Haskell, Dirk Kelder, and Ann Miller and Anne Smith (co-clerks)

**Annual Report of Building and Grounds Committee
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
June 2013**

The B&G Committee currently includes as members: Jeff Brown, Bill Cleaver, Kathy Davis, Lynn Drake, John Hite (ex-officio), Don Hopper (clerk), Richard Miller, David Schneider, Tom Smith. Wendy Michner has recently returned to the area and has been sitting with and sharing her efforts with B&G. We have had a good year with all of the members serving and helping with tasks.

John Hite continues to serve as resident. He tends to take care of and coordinate requests for building use. He keeps B&G informed of issues arising as to care and maintenance of the

buildings and grounds. When John asked if the Meeting really needed a resident, the committee unanimously agreed that having a good resident, like John is, is a major benefit for the Meeting. We thank him for his efforts.

The renovation of the upstairs of the Meeting House has been taken on by a task force (Lynn, Don, Richard and Tom) following the work by the ad hoc committee to identify and price out aspects of the work. The task force has fine tuned the recommendations of the ad hoc committee and has gone back to B&G with their recommendations. B&G is coming to unity on a preliminary list of proposed projects to share with the other committees of the Meeting. This should begin to take place in the next month. We look forward to input from the other committees of the Meeting. With the insight and feedback from these meetings, B&G will then produce a proposal for renovations of the upstairs of the Meeting House to share with Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

We are also planning for major renovations of the downstairs. Insulating the walls in the teen room and the middle room will continue the process of "sealing the envelope" of the Meeting House. This will entail the reconfiguration of the HVAC ductwork. At the same time we will update the electrical service to a 400amp capacity and bring the wiring up to date with code standards. This work has been progressing slowly. We have Electrical and HVAC plans and pricing. We look forward to bringing this information to Business Meeting.

The Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship continues to lease the Meeting House on Sunday evenings. They sometimes use some of the space in Education Building for children's activities.

Other tasks accomplished this past year:

- dusk to dawn photo cell switches installed on CHFES floodlights
- purchased 25 chairs to be used in Meeting Room
- arranged for 3 work mornings with various tasks accomplished
- added 2 leaf raking sessions at the rise of late Meeting, very successful
- repaired a couple of broken benches in Meeting Room
- unclogged downstairs kitchen sink drain
- aided in detection and repair of broken water main caused by roots of Sweet Gum tree
- other routine tasks and maintenance, lawn care, carpet cleaning, light bulb replacing...

Tasks in process:

- painting downstairs bathroom
- preparing time-capsule to be placed in downstairs fireplace when sealed
- looking at options for more visible sign near parking lot entrance

See B&G description of the Committee's responsibilities in the Directory. We try to, and think we do, a reasonably good job in tending to our charge.

Submitted for B&G Committee, Don Hopper

Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

Sun. 7/7	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC donations
Tue. 7/9	7-8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 7/12	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 7/14	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods

- Tue. 7/16 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
 Fri. 7/19 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 7/21** 8am Meetinghouse open for worship (tentative)
 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
9:00am Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business (tentative)
 11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
 11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
 noon Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness - Schoolhouse
- Tue. 7/23 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
 Fri. 7/26 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 7/28** 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!
- Thur. 8/1 9am-1pm CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
 Fri. 8/2 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 8/4** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
 11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
 11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
 12:30pm Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse
- Tue. 8/6 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
 Fri. 8/9 4:30-5:30pm 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: 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. 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. 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. 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.
- Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.