

# HADDONFIELD MONTHLY MEETING RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 56, No. 4 ~ December, 2009

**Meeting for worship**

**10 am Sunday ~ 9:15 am Wednesday**



### **A Holiday Request**

As we enter the holiday season, please remember to make a contribution to support Haddonfield Monthly Meeting.

The HMM treasurer announced at the November Meeting for Worship for Business that donations are greatly needed to sustain the meeting.

As Friends consider their charitable giving opportunities before 2009 winds to a close, we hope they will consider this opportunity to express thanks with a contribution.

### **Also in the Holiday Spirit**

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

*II Corinthians 9:7*

As Friends begin to think about the Christmas season and what it means to us as Friends, let us, most importantly, be mindful of the needs of others.

One way to do this is to give as generously as possible to our wonderful Quaker organizations that work so hard to help those in need around the world. To be specific, American Friends Service Committee and Right Sharing are both doing wonderful work and need our financial support.

The Friends Council on National Legislation,

which works to influence U.S. Congress according to Friends’ testimonies, would appreciate a Christmas gift to support their important and difficult lobbying work.

We are so fortunate to have these committed Friends working year round to carry out the testimonies to which we as members of the Religious Society of Friends subscribe. Let us help them with a gift this Christmas season!

Closer to home, the Haddonfield Quarter Peace and Social Concerns Committee is collecting gently used toys to donate at the holidays. We hope to make many children’s holidays happier and recycle toys rather than add them to landfills. Please bring the toys to the Meeting House in bags or boxes labeled “toys” and we will collect them.

Food is also greatly needed at the holidays and we hope to increase the Quarter's food donations as well.



### **Report from Interim Meeting**

One of the highlights of Nov. 14 Interim Meeting was an update by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting General Secretary Arthur Larrabee on the general sessions of the National Council of Churches. We Quakers are among the founding members. Arthur wants us to know that it is a very good, socially responsible organization. It is on the forefront of demands for immigration reform, anti gun violence legislation, nuclear

disarmament, a just rebuilding of the Gulf Coast, etc., etc. We should be proud of our membership.

There will be a conversation at the March 26th, 27th and 28th sessions of PYM concerning whether to continue with our summer residential sessions. Have your voice heard by attending. Here are some of the wonderful reasons given to attend our Yearly Meeting.

- building community with its many opportunities for horizontal communication
- sharing in the rich diversity of our many backgrounds and ages
- having a larger voice when we bring our concerns before the world
- an excitement like lightening that runs through us

The keynote speaker in March will be *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship* author Vanessa Julye: "We Make the Road by Walking."

~ Deedy Roberts

## Upcoming Events

**Dec. 3-6 - Ten Thousand Villages Holiday Gift Sale** - Woodstown Friends Meeting will sponsor this event featuring gifts made by artisans around the globe. Items for sale include a large assortment of holiday ornaments, jewelry, musical instruments, toys, carved animals, handmade paper and cards, scarves, tablecloths, hand carved animals, wood boxes, kitchen utensils and bookends. For more information, visit [www.tenthousandvillages.com](http://www.tenthousandvillages.com) and [www.woodstownfriends.org](http://www.woodstownfriends.org). The sale will be in the Woodstown Meetinghouse Annex, 104 N Main St, Woodstown NJ 08098.

**Dec. 6 - Simple Gifts** - Immediately after Meeting for Worship at HMM, the Children's Inclusion Committee will sponsor this annual event that allows Friends to make holiday gifts with heart.

*Friends are invited  
to a*

***Christmas  
Breakfast***

***December 20***

*8:30 a.m. in the  
auditorium*

*Please bring  
your favorite bread  
or sweet to share*

**Dec. 21 - Peace Prayers' Gathering** - Friends are invited to the Haddonfield Meetinghouse to join in a meditation for world peace. The event will run from 7 to 8:30 pm. For more information e-mail [PeacePartners@verizon.net](mailto:PeacePartners@verizon.net) or call Judy Barnes at (856) 287-9472.

**Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Worship** - A special Meeting for Worship will be held at 7:00 P.M. at HMM on Christmas Eve, followed by a good old fashioned carol sing. Bring your favorite Christmas cookies for a social time before going home to get ready for the blessed day.

**Meeting for Worship for Business -  
Nov. 8**

18 Friends were in attendance.

The meeting began with a period of worship.

Part II of the Treasurer's Report, continued from October Meeting for Business: (Last month, Lisa

Boyell read the Treasurer's report for John Donch, who was unable to attend the meeting.) At the November Meeting for Business, John distributed copies of the report, pointed out items of special interest and concern and responded to questions from Friends. The main item of concern is the bottom line. Friends may contact John for a copy.

The report is accepted with thanks.

It was also noted that Pam Perry is retiring from Finance Committee. The Committee is, for now, without a Clerk. Bill Patterson is serving as convener and is trying to set a time for a meeting.

On Sunday, November 22, Religious Education Committee will be presenting, for the adult FDS, a program focusing on proposed changes in the FDS program for children and youth.

Memorial and Graveyard Committee and Library Committee Annual Reports are due in December.

Business meeting concluded with a period of worship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne R. Hoxie Heizer, Recording Clerk

Friends and regular Attenders may request copies of the complete minutes from the Recording Clerk at [Joanne@synchcorp.com](mailto:Joanne@synchcorp.com).

## **Worship and Ministry**

The Worship and Ministry Committee will facilitate a discussion of the Quaker Books Pamphlet, "The Gathered Meeting Revisited," by Tom Gates on Jan. 24. We invite all to read this well-written and thought-provoking pamphlet with us, and to attend the adult First Day School discussion following worship. If you need a copy, you may order it on-line at [quakerbooks.com](http://quakerbooks.com), or let a Worship and Ministry member know you'd like us to order it for you. The cost is \$7.50.

## **Religious Education Committee**

Please note the following schedule for Adult First Day School in December:

Dec. 6 - Simple Gifts

Dec. 13 - Business meeting

Dec. 20 - Story telling and carol sing

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Worship

Dec. 27 - Extended hospitality

## **Going WILD - Follow Up on Deepening & Strengthening Process**

Participants in the retreats that followed HMM's Deepening & Strengthening process are continuing to work together as the Committee on Conditions & Structures toward a spirit-led review of the operations and processes of the meeting and its committees. We have irreverently dubbed this process Going WILD (Worship, Imagine, Listen and Discern). Members of this committee will in the coming months seek to meet with and survey all current committees with queries designed to come up with a shared understanding of the most favorable conditions that could be created for each committee and the meeting as a whole to achieve a fully Gathered Meeting and Covenant Community.

Stay tuned. And prepare to go wild.

## **Think Green Before Holiday Shopping**

From the Greater PA region of the Climate Action Network: We can only wish for a white Christmas, but we can plan for a Green Christmas. In December, while world leaders meet in Copenhagen addressing climate change actions on the global level, we can all take important action in our own lives by committing to an eco-friendly Christmas. The holiday season is a time of maximum consumption and landfill additions in US society. Before shopping for gifts check out the 20-minute video "The Story of Stuff" at <http://www.storyofstuff.com/>. There are multiple websites to help you find

meaningful, yet sustainable gifts, decorations, and good ideas for all ages. Members of the Greater PA region of the Climate Action Network have compiled a list of sites, books, DVDs, and family activities. Email [coordinator@calnqm.org](mailto:coordinator@calnqm.org) if you'd like a copy.

### **One Book, One Yearly Meeting**

One Book One Yearly Meeting is a program to bring Philadelphia Yearly Meeting together over a good book! For 2010, PYM has selected *Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth Economy* as the book for us to collectively devour. PYM has developed a curriculum and suggested activities to accompany reading of the book by monthly meetings, committees, families and interested individuals. Visit <http://www.pym.org/education/onebook/index.htm> to download the curriculum, get a copy of the book and join with your Meeting in living into right relationship with the whole earth.

### **Friends Employment Opportunity**

PYM is seeking a Sessions Coordinator. The PYM Sessions Coordinator provides primary staff support and leadership for the development, coordination and implementation of plans for Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. The Sessions Coordinator works closely with the Sessions Planning Group, the Clerk of PYM, the Project Groups for each of the sessions (March, July and any called session) and with other staff to ensure the successful programmatic and logistical coordination of PYM sessions. This position is part-time, 70%, with pro-rated benefits. We seek candidates who have exceptional, proven organizational abilities, high energy, and good written and oral communication skills. Must enjoy and excel at working collaboratively with others, including volunteers, and be comfortable using databases, spreadsheets and Internet. Please visit our web site ([www.pym.org](http://www.pym.org)) to view the full job description and the application process or contact Ginny Connolly, Human Resources

Coordinator, [humanresources@pym.org](mailto:humanresources@pym.org) or 215-241-7225.

### **Among Friends**

Mary Noland is recuperating from a heart attack and preparing to undergo surgery.

Connie Brookes has fully recovered after being hospitalized briefly due to a fainting spell in November.

Steve Berryhill was elected to the Haddon Heights Council on Nov. 3.

