



Haddonfield Monthly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter

Meeting for Worship
10:00 am Sunday

Volume 50 No. 2
October 2003

From Worship and Ministry

In the *silence* behind words our sacred sides mirror each other. The language of being is the language of the sacred reverberating in you and me, when we have the courage to listen to each other carefully.

The language of being is the language of *silence*, acting from our true nature, is bridging the space between you and me. In Rilke's words:

Without knowing our true place,
We act our true nature.
Antenna feel antenna,
And the empty space is bridged.

Henryk Sholimowski

Facing Bench for September

John Heizer and Shayna Riddle

Coffee and Covered Dish for September

Overseers

Upcoming Events

October 4 — Peace Vigil. Medford Meeting holds a silent peace vigil the first Saturday of each month. 9:30 a.m. worship, 10 a.m. vigil.

October 4 — Quaker College Fair. 1–5 p.m. Arch Street Meetinghouse. Representatives from each of the 15 Quaker-affiliated colleges in the United States will be represented, along with an expert on the college financial aid process. Keynote speaker will be Michael Van Hoy, alumnus of Haverford College and former staff member of PYM. Contact Elke Muller at elkem@pym.org or 215-241-7223.

October 4 — Building Our Village. A workshop on ways to support parents and families in their Meetings, held at Swarthmore Meeting. For details, contact Steve Gulick at steveg@pym.org.

October 11 — Called Session on PYM Structure. 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Arch Street Meetinghouse. Recommendations for adjustments to the structure of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will be considered. Childcare is available if reserved by October 3. Please call Mary Anne Crowley at 215-241-7221.

October 17–19 — Tri-Quarter Retreat. Camp Ockanickon in Medford, NJ.

October 18 — Fall Festival in Haddonfield. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Meeting will have a table with information about Quakerism. Mary Noland is organizing this effort and needs volunteers to staff the table. Please call her if you can spare 30 minutes to an hour to help out.

October 19 — Speakers on Iraq. Kathy Kelly of Voices in the Wilderness and Bishop Thomas Gumbleton will speak at 7 p.m. in the Meetinghouse at George School on Route 413, Newtown, PA. Both speakers are internationally known peacemakers who have traveled to Iraq many times, bringing humanitarian relief.

They were in Iraq during August and September, so their talks will be a rare opportunity to hear timely eyewitness reports. There will be music, singing, and refreshments afterward. Falls Meeting (PA) is sponsoring this public peace program.

October 24–26 — Young Friends Halloween Gathering. Burlington Meetinghouse. For more information, check out the Young Friends web site or contact Cookie Caldwell at cookiec@pym.org or 215-241-7222.

October 25 — Conference on Prison and Families. 2 – 5 p.m. Haddonfield Meeting. See article on page 5.

October 26 — Quarterly Meeting. 10 a.m., Medford Meeting, 14 Union Street, Medford. See article on page 3.

Looking Ahead

November 1 — AFSC Annual Public Gathering. 1:30 p.m., Friends Center, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. See article on page 5.

November 15 — PYM Budget Conference.

September Monthly Meeting for Business — September 14, 2003

The Meeting opened with a period of worship; the Clerk read from the 11th Query in *Faith & Practice*, on Stewardship of Resources.

Does our Meeting serve social and economic justice in its uses of property and money?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the Meeting's work, its ministry, and the upkeep of its property?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the quarterly and yearly meetings and other Quaker organizations?

To what extent does our Meeting rely on current members for financial support, and what role does endowment income serve? Does the Meeting consider carefully the appropriate role of invested funds?

Connie Brookes reported a request from PYM to declare our covenant contribution for fiscal year 2005; this was forwarded to Finance Committee, who will report back to the October Meeting for Business.

PYM requested we appoint a representative to attend its Structure Evaluation Project Group meeting in October; this matter is held over till next Meeting for Business.

Susan Urahn, Paul Heller and Audrey Heller have been accepted into membership in the Meeting. Bob and Connie Brookes will assemble a welcoming committee.

Ceil McFadden reported that Nominating Committee recommends Susan Urahn for the School Committee;

the Meeting approved. George Harrison resigned as Meeting representative to PYM Interim Meeting; Nominating Committee will continue its search for someone to replace him.

Marietta Donovan, our representative to the Haddonfield Ministerium, reported on its recent meeting. She will invite Virginia Ritchie to speak to the Meeting children about Crop Walk, which will be held October 26.

Pat Williams reported for the School Committee. It will present a tentative new budget at October's Meeting for Business. Dan Tompkins reported on the current status of the search for a new Head of School. Steve Berryhill will serve as Meeting representative on the Search Committee.

Stuart Hodges (Treasurer) presented the final financial results for fiscal year 2002-03. The Meeting accepted it, and thanked co-treasurers June and Stuart Hodges for their work preparing it.

Priscilla Adams reported for the Friends Transition Support Services. She is applying to the PYM Membership Development Support Fund for \$2900 to be used for a conference on Oct. 25 for Quaker families with loved ones in prison. She requested a minute of support from the Meeting and a small financial donation, as they are both requirements of the grant application. The Meeting approved a \$100 donation and also approved a minute of support.

Priscilla also reported on the pending suit by the IRS against PYM concerning war-tax resistance. *[At Interim Meeting's called session on September 18, PYM decided to answer a suit brought against it by the U.S. Department of Justice (acting on behalf of the IRS), and to defend itself in court. — ed.]*

Priscilla requested the Meeting join with Westfield Meeting in supporting the establishment of a mosque in Voorhees for Muslims in the area, on the grounds of religious freedom. It will be discussed further at next Meeting for Business.

Deedy Roberts reported that, at the Meeting Retreat, the Meeting will complete its responses to PYM queries for Annual Sessions.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on October 10 at 7:30 p.m.. On the agenda — more discussion of the Voorhees mosque and the revised School budget.

First Day School

The schedule for First Day School for Fall 2003 will begin on October 5 and continue through December 28. Sessions will begin 11:20 and conclude at 12:15. There are four classes — pre-K and kindergarten, first through third grades, fourth through sixth grades and seventh and eighth grades. Children learn about their Quaker faith and enjoy the fellowship of other children in the Meeting.

The schedule for children will be as follows:

- 10:00 Meeting for Worship, including all children.
- 10:20 A preschool First Day School teacher will leave with all preschoolers and any older children (through third grade) who wish to be dismissed. Preschoolers will have FDS at this time, while the older children will go to child care.
- 11:00 Coffee and social time for all.
- 11:20– Children grades one and up will go to FDS.
- 12:15 Preschoolers whose parents are attending adult FDS will go to child care.

Adult First Day School

We will launch the adult program with a five session program of Bible Study, facilitated by Keith Wallace. On November 9, there will be a program sponsored by the School Committee focusing on mutually supportive Meeting/School relationships. The rest of November will be dedicated to hearing from long-time members who will tell their stories. December will feature familiar favorites: Simple Gifts, a Christmas Play, and Children Reading Christmas Stories. The last week of December will be dedicated to an extended coffee hour to invite members' college-age children to visit and talk about their school years.

The Religious Education Committee is considering beginning a morning discussion group to meet once per month before meeting. Topics for this will vary, but may range from the writings of Robert Barclay and Thomas Kelly to issues about Middle East peace.

The next meeting of the Religious Education Committee is scheduled for October 12, 2003 at 12:30. We will be discussing Winter First Day School content. We welcome questions, suggestions and comments. Please direct these to either Leila Barclay or Jake McGlaughlin, co-clerks.

Quarterly Meeting

“Quarterly Meeting should be made up of weighty, seasoned and substantial Friends that understand the business of the Church.” George Fox

John Pomfret's history “The Province of West Jersey,” states that the first Quarterly Meeting in our area was held in 1687 and was attended by six delegates each from Salem and Newton Monthly Meetings. The Quarter increased in 1695 when Haddonfield Monthly Meeting was established and again in 1700 when Moorestown Meeting was formed. Haddonfield flourished until it became the largest Meeting in the area. Salem split off to form its own quarter, and in 1722 the Quarterly Meeting was moved to Haddonfield. Thus, Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting is one of the oldest continuing deliberative bodies in our nation, preceding by more than a half a century the Congress of the United States.

The original purpose of Quarterly Meeting was to attend to “any business that seems needful.” Its duties included setting boundaries between Meetings, quieting disputes between member Meetings and occasionally reviewing decisions by Monthly Meetings. At a time when most of the inhabitants of West Jersey were Quaker, Quarterly Meeting was a forum to address issues that affected the community as a whole.

As the Yearly Meeting system evolved, Quarterly Meeting served as a link between Monthly and Yearly Meetings. As the number of non-Friends grew in the area, Quarterly Meeting's role in community affairs waned. However, as most Friends in the area were part of extended families spread among the various Monthly Meetings, Quarterly Meeting continued to serve an important social role in Friends' lives. This role continued up through the first half of the twentieth century. Elder Friends in our Meeting, such as Merritt Pharo, have spoken of their fond recollection of gathering with distant friends and family at Quarterly Meetings gone by.

Today, Haddonfield Quarter consists of Newton, Haddonfield, Cropwell, Moorestown, Medford, Westfield and the Atlantic City Area Meetings. (Another Meeting, Mount Laurel, is preparative to Moorestown.) The Quarter aims to serve as a link between these Meetings. It helps our smaller Meetings with financial assistance. It also seeks to establish collaboration between committees of different Meetings and encourage leadings of individual members. The Quarter has institutions under its care including the Greenleaf

retirement community and the Orchard Friends School for developmentally challenged children.

Haddonfield Quarter also retains the services of Priscilla Adams as Field Peace secretary. Priscilla works on peace projects and non-violence training. Through Haddonfield Meeting, she is also working on Friends Transitional Support Services, to assist persons returning from incarceration.

Last year, a series of discussions were held on the future of Quarterly Meeting. It was wondered if it should be laid down as an archaic institution from horse and buggy days, obsolete in the time of e-mail and computer networking. However, others felt that, much like the magnificent old Meeting Houses in which we worship, Quarterly Meeting and other Friends traditions are a part of the spiritual inheritance we are granted when we embrace this faith. They were established to fill a need and that need still exists today. It was decided to put new life into Quarterly Meeting and adapt it to our times that it may perform the purpose for which it was formed — to promote the spiritual growth of the Friends under its care.

Earlier this year, a Committee to Assist the Clerk of the Quarter was formed to oversee the details of Quarterly Meeting. The idea behind this committee is to take on the minutiae of Quarterly business, so that when Quarterly Meeting is gathered, Friends will be free to focus on worship, their leadings, and each other. Each Monthly Meeting has appointed two members to this Committee, but it is open to all who are interested. One idea that has grown from these committee meetings is to hire a coordinator for our Quarter.

At the October Quarterly Meeting Session, to be held on October 26th at Medford Meeting, the Clerk of Haddonfield Quarter, Jarry Jones, will present a proposal to hire a coordinator. All members and attenders in Haddonfield Quarter are encouraged to attend and participate in this discussion.

At September's Meeting for Business, Haddonfield Friends committed to encouraging members to participate at Quarterly Meeting. First Day school will not be scheduled when Quarterly Meeting is to be held, directions to the host Meeting will be posted in the Meetinghouse and carpooling may be arranged.

It is hoped that those who attend Quarterly Meeting will stay a while and visit with Friends from other Meetings. We encounter far too few Quakers in the community at large. With the high pace of modern

living and the ever increasing work week, Friends are now more isolated from each other than in our rural past. Quarterly Meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet F(f)riends from other Meetings with whom they may share ideas, concerns and spiritual kinship.

Schedule for Quarterly Meeting

10:00 — Worship

11:00 — Business Meeting

12:00 — Lunch provided by Medford Meeting

Medford Meeting is at 14 Union Street, Medford, NJ. From Haddonfield, take Route 70 East about ten miles to Main Street in Medford. Turn right onto Main Street, go down three blocks to Union Street and make another right. The Meetinghouse will be on the left.

Gary Smith

Highlights of the Quarterly Peace & Social Concerns Committee

At our September meeting, there were reports and discussion on more topics than we can cover here. The committee approved Westfield Meeting's minute in support of a proposed Mosque in Voorhees that is receiving some community opposition. We can support the religious freedom of another house of worship by going to a meeting November 6th at 8 p.m. in the Voorhees Municipal Building.

The Conscience, Militarism and War Tax Concerns working group is talking about ideas for lobbying, public education and fundraising for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's position in regard to the IRS demand to garnish the wages of Priscilla Adams for her refusal to pay taxes for war. Priscilla encouraged committee members to let Friends know that she welcomes questions and concerns regarding this issue.

Medford's Peace & Social Concerns Committee sent letters to over 50 local religious congregations asking if any of their congregants would like to work with Quakers on peace and social justice issues.

The Quarter plans to continue our successful food drive for Senior Care. As many organizations donate to needy communities around the holidays, we have decided to wait until later in the winter when the need may be greater.

Susan D. Tucker

News From HFS

The first graders in Tr. Linda's class have been very busy the first weeks of school learning about bears. We are quite knowledgeable about the different species of bears, their habitat, hibernation and what they like to eat. We even had a bear hunt all over the school which ended in a beautiful Teddy Bear Tea Party for both first grades.

We have also become experts on the topic of Monarch butterflies thanks to Tr. Bonnie's first grade. We learned about the entire life cycle, miraculous migration to Mexico, how to tell females from males, and identify the body parts. HFS students tagged and released over 90 butterflies raised in their classrooms, in cooperation with Monarch Watch. Monarch Watch is an organization based in Kansas which draws on the help of teachers and students across much of North America to further scientific research on the monarch butterfly. (See monarchwatch.org)

The first grade classes visited Powell's Greenhouse in Mickleton (the family greenhouse of Tr. Linda's family) at the end of September. This trip followed our seed and plant study.

AFSC Annual Public Gathering

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) celebrates more than 85 years of service to humanity at its Annual Public Gathering, challenging audiences to find creative ways to put their faith into action. The program runs from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at Friends Center, 15th and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia.

The keynote speaker will be civil rights activist Jean Fairfax, AFSC's former director of Southern programs and Director of Community Service Programs for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. Her topic, "Defending the Right to Public Education — From the 1950s to the Present," will explore the closing of public schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia, following the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education court decision on school segregation. The presentation will be followed by three simultaneous panel presentations offering an analysis of current threats to public education.

October 25 Conference on Prison and Families

Friends Transition Support Services is planning a conference for Friends who have had a family member or other loved one in prison. The conference will be held from 2 – 5 p.m. Saturday, October 25, at Haddonfield Meeting (NJ). Two of the goals for the conference are to:

1. look for ways to support everyone in the family with the re-entry process, and
2. look for ways Friends can have an impact on the current prison/court system.

Friends Transition Support Services is a project of Haddonfield Meeting (NJ) and will be working with PYM groups on this conference. FTSS provides services to people who are coming out of or at risk of going into prison or drug programs, and their families.

Separation Wall in the Occupied Territories

For information on the wall/fence being built in the OT, here are a few good web sites, all with useful links.

The Israeli Human Rights organization
<http://www.btselem.org>

Palestine Solidarity Campaign
<http://www.palestinecampaign.org>

Also, Palestine Environmental NGOs, <http://www.pengon.org>, and the Presbyterian Church USA's Washington, DC office send out a mailing as events unfold — contact Catherine Gordon at cgordon@ctr.pcuas.org

Leila Barclay

Quakerism 101

Mount Holly Monthly Meeting is sponsoring an 8-week course on Quakerism 101 with Bill Probsting, head of Westfield Friends School, as the facilitator. The course begins on October 9 and will be held Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. It is open to all members of PYM.

October 2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:15 am All-school Meeting for Worship 7 pm School Committee	2	3	4
5 10 am Meeting for Worship 11:20 am FDS	6 YOM KIPPUR	7	8 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Worship & Ministry	9	10 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting for Business	11 Called Session to review PYM structure. 8:30 am - 4 pm
12 9 am Library Com 9 am P&SC Com 10 am Mtg for Worship 11:20 am FDS 12:30 pm REC	13 COLUMBUS DAY	14 7:30 pm Committee for Care of Members and Attenders	15 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship 7:30 pm Property Committee	16	17	18
19 Newsletter deadline 10 am Mtg for Worship 11:00 am FDS 12:00 covered dish	20	21	22 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship	23	24	25
26 Daylight Savings Time Ends 10 am Meeting for Worship 10 am Quarterly Mtg	27	28	29 9:15 am School Meeting for Worship	30	31 HALLOWEEN	