

Quakerphernalia

The Newsletter of Bucks Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

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Deadline for Quakerphernalia : By the 11th day of the preceding months publication

NOVEMBER 2012

Nov 3 9am-3pm Spirituality and the Final Third of Life

Budget and Nominating Meets at Wrightstown Meeting Social Hall

Nov 6 11:30am to 1:30pm Open House at Friends Village 215-968-9222

Nov 8 7pm Bucks Quarter Oversight Meets at Buckingham Friends School - Jackson House

Nov 11 6pm Camp Onas Board Meets at Wrightstown Meeting Social Hall

Nov 13 7pm Bucks Quarter Outreach Committee Meets at Pennswood Village

Nov 14 2pm Chandler Hall Auxiliary Meets in the Moorehouse Room, Wright Meeting House at CH

Nov 18 9am-3pm Quarterly Meeting for Worship, Fellowship and Business at Yardley Meeting

Nov 19 6pm Bucks Food For Friends at Fallsington Meetinghouse

Nov 21 2-5pm Open House at Friends Home 215-968-3346

Nov 22 9:30am Thanksgiving Worship and Brunch at Plumstead Meeting

Nov 27 9:30-11am Open House - The Quaker School at Horsham

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan 1 Noon-2 Annual Bucks Quarter Skating Party!

Chandler Hall Worship Services will be organized by
November ~ Yardley December ~ Buckingham January ~ Doylestown
Worship 11:00**Arrive 10:45**

Spirituality and the Final Third of Life: A Friends Approach

Sponsored by Bucks Quarterly Meeting ~ Held at Buckingham Friends Meeting and School
5684 Old York Road, Lahaska, PA 18931 ~ Next to Peddler's Village

Join Friends on **Saturday November 3, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM** for an exciting and interesting workshop that will help you plan for your future, and that of your parents and children. There will be Friends to share information and stories on getting your documents, pensions, etc. in order, making home improvements so you can stay in your home, preparing your legal documents, green burials, caregiving, emotional aspects of aging and having those tough but necessary conversations with your family, friends and physicians. This workshop is also important for monthly meeting pastoral care members.

It may not be too late to register...contact Holly Olson at 215-860-9747 or hollybQc@verizon.net (\$10.00 fee)

Sunday, November 18 ~ Quarterly Meeting for Worship, Fellowship, and Business

Join Friends and Share Your Light

Yardley Monthly Meeting 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Schedule of Events

9:00 ~ Refreshments and Registration – All Friends and visitors are requested to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to Mercer Street Friends Food Bank.

9:45 – 10:45 ~ Meeting for Worship (Young Friends are present for the first 15 minutes of worship)

10:00 – Noon ~ Children's Program: "Seeing the Light" – Through discussion and hands-on projects, young friends will learn how the quality of light changes throughout the year and how, in turn, that transformation informs and inspires our process of worship.

10:45 – 11:00 ~ Break

11:00 – 12:00 ~ Adult Program: "Quakers and Politics – Illuminating a Path out of the Quagmire of Hyper-Partisanship". One of the more difficult obligations of Friends in worship is to disaggregate the always welcome ministry of Peace from the unwelcome ministry of politics. And yet, like most citizens, Friends often find that a thoughtful discussion (i.e. one free of polemics), substantively aids the process of discernment in matters of Public Policy. In recent months, Yardley Friends have developed an program that aids civic discernment and simultaneously strengthens our spiritual community. Friends are invited to gather, listen to a description of the process by which we lay the groundwork for a discussion of public policy, and experience the process of discernment through Friendly discourse. Many participants in our discussion group see this methodology as an exemplar of respectful dialogue in matters of public policy while at the same time providing Friends with an opportunity to prominently model Quaker principles outside the Meetinghouse.

12:00 – 1:00 ~ Simple Lunch (provided by Yardley Friends)

1:00 – 3:00 PM ~ Meeting for Business: We will hear from Newtown and Plumstead Meetings, Friends Camp Assoc.(Camp Onas), the coordinator and Treasurer as well as the Budget and Nominating Committee.

YOU'RE INVITED

MIDDLETOWN FRIENDS MEETING

ANNUAL AUCTION AND POTLUCK DINNER

Join Middletown Friends for their annual auction on Friday November 2nd. Dinner begins at 6:00pm and bidding starts at 7:00.

If you wish to bring a donation to the auction (not necessary) please arrive by 5:30 so it can be logged in and tagged. Bring your cash, checkbook, and your sense of humor. All funds raised go toward unexpected requests for funding during the year.

Hot dogs from the grill and beverages provided – please bring your favorite appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert

For more information, contact Robin at 215-322-8920 or Robin.Hipple@gmail.com

SEE NEW JOB POSTING IN THE FRIENDLY SERVICES NEEDED SECTION AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER

THANKSGIVING MEETING FOR WORSHIP AT PLUMSTEAD MEETING

Plumstead Friends invite you to Worship on Thanksgiving morning 9:30. Friends are also invited to bring food or beverage to share for potluck brunch at the rise of Meeting.

Plumstead is our “greenest” of Meetinghouses (no electricity or fossil fuel dependency form of heat), but a great wood stove they do have! As the Meetinghouse grows warmer, so does the Spirit within. Come enjoy this very special time.

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!

Fourteen Quaker Meetinghouses, a photographic collection about the history of Bucks Quarter, is still available (order on line) and would make a great Christmas gift. Proceeds from the book are donated to Plumstead Friends Meeting and the Hilltown Historical Society. Contact the author, Carol Ann Gray, at 215-795-0945 for details how to order.

LIVES PASSING

Buckingham Friends suffer the loss of **Wayne Issacs**.

CHANDLER HALL AUXILIARY

The Chandler Hall Aux. invites everyone to attend their meetings. The Auxiliary exists to support the board and staff to care for aging residents. They are planning fund raisers, social gatherings and volunteer opportunities. Please contact Kathie Parry for more information or to join. jkparry1@comcast.net or 215-968-5925

MIDWEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Tuesdays at Southampton 7:30 PM

Wednesdays at Lehigh Valley 5:00 PM

Wednesdays at Makefield 7:00 AM

Wednesdays at Middletown 7:00 PM

Wednesday at Plumstead 8:30 AM

FIRST DAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS OF PHILA. (ARCH STREET MEETING)

The Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia is looking for a Coordinator/Teacher-Trainer for a First Day School. Students will range in age from pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade. The class will meet Sundays at 10:15 am for one hour. The Coordinator/Teacher-Trainer will work three hours per week and will be expected to be present at Arch Street Meeting from 10 am to 12 pm on two to three Sundays per month.

The position is located at the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia, Arch Street Meeting House, 4th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA. For more information about this opportunity and to learn how to apply, see the full description on the PYM website at <http://www.pym.org/employment-opportunities>

SUCCESSFUL AND EFFECTIVE COMMITTEES: THE DYNAMICS OF WORKING TOGETHER

Saturday, Nov. 3, 9:30–3:30 at the Abington Friends Meetinghouse. As committee members discern what to do to accomplish goals and move forward, it helps to understand how best to use our very human impulses, even as we worship and work together. The more we understand the forces that affect how groups operate and how group dynamics affect decision making, the more successful our groups will be, and the sounder our decisions. Joan Broadfield and Lynne Shivers will co-lead this workshop, sponsored by the PYM Nominating Committee. For more information contact Joan Broadfield at broadfieldje@gmail.com or 610-874-5860.

*This version of the August Quarterly Meeting minutes contains the edited highlights.
The minutes in full detail will be brought for consideration to Quarterly Meeting in November
at Yardley Monthly Meeting*

BUCKS QUARTER RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

MEETING FOR BUSINESS

AUGUST 26, 2012

HELD at BRISTOL MONTHLY MEETING

Clerk: Amy Ward Brimmer (Fallsington MM) **Recording Clerk:** David Rose (Lehigh Valley MM)

Friends gathered around the appointed hour of 1:00 PM and settled into a period of worship.

Agenda reviewed and accepted.

Roll Call of Meetings:

Bristol: 4, Buckingham: 1, Doylestown:3, Fallsington: 2, LehighValley: 2, Makefield: 3, Middletown: 3, Newtown: 4, Plumstead: 0, Quakertown NJ: 2, Solebury: 1, Southampton: 2, Wrightstown: 2, Yardley: 1

Minutes approved with corrections noted

Stories of Vitality and Growth were offered by Wrightstown, Doylestown, Lehigh Valley and Middletown Meetings.

Quarter Coordinator's Report given by Holly Olson (Middletown). (Complete written report available). She prefaced her report with the suggestion that Annual Reports presented to Quarterly Meeting should also be included in meeting monthly newsletters.

- Special importance placed on the Aging Workshop, called “Spirit and the Final Third of Life: A Friends Approach”, that will be held on November third at Buckingham Meeting House and School. All present were urged to publicize this program at their monthly meeting.
- Outreach listed the various festivals throughout Bucks County that will have a Quaker presences.

The Clerk provided an opportunity for Friends to discuss their experience at Annual Sessions after a quick poll indicated that almost all in attendance at BQM had also attended Annual Sessions.

Buckingham MM Annual Report was given by Bethann Morgan, Co-Clerk. Highlighted was the excitement of receiving three new applications for membership, the enjoyment of working on Snipes Farm, and the success of "Games Night" on Saturday evenings.

Southampton MM Annual Report was given by Carolyn Eckel, Clerk. Currently first day meeting for worship is held on the fourth Sunday of the month. Weekly evening Meeting for Worship is held on Tuesday. The Meetinghouse is also used by a number of other groups. The work that the Meeting has done to continue with so few active members was recognized.

Solebury MM Annual Report was given by John Kellogg, Clerk. Betsy Cotton (FDS Coordinator) has been doing a wonderful job preparing lesson plans for young Friends. First Day Adult Discussion has been focusing on Geoffrey Durham's book "The Spirit of Quakers". Attendance overall has been very steady without significant increases or decreases.

Amy Ward Brimmer provided an update of the changes to applying to the **Friends Education Fund**. Administration of the Fund has been transferred from the Yearly Meeting to Friends Council on Education. This year, forty-four children in Bucks Quarter are receiving assistance from this fund.

Treasurer's Report: Tim Dwyer (Bristol MM), Treasurer, and Betsy Bayardi (Wrightstown MM), Clerk of Budget and Nominating, gave report. Betsy reported that we are in good shape with \$21,000 in checking account at the end of the fiscal year. All commitments were met and all bills were paid. Determining the correct amount of money to be held in reserve was discussed. Budget and Nominating committee takes into account the changing economic and market situations in establishing reserve amount desired.

Proposal: A Fivefold Path to Peace. Bethann Morgan reported for the Ad Hoc Group formed at last Quarterly session. It has considered the proposal created by Paul Kester and titled Conflict: Causes, Consequences and Cures Peace Proposal and reported that the group supports it. She then read the proposal which included the Fivefold Path to Harmony. The Clerk asked for response from the Meeting. Interim Meeting is going to need clear instructions as to what they are supposed to do. It was suggested that the minute be referred to the PYM Standing Committee on Peace and Social Concerns and then forwarded to Interim Meeting with their suggestion for action to be taken. Friends supported Paul Kester to carry forward his Peace Proposal.

Wrightstown MM Annual Report given by Leo Fitzpatrick, Clerk. He noted that three dear members passed away this year. Renovation of the Meetinghouse is done. Nursery School director Kate Lightfoot is recruiting for the Nursery School and still has some openings. He also reported that the Outreach Committee is addressing the downturn in attendance in First Day School and Worship.

Middletown MM (Middletown Friends Meeting at Langhorne) Annual Report was given by Bill Daly. Report focused on strengthening meeting for worship and highlighted the variety of programs that are being held at the Meetinghouse.

Yardley MM Annual Report was not read.

Quaker School at Horsham Annual Report was given by Ruth Joray. Small specialized schools are facing many difficulties in the current economic climate and the school has had to re-budget due to declining enrollment. Mission of school is a wonderful meld of the values of Quakerism and dealing with the Learning Disabled. Some new concepts being introduced are therapy dogs. School should be recommended to any parents in the Quarter who have special needs students. The school needs additional Board members with experience in Marketing and Development.

Minute on Separation of Church and State: The following minute, approved by Lehigh Valley Meeting for Business of August 5, 2012, and HR 771 which it refers to, was read by David Rose.

MINUTE 1: Lehigh Valley Quakers call for a vote on HR 771 declaring 2012 "Year of Religious Diversity in Pennsylvania". Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) has a three hundred and thirty two year history that goes back to the founding of Pennsylvania by William Penn, a Quaker. Lehigh Valley Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends considers an important legacy that William Penn left is the value that he placed on religious toleration and freedom from any dictates by government in matters of personal faith. This value is still expressed in the Pennsylvania Constitution Declaration of Rights which states: "no preference shall be given by law to any religious establishment or modes of worship". Pennsylvania, and the United States, have greatly benefitted from our heritage of religious toleration and freedom of conscience. Lehigh Valley Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends therefore supports House Resolution 771 declaring 2012 "the Year of Religious Diversity", introduced by Representative Mark B. Cohen on June 13, 2012 and referred to the House Committee on State Government. We urge that it be release from committee and voted on its adoption by the House.

David Rose indicated that the process upon approval of the minute by Bucks Quarterly Meeting would be to have it considered by PYM Interim Meeting with the intention of having the approved minute forwarded to the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, Pennsylvania House of Representatives leaderships, sponsors and cosponsors of HR 771, and members of the Committee on State Government. Meeting approved minute as presented and recommended its consideration by Interim Meeting.

Bucks Food for Friends: Holly provided an update on the program that started three years ago and now has seventeen churches involved. The level of cooperation and giving is outstanding with additional volunteers always appreciated.

After Announcements, **Meeting ended** with a period of silence at 3:55 pm.

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