



# SPRING UPDATE

for Donors and Friends



# Special Campaign Passes the Halfway Mark

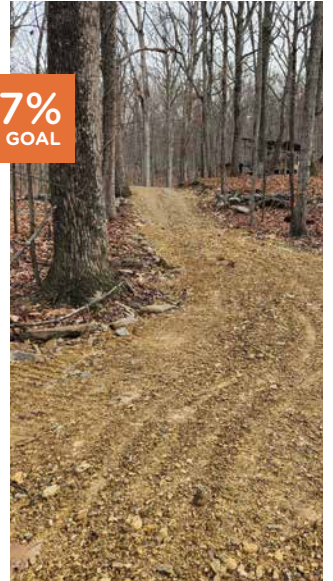
Generosity makes construction,  
upgrades and renovations possible!

Arthur Boyd, Clerk of the Committee focusing on fundraising for the Opequon Quaker Camp Project announced that – as of April 1, 2024 – over \$400,000 of the \$700,000 goal has been donated for the Special Campaign!

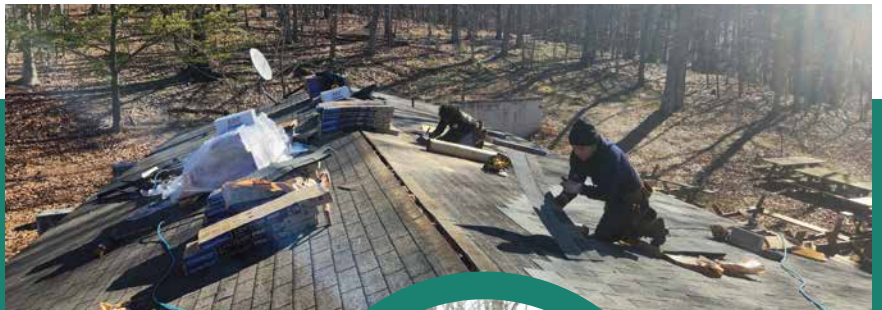
*“It has been a wonderful experience for all of us on the Special Campaign Committee to see how excited and committed our BYM family is about this important project. Moving Opequon from the previous rental property to the beauty and safety of the Rolling Ridge Conservancy is the vital next step in the growth and long-term sustainability of BYM Camps.”*

We continue to deepen our commitment to diversity, equity and radical inclusion for Friends of all ages for years to come!

GOAL  
\$700,000



57%  
TO GOAL



## Upcoming 2024 Spring Community Work Days!

We are looking forward to a spectacular summer full of possibilities and we would love to have your help! Spring is a special time to be at BYM camps, and we invite you to be part of the fun, and the service!

**MAY  
3-5**



### A Special Weekend at Opequon Quaker Camp, and a Special Invitation for You!

**AT OPEQUON QUAKER CAMP  
671 FLOC WAY, HARPERS FERRY, WV 25425**

We are so excited about our new Opequon Quaker Camp site at Rolling Ridge that we are going to make a weekend of it! We have plenty of projects to work on, and cleaning to do, and friends are welcome to explore the beautiful new location!

**MAY  
18**



### A Special Weekend at Shiloh Quaker Camp with maybe a little more content

**AT SHILOH QUAKER CAMP  
4774 MIDDLE RIVER RD, STANARDSVILLE, VA 22973**

Come for the day and help with cleaning projects, repairs and a few work projects!

**JUNE  
8**



### A Special Weekend at Catoctin Quaker Camp with maybe a little more content

**CATOCTIN QUAKER CAMP  
12611 TOWER RD, THURMONT, MD 21788**

It's time to make Catoctin ready for the summer camping program! Come for the day and help get camp set up, do some cleaning and some repairs!

## QUESTIONS?

Please reach out to David Hunter, BYM's Camping Property Manager - [davidhunter@bym-rsf.org](mailto:davidhunter@bym-rsf.org)

**Sign up here!**

<https://bymcamps.org/community-work-days/>

## One of BYM's First Campers Reflects on Generations of the Fire Circle, and the Joys of Camp

Jim Riley's family have been Quakers in Winchester, Virginia since the 1720's. He grew up loving the outdoors, camping and hiking in (then) rural Virginia, was a boy scout and went to Boy Scout Camp. In 1955, Baltimore Yearly Meeting rented a 4-H Camp in Western Maryland for Yearly Meeting children which Jim attended. Then, in 1956, Jim spent a week at the newly opened Catoclin Quaker Camp.



Jim & Mary Riley at home in Winchester, VA

*“There were no cabins then,” Jim remembers, “just lean-tos – wooden floors with a tarp for a roof. If it rained, there you were. And the old bathhouse was young! I loved it. Loved being outside, the swimming was great, we looked up to the counselors.”*

Jim became an assistant counselor at age 15, then served as a Catoclin Quaker Camp counselor, along with Frances Shutz from Charlottesville Meeting. Both families then sent children to camp, who grew into staff and volunteers!

*“There was a beautiful Friday night ceremony where we made little wooden boats and put candles on them, then floated them in the lake, like stars on the water. And, I especially remember the Fire Circle. I'll never forget how everyone looked, the beauty and community feeling of those wonderful Camp rituals.”*

Jim, his wife Mary and son Josh have been deeply involved with BYM Camps ever since, and when consensus was reached on need for the Special Campaign for Opequon Quaker Camp, Jim and Mary began talking about making a significant gift as the campaign got started.

*“Along with celebrating our family's generational, lasting experiences with BYM Camps, every time we talked about the move to Rolling Ridge – such a unique property, really a perfect location – we got more enthusiastic and excited. For us, the Way Opened.”*

We are so grateful to the Riley family, and to all our BYM community who have already made their commitments to the Special Campaign.

Summer 2024 at Opequon Quaker Camp at Rolling Ridge is possible because of YOU!

# THANK YOU!

**Arthur Boyd**  
Clerk, Special Campaign for OQC,  
Stony Run Friends Meeting

**Al Best**  
Richmond Friends Meeting

**Gretchen Hall**  
Alexandria Friends Meeting

**Jon Nafziger**  
Charlottesville Friends Meeting

**Victor Thuronyi**  
Adelphi Friends Meeting

**Barb Platt**  
Clerk, BYM Development Committee,  
Sandy Springs Friends Meeting

**Sarah Gillooly**  
BYM General Secretary

**Brian Massey**  
Programs Manager, BYM Camps

**David Hunter**  
BYM Camp Properties Manager

**Nikki Holland**  
BYM Development Manager

**Barbara Wille**  
Special Campaign Support

