
THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
REPORTED TO ANNUAL SESSION AT HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA
3, 8TH MONTH, 2006

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is a consolidated Yearly Meeting. We are two sides of a family who have noted our similarities and differences and have agreed that we are more alike than not, and so can live, work, and fellowship under the same tent. Possibly because of our own diversity, which allows each of us to find a place at the table, we are a growing Yearly Meeting. Our Meetings are enriched by a range of theological perspectives and spiritual vocabularies. We meet on the common ground of openness to God, the leading of the Spirit, and our need to listen and learn from each other.

We find ourselves placed in a world filled with tension and violence; a world that God calls us to improve. From Meetings situated in bucolic settings, and Meetings surrounded by the noise and busyness of urban scapes, we hear a fervent desire for peace, justice, harmony, and love.

A myriad of local and global issues call us to respond. There is motion along these lines. From vigils to conferences and active involvements, the Meetings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends continually discern where their energies and resources can be directed for the betterment of all God's children and this Earth on which we dwell.

Within some of our Meetings, we witness sporadic attendance at Meetings for Worship and, often, meager attention to Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business. The presence and love of seasoned Friends, who were once the life-giving energies of our Meetings, are deeply missed; some have been called away by desires for much needed rest, some by illness or death, and others by relocations to distant regions. Among those we deeply miss is Frank Massey, our general secretary who faithfully served the Yearly Meeting for seventeen years. Frank and Beth have removed to North Carolina to pursue new challenges. Memories of their love and tender care will linger with us forever. Whatever the nature of the departures, we, those left behind, must ask ourselves if we are fully prepared to pick up the vacated mantles and willingly, and joyfully, carry on the labors that enrich and nurture our communities.

Many Meetings are giving much attention to youth safety concerns. Studying these issues has led us to seek new understandings of how we protect and care for the dignity and well being of all members of our communities.

We continue to seek way forward in our relationship with Friends United Meeting (FUM). We struggle with the rightness of giving financially to this Friends organization that enforces a policy that excludes our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters from positions of service. At the same time, we recognize the value of the many FUM programs around the world that improve the quality of life for others. Friends are certain that we must stay in communion with our brethren who do not share our truth. We pray for open ears, minds, and hearts to lead us out of this impasse.

The kidnapping and murder of our beloved Friend, Tom Fox, brought us face to face with the reality of thousands of people around the world. We have had a taste of their experience and their sorrow. Our grief extends to all who suffer and die every day.

We know that when someone is removed from Spirit-led work, the work continues, and it is our responsibility to pick up the concern and carry it on. As a Yearly Meeting, we are committed to keeping Tom's Light shining as we continue his unfinished labors on behalf of Iraqi detainees.

What may appear at first notice to be trouble and tribulations among us are indeed gifts of the Spirit that challenge us to go deeper into the understanding of the Eternal. We have been highly sensitized this past year to our own and the sufferings of others, whether from natural disasters or human injustice and cruelty and death. All that we have experienced has deepened our sense of connectedness to each other and to the Light. Though we are a consolidated people, we are ultimately and truly unified, one with another, by the Love and Grace of God.

Prepared by Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING EPISTLE

Eighth Month 6, 2006

O God guide us
strengthen us and support us
help us live in harmony with thy will.

Greetings to Friends everywhere:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends gathered for its 335th annual session from Seventh Month 31 to Eighth Month 6, 2006 on the green – but hot – campus of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Our theme was Living in Harmony: With One Another and All Creation. This year marks the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Friend Elizabeth Harris in the Chesapeake Bay area, leading to the establishment of the first Quaker Meetings in America. We seek among us the same courage and harmony with God's will that brought her to our area so long ago.

An opening retreat led by Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch encouraged us to experience diversity within the Religious Society of Friends and included a wonderful jazz concert, a parable of harmony. Young Adult Friend Rachel Stacy gave an impassioned talk about Friends and transformation, the Light shining through her as she strode about the platform, leading us into deep worship.

Our beloved Friend Tom Fox, a Christian Peacemaker Team member, was kidnapped in Iraq on Eleventh Month 26, 2005, then shot and killed on Third Month 9, 2006. Our grief, especially our campers' and Young Friends' grief, is profound. A moving memorial meeting, an evening panel of heartfelt sharing and other activities helped us understand that Tom's ministry and death are a witness to the whole world and a legacy for the future. Our Young Friends and Young Adult Friends honor Tom's memory by moving forward in Tom's playful spirit and humor.

Throughout the week, in business sessions, over meals, and during worship and activities, the love working within our vibrant community comforted us in our grief. We celebrated the presence among us of our Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends who encircled our business session with love and song.

The Young Friends in Ramallah Program participants brought us messages of desires for peace and justice for the troubled Middle East. Their experiences and reflections on the fifteen days of listening, service, and learning in Palestine and Israel will be helpful resources for understanding the situation in that region.

We joyfully welcomed our new General Secretary Robert H. Robinson, Jr. (known to all of us as Riley), and expressed appreciation for the hard work of our continuing staff and of Howard Fullerton, who served as Interim General Secretary after the resignation of Frank Massey, our General Secretary for the past 17 years.

Our Camping Program staff shared with us its goal of providing campers with attainable challenges, situations that put campers in a zone between comfort and panic, a place of stretching where they most feel the Spirit working and where they grow.

We continue to labor with whether we can financially support Friends United Meeting while its personnel policy effectively discriminates against gays, lesbians, and others. Though our connection to FUM and its work is important to us, can we, in good conscience, fund a policy we find hurtful and wrong? This challenge has taken us out of the comfort zone into the place of spiritual growth through continued intervisitation with other FUM Friends and continued seeking for discernment. Our intervisitations have built bonds of affection, and we welcome invitations for future visits.

The presence of many visitors enriched our session. Marshall Massey, of Omaha Monthly Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative), who carries a deep concern for a common environmental testimony among Friends, walked much of the way to our session from Nebraska. In the Carey Memorial Lecture, Marshall called on Friends to approach environmental concerns in the same way that the earliest Friends changed the world: by keeping under the dictates of God and by speaking to the spiritual condition of others. There is no need for despair. We should dream big dreams, and pursue them as a community.

Yours in the Light,
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS EPISTLE

Greetings, Friends.

Last year, the Young Adult Friends were joyous as we sent out the news of our community's revitalization. We brought forth our new community's first epistle; we ran a fishbowl and several social events; and our focus on identity produced a Minute of Purpose outlining our foundation and long-term goals. We come to this Annual Session with a new reason to be joyous. We've achieved many of the goals we set for ourselves last year; new Young Adult Friends are contributing to our ongoing vitality and growth; and we've formed new goals for our continued development as a community.

In keeping with our Minute of Purpose, Young Adult Friends held two gatherings this year. The first, held during Ninth Month at Alexandria Friends Meeting, focused on long-term planning. The second, held at Adelphi Friends Meeting during Twelfth Month, gave Friends a chance to witness through service by participating in a food drive. We also created a new email list to help us keep in touch and organized social activities through this Annual Session week to help us bond. We are glad to affirm that these steps have indeed helped us to form a strong and stable community.

We rejoice also at our continuing growth. We are accustomed to welcoming new members, but we were astounded by how quickly and how well this year's new YAFs made themselves an integral part of the community. Their contributions to our business process, committees, and social activities have proven invaluable as we work to move our program forward. As many of our new YAFs come to us from the Young Friends program, we thank the Young Friends for invigorating the spirit within these individuals and for contributing to the infusion of new energy that has strengthened our community this year.

As we look forward to the coming year, we find even more cause for joy. We've scheduled two more conferences and plans for a Young Adult Friends' Manual of Operations are underway. We also hope to continue our outreach to Young Adults and Young Adult Friends communities within BYM's monthly meetings. Several of our Friends have also expressed an interest in networking with Young Adult Friends in other Yearly Meetings, and we seek to support them as they follow their leadings to promote inter-visitation and mutual understanding.

Last year, we produced an epistle in hopes that small steps would lead to great strides. The small steps we have taken over this past year have brought us to a path where great strides seem well within reach, and we look forward to finding out where the road will lead.

In the Silence,
The Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

YOUNG FRIENDS EPISTLE

The loss of a member of the community is never easy, and the tragic capture and death of Tom Fox was no exception. The world, however, does not stop when a heart stops, and, despite our collective grief, our community persevered.

One thing Tom Fox was always in awe of was our self-governance. Yet lately we have struggled to live up to the grave responsibility self-governance represents. Committees were made but never met; attendance has dropped among Young Friends, Friendly Adult Presences, and Floaters; and process was upheld in neither the way concerns were brought to the community nor the way issues were addressed. Things came to a head at what fondly became known as the Business Meeting of Doom, wherein our community's very right to exist came into question. But the Spirit spoke that night and guided us back towards functioning as a self-governed community.

The process has not been without its serendipities. Paraphernalia Committee has produced a CafePress shop wherein Young Friends t-shirts and other paraphernalia will soon be available for purchase; Calendar Committee will be printing calendars next week; and the Ramallah trip has returned safely from a fruitful journey. An effort to improve handbook literacy produced astounding epiphanies as to the role and relationships of the many named positions within the community, be they members of Executive Committee, Friendly Adult Presences, or Floaters. The latter of which were re-welcomed into our community and proved to be immeasurable sources of wise counsel. While the issue of boundaries is still being addressed, the related communication problems between Young Friends and the greater Baltimore Yearly Meeting Community have an easy enough fix: Feedback forms. Look for them in the next BYFN (light willing). Filled as it has been with Comic book Superheroes, a philosophical policeman, and the furtive attempt by God to speak through a burning bush—an attempt that

was crushed in its infancy by an overzealous volunteer fireman—the positive change in our community’s overall cohesiveness and spirituality over the past week has been tangible.

The Young Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

JUNIOR YOUNG FRIENDS EPISTLE

Dear Friends,

This week at Junior Young Friends was a time of newcomers and, with them, new ideas. We chose two first-timers, Matthew Bacon and Amy Heaton as our Clerk and Recording Clerk, respectively.. Although two of our conferences during the year were canceled due to lack of kids and FAPs (Friends Adult Presences), we had a good turnout at Annual Session. We are also thankful to the adults working at increasing the size and quality of our conferences.

We explored the theme of finding our voices through exploring Rachel Stacy’s [talk on what] is possible and then discussing it along with other topics including peacemaking, homosexuality, and reaching out to Quaker and other communities. We talked about Rachel’s question “What do you think is possible and what are you doing to make it happen?”

Eden and Jim Grace of Friends United Meeting African Ministries blessed us with their presence on Wednesday. They discussed issues they are working on in Kenya such as putting girls in schools and community development. Gary Gillespie visited us on Thursday and explained his peacemaking work at American Friends Service Committee. We then tried walking meditation. On Friday John Calvi showed us some energy and meditation work.

As our service project we played with little kids in the nursery. Also, several JYFs signed up as “Red Hats” [to help carry trays] at mealtimes. We made dream catchers, played Mafia, and hit ping pong balls off the walls.

At our sleepover we had tacos, sundaes (with extensive toppings), and sodas, which we relished. We watched *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

We will take home many memories and thoughts from our fellow JYFs. We hope to see all of them again.

Yours in the Light,
The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Junior Young Friends

MINUTES OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING INTERIM MEETING

TENTH MONTH 22, 2005

LITTLE BRITAIN MONTHLY MEETING

I2005-61 *Opening.* Baltimore Yearly Meeting's (BYM's) Interim Meeting gathered at Penn Hill Meeting House, Little Britain Monthly Meeting, Wakefield, Pennsylvania, on Tenth Month 22, 2005, Michael Cronin, Friends Meeting of Washington, Clerk and Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring, Recording Clerk. The Meeting opened at 2:15 with a period of worship.

Out of the silence, the Clerk read words Caroline Stephen wrote in 1908 on silent worship and our intent:

A Friends Meeting, however silent, is ...a witness that worship is something other and deeper than words, and it is to the unseen and eternal that we desire to give the first place in our lives.

Quaker Faith and Practice: ... Britain Yearly Meeting, 1995

In attendance were over 100 Friends from 30 Monthly Meetings. The Clerk thanked Friends in Nottingham Quarter for their warm hospitality and for accommodating and feeding such a large group on a rainy day.

I2005-62 *Presiding Clerk's Report.* Lauri Perman announced the first item in her report was an opportunity to express our thanks to Frank Massey at this, his last Interim Meeting as General Secretary. As Frank and Beth Massey came up to the gallery, Lauri told them her heart was full of conflicting emotions: love and gratitude, sadness and grief. A Friend from Nottingham led us in serenading Beth and Frank with a song from Annual Sessions that goes in part:

How could anyone fail to notice
That your loving is a miracle?
How deeply you're connected to my soul.

Groups representing past clerks, committee members, the staff, and all the geographic areas of the Yearly Meeting presented Frank and Beth with tangible expressions of our thanks for the Massey family's 17 years with us. The clerks presented a tall *Franklinia* tree, asking the Masseys "to plant and to nurture it as they have our Yearly Meeting."

Three works in progress – books of personal reminiscences, of BYM and Monthly Meeting mastheads, logos and pictures, and of Minutes of Appreciation from

Monthly Meetings – were presented, as well as a donation to help Frank and Beth travel to Haiti or Palestine or wherever they wish to let their light shine. The collections for each will continue over the year. Sheila Bach, Langley Hill, managed the contributions; Ellen Johnson Arginteanu, State College, prepared the books.

The Meeting then settled into a period of open worship. Personal reminiscences and expressions of affection and gratitude followed. A general theme emerged of the witness both Frank and Beth have made in their living among us and the nurturing we have received. Frank has made the struggles and the growth of BYM these 17 years look easy, just as Beth has somehow managed to accompany Quakers singing together in their various keys, with their various versions of the words. They have led, not by going ahead, but by being at our side, nurturing, strengthening, supporting us. Frank's example, mentoring, care and encouragement have called gifts from us we may not have known we had. He has quietly kept the faith even in emotional exchanges, challenged, and enlarged us, the Camping Program, new and growing Monthly Meetings, the office, and individuals. They have cared, not only for their own children, but for ours, nurturing everything from balloons over Wilson College to the spirit-led camping program which has grown under Frank's care. All present at Eastland and at Penn Hill had a chance to sign a certificate which reads:

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes
Frank Massey
for his seventeen years of faithful service as
General Secretary**

We are grateful for his gifts of administration, teaching, discernment, and healing. Frank, you have been a touchstone for us, a person who has been there to answer difficult questions, help in times of need, and listen deeply while we find our way. We thank Beth for her music ministry that so enriched our Annual Sessions and for her support of Frank, and we feel blessed by the opportunity to have helped nurture Brian and Ellen to adulthood. We are richer for the time we have spent with you all. We love you.

Ninety-nine Friends signed the certificate.

The worship period was summed up in a round from the second portion of the earlier song:

Dear Friends, Dear Friends,
Let me tell you how I feel.
You have given me your treasure.
I love you so.

Beth thanked the Yearly Meeting for being her spiritual home, a place to grow.

Frank reminded us that he first came to BYM in 1981 and 1982 as a representative from Friends United Meeting (FUM). In the terms of softball (an important part of Annual Sessions in those days), "Classy Massey" was reluctantly traded back to North Carolina Yearly Meeting at the end of Session. In 1988 he was "optioned back," returning to his spiritual home at BYM. Frank looked back at the Camping Program, which had consisted of a few acres and several grocery bags of records. It has grown to almost 1000 acres. BYM's ministry and witness through our 'outdoor religious education' are providing fresh leadership in wider Quaker circles.

Frank thanked us for welcoming, accepting, listening, and walking with him. "You will go with me. Thanks for keeping me and for setting me free."

12005-63 *On-going activities.* The Presiding Clerk then brought us back to business.

The Ad Hoc Clearness and Support Committee for the adult asked not to attend Yearly Meeting programs where children are present continues its work. In July, the Committee responded to concerns raised by the adult's Monthly Meeting Support Committee. Members of both Committees met at Annual Session for a Meeting for Worship for Healing. Work is ongoing and prayers are still needed.

Four Committees Regarding BYM Budget Contributions to FUM: Representatives from the Committees have met twice. [Minutes from the last meeting and a new minute from Little Britain are below at Attachment A.] The Committees do not have a new recommendation to bring forward at this time. Two fresh topics under discussion have been (1) returning to the idea of giving Meetings a choice whether or not to fund FUM, and (2) forwarding the money to FUM out of love and a concern for mission programs FUM sponsors. We need to ensure that all the different voices of the Yearly Meeting are represented and heard when we meet.

The Ethel Reynolds Fund: The Clerk, the Clerk of the Manual of Procedure Committee and members of Nottingham Meeting met to discuss Ethel Reynolds' vision and concern for the future of the Religious Society of Friends and her desire to bring Young Friends (YFs) into the Yearly Meeting. The Manual of Procedure Committee will bring a new proposal to an upcoming Interim Meeting.

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): The Clerk mentioned the formal opening of the remodeled 'green' building. She noted how involved BYM members were, as is appropriate for FCNL's geographic 'host'.

I2005-64 *Travel Minute.* The Meeting APPROVED travel minutes for Laura Nell Obaugh, Hopewell Centre, and for Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring, to travel among Friends facilitating workshops on *Nurturing Faithful Ministry in Meeting for Worship*. Laura Nell returned her travel minute endorsed at Britain Yearly Meeting this August.

I2005-65 *Youth Safety.* In order for BYM to develop its own Youth Safety policy, an Ad Hoc Youth Safety Policy Committee has been named: Gretchen Hall (Supervisory Committee), Tasha Walsh (Camping Program), June Confer (Junior Yearly Meeting), Patti Nesbitt (Camp Property Management), and Margo Lehman (Religious Education). The Youth Programs Committee—later named Benjamin Zuses and Ted Heck to the Ad Hoc Youth Safety Policy Committee. This Ad Hoc Committee will develop policies; committees will adapt the procedures to their needs. Trustees will review any proposed policy.

In the meantime, an interim Yearly Meeting policy, based on the Policy on Abuse Prevention developed by Friends General Conference (FGC), was proposed. Concerns were raised about the generalities of some of the language: (such as "reasonable" precautions, "appropriate" screening) and the lack of review by the YM attorney and insurance company. The Clerk of the Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee announced their Committee is studying the issue with a broader focus, which includes the offender as well.

The Meeting APPROVED the Interim BYM Youth Safety Policy:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting will take all reasonable precautions to insure the safety of the children and youth at our camps, conferences, Annual Session, and other programs. To that end, we will provide appropriate screening of all staff and volunteers working with children and young people.

Patience Schenck, Annapolis, asked to be recorded as being uneasy with the term “appropriate screening.”

I2005-66 *Trustee*. Howard Zuses, Sandy Spring, Clerk, on behalf of Trustees, recommended granting permission to the Friends House Retirement Community to use the BYM mailing list once a year to mail information on its programs and to ask for an annual contribution. Interim Meeting APPROVED this recommendation.

I2005-67 *Criminal and Restorative Justice*. Joan Anderson, Carlisle, Clerk, announced this weekend was Amnesty International’s “National Weekend of Faith in Action on the Death Penalty.”

The Meeting APPROVED the following minute:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is grateful to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops for their new and ambitious Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty as announced on March 21, 2005. We are encouraged by the new polling information showing that over half of Catholics now oppose the death penalty. We join with the Catholic Bishops in a renewed effort to bring about the abolition of the penalty of death in this country and call on all people of faith to join this renewed campaign.

The Committee intends to forward this minute to Supreme Court judges and appropriate government officials, and encourages others to write. The Committee intends to forward this minute to Supreme Court judges and appropriate government officials, encourages others to write as well, and to inform Joan if they do. Joan then alerted us that on October 26 the United States Senate Judiciary Committee plans to consider the “Streamlined Procedures Act of 2005” (S1088, HR 3035). This bill removes from federal courts the jurisdiction to hear death-penalty and other appeals arising from cases in state courts. As a result of this bill, people who have been sentenced because of procedural technicalities or sentencing errors would not have another chance of appeal, and federal courts would be forbidden to hear capital cases altogether. Individuals were asked to contact their senators, especially if they are members of the Judiciary Committee.

I2005-68 *World Gathering of Young Friends (WGYF), 2005.* Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington, and Jennifer Chapin Harris, Adelphi, brought news of WGYF in Lancaster, United Kingdom, 16-24 August, 2005. Andrei read portions of the gathering epistle.

... [We] tried each others' forms of worship... We were open, amazed, stretched and blessed. ... We were united not so much in the expression of our faith as in our common desire to be unified and by the power of the Spirit amongst us. ... We were challenged to put aside the labels we hid behind, programmed, unprogrammed, liberal, evangelical, and come together as Friends of Truth, seeking together for the common truth behind our language. (The complete text is available through www.wgyf.org.)

These Young Friends were hurt by the British government's refusal to grant visas to over 60 participants, mostly from Africa and India. Two representatives from each region, including Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder, were appointed to meet with some of those Friends in Mombasa, Kenya, this very weekend, transforming hurt and exclusion into an opportunity for witness.

Jennifer Chapin Harris, Adelphi, attended as a representative of FCNL. She shared the story of her unwanted leading to 'come out' at the Gathering as a lesbian preparing to marry under the care of her Meeting. She spoke of testing the leading with Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns' (LGBT) Pastoral Care Committee and with her Meeting. Subsequently she and Becka Haines Rosenberg, Alexandria, participated in discussions and worship-sharing for LGBT Friends and allies ("Quaker Queeries"). Jennifer and Becka also organized a discussion on FUM's personnel policy, which was attended by Friends from FGC, FUM and unaffiliated Yearly Meetings. Jennifer held a 'Faith Stone', given her by a Friend to remind her to have faith in herself and her leading. Opportunities to extend loving care to others opened, and at the end, released from her leading, she was able to pass the stone on to a gay YF.

Friends remarked on the hope and energy adult Young Friends bring us. We thanked our six Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends, Jennifer Chapin Harris, Adelphi, Annalee Flower-Horn, Takoma Park, Rebecca Haines-Rosenberg, Alexandria, Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington, Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder, and Sharon Thompson, Friends Meeting of Washington. Especially we recognize Jennifer for her ministry of pastoral care she gave in the moment and in love to those who found love difficult. "Bridges have been built at

our Gathering which we call on Friends everywhere to nurture and support.”
(*WGYF Epistle*, 2005)

I2005-69 *Youth Programs Staff Report*. Hope Braveheart, BYM Youth Secretary, informed us that the Youth Programs Committee has begun work on the youth safety policy and procedures. Currently they are focusing on the Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) application and training known as ‘retreat, renewal, and orientation’ weekends. One will be held in January. All FAPS, new and experienced, need to attend one retreat, renewal, and orientation weekend.

The application form for the Ramallah Work Camp has been approved. Five YFs and five Palestinian youth will participate in July, 2006.

The Junior Young Friends community will hold four conferences this year. Their coordinator, Audrey Banach (Langley Hill), is looking for more FAPs, especially men, to make the overnights possible.

YFs are designing an intergenerational ‘fishbowl’ activity for Annual Session, to foster understanding, dialogue, and transparency between YFs and the adult community. They, too, need more FAPs, particularly women.

I2005-70 *Nominating Committee*. Dorothea Malsbary (Sandy Spring), Clerk, introduced the six members present who are eager to work with all of us. She announced several resignations:

Camping Program Committee, Class of 2008: Connie Parks, Annapolis,
Manual of Procedure Committee, Class of 2005: Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring,
Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, Class of 2006: Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring, David Yount, Alexandria, Friends Committee in Unity with Nature, Class of 2008: Sylvia Olivia, Annapolis, FGC Central Committee, Class of 2007: Ann Martyn, Floyd; Friends House and Nursing Home, Class of 2008: Dorothea Malsbary and Rob McGarrah, Bethesda,
Board nomination Sandy Spring Friends School, Class of 2007: Liz Osterman, Sandy Spring, (nomination)

Two corrections were announced:

Ministry and Pastoral Care, Class of 2008: Marika Cutler, Friends Meeting of Washington - *not Baltimore Stony Run*
Friends House and Nursing Home, Class of 2006: Deborah Boggs, Sandy Spring - *not Bogg True*

Two names were brought forward for approval:

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): Graham Johnson (Sandy Spring), Class of 2008, second reading Baltimore Yearly Meeting representative to the Quaker House (Fayetteville, North Carolina) Board: Betsy Brinson, Richmond, a new affiliation approved at Annual Session. As Betsy is already a member of the Board, no second reading is necessary. The Manual of Procedure Committee will write a description of the new position.

The Meeting ACCEPTED the resignations and APPROVED the nominations.

I2005-71 *Camp Property Manager Staff Report.* David Hunter reminded us of our stewardship of the nearly 1000 acres, 56 buildings, numerous pieces of equipment, and miles of paths which comprise our camp properties. We meet our responsibilities through giving our time on the Camping Property Management Committee, at work weekends, during the camping season, and through financial gifts. In exchange we receive the gift of a remarkable camping program. The properties offer as well refuge and renewal to Friends schools, committees, Monthly Meetings, and individual families. Off-season rentals are possible and encouraged. Check the web site (www.baltimoreyearlymeeting.org or www.bym-rsf.org) and click on the BYM Camps link or call the office.

David told of the rebuilding program which has already produced a cabin fully compliant with state regulations at both Catoctin and Shiloh. He shared the background of the Catoctin Lagoon swimming problems and the workable solution which is now in the state permit process. He is also seeking contractors, volunteers, and funding to complete the plan. Two-fifths of the funds necessary for completion of the first stage of the plan are in hand.

I2005-72 *Camp Administrative Secretary Staff Report.* Jane Megginson directed us to the BYM web site for complete statistics from the 2005 camping season. [See the full report below as Attachment B.]

Over 500 campers came to one or more of the camps this year. More scholarship funds than ever (just under \$25,000) were given. Although the budgeted enrollment was missed by 40 campers, the camping program broke even. Jane particularly thanked the camp staff for their careful spending and innovative food preparation. This winter careful advertising will be placed to help increase the numbers. Friends were asked to spread the word about the camps to anyone who might be interested, especially 9–12 year-old girls for Catoctin and Shiloh. Progress on the commitment to keep the youth safe from sexual predators included criminal background checks on all of the staff. The Camping Program

Committee and staff are developing a method, to start in 2006, to check the 100 volunteers who work at camp each summer.

In 2006, **fees will be due in their entirety by May 15**. This will ease cash flow, bookkeeping, and registration at all four camps. Monthly Meetings can help make this transition work by allocating scholarships much earlier. The Yearly Meeting has a new online payment site that will take credit card payments and direct debits, which should help managing camp payments.

I2005-73 *Ad Hoc Committee for FUM Intervisitation.* Rebecca Richards, Gunpowder, reviewed the Committee's accomplishments in its first year. Official BYM visitors went out to Indiana and New England Yearly Meetings. Intervisitation funds helped bring to BYM Annual Session a pastor and his wife from Iowa YM (FUM) who led Bible study and participated in the workshop co-sponsored by this Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity. For this workshop, aid was given also to three guests from North Carolina YM (FUM), a retired pastor (and his wife, parents of a gay son) and an openly lesbian pastor to share their experiences with issues of sexual diversity. The workshop was well received and conversations with the visitors continue. Funds were also used to help a Kenyan couple from East Africa YM who, with a BYM couple, co-led a couples enrichment workshop and held an interest group on their experiences with issues of sexual diversity.

Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) reviewed the clearness, training and travel minute asked of each visitor from BYM. A group of ten visited Winston Salem Monthly Meeting (NCYM-FUM) in early October. At all of these places, the visitors were warmly welcomed and interest shown in BYM's intervisitation initiative. Rebecca reminded us of our goal to visit several Yearly Meetings repeatedly. She asked Friends to consider if they were called to visit under the program. Marcy Seitel is Clerk of the Committee.

I2005-74 *Interim Meeting Clerk's Report.* The Presiding Clerk took the Clerk's chair while Michael Cronin presented first the report from Supervisory Committee concerning the search for the new General Secretary.

The details were available in a communication dated October 18, 2005, attached below. He also announced the appointment of Howard Fullerton as Interim General Secretary. The text of the communication is below as Attachment C.

The Meeting EMPOWERED the Supervisory Committee to appoint an Ad Hoc Search Committee at their November meeting taking into consideration names and criteria received from individuals, Monthly Meetings, and BYM committees.

Michael Cronin then resumed the Clerk's chair.

I2005-75 *Return of Traveling Minute.* The Meeting ACCEPTED the return of Elizabeth "Betsy" Meyer's travel minute and her report as Friends World Committee for Consultation visitor to Indiana Yearly Meeting in 2004. (See attachment D.)

I2005-76 *General Secretary's Staff Report.* Frank Massey announced that it is now possible to make contributions to the Yearly Meeting and to pay for programs, such as camp or retreats, on a secure web site. Credit cards and electronic funds transfer (EFT) are accepted. Monthly Meetings can also use EFT to pay their apportionments and save the cost of a stamp. Just visit www.bym-rsf.org.

Frank then thanked the Meeting, noting he has attended 17 x three Interim Meetings and a few extra. He has visited every Monthly Meeting with the exception of Maury River. "You are my spiritual family and will be for years to come." He plans to keep his membership in Baltimore Yearly Meeting for a while and will be in touch.

The Clerk suggested we need only to look at the evidence of the staff. Frank has plowed ground in the whole Yearly Meeting, pulling out unexpected gifts from us all. We have been well prepared and nourished, and can keep on going.

I2005-77 *Conscientious Objector Letter.* J. E. McNeil, Clerk of Peace and Social Concerns Committee, read a letter from the Clerk of Adelphi Monthly Meeting, enclosing statements from eight YFs affirming their unwillingness to participate in war, and asserting their status as conscientious objectors.

The Meeting ACCEPTED the letters from Thomas Bassert, Jennifer Chapin Harris, Chike Bascom Waugh Croslin, Brian Adrian Flowers, Felicia S. Flowers, Robyn Jones, Mary Lane, and Emma Skallerup. We MINUTED that the Adelphi YFs' letters will be kept on file in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting office.

I2005-78 *Closing.* The minutes were read and corrected. The Meeting closed with a short period of worship, to meet again at a called Interim Meeting, 11 Second Month, 2006 [at Bethesda Friends Meeting].

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bradley

Interim Meeting Recording Clerk

Attachment A. REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETINGS OF FOUR COMMITTEES REGARDING BYM BUDGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUM [SEE I2005-63.]

A meeting of the four committees was held at Friends Meeting of Washington, October 8, 2005. Present: Lauri Perman, State College, Clerk; Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring, Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns; Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill, Ministry and Pastoral Care; Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring, Ministry and Pastoral Care; Neil Froemming, Friends Meeting of Washington, Advancement and Outreach; Don Gann, Baltimore-Stony Run, Ministry and Pastoral Care; Deborah Haines, Alexandria, Advancement and Outreach; Joe Izzo, Friends Meeting of Washington, Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns; Lamar Matthew, Baltimore-Stony Run, Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns, Ministry and Pastoral Care; Laura Nell Obaugh, Hopewell Centre, Ministry and Pastoral Care.

The meeting opened with a time for gathering in worship. Clerk Lauri Perman read a letter published in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting newsletter in which Phoebe Anderson describes her experience of bringing to the recent FUM Triennial her concern for the “universality of marriage as a commitment solely between a couple and God.” Raising this concern was at first difficult, but in a period of centered worship she found the ability to stand aside and simply let God’s love flow through her. She expressed her longing that we all may become willing vessels of God’s overflowing love . . . and let that love build bridges across all that divides us. . . .

Lauri Perman noted that only three of the four Committees are represented here today. She will ask Stewardship and Finance to make sure that one of their members can attend any future meetings that may be scheduled.

We reviewed the agenda. We heard a minute from Little Britain Monthly Meeting raising concerns about Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s decision-making regarding funding for FUM (copy attached). We prayerfully considered some of the issues raised in this letter. It troubles us that some of our Meetings feel that they have not been listened to, and have been effectively left out of our corporate decision making on this issue. We understand and deeply regret the hurt and anger this has caused. We agreed that we need to find ways to make our committees more representative of the Yearly Meeting as a whole, so all voices will be heard.

Lauri Perman reported that West Branch has not yet considered the FUM funding issue as a Meeting because of the great difficulties such a discussion would entail.

Lauri Perman asked Friends to report on highlights of the meeting held Saturday morning during Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session, when members of the four Committees met for a preliminary discussion of FUM funding options. One Friend recalled that the highlight for her was the proposal that we earmark our contribution to FUM to support the construction of a well at the Turkana mission in northern Kenya, or for medicines for the hospital in Lugulu. This idea seemed acceptable to Friends from Little Britain and might bring the Yearly Meeting together. Other Friends expressed the feeling that the Yearly Meeting seems arrayed along a continuum, with those at both ends firmly anchored in their positions and unwilling to yield. We may have to reconsider our efforts to reach unity about how to move forward, and allow our Meetings to make their own decisions about whether or not to contribute to FUM.

Georgia Fuller presented a report from the Intervisitation Committee, which met at Homewood Meeting on September 11. Rebecca Richards (Gunpowder) attended New England Yearly Meeting, which shares our concern, but is too deeply involved in FUM mission work to consider withholding funds. Walter Brown, Langley Hill, visited Indiana Yearly Meeting, but had few opportunities for conversation about our concerns. This weekend, a group of ten or eleven Friends from BYM are visiting Winston-Salem Friends Church in North Carolina, at their invitation. Prior to this visit, Howard Fullerton and Sharon Stout offered a reprise of their training workshop for visitors. There is considerable interest in arranging more Monthly Meeting visits, as these seem to offer very fruitful opportunities for sharing. The Intervisitation Committee has developed a standard description of our intervisitation program for use in traveling minutes and elsewhere, and a reporting form for Yearly Meeting visitors. The Committee is also working on making its web page more accessible, and is preparing an article for the next issue of the BYM Interchange.

After a break, we entered into a period of silent worship. Lauri Perman read a section from Virginia Schurman's leaflet on prayer, reminding us that centered prayer is the necessary foundation of all our work together.

We considered the main agenda item before us: what to do with the \$25,000 returned to us by FUM. We were reminded that Baltimore Yearly Meeting is a "consolidated" Yearly Meeting, not a united Yearly Meeting. Our Meetings used to be allowed to choose whether their membership would be counted as belonging to FUM or FGC. The decision to count all members as both FUM and FGC was made by the Finance Committee for the sake of simplicity, without Monthly

Meeting review. We may need to ask our Meetings whether they would prefer to have the choice of identifying themselves with FGC or FUM, or with both. We considered whether Monthly Meetings could be offered the choice of contributing to FUM or FGC without raising the issue of how many of their members are members of one or the other.

We were challenged to consider whether God is calling us to be truly present within FUM, so that we are in a position to reach out to gays and lesbians in those Meetings. We considered how our leadings come from a deeper place than mind or conscience, and that trying to be true to those leadings can make us appear stubborn and unyielding. We were reminded of the story of the prodigal son, and the Father's unconditional love, which we are called to emulate. We considered whether we can give to FUM in a way that reveals both love and brokenness. . . .

The meeting closed with a period of waiting worship.

Little Britain Minute of Ninth 18, 2005

Dear Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Religious Society of Friends,

Little Britain Monthly Meeting continues to labor under the concern of Financial Support for FUM. We cannot unite with the FUM Board in their policy regarding the restriction of Staff and Volunteers in their programs to those only in celibate or traditional marriage lifestyles. We agree that this is discriminatory and restricting to the Life of the Spirit as it moves within the Religious Society of Friends.

However, we continue to be concerned with the decisions within BYM regarding the withholding of funds to FUM and the use of funds collected in 2004 and 2005. As a small Meeting with very limited resources, we feel that our contributions to FUM support important and necessary ministries. We find concerns that the "small" donation of BYM may be equal to the salary of someone working in Ramallah, Africa or any number of other outreach programs. The administration of FUM will continue, but the effects of this boycott may affect programs sorely in need of funding.

We support establishment of an intervisitation program and a fund for this purpose. Funds for intervisitation should be collected as for any other special concern, from specifically earmarked donations. It is of concern to us that funds

originally collected for one concern are being moved to other areas of our budget as if they are regular operating funds and did not have an original destination.

We are concerned about the decision to remove FUM program support as a line item and assign those funds elsewhere in the 2006 budget, noting that funding to FGC, which we understood to be loosely associated with FUM percentages, has continued to increase on a regular basis while FUM funding has decreased and is not even in the budget this year.

We recognize that other Monthly Meetings do not want to support FUM at this time and they should have the right to redirect their funds as they feel led; we do not feel they have the right to stop our funds from going to FUM.

Perhaps BYM needs to revisit the decision to change Monthly Meeting input regarding FUM and FGC contributions. Our Meeting has considered withholding funds to BYM and contributing directly to FUM, FGC and other programs so that we can be assured that our contributions go where they are intended, but continue to see this as standing in the way of open dialogue and would prefer to work together with the rest of BYM as we search for the True Way.

Approved Little Britain Monthly Meeting 9-18-05

Suzanne P. Lamborn, Clerk

Attachment B. CAMPING PROGRAM STATISTICS 2005 [SEE I2005-72.]

Enrollment - totals

- 587 people **applied** to camp and 516 **attended**. Last year, 586 people **applied** to camp and 528 **attended**. About 88% of applicants attended, down from 90% last year.
- Overall, the campers are 57% BYM Quakers, 8% other Quakers, and 35% non-Quakers.

Opequon

- 156 campers attended this year, up from 149 last year.
- 84 (54%) of the campers were female, 72 (46%) male. Last year it was 59%/41%.
- Overall religious affiliation was: 88 BYM Quakers, 11 other Quakers, and 57 non-Quakers. That's 56% BYM Quakers, 7% other Quakers, and 36.5% non-Quakers.

Catoctin

- There were 166 total campers, up from 156 last year.
- 74 (45%) female, 92 (55%) male. Last year it was 46%/54%.
- Overall religious affiliation was: 106 BYM Quakers, 14 other Quakers, and 45 non-Quakers. That's 63% BYM Quakers, 8% other Quakers, and 27% non-Quakers.

Shiloh

- There were 123 total campers, down from 142 last year.
- 47 (38%) female, 76 (62%) male. Last year it was 50%/50%.
- Overall religious affiliation was: 57 BYM Quakers, 9 other Quakers, and 57 non-Quakers. That's 46% BYM Quakers, 7% other Quakers, and 46% non-Quakers.

Teen Adventure

- There were a total of 72 campers: 48 in the first year program, and 24 in the second year, Leadership Training program.
- 37 female, 35 male. Last year it was 46% /54%.
- Of the TAP campers (first year) 11 (23%) came from Opequon, 13 (27%) from Catoctin and 24 (50%) from Shiloh.
- Overall religious affiliation was: 43 BYM Quakers, 9 other Quakers, and 20 non-Quakers. That's 60% BYM Quakers, 12% other Quakers, and 28% non-Quakers.

TA Waiting list: 16 kids were left on the waiting list. 9 were returning campers. 2 were BYM Quakers, one who applied late and one who had no history as a BYM camper.

- There were 105 campers graduating from our residential camps in 2004, in 2005, there were 95. The next class, which may grow as we work on enrollment, was only 84 campers strong in 2004. This suggests that the issues with campers on the waitlist for TA this year may ease a bit in the next two years.

Camperships and Financial Aid

- 85 Campers received a total of \$30,341 in **Monthly Meeting Camperships** averaging \$357 each.
- \$34,188 in **Work Grants** were distributed to 90 campers (67 of whom were BYM Quakers).
- We gave \$24,767 in **Camperships** to 50 campers. Of the camperships distributed, \$10,790 went to 25 BYM Quakers averaging \$431 each;

\$13,977 went to 25 non-BYM Quakers averaging \$559 each.

- 17 BYM Quakers get scholarship both from the Camping Program and their Monthly Meeting.

Attachment C. COMMUNICATION REGARDING THE SEARCH FOR A NEW GENERAL SECRETARY [SEE I2005-74.]

Greetings Friends.

As we announced last month, Frank Massey is leaving his position as General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting after 17 years of service. His last day as General Secretary will be October 28, 2005.

The wisdom of the past suggests this is an important time to re-evaluate the needs of the Yearly Meeting. In 1988, before the search for a General Secretary that brought us Frank Massey, BYM Friends spent time together in worship to consider queries about the future of the Yearly Meeting and the role of staff and volunteers in that future. As a result of this discernment, Friends decided on a changed job description and a job title change from Executive Secretary to General Secretary to signal the changes. As we face the future together, we believe we are called once again to listen carefully to one another and to the Spirit to discern the needs of the Yearly Meeting and the relative role of staff and volunteers in meeting those needs.

We hope Friends can come to Fall Interim Meeting, October 22, 2005, at Penn Hill Meeting in Nottingham Quarter, prepared to begin this discernment process.

The purposes of this note are:

- to share with Friends the Supervisory Committee's plans for an Interim General Secretary;
- to provide information to Friends about Baltimore Yearly Meeting's history and current staffing arrangements;
- to suggest queries to consider in preparation for October 22 and for the future.

A part-time Interim General Secretary

It may be several months before a new General Secretary or other staff person is hired. We have foreseen the urgent need to select someone to serve on an interim basis part-time in the coming months — to assure continuity in the YM office and to provide continued support for the BYM staff.

At its meeting October 6, 2005, Supervisory Committee discussed criteria for selecting an Interim General Secretary. We sought someone with deep experience in the Yearly Meeting, excellent administrative skills, and a respect for Quaker process. We also sought someone who would *not* be a candidate for a permanent position and agreed that travel would *not* be a requirement of the interim position, apart from travel to Interim Meeting. We further agreed to ask members of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee to assume the pastoral care activities of the current General Secretary during this interim period.

Supervisory Committee concluded that Howard Fullerton, former Interim Meeting Clerk, was an excellent choice to serve as an Interim General Secretary. On Monday, October 10, 2005, Presiding Clerk Lauri Perman and Interim Meeting Clerk Michael Cronin met with Howard to ask him to consider serving as a part-time Interim General Secretary. After asking for and reviewing a written job description for the position of Interim General Secretary, Howard agreed to accept this part-time position. His first day in the office will be Wednesday October 19. He will be able to meet with and learn from Frank Massey before Frank leaves his position.

Members of the Supervisory Committee feel that the Yearly Meeting is extremely fortunate to have someone of Howard Fullerton's experience willing to assist the Yearly Meeting at this pivotal time. Howard, a long-time member of Sandy Spring Meeting, served as Clerk of Representative Meeting for six years in the 1990s. The timing of this opportunity coincides with Howard's having just rotated off the FUM Board and being available to take on another challenging assignment. Friends will be interested to know that Howard and Flossie Fullerton expect to move to Friends House in mid-November so that Howard will be living down the street from the Yearly Meeting office. Howard is Clerk of the Yearly Meeting's Manual of Procedure Committee and has a deep understanding of our committees, cycles of decisionmaking, and the role of staff.

Howard will be in the office about one day a week until mid-November when he will be available up to 20 hours a week. Supervisory Committee has granted Howard flexibility to take the month of December off for previously scheduled trips to Palestine and Ramallah, and to visit family. This is usually a very light time in the Yearly Meeting office. Staff members have been consulted throughout this process and are happy that someone of Howard's experience and talents will be available to assist them. During the interim period, Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Meeting, will also spend one-half day a week in the office, something he has been doing since mid-September.

Howard has graciously waived compensation for his service to the Yearly Meeting, though he reserves the right to reconsider this decision should the work be more demanding or time-consuming than we have agreed upon.

Undoubtedly, these part-time arrangements mean that some tasks may take longer for the Yearly Meeting office staff to perform. We trust that our Yearly Meeting community will be patient and kind to each other and to our staff during this time of transition. Copies of the part-time Interim General Secretary's job description are available upon request from the Yearly Meeting office.

BYM history and its current staffing

The Religious Society of Friends began not as a structured organization, but as a fellowship of Friends of Truth. As the need arose for service to members or others, Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly Meetings were established. Today, Baltimore Yearly Meeting includes 40 Monthly Meetings and 12 Preparative and Indulged Meetings, and Worship Groups in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia.

The purpose and functions of Yearly Meeting are many, but above all, Yearly Meeting represents an extension and expansion of Friends' basic community, the Monthly Meeting. Yearly Meeting offers opportunities for worship, business, social, spiritual, educational and service activities and events that bring us closer together in bonds of love and understanding. To serve this wider community, Baltimore Yearly Meeting employs a small staff and maintains a central office in Sandy Spring, Maryland.

The BYM Supervisory Committee provides care and oversight for the General Secretary and staff of the Yearly Meeting. This Committee is composed of the Clerk of Interim Meeting, the Presiding Clerk and the Treasurer of Yearly Meeting, and four additional members of the Yearly Meeting, nominated by Interim Meeting for appointment by Yearly Meeting. Interim Meeting selects, employs, and defines the responsibilities of the General Secretary. In turn, the General Secretary, with guidance from the Supervisory Committee, may employ such staff as allowed in the budget approved by Yearly Meeting in session. Staff selection by the General Secretary is based on possession of appropriate skills and experience and an individual's recognized commitment to the testimonies, faith and practices of the Religious Society of Friends. Supervisory Committee meets frequently with the staff, and oversees the work and gives guidance to the General Secretary.

Currently, the Yearly Meeting staff consists of the General Secretary, an Administrative Assistant, a Bookkeeper, a Camp Administrative Secretary, a Camp Property Manager, and a Youth Secretary. Their duties and responsibilities are varied. Staff members are often called to help in a variety of ways that have not been anticipated in their written position descriptions. They daily meet the needs of, and provide loving care to, individuals, constituent Meetings, and programs and committees of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Initial steps

The Yearly Meeting, through its Supervisory Committee, is committed to working with all Monthly and Quarterly Meetings to undertake a Friendly discernment process regarding staffing needs for the future. We have consulted with Friends who participated in the last search for a General Secretary, conducted in 1988. The minutes of Interim and Yearly Meeting in the 1988 Yearbook have been an invaluable resource for us and we commend them to your attention.

We plan to begin our collective discernment at Interim Meeting and to continue with a Listening Project within the Yearly Meeting to draw upon all the voices and collective wisdom within the Yearly Meeting as we move forward. We seek volunteers to join us in this Listening Project.

On a parallel but separate track, Friends will be asked to discuss in their Monthly Meetings the queries appearing at the end of this letter, and to send via letter, e-mail, or telephone their input about the queries and thoughts about staffing needs and what to include in a job description for a General Secretary. Monthly Meetings are also invited to suggest prospective names for membership on an Ad Hoc Search Committee. (*See below*)

Finally, Supervisory Committee will request that Interim Meeting on October 22 empower Supervisory Committee to appoint an Ad Hoc Search Committee at its November 14 meeting, recognizing that it will take additional time to contact prospective members and determine their willingness to serve. Supervisory Committee is requesting the early appointment of a Search Committee to ensure broader input into the search process and first draft of any job description. We plan a called Interim Meeting to review a draft job description before the Search Committee begins the major part of its work.

Timing

Supervisory Committee asks that names for the Search Committee be submitted to Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Meeting, **by November 10**, so that they can

be considered by members of the Committee before its next meeting on November 14.

Supervisory Committee asks that Monthly Meetings submit feedback about their needs, suggestions for a job description, and reflections on the queries on page five **by December 15**.

We hope that Supervisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Search Committee can prepare a draft job description for distribution to Monthly Meetings in January.

We anticipate a Called Meeting of Interim Meeting on **February 11** (snow date February 25) to consider the draft job description.

Suggestions

We are eager to receive your suggestions, guidance, and prayers at this important time of transition for the Yearly Meeting.

/s/ Michael Cronin, Interim Meeting Clerk Laurie Perman, Presiding Clerk

Preliminary queries

As noted, an important step in our process is to develop queries to guide us in considering our staffing needs for the future. Some preliminary queries are presented below. They may be considered in small groups at Interim Meeting October 22, 2005.

Discerning our calling and our needs:

In the past seventeen years there has been considerable change in the size, character, and programs of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

- In your experience, where is God leading us now as a Yearly Meeting? What is Baltimore Yearly Meeting called to do now and in the years to come?
- How do you and your Monthly Meeting envision the role(s) of a General Secretary in helping the Yearly Meeting heed the call?
- What does your Monthly Meeting want and need from the Yearly Meeting? What are the implications for Yearly Meeting staffing?
- What do you see as the respective roles of staff and volunteers in meeting the administrative and spiritual needs of the Yearly Meeting?
- What is the Yearly Meeting doing well now? Where does the Yearly

Meeting need to make improvements?

- How do you perceive the relative importance of spiritual, executive, leadership, financial, and administrative skills in a new General Secretary?

Search for a new General Secretary:

- In addition to geographic representation, what guidance do Monthly Meetings want to give to Supervisory Committee and Interim Meeting for selecting members of an Ad Hoc Search Committee for a new General Secretary?
- What suggestions do Monthly Meetings have for the process of searching for a new General Secretary?

ATTACHMENT D. TRAVEL MINUTE FOR ELIZABETH F. "BETSY" MEYER [SEE I2005-75.]

Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting of Friends

Sixth Month 6, 2004

Elizabeth F. "Betsy" Meyer, a beloved member of this Meeting, has opened her leading to travel to the Annual Session of Indiana Yearly Meeting in Seventh Month 2004 as a visitor on behalf of Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas.

This Meeting unites with Betsy's leading. We trust that you will benefit as we have from sharing her insights and faith. We commend her to your Christian care and hospitality.

Approved and minuted at our Meeting for Business held Sixth Month 6, 2004.

Steven Colgate, Clerk. Endorsed at Baltimore Yearly Meeting Interim Meeting, held Sixth Month 19, 2004. Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Meeting

Endorsement: Our Friend Elizabeth Meyer acceptably attended our Yearly Meeting, to, we believe, the comfort of her mind and in the discharge of perceived duty.

Thomas D. Hamm, Recording Clerk, Indiana Yearly Meeting, 7th Mo. 23, 2004

Report of FWCC Visitor to Indiana Yearly Meeting – 2004

Indiana Yearly Meeting “IYM” held its 184th Annual Session at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, from July 22-25, 2004. The theme, from Hosea 14:9, was Listen Carefully, Walk Righteously. In three devotional talks, the keynote speaker, Irv Brendlinger, from George Fox University, invited us to listen to Jesus through scripture, through our own stories which are laced with grace, and through human need. Jay Marshall, Indiana Yearly Meeting Presiding Clerk, shared his vision for the sessions as a time to listen for God’s guidance in order to reclaim the tradition of a Meeting for Worship for Business.

3508 members in 66 Monthly Meetings now make up IYM, down from 13,631 members in 99 Monthly Meetings in 1950. Over the past year and Ad Hoc Visioning Committee studied the decline in membership and brought a recommendation to this Yearly Meeting sessions. The Committee noted that though IYM membership dramatically declined, actual attendance at worship services has not declined nearly as much. Based on the Visioning Committee’s recommendations, IYM agreed to focus on the following areas: (1) building strong, healthy local Meetings; (2) discipleship of new and existing members and attenders; and (3) leadership development. In addition, IYM agreed to develop a program-based budget. The IYM Trustees, charged with the responsibility for disposing of property from Monthly Meetings that have been laid down, expressed their desire to see IYM invest in growth rather than selling off its Meeting properties.

This is a time of leadership transition in IYM. Over the past year, IYM Churches have had changes in their pastoral leadership, and Yearly Meeting Superintendent Alan Weinacht announced his intention to leave his position within the next year. The death of the IYM Treasurer (an accountant who died on April 15) was another leadership loss for IYM.

In this time of transition, the IYM Executive Committee suggested that the time may have come to begin exploring the possibility of reuniting Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings. The two Yearly Meetings divided due to the difficulty of travel within the geographic area at the time. Modern means of transportation and communication make this less of a problem. In addition, the two Yearly Meetings share concern for Quaker Haven Camp, and other programs. IYM authorized the Clerk to begin exploring the possibility of reuniting with Western Yearly Meeting.

Recently, Friends in some IYM Meetings have felt led to practice outward sacraments such as water baptism or bread and grape juice communion. The practices have caused deep concern among other Friends who consider outward forms of sacraments to fall outside of the IYM Faith and Practice. The IYM Ministry and Oversight Committee led a session of open worship devoted to listening for God's guidance on this concern. The issue was seen as a sign of disunity, of lack of community, and of lack of trust within IYM. At the same time, IYM is united in a common desire for spiritual encounter. The Ministry and Oversight Committee invited Friends to refocus on the deeper question of spiritual renewal within IYM. What would a spiritually revived and renewed Friends Church look like?

Julie Owen, IYM representative to FWCC, presented a lovely report about the work of FWCC. The IYM Mission Committee did not receive FWCC's request for support, and did not include a contribution to FWCC in the draft mission budget it presented. At the urging of the IYM FWCC representatives, IYM agreed to include a \$3000 contribution to FWCC in its missions budget.

Friends Fellowship Community, a 264 resident continuing-care retirement community, presented a slide show about its six levels of care. Students from White's Residential and Family Service performed for IYM. Quaker Haven Camp showed slides of the construction of a new activity center. The Quaker Haven presentation was interrupted by Billy Bob from Texas (John Owen), who made a humorous appeal for private contributions to the camp. Patrick Nugent, of Friends Theological College in Kenya, delivered the Quaker Lecture in which he contrasted the currently popular prayer of Jabez with the prayer of Jesus. The prayer of Jabez is about asking God to accommodate our will, but the prayer of Jesus is about accepting God's will for us. Christian prayer is about changing ourselves according to God's will. The IYM sessions closed with worship at West Richmond Friends Meeting.

IYM warmly welcomed me as an FWCC visitor. I felt blessed to be among IYM Friends as they listened carefully for Divine guidance in honestly facing their challenges and in seeking to walk righteously as they sought to envision God's will for their future. I left with a sense that all Friends are part of the same body of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth F. Meyer, Baltimore Yearly Meeting

SECOND MONTH 25, 2006
BETHESDA FRIENDS MONTHLY MEETING

I2006-01 *Opening.* The Called Interim Meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) gathered Second Month 25, 2006, at Bethesda Friends Meeting, Bethesda, Maryland. Approximately 40 people from 18 Meetings joined in expectant worship at 1:00 p.m. (The date was changed because of snow on February 11.)

Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Meeting, Friends Meeting of Washington, introduced his fellow members of the Supervisory Committee: Kevin Caughlan, Yearly Meeting Treasurer, Sandy Spring; Meg Boyd Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run; Lauri Perman, Presiding Clerk of BYM, State College; Lamar Matthew, Baltimore, Stony Run. Gretchen Hall, Alexandria was unable to attend.

Michael stated our intent to consider in worship, discuss, and then approve a revised position summary for guidance of the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a new General Secretary, as approved at the October 22, 2005, Interim Meeting. (I2005-74) As Michael is Clerk of Supervisory Committee, Lauri Perman and Lamar Matthew shared the Committee report.

I2006-02 *Ad Hoc Search Committee.* Lauri Perman reported that since not every member of BYM can interview candidates, it is crucial to have an open, transparent, inclusive process accepted by Interim Meeting. The process has been informed by members of the 1988 Ad Hoc Staff Search Committee, especially Walter Fry, West Branch, Clerk, (*see* “Report of the Ad Hoc Staff Search Committee to Representative Meeting, August 9, 1988” *below*) and the full minutes of Eleanor Webb, Recording Clerk of Representative Meeting. (*See BYM Yearbook, 1988.*) Lauri thanked all those who had responded to the queries about both the position description and criteria for the Search Committee. (*See I2005-74.*) She reviewed the process, criteria, and time line for selecting the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary. The many criteria fell loosely into three groups: a) qualities of spiritual discipline, wisdom, faith, trust, skillful use of and experience with Quaker faith and practice – and clarity that they would not apply for the position; b) diversity, not only geographic but also racial, age, sexual orientation (or their active allies); c) representation of large and small Meetings, the camping, youth and Junior Yearly Meeting programs, Stewardship and Finance, Trustees, Friends schools, and ‘not-weighty’ Friends. The Supervisory Committee used the Strawberry Creek (CA) model of nominating: reviewing the criteria, and then letting names rise within worship.

Committee members were introduced: Katherine Smith, Maury River, Clerk; Nancy Clark, Baltimore, Homewood, Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington, Eric Uberseder, Dunnings Creek, Ramona Buck, Patapsco, Janet Eaby, Nottingham, and Franci Williams, Frederick. Katrina Mason, Bethesda was absent.

I2006-03 *Summary of the General Secretary Position.* Lamar Matthew read the February 24, 2006, draft summary of General Secretary position, prepared by the Supervisory Committee. (See “Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends seeks to appoint a General Secretary” *below.*)

To clarify the statement about Supervision, the wording of the Manual of Procedure will be used: (“The Interim Meeting selects, employs, and defines the responsibilities of the General Secretary.”) “The General Secretary is responsible to the [Supervisory] Committee, specifically to its Clerk.” Michael and Lauri both emphasized the collaboration between the Supervisory Committee and the General Secretary. The General Secretary makes proper and appropriate decisions. The Supervisory Committee is available for support and holds the General Secretary accountable to standards of behavior, conduct and activity.

The amended position summary will be on our web site, in *Friends Journal*, and *Quaker Life*. It was suggested it be more widely distributed to our Monthly Meetings, North American Yearly Meetings, and the Friends World Committee for Consultation.

I2006-04 *Small Groups.* The Meeting divided into small groups, with a member of both the Supervisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Search Committee in each group. Two queries were offered for consideration in a prayerful way:

- 1) What is our vision for the Baltimore Yearly Meeting over the next several years?
- 2) What qualities/characteristics do we seek in a General Secretary who may help us fulfill this vision for Baltimore Yearly Meeting?

After an hour and some welcomed hot beverages provided by Bethesda Friends, we reconvened in worship at 3:20 p.m. Summary reports were given from each of the six small groups.

We at Baltimore Yearly Meeting appreciate our vital children’s, youth, and camping programs and our growing Young Adult Friends. We would like to see movement towards more inclusion of newcomers in and beyond the Monthly Meeting level. There is a vision of a Yearly Meeting, diverse and becoming more so, knit

together through intervisitation between Meetings, enthusiastic work on committees, and substantive decision-making at Sessions. Better knowledge and understanding of our Quaker heritage and practice are desired, and encouragement of leadings and ministry. With the growth of the Yearly Meeting's programs, our expectations of the office staff, and the complexity of business and personnel management, we foresee a time when another full-time staff position will be necessary.

The Yearly Meeting needs a visioning process, especially before undertaking major fund-raising efforts. Whether this visioning takes place within a new General Secretary's first year, or not, will depend on his/her experience.

In a General Secretary, we seek strong skills and traits which seldom are found in one person, and which can cause conflicts in time management. We are looking for an approachable person with a strong spiritual presence, openness to leadings of the spirit, and an ability to integrate Friends' practices into the business processes of the day-to-day job. We would like this person to be deeply grounded in Quaker history and practices, and able to articulate what Friends offer to the wider public as well as ourselves. We want a servant leader who couples excellent fiscal, administration and supervisory skills with the ability to excite and support individuals and committees in *their* work. Visiting Monthly Meetings was stressed, as well as being a public face, able to speak of the commonalities that we share, rather than our differences. We need a person 'bilingual in FGC and FUM', able to converse easily with diverse groups of Friends. The person should have perceptive listening skills and be able to reflect back as well as to relay thoughts and information. Effective communications and work with committees and Meetings should reveal resources flowing in both directions, to and from the General Secretary. The number of years of experience with Quaker organizations is less important than the relevance of the work. The individual requires the maturity to recognize and express the need for personal/professional boundaries, lest the Yearly Meeting consume every waking moment.

Concerns were raised about the length and clarity of the position summary, especially regarding finances and fund-raising, about the unity of Interim Meeting, Supervisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Search Committee on the summary's final form, and about BYM's need for a 'visioning process'.

Although unity was not sought on particular phrases, the Ad Hoc Search Committee felt comfortable going forward with the information received. The intent

and underlying goal seem clear. Members of the two Committees involved would be able to respond to any questions a potential candidate might have.

The purpose of the position summary is to attract applicants. It needs to be concise and clear, both to draw candidates and not to limit the working of the spirit within the Committee. The Ad Hoc Search Committee will use the suggestions and ideas generated today, as recorded in the written notes of the small groups and these minutes, to discern which are appropriate 1) in a recruitment document, 2) as guidelines in interviewing applicants, and 3) to add to the descriptive (not prescriptive) record of tasks performed by the past General Secretary. The Committee will carefully determine which suggestions are repetitive, occasional, or singular. The Ad Hoc Search Committee is responsible for the progress of the search, including advertising, but they will see that the Supervisory Committee is comfortable with the position summary. The summary will then be brought to the March 25 Interim Meeting at Baltimore Stony Run.

The current proceedings will be available on the web site; Supervisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Search Committee will work closely together, and the Ad Hoc Search Committee will report at the next Interim Meeting, March 25, at Baltimore, Stony Run Meeting House.

The discussion closed with a Friend's reminder, quoting Isaac Penington: "There is that near you that will guide you. O, wait for it and mind you keep to it."

I2006-05 *Transmitting the documents to the Ad Hoc Search Committee.* Interim Meeting APPROVED transmitting the documents heard today, the annotated position summary, reports from six small groups, and the Recording Clerk's summary of our discussion to the Ad Hoc Search Committee, trusting their discernment and Friendly ways will guide them in the work of forwarding the name of a candidate for General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting to the Interim Meeting.

I2006-06 *Announcements.*

Michael Cronin introduced the office's new full-time Administrative Assistant, Sandra Michaels, Sandy Spring.

David Hunter requested we take to our Meetings and other public places fliers announcing opportunities for campers at Opequon and Shiloh. We were among the first to know that there will be some work weekends this spring on our camp properties! More fliers were available to tell you when they are, when to come and what to bring.

Michael announced copies of the Supervisory Committee's charge to the Ad Hoc Search Committee were available.

I2006-07 Closing. The called Interim Meeting ended with worship at 4:25 p.m., intending to meet again, way opening and weather permitting, on March 25, 2006 at Baltimore, Stony Run.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bradley

Interim Meeting Recording Clerk

THIRD MONTH 25, 2006
BALTIMORE STONY RUN MONTHLY MEETING

I2006-08 Opening. The Spring Interim Meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) met at Baltimore, Stony Run Friends Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, on the 25 Third Month, 2006. Approximately 100 people from 31 Meetings joined us at some time during the day. We gathered in waiting worship after committee meetings and a bountiful lunch. Lauri Perman, State College, Presiding Clerk of BYM, was invited by the Interim Meeting Clerk, Michael Cronin Friends Meeting of Washington to join those at the table.

I2006-09 Remembering Tom Fox. After a period of silence, Lauri reminded us that this is the first time we have gathered as a Yearly Meeting community since our dear Friend Tom Fox was kidnapped and since we learned of his death. She read the following statement by the Reverend Carol Rose and Doug Pritchard of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT):

....our faith compels us to love our enemies even when they have committed acts which caused great hardship to our friends and sorrow to their families. In the spirit of the prophetic nonviolence that motivated Jim, Norman, Harmeet and Tom to go to Iraq, we refuse to yield to a spirit of vengeance. We give thanks for the compassionate God who granted our friends courage and who sustained their spirits over the past months. We pray for strength and courage for ourselves so that, together, we can continue the nonviolent struggle for justice and peace.

Throughout these difficult months, we have been heartened by messages of concern for our four colleagues from all over the world. We have been especially moved by the gracious outpouring of support from Muslim broth-

ers and sisters in the Middle East, Europe, and North America. That support continues to come to us day after day. We pray that Christians throughout the world will, in the same spirit, call for justice and for respect for the human rights of the thousands of Iraqis who are being detained illegally by the U.S. and British forces occupying Iraq.

During these past months, we have tasted of the pain that has been the daily bread of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis. Why have our loved ones been taken? Where are they being held? Under what conditions? How are they? Will they be released? When?

With Tom's death, we felt the grief of losing a beloved friend. Today, we rejoice in the release of our friends Harmeet, Jim and Norman. We continue to pray for a swift and joyful homecoming for the many Iraqis and internationals who long to be reunited with their families. We renew our commitment to work for an end to the war and the occupation of Iraq as a way to continue the witness of Tom Fox. We trust in God's compassionate love to show us the way.

Living through the many emotions of this day, we remain committed to the words of Jim Loney, who wrote:

“With God's abiding kindness, we will love even our enemies.

With the love of Christ, we will resist all evil.

With God's unending faithfulness, we will work to build the beloved community.”

Lauri reminded us that this was not a Memorial Meeting, but an opportunity to share from our hearts. After several messages, Lauri continued with her report, beginning with information about the plans for Tom Fox's Memorial Meeting:

Tom still has a five-person support team. Three members are members of Langley Hill Friends Meeting: Ann Bauer, who has maintained contact between the family and the support team; Doug Smith, Clerk of Langley Hill Friends Meeting; and Paul Slattery. Two other members of the team are Mennonites: Hoyt Maulden and Pearl Hoover, who is pastor of Northern Virginia Mennonite Church. Throughout the last four months I have worked carefully with this support team.

This support team is making the initial arrangements for Tom's Memorial Meeting. The family and a few CPT members had a private service at Dover, Delaware. The support team is working carefully with the family to plan another Memorial Meeting, mindful of the intense interest of the press.

At the request of the support team, when information about the Memorial Meeting becomes available, the Yearly Meeting office will be sending a letter – not an e-mail – to Monthly Meeting clerks. Friends should let their Monthly Meeting clerk know that they would like to be informed about the Memorial Meeting. We do not know yet when that letter will be sent, but it will not arrive before the middle of the next week at the earliest. Members of the support team need to make plans on their own schedule.

Role of Yearly Meeting. Lauri continued:

The first thing I want to share is that this situation of the last four months has clarified for me the role of the Yearly Meeting and particularly our relationship to Monthly Meetings. We really are a grassroots, bottom-up organization. Although at times Friends look to the Yearly Meeting for leadership, leadings to take action come to individuals, and clearness for action takes place at the Monthly Meeting level and sometimes in the committees of Yearly Meeting. I see the role of the Yearly Meeting to support Monthly Meetings. Consequently, my actions throughout the past four months have been guided by the wishes of Tom's support team and Langley Hill Friends.

Recently Friends have begun to offer suggestions as to how the Yearly Meeting might create a living memorial to Tom. I am passing those suggestions to Doug Smith, Clerk of Langley Hill, and a member of the support team. I do not think it is appropriate for the Yearly Meeting to begin to think about memorials until Langley Hill has had a chance to make its own decisions. We would not want to find ourselves in competition with Langley Hill raising funds for two different memorials. The leadership will come from Langley Hill.

Prayers. The pressures on the Meetings and the support team have been intense, and I have only seen them secondhand. I urge you to keep everyone involved in your prayers. Tom's family came to Friends at Alexandria Meeting. Tom has recently been living on the property of Hopewell Centre Meeting, so there are three Meetings with very intense personal concerns: Alexandria, Hopewell Centre, and Langley Hill Friends where his membership was located. These Friends need your prayers. I would like to especially single out Anne Bacon, who is the immediate past Clerk of Hopewell Centre, and who has continued with this concern, and Doug Smith. These two, as Monthly Meeting clerks, were frequently called to meet the press, along with Marge Epstein of Langley Hill who has coordinated their press efforts.

Opportunities. Anne and Doug will be offering a Yearly Meeting workshop, sharing what they have learned about working with the press. The Yearly Meeting Program Committee has invited Tom's support team to plan our Friday night plenary session. In our planning stages our hope was that Tom would be here among us to share in that plenary.

Request for Assistance. I committed to write condolence letters to Tom's family and feel a need to acknowledge the letters of condolence that the Yearly Meeting has received. I feel led to ask for a volunteer to assist me. If that is something you feel led to do, either to help me to write the condolence letters or to acknowledge the condolence letters, please talk to me. We are posting the condolence letters we receive on the web site. The vast majority is going directly to Langley Hill and is posted on the Langley Hill web site. I want to thank Jim Rose, the Yearly Meeting webmaster, for his terrific work keeping the web site up-to-date. We have been keeping him much busier than usual. I would like to draw your attention to some moving condolence letters we have received, that are on the Yearly Meeting web site under condolences, especially the letter from New York Yearly Meeting, which felt led to write to us out of its own experience of the letters received after 9/11. They shared how much that had comforted them and they knew we would be in need of comfort. I would like to draw your attention to the letter from Jean Zaru, whom we are so happy to have with us and from whom we will hear in a few minutes.

I2006-10 *Continuing the Presiding Clerk's Report.*

Gratitudes. The rest of my report is all gratitudes. First I want to share with you my gratitude for the very well-attended Called Meeting on February 25th when Friends approved with changes a position summary for the new General Secretary. The position is currently posted on the BYM web site. The deadline for applications is April 7th. We have one application in hand.

I would like to read the names of the Ad Hoc Search Committee and to share gratitude for their willingness to be of service to the Yearly Meeting in this important way and to ask you to hold them in your prayers and in the Light in the coming months as they do this important work: They are in fact meeting right now in another room:

Katherine Smith, Maury River, Clerk
Ramona Buck, Patapsco
Nancy Clark, Baltimore, Homewood
Janet Eaby, Nottingham

Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington
Katrina Mason, Bethesda
Eric Uberseder, Dunnings Creek
Francy Williams, Frederick

I want to share my gratitude with all of you, and I hope you will share your gratitude with him, for Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring. In the absence of a permanent General Secretary, Howard has been doing an absolutely marvelous and committed job as Interim General Secretary. Some of you know that we asked Howard to work about 20 hours a week, saying you do not have to visit Monthly Meetings; Ministry and Pastoral Care will take care of that. It is true that Howard's ordinary schedule is Tuesday, half of Wednesday and all of Thursday. However I would estimate that Howard is giving us 40 hours a week, week in and week out including nights and weekends. He is working really hard and we are so happy and so blessed to have him in this role.

Challenges. The changes underway in the Yearly Meeting have been challenging and difficult. I will say I never thought I would have to clerk the Yearly Meeting without Frank Massey's help. It was not what I signed up for, but the challenges provide an opportunity for growth and transformation. Frank Massey said it would not be good for us if he stayed any longer. He had seen what happened to Yearly Meetings when superintendents stayed 25 years or longer. One of the opportunities for each one of us is to really strengthen the role of our committees. When we have a long-term staff member, it is easy to let the staff member help us out. It is time to reread the description of our committees in the Manual of Procedure and to make sure we are really doing what the committees are called to do. The Manual of Procedure says that committee clerks for the coming year should be reported while Yearly Meeting is in session. I am going to let you know now, several months in advance, that there will be a roll call; there might even be a meeting of new committee clerks at Annual Session. It is not too soon to start identifying your clerk.

Like most changes, there has been pain and discomfort, but I am confident that we have been given important opportunities for growth and transformation, both individually and corporately. And I believe that at these times of difficulty and transition, we are most called to live our faith, listen for the Spirit, and wait to be guided.

I remain thankful for this opportunity to be of service to the Yearly Meeting. I am blessed to be able to be in this role.

I2006-11 *Appreciation.* Michael Cronin, Clerk, added his appreciation to all of those in Baltimore, Stony Run Meeting, both in the kitchen and around the Meeting House, for great food and breakfast beforehand. We appreciate their hospitality.

I2006-12 *Peace and Social Concerns Committee.* J.E. McNeil, Friends Meeting of Washington, Co-Clerk of the Committee, presented two minutes.

THE MINUTE FOR THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PEACE TAX FUND BILL:

Over thirty years ago on eighth day of Eighth Month 1972 at Annual Sessions, upon the founding of the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund, Baltimore Yearly Meeting endorsed its passage:

The historic testimony of the Religious Society of Friends against participation in war has led many individual Friends over the years to refuse the payment of taxes used in whole or in part for war-related purposes. . . . Friends have continued to seek guidance in the matter of payment or non-payment of individual and corporate federal taxes.

Therefore, Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends will take the following actions:

- 1) provide, under the oversight of the Yearly Meeting Peace Committee, resource materials and resource persons to aid s and individual Friends in reaching decisions in the matter of non-payment of federal taxes; and
- 2) endorse legislation which would provide for the right of conscientious objection to federal income taxes used for military-related purposes.

We affirm our support of efforts through lawful means to create a society that does not rely on war or the threat of war as an instrument of national policy.

Today we are once again embroiled in war. The call to peace is stronger than ever. Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) renews its commitment to support those individuals who are called to refuse to pay their federal taxes and endorse this Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Bill, and prays that it will not be another 30 years before it becomes the law of the land.

The Minute for the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Bill was APPROVED by the Meeting and will be sent to the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund, appropriate United States senators and representatives, and all Monthly Meetings of BYM.

I2006-13 *Peace and Social Concerns Committee, continued.* We then turned to a proposed minute patterned on that of Langley Hill, which is a small beginning of carrying on Tom Fox's legacy, following Langley Hill's lead. A delegation from that Meeting has started visiting with its U.S. congressional members. Langley Hill is calling on Friends everywhere in this country to do likewise.

**MINUTE TO HONOR AND CONTINUE TOM FOX'S WORK ON IRAQI DETAINEES
FOR BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING, 25 THIRD MONTH, 2006**

"Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS: for they shall be called the children of God."

Tom Fox, truly a child of God, has left us to try to carry on his work in this world. An important part of his work for peace was trying to help families in Iraq know the location and condition of their loved ones who were being held in detention by U.S. forces. This simple basic human right has been systematically denied to those in the care of our government. Tens of thousands of Iraqi families suffer as a result.

When Tom was taken hostage last November, we all came to know in a personal way what it was like to have a beloved friend or family member detained, and not know where they were being held, or their fate. Tom's death has not changed this.

We of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) are deeply saddened by the loss of our Friend and are resolved to try to change U.S. policy and practice by asking Friends Meetings in the Yearly Meeting and across the country to send delegations to visit U.S. senators and representatives to:

- a) ask them to work to have coalition forces in Iraq make the names and locations of those it has detained available on a timely basis;
- b) ask them to insure that the International Committee of the Red Cross is able to visit all detainees in accordance with international treaties.

We ask Meetings who take on this witness to report back to Baltimore Yearly Meeting by the time of Annual Session in Eighth Month, 2006.

We APPROVED this minute as amended and added several names to the list of recipients: all Monthly Meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, all Yearly Meetings in the United States, CPT, all Quaker journals in the United States, American Friends Service Committee, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Friends General Conference (FGC), Friends United Meeting (FUM), Friends World

Committee for Consultation (FWCC) - Section of the Americas, Friends World Committee – all world offices, Wider Quaker Fellowship, and Evangelical Friends International.

A Langley Hill Friend added that the Langley Hill minute had been sent to 800 Monthly Meetings by regular mail recently.

I2006-14 *Jean Zaru.* John Salzberg, Bethesda, thanked those who saw the video *Investment in Hope*, the story of the Friends International Centre (FICR) in Ramallah, Palestine, the ministry developed in partnership with the Ramallah Monthly Meeting of Friends. He announced that copies of the video are available for Monthly Meetings, if people will contact him. (See the *Yearbook* directory.) He then introduced Jean Zaru, Clerk of the Ramallah Monthly Meeting, who inspired Philadelphia and Baltimore Yearly Meetings to help rebuild the Meeting House and to establish FICR which offers hospitality to Palestinians, Israelis, and others seeking peace with justice. There is a plaque in the Meeting House thanking us for the support and for being with them in these difficult times. “We are building community”, she said. “We are networking with likeminded people.” She added her condolences on the death of Tom Fox, but exhorted us that his death was more about life; that he unites people to work on peace and justice. No matter our size and number, together we can make a difference. She also admonished us that trying, to be balanced, we sometimes miss opportunities to act. We are not working against anyone; we are working against structures of repression and destruction. She reminded us there are three members of BYM on the Steering Committee of the Center: Lamar Matthew, Baltimore, (Stony Ru), John Salzberg, Bethesda, and China Jessup, Bethesda.

I2006-15 *Nominating.* Dorothea Malsbary, Sandy Spring, Clerk, mentioned that the Nominating Committee is working hard to strengthen our Yearly Meeting committees. She introduced the members present (Barbara Thomas, Annapolis; Bronna Zlochiver, Sandy Spring; Jason Eaby, Nottingham; and Ramona Buck, Patapsco, in the Ad Hoc Search Committee meeting. Other members are Cynthia Power, Charlottesville, and Catherine Tunis, Herndon). They have been in contact, by letter and individually, with Monthly Meeting and Nominating Committee clerks, seeking names of individuals for whom Yearly Meeting service would be an opportunity, a challenge and a gift. New BYM committee clerks have also been contacted; if eager and interested people, not yet appointed to the Committee, attend meetings, Nominating would be glad to consider them for appointment. The Committee is interested in individuals active at the local Meeting

level, for whom getting involved in the Yearly Meeting would be a new opportunity to broaden their exposure to Quaker service.

2006-16 *350th Anniversary*. Evamaria (Ria) Hawkins, Bethesda reminded us of the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Quakers in North America. 1652 is generally said to be the beginning of Quakerism in England. In 1654 it was carried to Ireland. In 1656, according to Kenneth Carroll, Elizabeth Harris landed in the Chesapeake Bay area, starting Quaker communities in Severn, West River, South River, Broad Neck, and Kent Island. (See Kenneth Carroll, *Quaker History*, Vol. 94, No. 1, “America’s First Recorded Quaker Communities.”) This anniversary is cause for celebration by all American and Canadian Friends, but especially by us in Baltimore Yearly Meeting. It is also a great opportunity for outreach, for letting people know that we are still alive and well, and where their local Meeting is. Annapolis has taken a lead in celebrating and is working on the following ideas:

- A banner to be put up outside the Meeting House announcing the anniversary
- Bumper stickers
- Brochures for distribution at the visitor center and historic sites
- A float in the July 4th parade
- A lecture in a local college, probably a part of a series on Religious Freedom or the history of religion in Maryland
- Joining a local historical society’s summer program of places of historical interest
- Having a visiting Friend portray George Fox (even though he was not part of this very early history here)
- A group of Meeting needlewomen/quilters will make a quilt or wall hanging to commemorate this event
- Two applications for grants to help with expenses have been submitted, one to a local historically oriented fund and one to a Quaker fund.

The objective is to become aware of our early history, to have fun, to involve as many people in the Meeting as possible in one or other aspects of this celebration and to make the community around us much more aware of our presence.

What can Your Meeting do?

I2006-17 *Minutes.* The minutes were APPROVED as corrected.

I2006-18 *Search Committee Report.* Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring, Interim General Secretary, presented the report for the Search Committee in the absence of David Hines, Richmond, Clerk. The other members are Katrina Mason, Bethesda, Margaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg, and Helena Cobban, Charlottesville. The Search Committee requested approval to replace Elaine Bell, Sandy Spring on the Supervisory Committee with Margaret Stambaugh, effective immediately. They also requested Joan Clippinger, Warrington, be added to Nominating Committee, again effective immediately. Search Committee reminded Interim Meeting that at Spring Yearly Meeting Day a Naming Committee is formed to find people for Search Committee, which currently needs three new members. Howard presented the names of Susie Fetter, Roanoke, and Miriam Green, Baltimore, Homewood.

The two appointments and the Naming Committee were APPROVED.

I2006-19 *Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee.* Don Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run, Clerk, introduced Linda Heacock, Richmond who has been traveling as an Embraced Friend. Linda had a leading to work with Friends Peace Teams African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) in Kenya. She followed the guidelines for Embraced Friends and received a travel minute from her, endorsed by the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee and by the Yearly Meeting.

Linda Heacock spoke of her ministry and the activities over the past year in Western Kenya and Nairobi facilitating Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) workshops. Forty Friends Church members, community officials, police, teachers and youth were trained. (See the full report below and the article in the Spring *Interchange*, available on the BYM-RSF web site.) Linda hopes to continue this work in Kenya and within BYM, where she is available for presentations and local training. She added that the experience of this ministry has changed her life. She is indebted to the Yearly Meeting and would appreciate our continuing support. If funds can be raised, she hopes to return to Kenya in September 2006.

Betsy Wollaston, Deer Creek informed us that Parker Bennett was also working with AGLI last summer, helping build a school, teaching English, and learning about Burundi. David Zarembka, Bethesda coordinates AGLI.

Linda Heacock's report was ACCEPTED. Her full report is attachment E.

I2006-20 *Staff Reports: Youth Secretary.* Hope Braveheart reminded us 1) that Tom Fox had a deep connection with the Young Friends (YFs) community, having spent seven years as a Friendly Adult Presence (FAP), and served as Interim Youth Secretary before she came. Our YFs are grieving. Their entire next newsletter will be devoted with love to Tom and to his legacy. It will be sent to all YFs, every Monthly Meeting, and all Monthly Meeting Religious Education Committees. We need each other at this time.

2) She also reported on the **Young Friends in Ramallah Program (YFRP)** this summer from July 10-24. Five BYM YFs will visit and do a workcamp with 5 Palestinian youth. There are concerns about the safety of the trip, but we were reassured that the first week of the trip overlaps with Max Carter's group of Guilford College students. If they feel it necessary to cancel, we will as well. Jean Zaru is also confident about the safety of the trip. The five BYM participants are Bennett Murray, Goose Creek; John Stitzer, State College; Katie Bellile, Richmond; Mica "Rosie" Whitney, Richmond; and Tory Smith, Langley Hill. The advisory group for this trip consists of experienced Friends who have visited Israel and Palestine: Lamar Matthew, Baltimore, Stony Run, coordinator and also member of the FIC Steering Committee, Max Carter (Guilford College, North Carolina Yearly Meeting (FUM), Maia Carter Hallward, Friends Meeting of Washington, Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington, Phoebe Stern, Sandy Spring, and Salem Zaru, Jean Zaru's son who lives here in Mt. Airy, Maryland. Also Joyce Ajlouny, Director of Ramallah Friends School and John Hishmeh, Guidance Counselor of Ramallah Friends School, are our (Lamar's and my) contacts—their goal and ours is for the YFRP to continue either annually or bi-annually. They will let us know if it is or is not safe. If our trip is postponed, we will continue with planning for when we will be able to go.

3) Friendly Adult Presences: A first orientation, held in January, trained a larger group, but more are needed. The next orientation will be at Annual Session, during two workshop periods. It will prepare people to work with Junior Young Friends and YFs. If you are interested, please contact her at the Yearly Meeting office.

I2006-21 *Staff Reports – Interim General Secretary.* Howard Fullerton, too, has traveled to Palestine and Israel, as a former member of the FUM board. A group spent 17 days there in December, almost before he had settled into his new work as Interim General Secretary.

Howard addressed the safety issues, assuring us that his group were informed about points such as what to wear, where not to go, and how not to travel (on city buses), before they went and also by World Vision after their arrival. He felt safe even walking alone at night between the two Friends School locations in Ramallah.

Now he is settling in, working mostly on finances, with the Program Committee, and with the staff. Part of the work with finances has been the result of Frank Massey's tax resistance. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) sent a bill for two years of taxes, interest and penalties. J.E. McNeill, as BYM attorney, replied with a letter and checks for several quarters for taxes and interest, but not penalties. We are awaiting the IRS response.

THE CLERK OF TRUSTEES REQUESTED THAT TRUSTEES RECEIVE COPIES OF ALL CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE IRS.

Howard also announced that we are looking for a new bookkeeper, as our current bookkeeper is limited both in her time available and in accounting training. Information is available through all Monthly Meeting clerks and newsletters.

He hopes to place a banner on the BYM web site announcing the 350th anniversary and encouraging area-wide celebrations.

Our BYM membership continues to grow: we have a net gain of 58 members, with at least six more reports to come; the median size of a Monthly Meeting is 64. *There are other Meetings that have not filed membership reports, information on clerks and committee clerks, or financial information needed to support an equitable apportionment process. The office would like all that information; it helps us serve you better.* Information about non-compliant Meetings is available from Sandra Michaels in the office.

I2006-22 *Manual of Procedure*. Ann Marie Moriarty, Adelphi, Clerk of the Committee, presented requested changes.

The first change reflects the actual practice of Trustees, not the Stewardship and Finance Committee, receiving audits. It was pointed out that an audit is required at least every three years or whenever the Treasurer or the General Secretary changes.

The second was a new description of the Unity with Nature Committee, initiated at their request.

The third clarifies the categories of Working and Special Groups. (See the report below.) In answer to a question, Ann Marie explained that the groups may request annual budget monies, but can not raise or accept other funds without prior approval of the Interim Meeting and in coordination with the Stewardship and Finance Committee. The sponsoring committee need not be the original founding committee.

With the one improvement, these changes were APPROVED. The full report is attachment F.

I2006-23 Ethel Reynolds Fund. A new proposal for the distribution of the Ethel Reynolds Fund was presented, (See **I2005-9 and I2005-47.**) The goal of not frittering the funds away has been met with wild success; the original bequest of \$62,000 (1976) was \$83,000 at the end of 2003. The Ethel Reynolds Fund Co-Clerks, Doug Eaby and James Matsen (Nottingham), have allotted \$8,500 for dispersal this year. Unlike Ethel Reynolds' bequests to Nottingham, the Yearly Meeting was *not* required to hold the bequest intact. The Manual of Procedure Committee recommends that the Yearly Meeting lay down the Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee, and that the remainder of the funds be allocated this year among the Camping Program, Camp Property Management, Youth Programs, Religious Education and Advancement and Outreach Committees, asking them to develop a plan in coordination with Stewardship and Finance to spend the funds wisely over a period of time. Monthly meetings can apply directly to the appropriate committee for monies. The use of the funds should be included in annual reports to the Yearly Meeting from the five groups. (See the full report below for details.)

The Meeting APPROVED the proposal as presented, and MINUTED:

For three decades the Yearly Meeting has benefited from Ethel Reynolds's generous bequest in many ways and the above proposal will let it continue to do so. As she intended, the Yearly Meeting has benefited and will continue to benefit from her bequest. As we reflect on all that her gift has accomplished, Baltimore Yearly Meeting minutes its gratitude to Ethel Reynolds for her bequest.

Lauri Perman has learned from those at Nottingham who knew Ethel Reynolds that she cared deeply about the future of the Religious Society of Friends. It was her belief that the future of the Society depended on youth, religious education and outreach. A complete copy of the proposal is below as attachment G..

I2006-24 Program Committee. Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda, Clerk, reported that Annapolis will host an interest group on the 350th anniversary and what Meetings can do to celebrate the presence of Quakers today in the Mid-Atlantic region. We are encouraged not to wait until August to celebrate the 350th anniversary!

She also reported on the outcome of the visit by some members of the Program Committee to the James Madison University conference coordinator recently. There will be no changes in 2006. In 2007, the University requires that we change our dates to July 23-29th. There may be some changes in the meeting spaces used by the Yearly Meeting as well. We will be in the same dormitories and eat in the same cafeteria, sharing it with another group.

She asked permission of the Interim Meeting to begin to look for other possible sites in case we find we have to move. Permission was GRANTED.

Liz shared the theme for **Annual Session** this year, “Living in Harmony: Called to Live in Harmony with One Another and All Creation.” Tuesday night’s plenary speaker will be our Young Adult Friend Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder, who was involved with both the English and the Kenyan World Gatherings of Young Friends (WGYF) last year. She is very experienced working with Friends of all persuasions. Saturday the Carey Memorial Lecturer will be Marshall Massey (Iowa Yearly Meeting-Conservative), a co-founder of Quaker Earthcare Witness. He will be encouraging all Friends to walk gently on the Earth. A Friend alerted us to Marshall Massey’s leading to walk to Harrisburg, Virginia, from his home in Omaha, Nebraska. On Friday we have asked Tom Fox’s Support Committee and Langley Hill to be responsible for the program, in some way carrying forth Tom’s work. Watch for the May *Interchange* for details.

Three **vouchers** per Meeting will be available again for two free nights for first time attenders.

Worship Sharing - Don Gann requested volunteers to lead Worship Sharing. Riley Robinson, Friends Meeting of Washington described his group: they get down on the floor and color. (There will be two family Worship Sharing groups this year.) Worship sharing is an opportunity to start the day with a small group with whom you will touch base all week, a quiet time full of worshipfulness but with the expectation that all may share on written queries developed around the Annual Session theme. It was suggested it would be a good idea to have a Worship Sharing leader training session at Annual Session for those interested.

I2006-25 *Unity with Nature Committee.* Sarah Brabson, Little Britain, Eastland, Co-Clerk, presented a request for affiliation of the Friends Wilderness Center (FWC) with Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Sarah Brabson is a member of the FWC board and their Recording Clerk, Julie Guroff, has joined the Unity with Nature Committee. FWC is not requesting financial assistance from BYM as an organization, but seeks to become better known and better used by the Yearly Meeting. An Open House will be held at FWC on May 20. More information is available on their web site: www.friendswilderness.org or from FWC, 305 Friends Way, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 (Phone: 304-728-4820; e-mail: center@friendswilderness.org.) The Center, which has been under the care of Friends Meeting of Washington, was donated by Henry and Mary Cushing Niles, who were members of Baltimore, Stony Run.

The intent today is to give Friends a chance to familiarize themselves with the proposal, which needs to be approved at Annual Session. The full report is below as attachment H.

I2006-26 *Minutes.* The minutes to this point were read and approved with corrections.

I2006-27 *Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas.* Flossie Fullerton, Sandy Spring reported on the meeting in Guatemala recently, pointing out that all six BYM representatives (Flossie Fullerton, Sheila Bach, Langley Hill; Robert "Bob" Fetter, Roanoke; Graham Johnson, Sandy Spring; Dona Manoukian, Langley Hill; and Sage Taylor, Sandy Spring, were present. The meeting was hosted by two Guatemala Friends Church groups. For the first time all 17 worship groups were bilingual, with interpreters. Another Friend mentioned that five or six Central American Young (Adult) Friends were present, among at least 15 attendees from the WGYF.

Flossie raised the question about BYM interests to share with the Triennial to be held in Dublin, Ireland, in 2007. The topics the representatives considered included peace, opposition to the use of torture, and environmental concerns such as water and pollution. It was pointed out that because of an earlier deadline, some answers were sent by the Presiding Clerk in December. Lauri will forward a copy of the answer to our representatives.

Bob Fetter then reported on upcoming opportunities. The Southeast Region, to which we belong, hosts **sectional meetings**, the next being in North Carolina on September 22-24. In January 2008 there will possibly be a regional meeting in Jamaica YM (FUM). BYM may host the sectional meeting after that. These

meetings are open and all who are interested are welcome to attend. Bob also mentioned the **Quaker Conference on Torture**, June 2-4, 2006 at Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina. Co-sponsored by FWCC, Section of the Americas, and by BYM among others, it is organized by The Quaker Initiative to End Torture (QUIT). The web site is www.quit-torture-now.org. The Conference requests representatives from each Yearly Meeting, as well as welcoming all individuals who share the concern.

This summer there is also a **Quaker Youth Pilgrimage**, a group of international youth age 16-18, who will together visit Friends through the Midwestern United States, July 14-August 10. This is a wonderful opportunity. Four places are still available for United States Friends. Dona Manoukian, Langley Hill, encouraged those present to return to our Meetings and talk to any YFs who might be interested. The application is available at <http://www.fwccamericas.org/whatwedo/youth.html>.



Finally, Flossie offered us the opportunity to help her with a quilt square, similar to those on our BYM modesty skirt, for the New England Section's project. How does Quakerism express itself within BYM? The completed square is due by the end of May. It was suggested that since we are so involved with our youth, the camp logo "Fire at the Center" might be appropriate. The group agreed enthusiastically.

I2006-28 *Intervisitation Committee.* Ken Stockbridge presented the Intervisitation Committee report for Marcy Seitel, Clerk, who sent her regrets. A web page is being developed to make our materials available to our Monthly Meetings and to other Yearly Meetings. BYM's program is primarily organized to send and receive visits to YM Annual Session. Monthly Meetings are encouraged to take individual initiative and invite other FUM Monthly Meetings to visit, for example, Charlottesville's invitation to New Garden Quarter in North Carolina YM (FUM).

A "professional" Quaker asked how those who are already traveling among Friends can help BYM's intervisitation goal. The Committee does have training sessions which are open to not only "professional Friends," and those with minutes planning to travel, but also to those with casual interest. Two sessions were held in July and October, 2005. Materials used will be on the web site as well.

The YM Intervisitation program is focused on building relationships between FUM Yearly Meetings, as well as encouraging visiting in general.

Ted Heck, Richmond, Co-Clerk of the Youth Programs Committee (YPC), mentioned that since there will be no YouthQuake this year, the YPC decided to use the money budgeted to cooperate with the Intervisitation Committee's work. Ken happily accepted that movement on behalf of the Committee. Involving YFs and youth in intervisitation is one of the Committee's aims. A FAP, a YF and a YF's friend are attending the NCYM (FUM) mid-winter youth gathering this weekend. Most of the Yearly Meetings have youth programs.

Ken was thanked for the report. The complete report is below as attachment I.

I2006-29 *Ad hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns.*

Aron Teel, Charlottesville, Clerk, pointed out that the Committee has received no response from s regarding the FGC Central Committee's 2005 minute on the gifts and leadership of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer Friends within FGC. This minute was brought before Interim Meeting this time last year. The Committee is asking that committee members attend Quarterly and Meetings for Business to present the FGC Central Committee minute and to listen to their experiences. It was APPROVED that the Clerk of Interim Meeting would send a cover letter to let Monthly Meetings know that the Committee members will be knocking on their doors. (The FGC Central Committee Minute is appended below, see attachment J.)

I2006-30 *Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee.*

Ed Norton, York, announced that Ministry and Pastoral Care also is charged with visiting within the Yearly Meeting. He requested that interested individuals contact him if they would like to visit other s within BYM in love and friendship. An article will be found in the next *Interchange*. It was also pointed out that Monthly Meetings can invite members of the Committee to visit them.

I2006-31 *Closing.*

The final minutes were read, corrected, and approved. The Meeting closed in a moment of silent worship at 6:20 p.m., to meet again at Hopewell Centre, Meeting House on 17 Sixth Month, 2006, or as called.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Bradley

Interim Meeting Recording Clerk

Attachment E. BYM EMBRACED MINISTRY WITH FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS, REPORT OF MINISTRY ACTIVITIES/PLANS, SEE MINUTE I2006-19.**Activities/Accomplishments**

- April 2, 2005, Interim Meeting : Friends approved embracing Linda Heacock's Ministry, using protocol set forth by BYM "*Guidelines on Embracing the Ministry of Friends.*"
- April-May, 2005: Formation of Working Support Committee.
- June-Sept, 2005: Raised \$4,500 for six-week Kenya trip (travel, living expenses and \$2,000 for cost of workshops).
- 8/14/05: "Friendly Forum" presentation at rise of Meeting (Richmond Friends).
- 9/19/05 – 10/31/05: Trip to Kenya with *Friends Peace Teams' African Great Lakes Initiative.*
- Delivered five, 22-hour *Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP)* workshops with team of Kenyan AVP facilitators, Western Kenya and Nairobi.
 - Number of participants: 40 (Friends Church members, community officials, police, teachers and youth).
 - Number completing AVP facilitator certification: 20.
- 12/20/05: "Friendly Forum" presentation at rise of Richmond Meeting.
- BYM Women's Retreat, 1/20-22/06 –Workshop, "*Following a Spiritual Leading through Quaker Ministry.*" Participants: 10.
- Kenya journal excerpt published in winter edition of *Peaceways*, AGLI quarterly publication.
- Wrote article for BYM *Interchange*, submitted for March issue.
- 2/12/06: Submitted proposal to deliver workshop at 2006 BYM Annual Session.
- 2/25/06: Submitted proposed article to *Quaker Life* magazine.
- Wrote article for March issue of Richmond Friends Meeting *Among Friends* newsletter: History of Friends and Friends' Peacemaking in Kenya.
- February-March: Sent out letter to (10) s of BYM with proposals for presentations on work of ministry.
- 3/1/06: Met with Adria Scharf, director, *Richmond Peace Education Center (RPEC)*. Discussed plans for re-implementing and coordinating AVP program at the Virginia Correctional Center for Women.
- Sent letters to past AVP facilitators with RPEC informing of intent to re-introduce AVP and plans for organizational meeting.

Future Plans/Activities:

- Plan for return to Kenya in Sept/Oct 2006.
Correspondence with Kenyan contacts:
 1. (7) facilitators certified at our AVP training, Lugari, Western Kenya (Oct, 2005) have apprenticed as co-facilitators for (2) AVP basics, with AVP Advanced training to follow. (Internal funding resources).
 2. (2) Basic workshops held in other locations stretching remainder of funds I had raised, plus internal funding through Friends' churches.
 3. Tentative plans for return trip: T4T for Nairobi youth, AVP workshop series (3 levels) and Trauma Healing workshop in areas of past violence/ethnic cleansing (Western Kenya).

Funds raised-to-date: \$2,000

- March: Formation of Ministry Oversight Committee (3 confirmed members).
- May 26-29: AVP National Conference, Boston – scheduled to present either workshop, or as part of panel on AVP program and Friends Peace Teams' African Great Lakes Initiative.
- Request from *Richmond Peace Education Center* to write 2-part article for June and July issue of newsletter under *Profiles in Peacemaking Series*. 1. History of AVP and how it comes out of the Quaker perspective; 2. How AVP is working in Kenya and my connection to that work.
- 4/10/06: Friends House/Sandy Spring – evening presentation.
- 4/23/06: Williamsburg Friends Meeting – presentation at rise of Meeting.
- Implement fund-raising strategies: Send out letters to Monthly Meetings, Richmond Friends, friends/family, updating on ministry activities/progress/plans, and appeal for support. Include updated brochure.
- Phone call/email follow-up to letters sent to Monthly Meetings re: visitations.

Linda Heacock, Richmond Monthly Meeting

Attachment F. Manual of Procedure Committee Report, See Minute I2006-22

For years, the Trustees, not the Stewardship and Finance Committee have received the audit. The change in wording reflects actual practice. Add a sentence to the Trustees description on page 6: (add underlined material; delete material struck through)

The Trustees meet at least annually. They are responsible for title to all real property in the care of the Yearly Meeting, such as burying grounds, and for all matters concerned with the invested funds of the Yearly Meeting. At least every three years and whenever the Treasurer or the General Secretary changes, it should arrange for a certified public accountant to audit the Treasurer's books and records, and those of any other group or individual having charge of the expenditure of funds. All trust funds will, of course, be administered in accordance with the intentions of the original donors following the policy outlined in *Faith and Practice*, Appendix I.3. The Trustees should report annually to the Yearly Meeting.

Remove the same sentence from the Stewardship and Finance Committee's description on pages 27-28:

The Committee each year prepares for Yearly Meeting consideration a budget and a plan of apportionment of the budget to the s. ~~At least every three years and whenever the Treasurer changes, it should arrange for a certified public accountant to audit the Treasurer's books and records, and those of any other group or individual having charge of the expenditure of funds.~~ It has oversight of the accounting methods used and the adequacy of the financial reports given by the Treasurer, and it should make adequate provision for preservation of all assets of the Yearly Meeting not specifically managed by the Trustees.

Page 29: Change the description of the Unity with Nature Committee, a request initiated by that Committee. From:

~~The Committee searches and urges all Friends to search with them for the Light that enables us to discern and answer that of God in all creation:~~

~~It encourages Friends and others to educate themselves and to engage in actions concerning the care and restoration of the natural environment locally, regionally, nationally, and globally:~~

To:

Recognizing that the entire world is an interconnected manifestation of God, the Unity with Nature Committee seeks to work into the beliefs and practices of the Yearly Meeting the twin principles that God's Creation is to be respected, protected, and held in reverence, and that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the Earth's ecological integrity. The Committee promotes these principles by example, by communication, and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in transforming our relationship with the Earth.

It serves as a resource for Unity with Nature concerns and activities of individuals and of s.

Working Groups. *See pages 13 to 15 in the Manual of Procedure. Change the last paragraph on page 15 to read:*

Any other groups recognized by the Yearly Meeting which are not standing committees or ad hoc committees are ~~considered~~ either special groups or working groups and are described in that section. The former report to the Yearly Meeting as provided on page 37. The latter report to a sponsoring committee of the Yearly Meeting as provided on page xx.

The description to be placed on page xx (after the description of Special Groups) follows:

Any standing committee, with the concurrence of Interim Meeting, may establish a **Working Group**. The Working Group need not have members of the sponsoring committee among its members, but reports to and through that committee. Unless otherwise provided, each Working Group selects its own clerk. Each Working Group is expected to report in writing annually to the Yearly Meeting. Any report, action or statement of a Working Group should be approved in the manner of Friends at a meeting of the Group of which all members of the Group were given reasonable notice. Working Groups are empowered to raise or accept monies only with the prior approval of the Interim Meeting and in coordination with the Stewardship and Finance Committee. The minute establishing the Working Group specifies whether a member of the Working Group or the clerk of the sponsoring committee will authorize disbursements. When the Working Group's activities are complete or it is no longer active, the sponsoring committee or Interim Meeting lays it down.

On page 33, delete the first paragraph, following the section of Special Groups:

~~Any other groups recognized by the Yearly Meeting which are not standing committees or ad hoc committees are considered special groups. Only those groups which have continued or expect to continue for some time are included in the *Manual*.~~

Concerned individuals desiring to establish a new Special Group bring their idea to Interim Meeting, either themselves directly, or through ~~their a~~ (s), or through ~~an a~~ appropriate standing committee of the Yearly Meeting if one already exists. If after due consideration there is general support and approval, Interim Meeting recommends to the Yearly Meeting that such a Special Group be established. If the Yearly Meeting approves, the group is established.

Attachment G. PROPOSAL ABOUT THE ETHEL REYNOLDS FUND, SEE MINUTE I2006-23

The Ethel Reynolds Fund evolved through decisions made by Representative (now Interim) Meeting to make grants from the bequest of Ethel Reynolds, a member of Nottingham Meeting who died in 1976. The bequest to Baltimore Yearly Meeting was for religious education and advancement work. The money was placed in a fund (restricted by the Yearly Meeting) and a committee was established that included members of Nottingham.

The goal of not frittering the funds away has been met with wild success; the original bequest of \$62,000 was \$83,000 at the end of 2003. Ethel Reynolds asked that we exhaust the bequest and the Yearly Meeting policy (*Faith and Practice, Appendix I*) requires that we spend it fully.

The Manual of Procedure Committee recommends that the Yearly Meeting lay down the Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee and that the funds be allocated this year among four committees and our youth program as follows: 15 percent each for the Camping Program and Camp Property Management Committees, 30 percent for the Youth Programs Committee, and 20 percent each for the Religious Education and Advancement and Outreach Committees.

We recommend that Interim Meeting ask that these Committees and program develop a plan in coordination with the Stewardship and Finance Committee to spend these funds wisely; in the case of the Religious Education and Advance-

ment Committees, a five-year time horizon is recommended. The Camp Property Management Committee already has a capital-spending plan and the Youth Programs Committee is looking forward to taking a group to Israel and Palestine this year. Annual reports to the Yearly Meeting from these five groups should indicate how these funds are spent.

For three decades the Yearly Meeting has benefited from Ethel Reynolds's generous bequest in so many ways and the above proposal will let it continue to do so. As she intended, the Yearly Meeting has benefited and will continue to benefit from her bequest. As we reflect on all that her gift has accomplished, Baltimore Yearly Meeting minutes its gratitude to Ethel Reynolds for her bequest.

Attachment H. UNITY WITH NATURE REQUEST FOR FRIENDS WILDERNESS CENTER'S (FWC)

FORMAL AFFILIATION WITH BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING, SEE MINUTE I2006-25

As a committee affiliated with FWC since 2003, Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Unity with Nature Committee advocates the formal affiliation of FWC with BYM: A formal affiliation would be mutually beneficial to FWC and BYM. FWC wants to be a *resource* for BYM and its s, one that deepens and enriches the spiritual lives of individuals and furthers the spiritual purposes of Meetings. FWC is not asking for any financial support from BYM as an organization, but will of course continue to welcome contributions from s and individuals who are moved to provide such support.

- **Current status of FWC:** FWC is now, and has long been, a *regional* Quaker organization, rather than a project of a committee in a single _____. Its board (Oversight Committee) has recently drawn from at least eight s – in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia (Adelphi, Alexandria, Frederick, Friends Meeting of Washington, Goose Creek, Langley Hill, Little Britain and Sandy Spring) – and visitors come from Meetings distributed throughout those four jurisdictions, plus West Virginia.
- At this time, only one of FWC's ten board members is from Friends Meeting of Washington, where until recently FWC was under the care of Ministry and Worship Committee. FWC recently received a letter from Friends Meeting of Washington acknowledging that the Center no longer needs to be under its care and formalizing the change in status.

- **Current informal relationships with/within BYM:** For six years, the BYM *Faith and Practice* Revision Committee has been meeting monthly in the Niles Cabin, and this will continue for many years. FWC is providing space to BYM, because it is an inspiring setting and because it is the most central location to all the Committee members. Ministry and Worship Committee of Langley Hill Friends Meeting has used the Niles Cabin for retreats. Opequon Quaker Camp has frequently used FWC for wilderness outings for the past three to four years. Numerous members of BYM Meetings have used the FWC for personal and family retreats.
- **Goal of Extended Reach and Cross Fertilization:** FWC wants to reach more people, more often, and on an ever-deeper level. As an integral part of BYM, FWC would collaborate with other BYM entities, in addition to the Unity with Nature Committee, such as the Camping Program Committee, the Youth Programs Committee (e.g. volunteer and retreat opportunities), and the Religious Education Committee (a place for adult retreats; currently no such retreat center exists within the BYM community). FWC would complement BYM's youth camping programs by enabling adults, young adults, and families to commune with nature. FWC facilitates the seeking of God's will in the natural world, hearing God's voice in other living things, and strengthening bonds of community with others in a wilderness setting. Members and visitors are enabled, figuratively, to stand in the hand of God, illuminated by God's Light. All of this combined provides a unique and crucial experience in modern life and in spiritual journeying, within a wilderness treasure that belongs to us all.

Attachment I. Ad Hoc Committee on Intervisitiation's Report to Interim Meeting March 2006, See Minute I2006-28

Interim Meeting, on 4th Month 2, 2005, charged the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns (GSDC) to respond to the Epistle from FGC Central Committee in consultation with s.

The Committee proposed that Interim Meeting forward this Minute to all the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings for consideration and response. Members of the Ad Hoc Committee will carry the Minute to as many Meetings as possible, inviting Friends to labor with us.

The FGC Central Committee Minute reads:

Our experience has been that spiritual gifts are not distributed with regard to sexual orientation or gender identity. Our experience has been that our Gatherings and Central Committee work have been immeasurably enriched over the years by the full participation and Spirit-guided leadership of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer Friends. We will never go back to silencing those voices or suppressing those gifts. Our experience confirms that we are all equal before God, as God made us, and we feel blessed to be engaged in the work of FGC together.

We invite Friends to consider and share back with us their own experiences. We invite Friends to dwell deep, to “know one another in that which is eternal,” to consider the words of this Minute, and to be open to the presence and guidance of the Spirit.

SIXTH MONTH 17, 2006 **Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting**

I2006-32 *Opening.* Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s (BYM’s) Interim Meeting gathered on 17 Sixth Month, 2006, at Hopewell Centre Meeting House in Clearbrook, Virginia. Eighty Friends from 25 meetings signed in.

The Meeting opened with waiting worship. The Clerk of Hopewell Centre Meeting, Carol Melby, greeted us on a lovely breezy summer day and thanked us for providing Hopewell Centre “an opportunity to spruce up”. She asked that we thank Pam Smith for organizing the generous welcome and plentiful food.

Jim Riley, resident Meeting historian (best known as Josh Riley’s father), then summarized the history of Hopewell Meeting House. Founded in 1734, Hopewell Meeting is the oldest continuously used place of worship in the Northern Shenandoah Valley. The current Meeting House was built in 1759 and extended 20 years later. During the 19th century schism, a partition was built between the two halves of the building, only to be removed in the early 20th century when part of the original exterior wall had to be rebuilt. In 1999 Hopewell Meeting united with Winchester Centre Meeting to become Hopewell Centre Meeting.

I2006-33 *Presiding Clerk’s Report.* In response to the previous speaker, Lauri Perman, State College, suggested that those with a gift for finding interest-

ing stories and quotations in old minutes share them with her throughout the year so that she might use them at Annual Session.

The last time Lauri was at Hopewell Centre was the first First Day after the death of Tom Fox, Langley Hill, Christian Peacemaker Team member, in Baghdad, Iraq. Tom lived in the Youth House before he last went to Iraq. In addition to that Meeting for Worship, three Memorial Meetings for Tom were well attended by Baltimore Yearly Meeting members and others: an interdenominational service on April 22 at Foundry Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., and two Meetings for Worship under the care of Langley Hill in May. A Memorial Meeting for Worship for Tom under the care of the Yearly Meeting will be held at Annual Session, Wednesday afternoon, August 2, from 1:15-2:45 p.m.

For Committee Clerks. Lauri requested only action items be brought to the floor at Annual Session and that they be sent to her by the end of next week, June 24, if possible. Committee clerks and organization representatives are also reminded to send annual reports to the office. Due May 15th, only seven reports have been received. A committee clerks' workshop for all in-coming and out-going committee clerks will be held at Annual Session Thursday, August 3 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Personally, Lauri shared her deeply rewarding trip with her parents to Slovenia, visiting relatives and her paternal grandparents' homes. Sadly, she and her husband Tom Ryan also experienced the death of Tom's mother in May, after nine years of helping to care for her.

In closing, Lauri reported she frequently receives commiseration for the burden of the work of being Yearly Meeting Presiding Clerk. In truth, it is a tremendous privilege and an incredible gift. When we call Friends to serve in Yearly Meeting, we call them to grow spiritually. She thanked the Meeting for the opportunity to serve.

I2006-34 *Supervisory Committee Report.* Lauri Perman, on behalf of the Committee and Interim Meeting Clerk Michael Cronin, Friends Meeting of Washington, reviewed the history and the process of the search for a new General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. (See Attachment A for I2006-34: "Baltimore Yearly Meeting Supervisory Committee Process, 2005-2006" at the end of these minutes)

Walter Fry, West Branch, Clerk of the 1988 Ad Hoc Search Committee which named Frank Massey, shared that Committee's final report with its detailed de-

scription of the group's process. The Recording Clerk of Representative Meeting at that period, Eleanor Webb, also wrote useful detailed notes about the deliberations.

In order to permit a careful, participatory search, the Supervisory Committee asked Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring, to act as Interim General Secretary. By then, a letter from the Presiding and Interim Meeting Clerks to Committee and Monthly Meeting clerks offered queries about names and criteria for an Ad Hoc Search Committee and about the selection process. It included a position description for the General Secretary and announced dates for a Called Meeting in February.

On October 22, Interim Meeting empowered Supervisory Committee to appoint an Ad Hoc Search Committee for General Secretary. The principle criterion for the Committee was that it be diverse and inclusive in every possible way. Monthly Meetings had until November 10 to submit names and criteria for the Committee, and until December 15 to make comments about the position of General Secretary. In January, Supervisory Committee was able to send Monthly Meeting clerks the names of those to serve on the Ad Hoc Search Committee, a draft position summary, and a reminder of the Called Meeting date.

On February 25, the Called Meeting approved, with suggestions for improvement, the position summary from which the Ad Hoc Search Committee would work.

Lauri thanked all the Monthly Meetings and individuals who participated in the process. She thanked the Ad Hoc Search Committee for assuming the responsibility for the search.

Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run, of the Supervisory Committee continued the report. The search process required the vision, input and consent of the members of the Yearly Meeting. The Called Meeting first wished candidates and staff to be clear that the General Secretary works in conjunction and cooperates with BYM Committees. The Committees drive the process; the role of the General Secretary is to enable and facilitate their work. Secondly, the Meeting wished the General Secretary to be open to the leadings of the Spirit. S/he should be able to fully integrate Friends' testimonies into business procedures and into all day-to-day responsibilities. The wish for a person who works from and with compassion and other nuances were also woven into the position summary.

The Called Meeting charged the Ad Hoc Search Committee to bring the name of a candidate to serve as General Secretary to the Six Month 17, 2006 Interim Meeting, bearing in mind that “God’s time is not necessarily our time.” The charge included consent for the Ad Hoc Search Committee to organize their process in any manner appropriate to their needs and congruent with spiritual discernment and good personnel practice. The Ad Hoc Search Committee was to keep the Supervisory Committee informed about the process and all considered decisions. The responsibility of the Supervisory Committee was to establish the terms and conditions of employment; the Ad Hoc Search Committee was to bring forward the name. (See **Attachment B** for **I2006-34**: “Charge to the Ad Hoc Search Committee”)

I2006-35 *Ad Hoc Search Committee*. Katherine Smith, Maury River, Clerk, reported the Committee began its work in January with the charge authorized by Interim Meeting Tenth Month 22, 2005: nine pages documenting the work of the General Secretary, a summary thereof, responses from Monthly Meetings to the queries, and the summary and minutes of the 1987-1988 Search Committee. Later, Friends gathered at the Second Month Called Interim Meeting added a distillation of deliberations. The Committee first met together at Interim Meeting day, Third Month, 2006, sharing personal histories and, in worship sharing, the talents and experiences each brought to the work. Francy Williams, Frederick, was recorder; Michael Cronin acted as staff. The Committee read their charge. Qualifications hoped for in any candidate were prioritized. The group agreed to discuss in Committee any knowledge or relationship they had with any candidate, to hold the work confidential, and to communicate by postal service in preference to e-mail or telephone.

There were nine applicants, seven of whom came from within Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Applications and supporting documents were reviewed and charted for ease of evaluation and comparison. Two more meetings produced three candidates to interview the first weekend, Sixth Month. Each two-hour interview began in silence, proceeded to prepared questions and sharing, and ended with silence. After each interview, the Committee reviewed the session. At the conclusion of all the interviews, their findings were shared.

The Committee is clear to bring forward the name of Robert H. “Riley” Robinson, Junior, Friends Meeting of Washington, for the Interim Meeting’s approval to serve as the next Baltimore Yearly Meeting General Secretary. (See **Attachment C** for **I2006-35**: “Report of the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary”)

Sounds of approval were heard throughout the Meeting House.

Katherine proceeded to introduce the Committee members: Nancy Clark, Baltimore Homewood; Ramona Buck, Patapsco; Janet Eaby, Nottingham; and Katrina Mason, Bethesda. Unable to attend were Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington; Eric Uberseder, Dunnings Creek; and Francy Williams, Frederick.

Riley Robinson, currently attending an American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) meeting, has agreed to have his name brought forward. Riley's pertinent information includes: a member of Friends Meeting of Washington, Riley has served on Baltimore Yearly Meeting Committees on and off since 1983 and attended Annual Session every year since 1986. He initiated and kept going the Session's Family Worship Sharing Group. He has been with the Mid-Atlantic Region of AFSC since 1993, and most recently, as Clerk of its Executive Committee, he also attends the AFSC National Board. He is on Friends Committee on Legislation Central Committee and has been on their Annual Meeting Planning Committee. At Friends Meeting of Washington Riley served as Alternate Clerk and, since 1991, as Administrative Secretary. He has attended the Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology annually since 1987 and served on its Committee since 1993. He has been to every Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering since 1986. Riley is truly a "value added Friend". His spiritual experience is deep.

Committee members remarked on the many levels and the quality of listening in their meetings, as well as the shared good humor and snacks which lightened intense, serious moments.

Katherine requested that the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary be laid down.

The Meeting settled for a time, reflecting on the process described and the name brought forward. Concern was raised whether the Meeting would consider the package of compensation and benefits. Administration is a gift of the Spirit; the acceptance of it by Interim Meeting carries an obligation to reciprocate with adequate compensation. Michael Cronin, as Clerk of Supervisory Committee, reminded the Meeting that Supervisory Committee is responsible for establishing employee salaries. They have done as much preliminary work as possible, and once the name is approved will move promptly. Riley has alerted the Clerk and certain other Friends at Friends Meeting of Washington that his name was being presented and that he would accept the position if offered. Howard Fullerton

inserted a reassuring historical point: on the yellow handout about the Supervisory Committee Process, the date of October 18 stood out. Howard had found a letter to Frank Massey, signed by Howard, then Clerk of Representative Meeting, dated October 18, 1988. This was Frank's "letter of engagement." (Frank was approved as the new General Secretary at the Representative Meeting in August, 1988.) Some of the financial information requested should come forward to Interim Meeting in the fall.

Responding to a question about whether Interim Meeting approves the process and name or employs the General Secretary, Lauri Perman clarified that the Interim Meeting minutes state it is to approve the process and accept the name brought forward to be the new General Secretary. *The Manual of Procedure* includes among the functions of Interim Meeting "to define staffing needs, set staff compensation policies, and be the employer of record. Interim Meeting selects, employs, and defines the responsibilities of the General Secretary". Once a year, Supervisory Committee informs Interim Meeting of the salaries of the staff, which are published in the year book. (See **I2006-48** *Supervisory Committee*)

Katherine Smith assured the Meeting that all the interviewees knew the salary range, the offer on housing, and information from the personnel manual on health care and opportunities made available to Yearly Meeting employees. All was discussed during the interview process.

I2006-36 *General Secretary*. The Interim Meeting APPROVED the name of Robert H. "Riley" Robinson, Junior, as brought forward by the Ad Hoc Search Committee for General Secretary.

Riley will assume his duties as soon as Friends Meeting of Washington can free him from that work. He will be present at Annual Session as a well-informed newcomer on the block learning his new responsibilities. He will continue to convene the Family Worship Sharing Group. Howard Fullerton will act as Interim General Secretary through the 2006 Annual Session.

Riley has been the strategic planning officer for the plant at Friends Meeting of Washington; he makes it his business to plan ahead for bids and the like, so the Committees responsible for work can make informed decisions. He trained a whole generation of committee clerks for finance, ministry and worship, membership, etc. He brings all of that to BYM, but is taking all that from his Monthly Meeting. Friends Meeting of Washington needs to be able to begin to find a successor. The Yearly Meeting wants Riley full time as soon as he comes.

I2006-37 *Ad Hoc Search Committee.* The Interim Meeting APPROVED laying down the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary with deep appreciation for the steady, even, fair, confidential and timely action after the manner of Friends in finding a new General Secretary. The Meeting is in debt to the Clerk, Katherine Smith, and to all the Committee members. The approval was accompanied by many silent waving hands of gratitude.

I2006-38 *Celebration of 350 Years of Maryland Friends.* Evamaria “Ria” Hawkins, Bethesda/Annapolis, urged Friends to participate with Annapolis Friends Meeting on the 4th of July, celebrating the beginnings of Quakerism in America with the arrival in the Chesapeake Bay area of Elizabeth Harris, a “Publisher of Truth”. The goal is to raise awareness of local Quaker heritage and of the continuing presence of Friends today, as well as to have fun. Friends of all ages, in appropriate colonial dress or T-shirts, are needed to join Annapolis Friends showing that Quakers are now. (T-shirts are available from Annapolis Friends Meeting at a discounted price of \$10.) Hybrid cars carrying “non-walkers” will bring up the rear of the parade.

Those present were encouraged to take at least one flyer to each Meeting to post and include in newsletters. Hospitality will be available for Friends coming a distance.

A full list of activities and contact information can be found in **Attachment D** for **I2006-38** “Friends and Families are invited to join Annapolis Friends Meeting for a **350th Year Celebration on the 4th of July**”

I2006-39 *Nominating Committee.* Dorothea Malsbary, Sandy Spring, Clerk, requested information about those who might be interested in serving on Yearly Meeting Committees and as representatives to Friends organizations beginning after the 2006 Annual Session. In particular need exists for those with interests and gifts suitable for Trustees, Advancement and Outreach, Program, Religious Education, Stewardship and Finance and Youth Programs Committees. Also available are openings on the Sandy Spring Friends School and the Friends House Retirement Community and Nursing Home Boards.

I2006-40 *Embraced Ministry.* Linda Heacock, Richmond, has an embraced ministry through Baltimore Yearly Meeting in conjunction with Friends Peace Teams and the African Great Lakes Initiative. She is in the process of raising funds to return to Kenya in September, 2006, to serve on a Peace Team of Kenyan facilitators with the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) to provide

Quaker and other community leaders in Kenya with AVP education and training. They will be working in rural communities with a history of violence and with Quaker youth in Nairobi.

Contributions by individuals or Monthly Meetings will go directly to the project. Materials on the organizations and on her embraced ministry are available. Linda is also available to speak at Meetings. (For details see 25 Third Month 2006 Interim Meeting **I2006-19** Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, and **Attachment E**, *BYM Embraced Ministry with Friends Peace Teams, Report of Ministry Activities/Plans*)

I2006-41 *Religious Education Committee*. Betsy Tobin, Frederick, reported for Josh Humphries, Roanoke, Co-Clerk of the Committee, that John Calvi, Jennifer Elam, and Lisa Shirch will be present as Religious Education Consultants at Annual Session to help Meetings and individuals with the extraordinary experiences stemming from Tom Fox's witness with Christian Peacemaker Teams. John Calvi, New England Yearly Meeting, will lead workshops and consult with individuals and small groups, focusing on adults and teenagers. On the weekend Jennifer Elam will discuss children's issues and develop a Godly play lesson. Lisa Shirch of the Eastern Mennonite University peace-building program will talk about peace building as well as share with us the light Tom Fox revealed during his time with the program. She was one of Tom's teachers.

I2006-42 *Minute of Appreciation*. At the suggestion of a Friend, Interim Meeting MINUTED its gratitude for Howard Fullerton's service as Interim General Secretary. The Clerk noted that one of the big jokes in Supervisory Committee is that Howard works for two-and-one-half days a week.

The Meeting also MINUTED appreciation especially for Jane Megginson, David Hunter, and Hope Braveheart, professional staff responsible for programs, who have had to assume much of the work that Frank Massey used to do.

Finally, the Meeting MINUTED its thankfulness for the additional work which the Supervisory Committee has done in the past several months.

The minutes to this point were APPROVED with improvements.

I2006-43 *Staff Reports - Youth Secretary*. Hope Braveheart, Sandy Spring, spoke of the care being taken with the BYM Young Friends (YFs) trip to Ramallah, July 10-25. In addition to the advisory Committee of Friends seasoned in travel to Palestine and Israel, she is in frequent contact with three persons in Palestine:

Joyce Ajlouny, Director of Ramallah Friends School; Kathy Bergen, Friends International Peace Center in Ramallah; and Mohommad Salim, the group's Palestinian coordinator. They have reviewed the recent serious incidents in Ramallah, but see no reason to cancel the trip at this time. Three members of the advisory board, Max and June Carter who are leading a Guilford College work group two weeks before the BYM trip, and Maia Carter Hallward, Friends Meeting of Washington, are all continuing with their plans to go to Palestine. Another board member, Lamar Matthew, Baltimore, Stony Run, will travel with Hope and the YFs. Travel arrangements have been made to ensure accommodation for security concerns. The trip will go forward unless new discernment is made July 7 when Friends will review the situation to make a final decision.

Hope asked that we hold all the participants in our prayers both as they prepare for the trip and travel.

The parent of one of the YFs shared the youth's concern: Why are they going? What good is it going to do? The situation in Palestine seems more hopeless the more they learn about it. All the YFs need our reassurance, and encouragement. It is their presence which will speak; they will not bring peace just by going. There are other gifts which they take. Being with the Palestinians and Israelis, listening to their stories will increase the YFs' understanding of the situation and of themselves. They will be able to teach us on their return.

We need to hold these YFs in the Light, to listen, to reassure and to encourage them prior to the trip.

The five YFs are Katie Bellile, Richmond; Bennett Murry, Goose Creek; Tory Smith, Langley Hill; John Stitzer, State College; and Mica "Rosie" Whitney, Richmond.

Hope gave thanks for the personal and Meeting donations to support the trip which will cost a total of \$15,764; \$140 remain to be raised. Gifts will still be gratefully received.

Trustees will be given copies of all paper work and release forms involved with this trip.

I2006-44 *Youth Programs Committee.* Hope then read a minute from the Youth Programs Committee (YPC):

Youth Programs Committee, meeting at Hopewell Centre Meeting on 17 June 2006 heard a report by Hope Braveheart on recent consultations with Friends in Ramallah regarding the current situation in Palestine. Knowledgeable individuals are continually reviewing and advising Baltimore Yearly Meeting's discernment and planning for the July 10-25 trip by five youth and two adult members of our community. The Youth Programs Committee is grateful for the experience and support offered. Furthermore, YPC affirms its continuing spiritual support for all involved in discernment and accomplishment of this visit to our fellow Quakers and others in Ramallah.

The Meeting joined with the Committee and APPROVED this minute.

I2006-45 *Travel Minute for the Ramallah Visitors.* A question was asked about traveling minutes for our YFs. At the time of approval of the minutes, the Interim General Secretary read a proposed travel minute:

For Tory Smith, Bennett Murray, Mica "Rosie" Whitney, Katie Bellile, John Stitzer, Hope Braveheart, and Lamar Matthew, beloved members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, have opened to us their leading to travel among the Ramallah Friends School Community to share with youth from a different culture. They will travel in this ministry between July 10 and July 25, 2006.

This Meeting unites with our Friends' leading. We trust you will benefit as we have from sharing their insights and quiet faith.

We commend our Friends to your care and hospitality.

Approved and minuted at our Meeting for Business held June 17, 2006.

Signed by Lauri Perman, Presiding Clerk.

The Meeting APPROVED the travel minute for the Ramallah visitors.

I2006-46 *Staff reports – Interim General Secretary.* Howard Fullerton traveled with a group of Friends United Meeting (FUM) board members to Israel and Palestine in 2005. He noted that the Palestinians appreciated their presence and their willingness to listen to the Palestinians share their stories.

Howard reviewed the available handouts, including the May *Interchange*. Those who did not receive a copy were requested to let the office know. June 30th is the deadline for the discounted rates for registration for Annual Session. Time to register is now. He also mentioned that our Carey Lecturer Marshall Massey, a founder of Quaker Earthcare Witness, is one of those who have changed modern Quakerism.

Jane Megginson is currently extremely busy preparing for the camp directors and staff training. David Hunter is getting some much needed rest after readying the camps.

The BYM staff attended a Quaker Workers Retreat which included New England Yearly Meeting staff and others. They then had their own working retreat day at Opequon Camp.

The office staff has experienced a fifty per cent change since the last Yearly Meeting. Jane Megginson, David Hunter, and Hope Braveheart who have been there the entire time have shouldered many additional responsibilities. We need to appreciate the hard work they are and have been doing. Margo Lehman, Sandy Spring, is now the bookkeeper in conjunction with her mother Claire Inglis. She is very much on top of bills and Monthly Meetings' apportionment and quarterly payments. She will also follow up on outstanding student loans and stay in closer contact with students who hold loans not yet due.

A new administrative assistant has been hired. Ann Harker Whittaker is returning to this area. She has worked with Sandy Spring Friends School, Friends Committee on Legislation, Friends World Committee for Consultation, and AFSC.

Josh Riley returned, between his graduation from Loyola University's Pastoral Counseling Program and his full-time employment, to help in the office, accomplishing tasks even before he was asked to do them.

The Meeting MINUTED its gratitude to Josh Riley for the assistance he continues to give the Yearly Meeting office.

Advanced Reports are not available, in part because the staff is short-handed and in part because reports are lacking. A plea was made to send annual reports to the office as soon as possible. They will be available at Annual Session, complete with proposed budget, Interim Meeting minutes, and reports from Committees, staff, and affiliated organizations.

Copies of the *Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends* sold out. One thousand replacement copies, roughly a five-year supply, have arrived. The revised *Faith and Practice* should be ready by the time they run out.

I2006-47 *Intervisitation Committee*. Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco, explained that Walter Brown, Langley Hill, received a travel minute a year ago in anticipation of attending Indiana Yearly Meeting last summer. The discipline is to have a new travel minute approved annually. He read the minute from Langley Hill Friends Meeting for Walter's second trip to Indiana Yearly Meeting. (See Attachment E for I2006-47: "Travel Minute for Walter Brown")

Concerns were raised about the middle paragraph describing the Intervisitation program:

"This program arose from the profound pain we felt as a Yearly Meeting when several of our most public and beloved Friends were directly hurt by FUM's policies on sexual diversity. Our pain awakened us to the fragility of relations among Yearly Meetings and Monthly Meetings of FUM.

The goal of the BYM Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare, and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships, offer care for each other, build our faith community, and lay the ground work for discussions around *sexual diversity and other* difficult issues as they arise."

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is not in unity on the issues of the FUM personnel policy and funding, or sexual diversity. Friends were concerned that the language might cause roadblocks in building relationships.

Friends stressed the responsibility of a Monthly Meeting's Clearness Committee to be explicit that the purpose of intervisitation is to listen and to build relationships among FUM Meetings. It is not to raise issues or discuss personal positions.

The Intervisitation Committee jointly discerned and prepared the paragraph in question for inclusion in travel minutes. The wording has been approved by Interim Meeting in the Intervisitation Committee report and in earlier minutes, e.g. **I2005-03**. The basic purpose of Intervisitation is building relationships and connections among us, but BYM's concerns have been openly stated. The Com-

mittee feels acknowledging the background of the program's formation is part of building honest relationships with other Meetings.

The Meeting AGREED TO ENDORSE Walter Brown's travel minute, mindful of his history of visiting Indiana Yearly Meeting. The Meeting also REQUESTED the Intervisitation Committee revisit the wording of their recommended paragraph.

I2006-48 *Staff Salaries and Benefits.* Michael Cronin as Clerk of Supervisory Committee noted that the *Manual of Procedure* requires Supervisory Committee to put into the record annually the staff compensation for the coming year.

Friends APPROVED the insertion below:

Position	2006 Salary	Medical
General Secretary	\$62,151	Single
Camp Administrative Secretary	\$38,066	Single
Camp Property Manager	\$35,462	Family
Youth Program Secretary	\$37,036	Family
Bookkeeper	to be set	
Administrative Assistant	\$31,200	Single

Notes:

The General Secretary position has been vacant since November 2005. Howard Fullerton has served magnificently as Interim General Secretary from November 2005 and will continue his superb service in this position until the new General Secretary reports for work in late summer of 2006. Howard Fullerton has served BYM without paid compensation. The pay rates above are those set or offered as of late June.

A part time bookkeeper was hired in April 2006 at \$16 per hour for as few as 24 hours per week; we anticipate the rate and hours will increase July - December.

I2006-49 *Friends in Unity with Nature Committee.* Barbara Williamson, Richmond, member of the Committee and Clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness, reported on the Carey Lecturer, Marshall Massey, Omaha (Nebraska) Friends Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative, and his leading to walk from Omaha to Harrisonburg, Virginia. (See **Attachment F** for **I2006-49** "Marshall Massey's Walk from Omaha, Nebraska" below)

The organization now known as Quaker Earthcare Witness grew out of Marshall Massey's address to Pacific Yearly Meeting in 1985, and took shape at the FGC

Gathering in 1987. Barbara shared that Marshall has no problem overcoming Mid-Western politeness to speak truth as he knows it.

He is traveling for spiritual preparation and discernment under a minute from his Monthly Meeting. He hopes to meet with Friends from Conservative, Evangelical Friends International, FGC Conference, and FUM Yearly Meetings. His concern is the nature of the Quaker process of corporate discernment, which he tries to explore using two questions: first, “what sort of environmental testimony might God be calling us to as Friends?” second, how can we help Friends to unite in a common testimony? (See the story of his trip at <http://journal.earthwitness.org> ; note there is no www.)

He is still looking for assistance arranging visits and guest rooms with Meetings and Churches between his current location and Harrisonburg. Company on his walk is always appreciated, especially Friends, and YFs, from BYM. In addition to holding Marshall in the Light, Friends can help by sending financial contributions to Omaha Friends Meeting, 10623 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska, 68114-2023.

I2006-50 *Naming Committee.* Michael Cronin reported for Susie Fetter, Roanoke, that the Committee suggests the names of Rosalind Zuses, Sandy Spring; Jean Wilson, Gunpowder; and Rachel Messinger, Alexandria, to serve on Search Committee, which names Nominating Committee members and Yearly Meeting officers. The Meeting ACCEPTED those names with gratitude.

I2006-51 *Peace and Social Concerns Committee.* J. E. McNeil, Friends Meeting of Washington, Clerk, requested that BYM join religious, civil rights, and civil liberties organizations in signing a letter from the Interfaith Alliance. (See **Attachment G, I2006-51**: “Protect Separation of Powers and Religious Minorities’ Longstanding Constitutional Rights: Oppose Final Passage of H.R. 2389”).

The bill, known as the “Pledge Protection Act”, threatens the First Amendment and the separation of powers that is a fundamental aspect of our constitutional structure. The legislature removes a particular class of cases from the jurisdiction of all federal courts, including the Supreme Court. It deprives federal courts of the ability to hear cases involving religious and free speech rights of students, parents and other individuals. It also undermines longstanding constitutional rights of religious minorities to seek redress in federal courts, for instance, in cases involving mandatory recitation of the Pledge.

The letter quotes a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit: “...the rights embodied in the Constitution, most particularly the First Amendment, protect the minority — those persons who march to their own drummers. It is they who need the protection afforded by the Constitution and it is the responsibility of federal judges to ensure that protection.” *Circle School v. Pappert*, 381 F.3d 172, 183 (3rd Cir. 2004).

The Meeting APPROVED the letter being signed on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

I2006-52 *Peace and Social Concerns Committee*. J. E. McNeil presented a second request that a letter be sent from Baltimore Yearly Meeting to the President of the United States (see **Attachment H, I2006-52** : “Letter to the President on the Humanitarian Crisis facing the Palestinian People”)

This letter concerns the urgent humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people and its impact on progress to the goal of security and a just peace for both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. It states that Friends (Quakers) oppose all forms of violence — whether it is suicide bombings, targeted assassinations, or the harassment of an occupation. They seek to remedy actions and conditions that produce violence as well as open violence itself. Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends opposes the economic deprivation and the starvation of the Palestinian people caused by the end of aid from the United States and the European Union and the withholding of taxes owed by Israel to the Palestinian Authority. The result is tragic suffering.

Friends remind President Bush of his call for a negotiated two-state solution to the conflict and share his vision of a viable, contiguous Palestinian state living in peace with its neighbor Israel.

J. E. McNeil requested that the letter be put on the BYM web site, and that copies be sent to the secretary of state Condoleezza Rice and senators and representatives of the geographic area covered by BYM.

It was suggested that an introductory paragraph about Baltimore Yearly Meeting be inserted, and where appropriate, the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) be inserted.

The Meeting APPROVED the letter with these changes, and directed it be sent as requested and placed on the web site. Individuals were encouraged to send personal letters on this subject to those listed above.

I2006-53 *Friends Wilderness Center (FWC)*. Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) announced that Saturday, June 24, a work day will be held at FWC to fix the tree house steps. Opequon Camp uses this tree house during camp sessions. This is an opportunity to get a free lunch as well help. Please let Sheila Bach know.

The minutes were approved.

I2006-54 *Search Committee*. The Interim General Secretary reminded the Meeting that Search Committee has not reported all necessary names for the Nominating Committee and for Yearly Meeting officers to Interim Meeting for approval. On occasions when Search Committee was not able to report fully to the last Interim Meeting, the Meeting has authorized them to report directly to Annual Session.

The Meeting APPROVED a request to Search Committee to bring names for Yearly Meeting officers and for the Nominating Committee to Yearly Meeting at Annual Session.

I2006-55 *Announcements and Closing*. Betsy Wollaston (Deer Creek) invited everyone to the Deer Creek Meeting Blueberry Festival on July 15, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Darlington, Maryland.

Nancy Clarke (Baltimore, Homewood) asked those interested in serving as Worship Sharing leaders for Annual Session to contact Don Gann (Baltimore, Stony Run). A training session will take place on Tuesday evening, 1 August, at 6:30.

The Meeting closed with a few moments of worship at 5 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Bradley
Recording Clerk of Interim Meeting

Attachment K for I2006-34. “Baltimore Yearly Meeting Supervisory Committee Process, 2006-2006”

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Supervisory Committee Process, 2005-2006**

Upon receipt of Frank’s resignation – Supervisory Committee consulted Walt Fry, Clerk of the Ad Hoc Search Committee that recommended Frank Massey 17 years ago. Walt gave the Committee a copy of his final report, which contained a detailed description of the Committee’s process. Interim [sic] Meeting minutes from 1988 were also very helpful.

October 6 – Supervisory Committee decided to ask Howard Fullerton to serve as Interim General Secretary to permit a careful, participatory search process. Howard agreed and began working on October 19.

October 18 – Letter from Interim and Presiding Clerks to Monthly Meetings with queries inviting input regarding:

Names of Friends for the Ad Hoc Search Committee,
Criteria to be used in selecting the Ad Hoc Search Committee,
Suggestions regarding the General Secretary position,
Suggestions regarding the process of selecting the new General Secretary,
Announcing dates for February Called Meetings.

October 22 – Interim Meeting empowered Supervisory Committee to appoint an Ad Hoc Search Committee.

November 10 – Date by which Monthly Meetings submitted names and criteria for the Ad Hoc Search Committee.

December 15 – Date by which Monthly Meetings made comments about the General Secretary job.

January 12 – Letter from Supervisory Committee to Monthly Meeting clerks

Enclosing draft Position Summary
Reminding Friends of the February Called Meeting to approve the Position Summary
Announcing the names of Friends who agreed to serve on the Ad Hoc Search Committee

February 25 – Called Meeting approves Position Summary. There are many questions for clarification and suggestions for improvement. The Meeting empowers Supervisory Committee and the Ad Hoc Search Committee to prepare the final position summary, taking into account suggestions made at the Called Meeting.

Supervisory Committee is grateful for all the Monthly Meetings and individuals who participated in this process and made helpful and thoughtful suggestions along the way.

Attachment L for I2006-34. “Charge to Ad Hoc Search Committee”

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Subject: Charge to Ad Hoc Search Committee

Name of Task Group: Search Committee for General Secretary

Date: January 13, 2006

Appointed by: Supervisory Committee of Interim Meeting, December 2005

Authorized by: Interim Meeting, October 2005

Thank you for your willingness to serve the Yearly Meeting in this most special capacity. Our future depends on your listening to candidates for the position, to individuals and Meetings and most of all, to God. The Search Committee will be upheld in prayer by the entire Yearly Meeting. May our loving support and confidence undergird your work.

The Search Committee for General Secretary is charged to bring forward to June 17, 2006 Interim Meeting the name of a candidate to serve as General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Authority and Responsibility:

Search Committee has the authority to organize the recruitment and selection process in any manner appropriate to the Committee needs and congruent with spiritual discernment and good personnel practices.

Committee members are asked to bring to the process their individual gifts and experience. We trust that each member will contribute to the gathered wisdom of the group.

Individual members receiving charge:

Katherine Smith, Maury River

Ramona Buck, Patapsco

Nancy Clark, Baltimore-Homewood

Janet Eaby, Nottingham

Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington\

Katrina Mason, Bethesda

Francy Williams, Frederick

Clerk of Committee: Katherine Smith

Time Frame:

We hope that the Committee will be able to fulfill its charge by mid-June. We recognize that God's time is not always our time. Close on-going consultation with Supervisory Committee should include discussion of the time frame for presenting a candidate.

Resources allocated to enable the Committee work:

Financial: Baltimore Yearly Meeting will provide funding for advertisements, to prepare and distribute materials, hold conference calls and meetings, phone and/or transport candidates to interviews. Howard Fullerton, Interim General Secretary will facilitate financial arrangements, and office support.

Administrative: Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Committee, has offered to serve as "staff" to the Committee, providing administrative support and consultation. This support includes, but is not limited to, collecting useful documents, placing ads, etc.

Documents:

- Minutes of the most recent previous General Secretary Search Process (1988)
- October 18, 2005 letter from Presiding Clerk and Interim Committee Clerk announcing the vacancy and initial steps in the search process and providing preliminary queries to Monthly Meetings plus all responses received from Monthly Meeting
- Draft Position Summary (for broad circulation); for the Committee's use: Job Description of previous incumbent; and draft detailed job functions as prepared by Supervisory Committee in December 2005

Groups receiving reports and responsible for review of the Committee:

Supervisory Committee and Interim Meeting

Reporting will include monthly update to Supervisory Committee with more frequent consultation as needed; a report to Interim Meeting March 25.

Who is consulted as Committee proceeds?

- Monthly Meeting consultation has been requested by Supervisory Committee, and is to be completed by mid-February. The results will be available to Search Committee
- Supervisory Committee will consult with Yearly Meeting Staff prior to February 11. A report will be available to the Search Committee.
- Called Interim Meeting February 11 (snow date February 25) for individual and Meeting consultation, for approval of the Position Summary, and permission given to Search Committee to implement changes in the Position Summary as directed by Interim Meeting, subject to approval by Supervisory Committee.
- Clerks of Interim Meeting and Baltimore Yearly Meeting should be informed and consulted with faithfully as the work of the search Committee proceeds.

Additional information:

No member of the search Committee shall be a candidate for General Secretary.

Public advertisements have been placed in *Friends Journal* and *Quaker Life*; information will be on the BYM web site and other electronic venues as appropriate.

Supervisory Committee will establish terms and conditions of employment.

Attachment M for I2006-35. “Report of the Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary”

**Report of Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary
Reported to Interim Meeting June 16, 2006**

Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s Ad Hoc Search Committee for a General Secretary began its work in January when our papers came through. These included our charge as authorized by Interim Meeting 10th month 22nd, 2005, nine pages documenting the work of the General Secretary, a summary of this; responses from

Monthly Meetings to queries generated by Supervisory Committee, and the summary and minutes of the 1987-1988 Search Committee. Later we received a distillation of the deliberations of Friends gathered at the 2nd month called Interim Meeting.

We met together for the first time during Interim Meeting Day, 3rd month, 2006 at Baltimore Stony Run. Over lunch, names, faces and personal histories came together. Then, adjourning to our assigned room, we disclosed in worship sharing what talents and experience each of us would bring to the work outlined for us. Francy Williams, Frederick, agreed to serve as our recorder. We read our charge and reviewed the qualifications hoped for in any candidate. These we prioritized. We agreed to discuss in Committee what, if any, knowledge or relationship we had with any candidate, to hold our work confidential, and to communicate by postal service in preference to email or phone. We accepted with gratitude Michael Cronin's offer to serve as our staff.

Eventually, we received nine applications, all but two of these being from persons within our Yearly Meeting. Copies of these, and supporting documents, were mailed to each Committee member. From them, we filled in charts for ease of evaluation and comparison. During our next two Committee meetings, at Hopewell Centre, we considered each candidate, eventually, choosing three to interview.

We were able to schedule these at Friends House on 3rd and 4th of 6th month. In preparation, we compiled questions to put to these candidates. We met for about two hours with each one, gathering in silence, then moving to questions, to sharing, and returning to silence. We reviewed each interview at its conclusion, and then, at the conclusion of the three, to share our findings.

We are clear to bring forward to Interim Meeting 17th of 6th, the name of Riley Robinson, Friends Meeting of Washington, for your approval to serve as our next General Secretary.

Committee members: Katherine Smith (Maury River), Clerk; Nancy Clark (Baltimore, Homewood), Andrei Israel (Friends Meeting of Washington), Eric Uberseder (Dunnings Creek), Ramona Buck (Patapsco), Janet Eaby (Nottingham), Katrina Mason (Bethesda), and Francy Williams (Frederick).

Attachment N for I2006-38. "Friends and Families are invited to join Annapolis Friends Meeting for a **350th Year Celebration on the 4th of July**"

**Friends and Families are invited to join
Annapolis Friends Meeting for a
350th Year Celebration on the 4th of July**

In 2006, AFM is planning special events to celebrate the arrival of Elizabeth Harris, a “Publisher of Truth”, to the Chesapeake Bay in 1656 and the beginnings of Quakerism in America. Our first event is the **Annapolis 4th of July Parade** to raise awareness about local Quaker heritage and about the continuing presence of Friends today (and to have fun!) **WE NEED FRIENDS AND FRIENDS OF FRIENDS TO PARTICIPATE!**

We will be parading with the theme “Quakers Then, Quakers Now”. “Quakers Then” will be wearing colonial costumes and riding in a horse drawn carriage or walking along side. If you have Quaker garb, or a Quaker bonnet, please bring it. “Quakers Now” will be marching wearing Quaker T-shirts (available at a discount price of \$10 from Annapolis Friends Meeting). In order to focus on Quaker heritage and common ground, we request that T-shirts which may be construed as political, partisan, provocative or distracting be left in the drawer for another day. Shirts which promote special causes – Quaker or others – are not appropriate on this occasion. “Quakers are Friends” or Quaker Camp T-shirts – fine... Bringing up the rear will be hybrid cars carrying “non-walkers”.

Please accept our invitation to join the following activities on July 4th:

- 1:00 Potluck Picnic at Annapolis Meeting House
Located on 351 Dubois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401
Bring a dish to share! Free car wash for all hybrid vehicles
- 2:00 George Fox: the Unshakeable Quaker
Presented by Wes Stone, Historical Actor/Interpreter
- 4:00 Marshalling for the Annapolis Parade Begins
Carpooling from Meeting House to downtown, decoration of carriage and parade preparation (Cars may be left at the Navy, where shuttle buses from downtown will be running after the fireworks).
- 5:45 Parade from Maryland Hall to City Dock
“Quakers Then” and “Quakers Now” (in spiffy Quaker T-shirts) riding and walking, and accompanied by a convoy of hybrid cars (Bring yours!)
Distance: Approximately 1.5 miles of easy walking (downhill). Water bottles provided.
- 7:30 Concert by the Naval Academy Band at City Dock
- 9:00 Fireworks over the Annapolis Harbor
Shuttle buses will be running from downtown back to the Stadium parking lot.

Questions? Need more information? Suggestions?

Call Caren Mayer at (410) 757-3457

Attachment O for I2006-47. "Travel Minute for Walter Brown"

We at Langley Hill Friends Meeting commend our member Walter Brown to your care. He is traveling among Friends to build bridges of understanding. He is a life long member of this Meeting, who has shown himself to be a well grounded and spiritually centered Friend with good listening skills. He is a student of Quaker history and theology and has a strong interest in deepening his understanding of the diverse world of Friends. He feels called to travel among Friends on behalf of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting intervisitation project.

The purpose of the intervisitation program of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is to strengthen the Religious Society of Friends and open us to a clear sense of what it means to know and live in the beloved community of Friends in the twenty-first century. We assume that intervisitation will be in all directions and those interested will offer and receive hospitality.

This program arose from the profound pain we felt as a Yearly Meeting when several of our most public and beloved Friends were directly hurt by FUM's policies on sexual diversity. Our pain awakened us to the fragility of relations among Yearly Meetings and Monthly Meetings of FUM. The goal of the BYM Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare, and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships, offer care for each other, build our faith community, and lay the ground work for discussions around sexual diversity and other difficult issues as they arise.

Walter has been active among Friends all his life. Recently he has served on our Overseers and Family Relations and Ministry and Worship Committees. He currently serves on the Advancement and Outreach Committee for Baltimore Yearly Meeting and the Advancement and Outreach Committee for FGC. He is also on the Central Committee and the Executive Committee for FGC.

Walter travels with our hopes and prayers and we trust that you will find his time amongst you fruitful, prayerful and enriching.

In the Light,

Doug Smith, Clerk, Langley Hills Friends Meeting

Attachment P for 2006-49. “Marshall Massey’s Walk”

**Marshall Massey’s Walk from Omaha, Nebraska
To Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s Annual Session
In Harrisonburg, VA**

In May 2005, Marshall Massey was invited to speak at the 2006 Annual Session for BYM. In October, Marshall talked to me about his leading to walk from his home in Omaha, Nebraska to the site of BYM’s Annual Session. I was surprised by his leading to take on this walk; not because I did not believe he was Spirit led but because I wondered why a man in his mid-50’s, with more than a few pounds to lose, bad feet, and no regular exercise routine was being led to walk 1,150 miles without a clear idea of why God had given him this leading. As Marshall reminded me, this concern spoke more to me than to his leading. As I am sure we will hear in August, Marshall has no problem overcoming his Mid-Western politeness to speak truth, as he knows it.

Marshall is traveling for spiritual discernment under a minute from his Monthly Meeting, Omaha Friends Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). His obligation is to listen and learn rather than to preach. He will have an opportunity to meet with Churches and Meetings that represent FGC, Evangelical Friends International, Conservative and FUM Friends. He hopes to meet with Friends, ask questions, listen carefully, and with them seek God’s guidance on how Friends of all persuasions can work together on ecological matters. He also sees his walk as spiritual preparation for his speech at our Annual Session.

As Marshall prepared for his journey he received financial, practical, emotional, and spiritual support from Friends from all corners of the United States, including Quaker Earthcare Witness; Illinois, Western (FUM), New England, Ohio Valley, and Philadelphia Yearly Meetings. Individuals from Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, California, Colorado, Florida and other states were also supportive.

Early in the preparations for his walk, messages Marshall sent to F/friends indicated that raising the funds to meet his budget requirements would decide whether or not he would make his walk to Harrisonburg. Those of us who know Marshall had no doubt that the walk would happen if the money to fund basic needs (food, water, laundry, and related expenses) were raised.

Marshall’s original plan was to make a 10-week journey beginning in the mid-west and walking 15 to 20 miles a day, alternating between staying at Friends’ homes, small town motels, and camping as he progressed eastward. As the date

for beginning his walk grew closer, he increased the time to 11 ½ weeks. He left Omaha on Saturday, May 13th, and today he is east of Urbana, Illinois. By the end of June, he expects to be in Richmond, Indiana. Marshall hopes to begin the West Virginia leg of his walk by mid-July. He plans to arrive in Virginia (after leaving Franklin, WVA) at the end of July and be in Harrisonburg for the beginning of our Annual Session.

Marshall is keeping a journal that begins approximately a month before the start of his trip. As he recorded in his journal, he started his trip on Saturday, May 13th with his wife and neighbors seeing him off on his journey. In the first two days of his journey, he realized he wasn't in shape for his walk and by the end of the second day blisters on his feet were bothering him. Taking a rest day his feet greatly improved but a few days later he began to be bothered by raw spots on his hips from the seams of his pants and the belt of his backpack. After receiving medical treatment in two different towns, he decided at the end of his first week to return home to give his feet and hips time to heal and get new apparel. One week later on Sunday, May 28th, he restarted his walk in Fairfield, Iowa. In an email to me on Thursday, June 1st, Marshall felt the walk was going well and expressed a continuing desire to have BYM Friends join him at the end of his journey. He was experiencing some problems with his heels and ankles but was in good spirits. In Burlington, Iowa he met a reporter who shared his walk as he crossed the Mississippi River into Illinois. On Tuesday, June 6th, in Galesburg, IL he saw a doctor about his ankles and heels; based on that doctor's diagnosis he decided to return home to see one of his own doctors. Back in Omaha on Saturday, June 10th, Marshall wrote that he was determined to continue his journey even if he couldn't walk all the way, as he had originally planned. . .

On Tuesday, June 13th, Marshall started out from Normal, IL on the next leg of his journey. By Thursday evening, the 15th, he was in Urbana, IL and met with Friends at the Urbana-Champaign Monthly Meeting. Friday morning he continued on his journey eastward toward Ogden, IL.

All along his journey Marshall has been meeting with Friends and has gained much from his time with them. I believe that you will find that reading his journal entries, particularly those relating to his meetings with other Friends, quite interesting. You can read about the details of his trip on his blog at <http://journal.earthwitness.org> (Note: No www).

“What can BYM do for Marshall Massey, our Saturday night speaker at Annual Session?”

- Help arrange visits and a guest room with Meetings and churches between his current location and Harrisonburg, VA; particularly in Deerwalk, Goffs, Alum Bridge, Excelsior, Job, and Judy Gap, West Virginia and Rawley Springs, Virginia.
- Marshall would always appreciate company on his walk. He would especially welcome YFs from BYM joining him. Note: Stan Becker is considering joining Marshall toward the end of his journey.
- Financial contributions are still needed. They can be sent to Omaha Friends Meeting, 10623 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska, 68114-2023.
- Hold Marshall and his leading in the light.

Attachment Q for I2006-51. “Protect Separation of Powers and Religious Minorities’ Longstanding Constitutional Rights: Oppose Final Passage of H.R. 2389”

June 7, 2006

Dear Representative,

We, the undersigned religious, civil rights, and civil liberties organizations, urge you to oppose H.R. 2389, the “Pledge Protection Act,” misguided legislation that would strip all federal courts, including the Supreme Court, from hearing First Amendment challenges to the Pledge of Allegiance and from enforcing longstanding constitutional rights in federal court.

The signatories to this letter include organizations that supported the court challenge to the constitutionality of including “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance, organizations that opposed that challenge, and organizations that took no position on the matter. We are united, however, in believing that H.R. 2389 threatens the separation of powers that is a fundamental aspect of our constitutional structure. Beyond this, while the legislation ostensibly responds to the controversy surrounding “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance, this legislation sweeps far more broadly, with potentially severe constitutional implications for religious minorities who are adversely affected by government-mandated recitation of the Pledge.

First and foremost, we are opposed to H.R. 2389 because this legislation, by entirely stripping all federal courts, including the Supreme Court, of jurisdiction over a particular class of cases, threatens the separation of powers established

by the Constitution, and undermines the unique function of the federal courts to interpret constitutional law. This legislation deprives the federal courts of the ability to hear cases involving religious and free speech rights of students, parents, and other individuals. The denial of a federal forum to plaintiffs to vindicate their constitutional rights would force plaintiffs out of federal courts, which are specifically suited for these federal claims, and into state courts, which may be hostile or unsympathetic to these federal claims, and which may lack expertise and independent safeguards provided to federal judges under Article III of the Constitution.

In addition, as drafted, the bill would deny access to the federal courts in cases to enforce existing constitutional rights for religious minorities. Over sixty years ago, the Supreme Court decided the case of West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, 319 U. S. 624 (1943). In Barnette, the Supreme Court struck down a West Virginia law that mandated schoolchildren to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Under the West Virginia law, religious minorities faced expulsion from school and could be subject to prosecution and fines, if convicted of violating the statute's provisions. In striking down that statute, the Court reasoned: "To believe that patriotism will not flourish if patriotic ceremonies are voluntary and spontaneous instead of a compulsory routine is to make an unflattering estimate of the appeal of our institutions to free minds. . . . If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high, or petty can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion." 319 U.S. at 639-40.

Moreover, a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, holding unconstitutional two provisions of a Pennsylvania law mandating recitation of the Pledge, said, "It may be useful to note our belief that most citizens of the United States willingly recite the Pledge of Allegiance and proudly sing the national anthem. But the rights embodied in the Constitution, most particularly the First Amendment, protect the minority — those persons who march to their own drummers. It is they who need the protection afforded by the Constitution and it is the responsibility of federal judges to ensure that protection." Circle School v. Pappert, 381 F.3d 172, 183 (3d Cir. 2004).

H.R. 2389 would undermine the longstanding constitutional rights of religious minorities to seek redress in the federal courts in cases involving mandatory recitation of the Pledge. As a result, this legislation will seriously harm religious minorities and the constitutional free speech rights of countless individuals.

H.R. 238 also raises serious legal concerns about the violation of the principles of separation of powers, equal protection and due process. The bill undermines public confidence in the federal courts by expressing outright hostility toward them, threatens the legitimacy of future congressional action by removing the federal courts as a neutral arbiter, and rejects the unifying function of the federal judiciary by denying federal courts the opportunity to interpret the law. We strongly believe that this legislation as drafted will have broad, negative implications on the ability of individuals to seek enforcement of previously constitutionally protected rights concerning mandatory recitation of the Pledge. We therefore urge, in the strongest terms, your rejection of this misguided and unwise legislation.

Sincerely,

American Civil Liberties Union, American Jewish Committee, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Anti-Defamation League, Baptist Joint Committee, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Disciples of Christ, Friends Committee on Legislation, Human Rights Campaign, Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Legal Momentum (formerly NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund), National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, People for the American Way, The Interfaith Alliance, The Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring, Union for Reform Judaism, United Church of Christ, Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.

Attachment R for 2006-51. "Letter to the President on the Humanitarian Crisis facing the Palestinian People"

Dear Mr. President,

We write to you regarding the urgent humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people and its impact on progress to the goal of security and a just peace for both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples.

As Quakers, we oppose all forms of violence — whether it is suicide bombings, targeted assassinations, or the harassment of an occupation. We further seek to remedy the causes of violence.

Palestinians are suffering severe economic deprivation every day as a result of the cut-off of U. S. and EU assistance, and Israel's withholding of taxes owed the Palestinian Authority. Assistance from Arab states has been stymied by

U.S. pressure on Arab financial institutions. Funds are desperately needed to pay the salaries of some 150,000 government employees, teachers, policemen, and health care providers. With families averaging 7 people in number, the sanctions directly affect approximately 1 million men, women and children, and indirectly those businesses that depend on their trade. The PA administers the public school system, many hospitals and health clinics, and provides grants to humanitarian non-governmental organizations. The World Bank report of May 7 states that if the current sanctions continue the “Palestine Authority is unlikely to provide basic services or maintain law and order.” It cites prospect of an “impending famine” and prospects of the dissolution of the PA.

We question the morality and the effectiveness of punishing all of the Palestinian people in an attempt to alter the political position of Hamas. In addition to the tragic suffering already experienced and the impending worsening of the situation, the indiscriminate financial and commercial sanctions undermine progress towards a just settlement. The crumbling civic infrastructure damages all Palestinians.

Nothing will destroy a people’s motivation for a peaceful settlement more effectively than a growing realization that there is nothing more to lose. We believe that the reopening of commercial channels and continuing aid to the Palestinian Authority is essential for the well-being of the Palestinian people. This is critical for maintaining civil order and essential services and a political entity capable and willing to negotiate a settlement.

In the immediate crisis we maintain our perspective on the goals and processes of a viable settlement. We commend and strongly support your call for a negotiated two-state solution to the conflict, and we share your vision of a viable, contiguous Palestinian state living in peace with its neighbor Israel.

Reinforcing our earlier statement, we Quakers oppose actions and conditions that produce violence as well as open violence itself. We respectfully request that you give these thoughts serious consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Clerk, Interim Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

Cc: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice

Senators and Representatives in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting geographic area

335th ANNUAL SESSION
OF
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

Tuesday, August 1, 2006, 3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Y2006-01 The meeting began with a period of open worship. Presiding Clerk Lauri Perman, State College, welcomed us to the 335th annual sessions of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting with the following Clerk's opening minute:

We, members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends of Truth, gathered for our 335th Annual Sessions on the modern campus of James Madison University. Amidst the concrete, many Friends will seek refuge in the coming week in the green grove of trees near the Campus Center or in the University Arboretum where the Yearly Meeting's Unity with Nature Committee will host one of our daily worship sharing sessions.

As we gather, we look back over the preceding year and see how far we've come through trials and tribulations.

It's been a year of losses and a time to remember that each loss contains within it the seed of a new beginning.

We lost, through resignation, our General Secretary of 17 years, Frank Massey, who has returned to his family roots in North Carolina. We gained as our new General Secretary, Riley Robinson, a long-time servant of Friends Meeting of Washington.

We lost a dear member, Tom Fox, of Langley Hill Meeting, who risked his life serving as a member of a Christian Peacemaker Team delegation in Iraq. We gained an awareness that we are one body and that what affects one of us affects all of us. We gained a desire to keep Tom's legacy alive by adopting his concern for Iraqi detainees. We also gained a recognition that while we wish to serve as a "people of peace," most of us are not comfortable risking as much as Tom risked.

Our individual Meetings lost members dear to them, founding members of their meetings, members who kept their meetings going during long periods of drought, and members who hosted the meeting in their homes.

These losses have been painful, heart-breaking, confusing, and challenging, sometimes all at once.

Each loss has brought us a healing opportunity to learn more about love. As we come together at Yearly Meeting, we know that in the coming week we will create a school for love in which each of us is a teacher and each a learner.

Our theme for the week is “living in harmony,” and during this week, we will try to stay in tune with ourselves, each other, and all creation. May we be blessed today and always by the presence of the Source of All Love, the Creator Within and Without, and by an awareness that Abundant Love is always present.

Y2006-02 Clerk Lauri Perman introduced the others at the clerks’ table: Recording Clerk Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria, and Reading Clerk Bill Carroll, Williamsburg. She noted that the flowers gracing the clerk’s table were brought by Anita Bower, Oxford, and thanked Anita for extending her ministry of flowers to these annual sessions. She introduced those seated at the front of the room reminding us all to hold these sessions in the Light: Lamar Matthew, Baltimore-Stony Run, and Ruth Flower, Takoma Park. She then asked visitors to the Yearly Meeting to introduce themselves. Those welcomed included:

Marshall Massey, member of Omaha (NE), Iowa Yearly Meeting (C);

Nancy Irving, General Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation, member of Olympia (WA), North Pacific Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Wandsworth Preparative Meeting, Britain Yearly Meeting;

Marjorie Larrabee, Mount Holly, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, formerly a long-time member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting;

Kathy Sawyer, Development Manager for Friends United Meeting (FUM), representing the FUM office staff;

Micah Bales, Heartland (KS), Great Plains Yearly Meeting;

Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch, member of Schuykill, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Valley, Baltimore Yearly Meeting;

David Male, Ohio Yearly Meeting (C), the official visitor from the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Section of the Americas); and

Elizabeth “Minga” Claggett-Borne, Cambridge (MA), New England Yearly Meeting, an official visitor from NEYM in response to BYM’s Intervisitation initiative.

Y2006-03 Reading Clerk Bill Carroll read three travel minutes:

Valerie Groszmann, Kalamazoo (MI), Lake Erie yearly Meeting is traveling with a minute from the Yearly Meeting Visitors Committee of Friends General Conference (FGC). She has been active in many aspects of the work of FGC, and is serving as the FGC visitor to Baltimore Yearly Meeting this year.

Michael Gibson is attending these sessions on behalf of the staff of Friends General Conference. He provides staff support to the FGC Religious Education program.

Penelope Wright is traveling with minutes from her Monthly Meeting, Nashville (TN), and her Yearly Meeting, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA). These minutes introduce her leading to be present with us during these sessions under guidance of the Spirit, as she was last year. She has been part of the School of the Spirit, and would be glad for opportunities to share her experience with Friends.

Clerk Lauri Perman also offered a special welcome to first time attenders at these sessions and asked them to stand to be recognized.

Y2006-04 Reading Clerk Bill Carroll read an excerpt containing advices on Meeting for Business from the draft being prepared by the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. This paragraph lifts up the need to come to business meetings with an open mind, and an intention to seek the guidance of the Spirit.

Y2006-05 Sheila Bach, Langley Hill, clerk of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee, introduced the members of that committee, who have been meeting

almost monthly to carry forward this important work. She announced that a set of booklets containing the new draft text of several sections of Faith and Practice are available in the bookstore. She encouraged Friends to pick up a set and take them back to their meetings for careful review and consideration.

Y2006-06 Clerk Lauri Perman announced that three Friends have agreed to serve on the Epistle Committee for these sessions. They are Betty Brody, Alexandria; Elizabeth F. “Betsy” Meyer, Sandy Spring; and Gary Sandman, Roanoke. Friends APPROVED these names.

Y2006-07 Clerk Lauri Perman yielded the clerk’s chair to Michael Cronin, FMW, Clerk of Interim Meeting, for the report of the Search Committee.

Janet Eaby, Oxford, presented the report of the Search Committee for a first reading. She noted that three more names are still needed for Nominating Committee. Friends are encouraged to consider who might be called to this service and to bring those names to the Nominating Committee. There will be a second reading of the report of the Search Committee on Saturday.

Y2006-08 Clerk Lauri Perman returned to the clerk’s chair, and introduced and thanked Jason Eaby, who has been managing the sound system for our annual sessions for many years. His assistants serving as microphone “walkers” today are David Ross, Oxford, and Margaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg.

Y2006-09 Elizabeth Hofmeister, Bethesda, Clerk of the Program Committee, introduced the members of the Committee, who are distinguished by red dots on their nametags, and other staff and volunteers who have played crucial roles in planning these sessions. She announced that the James Madison University East Campus facilities, which we have used for our annual sessions for the past four years will not be available next year for either the last week in July or the first week in August. Facilities may be available in the main JMU campus (West Campus). The Committee is exploring this and other possibilities, and has been authorized by Interim Meeting (see Minute I2006-24) to choose the site that seems most suitable and enter into an agreement for next year’s sessions. Friends who have suggestions about possible sites, or other ideas about what considerations should guide the choice, are encouraged to speak to a member of the Program Committee.

Y2006-10 Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring, who has served for the past nine months as Interim General Secretary, introduced the office staff in order of seniority:

Jane Megginson, Camp Administrator;
David Hunter, Camp Properties Manager;
Hope Braveheart, Youth Secretary;
Margot Lehman, Bookkeeper;
Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant, who began work July 5; and
Robert “Riley” Robinson, General Secretary, as of July 31.

He noted that Margo Lehman, Ann Whittaker, and Robert “Riley” Robinson all worked for Friends organizations within Baltimore Yearly Meeting before joining the Yearly Meeting office staff. They are thus not beginning their employment with Baltimore Yearly Meeting, but merely continuing it.

Y2006-11 Reading Clerk Bill Carroll read a letter from Frank Massey, past General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and Beth Massey, expressing their deep gratitude for years of friendship and support. They offered a prayer for “blessings of laughter, joy, singing, courage, and wisdom” as we move forward with Robert “Riley” Robinson as our new General Secretary.

Y2006-12 Byron Sandford, FMW, Executive Director of William Penn House, reported that William Penn House (WPH) is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year, and is in very good health, both financially and spiritually. WPH has hosted 80 groups this year, including 28 Quaker groups, and has filled its beds a cumulative total of 6864 times. Occupancy rates have risen from about 30% in 2003 to over 60% in 2005. The merger between William Penn House and Washington Quaker Workcamps was completed this year, to the great benefit of both organizations. Washington Quaker Workcamps is growing steadily, and offered 34 workcamps this past year. Byron Sandford described some of the exciting weekend programs offered at WPH, including workshops for “Teachers of Peace” and an inter-racial youth seminar being developed in cooperation with the Friends Committee on National Legislation and the American Friends Service Committee’s Help Increase the Peace Program (HIPP). He invited Friends to come join in the 40th anniversary events in October, which will include a 40 mile bicycle ride, and a special celebrational dinner. He expressed gratitude for the financial support of Friends, which has enabled William Penn House to catch up on deferred maintenance and raise staff salaries while maintaining a balanced budget.

Y2006-13 James “Jim” Rose, Patapsco, volunteer web manager for the Yearly Meeting, explained how he sees his work as building community within Baltimore Yearly Meeting. He thanked those who contribute to the BYM *Interchange*, and thereby keep communication flowing among us. He called attention to the fact that large print editions of the new draft Faith and Practice are available, as well as booklets of State of the Society reports from our Meetings. He encouraged Friends to keep on sharing news and reports to be posted on the website, as a way of keeping our community strong. Friends minuted their deep appreciation to James Rose for his service to the Yearly Meeting.

Y2006-14 Patricia Kutzner introduced Evangeline Tachine, Secretary-Treasurer of the Torreon/Star Lake chapter of the Navajo Nation, guest of the Yearly Meeting.

Reading Clerk Bill Carroll read several announcements, including an invitation to Friends to help finish the stitching on a quilt being made for Andrew Fox. Out of worship Bill Carroll read a memorial minute for Suzanne Tignor, beloved member of Williamsburg.

Wednesday, August 2, 2005, 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Y2006-15 The session began with a period of open worship. Presiding Clerk Lauri Perman introduced the others at the clerk’s table: Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria, Recording Clerk; David Ross, Oxford, Reading Clerk; and Sean Wilner, Langley Hill, incoming clerk of the Young Friends community. Seated at the front of the room this session, reminding us all to hold these proceedings in the Light, are Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring, and Betty Brody, Alexandria.

Y2006-16 Lauri Perman welcomed visitors to Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Those who introduced themselves included:

James and Eden Grace, Beacon Hill, New England Yearly Meeting, visiting from the Friends United Meeting Africa Ministries office in Kenya, East Africa;

Elizabeth De Sa from England, a member of South Australia Regional Meeting, who worked at Opequon for two summers, and is on her way to a job teaching Environmental Science at the Woolman Semester in California;

John Benson, Purchase, New York Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Stillwater, Ohio Yearly Meeting (C), who is accompanying David Male in his travels in Gospel Love;
Anna Sandidge, St. Louis, South Central Yearly Meeting, traveling for Friends Peace Teams; and

Joe Cayaditto, President of the Torreon/Star Lake chapter of the Navajo Nation, guest of the Yearly Meeting, who brought us the greeting Ya'eh'tey'.

Clerk Lauri Perman offered a special welcome to those who are first time attenders at this annual session of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. She also asked Friends to hold in the light our beloved member Bonnie Stockslager, of Herndon Meeting, who is unable to be with us this week because of serious health issues.

Y2006-17 David Ross, Reading Clerk, read two travel minutes:

A minute from Cambridge Friends Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, introduced Elizabeth “Minga” Claggett-Borne, and described her leading to travel among Friends under a concern for equal treatment of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and queer Friends. She wishes to listen to ways in which Friends respond to the Friends United Meeting restrictive employment policy, and to share her own experience of the sustaining power of GLBTQ ministry in her own life.

A minute from Omaha (NE) Friends Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting (C), introduced Marshall Massey, and described his leading to walk from Omaha to Baltimore Yearly Meeting annual sessions, as a witness to how we are all called to walk gently over the earth. Marshall Massey will be our Carey Memorial lecturer at these sessions.

Y2006-18 David Ross read from the new draft Faith and Practice a quotation from William Charles Brathwaite lifting up the vision that our religious society does not consist in shared beliefs or outward organizations, but in the vital union of our members with God and with each other.

Y2006-19 Tasha Walsh, Maury River, co-clerk with Steve Gilbert of the Camping Program Committee, introduced the work of the Committee. One problem that arose this year was that there were more applicants for the Teen Adventure program than could be accommodated. The hurt this caused made the Commit-

tee aware that it needs to work harder to expand its programs to meet growing demand. She encouraged Friends to speak with any member of the Camping Program Committee about ideas, concerns, or questions they may have. She read a minute of appreciation as follows:

The Camping Program Committee wishes to minute its appreciation for Jane Megginson, for her continuing dedication, care, and diligence in serving the Camping Program and the Yearly Meeting.

We deeply value Jane's long-standing connections with the BYM Camping Program, her analytic abilities, her attention to detail, her persistence, and her insight into the intricacies of camp management.

This past year, however, has been especially challenging as she provided continuity and expertise to the Yearly Meeting during this time of transition, and so we are especially grateful.

This year she worked harder and accomplished much more than any of us could reasonably expect from one highly-qualified person. She deserves much of the credit for the excellence of the program!

Linda Garretson, director of Catoctin, shared stories of how the camping program has touched hearts and changed lives, not only for the campers, but for counselors, the children of staff, and parent volunteers. At camp our children learn to see how they can be agents of change. Many come back as counselors, and pass on the tradition of Quaker community and transformation. Barry Morley's first grandchild is now part of the camping program, a testimony to the cycles of care and generations of learning that carry our program forward. A student from the Quaker Leadership Program at Guilford College spent time in the BYM camping program this summer, and will spread BYM traditions and ways as he visits other Quaker camps around the country.

Dana Foster, director of Shiloh, came to camp at age 15 and decided she wanted to be a Quaker. She spoke of how the camp staff is chosen and prepared. Most of those who work in the camping program have been part of it in the past in one way or another, but there are always newcomers as well. Counselors are chosen because of their spirit and their love of the children. There are two weeks of pre-camp training. The first, held this year at Opequon, focuses on basic skills, and knits the whole camping program together. Then the staffers go to their own

camp to prepare and plan for the arrival of the campers, during what is usually the busiest week of the year. Once the camp is in session, there is ongoing nurture and support for every staff member as well as for the children.

Whitney Thompson, co-director of Teen Adventure with Melissa Poole, spoke about the concept of “attainable challenge” which is one of the foundations of the camping program. She described exercises Melissa Poole has developed to help the staff to explore their own comfort zones, stretch zones, and panic zones. The camping program aims to keep campers in their stretch zone, where they can learn and grow and encounter God as they meet physical and personal challenges.

Elaine Brigham, director of Opequon, talked about the spiritual life and the camping program. The central focus is on teaching children to care. Speaking to that of God in people requires looking for and recognizing that of God, and reaching out to it. Spiritual life is not just one aspect of the camping program, it is the fundamental framework for choosing staff, building community in pre-camp, making day to day decisions, facing challenges, and choosing and leading activities for the children. All the chores and physical work of the camp are done together in community, as a living expression of the testimonies of Equality and Simplicity. The commitment is to hold everything in the Light, and approach everything with tenderness and intentionality. She described how a Spirit-grounded program is not only joyful, but a lot of fun and invited Friends to a viewing of the Opequon film this afternoon.

Elaine Brigham closed by thanking Jane Megginson and David Hunter, who have served the camping program in a thousand ways seen and unseen, and expressing her gratitude to the Camping Program Committee and the entire Yearly Meeting for their ongoing, unflagging support.

Y2006-20 Eden and James Grace of the Friends United Meeting Africa Ministries office reported on their work. Eden Grace pointed out that Baltimore Yearly Meeting is part of Friends United Meeting, and that Friends United Meeting is addressing urgent needs in East Africa, including providing desperately needed education, water, and health care. This work is being done in partnership with the Yearly Meetings in East Africa. It is a way of giving Africans a voice, to share both their needs and their joys.

Y2006-21 Reading Clerk David Ross read another excerpt from the draft revision of Faith and Practice, a quotation from Richard Foster lifting up the idea that we are called to live and speak our truth, but the business of straightening each other out belongs to God.

Y2006-22 Walter Fry, West Branch, reported for Baltimore Yearly Meeting's representatives to the Friends United Meeting General Board. He noted that the letter BYM sent in tenderness and love to FUM was perceived as an attempt to apply undue pressure. He urged us to hold in our hearts the importance of staying in community, and consider whether we in BYM can embrace Friends United Meeting and support its programs in spite of the wounds we have suffered. The good work of FUM continues, in spite of budget cuts, in East Africa, Ramallah, Belize, Jamaica, and Cuba. Our financial support is urgently needed. He asked us to consider that we can readily support much of this work, and urged us to take the path of generosity.

Y2006-23 Frannie Taylor, Goose Creek, reported for the Stewardship and Finance Committee. She explained some of the difficulties the Committee has faced this year, including the departure of Frank Massey as our General Secretary, and a delay in completion of the audit. She described the packet of budget sheets just distributed. These include a summary of the 2007 proposed apportionments. Baltimore Yearly Meeting uses a formula to calculate apportionments that takes into account the number of contributing households in each meeting, not the number of members on the rolls. This is different from the practice in many other Yearly Meetings. She pointed out that \$60,000 from individuals and meetings in addition to the apportionments are needed to balance the budget.

She reviewed the proposed budget, calling attention to a number of items, including proposed contributions to Friends General Conference and Friends United Meeting, changes in the youth program, and the increasing cost of operating our camp properties. She introduced members of the Stewardship and Finance committee and noted that an information session to answer questions about the budget will be scheduled.

Y2006-24 After announcements, the meeting settled into a brief period of closing worship.

Thursday, August 3, 2005, 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Y2006-25 The meeting began with a period of open worship. We heard an excerpt from the epistle from Monteverde Friends Meeting, Costa Rica, describing the ebb and flow of life that connects us as individuals and as a world, binding us into one vibrant living whole.

Y2006-26 Clerk Lauri Perman, State College, introduced the others at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria, Recording Clerk; Elizabeth DuVerlie, Baltimore-Stony Run, Reading Clerk; and Sean Wilner, Langley Hill, Clerk of Young Friends. Those sitting in the front to remind us to hold all our proceedings in the Light today are Virginia Schurman, Gunpowder, and Bill Carroll, Williamsburg.

Y2006-27 Lauri Perman welcomed a visiting Friend, Bruce Birchard, General Secretary of Friends General Conference, and a member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting.

Y2006-28 Elizabeth DuVerlie read an excerpt from the York Friends Meeting Spiritual State of the Meeting report, lifting up the thought that meeting for worship has a “snowball effect.” The more individuals in a meeting grow spiritually, “the more loving energy is gathered together when we worship,” and the more individual growth is nurtured.

Y2006-29 Lamar Matthew, on behalf of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, read the Spiritual State of the Yearly Meeting report.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Spiritual State of the Meeting Report, 2006

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is a consolidated Yearly Meeting. We are two sides of a family who have noted our similarities and differences and have agreed that we are more alike than not, and so can live, work, and fellowship under the same tent. Possibly because of our own diversity, which allows each of us to find a place at the table, we are a growing Yearly Meeting. Our Meetings are enriched by a range of theological perspectives and spiritual vocabularies. We meet on the common ground of openness to God, the leading of the Spirit, and our need to listen and learn from each other.

We find ourselves placed in a world filled with tension and violence; a world that God calls us to improve. From Meetings situated in bucolic settings, and Meetings surrounded by the noise and busyness of urban scapes, we hear a fervent desire for peace, justice, harmony, and love.

A myriad of local and global issues call us to respond. There is motion along these lines. From vigils to conferences and active involvements, the Meetings of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends continually discern where their energies and resources can be directed for the betterment of all God's children and this Earth on which we dwell.

Within some of our Meetings we witness sporadic attendance at Meetings for Worship and often, meager attention to Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business. The presence and love of seasoned Friends, who were once the life-giving energies of our Meetings, are deeply missed; some have been called away by desires for much needed rest, some by illness or death, and others by relocations to distant regions. Among those we deeply miss is Frank Massey, our General Secretary who faithfully served the yearly Meeting for seventeen years. Frank and Beth have removed to North Carolina to pursue new challenges. Memories of their love and tender care will linger with us forever. Whatever the nature of the departures, we, those left behind, must ask ourselves if we are fully prepared to pick up the vacated mantles and willingly, and joyfully, carry on the labors that enrich and nurture our communities.

Many Meetings are giving much attention to youth safety concerns. Studying these issues has led us to seek new understandings of how we protect and care for the dignity and well being of all members of our communities.

We continue to seek way forward in our relationship with Friends United Meeting (FUM). We struggle with the rightness of giving financially to this Friends organization that enforces a policy that excludes our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters from positions of service. At the same time, we recognize the value of the many FUM programs around the world that improve the quality of life for others. Friends are certain that we must stay in communion with our brethren who do not share our truth. We pray for open ears, minds, and hearts, to lead us out of this impasse.

The kidnapping and murder of our beloved Friend, Tom Fox, brought us face to face with the reality of thousands of people around the world. We have had a

taste of their experience and their sorrow. Our grief extends to all who suffer and die every day.

We know that when someone is removed from Spirit-led work, the work continues, and it is our responsibility to pick up the concern and carry it on. As a Yearly Meeting, we are committed to keeping Tom's Light shining as we continue his unfinished labors on behalf of Iraqi detainees.

What may appear at first notice to be trouble and tribulations among us, are indeed gifts of the Spirit that challenge us to go deeper into the understanding of the Eternal. We have been highly sensitized this past year to our own and the suffering of others, whether from natural disasters or human injustice and cruelty and death. All that we have experienced has deepened our sense of connectedness to each other and to the Light. Though we are a consolidated people, we are ultimately and truly unified, one with another, by the Love and Grace of God.

Approved by Ministry and Pastoral Care, 2, 8th month, 2006.

We reflected on this report in deep worship. We were reminded of the vibrant spiritual life evident in our camping program and women's retreat. We heard an excerpt from the Spiritual State of the Meeting report from South Mountain Friends Fellowship, a prison ministry under the care of Patapsco, which spoke of long-time prisoners meeting in worship and finding redemption and understanding in the presence of God. We heard of excitement over increased intervisitation within our Yearly Meeting, and new vibrancy in our regional gatherings. We reflected on the grief and hope of our ongoing peace witness.

Friends expressed appreciation for a message from one of our visitors. He noted that grief over the death of Tom Fox and disunity over our relations with Friends United Meeting may sap our strength as a Yearly Meeting. He urged us to consider not only the power of naming and claiming our gifts, as Rachel Stacey urged in her keynote address, but the power of naming and claiming the Giver of all gifts. For some Friends, he said, this might mean moving out of our "comfort zone"; for others it might provide just what was needed to move us out of our "panic zone."

Out of worship, we heard a passage from Ephesians 4:2-4:

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—

Y2006-30 Clerk Lauri Perman reviewed the remaining agenda, and then invited Lamar Matthew to come forward to present a minute of appreciation:

There is one Friend present in Meeting today who may have the privilege of saying he has attended every business session for the last fifteen years. That Friend is Jason Eaby, Oxford Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting's technology specialist and audio wizard. Jason has modulated the voices of four Presiding Clerks and countless Friends as they expressed their joys and concerns over matters of how Truth prospers among us. We are deeply grateful for Jason's expertise as he turned up the volume on the timid voices, and lessened the decibels of the thundering ones.

Each year Jason skillfully fine-tuned the art of audio, adapting ever changing technology and needs at three different locations.

Jason is here, making it possible for all to hear the Spirit speaking through us. We greatly appreciate his talent and faithful service and look forward to listening in the Spirit...as Jason embarks on his next 15 years of amplifying the Spirit.

Friends enthusiastically APPROVED this minute.

Y2006-31 Dorothea Malsbary, Sandy Spring, clerk of Nominating Committee, brought forward the Nominating Committee report for a first reading. She introduced the members of the Committee, and thanked them for their hard work. She noted a few additions and corrections, and pointed out that additional names are still needed, especially for Program Committee, Religious Education, Stewardship and Finance, and Sandy Spring Friends School. Friends are urged to consider whether they might be led to serve in these ways.

Y2006-32 Walter Brown, Langley Hill, presented the report of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives to the Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee. He noted that this is a wonderful time to be involved in the work of FGC. There is a feeling of spiritual vibrancy, deep community, energy and excitement in Central Committee meetings. The staff is growing, and FGC is

able to offer more services to more Friends than ever before. He noted in particular the Traveling Ministries Program, which helped BYM develop its own intervisitation project, and the Advancement and Outreach Committee, which is focusing on meeting the needs of small meetings, new worship groups, and isolated Friends. The Religious Education Committee is exploring and promoting new experiential approaches to religious education for children. A new book on the history of racism within the Religious Society of Friends will be coming out next year. There is a new Youth Ministries program, with the slogan “Quaker Youth...Speak Thy Truth!” The recent FGC Gathering in Tacoma, Washington was enormously successful. Next year’s Gathering will be in River Falls, Wisconsin, with the theme: “Who is My Neighbor?” FGC is moving toward launching a new development campaign to support all of this expanding work. Its financial condition is very strong. Walter Brown closed by introducing the BYM representatives to FGC Central Committee, and encouraging Friends to seek them out with questions and comments.

Y2006-33 After a brief break, Reading Clerk Elizabeth DuVerlie read a poem by Wendell Berry, brought to us by David Hunter, Camp Property manager.

Song in a Year of Catastrophe

I began to be followed by a voice saying:

“It can’t last. It can’t last.

Harden yourself. Harden yourself.

Be ready. Be ready.”

“Go look under the leaves,”

it said, “for what is living there

is long dead in your tongue,”

And it said, “Put your hands

into the earth. Live close

to the ground. Learn the darkness.

Gather round you all

the things that you love, name

their names, prepare

to lose them. It will be

as if all you know were turned around within your body.”

And I went and put my hands
into the ground, and they took root
and grew into a season's harvest.
I looked behind the veil
of leaves, and heard voices
that I knew had been dead
in my tongue years before my birth.
I learned the dark.

And still the voice stayed with me.
Waking in the early mornings,
I could hear it, like a bird
bemused among the leaves,
a mockingbird idly singing
in the autumn of catastrophe:

“Be ready. Be ready.
Harden yourself. Harden yourself.”
And I heard the sound
of a great engine pounding
in the air, and a voice asking:
“Change or slavery?
Hardship or slavery?”
and voices answering
“Slavery! Slavery!”
And I was afraid, loving
what I knew would be lost.

Then the voice following me said:
“You have not yet come close enough.
Come nearer the ground. Learn
from the woodcock in the woods
whose feathering is a ritual
of the fallen leaves,
and from the nesting quail
whose speckling makes her hard to see
in the long grass.
Study the coat of the mole.
For the farmer shall wear

the furrows and the greenery
of his fields, and bear
the long standing of the woods.

And I asked: "You mean death, then?"
"Yes," the voice said. "Die
into what the earth requires of you."
I let go all holds then, and sank
like a hopeless swimmer into the earth,
and at last came fully into the ease
and the joy of that place,
all my lost ones returning.

Y2006-34 Sarah Brabson, Little Britain, co-clerk of the Unity with Nature Committee, presented for a second reading the recommendation that the Friends Wilderness Center be formally affiliated with Baltimore Yearly Meeting. (See Minute I2006-25.) Friends Wilderness Center is on land in West Virginia left in trust in 1975 by Henry and Mary Cushing Niles. For many years Friends Wilderness Center was under the care of a committee of Friends Meeting of Washington. It is now an independent group with a board drawn from eight Meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting. It supports the work of the Yearly Meeting, including an ongoing relationship with the Camping Program, and hosting the meetings of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. The Yearly Meeting would be asked to name one or more representatives to the Friends Wilderness Center board, and members of the Unity with Nature Committee have offered to serve in this role. The Friends Wilderness Center is not requesting an annual contribution from Baltimore Yearly Meeting at this time.

Y2006-35 In response to a question about what "affiliation" implies, Clerk Lauri Perman noted that this question has arisen before, and recommended that we ask the Manual of Procedure Committee to look into it and bring a clarification back to a future meeting. This recommendation was APPROVED.

The question of affiliation of the Friends Wilderness Center with Baltimore Yearly Meeting was held over for a future session.

Y2006-36 Evamaria "Ria" Hawkins, Bethesda, attending at Annapolis, invited all Friends to join in celebrating the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Quakerism on this continent. The first "Publisher of Truth" to arrive from England was

Elizabeth Harris, who landed on the Chesapeake in 1856 and set up a number of Quaker Meetings. When she left there were several Meetings on the Western Shore of the Chesapeake, including Severn, West River, South River, and Broad Neck. All of these Meetings were within the area now served by Annapolis Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Annapolis Meeting has a very energetic committee working on ways to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Elizabeth Harris. At Interim Meeting, Annapolis Meeting invited Friends to come to the July 4th parade in Annapolis, to accompany their Quaker float celebrating the theme “Quakers Then—Quakers Now.” Unfortunately the parade was cancelled due to heavy rain, but Friends who had gathered for the event, including many visitors, enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship at the Meeting House over a superb potluck. Wes Stone, who re-enacted George Fox, was enjoyed by all, and the time spent waiting for the parade to start and huddling together in the rain gave Friends a further chance to get acquainted! Ria Hawkins urged us to pick up anniversary bumper stickers and water bottles proclaiming that Quakers are alive and well after 350 years in America. Both are available for sale in the bookstore and can be purchased in bulk to take back to your meeting.

Y2006-37 Clerk Lauri Perman announced that the work of discerning a way forward with regard to Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s financial contribution to Friends United Meeting will continue under the care of the four committees originally charged with this task. These committees last met in October 2005. They have agreed to resume consideration of the question, and to try to bring a recommendation to Interim Meeting in October.

Y2006-38 After further announcements, Elizabeth DuVerlie read the concluding paragraph from the epistle of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Called Session on Climate Change, expressing a deep concern about the rise of global climate temperatures and its dangerous implications for life on our earth. Friends gathered expressed a readiness “with divine assistance, to assume the challenges of being prophetic witnesses to protect the earth,” and asked that all Friends be held “lovingly accountable to live in God’s world in a more environmentally sustainable fashion.”

The meeting closed with a period of open worship.

Friday, August 4, 2005, 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Y2006-39 The meeting settled into open worship. We heard two excerpts from the epistle of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. The first, the epistle from the Infants and Toddlers, was read by Sarah Buchanan-Wollastan, Deer Creek. It spoke of finding bugs and seeing the moon in the middle of the day, and ended: “We cried, we laughed, we sang, we danced with the grownups—and now we’re really tired. See you next year.” The second, from the Middle Schoolers was read by Jacob Keener, Baltimore, Stony Run. It described games, strawberry-picking, learning about Quaker schools in Rwanda, El Salvador, and Bolivia, and how faith and community—the themes of the yearly meeting—seemed to be part of everything that had happened.

Y2006-40 Clerk Lauri Perman, State College, introduced the others at the clerks’ table: Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria, Recording Clerk; Clinton Pettus, Wilmington Friends Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Reading Clerk; and Sean Wilner, Langley Hill, Clerk of Young Friends.

Y2006-41 Clerk Lauri Perman introduced the roll call of Meetings. We celebrated the presence among us of Friends from meetings and worship groups both large and small.

Y2006-42 June Confer, Adelphi, introduced the report from the Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) program. This week has been a time of quiet reflection, learning, sharing, and active play. She lifted up the need for young people to explore their faith, and learn to turn it into work in the world. She spoke of the “wisdom of innocence.” This is the well the JYM program draws deeply from, to learn from the children, and return to the world refreshed and rejuvenated. She named the many adults who are serving as volunteers in JYM, and thanked them for making the program possible:

Nursery and Pre-School

Dorothy Habecker
Sarah Buchanan-Wollastan
Joanie Maughmer
Mike Hansen
Mark Brabson
Liz Arginteanu
Carol Seddon
Melanie Griffen
Katrina Mason
Francesca Bravo

K-1	Joy Newheart June Confer
Grades 2-3	Linda and Eric Uberseder
Grades 4-5	Michael Newheart Ann Marie Moriarty
Junior Young Friends	Anna Rain Marcy Seitel John Yost Linda Coates Janey Pugsley
PM-Early PM-Late	Audrey Banach and a bevy of helpers Susan Vanderhoff Joe Chin Alessa Keener and others who have pitched in like Diane Eaby

The youngsters and Junior Yearly Meeting staff then surrounded us in a “circle of love,” singing, “I’m going to sing, sing, sing.” The entire body was invited to join in, blending the children’s song with “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” and “When the Saints Go Marching In.” In the worship that followed, Friends spoke of the love they feel for the children, and the joy these particular children have brought to us this week, as cheerful helpers when help was needed, as wise advisers when advice was wanted, and always as expressions of vitality and divine gifts. As the children left the room to return to their activities, the adults spontaneously joined in singing “As the Saints Go Marching Out.”

Y2006-43 Out of the silence, we heard a reading from 1 John, 11:5-7: This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another....

Y2006-44 Clerk Lauri Perman introduced those up front helping hold us in the Light: Joe Izzo, Friends Meeting of Washington, and Jeanette Smith, Langley Hill. She then welcomed visitors. Those introduced included:

Serving as Reading Clerk, Clinton Pettus, Wilmington Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Regional Director of the Middle Atlantic Region of the American Friends Service Committee;

Kathryn Pettus, Wilmington Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting;

Thomas Swain, Middletown Meeting, Concord Quarter, the new clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; and

Mary Stover, Associate Regional Director, Middle Atlantic Region of the American Friends Service Committee.

Y2006-45 Sean Wilner, on behalf of Young Friends, expressed gratitude to all the adults who have served as Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) in the program, and introduced those who are present today.

Y2006-46 Hope Braveheart (Sandy Spring), Tory Smith (Langley Hill), and Lamar Matthew (Baltimore, Stony Run) presented a report on the Young Friends in Ramallah project, accompanied by a wonderful slide show. Hope spoke of the roots of the project in a vision of a world in which kindness would no longer be an island.

On July 11, 2007, four Young Friends, John Stitzer (State College), Rosie Whitney (Richmond), Bennett Murray (Goose Creek), and Tory Smith, and two adults, Lamar Matthew, and Hope Braveheart, left for a two-week workcamp with Palestinian youth from the Friends School in Ramallah in the West Bank of Israel, Palestine. Once in Ramallah, Lamar and Hope stayed above the American Friends Service Committee offices in downtown Ramallah while the Young Friends met and departed with host families.

Workshop, trips, and service projects were carefully designed and integrated into the experience, to allow time to listen and reflect. Marianne Williamson reminds us that “Behind every political wound is a human wound, and human wounds need to be addressed on a human level.” Hope quietly repeated this quote like a prayer as she listened to the stories and heard of the wounds, the complexity of the situation and the resiliency of Palestinians.

With each individual, with each organization, the Young Friends asked the same question. “What message would you like us to carry back to our home?” Some

of the messages heard were:

“Israel’s occupation of Palestine is the center of the conflict.”

“Fighting for freedom is not terrorism; it is resistance to an illegal and unjust occupation.”

“How can Israel and Palestine negotiate when Israel has leverage and Palestine has nothing to leverage with?”

“Israel wants a Palestinian state but they DO NOT want a viable Palestinian state. Because Israel controls the borders, the water, and the economy they prevent Palestine from having a viable economy.”

“Destruction of history, or the past, or of a people is a destruction of the future.”

“I don’t believe in a Jewish State, or a Christian State, or a Muslim State. I’m for secular democracy.”

Lamar noted that they had gone to Palestine seeking a balanced understanding of an unbalanced situation, and wanting to hear what people on both sides of this conflict are doing to bring about peace and justice for all. Some additional messages they heard:

“Palestine has lived under Mamluk, Ottoman, British and Jordanian yokes, and will survive this current occupation.”

“‘Building for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence’ will be the theme of a lecture series at the Friends International Center in Ramallah.”

“Your presence here in Palestine is a testament to your faith and belief in the possibility for peace and a better world. Please take our stories home with you. And please return to us again. Salaam—God be with you.”

In responding to the report, Friends underlined the need to be balanced in our listening as we plan how to move forward with this important work.

(Attachment)

BYM Young Friends In Ramallah - July 9 to 25, 2006

Monday-July 10	08 am: Departure from Dulles Airport
Tuesday- July 11	05 am: Arrive in Tel Aviv St. Andrew's Guest House, Jerusalem. Visit Old City.
Wednesday – July 12	12 at noon: Arrive in Ramallah 2:30 pm: Meet Host Families 03 pm: Movie about Palestine 04 pm: Historical/Political Lecture (Ghassan Khatib)* 06 pm: To the host families
Thursday – July 13	09 am: American Friends Service Committee Quaker Palestine Youth Program – meet with staff and with youth participants 02 pm: Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange (Dr. Adel Yahya)**
Friday – July 14	09 am: Work day at Amari Refugee Camp play center***
Saturday – July 15	09 am: Visit Inash al-Usra Institute**** 01 pm: Painting at Friends Boys School
Sunday – July 16	10 am: Worship at Ramallah Friends Meeting Noon – Lunch with Allyn & Holly Dean of World Vision 04 pm: Visit Jalazone Refugee Camp – tour and film on Palestine history+
Monday – July 17	09 am: Visit Birzeit University – Tour and discussion about life for students (Yasser Darwish)++ 11 am: Travel to Bethlehem – Tour Old City, area churches; deal with hours-long waits at vehicle check points 10 pm: Dinner with host families at Angelo's

- Tuesday – July 18 Day - Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange – museum tour And walking tour of Al-Bireh historic sites
Evening - Palestine Center of Culture -traditional dabka dance group
- Wednesday – July 19 Galilee trip cancelled due to Israeli military action with Lebanon
Trip to Dead Sea, Jericho, Biblical historical sites
- Thursday – July 20 More painting at Friends Boys School; visit organic garden
Lunch at Friends International Center in Ramallah – AFSC peace trainer Hykmet and FICR staffer Kathy Bergen
Al-Bireh Byzantine Basilica – work project
Hannah Mermelstein – Birthright Unplugged – discussion+++
- Friday – July 21 Free day with host families
- Saturday – July 22 Journal writing/Sharing/Presentation preparation
- Sunday – July 23 10 am: Worship at Ramallah Friends Meeting
Lunch with Kathy Bergen and Maia Carter Hallward
3 pm: Travel to St. Andrew’s Guest House in Jerusalem
- Monday – July 24 Free time in Jerusalem
Lunch with Jeff Halper of ICHAD++++
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs -Alternative Information Office – maps and information
- Tuesday – July 25 8:05 am Depart Tel Aviv

* **Ghassan Khatib**, a non-violent activist, has served as a Palestinian government minister; international negotiator; Director of the Institute of Modern Media at Al Quds University in Jerusalem; and member of the Board of Trustees of the Ramallah Friends Schools.

** **Dr. Adel Yahya**, researcher and author, works with refugees in the West Bank, and studies modes of Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. **PACE** (Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange) is working to preserve Palestinian cultural heritage, raise awareness of the history of Palestine and its people and to promote cultural exchange with the wider world.

*** **Amari Refugee Camp** - Amari camp was established in 1949 Like most of the West Bank camps, Amari suffers from overcrowding, poor sewerage and water networks. The local committees running the youth activities centre and the women's program centre are well-known for their good management. The UNRWA (the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) health centre provides health care services to refugees residing in Al-Bireh and Ramallah towns. The approximate population is 8,800.

**** **In'ash al-usra** (Social Research and Palestinian Folklore Committee - <http://www.inash.org/>) works to empower women by helping them acquire skills and capabilities to become wage earners, active participants, and decision makers within their community by providing care and education for children, by supporting victims of war, occupation, and social circumstances, by studying and preserving Palestinian folklore, and developing rural handicrafts and industries.

+ **Jalazone Refugee Camp** - Jalazone camp was established in 1949 on a rocky hillside 7 kilometers north of Ramallah. Today, while many of the camp's residents still find employment in Israel, unemployment has risen in recent years due to the closure imposed by the Israeli authorities on the West Bank in 1993. Many of the camp's roads and pathways are unsurfaced and are in serious need of repair. The lack of a sewerage system poses a serious hazard for both the camp's residents and the residents of nearby Jifna village. UNRWA has working to develop a sewerage network in the camp. UNRWA upgraded the boys' school in the camp in 1995 with contributions from the Government of Saudi Arabia. An additional eight classrooms were constructed in the girls' school in 1997 with contributions from the Government of Germany. During the intifadah, at least 12 youths were shot dead during clashes with the Israeli army or Israeli settlers passing on the main Ramallah-Nablus road above the camp. Despite developments in the Middle East peace process, the situation in the camp has remained unchanged in terms of security incidents, and arrests and clashes still take place. In 1997, the Israeli army reinstalled a fence surrounding the camp. The Alkarameh Rehabilitation Center, a new center for the handicapped, has opened. It carries

out different social activities in coordination with The Youth Program Center and Women Program Center. The approximate population of the camp is 10,400.

++ **Birzeit University** - At the beginning of the first intifada, Israel closed the university. Under pressure from European countries, Birzeit was re-opened in 1992. Palestinian schools and universities are difficult to access because of an intensive system of checkpoints and blockades. When Birzeit students protest at the nearby Surda checkpoint, the Israeli army disperses them with tear gas. During its siege of Ramallah, Israel cut water, electricity, and phone lines to the university, forcing it to close. The Israeli army invaded Birzeit four times, trashing offices and destroying equipment. Birzeit faculty and students have persisted, opening a computer study program that students could access from any Internet café.

+++ **Birthright Unplugged** trips are designed primarily for Jewish people, though others are welcome. They visit Palestinian cities, villages and refugee camps and help participants develop an understanding of daily life under occupation.

++++ **Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions** – ICAHD is a non-violent, direct-action group originally established to oppose and resist Israeli demolition of Palestinian houses in the Occupied Territories. It became necessary to expand resistance activities to other areas - land expropriation, settlement expansion, by-pass road construction, policies of “closure” and “separation,” the wholesale uprooting of fruit and olive trees and more. As a direct-action group, ICAHD is comprised of members of many Israeli peace and human rights organizations. All work in the Occupied Territories is closely coordinated with local Palestinian organizations.

American Friends Service Committee – AFSC’s Quaker Palestine Youth Program does peace/non-violence training in the West Bank and Gaza. It also does work with Israelis out of the Jerusalem office focusing on youth workshops. It works, supports, and trains Palestinians in non-violence resistance against the wall, etc. and runs summer camps on non-violence. Young Palestinians become involved in civic engagement initiatives, and youth service projects. AFSC partners with universities, NGO’s, GSO’s on many of their projects/programs. AFSC uses a “coach model” to organize and train the youth in their programs. Young people are organized into groups, composed of 14 to 17 year-olds, 13-15 students in each group. The training focuses are political (democracy) and social (citizenship). Each group selects its own focus. Analysis identifies the needs and methods to reach their goals. Skills learned in these programs translate into lead-

ership later. Those who are marginalized by society learn self-worth through this program. For a better idea of the full range of the programs, go to: <http://afsc.org/middleeast/int/palestine.htm> or <http://afsc.org/middleeast/int/israel.htm>.

Friends International Center in Ramallah – “The Friends Center in Ramallah exists to unite in one place: (1) a space for sacred worship after the manner of Friends to which all are welcome; (2) a safe and supportive environment in which residents of Ramallah can come together to work toward a better future in an atmosphere of faith and hope; and, (3) a vehicle through which Friends and other people of goodwill from outside Ramallah can connect with and provide support to those in the region who are striving to build a future of peace and justice. To these ends, the Friends International Center in Ramallah will offer a ministry of hospitality; create an atmosphere of care and respect in which positive, civic and civil discourse can be pursued; and be a witness to hope and reconciliation in a region where despair and violence have too often reigned. In all this we seek to express the deepest values and highest aspirations of the Quaker faith.” <http://ramallah.quaker.org>

Special thanks are in order to Mohammed Saleem of Friends Boys School and Kathy Bergen of Friends Center in Ramallah for their valuable help with arrangements for this enriching, enlightening journey.

Y2006-47 After a break, Reading Clerk Clinton Pettus read a passage from an essay published in *Whispers of Faith*, a book of Young Friends’ reflections. This essay, by Claire Reddy, a 16 year old Friend from North Carolina, emphasized the importance of friendships between adults and young Friends. Claire Reddy wrote that she had been attending the same meeting since she was born, but most of the adults in the meeting seemed to have no idea of who she was. She described her hunger for people to talk to about the spiritual questions and discoveries that were such an important part of her life.

Y2006-48 On behalf of the Manual of Procedure Committee, Katherine Smith, Maury River, brought forward the recommendation that we lay down the Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee. This recommendation was approved by Interim Meeting in March, but requires final approval at annual sessions since it is a Yearly Meeting fund. Friends expressed their gratitude for Ethel Reynolds’ vision and generosity, and noted that her bequest will continue to benefit the Yearly Meeting. Friends APPROVED the laying down of the Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee.

Y2006-49 Clerk Lauri Perman brought forward the following minute of appreciation for the Recording Clerk:

We thank Deborah Haines for the beautiful reflection of our efforts. The tender care she gives preserves the best of our spirit and tenderizes our tough portions.

Friends APPROVED this minute with gratitude.

Y2006-50 Reading Clerk Clinton Pettus read a passage from the history of Deer Creek Meeting, telling the story of its evolution from a meeting with slave-holding members to a meeting witnessing against slavery, participating in the Underground Railroad, and launching efforts to provide education and spiritual nurture to freed slaves. The complete history is available on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website.

Y2006-51 Michael Cronin gave the report of the Supervisory Committee. He introduced the members of the Committee, and described the Committee's work this past year.

He presented a minute of appreciation for Howard Fullerton as follows:

The purpose of this minute is to thank Howard Fullerton for his special service as Interim General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting from October 2005 through August 2006.

It is a welcome challenge to describe the magnificence and generosity of Howard's gift to Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

As we know, when asked, in October 2005, Howard willingly stepped into a position Frank Massey had skillfully managed in the manner of Friends for seventeen years. Many of the duties Howard has performed as Interim General Secretary were complicated by unanticipated changes – including a 50% turnover in the office staff, delays in an audit of financial records, and a deteriorating data base system.

Over the past ten months, Howard Fullerton's successes as Interim General Secretary have demonstrated his spiritual grounding in the world, his commitment to Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and his thorough knowledge of our history and the manner of Friends. Not only did Howard serve as Interim General Secretary, he also continued his other volunteer involvement in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, most notably making important contributions to the work of the ad hoc Intervisitation Committee.

As Howard began his service as Interim General Secretary in October 2005, he and his wife Flossie were experiencing some significant life transitions. First, the Fullertons spent many weeks packing up, fixing up, and selling their Washington, DC home of forty years. In November, the Fullertons moved from a house in the city to a much smaller space in the suburban and structured environment of Friends House, and began the process of resettling. Later in November Howard accompanied colleagues from Friends United Meeting on a three week visit to the Middle East. In December 2005, Howard and Flossie enjoyed a sojourn out of town together, to visit their family, including their dear grandchildren, in New Jersey.

The end of 2005 was a full and rich and busy time for Howard and Flossie. Yet, in January 2006, Howard returned to Sandy Spring, Baltimore Yearly Meeting offices to guide effectively BYM's secular and spiritual business, its committees and its officers, its schedule and its outreach, its finances and its staff. Howard's effectiveness is due in part to his thorough knowledge of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, his considerable experience as Interim [then Representative] Meeting Clerk, several years as Clerk of the Manual of Procedure Committee, and exemplary patience. Howard's subtle and kind sense of humor has also been a continuing blessing.

Throughout this time as Interim General Secretary Howard has served without financial compensation.

We note 2005 – 2006 was the second time Howard has come forward to serve Baltimore Yearly Meeting during another complicated transition. Eighteen years ago, after Thom Jeavons's departure and before Frank Massey's arrival, in 1988, Howard – who was working a full time job as a statistician with the US Labor Department in Washington – served as Interim Clerk of Representative Meeting.

We have truly been blessed with Howard's gifts that he has brought to the Yearly Meeting office. We give our best wishes to Howard and Flossie in a retirement that may now be a little easier. Of course he is always welcome to drop into the office for there is always something for helping hands to do.

It is our pleasure to minute our trust and deep appreciation for Howard Fullerton's many gifts to us in Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Friends APPROVED this minute with minor corrections and with deep gratitude.

Michael Cronin presented a minute of appreciation for Jane Megginson, David Hunter, and Hope Braveheart, our three continuing staff members as follows: The past year has been a time of much change and many challenges for the administrative staff of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. The Supervisory Committee is aware of extra burdens that all have had to shoulder.

With great admiration, we noticed each of you stepping forward to take up tasks beyond the purview of your own position. Because of your willingness to freely give of your knowledge, skills and care, the work of the Yearly Meeting office has continued smoothly over this time of transition.

And certainly, we realize there have been others who have also given of their time and talents to help accomplish what needed to be done. We are thankful for their contributions as well. But you, Friends, have been the constants, always there, always working, always able to be counted on.

As staff, you are patterns and examples of dedication and love for Baltimore Yearly Meeting, where you have been called to labor. You have accomplished much and you did it all... walking cheerfully and answering that of God in everything and everyone you encountered.

Well done, Friends.

He noted that a bonus has been given to each of these staff members as a token of our appreciation for their outstanding service in the face of extraordinary demands.

Friends enthusiastically APPROVED this minute.

Michael Cronin presented a minute of appreciation to the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings that have hosted Interim Meeting this year:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting thanks Nottingham Quarter, Baltimore-Stony Run, and Hopewell Centre Monthly Meetings, where Friends hosted Interim Meeting last year, October 22, 2005, March 5, 2006, and June 17, 2006.

Friends APPROVED this minute with gratitude.

Y2006-52 Katherine Smith presented the final report of the Ad Hoc Search Committee, which completed its work and was formally laid down by Interim Meeting in June. She introduced the members of the Committee and thanked them for their hard work. She also thanked the many Friends in the Yearly Meeting who supported the work in other ways. She then introduced Robert H. “Riley” Robinson, our new General Secretary.

Friends APPROVED minuting our deep appreciation to the Ad Hoc Search Committee for their hard work and careful discernment.

Y2006-53 Riley Robinson spoke out of the silence. He noted that he has worked for three Quaker organizations, and each taught him invaluable lessons. Friends Meeting of Washington, where he served as Meeting Secretary for many years, taught him how a Quaker organization can grow and adapt, and taught him to never stop listening. The Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology expanded his horizons. The American Friends Service Committee taught him that organizations that know what they want to do will hold together in the face of troubles. He observed that Baltimore Yearly Meeting generally knows what it wants, and is a family that will hold together, nurturing us all.

Concluding the report of the Supervisory Committee, Michael Cronin read a minute of welcome for Riley Robinson as follows:

Baltimore yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends welcomes our new General Secretary, Robert H. “Riley” Robinson, who began employment with us on July 31, the day of the opening retreat of our Annual Session. We minute our appreciation to Riley for accepting this challenging position and for his willingness to be open and grow as he embarks on learning a multi-faceted job. We commit to offering Riley our prayers, our nurture, and our patience, and do not expect him to pick up in Year One where Frank Massey left off in Year 17.

In fact, we recognize that, while retaining the core set of responsibilities in the position summary approved at our February Called Meeting, the job of General Secretary will inevitably and properly evolve to take advantage of the unique set of gifts and leadings Riley brings to the position. We look forward to seeing Riley’s many gifts revealed as he continues his service to the Yearly Meeting in his new role.

Friends APPROVED this minute.

Y2006-54 Clerk Lauri Perman announced that Lydia Rain, Adelphi, co-assistant clerk of Young Friends has joined those at the clerk's table. She also shared the news that the Shepherdstown (WV) Allowed Meeting for Worship has been established under the care of Frederick Meeting. This brings to 53 the number of Meetings and Worship Groups in Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Y2006-55 After announcements, we heard a minute of condolence on the death of Tom Fox from New York Yearly Meeting. "We grieve with you," the message said, "and also celebrate the faith and commitment Tom embodied."

The meeting closed with a period of open worship.

Saturday, August 5, 2005, 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Y2006-56 The meeting began with a period of open worship.

Clerk Lauri Perman, State College, introduced the others at the clerks' table: Recording Clerk Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria, Reading Clerk David Hunter, Frederick, Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camp Property Manager, and Amrit Moore, Maury River, Co-assistant Clerk of Young Friends.

She introduced those sitting up front to help hold our sessions in the Light today: Alexander Barnes, Adelphi, and Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch, Schuylkill, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Valley, BYM.

Y2006-57 Clerk Lauri Perman welcomed a visitor, Elizabeth Eames Roebing, Asheville, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association, working in Santa Domingo, Haiti.

She then welcomed those attending Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions for the first time, and expressed deep appreciation for the gifts they bring to us.

Y2006-58 Nancy Irving, General Secretary of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), based in London, described the work of FWCC. She noted that she sometimes feels like a hummingbird, flying thousands of miles, visiting Friends, and gently moving forward the pollination process. She described how FWCC grew out of an international conference held at Swarthmore,

Pennsylvania in 1937, responding to Friends' longing to stay in touch with each other throughout the world, even when they could not agree. Disagreements persist, and so does the longing to stay connected. She introduced Baltimore Yearly Meetings representatives to FWCC, and drew attention to how many others have participated in some FWCC event, including annual meetings, regional gatherings, the international Triennial, and the recent World Gathering of Young Friends.

In addition to bringing Friends together, Friends World Committee for Consultation sponsors the Quaker United Nations Offices (QUNO) in New York and Geneva, helps represent Friends in international conferences, and also helps put isolated Friends around the world in touch with each other. She noted that FWCC would love to hear from Friends living in far flung places who are willing to receive visits from traveling Friends and seekers. She also noted with deep sadness that the newly organizing Middle East Yearly Meeting, which will include Friends from Lebanon and Palestine, was intending to meet for the first time in Lebanon this month, and will probably have to postpone its meeting. She asked us to hold all of those Friends in our prayers. She urged us to find out more about the Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas, which includes our Yearly Meeting, and closed by reminding us that FWCC is the place where all Friends are welcome.

Y2006-59 Marcy Seitel, clerk of the Intervisitation Committee, presented the Committee's report and a plea for help. She introduced the members of the Committee and reviewed its purpose: to improve relationships with Yearly Meetings throughout Friends United Meeting. During the past year, Baltimore Yearly Meeting visitors have attended New England, Great Plains, and Indiana Yearly Meetings. Return visits have proved to be very important as friendships have time to blossom and relationships grow. Marcy read from the endorsement to the minute of introduction one visitor carried to Great Plains Yearly Meeting: "We feel connected to [your meeting] because you reached out to us." She noted that the Committee is making progress on developing a variety of guidelines and forms, and revealing new layers of complexity as they dig deeper into this important work.

Marcy Seitel noted that the committee visits only upon invitation, and more invitations are needed. She asked all Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting to think about contacts they have that might become invitations and bring them to the attention of the committee. She encouraged us to share our wisdom, insights,

and experiences with the committee, to help make our Intervisitation program ever broader and deeper.

Marcy Seitel also asked that the Yearly Meeting extend an expression of appreciation to Howard Fullerton for his valuable contribution to the work of the Intervisitation Committee during the past year.

Clerk Lauri Perman proposed that we incorporate a reference to Howard Fullerton's work with the Intervisitation Committee and other Yearly Meeting committees into the minute of appreciation approved in our Friday session.

Friends APPROVED this proposal.

Y2006-60 Howard Fullerton presented the Interim General Secretary's report, as published in the Advance Reports. He highlighted the extraordinary work of our staff members during a difficult transition time. He reported that the Yearly Meeting grew again this year, by 77 members. This growth may be due to our camping program and outreach to youth, or may be due primarily to our location in an area where population is growing. He encouraged us to think more deeply about how to knit newcomers into our meetings, and help them learn what it means to be a Quaker.

Howard Fullerton then spoke of his trip to Ramallah, and described the history of Friends work there, beginning almost 125 years ago. He spoke of the extreme difficulty of getting Israelis and Palestinians together in today's conditions, and noted how Friends in recent visits were able to meet with peacemakers on all sides. He lifted up the importance of the contribution to peace Friends may be able to make, working with the Friends International Peace Center in Ramallah.

The meeting expressed deep appreciation to Howard Fullerton for his service as Interim General Secretary.

Y2006-61 Clerk Lauri Perman called attention to a resource many Friends may be interested in: a film by Landrum Bolling, entitled "Search for Peace in the Middle East." It is available on a DVD with background materials, from the Foundation for Middle East Peace.

Y2006-62 Lauri Perman yielded the clerk's chair to Michael Cronin, Clerk of Interim Meeting for a second reading of the Search Committee report. Janet Eaby, clerk of the Search Committee, presented the report. In response to a question she explained that Clerks, Recording Clerks, and members of the Su-

pervisory Committee have two-year terms; members of the Nominating Committee have three-year terms.

Friends APPROVED the report of the Search Committee as follows:

Clerk of the Yearly Meeting: Lauri Perman, State College, second term

Recording Clerk for Interim Meeting: Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run

Nominating Committee: Joan Clippinger, Warrington
Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington
Nancy Moore, Baltimore, Stony Run
Charlotte Boynton, Langley Hill

Supervisory Committee: Meg Meyer, Baltimore-Stony Run, third term

Y2006-63 Clerk Lauri Perman returned to the clerk's chair, and explained the procedure for approving the Nominating Committee report. She noted that our Manual of Procedure calls for the report to be read twice, not for every individual name to be read twice. If no major changes are made, the entire report may be approved at the second reading, even if it includes some names not brought forward at the first reading.

Y2006-64 Dorothea Malsbary, Sandy Spring, clerk of the Nominating Committee presented the Nominating Committee report for a second reading. She again acknowledged the members of the Nominating Committee, including Barbara Thomas, Annapolis, incoming clerk. She explained the format of the report, and reviewed term lengths. Most terms are three years, but Friends may be appointed to serve only one or two years if they are filling a vacancy created by a resignation. Dorothea noted that a few corrections and additions have been made to the report, and listed the committees that still have vacancies.

A question was raised about the Friends appointed last year to attend the Friends World Committee for Consultation Triennial in Dublin, Ireland, in 2007. These names did not appear in the Yearbook for 2006. The Nominating Committee will make sure the list is published this year.

Friends appointed in 2005 to attend the August 2007 Ireland Triennial of FWCC were:

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill
Sage Taylor, Sandy Spring
Robert Fetter, Roanoke
Graham Johnson, Sandy Spring
Alternate: Dona Manoukian, Langley Hill

Friends APPROVED the Nominating Committee Report as submitted.

Y2006-65 Elizabeth F. “Betsy” Meyer presented the first reading of the Yearly Meeting Epistle, on behalf of the Epistle Committee.

Clerk Lauri Perman encouraged Friends to submit written suggestions for improvements to the Epistle Committee, or take advantage of the opportunity to meet with the committee this evening. The epistle will be read again tomorrow.

Y2006-66 Clerk Lauri Perman introduced Frannie Taylor, clerk of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. Frannie Taylor is rotating off the committee, after six years of service and two years as clerk. Friends APPROVED minuting our deep appreciation to Frannie Taylor for her service to the Yearly Meeting.

Y2006-67 Frannie Taylor presented the 2007 Budget for a second reading. She explained the format and noted minor corrections. She explained that the \$10,000 in “undesignated funds” will not be lost if they are not designated before the end of the year, but will continue to be available for use as the Yearly Meeting sees fit. She noted that funds initially set aside for Youth Quake were used this year for the Ramallah trip, when Youth Quake was cancelled. That line item is now designated for special youth programs, to allow similar flexibility in the future.

Clerk Lauri Perman reminded us that the question of our contribution to Friends United Meeting will be further considered jointly by four committees: the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns, Advancement and Outreach, Ministry and Pastoral Care, and Stewardship and Finance, with a recommendation to be brought to Interim Meeting in October.

Friends called attention to the need for at least \$60,000 in individual contributions to balance the Yearly Meeting budget. It was noted that it is now possible to

arrange to contribute through automatic bank withdrawals. Friends are urged to bring word of the need for contributions back to their Meetings.

Frannie Taylor reviewed the process by which apportionments are allocated, reviewed and finalized in consultation with Monthly Meeting treasurers.

Friends APPROVED the Apportionment portion of the budget.

Friends APPROVED the Budget for 2007 as submitted.

Y2006-68 Karen-Marie “Kit” Mason, Takoma Park, presented a minute from the Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee relative to the proposed “Enemy Combatant Military Commissions Act of 2006” drafted by the White House and made public within the past few days. She explained that the implications of this proposed legislation are much larger than they might at first appear. It would declare Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions legally unenforceable, and permit the imprisonment of Quakers and others engaging in peaceful protest as enemy combatants. It was proposed very recently and requires further study. It seems a cause for urgent concern.

Friends APPROVED the following minute:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) supports the efforts of the Friends Committee on National Legislation to study and advise Friends on the Enemy Combatant Military Commissions Act of 2006.

Y2006-69 The meeting closed with a period of open worship. Reading clerk David Hunter read a “re-envisioning” of a passage from the Gospel of Mark (Mark 16:15-18)

Go ye into the world seeking that of God everywhere and in everyone
And those who embrace you and call you Friend will nourish you and
you will nourish them;
And those who cannot embrace you are those whom you are called to
love and serve.
Watch them, for there you will see signs and miracles.

Sunday, August 6, 2005, 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Y2006-70 The meeting settled into open worship. The Reading Clerk read from a letter written by a first time attender at these sessions lifting up a message heard earlier this week: that God is Power. In this time of anguish and crisis, can we find a way to focus God's power like a laser beam to address the needs of a hurting world?

Y2006-71 Clerk Lauri Perman, State College, introduced the others at the clerks' table: Recording Clerk Deborah Haines, sojourning at Alexandria; and Reading Clerk Ruth Flower, Takoma Park. She introduced those sitting up front to help hold these sessions in the Light: Susan Rose, Patapsco; and David Ross, Oxford.

Y2006-72 Rebecca Rawls, Langley Hill, presented the Registrar's Report. She celebrated, in particular the number of children, Young Adult Friends, and first-time attenders present among us this year.

Registrar's Report, 2006

This week 500 of us have gathered at James Madison University for our 335th annual sessions. That's 80 more than last year, and more than we have had at annual sessions since 1999 at Wilson College. We represent 35 monthly or preparative meetings, and range in age from 17 months to 88 years in age.

Our ranks are growing at many levels. Those involved in the Junior Yearly Meeting program already know that this year that program has been abundantly blessed with participants. We've had 21 pre-schoolers and 46 older children here for at least some part of the week. That's twice as many school-age children as we had last year, and a sizeable increase in younger children as well. In addition, 42 Young Friends have been part of our program for high-school-aged young people.

Of particular note, as well, is the emerging Young Adult Friends group at Baltimore Yearly Meeting. This year some 23 young adults between the ages of 19 and 35 asked to be housed together on one floor of the dormitory and to have a lounge set aside as their own gathering place. Many of you will have seen the full row of these Young Adult Friends up front for

our opening plenary talk on Tuesday night, given by one of their number, Rachel Stacy. As Rachel Stacy reminded us, the younger Friends of our Yearly Meeting in past years have helped us to expand our vision of who we are, and it is encouraging to see this group growing into a supportive and nurturing community.

Our time together has also been enriched by the presence of many visitors and first-time attenders. More than 100 people are attending Baltimore Yearly Meeting for the first time this week. The Yearly Meeting has had a program for the past several years to encourage people who have not been here before to come to annual sessions by allowing each monthly meeting to send up to three first-time attenders for two days for free. This year 19 Monthly Meetings took advantage of this offer, sending a total of 39 people here for the first time. We were also blessed by the presence of visitors from at least eight other yearly meetings as well as several Quaker organizations.

I want to express gratitude to the many people who have helped make the logistics of getting you all registered go smoothly this year. Thanks, in particular, to Ann Whitaker, the new administrative assistant in the Yearly Meeting office, who plunged into registration tasks in her very first days in her new job. Thanks also to the many volunteers who have helped me both ahead of time and here at JMU. Finally, thank you to all of you for your patience when the lines at the registration desk grew long. We know we are among the first faces you see when you arrive at annual sessions, and I very much hope we always remembered to let each of you know how very glad we all are to have you here.

Clerk Lauri Perman proposed a minute of appreciation for Rebecca Rawls, in recognition of her hard work in accommodating so many more of us this year so very gracefully. Friends APPROVED this minute with gratitude.

Y2006-73 Reading Clerk Ruth Flower read an excerpt from Patience “Pat” Schenk’s 2006 Pendle Hill pamphlet, “Answering the Call to Heal the World.”
....[W]e can make a difference if we allow ourselves to be led by the Spirit, if we ground our work in that power about which Fox wrote. From that spiritual wellspring we can experience power, energy, and great joy as we do our part to help bring the kingdom of God to our precious world.

Y2006-74 Nancy Coleman, Dunnings Creek, gave the Bookstore Report. Sales increased again this year, to over \$12,000. The Ten Thousand Villages consignment, delayed due to a failure of communication, arrived in good order on Thursday, and was much appreciated. Nancy Coleman expressed her gratitude to all who helped out, especially Margo “the Magnificent” (Lehman), Sandy Spring, who untangled all the numbers.

Clerk Lauri Perman noted that much of the increase in sales may be due to Nancy Coleman’s willingness to keep the bookstore open long before and after posted hours. Friends expressed their deep appreciation to Nancy Coleman for her dedication, her efficiency, and her intentionality in creating a welcoming atmosphere in the bookstore. This minute of appreciation was APPROVED, with gratitude.

Y2006-75 Clerk Lauri Perman introduced the roll call of committee clerks. She thanked all the committee clerks for their service to the Yearly Meeting. She noted that the clerks had an opportunity to meet together during this annual session and look forward to other such opportunities in the future. The clerk of each committee and working group will be identified in the Yearbook.

Y2006-77 The following minute of appreciation for Elizabeth “Betsy” Krome was proposed:

We thank Elizabeth “Betsy” Krome, Williamsburg, for her dedication, energy, creativity and late evening hours devoted to producing the *Daily Minute*. Friends APPROVED this minute with enthusiasm.

Y2006-78 Friends celebrated the presence among us of visitors from the Torreon/Star Lake chapter of the Navajo Nation, marking ten years of friendship between Baltimore Yearly Meeting and Torreon/Star Lake. Friends enjoyed the opportunity this week to meet and learn from these visitors.

Y2006-79 Matthew Bacon, Clerk of Junior Young Friends at this annual session, presented the Junior Young Friends Epistle.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Junior Young Friends Epistle
2006

Dear Friends,

This week at Junior Young Friends was a time of newcomers and with them new ideas. We chose two first-timers, Matthew Bacon and Amy Heaton as our Clerk and Recording Clerk, respectively.. Although two of our conferences during the year were canceled due to lack of kids and FAPs (Friends Adult Presences), we had a good turnout at Annual Session. We are also thankful to the adults working at increasing the size and quality of our conferences.

We explored the theme of finding our voices through exploring Rachel Stacy's [talk on what] is possible and then discussing it along with other topics including peacemaking, homosexuality, and reaching out to Quaker and other communities. We talked about Rachel's question "What do you think is possible and what are you doing to make it happen?"

Eden and Jim Grace of Friends United Meeting African Ministries blessed us with their presence on Wednesday. They discussed issues they are working on in Kenya such as putting girls in schools and community development. Gary Gillespie visited us on Thursday and explained his peacemaking work at American Friends Service Committee. We then tried walking meditation. On Friday John Calvi showed us some energy and meditation work.

As our service project we played with little kids in the nursery. Also, several JYFs signed up as "Red Hats" [to help carry trays] at mealtimes. We made dream catchers, played Mafia, and hit ping pong balls off the walls.

At our sleepover we had tacos, sundaes (with extensive toppings), and sodas, which we relished. We watched *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

We will take home many memories and thoughts from our fellow JYFs. We hope to see all of them again.

Yours in the Light,
The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Junior Young Friends

Friends received this Epistle with joy.

Y2006-80 In an expression of support and unity, Young Friends and Young Adult Friends switched roles and presented each other's Epistles. The Young Friends Epistle was presented by Young Adult Friends playing the part of Sean Wilner, Langley Hill, Clerk of Young Friends, and Amrit Moore, Co-Assistant Clerk.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Young Friends Epistle
Eight Month 2006

The loss of a member of the community is never easy, and the tragic capture and death of Tom Fox was no exception. The world, however, does not stop when a heart stops, and, despite our collective grief, our community persevered.

One thing Tom Fox was always in awe of was our self-governance. Yet lately, we have struggled to live up to the grave responsibility self-governance represents. Committees were made but never met; attendance has dropped among Young Friends, Friendly Adult Presences, and Floaters; and process was upheld in neither the way concerns were brought to the community, nor the way issues were addressed. Things came to a head at what fondly became known as the Business Meeting of Doom, wherein our community's very right to exist came into question. But the Spirit spoke that night, and guided us back towards functioning as a self-governed community.

The process has not been without its serendipities. Paraphernalia Committee has produced a CafePress shop wherein Young Friends t-shirts and other paraphernalia will soon be available for purchase; Calendar Committee will be printing calendars next week; and the Ramallah trip has returned safely from a fruitful journey. An effort to improve handbook literacy produced astounding epiphanies as to the role and relationships of the many named positions within the community, be they members of Executive Committee, Friendly Adult Presences, or Floaters. The latter of which were re-welcomed into our community and proved to be immeasurable sources of wise counsel. While the issue of boundaries is still being addressed, the related communication problems between Young Friends and the greater Baltimore Yearly Meeting Community have an easy enough fix: Feedback forms. Look for them in the next BYFN (light willing).

Filled as it has been with Comic book Superheroes, a philosophical policeman and the furtive attempt by God to speak through a burning bush—an attempt that was crushed in its infancy by an overzealous volunteer fireman—the positive change in our community’s overall cohesiveness and spirituality over the past week has been tangible.

The Young Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Friends received this Epistle with gratitude.

Y2006-81 The Young Adult Friends Epistle was read by Young Friends playing the part of Rebecca Haines Rosenberg, Alexandria, and Annalee Flower Horne, Takoma Park, Co-Clerks of Young Adult Friends.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Young Adult Friends Epistle
Eighth Month, 2006

Greetings, Friends.

Last year, the Young Adult Friends were joyous as we sent out the news of our community’s revitalization. We brought forth our new community’s first epistle; we ran a fishbowl and several social events; and our focus on identity produced a Minute of Purpose outlining our foundation and long-term goals. We come to this Annual Session with a new reason to be joyous. We’ve achieved many of the goals we set for ourselves last year; new Young Adult Friends are contributing to our ongoing vitality and growth; and we’ve formed new goals for our continued development as a community.

In keeping with our Minute of Purpose, Young Adult Friends held two gatherings this year. The first, held during Ninth Month at Alexandria Friends Meeting, focused on long-term planning. The second, held at Adelphi Friends Meeting during Twelfth Month, gave Friends a chance to witness through service by participating in a food drive. We also created a new email list to help us keep in touch, and organized social activities through this Annual Session week to help us bond. We are glad to affirm that these steps have indeed helped us to form a strong and stable community.

We rejoice also at our continuing growth. We are accustomed to welcoming new members, but we were astounded by how quickly and how well this year's new YAFs made themselves an integral part of the community. Their contributions to our business process, committees, and social activities have proven invaluable as we work to move our program forward. As many of our new YAFs come to us from the Young Friends program, we thank the Young Friends for invigorating the spirit within these individuals and for contributing to the infusion of new energy that has strengthened our community this year.

As we look forward to the coming year, we find even more cause for joy. We've scheduled two more conferences and plans for a Young Adult Friends' Manual of Operations are underway. We also hope to continue our outreach to Young Adults and Young Adult Friends communities within BYM's monthly meetings. Several of our Friends have also expressed an interest in networking with Young Adult Friends in other Yearly Meetings, and we seek to support them as they follow their leadings to promote inter-visitation and mutual understanding.

Last year, we produced an epistle in hopes that small steps would lead to great strides. The small steps we have taken over this past year have brought us to a path where great strides seem well within reach, and we look forward to finding out where the road will lead.

In the Silence,
The Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Friends rejoice in the growth of this community among us, and received this Epistle with gratitude.

Y2006-82 The Yearly Meeting Epistle was presented by Elizabeth F. "Betsy" Meyer, Sandy Spring, and Gary Sandman, Roanoke.

Friends expressed deep gratitude for the work of the Epistle Committee. After some improvements, Friends APPROVED the Epistle.

Eighth Month 6, 2006

O God guide us
strengthen us and support us
help us live in harmony with thy will.

Greetings to Friends everywhere:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends gathered for its 335th annual session from Seventh Month 31 to Eighth Month 6, 2006 on the green – but hot – campus of James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Our theme was Living in Harmony: With One Another and All Creation. This year marks the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Friend Elizabeth Harris in the Chesapeake Bay area, leading to the establishment of the first Quaker Meetings in America. We seek among us the same courage and harmony with God's will that brought her to our area so long ago.

An opening retreat led by Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch encouraged us to experience diversity within the Religious Society of Friends and included a wonderful jazz concert, a parable of harmony. Young Adult Friend Rachel Stacy gave an impassioned talk about Friends and transformation, the Light shining through her as she strode about the platform, leading us into deep worship.

Our beloved Friend Tom Fox, a Christian Peacemaker Team member, was kidnapped in Iraq on Eleventh Month 26, 2005, then shot and killed on Third Month 9, 2006. Our grief, especially our campers' and Young Friends' grief, is profound. A moving memorial meeting, an evening panel of heartfelt sharing and other activities helped us understand that Tom's ministry and death are a witness to the whole world and a legacy for the future. Our Young Friends and Young Adult Friends honor Tom's memory by moving forward in Tom's playful spirit and humor.

Throughout the week, in business sessions, over meals, and during worship and activities, the love working within our vibrant community comforted us in our grief. We celebrated the presence among us of our Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends who encircled our business session with love and song.

The Young Friends in Ramallah Program participants brought us messages of desires for peace and justice for the troubled Middle East. Their experiences and reflections on the fifteen days of listening, service and learning in Palestine and Israel will be helpful resources for understanding the situation in

that region.

We joyfully welcomed our new General Secretary Robert H. Robinson, Jr. (known to all of us as Riley), and expressed appreciation for the hard work of our continuing staff and of Howard Fullerton, who served as Interim General Secretary after the resignation of Frank Massey, our General Secretary for the past 17 years.

Our Camping Program staff shared with us its goal of providing campers with attainable challenges, situations that put campers in a zone between comfort and panic, a place of stretching where they most feel the Spirit working and where they grow.

We continue to labor with whether we can financially support Friends United Meeting while its personnel policy effectively discriminates against gays, lesbians and others. Though our connection to FUM and its work is important to us, can we, in good conscience, fund a policy we find hurtful and wrong? This challenge has taken us out of the comfort zone into the place of spiritual growth through continued intervisitation with other FUM Friends and continued seeking for discernment. Our intervisitations have built bonds of affection, and we welcome invitations for future visits.

The presence of many visitors enriched our session. Marshall Massey, of Omaha Monthly Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative), who carries a deep concern for a common environmental testimony among Friends, walked much of the way to our session from Nebraska. In the Carey Memorial Lecture, Marshall called on Friends to approach environmental concerns in the same way that the earliest Friends changed the world: by keeping under the dictates of God and by speaking to the spiritual condition of others. There is no need for despair. We should dream big dreams, and pursue them as a community.

Yours in the Light,
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Y2006-83 Friends APPROVED forwarding all four Epistles to Friends Everywhere.

Y2006-84 Clerk Lauri Perman read the Clerk's closing minute:

Friends, this has been a remarkable year for Baltimore Yearly Meeting – a year of loss, transformation, and possibility. The Spirit is calling us forth into service. As we are called, the gifts the community needs are also called forth in each one of us and in the process we are transformed.

We walk forward together in faith, not knowing where we are going, but certain we are held in the Light and Power of God and that if we live up to the light we have, more will be granted to us.

Help us open our hearts to the Christ Within and help us let go of fear as we seek to open ourselves fully to the Light.

Dear Friends, I testify to you that I have seen the Hand of God at work here this week. I have felt the Spirit of Love move among us.

Y2006-85 After a period of open worship, Baltimore Yearly Meeting adjourned, proposing to meet again in the last week of July or the first week of August 2007 at a site to be determined.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVANCEMENT AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Advancement and Outreach Committee has focused this year on laying the groundwork for an intervisitation program within Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Two of us traveled to the Nottingham Quarterly Meeting session held at Oxford in March to give a brief program on outreach and meeting revitalization, which was very well received. We would love to have invitations from other meetings that would like to schedule a program or workshop on this topic.

We are also hoping to encourage more Friends in BYM to visit meetings other than their own. Visits to other meetings can enrich our understanding, and build community within the yearly meeting. We are preparing a set of guidelines on how to set up and carry out a meeting visit, and will be recruiting volunteer visitors during annual sessions.

We continue to collect stories about outreach activities, and are amazed at the amount of outreach work and community involvement that is routinely carried out in many local meetings in BYM. We are looking for more ways to share these stories. We have committed to publishing at least one outreach item in each issue of the BYM Interchange, and are preparing to post an overview of outreach ideas, tips and success stories on our committee webpage.

Advancement and Outreach is a small committee, with big dreams. Five or six of us gather at our committee meetings, which are held during Interim Meeting, three or four times a year. The prospect of increased funding through the Ethel Reynolds Fund has set us to thinking about specific things we might do to support new worship groups, reach out to isolated Friends, make our meetings more visible in their communities, and promote meeting growth and vitality. We look forward to the future with anticipation.

Deborah Haines, Clerk

CAMP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee met in four times this year to work on the following main tasks; 1) planning and scheduling near-term and long-term projects and required maintenance, 2) developing a budget that more clearly reflects the expenses of own-

ing and maintaining the camp properties, and 3) planning and participating in work weekends at Catoctin, Opequon and Shiloh.

At Catoctin, one new cabin was built and the first phase of the pond improvement was completed. In the coming years more cabins are planned and the second phase of pond improvement will be completed. Last summer a new septic field was installed at Catoctin, insuring safe handling of waste well into the future.

A 20-year lease will be signed in the fall for Opequon, which allows work to proceed on needed infrastructure at the camp. The high-priority projects at Opequon include a new infirmary and repairs/upgrades to the kitchen.

A new roof was put on one cabin at Shiloh and the committee is exploring ways to enhance aquatic activities at the camp.

Based on the committee's review of past current, future budgets and the need for capital improvements, the expenses associated with owning and maintaining the camp properties often exceed income the properties generate. While short-term fundraising has helped narrow the deficits, the committee feels that it is critical that the Yearly Meeting devotes more time and resources to ongoing fundraising.

Allen Fetter, Clerk

CAMPING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

In this year's report, we focus on these main points:

- The BYM Camping Program is remarkably successful in serving a variety of individuals, groups, and purposes within and beyond BYM.
- We need to do more than rely on informal means to further enhance communication of the Camping Program Committee with many other important groups within BYM – and beyond. The CPC will continue to work with these other groups and with the Camp Directors to develop even more effective ways of communicating and working together within the ever-evolving BYM structure.
- The CPC deeply regrets that it was unable to predict accurately and prepare adequately for the increase in new and returning applicants to the Teen Adventure program. One of our top priorities for next year is exploring and developing several options to ensure that in the future we are better able to

avoid the kind of disappointment and pain experienced by some campers and their families when we could not admit them to TA.

- The much-publicized death of Tom Fox will continue to reverberate within the BYM Camping Program in ways that we cannot predict. The strength and depth of the Camping program and of BYM will help us all to respond meaningfully and appropriately.

There is unanimity about the extraordinary quality of the camping program and the truly unique way it enriches and extends the BYM Community. In the last few years we have seen a growing recognition of the constructive interdependence of the camping program and the larger BYM community. The BYM Camping Program provides a combination of religious education, leadership development, and opportunity for EVERYONE involved to share in the spiritual depth and frequent joy associated with camp activities. “Everyone” includes the campers, the counselors, other camp staff, camp directors, volunteer cooks, maintenance workers and medical staff, families of campers, committee members, Monthly Meetings and others.

As with many things, as time passes conditions change and so do each of us individually and communally. Several years ago BYM itself and the Camping Program Committee were smaller and simpler – and for many years Barry Morley provided a special kind of leadership and a visible connection between all camp-related activities and many different parts of the greater BYM community. The camping program has both grown and evolved since Barry’s departure, making many significant changes in response to changing needs and wishes of the BYM community and the external world in which we live.

One example of this is the child safety issue that BYM has been dealing with for the past year or more. The Camping Program Committee joined with other youth serving committees to minute acknowledgement of the need to develop Youth Safety Policies within BYM. The Camping Program has been in the practice of completing background checks for employed counselors and staff for many years, but after exploration of other camp approaches, and additional guidelines from the states within which we operate our camps, CPC adopted a policy of checking backgrounds for all volunteers at camps and defining types of crimes which would deem a person barred from being around the children at camp.

Another example of this is changing fees and application and enrollment process. The fees for camp were raised significantly to better meet the budgetary

requirements of running safe and successful camps. CPC also approved a new payment policy of requiring full payment prior to the start of camp. Our Camp Administrative Secretary, Jane Megginson, has done an excellent job of communicating the complex changes and managing the many questions and inevitable confusion as we implement this new system. The CPC expects that this new practice will greatly streamline the process of dropping off campers at the beginning of camp sessions and solve many past challenges regarding payment confusion and completion.

Several of us on the Camping Program Committee have from time to time discussed how we each feel strongly committed and almost fanatically enthusiastic about the Camping Program, but that we are uncertain about our roles in relation to other BYM organizations that might have closely related goals, constituencies, and activities—Young Friends, Religious Education, Interim and Quarterly Meeting Events, Annual Session, Wash. Quaker Workcamps, William Penn House, ... etc. We feel that each of these groups would benefit from deeper, more frequent connections with the others, and that the Camping Program would gain as well. We endeavored this past year to align our committee meetings with Interim Meeting's schedule in order to more fully participate in the larger BYM activities, and benefited from opportunities to communicate with other committees there. However, we have a growing sense that new opportunities and new needs are emerging that compel us to seek more effective ways of connecting these groups. We have reached a size, pace, and level of complexity that make it impossible to rely solely on informal communication and the currently available mechanisms. We need to do more.

One area in which CPC has reached out to other committees is the situation we find ourselves in with the Teen Adventure programs (TA/TALT). The increasing demand for this program has been in our awareness for the past several years, and the committee has been brainstorming with the TA directors and others on ways to address the growing need. We have discussed many options, including adding another trip to the current TA program and starting another camp at a new location, but both of those options involve many complexities.

This year, however, we had an all time high number of eligible applicants and struggled with not being able to provide enough spaces to meet the demand. Many young people with long family ties to the camping program committee are not able to participate this year, and the CPC members acknowledge and lament the pain these individuals and families experienced this year. The CPC continues

to attempt to help find other meaningful alternatives for these young friends. One promising opportunity is a partnership of sorts, being created between CPC and the Washington Quaker Workcamps, which offered to provide a service oriented program for this summer (2006). Jane Megginson has also found other options available this summer through Pendle Hill youth programs and has been actively communicating with the families of campers we cannot admit to TA, as have many other members of the Camping Program Committee. At the same time, Jane was given additional unanticipated administrative and leadership responsibilities as a consequence of the BYM office staffing gaps, so that she had even less “extra” time available for supporting the development of any new options. Still we wish that we could have done more.

For several years, CPC has discussed the idea of providing additional, less physically rigorous options for our TA-age Friends. This year we were approached by a camper’s parent who feels called to take this exploration further. A subcommittee of CPC has been formed to explore the possibility of developing a “Teen Arts Adventure (TAA)”, and an exploratory retreat is planned for this summer, with participation from many within the Camping Program, the larger BYM community as well as Young Friends and Young Adult Friends.

Dealing with the increased demand for TA/TALT is a particularly difficult challenge, because at the same time that enrollment has reached beyond capacity at the TA/TALT programs, and remains high at Catoctin, enrollment is down at the other camps. For the first time, CPC has begun to advertise for camps Shiloh and Opequon. The Camp Administrative Secretary and Camp Directors work diligently to hold expenses down and staff creatively in order to still meet budget while continuing to provide a quality program. The changing demographics of our program and our response are issues that CPC will continue to deliberate.

We acknowledge the increasing demands most of us feel for allocating our time and energy throughout our lives, and the increasing capability of telecommunications to support SOME of our activities. The Camping Program Committee has already begun to modify its traditional meeting pattern. Until recently, we met from about 9:30am to about 4pm one Saturday each month for about 7 months + a day during the BYM Annual Session in August. We also work in sub-committees and many of us participate in the Camp Work Days. We have begun to reduce the number of full day face-to-face meetings (held in rotation at various monthly meeting houses) and begin to use telephone conference calls augmented by email, etc. All of our meetings have always been open in principle to anyone

interested, and we have long encouraged the camp directors to attend – but all of them live and work outside the BYM region and joining us in person would be inconvenient and expensive. However, the telephone conference calls make it possible for the Directors to participate more, which promises to be invaluable. We do have an annual “Directors Retreat” for one weekend each March, and schedule one of the Committee’s regular meetings to coincide with that weekend so that both groups can spend that day together. We are carefully evaluating the ways and extent to which we can continue to increase our reliance on these new tools for collaborative work, and be sure that we do not give up too much of what we cherish in our face-to-face meetings.

One of the functions of the CPC is to provide support to our wonderful Camp Directors. Our Directors are so dedicated and do so much, and CPC strives to support them throughout the year in ‘official’ and ‘unofficial’ ways. Committee members scheduled work-grant volunteers, revamped the camp evaluations and reporting process, coordinated training during skills week, taken Directors out to lunch, and tended to other issues identified by the Directors and the camp evaluations. We continue to discern ways to express our gratitude and provide support to those who make the camping programs as successful as they are.

And finally, this report would not be complete without acknowledging the impact that the loss of our Friend, Tom Fox, has had on those involved in the camping program, particularly Camp Opequon. Opequon Director, Elaine Brigham, has spent many heartfelt hours tending to the emotions of many campers, staff, and volunteers who knew Tom through his involvement as a volunteer at Camp Opequon. The Camping Program Committee remains quite moved by his witness to peace and his dedication to service. This summer will be a tender time, as staff, campers, and volunteers return to Opequon, where Tom donated his precious time and his memory will be “*walking in the glory of the Light, said Fox.*”

Tasha Walsh and Steve Gilbert, Co-Clerks

CRIMINAL AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee met on 8/5/05 at James Madison University. Eight committee members and three visitors participated.

10/22/05 - Little Britain-Penn Hill - Four Committee members and four visitors participated.

3/25/06 - Baltimore, Stony Run Meeting - Nine committee members and ten visitors participated.

The Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee contributed to Baltimore Yearly Meeting's annual sessions at James Madison University in the following ways:

1. Justice Denied: Executions throughout history. Drawings by Joanna Buck with commentary by Joan Anderson. The drawings are on the wall on the lower level by the stairs. Although Joan has not gotten much feedback, the committee's response is overwhelmingly positive. Joan says that the artist is anxious to have the pictures seen. An invitation to have them loaned for display has been put in the daily minute and at the information table. A suggestion was made to have the artist consider drawing the Rosenberg's story.
2. Bette's workshop on "Restorative Justice: Principles and practices" went well. The experiential 2-hour workshop is now ready to be presented at other places upon request.
3. James Matsen held an interest group on Prisoner Visitation and Support.
4. Jack, Kit, and Bette created a display about some of the work of our committee that has received positive feedback. It is on a table in the hallway 96 very visible. Our survey for individuals and meetings is on the table. An announcement was put in today's daily minute to call people's attention to the survey.
5. We arranged for and acted as hosts for David Kaczinski, whose Friday evening lecture provided a human side to the issue of the death penalty. Friends were deeply moved. The work of the Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee in the 2005-2006 year includes:
 - a. Legislative Research and reports are provided by Kit Mason. These helpful reports explain specific actions citizens should take to influence legislation and bills that relate to the death penalty. Kit will help anyone who is interested in topics related to criminal justice or specific bills to work towards desired outcomes. This information will be posted on the committee's web page.
 - b. Information about monthly meeting criminal justice activities and names of Friends involved is being collected by Bette Hoover and published on the web by George Sinnott. We have found that Friends who are interested in such work as prison visitation, holding worship in prison, tutoring, and assistance to prisoners on reentry are looking for reference to other Friends who are doing similar work.

- This appeal for new and updated information is ongoing as the committee asks for minutes, actions, and lists of people actively involved.
- c. A minute of support for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Catholic Campaign to End the use of the Death Penalty was brought to interim meeting on October 22 where it was approved. The hope is that other faith groups will also state their support.
 - d. The committee constructed and presented a booth at yearly meeting sessions to publicize our activities. This booth is ready for use again in August 2006.
 - e. James Matsen was nominated again to represent Baltimore Yearly Meeting at Prisoner Visitation and Support. James has been attending meetings in Philadelphia and has announced that the group is struggling with ways to overcome budget deficits. He described their work visiting prisoners in federal prisons. Many of these prisoners receive no other visits. Friends who are interested in training to become a visitor should contact Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee or James.
 - f. The committee has been discussing Friends' responses to the presence of sexual offenders in our communities and our meetings. We have heard pleas for sensitivity to the needs of former victims and to consideration of the humanity of former offenders. We have been directed to various resources and to the experience of other meetings. Stacia Roesler has been charged with the task of composing queries to help those in the search of ways to proceed. These queries will be discussed at the committee meeting in Harrisonburg, Virginia in August.
 - g. Bette Hoover will present a workshop entitled, "Restorative Dialog: Nonviolent Communication that Works" at Baltimore Yearly Meeting in August, 2006. John Worley has collected written and art work from prisoners and is preparing a Prison Journal.
 - h. Our committee will participate in the first ever Maryland State Restorative Justice Conference at Howard Community College, November 15 to 17, 2006. We will have the "Justice Denied" art exhibit on display. The exhibit is complete again as the three lost drawings have been found.
 - i. Simple Gifts is a project of Stacia Roesler, which will provide small gifts to destitute prisoners. The program works through a prison chaplain.

Joan Anderson, Co-Clerk

EDUCATIONAL FUNDING RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Committee met on November 19, 2005, to plan the 2006 application process. Four members and the BYM treasurer were present. This year loans are available to degree-seeking graduate students regardless of age as well as college students and secondary school students. The loan limit remains at \$5000 per year. We have publicized the loan program widely this year within BYM to Monthly Meetings, Friends secondary schools, on the BYM web site, and in the Interchange and the Young Friends newsletter.

The Committee met again on June 10, 2006, to review loan applications and procedures. Three committee members, the BYM treasurer, and Laurie Wilner for the bookkeeper were present. The added publicity paid off. Fifteen applications were received compared to four last year - half from graduate students, one from a secondary school student, and the rest from college students. Fourteen applications were approved at the meeting, each for \$5000, and one later for \$4000. A promissory note will spell out the terms of the loan. We discussed delinquent loans and possible write offs. We agreed to work closely with the bookkeeper on informational requests and the status of loan invoices and repayments.

Before funding this year's loans, the three loan funds drawn on had combined available funds of \$262,994. There are currently 33 outstanding loans to students from previous years. They represent \$5732.88 for two loans from the pre-college fund, \$47,047.51 for 20 loans to 14 students from the Fairhill fund, and \$53,259.68 for 25 loans to 16 students from the education fund. The average size of these past loans were \$2866.44 for the pre-college loans, \$2352.38 for Fairhill fund loans, and \$2130.36 for education fund loans.

The committee requests that its name be changed to Educational Loan Committee to more clearly reflect its work and the nature of the funding it provides.
Oliver Moles, Clerk

ETHYL REYNOLDS FUND

The Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee met at Stony Run Meeting on 25 Third Month, 2006, with the purpose of allocating its fund income from the 2005 year. There were three members who met: Two were from Nottingham Monthly Meeting and one from the Advancement and Outreach Committee. There were four requests to be considered. The Committee reviewed each request to deter-

mine if the requests met the guidelines for grants from the fund. The fund is not generally available for individual scholarships or building projects. These grants are primarily intended as seed money for new or one time projects and are not to be relied upon for ongoing support.

This will be the last year for the Ethel Reynolds Fund Committee as the committee was laid down as a result of action taken at Interim Meeting held 25 Third Month 2006. The principal and any remaining income will be distributed among five committees within the Yearly Meeting to be used over a five year period for their committee work.

The Committee was able to make the following grants:

William Penn House	\$1400.00
for their Teachers for Peace Project	
Northern Virginia Friends School	2250.00
for books and activity centers	
BYM Camping Program Committee.....	2355.00
for a planning retreat for Teen Arts Adventure Camp	
Annapolis Friends Meeting.....	2500.00
for their 350 Years of Quakerism in America project	_____
Total distributions	\$8505.00

Douglas B. Eaby, Co-Clerk

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY CONCERNS

The Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns holds as its charge to gather and distribute information on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender concerns arising from within Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Furthermore, the Committee is charged to put new energy into advocacy activities that help to end the oppression, often unconscious that is imposed on people because of real or perceived gender or sexual orientation. In its charge, the Committee continues the tradition of Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s original 1973 Minute 87.

2005 Annual Sessions:

At 2005 Annual Sessions we sponsored a workshop entitled: “How Some Programmed Meetings experience GLBT Friends”. A panel of Friends from programmed meetings speak of their experience in dealing with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgendered people in their Meetings. The panel was comprised of

4 Friends, two (Cheryl Bridges and Willie Frye) From North Carolina YM – FUM, and two (Stand and Karen Bauer) from Iowa Yearly Meeting.

We also sponsored an Interest Group session on the perception of Homosexuality in African Meetings. Edith and Samson Wakesa from Kenya lead the discussion.

FGC Central Committee Minute:

The Committee has been charged to consult with Monthly Meetings in preparing a response to an epistle dated 12th Month 2004 the Central Committee of Friends General Conference which testified to the valued participation of “lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer Friends” within FGC.

In consultation with BYM Interim Meeting (3rd Month 25, 2006) the committee members have agreed to carry the Minute to as many Monthly and Quarterly Meetings as possible, inviting Friends to labor with us.

For this year, Aron Teel has served as Clerk of the Committee, and Martha Gay has served as Recording Clerk. The Committee meets at each Interim Meeting and during Annual Sessions. We also held one special meeting this year during 4th Month 2006.

Aron Teel

INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s Indian Affairs Committee met in October 2005 and April, 2006. The Committee was unable to meet in January and June, 2006. The Committee will meet at Yearly Meeting on August 4, 2006. Committee activities reflect its unique purpose and the diverse interests and experience of Committee members. Others with a concern for Indian affairs have continued work on Indian issues, for example, Stony Run’s Indian Committee has been active in the areas of prison ministry and in contact with the Baltimore Indian Center. Also, the Torreon/Star Lake Working Group continues its activities in coordination with Youth Programs and Camping Committees.

In September, 2005, Nora Caplan, Alden Lancaster, Mary Mallett and Virginia Spencer had the pleasure of meeting and dining with May Lee, director of the F.A.C.E. Program and Continuing Education for the Ramah Navajo School Board, Ramah Chapter of the Navajo Nation. May has long been the Committee’s contact at Ramah Navajo. She has provided information on the needs, progress

and activities at Ramah. She has also shared information on the weaver's guild and rugs made at Ramah. In December, Nora was successful in raising funds to support the Ramah Navajo F.A.C.E. literacy program.

Susan Lepper has been very busy with her visits and activities to the Star Lake/Torreon Navajo Chapter. Susan reported on her trip to Torreon in September, to see Pat Kutzner's house and visit with our friends there. The Community Store was busily planning for the next Eastern Agency Arts and Crafts Festival. Susan also had spoken with the Chapter President, Joe Cayaditto, about the invitation from BYM to come to Annual Meeting in the summer of 2006. Joe indicated that he would like to come himself but there were a number of uncertainties about who would come with him. She discussed our program of bringing Torreon kids to Opequon with a couple of counselors at the K-8 school at the Chapter; the counselors welcomed the possibility of BYM volunteer help with summer tutoring and recreation programs assisting students there whose families may be uneasy about their youngsters traveling as far as the BYM camps. Finally she laid plans to return in November to help with some projects in the Chapter office. The Committee is looking forward to greeting Joe Cayaditto, Chapter President and other visitors from the Navajo Nation at this year's BYM Yearly Meeting. A concern has been raised about the Torreon/Star Lake Working Group. The concern is that we not let this Working Committee drop now that we have it spread more broadly to other committees in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, not just the Indian Affairs Committee. The Working Group includes: Nancy Beiter, Anna Brown, Susan Lepper, Rich Liversedge, Katrina Mason, and Pete Schenck, Aleen Starkweather, Sharon Stout and Jane Stowe. The Working Group's responsibilities include Youth Programs Committee, the Camping Committee and Indian Affairs Committee. Do we expand the Working Group and include it as a Yearly Meeting activity or lay it down.

Pat Kutzner, former Committee member and dear Friend, has continued her work in New Mexico assisting with projects at Torreon/Star Lake Chapter of the Navajo Tribe. She welcomes visitors and invites them to join her in volunteer activities such as tutoring and helping with the Community Store at Torreon. Fundraising is also very much needed and while she is getting some help, more assistance in this area would be very much appreciated. Pat can be reached at 32 Church Rd. (PO Box 1169), Cuba, NM 87013; phone/fax: 505 289-9105.

Dellie James has reported from Stony Run Meeting's Indian Affairs Committee including support for the Baltimore Indian Center, Leonard Peltier who has been

transferred to Allentown, PA, and the issue of prison reform in Maryland where, even though permitted by the Federal government, the building and use of sweat lodges is not allowed for incarcerated Indians. Bill Miles of the Stony Run Committee has been working with the Eagle Speak Society within the prison. Bill has kept us informed about prison reform issues and has offered his services to the Maryland Indian Affairs Commission. He has also been honored and presented a 'fan' by members of the Greenstick Hoop. The State does not want to meet and does not want to change its policies regarding the use of sweat lodges in state prisons. Contributions of books for prison inmates would be most welcome.

In March 2006, Committee members participated and volunteered in FCNL's educational 'Media Symposium on Native Perspective' held in Washington, DC. The goal of the conference was to engage writers, legislators, religious organizations and academics in being more active in bringing awareness of Indian issues to the public. This is the groundwork needed to develop a public relations task force on Indian issues. Many speakers and participants were leaders of national Native American organizations, media representatives, and tribal representatives. One of the speakers was Ada Deer, Director of American Indian Studies at the University of Wisconsin, former Chairwoman of the Native American Rights Fund, and the first woman Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Ada has been invited as our guest speaker at IAC's Yearly Meeting workshop, "Native American Visions of Harmony: Yesterday and Today." The workshop will be held on August 4, 2006.

The IAC continues to send emails of support Indian issues, including funding for the National American Indian Housing Council.

This year, Ed Nakawatase, National Representative for Native Affairs at AFSC retired. AFSC and Ed have played a leadership role in bringing Native and non-Native people together so that we can learn from each other and build upon each other's strengths. We wish Ed much happiness in his future activities, and sincerely hope that AFSC will continue the important position of National Representative.

The Committee seeks to continue its efforts in support of Native American groups and advocates. Thanks to all who have participated, we look forward to working with all concerned with Native American issues.

The ongoing work of the Indian Affairs Committee is inspired by its history. In 1795 Quakers in the northern Shenandoah Valley, following the model established by William Penn in Pennsylvania, set up a fund under the care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting to pay American Indians for lands Quakers had settled. Unable to locate survivors of the natives, [Friends] the Indian Affairs Committee has distributed the interest income from this endowment to organizations which assist and advocate for American Indians.

Virginia E. Spencer

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERVISITATION

Since our committee was formed in October 2004 and we began to meet in January 2005, our ad hoc committee has gradually implemented an intervisitation program even as we are also just developing it. We recognize that we stand in the tradition of Friends when we visit, to strengthen the foundation of our relationships, and we are also building a new and specific program, to strengthen the relationships among the Friends in all the yearly meetings of Friends United Meeting (FUM). We are steadied by this mix of walking in a tradition as we build a new road in a time when issues about sexuality, marriage, and ministry are dividing Friends as well those of other religions.

We have facilitated both visits of members of our yearly meeting to other FUM yearly meetings, as well as visits to our yearly meetings by other FUM Friends. Our biggest visiting contingent was a group of nine adults and one Young Friend who visited Winston-Salem monthly meeting in October 2005, in response to an invitation extended to BYM from Winston-Salem. The group spent a week-end with Friends from Winston-Salem Meeting, going on a tour of Guilford College and sharing meals, conversation, and worship. Those who were part of this delegation were:

- * Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco Meeting, and Intervisitation Committee member. Ken also organized the BYM part of this visit.
- * Walter Brown, Langley Hill Meeting and Intervisitation Committee member, accompanied for part of the trip by his wife Carole.
- * Allen Briggs, Blacksburg Meeting
- * Anne Bутtenheim and daughter Elizabeth Duthinh, Frederick Meeting
- * Maia Carter Hallward and Stoph Hallward, Friends Meeting of Washington
- * Erik Hansen, Takoma Park Meeting
- * Aron Teel, Charlottesville Meeting

Building on the momentum of this visit, Charlottesville Meeting, under the leadership of Aron Teel, has extended an invitation to the meetings of New Garden Quarterly Meeting, which is being planned for October 2006.

Members of BYM have visited several yearly meetings in the last year. Walter Brown visited Indiana Yearly Meeting, Rebecca Richards (Gunpowder Meeting) visited New England Yearly Meeting, and Maria Bradley (Sandy Spring Meeting) visited Great Plains Yearly Meeting. These visits have let us know the issues that other yearly meetings grapple with. Each visit has been a great learning experience. Friends have been hospitable in all of these visits, although not everyone is equally interested in receiving visitors. There were moments of real connection and conversation with other friends in all of these visits.

Other Friends have quite naturally visited one another, and we have heard from several friends that they took the time to visit a meeting while traveling that they might not have taken the time to visit otherwise. Even those these visits do not take place under the care of our committee, we appreciate when those traveling check in with us, even when the visit itself has not been planned or facilitated by our committee.

BYM has been visited by a variety of Friends, and funds from our committee have supported these visits fully or partially. Last summer at our annual sessions, we were visited by Edith and Samson Wekesa from East Africa Yearly Meeting. They not only helped to facilitate marriage enrichment workshops but also were available to BYM friends to discuss issues of sexual diversity in their home region. Also at our annual sessions, we co-sponsored, along with the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender Diversity a panel presentation of visitors from FUM meetings about their experiences in pastoral meetings. The panelists were Willie Frye (retired pastor, NCYM), Stan and Karen Bauer (pastor, Iowa) and Cheryl Bridges (openly lesbian pastor, NCYM), who not only participated in the panel but were available for conversations with Friends during annual sessions.

This year at our annual sessions, we will be receiving a number of visitors. Eden and Jim Grace, from Beacon Hill Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) will be visiting with their children. Minga Claggett-Borne will also be attending from NEYM. Minga is on NEYM's Ministry and Counsel Committee's working party on the FUM personnel policy. Micah Bales will be visiting from Great Plains Yearly Meeting. We hope that friends at annual sessions will take time to talk with people about their meetings and their spiritual journeys.

This spring, our committee, with BYM's clerk, Lauri Perman, extended invitations to a number of the yearly meetings of FUM. Several responded. We hope next year to have the invitations go out much earlier and to have a wider response.

Building our inquisition program into one that supports individual leadings and follows good processes has been a focus of our committee's work. We have encouraged all who wish to travel to first form a clearness committee and then to receive a traveling minute from their monthly meeting. When people return from visiting, we ask that each person who visits gives some kind of report to our committee. We have developed a form to facilitate this process of reporting. We have also developed forms for keeping track of expenses and requesting reimbursements. We are seeking ways to make visiting both a personally spiritually rewarding experience for those directly involved, and a source of growth and understanding for our Yearly Meeting in its role as a member of Friends United Meeting (FUM) and part of the world community of Friends.

We have provided workshops to prepare people who will be visitors. These workshops include information about Quaker history, FUM, and recent sources of conflicts among FUM meetings. We also explore together issues of sexuality in our workshops, as well as discuss communication skills.

Letting others know of our work has also been a focus of our committee. Friends Journal carried a short piece about our program in their November issue. Our committee has had information and updates in each of this year's BYM Interchanges. We are still developing a fairly detailed website so that meetings and yearly meetings can know of our work and be guided in taking on similar endeavors.

In looking to the future, there is important work to be done. We now have a number of people in our yearly meeting who have gone through the clearness process to become visitors, but do not have as many opportunities to visit as they would like. It has not yet been part of our committee's work to seek out invitations for visits, and so there are those who cannot act on their desire to be visitors. In other words, we are facilitating visits rather than building a full program because to do so would take the kind of day to day work that committees are usually do not do. If we want to grow in the direction of a full program, staff time would be needed. At the level of committee involvement now, we have a good number of visits taking place, and we are building more relationships than we have had in the past.

Our committee remains strong. As some members have become busy with other work, other committee members have joined and stepped in to do this work. We are always learning more about our Quaker traditions and history, and seek to be a resource to others in our yearly meeting. We have a diversity of knowledge and talent that supports our committee work. We continue to seek ways to grow in our understanding of Friends in FUM, in other parts of the US and in the world, and to find ways to encourage Friends to visit one another and build the bonds needed to tackle difficult issues and strengthen the Religious Society of Friends.

Marcy Seitel

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE ADVANCE REPORT

As it seeks to recognize and address the needs of our constituent monthly meetings, our committee continues to recruit new members, especially those with interest and/or experience in various aspects of pastoral care. We have noted that any current members of committees on Ministry and Counsel or Overseers (either by whatever the prevailing name is in a given Meeting) are invited to join with this committee at any of its meetings at Interim Meeting or at BYM annual sessions.

The Committee has been asked to support and participate in intervisitation within BYM. This has begun in an informal and indeed, slow way. To assist in further development of this effort, Ed Norton of York Meeting has agreed to act as coordinator of this function. Interested Friends should contact Ed directly.

The committee continues to be responsible for the Spiritual Formation Program of BYM. A copy of their report is appended. We have not received reports from the women's retreat.

We are in conversation with the Working Group on Racism Among Friends. This group sees itself as broader than is indicated by their current responsibility to the Peace Committee, and would like to move under the care of our Committee. We have met together on two occasions and have tentatively agreed on this change, pending approval by an upcoming Interim Meeting. Meanwhile, the Working Group is taking primary responsibility for the retreat prior to the opening session of BYM this year, particularly in relation to the theme of this year's annual sessions, Harmony.

Don Gann, Clerk

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PROGRAM

The Spiritual Formation Program nurtured deep spiritual growth in its participants this year. Forty-seven Friends from ten Meetings within BYM participated in the program, and local spiritual formation groups formed at Annapolis, Baltimore/Gunpowder, Friends Meeting of Washington, Langley Hill, Sandy Spring, State College and Williamsburg. Our September opening retreat introduced participants to the program and to spiritual disciplines. Our local groups met throughout the year to share spiritual journeys and to reflect on shared readings. Individual spiritual disciplines and a sense of spiritual community fostered spiritual growth in the participants. Our May closing retreat gave participants an opportunity to reflect on and share from the year of spiritual growth and to discern God's presence and call to service.

SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER EDUCATION FUND

The purpose of the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund is to support the understanding and practice of Quaker faith in schools, and to support the growth of a "life lived in the Spirit" by members of the school communities.

In 2006 the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund received 10 requests for funds. The committee considered the requests and distributed, with great pleasure, \$4947.59, in full or partial grants for 10 uses consistent with purpose of the fund. The recipients were *Carolina Friends School*, NC, (\$500 for staff to attend Friends Council on Education [FCE] workshops); *Friends Central School*, PA (\$500 to support a Quaker potluck Group for parents); *Friends School of Portland*, ME (\$586.59 to purchase Quaker books and pamphlets for curriculum); *Greene Street Friends School*, PA (\$365 to send staff to FCE workshop); *Greenwood Friends School*, PA (\$496 to hold Peace Colloquium with Bruce Birchard from FGC); *New Garden Friends School*, NC (\$400 purchase Quaker reference books for their newly acquired high school program); *Northern Virginia Friends School*, VA (\$500 for a School Committee retreat on Quaker Process); *Westbury Friends School*, NY (\$500 to bring J. Harry Hammond to speak to staff on Quaker pedagogy in the classroom); *William Penn House*, DC, (\$500 to help bring 20 teachers to 2006 *Teachers of Peace* workshop at WPH) and *The Woolman Semester* (formerly *John Woolman School*), CA, (\$500 to purchase Quaker books and media for the library and curriculum).

The committee was very pleased with the caliber of the requests and the opportunity to support Quaker faith and practice in education. **This year we again**

chose to go into our principal as well as using our income. In order to give help for these worthwhile projects in the future, the principal needs to continue to grow. We ask that others who feel a leading to support this important work, please contribute whatever they are able to the endowment. Funds may go to the BYM with a notation for the “Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund Endowment”. Thank you in advance for your support.

The committee will meet in March 2006 to consider new requests. **Request deadline will be MARCH 1, 2007.**

Rosalind Zuses, Clerk

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

Annual Sessions: The Unity with Nature Committee planned and carried out a number of activities for the 2004 Annual Session. In addition to our business meetings, we sponsored a variety of activities: a daily outdoor Worship Sharing Meeting, interest groups on Interfaith Power and Light and global warming and a Quaker Earthcare Witness display in the bookstore. In each Daily Minute, we included information about Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR) along with a reminder that we would be asking for donations at Friday lunch and dinner. We collected \$450.

A detailed proposal for the 2006 Annual Session’s theme, “Living in Right Relationship with All Creation” was presented to the Program Committee. Much discussion between the two committees ensued, and the final theme developed by the Program Committee was “Living in Harmony with Friends and with All Creation”. Marshall Massey, a Quaker environmentalist writer and speaker, was invited to speak (*further planning took place in 2006*).

Committee description: We had developed a short mission statement based on Quaker Earthcare Witness’s mission statement and presented it to the Committee on Manual of Procedure. It was determined that a committee description was more appropriate for inclusion in the Manual, and that committee reframed our text accordingly. The Unity with Nature Committee approved the wording and the plan. The Committee on Manual of Procedure was to present the statement at a 2006 Meeting for Business.

Relationship with Friends Wilderness Center (FWC): Sarah Brabson, co-clerk, continued to serve on the board of the Friends Wilderness Center (FWC) and Julie Guroff, the board's recording clerk, continued with the Unity with Nature Committee. The committee and FWC collaborated on a request for FWC to become affiliated with BYM, so that it might be more widely known as a natural history and retreat resource.

Monthly Meeting contacts: We continued to sponsor eight Monthly Meetings' membership in QEW, and to share a variety of information from both our committee and Sandy Spring's with our overall list of 21 Monthly Meeting contacts.

Membership: We welcomed new members Paul Luckenbaugh, Bethesda Monthly Meeting, Sue DeVeer, Frederick Monthly Meeting, and Tim Cline, Friends Meeting of Washington (Tim had to temporarily withdraw from participation). Peggy Dyson Cobb, of Maury Creek, rotated off the committee but continues to join in listserv discussions.

Support to related organizations and relevant activities: We sent \$100 to the Greenbelt Program to support Kenyan women in reforestation, \$100 to FWC, \$150 to QEW (\$50 for renewal of BeFriending Creation for two monthly meeting contacts and \$100 as a general donation), and \$400 was given to support Barbara Williamson's travel expenses in her role as BYM representative to QEW. *Bark Brabson and Sara Kuzmanoff*, Co-clerks

WEB MANAGER

As of February 2005 Baltimore Yearly Meeting gained a new Web manager, Jim Rose of Patapsco Friends Meeting. Frustrated by the difficulties in navigating the old site, there was a sincere interest in redesigning the entire website. While the old website was difficult, there was already a mine of information that could be made more easily accessible.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's site was chosen as a model of the new strategy. PYM was contacted to determine if they had any concerns about emulating their layout and organization on the web. Not only did they respond positively, but they offered to help with the conversion. Within six weeks the new Baltimore Yearly Meeting site was online.

Three principles underlie the development of BYMs website: first that it be highly linked, providing many ways to access different pages. Secondly, the site be forced to be updated frequently so the information does not get stale. And finally, the pages and images need to be kept small so Friends who use dial-up service would not be unduly frustrated. The organization of the PYM website answered to the first principle, and coordinating with the publication of the *Interchange* provided the grounds for the second.

Jim Rose, Web Manager

WORKING GROUP ON RACISM AMONG FRIENDS

The working group sponsored a number of workshops at BYM annual sessions in 2005, including one on *The Reality of Racism* led by Vince Buscemi of New York Yearly Meeting. This workshop gave new ideas and energy to the working group. One insight is that racism is a spiritual issue, in that it is about how we perceive the world and our fellow human beings. It is about us, not about social change outside ourselves. While the working group has, since its inception in 2001, reported to Peace and Social Concerns, we came to believe as a result of this insight that reporting to Ministry and Pastoral Care would be more appropriate. At this writing, working group members have met with Ministry and Pastoral Care, but discussion has been held over until the next meeting.

Committee members have submitted a number of articles to the *Interchange*.

Several members of the committee and a number of Friends not on the committee attended the Conference for Racial Justice & Equality Within the Religious Society of Friends, held in Burlington, New Jersey, on March 31-April 2. This conference was an opportunity to share ideas among yearly meetings.

All meetings have been asked to designate someone as a liaison to our working group. These people do not attend committee meetings but they announce events to their monthly meetings. Fourteen meetings have responded.

The working group contacted the Search Committee for a New General Secretary, asking that one of the criteria for the position be a concern for and experience with diversity.

The working group is taking responsibility for the pre-BYM retreat this year. A unique part of the retreat will be a jazz concert to be followed by worship. The leaders are Michael Cronin and Jean-Marie Barch.

Workshops sponsored or promoted by the working group this year include the following topics: Raising Quaker Children of Color, Raising Non-racist Children, New Orleans and the Response to Katrina, Modern Slavery, and The African Great Lakes Initiative.

Patience Schenck, Clerk

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT

Youth Programs Committee (YPC) of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) “oversees and coordinates all Yearly Meeting Youth Programs – other than camping programs and Junior Yearly Meeting – for junior high/middle school and high school youth...” Each year, there are 5 Young Friends conferences, 2 Young Friends Executive Committee retreats, and four Junior Young Friends conferences. As the Young Friends (YFs) are self-governing, we play a supportive/cooperative role for them and we support the Co-Coordinator of Junior Young Friends (JYFs). For 2005, there was an average of 54 YFs and 26 JYFs at each conference.

The year 2005 was a challenging and at times difficult year for YPC. The committee discovered just how large was the vacuum created by Tom Fox’s departure in 2004 from the committee and the BYM office. His contributions to the committee and as a FAP at conferences continue to be deeply missed. Near the end of the year, we also lost Abby Gaffron, one of our dynamic team of Co-Coordinator for the JYF program, who left to pursue studies in Colorado. Although we wish her well, her experience and gifts have been missed.

Youth Programs Committee met 5 times this year, three times at Interim Meetings and twice at Annual Sessions. We continue to be short of our 8 to 10 adult representatives, and Young Friends representation was often lacking at meetings. The frequent lack of Young Friends’ participation greatly inhibited our ability to make informed decisions on several important issues throughout the year.

We continued, in 2005, to labor over issues of Young Friends’ self-governance in preparation for the 2006 deadline for meeting insurance guidelines, and expanded exploration of this topic to include boundaries of adults (including FAPs) and Young Adult Friends in relation to the Young Friends and JYF communities. This was further complicated by the controversy surrounding the Yearly Meeting’s decision to no longer allow a Friend to serve as a FAP at conferences or in any other capacity with youth in the Yearly Meeting. Concern for the lack of YFs’

presence at YPC meetings along with a concern for the lack of structure at some conferences led YPC to write a minute requesting YFs to address these issues with a conference on self-governance, focusing specifically on issues of business meeting process, committee structure, membership, and participation.

The year 2005 saw our first-ever conferences with set limits on attendance for Young Friends due to a limited number of available FAPs. So far, this seems to be working out well. Requiring pre-registration for attendance went a long way toward making attendance more intentional for all YFs, parents, and FAPs involved. The FAP Application Process Working Group (consisting of the Youth Secretary, both Co-Clerks of YPC, Meg Meyer representing Supervisory Committee, Josh Riley representing Camping Programs, and Rosey Whitney representing YFs), worked hard during the first part of the year and helped to create a functional, if lengthy, application and application process to meet the needs of both the Yearly Meeting and the insurance requirements. Efforts to find new FAPs have been successful, with a FAP orientation by Hope Braveheart, the Youth Secretary, and Brooke Carroll, Director of Residential Life at Sandy Spring Friends School, conducted at Annual Sessions and also scheduled for January 2006.

JYF conference attendance has dropped off toward the end of the year, and there was concern that this was in part due to the timeliness of the Junior Young Friends Newsletters and other communications about upcoming conferences. We are not certain we have adequately conveyed the necessity of pre-registration to parents. Other problems have been difficulties with reserving space and a shortage of FAPs. Also, our concern about the separation of the JYF and Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) Programs continues to cause us great misgiving. Several attempts were made over the year to meet with adults from JYM, continuing the work started at the end of 2004. Unfortunately, our attempts have met with discouragement as former plans always seem to fall through. We continue to look for avenues through which we might rejoin our efforts to work together.

Laurie Wilner acted as the BYM representative to Youth Quake planning meetings for 2005. YPC decided to try to engage YFs in attending Youth Quake rather than boycotting as happened at the 2003 Youth Quake, as an effort to participate in the Yearly Meeting's commitment to intervisitation. YFs were very enthusiastic when Laurie presented this idea and agreed to try to send 24 youth. The Finance Committee supported this leading by setting aside \$10,000. As of

the Fall Interim Meeting, Youth Quake Board had found a location in Florida to hold the gathering, but other organizational and political problems came up, causing some concern about the viability of the event.

Early in the year, Phoebe Stern, Clerk of YFs, Hope Braveheart, Youth Secretary, Frank Massey, General Secretary, Andrei Israel, Director of Washington Quaker Workcamps, and others traveled to Ramallah to explore the possibilities of a work camp with both BYM YFs and Ramallah teens from the Ramallah Friends High School. The overwhelming message was, “Do something life affirming, do something beautiful” to overcome the oppressive environment. Hope has continued to work with Ramallah Friends to make arrangements for this to come to fruition, ending the year with a brochure and applications sent to all YFs, RE teachers, and Monthly Meeting Clerks.

The end of the year brought news of Tom Fox’s capture in Iraq, ironically occurring during the Young Friends’ Thanksgiving Day Conference. While we have continued our work in good faith and to the best of our ability, it would be an understatement to say that this situation has weighed heavily on us all. We have drawn on each other for support and continue to look for ways to help the youth cope with these difficult circumstances.

At every YPC meeting, new stories circulate among us about the ways that we have been inspired by the youth through their insight, their dedication to finding truth, and their understanding of Quaker process. As YPC continues to evolve through member turnover and adaptations to the needs of the communities we serve, we strive to emulate the youth’s spirit-led process. And especially now, we hold each other in the light as we go forth.

Ted Heck, Co-clerk

MONTHLY MEETING MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Meeting	2004			2005			Change (+/-)
	Full	Associate	Total	Full	Associate	Total	
Adelphi**	212	125	337	213	124	337	0
Alexandria	139		139	141		141	2
Annapolis	62	20	82	63	20	83	1
Baltimore, Homewood	111	27	138	117	25	142	4
Baltimore, Stony Run**	441		441	442		442	1
Bethesda	209	132	341	210	137	347	6
Blacksburg*	16		16	16		16	0
Carlisle**	35	6	41	37	6	43	2
Charlottesville**	125		125	132		132	7
Deer Creek	48	15	63	48	15	63	0
Dunnings Creek	41	12	53	41	12	53	0
Fishertown	14		14	10		10	-4
Floyd	10	5	15	13	5	18	3
Frederick**	48	17	65	55	10	65	0
Gettysburg	12		12	11		11	-1
Goose Creek*	183		183	183		183	0
Gunpowder	88		88	91		91	3
Herdon	46	24	70	50	27	77	7
Hopewell Centre	77	21	98	76	21	97	-1
Langley Hill	193	76	269	197	87	284	15
Little Britian	82		82	82		82	0
Little Falls*	56	2	58	56	2	58	0
Maury River*	20	6	26	20	6	26	0
Menallen*	43	1	44	43	1	44	0
Midlothian**	35	0	35	39	0	39	4
Nottingham**	118		118	119		119	1
Patapsco	17	10	27	20	10	30	3
Patuxent**	16	7	23	17	7	24	1
Pipe Creek*	17	2	19	17	2	19	0
Quaker Lake	8	1	9	8	1	9	0
Richmond	134	54	188	138	55	193	5
Roanoke	25	1	26	26	1	27	1
Sandy Spring**	512	94	606	539	82	621	15
State College	83	36	119	84	34	118	-1
Valley**	25	9	34	22	9	31	-3
Warrington*	28		28	28		28	0

Meeting	2004			2005			Change (+/-)
	Full	Associate	Total	Full	Associate	Total	
Washington**	380	71	451	380	73	453	2
Williamsburg	25	21	46	25	21	46	0
West Branch*	112		112	112		112	0
York**	32		32	32		32	0
Totals	3878	795	4673	3953	793	4746	73

* No report this year

** Revised last year's report

APPORTIONMENTS			
MONTHLY MEETING	2005	2006	2007
Adelphi	\$18,320	\$18,500	\$18,700
Alexandria	8,000	9,000	10,200
Annapolis	9,100	9,400	10,400
Baltimore, Homewood	16,900	18,500	19,200
Baltimore, Stony Run	57,350	57,300	59,700
Bethesda	21,270	22,400	21,200
Blacksburg	1,150	1,400	1,700
Carlisle	3,100	3,200	3,000
Charlottesville	7,780	7,900	7,800
Deer Creek	3,400	3,000	2,800
Dunnings Creek	2,900	2,580	2,400
Fishertown	900	800	600
Floyd	500	600	750
Frederick	4,750	5,500	6,100
Gettysburg	660	600	450
Goose Creek	14,000	14,000	13,600
Gunpowder	6,200	6,520	6,500
Herndon	5,300	6,000	6,000
Hopewell Centre	3,800	4,000	4,500
Langley Hill	14,000	14,800	14,900
Little Britain	1,800	1,800	2,100
Little Falls	5,000	5,000	5,700
Maury River	2,500	3,000	3,200
Menallen	2,000	2,200	2,200
Midlothian	2,200	2,700	2,700
Nottingham	5,000	5,200	3,900
Patapsco	2,000	2,400	2,600
Patuxent	2,370	2,900	2,800
Pipe Creek	300	300	300
Quaker Lane	300	300	300
Richmond	11,700	12,200	12,500
Roanoke	1,750	1,750	2,100
Sandy Spring	35,000	36,000	40,000
State College	9,750	12,000	10,000
Valley	3,000	3,000	3,000
Warrington	2,250	1,900	2,000
Washington	43,500	45,000	52,500
West Branch	3,200	3,000	2,200
Williamsburg	2,000	1,800	2,000
York	2,000	2,300	2,400
TOTAL	\$337,000	\$350,750	\$365,000

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
BUDGET SUMMARY**

Revenue	2005 Actual	2006 Budget	2007 Budget
General	\$ 388,399	\$ 385,000	\$ 399,250
Camp Properties	85,433	135,865	182,850
Committee Programs	22,716	17,000	17,000
Youth Programs	7,409	21,000	14,550
Annual Sessions	123,594	121,600	132,000
Camping Programs	632,651	581,280	731,190
Total Operating Revenue	1,260,202	1,261,745	1,476,840

Disbursements

Administrative Personnel	144,581	104,648	112,700
Administration	71,988	102,250	102,650
Committee Administration	4,660	18,820	18,870
Extended Service & Membership	40,410	51,300	63,300
Camp Properties	160,432	184,163	217,050
Committee Programs	19,971	15,500	15,500
Youth Programs	76,419	77,952	94,207
Annual Session	128,295	109,885	122,050
Camping Programs	559,006	600,958	730,190
Operating Disbursements	1,175,806	1,265,476	1,476,517

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
General Revenue	Actual	Budget	Budget
Apportionment	\$337,500	\$350,750	\$365,000
Investment Interest	21,176	1,250	1,250
Contributions	26,422	30,000	30,000
Other Income	204	500	500
Publication sales	3,097	2,500	2,500
Total General Revenue	\$388,399	\$385,000	\$399,250

Disbursements**Office Personnel**

Administration Personnel Costs	\$101,309	\$ 96,948	\$105,000
Professional Development	1,864	2,000	2,000
Sabbatical Reserve		1,000	1,000
Consultant	5,425	1,000	1,000
Payroll Services	5,983	2,500	2,500
Retirement Plan Services		1,200	1,200
Total Office Personnel	\$114,581	\$104,648	\$112,700

Office Property Administration

Utilities	\$ 470	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,800
Maintenance	1,774	3,500	3,500
Capital Reserves		5,600	5,000
Sub-Total Office Property	\$ 2,244	\$13,600	\$13,300

Office Administration

Bookkeeping	\$	\$ 100	\$ 3,500
Audit/Review	13,945	10,500	10,000
Insurance	8,478	10,000	7,000
<i>Interchange</i>	2,348	5,400	5,600
Meetings & Entertainment	4,648	1,000	1,200
Miscellaneous	2,275	1,000	800
Postage	1,656	8,500	8,500
<i>Yearbook</i> Printing	7,112	8,500	8,500
Office Supplies	7,273	14,000	14,000
Computer Supplies	3,193	3,000	3,500

	2005	2006	2007
Office Administration (cont.)	Actual	Budget	Budget
Telephone	1,626	6,000	6,000
Travel-Reps to Governing Boards	5,811	3,500	3,500
Travel-Triennial Representatives		4,000	4,000
Travel-Office Staff	6,948	10,000	10,000
Presiding Clerk		750	750
Interest paid out	2,441		
Contingency		1,000	1,000
Credit Card & Bank Service Fees	1,990	1,400	1,500
Sub-Total Office Administration	\$ 69,774	\$ 88,650	\$ 89,350
Total Office Administrative	\$ 71,988	\$102,250	\$102,650
Committee Administration			
Advancement and Outreach	\$	\$ 200	\$ 200
Camping Program	100	2,000	2,000
Camp Property Management		200	200
Ministry and Pastoral Care		600	600
Peace and Social Concerns	255	300	300
Religious Education	1,945	4,000	4,000
Young Adult Friends	62	50	50
Right Sharing of World Resources		100	100
Unity with Nature		800	800
Criminal and Restorative Justice	192	250	300
Educational Funding Resources		200	200
Youth Programs Committee	997	300	300
Ad Hoc Gender & Sexual Diversity	14	200	200
Trustees		200	200
Web Publishing		320	320
Friends in Education	500	200	200
Indian Affairs		600	600
Working Group on Racism		300	300
Yearly Meeting Intervisitation	333	7,000	7,000
Contingency		1,000	1,000
Total Committee Administration	\$ 4,660	\$18,820	\$18,870

	2005	2006	2007
Extended Services	Actual	Budget	Budget
American Friends Service Committee	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400
Earlham School of Religion	400	400	400
Friends Committee on National Legislation	400	400	400
Friends Council on Education	400	400	400
<i>Friends Journal</i>	400	400	400
Pendle Hill	400	400	400
William Penn House	400	400	400
Sandy Spring Friends School	400	400	400
World Council of Churches	400	400	400
National Council of Churches	400	400	400
Center on Conscience and War	400	400	400
Right Sharing of World Resources, Inc.	400	400	400
Quaker Earthcare Witness	400	400	400
Friends House	400	400	400
Washington Quaker Workcamps	400	400	400
Friends Peace Teams	500	400	400
Friends House, Moscow		400	400
Sub-Total Extended Services	\$6,500	\$6,800	\$6,800
Membership			
Friends General Conference	\$ 31,000	\$32,000	\$33,000
Friends United Meeting			
Undesignated	17,400	10,000	
Friends World Committee for Consultation	11,700	12,500	13,500
Sub-Total Membership Contributions	\$33,910	\$44,500	\$56,500
Total Extended Services & Membership	\$40,410	\$51,300	\$63,300

CAMP PROPERTIES BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Property Revenue			
Camp Summer Rental	\$61,000	\$85,000	\$85,000
Other Rentals	16,133	18,465	17,750
Miscellaneous		400	600
Property Contributions	1,300	12,000	12,000
Vehicle Leases	7,000	20,000	27,500
Total Operating Revenue	\$85,433	\$135,865	\$142,850
Property Operating Expenses			
Utilities	\$13,400	\$11,500	\$23,700
Vehicle Maintenance	13,021	8,000	9,000
Telephone	3,379	2,750	incl util
Insurance-Property	8,500	6,000	12,650
Personnel Costs	87,390	74,713	91,000
Building maintenance	8,014	10,000	7,500
Equipment maintenance	2,511	1,200	1,600
Grounds & Forestry	3,619	2,000	2,600
Trash Removal	1,211		incl util
Real estate taxes and Expenses	2,242	4,100	3,500
New Equipment	7,147	1,200	1,200
Office Administration	2,258	1,700	1,300
Miscellaneous	375	1,500	2,000
Contingency		1,000	
Work Weekends	865	1,000	1,000
Opequon Lease	6,500	6,500	13,000
Operating Expenses	\$160,432	\$133,163	\$170,050
to Capital Reserves		51,000	47,000
Total Camp Property Expenses		\$184,163	\$217,050
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$74,999)	(\$9,298)	(\$34,200)

YOUTH PROGRAMS BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Revenue			
Conference Fees	\$7,384	\$13,000	\$14,350
Contributions	25	8,000	200
Total Income	\$7,409	\$21,000	\$14,550
Expenses Administration			
Youth Secretary Personnel Cost	\$52,359	\$48,897	\$55,000
Scholarships		1,000	500
YS admin expenses	12,191	150	3,620
Representative Travel (YQ)		500	2,500
Special project		10,000	10,000
YouthQuake Travel			1,250
Total Administration	\$64,550	\$60,547	\$72,870
Young Friends Conferences			
Printing Costs	\$147	\$450	\$1,500
Site & Food Costs	3,740	3,850	7,500
Conference Supplies	1,568	750	100
Bus Transportation	3,378	2,900	
Total Young Friends	\$8,833	\$7,950	\$9,100
Junior Young Friends Conferences			
Junior Young Friends Coordinators	\$3,122	\$3,600	\$2,800
Printing Costs	53	150	
Site & Food Costs	1,568	2,000	2,340
Conference Supplies	269	500	552
Mileage & Parking	317	800	100
Total Conferences	\$5,329	\$7,050	\$5,792
Executive Committee			
Printing Costs		\$55	
Stamps and Meter		940	
Site & Food Costs	702	900	
Conference Supplies		375	
Youth Program expenses			3,550
YF Exec ctee exp/misc		135	2,895
Total Executive Committee	\$702	\$2,405	\$6,445
Total Expenses	\$76,419	\$77,952	\$94,207
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$72,010)	(\$56,952)	(\$79,657)

COMMITTEE PROGRAMS BUDGET

Revenue	2005	2006	2007
Committee Programs	Actual	Budget	Budget
Spiritual Formation	\$10,579	\$7,000	\$7,000
Silent Retreat	5,010	5,500	5,500
Young Adult Friends Conferences		500	500
Women's Retreat	7,127	3,000	3,000
TSL/BYM Working Group		1,000	1,000
Total Committee Programs Revenue	\$22,716	\$17,000	\$17,000

Expenses

Committee Programs			
Spiritual Formation	\$9,608	\$7,000	\$7,000
Silent Retreat	4,800	5,000	5,000
Young Adult Friends Conferences		500	500
Women's Retreat	5,563	2,000	2,000
TSL/BYM Working Group		1,000	1,000
Total Committee Programs Expense	\$19,971	\$15,500	\$15,500

ANNUAL SESSION BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
Session Revenue	Actual	Budget	Budget
Fees and Lodge Deposit	\$101,177	\$105,000	\$117,000 Key
Donations	2,779	6,000	3,000
Carey Fund		500	500
Other Income	8,827	500	500
Bookstore	10,811	9,600	11,000
Total Revenue	\$123,594	\$121,600	\$132,000
Session Administration Expenses			
Housing	\$30,573	\$26,000	32,000
Food Service	32,323	23,000	33,200
Workgrants	21,666	24,000	16,000
Junior Yearly Meeting	1,077	1,500	1,500
Snacks, etc.		500	1,000
Conference Fee	9,467	9,000	10,000
Scholarship	6,082	500	500
Scholarship-Navajo	500	500	500
Copier & Administration	978	500	1,000
Honorarium	1,416	1,000	1,500
Travel	817	750	1,000
Postage	445	750	1,100
<i>Interchange</i>	1,980	1,000	2,000
<i>Advance Reports</i>	425	750	250
Books UPS		350	400
Bookstore	9,893	8,500	9,900
Van Rental	384	500	600
Credit Charge Service	519	400	500
Storage rental			600
Contingency		250	500
Total Session Expenses	\$118,545	\$99,750	\$114,050
Administration Staff	\$9,750	\$10,135	8,000
Total Expenses	\$128,295	\$109,885	\$122,050
Surplus/(Deficit)	-\$4,701	\$11,715	\$9,950

CAMPING PROGRAMS BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Revenue			
Fees-Cash	\$547,639	\$477,512	
583,623			
Fees-Schol Subsidies		12,500	
33,867			
Total Camper Payments	\$547,639	\$490,012	\$617,490
Scholarship Contribution	2,074	5,000	5,000
Scholarship BMCFAF		4,500	4,000
Fees-Workgrants	37,039	46,268	59,850
Application Fees	12,570	14,000	19,600
Contributions	22,676	14,000	16,000
T-Shirt Sales	10,653	7,500	9,250
Total Revenue	\$632,651	\$581,280	\$731,190

CAMPING PROGRAMS BUDGET

	2005	2006	2007
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Expenses			
Staff Compensation	\$190,721	\$237,500	\$211,000
Office Staff Compensation	48,258		58,000
Workgrants	37,039	46,268	59,850
Benefits and payroll taxes	22,798	18,000	25,300
Total Personnel	\$298,816	\$301,768	\$354,150
Transportation	29,210	31,430	63,000
Program	24,291	22,660	12,900
Canoes	1,113		8,000
Staff Training	6,406	8,500	8,600
Administrative	4,435	4,030	6,010
Background Check		7,560	1,200
Telephone	2,563	3,050	2,800
Medical	1,800	2,000	1,850
Laundry	1,169	1,700	1,425
Rentals/Leases	64,889	90,010	86,860
Trash/util			2,775
Food/Kitchen	68,958	75,000	76,700
Accounting	2,142	4,000	see office
T-Shirt	12,091	4,700	7,200
Liability Insurance	9,880	8,000	13,000
Miscellaneous	1,464	1,050	400
Scholarships	29,823	12,500	33,867
Vehicle Lease		14,000	in transp
Allocated office costs			37,505
Uncollected Fees		3,000	6,948
Total Other Expenses	\$260,234	\$293,190	\$371,040
Pay back reserves (TA)		6,000	5,000
Total Expenses	\$559,050	\$600,958	\$730,190
Surplus/Deficit	\$73,601	(\$19,678)	\$1,000

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
FUNDS ACTIVITY—2005**

Funds [Note A]	Balance	Gifts	Disbursed	Transfers	Interest	Investment	Balance
	1/1/2005	or Fees			from	Income	12/31/2005
					EdLoans		
Bush Creek Endowment	\$586					\$61	\$586
Bush Creek Income	\$3,550		(\$173)				\$3,438
Carey Memorial Endowment	4,927	\$250		-5322		145	0
Carey Memorial Income	495		(\$350)	5322		392	5,859
Education Fund Endowment	83,762						83,762
Education Fund Income	130,252				\$1,935	16,778	148,965
Indian Fund Endowment	15,099						15,099
Indian Fund Income	600	133	(700)	825		1,568	2,426
Meeting House Endowment	12,440						12,440
Meeting House Income	40,703						40,703
Yearly Meeting Endowment	7,877						7,877
Barry Morley Camper Endowment	176,229	16,222					192,451
Barry Morley Scholarship Income		\$25				19,988	20,013
Sub-total of Endowment	\$300,920						\$312,215
Sub-total of Income	\$175,600						\$201,391
Totals of Funds	\$476,520	\$16,630	(\$1,223)	\$825	\$1,935	\$38,932	\$533,619

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING FUNDS ACTIVITY—2005

Other Funds [Note B]									
Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education	\$65,341	\$225	(\$5,900)					\$6,165	\$65,831
Ethel Reynolds	83,805		(1,600)					8,538	90,743
Fairhill Fund	187,739						\$883	14,539	203,161
Camp Capital Reserves	201,271	1,075	(55,902)	11872				1,726	158,316
Pre-College Fund	23,347						485		25,558
Yearly Meeting Assistance	8,477		(8,477)						0
Alternatives to Violence	1,529		(1,529)						0
Friends in Education	2,667	220	(500)						2,387
Women's Retreat	6,745	25,681	(24,044)						8,382
Spiritual Formation	5,717	10,778	(9,815)						6,680
Totals of Other Funds	\$586,638	\$27,201	(\$97,952)	\$11,872			\$1,368	\$30,968	\$554,378
Custodial Funds [Note C]									
Mathews Fund Endowment	\$2,605								\$2,605
Mathews Fund Income	0								0
Total of Custodial Funds	\$2,605							\$0	\$2,605
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	\$1,065,763	\$43,831	(\$99,175)	\$12,697			\$3,303	\$69,900	\$1,090,602

Note A: Permanently Restricted Fund with unexpended and expendable funds where they exist.

Note B: Other Funds are temporarily restricted either by the donor or by the Yearly Meeting.

Note C: Custodial Funds are held in trust for another friendly organization and are not available to the Yearly Meeting.

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO—2005**

Institution	Type of Investment	Rate	Cost	Market Value
Fixed Rate Investments				
Sandy Spring National Bank	MMSA	1.50%	\$9,959	\$9,959
Friends Extension	3-yr note	5.17%	10,000	10,000
Friends Meeting House Corp	Note	4.00%	10,000	10,000
Total Fixed Value Investments			\$29,959	\$29,959
Mutual Funds				
T. Rowe Price	GNMA Fund		\$41,055	\$39,659
Calvert Social Investment Fund	Flexible		75,529	77,658
Pax World Fund	Balanced Fund		207,919	236,067
Vanguard	GNMA Fund		77,028	77,028
Total Mutual Funds Investments			\$401,531	\$ 430,412
Camp Property Improvement Fund				
TIAA-CREF	Mutal Fund		\$25,000	\$34,045
Parnassus	Mutal Fund		27,686	27,686
Domini	Money Market		7,673	0
Pax World Fund	Money Market		0	13,327
Friends Fiduciary	Mutal Fund		84,339	99,455
Total Camp Property Improvement Fund			\$144,698	\$146,827
Grand Totals			\$576,188	\$607,198



SNYDER-COHN-COLLYER-HAMILTON & ASSOCIATES P.C.

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Committee of Trustees
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc.
Sandy Spring, Maryland

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. as of December 31, 2005, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc.'s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. as of December 31, 2005, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The 2004 financial statements were reviewed by us and our report thereon dated May 26, 2005 stated we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those statements for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. However, a review is substantially less in scope than an audit and does not provide a basis for the expression of an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole.

July 25, 2006
Bethesda, Maryland



Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors
4520 East West Highway, Suite 520, Bethesda, MD 20814-3338
Phone: 301-652-6700 Fax: 301-986-1028
Web: cpahelp.com E-Mail: advice@cpahelp.com

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

December 31	2005 (Audited)	2004 (Reviewed)
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 70,597	\$ 106,505
Accounts receivable		
Monthly Meetings	23,703	6,752
Camp fees	4,467	5,852
Other	2,353	
Accrued investment income	767	920
Inventory of publications, at cost	17	2,297
Prepaid expenses	2,524	1,371
Educational loans receivable, current portion	64,245	47,353
Notes receivable - other, current portion	<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Total current assets	<u>188,673</u>	<u>191,050</u>
Investments	<u>563,970</u>	<u>546,399</u>
Land, buildings, improvements and equipment		
net of accumulated depreciation	<u>1,995,516</u>	<u>1,936,217</u>
Other assets:		
Educational loans receivable, net of current portion	42,760	44,746
Notes receivable - other, net of current portion	<u>3,235</u>	<u>4,307</u>
Total other assets	<u>45,995</u>	<u>49,053</u>
Total asset	\$ 2,794,154	\$ 2,722,719

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

December 31	2004 (Audited)	2003 (Reviewed)
Liabilities and net assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$51,909	\$ 10,565
Agency funds	3,613	4,992
Deferred revenue	22,305	9,850
Notes payable	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>102,827</u>	<u>50,407</u>
Net assets:		
Designated for camp capital projects	132,646	186,069
Designated for other purposes	36,242	32,548
Invested in land, buildings, improvements and equipment	1,995,516	1,936,217
Other unrestricted	<u>(451,460)</u>	<u>(398,412)</u>
Total unrestricted	1,712,944	1,756,422
Temporarily restricted	666,168	614,970
Permanently restricted	<u>312,215</u>	<u>300,920</u>
Total net assets	<u>2,691,327</u>	<u>2,672,312</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,794,154	\$ 2,722,719

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the year ended December 31, 2005 (Audited)

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	Temporarily <u>Restricted</u>	Permanently <u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Support, Revenues, Gains, and reclassifications				
Apportionments	\$ 337,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 337,500
Annual Session revenue	114,403	-	-	114,403
Other program revenues	30,663	-	-	30,663
Contributions	10,344	66,748	16,222	93,314
Investment income	767	23,662	-	24,429
Use of facilities	77,133	-	-	77,133
Publication sales	3,193	-	-	3,193
Summer Camps	593,830	-	-	593,830
Net gain on sale of property and equipment	7,000	-	-	7,000
Net gains on investments	-	7,691	-	7,691
Other revenue	<u>204</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204</u>
Total support, revenues and gains	1,175,037	98,101	16,222	1,289,360
Net assets released from restrictions	57,465	(57,465)	-	-
Reclassification of donor restrictions	<u>(5,635)</u>	<u>10,562</u>	<u>(4,927)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total support, revenues, gains and reclassifications	<u>1,226,867</u>	<u>51,198</u>	<u>11,295</u>	<u>1,289,360</u>
Expenses				
Program expenses				
Yearly Meeting and other programs	568,721	-	-	568,721
Summer camps	<u>569,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>569,732</u>
Total program expenses	1,138,453	-	-	1,138,453
General administration	125,168	-	-	125,168
Fundraising	<u>6,724</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,724</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,270,345</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,270,345</u>
Change in net assets	(43,478)	51,198	11,295	19,015
Net assets - beginning	<u>1,756,422</u>	<u>614,970</u>	<u>300,920</u>	<u>2,672,312</u>
Net assets - ending	<u>\$ 1,712,944</u>	<u>\$ 666,168</u>	<u>\$ 312,215</u>	<u>\$ 2,691,327</u>

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the year ended December 31, 2004 (Reviewed)

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Support, revenues, gains, and reclassifications				
Apportionments	\$ 324,443	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 324,443
Annual Session revenue	108,915	-	-	108,915
Other program revenues	19,618	-	-	19,618
Contributions	51,207	61,136	5,245	117,588
Investment income	359	18,583	-	18,942
Use of facilities	72,666	-	-	72,666
Publication sales	2,563	-	-	2,563
Summer camps	547,345	-	-	547,345
Net gain on sale of property and equipment	3,930	-	-	3,390
Net gains on investment	-	37,665	-	37,665
Other revenue	<u>326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>326</u>
Total support, revenues, and gains	1,131,372	117,384	5,245	1,254,001
Net assets released from restrictions	44,143	(44,143)	-	-
Reclassification of donor restrictions	<u>41,644</u>	<u>(75,963)</u>	<u>34,319</u>	<u>-</u>
Total support, revenues, gains and reclassifications	<u>1,217,159</u>	<u>(2,772)</u>	<u>39,564</u>	<u>1,254,001</u>
Expenses				
Program expenses:				
Yearly Meeting and other programs	463,208	-	-	463,208
Summer camps	<u>560,307</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>560,307</u>
Total program expenses	1,023,515	-	-	1,023,515
General administration	152,111	-	-	152,111
Fundraising	<u>18,550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,550</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,194,176</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,194,176</u>
Change in net assets	22,983	(2,722)	39,564	59,825
Net assets - beginning	<u>1,733,439</u>	<u>617,692</u>	<u>261,356</u>	<u>2,612,487</u>
Net assets - ending	<u>\$ 1,756,422</u>	<u>\$ 614,970</u>	<u>\$ 300,920</u>	<u>\$ 2,672,312</u>

STAFF REPORTS

INTERIM GENERAL SECRETARY

Thanks

To the Yearly Meeting for this opportunity to grow
You know who you are, so I do not have to name you.

To those working in the office for their patient understanding

These are Jane Megginson, David Hunter, Hope Braveheart, Gene Klinger, Maria Bradley, Sandra Michaels, Josh Riley, Ellen Atkinson, Ann Whittaker, Linda Ricci, Laurie Wilner, Margo Lehman, Claire Inglis, Joe Lehman. In addition, Jim Rose volunteers as web manager and Betsy Proch is editor of the *Interchange*. Rebecca Rawls came into the office to key Yearly Meeting registration forms and be the registrar. We have relied on Josh for his expertise in page layout software as well as a Friendly presence in the office.

This is a long list. There was a lot of turnover in the office. Half of the office staff left during the year. Part of this was due to people moving on to other commitments. The Masseys had provided office cleaning and yard work for the office. They continued to do this after Frank left. Most of us did not know about this; they did the work quietly. In late spring, Joe Lehman began happily cruising around the yard on the Massey's riding mower.

To the Yearly Meeting Clerks, the Supervisory Committee, the Treasurers, and the Clerk of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and the Clerk of Trustees for their advice and support.

This group, whose names appear in the 2005 *Yearbook*, provided advice, support, and understanding. Also providing advice, support, and understanding was my wife, Flossie Fullerton.

Membership

The General Secretary is the Recorder for the Yearly Meeting, performing the same function for the Yearly Meeting that Monthly Meeting Recorders provide at the local level. The Yearly Meeting continues to grow, this year, by 77, somewhat more than the size of a typical meeting. Over the last five years, the growth has been 165. Contrary to popular opinion, membership has dropped at times. The three large meetings attempt to "prune" their membership to those active. Their membership can drop by twenty or more in a single year when this happens. If two large meetings engage in massive pruning in the same year, then the Yearly Meeting is likely to drop in size.



Monthly Meetings vary greatly in size, from eight to 621 members. Some people worry about really small meetings being too small others worry about large meetings being too large. The house church movement suggests that eight people are a viable number if that many are actually attending and if there is not responsibility for a building. I do not know as much about the viability of really large contemplative worshipping groups. Half the meetings have less than 64 members, the other half are larger than 64 members. However, most of us are members of large meetings.

Many Yearly Meetings are not growing; we are. There is no official reason why we are. Frank Massey attributed part of our growth to our camping programs. As a demographer, I suggest that it is easier to grow when many people are moving into your part of the country. We do seem to be welcoming, whether rural or urban. I wonder if we are prepared to accept people. For years, we taught what it was to be a Friend by osmosis. We should be more deliberate. Some African Yearly Meetings have a three year membership process which includes extensive training.

Finally, membership is the only thing we measure. Some of the members are infants, others are non-resident adults who are waiting to be buried in their Meetings' graveyard. Although membership is a viable concept, it is not the right measure of our viability. For some Yearly Meetings, attendance at events is measured. For some Monthly Meetings in our Yearly Meeting, attendance is greater than formal membership. For other Meetings, attendance is a shadow of the numbers on the rolls. I do not think we should take attendance all the time, but taken from time to time, this will prove to be useful to the Meetings.

Administration

There is a delicate balance between deciding what needs to be decided and waiting for a new General Secretary. I hope I did not preclude our new General Secretary from making decisions in vital areas. We did replace staff and our database listing the addresses and committee assignment of members changed. Over the years, the database has been a source of frustration for the Administrative Assistant.

Staff

Last year, Frank laid out in the General Secretary's report what each of the six office staff did. That still holds. If you want an overview of the functions of our office staff, I commend his report in the *2005 Yearbook*, pp. 162-165. Aside from all the turmoil, which did affect staff morale, the most important innovation was in camp registrations. Jane Megginson will report on this at Fall Interim Meeting, but I will say that this has been a success. She deserves the credit.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Budget and Finances

Frank gave a comprehensive report on how the budget was formulated in the last few years. This year was different. The three program staff and their committees prepared budgets for Camping Program, Camp Property, and Youth Programs, I prepared a budget for the Yearly Meeting session that was quickly reviewed by the Program Committee. Frances Taylor, Clerk of Stewardship and Finance prepared budgets for the office administration, mainly based on staff costs, and the remainder of the budget. (Some of this may appear in the Stewardship and Finance Committee report.) It all came together at two meetings of the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

Last year's transitions adversely affected bookkeeping. Early this year, Laurie Wilner worked long days to get the books in shape for an audit; in the process, found that contributions to other organizations were not paid. There was a cash flow problem last fall that affected the Yearly Meeting's ability to pay these organizations. We did get those payments caught up and have devised procedures to pay those contributions routinely. Since March, Margo Lehman has come into the office on an almost full time basis. She is ably assisted by her mother, Claire Inglis.

It was never clear to me how Monthly Meetings knew their apportionment; I assumed that they all read the *Yearbook*. We are now preparing quarterly state-

ments which will show each Meeting their apportionment and how much has been paid. This should lessen confusion as well as keep Meeting Treasurers informed. We will be more likely to know who the Treasurers are. This innovation was devised by Laurie and Margo.

We have a program to lend funds to further education. As the Education Funding Resource Committee reports, we were able to loan funds to more people than usual this year. As loans are paid off, we will be able to re-loan the money. Some Friends forget that they have a loan, which are made on generous terms. The office plans to stay in closer contact with students so that it is harder for them to forget and easier for them to pay.

Summary

To use a farming analogy, this spring it felt as though parts of the office were held together with bailing wire. People came and went, the work generally got done, but you did not know who would be doing the work. Things have begun to settle down. Once the new General Secretary has had time to know the office staff and appreciate their hard work, this new team will facilitate the work of Friends in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting area. Again, thanks for the opportunity to serve.

Howard Fullerton

REPORTS OF AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Around the world and around the year, AFSC works, not only to stop suffering, but to find innovative ways to help people live in the true security that comes of finding peace and justice together. AFSC says, “We find in our life of service a great adventure. We are committed to this Spirit-led journey, undertaken ‘to see what love can do,’ and we are ever renewed by it.” (AFSC Mission Statement, 1994)

BYM’s appointed members of the Corporation this year have been Nancy Beiter, Riley Robinson, John Salzberg, and Lella Smith.

Reflections on the American Friends Service Committee Annual Meeting of the Corporation – held November 4-5, 2005 in Philadelphia, PA

Paul Lacey, Clerk of AFSC Board of Directors, described the annual meeting of the corporation as an attempt to check the carrots without pulling them out of the ground, an apt metaphor for the annual peek at the carrots that AFSC’s corporation members get to take at AFSC’s underpinnings. As far as we could tell this year’s crop of carrots is doing very well.

In the past few years AFSC has learned that it can do a few things very well, an alternative to trying to stick a finger in every dam in the world that springs a leak. They have chosen their efforts carefully and with some prescience. AFSC’s six areas of concern are: migration and human mobility, peace and conflict resolution, criminal justice and healing, economic justice, humanitarian assistance, and youth.

AFSC’s most visible efforts this year were the sustaining of the Eyes Wide Open Exhibit, and organizing vigils and demonstrations against the war in Iraq; the extraordinary efforts made to assist victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita particularly in the underserved immigrant victims communities, and Project Voice, an initiative designed to strengthen the voice of immigrants and refugees and to document the human rights violations occurring at the Mexican border.

General Secretary Mary Ellen McNish was asked some tough questions. Why is AFSC not on the ground in Darfur? Why did it not respond to the tragedy of the earthquake in Pakistan? She explained that at the time of its founding, AFSC often worked under government contracts and served as first responders on the

ground. Working with the U.S. government is now not possible for AFSC because of the heavy requirements for loyalty oaths and other commitments that AFSC is just not willing to make. AFSC is no longer able to be a first responder to a crisis, but is well-suited to do the follow up work that neither governments nor other non-governmental organizations are equipped to do. AFSC is now the agency that operates behind the scenes, giving help and assistance long after the TV cameras have left.

Budgeting is now done by program. AFSC Treasurer James Fletcher provided an easily comprehensible report showing a healthy budget with \$44.6 million in income and \$42.7 million in expenses. However, AFSC continues to rely too heavily on bequests, a source that is expected to decline. While individual giving was way up this year, much of it was restricted to hurricane and tsunami relief efforts. But Julia Reisman's development report was optimistic. The number of individual donors is way up thanks to the use of fundraising consultants who told us that AFSC was often criticized in 2000 for being unfocused. With the new six focus areas not only is AFSC able to use its resources more effectively, it is also better able to address the concerns of donors.

Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting who are employed by the Federal Government may be especially concerned that AFSC was not an option for charitable giving through the Combined Federal Campaign. That is because charities that participated in the CFC had to comply with regulations propounded by the Department of Homeland Security that required them to sign documents assuring that none of their employees, nor any employees of any non-governmental organization (NGO) with which it partnered, had ever been employed by or donated money to organizations that the United States has labeled as "terrorist". Because AFSC always does its international work in partnership with local NGO's and because peace making and conflict resolution abroad require a willingness to communicate with everyone, AFSC declined to sign the required documents. AFSC, along with several other organizations, has a law suit pending against the CFC to try to force it to remove those restrictions.

Serving as BYM's designated member of the AFSC Corporation is an honor and a privilege. This year at the corporation meeting far more effort was made to help those of us who are newer to AFSC service to get to know people and to find ways to get more involved in the organization if we choose to. In addition to that a Simplicity Committee finished its work this year and made a report to the Board recommending that the complex structure of AFSC be made a little less inscrutable. On the whole the organization is becoming friendlier to Friends. If you haven't taken a look in a while, please do so.

Other AFSC Updates

Eyes Wide Open in Washington: In May 2006, AFSC's *Eyes Wide Open* was a centerpiece for a significant series of events called *Silence of the Dead – Voices of the Living: A Witness To End the War in Iraq* on the National Mall, co-sponsored with organizations of veterans, military families, and others, including a silent march and First Day worship on the Mall.

Goals: AFSC continues with its five-year program, which has identified six major goals. Two are “first-focus” goals, receiving primary attention. These two are “Peacebuilding and Prevention of Conflict” and “Migration and Human Mobility.” The others goals are “Economic Justice,” “A New Vision of Justice” (in legal systems), “Humanitarian Assistance and Education,” and “Youth.” This is bringing strength and cohesiveness to the many projects and the broad range of AFSC's work.

Administration: Last year a Simplicity Framework was adopted by the Board shedding light through some organizational principles on to guide how AFSC does its work. Now AFSC is planning changes in the areas of strategic planning, budgeting, and evaluation to come closer in to line with these principles.

International Work: AFSC's international work, which goes all the way back to its beginnings at the close of World War I, is divided in to these regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean, Middle East, and United Nations (via the Quaker United Nations Office). The work consists of both direct project work and also Quaker International Affairs Representatives, working through quiet diplomacy and conflict resolution.

Take a tour yourself! A wealth of information is available at the AFSC web site at www.AFSC.org via print, photos and videos, giving inspiration about how and why AFSC does its work. AFSC offers speakers, events, project opportunities and tours through the year – including events at Baltimore Yearly Meeting annual session in August and at Friends General Conference annual gathering in July. Please join us.

Nancy Beiter and Riley Robinson

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION QUAKER WITNESS IN WASHINGTON

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is a nonpartisan Quaker lobby in the public interest, founded in 1943. In its work with Congress and the Executive branch FCNL labors to bring the spiritual values of Friends to bear on

public policy decisions. FCNL is devoted to furthering the causes of international peace and social justice at home and abroad. Staff joins with volunteers around the country to bring a persuasive Quaker voice to a variety of Friends concerns.

This is an extraordinary time in U.S. and world history. Some argue that the United States must move aggressively to reassert its dominance in the world. Here at FCNL we take a different view, one that argues that using military power to impose the will of one country on the world is not right and does not work. The invasion and occupation of Iraq and the effort to bypass the United Nations and impose a U.S. agenda on the world have made the U.S. and the world less safe. The so-called “war on terror” has led individual U.S. officials to parse the meanings of words like torture and develop complex rationales for abandoning long held constitutional principles.

This is a moment in the history of this country when people are looking for alternatives. FCNL does not have all the answers, but we do know that war is not the answer and that there are alternatives not defined by partisan politics and calculations of who can win what in the next election. We know that focusing on human security, rather than national security is one of the best avenues for peaceful prevention of deadly conflict.

This *very brief* report does not touch on every issue FCNL worked on in 2005. The work of FCNL lobbyists in Washington DC is supported by the active engagement of the FCNL General Committee, volunteers, and thousands of citizen lobbyists around the country. Our successes are your successes. We have much for which to be thankful.

PEACEFUL PREVENTION OF DEADLY CONFLICT If war is not the answer, then what is? The practical instruments of negotiation, aid, and development assistance, the psychological instrument of respect for human dignity and equality, and the political instruments of human, juridical, and civil rights provide a more effective, just, and moral answer.

A main focus of the Peaceful Prevention program in 2005 was the ongoing **crisis in Darfur, Sudan**. The Senate passage of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act by unanimous consent in November was a great accomplishment. It followed a period of intense grassroots activity in the fall, including sending thousands of focused action alerts, and organizing national phone banking. The bill would help expand and strengthen the African Union mission to better protect civilians, impose focused sanctions on individuals responsible for atrocities in Darfur, and support peace negotiations to resolve the conflict.

FCNL's work **promoting U.S.-North Korea dialog** focused on changing "elite opinion" on this critical issue. Using a series of Hill briefings, workshops, and educational events often convened with other influential Washington groups such as the Brookings Institution, the FCNL East Asia Program became a pivotal force in shaping policymaker opinion on this issue. After nearly three years of ineffective and lackluster efforts, the Bush administration re-started direct negotiations with North Korea and the discussions have already achieved some limited results.

IRAQ CAMPAIGN Throughout 2005, FCNL carefully and strategically promoted the Sensible Transition to Enduring Peace Resolution (STEP). It states simply: "It is the policy of the United States to withdraw all U.S. military troops and bases from Iraq." When FCNL began presenting the STEP Resolution in January, many members of Congress and their staff were reluctant to discuss this resolution. FCNL staff knocked on dozens of doors, patiently suggesting that this resolution might provide a non-partisan foundation upon which members could craft pragmatic legislation.

By the end of June Congressional staff were expressing gratitude for FCNL's work that enabled reasonable dialogue to begin on Iraq in general and withdrawal in particular. As intended, FCNL's proposed STEP Resolution provided a non-threatening, non-partisan policy foundation on which members could craft programmatic legislation to declare U.S. intentions to withdraw, bring troops home, and end the occupation.

In November Representative John Murtha (PA) introduced a resolution "To re-deploy U.S. forces from Iraq." The legislation introduced by Rep. Murtha, who has been a strong supporter of the war in Iraq and the U.S. military in general, has attracted strong support in Congress. The bill would enact into law most of the key points of FCNL's STEP Resolution.

PROMOTING ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT Grassroots activism helped stop the proposed "bunker buster" nuclear weapon in 2005. Working in concert with allies in the nuclear disarmament community, FCNL – its staff and grassroots supporters – achieved a significant victory in 2005 when Congress eliminated funding for this "new nuke." FCNL's Quaker Nuclear Disarmament staff combined direct lobbying of key legislators with a series of action communications to engage and mobilize constituents.

FCNL's **conventional weapons program** works to inform Congress and the general populace about the problems posed by the weapons trade, and to influence policymakers in the direction of greater controls over the flow and use of weapons. FCNL successfully lobbied to persuade Congress to double the funds available for small arms destruction programs in countries that have recently experienced conflicts. In a last minute decision at the end of 2005, the U.S. Congress told the Pentagon not to begin production of any new landmines before studying the possible indiscriminate consequences for deploying this weapon.

CIVIL LIBERTIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS A big step in the direction of banning torture was taken when Congress passed the "McCain Amendment." This provision bans torture by U.S. personnel and required the president to agree to the measure by attaching it to the annual military spending bill, which the president must sign or veto.

A strong partnership between the grassroots and FCNL helped turn congressional attention to and opened a debate about the trampling of civil liberties by our government. A delay was won in the permanent extension of the USA PATRIOT Act. News accounts in December confirmed the suspicions of civil liberties advocates, with revelations of further civil liberties encroachments by the federal government, including spying on Quaker meetings.

REDUCING OIL DEPENDENCY FCNL continued to work behind the scenes in Washington to craft coalitions to oppose harmful energy legislation and argue for conservation. Thousands of people across the country responded to FCNL legislative action messages opposing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), supporting conservation measures within the energy bill, and ultimately condemning the legislation for failing to address critical conservation needs.

NATIVE AMERICAN ADVOCACY FCNL continued to monitor the *Cobell v. Norton* case regarding the scandalous Federal mis-management of funds held in trust for Native Americans – the largest legal case in Native American history. We have kept our constituents updated as the case's 500,000 native plaintiffs face endless appeals in higher courts. All courts involved have upheld the principles of governmental accountability and fiscal responsibility underlying the case, but the administration and Congress act as if there are no funds to pay the money owed to Indian families.

Legislative advocacy addressed issues ranging from trust reform, to Indian health, protection of Indian women, telecommunications, cuts to construction funds for Indian health facilities and schools, and the opening of ANWR to oil drilling.

Lawyer and mediator Cushman Anthony joined the Native American program team full time as a **Friend in Washington** for five months. As the former head of a commission in Maine that coordinated between tribes and the state, he brought valuable experience and expertise.

FCNL RESOURCES SUPPORT LOCAL ACTION FCNL's capacity to provide resources for our grassroots supporters to help them become more effective advocates continued to grow in 2005. Use of the online Legislative Action Center surged upwards as staff took a sophisticated approach to sending email action alerts. In addition to the weekly Legislative Action Message, now received directly by over 20,000 individuals, hundreds of personalized requests for action alerted constituents when their Representative or Senator had a key vote on a critical issue. The FCNL website was "renovated" with an eye towards ease of use and best practices.

Printed mailings and publications also brought concerns for national policy into homes around the country, through the monthly FCNL *Washington Newsletter* and the quarterly *Indian Report*. In the midst of our successful advocacy to prohibit funding for new nuclear weapons, thousands of individuals received a personal detailed mailing with information and requests for action.

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM Quaker youth and other young adults are actively involved in the life of FCNL. Each year three to seven young people serve as legislative interns; college students and young professionals participate in FCNL's Annual Meeting and a Spring Young Adult Lobby Day. Campus visits by FCNL staff include public lectures, guest lecturing in courses and Quaker studies programs, and meetings with students. We encourage yearly meetings to include young adults (under age 30) among their appointees to the FCNL General Committee.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE FCNL finished a seven-year campaign to rebuild its national offices on Capitol Hill in the Fall of 2005. The new structure, located across from the Hart Senate Office Building, is designed to put a premium on natural light, is compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act, and walks gently on the earth by using modern, environmentally friendly architecture. Con-

tributions from hundreds of supporters made this building possible. The staff returned to Capitol Hill in July.

This new building has already become a model for others. One senator, during a tour of the building in September 2005, announced he is planning to introduce legislation to use similar, green architecture in at least a small percentage of new government buildings. Several Quaker organizations and at least one high school group have also been inspired to explore reconstruction of their own structures to take advantage of green technology.

A series of open house events in the fall gave us the opportunity to welcome many friends of FCNL into the new building, including our neighbors on Capitol Hill, members of Congress and their staff, and colleagues in our many partner organizations. A grand building celebration was held in October, and FCNL General Committee members had an opportunity to tour the building during Annual Meeting in November. There continues to be strong interest in the building, the first of its kind on Capitol Hill, and we welcome a steady stream of visitors.

One of our strengths as an organization is that we have a longer view of the road we seek to travel in this country and in the world. But on a day to day basis, FCNL excels at identifying the small, practical steps that all of us can take to persuade the federal government to advance the country down that road over the short and medium term.

A dedicated, well-organized religious lobby in the public interest **can** make a difference in Washington, D.C., in these difficult times, on issues of importance to current and future generations. It is precisely in these times that we must redouble our efforts to defend and restore our democratic institutions. We will not abandon our republic or our moral convictions in this time of great need. Instead, we will proceed with love, faith, hope, courage, commitment, and dedication.

Joe Volk, Executive Secretary

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING GENERAL BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

“Passionate and growing, as witnessed through lives transformed by Christ”—FUM’s vision statement adopted at the June 2006 General Board member and staff retreat.

The General Board of Friends United Meeting met three times during the past twelve months—in October 2005 and in February and June 2006. The June General Board meeting was preceded by a two-day retreat for visioning and community-building.

During the year, FUM has continued to undergo changes in its organization, staffing, programs and financial base. Addressing these changes will require wisdom on the part of the General Board if FUM is to remain intact, continue its important field work and ministries, and reflect the values and interests of its North American membership.

The next several years are likely to witness the emergence of a very different kind of entity. Baltimore Yearly Meeting's representatives continue a tradition of involved Board members—Walt Fry is a member of the Executive Committee (which acts for the Board when it is not in session), and Rachel Stacy and Rich Liversidge are two of FUM's seven Trustees.

Organization, Staffing and Finances:

In earlier presentations, we reported that FUM reorganized its senior staff structure in 2004 and created an executive staff of four persons. By late Spring, three of those positions were vacant. Ben Richmond retired in October 2005; he had been handling the Communications activities along with his North American Ministries portfolio. In December 2005, Colin South resigned as Director of Global Ministries. Then Retha McCutchen retired in March 2006 as FUM's General Secretary. Of the four senior staff at FUM, only Paul Smith (Finance) remains in place.

In March 2006, Sylvia Graves (Western YM) agreed to become FUM's Interim General Secretary during this transition. She has returned a sense of calm and order to FUM.

There has been an increasing recognition of FUM's need to operate within its financial means. FUM's finances have become more transparent in recent years (in large part from the efforts of Howard Fullerton). This has clarified the extent of the organization's operating deficits as costs have increased and financial support has fallen off.

In October 2005, the General Board (guided by the Executive Committee) acted to bring expenses in line with revenues. As a result, a Board committee and the

FUM staff are scrutinizing FUM's programs and reviewing activities, certain staff in Richmond have been laid off, and most Richmond staff had their hours reduced by 20% to cut operating costs. This has meant financial sacrifice on the part of most of FUM's staff.

Search for a General Secretary:

The Executive Committee is operating as the Search Committee for a permanent General Secretary. Hiring other senior staff will come after that. The Executive Committee has developed a position description and is being deliberate in the search. The other members of the General Board are anticipating a report of its progress at the October 2006 General Board meeting.

Programs:

In 2005, the General Board's program committee began an extensive evaluation of FUM's various activities and programs, to determine the consistency of each with FUM's four objectives – evangelism, leadership training, global partnership and communication. This is proving to be a very large task because of the complexity of FUM's operations.

The FUM belt-tightening also has affected FUM's overseas activities. Attention is being paid, again, to the extent to which contributions for ministries and programs are matched to expenditures. Funding cuts for the African Ministries office threatens the scope and effectiveness of FUM's East African activities. And the need for additional fund-raising is requiring FUM's field staff to schedule more time for deputation activities.

FUM has agreed to take over operation of Kaimosi Hospital for two years and appoint a temporary Board of Governors while the possible transfer of ownership back to FUM is explored and finalized. The facility has become very run down and needs rehabilitation investment, new equipment and funds for a doctor. Funds for a new roof were raised at the June 2006 Board meeting and preparations made for a work camp of young friends.

After 40 years of lending, Friends Extension Corporation has begun phasing out its lending activities, which have financed the development of meetinghouses and churches. Alternative sources of financing from banks and other lenders are available at lower cost. No additional funds from individuals will be sought, but meetings and churches are asked to continue their investments in FEC to allow an orderly winding down of activities.

Financial Base:

FUM acted in 2005-06 to stabilize its operations. After experiencing an operating deficit of about \$65,000 during the first 9 months of fiscal 2006, the fourth quarter (April-June) appears to be breakeven, due to FUM's staff and expense cut-backs. For the full year, the deficit indicated in June was about \$61,000. The budget for fiscal 2007 anticipates declines in contributions from its three major sources – individuals, monthly meetings and yearly meetings. For fiscal 2007, the General Board approved an asking budget of about \$685,000 which is \$65,000 (10%) lower than the fiscal year just ended. It matches anticipated revenues and expenses and is essentially balanced.

FUM initiated a capital campaign in 2005-06 with a goal of \$305,000. During the campaign's first 10 months, FUM had raised \$61,400 (43% of its first-year goal). About half of this will go to projects in East Africa, Palestine and the Caribbean. The balance will go toward the expenses of FUM's overseas field staff and to the FUM General Fund.

Issues:

Two kinds of tension are evident on the FUM General Board. The first is the continuing disunity regarding FUM's personnel policies and yearly meetings' different Biblical/ experiential discernment regarding their correctness. Friends on the Board have strong convictions in various directions on this matter. Business continues to be done by the Board, but there are times when this tension interferes with the smooth action of the Board as a whole.

Recently, a second tension has begun to emerge at the General Board level - a tension between some representatives of yearly meetings with a single affiliation (FUM) and representatives from yearly meetings with dual affiliation (FUM and FGC). The view of some single-affiliation representatives is that this makes FUM "their" entity, because those from dual-affiliated yearly meetings have the ability to look to FGC for their spiritual nurture. This does not fully reflect the extent to which explicitly Christian Quakers from dual-affiliated yearly meetings feel nurtured by their involvement in FUM. During the June 2006 retreat, this emerging view included proposals (not acted on) to describe FUM's roots as firmly planted in FUM's "Orthodox" or "Gurneyite" history.

FUM still includes a wide range of Friends, and I expect it will remain in ferment.

My Final Report as a BYM Representative:

This is my final report to BYM as one of your representatives. I thank both the Nominating Committee and the BYM membership for allowing me to serve the Yearly Meeting in this way. For me, being a representative on FUM's General Board has been a challenging and rewarding leading.

Rich Liversidge

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING Report to Yearly Meetings, Summer 2006

Financial statements often list an organization's assets without really giving a statement of the organization's value. If the perception of the current state of Friends United Meeting is based on its financial struggles and the constant debate over a theological center, then we are missing the bigger picture. The assets of Friends United Meeting include thousands of dedicated people who work to spread the Word and Love of God as taught by Jesus, tenacious commitments to mission work in far away parts of the world, and a Quaker heritage that provides a foundation for us to live and teach the testimonies. The investments people make in the ministry of this organization are difficult to measure, and the resulting influence that has spread across the globe is beyond our calculations. There are many who believe the value of Friends United Meeting makes it worth our renewed commitment for the future.

At the June board meeting, a day and a half was set aside to begin the process to develop a three to five- year action plan for Friends United Meeting. Members of the board had received a set of questions prior to the meeting and our facilitators, the Tompkins Group from North Carolina, had compiled the responses for a starting base. We discussed mission, vision, and strategies that would help determine our direction as an organization. The discussion was candid and the facilitators kept us to the task. We agreed the next step of designing the plan must be taken to get wider input. The questions will be made available to everyone in FUM. The responses will be considered at the October board meeting. After some more processing, it is hoped that the action plan can be ready for approval at next February's board meeting.

The board approved setting up "advisory committees" for each mission field. Five to eight people will be promptly invited to act as a support team to our field staff. They will become "experts" on the issues, challenges, needs, and situations in which our staff work. They will act as advocates for the work and help

raise support when it's needed. They will be a sounding board to the staff on the field and in the Richmond office that will help when decisions have to be made. This idea will be reviewed next June to evaluate its effectiveness.

While he was in the USA to take classes at Earlham School of Religion, many of you were privileged to know John Muhanji and hear him speak of his work through the African Ministries Office. He, along with Eden and James Grace, has made great strides in the coordination of the sixteen yearly meetings in Kenya (and one in Uganda). One of their desires is to start a newsletter that will go to all the 2000 monthly meetings. It is hoped that after a one-time start up investment of about \$5500, the Africans will see its value and subscribe. The newsletter will be produced in the Africa office, though articles in Quaker Life will be made included when appropriate. James Grace has been involved in the much needed oversight of work at the hospitals at Lugulu and Kaimosi.

There are currently 66 students at the Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. Patrick Nugent reports that the new meetinghouse is underway, thanks to a generous donor, and that there is a vision for a new administration building and a larger library. Patrick will be in the USA this fall and would like invitations to your meetings. However, Mary Kay must stay in Kenya to continue her schooling

Enrollment at Boys School in Belize was down this year, due to diminished recruitment efforts. However, things are looking up for next year. Andy & Lisa Stout are now home at Wabash, IN after Andy had to have back surgery. He is doing well, though, and hopes to return to mission work at a later date. Meanwhile, he is employed by Whites Residential & Family Services. Mike and Kay Cain will also be home this summer and plan visits in California and Colorado. FUM is still looking for a person to start a church in Belize City and/or La Democracia and looks toward the building of a much needed high school in the next few years.

Eighty-two students graduated from the Ramallah Friends School on May 28. All of them have plans to attend college and about 1/3 of them will come to US schools which include Harvard, MIT, Boston College, Earlham, Guilford, and others. We credit the good counseling work of John Hishmeh for many of those connections. Director Joyce Ajlouny planned a special ceremony for the 100th graduation that included graduates representing the past eight decades "passing the torch" through the current graduates and on to representatives of the future.

Those who lit the torch for the next centennial included the FUM general secretary, symbolizing the future commitment of Friends United Meeting.

Quaker Life issues are now being printed six times annually. They contain a removable color center section that can be used for teaching about the FUM mission work. The Friends United Press is now able to “print books on demand” and is using that capability to publish books that have been out of print for several years.

The annual fund campaign of last year resulted in increased giving by individuals, yet fell short of the goal by about half. This year’s campaign efforts will tell the whole story of the work of Friends United Meeting, spelling out opportunities for support in all areas of mission including the administrative needs. A power point presentation is available to help present the images Kathy Sawyer has been telling people about. It is hoped that church groups and meetings everywhere will have Kathy come tell the FUM story.

With hearts sympathetic to the financial needs of Friends United Meeting, the FUM board approved travel in Kenya in February of 2007 to meet with members of the board in Africa and to visit the sites of the field work. Money from a trust fund designated for missions and/or mission education will help pay for this trip. This trip is to strengthen the relationship between the Africans and the rest of FUM as well as demonstrate our commitment to keep connected to the work there.

One of the urgent concerns of Friends United Meeting is the condition of the Kaimosi Hospital. Earlier this year, the deed of the hospital was transferred back to FUM from the yearly meeting that has held it for several years. The hospital is in great need of refurbishing, including a new roof ASAP. Some funds have already come forth for this purpose. We will be requesting a grant from USAid/ASHA but those funds will be long in coming.

The greatest need for FUM presently is financial support for our field staff and general fund. Somehow there seems to be good support for projects, yet every field staff budget is under funded. Please pray for this need and invest whatever you can to support our workers. We must take good care of our assets.
Sylvia Graves, Interim General Secretary

QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Barbara Williamson, of Richmond Friends Meeting, serves as the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) was named the Clerk of the QEW Steering Committee. During 2005, Barbara held the first annual meeting of the Continuing Counsel Committee (Executive Committee) and represented QEW at the FUM Triennial. As Clerk, Barbara was invited to speak at South Eastern Yearly Meeting's Annual Session.

Barbara also had the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica to visit Finca la Bella, the QEW farm project. This trip provided Steering Committee members the opportunity to meet with farmers belonging to the project, members of the Monteverde Friends Meeting, members of the local community organization and the Executive Director of the Monteverde Institute. These face-to-face meetings moved forward the goal of establishing an independent ecological farm cooperative.

QEW's primary purpose is to raise the Environment to the level of a Testimony among Friends in North, South and Central America. QEW is working to encourage every Yearly and Monthly (or Quarterly) Meeting to create a committee with a concern for the environment. QEW also aims to serve as a resource for these committees. QEW produces a variety of educational materials and has a library of films (VCR and DVD formats) that are available for use by Meetings. QEW Steering Committee members are willing to visit Monthly and Quarterly Meetings to talk about the environment and/or creation of an environmental concerns committee (Contact Barbara Williamson at barbaraawmson@juno.com or (804) 643-0461.)

Lynn Heritage (State College), Janney Wilson and Stan Becker (Homewood) are also on the QEW Steering Committee. Lynn is a QEW representative to FCNL and Stan Becker is the at-large member of the Continuing Counsel Committee.

Barbara Williamson

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

"What a positive, upbeat atmosphere! I greatly enjoyed meeting folks from the Workcamps, other countries, and here for Amnesty International, as well as helpful staff. My 10 year old niece's birthday trip to the Smithsonian

was enriched by staying here and meeting diverse and friendly folks. Peace's blessings! Mary Fran Hughes-McIntyre"

2005 was a memorable year for William Penn House. We completed the merger of Washington Quaker Workcamps into the corporate structure of William Penn House. This revitalized ministry has not only expanded our programs to young people but has also increased the number of groups staying at the House. We also added a new staff member to develop and coordinate programs offered by the House.

Working with teachers, we further refined our "Teachers of Peace" seminars. The October seminar was attended by Friends of all 4 traditions in addition to teachers who were not Friends. Through the Workcamping program, we increased our outreach to Young Friends and Quaker schools. The service learning opportunities offered by the Workcamping program has developed a broad base of support among people of various faith traditions.

We have continued our improvements to the House through painting, some construction and the overall improvements to the facility's atmosphere. Since much of the work is performed by staff, it progresses slowly but each step is appreciated by staff and guests. One of the key improvements has been to the Cory Conference Room with new lighting, electrical wiring, tin ceiling repairs and repainted walls.

We were blessed with two generous bequests. Through this new addition to our reserves, we have been able to accelerate our improvements to the House and to afford the upfront costs of expanding the seminar and Workcamping programs. As always, we were gratified by the donations from monthly meetings, yearly meetings and individuals.

Because of these gifts, we continue our presence on Capitol Hill by offering affordable lodging to those lobbying Congress, for those here to protest policies and to provide safe and comfortable hospitality to visitors from the US and abroad.

Our collaboration with Friends Committee on National Legislation continues to be an important relationship. We co-sponsor the FCNL Young Adult Lobby Weekend and provide hospitality to FCNL committee members and Young Adults who attend the FCNL annual session. We are deepening our relationship with American Friends Service Committee by jointly developing programs for youth. Our relationship with area monthly meetings continues to enrich and enliven our community. We host a monthly potluck and dialogue which is attended by friends

from up to 5 monthly meetings each 1st Sunday. Our presenters are from local meetings or Quaker organizations who share their leadings and interests with our Quaker community.

The William Penn House internship program attracts the best and the brightest of our young Friends. In addition to the service that they provide the House, we see this internship as an opportunity to expose these Friends to the broader world of Quakers and to other groups who seek a better world. Each intern receives room and board, health insurance and a stipend. We encourage their participation in opportunities that are offered to expand and enrich their lives. We see this program as a ministry to our youth and to the future of a vital Quaker faith.

Our interns provide the organizational needs for two of our long term relationships: The Emerson Congressional Hunger Fellows and the University of Washington-Bothell. The Hunger Fellows are here twice a year as they are trained to help reduce hunger among Americans. The Bothell students attend a week long seminar on the relationship of government, NGOs and foreign embassies. This is a program for credit.

William Penn House participates with the Friends Association for Higher Education and the Friends Council on Education. Our staff is actively involved with Friends General Conference, Baltimore Yearly Meeting and the Friends Meeting of Washington. Staff members visit several yearly meeting sessions each year and numerous monthly meetings. Our Quaker connections are integral to our lives.

2005 Income and Expenses

Income		Expenses	
Contributions, Bequests & Grants		Personnel	\$173,900
WPH	\$116,575	Building	24,690
WQW	17,100	Household	15,700
Program & Lodging		Program	26,118
WPH	\$188,200	WQW Expenses	3,640
WQW	12,865	Administrative	18,500
Other Income	\$ 10,200	Other	6,650
Total Income	\$344,940	Total Expenses	\$279,198
Net Income	\$63,742		

Byron Sandford
Executive Director

OFFICERS

YEARLY MEETING

Clerk	Lauri Perman, State College (04)	2006-2008
Recording Clerk	Deborah Haines, Alexandria (03)	2005-2007
Treasurer	Kevin Caughlan, Sandy Spring (03)	2005-2007
Assitant Treasurer ...	Marian Ballard, Bethesda (05)	2005-2007

TRUSTEES

Clerk: Howard Zuses

Howard Zuses, Sandy Spring	2001-2007
Walter Fry, West Branch	2001-2007
Schuyler Elsbree, Annapolis	2002-2008
Douglas Eaby, Nottingham	2003-2008
Byron Sandofrd, Washington	2006-2009
Hank Schutlz, Charlottesville	2006-2009
Frances Taylor, Goose Creek	2006-2009

Kevin Caughlan, Treasurer
Lauri Perman, Clerk of Yearly Meeting

OFFICE STAFF

General Secretary: Riley Robinson, Washington
Camp Administrator: Jane Megginson
Property Manager: David Hunter, Frederick
Youth Secretary: Hope Braveheart, Sandy Spring
Administrative Assistant: Ann Whittaker
Bookkeeper: Margo Lehman, Sandy Spring

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Michael Cronin

Adelphi	Gettysburg	Patuxent
Alexandria	Goose Creek	Pipe Creek
Annapolis	Gunpowder	Quaker Lake
Baltimore, Homewood	Herndon	Richmond
Baltimore, StonyRun	Hopewell Centre	Roanoke
Bethesda	Langley Hill	Sandy Spring
Blacksburg	Little Britain	State College
Carlisle	Little Falls	Valley
Charlottesville	Maury River	Warrington
Deer Creek	Menallen	Washington
Dunnings Creek	Midlothian	West Branch
Fishertown	Nottingham	Williamsburg
Floyd	Patapsco	York
Frederick		

SEARCH COMMITTEE OF INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Janet Eaby

2007

Helena Cobban, Charlottesville (04)

2008

Janet Eaby, Nottingham (05)

2009

Rachel Messenger, Alexandria (06)

Jean Wilson, Goose Creek (06)

Rosalind Zuses, Sandy Spring (06)

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Clerk: Michael Cronin

2007

Lamar Matthew,

Baltimore, Stony Run (05)

Magaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg (05)

2006

Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run (02)

Gretchen Hall, Alexandria (02)

Ex officio

Kevin Caughlan, Treasurer

Michael Cronin,

Clerk of Interim Meeting

Lauri Perman,

Clerk of Yearly Meeting

ADVANCEMENT AND OUTREACH

9 (10)

Clerk: Deborah Haines

2007

Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco (04)

Mark Haskell, Washington (04)

Deborah Haines, Alexandria (04)

2008

Susie Fetter, Roanoke (02)

Neil Froemming, Washington (02)

Eric Uberseder, Dunnings Creek (05)

Roger Starr, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Ed Norton, York (06)

Frances Norton (06)

Gladys Swift (06)

INTERVISITATION WORKING GROUP

Marcy Seitel, Adelphi

Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring

Deborah Legowski, Sandy Spring

Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco

Rebecca Richards, Gunpowder

Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill

Sharon Stout, Adelphi

Walter Brown, Langley Hill

Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring

CAMP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

6 (8)

Clerk: Allen Fetter

2007

Randy Rogers, Alexandria (04)

2008

Allen Fetter,

Baltimore, Stony Run (05)

Paul Buchanan-Wollaston,

Deer Creek (05)

Greg Tobin, Frederick (05)

Neil Mozer, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Charles Greene,

Baltimore, Homewood (06)

Ted Hawkins, Bethesda (06)

Wayne Finegar, Sandy Spring (03)

Ex Officio

Trustees

Stewardship and Finance

David Hunter,

Camp Property Manager

Committee lists include changes brought before and approved at Interim Meeting on October 21, 2006.

Numbers in bold represent the number recommended for each committee. The numbers in paranthese represents the actual number on each committee.

CAMPING PROGRAM

18 (20)

Co-Clerks: Tasha Walsh
Anna Krome-Lukens

2007

Anna Krome-Lukens,
Williamsburg (04)
Tasha Walsh, Maury River (04)
Steve Gilbert, Sandy Spring (04)
Al Best, Ashland (04)
Chrissy DeVinney, Goose Creek (04)
Arlene DeBlanc, Sandy Spring (04)
Peter Doo,
Baltimore, Stony Run (01)
Carol Ahlum, Frederick (01)
Jody Hopkins,
Baltimore, Homewood (01)

2008

Wes Jordan, Annapolis (05)
Nancy Eynon Lark, Adelphi (05)

2009

Lynada Johnson, Annapolis (06)
Clare Voss, Sandy Spring (06)
Tom Horne, Takoma Park (06)
Geoffrey Bergen, Goose Creek, (06)
Jennifer Bergen, Goose Creek (06)
Jim Dickson, Friendship Prep (06)
Deborah Legowski,
Sandy Spring (06)
Betsy Krome, Williamsburg (03)
Lois Carter Fay, Valley (03)

CRIMINAL AND

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

6 (8)

Clerk: Kit Mason

2007

Jack Fogarty, Sandy Spring (01)
Peggy Fogarty, Sandy Spring (01)
Bette Hoover, Sandy Spring (04)
James Matsen, Oxford (01)

2008

Kit Mason, Takoma Park (05)
David Greene,
Baltimore, Homewood (05)
George Sinnot, Sandy Spring, (05)

2009

John Worley, Sandy Spring (06)

EDUCATIONAL FUNDING

RESOURCES

6 (6)

Clerk: Oliver Moles

2007

Oliver Moles, Langley Hill (01)
David Chamberlin, Goose Creek (02)
June Confer, Adelphi (04)
Liza Bruce, Richmond (04)

2009

Annie V. F. Storr, Adelphi (06)
Brett Leonard, Goose Creek (04)

Ex-officio

Kevin Caughlan, Treasurer

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION

3 (9)

Clerk: Sheila Bach

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (02)
Margaret Stambaugh,
 Gettysburg (02)
Martha Gay, Adelphi (02)
Mochiko DeSilva, Sandy Spring (04)
Sam Legg, Baltimore, Stony Run (04)
Pamela Cook, Valley (040)
Julie Gouchenour, Valley (04)
Jim Rose, Patapsco (04)
Susan Hills, Langley Hill (05)

FRIENDS IN EDUCATION

9 (8)

Clerk: Annette Breiling

2007

Christine Fernsler, Alexandria (02)
Victor Kryston, Goose Creek (02)

2008

Linda Uberseder, Nottingham (02)
Janet Favero, Annapolis (05)

2009

Michael Mangiaracina,
 Baltimore, Stony Run (06)
Bill Harlan, Little Falls (06)
Annette Breiling, Seneca Valley (02)
Nick Fessenden,
 Baltimore, Stony Run (02)

INDIAN AFFAIRS

9 (10)

Clerk: Virginia Spencer

2007

Virginia Spencer, Frederick (04)
Rebecca Trussel, Goose Creek (04)
Mary Mallet, Sandy Spring (04)

2008

Joanna Mendelman, Annapolis (05)
Mary Ann Hillier, Sandy Spring (05)
Chuck Veckert, Sandy Spring (05)
Jennie Burton, Charlottesville (05)

2009

David Elkinton, Patuxent (06)
Aleen Starkweather,
 Sandy Spring (06)
Susan Lepper, Washington (03)
Dellie James,
 Baltimore, Stony Run (03)

**TORREON/STARLAKE
WORKING GROUP**

Nancy Beiter, Washington
Anna Brown, Gunpowder
Susan Lepper, Washington
Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring
Katrina Mason, Bethesda
Pete Schenck, Takoma Park
Aleen Starkweather, Sandy Spring
Sharon Stout, Adelphi
Jane Stowe, Adelphi

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

3 (4)

Clerk: Ann Marie Moriarty

2007

Katherine Smith, Maury River (04)

Ann Marie Moriarty, Adelphi (04)

2009

Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring (03)

Chip Tucker, Charlottesville (03)

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

12(14)

Clerk: Don Gann

2007

Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill (01)

Lamar Matthew,

Baltimore, Stony Run (04)

Ria Hawkins, Bethesda (04)

2008

Caroline Pelton, Goose Creek (02)

Laura Nell Obaugh,

Hopewell Centre (02)

Janice Fridie, Frederick (05)

Marika Cutler,

Baltimore, Stony Run (05)

Gail Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run (05)

2009

Susan Kaul, Bethesda (06)

Anne Bутtenheim, Frederick (06)

Michael Jeffrey, Richmond (05)

Don Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run (03)

Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring (03)

Virginia Schurman, Gunpowder (06)

NOMINATING 12 (9)

Clerk: Barbara Thomas

2007

Barbara Thomas, Annapolis (04)

Catherine Tunis, Herndon (04)

2008

Ramona Buck, Patapsco (02)

Jason Eaby, Nottingham (05)

Bronna Zlochiver, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Charlotte Boyton, Langley Hill (06)

Andrei Israel, Washington (06)

Nancy Moore,

Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

12 (12)

Clerk: Bill Mims

2007

J.E. McNeil, Washington (01)
John Salzberg, Bethesda (01)
Ellen Arginteanu, State College (04)
Bill Mims, Langley Hill (04)

2008

Lella Smith, Goose Creek (02)
Harold Saunders, Annapolis (05)
Leada Dietz, York (05)
Ginny Webb-Keller,
 Sandy Spring (05)
Barbara Bien, Gunpowder (05)

2009

Alexander Barnes, Adelphi (06)
Sylvia Oliva, Annapolis (06)
C.J. Swet, Pipe Creek (03)

PROGRAM 9 (7)

Clerk: Liz Hofmeister

2007

Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda (01)
Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (04)

2008

Bette Hoover, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Gloria Victor-Dorr, Sandy Spring (06)
Anita Bower, Nottingham (06)
Nancy Coleman,
 Dunnings Creek (06)
Don Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

Ex-officio

Presiding Clerk: Lauri Perman

Registrar: Rebecca Rawls

Junior Yearly Meeting Clerk:

Karen Cunyningham

Ministry & Pastoral Care:

Howard Fullerton

Young Friends Yearly Meeting

Planners:

Alex Hayden Avery Rain

Young Adult Friends: Sam Horne

Staff:

Riley Robinson

Hope Braveheart

Ann Whittaker

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 12 (10)

Co-Clerks: Chuck Fager
Josh Humphries

2007

Jean Pfefferkorn, Patapsco (04)
Carol Moragus, Maury River (04)

2008

Josh Humphries, Roanoke (02)
Margo Lehman, Sandy Spring (02)
Janet Worsham, Richmond (05)
Chuck Fager, State College (05)

2009

Gwen Zanin, Herndon (06)
John Stephens, Alexandria (06)
Elizabeth Johnsen, Sandy Spring (03)
Nancy Moore,
Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

**RIGHT SHARING OF
WORLD RESOURCES**

9 (3)

Clerk: Karen Grisez

2008

Karen Grisez, Washington (05)

2009

Anne Harrison, Patuxent (06)
Joan Gildemeister, Washington (06)

**STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE
14 (11)**

Clerk: Allen Briggs

2007

Dick Bellin, Washington (01)
Sharon Stout, Adelphi (04)
Hank Rupprecht, Frederick (04)

2008

Don Lamb-Minor, Annapolis (05)
Natalie Finegar, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Arthur David Olson,
Takoma Park (06)
Tim Cline, Washington (06)
Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill (06)
Allison Sleeman, Charlottesville (06)
Allen Briggs, Blacksburg (03)
Lorne Garrettson, Sandy Spring (03)

UNITY WITH NATURE

12 (12)

Co-Clerks: Mark Brabson
Sara Brabson

2007

Alan Borst, Sandy Spring (01)
Mark Brabson, Little Britain (01)
Janney Wilson, Goose Creek (04)
Paul Luckenbaugh, Bethesda (04)

2008

Barbara Williamson, Richmond (02)
Sarah Brabson, Little Britain (02)
Sue deVeer, Frederick (05)

2009

Joan Clement, Adelphi (03)
Janet Frieswyk, Washington (06)
Juliet Guroff, Goose Creek (06)
John Hudson, Sandy Spring (06)
Kathy Saunders, Annapolis (06)

YOUTH PROGRAMS

8 - 10 (13)

Co-Clerks: Betsy Tobin
Ted Heck

2007

Betsy Tobin, Frederick (01)
Ted Heck, Richmond (01)
Benjamin Zuses, Sandy Spring (04)

2008

Peg Hensen, State College (05)
Rick Honn, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Diane Eaby, Nottingham (06)
Audrey Banach,
Baltimore, Stony Run (06)
Anne Bacon, Hopewell Centre (06)
Stephanie Warner, Adelphi (06)
Peggy O'Neill, Richmond (06)
Laurie Wilner, Langley Hill (03)
Janey Pugsley, Sandy Spring (06)
Stephanie Bean, Adelphi (06)

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS

Co-Clerk: Annalee Flower Horne
Becka Haines-Rosenberg

Treasurer: Carmen Wren Beckett
Program Committee

Representatives:

Samuel Flower Horne
Jason Eaby

**YOUNG FRIENDS EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

Clerk: Sean Wilner

Assistant Clerks: Lydia Rain
Amrit Moore

Recording Clerks: Jenny Vekert
Rebecca Bacon

Treasurer: Miles “Chip” Trail

Assistant Treasurers: Martin Swift
Martin Krafft

BYFN Editors: Liz Virgo
Mepi Meyers

Yearly Meeting Planners:
Alex Hayden
Avery Rain

Youth Program Committee:
Margaret Dorr
John “Stitz” Stitzer

Members-at-Large: Lee Beyle
Jessamine “Jessa” Finch
Alex Duncan

Web Coordinator: Ross Bower

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY
CONCERNS**

Clerk: Aron Teel

Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring
Betty Brody, Alexandria
Nancy Clark, Baltimore, Homewood
Martha Gay, Adelphi
Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill
Josh Humpries, Roanoke
Joe Izzo, Washington
Lamar Matthew,

Baltimore, Stony Run
Sylvia Oliva, Annapolis
Lauri Perman, State College
Rebecca Richards, Gunpowder
Riley Robinson, Washington
Tom Ryan, State College
Katherine Smith, Maury River
Margaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg
Bonnie Stockslager, Herndon
Aron Teel, Charlottesville

**WORKING GROUP ON ENDING
RACISM AMONG
FRIENDS**

Clerk: Pat Schenck

Jean Marie Prestwidge Barch, Valley

Jane Meleny Coe, Bethesda

Elizabeth DuVerlie,

Baltimore, Stony Run

David Etheridge, Washington

Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill

Leeann Irwin

Carol Phelps, Washington

Pat Schenck, Annapolis

Maryhelen Snyder, Langley Hill

Yearbook Text Editors

Lauri Perman

Deborah Haines

Michael Cronin

Kevin Caughlin

Riley Robinson

Ann Whittaker

Bronna Zlochiver

REPRESENTATIVES TO CORPORATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE YEARLY MEETING

FRIENDS HOUSE INC. AND FRIENDS NURSING HOME, INC. TRUSTEES

2007

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Steve Berry, Sandy Spring (04)

Elizabeth Garrettson, Sandy Spring (01)

Diane Younkins, Frederick (01)

Rebecca Rawls, Langley Hill (04)

Nominated by Board

Sean Beeny, Langely Hill (01)

George Edwards, Sandy Spring (04)

Nancy Sherwood, Sandy Spring (04)

2008

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Nan Elsbree, Annapolis (02)

Eric Thompson, Baltimore, Stony Run (02)

Alan De Silva, Sandy Spring, (05)

Rachel Messenger, Alexandria (05)

Nominated by Board

Howard Zuses, Sandy Spring (02)

Rob McGarrah, Bethesda (02)

2009

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Linda Pardoe, Patapsco (06)

Betty Kay Brody, Alexandria (06)

Debra Boggs, Sandy Spring (05)

Ari Preuss, Sandy Spring (03)

Nominated by Board

Paris Kern-Winzenburg, Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

Fred Leonard, Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL

Clerk: Jeff Jones

2007

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Lib Segal, Washington (04)

Chuck Harker, Sandy Spring

(04)

Sandy Spring Meeting

James Brache (99)

Elizabeth Hartge (99)

Peter Ligon (03)

Jennifer Schauffler (99)

2008

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Jodi Lesser, Sandy Spring (04)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Robin Hiscock (00)

Mary Grady (04)

Board

Lin Delaney

Jeff Jones

Mike Miller

Linda Dallas Reider

2009

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Jean Wilson, Gunpowder (01)

Carolyn C. Finegar, Sandy

Spring (06)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Thomas R. Gibian (98)

Board

Ariana Wright Arnold

AFSC CORPORATION

2007

John Salzberg, Bethesda (02)
Nancy Beiter, FMW (04)

2008

Riley Robinson, Washington (05)

2009

Lella Russell Smith,
Goose Creek (03)
Ellen Atkinson, Sandy Spring (06)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MIDDLE-
ATLANTIC REGION OF AFSC**

2008

Jolee Robinson, Adelphi (05)

**FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL
LEGISLATION, GENERAL COMMITTEE**

2007

Jack Fogarty, Sandy Spring (01)
Mike Snyder, Goose Creek (04)

2008

Karen Grisez, Washington (04)
Sharon Stout, Adelphi (05)

2009

Bob Rhudy, Patapsco (06)
Ross Capon, Bethesda (03)

**FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

2007

Pat Fox, Bethesda (01)
Becca Haines Rosenberg,
Alexandria (04)
Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco (04)
Kevin Douglas-Olive,
Baltimore, Homewood (04)
Nancy Moore,
Baltimore, Stony Run (04)
Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring (04)
Dave Lewis, Dunnings Creek (04)

2008

Byron Sandford, Washington (02)
Chuck Fager, State College (02)
Don Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run (02)
Maia Carter Hallward,
Washington (05)
Stoph Hallward, Washington (05)

2009

Roger Wolcott, Sandy Spring (06)
Myra Wolcott, Sandy Spring (06)
Steve Elkinton, Langley Hill (03)
Julia Isaacs, Washington (03)
Walter Brown, Langley Hill (03)
Caroline Pelton, Goose Creek (03)

**FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS
REPRESENTATIVE**

Linda Heacock, Richmond (05)

Alternate:

Bette Hoover, Sandy Spring (05)

**FRIENDS UNITED MEETING
GENERAL BOARD**

2007

Walt Fry, West Branch (03)

2008

Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder (05)

2009

John Smallwood, Langley Hill (06)

Trustee

Rich Liversidge

Executive Committee

Walt Fry

**FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR
CONSULTATION,
SECTION OF THE AMERICAS**

2007

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (05)

Sage Taylor, Sandy Spring (05)

2008

Robert Fetter, Roanoke (03)

Graham Johnson, Sandy Spring (05)

2009

Mochiko DeSilva, Sandy Spring (06)

Dona Manoukian, Langley Hill (01)

**FWCC 2007 Triennial Represen-
tatives**

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (05)

Sage Hudson, Sandy Spring (05)

Robert Fetter, Roanoke (03)

Graham Johnson, Sandy Spring (05)

Alternate:

Dona Manoukian, Langley Hill (01)

**WILLIAM PENN HOUSE
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

2007

Michael Newheart, Adelphi (05)

Alternate:

Bonnie Peregoy, Annapolis (05)

**QUAKER HOUSE BOARD,
FAYETTEVILLE, NC**

Betsy Brinson, Richmond (05)

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

The 335th annual session to be held at
Frostburg State University
Frostburg, Maryland
July 31–August 5, 2007

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Michael Cronin

March 24, 2007 at Gunpowder
June 16, 2007 at Dunnings Creek
October 20, 2007 at Friends Meeting of Washington
March 29, 2008 at Williamsburg

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

CENTRE

Clerk: Susan Williams

Dunnings Creek	June 17, 2007
Fishertown	
State College	April 15, 2007
West Branch	October 21, 2007

CHESAPEAKE

Clerk: Ken Stockbridge

(meets the 2nd Sunday of the 3rd, 6th, and 9th months)

Annapolis	
Baltimore, Homewood	
Baltimore, Stony Run	
Gunpowder	June 10, 2007
Little Falls	
Patapsco	September 9, 2007
Patuxent	
Sandy Spring	
Seneca Valley Preparative	March 11, 2007

NOTTINGHAM

Clerk: Charles Hilaman

Nottingham	March 4, 2007
“The Brick” Meeting House	September 9, 2007
Little Britain, Eastland	December 2, 2007
Little Britain, Penn Hill	

WARRINGTON

Clerk: Andrew Hoover

Carlisle	
Frederick	
Gettysburg	
Menallen	February 18, 2007
Pipe Creek	May 20, 2007
Warrington	August 19, 2007
York	November 18, 2007

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ADELPHI

Mailing address: 2303 Metzert Road, Adelphi, MD 20783

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available] [Signing interpreter available by request with sufficient notice]

Telephone: 301/445-1114—Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://adelphi.quaker.org>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day school, 10:20 a.m. except Junior Meeting fourth First Day at 10:00 a.m. Early Meeting at 9:00-9:45 on first, second, fourth and fifth First Days. Singing at 9:45, and earlier on third First Days.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, following Meeting for Worship, except for May, July, and August when it may be the third First Day.

Travel directions: Located a few miles north of Washington, D.C., the Meeting House is between Riggs and Adelphi Roads, near the University of Maryland. From Maryland Route 650 (New Hampshire Avenue), go east on Metzert Road; the Meeting House is on the right, one block past the (first) traffic signal at Riggs.

Metro's route R-8 (Calverton) bus stops one block from the Meeting House (at the corner of Riggs and Metzert). The Montgomery County Ride-On route 20 (Holly Hall) bus stops about 1/2 mile from the Meeting House (near the corner of New Hampshire and Southampton).

Clerk: Ann Marie Moriarty; **Assistant Clerk:** Mosi Harrington; **Treasurer:** Karen Cunyngnam; **Ministry & Worship:** Jolee Robinson; **Religious Education:** Jo Francis & Michael Levy

ALEXANDRIA

Mailing address: 8990 Woodlawn Road, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system is available]

Telephone: 703/781-9185—Meeting House telephone

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 11:00 a.m.; Adult RE, 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 1:00 p.m.
(Second First Day in September)

Travel directions: From I-495 (Capital Beltway) take Route 1 going south. Go about eight miles and pass Woodlawn Plantation on the right; turn right at the next light onto Woodlawn Road, then immediately left to the Meeting House.

From I-95 coming north, take Fort Belvoir exit and go north on Route 1 about ten miles. Pass the second gate to Fort Belvoir; take the next left onto Woodlawn Road, then immediately left again into the Meeting House.

Clerk: Linda Spencer; **Assistant. Clerk:** James Courtwright; **Treasurer:** Bud Kloss & Rachel Messenger; **Ministry & Oversight:** Carie Rothenbacher; **Religious Education:** Gretchen Hall (children) & Judy Elvington (adult)

ANNAPOLIS (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 351 Dubois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system 72.9 MHz]

Telephone: 410/573-0364—Meeting House telephone

Web Site: <http://quaker.org/annapolis>

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 11:00 a.m.; Adult religious education, 9:30 a.m. on second and fourth First Days.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Travel directions: From Route 50 toward Annapolis take Exit 24 toward Bestgate Road. Go .5 miles to first right onto N. Bestgate Road. Take first left onto Dubois Road. Go to the end. Meeting House is on the left.

Clerk: Leo Pickens; **Treasurer:** Wes Jordan; **Ministry & Worship:** Phil Favero & Dot Walizer; **Religious Education:** Carin Krafft; **Stewardship & Finance:** Don Lamb-Minor; **Peace:** Jennifer DeLorge

ASHLAND WORSHIP GROUP (RICHMOND)

Mailing address: c/o Richmond Friends Meeting, 4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221

Meeting place address: contact Richmond Friends Meeting

Telephone: 804/358-6185- Richmond's Meeting House telephone

Travel directions: Call Richmond Friends Meeting for further information.

AUGUSTA WORSHIP GROUP (VALLEY)

Mailing address: c/o Steve Tabscott, Contact, 606 Fraser Lane, Staunton, VA 24401

Meeting place address: Various homes

[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 540/885-7973

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m. First Days in various homes.

Travel directions: Call contact for directions.

Contact: Steve and Jeanne Tabscott

BALTIMORE, HOMEWOOD (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 3107 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 410/235-4438–Meeting Office telephone

e-mail: HomewoodFriends@verizon.net

Web site: <http://www.homewoodfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Meeting for Worship: 10:30 a.m.; First Day School: 10:50 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, 12:15 a.m.

Travel directions: On North Charles Street directly across from the Baltimore Museum of Art Drive, and John Hopkins University, Homewood Campus.

Clerk: Mina Brunyate; **Assistant Clerk:** ; **Treasurer:** Teresa Dutton;

Ministry & Worship: Mina Brunyate; **Stewardship & Finance:** Anne Greene

BALTIMORE, STONY RUN (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 5116 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Barrier-free] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 443/703-2590 – Meeting office telephone; fax: 443/703-2589

e-mail: sroffice@stonyrunfriends.org

Web site: <http://www.stonyrunfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:30 a.m. (scent-free) and 11:00 a.m.; (In July and August, Worship at 8:30 a.m. (scent-free) & 10:30 a.m.); First Day School, 11:20 a.m. (10:20 a.m. in July and August) Childcare for all meetings.

Business Meeting schedule: Nov. thru Mar.: first First Day (Sunday) of the month at 1:00 p.m.; Apr., May, June, Sept., Oct.: first Third Day (Tuesday) of the month at 7:30 p.m.; July, Aug.: on a First Day, as arranged, at 11:15 a.m.

Travel directions: Beltway (I-695) Exit 25 South for Charles Street. The Meeting House is located 4.3 miles south of I-695 Charles Street exit, on the right side of Charles Street, immediately after Cathedral of Mary Our Queen (south of Northern Parkway).

Clerk: Arthur Boyd; **Treasurer:** Blaine Keener; **Ministry & Counsel:** Suzanne O’Hatnick; **Religious Education:** Gail Gann; **Stewardship & Finance:** Margaret Allen

BETHESDA

Mailing address: P.O. Box 30152, Bethesda, MD 20824

Meeting place address: Edgemoor Lane and Beverly Road, Bethesda, MD
(on the campus of Sidwell Friends Lower School)

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 301/986-8681

e-mail: bethesdfm@igc.org

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:30 a.m. (except on first First Day of each month) and 11:00 a.m. every First Day; First Day School, 11:20

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 9:15 a.m. (except July and August)

Travel directions: Bethesda Meeting is located on the campus of Sidwell Friends Lower School at Beverly Road between Edgemoor and Hampden Lanes. Parking is ample.

From the Red Line Metro Bethesda Station: At the top of the long escalator, at the bus depot to the side where buses enter (at the corner of Edgemoor and Commerce Lanes). Go straight ahead (west) one short block on Edgemoor to cross Woodmont Avenue (with a traffic light). Continue two more blocks, crossing Arlington Avenue (with a traffic light) to the Sidwell Friends Lower School gate. Turn left and the Meeting house is a half block on the right.

From the North: Use Beltway Exit 36 south of Old Georgetown Road (Route 187) for 2.2 miles. Move into the middle lane at the Auburn Avenue traffic light. At the next light, a five-way intersection, take the soft right onto Arlington Road. Turn right at the second light onto Edgemoor Lane, then left onto Beverly Road. The Meetinghouse is mid-block on the right.

Alternatively, from Rockville, come south on the Rockville Pike/Wisconsin Avenue (Route 355), turn right on Commerce Lane, cross Old Georgetown Road, and then turn right onto Edgemoor Lane. From East-West Highway (Route 410), cross Wisconsin Avenue (Route 355), onto Old Georgetown Road (Route 187) take the first left onto Commerce Lane and the next right onto Edgemoor Lane. Cross Woodmont and Arlington Avenues (with traffic lights), turn left onto Beverly Road. The Meetinghouse is mid-block on the right.

From Washington, D.C.: Go north on Wisconsin Avenue (Route 355) and turn left at Bradley Boulevard (Route 191). Turn right at the second light on Arlington Road. Proceed .4 mile to the traffic light at Edemoor Lane. Turn left. At the first intersection, turn left onto Beverly Road. The Meeting house

is mid-block on the right.

Clerk: Marion Ballard & Michael Morfit; **Treasurer:** Alex Bell; **Ministry & Worship:** Ellanor Fink; **Religious Education:** Ron Akins; **Stewardship & Finance:** Andrei Kirilenko & Peter Szanton

BLACKSBURG

Mailing address: c/o Steve Hulburt, Clerk, 612 Nellie's Cave Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060

Meeting place address: Cooper House, 305 Washington Street SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

e-mail: shulburt@mail.mcps.org (Steve Hulburt's)

Web Site: <http://www.blacksburgfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:10 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Call Cooper House at 540/552-2473 or Clerk (540) 552-0200

Clerk: Steve Hulburt; **Treasurer:** Phoebe Crofts; **Ministry & Counsel:** Carol McNamee; **Religious Education:** Elizabeth Briggs

CARLISLE (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 252 “A” Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 717/249-8899–Meeting House telephone

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:15 a.m.
(Children present at first 15 minutes of worship)

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: From center of downtown (intersection of High and Hanover Streets), go west on High to College St. (3rd traffic light). Turn right on College St., then right at “A” Street (Meeting House at next alley).

Clerk: Fred Baldwin; **Treasurer:** Joan Anderson; **Ministry & Counsel:** Don Kovacs; **Religious Education:** Mary Ann Evans (children), Andy Hoover (adult); **Stewardship & Finance:** Joan Anderson

CHARLOTTESVILLE

Mailing address: 1104 Forest Street, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 434/971-8859–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://avenue.org/quakers/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Fall, Winter and Spring); 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Summer; First Day School, 11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. September- June. Adult discussion: 9:45 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month; call the Meeting House phone for time.

Travel directions: From US 29 in Charlottesville, turn east onto Barracks Road. Follow on Barracks, which becomes Preston, for about one mile uphill and down, to the intersection with Forest (one short block after the light at Rose Hill). Go left onto Forest about four blocks. The Meeting House is at the end of the street on the right. Park in the adjoining Murray School lot.

Co-clerks: Aron Teel; **Treasurer:** Allison Sleeman; **Ministry & Worship:** Chip Tucker; **Religious Education:** Jon Nafziger (children) & Ann Haskell (adult)

DEER CREEK

Mailing address: P.O. Box 415, Darlington, MD 21034

Meeting place address: 1212 Main Street, Darlington, MD

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 410/457-9188—Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.bym-rsf.org/deercreek/>

First Day schedule: First Day School, 10:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, 9:30 a.m.

Travel directions: The Meeting House is in Northern Harford County, about forty miles northeast of Baltimore, about one-fifth mile east of US 1, on MD 161.

Clerk: Mara Walter; **Treasurer:** Christine Gregory; **Ministry & Counsel:** James E. Pickard; **Religious Education:** Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston;

Stewardship & Finance: Richard Holloway

DUNNINGS CREEK (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: Nancy Coleman, 309 Plank Rd., Hollsopple, PA 15935

Meeting place address: Dunnings Creek Meeting House, Fishertown, PA

[Wheelchair accessibility in progress] [No hearing assistance system]

e-mail: mrogish@adelphia.net

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:45 & 10:30 a.m. in July & August; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 10:00 a.m.

Travel directions: The Meeting is about nine miles northwest of Bedford, PA, in Fishertown, PA. From westbound Route 56, Old Quaker Church Road goes off to the left into Fishertown. Dunnings Creek Meeting House is a brick structure on the left about one-half mile after leaving Rte 56.

Co-Clerks: Nancy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Ingrid Hoffnar

FISHERTOWN (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Fred Ickes, Clerk, Fishertown, PA 15539

Meeting place address: Fishertown Meeting House in Fishertown, PA
[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:45 a.m.; First Day School, 9:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, 11:15 a.m.

Travel directions: Fishertown is about nine miles northwest of Bedford, PA, on PA Route 56. From northbound Route 56 a road goes off to the left into Fishertown. Fishertown Meeting House is a white-frame structure on top of the hill on the right about three-quarters mile after leaving Route 56.

Clerk: Fred Ickes; **Treasurer:** Shirley Conner

FLOYD

Mailing address: 1199 Christiansburg Pike, Floyd, VA 24091

Meeting place address: 1199 Christiansburg Pike (2 miles from Post Office) Floyd, VA 24091

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship: 10:00; First Day School: 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 12:00 p.m. at the Meeting House, preceded by pot-luck.

Travel directions: From places other than Roanoke: from the Floyd traffic light go 8/10 of a mile on 221 in the direction of Roanoke; take a left onto Christiansburg Pike (Rt. 615) for two miles; Meeting House is on the right-hand side.

From Roanoke take 221 in the direction of Floyd; just before the village, turn right at Harris & Baker Furniture Co. onto Christiansburg Pike (Rt. 615) for 2 miles; Meeting House is on the right-hand side.

Clerk: Jo Parr; **Treasurer:** Steve Beese; **Ministry & Oversight:** Rebecca Dameron and Jo Parr; **Religious Education:** Wil and Mary Stratton (adult); **Stewardship & Finance:** Steve Beese

FREDERICK (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 723 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 301/631-1257–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.frederickfriends.org/>

e-mail: clerk@frederickfriends.org

First Day schedule: Singing, 10:00 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Fourth First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Travel directions: From U.S. Route 15 (North or South) exit onto 7th Street heading east. North Market is 4th traffic light, turn left onto one-way street-1/2 block to Meeting House which is the first freestanding house on the left.

Clerk: Francy Williams; **Treasurer:** Karen White; **Ministry & Counsel:**

Virginia Spencer; **Religious Education:** Tori Bolton & Karen Doerrite;

Stewardship & Finance: Tom Hubbard

FREDERICKSBURG WORSHIP GROUP (ALEXANDRIA)

Mailing address: Evelyn Bradshaw, Convenor, 5713 Castlebridge Rd., Apt. 226 Fredericksburg, VA 22407-6044

Meeting place address: Campus Christian Center, 1213 Dandridge Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m., third floor chapel

Travel directions: The Campus Christian Center is on Dandridge Avenue, which runs off College Avenue just across from the Mary Washington College campus. Call the Convenor (540/785-5361) for more information

Convenor: Evelyn Bradshaw

FRIENDS HOUSE WORSHIP GROUP (SANDY SPRING)

Mailing address: c/o Sandy Spring Friends Meeting, 17715 Meeting House Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860

Meeting place address: Friends House, 17340 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, MD

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 301/924-4900-Friends House Nursing Home, Monday through Friday

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m. in Miller Center

Travel directions: Friends House is in Montgomery County in the community of Sandy Spring. Take Route 108 to Norwood Road and look for sign.

Contact: Friends House

FRIENDSHIP PREPARATIVE (WASHINGTON)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 9684, Washington, DC 20016

Meeting place address: Sidwell Friends Upper School, Kogod Arts Center, 3825 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 202/483-3310—Friends Meeting of Washington telephone

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; No First Day School.

Travel directions: Take Red line Metro to Tenley station. Walk or take #30 bus south on Wisconsin Ave. From Beltway 495 exit #19, South. Six miles on Wisconsin Ave., turn left at 3825 Wisconsin Ave. between Upton and Quebec Streets. Main drive toward Manor House curves north behind tennis courts to parking area. Proceed down walk to Kogod Center for the Arts (one-story building north of Manor House). Meeting Room is at far end of lobby.

Contact: Robert Liles II

GETTYSBURG (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 4151, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Meeting place address: Glatfelter Lodge, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 717/334-6880

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, after rise of Meeting.

Travel directions: From the square in Gettysburg (intersection of US 30 and US [Business] 15) go north one block on Carlisle St. to Water St. Left on Water, go one block and through College Gate to parking lot. Walk north about 75 yards until you see the Memorial Wall. Glatfelter Lodge (Faculty Lounge) is the old stone building with stained glassed windows nearest the wall.

Co-Clerks: Margaret Stambaugh; **Treasurer:** Diana Henne; **Ministry & Counsel:** Margaret Stambaugh; **Religious Education:** Denise Siviyy

GOOSE CREEK

Mailing address: P.O. Box 105, Lincoln, VA 20160

Meeting place address: 18204 Lincoln Road, Lincoln, VA 20160
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 703/777-5979—Meeting House telephone
web site: <http://goosecreek.quaker.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:45 a.m.; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.
(following brief worship with adults).

Business Meeting schedule: 11:00 a.m. first First Day of the month

Travel directions: The Meeting House is in Loudoun County, south of Purcellville. From VA Route 7 (Business) turn south on VA Route 722, Maple Avenue (traffic light at this intersection), which crosses Route 7 (Business) near shopping centers and a 7-11 convenience store. The Meeting House is 1.7 miles south, on the left side of the road, in the village of Lincoln. Parking is in the lot across from the Meeting House.

Clerk: Michael Snyder; **Treasurer:** Tim Brown; **Ministry & Oversight:** Caroline Pelton; **Religious Education:** Patricia Barber & Wendy Gooditis;
Stewardship & Finance: John Unger

GUNPOWDER (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 737, Sparks, MD 21152-0737

Meeting place address: 14934 Priceville Road, Sparks, MD

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 410/472-4583–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.bym-rsf.org/gmm/index.html>

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Adult Forum, 10:00 a.m. first First Days; First Day School, 11:00 a.m., with opening exercises second, fourth, and fifth First Days during the school year at 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, 9:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Sparks is about 21 miles north of Baltimore on the Harrisburg Expressway (I-83). Gunpowder Meeting is west of Sparks and west of I-83. Exit I-83 at Belfast Road (Exit 24), turn west toward Butler. Go one-third mile to Priceville Road; left on Priceville Road for one mile. Where Priceville Road turns right and Quaker Bottom Road continues ahead at the crest of a steep grade, make a sharp right turn into the Meeting House.

Clerk: Amy Yerkes Schmaljohn; **Treasurer:** Andrew Passmore, II; **Ministry & Counsel:** Linda Davis; **Overseers:** Leo Behrendt; **Religious Education:** Mandy Hudson; **Stewardship & Finance:** Susan Rudy

HERNDON

Mailing address: 660 Spring Street, Herndon, VA 20170

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 703/736-0592–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.herndonfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Singing, 10:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:45 a.m. (following worship with adults)

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of each month except May, July & September at the rise of Meeting.

Travel directions: From Dulles Toll Road, go north on Centreville Road which becomes Elden Street. At about 1.2 miles, turn right onto Spring Street, then left on Locust to the parking lot on right.

Clerk: Asa Janney; **Treasurer:** Al Taylor; **Ministry & Oversight:** Dennis Jones; **Religious Education:** Deborah Kirkman; **Peace & Social Concerns:** Margaret Fisher; **Stewardship & Finance:** Michael Marquardt

HOPEWELL CENTRE

Mailing address: 3240 Cedar Creek Grade Winchester, VA 22602

Meeting place address: 604 Hopewell Road, Clearbrook, VA 22624

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://hopecentre.quaker.org/>

e-mail: cmelby@su.edu

First Day schedule: Hopewell Meeting House: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:15 a.m.: On the fourth First Day of each month we meet at Centre Meeting House in Winchester (corner of Washington & Piccadilly Streets).

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 11:15 a.m.

Travel directions: Clearbrook is seven miles north of Winchester on Route 11; Meeting House is about 1 mile west of Route 11 on Hopewell Road; a large stone sign marks the point to turn west. From I-81, take Clearbrook exit #321, turn west to the Meeting House, about one mile on south side of Hopewell Road.

Clerk: Carol Melby; **Treasurer:** James Riley; **Ministry & Counsel:** Martha Hanley; **Religious Education:** Anne Bacon;

LANGLEY HILL

Mailing address: P. O. Box 118, McLean, VA 22101

Meeting place address: 6410 Georgetown Pike, Langley, McLean, VA
[Wheelchair accessible meeting room] [Hearing assistance system available-72.9 MgH]

Telephone: 703/442-8394—Meeting House telephone

e-mail: langleyhill-owner@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.quaker.org/langleyhill>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. second First Day; First Day School, 10:30 a.m. (Nursery at 10:00 a.m.).

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 10:30 a.m. at the rise of meeting.

Travel directions: From Washington: cross Chain Bridge and turn right onto Route 123; continue two miles to the well-marked right turn onto Route 193 (Georgetown Pike); follow Georgetown Pike six-tenths of a mile to the Meeting House on the right. From the Beltway: leave the Beltway, turning east (toward Langley and Washington) onto Route 193 (Georgetown Pike); follow Georgetown Pike almost two miles to Meeting House on left.

Clerk: Doug Smith; **Treasurer:** Jim Laity; **Ministry & Worship:** Rebecca Rawls; **Care & Clearness (Oversight):** Dona Manoukian; **Religious Education:** Suzanne Nicholson & Susan Sasner; **Stewardship & Finance:** Jim Laity

LITTLE BRITAIN (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Suzanne Lamborn, Clerk, 225 Lees Bridge Road, Nottingham, PA 19362

Meeting place address: See Eastland and Penn Hill

First Day schedule: See Little Britain-Eastland and Little Britain-Penn Hill.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of month, at rise of Meeting, February, April, June, October and December at Eastland, January, March, May, July, September and November at Penn Hill; August at Drumore.

Travel directions: See Little Britain-Eastland and Little Britain-Penn Hill.

Clerk: Suzanne Lamborn; **Treasurer:** George Lamborn; **Ministry & Counsel:** Mark Brabson

LITTLE BRITAIN-EASTLAND (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Linda Coates, Clerk, 126 S. Fulton Street, Strasburg, PA 17579

Meeting place location: at Kirks Mills and Friends Roads, Little Britain [Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Meeting for Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.

Travel directions:

From points south: Route I-95 North from Baltimore. Exit onto Route 152 (Fallston) West; to U.S. Route 1 North to Conowingo Hydroelectric Dam; after bridge, at top of hill, turn north onto Route 222. After crossing Pennsylvania border, take right fork at Y in road (approximately 1 mile) onto Little Britain Road; drive about three miles, turn right onto Friends Road. Eastland Meeting House is on the Left.

From points north/west: Exit from Rt. 30 to Fruitville Pike (South). Follow through Lancaster City (becomes Prince St/272(S)). Follow 272 approximately 20 miles south to Wakefield. After passing Penn Hill Meeting House and Robert Fulton Fire Company, turn Left continuing on 272 S. Follow four (4) miles to Stop sign. Turn Right onto Little Britain Road. Take Second (2nd) Left (approximately 1.5 miles) onto Friends Road. Eastland Meeting House on Left at top of hill.

Clerk: Linda Coates

LITTLE BRITAIN-PENN HILL (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Mary Kirk, Clerk, 248 Pilottown Road, Peach Bottom, PA 17563

Meeting place location: Wakefield, PA, just south of junction US Route 222 and PA Route 272

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available-microphone and speaker]

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.

Travel directions: Nine miles north of US Route 1 on US Rte 222 at Wakefield, PA; 200 feet south of the split of US Rte 222 and PA Rte 272.

Clerk: Mary Kirk

LITTLE FALLS (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P. O. Box 240, Fallston, MD 21047

Meeting place address: 719 Old Fallston Road, Fallston, MD 21047

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 410/877-3015–Meeting House telephone

Web Site: <http://www.bym-rsf.org/littlefalls/littlefalls.html>

First Day Schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 11:15 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 11:15 a.m.

Travel directions: At intersection of either Interstate 95 or US 1 and Route 152, go west on 152. Cross 147 (Harford Rd.) and turn left at second light. This will be Old Fallston Rd. after passing school complex. Little Falls Meeting is about 3/4 mi. on the left.

Interim Clerk: Barbara Siebens; **Treasurer:** Ellen Stromdahl; **Overseers:** Beth Babikow; **Religious Education:** Virginia Remsberg & Maureen Clark (children), Cathy Kilmon & Judy Harlan (adult); **Peace & Social Concerns:** Tracey Stambaugh, **Communications:** Alice Remsberg.

LOUISA COUNTY WORSHIP GROUP (CHARLOTTESVILLE)

Mailing address: c/o Diane Grandstrom, Convenor, 138 Twin Oaks Road, Louisa, VA 23093

Meeting place address: Same as above.

[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m. First and Third First Days.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First day, after Meeting for Worship.

Travel directions: Take Interstate 64, then Shannon Hill Exit (#149). Turn north on Route 605. Take 605 for about five miles. Turn left on Yanceyville Road (#646). Go one mile, turn left on Vigor Road (#697). This becomes a gravel road. Continue to top of the hill. Turn left on Tupelo Ridge Road. Pass Dairy Barn on left then park in lot on left. Walk up hill past big building on left. Go in next big building on right (called Kaweah). Meeting room is first room on the left.

Convenor: Diane Grandstrom; **Treasurer:** Marione Cobb; **Corresponding Secretary:** Dianne Grandstrom

LYNCHBURG INDULGED (ROANOKE)

Mailing address: Heidi Koring, 108 Warren Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501

Meeting place address: Lynchburg College Spiritual Life Center, 500 Westwood Avenue, Lynchburg, VA

[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Call contact person.

Contact: Heidi Koring; **Ministry & Worship:** James Owens

MADISON COUNTY WORSHIP GROUP (CHARLOTTESVILLE)

Contact: Susan Bramley, (540) 948-7827; PO Box 160, Hood VA 22730

MATTAPONI PREPARATIVE (WILLIAMSBURG)

Mailing address: c/o Charles Maloney, Dayspring Farm, 942 Buena Vista Rd, Cologne, VA 23181-4010

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 804/785-9401

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m. first and third First Days

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, after the rise of Meeting.

Travel directions: From Charlottesville, take Route 64 East to Richmond. Just before Richmond, take 295 North and East around Richmond.

*Stay on 295 until exit for Route 64. Take 64 East towards Williamsburg and Norfolk. Stay on 64 East until the first West Point exit. That will put you on Route 33. Go through the town of West Point after approximately eight to nine miles. After another five to six miles, at the intersection of Route 33 and Route 14 E, turn right. You will be turning right towards Gloucester. After 1/2 mile, the farm is on the right. It is a big white farm house and you will see a sign for Dayspring Farm.

Travel Directions: From Baltimore or D.C., take Interstate 95 South, through Fredericksburg, all the way to Route 295. Take 295 East towards Williamsburg and Norfolk. Follow directions from *.

Clerk: Charles Maloney; **Treasurer:** Neil Watson

MAURY RIVER

Mailing address: P.O. Box 582, Lexington, VA 24450

Meeting place address: W. Midland Trail at Waterloo Drive, 10 miles west of Lexington, VA

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://www.bym-rsf.org/mrmm/index.html>

First Day schedule: Worship at 10:00 a.m.; Adult discussion 11:30 a.m.; Potluck follows discussion; First Day School, 10:00 a.m. with children joining meeting at 10:40 a.m. (except fourth First Day 10:00 a.m.)

Business Meeting schedule: Fourth First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: From I-81, take I-64 West to exit #50 (Kerrs Creek). At the top of the exit ramp, turn left, crossing over I-64. At the next intersection, turn right onto State Route 850 (W. Midland Trail). Travel west four miles through farmland to State Route 629 (Waterloo Drive). Turn left. The Meeting House is on the right just across the bridge.

Clerk: Mary Barnes ; **Treasurer:** John White; **Ministry & Worship:** Peggy Dyson-Cobb; **Religious Education:** Nancy G. Anderson; **Stewardship & Finance:** Elise Sheffield

MENALLEN (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Barclay Brooks, Clerk, 45 Rice Avenue, Biglerville, PA 17307-0845

Meeting place address: 1107 Carlisle Road (PA Rt. 34), Biglerville, PA
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 717/677-7797–Clerk

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, following Meeting for Worship.

Travel directions: The Meeting is about ten miles north of Gettysburg, PA, on PA Rt. 34. Passing through Biglerville, go north two and a half miles past the second Biglerville traffic light. The Meeting House is on the right.

Clerk: Barclay Brooks; **Treasurer:** Margaret (Peggy) Fisher; **Ministry & Counsel:** Barclay Brooks

MIDLOTHIAN

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1003, Midlothian, VA 23113

Meeting place address: 2502 Huguenot Springs Road, Midlothian, VA
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

e-mail: Quaker_Town_Crier@msn.com

Web site: <http://www.midlothianfriends.org>

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m. every First Day; First Day School, 11:15 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Days—odd number months 9:30 a.m. and even number months 12:30 p.m.

Travel directions: Rt. 60 West from the village of Midlothian; right on Huguenots Springs Road; travel about 2 miles; Meeting House on the left.

Clerk: David Clark; **Treasurer:** Martha Tyler; **Ministry & Worship:** Beth Rappe; **Care & Counsel:** Howard Brod; **Religious Education:** Katie DeWeers; **Stewardship & Finance:** Bob Webb

NORFOLK PREPARATIVE (WILLIAMSBURG)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 11469, Norfolk, VA 23527

Meeting place address: location varies: call 757/627-6317 for directions
[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 757/627-6317 for messages

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Call 757/627-6317 for directions

NOTTINGHAM (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 260 South Third Street, Oxford, PA 19363

Meeting place address: Oxford Friends Meeting House, 260 South Third Street, Oxford, PA 19363

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 610/932-8572–Meeting House telephone

Web Site: <http://www.oxfordfriends.org>

First Day schedule: First Day School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 9:30 a.m.; M&C meets Fourth First Day at 12:30 p.m.

Travel directions: Take PA Route 472 exit from US Route 1. Turn onto Route 472, also known as Lancaster Avenue (from north a left turn and from south a right turn). Continue about one mile, bear right at a church to a stop light. Turn right at that light onto Third Street and continue through the next light. The Meeting House is on the right about midway in the block.

Clerk: Charles Hilaman; **Ministry & Counsel:** Harriet D. Magoon & Janet Eaby; **Stewardship & Finance:** Douglas Eaby; **Treasurer:** Gail Pietryzk; **Religious Education:** Ellie Hilaman

PATAPSCO (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: Mt. Hebron House, 2331 Mt. Hebron Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Meeting place address: Same as above
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://www.patapscofriends.com/>

Phone: 410/465-6554

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day at noon, call Clerk for details

Travel directions: Take Route 29 North to the end. Turn left onto Old Frederick Road (also known as Route 99). Take first right onto Mt. Hebron Drive. Take second left onto Calvin Circle. Please park on the street, not in the church parking lot. Mt. Hebron House is across the parking lot from the church.

Clerk: Ramona Buck; **Assistant Clerk:** Terry Griffith; **Treasurer:** Jahanna Danos; **Ministry & Care:** Jean Pfefferkon; **Religious Education:** Roger Reynolds; **Advancement & Outreach:** Carol Dana; **Peace:** John Farrell

PATUXENT (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 536, Lusby, MD 20657

Meeting place address: 12220 H.G. Trueman Road, Lusby, MD
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 410/394-1233

Web site: <http://www.patuxentfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:15 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Rt. 2 and 4 south from Prince Frederick; 18 miles. Turn left on Rousby Hall Road (Rt. 760); turn right at the first light on Rt. 765 (H.G. Trueman Road). Go 0.7 miles south. You will pass Southern Calvert Baptist Church on the left; continue a short distance past the Church and a road, then turn left into the next driveway (by a yellow mail box) to the Meeting House.

Clerk: Vicki Rhoades; **Treasurer:** Dave Elinton; **Ministry & Counsel:** Cynthia Gonzalez; **Religious Education:** Kim Keck

PIPE CREEK (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 487, Union Bridge, MD 21791-0487

Meeting place address: 455 Quaker Hill Road, Union Bridge, MD
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 301/831-7446

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: From Main Street (MD75) in Union Bridge turn east on East Locust Street, cross the railroad tracks, and go up the hill. Bear right at the fork; the Meeting House is 0.2 mile on the right.

Clerk: Charles J. Swet; **Co-Treasurers:** Bill Atwater & Frank Reitemeyer

QUAKER LAKE

Mailing address: c/o Tim Lietzke, Clerk, 10 Greentree Drive, Keysville, VA 23947

Meeting place address: at the home of Nels Beck, 114 Wilson Circle, Hampden Sydney

[wheelchair? One step] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 434/223-4160

First Day schedule: 11:00 a.m. on all First Days but one each month; First Day School: 11:15 a.m. if children are present

Business Meeting schedule: Date and time varies; call for information

Travel directions: Go about 3 miles south on 15 from Farmville to a stop-light. Turn right onto 133. Presently take the right fork, which takes you through the campus of Hampden-Sydney College. Turn left onto Atkinson Avenue, which becomes Wilson Circle, and proceed to 114 Wilson Circle.

Clerk: Tim Lietzke; **Treasurer:** Barbara Lietzke

RICHMOND

Mailing address: 4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221-2301

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible-entire building] [Hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 804/358-6185–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.richmondfriends.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 11:20 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Travel directions: From the north, take I-95 to Exit 79. Take I-195 South for one and one-half miles and exit at Broad Street/US Route 250. Go right/west on Broad/250 one-half mile to Commonwealth (second traffic light). Go left/south on Commonwealth 12 blocks to Kensington. The Meeting House is on the corner of Kensington and Commonwealth Avenues.

Clerk: Dan Shaw; **Assistant Clerk:** Barbara Myers; **Treasurer:** Kristen Hoogakker; **Ministry & Worship:** Diane Bowden; **Religious Education:** Becky Patterson; **Financial Stewardship:** Patricia Stansbury

ROANOKE

Mailing address: 81 Glendale Rd., Bent Mountain, VA 24059

Meeting place address: Rice Room, Jefferson Center, 541 Luck Ave., SW, Roanoke

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 540/982-1034–Meeting House telephone

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Third First Day of the month, at rise of Meeting.

Travel directions: Call (540) 982-1034 for direction to the meeting place.

Clerk: Jenny Chapman; **Treasurer:** Herb Beskar; **Ministry & Counsel:** Tony Martin; **Peace & Social Concerns:** Cecily Wood; **Religious Education:** Josh Humphries; **Stewardship & Finance:** Herb Beskar

SANDY SPRING (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 17715 Meeting House Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860

Meeting place address: 17715 Meetinghouse Road, Sandy Spring, MD
[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 301/774-9792–Community House

Meeting Contact: Joli McCathran

Web site: <http://www.sandyspring.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:30 a.m. every Sunday and 11:00 a.m. (except first First Day), Thursday, 7:30 p.m. worship at Meeting House; First Day School, 11:20 a.m. (except first First Day). Ministry & Counsel meets third First Day 9:15 a.m. Worship also 10-10:30 a.m. at Miller Center, Friends House.

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 10:40 a.m.

Travel directions: Sandy Spring is in Montgomery County on Route 108, between Ashton and Olney. Turn south from Route 108 at the traffic signal onto Meeting House Road . The Meeting House is the last building on the parking circle.

Clerk: Rosalind Zuses; **Treasurer:** Nancy Sherwood; **Ministry & Counsel:** Tom Farquhar; **Religious Education:** Mike Ratcliffe; **Stewardship & Finance:** Beth Garrettson

SENECA VALLEY PREPARATIVE (SANDY SPRING)

Mailing address: c/o Nancy Swift, 12228 Wonder View Way, North Potomac, MD 20878

Meeting place address: Kerr Fellowship Hall, Boyds Presbyterian Church, 19821 White Ground Road, Boyds, MD

[Not wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, every First Day, 11:30 a.m. First Day School, 11:50 a.m.; Potluck, 12:45 p.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 1:30 p.m.

Travel directions: From I-270, take Exit #10 MD Route 117 (Clopper Road) northwest to Boyds (about 6.5 miles). At the stop sign in Boyds, leave Route 117 (which turns right through an underpass) and go straight ahead onto White Ground Road . The church is on the left approximately 2/10 of a mile down White Ground Road. Park in the far parking lot. We meet in the back building, 19821 White Ground Road, Kerr Fellowship Hall, on the second floor.

Clerk: Lowell Christy; **Treasurer:** Thomas Shapiro; **Ministry & Oversight:** Melinda Kramer; **Religious Education:** Annette Breiling

SHEPHERDSTOWN ALLOWED MEETING (FREDERICK)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 819, Shepherdstown, WV 25443

Contact: Carol Robbins, (304) 535-1872, 190 Taylor Street, Harpers Ferry WV 25425

STATE COLLEGE (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 611 East Prospect Avenue, State College, PA 16801

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible] [Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: 814/237-7051–Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.statecollegefriends.org>

First Day Schedule: Worship, 8:30 a.m. (except Business Meeting Sundays) and 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Usually first First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Travel directions: State College, Pennsylvania, is in central Pennsylvania. From Harrisburg use 322W. Use Business Route 322 into State College. Turn right (north) on University Drive (at the Kentucky Fried Chicken); go 1.2 miles. Turn left (west) on East Prospect Avenue. Go one block to the Meeting House. From Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, use Route 26 to University Drive and turn south.

Clerk: Margy Frysinger; **Treasurer:** Virginia Byers; **Care & Concern:** Lynne Grutzeck; **Worship & Ministry:** Phil Furnas; **Religious Education:** Rebecca Lerner & Yuri Plowden; **Stewardship & Finance:** Bob Crauder

TAKOMA PARK PREPARATIVE (ADELPHI)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 11365, Takoma Park, MD 20913-1365

Meeting place address: Sangha (a fair trade store), 7014 Westmoreland Avenue, Takoma Park, MD

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone (messages only): (301) 891-8887

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; second hours occasionally following meeting

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, following meeting for worship

Travel directions: (1) From the Takoma Park Metro station. Walk east on Carroll Avenue toward the downtown area. Turn left (still on Carroll) at the clock tower where Carroll intersects Laurel Avenue. Walk north one short block; turn right on Westmoreland Avenue. Sangha is at the corner of the group of stores above the “Westmoreland wall,” and across Westmoreland from the Gazebo park. Entrance is around the East side of the building.

(2) **From South:** Drive north on New Hampshire Avenue to East-West Highway (Route 410). Turn left on Route 410.

*When Route 410 blends with Carroll Avenue (a multi-cornered intersection by the food co-op), veer to the left to stay on Carroll. Pass the stone firehouse on your left and drive south two long blocks till you see a gazebo on your left. Turn left on the street just past the gazebo (Westmoreland). Sangha is at the corner of the group of stores above the “Westmoreland wall,” and across Westmoreland from the Gazebo Park. Entrance is around the East side of the building. Parking is up the steep driveway BEHIND the building. Parking spaces in front are reserved for other tenants and for handicapped spaces.

(3) Drive south on New Hampshire Avenue (Route 650) to East-West Highway, Route 410. Turn right on 410, then follow the directions above, beginning at the *.

Clerk: Erik Hanson; **Treasurer:** Arthur David Olson; **Ministry & Organization:** Betsy Proch

VALLEY

Mailing address: P.O. Box 781, Dayton, VA 22821

Meeting place address: 363 High Street, Dayton, VA 22821

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 540/879-9879

Web site: <http://vfm.quaker.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m., followed by potluck meal on first First Day of month, adult Religious Education (AKA: Second Hour) on third and fourth First Day; First Day School: 10:15 a.m..

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, at the rise of meeting.

Travel directions: Call 540/574-3825 or the Clerk at 540-421-2525 or email drsbarch@adelphia.net

Clerk: Frank Barch; **Assistant Clerk:** Doris Martin; **Treasurer:** Sam Moore; **Ministry & Care:** Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch; **Religious Education:** Kara Karr

WARRINGTON (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Stan Jones, Clerk, 1040 Old Mountain Rd., Dillsburg, PA 17019

Meeting place address: Meeting House, Wellsville, PA

[Wheelchair accessible by portable ramp] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School: 11:20 twice a month

Business Meeting schedule: First First Day of the month, 11:45 a.m.

Travel directions: Near Wellsville, PA, about 14 miles northwest of York, on PA 74.

Clerk: Stan Jones; **Treasurer:** Trish Wisotzkey; **Ministry & Counsel:** Terry Smith Wallace; **Religious Education:** Stan Jones

WASHINGTON, FRIENDS MEETING OF

Mailing address: 2111 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008-1912

Meeting place address: Same as above

[Wheelchair accessible Meeting Room and Parlor Level] [Hearing assisted equipment available in Meeting Room.]

Telephone: 202/483-3310—Meeting office telephone

e-mail: fmw.dcfriends@verizon.net

Web site: <http://fmw.quaker.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:00 a.m. in Meeting House Parlor, 10:30 a.m. in Quaker House Living Room (special welcome to gay men and lesbians), 10:30 a.m. in the Meeting House Meeting Room, and 6:00 p.m. in Meeting House Decatur Place Room; First Day School, 10:50 a.m.

Daily Worship: 7:30 a.m. at William Penn House, 515 East Capitol St SE

Weekly Worship: Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in Meeting House Parlor.

Business Meeting schedule: 11:45 a.m. every second First Day except July (third First Day) and August (no business).

Travel directions: The Meeting House is in Northwest Washington near Dupont Circle. It is on Florida Avenue between R and S Streets and between 21st and 22nd Streets. The office entrance is on the Decatur Place side of the building. For detailed instructions, call the Meeting office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays or see the FMW web site.

Public Transportation-Metro: Go to the Dupont Circle station on the Red line. Exit at Q Street. Walk north (uphill) on nearby Connecticut Avenue to the second traffic light at Florida Avenue. Turn left on Florida and go one half block to the Meeting House on the right.

Clerk: Hayden Wetzel; **Alternate Clerk:** Lois “Loie” Clark; **Treasurer:** Jacqueline DeCarlo; **Ministry & Worship:** Ann Cline; **Religious Education:** Lara Jordan James; **Finance & Stewardship:** Tim Cline, Clerk & Lois “Loie” Cline, Alternate Clerk; **Peace and Social Concerns:** Kimberly Crichton

WEST BRANCH (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o William Thorp, Clerk, 178 Nellie's Rd., Grampian, PA 16838

Meeting place address: Grampian, PA

[Wheelchair accessible for Meeting Room. Bathrooms downstairs are not]
[No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: At the call of the Clerk.

Travel directions: On US 219, 12 miles southwest of Clearfield, PA.

Clerk: William Thorp; **Treasurer:** Karen Wriglesworth; **Ministry & Counsel:** Dorothy McCracken; **Religious Education:** Lori Rancik

WILLIAMSBURG

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1034, Williamsburg, VA 23187

Meeting place address: Williamsburg Montessori School, 4214 Longhill Road, Williamsburg, VA [Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Voice Mail: 757/253-7752

Web site: <http://www.williamsburg-friends.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Second Hour Forum, 11:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:15 a.m.

Business Meeting schedule: Second First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m., with potluck following.

Fourth Day Schedule: Midweek meeting for worship, 6:00 p.m. held in the small chapel of Williamsburg United Methodist Church, 514 Jamestown Rd

Travel directions: From I-64, take Rte. 199 to Longhill Road (Route 612); go west past Olde Towne Square and Lafayette High School. Williamsburg Montessori is on the right.

Co-Clerks: Robert Solomon; **Treasurer:** Liz Ackert; **Ministry & Counsel:** Mary Jane Foley; **Religious Education:** Eli Courtright; **Stewardship & Finance:** Rhet Tignor; **Peace & Social Concerns:** Deanna Rote

YORK (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)**Mailing address:** 135 W. Philadelphia St., York, PA 17401**Meeting place address:** 135 W. Philadelphia Street, York, PA 17401

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: 717/845-3799**e-mail:** leadadietz@epix.net**Web site:** www.yorkfriendsmeeting.org**First Day schedule:** Worship, 11:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m. Worship Sharing/Discussion**Business Meeting schedule:** First First Day of the month, 9:30 a.m.
(Except July and August)**Travel directions:** 135 W. Philadelphia Street is in the center of York.**Clerk:** Leada Dietz; **Treasurer:** Louise Heckert; **Ministry & Counsel/****Community Life:** Wim Neij; **Religious Education:** Louise Heckert; **Peace & Social Concerns:** **Stewardship & Finance:** Richard Waggy***DIRECTIONS TO OUR CAMPS AND YEARLY MEETING OFFICE*****CATOCTIN: From Route I 70, Route I 270, and Route 340,** take 15 North at Frederick, MD. Go about 10 miles north to the u-turn at the Cunningham Falls State Park - Manor Area. Proceed south on Route 15 and turn right 0.5 miles at the next road - Catoctin Hollow Road. Go 3.6 miles to Mink Farm Road and turn left. Proceed 2 miles turning right at Foxville-Tower Road. The driveway to the camp is on the right just beyond the bridge.**From points north on Route 15** take 15 south past Thurmont. Take MD Rt. 77 West at Thurmont for 2.5 miles. Turn left at Catoctin Hollow Road. After several miles turn right on Mink Farm Road. Follow it for 1.9 miles. Turn Right on Tower Road. The camp driveway is immediately on your right.**From Hagerstown and Points West** take I 70 east. Get off at exit 42 (Myersville, Gambril State Park). Turn left (north) on to Route 17. After .8 miles, turn right as indicated by the Greenbriar and Gambril State Parks sign. Also note the brick church on the left. Go only a short distance further to Route 40. Turn right on to Route 40. Turn left into Gambril State Park, just past the DanDee Motel (.7 miles beyond the turn off Ridge Road). Proceed to the top of the mountain. You will find that the road comes to a "T" at the High Knob Scenic Area. Turn right at the "T". Follow the paved road for 7.4 miles. At this

point there is a “Y” in the road, marked by a Frederick Watershed sign. Take the left fork of the “Y” onto Mink Farm Road. Proceed slowly (15 mph) past Middlepoint Road (on the left) to Tower Road, one mile and on the left. Turn left onto Tower Road. The camp is on your immediate right.

SHILOH: From DC – From the Beltway go west on I-66 to exit 43. Go south on Rt. 29 for about 55 miles, past Warrenton and Culpeper. Two miles after Madison, turn right on Rt. 230 at the light. There will be a Sheetz convenience store on your right. Go six miles to Hood, turn right on Rt. 613, and go three miles to the end. It comes to a ‘T’ just after you cross a small bridge. Turn right on Middle River Road (Rt. 667),

* go 1.4 miles to the camp driveway which crosses a wooden bridge on the right just after a sharp left curve. It is directly across from the Shiloh Church of the Brethren. The church sign is easier to see than is Shiloh’s.

From Richmond – Take I-64 west 71 miles to Charlottesville. Turn north on 29 and go 18 miles to Ruckersville. Turn left on 33 West. After several miles you will turn right at a stoplight for Rt. 33 business towards Stanardsville. As you enter Stanardsville, turn right on Rt. 230, go three miles, then turn left on Middle River Road (Rt. 667). [From * above]

OPEQUON: From I-81: Take exit 321 (Clearbrook). Go east on Hopewell Road to a ‘T’ with Route 11. There will be a church in front of you and the Olde Stone Restaurant to your right. Turn left, then *take your immediate right* onto Brucetown Road . Opequon is three miles from this turn....

...As you proceed on Brucetown Road you will pass Clearbrook Park, cross a set of railroad tracks, go through the little town of Brucetown and pass through a residential area. You will go down a hill passing several single family homes/trailers on your right. At the bottom of this hill make a right turn into the camp driveway. If you get to a ‘Y’, the right fork of which crosses a one lane concrete bridge, you’ve gone too far.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OFFICE: From I-495, take exit #31A (Route 97 North—Georgia Avenue towards Wheaton). Go a little over 10 miles. Make a right at Route 108 East. Go about 2 miles; you will see Sherwood Elementary School on the left. At the next light (Norwood Road) make a right. Turn left into Friends House Retirement Community (Quaker Lane). Follow Quaker Lane all the way around Friends House Apartments. Quaker Lane ends at the Baltimore Yearly Meeting office. You will see a basketball hoop in the parking lot. Park and come in through the door with the “Baltimore Yearly Meeting Office” sign.

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