
**THE SPRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**REPORTED TO ANNUAL SESSION AT FROSTBURG, MD
8TH MONTH, 2008**

The spiritual state of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is embodied in our sense of community. Constituent Meeting communities report their awareness of solid, deep and broad spiritual underpinnings. Seekers come from hear and far to attend Worship in our widely scattered Meetings. Many attend Meeting as part of a search for meaning, out of hunger for peace, and for help in the ongoing challenges of the everyday. The find safe haven grounded in the Spirit where Friendship and fellowship abound.

Our Meetings are spiritual homes rather than mere organizations. They are places of watching and waiting upon God. They are safe, caring places flowing with healing energy for the needy soul. Our diversity of beliefs seem unimportant to the total gathering of Friends. What we share is a deep commitment to discerning the Spirit when we are gathered in community for worship, to attend to business, to study, and to play. These times of spiritual nourishment prepare Friends to meet the joys, sorrows and challenges in our daily lives.

Deep and powerful silent worship is sometimes punctuated by enriching Spirit-filled messages although some Meetings report that months or even years may pass without vocal ministry. Whether silent or audible, the Inner Light shines brightly during worship time together, and its warmth continues to nourish and sustain us while we are apart. Meetings report being encouraged and enriched by the attendance of traveling Friends from the wider Baltimore Yearly Meeting community.

Grief and mourning of accumulated losses of cherished and seasoned Friends, taken from us by death, transfer or other occasions hang heavily over some Meetings. At such times, we are aware of how much one person can affect the life of a spiritual community. We take comfort in knowing that community does not necessarily mean living face-to-face with others; rather, it means never losing the awareness that we are connected to each other in Love, which is eternal.

In times of hardship, tragedy, need or crisis, Friends are lifted by the Spirit. As we earnestly wait in the Light, addressing our differences and seeking resolution of our conflicts, healing and reconciliation come to the distressed or wounded Meeting communities, sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

Strong feelings of connectedness, one to another, allow us to recognize and share our unique spiritual gifts. We have found threshing meetings and clearness committees useful to directly engage and seek understanding and God's will on matters of great concern. On occasion when one of us is being difficult we remain open to the Spirit and willing to greet that of God in one another. As we minister to each other, we have times to be active and giving, and times to be reflective and receptive.

Our mission as a Quaker community is to help each other to live our Quaker values in our daily lives and to realize those values in the greater community. Prophetic witness grows and calls us to lovingly speak truth to power. We find many occasions to act upon our testimonies and carry our message of peace, love and justice to a waiting world.

Attendance at some Meetings has grown and diminished repeatedly over the years. A few Meetings find themselves in a state of constant transition. They struggle to understand Quaker process, practice and traditions. Their strength and hope rest in their commitment to our simple faith, mutual respect and caring, and willingness to work together as a community.

There is an awareness of the spiritual nature—God at work—in all that surrounds us, and all that we do. Participation in committees and activities focused on peace, social justice, hospitality, stewardship of the environment, matters of finance, and care of our buildings and grounds offers vital context in which we come to know one another. We come to fullness during Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business and in committee work. Monthly Meeting expands our communal spiritual experiences. It provides a sense of shared responsibility and common purpose. Friends are watchful that Quaker process does not become diluted and less meaningful. When we trust the process, resist pressure for quick decisions, listen for that still, small voice, and speak from the heart, no issue is so great as to divide us. We are amazed by how unexpectedly and beautifully Way continually opens to us. We remain rooted in the Divine,

prepared to be vehicles of it to our Meeting community and a needy world in even more faithful and creative ways.

It has been a year of spiritual growth and enlightenment for the Baltimore Yearly Meeting community. We are thankful for blessings past, for our present joys, and for our hope of future growth and improvement. Our spiritual state is strong; made stronger yet, as our communities struggle and seek, change and develop, while attending to the Spirit and each other. We come together in bonds of Love with open hearts, ears ready to listen, hands ready to help, and feet ready to go where we are needed. We have tried what Love can do. We have been blessed by what Love has done for us.

EPISTLE

The 2008 general epistle was held over until Fall Interim Meeting (Y2008-58, Y2008-75). The epistles of Junior Young Friends (Y2008-72), Young Friends (Y2008-73) and Young Adult Friends (Y2008-74) were received and will be sent with the general epistle.

**MINUTES OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
INTERIM MEETING
TENTH MONTH 20, 2007
FRIENDS MEETING OF WASHINGTON**

I2007-29 *Opening.* Friends settled into silence in the meeting room of Friends Meeting of Washington, District of Columbia prior to 2:30 p.m. The Clerk read part of the Meeting as Caring Community from Faith and Practice, including the need for the community to consider openly matters at issue, seeking a loving resolution of conflict, rather than to preserve a semblance of community by ignoring issues. Even when resolution is not immediate, the Meeting should make room for different expressions of continuing revelation while persisting in earnest search for unity. The goal, in George Fox's words, is "To know one another in that which is eternal."

Eighty-two Friends from twenty-two meetings signed in.

Adelphi: Alexander Barnes, Stephanie Bean, Dave Diller; Alexandria: Deborah Haines, Jean Ward; Annapolis: Wes Jordan, Pat Schenck, Harold Saunders, Kathy Saunders, Barbara Thomas; Baltimore, Homewood: Herb & Nancy Clark, Laura Goren; Baltimore, Stony Run: Mike Boardman, Don Gann, Lamar Mathew, Meg Meyer; Bethesda: Marion Ballard, Ted & Ria Hawkins, Liz Hofmeister, Susan Kaul, Catherine McHugh; Blacksburg: Allen Briggs; Charlottesville: Aron Teel; Frederick: Kat Darnell, David Hunter, Jane Megginson; Gettysburg: Margaret Stambaugh; Friendship Preparative: Jim Dickson; Hopewell Centre: Anne Bacon, Laura Nell Obaugh; Langley Hill: Sheila Bach, Walter Brown, Hugh & Georgia Fuller, Bill Mims, Rebecca Rawls, Laurie Wilner; Maury River: Katherine Smith, Tasha Walsh; Nottingham: Anita Bower, Janet Eaby, Jason Eaby, David Ross; Patapsco: Ramona Buck, Bob Rhudy, Ken Stockbridge; Richmond: Anna Kathryn Best, Ted Heck, Catherine Rhodes, Bob Rugg, Janet Worsham; Sandy Spring: Maria Bradley, Wayne & Natalie Finegar, Howard & Flossie Fullerton, John Hudson, Darcy Lane, Margo Lehman, Rich Liversidge, Roger Starr, Benjamin Zuses; Shepherdstown: Howard Fezell; Takoma Park Preparative: Erik Hanson, Kit Mason; Valley: Rose Flory; Washington, Friends Meeting of: Marjorie Akins, Dick Bellin, Tim Cline, Dennis Hartzell, Andrei Israel, Joseph J. Izzo, Tom Libbert, Carol Phelps, Riley Robinson, Byron Sandford, Marta Steele; Williamsburg: Bill Carroll, Robert Solomon; also present: Ann Whittaker

The Presiding Clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Howard Fullerton, welcomed Friends and recognized Beth Gorton from Quaker City Unity Friends Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting.

Administrative Announcements:

- Friends were reminded to collect Yearbooks for their Meetings.
- Please pick up announcements to offer workshops at Annual Session.

I2007-30 Nominating Committee. Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) announced the resignation of Lois Carter Fay from Camping Program Committee. Mochiko Yokoyama DeSilva (Sandy Spring) has resigned from FWCC; and Diane Eaby (Nottingham) has resigned from Youth Programs Committee.

Nathan Harrington, Sandy Spring, was nominated to the Camping Program Committee to fill out the unexpired term, serving from 2007-2009.

Friends were asked to approve the nomination by Friends House Board of John Smallwood (Langley Hill) to serve on Friends House Board.

Both nominations were APPROVED.

I2007-31 Search Committee. Janet Eaby (Nottingham) brought forward the names of Dave Treber (Langley Hill) and Kat Darnell (Frederick) to serve on Nominating Committee, in the class of 2010.

Both nominations were APPROVED.

I2007-32 Stewardship and Finance. Allen Briggs (Blacksburg) clerk, presented a table with apportionments revised to reflect the direction of Yearly Meeting at Annual Session. All Meetings were asked to increase apportionments; some were unable to do so to the extent requested, and other Meetings offered additional funds to help make up what others were not able to contribute. Even so, the predicted income falls \$3,000 short of meeting the budgeted needs, giving individuals an opportunity to make contributions.

A Friend noted that Meetings have not always met the full commitment of their apportionments, which will be necessary to support our activities this year.

The apportionments, as presented and attached to these minutes, were AP-PROVED.

I2007-33 Stewardship and Finance Sub-committee on Development. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) co-clerk of Stewardship and Finance reported, highlighting aspects of the printed report.

Report to Baltimore Yearly Meeting Interim Meeting
By the Development Sub-committee of the
BYM Stewardship and Finance Committee - October 20, 2007

At the 2007 BYM Annual Session, the following was minuted:

Y2007-64 . . . This budget does not include funds for a development position. Friends have expressed much enthusiasm for expanded development to support our yearly meeting programs, but also cautions about the risks it may entail. Stewardship and Finance proposes to season this idea further and, if appropriate, bring a recommendation for creating a development program to Interim Meeting. Friends who would like to work on developing and seasoning such a proposal should contact Allen Briggs. Those committees that might expect to be involved in fundraising and development, especially Advancement and Outreach, Camping Programs, Camp Property Management, Stewardship and Finance, and Trustees are encouraged to get involved. It may be necessary to hold threshing sessions in our local meetings prior to Interim Meeting in order to develop a well-grounded recommendation.

Several Friends expressed support for a development program, and suggested that we should start by seeking the advice of a consultant and carrying out a feasibility study. This has worked very well in Friends General Conference and other Quaker organizations.

The Work of the Development Subcommittee So Far:

Names of participants

Marion Ballard, Assistant Treasurer and incoming Treasurer

Tim Cline, Stewardship and Finance Committee

Jim Dickson, Camping Programs Committee

Natalie Finegar, Co-clerk, Stewardship and Finance Committee

David Hunter, BYM Camp Property Manager

Riley Robinson, BYM General Secretary

Byron Sandford, Clerk, Trustees

Frannie Taylor, Trustee

Tasha Walsh, Co-clerk, Camping Programs Committee

Two Friends on the committee have experience as professionals in the field of development. Others have extensive experience with other organizations' development programs, including Friends' organizations. Other Friends were asked, but were unable to participate.

Meetings:

The Development Subcommittee held tele-conferences on September 22 and 27, and October 2 and 11.

Consultations:

Conference: Five Friends took two full days to attend the Friends Fiduciary conference on development, October 1-2, which included a special breakout session on BYM's situation. Substantial written input came from Meg Meyer Boyd and Joanne Schneider

Products:

The Development Subcommittee developed a fundraising plan for Fall 2007 and mailed the first appeal letter, containing an unprecedented matching grant of up to \$25,000 for new givers or increased contributions.

Previous Baltimore Yearly Meeting Discussion of This Issue:

At a Called Interim Meeting, held 25 Second Month 2006, at Bethesda Friends Meeting, minute I2006-04 reported that:

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?

.... Summary reports were given from each of the six small groups. In general, 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.

What We Have Found as a Result of Our Work:

- The Stewardship and Finance Committee does not have a clear charge to raise funds, but rather to prepare the annual budget and apportionment plan, and to "keep all Monthly Meetings informed of the financial needs of the Yearly Meeting . . ." The budget and apportionment process alone is a major undertaking, and the process has not been particularly conducive to actual YM-MM conversations.
- The General Secretary's job description charge is only to "support fund-raising efforts." Other staff has participated in fundraising projects as well, but this has been somewhat piecemeal, which can lead to problems in the long term.
- Many Monthly Meetings feel that the current apportionment system asks too much of them in financial terms. In part there is a lack of communication about what the Yearly Meeting does; in part there is a sense that some Monthly Meetings do not make much use of some of the most expensive programs. There is need for listening and discussion on these concerns. Additionally, there is a wide difference among Meetings between their operating costs versus their ability to raise funds.
- Two major multi-year camp fundraising initiatives (the GOOD Committee; the FUTURE Committee) were quite successful in the past however the momentum was lost.
- The overall needs of the Yearly Meeting, in terms of infrastructure, staffing and programs, has never been assessed in a systematic way. There are sizable needs. The difficult cash flow and income management problems by themselves absorb valuable staff and committee time.

- Friends and Meetings have not been asked in a comprehensive way what they want the Yearly Meeting to be and do, although many roles have been widely understood, assumed or hoped for.
- Programs like camps and youth programs are expensive to run. On the other hand, experienced development sources say that money can be raised for them from alumni, friends and users.
- The fundraising environment has become much more competitive. Friends and Meetings are contacted by Quaker schools, organizations and retirement homes on an intentional, systematic basis. If Baltimore Yearly Meeting does not do so as well, people may not think that we need the money, or may not think of us at all. Meanwhile, in some years BYM has not even sent out one letter.

Conclusions:

- A continuing program for development is needed in BYM. It needs to include committee oversight and a full-time staff person. It needs to include articulation of more comprehensive policies about development practices and funds management that include community building as well as capacity building. It needs to develop from the start a healthy ongoing conversation about carrying forward our spiritual life and leadings with financial support. A feasibility study is probably needed, and possibly a major capital campaign.
- The current Development Subcommittee of Stewardship & Finance Committee is willing to carry this concern forward at this time. A committee description and work schedule is well along in refinement. Experienced Friendly sources advise that a standing committee will be needed; BYM's experience appears to affirm that. The Subcommittee is constructing a BYM development plan for 2008, but does not feel capable of carrying the needed work out by itself.
- A staff person is needed soon. The Yearly Meeting approved a stripped-down 2008 budget that requires raising \$60,000, an amount that takes planning and effort to raise, and yet is not enough. The Yearly Meeting needs an annual giving program soon, which is not an unusual plan to design, and which would

then provide an information base to move toward needed major gifts and planned giving programs, as well as a possible capital campaign. It would be beneficial to have the development person involved in this planning, and in the listening process in the Yearly Meeting. The Development Committee will participate in devising and carrying out a training plan for this individual that includes extensive introductions to Meetings, individual Friends, and BYM practices.

- Baltimore Yearly Meeting is not too large, in terms of the territory it covers. With a firmer financial footing, BYM could build the capacity to reach more people who would like to be Friends, more Friends who would like to be more engaged in the Religious Society of Friends, and better support Monthly Meetings seeking ways to grow and thrive. Currently, BYM is trying to function somewhat beyond its current limitations, which could create the opposite effect.

Natalie thanked the members of the Committee who have worked many hours since Annual Session.

A fundraising plan for Fall 2007 was developed and the first appeal letter was mailed, containing an unprecedented matching grant of up to \$25,000 for new givers or increased contributions.

The Committee recommends that BYM create a full development program to be put in place by a full-time development professional.

A copy of this report has previously been forwarded to Supervisory, Trustees and Stewardship & Finance Committees; the last of which approved the principle of a development plan and hiring of a fund-raiser at its meeting today.

A draft description for a Development Subcommittee to support a fundraising professional is also available and is attached to these minutes. The current ad hoc group requests continuance, for the time being.

A development professional is sought, with a predicted salary of \$60,000 plus 22% benefits, plus program expenses. The Stewardship & Finance Committee has begun exploration for additional income sources to support this role. The Committee will not pursue hiring until funding for the position is identified and

the job description is approved by Supervisory Committee. Baltimore Yearly Meetings process for hiring staff involves joint consultation between the program committee related to the staff role and the General Secretary in defining the role, and recruiting and hiring the individual.

In response to questions, Natalie stated the subcommittee's expectation that an experienced person could raise funds in excess of those needed to support the program during the first year. The professional assistance of an experienced development officer could also help stabilize the increase in apportionments. A Friend reminded us of the whole-hearted enthusiasm of BYM members for the FUTURE and GOOD programs, our past forays into fund-raising, and asked that Friends similarly take on this project as our project.

A Friend who serves as clerk of the Development Committee of Friends General Conference reminded us that development is a key ministry, not simply fund-raising. A spiritually grounded development officer can make a significant difference. Indeed, it is likely that Friendly giving, both at the Monthly Meeting and Yearly Meeting, may increase over time.

In discussion, Friends spoke about the need to 'exercise the muscles' of fund-raising, to see fund-raising as an expression of our "heart," and to understand BYM as vital and alive. Other Friends reminded us that our fiscal situation requires action; yet, are we clearly willing to take the risks of taking on this project without fully knowing the trade-offs if our vision is not fulfilled? Have we interpreted Yearly Meeting programs and apportionment at our Monthly Meetings?

Friends were reminded that BYM has stepped forward in faith in the past and been successful in the first step; many feel confident to step forward again, taking not only the first step but the subsequent steps to realize our goals.

Friends APPROVED the draft committee description which is appended to these minutes, with the understanding that it may be refined.

Friends APPROVED the hiring of development director, contingent on a job description approved by Supervisory Committee, and the identification of funds by Committees of Trustees and Stewardship and Finance to support the role.

Friends expressed appreciation to the Committee and Natalie for leadership in this discernment process.

I2007-34 Friends World Committee for Consultation Triennial Representatives Report.

Jason Eaby (Nottingham) and Benjamin Zuses (Sandy Spring) traveled to Dublin, together with Bob Fetter (Roanoke) Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre) and Flossie Fullerton (Sandy Spring) to attend the 2007 Triennial. Benjamin spoke of the profound difference between knowing of the diversity of Friends and experiencing that diversity of belief and experience first-hand. Jason expressed his deep appreciation to the Yearly Meeting for making the opportunity available; it was his first experience at a Quaker event outside of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Some of his reflections are in the current *Interchange*. The FWCC's next World Conference will be held in Kenya in 2012. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is challenged to understand the differences among its members and between Friends in our own organizations; this is good practice to participate in the world-wide community of Friends. Friends were reminded that travel for Americans is quite easy, compared to that for Kenyans and others. FWCC celebrated its 70th anniversary in Dublin; the Section of Americas celebrated in September at Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, as well.

I2007-35 Camp Administrative Secretary. Jane Meggison reported.

This past year, the camp season of 2007, was a good year for us. We welcomed three new directors to the program, Alex Jadin at Catoctin, and at Teen Adventure, Jen Schneider and Alison Downey. We said farewell to the former Teen Adventure co-directors, Whitney Thompson and Melissa Poole and I would like to thank them for all of the loving and hard work they have done for the Camping Program. The new TA directors took on the extraordinary challenge that has become running Teen Adventure with the additional excitement of the expansion of TA to include two more trips or 24 more campers, bringing the possible number of campers to 96, for the first time ever. We actually ended up with 92 campers at TA this summer and no campers left on the waitlist, which is the first time in many years where we turned away no campers at TA. Huzzah! TA went well by all reports, and the expansion trips went very well. The TA Leadership Training trips went on a local water trip on the James River that involved building boats out of found objects from the recycling center and the dump. This trip involved teamwork, plan-

ning, execution, imagination, and communication with a bit of silliness thrown in, no doubt! It also required less transportation time and miles, and brought us closer to our neighbors in the Lexington VA area as we worked with different entities in the community to use local resources. We reduced, reused and recycled our way to a great new type of trip and I am grateful to the TA directors, and staff who scouted, planned, and embraced the possibilities that this trip offered to make it successful.

At the residential camps, we still struggled to fill every session but the Camping Program Committee and I are continuing to work on ways to spread the word. I have been working on a new website for the Camp Program that will be more inviting to people we hope to attract to our program rather than aimed at people who already know about BYM camps. The CPC is working on outreach to Monthly Meetings, Friends Schools, and camp fairs. Look for us at a location near you soon!

One of the great blessings of working for the camps over the past several years is hearing about the profound impact the camps have had on the lives of so many. I urge you to keep in mind that seemingly small acts of generosity can have a great and far reaching impact on the lives of others. I, no doubt, would not be working for the camping program, BYM, or have become a Quaker if I had not been so fortunately blessed by a gift out of the blue that gave me a scholarship to go to the Sandy Spring Friends School Community House 9th Grade. My divorced mom of four, working three jobs for us to stay afloat, could never have conceived of sending me to a private school. Through that introduction to Quakers, I became involved in BYM camps as an employee at the tender age of fifteen. I went on to Earlham College, also with substantial financial aid, and I stand before you now, having been called back to this organization that gave me my start in Quakerism.

This past winter, I was reminded of the importance of individuals within and outside the Yearly Meeting, who are what I think of as camp angels. Aside from the many Monthly Meetings that support campers with tuition help for camp, and the Yearly Meeting camp scholarships, there are many individuals who donate time and money to make sure kids who need financial help still can attend camp. One in particular this past year really stood out. A member of BYM has sent all of her kids and her grandkids to camp over the years, in fact, I remember working with her in the kitchen when I was on staff. Over the past 25 years or so, she has not stopped sending kids to camp just because they are not

her own. This is not a wealthy family, but every year she signs up one or two more kids she knows that need help attending camp. She does work grants, fund raises in her meeting, and pays the difference herself to send these kids to camp. This past winter, her husband died of brain cancer, and I sent my condolences. I was quite surprised a few weeks later when she called on the phone apologizing for misplacing the camp applications and wondering if she was too late! Frankly, I thought with all that was going on in her life, I wouldn't hear from her. But we enrolled three kids that she sponsored, and she worked in the kitchen at Opequon to help pay for them.

I know a lot of people who have gone to our camps who have become Quakers, or have gone on to do things that are important in the communities they live in. Camp has impacted their lives and they in turn impact the lives of the people around them with some of that spirit. As I reflect on the acts of generosity that have changed my life and I think about the campers that tell me how their lives have changed from being involved in camp I want us all to think about how much we really have. How blessed we are in this room with plenty of food to eat, cars to drive, houses to live in. We make choices every day about how we will spend our money. I want you all to think about how much you really have and how a gift from you could profoundly change the life of someone else. You don't have to find the campers if you don't want to. I have plenty of sources to find campers in need of financial help. You don't have to give money to camp if you don't want to. But I would like to challenge everyone in this room to give what they can to an organization they know changes peoples' lives or has changed your own. It can have an incredible impact.

Friends were moved, and received the report with gratitude.

I2007-36 Camp Property Manager. J. David Hunter reported.

After four full years in this position I continue to find the work challenging and rewarding. It has been nice to settle into a routine with a consistent group of coworkers after a year of changes and challenges. Much of what we have sown in the last few years is beginning to blossom. Cabins are going up, the pond will soon be sparkling clear, clean and safe for swimming and Friends with in the Yearly Meeting are standing up to meet the challenges that are before us. It is a great time to be part of the "the BYM garden."

Work Weekends

Work weekends continue to be an important means of getting the work done at the camp properties as well as being an enriching experience for those who participate. More and more families are joining us for weekends and lots of work is getting done. The young people are enjoying each others company as they work together or just hangout and we have often had firecircles in the evening or found other ways to share the time together. It is wonderful to feel the sense of community and fellowship grow with each passing year.

Many of the projects that were done during work weekends will be listed below. Catoctin has a loyal group of volunteers and work weekends there are usually well attended. This year we have begun to see more consistent groups of Friends coming to Opequon and Shiloh as well. Nevertheless, “the more the merrier” is still our motto and we would love to have more Friends come to work weekends especially at Shiloh and Opequon.

If you are a Friend who would like to join us for a work weekends you can find more information about work weekends at www.bym-rsf.org/camping/WorkWeekends or by contacting David Hunter at davidhunter@bym-rsf.org

Catoctin Quaker Camp

We have just finished another beautiful timber frame cabin at Catoctin so we have now replaced five of the twelve camper cabins. Four of the new cabins are timber frame cabins that Peter Bugler has helped us to construct. This historic method of construction is particularly suited to involving large numbers of volunteers and uses local building materials, reducing the energy cost of construction. The result is a beautiful structure in which the artisan’s hand is clearly evident, and whose life span will be measured in centuries rather than decades. We are deeply grateful to Peter and the many volunteers who make these cabins all that they are.

An interesting thing happened when we went to get our building permit for the new cabin this year. The county has changed its criteria for site plans and will no longer offer building permits to groups like ours that do not have site plans that have been reviewed by the Frederick County Planning Commission. The site plan at Catoctin has not been reviewed. The Camp Property Management committee and I have be-

gun the process of creating a site plan that will be able to be reviewed by the Planning Commission. It is evident that it is going to require a significant amount of our time and energy and has the potential of running into some expense. If there are Friends who are surveyors of civil engineers who would like to join us in this effort we would love to have their assistance.

Pond at Catoctin

In the past we have had intermittent problems with bacteria in the pond at Catoctin that occasionally prohibited the campers from swimming. Since the summer and fall of 2004 a great deal of effort has gone into finding ways of preventing high bacteria levels in the pond. We have worked with local water quality laboratories, county and state health officials and the MD Department of Natural Resources, Department of the Environment and environmental engineering firms to create a design solution.

In the Spring of 2006 volunteers constructed the first element of this solution during a number of work weekends. A concrete dam was constructed in the ditch that water flows through before it enters the pond and we can now control the flow of water from the stream into the pond completely! When the water is clean and bacteria-free we can let it flow at an ideal 50 gallons per minute into the pond and when it is not clean it can be shut off until it clears.

This spring Allen Fetter, others volunteers and I installed a concrete standpipe in the pond from which water can be pumped and treated if bacteria levels in the pond get too high. As an added bonus a dry hydrant was installed so that the fire department can more easily pump water out of the pond if it is needed to fight fires in the Catoctin Camp neighborhood.

The rest of the work we have planned has been held up by obtaining permits from the County Department of Environmental Compliance, the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Army Corp of Engineers. This summer the last of the permits were secured and we are looking forward to beginning work any day now. This work will include removing sediment from the bottom of the pond, grading the banks of the pond to prevent erosion, making some minor repairs to the pond dam, lining a portion of the bottom of the pond with sand or fine gravel and cutting a shallow drainage swale that will redirect surface water away from the pond. This work will be undertaken by M. V. Enterprises Inc,

a contractor from Purcellville, VA which has a great deal of experience working with ponds.

It seems like this project is going on and on and we are looking forward to seeing its end. Nevertheless, having a clearer, safer, cleaner pond for our campers to cool off in will make it all worthwhile.

Opequon Quaker Camp

Opequon continues to be the camp that needs our attention the most. This Fall we signed a 20-year lease. This should help us see our way clear to making more significant improvements since we know that we will be able to be there for the foreseeable future. Many of the camper cabins are nearing the end of their useful lives and it is important that we start replacing them as soon as possible. There are six that will need to be replaced soon. The Camp Property Management Committee is working on a simple design that will be inexpensive, quick and simple for volunteers to build.

This spring we were able to improve the healthcare facility conditions significantly. A toilet and shower were installed in the existing infirmary and a donated construction site trailer was placed next to it to provide a place for campers to rest away from their peers as well as a place for the health care person to sleep and be near campers who may need care.

Shiloh Quaker Camp

This year at Shiloh we have spent a great deal of our time and energy battling the kudzu and the battle is going well! Kudzu is a fast growing, invasive vine that is capable of overrunning trees and buildings in only a few years. We faltered in our efforts to control it over the last year or two and in one area about a half acre of forest and ground cover was lost. However, we have begun an active program of control and the change has been dramatic. Persistence will be needed since any Kudzu control plan takes at least five years to be effective.

We are finding that some non-traditional building methods were used in the construction of some of the camper cabins at Shiloh. Over time we are discovering that structural improvements are often necessary. We worked on four cabins this spring and are confident that these cabins will continue to serve our campers safely in the near term.

We continue to dream of a day when there might be a pond at Shiloh. The creek is a great place to cool off, but it is not really a place where one can swim. We have begun researching the feasibility of a pond at

Shiloh. We have identified a potential site and researched its potential with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If we choose to address this issue, it will be a big undertaking. However, our camping program staff feels that this is a major obstacle in the Shiloh site reaching its full potential.

The water supply to the caretaker's residence was interrupted this summer and it was discovered that a break in the pipe was allowing sand and mud into the system. A temporary supply was installed and we are contracting to have a new pipe buried between the well and the caretaker's residence this fall.

Vehicles

Purchase, sales and maintenance of our vehicles continue to be a big part of my work. We now have eleven cars and trucks to serve our camping programs and to assist in the maintenance of our properties. We have recently purchased a small activities bus that we are getting ready to use next summer. We are hoping that we will be able to allow this bus to be used by an area Friends School in exchange for allowing us to use their buses in the summer time. Using buses allows us to transport campers more safely and to own and maintain fewer vehicles over all. We continue to find that owning and maintaining our own vehicles is our most cost effective means of providing transportation for our camping programs.

If you are looking for a used vehicle let David Hunter know. One of the vehicles we are selling in the fall may meet your needs, or I can look for what you need at the auctions. A donation to the Camp Properties would be appreciated in exchange for this service.

Inspections by our Insurance Company

We had insurance Loss Control inspections performed by our liability insurance provider at all of the camp properties this year. The representative from the insurance company has some very helpful suggestions, but their overall impressions of the properties were good. Jane and I enjoyed our visits with them and appreciated the benefit of their expertise.

Committee work

Working with the Camp Property Management Committee is one of the most enjoyable aspects of my job. Some are old friends and others are becoming new and dear friends. Many of them are hands-on workers who frequently attend work weekends and come out to visit the properties

and give of their time on other occasions. Others are gifted in other ways that serve us in our work. It is a skilled group of Friends eager to offer their gifts and I am grateful for the privilege of working with them.

I feel that one area in which the Committee could be strengthened would be in finding more committee members that are more involved in other areas of the Yearly Meeting and are acquainted with the ways in which the Yearly Meeting carries out its work. Many members of the Committee are old Catoctin campers and staff so we are often focused on work at Catoctin. The committee is aware that our other properties need our attention as well and we are taking steps to insure that they are not neglected. As we seek new members for the Committee it would be valuable to look for Friends that are involved with Shiloh and Opequon or who live in Virginia.

Rentals

I am confident that when the books are closed for 2007 we will find that the camps generated more income from off-season rentals in 2007 than they have in previous years. This will be true to spite the fact that renters at Catoctin often had to deal with ongoing work on the pond or were not able to use the pond because it had been drained of water. Some groups canceled their visits to Catoctin and a few visited one of the Virginia properties instead. We are grateful for Friends' patience with the work on the pond and look forward to the not-to-distant-day when we will be finished.

One of the biggest areas for growth in income for the camp properties is to increase the utilization of the Virginia properties. To this end, the Camp Property Management Committee has invited Friends to visit Shiloh and Opequon free of charge in 2008. We hope that by visiting the Virginia properties Friends will come to know and love them as we know and love Catoctin.

We continue to spread the word that we have facilities at Catoctin and Shiloh that are available year-around to families and small groups. The Retreat at Shiloh sleeps up to 10 and has indoor plumbing and a kitchenette. The Studio at Catoctin sleeps five or more and has a small kitchen and indoor plumbing. This year the Studio has been rented for the entire offseason. More information on these facilities is available at: www.bym-rsf.org/camping/OffSeasonRentals/camprental.html

Caretakers

We continue to be grateful for Ralph Reed, who has been our caretaker at Shiloh for many years, and for Stephen Dotson, who is enjoying his first year at Catoctin as caretaker. Stephen has been very busy helping to coordinate projects at Catoctin this year and cutting cord after cord of firewood. Ralph keeps Shiloh well mowed and pristine and has put in many hours with the sprayer controlling the Kudzu. Both of our caretakers work very hard to maintain the beautiful places that serve as our camp properties as well as their homes. We are in their debt.

Fundraising

I cannot express how grateful I am to see the Development Sub-committee of Stewardship and Finance spring to life and begin their work! This is a dedicated and energetic group that is balancing planning for the long term with meeting the immediate needs of the Yearly Meeting. I hope that the Yearly Meeting will find the Way Open to support this committee and its work in any way they can.

This committee could not have come into existence in a more timely manner. The needs of our camp properties continue to grow, but the funds available to us are not keeping pace. We have secured funds to build the cabin at Catoctin in 2008. After that our ability to improve and maintain our properties will be closely tied to our ability to raise funds.

Conclusion

It strikes me as remarkable how different my work on behalf of the Yearly Meeting is each year. I will never get bored in this position. I am deeply grateful to have the opportunity to serve a group of friends that has invested so much in its camping programs and to offering its young people opportunities to grow in the Light. We have been blessed with the responsibility of stewardship for three of the most special sites in the region. I am grateful to the opportunity to assist the Yearly Meeting in joyfully meeting this challenge.

Friends thanked David for his report and his continued dedication.

I2007-37 Youth Programs Committee. Co-Clerks, Erik Hansen (Takoma Park,) and Stephanie Bean (Adelphi) reported.

In the absence of a Youth Secretary, the Youth Programs Committee (YPC) has been taking on many of the responsibilities of this position. So Youth Programs was happy to approve a proposal from Ann Whittaker to

take on some of the administrative duties of the Youth Secretary. Ann's offer of assistance would be in addition to her other Yearly Meeting Office responsibilities and would only be a stop-gap measure until a Youth Secretary is hired. The Committee's desire to accept Ann's offer was sent to the General Secretary.

We on YPC have heard the legal, civil liability, and moral concerns raised by individuals and some Monthly Meetings. As we continue to address these, we want to outline the steps that have always been in place and recent additions made in response to the on-going discussions within BYM.

Youth Programs is working with the Young Friends Handbook Revision Committee to update the Young Friends Handbook. This 24-page document describes how the Young Friends (YFs) Program is run. They are striving to incorporate, as appropriate, suggestions provided in letters sent both in response to the June Listening Session as well as letters responding to the handbook draft made available at Annual Sessions.

For immediate steps, the existing policies have been made clearer to both YFs conference attenders and the FAPs (Friendly Adult Presences). At all conferences, a member of YPC will be present as the DFAP (Designated Friendly Adult Presence). This person's responsibility is to be the bridge between BYM (via YPC, as provided in our Manual of Procedures) and the YFs. The DFAP, indeed, all FAPs and the Youth Secretary, are members of the YFs Executive Committee, thereby assuring adult participation in all business meetings and in the handling of any instance where the Gathering Expectations are broken.

In addition to clarifying these existing policies, some new steps have been taken. To help the DFAP and YFs Exec address serious issues when they arise, we have created a new DFAP Handbook that provides steps and procedures to take or consider taking in situations involving either dangerous behavior or serious breaking of the YF Gathering Expectations. These steps are also being considered by YFs for inclusion in their Handbook so the entire YF Executive Committee can discern with the help of these reminders. The DFAP role includes follow-up if/when the full YF Exec does not handle and follow through on decisions made.

Young Friends are learning Quaker process by doing Quaker process. To aid them in this effort, Youth Programs is sponsoring five Young Friends - the clerk, two assistant clerks, a recording clerk and a YPC

representative - to attend Arthur Larrabee's clerking workshop at Pendle Hill, November 16-18. A clerk of Youth Programs will also attend.

Youth Programs is also helping Young Friends move toward greater financial accountability. Now, at the end of every Young Friends conference, the Young Friends Treasurer gives to the Yearly Meeting office a report detailing all the moneys collected and paid out at the conference. This step will allow Young Friends and others to see more clearly how Young Friends are collecting and spending money.

Junior Young Friends (JYF) will have their first conference November 3-4 at Deer Creek Monthly Meeting. The JYF subcommittee has been working with a dedicated team of volunteers to get things ready for this conference and the other two JYF conferences planned for the 2007-8 year. In addition they have created a three-year curriculum for the JYF conferences.

The FAP or Friendly Adult Presence subcommittee presented a FAP training workshop at Annual Sessions. They are continuing to improve the FAP Training based upon feedback received from this workshop. We will be developing a DFAP training course to ensure we on the Committee are educated on the issues at hand and the policies of the Yearly Meeting. We have looked at some legal issues and will be looking at more, as well as insurance issues, to ensure we and YFs are educated and work to protect ourselves and our Yearly Meeting.

Our Committee will continue to address these issues and welcomes ideas and suggestions. We appreciate the ongoing support of the Yearly Meeting.

In response to a question about the status of the Youth Secretary, the Meeting was informed that the YS sub-committee has received Young Friends view of the position, has interviewed all preceding Youth Secretaries and now is ready to work on a job description.

A concern was expressed that the necessary key to solving the structural problems of the Youth Program lies in the role of the Youth Secretary, and requested that the YM be informed if insufficient funds have been budgeted to recruit a qualified person.

A Friend noted that the YFs smoking policy presents a serious problem for city meetings where there is no acceptable smoking location in a safe place. Erik

reported that Young Friends have an absolute no-smoking policy when there is no permitted smoking location on the grounds of the host site.

Young Friends will hold a conference at Sandy Spring Meeting November 23-25, 2007.

I2007-38 Ad-Hoc Youth Safety Committee. Howard Fullerton, clerk, introduced Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda, who convened the committee this morning. The interim policy, approved in 2005, remains in effect. The committee includes representation from Camping (Tasha Walsh), Camp Property (Allen Fetter), Youth Programs (Benjamin Zuses), Religious Education (Margo Lehman), Supervisory (Liz Hofmeister) Committees and Junior Yearly Meeting (June Confer) and Young Friends (Lydia Rain). It will look at policies developed by the several programs of BYM and try to create a coherent whole for BYM within a number of months. Tasha Walsh (Maury River) will serve as clerk of this committee.

I2007-39 Intervisitation Committee. The clerk requested that Friends pick up and read the written report of the committee.

“Stronger, deeper, more embracing!” is our motto as we prepare to enter our fourth year in 2008.

Our next meeting is December, 1 (Saturday) 11:30 am – 2:30 pm at the Fullertons in Sandy Spring.

Our next Training Workshop for visitors, both minuted travelers and their companions, is April 19 (Saturday). Place and exact times will be determined later.

For more information, contact Georgia Fuller, georgiafuller@gmail.com or call 703-524-1267. If you are too busy to attend meetings, ask to join our e-mail list.

Why is intervisitation necessary?

Our keynote speaker at last Annual Session, Niyonu Spann, reminded us that our bonds as a spiritual community are sacred.

As an international organization with minimal hierarchy, no creed, no prayer book, and no song book (at least not that we can agree on) the only thing that holds us together as Friends in the 21st century is us. If we want to be in community with other Friends, we must be deliberate and intentional about building community. Visiting is one way Friends

historically have demonstrated our love and concern for each other and visiting is one way Friends historically have labored for unity.

Has our Intervisitation Program been helpful?

Our members have visited yearly and monthly meetings that are wrestling with different issues. The Friends we have visited tell us that our presence with them has been important.

Our staff and officers who travel tell us that leaders in other yearly meetings and organizations speak to them appreciatively of our Intervisitation Program.

Our own Annual Session last August was enriched by the presence of visitors from Southeastern YM, Great Plains YM, New England YM, and the FUM-Africa office.

Why is intervisitation especially important now?

As we move out of our own comfort zones, we meet other people around the United States and the world who call themselves Friends. We find differences in their faith and practice and realize that we are not the only kind of Quakers in the world. If we cannot find unity and peace with Friends who are more evangelical or fundamentalist than we, how can we possibly help the world find unity and peace with other evangelicals or fundamentalists—whether they be Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, or secularist?

I2007-40 Friends United Meeting General Board Members Report. Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring, spoke to the report prepared by John Smallwood and himself. Rich is filling out Rachel Stacy's term as a representative from BYM to the Friends United Meeting (FUM) General Board.

The General Board ("GB") held its fall 2007 meeting in Greenfield Massachusetts on Friday-Saturday 12-13 October. John Smallwood and Rich Liversidge attended; Walt Fry was unable to attend because of business commitments.

FUM's various committees met in advance of the full Board meeting. The Executive Committee (Walt's on that committee but was absent), the Trustees (Rich is one of FUM's trustees), the Finance Committee (John and Rich attended) and the Program Coordinating and Priorities Committee, or PCPC (John and Rich attended). The North American Ministries Committee and the Triennial Planning Committee also met. The General Board met from 1:00 pm Friday through Saturday afternoon.

Overall Impressions:

This GB session was more settled and businesslike than the meetings that were addressed in the GB Representatives report made in August 2007. There were periods of deep worship and an attention to the sense of the meeting on several important matters. There was little evidence that the GB was expected to rubber-stamp Executive Committee decisions, and discussions in advance of decisions generally were open and sensitive. As a result, we can report that we did see progress. We applaud the clear steps taken to improve decision-making and governance. However, serious governance problems remain. A clear example is how Kaimosi Hospital has been handled. In hindsight, FUM accepted an unknown but possibly substantial liability for its operation and rehabilitation.

We recommend that BYM participate actively in the nominating process for new FUM leadership, which will be installed at the Triennial next summer. We also urge BYM to move forward on its own discernment process concerning financial support of FUM. There is a clear need for our program participation and our representatives have been helpful. However, BYM's present financial absence reduces our effectiveness.

Statement against Violence among Quakers - There has been much made in blogs and elsewhere of the hurtful words said in prayer by Andrew Kurima, the then-presiding clerk of Uganda Yearly Meeting in February 2007 (there is now a new clerk). The Executive Committee met under the weight of this concern and proposed a minute that was adopted and approved by the General Board in Richmond. It was a clear FUM repudiation of violence and threats of violence against all persons.

All GB members consider this an important statement, even as we recognize the differences of theology and practice existing among GB members and yearly meetings. The two of us view it as a unifying statement, something that is needed within FUM.

This is the minute:

“Allegations that Friends United Meeting (FUM) is hostile to homosexuals and their allies, and that FUM condones physical or emotional violence against homosexuals and their allies, have been circulated among Friends and on the internet.

The General Board of FUM/Richmond, in session this 13th day of 10th month 2007, is clear that God loves all persons, and that hostility toward any person is not consistent with the Christian

Gospel. In particular, this General Board condemns the threat of physical or emotional violence against any person.”

Canadian Yearly Meeting Concerns. The Executive Committee also considered a letter dated August 20, 2007 to FUM from Canadian Yearly Meeting. In that letter, CYM raised concerns about the process by which the Richmond Declaration was affirmed as a statement of FUM faith in February 2007 in Kakamega Kenya, despite the urging for more time and consideration from representatives from several yearly meetings. The letter also raised CYM’s concern that FUM’s employment policy, while perhaps legal, is in conflict with the Quaker testimony of equality. There was no recommendation from the Executive Committee at this time.

Program and Project Evaluation Procedures – FUM has been slow in figuring out how to evaluate and prioritize its programs and projects. We are both helping to address the problem. Last year, the Trustees were given responsibility for all owned and leased facilities, and Rich is clerk of the Trustees’ property subcommittee. FUM has properties in the US, Ramallah Palestine, Kenya and the Caribbean. Each requires oversight.

Kaimosi Hospital. The GB established (belatedly) the Kaimosi Hospital Task Force to figure out whether and how FUM might restructure that medical facility. That should have been done two years ago, before FUM took on responsibility for operating the hospital. Rich has been part of that Task Force, and it is a model for evaluating other major FUM undertakings.

If FUM and East Africa Yearly Meeting both agree to proceed with FUM’s management (not a sure thing), the project will probably entail a major commitment by FUM of finances and energy. If that happens, FUM will encourage donations for its support. We urge BYM and its membership to carefully and prayerfully consider what we are called to do at that time.

Ramallah Friends School. Both of us have agreed to work with RFS on a possible \$2.6 million commercial development on school property, to create revenue for student tuition. We have agreed to help the school’s administrator develop a proposal for the FUM GB to consider at its February board meeting.

Evaluation Process. John has agreed to work with PCPC on ways to evaluate other FUM programs and projects. The goal is to have a

way of tracking and prioritizing FUM support of various projects in a systematic way.

Additional Information:

FUM Personnel. FUM continues to lose senior staff. Trish Edwards-Konic has resigned as publisher of Quaker Life. Katie Terrell and Shari Veach, both young, bright staff members, will take on most of the work. Paul Smith will retire in July 2008 as Director of Operations. He will be sorely missed – he's been diligent and successful in bringing good financial information to the GB.

FUM Finances. FUM had \$1.6 million in fiscal 2007 receipts and spent all but \$58,000 of that on missions and programs. After accounting for FUM's publications, fundraising and management costs, and including the gains it its investment portfolio, FUM had a net increase in assets of \$95,000 for the year.

Contributions can be unrestricted (to the General Fund) or restricted (for donor-designated purposes). During fiscal 2007, contributions were down very slightly (1.7%) from 2006 levels. However, there are some clear trends in how giving is being done. Yearly meetings are shifting slightly from General Fund to restricted giving. Monthly meetings are shifting dramatically to restricted giving. And individual giving for General Fund (unrestricted purposes) is up dramatically - up 253% from \$12,837 given in 2006.

A summary of 2007 contributions includes:

	Gen'l Fund	Restricted	Total	
Change fr. '06				
Yearly Meetings	\$ 75,139	\$ 50,713	\$125,853	5.1%
Monthly Meetings	\$ 2,745	\$ 41,534	\$ 44,279	42.2%
Individuals	<u>\$ 32,544</u>	<u>\$ 90,113</u>	<u>\$122,657</u>	(16.6%)
Total	\$110,428	\$182,360	\$292,789	(1.7%)

FUM Triennial. The FUM Triennial will be held in High Point North Carolina next summer. The Triennial starts on the evening of Wednesday July 9 with a welcome from Sylvia Graves, FUM's General Secretary. It continues through Saturday July 12.

The Triennial theme is "A Hope for the Future", from Jeremiah 29. Workshops will be held on Thursday and Saturday, and tours will be given on Friday. John Punshon will be one of the speakers.

BYM's Katherine Smith (Maury River) has been invited (and has agreed) to present the FUM Triennial workshop on clerking skills.

The representatives recommend that BYM participate actively in the nomination process for leadership in FUM. Additionally, coming to clarity about our financial support of FUM is also needed for our continuing participation and influence.

The report makes clear the active leadership of our representatives in efforts to bring better management to the organization.

Friends were encouraged to participate in the FUM triennial July 9-12 in High Point, North Carolina.

Several Friends discussed aspects of BYM funding of FUM. Our lack of funds reduces our credibility somewhat. FUM ministries provide many opportunities for Friends to support needed services for individuals. Canadian YM is giving ear-marked funds only. Southeast YM has withdrawn from FUM for two years, but is using the funds which would otherwise be sent to FUM to permit individual members of SEYM to participate in any aspect of FUM work.

A Friend spoke of his concern about that the minute passed by the General Board doesn't include an apology and implies that actions which were witnessed by our representatives are merely alleged incidents.

The clerk reported that study packets regarding BYM relations with FUM are available to Monthly Meetings, with a request for Monthly Meeting consideration and responses to be returned by April 1, 2008.

The cover letter to that packet is attached to these minutes.

I2007-41 Peace and Social Concerns. Bill Mims (Langley Hill) Clerk reported. The committee has joined the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT), and gratefully acknowledges Warrington Quarter's offer to pay the \$250 membership fee for the first year.

The committee requests the Yearly Meeting accept membership in NRCAT, acknowledging that continued participation will require a \$250 annual membership fee.

The National Religious Coalition Against Torture is a coalition of national and local faith groups committed to an awareness of torture and to dismantling all structures that allow torture, such as the Military Commissions Act of 2006. Its mission statement includes the following: "Torture violates the dignity of human persons that all religions hold dear...nothing less is at stake than the soul of a nation. What does it signify if torture is condemned in word, but not in deed? Let Americans abolish torture now."

Friends APPROVED.

Janet Worsham (Richmond) spoke about the hot-line and support for soldiers provided by Quaker House, North Carolina as a hot-line for soldiers. She and Betsy Brinson, also of Richmond Meeting, serve on the board of Quaker House and are raising funds for capital improvements on the historic house, adjacent to Fort Bragg. Please consider a contribution.

I2007-42 *Appreciation to Friends Meeting of Washington.*

The clerk spoke for the many Friends present for morning committee meetings, lunch, afternoon business session and/or supper in thanking Friends Meeting of Washington for gracious hospitality. The lovely setting, the fine weather which permitted meetings in the flower-filled gardens, the home-made bread, soup and other foods, all combined to welcome and nourish us. We appreciate the loving care you have shown.

Announcements and Closing.

The clerk announced that a packet of printed material about Friends United Meeting and Baltimore Yearly Meeting is available to each Monthly Meeting. Packets which are not picked up will be mailed. In addition, there are "conflict resolution" Friends with facilitation skills who are willing to assist Meetings in discussions on this topic, as needed. If you are interested in having a facilitator, please contact Anita Bower (anita.bower@zoominternet.net or 610-998-0187) who is coordinating this.

The cover letter asks that you forward your guidance to BYM by Tuesday, April 1, 2008 so that we might compile individual meeting and worship group responses and return them all for your further consideration.

This material is also available at www.bym-rsf.org under FUM Concerns.

Attachment A: Apportionments

2008 APPORTIONMENTS

MONTHLY MEETING	2006	2007	2008
Adelphi	\$18,500	\$18,700	\$21,000
Alexandria	9,000	10,200	12,600
Annapolis	9,400	10,400	12,300
Baltimore, Homewood	18,500	19,200	22,000
Baltimore, Stony Run	57,300	59,700	66,800
Bethesda	22,400	21,200	26,000
Blacksburg	1,400	1,700	2,100
Carlisle	3,200	3,000	3,500
Charlottesville	7,900	7,800	7,900
Deer Creek	3,000	2,800	3,200
Dunnings Creek	2,580	2,400	3,000
Fishertown	800	600	0
Floyd	600	750	900
Frederick	5,500	6,100	7,300
Gettysburg	600	450	600
Goose Creek	14,000	13,600	17,500
Gunpowder	6,520	6,50	8,000
Herndon	6,000	6,000	6,600
Hopewell Centre	4,000	4,500	4,500
Langley Hill	14,800	14,900	16,500
Little Britain	1,800	2,100	2,600
Little Falls	5,000	5,700	5,700
Maury River	3,000	3,200	3,900
Menallen	2,200	2,200	2,300
Midlothian	2,700	2,700	3,300
Nottingham	5,200	3,900	3,900
Patapsco	2,400	2,600	3,200
Patuxent	2,900	2,800	3,400
Pipe Creek	300	300	300
Quaker Lake	300	300	400
Richmond	12,200	12,500	14,000
Roanoke	1,750	2,100	2,600
Sandy Spring	36,000	40,000	45,800
State College	12,000	10,000	8,450
Valley	3,000	3,000	3,450
Warrington	1,900	2,000	2,200
Washington	45,000	52,500	60,000
West Branch	3,000	2,200	2,200
Williamsburg	1,800	2,000	2,500
York	2,300	2,400	2,400
TOTAL	\$350,750	\$365,000	\$414,900

Young Adult Friends (18-35ish) conference will be held December 14-16 at Homewood Friends Meeting, Baltimore on the theme “sharing our spiritual fellowship.” For more information or RSVP to Laura Goren at 410-236-3372 or goren.laura@gmail.com or Benjamin Zuses at benjamin.zuses@gmail.com

Friends are invited to supper. Meeting closed with worship at 5:35 with the Clerk reading about the bonds of trust, understanding and communication that can be built by working together in the Meeting community.

Friends arose to gather again at Williamsburg Monthly Meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia on 29 March 2008.

Howard Fullerton, presiding

Margaret Boyd Meyer, recording

Attachment B: BYM Development Subcommittee Description

BYM Development Sub-committee Description

[DRAFT] October 20, 2007

[Background - The Subcommittee has been charged with the consideration of a development plan. Friends recognized this plan could include the creation of a development position.]

The Development Subcommittee is comprised of seven or more members including ex-officio members from both Stewardship and Finance Committee and Trustees.

As such, the Development subcommittee is responsible for preparing and guiding and assisting in the implementation of plans for fundraising and development, including:

- Creating development policies, including the handling and acceptance of both restricted and unrestricted contributions, appropriate uses of BYM and Monthly Meeting communications venues, and clarifying the role of apportionment in relation to a development plan.
- Overseeing the creation of a comprehensive development plan. This might include a visioning process or a feasibility study.
- Guiding, supporting and assisting the Development Director in researching potential sources of financial support for BYM including individuals and Monthly Meetings.
- Creating a BYM Development Director position and participating in a training program for the position.
- Overseeing the creation of an annual giving program beginning in 2008.
- Overseeing other committees in specific fundraising efforts. These efforts will depend heavily upon the individual committees. The Development Subcommittee and Development Director will assist in the planning and implementation of such efforts and ensure that any fundraising effort is consistent with the overall Development Plan.

- Encouraging other committees of BYM to become involved in development work of the Yearly Meeting
- Guiding, supporting and assisting the Development Director in cultivating and asking for support from actual and potential major donors, including individuals, foundations and other organizations.
- Guiding, supporting and assisting the Development Director in establishing regular contact with individuals and Monthly Meetings to promote increased giving to BYM
- Participating with the Development Director in the creation of curricula for supporting Monthly Meetings in their own fund-raising efforts.
- Guiding, supporting and assisting the Development Director in promoting efforts to secure bequests and other deferred gifts.
- Working with other BYM committees and the Development Director in the creation of databases of potential and past donors, including camp alumni.

The Development Subcommittee contributes information regarding potential giving income to Stewardship and Finance Committee for inclusion in the upcoming budget process.

The Development Subcommittee consults with Stewardship and Finance, Camp Programs, Camp Properties, and Youth Programs Committees on a regular basis to exchange information regarding budgetary matters and promote restricted and unrestricted giving to Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The Development Subcommittee consults with Trustees for guidance on matters of legality and BYM policy.

Attachment C: Cover Letter to Monthly Meetings regarding Friends United Meeting financial contributions

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
17100 Quaker Lane
Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860-1296
October 20, 2007

301/774-7663
800/962-4766
Fax: 301/774-7087
<http://www.bym-rsf.org>

Dear Friends,

A few years ago, Baltimore Yearly Meeting asked our Monthly Meetings to discuss the yearly meeting's financial contributions to Friends United Meeting. At last Annual Session, our representatives to the FUM General Board raised new issues about our membership in FUM. Rachel Stacy and John Smallwood closed their report with these words:

It is difficult to send money to an organization with the dysfunctional aspects described [in their report]. On the other hand, it is also difficult to remain within FUM, advocating change, but not to contribute financially... It is difficult to participate in an organization with the corporate governance problems and the spiritual direction which FUM exhibits. The path that the FUM leadership is presently traveling does not seem to lead to our inclusion.

It is also difficult to sever ties with part of our history [for example with Ramallah Friends School in Palestine and Lugulu Hospital in Africa]. We have members who are committed Christians... We have members to whom FUM's mission statement deeply resonates. To separate from FUM, may leave such members without avenues of expression, fellowship and nurture. The care and development of all BYM members must be considered.

While both of us are united in our assessment of FUM... Rachel feels it is time for BYM to depart from this damaged organization. John is willing to continue another year, only with BYM's clear mandate to do so and to advocate serious FUM corporate reform. He is not hopeful of change, but feels a tug of common history with orthodox Friends. As Thomas Hamm said at the FUM Board retreat, **separations in Quaker history have rarely brought the peace and tranquility that some had expected.**

During consideration of this issue at last Annual Session, we reminded ourselves as a yearly meeting that:

- We need to witness to the truths we hold as Quakers even in cultures where those truths are unwelcome

- Most Quakers are to be found in Africa, and that we cut ourselves off from a major part of the body of Quakerism when we refuse to support the work of Friends United Meeting.
- Justice without mercy is merely vengeance, and that we need to stay grounded in compassion and the desire for unity as we seek our way forward.
- Conflict resolution skills and approaches may be helpful in healing the divisions among us.
- We should not only listen to each other, but listen for what God's will is for us.
- We may need simply to wait with open hearts until such guidance comes, even though the wait seems long.

Friends at Annual Session AGREED we all need to listen deeply and prayerfully to each other, so that we can return to consideration of this issue next August with new Light.

As was said of the 1968 merger the two Baltimore Yearly Meetings—Orthodox and Hicksite—how we relate to FUM and FGC (Friends General Conference) defines our yearly meeting. Decisions on these affiliations should be guided by our Monthly Meetings. To support your discernment of these concerns, we have included the information listed below.

Please forward your guidance by Tuesday, April 1, 2008 so that we might compile individual meeting and worship group responses and return them all for your further consideration.

Howard Fullerton
Clerk

Enclosed:

Report of the BYM-FUM General Board Members,
with cover letter to clerk of FUM
BYM General Secretary's report
Tom Hamm's Brief History of FUM
FUM Mission Statement
Queries
Link to Johan Maurer's blog

THIRD MONTH 29, 2008

WILLIAMSBURG MONTHLY MEETING

I2008-1 *Opening.* Friends gathered in worship at 2:20 pm. Out of the silence, acting Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) shared a series of brief readings reminding us of the value of flexibility and openness to new insight as we search for Truth.

“Many Roman Catholics are shocked to learn that their church, although insisting that its dogmas articulate revealed truth, has recognized the historical conditioning and, hence, the limitations of dogmatic *formulations*. (p. 147)

“In our times Christians are going to have to reach answers to new dilemmas in fidelity to God’s revelation in Christ; they can be helped in that if they have seen some examples of how their ancestors in the faith had to struggle to emerge with the answers now taken for granted.” (p. 148)

Raymond Brown, *An Introduction to New Testament Christology*, 1994

“We recognize that there are still many differences of opinion among us, both theological and practical...in practice these differences seldom coincide exactly with Yearly Meeting divisions...many differences in terminology or background [give] enrichment to our own insight.”

The Cooperating Committee of the Baltimore Yearly Meetings (1959)

“Men and women discovered over the years that in working together for the good of others and for the improvement of society, the religious faith that provided the motivating power for religious living could be expressed in various terms and in different vocabularies.”

Bliss Forbush, *A History of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends*, 1972

Sixty-two Friends from twenty-three meetings signed in.

Adelphi: Alexander Barnes, Stephanie Bean, Mary Lord; Alexandria: Deborah Haines; Annapolis: Schuyler and Nan Elsbree; Bethesda: Marion Ballard, Ted & Ria Hawkins, Liz Hofmeister, Susan Kaul; Baltimore, Homewood: Laura Goren; Baltimore, Stony Run: Mike Boardman, Dellie James; Carlisle: Andy Hoover; Charlottesville: Joyce Hillstorm, Allison Sleeman, Aron Teel, Chip Tucker; Frederick: Anne Buttenheim, Sue deVeer, Betsy Tobin; Hopewell Centre: Anne Bacon, Laura Nell Obaugh, Linda Wilk; Langley Hill: Sheila Bach, Walter Brown, George Fuller, Jeannette Smith. Laurie Wilner; Little Falls: Bill Harlan,

Mary Ellen Saterlie; Maury River: Katherine Smith; Patapsco: Ken Stockbridge; Richmond: Ted Heck, Barbara Williamson; Sandy Spring: Maria Bradley, Ellen Cronin, Natalie Finegar, Howard & Flossie; Fullerton, Darcy Lane, Margo Lehman, Joan & Rich Liversidge, Elizabeth Meyer, Janey Pugsley; Seneca Valley: Annette Breiling; Takoma Park: Erik Hanson, Arthur David Olson; Valley: Rose Flory; Washington, Friends Meeting of: Michael Cronin, Dennis Hartzell, Joe Izzo, Malachy Kilbride, Riley Robinson, Byron Sandford; William Penn House: Brad Ogilvie; Williamsburg: Bill Carroll, Claudette Humble, Robert Solomon; York: Lamar Matthew; also present: Ann Whittaker

I2008-2 Welcome. Thayer Cory (Williamsburg) welcomed us, and told us what a joy it is for their small meeting to spend a day surrounded by so many Friends. Those gathered expressed their warm appreciation to Williamsburg Friends for their generous hospitality.

Clerk Howard Fullerton thanked Elizabeth “Betsy” Krome (Williamsburg) for the beautiful pottery pitcher and cups that grace the clerks table.

Howard Fullerton announced that Hank Schutz and Hugh Fuller (Langley Hill) are home recovering after hospitalization, and also announced the death this week of Diana Rugg (Richmond). We hold these Friends and their families in the Light. A full list of the beloved Friends we have lost this year will be recorded at annual session.

2008-3 Report on Kenyan Friends. Howard Fullerton then introduced Mary Lord (Adelphi), who shared with us her experiences in Kenya during and after the disputed election in December. She had gone to Kenya for a vacation after retiring from the American Friends Service Committee last summer, and found herself unexpectedly in the midst of an outbreak of violence that has cost a thousand lives and displaced at least 600,000 people. She was able to make contact with the Friends United Meeting staff in Kisumu and Kaimosi, including John Muhanji and Jim and Eden Grace of the FUM Africa Ministries office, and Ben and Jody Richmond and other faculty at the Friends Theological College. She heard many stories of heroism and suffering from Kenyan Quakers, and was deeply moved.

In the space of a week, the FUM staff was able to arrange for 60 Friends from the leadership of the Friends Church of Kenya to assemble in Kakamega for a consultation on the Peace Testimony and the current crisis. That so many were

able to come, during a brief lull in the violence, was a miracle in itself. Mary Lord was asked to speak on the Biblical basis of our peace testimony and the experiences of Friends as peacemakers. While preparing to give the keynote address at this gathering, Mary Lord looked at the unfamiliar night sky and received a powerful message she was led to share:

“In the darkest night, in the most unfamiliar seas, in the deepest forest, (quoting George Fox) ‘there is One, even Christ Jesus, who will speak to your condition’ and be your guide.”

Friends told her afterwards that she “opened the ground” for the Spirit to break forth. In the course of the conference Kenyan Friends claimed their Quaker peace testimony. They adopted a program of aiding those displaced people not reached by the large agencies, expanding the Alternative to Violence Program, expanding trauma healing and reconciliation programs, and preaching and teaching about peacemaking in Friends churches and schools. Kenyan Friends urgently need our help, both in funding, through the Kenyan Relief Fund administered by FUM, and in providing AVP trainers and experienced peacemakers to help carry forward this work.

Mary Lord noted that she was identified wherever she went as a member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. While she did not discuss our concerns during the period of violence, she did have occasion to talk with Kenyan Friends during the FWCC Triennial in Dublin in August. She was asked about our witness for acceptance of gender and sexual diversity, and this resulted in some wonderful conversations. The general secretary of Nairobi Yearly Meeting told her initially that Kenya did not have a problem of homosexuality, and he was interested to hear about the scientific research suggesting that some portion of every population is born with homosexual tendencies. He said that Kenyan Friends know very little about our concerns in this area, and have not discussed these issues. Mary Lord urged us to respond to this openness, especially among younger Kenyan Friends, by engaging in direct conversation with Kenyan Friends.

We felt tendered and uplifted by Mary Lord’s presentation, and express our deep gratitude for her faithfulness.

Howard Fullerton noted that as Clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting he has sent a letter to Friends in Kenya expressing our grief for their suffering and our ongoing support.

I2008-4 Naming Committee. Howard Fullerton asked Friends to bring forward the names of three people willing to serve on a Naming Committee to name the Search Committee. Laura Wilner (Langley Hill), Malachy Kilbride (Friends Meeting of Washington), and Herbert Tucker (Charlottesville) agreed to serve and these names were APPROVED.

I2008-5 Search Committee. Howard Fullerton read the report of the Search Committee, bringing forward the name of Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) to serve as Clerk of Interim Meeting. This name was APPROVED.

I2008-6 Nominating Committee. Flossie Fullerton (Sandy Spring) reported for the Nominating Committee:

Nominating Committee seeks your help in finding the right match for the 15 committees and 11 affiliated corporations to which it appoints BYM Friends. Please contact one of the committee members or Barbara Thomas, clerk, with suggestions.

Resignations from Committees:

At this time, we would like to report the following eight resignations:

Faith & Practice Revision Committee: Mochiko DeSilva (Sandy Spring),
Pamela Cook (Valley)

Manual of Procedure: Phil Fratesi (Stony Run)

Youth Programs: Peg Hansen (State College)

Friends United Meeting (alternate): Linda Wilk (Hopewell Centre)

FUM Triennial: Linda Wilk (Hopewell Centre)

Peace and Social Concerns: Sylvia Olive (Annapolis)

Program Anita Bower (Nottingham)

Appointments

We have one appointment at this time, as most committees are able to wait until Yearly Meeting for new members:

FUM Triennial: Mary Lord (Adelphi)

Friends APPROVED this nomination.

I2008-7 Archives. Flossie Fullerton reported on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting archives. Old records have been organized and shipped to the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College. All committee clerks are urged to make sure that copies of their minutes and reports are sent to the yearly meeting office.

This has not been done consistently in recent years, probably because reliance on computers has changed the way we share information. These records are essential both for our own use as a yearly meeting, and as our testimony to future generations.

I2008-8 Supervisory Committee. Elizabeth Hofmeister (Bethesda) reported for the Supervisory Committee:

1. Meg Boyd Meyer is serving as Clerk of the Committee.
2. A performance review of the General Secretary was conducted by Howard Fullerton and Meg Boyd Meyer. The committee accepted their report.
3. BYM staff members have received a salary adjustment beginning January 1 of 4.5 percent--reflecting the cost of living increase in the Washington Metropolitan area--plus an additional one percent. The committee expects to bring in June a proposal for adjustments to the Manual of Procedure wording regarding the reporting of staff salaries.
4. The committee presents to you a minute of appreciation for the work of Michael Cronin as Clerk of Interim Meeting.

Elizabeth Hofmeister then read the minute of appreciation:

MINUTE OF APPRECIATION
FOR MICHAEL CRONIN'S SERVICE
AS CLERK OF INTERIM MEETING AND
CLERK OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE
2003-2007

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in session for Interim Meeting, Third Month, 29, 2008, at Williamsburg, Virginia, records our deep appreciation for the focused, Spirit-led clerking of Michael Cronin, Clerk of both Interim Meeting and Supervisory Committee during the years 2003-2007.

Michael Cronin served faithfully and diligently for more than four years, during which time of service a wide array of issues and opportunities called for prayerful and careful attention by Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Michael's commitment and attention to detail and long hours of preparation helped both Interim Meeting and Supervisory Committee reach a sense of the meeting about next steps--both where the way ahead has appeared clear, and also where we await new light.

During these four-plus years of Michael Cronin's service, Baltimore Yearly Meeting experienced the departure of Frank Massey, and then, after a careful search, the call to Riley Robinson to serve as our next General Secretary. Following Lamar Matthew's service as Presiding Clerk, his successor Lauri Perman then departed to serve as Director of Pendle Hill. Our valued Friend Tom Fox was killed in Iraq following a time of captivity. Improving our relations with Friends United Meeting has required much study and dialogue and intervisitation, with an even greater range of problems involved than we first identified. Better attention to the nurture of the younger generation through our Youth Programs has been another focal point for Baltimore Yearly Meeting. In all these major transitions Michael offered reasoned counsel.

Michael Cronin frequently opened Interim Meeting sessions by readings from selections from the writings of George Fox, Margaret Fell Fox, William Penn, Katherine Evans, Caroline Stephen, and other Friends, as well as from the Bible and other inspirational writings. Such readings strengthened our ties to our forebears and to Quaker practice and helped us center and to seek and deliberate together.

This minute was APPROVED.

I2008-9 Financial Support of Friends United Meeting. Katherine Smith (Maury River) presented the report and recommendation of the Committee of Four Committees for a first reading.

The question was raised of how this recommendation relates to the discernment being done in our monthly meetings regarding whether we should remain members of Friends United Meeting. Katherine Smith explained that this recommendation only addresses the past, and the unpaid amounts that have accrued while we have been members of FUM. The issue of future membership and contributions will be decided by the monthly meetings.

After other questions for clarification, the report and recommendation were LAID OVER until annual session 2008. Trustees and the Stewardship and Finance Committee are asked to prepare a comment on the financial feasibility of the recommendation for presentation at that time. Friends asked that the recommendation be widely disseminated prior to annual session so that as many Friends as possible can have an opportunity to consider it.

The full report is published in minute Y208-63.

I2008-10 Support of Quaker Kenyan Relief. Malachy Kilbride (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented a proposal from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, growing out of a leading to respond to the violence in Kenya. The Committee prayerfully suggests that Baltimore Yearly Meeting send two-thirds of the funds that have been held back from FUM over the past several years to the Kenya Relief Fund to meet urgent needs.

In response to questions about how we could be sure that such a donation would serve the purposes for which it is intended, Rich Liversidge (Sandy Spring) and Mary Lord (Adelphi) explained the functioning of the Kenyan Relief Fund. This Fund will support both humanitarian relief and Alternatives to Violence programs. Friends United Meeting has been named the lead agency in administering the Fund, because of its resources and staff in Kenya and its ability to ensure that the money will be well spent. Contributions to the Fund have already been received from many Quaker organizations, including Friends World Committee for Consultation, the American Friends Service Committee, Friends General Conference, and Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns. It was noted that FUM has agreed to forego its usual administrative cut, so that the entire amount contributed will go toward relief and peace work.

Questions were raised about whether we can responsibly commit to donating a substantial portion of the funds set aside for Friends United Meeting in past years, since these funds are not being held in an escrow account and thus may not be readily available. It was noted that any sizeable donation might have to be spread out over a period of months, because of cash flow problems.

Mindful of such constraints, Friends UNITED with the concern presented by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, and agreed that Baltimore Yearly Meeting should contribute \$9,000 —the amount of undesignated funds in this year’s budget – to the Kenyan Relief Fund administered by Friends United Meeting to support the Kenyan Friends peace initiatives. Since individuals and monthly meetings may also want to support this work, the Yearly Meeting treasurer is empowered to accept earmarked contributions to be added to this donation.

I2008-11 Trustees. Byron Sandford (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of the Trustees:

TRUSTEES REPORT TO BYM INTERIM MEETING

BYM Trustees are responsible for title to all real property in the care of the Yearly Meeting and for all matters concerned with invested funds of the Yearly Meeting.

Since annual session, the Trustees have addressed the following items: We have spent considerable time reconciling the various funds currently under Trustees' care with the original purposes named when they were created. The records cover several years and lack clear documentation. We are not through with the reconciliation and are not ready to make a report or make any recommendation. Trustees continue to examine the previously reported large discrepancy between funds as recorded on our books and the amounts in our investment accounts. Some progress has been made.

The Trustees agreed with the recommendation of the Educational Loan Committee to "write off" two loans which were in default. That Committee has already made a great effort to locate these individuals. The Trustees agreed that the committee may redefine the nature of funds provided to applicants as either grants or loans.

The Trustees are in the process of updating the signatures on all of BYM accounts. We have established that the investment account signatures will be from any two of the following: the Clerk of Trustees, the BYM Treasurer and two designated Trustees. These signatures are to be updated with the change of any signer's position.

The investment accounts will be consolidated into three or four socially responsible accounts with a portion to be invested in a more liquid account.

In the fall, we were informed that BYM may be the beneficiary to a sizeable estate. On the advice of a retired attorney who is affiliated with the Yearly Meeting and who was named as an executor of the estate, the Trustees engaged an attorney with specific experience with the estate laws of New Jersey. The choice of the attorney was made with the concurrence of other BYM attorneys. The attorney reviewed the material associated with the estate and felt that BYM's position justified further effort on our part. The estate is now scheduled to go to mediation in May.

Friends RECEIVED this report with gratitude.

I2008-12 Stewardship and Finance Committee. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee:

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT TO INTERIM MEETING

Stewardship and Finance received a request from Friends Wilderness Center for a one-time use of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting mailing list. The primary purpose of the mailing would be to provide greater information about the services FWC provides. It will also seek financial contributions. Stewardship and Finance reviewed the request and found it to be in good order. We suggest that the mailing take place between Memorial Day and August 15, 2008, so that it will not overlap with other appeal letters planned by the Development Subcommittee.

We recommend that Friends Wilderness Center be granted permission for a one time use of our mailing list.

Friends APPROVED this recommendation.

I2008-13 Development Sub-committee. Natalie Finegar presented the report of the Development Subcommittee of the Stewardship and Finance Committee:

**REPORT FROM DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE
OF STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Our appeal letters have raised over \$84,000! This means that we have met our budgeted goal of \$30,000 of unrestricted contributions for 2007. We believe the increase in contributions was not only because of the generous “matching gift,” but also due to a greater awareness of the need to contribute to BYM.

At Interim Meeting in October 2007, the Meeting approved the hiring of a Development Director subject to Supervisory Committee approving a job description for the position, and both Trustees and Stewardship and Finance certifying that the necessary funds are available. The job description is now in place. To meet the second condition, we have been able to identify enough “cash in hand” to cover seven months of the Development Director’s salary, and have approved a plan for raising the remaining funds. This plan will allow the Development Director adequate time to properly acclimate him/herself to BYM without a

negative impact on our cash flow. Both Trustees and Stewardship and Finance have approved our plan for the financing of this position.

We will begin the hiring process for the Development Director position in the next few weeks. We look forward to introducing you to the new staff person at Annual Session.

Friends RECEIVED this report with thanks.

I2008-14 General Secretary. Riley Robinson presented the General Secretary's report:

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Each one of our staff members has decades of active experience with Friends and with Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Administrative Assistant - In the Fall Ann Whittaker volunteered to spend extra hours filling in for the vacant Youth Secretary position on top of her regular duties. This has been truly most helpful. She also developed a quite useful database to deal with the complexities of Annual Session registration. Ann has improved the look of the Interchange as she's learned our new publishing software, most recently coping with reduced size of the recent issue due to budget constrictions.

Bookkeeper Thanks to Margo Lehman our bookkeeping practices continue to benefit from increased transparency and order. Most functions are now on the new accounting software. Margo has met extensively with Marion Ballard, our new Treasurer. Margo officially works three days a week, but our growing Yearly Meeting needs more. Margo tracks or helps track all of the bills for four camp programs with a summer staff of more than 100, our three camp properties, and the complexities of the student loan program. She provides support for Trustees, for Annual Session, for Stewardship and Finance Committee, and more.

Camp Administrative Secretary Jane Megginson has worked hard, alone and with others, to create a very attractive new camping website, making innovations on the online registration process along the way. In the past year Jane saved a great deal of money using new service vendors. Jane has examined the weak spots in transportation that showed

themselves last summer especially, and met those needs by researching, along with David Hunter, how to purchase used busses surprisingly inexpensively. Jane's move last fall to Pennsylvania last fall brought about the need for developing a long distance work plan which has shown promise. Please know the there is still space available for a child to experience the Spirit in nature this summer at Camps Opequon and Shiloh here in Virginia, and tell your friends!

Camp Property Manager David Hunter is in the final stages of completing the long-awaited Camp Catoctin lagoon renovation, after famous fundraising, piles of permits, oodles of engineering, and mountains of mud. His skill, patience and endurance have been a gift to the Yearly Meeting. Through the winter he has worked first with satellite-based survey equipment and now with a volunteer profession engineer to develop a precise site plan required by Frederick County for Camp Catoctin. Everyone is welcome to join David at a beautiful Spring work weekend. Just pick your camp on one of four weekends between April 26-27 and May 31-June 1.

Development Director – I worked steadily with the very focused and productive Development Subcommittee through the fall and winter. More of those details come in another report today.

Youth Secretary Position – I am serving on the Youth Programs Committee's Youth Secretary Subcommittee as we seek to develop a balanced and useful job description. Most recently this has involved making a thorough charting of the functions and relationships of Youth Programs and then deciding which of those should be done by the Youth Secretary. Only by using the model of a large tree with many branches were we able to convey the real complexity. We are looking at all of the functions in terms of authority, responsibility and accountability as the job description develops.

Ad Hoc Committee on Youth Safety – I serve on this committee formed under the care of Trustees to develop a Yearly Meeting policy. Members share a vision of an environment conducive to health, wholeness and honesty for each member of the community, seeking the balance of helpful support, strong, useful boundaries, and wise, compassionate practices.

Annual Session preparation – Program Committee is actively preparing for annual session in many areas, but we know the word you want to hear right this moment is “**COFFEE.**” And along with that, you want to hear the beautiful words “**drip grind.**” You are hearing those words now, and you will be drinking that **coffee**. Even better, you can keep repeating these words as well – “**Fair trade!**” This is due to some wonderful work by Frostburg conference manager Dave Treber (Langley Hill).

I do want to mention that we are also making some changes in the dorms we use at Frostburg. There will be more air conditioned units as requested, more views of trees instead of parking lots and we’ve had some useful talks about dorm cleanliness.

We’re looking forward to seeing you all there. The summer Interchange/brochure will be out in a few weeks.

Moving onward, there is one more phrase that we all want to hear, and that is:

“Cost Cutting” – In recent months we have:

- Started using a free conference calling service
- Changed to a new Internet service provider
- And Margo has even been able to arm wrestle our copier leasing company into lowering our payments.

Next week we will meet with a retirement plan consultant to change to a different, less expensive kind of retirement plan for use by nonprofits.

These changes will save BYM at least three thousand dollars a year, and we’ll keep looking.

My job has an exciting ebb and flow. Yesterday the flow was coming from the Meeting office’s 14-year-old hot water heater, which will have to be replaced on Monday. There’s always something to look forward to.

My deepest thanks to all of the committees with whom I work. The level of commitment is deep and constant. I see the emails that come in from people getting to their committee work at 11:30 at night, and I witness

the wealth of skills and experience that keep us all going. Thanks to everyone for this.

Friends RECEIVED this report with gratitude, and expressed deep appreciation to Riley Robinson and the rest of our outstanding staff.

I2008-15 Youth Programs Committee. Erik Hanson (Takoma Park) presented the report of the Youth Programs Committee. He distributed copies of a tree diagram, showing how youth programs are knitted into every aspect of the life of the Yearly Meeting. He noted that there were 50 to 60 Young Friends at the two most recent conferences, up significantly from last year. Four of our Young Friends recently attended a clerking workshop at Pendle Hill, with the support of the Yearly Meeting. The Junior Young Friends conferences have been going well, with attendance averaging 10 – 12.

The Youth Programs Committee is working hard to recruit and train more Friends to serve as FAPs (Friendly Adult Presences). About ten FAPs from Baltimore Yearly Meeting attended a recent training weekend at Pendle Hill, and the Committee will be holding a training session of its own in the near future. The Committee is also prepared to offer one-day training sessions at local meetings. Friends are urged to contact the Committee if they are interested.

Friends RECEIVED this report with thanks.

I2008-16 Opportunity. Howard Fullerton shared with us the following request:

Kenyan Quaker Getry Agizah is coming to the US in October-November. She works with the AGLI (African Great Lakes Initiative), doing peace work with groups in Kenya. She will come to BYM meetings to tell about the violence in Kenya after the December elections, and to raise funds for AVP (Alternatives to Violence) workshops.

If your meeting would like to arrange a visit, contact David Zarembka by e-mail in Kenya, or Barbara Myers (bmyers@vcu.edu) from Richmond Friends Meeting (804-752-7588).

I2008-17 Ad-Hoc Intervisitation Committee. Howard Fullerton presented a request from the Intervisitation Committee for approval of travel minutes for Maria Bradley (Sandy Spring), Erik Hanson (Takoma Park Preparative, Adel-

phi), and Susan Kaul (Bethesda). Friends empowered the Clerk to ENDORSE these minutes.

The Committee distributed the following report:

AD HOC INTERVISITATION COMMITTEE, INTERIM REPORT

We are an **Ad Hoc** Committee.

This means that **YOU** can join us, either as a meeting attender or an e-mail member.

Travel plans for 2008—Destinations:

South East YM: Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring MM (returning traveler)

Great Plains YM: Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring MM (returning traveler)

Linda Coates, Little Britain MM (returning traveler)

New England YM: Linda Coates, Little Britain MM (returning traveler)

Indiana YM: Walter Brown, Langley Hill, MM (returning traveler)

Susan Kaul, Bethesda MM (new companion)

Western YM: Jen Chapin-Smith, Adelphi MM (returning traveler)

Jean James, Richmond MM (new traveler)

New York YM: Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM (returning traveler)

North Carolina YM: Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM (returning traveler)

Erik Hanson, Takoma Park Preparative (returning traveler)

FUM Triennial: Flossie Fullerton, Sandy Spring MM;

Mary Lord, Adelphi MM

Meg Boyd Meyer, Baltimore-Stony Run MM;

Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM

Erik Hanson, Takoma Park;

Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington

Georgia and Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill MM

I2008-18 Longest Walk 2. Dellie James (Baltimore-Stony Run) announced that a grass roots Native walk is proceeding from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., commemorating the Longest Walk, to raise awareness of environmental and Native issues. The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Indian Affairs Committee is supporting this walk. In our Yearly Meeting area, arrangements are in place to provide hospitality for the group traveling the northern route through Pennsylvania, but more help is needed for the group on the southern route who will be passing through southern Virginia. Friends are asked to give whatever help

they can. Those who are interested can get more information from the website: www.longestwalk2.org.

I2008-19 *Reports from affiliated organizations.* Howard Fullerton announced that, in view of the late hour, reports from our representatives to the Friends United Meeting General Board will be submitted in writing. (Attachment A).

I2008-20 *Closing.* The meeting closed with a period of worshipful silence.

Howard Fullerton, presiding *Deborah Haines*, acting Recording Clerk

Attachment A: Report from FUM General Board Representative

For: BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
From: Rich Liversidge, BYM Representative to the General Board
Subject: FRIENDS UNITED MEETING – GENERAL BOARD MEETING

I. FUM General Board Meeting – Agenda and Actions

The FUM General Board met in Richmond Indiana on February 8-9, 2008. All three BYM representatives to the FUM General Board attended. On Thursday 7 February, there were meetings of the FUM Trustees (via conference call) and the Triennial Planning Committee.

1. Agenda. The General Board's agenda included reports from the FUM staff, the Finance and the Priorities Committees, the Trustees and the Triennial Planning Committee.

The FUM Triennial will be July 9-13 in High Point North Carolina. **Katherine Smith** (Maury River) has agreed to lead a workshop on clerking at the Triennial.

2. Reports from the FUM Staff –

a. Situation in Western Kenya. The violence in western Kenya (where most Kenyan Quakers live) and the hardships among Internally-Displaced Persons (“IDPs”) concerned us greatly. We heard early-morning conference calls with Eden Grace (of FUM/AMO - the African Ministries Office) and Ben and Jody Richmond (directors of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi). They were safe personally but shared about the destruction and violence and changes in the social order throughout Kenya. There have been severe social and economic disruptions in western Kenya. The region has a flood of IDPs both within the region and to/from other regions. The cost of food, fuel and materials has risen dramatically because of the unrest.

b. Quaker Relief Efforts. Eden, Ben and Jody also discussed the delivery of food and other relief supplies through Quaker Church Peace Teams and other groups. BYM’s David Zarembka and his wife Gladys Namboya have been involved in that. FUM has increased its AVP (Alternatives to Violence) and other counseling along with its relief deliveries.

c. Kenyan Relief Fund. Quaker organizations agreed that one entity should coordinate Kenyan relief efforts. They agreed that FUM would be the organi-

zation. Donations through late February total \$70,822. Donors to the Kenyan Relief Fund include AFSC, FGC and FWCC. So far, the assistance has included maize (corn), beans, rice, cooking oil, blankets, water filtration equipment and trauma counseling. FUM is forwarding the funds as follows – 1/3 to FUM’s partner programs for services (to help offset higher costs related to the turmoil). These include the Mt. Elgon relief program, Lugulu and Kaimosi Hospitals, Friends Theological College, the Samburu and Turkana missions, and the Aquavis school in the Kibera slum; and 2/3 to provide relief services throughout the region, including IDP camps in several western Kenyan districts.

d. FUM’s Kaimosi Hospital Task Force. This is a General Board ad hoc committee working with FUM/AMO and a reconstituted Board of Governors of Kaimosi Hospital. Its purpose is to rehabilitate the hospital and restore an appropriate level of medical service to the community. The Task Force is made up of 5 General Board members (including me) and two FUM staff members. Presently, FUM is awaiting execution of a revised Memorandum of Understanding with East Africa Yearly Meeting (“EAYM”) outlining FUM’s site control and the responsibilities for medical services and finances.

EAYM took over control of the hospital from FUM in the 1980s and allowed the quality of service to deteriorate. The government took it over in the 1990s and service degraded more. FUM is concerned with both restoring appropriate services and providing trauma services for local residents with machete and arrow wounds. Future services almost certainly will be less than what had existed prior to the 1980s, based on community need, the government’s national medical services program and FUM’s resources.

e. Ramallah Friends School. The General Board approved pre-development funding of a proposed office building project by Ramallah Friends School on land RFS owns. The building will generate cash flow for student tuition support and teachers’ salaries. Last October, the General Board asked John Smallwood and me to help RFS season the initial proposal. The General Board approved spending up to \$30,000 for legal and consulting costs, including a loan application fee to the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

3. FUM Ad Hoc Membership Committee. This new ad hoc committee met for the first time just prior to the General Board meeting. Howard Fullerton is a member. He was unable to attend, so John Smallwood attended in his place. It will meet again during the Triennial and again in the fall. It is examining:

What does membership mean to each yearly meeting?

How should the ad hoc committees of the North American and East African yearly meeting boards coordinate their work?

Is FUM's Operations and Procedures manual clear about expectations for yearly meeting membership?

Qualities Sought of General Board Members. The GB's Nominating Committee addressed the qualities FUM seeks in its General Board members. A draft outline was presented and discussed at length. The skill base of Board members needs to be improved. One issue is the practice of some YMs making Board membership automatic for certain roles – the YM's General Secretary and/or Presiding Clerk, for example. Another is the interest of some GB members in limiting GB membership to followers of Jesus. Several changes in language and intent were made to make it more inclusive. It will be distributed to the member yearly meetings as a group of “guidelines”. It was clear that individual Yearly Meetings will continue to be free to continue with their own discernment processes in selecting their representatives to the General Board.

Personal Reflections

1. The Member Qualities Memo Attempts an Unhealthy “Spiritual Purity”. There was disagreement among General Board members about whether “spiritual purity” in its General Board membership is good for the organization. Some believe that FUM will be more successful if Board members agree on certain theological points that seem exclusive to other Board members. Others (including me) believe diversity is more beneficial.

I believe this interest about “spiritual purity” is a reaction to interest among others on the GB in revising the FUM personnel policy. Some Board members see the personnel policy as consistent with Biblical strictures and a basis for Board unity. Others see the policy as discriminatory against both gays and singles, and divisive. After several years of disagreement, the former have begun efforts to unite around theological positions.

I see spiritual purity on both sides of the matter - the push for a restrictive and exclusive orthodox Christianity on the part of the leadership of Midwestern yearly meetings (which the large majority of East African Quaker leaders support) vs. a more muscular interest in social and relationship inclusiveness by primarily the dually-affiliated yearly meetings.

In private conversations with members of almost all of the yearly meetings involved, it is clear to me that each yearly meeting has the full array of views

represented on FUM's GB, regardless of the YM's public position on the issue. The weighting differs, but the range of views is the same – even in BYM. There is no “pure” yearly meeting in FUM. Even the East African yearly meetings have younger members who disagree with their older, more orthodox (mostly male) presiding clerks and general secretaries.

However, having these divergent views represented on the Board makes some members uncomfortable. I believe the forces moving for restrictive purity are at work at the General Board level to reduce the conflict by “purifying” the makeup of the General Board. I also believe that allowing those forces to dictate what the Board should be or do would harm the organization’s important work overseas.

2. Excellent FUM Staff Damaged by the General Board Disagreements. There have been dramatic reductions in the FUM staff in Richmond Indiana. There are now just nine staff members. All of them show great creativity and intense loyalty to FUM and its mission, despite the conflicts that exist at the Board level. I have enormous respect for them and their work, and wish they were not caught in the middle and were funded better.

Given the small staff size, there is very little that FUM does here in North America. In essence, the North American Ministries program is nonexistent. FUM’s work now is almost all overseas - through Ramallah Friends School, a Boys School in Belize, work in Jamaica and Cuba, and various activities in Western Kenya, Uganda and elsewhere in East Africa. It’s important work - I believe in it and support it (with effort and money).

3. Who Has Authority? There has been discussion at several General Board meetings about the sources of authority within FUM. What are the sources of authority that ground us as Quakers, and as members of FUM and its General Board? Is it the Bible? Natural law? Yearly Meeting discernment? Our community? Or something else? Is it internally-derived or provided externally? This is an important issue to explore. Differences among us about this explain many of our institutional and personal disagreements. The Board’s factions have managed to spend most of the last decade talking past each other, not in genuine dialogue. This has damaged the legitimate work of the organization and reduced the staff and financial resources of FUM. It has affected FUM’s ability to serve communities and constituencies overseas - in Palestine, in Kenya and in the Caribbean.

III. What Next for BYM?

1. BYM's Position Regarding FUM Financial Support - My view has changed with time. I would like us to use our financial resources to help FUM's work and alleviate the suffering in Kenya and elsewhere. I believe restarting the funding will strengthen our own witness to those with whom we are in disagreement about the personnel policies. However, I do not see any softening happening soon in the personnel policy itself. I believe BYM can find a way forward on funding, if the will to fund is there. That would accommodate those within BYM who have felt excluded or marginalized in the protracted discussion about finding a way forward. Some within BYM have offered to cover the modest administrative fees on BYM donations that others have objected to paying, which would allow those BYM funds to go fully to programs.

2. Medical Facilities. FUM has been restructuring Kaimosi Mission Hospital to help it recover from 20 years of neglect and mismanagement. This is not an easy or inexpensive task for FUM. FUM recently increased funding for medicine and medical salaries. It has funded improvements to the dilapidated facilities. Perhaps BYM's funds can be used to leverage new hospital services for the community, such as an ambulance or mobile community health vehicle. Half of the cost of an ambulance was funded recently by a donor. Another \$25,000 is needed. Can BYM do that? Last month, I was authorized by the General Board to explore some creative ways to leverage funds for costs like that.

3. Maintaining Community. I don't want us to distance ourselves from the rest of the FUM community. I see what we do through FUM as serving God in very concrete ways. So I also do not want to install spiritual purity on the General Board. I believe focusing on purity would distance FUM from many supporters and continue FUM's decline.

I no longer explicitly call for a change in the personnel policy, although I continue to disagree with it. I now believe our focus on FUM's personnel policies has been too narrow – the Testimony of Integrity comes in many forms. I believe the entire matter of sexual ethics needs to be addressed. That includes the negatives – philandering pastors, divorce, affairs outside of marriage or other commitments, sex without meaning, etc. – and the positives – the nature of commitment, our willingness vs. our willfulness, and God's role in the center of our relationships. I ask what it is that we here, within BYM, are willing to address and resolve first among ourselves, before projecting it onto FUM?

Cc: John Smallwood, Walter Fry, Riley Robinson, Howard Fullerton

SIXTH MONTH, 21, 2008

ANNAPOLIS MONTHLY MEETING

I2008-21 *Opening.* Friends gathered in worship at 2:15.p.m. Out of the silence, Clerk Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) quoting the 131st Psalm, reminded us that though we prepare an agenda, we hope in the Divine agenda, and though we bring the wisdom and experience of adults to meeting for worship with attention to business, we hope also to bring the openness and sense of wonder of small children.

Sixty-seven Friends from twenty-three meetings signed in:

Adelphi: Alexander Barnes; Alexandria: Deborah Haines, Jean Ward; Annapolis: Schuyler Elsbree, Mary Kniskern, Pat Schenck, Jennifer DeLorge McKeown, Barbara Thomas; Baltimore, Homewood: David Greene, Laura Goren; Baltimore, Stony Run: Mike Boardman, Elizabeth DuVerlie, Brian Gamble, Don and Gail Gann, Meg Meyer, Nancy Moore; Bethesda: Susan Kaul, Catherine McHugh; Frederick: Anne Buttenheim, Susan DeVeer, David Hunter; Gettysburg: Margaret Stambaugh; Gunpowder: Virginia Schurman; Herndon: Cathy Tunis; Hopewell Centre: Laura Nell Obaugh; Langley Hill: Sheila Bach, Walter Brown, Georgia and Hugh Fuller, Bill Mims, Laurie Wilner; Little Falls: Bill Harlan; Nottingham: Douglas and Janet Eaby, Jason Eaby; Patapsco: Ramona Buck, Ken Stockbridge; Richmond: Ted Heck, Barbara Williamson; Roanoke: Bob and Susie Fetter; Sandy Spring: Maria Bradley, Ellen Cronin, Jack and Peggy Fogarty, Howard and Flossie Fullerton, Toni and John Hudson, Debbie Legowski, Margo Lehman, Rich Liversidge, Betsy Meyer, John and Anne Worley; Seneca Valley: Annette Breiling; State College: Andrei Israel; Takoma Park: Kit Mason, Arthur David Olson; Washington, Friends Meeting of: Michael Cronin, Denny Hartzell, Joe Izzo, Carol Phelps, Riley Robinson, Byron Sandford; York: Lamar Matthew; also present: Ann Whittaker

I2008-22 *Welcome.* Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) brought a hearty and warm welcome. The Annapolis Meeting began under a tree at St. John's College, later worshiping under the trees on this lovely property. Fifteen years ago the building was completed, thanks in part to the purchase of bean-soup mix by many Friends. The Meeting recently has participated in an introduction to Quaker Quest, started a Peace and Justice Center and is happy to be experiencing an abundance of children.

I2008-23 Report on Friends in Iowa. Elizabeth Meyer brought a message from Friends in Iowa Yearly Meeting who are affected by recent flooding. Let us hold them in the light.

I2008-24 Unity with Nature. Barbara Williamson (Richmond) spoke for the Friends in Unity with Nature; this committee has sent some of its funds to Native Energy and received a certificate recognizing the carbon offsets which were thus purchased. Friends were informed that these carbon offsets will never be resold, a practice employed by some organizations.

I2008-25 Naming Committee. Laurie Wilner (Langley Hill) reported for the committee.

Report from the Naming Committee 6/08

Although normally consisting of two (2) individuals, this year's Naming Committee consisted of three (3) Friends: Herbert "Chip" Tucker of Charlottesville Monthly Meeting, Malachy Kilbride of Friends Meeting of Washington, and Laurie Wilner of Langley Hill Friends Meeting.

The job of the Naming Committee is to bring forward nominees to fill the Search Committee to its full complement of six (6) Friends. With the recent resignation of Friend Rosalind Zuses, the current Search Committee consisted of five (5) members: Janet Eaby, the clerk, whose term expires this year; Rachel Messenger and Jean Wilson, both of whom have a term-year expiration of 2009; and David Etheridge and Eric Uberseder whose terms expire in 2010. Both Rachel and Jean expect to fulfill their terms. Our 2007 Yearbook accidentally omitted David and Eric from the Committee roster; because of that omission, our Naming Committee overfilled this Search Committee. Learning of this the eve before our Interim Meeting, we bring forward the names and ask this body for direction.

Our work is as follows:

We are delighted that **Janet Eaby** of Oxford Meeting is willing to continue on with the Committee for another term, to expire in 2011. As the current clerk, we believe her continuing presence will benefit our Search Committee and recommend that this reappointment be accepted.

Our Naming Committee made an intentional effort to bring to the Search Committee a Young Adult Friend. We felt it important to bring into the

process a younger member of our Yearly Meeting to help ensure the next generation is considered and possibly recruited to full participation. To do this, we are delighted to bring forward the name of **Rachel Stacy** of Gunpowder Monthly Meeting. Due to uncertainties for next year, Rachel felt unable to accept a three-year term. She is, however, willing to accept a one-year term. We recommend Rachel for the remainder of Rosalind Zuses' term, expiring in 2009.

We are delighted to present for consideration the names of **Kevin Caughlan** of Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting and **Aron Teel** of Charlottesville Monthly Meeting for three year terms expiring in 2011. Kevin and Aron's acceptance to this committee brings not only geographic diversity to the Search Committee but gender diversity as well.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Wilner for the Naming Committee

Friends APPROVED the nominations of Rachel Stacy (Gunpowder) for a term to end 2009, Janet Eaby (Oxford), Kevin Caughlan (Sandy Spring) and Aron Teel (Charlottesville) for three year terms expiring in 2011.

Friends also APPROVED the one year expansion of the Search committee to eight individuals.

I2008-26 Search Committee. Janet Eaby (Oxford) reported for the committee, expressing appreciation for those willing to serve.

The committee brings the names of Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) for an additional two-year term as Clerk of Yearly Meeting, ending in 2010; Liz Hofmeister (Bethesda) for a new full term (2 years) on Supervisory Committee ending in 2010, and Jason Eaby (Oxford) and Bronna Zlochiver (Sandy Spring) each for an additional term on Nominating Committee ending in 2011.

Janet reported that Supervisory Committee has asked Search Committee to make an exception to the six year term limit. Since three new committee members and two new ex-officio members have come onto Supervisory Committee this past year, the committee requests that Meg Boyd Meyer (Stony Run) serve an additional year beyond the expiration of her six year term in 2008.

Friends present APPROVED and RECOMMENDED THAT THESE NOMINATIONS BE FORWARDED TO YEARLY MEETING IN ANNUAL SESSION FOR APPROVAL.

I2008-27 Nominating Committee. Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) reported for the Nominating Committee:

The following individuals have resigned:

Program Committee: Anita Bower (Nottingham)

Camping Property Committee: Francesca Costantino (Langley Hill)

Youth Programs Committee: Linda Heacock (Richmond)

Stewardship and Finance: Margaret Allen (Stony Run)

Religious Education: Elizabeth Johnson (Sandy Spring),
 Sara Bur (Baltimore-Homewood),
 Nancy Moore (Baltimore-Stony Run)

Unity with Nature: Joan Clement (Adelphi),

 Janet Frieswyk (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Friends House Board: Don McCandless (Sandy Spring)

Representative to Friends United Meeting Triennial: Lauri Perman
(State College)

Two appointments were requested:

Friends United Meeting Triennial: Riley Robinson (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Stewardship and Finance: Ed Hustead (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Friends ACCEPTED the resignations, and APPROVED the appointments.

Barbara presented a list of committees in need of additional members, and requested Friends to consider their leading for service in these capacities or their suggestions for those who might serve.

The Nominating Committee asks Interim Meeting to consider the status of the Religious Education Committee, which is not functioning as the current charge would indicate. In talking with the current committee members, the committee recognized that the current work of a small group is vibrant, but somewhat different. Additionally, three members of the group resigned when approached; three of the other five did not respond to efforts to contact them. Nominating Committee feels that it cannot appoint new members to a committee with an

unclear role and believes that either someone needs to step forward to clerk the committee or the committee should create a new statement for the manual of procedure.

Interim Meeting has the responsibility to recommend changes in committees, if needed. The committee itself could bring a reformulated charge.

A Friend spoke of her concern about the need for Religious Education work, and a hope that the committee could be reconstituted and carry forth its current charge. Another spoke of the lack in our structure and process for a way to review whether our current structures and processes are working well. Guidance might be found in an examination in our experience of reviewing our committees a few years ago and in the annual State of the Meeting reports from our Monthly Meetings.

I2008-28 Program Committee. Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) reminded Friends that the early registration deadline for Annual Sessions is Friday, June 27, and asked us to recruit others from our Meetings to attend. She requested volunteer drivers to help those who need assistance on campus. Several improvements in the arrangements were announced: Fair Trade coffee and a better salad bar; air-conditioned rooms and beds lowered to normal heights, for example. Volunteers to work with Junior Yearly Meeting are still needed. Betsy Meyer will speak on Tuesday evening and Clinton Pettus of the Midddle Atlantic Region AFSC will present the Cary Lecture on Friday evening.

Friends expressed their appreciation to the Program Committee for its work.

I2008-29 Supervisory Committee. Meg Boyd Meyer (Stony Run) presented the annual report of the Supervisory Committee.

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2007

The BYM Manual of Procedure revised description for the Supervisory Committee, as approved during BYM's 2007 Annual Session, gives the committee responsibility to "guide and support the General Secretary" and "to insure the support and nourishment of the staff."

In carrying out these responsibilities over the last year (and into 2008), the committee has addressed an array of issues at its regularly held

meetings. Much of the committee's attention was given to personnel matters, including employee benefits and supplemental compensation. The committee took steps to move the staff retirement plan into a new plan. This change is expected to be more cost effective and simpler to administer. Under the new plan, staff are allowed more investment options -- along with the prospects for improved returns on investment.

Last fall, the committee worked with the General Secretary and the co-clerks of the Camping Program Committee to develop parameters for telecommuting procedures, to be used by Camping Administrative Secretary, Jane Megginson. This new job arrangement appears to be working well, and may prove a useful model for other staff positions in the future.

The committee established new procedures for the General Secretary's annual performance evaluation; a Supervisory Committee subcommittee met with Riley Robinson for his first full review since he assumed the responsibilities of General Secretary in August 2006. The committee also approved a new staff Conflict Resolution/Grievance Procedure.

The committee is continuing a thorough review of the BYM Employee Handbook and has established a three-person subcommittee to prepare the initial draft of a comprehensive revised document.

The committee continues to seek "next steps" towards finding ways BYM can best meet the needs, encourage the talents, and nurture younger Friends. The absence of a Youth Secretary has highlighted the importance of this staff position. The Youth Program Committee, the Supervisory Committee, and BYM staff all work to address these opportunities and challenges.

Budget pressures surround BYM's programs and plans, which make it timely to expand our development efforts. Supervisory Committee reviewed the job description for a new development position. This is part of the process by which the committee works with the General Secretary and appropriate program committees to assure transparent procedures in the development of job descriptions, as well as with the recruitment and hiring of staff.

Together with Stewardship & Finance and Trustees, Supervisory Committee has appointed a member to a joint subcommittee to oversee the maintenance and upkeep of the BYM Sandy Spring office building and adjacent property.

The past year saw several changes in the makeup of the Supervisory Committee. BYM Presiding Clerk Lauri Perman, who served ex-officio on the committee, resigned when she assumed a key position at Pendle Hill. Michael Cronin stepped down as a Clerk of Interim Meeting, a role which until recently included responsibility to serve as Clerk of Supervisory Committee. Meg Boyd Meyer assumed the clerkship of the committee in January 2008, and Marion Ballard, stepped in as the new Treasurer, succeeding Kevin Caughlan. Betsy Meyer, named Clerk of Interim Meeting in March 2008, has joined the committee.

Approved: June 9, 2008

This report was ACCEPTED WITH THANKS.

I2008-30 *Manual of Procedure Committee.* Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) presented the report which had been distributed in writing.

Supervisory Committee has requested a change in wording in the way in which it will report staff compensation to Interim Meeting.

“The Supervisory Committee recommends office staff compensation policies to the Interim Meeting, annually approves specific salaries and benefits for office staff and reports these to the Interim Meeting, and provides guidance to the General Secretary in the employment of office staff.”

-- should be replaced by the following:

“The Supervisory Committee recommends staff compensation policies to Interim Meeting, annually sets specific compensation levels for individual staff, annually reports compensation totals in aggregate form to Interim Meeting, and provides guidance to the General Secretary in the employment of staff.”

A Friend requested information about the benefits provided for employees to permit Interim Meeting to provide adequate oversight; this request can be met within the language proposed.

Stewardship and Finance committee requests Supervisory Committee to be timely in budget planning and also asks for consideration of a salary scale which takes into consideration tenure as well as cost-of-living.

Friends present APPROVED the requested change and FORWARDS IT TO ANNUAL SESSION FOR CONSIDERATION.

I2008-31 *Ad-Hoc Intervisitation Committee.* Walter Brown (Langley Hill) presented the report.

Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee, Interim Report, June 21, 2008

We are an **Ad Hoc** Committee. This means that **YOU** can join us, either as a meeting attender or an email member. Email: georgiafuller@gmail.com

We are preparing for the FUM Triennial in North Carolina, July 9-12. We will have a booth and two interest groups. We will distribute a new pamphlet, "*The Biblical Vision of Peace,*" by Georgia E. Fuller, Ph.D., MTS. Our group attending includes:

Flossie Fullerton, *Sandy Spring*; Mary Lord, *Adelphi*; Meg Boyd Meyer, *Baltimore-Stony Run*; Ken Stockbridge, *Patapsco*; Andrei Israel, *FMW*; and, Georgia and Hugh Fuller, *Langley Hill*.

Currently we are expecting the following visitors to our Annual Session, August 4-10:

Terri Johns, *FUM*; Joseph Makokha, clerk of *Friends Church Peace Teams (Kenya)*; Wanda Coffin-Baker, *Western YM*; Neil and Phoebe Anderson, *South East YM*; Cliff Loesch and John Damon, *Great Plains YM*; and, one or two Friends from *New York YM* (Note: On June 24 we learned that the two visitors from NYYM would be Anna Obermayer and Janet Hough.)

We are planning lunch table discussions and will present a workshop on Saturday.

Visits have been made to Great Plains and South East Yearly Meetings. Visits are planned to: Indiana, New England, New York, North Carolina, and Western Yearly Meetings.

A travel minute from Richmond Monthly Meeting for Jean James was read and ENDORSED.

A minute from Adelphi Friends Meeting for Jennifer McAfee Chapin-Smith was read and ENDORSED.

Jen and Jean will be traveling together.

A minute from Langley Hill for Walter Brown was read by the presiding clerk and ENDORSED by Interim Meeting.

These travel minutes are attached to the body of these minutes.

I2008-32 Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee. Lamar Matthew (Baltimore-Stony Run, and York Meetings) read a travel minute for Laura Nell Obaugh to Friends United Meeting Triennial from the committee.

Friends APPROVED.

I2008-33 General Secretary. Riley Robinson (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the General Secretary's report, noting the many changes in the Yearly Meeting in the past two years and challenging us to think about the future of our beloved Yearly Meeting. He reported briefly on the work of the other staff, as well. Riley concluded by presenting a glimpse of the program from an exhibit on Quilts and Quaker Heritage mounted by Mary Robare (Hopewell-Centre) at the Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg.

General Secretary's Report

Not that it's been a busy spring, or anything, but in the last week alone we have:

1. Installed a new computer network - finally, after three tries at ordering a new server that actually worked.
2. Substantially finished the necessary paperwork for our new, less expensive, 403B retirement plan, a process during which we found that we were the guinea pig amidst a series of new-- and more complex -- regulations. (Did I even have to say it?)
3. Finished the process of converting to a new "two-phase" health insurance plan to cope with our larger, more dispersed staff.

This is quite a lot of change, and there is more to come. Here are some of the ways:

Youth Secretary Position – I am serving on the Youth Programs Committee's Youth Secretary Subcommittee. A draft job description – the result of not only a year and a half of meetings but even attendance by

many at weekend-long seminars - has been produced. It is now being reviewed by Youth Programs Committee and Supervisory Committee.

Development Director – An interview committee has been interviewing people for this position in the last few weeks. The discussions with the well-qualified candidates has been rich, leading us to look at the future of the Yearly Meeting – our communications, the relationships between our various parts, and what our Yearly Meeting’s activities say about us and about our faith.

And we in BYM have been changing in many other ways. Less than two years ago I was the brand-new guy on the block and since that time the people I’ve worked with most closely have completely changed. We have a new Yearly Meeting Clerk, a new Interim Meeting Clerk, New Supervisory Committee Clerk, new Clerk of Trustees, new Stewardship and Finance Committee Co-clerks, a new Program Committee Clerk, a entire new Development Subcommittee, a new subcommittee on the future of the office building and a new ad hoc Committee on Child and Youth Safety. **What’s wonderful about BYM is that we have found so many caring, talented people for all of these positions.**

So, let’s pause to catch our breath for a moment and think. What do you see our Yearly Meeting looking like five years from now?

- How could BYM mean more to your Monthly Meeting?
- What would help our Monthly Meetings thrive?
- What is our best work and best witness?
- Do we understand and make the most of the experience of other Friends organizations, including the ones in our region?
- What are our successes at reaching out to the communities in which we live, invite them in, and learn from them?
- What are we best at in nurturing of our own and each other’s spiritual lives and in our understanding of the way of Friends?
- How can we build on all of these concerns and help them function together harmoniously?

There are only two wrong answers:

1. I don’t want to think about it
2. All those other people out there should do something about these things

So how should we share our ideas about this? And when we have a bushel of our good ideas together, how will BYM process them and move on them?

You need to come to Annual Session in August and listen to everything that happens with these questions in mind. Please encourage others to do so as well. There is still time for you to be a part of all of this change. You might consider putting together an interest group there for any one of these topics.

I have asked our staff to think about this same question - Where do we want to be in five years? Meanwhile here's what they are doing:

Administrative Assistant - Ann Whittaker has continued to be a resource for filling in for the vacant Youth Secretary position. Now the focus is on preparing for Annual Session in many ways, especially support of registration and preparing for the 16-hour-a-day office all week at annual session.

Bookkeeper- We enter a new era this week with our brand new computer network – our accounting software is actually designed to function on it! No more lockups and mysterious reports! In recent months Bookkeeper Margo Lehman has worked with a group that has met several times sorting out the funds of the Yearly Meeting. The audit is about to be wrapped up next week.

Camp Administrative Secretary - Jane Megginson is in the midst of coordinating last weeks Skill Week and next week's Pre-Camp activities. The following week the camps open for the summer. In late August (22-24) you are welcome to attend a celebration of Camp Catoctin's 50th Anniversary.

Camp Property Manager - David Hunter coordinated the spring series of work weekends at the camps. The Camp Property Committee approved his work preparing a new site plan of Camp Catoctin, required by Frederick County. He is currently supporting our fleet of busses, trucks and vans that make canoe trips, climbing trips, hiking trips possible, as well as grocery runs for perpetually starving campers.

Finally, **Annual Session** preparation –

One special treat – We're encouraging Friends Mary Robare to hold an Interest Group on the exhibit she assembled called "Quilts and Quaker Heritage," on display now through September at the Virginia Quilt Museum, 301 South Main St., Harrisonburg, VA. <http://www.vaquiltmuseum.org/>

Friends ACCEPTED this report with gratitude.

I2008-34 Friends World Committee for Consultation. Flossie Fullerton (Sandy Spring), a BYM representative to FWCC-Section of Americas, brought Friends World Committee for Consultation's request that Baltimore Yearly Meeting extend an invitation to the Section of Americas to hold a future annual meeting in the BYM area. This would be an open meeting, including individuals from Alaska to Peru held probably the third week in March sometime between 2010 and 2012. BYM would create a local arrangements committee to work with the Section of Americas staff to find a site for the meeting. No financial request is included, and the BYM representatives will comprise the core of the local arrangements committee. Additional volunteers would be welcomed.

Friends APPROVED.

I2008-35 Presiding Clerk. Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring)

Friends Meeting School in Ijamsville MD has asked Baltimore Yearly Meeting to take it under its care. Howard read from their letter indicating that the Meeting is under the spiritual care of Seneca Valley Preparative Meeting which lacks the legal standing to take the School fully under its care. Frederick Monthly Meeting, Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting, and Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting have been asked and none has been clear to take the school under its care. The School's request is limited to naming three Friends to serve on its Board.

Howard noted that BYM currently appoints six members to the Sandy Spring Friends School Board. He suggests that BYM committees consider the implications of taking schools under BYM's care, noting that Harford Friends School also might be interested in this status. In particular, Nominating, Stewardship and Finance, Trustees, Advancement and Outreach, and Ministry and Pastoral Care committees are being asked to consider "taking under the care" with the last Committee receiving comments and making a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting. If additional Yearly Meeting Committees feel that they have useful insight into this matter, please make this known. Comments to Ministry and Pastoral Care are requested by June 2009, with a recommendation to come to Annual Session in 2009.

Friends APPROVED this recommendation.

BYM has received a request from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, the Church of the Brethren and the Mennonite Church to appoint five representatives to an ecumenical peace conference to be held January 13-17, 2009. Howard has asked

Mary Lord (Adelphi) to attend as one representative and requested Young Adult Friends to appoint one individual and Peace and Social Concerns Committee to nominate three additional individuals, bringing these names to Annual Session for approval.

Friends APPROVED Mary Lord as a delegate to the conference.

Howard reported on correspondence received from Wellesley Friends Meeting of New England Yearly Meeting regarding Friends United Meeting employment policy. He has acknowledged the letter and passed it to the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns, the Ad Hoc Committee on Intervisitation, and Ministry and Pastoral Care.

He further reported that Baltimore Yearly Meeting's organizational non-payment to Friends United Meeting has been noted. Individual members continue to contribute to FUM. Most, but not all, North American Yearly Meetings contribute financially as Yearly Meetings. A few, but not many, African Yearly Meetings contribute. Friends United Meeting has appointed an ad-hoc committee on membership to articulate expectations for membership responsibilities. FUM has a process for African Yearly Meetings to join including an expectation of a financial contribution which does not always occur. However nothing comparable exists for long-time North American member Yearly Meetings. Every North American member Yearly Meeting has one or two representatives on this committee. Howard is serving as BYM's representative.

I2008-36 *Minute of Appreciation to Annapolis Monthly Meeting.*

Friends expressed deep appreciation to Annapolis Friends for their hospitality.

I2008-37 *Announcements.*

- To Committee Clerks (and all who serve on Committees): The BYM Office would like to receive Advance Reports in the Office as soon as possible. Please email to bym@bym-rsf.org; also, please remember to email minutes to the office after each Committee meeting.
- Does your meeting seek a deeper spiritual community experience? Consider starting a local group in your meeting as part of the BYM Spiritual Formation Program. Ask Betsy Meyer for a starter kit for your meeting. Visit the Spiritual Formation Program display and take home a few fliers for the 2008-9 Program.

- Our Working Group on Racism is alarmed at media presentations of distorted images and information designed to exploit racial prejudice and fear. The members of the Working Group on Racism are working on effective ways to respond, such as contacting the media outlets and/or their sponsors, and writing letters to the editor. The Working Group urges all Friends to actively decry these media tactics. Please share any letters you may write by e-mailing them to the Monthly Meeting liaisons with the working group. Contact the Working Group through eduverlie@jhu.edu.
- Annapolis Monthly Meeting's Peace and Justice Center is providing space for closed negotiations on water rights in the Middle East to be held at Annapolis August 17-21. Thirteen Palestinian and Israeli negotiators and six advisors and mediators will participate. This event will cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000. Contributions would be welcomed. See the BYM website for detailed information.

I2008-38 *Closing.* The meeting closed with a period of worshipful silence. Friends adjourned at 4:40 p.m. purposing to meet again Tenth Month 18 at Charlottesville Friends Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Meyer, Presiding Clerk
Meg Boyd Meyer, Recording Clerk

**337TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
FROSTBURG, MARYLAND**

Tuesday, August 5, 2008

Y2008-01 *Opening.* Friends gathered at 3:00 P.M. for meeting for worship with a concern for business.

Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) Recording Clerk, and Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg) Reading Clerk, as well as Jason Eaby (Nottingham) who will be handling the sound system throughout these sessions.

Y2008-02 *We welcomed visitors:*

We welcomed John Damon, Kearney Worship Group, Central City (NE) Friends Meeting and Cliff Loesch, University Friends (Wichita, KS) representing Great Plains Yearly Meeting as part of our Intervisitation program.

We welcomed Janet Gibian Hough, Chappaqua Friends Meeting (formerly a member of Sandy Spring), and Anna Obermeyer, Binghamton Community Friends, representing New York Yearly Meeting as part of our Intervisitation program.

We welcomed Phoebe and Neil Anderson, Tallahasee Friends Meeting (formerly members of Langley Hill) representing Southeastern Yearly Meeting as part of our Intervisitation program.

A travel minute was read introducing Jennie Isbell, Roanoke Friends Meeting, who is here representing Earlham School of Religion.

Howard Fullerton announced that Joseph Makokha, of Chwele Yearly Meeting (Kenya), clerk of the Friends Church Peace Teams, had intended to be with us this week but was called home because of a death in his immediate family.

Other visitors will be introduced as they arrive.

Y2008-03 *Agenda.* Clerk Howard Fullerton reviewed the agenda for the week, and asked if there are other items that should be added.

Y2008-04 *Staff Introductions.* Riley Robinson, General Secretary, introduced the staff of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. There have been major changes this year, including a new staff position, a new computer system, new health insurance and retirement plans, and new committee clerks in most major committees. The staff members present today are David Hunter, Camp Property Manager, who manages our three camp properties, with the assistance of Camp Shiloh Caretaker Ralph Reed and Camp Catoctin Caretaker Stephen Dotson; Jane Megginson, Camp Administrative Secretary, who oversees a summer staff of about 120 people, working from her home in Pennsylvania; Margo Lehman, Bookkeeper, who accomplishes more than seems possible in her three days a week, and Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant, who has been filling in this year supporting youth programs on top of her other full time responsibilities.

A new Development Director has just been hired: Robinne Gray, an attender at Friends Meeting of Washington. She will be arriving tomorrow to introduce herself to the Yearly Meeting, and will be offering an afternoon interest group. The job description for the Youth Secretary is almost finalized.

Riley Robinson thanked several hard working volunteers, including Jim Rose (Patapsco) who manages the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website; Brett Leonard (Goose Creek) who recently scanned Bliss Forbush's volume on the history of BYM to make it available electronically, Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill) Registrar for these annual sessions, and Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg) who had driven long distances to bring the staff home-baked cookies.

Y2008-05 Reading Clerk Margaret Stambaugh read the epistle from Britain Yearly Meeting, affirming how "acceptance of diversity is at the heart of our unity as Quakers," and calling on all Friends "to live God's will as if it were our own."

Y2008-06 *Epistle Committee.* Clerk Howard Fullerton announced that he has asked several Friends to serve on the Epistle Committee for these sessions. They are Rebecca Haines Rosenberg (Alexandria), Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco), and J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington). Friends APPROVED these names.

Y2008-07 *Program Committee Report.* Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Program Committee. She introduced the members of the Committee: Nancy Coleman (Dunnings Creek) who is handling the Bookstore; Don Gann (Baltimore-Stony Run); Jason Eaby, who is handling the sound system; Carmen Wren Becket (Takoma Park) and Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg) who planned the workshops; Mary Campbell (Friends Meeting of Washington) interning as Registrar with Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill); and Dennis Hartzell, (Friends Meeting of Washington) who is coordinating food services, with the assistance of Matthew Bacon (Hopewell Centre), one of the ex officio Young Friends planners.

Sheila Bach then explained the process for signing up for workshops and worship-sharing, submitting suggestions to the Epistle Committee, requesting space for interest groups or committee meetings, submitting announcements for the Daily Minute, and leaving messages for the presiding Clerk.

Friends willing to serve as supportive listeners to those in need during these sessions are identified by yellow dots on their nametags. Red dots signify regular and ex-officio members of the Program Committee; blue dots identify first-time attenders.

Friends feeling led to hold these sessions in the Light, or to serve as ushers, are asked to speak with Lamar Matthew (Baltimore-Stony Run).

Y2008-08 Clerk Howard Fullerton thanked Elizabeth “Betsy” Krome (Williamsburg) for the beautiful pitcher and cups that grace the clerks’ table.

Y2008-09 *Faith and Practice Revision Committee Report.* Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Faith and Practice revision committee. Packets have been prepared for each meeting containing the proposed new text for advices, queries, and “voices”—quotations old and new. Each meeting is asked to make copies for their members and encourage careful consideration of this packet. The text is also available on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website.

Sheila Bach introduced and thanked the members of the committee, who have worked together on this task for many years.

Y2008-10 *Manual of Procedure Revisions.* Herbert “Chip” Tucker (Charlottesville) presented a proposed change to the Manual of Procedure, brought forward from Interim Meeting in June for final approval at these annual sessions. The proposed change is as follows:

Under the duties of the Supervisory Committee, p. 10, the sentence that now reads—

“The Supervisory Committee recommends office staff compensation policies to the Interim Meeting, annually approved specific salaries and benefits for office staff and reports these to the Interim Meeting, and provides guidance to the General Secretary in the employment of office staff.”

--should be replaced by the following:

“The Supervisory Committee recommends staff compensation policies to Interim Meeting, annually sets specific compensation levels for individual staff, annually reports compensation totals in aggregate form to Interim Meeting, and provides guidance to the General Secretary in the employment of staff.”

Friends noted from the floor that members of the yearly meeting staff have not been given raises beyond the cost of living for several years and salaries are unrealistically low. This situation can only be corrected if we increase our overall support of the Yearly Meeting.

Friends APPROVED this proposed change to the Manual of Procedure.

Chip Tucker then presented a second proposed change, relating to revisions to the Young Friends Handbook. After discussion, it was agreed that this proposal needs further seasoning. It will be considered by the Youth Programs Committee, and may then be brought to Interim Committee as a later date.

Y2008-11 *Interim Meeting Report.* Elizabeth “Betsy” Meyer (Sandy Spring) presented the report of Interim Meeting.

Interim Meeting Report to Baltimore Yearly Meeting
August 2008

The Interim Meeting acts for the Yearly Meeting when necessary in the intervals between sessions. At this time, Interim Meeting is reporting such actions to the Yearly Meeting.

Actions at Interim Meeting held Tenth Month 20, 2007, in Washington, DC:

Stewardship and Finance Committee presented revised apportionments which were approved.

A Development Subcommittee of the Stewardship and Finance Committee brought forth a report on the needs of Baltimore Yearly Meeting for a development program. Friends approved a committee description for the Development Subcommittee. In addition, Friends approved the hiring of a development director, contingent upon a job description approved by Supervisory Committee and the identification of funds by Trustees and Stewardship and Finance to support the role.

Friends approved the Peace and Social Concerns Committee's proposal that Baltimore Yearly Meeting join the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

Actions at Interim Meeting held Third Month 29, 2008, in Williamsburg, VA:

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee recommended that Baltimore Yearly Meeting make a contribution to the Kenya Relief Fund which will support both humanitarian relief and Alternatives to violence programs in Kenya. Friends approved a contribution from BYM of \$9,000 – the amount of undesignated funds in this year's budget.

At the recommendation of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, Friends granted permission for a one-time use of the BYM mailing list by Friends Wilderness Center for an information and fund-raising letter.

Actions at Interim Meeting held Sixth Month 21, 2008, in Annapolis, MD:

Friends approved the recommendation of our Friends World Committee for Consultation-Section of the Americas representatives that Baltimore Yearly Meeting issue an invitation for FWCC-Section of the Americas to hold an annual meeting in the BYM area between 2010 and 2012.

Friends approved asking BYM committees (especially Nominating, Stewardship and Finance, Trustees, Advancement and Outreach, and Ministry and Pastoral Care Committees) to consider the implications of

taking schools under BYM's care and to report to Ministry and Pastoral Care by June 2009, Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee is asked to bring a recommendation to annual session in 2009.

Friends approved naming Mary Lord (Adelphi) as a BYM delegate to an ecumenical peace conference sponsored by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, the Church of the Brethren and the Mennonite Church to be held January 13-17, 2009.

In addition, at all three meetings, the Nominating Committee informed us of resignations from committees and other positions and brought forth nominations which were approved. At Spring and Summer Interim Meetings, Friends approved endorsing various travel minutes.

Y2008-12 Memorial Minute. Clerk Howard Fullerton read from a memorial minute for David Boynton, beloved member of Langley Hill who died December 29, 2007. His passion for peace and justice, and his joyful and loving presence enriched the lives of all who knew him. He will be sorely missed not only in the Quaker community to which he gave so much, but in the dance community and bicycling community so dear to his heart. Our prayers are with the family and many friends he has left behind.

Y2008-13 The meeting adjourned after a period of deep worship.

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

Y2008-14 Friends gathered at 9:30 A.M. for meeting for worship with a concern for business.

Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) Recording Clerk, Lydia Rain (Adelphi) and Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi) representing Young Friends, Annalee Flower Horn, Clerk of Young Adult Friends, and Wayne Finegar (Sandy Spring) Reading Clerk. Jason Eaby (Nottingham) will be handling the sound system. Holding us in the Light today are Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg) and Virginia Schurman (Gunpowder).

Y2008-15 We welcomed visitors.

A travel minute was read for Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, Swarthmore Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, who is representing Friends General Conference.

A travel minute was read for Cliff Loesch, University Friends Church, Wichita, and John Damon, Kearney Worship Group, Central City (NE) Meeting, who are representing Great Plains Yearly Meeting as part of our Intervisitation program.

We welcomed Dorothy Day, Illinois Yearly Meeting, who is representing the Friends World Committee for Consultation-Section of the Americas.

Clerk Howard Fullerton announced that Peterson Toscano, New England Yearly Meeting, a performer and educator on issues of faith and sexuality, is attending these sessions as the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Religious Education Committee Visitor. He will be leading a workshop and will be available as a resource throughout the week.

Y2008-16 Howard Fullerton announced that Howard and Rosalind Zuses (Sandy Spring) have been appointed to serve as Resident Friends at the Auckland Friends Center in New Zealand from April 2009 to March 2010. Our thoughts will go with them on their journey.

After other announcements, the Clerk reviewed the agenda for the day.

Y2008-17 *Camping Program Committee Report.* Chrissie Devinney (Goose Creek) and Tasha Walsh (Maury River) presented the report of the Camping Program Committee.

Chrissie Devinney introduced Linda Garrettson, director of Catoctin, Dana Foster, who is stepping down after thirteen years as director of Shiloh, Elaine Brigham, director of Opequon, and Jen Schneider, co-director of Teen Adventure. Dave Gregal, who has just been hired as the other co-director of Teen Adventure could not be here this week.

Chrissie Devinney gave a brief overview of the program. There have not been as many campers this year as we would like, and expanded outreach and recruitment efforts are underway. Catoctin is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year and a number of special events have been held to celebrate that milestone.

Linda Garrettson spoke of how she first connected with Catoctin 34 years ago, and the joy it has been to serve as director there, watching the children learn and grow. There is a wonderful sense of community throughout the camping program.

For the first time this year Opequon, our newest camp, had a majority of staff who were themselves former campers, leading to a deep sense of family. She spoke of how Shiloh held workshops this year for the first time with great success, and of the increased exchanges between Shiloh and Opequon. One highlight this year was when Catoctin campers out on a hike were cheered on by a busload of Teen Adventure campers who had just finished their program.

Linda Garrettson shared with us stories about the joy our campers experience in exploring their natural world, figuring out how to sing rounds in sign language, learning the power of worship and a deep sense of personal leading. She expressed her deep gratitude to Dana Foster, who has been her co-worker and friend since they both became directors thirteen years ago.

Dana Foster spoke briefly, saying what a joy it has been for her to be part of a camping program supported by a yearly meeting of Friends, and how much she will miss all the close friends she has made. Friends expressed their deep love and gratitude for Dana Foster's years of faithful service.

Y2008-18 Wayne Finegar read an excerpt from the Camping Program report of 1998, reviewing the events of the past year, and mentioning the need for a third permanent camp to support this important ministry of the Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-19 *Friends House Report.* John Smallwood, clerk of Trustees of Friends House retirement home in Sandy Spring introduced Carolee Harvey, the new Resident Director of Friends House. He then introduced Karen Lehman, the new Executive Director.

Karen Lehman spoke about her previous experience working with a Mennonite retirement community in Indiana, and described the sense of calling that brought her to Friends House. She is currently focusing on developing a strategic plan to address both short-term and long-term challenges, including a five to eight year wait list. She noted that there are many things that make Friends House a very special place, including a Kitchen Garden Committee that enables residents to provide the kitchen with home grown vegetables, saving Friends House thousands of dollars a year, and giving great joy to the gardeners. She thanked Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends for the financial support that provides critical assistance to residents who find themselves in need.

Y2008-20 *Friends General Conference Report.* Walter Brown (Langley Hill) reported for the Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives to the Central Committee of Friends General Conference (FGC). He noted that reports from Byron Sandford (Friends Meeting of Washington) and Julia Isaacs (Friends Meeting of Washington) who both serve on the Executive Committee of FGC, are included in the Advance Reports. He asked other representatives to the FGC Central Committee to rise, and introduced Patsy Martin, Roanoke, who serves on the FGC staff member organizing the Junior Gathering. All would be glad to answer questions. Walter Brown noted that one of the newest programs of FGC, the Quaker Quest outreach program under the care of the Advancement and Outreach Committee, has been generating considerable excitement in Baltimore Yearly Meeting and elsewhere.

Y2008-21 *Friends United Meeting Report.* John Smallwood (Langley Hill) presented the report from the Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives to the Friends United Meeting (FUM) General Board.

Report of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Representatives
to the Friends United Meeting General Board
August 6, 2008

As one of your representatives to the FUM General Board, I was asked to give you a short report on the events of the past year.

A well-attended Triennial was held last month in High Point, NC. Many BYM people attended. They will tell you their experiences better than I can. I will only say that it was a time of good fellowship among the FUM community, which is very diverse, spanning several continents with a wide variety of cultural environments. There was also, unfortunately, a missed opportunity at the Triennial to clearly articulate to that community the overall challenges FUM faces. We heard many reports of good deeds and requests for money, but were asked to make no discernment or real decisions. The major issues were left unexplained.

The FUM organization accomplished several notable achievements in the past year. Last year reports of physical and organizational decay at Kaimosi Hospital were demoralizing. During the past twelve months, under the guidance of the Richmond FUM office and the African Ministry Office, considerable progress has been reported. The hospital has a new roof, a new clean up, a new Board of Directors, new internal leadership and a new infusion of FUM funds to cover payroll. All of this has encouraged a new flow of patients and a new sense of confident

direction in the hospital. The turnaround is dramatic and we should be proud of FUM efforts.

On another front in Kenya, the FUM African Ministry Office's leadership and response to the political upheaval this year is nothing short of an heroic application of our peace testimony. With East African Friends, a peace conference was organized, relief efforts carried out and planning accomplished for alternatives to violence training through the extensive system of Quaker schools. Significant contributions flowed into FUM to support this work.

The key organizational challenge for FUM remains a financial one. Like most religious organizations, program is driven by a sense of mission. Simply put, the programmatic desires of FUM exceed its funding by YM contributions and by individuals. What is needed is a careful analysis by staff and the Board to establish dependable funding for each program. If a program can not be adequately funded, it should be laid down. Only with careful analysis, can the Board deal with such emotion-laden questions.

For example, a fundamental question is: can the salaries of overseas staff be funded by the FUM organization itself? As of now, American overseas staff must raise funds to cover their own salaries, a situation which is unaffirming and stressful, as they must leave their demanding posts regularly to return to the US to "beg" for funds. Other funding questions are: how can long term support for Kaimosi Hospital be created? Should FUM continue work in Belize? How can the Ramallah Friends School be supported in view of the challenging political situation in Palestine? Where are funds coming from to strengthen the Richmond staff? And so on.

The Board made some progress in corporate governance this year. It adopted a set of criteria to evaluate each program. It remains to be seen whether the Board has the inclination, and the staff has the time, to implement this positive development. Unfortunately, we also witnessed the continuation of the under-utilization of the Board's talents and discernment. Complex issues still came to the Board in forms unready for serious discernment. At the Triennial, the present Board Clerk retired. A new Clerk has yet to be nominated. Much will depend on the organizational talents of the new Clerk and the new Executive Committee.

No Board discussions occurred this year concerning the personnel policy which concerns us in BYM. With strong opinions of many North American and African Board members in support of that policy, it is very doubt-

ful that change will occur in the near future. Our large representation at the Triennial and the continued active participation on the FUM Board and FUM trustees by BYM members represents a strong engagement with the FUM organization. As long as we remain so engaged, I believe we should pay our share in support of the organization. I hope you will give that serious consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and FUM this past year.

John Smallwood

In response to questions, John Smallwood explained the steps FUM has taken, including staffing an FUM office in Kenya, to ensure that funds are tracked and accounted for, and that contributions are spent for the purpose intended.

Y2008-22 Wayne Finegar read from a minute from Canadian Yearly Meeting expressing concern and sadness over the Friends United Meeting employment policies. He then read an excerpt from a minute from New England Yearly Meeting lifting up as truth, confirmed by both scripture and inward searching, that “the Holy One loves all people equally, regardless of sexual orientation” and praying “that the worldwide community of Friends open its heart to this knowing.”

Y2008-23 *Membership in Friends United Meeting.* Clerk Howard Fullerton summarized the responses received from our local meetings on the question of whether Baltimore Yearly Meeting should stay retain its membership in Friends United Meeting. Of the twenty-two meetings that sent responses, nine called for greater engagement with FUM; five could not reach unity; seven recommended retaining our membership but withholding or re-channeling our financial contributions; and one recommended dissociating from FUM while remaining in dialogue. These responses do not determine what we should do as a corporate body, but they may provide helpful guidance.

Friends prayerfully considered the question of our continuing relationship with Friends United Meeting. We heard of a transforming experience in a worship-sharing group at the recent Triennial where Kenyan and North American Friends confronted the hurt of discrimination and unexpectedly found themselves drawn together in love. We were reminded that we need to find a way to love even those who are intolerant, and that staying in relationship is the only way to change hearts. We also heard the deep hurt of those who feel wounded and alienated by the FUM employment policy.

Y2008-24 After announcements, the meeting adjourned.

Thursday, August 7, 2008

Y2008-25 The meeting settled into open worship at 9:30 A.M.

Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) Recording Clerk; Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre) Reading Clerk; Annalee Flower Horne (Takoma Preparative) and Adam Heinz (Little Britain) co-clerks of Young Adult Friends.

Holding us in the Light today are Susan Kaul (Bethesda) and Barbara Williamson (Richmond). Jason Eaby (Nottingham) is handling the sound system.

Y2008-26 We welcomed visitors.

Laura Nell Obaugh read a letter of introduction for Jean Smith, from Ephraim Konzolo, General Secretary of East Africa Yearly Meeting.

We welcomed Kristen Richardson, Chatham Summit, New York Yearly Meeting, who is here representing the American Friends Service Committee.

Y2008-27 *Spiritual State of the Meeting.* Lamar Matthew, Baltimore-Stony Run, clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care, presented the Spiritual State of the Meeting report, drawn from the reports of all our local meetings and worship groups.

Howard Fullerton called our attention to the queries that traditionally formed the basis of the state of the meeting report, particularly the first query: "How is love and unity maintained among you?"

Friends received this report with gratitude.

Y2008-28 *Search Committee.* The report of the Search Committee was held over to a future session.

Y2008-29 *Nominating Committee Report.* Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) presented the report of the Nominating Committee. She introduced the members of the Committee and explained the process by which they seek to match Friends with seventeen yearly meeting committees and the eleven boards and outside

organizations to which we appoint representatives. There are a total of 225 positions, requiring 75 nominations this year alone.

A preliminary Nominating Committee roster was distributed. Barbara Thomas called attention to re-nominations and new nominations, as well as resignations, and identified the several committees in need of additional members. Friends are asked to carefully consider where they might be called to serve. She noted that there will be a threshing session this afternoon to review the mission statement of the Religious Education Committee and to discern how the Committee should move forward.

Barbara Thomas reviewed appointments to Friends organizations and boards, and expressed a need for more systematic reporting back from these representatives. This might be facilitated if each group, especially representatives to Friends General Conference Central Committee, Friends United Meeting General Board, and the Friends World Committee for Consultation-Section of the Americas, had a convener or liaison who would be in contact with the Nominating Committee.

The following resignations were reported:

Manual of Procedure – David Ross (Nottingham)

Camping Programs – Roger Reynolds (Patapsco)

Stewardship and Finance – Tim Cline (Friends Meeting, Washington)

Friends United Meeting General Board – Walt Fry (West Branch)

Friends ACCEPTED these resignations.

Friends thanked the Nominating Committee for their hard work and faithful service. A final roster will be presented for approval on Saturday.

Y2008-30 Clerk Howard Fullerton drew attention to the embroidered panel adorning the front of the clerk's table, which contains a square created by each of our meetings. As squares are added or revised, it serves as a living representation of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-31 Laura Nell Obaugh read from the minutes of the Stewardship and Finance Committee from 1991, discussing the need to bring all yearly meeting activities, including the camping program and annual sessions, into the budget process in order to facilitate production of complete and accurate financial reports.

Y2008-32 Report of Trustees. Byron Sandford (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of the Trustees. Work is ongoing to correct a long history of bookkeeping errors and to ensure that all our future financial transactions are transparent and accurately recorded. A final report on the reconciliation of past errors will come to Interim Meeting.

The written report is as follows:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Trustees Report
2008 Annual Session

The Trustees were faced this year with the need to reconcile all investment accounts and have an accurate figure in each account. By correcting the inadequate record keeping of the past, we can then create a firm figure for our current and future bookkeeping. We found that for several years, when funds were expended, they were not deducted from their accounts, that interest was added to accounts when none was earned and that designated expenditures were improperly credited to other accounts. Initially we were faced with our records being short over \$400,000. Through detailed examination of records, through reconciling expenditures to their proper accounts and to correct applications of interest earned, our funds imbalance has been significantly reduced. We hope to have these accounts to accurately reflect their true value and to establish procedures so that this type of bookkeeping ends.

Based on this experience, the Trustees, working with the Treasurer and Finance Committee will develop procedures and guidelines for financial management of BYM. We have received the draft of the 2007 FY audit. We will use the management letter to further improve our financial management of BYM funds. Our financial position improved over the year with assets increasing and liabilities decreasing. Working with the staff, we continue to support the efforts to implement sound fiscal management procedures.

We also found that the signatures on the investment accounts had not been updated since the accounts were opened, in some cases back into the 1980s. We have written to each of the investment accounts and have notified them of the current officers. We approved a minute that all accounts will be updated with the change of Treasurer, Clerk of Trustees and two other designated trustees. We have also updated the operational accounts.

The Trustees worked with the Camp Property Committee on conveyance of a parcel of land. We met with the Educational Funding Resources Committee to forgive some student loans. We worked with the ad-hoc Development Committee as they sought clarity on a staff position. We designated a member of the Trustees to serve on a committee to oversee the Yearly Meeting office property.

At the March Interim meeting I reported that Baltimore Yearly Meeting was named as a beneficiary in a will. Later in the spring we engaged an estate attorney to represent BYM and to serve as our advocate to the courts. This process continues. The Trustees and BYM officers are comfortable with the steps taken and feel that we, as stewards of the Yearly Meeting, are satisfied that we have proceeded prudently and with due caution.

Byron Sandford, clerk

Y2008-33 Stewardship and Finance Committee Report. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. She introduced Robinne Gray, our newly hired Development Director. Robinne Gray is an attender at Friends Meeting of Washington, with fundraising experience at Cornell University and at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She will be traveling throughout the yearly meeting area, working with local meetings and making herself known to Friends.

This is an exciting time for Stewardship and Finance, as they look toward finalizing a development plan, organizing a committee to oversee our development work, and working with our new Development Director.

Natalie Finegar distributed and reviewed the draft budget. The budget is not yet finalized because of an accounting error, discovered only last night, that turned an expected \$15,000 surplus into a projected \$15,000 deficit. Stewardship and Finance is aware of the need to present a balanced budget, and will be working intensively to achieve this goal over the next two days. Friends are asked to look closely at the draft budget and prayerfully consider what costs we can cut or what additional funds we can raise to erase the projected deficit.

Natalie Finegar expressed the committee's deep appreciation to our Bookkeeper, Margo Lehman. Friends joined in this expression of gratitude.

Y2008-34 Ad Hoc *Intervisitation Committee Report.* Walter Brown (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee.

Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee

2008 Annual Session

During this Annual Session, you will have the opportunity to welcome and exchange ideas with new 8 Friends from 4 Yearly Meetings and the Friends United Meeting Office:

Wanda Coffin-Baker, *Western YM;*

Neil and Phoebe Anderson, *South East YM;*

Cliff Loesch and John Damon, *Great Plains YM;*

Anna Obermayer and Janet Hough, *New York YM;*

Terri Johns, *FUM Office*

In addition, we feel blessed that a visitor from last year, Beth Gorton (*New England YM*), will finish her responsibilities at New England's Annual Session on Thursday, hop on a plane, and join us on Friday. We are also privileged to join in hosting Friends from other programs: Jean Smith (*East Africa Yearly Meeting*) from the Rural Service Project and Theoneste Bizimana from Rwanda, representing the African Great Lakes Initiative. We are saddened that Joseph Makokha, clerk of *Friends Church Peace Teams (Kenya)*, was unable to be with us due to a sudden death in his immediate family.

Please welcome these friends around the campus, at our open lunch table discussions, and at our evening worship (place to be announced in the Daily Minute). Also join us for our Africa Interest Group on Friday, our workshop on Saturday and our committee meeting (Saturday, 4:15-5:15 pm). Check out our booth, assembled by Flossie Fullerton, in the display area.

Our program is growing! We have already received an invitation to visit Canadian Yearly Meeting and new inquiries from Western and New York Yearly Meetings for 2009. Judy Davis, of Kaimosi Hospital in Kenya and Joyce Ajlouny, Director of Ramallah Friends Schools have put us at the top of their travel plans for 2009. Many experienced Friends have advised us to visit Africa and we hope to take this advice over the next 2 years. We also hope to sponsor another joint project with Youth Programs Committee for Young Friends. Our budget for 2008 was \$10,000, of which we received only \$6300 from the Yearly Meeting. Our budget for 2009 is \$17,300, of which we have requested \$14,000. Growing programs cost money!

During 2008 we have sponsored travels of 9 BYM Friends to 7 yearly meetings within Friends United Meeting (see Advanced Reports). These include Young Adult Friends and retired Friends on limited incomes, who are able to travel because of our budget and donations from monthly meetings and individuals. We sent 7 Friends to the FUM Triennial in July in North Carolina and facilitated gathering spaces for other BYM Friends in attendance (again see Advanced Reports). Many BYM Friends were met with an initial skepticism, but our reception warmed as the Triennial progressed. A peace pamphlet, our gift to the Triennial was well-received, especially by Friends in Africa. All 300 copies were distributed but photocopies are available at these Annual Sessions, a gift from the BYM Office. It is also on the BYM website under publications, entitled "*A Biblical Vision of Peace*" by Georgia Fuller.

Walter Brown, co-clerk

Walter Brown noted that he visited Indiana Yearly Meeting for the fourth time this year, and was very warmly received. The love and friendship he has experienced among Friends in Indiana has grown every year, and it has been wonderful to be part of that deepening relationship. He has heard Friends in several yearly meetings talk about how much they appreciate the visitors sent out by Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and thanked the Yearly Meeting for supporting this vital work.

Y2008-35 Travel Minutes. Clerk Howard Fullerton read endorsements to the travel minute carried by Maria Bradley (Sandy Spring) from Southeastern Yearly Meeting and Oread (KS) Friends Meeting. He read an endorsement to the minute carried by Linda Coats (Little Britain) from New England Yearly Meeting.

Laura Nell Obaugh read endorsements from Indiana Yearly Meeting to travel minutes carried by Susan Kaul (Bethesda) and Walter Brown (Langley Hill) and an endorsement to Walter Brown's travel minute from New England Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-36 The meeting ended with an extended period of open worship.

Friday, August 8, 2008

Y2008-37 The meeting gathered in open worship at 9:30 A.M. Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria)

Recording Clerk, Annalee Flower Horn (Takoma Park Preparative) Clerk of Young Adult Friends, and Susan Kaul (Bethesda) Reading Clerk. Jason Eaby is handling the sound system.

Y2008-38 Howard Fullerton thanked the American Friends Service Committee for the movies they showed yesterday, and for the two hundred boxes of popcorn consumed by the Friends who viewed them!

Y2008-39 Susan Kaul read the children's epistle from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, comparing spiritual growth to the growing of a garden that bears fruit in the form of service and sharing.

Y2008-40 *Roll Call of meetings.* Susan Kaul read the roll of meetings. We greeted and welcomed Friends from the many meetings represented at these annual sessions.

Y2008-41 *Junior Yearly Meeting Report.* June Confer (Adelphi) presented the report of Junior Yearly Meeting. She asked the adults who are helping with this year's program to come forward to be recognized, and thanked them for sharing their gifts with the children. Adult helpers this year are Ellen Arginteanu, Stephanie Bean, Charlotte Boynton, Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston, Joe Chin, Linda Coates, June Confer, Karen Cunningham, Dave Diller, Wayne Finegar, Melanie Gifford, Charmaine Gilbreath, Peg Hansen, Darcy Lane, Samantha Magrath, Nancy McIntyre, Jana McIntyre, Joi McIntyre, Jenifer Morris, Michael Newheart, Phillip Payette, David Rain, Carol Seddon, Marcy Seitel, Bill Strein, Eric Uberseder, Linda Uberseder, Susan Vanderhoff, Judy Walsh-Mellett, Susan Williams, Donna Williams, and John Wolfrum.

There are forty-eight children present this year. The theme for Junior Yearly Meeting has been the same as for the adults: "Let Us Then Try What Love Will Do." For the children, love means making and keeping friends. They have talked about friendship, about welcoming those who are different from us, and about caring for the earth.

The children came forward to lead us in a lively song about George Fox and the people to be gathered. In gratitude for our own gathered multi-generational community, we all joined in singing "How could anyone ever tell you, you are anything less than beautiful..." The children then returned to their program.

Y2008-42 Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced those holding us in the Light today: Virginia Schurman (Gunpowder) and Gary Sandman (Roanoke).

Y2008-43 *Travel Minutes and Introductions.* Susan Kaul read the following travel minutes and introductions:

*A travel minute for Wanda Coffin Baker, from West Newton (Indiana) Friends Meeting, here as part of our Intervisitation Program.

*A letter of introduction for Theoneste Bizimana, who is an AVP (Alternatives to Violence Program) facilitator with the Healing and Rebuilding our Communities project (HROC) in Rwanda, where he is able to help others to heal from trauma as he heals himself.

*A travel minute introducing Beth Gorton from Quaker City Unity Friends Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting.

*A note introducing Pat Finley, clerk of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Peace and Concerns Standing Committee.

*A travel minute for Terri Johns, who is on the staff of Friends United Meeting, and who is eager to share with us about the work and witness of FUM.

*A travel minute for Peterson Toscano from Hartford Monthly Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, who speaks out of his faith as a Christ-centered Friend about issues of sexuality and sexual identity.

We welcomed Newton Garver, Buffalo Meeting, New York Yearly Meeting, who is here representing the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund.

We welcomed Mary Stover and Brooke McDonald, on the staff of the American Friends Service Committee – Middle Atlantic Region.

We welcomed Clinton and Katherine Pettus, Wilmington Friends Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Clinton Pettus is our Carey Memorial Lecturer this year. He is currently the Director of the AFSC – Middle Atlantic Region, and is soon to fill the new post of Deputy General Secretary for Programs at the AFSC.

Y2008-44 General Secretary's Report. Riley Robinson presented the General Secretary's report.

BYM General Secretary—Annual Report
August 8, 2008

I was slowly overtaken by our Spiritual State of the Meeting report the other day. I am always prepared for a Quaker report to present a familiar portrait in quiet tones of Quaker gray. Just as when my great-grandmother served me oatmeal, I am not always appreciative of the effort with which it is made, nor that it is good for me, nor what it might mean that someone cares enough to make it and offer it to me.

Despite having all of those good qualities, however, this was no mere oatmeal. This was the secret Quaker cuisine that is lost on those who do not seek that which feeds the spirit and the imagination. In the same quiet, measured tones that I sometimes ignored from my great-grandmother, it gently suggested that I and my Yearly Meeting had been noticed doing some important things right, that we had the potential to do more, and that our good works could add up to something beautiful to the eye of the careful beholder. It did so with the nurturing, pride-less respect that steals nothing from the deed or the doer, and so may open up a broad vision of goodwill and opportunity, even mapping out the journey into that vista. Friends do know that true revelation reveals itself and need not be shouted.

The Voice in the report intimated that I need not be defined by my shortcomings, even as I came to see them more clearly.

Phrases and sentences suddenly lit up and then ushered me into a view of my own year with my Yearly Meeting. Sometimes the chance to recall an occasion deeply is what gives it lasting vividness that inspires. What have I done? How have I changed? Who am I now? How do my Yearly Meeting and I change each other?

My mind's eye fell upon one recent day, a First Day just a few weeks ago:

"We take comfort in knowing that community does not necessarily mean living face-to-face with others; rather, it means never losing

the awareness that we are connected to each other in Love, which is eternal. “ (BYM SS Report)

Early that morning, Friend Ken Stockbridge and I piled our luggage into the car and left High Point, North Carolina, where we had spent our recent days as BYM representatives at the Friends United Meeting Triennial. As we headed back north, we compared notes on our experiences: the morning-to-night speakers, worship sharing, workshops, presentations, and business. Traveling into Virginia and onward, the questions gradually slowed as we found our way to Roanoke Meeting in time to be enveloped in welcome gathered silence.

In worship, part of my Triennial experience did return to sit with me. I recalled my afternoon trip to sites of Quaker history that was shared with perhaps 40 others, evenly divided between Americans and Kenyans. At a Quaker plantation we viewed together an old hay wagon with a hidden compartment that had conveyed slaves toward freedom. Kenyan Friends paid close attention to this, talking and chuckling with each other. My eyes saw it differently, having recently faced up to my family history books. The fine old (non-Quaker) Virginia and North Carolina families from which I was directly descended were, I now knew, slaveholders. Silently moving to the next room, I stood next to a Kenyan man as we contemplated a birch-bark Indian canoe. He said, “I have always wanted to see one of these.” I nodded, but could find nothing to say: I was ignorant about the people who lived here before my families did, something else not talked about in my upbringing. Suddenly I felt hot and tired. We had moved on to the historic graveyard at New Garden Friends Meeting, and this part I shared with Roanoke Friends in worship: I told of listening to Max Carter talk about New Garden Friends surviving and refusing to take sides in the Revolutionary War and its aftermath, and then the Civil War and its aftermath, and how Friends struggled and achieved those successes, including Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends’ critical role in North Carolina Friends’ recovery in the late 1860s. Some cracks began to appear in my fixed mindset: The recent, traumatic “Kenyan violence,” as I had thought of it, through which the people standing next to me had to survive, now became comparable to earlier American violence. The lessons opened up by Max on faithfulness and survival from earlier Friends gave hope and support to me now, and I hoped, to the Kenyans as well.

“Strong feelings of connectedness to one another allow us to recognize and share our unique spiritual gifts.” (BYM SS Report)

Ken and I left Roanoke, again heading north. We stopped at a lunch place in Lexington. A young man and woman came in, healthy looking and in intense conversation. After a third person joined them it dawned on us that the outdoorsy-looking folks we were sitting next to were from the BYM camping program and that the man standing out front talking on his cell phone was a Teen Adventure Director. We exchanged notes with pleasure on how our paths had come to cross that day as voyagers from planet BYM, and then moved on.

“We find many occasions to act upon our testimonies and carry our message of peace, love and justice to a waiting world.” (BYM SS Report)

The road next brought us to Harrisonburg and the Virginia Quilt Museum and the “Quilts and Quaker Heritage” exhibit, curated by our Friend Mary Robare. Contemplating these joyous colors called into question the image of the resolutely gray Quaker, and also joyously, the exhibit crossed color lines as it drew on skilled Quaker quilters of more than one race.

“In times of hardship, tragedy, need or crisis, Friends are lifted by the Spirit.” (BYM SS Report)

We now ascended to Skyline Drive through alternating sunbeams and storms. As we drove, Ken spoke movingly about how the devotion he had seen in his gay brother’s relationship with his late partner that had brought great light to himself and his family. I was grateful that he had shared. “Once again,” I mused, “it is revealed to us that the infamous secret gay agenda has failed miserably to destroy the American family.”

“We have tried what Love can do. We have been blessed by what love has done for us.” (BYM SS Report)

I arrived back at Sandy Spring and said goodbye to the Friend I now knew so much better. This had hardly been my usual day at work, but it had not been out of the usual context of my work. I had gone on this trip because of being General Secretary; I had been supported by many Friends in internalizing my experience. The Yearly Meeting had again urged me toward personal growth in community. This our Yearly Meeting can offer to each of us.

I could see beauty and meaning in this day's events. It is not always so. Actually the list of professional hazards for Quaker employees is rather daunting. Then there are times when I can be taken by surprise, like when in the course of a business dealing with a non-Friend it became necessary to tell them that a particular Friend was put in irons and died there for preaching in the late 1600s, probably right where the person lives now. For a moment I ask myself, "Should I have said that?" And it came to me, "Yes I should."

At another time, I was out to dinner with my partner and a friend I don't know well, and we were idly grumbling about work. The friend said to me, "It can't feel good to be at work all those hours." I surprised myself. Without thinking, I said, "You know, it's different when people are praying for you."

Friends received this report in gathered worship, with a deep sense of gratitude.

Y2008-45 Search Committee Report. Janet Eaby (Nottingham) presented the report of the Search Committee.

The following Friends have agreed to serve on Nominating Committee. Their names are presented for a first reading:

Joseph Shaffer (Little Britain)

Molly Tully (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre)

The Committee is seeking another Young Adult Friends to serve on Nominating Committee and will bring that name at a later time.

The following names have been forwarded from Interim Meeting and are presented for a second reading:

Nominating Committee: Jason Eaby (Nottingham)

Bronna Zlochiver (Sandy Spring)

Clerk: Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring)

Supervisory Committee: Elizabeth Hofmeister (Bethesda)

Meg Meyer (Baltimore, Stony Run)

These nominations were APPROVED.

Y2008-46 Susan Kaul read an excerpt from a report by John Muhanji, African Mission Office, Friends United Meeting, on the importance of the work of the Friends Church Peace Teams in Kenya.

Y2008-47 *Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report.* William (Bill) Mims (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. He noted that there is no shortage of urgent work to be done in the world, but we can take courage from the ongoing work in places like Kenya.

The Committee has been asked to appoint delegates to an ecumenical Peace Gathering in Philadelphia in January 2009, sponsored by Friends, Brethren and Mennonites. The Committee proposes the following Friends to serve as delegates:

J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Elizabeth (Libby) Garvey (Friends Meeting of Washington)

William (Bill) Mims (Langley Hill)

Friends approved these names.

A Young Adult Friend is being sought to join this delegation, and another delegate may also be named. These names will be brought to Interim Meeting in October.

The last day of the gathering—a Saturday—will be open to the public. This will provide an opportunity for the delegates to report, and for the larger group to plan for action. Mary Lord, who was named by Interim Meeting as our original delegate to the gathering is now serving on the committee planning the Saturday program.

Y2008-48 *Minute on danger of war with Iran.* William (Bill) Mims presented a minute prepared by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee on the danger of war with Iran, and a draft letter conveying these concerns, to be sent on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, if Friends approve:

Friends agreed to reflect on this letter and to return to consideration of it at a future session.

On behalf of the Committee, William (Bill) Mims asked Friends to settle into worship, to hold in the Light those who are working for peace in East Africa, and to reflect on the query: "How is my life planting the seeds of peace?"

Friends shared a time of deep worship.

Y2008-49 *Unity with Nature Committee Report.* Barbara Williamson (Richmond) presented the report of the Unity with Nature Committee. She thanked Baltimore Yearly Meeting for giving her the chance to serve with Quaker Earth-care Witness, where she served for three years as clerk. It has been a wonderful growing experience for her.

Barbara Williamson reminded us that several years ago Baltimore Yearly Meeting adopted a minute expressing a commitment to reduce energy use and carbon output in order to curb global warning. The Unity with Nature Committee has now prepared a packet for each of our meetings to help us test how well we are doing. Some meetings have already taken steps to curb energy usage in their meetinghouses. The Committee would like to see all our meetinghouses turned "green". They are challenging all meetings to reduce their carbon output by 7,000 pounds during the coming year. Meetings are asked to let the Committee know what energy-use reductions they achieve. The results will be reported at the 2009 annual sessions.

Y2008-50 *Young Friends.* We heard from the Young Friends Report, consisting of Rose McIntyre (Sandy Spring) Jamie DeMarco (Baltimore, Homewood) and Lydia Rain (Adelphi). They presented the following report, acted out with appropriate costumes: Quaker, knight errant, and pirate in turn:

Young Friends Report

By the Young Friends Report Committee

This year has been prolific and productive, devoid of many of the indiscretions that usually arise, and we've welcomed many new Young Friends into our loving community, bringing a sense of appreciation to the teenagers and adults involved in our loving community and we hope that this coming year will be as productive and prolific, devoid of many of the indiscretions that usually arise and we look forward to welcoming many new friends into our loving community.

Traveling from something good to something else good we have expanded our kingdom of love. Crossing mountains of cuddle puddles,

and fording rivers of overcooked spaghetti, we have maintained our effervescent spirit. We have braved fatigued FAPS and lengthy business meetings. After facing and dominating the dragon of unregistered young friends and bringing the trolls of inappropriate behavior to justice, we arrived at the glorious round table of BYM.

YARRRRRRRRR. We have boarded many a meetinghouse in search of the lost treasure of community. We followed the fabled treasure map of the Young Friends handbook and the compass of Captain BYM. We pillaged from bow to stern, from Sandy Spring to Hopewell, Erik breaking things all the while. YARRRRRRRRR. But when we reached the X, we soon discovered that the X marked OUR HEARTS! It was a great day, full of merriment and song. YARRRRRRRRR.

Friends received this report with laughter and gratitude.

Y2008-51 *Youth Programs Committee Report.* Erik Hanson (Takoma Park Preparative) and Stephanie (Steph) Bean (Adelphi) presented the report of the Youth Programs Committee. The Committee is finalizing the revised job description for the Youth Secretary, and developing a more detailed statement of policies and procedures as background for the job description. The absence of a Youth Secretary has meant a great deal of extra work for the Committee, but they feel that good progress is being made and they are optimistic about the future. They urge Friends to get involved in the work of the Youth Programs Committee through its several subcommittees that are open to co-opted members.

In response to a question, Erik Hanson encouraged Friends who have concerns about the Young Friends program to talk to the Young Friends themselves. They have been working very hard over the past two years on revising and updating their Handbook to ensure that it sets good boundaries for their program. One Friend observed that all communities have problems. It is the way they handle their problems that is the test of a strong community. The Baltimore Young Friends community has addressed the problems that have arisen recently with a depth of love that might well serve as an example to all of us.

Y2008-52 The meeting closed with a brief period of open worship.

Saturday, August 9, 2008

Y2008-53 Friends settled into open worship at 9:30 A.M. We were reminded out of the silence that today is the 63rd anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki.

Y2008-54 Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) read a passage from Patricia Loring's Listening Spirituality Volume II, page 87, in which she explores a distinction laid out by John Punshon between those times when a minute is the servant of the meeting, carrying forward the work of the meeting under human guidance, and those times when a minute is "the expression of God's will." When minutes are truly shaped by divine guidance, the meeting is acting as a "servant to the minute," not the other way around.

Y2008-55 Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) recording clerk, Young Friends Lydia Rain (Adelphi) and Mace Smith (Langley Hill) and clerk of Young Adult Friends Annalee Flower Horne (Takoma Park Preparative). Jason Eaby is handling the sound system. Those holding us in the Light today are Paul Luckenbaugh (Bethesda) Kit Benz (Friends Meeting of Washington) and Susan Robare (Hopewell Centre).

Y2008-56 *Ad Hoc Committee for Oversight of the Fishertown Friends Meeting.* Katherine Smith read a minute affirming the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for Oversight of the Fishertown Friends Meeting, as follows:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting received a request in June 2008 from Centre Quarter asking for assistance with issues brought forward by Fishertown Monthly Meeting. Specifically, Fishertown has too few members to function as a monthly meeting with a concern for business.

In response to this request, Baltimore Yearly Meeting affirmed the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Oversight of Fishertown Friends Monthly Meeting at annual sessions, August 2008.

The Committee exists to assure Centre Quarter that Quaker practice, together with the requirements set forth by Pennsylvania regarding property, will be followed.

The Committee will report to Centre Quarter and to Baltimore Yearly Meeting—at annual sessions or Interim meeting—as necessary. It will be laid down when Centre Quarter is prepared to resume oversight.

As of June 2008, Fishertown Friends' accounts are in good order and are sufficient to cover anticipated costs. Thus no Yearly Meeting funds are required.

Members of the Ad Hoc Committee are:

Byron Sandford,(Friends Meeting of Washington) Clerk of Trustees
Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) Presiding Clerk, BYM
Lamar Matthew (Baltimore-Stony Run) Listening Committee & Co-Convenor
Katherine Smith (Maury River) Listening Committee & Co-Convener
Walt Fry (West Branch)
Peggy Fry (West Branch)

Friends APPROVED this minute.

Y2008-57 Fishertown Friends Oversight Committee. Katherine Smith presented a report from the Fishertown Friends Oversight Committee.

Report to BYM Annual Sessions
Ad Hoc Committee for the Oversight of Fishertown Friends
August 8, 2008

The Committee met with all members present; and with guests Susan Williams, Clerk of Centre Quarter, and Jerry Williams, a member of Fishertown Friends Monthly Meeting.

It was acknowledged that, prior to this meeting today, Howard Fullerton, Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, had asked Katherine Smith (Listening Committee) to meet with Fishertown Friends and the Clerk of Centre Quarter. Arrangements for this were made, invitations were sent to all, including Walt and Peggy Fry. This meeting was duly held on June 29th. Notes from this meeting were circulated to all present; and also to Howard Fullerton and Byron Sandford.

Our time today was spent hearing more background, then turning to current needs.

At present, Fishertown has seven members, only two of whom are still able to be active in any way in the affairs of the Meeting. One of these two is critically ill. This same member is the only Trustee of record. There is no Treasurer. Meetings for business have not been held prior to June 2008. Any business conducted appeared to be the results of phone conversations.

After discussion it was agreed that the Committee would ask Centre Quarter to appoint Jerry Miller as a second Trustee. The Quarter would also appoint a Treasurer for Fishertown.

Walt Fry will seek advice as to the local necessities of the way forward.

Katherine Smith
Co-Convener

Friends APPROVED recommending to Centre Quarter that Jerry Miller be named as a second Trustee for Fishertown Friends.

Y2008-58 *First Reading of the Epistle.* Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington) and Rebecca Haines Rosenberg (Alexandria) presented a first reading of the epistle. Ken Stockbridge thanked the members of the committee, and asked Friends to respond to the draft epistle out of a spirit of worship.

The reading of the draft epistle was followed by a period of deep reflection. Friends are asked to consider the draft as circulated, and suggest corrections or changes to the Epistle Committee.

Y2008-59 *Letter of Introduction.* Clerk Howard Fullerton read a letter of introduction for Maryhelen (Mel) Snyder and Barbara (Babs) Williams from Langley Hill. These two Friends will be traveling to Kenya, to help build bridges of love and understanding.

Friends APPROVED having the Clerk endorse this letter on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-60 *Minute of Concern from Young Adult Friends.* Annalee Flower Horne (Takoma Park) read a minute of concern from the Young Adult Friends:

We, the Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, are led to speak to the question of same-sex marriage in our yearly meeting. We have found that the value of a relationship is not determined by gender, but by the presence of mutual love and respect. As a group, our members are in many different places with regard to the formation of long-term partnerships. While some of us are just starting to form these relationships, others are already deeply committed.

We have felt great joy in seeing members of our community marry under the care of their meetings, and we strive to provide ongoing support for these relationships. However, it grieves us that discussion of same-sex marriage is so painful to many Friends within our yearly meeting, and that not all marriages are equally recognized by the monthly meetings in

BYM. We wish to work together with Friends to find unity on this living issue. We trust that with good process and in God's time, we will.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends, August 2007

This minute was included in last year's Young Adult Friends epistle, and is now being presented to the Yearly Meeting for consideration.

Friends agreed to forward this minute to Interim Meeting for consideration.

Y2008-61 *Nominating Committee Report.* Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) presented the second reading of the Nominating Committee report. She again introduced the members of the Committee and thanked them for their hard work. She noted that there are 55 new appointments this year, and 23 re-appointments. She asked us to hold all these Friends in the Light as they enter into their service for the Yearly Meeting.

Barbara Thomas reviewed the nominations. She noted that no changes in the membership of the Religious Education committee are being proposed at this time.

An open session to explore the future of the Religious Education Committee will be held in September, with Betsy Meyer (Sandy Spring) serving as convener. All interested Friends are encouraged to participate.

In response to a question, Barbara Thomas explained that the Right Sharing of World Resources working group is now under the care of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Working groups are not appointed by Nominating Committee, but are made up of volunteers. The names of those serving on various working groups will appear in the Yearbook, following the list of Committees.

Friends APPROVED the final report of the Nominating Committee.

Y2008-62 *Membership in Friends United Meeting.* Clerk Howard Fullerton asked us to turn our attention to the question of our membership in Friends United Meeting. He expressed his sense, based on our consideration on Wednesday, that the Yearly Meeting is not prepared to unite around a decision to withdraw from FUM. He noted that FUM is changing as a result of internal struggles between modernists and fundamentalists that have deep historic roots, and that we do not know what the future may hold.

Howard Fullerton proposed that we might express acceptance of our continuing membership in Friends United Meeting, despite the difficulties it poses, by noting that many of us feel called to stay in relationship with Friends United Meeting in patient witness to our experience of God's all-inclusive love.

Friends UNITED with this minute.

Y2008-63 *Committee of Four Committees Report.* Katherine Smith (Maury River) presented the report of the Committee of Four Committees for a second reading.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Committee of Four Committees

At Interim Meeting in March of 2004, the Committee on Ministry and Pastoral Care was asked to develop recommendations regarding Baltimore Yearly Meeting's financial contribution to Friends United Meeting, in consultation with Stewardship and Finance and the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns (minute I2004-2). This group became known among us as the "Committee of Four Committees" after Advancement and Outreach was added, at their request, in July 2004.

Regular meetings were held during the ensuing year, and unity was reached around a proposal to send the funds withheld from FUM in 2004 and 2005 as a Restricted Contribution, to be used to promote intervisitation and communication among Friends. This proposal was approved at Interim Meeting in June 2005 (Minute I2005-55). Friends United Meeting, however, returned the contribution, citing a policy of not accepting restricted funds for projects that did not have the prior approval of the General Board.

The Committee's attention languished during 2005 and 2006, as Friends' appointments to the constituent committees changed, and Intervisitation progressed. In the fall of 2006, Katherine Smith (Maury River) agreed to serve as Clerk of the Committee of Four Committees. Details of membership were approved at Interim Meeting (12007-5), and the Committee was charged "to recommend to Annual Sessions regarding BYM's financial contributions to FUM."

The reconstituted Committee held its first meeting, with all members present, in November 2007. At this meeting, we shared out of worship, listening deeply to each other. We were reminded that witnessing to the truth that has been opened to us is vitally important. We were challenged

to keep faith with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Friends among us, and not to take any action that would seem to disavow them and thus wound our own community. We were reminded that transformation is achieved through humility, love, patience and faithfulness, not through argument and contention. We considered the question: "How can we claim to be peacemakers in the world, if we cannot make peace among ourselves?" We were reminded of the suicide rate among youth as a result of gender identity and sexual orientation concerns, and how we may serve as a lifeline to young people who are desperate for reassurance that God loves them as they are.

We are aware that many Friends within our yearly meeting have been uneasy as a matter of conscience about giving money to an organization that engages in employment discrimination. We acknowledge the pain and anger our yearly meeting experienced in 2002 as a result of the FUM personnel policy. However, we are convinced that money is not really the issue, and that an undue focus on money is getting in the way of the work and witness to which we are called. We know that many among us find a spiritual home in FUM and feel blessed by an opportunity to participate in its ministries. We acknowledge that we share responsibility for the governance of FUM and thus for the challenges it faces today. We note that Baltimore Yearly Meeting has not reached clarity on withdrawing from FUM. We feel uneasy withholding financial support from an organization with which we have had a long and loving relationship.

In the course of our deliberations we have come to see that money is a clumsy form of communication—a carnal weapon—that cannot convey the transformational power of our spiritual concern. We trust that the Holy Spirit is working among us, for purposes we do not fully understand. We know that it is the Inward Teacher who transforms hearts.

In a spirit of love and hope, we recommend the following minute:

We Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, gathered for annual session at (place, date) agreed to direct our General Secretary to release to FUM the monies withheld since 2004, and furthermore, we ask that Stewardship & Finance Committee together with Trustees formulate a plan for paying what is owed, in installments if necessary.

Out of worship, Friends spoke to this recommendation. Despite our love and tenderness toward each other, we were unable to reach unity.

Y2008-64 *Letter from Homewood Friends Meeting.* Clerk Howard Fullerton called the attention of Friends to a letter from Homewood Friends meeting to Congressman John Sarbanes asking for Congressional investigation of abuses by the present administration. Friends in Homewood ask that all Friends can come under the weight of this concern.

Y2008-65 The meeting closed with a period of worship. One Friend rose to say that Baltimore Yearly Meeting has been described as a “thorn in the side” of Friends United Meeting; perhaps we can aspire to grow into a whole rosebush.

Sunday, August 10, 2008

Y2008-66 Out of the silence, clerk Howard Fullerton read from the 2008 epistle of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting celebrating a new sense of unity and harmony within the yearly meeting, as if a jazz band with no play list had been converted into a group making simple, beautiful music together. “When we ask ‘where is God in this?’ the answer is ‘all over.’”

Y2008-67 Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced those at the clerks’ table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) and Young Adult Friends Annalee Flower Horne and Sam Flower Horne (Takoma Park Preparative). He thanked Jason Eaby for making sure we were all able to hear each other as we conducted our business during these annual sessions.

The Friends holding us in the Light this morning are Lamar Matthew (Baltimore-Stony Run) and Kit Mason (Takoma Park Preparative).

Y2008-68 *Committee of Four Committees.* Clerk Howard Fullerton announced that the Committee of Four Committees has fulfilled its charge and is asking to be laid down.

Friends APPROVED laying down the committee with thanks for its service.

Y2008-69 *Second Reading of Yearly Meeting Budget.* Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) clerk of Stewardship and Finance, presented the yearly meeting budget for a second reading. After consultation with the major committees, adjustments were made to bring the budget into balance, with a small surplus of \$7,567.

Natalie Finegar reviewed the changes made to achieve this result. They include minor changes in apportionments and an increase in revenue projections for Camping Programs. The proposed budget for Intervisitation was decreased, as were the proposed contributions to Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting (held in reserve), and Friends World Committee for Consultation. Youth Programs will utilize the Ethel Reynolds fund for Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) training instead of the general fund, and has trimmed incidentals including staff travel.

Natalie Finegar explained the problem of cash flow we are facing, and how this relates to the management of funds set aside for Friends United Meeting. She pointed out that our budget is extremely complicated, and that our budgeting process relies heavily on manual data entry. This increases the possibility of confusion and mistakes. Stewardship and Finance will be looking into ways of keeping records that are less time intensive and less prone to error.

Friends APPROVED the budget and apportionments, with thanks for the work of the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

Y2008-70 *Committee Clerks.* Clerk Howard Fullerton reviewed the list of committee clerks for the coming year.

Y2008-71 *Letter on Iran.* Bill Mims (Langley Hill) read a revised version of the proposed letter on Iran as follows:

Letter to Mr. Bush, Ms. Pelosi, Mr. Reid, Ms. Rice, Mr. Gates, Mr. Obama, Mr. McCain, Ms. McKinney, Mr. Barr

I greet you on behalf of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), which comprises over 45 Quaker Meetings in Pennsylvania, Maryland, The District of Columbia, Virginia, and West Virginia. We have been upholding the witness of Quakers in the Mid-Atlantic States for more than 335 years. Our witness is rooted in the testimony of peace as practiced by Jesus, Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and others.

We are deeply troubled by the continuing violence in the Middle East, and by the increasingly violent rhetoric from the United States and Iran. We are writing to you because of our shared desire for a peaceful resolution of our differences with Iran.

We believe that violence grows from fear, mistrust, and disrespect. We believe, with Jesus, that peace grows from respect, compassion, justice, deep listening, and forgiveness. We call on you to promote peace by helping us all to open our ears and our hearts, by promoting honest dialogue, and by committing to working out conflicts nonviolently, including by using the conflict resolution mechanisms of the United Nations. We ask this for our own sake and for the sake of our children and grandchildren, as well as the thousands of innocent people who are killed in conflict areas. In the words of Dr. King, “If we succumb to the temptation of using violence in our struggle for justice, unborn generations will be the recipients of a long and desolate night of bitterness, and our chief legacy to the future will be an endless reign of meaningless chaos.”

Because of our faith, we firmly believe that military action in the Middle East, including any potential attacks on Iran would be wrong, and would have devastating consequences immediately and for future generations. We call on you to follow the peaceful path and provide leadership through mediation and reconciliation in our nation’s dealings with Iran and other nations.

On behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting,
Howard Fullerton, clerk

Friends APPROVED this letter with minor revisions, and agreed that it would be sent to all presidential candidates, not just those of the major parties. Friends are urged to send a copy of the letter to their own Congressional representatives. An electronic copy of the letter will be made available.

Y2008-72 Junior Young Friends Epistle. The Junior Young Friends epistle was read by Luke Keener (Baltimore, Stony Run) and Alexandra Bean (Adelphi).

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Junior Young Friends Epistle, 2008

Most of the Junior Young Friends arrived on Tuesday. We started by decorating name tags and having a re-acquaintance, as well as meeting new members. For a change of pace, we started discussing some of the less pleasant experiences of the year, including interesting and funny injuries. We then proceeded to take a tour of the campus. While exploring, some wanted to find the pool; we did not find the pool immediately, but we found a strangely proportioned room. The door to the room was very short, but the roof was about two stories high, which

made for excellent echoes. We played a game called Ga-ga-ga in this room later in the week.

The next day, our first adventure was to find a ball for Ga-ga-ga, which we ended up borrowing from the nursery. After an amazing game, we returned to our classroom and had a stimulating conversation on belief of right and how we stand up for it. We then discussed what attributes would make a good clerk, what occurred in a business meeting, and for what purpose. We also reflected on the yearly meeting theme—"Let Us Then Try What Love Can Do"—and how we would relate that to our class.

On Thursday, we had three new arrivals to our class. We had a bible study session where we were read I Corinthians chapter 13, commonly known as the love chapter. We then discussed some of the more controversial, lesser known, and more paradoxical chapters of the bible. After our intriguing bible study, we planned for our activity at the all ages celebration. We decided to have people make bumper stickers portraying peaceful messages, after which we gave massages. This created the metaphor that one can stand up for what they believe, but still rely on others for aid.

On Friday, we had another bible study in the morning, as well as having another person join us. We had planned for our overnight occurring that evening by coming to agreement on food, quiet time, and movies using Quaker process. We also planned further on writing our epistle, choosing topics we wanted to include that had occurred over our time at Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

That evening all of the Junior Young Friends arrived for the overnight. We had a guest named Peterson Toscano, who spoke to us about self acceptance and acceptance of others. After his presentation, we had an excellent night full of fun, food, and music with random dancing.

We spent a great week with this community, and appreciate the contributions of many and all.

Friends expressed their thanks and APPROVED sending the epistle on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-73 *Young Friends Epistle.* The Young Friends epistle was presented by Lydia Rain (Adelphi) and Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi).

Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Young Friends Epistle, 2008

ONCE...
IN A LAND...
RIDDEN...
WITH YOUNG QUAKERS....
THERE WAS...
A COMMUNITY...
THAT NEVER SLEPT...

This year the Young Friends community has made great progress since last annual session. We feel that it is stronger as a whole and we have found that attendance has gone up, along with the number of newcomers. We have made an effort to improve communication between Young Friends and the greater Baltimore Yearly Meeting as well as among ourselves. In the past year, Executive Committee has tried to integrate themselves farther into the wider Young Friends community and has kept important issues for the business meetings instead of trying to tackle them on their own.

Our conferences were spectacular to say the least. The year began at Hopewell Center where we spent lots of time in the sun playing Smaug's Jewels, Wink and a multitude of other games for our workshop. Then, at Sandy Spring Friends Meeting in November, we enjoyed a massage therapy workshop. Though the weekend was not without its difficulties, we did manage to saran wrap one of our FAP's cars. After a few meeting house and date changes, February conference was held at Langley Hill Meeting with a workshop about the Peace Corps. The conference also happened to celebrate Valentine's Day with our traditional Luv Feast. We gathered at Catoctin in April for our work conference, leaving the kitchen spotless and the grounds clear of fallen branches, brambles and ridiculous roots. And finally, for our last conference of the year, we went out to Goose Creek Meeting where we approved new Exec members for the coming year and saluted the sun with a yoga workshop. Also at this conference, we said goodbye to our seniors by writing them loving comments and a "roast" where we were able to share our favorite humorous stories about those leaving.

Despite the relative simplicity of the year, the largest problem our community encountered was confronted at November conference. November conference, or the Thanksgiving con, is traditionally a time when Young Adult Friends are able to visit the Young Friends gathering. We found that

members of Young Friends felt uncomfortable with the YAFs dropping in an out unexpectedly, making it difficult to ensure safety and causing a separation between the two communities. With the added confusion of an absent clerk and assistant clerk, the issue was brought to business meeting where it was threshed out fully. Our final consensus was that YAFs at a Young Friends gathering should be treated as Young Friends and abide by the rules of our handbook.

Looking back we feel we had a jolly old time! This year has been loving, productive, and drama-free (a welcome change from some previous years!). Finally, we would like to thank our FAPs (Friendly Adult Presences) and Youth Program Committee for all their helpful guidance.

Love and Light,

The Young Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Friends expressed their appreciation and APPROVED sending the epistle on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Y2008-74 Young Adult Friends Epistle. The Young Adult Friends epistle, complete with footnotes and accompanied by a slide show, was presented by Annalee Flower Horne and Sam Flower Horne (Takoma Park Preparative).

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends Epistle
Eighth Day of Eighth Month, 2008

Dear George Fox,

Greetings from the Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. We have decided to address our epistle to you in particular this year because even though we haven't hung out a lot lately on account of that whole you being dead thing, we feel like we have a lot in common with you. You, after all, were a Young Adult yourself when you founded the Religious Society of Friends. If our maths are right,¹ you were twenty-three when you first began sharing your ministry in public places, twenty-five when you first got thrown in the slammer for it, and twenty-eight when you decided to take that super-wicked mud-slide down the side of Pendle Hill.² Not that most of us have ever been jailed for ministry, or mud-slid down

¹ We use this more British form here because we know that you were British. Also, because the Epistle Committee's computer is British, and refused to assimilate upon immigration to the US.

² Which we give you mad props for, because climbing Pendle Hill takes like an hour even in broad daylight. Climbing it during a thunderstorm, and then climbing it again because you lost your footing and fell all the way down, is totally hard-core.

a small mountain, but we have worn leather trousers.³ And perhaps more importantly, we find ourselves alive with the sort of energy that drives young people to look up at a big barren hill in the middle of a lightning storm and think "Yeah, God totally wants me to climb that."⁴

So in light of these similarities, we send you our greetings, along with greetings to all Friends everywhere.⁵ It has been a joyful year for the Young Adult Friends of BYM, as we hope it has been a joyful year for you.⁶ We are grateful for the opportunities we've had this year to strengthen our relationships with one another, other parts of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting community, and Friends in the wider Quaker world.

We had fewer opportunities to gather this year than we would have liked. We are a far-flung group, with members spanning three states and the District of Columbia.⁷ The high price of gas this spring prevented us from gathering together for our usual spring conference. But our winter conference was a wild success: as we gathered for worship and fun at the beautiful Homewood Meeting in Baltimore,⁸ we enjoyed delicious meals, an inspiring and enlightening workshop on Quaker Quest, and the fellowship of many new faces. We also employed some of those crazy new technologies the kids are using these days, like the internet, to help close the long miles between us⁹.

And of course, we gathered for Baltimore Yearly Meeting's annual sessions at Frostburg State University.¹⁰ This gave us a chance to be present not only with one another, but with Baltimore Yearly Meeting as a whole. We delighted in the fellowship and friendship of BYM's Young Friends program,¹¹ with whom we shared events such as midnight swimming,

3 Or the vegetarian equivalent.

4 Not that we're saying other people who are too old for that noise aren't awesome, because we're sure you were still pretty awesome when you turned into an old guy and kicked the bucket.

5 and everywhen, lest we discriminate against Friends experiencing the more advanced stages of death.

6 This would be the general "you," as opposed to the George Fox "you," because we imagine that when you're dead, one year is as joyful as the next.

7 Yes, that's Canadian Yearly Meeting you hear laughing at us as you read that.

8 Where we totally did not break anything, including the elevator. Unlike those shifty Friendly Adult Presences that work with the Young Friends--you can't take them anywhere nice.

9 If you're seeking to enhance your own internet experience, we recommend a visit to www.bymyaf.org

10 Which is in that weird, skinny part of Maryland where no one really lives.

11 Those would High School and early college-aged Friends; and you should laugh at this footnote even though it's not funny.

afternoon Wink, and the annual Rising YAF Ice-Cream trip.¹² We also enjoyed an afternoon of learning and play with some of Baltimore Yearly Meeting's even younger members, who joined us for games related to the history of early Friends.¹³

It was also a treasure as always to be present with our friends, families, teachers, and mentors in the wider Yearly Meeting. We joined them throughout the week for workshops, interest groups, meals and special events, and appreciated their many invitations to make our presence in the Yearly Meeting felt through opportunities for inter-visitation and service on committees and boards.¹⁴ They also warmly welcomed us into the Yearly Meeting's Meeting For Worship with a Concern for Business.¹⁵ We were also blessed with many opportunities for fellowship and friendship with Friends from outside our yearly meeting. We've had visitors from New York Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and Northern California's Woolman Semester, and we gladly received the truly moving and inspired epistle sent to us by the Adult Young Friends of Illinois Yearly Meeting.¹⁶ We have followed with great interest the growing efforts in the wider Quaker world to bring Young Adult Friends from far away places together to seek out those things that unite us as Friends in the modern world.

As we look forward to the coming year, we have several queries before us that we seek to address as we continue to grow and develop our community and find our place in BYM and the wider Society of Friends. What can we do to support each other in our spiritual journeys and encourage each others' leadings? What steps can we take to prevent the dark forces of the world economy from conspiring against our totally awesome conferences?¹⁷ And perhaps most importantly, if we were a fruit, what kind of fruit would we be and why?¹⁸

-
- 12 The relevant minutes have been lost, but somewhere along the line, we decided we needed an actual reason to pile into a bunch of cars and go buy ice cream.
 - 13 There was also a certain amount of water-throwing involved. It's all fun and games until somebody goes after the YAF yearly meeting planner (and then it's hilarious).
 - 14 It's funny when nominating committee finds out they've got a whole pool of possible committee members they haven't called yet. You can just see the joyful glimmer of full committee rosters in their eyes. We say this with all kindness, because we know their job is like, hard. But we think they'll forgive us because a bunch of us totally agreed to be on stuff.
 - 15 Where some of us may or may not have spent a lot of time making faces and falling asleep.
 - 16 Their epistle totally reminded us how cool footnotes are, which is why we are totally COPYING THEM and sending out a footnotalicious epistle of our own.
 - 17 We've been informed that world domination is not our best option at this time. We are seeking others.
 - 18 This is called a shoutout. We love you, Illinois Yearly Meeting Adult Young Friends!

We hope that Friends will hold us in the light as we struggle with these challenging questions. We would ask you to do the same, George Fox, but we know that you already have. As you stood on the top of Pendle Hill after your wicked-awesome mud-slide, we know that you saw us: a great people gathered in the living light of the divine. As some of the many heirs of your totally awesome Young Adult Friend-ly adventures, we extend our thanks to you for your light and your truth. Also, for your wife, because let's face it: Margaret Fell was really rad.

In the light,

The Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

PS: The answer is catsup.

Friends received the epistle with laughter and gratitude, and APPROVED sending it out on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Many of the photographs included in the slide show are available on the Young Adult Friends website, bymyaf.org, along with information about the YAF program.

Y2008-75 Second Reading of Epistle. Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) and Rebecca Haines Rosenberg (Alexandria) presented a second reading of the epistle.

Friends received the report in worship. A question was raised about how the epistle characterizes our relationship with Friends United Meeting. In order to address this concern, the epistle was laid over to Interim Meeting.

Y2008-76 Annual Session Next Year. Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) announced for the Program Committee that our annual sessions next year will again be held at Frostburg State University, from August 3-9, 2009. Friends expressed their appreciation to the Program Committee for their hard work in preparing for this year's sessions.

Y2008-77 Registrar's Report. Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill) presented the Registrar's report. There were 376 Friends in attendance this year, from 35 meetings and worship groups, as well as visitors from eleven other yearly meetings. Friends expressed deep appreciation to Rebecca Rawls for her service as Registrar.

Y2008-78 *Bookstore Report.* Nancy Coleman (Dunnings Creek) reported for the Bookstore. She has just put in place a new e-mail address, bymbookstore@yahoo.com, so that Friends can reserve space for displays or craft sales at next year's sessions online. The Bookstore had an excellent week, with 27 vendors and total sales of over \$10,000. Nancy Coleman called attention to the indispensable contributions of Jules Arginteanu, her designated assistant, and the dozen or more quick and efficient volunteers who un-packed, sorted and then repacked the Bookstore merchandise. Friends expressed their deep appreciation to Nancy Coleman and all the Bookstore volunteers.

Y2008-79 Friends thanked the Clerk and Recording Clerk for their service during the week, and expressed their gratitude to the staff members who serve Baltimore Yearly Meeting throughout the year.

Y2008-80 The meeting adjourned to settle into a closing meeting for worship.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVANCEMENT AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The mission of the BYM Advancement and Outreach Committee is to support meeting growth and revitalization and encourage outreach to seekers. We meet three times a year at Interim Meeting and hold an open committee meeting at Annual Session. We usually have four or five present at our meetings during the year and a dozen or more at Annual Session. Several of our members have been prevented from being more active by their own health problems or those of their immediate family. We are grateful for all they have given over the years and hold them in our prayers.

We are encouraged by signs of vitality and growth in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, including the organization of at least one new worship group. We have been impressed with how much outreach work is already going on in our local meetings, from peace vigils and service projects, to programs on Quakerism for newcomers, to meeting open houses and community celebrations. We are collecting notices about such activities and will be posting them on the BYM website as a way of sharing ideas and encouragement.

We are excited about the “Quaker Quest” project being promoted by Friends General Conference. “Quaker Quest” involves holding public meetings where Friends present personal statements of belief and experience on such topics as “Friends and God” or “Friends and Peace” and encourage seekers to explore their own beliefs in small worship sharing groups. The idea is to demonstrate how first-hand experience and deep sharing, not doctrinal unity, is what binds Quakerism together. Several Friends from BYM attended a one-day session at Pendle Hill in January to explore the “Quaker Quest” idea and discuss how FGC can support local and yearly meeting projects. Several of our meetings have begun developing their own “Quaker Quest” programs. The BYM A&O Committee will be following these efforts, and helping other groups to get involved.

We are also looking for ways to encourage visitation within Baltimore Yearly Meeting to share ideas about how our meetings can become more visible, accessible and welcoming. Please let us know if you would like to be added to the BYM A&O list of corresponding members, or potential visitors. We are a small committee, with important work to do.

Deborah Haines, clerk

CAMPING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Camp Program Committee had a busy and productive year. The Committee welcomed new members who have renewed the energy and commitment to BYM camps and the Committee. The Committee concentrated our efforts on several areas this year, including:

Financial Management

Feedback from Campers, Staff, Parents and Volunteers

Enrollment & Outreach

Staffing

Transportation

Relationships with other BYM Committees

Financial Management

The Finance Subcommittee worked very hard to clarify the budgeting process and how to work within the BYM budgeting process. The challenge we face is that we submit next year's budget before the current year happens. So situations that have a financial impact cannot be reflected in the following year's budget. Enrollment is also estimated under the same constraints and Jane, the Camp Administrative Secretary, has expended great effort to "estimate" valid enrollment expectations, but the reality always varies somewhat.

The CPC is dedicated to running a program that is financially self-sustaining and follows an open planning and reporting process. We did not raise camp fees and did not propose an increase in our 2009 budget. However, this presents an example of the challenge in budgeting so far ahead of time: the increase of fuel and food costs will have an unplanned impact on the finances this year and may require some adjustments in next year's budget. We did find it necessary to clarify existing financial policies: Payment is due in full before camp starts. Refunds are available up to May 15, minus a non-refundable deposit and administrative fee.

The Finance Subcommittee began communicating more closely with Stewardship & Finance to clarify the financial situation and operations that impact both BYM and the Camping Program. Historically, Monthly Meetings provided financial support to the Camping Program through apportionment, but this is no longer the case. Since this support was the initial basis for the "Quaker discount," the CPC has begun discussing the possibility of having one camp fee for all campers. As the Camping Program is an effective outreach opportunity and there is

scholarship money available through many Monthly Meetings and the Barry Morley Endowment, we see many benefits to this. We also recognize the historical reasoning and attachment to the current practice. We will continue to work with Stewardship & Finance to clarify the policies surrounding the Barry Morley endowment and look for way opening regarding the fee structure.

The CPC worked with the Ad-hoc Development Committee and is looking forward to working with a new Development Director to coordinate fundraising efforts. We feel that the large camping program alumni base is an untapped source of support and we want to work with the Development Director to reach out to this group. The Committee has been contacted by a group of camp alumni who are interested in planning a 50th Anniversary event for Catoctin Quaker Camp. This event is being planned for late August at Catoctin.

Feedback

This was our second year using the online survey, and the survey results once again gave the Committee useful feedback to guide our off-season work, as well as the operation of camps in session; this was highly appreciated by the CPC committee members, and the directors as well. The compiled data was easy to work with and helpful to all involved.

For example, the surveys indicated uneven satisfaction with food across the camps. The Camping Program aims to provide the best possible diet to our campers, using wholesome foods in keeping with our Quaker testimonies, while keeping to a very tight budget. We are fortunate to have some very good kitchen managers who plan the meals, shop for food & supplies and lead the volunteer cooks. However, there are still some gaps where we need additional leadership in the camp kitchens. The CPC has initiated additional efforts to support kitchen managers and ensure that the combined years of experience accumulated in the kitchens can translate into additional guidance for new kitchen staff.

Enrollment & Outreach/Marketing

The Committee has struggled with ways to increase enrollment, in particular at Opequon and Shiloh. Typically, both Teen Adventure and Catoctin fill quickly and we struggle to find campers for the other camps. This year, both Catoctin and Shiloh had lower than normal enrollment for the third session, and the Directors were able to make related adjustments to the staffing and program. TA

was able to take all the campers who applied this year, and ran the same number of groups as last year.

Some ideas the Committee has explored are visitation days during camp or in the spring/fall; advertising in Quaker publications; and visits to Monthly Meetings to provide information on camps, especially Opequon and Shiloh. Historically, word of mouth has been our most effective method of “advertising,” but the sense of the CPC is that we need to do more.

The Camp Administrative Secretary worked to revise the camping programs website. This was done with an eye to make it more appealing to potential campers and families not already familiar with BYM camping programs. The CPC also wanted to have all of its policies, handbooks, forms, etc. easily accessible to campers, parents and staff.

The Committee expressed its gratitude to CPC Member and former camp staff, Nathan Harrington, for stepping up to coordinate the outreach/marketing efforts. CPC members and camp alumni have visited many Monthly Meetings this year, sharing their personal experiences, presenting a slide show, and answering questions from potential campers and their parents. CPC members attended camp fairs, visited Friends’ schools, wrote articles for the Friends Journal, and posted notices in their own communities. We also began a print ad campaign with ads in several newspapers in Virginia. As with many marketing campaigns, it may take some time to determine the effectiveness of these efforts.

Support of Staff

In the fall, our Camp Administrative Secretary, Jane Megginson, had a personal opportunity to move out of the Washington DC area. She developed and put forward a proposal to continue her job with BYM by telecommuting, and the CPC supported this proposal. We have worked with the General Secretary and the Supervisory Committee to pilot, review and refine this arrangement, which the CPC feels is working well. Jane has been committed to the Camping Program for many years, and the program has benefitted greatly from her skills.

The Committee considered the importance of its role in supporting the directors both during the camp season and in the off-season when our directors are busy with their other jobs and have less energy to give to camp. At the directors’ retreat a related query led to wonderful discussion and many solid positive ways that the Committee can support our directors. This included exploring the idea of

co-directors at all camps. The sense of the Committee is that while co-directors can be an excellent way to run camp, each camp and each director or pair of co-directors will need to be considered on an individual basis; what works for one may not work for another.

Allison Downey, after helping to co-lead a successful expansion of TA in 2007, resigned to pursue other career opportunities. Jen Schneider continued in her new role of TA co-director and David Gregal was hired as a new co-director to work with her. Catoctin returned to a single directorship under Linda Garretson, after Alex Jadin was unable to return as co-director.

As we began to address the need for a new co-director at TA again this year, the Committee started to explore how to address future leadership needs, in particular guidelines for directors/co-director turnovers and working with the General Secretary & Supervisory Committee in hiring new directors. There are many talented and committed staff within the Camping Program, and we want to support their leadership development whenever possible. This discussion was timely as we are now in the process of looking for a new director for Shiloh; Dana Foster will step down at the end of this camp season after directing Shiloh for 13 years.

Transportation

Once again the Committee and the directors discussed the need for more drivers with Commercial Driver's License at each camp to alleviate the stress of driving; currently only a couple of staff members per camp have CDLs and are able to drive for the trips.

In the joint meeting with Camp Property Management Committee, we explored the concept of buying our own buses or continuing to rent the buses from Sandy Spring Friends School. CPMC and CPC recommended the purchase of our own buses that can be rented out to other programs in our off-season. During this joint meeting the Committees also discussed the maintenance of the camp "fleet" during the non-camp season.

Youth Safety

The Camping Program has long been attentive to the safety needs of youth participating in its programs and continually addresses this through careful hiring and training of staff and counselors each year during the two weeks before camp

starts. We also implemented the practice of background checks for all volunteers. Our safety policies are now available on the updated website. CPC is represented on the Ad-hoc Youth Safety Committee and has been working with that group to define a Youth Safety Policy that will meet the needs of all BYM programs.

CAMP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee met four times this past 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 owning and maintaining the camp properties, and 3) planning and participating in work weekends at Catoctin, Opequon and Shiloh.

At Catoctin, the final phase of pond improvement was completed which involved mucking the bottom of the pond, regrading the banks for stabilization and placement of washed limestone dust along the banks. In addition, plumbing from the new wet well was installed, with a 6-inch line to the new fire hydrant and electrical conduit and a 2 inch PVC line to serve a UV system if needed. The new hydrant is easily accessible to the fire department and is expected to reduce insurance costs for the camp. One new cabin was built in the fall, and work is underway to put stoops on all cabins in order to comply with fire code regulations.

Before another cabin can be built at Catoctin, our site development plan must be updated and undergo review and approval by Frederick County. The Committee hopes to have the site plan submitted shortly so that it can proceed with plans to construct a new cabin in the fall.

At Shiloh, a new waterline was installed to the caretaker's house to address problems with sediment entering the water line. Unfortunately we continue to have sediment in the water system, and work on the well may be necessary. This problem is currently being addressed. We continue to make improvements and repairs to the existing camper cabins to prolong their useful life and make them even safer. Our efforts at controlling the kudzu at Shiloh are bearing fruit, and we will continue to be vigilant in controlling and eliminating this persistent and destructive invasive species.

At Opequon, we continue to make improvements and repairs to the existing structures. In the Spring of 2007 a donated trailer was placed next to the infirmary in order to provide more space for children who are not feeling well to recover and a place for the Health Care Person to stay and attend to those who are in need.

The Committee has also reviewed a proposed cabin design to replace the older cabins that are close to the end of their useful lives.

Based on the Committee's review of past, current and future budgets, the expenses associated with owning and maintaining the camp properties consistently exceed income from all sources. While short-term fundraising has helped narrow the deficits, the Committee feels that having a person devoted to ongoing fundraising would be very helpful for attaining a balanced budget and raising money for large upcoming capital projects. Although Stewardship and Finance has developed a position description for general BYM fundraising that includes camp properties, the Property Committee has concerns that the scope of the job description is so broad that it will be difficult for the individual to pursue the type of focused fund raising effort that we envision. To address this issue, the Committee continues to discuss developing a specific proposal for a half-time fundraising position dedicated to camp property capital projects.

The Committee continues to seek ways of increasing revenue generated by the properties. As we worked on our budget this year we were particularly focused on developing a more comprehensive capital projects budget.

Finally, the committee has worked towards creating a calendar and "scope and schedule" for annual future committee work.

On behalf of the Committee and yours in the light,

Allen Fetter, clerk

CRIMINAL AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee met three times in 2007: at the Interim meeting in March at Gunpowder, in August for the Yearly meeting in and in October at Friends Meeting of Washington. The March meeting was attended by six members, the August meeting by seven members, and the October meeting by nine members.

At the March, 2007 meeting, it was decided that Prison Visitation and Support (**PVS**) was to be a line item in the **BYM** budget for \$225. James **Matsen** was officially renominated to represent BYM at PVS for one more year. The web page was discussed, as well as the idea to have a "donation button". The proposal was made to revise the committee description to include "social and humanitarian care and healing and to educate the public about restorative justice." Kit Mason

said she wished to lay down her responsibilities as Clerk as she had increased demands of her time at her home meeting.

The CR&J then met for the Baltimore Yearly Meeting at Frostburg State in August, 2007. John Worley presided as new Clerk. John presented copies of the "Prison Journal 2", a compilation of writings and artwork by prisoners throughout the Country. He said that the Sandy Spring Friends Meeting plans to develop a list of resources for prisoners. The Committee read and discussed, "A Mother's Plea for Justice," describing a prisoner wrongly accused of rape. A Friend from the South Mountain Worship Group, which worships in Hagerstown on

Saturday mornings, brought up a concern that a prisoner was harshly chided because he may not have understood English spoken to him by one of the guards. It was agreed that there was a need for the prisoner manual to be in Spanish.

The last meeting in 2007 was conducted at the Friends Meeting of Washington in October. John Worley presided as Clerk. At this meeting. A Friend discussed a report she had prepared about the Federal Bureau of Prison's purging of religious books from the libraries of military and Federal prisons. Apparently, there was a list of books from different religions that WERE to be allowed in prisons. It was agreed that to better understand this matter, it would be necessary to know what specific books were listed.

John Worley, clerk

EDUCATIONAL LOAN COMMITTEE

The Committee met on September 29, January 12 and February 16 to assess available funds, review existing loans including delinquent accounts, consider possible changes in the loan program and plan the 2008 loan application process. Six of the seven members met again on May 17 to review loan applications and to discuss the status of outstanding loans and the future of the loan program. We reviewed and funded nine applications compared to 13 approved last year. Awards total \$27,000 compared to \$46,500 last year. One is for high school, one for graduate study and the rest for college.

Concerns about the amount of money actually available led us to restrict loans this year to those who received loans last year. All were cautioned to expect significantly less than last year's \$5000 maximum as we reevaluate the program. We have been unable to get precise figures on the funds available in the three funds we administer due to the ongoing investigation of the shortfall in BYM funds.

Some colleges are converting their student loan programs to outright grants. This reduces the burden on recipients in an era of high college costs, and eliminates the cost and need to track recipients and seek repayment. However, available funds would gradually be spent down rather than recycled. As part of the committee discussion of whether to convert the program from loans to grants, the co-clerks researched the history of the three funds at the BYM office. Trustees have been advised of our discussions, but we have made no decision yet.

The Committee is very concerned about the lack of regular and substantial repayment on a majority of the currently matured loans and what this may bode for larger recent loans not yet matured. In its audit BYM has set aside \$35,000 to cover possible default on currently matured loans, and we have written off two small loans this year with Trustees' approval. Some people have simply disappeared, others have low incomes, some want regular statements, and one protested our 10% interest, up from 6% on the unpaid balance after seven years. We have decided to keep all interest at 6% regardless of the duration of repayment and recalculate the interest on any current loans, as needed, to do this. .

We have discussed various means to get better repayment, and continue to stress that repayment is needed for us to be able to fund others. The BYM bookkeeper has not had the time to send quarterly bills this year as we expected. The BYM Treasurer has begun sending monthly bills to all recipients with matured loans. This co-clerk will continue to work with the BYM Bookkeeper and Treasurer to get regular repayments during the next year, but will not be a formal member of the Committee, having served seven years already.

Oliver Moles, co-clerk

FAITH & PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE

The Faith & Practice Revision Committee has met almost monthly during this past year. During this time we have focused on finishing the *draft* Advices, Queries, and Voices. We are excited about the packets that will be available for each meeting at annual session in August.

We are asking that each meeting make copies of its packet and see that each member receives a copy. Individual Friends are asked to read and reflect on what we present to you. At the same time, we strongly urge each meeting to gather in small groups, or as a whole for small meetings, to reflect and discuss the Advices, Queries, and Voices.

Changes, suggestions and appreciations should be sent to the committee. We expect this to be a one to two-year process. At the end of that time, we will begin looking at the changes and suggestions that we have received and make revisions. Friends should remember that this is a group process for discernment on whether these new Advices, Queries, and Voices are what is right for Baltimore Yearly Meeting as a whole.

This is a wonderful committee on which to serve. Because we have been fairly constant in membership most of the time, we have built a deep trust and understanding of each other and are not hesitant to make our feelings known. There is a deep respect for each member and the gifts each brings to the committee.

FRIENDS IN EDUCATION

The broad purpose of the Friends in Education Committee is to “support and nurture the schooling of young people consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends.” In practice, the committee members from Friends schools within BYM have used their meeting time to explore issues and concerns common to their schools.

Financial hardship has been a major challenge for the smaller Friends schools. The Committee has felt sadness for Friends' schools within the Yearly Meeting that have had to close with finances as a major factor. There are also serious worries about the financial fragility of other small Friends schools that are struggling to stay open. One school is struggling to find Quakers to assume Trusteeship.

Yet the committee believes the mission of Friends schools is very important – to create learning communities where Quaker testimonies are put to practice as a way of life. Young people in Friends' schools and their families are affected in positive ways as they are nurtured spiritually as well as academically. Their regular exposure to Friends testimonies of peace, equality, integrity, respect and turning inwardly to seek spiritual and moral guidance has often had a profound impact on these young people. The Committee believes that the type of education offered by Friends schools is sorely needed in today's confused and chaotic world.

Moreover, Friends schools have been a major advancement and outreach arm of the Religious Society of Friends. A great number of persons who become Quaker were initially influenced by their experience with a Friends school.

Other religious schools receive considerable financial support from their respective denominations – Catholic, Jewish, Christian, Episcopalian, etc. Our small Friends' schools struggle without such support to pay living salaries on affordable tuitions.

The Committee would like Baltimore Yearly Meeting to consider ways to provide greater financial support to Friends education.

Annette Breiling and Bill Harlan, co-clerks

INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Indian Affairs Committee has been charged with the oversight of funds set aside in 1795 by Friends moving into the Shenandoah Valley who wished to pay the natives of the area for the land they were now occupying (following the model established by William Penn in PA). Unable to locate the original inhabitants or their offspring, money was set aside to be used for the betterment of all native American peoples. The present Committee meets four times a year and distributes the interest of this money (usually \$2,000) to organizations which assist and advocate for American Indians.

At Yearly Meeting 2007, it was decided to give money to the Baltimore American Indian Center to help them with building cost for a new addition and money to Torreon Star Lake Chapter for their Community Fund and store. A workshop was held titled "The Man in the Iron Horse" about Leonard Peltier and his political prisoner status by William O. Miles, co-clerk of Homewood/Stony Run Indian Affairs. Leonard Peltier has been held prisoner in the Federal penal system for over 30 years for the death of 2 FBI agents in 1975 on the Pine Ridge Reservation, despite subsequent information from FBI files that document the fabrication and lies used to convict him. He has been sentenced to two lifetime sentences, without parole, for what has now been downgraded to "aiding and abetting" in the deaths, because no evidence exists to connect him to the evidence they do have. The two natives (Butler and Robideau) accused along with Peltier in 1975, were acquitted by a jury on the grounds that they had acted in self-defense against the military buildup and SWAT teams of hundreds of FBI agents who had gathered on Pine Ridge to conduct a para-military operation. Peltier had gone to Canada, knowing as an American Indian Movement (AIM) member he would not get a fair trial. Coercion and lies were used to extradite him, and a major movement to convict produced a lot of unsavory, unlawful tactics to be used. The movie by

Robert Redford titled "Incident at Oglala" gives background information, and there is a web site for information <http://www.leonardpeltier.org/>.

The Committee also decided at their March Meeting to contribute to the Rahma Weavers Guild so they could add solar panels to a demonstration hogan, and to support the Honor the Earth organization to help them construct wind turbines on the Pine Ridge Reservation to support a radio station there.

The other activity that is occupying the Committee is the Longest Walk 2, which left California on Feb. 11 and is walking in two paths, one Northern and one Southern. The Northern route will come thru York, PA, down York Rd. thru Baltimore and on to Washington, D.C. on or about July 10th. They hope to hold a three-day conference in D.C. to talk about their concerns for the environment, preservation of sacred space, and issues for Native Americans. This is a spiritual quest following and honoring the walk done in 1976 that addressed Native issues in Washington, which changed plans to abrogate treaties and disenfranchise many native peoples. Their web site - www.longestwalk.org shows the progress being made along the way. At Interim Meeting a request was made of our southern Meetings to support them as best they could, Homewood/Stony Run Mtg. will be supporting the Northern Route.

Dellie James, clerk

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE SPIRITURAL FORMATION

The Spiritual Formation Program nurtured deep spiritual growth in its participants this year. Thirty-three Friends from seven Meetings within BYM participated in the program, and local spiritual formation groups formed at Adelphi, Baltimore/Gunpowder, Friends Meeting of Washington, Langley Hill, Sandy Spring and Williamsburg. Our September opening retreat introduced participants to the program and to spiritual practices. Local groups met throughout the year to share spiritual journeys and to reflect on shared readings. Individual spiritual practices and a sense of spiritual community fostered spiritual growth in the participants. Our May closing retreat gave us an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our year of spiritual growth, to name and claim our spiritual gifts and to prepare for the continued spiritual journey.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERN COMMITTEE

As we said in our report last year, the range of issues that confront the Peace and Social Concerns Committee is always large, and this continues to be the case. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the violence in Kenya and Darfur, torture, abuse of human rights, and many other issues remain on our plate.

At Yearly Meeting last August, the Committee was deeply concerned about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We believed that Quakers could do more than demonstrate and pass minutes opposing these wars. We led the Yearly Meeting in a period of worship to collectively consider what God might be saying to us. Our query was a familiar one to Friends: "How am I living my life so as to take away the occasion for war?" In our report to the Yearly Meeting, we made several suggestions about what Friends might consider doing with regard to stopping war. We then challenged Monthly Meetings to report back to the YM by way of an article in the Interchange talking about their actions. So far, five Monthly Meetings have done so. We eagerly await news from others.

Our Committee has met three times since last Yearly Meeting. Two of these were at Interim Meeting sessions, and one was at our annual "Networking Day." Last fall, we spent a day together, joined by representatives from Peace and Social Concerns Committees from Monthly meetings. We listened to each other and discussed our work, our hopes, and our frustrations with work for peace and social justice. We were led in this effort by J.E. McNeil, a former Clerk of this Committee, who talked about her long experience in this work.

The Committee has again seasoned some issues for the Yearly Meeting. Perhaps most notable was the call to release funding to be used in Quaker peace efforts in Kenya. These funds have been set aside for a number of years, as the Yearly Meeting struggled with its relationship with FUM. A member of our Committee had a strong leading to send at least a portion of that funding to Friends working directly in Kenya in the aftermath of the tragic violence in that country following elections last fall. The Minute from our Committee lead Interim Meeting to release \$9,000 that would go to FUM this year and send it to the FUM account administered by the Kenyan Friends. This money will be used by the Friends' Peace Church Initiative.

The PSCC has also taken under its care the Committee on Right Sharing of World Resources. This Committee now operates as a working group under our Committee, which stands ready to provide support when needed.

The Committee joined, on behalf of the Yearly Meeting, the National Religious Coalition Against Torture (NRCAT). This temporary arrangement was formalized by Yearly Meeting at Interim Session last fall. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is now a participating member of NRCAT, and a member of our committee represents the Yearly Meeting to that organization.

Bill Mims, clerk

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

This past year has been wonderful! We needed to have only four meetings this year, mostly because we did not have to find a new site at which to hold Yearly Meeting. The Committee has been working hard on planning the annual session for this year. We feel that things went well at our 2007 annual session. Frostburg was a great place to be and Dave Treber, the Conference and Event Manager for Frostburg State University, did everything he could to make our stay better and is working with us to make things even better this year. It also helps that he is a member of Langley Hill Meeting.

We fully expect, and know in some cases, that things will be even better at Frostburg this year. For one thing, we will have Fair Trade real coffee! We have asked for some changes in the menu and plan to have some maps showing the locations of stations in the dining hall. The Food Committee, comprising Denny Hartzell, Mary Campbell, and Matthew Bacon, are working with the food service people to improve the menus.

Rebecca Rawls, our Registrar and ex-officio member of the Committee, Mary Campbell, our Assistant Registrar, and Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant, are working on registration this year. We will be in two dorms this summer - Westminster and Cambridge. We have been told that all the beds will be of normal height, so that no one has to stand on a chair to get into bed. The cleanliness of the dorm rooms has been discussed and will be improved.

Nancy Coleman will again be running the bookstore with a great selection of books, crafts and information. Bring your check book and or cash to stock up on your reading material for the coming year. Jason Eaby is the sound person for all our plenary and business sessions. Workshops are under the care of Wren Becket and Margaret Stambaugh. Karen Cunningham, an ex-officio member as clerk of the Junior Yearly Meeting, has been hard at work getting people to staff JYM. Sam Horne and Alex Hayden-Wollaston are working on getting signs in

place so that everyone can find their way around. They are also representatives from Young Adult Friends and have been working on the Wednesday afternoon program. Julia Melby and Matthew Bacon, ex-officio members, have been busy planning the Young Friends' program.

Howard Fullerton, ex-officio member, will be introducing Betsy Meyer at our Tuesday night plenary session. Don Gann will be introducing Clinton Pettus Friday night Carey Memorial Lecturer.

Lamar Matthew, an ex-officio member, as clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, has been working on Friends to sit on the facing chairs holding the meetings in the Light as well as working on the queries for worship sharing. This year the members of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee will have special dots on their name tags as they will be acting as listeners, people who are willing to listen to anyone who has a concern, a difficulty or some other problem.

One sad point in the year was the resignation of Anita Bower as a member of the Committee and who wrote the minutes of our meeting. She is missed. Almost all of our members make it to every meeting, which is wonderful. We have a job to do and everyone know that it takes a great deal of work to be ready for the Annual Session.

We have a subcommittee that worked on the finances of Annual Session: Riley Robinson, General Secretary, Rebecca Rawls, Mary Campbell, Margo Lehman, bookkeeper and Sheila Bach, clerk. It was difficult to keep the expenses down so that we did not have to raise the cost of Friends coming to Annual Session by very much.

As you can see, everyone has a job. Everyone has worked hard at our meetings. The Committee looks forward to a great week at Frostburg State University, and we hope to see all of you there.

Sheila Bach, Clerk

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The BYM RE Committee in 2007 continued its focus on program at BYM sessions. Our Friendly RE Consultant/Visitor this year was Marc Conaghan, an official of the Muslim American Public Affairs Committee in North Carolina, who made a very interesting and well-received presentation on Islam, its history,

major doctrines and art. We sought out an opportunity for insight into Islam in part as a continuation of our memorial for our late Friend Tom Fox. The Committee has since made plans for a Consultant/Visitor to our 2008 session, and will report on that in due course.

Chuck Fager, clerk

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 the growth of a “life lived in the Spirit of Friends” by members of the school communities.

In 2008 the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund received 16 requests for funds. The Committee considered the requests and distributed, with great pleasure, \$7,175 in full or partial grants for 13 uses consistent with the purpose of the fund. The recipients were: Abington Friends School, PA (\$1000 to fund professional development and a document on Quakerism instruction); Frankford Friends School, PA (\$135 for curriculum materials); Friends Meeting School, MD (\$550 to fund a panel on Quaker Education); Friends Mufutu Secondary School, Kitale, Kenya (\$475 for lectures and workshops on Quaker F & P); Friends School of Charlotte, NC (\$500 for two lecture/forums on Quaker practice in Quaker Education); Friends School of Portland, ME (\$300 to send teachers to Friends Council on Education (FCE) Workshop); Friends Western School, CA (\$500 to send a teacher to Pendle Hill workshop); Lansdowne Friends School, PA (\$630 for Irene McHenry to facilitate a Mindfulness Training Day); Mahusi Friends Quaker School, Malava, Kenya (\$500 for books and facilitators of Quaker religious education); Mary McDowell Center for Learning, NY (\$750 for a project on Quaker Testimonies); Moorestown Friends School, NJ (\$500 to have FCE bring a workshop for new faculty & staff); State College Friends School, PA (\$750 to fund Art Larrabee workshop on Quaker decision-making); and Thornton Friends School, MD (\$585 to participate in the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference).

The Committee was very pleased with the opportunity to support Quaker faith and practice in education again this year. In 2007 we had difficulty arranging for funds to be transferred securely to the schools in Kenya, and we are seeking assistance from other Friends’ organizations that have direct connections in Kenya to solve this and expect to have all the funds transferred.

The Committee will meet in March 2009 to consider new requests. **Request deadline will be MARCH 1, 2009.**

Rosalind Zuses, Clerk

TRUSTEES

The Trustees were faced this year with the need to reconcile all investment accounts and have an accurate figure in each account. By correcting the inadequate record keeping of the past, we can then create a firm figure for our current and future bookkeeping. We found that for several years, when funds were expended, they were not deducted from their accounts, that interest was added to accounts when none was earned, and that designated expenditures were improperly credited to other accounts. Initially we were faced with our records being short over \$400,000. Through detailed examination of records, through reconciling expenditures to their proper accounts and to correct applications of interest earned, our funds imbalance has been significantly reduced. We hope to have these accounts to accurately reflect their true value and to establish procedures so that this type of bookkeeping ends.

We also found that the signatures on the investment accounts had not been updated since the accounts were opened, in some cases back into the 1980s. We have written to each of the investment accounts and have notified them of the current officers. We approved a minute that all accounts will be updated with the change of Treasurer, Clerk of Trustees and two other designated trustees. We have also updated the operational accounts.

The Trustees worked with the Camp Property Committee on conveyance of a parcel of land. We met with the Educational Funding Resources Committee to forgive some student loans. We worked with the ad-hoc Development Committee as they sought clarity on a staff position. We designated a member of the Trustees to serve on a committee to oversee the Yearly Meeting office property.

The Trustees benefited from the good services of Riley Robinson, General Secretary, and Margo Lehman, bookkeeper.

Byron Sandford, clerk

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

Annual Session. The Unity with Nature Committee (UWN) met during Annual Session and had a dinner meeting with Joe Volk, General Secretary of FCNL.

Friends Wilderness Center. Juliet Guroff (Goose Creek) represents the FWC on the UWN Committee. After serving several years as representative from BYM to FWC, Sarah K. Brabson (Little Briton) asked to be replaced. The Committee was not able to find a representative to FWC and has asked the Nominating Committee for assistance.

Committee Membership. New members on the committee are Jeanne Houghton (Langley Hill), Rick Knaub (York) and Susan Warner (Baltimore, Homewood)

Activities. The committee is identifying representatives from all Monthly Meetings in order to create a YM communications system on environmental information. The Committee is also working on a project that will be presented at the 2008 annual meeting.

Budget. The UWN budget is used to pay travel expenses (approximately \$300) for the BYM representative to QEW to attend the two Steering Committee meetings each year. Registration and lodging fees are paid by the representative (approximately \$600). At the end of the fiscal year, a contribution is made to QEW to help pay for materials provided to the Committee during the year. Also a contribution is made to a non-profit that provides carbon offsets. This pays, in part, for the CO₂ that is generated by BYM for travel for attendance at interim meetings and annual meeting. In the past the money for carbon offsets has been given to the Native American Energy Project and the Kenyan Tree Replacement Project.

Barbara Williamson, clerk

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE - 2006

(This report did not appear in the 2007 Yearbook, therefore it appears here.)

Communication and accountability were main themes of 2006 for the Youth Programs Committee. From oversight for the Young Friends in Ramallah (YFIR) trip, to the loss of the Junior Young Friends (JYF) Coordinator, to the ad hoc Youth Safety Committee or Youth Programs Mission Committee, neither of which were convened, it was apparent that lack of clear communication and follow-through existed, and without those accountability was missing.

In January 2006, YPC realized that we had not been providing oversight to the YFIR program, incorrectly assuming that the YFIR Advisory Committee was fulfilling that role. Fortunately, this confusion of accountability was rectified, and we were able to assume our responsibility and provide the necessary oversight. From all accounts the YFIR trip was a powerful experience for all involved (see pages 109-115 from the 2006 Yearbook with the YFIR report).

In March, the JYF Coordinator was removed from the position without input from or the support of the Committee. We had requested that no action be taken on this until the Committee could discuss it. This request was not acted upon. The timing was particularly bad because Tom Fox had been murdered only a week earlier. This removal resulted in the cancellation of the final JYF Conference, where our middle school adolescents could have gathered and mourned together.

Our Committee tried to understand why the matter was handled this way, and we looked to the Manual of Procedures for guidance. However, the relationship between committeees and staff was unclear. According to our Manual of Procedure, once a Yearly Meeting Committee creates a job description and gets approval and a budget for the position, only the General Secretary directs that staff person. Another issue that we encountered was that the Youth Secretary's job description was significantly altered without the Committee's knowledge or approval. The Manual of Procedure was unclear on this point as well. But the omission of our Youth Programs Committee from these processes created a very difficult situation. We have encouraged Supervisory Committee and others to look at the relationship between staff and their corresponding committee and consider making changes to the Manual of Procedures to make the relationships more clear.

Because there was no JYF staff support, the JYF program held only one of three planned conferences during the 2005 - 2006 program year. A group of parents and committee members undertook the work to ensure the program continuance in the fall of 2006, and the first JYF Conference of the year was a great success, with 24 youth present.

To better address the heavy work load, we formed the following four committees in September: Young Friends; Junior Young Friends; Youth Secretary; and FAP (Friendly Adult Presence). The subcommittees are not decision-making entities and can co-opt members as needed. Minutes from the subcommittees are distributed to the entire YPC, so we are all equally informed as to what each

subcommittee is doing. By the end of the year, the subcommittees were having their first or second meetings.

We carried into 2006 tasks from 2005 regarding Young Friends' self-governance and safety. We waited to address these tasks, as the Yearly Meeting had planned to convene an ad hoc Youth Safety Committee to formulate a Meeting-wide policy. This committee did not meet but was instead rolled into the ad hoc Youth Programs Mission Committee, which also did not meet. Thus, these issues went unresolved through 2006 until our sub-committees accepted some portions thereof in their charges.

The FAP Application Working Group developed detailed recommendations that involved a number of changes to the way FAPs were approved and trained. These changes were put into place without going through the proper processes of committee approval. This created confusion around the role of FAPs, particularly at Young Friend (YF) conferences. FAPs were put in a position of enforcing rules that had been approved by neither Youth Programs Committee nor Young Friends. This created tension between FAPs and YFs because some of these rules contradicted the YF Handbook. While our Young Adult Friends (YAFs) worked many hours with the YFs to address this with the FAPs, our Committee acknowledged the need to develop and approve the training curriculum used for FAPs.

YPC requested a facilitated meeting with committee members and the Youth Secretary after these events and after the Youth Secretary stated she felt unsupported by the Committee. While this meeting did provide opportunities to express feelings about some issues and identify specific problem areas, the Committee was either unable or unwilling to follow up on them before the Youth Secretary decided to resign.

There is no way to tell if any of the problems that YPC and YFs experienced in the fall of 2006 could have been avoided or better handled, if the above mentioned YM-wide ad hoc committees had met and made progress on their charges. We do know that the YF Executive Committee (Exec) of 2006-2007 has not shied away from its responsibilities.

At the fall conference, nine YFs were present for, or participated in the smoking of marijuana. A YF reported this to YF Exec. Exec immediately took action, gathering facts and meeting with all the YFs involved. Exec met again as a committee after gathering facts, and decided that each of the YFs involved in smoking marijuana would have to meet with an appointed small clearness

committee. Some of the YFs would not be allowed to attend another conference until the clearness process was completed. Exec was very intentional in their decision-making; they requested an extra Exec retreat weekend to deal with this issue. The communication breakdown between YFs and YPC, the YFs and the YM office (Youth Secretary, Clerk, General Secretary), between FAPs and YPC, and between YPC and the Yearly Meeting exacerbated this situation. At the end of 2006, YPC was just hearing the facts about the fall YF conference. This information led YPC to request to join YFs for their January Exec retreat. YFs welcomed this offer.

2006 was a very difficult and challenging year for many throughout the Yearly Meeting and for Youth Programs Committee in particular. As we have struggled through frequent meetings and continuing challenges, we remain mindful of the importance these programs have to the lives of our many Young Friends for whom these conferences are a lifeline. As one mother said, (Young Friends) turns out to be the same for my son as it was for me, a touchstone for a Quaker hope...a new reality in the midst of a near-insane present reality.

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

This past year has been one of both triumphs and challenges for our Committee and the youth programs of the Yearly Meeting. The voices we have heard during this time unite us in our belief that the wider Yearly Meeting yearns to hear of our entire experience so we can more fully understand the program, our children, and the challenges before us. As a Yearly Meeting, we have begun to collectively discern on issues concerning our youth. Our intention here is to share, with concern and care, what we have learned and endured so our Committee's experience is not lost as we hold these issues, experiences, triumphs and turmoil in the sacred Light that unites us. We ask you to understand that the refusal to share in the printed Yearbook our last annual report, and the manner in which that refusal was communicated to us, leaves us feeling very vulnerable as we prepare this. While we understand the importance of maintaining a healthy environment and not publicly sharing criticisms of staff or one another, we also understand the need to clearly state when relational problems create distrust between the adults and children, as well as the need to publicly affirm our youth when they are following the trusted practice of Quaker business.

The triumphs we feel include that we have helped to provide five (5) conferences for our high-school-aged Young Friends (YFs) and are seeing our families return to this growth-inspiring program. We have continued to work with a talented and

dedicated group of families to ensure that there were three (3) conferences for our middle-school-aged Junior Young Friends (JYFs), a program that had nearly ceased to exist over the past several years. During this past year we helped the Young Friends Executive Committee (Exec) teens meet an additional three (3) times to address many of the issues we have discussed as adults. We began the long and thoughtful process of working with Young Friends to review their entire Handbook and carefully consider the relationships and processes described. In addition to the direct youth program care, we also took advantage of Pendle Hill offerings, sending four teens and our own Clerk to a clerking workshop there as well as sending several representatives to the Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) workshop. We wrote numerous letters in response to individuals and Monthly Meetings who addressed concerns related to our teens. To do all of this, we met ten (10) times as a full committee. In addition, subcommittees met between three and seven additional times; most committee members serve on two (2) subcommittees. Our meetings were teleconferences, at Interim Meeting, at Annual Sessions, weekend long with YFs, and pot luck & swimming in one another's homes.

Members of our Committee developed a complete FAP training program. This was done without the benefit of support staff or materials previously used in FAP training. Our first FAP training workshop, from Committee-approved content, occurred at Annual Session. Another difficult task to accomplish, without benefit of staff support, was the review of our program's needs and reflection of those needs in an updated youth secretary job description. Our new structure of subcommittees – Youth Secretary, FAP, Young Friends, and Junior Young Friends – made this work possible. This past fall, the offer of assistance by Ann Whittaker to handle many of the logistics involved with conferences has made our jobs much easier. We are deeply thankful for her assistance, knowledge, experience and support.

Much of the time and energy of the Committee in 2007 was dealing with the impact of the letter written and sent in Third Month by the former clerk of BYM. This letter affected our teens, our Committee, Monthly Meetings, families - the whole Yearly Meeting community. The events shared in the letter were in some instances inaccurate and in a number of instances overstated. Finding a manner in which to respond that did not appear critical of a former clerk, who was no longer present, proved to be incredibly difficult. This difficulty was magnified as we watched the consequences that befell the teens and our program, as many in the Yearly Meeting community took the letter's description of events as full Truth. The letter's exclusion of information provided by both teens and adult

youth workers was difficult to explain to our teens and to ourselves. Many of us were left wondering how we could advocate for a strong youth program within BYM when we believed the Yearly Meeting leadership was not willing to hear the voices of those who have worked with our youth or the first-hand voices of many of our youth and young adult leaders.

With the help of BYM's Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, we as a committee began to address the reactions to the Clerk's letter by arranging a Listening Session in Sixth Month. This first step began a healing process for many. Our Young Friends and Young Adult Friends participated and brought their experiences. Most of these voices were strong supporters of the program and identified it as a vital element in their development, especially as Quakers. The older adults' participation brought a wider array of opinions, fears, ideas, and experiences. All voices were heard with respect and care. This sharing and listening continued with our Committee's convening of several interest groups at Annual Sessions.

We are addressing the issues concerning our youth and the needs in our Yearly Meeting for a strong youth program for adolescents. Both the support and ideas that have been shared with us have been deeply appreciated. Our program works to teach, by example and experience, Quaker process and practice. Our Young Adult Friends often speak in support of our program and credit it for helping them develop as Quaker adults. Their testimony inspires and encourages us, especially as we address the issues that today's world and our own diversity brings to our teens' lives. We remain concerned, however, that there are segments and individuals within our Yearly Meeting that can not or do not support our program. This concern is exemplified in a letter to the Committee in the fall from the BYM leadership notifying us that last year's annual report would not be published in the Yearbook. While this decision was made because the wording of the report was deemed to be critical of staff, the letter notifying us of the decision stated that "The Young Friends and YPC have recently made it very clear to the wider community that they do not appreciate the feeling of having misdeeds publicly highlighted about them, even when true." We strongly deny this statement and are disheartened by it, especially in light of the Young Friends' participation in all open activities and our Committee's efforts to create open and honest discussions.

In addition to addressing the former clerk's letter, our Committee began the difficult work of trying to address the issues of trust between the adults and teens that created havoc in our YF community. The year was one of transitions; it

began with the resignation of the Youth Secretary and the cancellation of the first YF conference as a result of procedural chaos on the part of some adults involved with the program. Meeting jointly with Exec for a weekend in First Month, we worked with them to reflect on the past and discern alternate ways to address issues in the future. Ideas and concerns that were shared by the wider Yearly Meeting were fully considered by both the teens and the Committee. The Young Friends continued throughout the year to work together and took on full responsibility for the planning and care of their community. We worked to find clarity in our role as a program committee in relationship with program staff.

Friends, our youth have a much stronger program and community today than they have had in recent years. Our Committee is doing much better and is seeking healing and strength. While we carry the blessings, scars, and teachings of the past with us, we work in the “here and now” for our teens, families and Yearly Meeting. We are blessed to work with tomorrow’s leaders and invite others to consider joining us in this blessed task.

AD HOC INTERVISITATION COMMITTEE

Connection describes the Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee. Since our organizational meeting on March 5, 2005, we have sponsored BalYM Friends traveling to six yearly meetings and the Western Association, all within Friends United Meeting (FUM). We have welcomed visitors from five yearly meetings and FUM-Africa.

Eden Grace, our visitor from FUM-Africa in 2006 and 2007, has recently written about her work in response to the civil unrest that began in Kenya last January: One of the greatest privileges I have ever been given has been to work alongside the Friends Church Peace Team over the last four months... It has provided over 15,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) with staple foods, soap, blankets, sanitary towels, clothing and messages of love and spiritual encouragement... Now that the Kenyan government, responding to international pressure, is forcing the IDPs to leave the camps, the Team is shifting to Phase II of its work... The forced resettlement of IDPs, without any process of reconciliation, will inevitably plant the seeds for future, more vicious violence. The Peace Team is now engaging intensively with what we're calling the "receiving communities" (the public calls them "the aggressors") in order to listen to their hurt, pain and anger, and begin to open up the possibility of truly reconciled communities.

Listening, which is part of Phase II of the Kenyan Peace Team work, is also the work of our Intervisitation Committee. Betsy Blake, a leader of the Young Adult Friends in North Carolina YM wrote about a visit from Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco MM): I have seen him move through the various groups gathered - listening patiently, asking questions, and just being present... I must confess that for some there is a deep intake of breath at the idea that BYM has come to join us. "Will they jump down our throats - assaulting us on our passive pacifism? Will they share their disgust, dismissing us because of our perceived intolerances?" It has been a peaceful joy to have Ken here - representing you well - learning, building empathy and compassion, and also equipping us for change...

Gratitude is something that Friends associated with our work have also experienced. The presiding clerk of Western YM endorsed the traveling minute of Jen Chapin-Smith (Adelphi MM) with these words, "Thank you for sending Jennifer to our 150th session of Western Yearly Meeting. We send our living greetings to you, praying the blessings of the Lord may be yours."

As we enter our fourth year of connecting with other Friends in FUM, we continue to share the discipline of listening and the gifts of gratitude. We are an Ad Hoc Committee. This means that YOU can join us, either as a meeting attender or an email member. Because the current administrative co-clerk is leaving for Pendle Hill this fall, we especially need new committee members with gifts of administration, including internet talents. Much of this work can be done at home.

Travel plans for 2008—Destinations:

South East YM: Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring MM (returning traveler)

Great Plains YM: Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring MM (returning traveler)

Linda Coates, Little Britain MM (returning traveler)

New England YM: Linda Coates, Little Britain MM (returning traveler)

Indiana YM: Walter Brown, Langley Hill, MM (returning traveler)

Susan Kaul, Bethesda MM (new companion)

Western YM: Jen Chapin-Smith, Adelphi MM (returning traveler)

Jean James, Richmond MM (new traveler)

New York YM: Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM (returning traveler)

North Carolina YM: Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM (returning traveler)

Erik Hanson, Takoma Park Preparative (returning traveler)

FUM Triennial: Flossie Fullerton, Sandy Spring MM; Mary Lord, Adelphi MM; Meg Boyd Meyer, Baltimore-Stony Run MM; Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco MM; Andrei Israel, Friends Meeting of Washington; Georgia and Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill MM

Expected visitors to the 2008 Annual Session or Interim Meetings (as of May 30):

FUM Office: Terri Johns (previously attended the BalyM Women's Retreat).

Terri will be bringing a Friend from FUM-Africa

New England YM: Beth Gorton (returning visitor, probably to Interim Meeting)

South East YM: Phoebe and Neil Anderson (new visitors and former members of BYM)

Western YM: Wanda Coffin-Baker (new visitor)

New York YM: the Presiding Clerk and General Secretary are actively looking for visitors

Georgia Fuller and Walter Brown (Langley Hill MM), co-clerks

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.

This report includes data from mid-2006, as well as 2007.

During our Meeting at the June 17, 2006 Interim Meeting at Hopewell Center we discussed the varied responses we received about the FGC Minute.

We recommended that the budgeted money for FUM from 2005 and last half of the 2004 be sent, in order that BYM stay in dialogue with FUM.

At our Meeting during the Fall 2006 Interim meeting (10/21/2006) we discussed an invitation from Stony Run for members of our committee to visit and present information regarding the FGC Central Committee minute. The Clerk, Aron Teel planned to attend their session on December 10.

Our Meeting during 2007 Annual Sessions was limited to an hour. Margaret Stambaugh and Denny Hartzell agreed to be the new co-clerks of the Committee, replacing Aron Teel who has served well and faithfully as Clerk for a number of years. A Minute of deep appreciation was written for Aron's dedicated service.

The Committee then discussed how to improve our heretofore limited success in evoking responses from Monthly Meetings to the FGC Central Committee Query regarding their experiences with GLBTQ Quakers. We asked the Yearly Meeting Clerk to make an announcement reiterating the request for Monthly Meetings to Minute their experiences. We expected to continue our efforts at this task at future Meetings.

However, during the Fall Interim Meeting at Washington in October, 2007, we agreed not to continue pursuing this task. Instead, we decided to write a report based on the responses that we had already received. We also decided during

this Meeting that our email correspondences should not be used for discussion of important issues, but that these should only be discussed in a worshipful manner during our Meetings proper, in the Light.

We also discussed how Friends can help to raise awareness of the African GLBTQ community.

At the Spring Interim Meeting in Williamsburg, it was announced that we will sponsor two workshops at 2008 Annual Sessions: Joe Izzo will present "Opening Hearts and Minds" on sexual orientation and marriage; and Brad Ogilvie will present "Love, HIV, and Diversity."

We are requesting \$180 from BYM as our budget. We have decided to sponsor a brochure designed by Laura Goren to help make BYM more friendly to Transsexual persons. We will take on the editing and production of the brochure, which Laura presented in an already advanced state of preparation.

After some discussion, the Committee decided it has no clearness on whether or not to endorse two separate documents having to do with BYM funding FUM.

Dennis Hartzell, co-clerk

WORKING GROUP ON RACISM

The Working Group on Racism (WGR) strives to be a resource to Monthly Meetings and an active presence within the Yearly Meeting. It has identified one liaison person at each Monthly Meeting that has responded to us (list of meeting with liaisons below*) and provides items for Meeting newsletters and offers curricula and/or workshops to Meetings. In late 2007, two members of the Working Group facilitated a workshop on “Being a Welcoming Meeting” using Appreciate Inquiry at Friends Meeting of Washington. We are collecting a resource pool of videos, DVDs and books on race issues that can be borrowed by monthly or quarterly meetings. We encourage BYM Friends to further their knowledge of non-dominant cultures in the BYM vicinity by visiting some of the cultural, historical and educational sites on a resource list we compiled this year. We are aware that there are at least three active local working groups, at Stony Run-Homewood in Baltimore, Annapolis and Langley Hill.

We responded to a request from the group revising BYM’s Faith and Practice to propose queries, advices and voices related to the testimony of equality. In addition, we proposed questions for use by writers and reviewers of all the new queries, advices and voices proposed for revised Faith and Practice, to help assure a broad diversity of views and voices. The questions ask Friends to consider how each section contributes to an understanding of the degree to which our Meetings are and are not diverse in a variety of ways.

We struggled with a decision about whether to exclude from the Working Group a participant who advocates taking into account the perceived characteristics of the ethnic group to which individuals belong in deciding how to treat those individuals. We concluded that advocating reliance on such stereotypes about groups of people is incompatible with the work we are attempting to do. Our discernment process included consultation with Ministry & Pastoral Care, under whose care the WRG exists, and with the Meetings this individual attends.

A major endeavor of the Working Group during 2007 – 2008 was the co-sponsorship, with William Penn House, of a weekend-long workshop (Feb. 29-Mar. 2, 2008), White Friends Confronting Racism: Doing Our Work. It was led by Lisa Graustein of New England Yearly Meeting, who had developed the curriculum. All 16 Friends (and one non-Friend) in attendance felt it was a resounding success and the WGR hopes to share some of the exercises with monthly meetings. The WGR is also exploring the possibility of a workshop

that would be open to all races and be co-facilitated by Ms. Graustein, who is white, and by a person of color.

In summer 2007 the Working Group offered four workshops at the BYM gathering in Frostburg: 1) “Engaging Diversity and Difference” – Jean-Marie Barch; 2) “Modern Slavery Where We Live” – Joy Zarembka; 3) “The Pigment of Your Imagination” – Joy Zarembka, based on her 2007 book of the same title; 4) “Applying the Skills of Deep Listening to the Experience of Cultural Racism and Elitism” - Mel Snyder.

In 2008 we will offer workshops and interest groups during BYM in summer 2008. The two workshops are “Walking Our Talk on Diversity in Our Meetings: Becoming More Aware of Our Cultural Blinders” – facilitated by Elizabeth DuVerlie and Mel Snyder; and “White in a Multicultural Society: Making Whiteness Visible,” screening of “Mirrors of Privilege,” a film by Dr. Shakti Butler, with discussion facilitated by Pat Schenck. Anticipated interest groups are 1) sharing our experience and learnings from Lisa Graustein’s workshop; 2) an update on the Africa Great Lakes Initiative if an AGLI representative is able to attend BYM; and 3) screening and discussion of An Unlikely Friendship, about a black woman activist and a Klansman. In addition, the WGR hopes to designate one table at either lunch or dinner each day during BYM at which interested Friends can come by and discuss issues of race. The Working Group is also exploring collaborating with Young Friends on film showings and/or other facilitated discussions around race, with the hope that this might reach fruition at the 2009 BYM gathering.

Also looking ahead, the WGR is adapting a multi-racial dialogue, currently used in the Arlington, Va., and Montgomery County, Md., school systems, for use in monthly meetings and with Friends schools.

Elizabeth DuVerlie, Clerk

* Monthly Meetings who have named a liaison to the Working Group on Racism. All MMs are invited to have a liaison: Adelphi, Augusta Worship Group, Annapolis, Baltimore Homewood, Baltimore Stony Run, Bethesda, Carlisle, Charlottesville, Deer Creek, Friends Meeting of Washington, Friends House Worship Group, Frederick, Gettysburg, Gunpowder, Herndon, Hopewell Center, Langley Hill, Little Britain-Penn Hill; LB-Eastland, Little Falls, Louisa County, Maury River, Menallen, Nottingham, Patapsco, Patuxent, Richmond, Sandy

Spring, Seneca Valley Preparative, Shepherdstown Allowed, State College, Takoma Park, Valley, Warrington, Williamsburg, York

TORREON/STARLAKE WORKING GROUP

The Working Group did not meet as a group in 2007, but there were several activities involving BYM members with Navajo from the Torreon/Starlake community.

Friends have been supportive of the Torreon Community Store since its inception. The store is now much more than just a thrift store. It not only handles some commercial merchandise as well as second hand gifts (many from Friends), but also sponsors the Eastern Navajo Arts and Crafts Festival and a Business Skills training course for community members needing to acquire such skills better to manage their sales of weaving, rock sculptures, jewelry and other crafts from their homes.

In June, 2007, Susan Lepper and Amy St. Clair (both from Friends Meeting of Washington; Amy is a weaver) and Rich and Joan Liversidge (from Sandy Spring Meeting) went to Torreon for the Festival, which included a weaving demonstration in the Chapter's cordwood hogan. While there, Rich made a challenging presentation to Chapter officials on a possible financial approach to expanding housing at the Chapter.

Evie Tachine, Chapter secretary/treasurer attended most of BYM Yearly Meeting last year, arriving late because of airline delays and need to reschedule and follow through on some appointments in Washington. Evie also was burdened with finishing work for a college course, as she has been actively pursuing a college degree in education and administration. She is one of the Chapter leaders with great long-term potential and it was a delight to members of the BYM-Toreon/Starlake Working Group to recognize and encourage her. She had opportunity to talk particularly with members of the Indian Affairs Committee and was deeply moved by Bill Miles' workshop. There will be no Chapter visitor to Yearly Meeting in 2008 because there are no funds in the budget; the Chapter was so informed.

Attendance of youngsters from the Chapter at BYM's camp Opequon was also continued in 2007. Four Torreon youngsters attended the middle two-week session and had a very good time. The chaperon in recent years, Joline Cayaditto,

has been very successful in developing relations with the camp, including doing an arts workshop for campers, as well as assisting as needed in camp chores. She is taking a hiatus in 2008 for a family trip. She is to be replaced by Marlene Waukazoo, a former Chapter official who has visited Annual Sessions and two of whose children have been to camp; a younger son will be a camper this year.

The Torreon youngsters spent some time sight-seeing in Washington, including lunch and a tour at the Museum of the American Indian. Several Friends from the metropolitan DC area joined them, which enlivened BYM Friends' interest in the relationship with Torreon.

The Working Group did not meet as an organization in 2007 and several of those originally active in its founding have moved away or are otherwise unable to continue active participation. However, e-mail communication has kept most members in touch. A polling of members suggested that in 2008 the group will have several objectives. One is to update the evaluation of the camping involvement. With two chaperones now having experienced the camp directly, and both being teachers at local schools in the Torreon area, there is knowledge and ability to assess the subsequent development of the Torreon youngsters who have attended BYM camp. The Working Group hopes to get some view from the Torreon perspective of the local effects of this involvement. The second objective is to focus on the purposes of other types of interaction between Friends and the Torreon/Starlake Chapter. It has been reported that active Chapter members like to have the connection with BYM Friends. It is important to consider why this is so, what they wish from this relationship, and how this relationship enriches us.

MONTHLY MEETING MEMBRSHIP STATISTICS

Meeting	2006			2007			Change (+/-)
	Full	Associate	Total	Full	Associate	Total	
Adelphi*	210	132	342		342	0	
Alexandria	131	131	131	125	-6		
Annapolis	62	18	80	63	18	81	1
Homewood	118	25	143	113	25	138	-5
Stony Run	445		445	450		450	5
Bethesda	213	142	355	218	149	367	12
Blacksburg*	16		16	16		16	0
Carlisle*	37	6	43	43		43	0
Charlottesville	133		133	135		135	2
Deer Creek	52	15	67	55	15	70	3
Dunnings Creek	41	12	53	43	9	52	-1
Fishertown*	10		10	10		10	0
Floyd	13	9	22	9		22	0
Frederick**	54	17	71	55	19	74	3
Gettysburg	12		12	13		13	1
Goose Creek**	168	13	181	177	14	191	10
Gunpowder	85		85	102		102	17
Herdon**	50	30	82	50	30	82	0
Hopewell Centre	78	22	100	78	22	100	0
Langley Hill**	206	46	252	203	48	251	-1
Little Britian	82		82	77		77	-5
Little Falls*	56	2	58	58		58	0
Maury River**	32	6	38	35	7	42	4
Menallen*	40	4	44	44		44	0
Midlothian*	48	20	68	68		68	0
Nottingham*	117		117	117		117	0
Patapsco*	30		30	30		30	0
Patuxent*	17	7	24	24		24	0
Pipe Creek*	17	2	19	19		19	0
Quaker Lake	8	1	9	8	1	9	0
Richmond	145	57	202	146	61	207	5
Roanoke	27		27	2		29	2
Sandy Spring**	509	82	621	476	75	581	-40
State College	86	30	116	85	30	115	-1
Valley*	22	9	31	31		31	0
Warrington	28		28	25		25	-3
Washington*	453		453	453		453	0
Williamsburg*	25	21	46	46		46	0
West Branch*	112		112	112		112	0
York	33		33	33		33	0
Totals	4021	728	4781	2845	532	4784	3

* No report this year

** Revised last year's report

2009 APPORTIONMENTS

MONTHLY MEETING	2007	2008	2009
Adelphi	\$18,700	\$21,000	\$21,000
Alexandria	10,200	12,600	12,600
Annapolis	10,400	12,300	11,900
Baltimore, Homewood	19,200	22,000	23,000
Baltimore, Stony Run	59,700	66,800	67,000
Bethesda	21,200	26,000	26,000
Blacksburg	1,700	2,100	2,100
Carlisle	3,000	3,500	3,500
Charlottesville	7,800	7,900	7,900
Deer Creek	2,800	3,200	3,200
Dunnings Creek	2,400	3,000	3,000
Fishertown	600	0	0
Floyd	750	900	1,000
Frederick	6,100	7,300	7,000
Gettysburg	450	600	600
Goose Creek	13,600	17,500	17,500
Gunpowder	6,50	8,000	8,000
Herndon	6,000	6,600	7,000
Hopewell Centre	4,500	4,500	4,500
Langley Hill	14,900	16,500	16,500
Little Britain	2,100	2,600	2,300
Little Falls	5,700	5,700	5,700
Maury River	3,200	3,900	4,000
Menallen	2,200	2,300	2,400
Midlothian	2,700	3,300	3,400
Nottingham	3,900	3,900	3,900
Patapsco	2,600	3,200	3,700
Patuxent	2,800	3,400	3,200
Pipe Creek	300	300	300
Quaker Lake	300	400	200
Richmond	12,500	14,000	15,000
Roanoke	2,100	2,600	3,100
Sandy Spring	40,000	45,800	46,200
State College	10,000	8,450	9,500
Valley	3,000	3,450	3,500
Warrington	2,000	2,200	2,200
Washington	52,500	60,000	59,000
West Branch	2,200	2,200	2,200
Williamsburg	2,000	2,500	2,000
York	2,400	2,400	2,400
TOTAL	\$365,000	\$414,900	\$417,500

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue	2007 Actuals	2008 Budget	2009 Budget
General	474,002	435,350	569,600
Camp Properties	181,167	142,325	196,500
Committee Programs	34,453	17,000	28,500
Youth Programs	10,423	21,100	22,080
Annual Sessions	99,733	138,025	137,605
Camping Programs	726,036	780,190	741,272
Total Operating Revenue	1,525,814	1,533,990	1,695,557
Disbursements			
Administrative Personnel	139,699	168,500	265,340
Administration	108,979	103,500	117,250
Committee Administration	9,416	17,343	22,198
Extended Service & Membership	63,300	52,650	62,150
Camp Properties	194,836	202,110	247,700
Committee Programs	32,677	15,500	28,500
Youth Programs	17,152	58,691	67,390
Annual Session	89,277	138,025	137,290
Camping Programs	708,330	777,464	740,172
Operating Disbursements	1,363,666	1,533,783	1,687,990
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	162,148	207	7,567

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

	2007	2008	2009
	Actuals	Budget	Budget
General Revenue			
Apportionment Received	\$346,344	\$416,000	\$417,500
Apportionment unpaid	\$18,656		
'06 Apportionment in '07	\$17,314		
Investment Interest	617	1,750	0
Contributions	17,639	15,500	150,000
Annual Appeal	71,539		
Other Income	105	100	100
Sales of Faith & Practice	1,788	2,000	2,000
Total General Revenue	\$474,002	\$435,350	\$569,600

Disbursements**Office Personnel**

Administration Personnel Costs	\$143,199	\$171,000	\$267,500
Offset for Annual Session Staff	(10,540)	(11,000)	(11,660)
Payroll Services	2,877	4,000	5,000
Professional Development	1,135	2,500	2,500
Retirement Plan Services	2,028	2,000	2,000
Sabbatical Reserve	1,000	0	0
Total Office Personnel	\$139,699	\$168,500	\$265,340

Office Property Administration

Capital Reserves	5,000	5,000	10,000
Maintenance	4,995	3,500	4,500
Utilities	5,396	5,000	6,500
Sub-Total Office Property	\$15,391	\$13,500	\$21,000

Office Administration

Audit/Review	4,800	15,000	10,000
Computer Supplies & software	7,744	3,500	6,000
Credit Card & Bank Service Fees	1,280	2,500	2,000
Equipment Rental (copier)			10,500
Insurance	17,878	10,000	10,000
Interchange	5,668	5,500	6,000
Interest paid out	3,281	1,000	1,200
Meetings & Entertainment	161	1,000	1,000
Office Supplies	29,472	25,000	8,000
Offset for Camp Programs Office Exp.		(4,000)	(1,200)
Postage	6,328	7,000	7,000

	2007 Actuals	2008 Budget	2009 Budget
Presiding Clerk	0	0	750
Printing – all other			7,000
Telephone	6,223	5,500	5,500
Travel--Office Staff	2,347	4,000	7,500
Travel--Representatives		5,500	7,500
Travel-Reps to Governing Boards	1,176		
Travel--Triennial Reps	2,000		
Yearbook Printing	5,230	8,500	7,500
Sub-Total Office Administration	\$93,587	\$90,000	\$96,250
Total Office Administrative	\$108,979	\$103,500	\$117,250

Committee Administration

Ad Hoc Gender & Sexual Diversity	\$0	\$180	\$180
Advancement and Outreach	0	180	180
Camp Property Management	0	180	180
Camping Program	0	1,800	1,800
Contingency	0	900	0
Criminal and Restorative Justice	0	270	270
Educational Funding Resources	17	180	150
Faith & Practice		450	500
Friends in Education	0	180	180
Indian Affairs	0	540	540
Ministry and Pastoral Care	176	540	540
Peace and Social Concerns	35	270	270
Religious Education	1,088	3,600	3,600
Right Sharing of World Resources	0	90	90
Trustees	0	90	90
Unity with Nature	800	720	720
Web Publishing	0	288	288
Working Group on Racism	300	270	300
Yearly Meeting Intervisitation	7,000	6,300	12,000
Young Adult Friends	0	45	50
Youth Programs Committee	0	270	270
Total Committee Administration	\$9,416	\$17,343	\$22,198

	2007 Actuals	2008 Budget	2009 Budget
Extended Services			
American Friends Service Committee	\$400	\$100	\$300
Center on Conscience and War	400	100	300
Earlham School of Religion	400	100	300
Friends Comm. Natn'l Legislation	400	100	300
Friends Council on Education	400	100	300
Friends House	400	100	300
Friends House, Moscow	400	100	300
Friends Journal	400	100	300
Friends Peace Teams	400	100	300
National Council of Churches	400	100	300
National Religious Coalition Against Torture			250
Pendle Hill	400	100	300
Prisoner Visitation & Support		100	300
Quaker Earthcare Witness	400	100	300
Right Sharing of World Resources, Inc.	400	100	300
Sandy Spring Friends School	400	100	300
Washington Quaker Workcamps	400	100	300
William Penn House	400	100	300
World Council of Churches	400	100	300
Sub-Total Extended Services	\$6,800	\$1,800	\$5,650
Membership			
Friends General Conference	\$33,000	\$29,700	\$33,000
Friends United Meeting			
Undesignated (set-aside for FUM)	10,000	\$9,000	\$10,000
Friends World Committee for Consultation	13,500	\$12,150	\$13,500
Sub-Total Membership Contributions	\$56,500	\$50,850	\$56,500
Total Extended Services, Membership	\$63,300	\$52,650	\$62,150

ANNUAL SESSION BUDGET

	2007	2008	2009
	Actuals	Budget	Budget
Session Revenue			
Fees and Lodge	\$84,684	\$127,125	\$126,160
Bookstore	11,029	10,400	10,920
Carey Fund	500	500	525
Donations	3,520		
Other Income			
Total Revenue	\$99,733	\$138,025	\$137,605
Session Administration Expenses			
Administration Staff	10,540	11,000	11,660
Advance Reports	0	525	680
Bookstore	9,209	10,400	9,870
Camping subsidy	0	3,300	0
Conference Fee	4,566	5,200	4,725
Copier & Administration	1,240		
Credit Charge Service	482	1,050	1,050
Equipment rental	0	425	735
First-Time Attenders	0	6,400	7,665
Food Service	32,679	39,400	37,170
Honorarium	800	750	790
Housing	23,178	28,400	26,250
Interchange	3,681	2,600	4,040
Junior Yearly Meeting	253	1,425	525
Mileage & Pkg. - Speakers	812	425	210
Office Supplies	531	525	525
Paper Supplies	0	225	210
Postage	806	750	945
Scholarships	0	2,300	1,050
Travel	500	325	420
Workgrants	\$0	\$22,600	\$28,770
Total Expenses	\$89,277	\$138,025	\$137,290
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$10,456	\$0	\$315

PROGRAMS BUDGETS

Revenue	2007	2008	2009
Committee Programs	Actual	Budget	Budget
Silent Retreat	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,000
Spiritual Formation	8,929	7,000	7,000
Women's Retreat	19,588	3,000	16,000
Young Adult Friends Cons	436	500	500
TSL/BYM Working Group	0	1,000	0
Total Revenue	\$34,453	\$17,000	\$28,500

Expenses**Committee Programs**

Silent Retreat	\$5,500	\$5,000	\$5,000
Spiritual Formation	8,929	7,000	7,000
Women's Retreat	17,827	2,000	16,000
Young Adult Friends Confs	421	500	500
TSL/BYM Working Group	0	1,000	0
Total Expense	\$32,677	\$15,500	\$28,500

CAMP PROPERTY BUDGET

	2007	2008	2009
	Actuals	Budget	Budget
Property Revenue			
Camp Summer Rental	85,000	85,000	98,000
Miscellaneous	1,315	400	700
Other Rentals	16,699	19,425	20,800
Contributions	3,704	12,000	12,000
Vehicle Leases	39,019	25,500	65,000
Released Funds	35,431		
Total Operating Revenue	181,168	142,325	196,500
Restricted Contributions		to Reserves	to Reserves
		\$181,168T	\$196,500
Property Operating Expenses			
Building maintenance	9,759	8,200	8,500
Equipment maintenance	7,320	2,550	3,550
Grounds & Forestry	6,900	3,900	5,200
Insurance-Property	7,472	12,650	7,500
Miscellaneous	142	1,000	500
New Equipment	1,837	2,400	2,400
Office Administration	807	1,300	600
Opequon Lease	6,500	13,000	6,500
Personnel Costs	87,393	111,000	123,300
Real estate taxes and Expenses	2,278	3,100	2,000
Utilities	23,719	30,010	33,150
Vehicle Maintenance	24,675	12,000	16,000
Vehicle Purchases			23,000
Vehicle Insurance	14,654		14,500
Work Weekends	1,380	1,000	1,000
Operating Expenses	194,836	202,110	247,700
to Capital Reserves		Rest. Cont.	Rest. Cont.
Total Camp Property	194,836	202,110	247,700
Surplus/(Deficit)	(13,668)	(59,785)	(51,200)

CAMP PROGRAM BUDGET

	2007	2008	2009
	Actuals	Budget	Budget
Revenue			
Fees-Cash	604,223	643,668	595,000
Fees-Schol Subsidies	31,660	35,922	35,922
Total Camper Payments	635,883	679,590	630,922
Scholarship Contribution	3,950	10,000	26,000
Fees-Workgrants	56,987	59,850	59,850
Contributions	16,713	21,000	18,000
T-Shirt Sales	7,815	9,750	6,500
Released Funds	4,688		
Total Revenue	726,036	780,190	741,272
Expenses			
Camp Staff Compensation	\$222,558	\$234,200	\$202,000
Office Staff Compensation	46,085	55,700	58,120
Payroll taxes – Camp Staff	16,229	18,320	16,200
Workgrants	56,987	59,850	59,850
Total Personnel	\$341,859	\$368,070	\$336,170
Administrative	914	16,650	2,045
Allocated office costs	24,864	24,900	30,025
Background Check	2,305	1,200	1,950
Clothing	4,949	6,300	4,500
Equipment	7169	12,500	10,400
Food/Kitchen	82,361	82,200	80,550
Laundry	1,111	950	1,300
Liability Insurance	14,971	16,000	17,500
Medical	2,421	2,400	2,300
Miscellaneous	748	500	150
Program	14,196	17,200	18,050
Rentals/Leases	86,920	87,860	100,860
Scholarships	31,660	35,922	35,922
Staff Training	3,855	13,500	11,100
Telephone	5,306	4,450	3,850
Transportation and Travel	77,179	77,500	78,500
Trash/util	541	700	0
Uncollected Fees		3,662	0
Total Other Expenses	\$361,470	\$404,394	\$399,002
Pay back reserves (TA)	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total Expenses	\$708,329	\$777,464	\$740,172
Surplus/Deficit	\$17,706	\$2,726	\$1,100

YOUTH PROGRAMS BUDGET

	2007	2008	2009
Revenue	Actuals	Budget	Budget
Conference Fees	7,235	10,000	10,580
Contributions	548	11,100	10,500
Released from Funds	2,640		1,000
Total Income	10,423	21,100	22,080
Expenses - Youth Sec'y			
Lunch & Mtgs	10	350	0
Mileage		1,300	1,300
Office Expense	280		150
Personnel	7,753	25,000	41,395
Phone		360	660
Travel	103	1,000	0
Total Youth Sec'y Expenses	8,146	28,010	43,505
Expenses - YF			
BYFN Costs	244	1,500	175
Conference Costs	3,277	9,375	7,925
Exec Communications		100	0
Exec Development	500	500	550
Exec Mtg Costs		2,100	765
Total YF Expenses	4,021	13,575	9,415
Expenses - JYF			
Conference Costs	604	1,774	1,445
JYFN Costs		432	125
Total JYF Expenses	604	2,206	1,570
Expenses - YP Committee			
Background Checks	165		300
Communication Costs		900	100
FAP Programs	1,166	1,000	1,000
Meeting Costs	51	1,000	500
Scholarship Assistance	2,999	1,000	1,000
Special Project Costs	0	11,000	10,000
Total YPC Expenses	4,381	14,900	12,900
Total Expenses	\$17,152	\$58,691	\$67,390
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$6,729)	(\$37,591)	(\$45,310)

FUNDS ACTIVITY - 2007

Funds [Note A]	Balance 1/1/2007	Gifts or Fees	Disbursed	Transfers from Ed Loans	Interest from Ed Loans	Investment Interest Income	Balance 12/31/2007
Bush Creek Endowment	\$586					\$586	
Bush Creek Income	\$3,757					\$3,757	
Education Fund Endowment	83,762	1,100				84,862	
Education Fund Income	148,370				7,952		156,322
Indian Fund Endowment	15,099				-15099	0	
Indian Fund Income	3,428				15099	1,182	19,709
Meeting House Endowment	12,440				-12440	0	
Meeting House Income	44,913				12440	57,353	
Yearly Meeting Endowment	7,877						7,877
Barry Morley Camper Endowment	236,344	2,835					239,179
Barry Morley Scholarship Income	40,320	\$0	(4,000)			18,721	55,041
Sub-total of Endowment	\$356,108						\$332,504
Sub-total of Income	\$240,788						\$292,182
Totals of Funds	\$596,896	\$3,935	(\$4,000)	\$0	\$0	\$27,855	\$624,686

	Balance 1/1/2007	Gifts or Fees	Disbursed	Transfers from Ed Loans	Interest Income	Investment Interest Income	Balance 31/2007
Other Funds [Note B]							
Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education	\$145,954	\$2,500	(\$2,640)		\$11,413	157,227	
Ethel Reynolds	88,752			(\$88,752)		0	
Fairhill Fund	195,600				1,727	197,327	
Camp Capital Reserves	213,849	42,804	(76,546)	9,300		189,407	
Pre-College Fund	25,001				221	25,222	
FUM Undesignated	36,100					36,100	
FUM Intervisitation Fund	360	200				560	
Friends in Education	2,387					2,387	
Women's Retreat	6,410	19,588	(17,827)			8,171	
Spiritual Formation	7,879	8,929	(8,929)			7,879	
Carey Memorial	6,053	250	(\$500)		454	6,257	
Totals of Other Funds	\$728,345	\$74,271	(\$106,442)	(\$79,452)	\$0	\$13,815	630,537
Custodial Funds [Note C]							
Mathews Fund	\$2,605					\$2,605	
Chesapeake QTR Fund	1,158	150				1,308	
Total of Custodial Funds	\$3,763	150				\$3,913	
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	\$1,329,004	\$78,356	(\$110,442)	(\$79,452)	\$0	\$41,670	\$259,136

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.

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - 2007

Institution	Type of Investment	Rate	Cost	Market Value
Fixed Rate Investments				
Friends Extension	3-yr note	4.00%	10,000	10,000
Friends Meeting House Corp	Note	4.00%	10,000	10,000
Total Fixed Value Investments			\$20,000	\$20,000
Mutual Funds				
T. Rowe Price	GNMA Fund	6.27%	\$42,879	\$39,742
Calvert Social	Flexible	3.42%	76,610	79,452
Pax World Fund	Bal. Fund	9.10%	208,436	252,637
Vanguard	GNMA Fund	6.68%	77,028	77,551
TIAA-CREF	Mutal Fund	3.93%	\$27,285	\$40,428
Friends Fiduciary	Mutal Fund	1.12%	92,145	202,760
Total Mutual Funds Investments			\$524,383	\$692,570
Grand Totals			\$544,383	\$712,570

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC. as of December 31, 2007, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. 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, 2007, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The 2006 financial statements were reviewed by us, and our report thereon, dated June 15, 2007, stated that we were not aware of any material modifications that should be made to those statements for them to be in conformity with U.S. 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.

Strack | Stanfield

Rockville, Maryland
June 28, 2008

MEMBER OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPA'S AND AICPA DIVISION FOR CPA FIRMS

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

ASSETS

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cash	\$ 152,658	\$ 75,238
Accounts receivable	33,743	37,639
Inventory of publications, at cost	301	301
Prepaid expenses	6,900	400
Educational loans receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$35,000 in 2007 and 2006 (NOTE 3)	179,389	143,611
Notes receivable	1,741	2,131
Investments, at fair value (NOTE 4)	712,569	700,511
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation (NOTE 5)	<u>1,974,732</u>	<u>1,946,954</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 3,062,033</u>	<u>\$ 2,906,780</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 42,942	\$ 61,871
Deferred revenue	32,560	20,525
Note payable (NOTE 6)	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>100,502</u>	<u>107,396</u>
NET ASSETS (NOTE 10)		
Designated for camp capital projects	95,950	132,646
Designated for other purposes	349,329	335,836
Invested in land, buildings, improvements and equipment	1,974,732	1,946,954
Other Unrestricted	<u>(366,946)</u>	<u>(500,292)</u>
Total unrestricted	2,053,065	1,915,144
Temporarily restricted (NOTE 7)	575,963	555,672
Permanently restricted (NOTE 7)	<u>332,503</u>	<u>328,568</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>2,961,531</u>	<u>2,799,384</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 3,062,033</u>	<u>\$ 2,906,780</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part
 of these financial statements

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

	2007			2006		
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY	PERMANENTLY	TOTAL	TOTAL
REVENUES, SUPPORT, GAINS, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS						
Apportionments	\$ 382,564	\$	-	\$	\$ 382,564	\$ 382,296
Annual session revenue	84,684		-	-	84,684	109,053
Other program revenues	34,714		-	-	34,714	38,711
Contributions	115,962	36,760		3,935	156,657	258,273
Investment income (NOTE 4)	2,344	39,944		-	42,288	67,688
Use of facilities	16,798	-	-	-	16,798	16,966
Publication sales	14,235	-	-	-	14,235	12,620
Summer camps	643,205	-	-	-	643,205	546,900
Net gain on sale of property and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	3,467
Other revenue	1,315	-	-	-	1,315	1,289
TOTAL REVENUE, SUPPORT, AND GAINS	1,295,821	76,704		3,935	1,376,460	1,387,262
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	16,413	(56,413)		-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE, SUPPORT, GAINS, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS	1,352,234	20,291		3,935	1,376,460	1,387,262

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

	2007			2006		
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY PERMANENTLY		TOTAL	TOTAL
EXPENSES						
Program expenses:						
Yearly meeting and other programs	\$ 290,171	-	-		\$ 290,171	\$ 480,578
Summer camps	767,339	-	-		757,339	688,614
General administration	154,902	-	-		154,902	104,374
Fundraising	11,901	-	-		11,901	5,639
Total Expenses	<u>1,214,313</u>				<u>1,214,313</u>	<u>1,279,205</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS						
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR (AS RESTATED - NOTE 10)	1,915,144	<u>555,672</u>		<u>328,568</u>	<u>2,799,384</u>	<u>2,691,327</u>
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 2,063,065</u>	<u>\$ 575,963</u>		<u>\$ 332,503</u>	<u>\$ 2,961,531</u>	<u>\$ 2,799,384</u>

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ 162,147	\$ 108,057
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	70,502	68,223
Bad debt expense	-	31,911
(Losses) gains on property and equipment	-	9,961
Gains on investments	(10,043)	(26,009)
Contributions restricted for long-term investments	(37,795)	(\$2,755)
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	3,896	(13,260)
(Acrease) in inventory of publications	-	(284)
(Acrease) decrease in prepaid expenses	(6,500)	2,124
(Acrease) in educational loans receivable	(35,778)	(36,606)
(Dcrease) increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses	(18,929)	9,962
(Dcrease) in agency funds	-	(3,613)
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	<u>12,035</u>	<u>(1,780)</u>
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	<u>139,535</u>	<u>65,931</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(2,015)	(90,532)
Principal payments received on notes receivable-other	390	1,104
Purchase of land improvements, building improvements, and equipment	<u>(98,280)</u>	<u>(54,622)</u>
Net Cash (Used For) Investing Activities	<u>(99,905)</u>	<u>(144,050)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Contributions restricted for education endowment	3,935	43,893
Contributions restricted for capital improvements	<u>33,860</u>	<u>38,862</u>
Net cash Provided By Financing Activities	<u>37,795</u>	<u>82,755</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH	<u>77,425</u>	<u>4,636</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Beginning of year	<u>75,233</u>	<u>70,597</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 152,658</u>	<u>\$ 75,233</u>
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Cash paid during the year for interest	<u>\$ 3,281</u>	<u>\$ 1,106</u>

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

1. ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society Of Friends, Inc. (Yearly Meeting) is a non-profit organization incorporated on August 5, 1967, under the laws of the State of Maryland. The Yearly Meeting is organized exclusively to promote the religious, charitable, and educational interests of its members and its constituent Monthly Meetings, together with the Board of Trustees, committees, institutions, and instrumentalities affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Yearly Meeting have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Therefore, revenue and gains are recognized when earned and expenses and losses are recognized as the obligations are incurred.

Basis of Presentation

Financial statement presentation follows the recommendations of the Financial Accounting Standards Board in its Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Under SFAS No. 117, the Yearly Meeting is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets based on the absence or existence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Unrestricted Net Assets

Unrestricted net assets generally result from the receipt of monthly meeting apportionments, camp fees, Yearly Meeting revenue, unrestricted contributions, interest and dividends on unrestricted investments less expenses incurred in providing services, performing administrative functions, and raising contributions. The only limits on the use of unrestricted net assets are the broad limits resulting from the nature of the Yearly Meeting, the environment in which it operates, the purposes specified in the bylaws, and self-imposed limits such as voluntary resolutions by the Board of Trustees to designate unrestricted assets for certain specific purposes.

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are those assets donated for support of particular operating activities, temporary investment for a specific term, use in a specified future period, acquisition and use of long-lived assets, or debt retirement.

Permanently Restricted Net Assets

Permanently restricted net assets generally result from assets donated with stipulations that they be invested in perpetuity to provide a permanent source of income. Income earned by permanently restricted net assets is considered unrestricted or temporarily restricted based upon the donors' stipulations.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Use of Estimates

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The term cash as used in the accompanying financial statements includes currency on hand, demand deposits, and highly liquid investments purchased with Financial Institutions with a maturity of three months or less.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable from monthly meeting apportionments and camp fees are obligations due under normal terms. The Yearly Meeting does not charge interest on past due accounts. No allowance for doubtful accounts is reflected in these financial statements, as the Yearly Meeting considers all accounts to be fully collectible. The Yearly Meeting has not experienced significant uncollectible accounts in the past.

Contributions Receivable

As a result of the adoption of SFAS No. 116, contributions which are pledged to the Yearly Meeting are recorded as income and contributions receivable in the year the pledges are made and they are appropriately classified based on any donor-imposed restrictions. Pledges due in more than one year are recorded at their present value.

Educational Loans Receivable

The Yearly Meeting makes loans to qualified students for educational expenses. Interest on these loans is accrued at 6% to 10% per annum beginning, generally, five years after the loans are initially made. Repayment terms are stated in each note. Loans are never placed on non-accrual status. An allowance for doubtful accounts of \$35,000 in 2007 and 2006 is reflected in these financial statements.

Investments

The Yearly Meeting carries investments in mutual funds and other marketable securities with readily determinable fair values at their fair values in the statements of financial position. Unrealized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets in the accompanying statements of activities.

Land, Buildings, Improvements and Equipment

Land, buildings, improvements and equipment additions of generally more than \$500 are recorded at cost or at estimated value at the date of gift, if donated. Depreciation of buildings and equipment is computed on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Tax Exempt Status

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. is exempt from federal income taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) on any net income derived from activities related to its exempt purpose.

Comparative Information

The statement of activities includes certain prior-year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Organization's financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2006, from which the summarized information was derived.

3. EDUCATIONAL LOANS RECEIVABLE

Loans receivable are due from students for educational loans. Payments are due as follows:

2008	\$ 16,920
2009	14,390
2010	14,430
2011	17,050
Thereafter	<u>151,599</u>
	214,389
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(35,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 179,389</u>

4. INVESTMENTS

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 124, *Accounting for Certain Investments Held by Not-for-Profit Organizations*, investments are carried at market or appraised value. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in the statement of activities.

BYM's investments consist of the following at December 31:

	2007	2006
Mutual funds	\$ 489,809	\$ 482,037
Money market funds	<u>222,760</u>	<u>218,474</u>
Total	<u>\$ 712,569</u>	<u>\$ 700,511</u>

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

4. INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Investment income for the year ended December 31 is as follows:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Interest & dividends	\$ 32,245	\$ 41,679
Realized (losses)	(452)	
Unrealized gains	<u>10,043</u>	<u>26,461</u>
Total investment income	<u><u>\$ 42,288</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 67,688</u></u>

5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Land, buildings, improvements and equipment consists of the following:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Land and improvements	\$ 1,421,559	\$ 1,377,000
Buildings and improvements	791,804	772,691
Leasehold improvements	99,141	95,831
Furniture and equipment	163,559	159,009
Vehicles	<u>74,902</u>	<u>48,154</u>
	<u>2,550,965</u>	<u>2,452,685</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(576,233)</u>	<u>(505,731)</u>
	<u><u>\$ 1,974,732</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,946,954</u></u>

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 was \$70,502 and \$68,223, respectively.

6. NOTE PAYABLE

The Yearly Meeting has one unsecured note payable to the Homewood Meeting in the amount of \$25,000. Interest at 6% is due semi-annually. Principal is due on demand.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
 DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED)

7. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS (2006 AS RESTATED – SEE NOTE 10)

Temporarily restricted net assets are restricted for the following purposes:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Educational student loans	\$ 181,545	\$ 173,372
Grants	48,400	88,753
Quaker and spiritual life	157,227	145,954
Camp projects	105,112	73,181
Indian Affairs	19,709	18,527
Other operating purposes	<u>68,970</u>	<u>55,935</u>
	<u>\$ 575,963</u>	<u>\$ 555,672</u>

Permanently restricted net assets consist of the following:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Bush Creek Meeting Fund	\$ 586	\$ 586
Yearly Meeting Fund	7,877	7,877
Permanent Education Fund	84,862	83,762
Camp Scholarship Fund	<u>239,178</u>	<u>236,343</u>
	<u>\$ 332,503</u>	<u>\$ 328,568</u>

The Yearly Meeting pools the resources of all permanently restricted net assets and specific individual temporarily restricted net assets into a consolidated investment fund. Earnings are allocated to specific individual temporarily restricted net assets according to the ending invested balance of each net asset included in the investment fund, except for interest on educational loans which is allocated only to the related loan funds. The total amount allocated was \$39,944 and \$63,830 for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

8. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Yearly Meeting to concentrations of credit risk, consist principally of cash and liquid investments held at creditworthy financial institutions. The Yearly Meeting maintains its cash in bank deposit accounts, which at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Yearly Meeting has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2006 (REVIEWED))

9. FUNCTIONAL ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES

The costs of providing the various programs and activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

10. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

During the year ended December 31, 2007, as a result of much historical research, it was determined that the following net asset funds were not classified correctly as of December 31, 2006:

Meetinghouse Loan Fund is a board designated fund
Fairhill Fund is a board designated fund
Indian Affairs Fund is a temporarily restricted fund

As a result of these classification corrections, permanently restricted net assets were reduced by \$27,538, temporarily restricted net assets were reduced by \$225,414, and board designated net assets were increased by \$252,952. There was no effect on total net assets.

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Board of Trustees

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC. (BYM) the year ended December 31, 2007, we considered the Organization's internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

During our audit we noted the following areas that provide BYM with opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. This letter does not affect our report dated June 28, 2008 on the financial statements of BYM.

We noted that most of the checks for camp activities are sent directly to the camp administrator's Pennsylvania location. We recommend that they be sent instead to the yearly meeting office in Sandy Spring and deposited there first, then copies forwarded on to the camp administrator. This will strengthen the internal controls by limiting the access to camp assets and camp records by one person.

We noted that the petty cash documentation at the camps is not as good as it might be. We recommend that adherence to the petty cash procedures at the camps be emphasized to the camp personnel.

We noted that the bank reconciliations for the camp accounts are not done until late August by yearly meeting office personnel. We recommend that they be reconciled as soon after month end as possible to control the time any unauthorized transactions could go undetected.

We noted that the internal financial statements produced by the new accounting system are hard to read and don't provide complete and accurate monthly results. We strongly recommend that the office personnel obtain more training from the software provider to set up helpful and accurate financial statement templates.

We have discussed these suggestions with management and are in the process of scheduling a meeting with management and the accountant to implement these improvements.

We wish to thank Riley Robinson and Margo Lehman for their support and assistance during our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Trustees, management, and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Strack | Stanfield

Rockville, Maryland

June 28, 2008

MEMBER OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPAs AND AICPA DIVISION FOR CPA FIRMS

STAFF REPORTS

Camp Program and Property staff reports can be found in the Interim Meeting minutes from October 2007. These staff reports for 2008 will be made at the Fall 2008 Interim Meeting and will be on the BYM web page (www.bym-rsf.org)

The General Secretary staff report can be found in the Annual Session minutes.

REPORTS OF AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE CORPORATION

Dear Friends,

The American Friends Service Committee sends warm greetings to Friends everywhere.

Last fall marked our 90th year working for peace, justice, and human dignity. This year, we continued our calling by working in more than 25 countries, engaging untold thousands of people in our economic, food security, and conflict resolution programs. Across the United States, we mobilized pro-peace events to end the war in Iraq, supported the immigrant communities that contribute so much to our labor pool and vibrant community life, and focused on channeling our nation's resources into supporting human needs in economically uncertain times.

One of the most high-profile pieces of work in the past year ties together our call for a moral federal budget that supports human needs with our call to end the war in Iraq. Spearheaded by AFSC's Chicago office, colorful, large banners showing "The Cost of War" were displayed in prominent public spaces around the country, including Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. Many Friends Meetings have been instrumental in displaying the Cost of War – and more than 40 Eyes Wide Open – exhibits in schools, town squares, and at peace events nationwide. Part of the ongoing effort to end the Iraq war, the banners educated viewers on the domestic human needs that could be funded if monies were not used to continue the war. In addition to the banners, our web movie, "One Day = \$720 million" has spread the word on our misplaced budget priorities to more than 300,000 web visitors and has started a lively conversation on YouTube. (You can view the movie at www.afsc.org/cost.)

Nurturing constructive conversations around the world has been a priority for the Service Committee. A major example has been continuing person-to-person diplomacy with Iran's religious and governmental leaders, trying to bridge the diplomatic gulf between our countries to prevent another unnecessary war. The Service Committee is launching another important conversation this June by bringing a delegation of Iraqi Parliamentarians to meet with the U.S. Congress – for the first time.

As it has for the past six years, the China Summer Work Camp brought 35 college-age participants to China to teach 130 middle school students, 80% of them girls. Subjects included English and environmental education, important topics in a

country where the health impact of pollution is a growing concern. This year the program is reaching out to youngsters in the Sichuan earthquake zone.

The annual Olive Harvest tour to Palestine involved activists from all over the U.S. who traveled to the Middle East to pick olives, meet with Israeli and Palestinian peace leaders, and visit AFSC programs. On returning home, the participants shared their experiences, wrote op-ed pieces for newspapers, met with Congressional representatives, held media interviews, and promoted the sale of fair trade olive oil.

In July, General Secretary Mary Ellen McNish joined other Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in Geneva, Switzerland, to present the U.N. Economic and Social Council with a Charter for a World Without Violence. The three-page document contains twelve principles which range from eliminating nuclear weapons and the small arms trade to bolstering civil society and protecting the human rights for all.

Not all our conversations are on a global scale, many are local in nature. In New York City, AFSC worked in low-income areas through the Campaign to Reduce Demand for Illegal Guns. After gathering community experiences and ideas, young people involved presented recommendations to 15 elected officials, including Mayor Bloomberg's office, at the Inter-Borough Summit on Gun Violence. In West Virginia, following two mine disasters, AFSC staff served on the governor's investigating committee and brought community perspectives to bear in proposing guidelines for legislation to improve mine safety.

Some of the most important conversations are one-on-one and about matters of conscience. Across the country, staff and volunteers continued truth in military recruitment efforts in public schools and other venues such as neighborhood fairs. To support this work, AFSC's new publication, "It's My Life: A Guide to Alternatives after High School," gives students ideas beyond joining the military which all too often seems like the only recourse. The Service Committee also provided resources for a GI rights hotline where callers received guidance on subjects such as resources for handling post-traumatic stress disorder.

Much of AFSC's work handles important global issues on a local scale. It would be hard to list it all in a short epistle, but the following are a few highlights.

The third-annual Women and Fair trade event in Austin, Texas, brought together producers and consumers in a day of camaraderie, shopping, and learning about how to buy goods that support a fair living for workers around the world.

On the fourth anniversary of the Iraq War and to commemorate the 4,000th U.S. military fatality in Iraq, hundreds of communities mobilized with rallies, prayer services, and vigils for peace.

In Iraqi refugee communities, AFSC is providing trauma counseling, prosthetic limbs, and job training for some of the nearly 5 million Iraqis displaced by violence.

In Eastern Aceh and Northern Sumatra in Indonesia, which received less post-tsunami assistance, AFSC has helped build local capacities through grants to local groups and women-led businesses and training on trauma healing.

In Zimbabwe, AFSC has played a non-partisan role as intermediary among political factions, supporting discussions on land distribution and supporting a national religious dialogue.

AFSC offices in communities across the country have been helping immigrant families cope with workplace and home raids by government agents, workplace abuses, and family separation.

And now, after the flooding in Myanmar that has killed and displaced tens of thousands, AFSC is working with local community groups and Buddhist monastic schools to provide immediate relief. While AFSC is not the first organization to respond, our response will be long-term, flexible to the real needs of the Burmese people, and supporting our partners as they build sustainable, secure, and peaceful communities.

We invite you to join us in our work to make the world more peaceful, fair, and humane.

In peace,
Paul Lacey, clerk
Mary Ellen McNish, General Secretary

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Middle Atlantic Region of the American Friends Service Committee includes most of seven states: New York, except for the Metropolitan New York area, western and southern New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, plus the District of Columbia, with the Regional Office located in Baltimore. Programs within the Baltimore Yearly Meeting area occur

in Baltimore and Hagerstown, Maryland, D.C. and Pennsylvania. In addition, there are programs in other parts of Pennsylvania, in West Virginia and in upstate New York.

All programs are based on the AFSC Mission Statement adopted by the National Board, which describes the AFSC as “a practical expression of the faith of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Committed to the principles of nonviolence and justice, it seeks in its work and witness to draw on the transforming power of love, human and divine.”

Work focuses on the areas of Economic Justice, Healing Justice, Peace Building, and Human Migration and Mobility. Within the geographic area of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, the programs include:

Baltimore Urban Peace Program, which has a goal of promoting nonviolence in Baltimore and surrounding communities by training in nonviolent approaches to managing and resolving conflict and organizing communities to end violence. This has involved working with a coalition of faith leaders and continued showing of the Maryland Eyes Wide Open exhibit.

Maryland Peace with Justice Program concentrates on working with prison populations in Maryland to provide training and resources. With the closing of the men’s correctional institute in Jessup, work has transferred to the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown. Both volunteers and prisoners are involved in the development of the program which has included a number of projects. Recently the program has developed A Friend of a Friend at Hagerstown, which trains several men to act as mentors to younger prisoners. The mentors have previously completed training in conflict resolution, communication and mediation, and now facilitate sessions and provide one on one guidance. The program has led to the creation of a theater group at the prison and a yoga and meditation group.

Project Voice applies human rights principles to support immigrant communities, strengthen immigrant leadership and provide community organizing assistance in order to transform immigration policy and improve immigrants’ rights. In Baltimore, the program initially concentrated on South Asian immigrant communities and has moved to work with refugees and asylees from Sub-Saharan Africa. Program achievements have included conducting workshops to inform 250 people about their civil and human rights, assisting 110 asylees and refugees to apply for their green cards and informing low-wage immigrant workers about their labor rights and how to recover stolen wages. Project Voice has recently expanded into D.C.

D.C. Peace and Economic Justice Program works with youth and adults in the D.C. area to provide increased knowledge and practice in conflict resolution and to work with low-income workers to help them achieve economic self-sufficiency. The **Youth in the Know Leadership/Media Initiative** works with D.C. youth of diverse cultures and backgrounds to provide knowledge, tools, decision making skills, conflict resolution and media skills on community issues.

Pennsylvania State: Empowering Voices for Peace and Justice. Although originally concentrated in Pittsburgh, the program has taken Pennsylvania Eyes Wide Open exhibit to numerous communities in Pennsylvania, including some in BYM territory. Recently the program has conducted a military listening project and published a report The Human Cost of War, Listening to the Voices of Iraq Veterans and Their Families which will be useful to other parts of AFSC.

Youth Empowerment through Conflict Resolution Program is based in Baltimore and works with youths and those who support youth to find peaceful resolutions to conflict and common ground on which to work, while teaching and encouraging youth to empower themselves. Help Increase the Peace Program (HIPP) training is utilized.

Other programs within the Region include two programs in West Virginia, other work in the Pittsburgh area and several programs in upstate New York. Although not in the BYM territory, there are cross-fertilization efforts throughout the Region. For several years, students from Sandy Spring Friends School have spent Spring break in Logan, West Virginia, assisting with projects of the NEW Plus program there. This year, some Friends schools from Pennsylvania Yearly Meeting have also sent students to Logan, and other BYM schools are encouraged to participate. The Outreach Committee and Regional staff are exploring with Friends Meetings in Virginia whether there are opportunities for programs in Virginia, now that the entire state has been added to the Middle Atlantic Region.

Jolee Robinson, Representative to AFSC-MAR Executive Committee

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

“Whether it is arms control or it is climate change we can always look to the Friends to provide leadership.”

– Rep. Ed Markey, one of sixteen members of Congress who spoke at a celebration of FCNL’s new offices, the first green building on Capitol Hill.

FCNL brings messages of hope to Congress: *War Is Not the Answer and Peace Is Possible Through Peaceful Means*. Hope springs from faithful action in risky times, and all the FCNL community, in Washington and around our country, practice hope every day. Our practice of hope shows some results. In 2007 we saw that more and more people engaged their government and effectively communicated with their elected representatives.

Despite a climate of fear and propaganda, your work with FCNL is making a difference: we are providing people around the country with the tools to work for nuclear disarmament, for ending U.S.-sponsored torture, for banning cluster bombs, for restoring the earth, for honoring the promises to Native Americans, for ending the U.S. war and occupation of Iraq, for preventing another war with Iran, for exposing the fallacious “global war on terrorism” and for promoting the peaceful prevention of deadly conflict. In some cases, Congress has supported good legislation but did not override a presidential veto. In every case, grassroots lobbying by FCNL constituents around the country played a role in persuading members of Congress to consider our views and often to vote consistent with FCNL’s recommendations.

These highlights illustrate what our Quaker lobbying has accomplished in 2007. In 2008 FCNL lobbyists continue to prepare the best available information on priority issues and to identify the next practical steps that Congress can take. We hope you’ll remain engaged, writing emails, making phone calls and meeting with your elected officials.

Success and Progress

No New Nuclear Weapons: FCNL led the coalition lobbying strategy that resulted in Congress eliminating all funding for the administration’s proposed new nuclear bomb, the “Reliable Replacement Warhead” program (RRW).

Congress Reaffirms Ban on Permanent U.S. Military Bases in Iraq: For the second year in a row, Congress approved the FCNL-initiated proposal to ban the U.S. government from establishing permanent U.S. military bases in Iraq. The approval came just as President Bush revealed his plan to negotiate a long-term military basing agreement.

Senate Opposition to Attacking Iran Grows: The United States government has been threatening regime change in Iran since 2001, but opposition, both within the administration and in Congress, is growing. Although Congress approved several dangerous sanctions measures in 2007, 30 senators signed a letter to the president in November warning against an attack, and U.S. intelligence agencies say Iran is not developing nuclear weapons.

Congress Bans Cluster Bomb Exports: Congress enacted a one-year ban on the export of cluster bombs, providing a first clear victory for FCNL's campaign to ban cluster bombs. Congress still needs to ban the use by U.S. forces of these weapons in civilian populated areas.

Congress Takes Steps to Reduce Energy Consumption: Congress raised vehicle fuel economy standards to 35 miles-per-gallon by 2020 – the first such increase since 1975, though way behind Japan. The legislation also sets new energy efficiency standards for lighting and for many appliances and encourages green building construction for many government and commercial buildings.

Housing for Native Americans: The House would provide housing for poor indigenous people in tribal communities and Alaskan villages. The House updated the act and authorized \$624 million annually for this program designed to provide decent, safe, sanitary, affordable homes. Senate action is required.

Congress Supports Health Care for Poor Children: Both Houses would provide 4 million children of uninsured working poor families with health insurance. The assistance would go to families whose income was too high to qualify for Medicaid and too low to purchase private insurance. Sadly, the president vetoed the legislation.

Celebrating Green on Capitol Hill

In July FCNL was privileged to host 16 members of Congress and several hundred others at an outdoor party organized to promote energy conservation legislation in Congress, celebrate the first green building on Capitol Hill and raise FCNL's profile in the halls of Congress. Members of Congress from both major political parties spoke about the importance of the Friends' work and witness in Washington through FCNL.

Working Together with Friends

The solid grounding of FCNL's work in the Religious Society of Friends is essential to the success of our work in Washington. In 2007 tens of thousands of Friends around the country participated in FCNL's work through individual and corporate action, through representing their yearly meetings on the FCNL General Committee, and as part of our network of over 700 FCNL contacts in Friends Churches and Meetings around the country.

We give thanks for the gift of purposeful work.

Joe Volk, Executive Secretary

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE

The 2007-2008 year has been one of continued growth for Friends General Conference (FGC). Baltimore Yearly Meeting's six? regular representatives to FGC and additional "co-opted" volunteers have been active in supporting this growth.

At the annual Central Committee Meeting held October 24-27, 2007, in New Windsor, Maryland, many Committee Clerks spoke of their gratitude for the growth in programs, staff and financial assets over the last several years. Substantial renovations were made to office space in Philadelphia last year, and a new administrative team of three Associate Secretaries was established to assist General Secretary Bruce Birchard in providing leadership to the increasing number of staff. There has been a heart-warming increase in the depth and breadth of work being done by FGC's program committees. For example, the Committee for Ministry on Racism and the Publications and Distribution Committee have been working to publish *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship*, which is scheduled to be available at the FGC Bookstore (see www.Quakerbooks.org) by December 2008, and expected to be the center of future discussions about racism among Friends. The new Youth Ministries Committee has been conducting conferences and more generally working to promote the inclusion of Young Friends and Young Adult Friends throughout the Religious Society of Friends. The Advancement and Outreach Committee is working with Friends' in London to bring Quaker Quest, an exciting outreach program, to Friends meetings in the United States. FGC has also played a major role in initiating the Friends Mutual Health Group, to provide mutual health insurance to Quaker organizations.

Growing staff and programs requires growing financial assets, and FGC is undertaking a four-year \$7.25 million *Stoking the Spiritual Fires of Quakerism* campaign. The campaign will fund a vision for a "vital 21st Century Quakerism in which spiritual lives and faithfulness are deepening; dynamic multigenerational Quaker communities are thriving; meetings are engaging and involving many new seekers; [and] diversity in our Religious Society is increasing." Two BYM Friends, Miyo Moriuchi and Steve Elkington, are on the Campaign Steering Committee.

A scan of the FGC nominating slate for 2008 reveals that Baltimore Yearly Meeting is well-represented in the many committees, activities and governing structure of Friends General Conference. Friends from BYM involved with FGC include Mary Barnes (FGC Nominating Committee), Maria Bradley, Walter Brown, John Darnell (FGC Nominating Committee and Representative to the Friends Pension

Plan Committee), Steve Elkington (Campaign Steering Committee), Elizabeth Du Verlie (FGC Representative to FCNL), Neil Froemming (Committee for Ministry on Racism), Maia Carter Hallward (Co-Clerk of the Youth Ministries Committee), Stoph Hallward (Assistant Treasurer), Julia Isaacs (Recording Clerk), Nancy Moore (FGC Representative to the *Friends Journal Board*), Miyo Moruchi (Campaign Steering Committee), Byron Sandford (Treasurer), Dot Wolitzer (Co-Clerk of the Christian and Interfaith Relations Committee), Howard Van Breeman (Long Range and Conference Planning Committee), and Catherine Bell Wetteroth (FGC Nominating Committee). This list does not fully describe BYM Friends' current involvement with FGC because many Friends are involved with the Gathering Committee and other FGC committees that do not require direct nomination by FGC's Nominating Committee. In addition, many, many Friends at Baltimore Yearly Meeting have had the pleasure of attending FGC Gathering.

BYM Friends have the good fortune of finding themselves within driving distance of both the 2008 and 2009 FGC Gatherings of Friends (week-long gatherings that take place annually during the week including July 4th). If you did not make it to the 2008 Gathering of Friends in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, please consider joining us at the 2009 Gathering at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. For more information about FGC and its many activities, see www.fgcquaker.org.

Julia Isaacs, Representative to Friends General Conference Central Committee

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING

Purpose – “*Friends United Meeting commits itself to energize and equip Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit to gather people into fellowships where Jesus Christ is known, loved and obeyed as Teacher and Lord.*”

Meetings of the General Board –

July 16-19, 2007. The board met in Plainfield, IN and included a two-day retreat for Board Members to consider the identity of Friends United Meeting. The sessions were held prior to USFWI/Quaker Men Triennials to encourage attendance from outside the USA. Much deep and sincere sharing occurred during this time.

October 11-13, 2007. The board was hosted by New England YM at Deerfield, MA surrounded by the autumn colors and with a chill in the air, but with warmth in our hearts. Review of the strategic plan already revealed progress toward many goals. In response to allegations that FUM is hostile toward homosexuals

a minute was approved stating that God loves all people and FUM condemns the threat of physical or emotional violence against any person. A Task force was appointed to oversee FUM's management obligation to Kaimosi Hospital.

February 8-11, 2008. Meetings were hosted by the FUM office staff at headquarters in Richmond, IN. Discussion of FUM's future commitment to the Kaimosi Hospital resulted in offering a 2-year extension of management responsibility, to be considered by EAYM and discussed when the General Secretary and Presiding Clerk visit Kenya in April. Another item discussed was possible development of property owned by Ramallah Friends Schools that would earn revenue for the school. Also, of great importance was the inspired response to the violence in Kenya by Kenyan Friends and a report of a recent visit to survey the potential ministry in Belize.

April 11 and 12, 2008. Representatives from the Kenyan and Uganda yearly meetings met in Kakamega, Kenya. Presiding Clerk, Brent McKinney, and General Secretary, Sylvia Graves attended and witnessed an increasing level of responsibility being accepted as the African board formed these committees to coordinate the efforts to support ministry there: Education, Leadership Development, Health Issues, and Missions & Evangelism.

October 8-11, 2008 will include a day and a half of orientation for new board members as well as an extensive review of progress on the strategic plan. The meeting will be in Richmond, IN.

Personnel-

Following the resignation of Patricia Edwards-Konic as Quaker Life and Friends United Press editor in November, Katie Terrell and Shari Veach were appointed as Co-Managers of the Communications Department. Katie's title is Communications Editor, and Shari's title is Communications Designer. They have hired Heather Meade to serve as a part-time Communications Assistant.

Paul Smith is retiring as of June 30 after serving seven years as FUM's Financial Director. Barbara Smith (no relation) has been promoted to the position of Manager of Finance and Office Operations. To focus on financial development, Kim Newlin, from Western Yearly Meeting, joined the staff on June 1.

It will be recommended at the July 2008 triennial sessions that Sylvia Graves serve as General Secretary through the next triennium.

Communications-

With a new editor and the addition of eight pages to Quaker Life, the magazine is offering a wider variety of articles and more news about FUM programs and activities taking place among our member yearly meetings. Two new books have been published this year: *A Brief Memoir of Elizabeth Fry*, edited by David Goff, and *Enduring Hope: The Impact of Ramallah Friends Schools* written by Patricia Edwards-Konic with inserts by Max Carter.

Much work has been done by our own staff to update the FUM website and to develop an “online shopping cart” that provides easy ordering from the publications catalogue. We hope you visit the FUM website (www.fum.org) often to get news, prayer concerns and learn about resources that can assist your meeting’s ministry.

Global Ministries-

In **Belize**, Mike and Kay Cain are wrapping up their many years of service at the Friends' Boys School with plans to retire but live in Belize. The coming year will be a transition to new leadership as it can be arranged and assessing resources for increasing FUM ministries there.

There are still many government restrictions that limit our activities in **Cuba**, but FUM did arrange for a work team to visit in February to assist with the improvements at the Retreat Center in Holguin. New England YM also partners with Cuba YM to support Friends there.

We are trying to arrange a meeting with many of the stakeholders (Friends Education Council, Jamaica Yearly Meeting, Christian Service International and FUM) for Friends' ministry in **Jamaica** so that we can clarify the role of FUM. With the fire at Swift-Purcell Boys' home last February, the recent temporary closing of the Lyndale Girls Home, and the need for leadership training for Jamaican pastors, we will be making an organized effort to address those opportunities. Thanks to North Carolina Yearly Meeting for taking Friends to conduct Bible Schools, and to other individuals and monthly meetings who provide support to JYM.

At **Ramallah Friends Schools**, there is excitement in the air for the addition of a kindergarten center and auditorium at the elementary school. The funds for this improvement have come from alumni and from grants. The FUM General Board is considering a proposal to develop property along the sports field at the secondary school which will be commercial enterprises that produce revenue to support the school. Continuing improvements to the campus are being funded through the USAid/ASHA grants. Because of the rigorous curriculum and excel-

lent preparation students receive, RFS graduates are being accepted in prestigious colleges and universities in the USA and elsewhere. Joyce Ajlouny has been in the US doing graduate work this year but will be returning to RFS in August.

In Kenya, besides coordinating the activities of 15 yearly Kenyan meetings and one in Uganda, John Muhanji and Eden Grace also oversee six “partner projects” supported by FUM: Friends' Theological College, Kaimosi Hospital, Lugulu Hospital, Turkana Mission, Samburu Mission and Lindi Friends School in Nairobi. The establishment of the Kisumu office three years ago was none too soon, and the staff there has been so effective that the demand on their time and attention has grown beyond their capacity. Eden Grace's role of managing all funds channeled through the Africa Ministries Office would keep her occupied enough, but add to it the supervision of the ASHA grant at the Lugulu Hospital, and acting as finance overseer at the Kaimosi Hospital until the appropriate people are in positions to do that, Eden has been a master at multi-tasking. She has been very grateful for the help of Judy Davis, nurse from Iowa, and Lisa Stewart from Southeast YM who have volunteered time to help her.

The violence that broke out following the elections spurred the Kenyan Quakers to positive action and has resulted in over \$125,000 worth of aid from caring Friends everywhere being channeled for relief efforts there. In mid January, Friends organized the Friends' Church Peace Team to take supplies and counseling to camps of displaced people. The FCPT has earned such respect that in May government officials asked that the FCPT go to communities where people had been chased away or had run in fear and prepare those communities to receive them back. The process of reconciliation will be long-term, and it is hoped that contributions for peace-making will continue to come forth.

As of June 1, there is still not clarity about what will be asked of FUM in continuing support for the **Kaimosi Hospital**, but in the past two years approximately \$70,000 has been forwarded for hospital renovations and salaries. The improvements are obvious, the hospital is gaining respect in the community and business is picking up.

At **Friends' Theological College**, the accreditation process is well underway, and student enrollment is booming so that additional and improved facilities are needed. In April construction was started to build a new administration building. The old one will be renovated into a student dormitory. Thanks to Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings for their extra support for these improvements. The call from God and FUM for Ben and Jody Richmond to serve as interim

principal seems to be in the Divine Plan as their skills have been well matched to the challenges this year.

Lugulu Hospital is enjoying new equipment furnished by a grant from USAid/ASHA. It has contributed to its increased business and effectiveness in the community.

One of the great challenges to FUM is providing adequate **financial support for our field staff**. Funds for projects, buildings and programs seem to come when needed, but most of our staff ministry accounts are not adequately supported. One goal for the coming year is to provide a wider knowledge base of that need so that ministry overseas, which is stressful enough, can flourish.

Triennial Sessions-

July 9-12 in High Point, North Carolina. Friends from all over Friends United Meeting will gather for four days of inspiration, business and fellowship. John Punshon, Landrum Boling, Tom Hamm and John Muhanji will be among the featured speakers. Field staff and others will provide a rich variety of workshops. We expect over 300 Friends to attend, including 60 or more from outside North America.

Financial Picture-

Friends United Meeting General Board and Staff have made huge strides in recent years to function within our financial means. Tough steps taken to close down the bookstore and to reduce the number of staff have paid off and have brought about a much better financial picture this year. Still, the week-to-week expenses are barely affordable and at times we need to borrow from the bank to make payroll commitments. Part of the General Board strategic plan is to define ways of ensuring the long-term financial stability of FUM, so one strategy is to appoint an ad-hoc committee to study the responsibilities of FUM membership. It is hoped that by having this discussion, God will teach us new ways to persuade all Friends in Friends United Meeting to own and support these ministries.

Thanks to the General Board-

Many General Board members will have completed their terms as of the triennial sessions. We will be looking at many new faces that represent various backgrounds as we gather the new board in October. We appreciate the good work of the current board and their sincere efforts to represent their yearly Meetings while doing the work of Friends United Meeting. We are thankful for the service of Brent McKinney who will complete six years as presiding clerk. The African Friends have found him especially encouraging and inspiring in

his annual visits there and wish the rules could be changed to keep him as clerk beyond his term.

Please Invite Us-

There are several on the Friends United Meeting office staff who are good presenters and can come to your meeting to speak and share about the FUM ministries. Please call us. We'll be happy to come for a missions meeting, USFW or Quaker Men's gatherings, be a worship speaker, or whatever gives us the chance to help your people know that FUM belongs to them.

Sylvia Graves, General Secretary

FRIENDS WILDERNESS CENTER

The Friends Wilderness Center is a 33-year-old spiritual sanctuary and wilderness preserve that offers its membership and the general public a selection of events. There are opportunities for individual or small group retreats, including overnight hospitality in our cabin, camping facilities, workdays for trail and structure maintenance, and exploring nature within a 1400-acre preserve. We are nestled in the southeastern corner of the West Virginia Eastern Panhandle bounded by the Appalachian Trail, the Shenandoah River and the Virginia state line.

Our mission is to care for and preserve the natural setting entrusted to us and to enable others to find spiritual nurturance there, in terms of a deepening understanding of our relationship with the earth. We do this by offering the experience of spiritual growth in harmony with nature, and opportunities to be reverent stewards of the land.

Within 1-2 hours of the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area, the Center provides one of the few unspoiled and undeveloped areas open to the public that does not charge entrance fees. We welcome visitors with a variety of backgrounds and, in keeping with Friends' beliefs, do not limit services to any specific faith.

The Center has a long-term lease from Rolling Ridge Foundation for the exclusive use of 50 acres of this land, which is currently the site of a large "treehouse" for programs and camping, a weatherized yurt for year-round accommodation, a pit toilet, picnic tables and a fire ring.

The Niles Cabin, a four-bedroom, one-bath structure, offers meeting and office space, providing us with a year-round space for meetings, programs, and other events, enabling us to expand what was once a four-month program season to a

twelve-month one. It provides overnight retreat facilities for those who prefer not to camp. It also houses our resident General Manager, Sheila Bach, with whom we have signed a contract to trade management and accounting services for rent-free living space. This year, after much deliberation, the board decided to provide Sheila Bach with a modest salary for program support and administration. We continue to offer meeting space that we can make available to groups such as the Rolling Ridge Foundation Board and the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends' Faith and Practice Revision Committee.

The greening project of Niles Cabin has been completed, with the installation of a dual-flush toilet, cork flooring in the kitchen, hallway and part of the entry-way. The on-demand water heater was not installed, as the electrical system is inadequate to handle the load increase.

Over the past year, we have carried out a series of programs and events, and we have more planned for the remainder of this year – primarily led or coordinated by board members:

August 11: Stargazing. Perseid meteor showers are at their height at this time of year and Kevin Boles gives participants an excellent opportunity to learn about what they are viewing in the telescopes.

September 15: Members' Hike for members of Friends Wilderness Center.

October 6: Benefit Concert. Quaker musicians, Richard Broadbent and Jesse Palidofsky, return to Langley Hill Friends Meeting House for a concert to benefit Friends Wilderness Center. Richard's songs tell a story, for and about people. Jesse Palidofsky's lyric songs are richly diverse, sublime and inspiring.

October 13: Poetry in the Trees with Ron Weber. During this annual fall poetry gathering, participants read their own or others' works, or simply come to listen and enjoy.

October 20: Photography Hike.

November 3: Autumn Work Day. We'll have many work projects, including repairing any summer damage, splitting firewood for Niles Cabin, and preparing the Tree House and Yurt for winter.

December 28, 2007: Annual Christmas-New Years Week Reflections Hike.

January 26: Poetry by the fire: Ron Weber and other poets and those appreciating poetry.

February 16 (rescheduled from January 19): Stargazing: An Evening under the Stars: Participants learned about winter constellations and planets with astronomer (and Board member) Kevin Boles, of Morgan County Observatory in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia.

March 15 Sat. Hike: This event was led and sponsored by the Sierra Club DC chapter.

April 26: Semi-annual Work Day -- Celebrate Earth Day by helping to care for the land entrusted to us. Projects include repairing winter damage, clearing trails, turning dead and downed trees into firewood, preparing the Tree House (sleeping platform) for the season.

April 19: Gardening with Nature: This very popular program featured education on permaculture and earth-friendly gardening, a hike and lots of books.

April 26: Spring Work Day. We'll have many work projects, including splitting firewood for Niles Cabin, and preparing the Tree House and Yurt for summer.

May 10: Sandy Spring Friends Meeting Unity with Nature Benefit Concert: Supported Friends Wilderness Center and Chesapeake Climate Action Network with a wonderful potluck and benefit concert featuring local artists.

May 17: Annual Open House: We had a variety of hikes, children's activities, arts activity, and a beehive and other displays.

July 19: Morning bird walk. Vickie McDonald, an ornithologist with the Smithsonian Conservation and Research Center, led the walk.

July 26: Sat. Hike. This event led and sponsored by the Sierra Club DC chapter.

August 9: Star-gazing event

The following events are scheduled for the rest of 2008:

August 16: Work Day on the Perimeter Trail with other Rolling Ridge members

September 6: Members' Appreciation Day

October 4: Benefit Concert. Quaker musicians, Richard Broadbent and Jesse Palidofsky, return to Adelphi Friends Meeting House for a concert to benefit Friends Wilderness Center. Richard's songs tell a story, for and about people. Jesse Palidofsky's lyric songs are richly diverse, sublime, and inspiring.

October 25: Arts in the Wilderness: An opportunity for aspiring graphic artists, sculptors and photographers of all ages to explore the rich opportunities for creativity using nature as a media or capturing nature-inspired experiences.

November 1: Semi-annual workday. Come out and enjoy the day and meet new friends.

December 2008: Annual Christmas-New Years Week Reflections Hike. Date to be decided.

The Board of Directors expressed its gratitude and appreciation for Chuck Kleymeyer's many years of service on behalf of the Friends Wilderness Center, in particular his six years as Clerk of the Board. Chuck brought humor and clear-

ness to our deliberations. We will miss his discernment. The board continues to seek new members led to serve as stewards of the land and to provide direction and advisory support for programming, publication and activities. While we continue to seek Friends who are members of monthly meetings of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting, we also encourage like-minded non-Friends to consider joining our Board.

The Rolling Ridge Foundation held two long-range planning retreats attended by the Clerk and General Manager. Both three-day sessions were beneficial and afforded the three groups using the Rolling Ridge Foundation property an opportunity to collaborate on several areas of need and to set achievable goals for the next few years. Included in these plans are joint goals to build several remote hermitages and hiring an environmentalist or ecologist to work with all of the groups. Additionally, participants identified goals for enhancing our sharing of information, continuing work toward protecting the land through acquiring properties contiguous to the current lands. The participants also identified a goal for working with local groups and coordinate outreach efforts, and to coordinate with other like-minded groups and collaborate with them so as to enhance programming, preservation and conservation and support.

The Friends Wilderness Center board continues to work on several outreach efforts; we are currently working on enhancing our website with a new provider; our audio-visual presentation is in its final stages of completion, and we are developing a list of like-minded organizations, retreat centers and programs with whom we might collaborate in the future. We offer tee shirts, and we are working with local organizations to foster greater community and support. We seek to encourage new visitors and increase our diversity in programs that would be in keeping with our mission and vision.

Our income continued to grow in 2007; a copy of our financial report is available upon request. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Our affiliation with Baltimore Yearly Meeting has been a very pleasing one. We will continue to search for new ways to serve area Quakers, as individuals, families, and Meetings through such activities as retreats, cooperation with BYM camping programs, event and young adult activities.

We invite monthly meetings, committees, and individuals to consider making use of the Friends Wilderness Center and its amenities. We encourage monthly meetings to schedule a meeting for worship in the Tree House; use Niles Cabin or the Tree House for a lengthy committee meeting or retreat; hold a Friendly Eights dinner at Niles Cabin or share a hike. Unique and exciting Unity With

Nature Committee events or First Day School field trips offer unlimited possibilities for creating a rich experience for attendees. For groups of five to eight needing indoor overnight accommodations, we can try to arrange to use one or two other facilities located on the property close to the Niles Cabin.

We have been blessed in our commitment to God to honor this sacred space through loving stewardship, as we seek guidance in the Light. We are so very grateful for the many gifts of support through program attendance, financial donations and volunteer labor.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Payne, clerk

QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS

This was my fourth year as the BYM Representative to QEW and my third year as the QEW Clerk.

Spring Steering Committee Meeting in Chicago, Illinois – committee meetings and reports to the Steering Committee.

Annual Meeting in Burlington, Vermont – Approval of 2008 Budget, appointment of new clerks, reports on committee and YM activities, by-laws changes, passed minute on nuclear energy, celebration of 20th anniversary.

The time I have spent as Clerk of QEW has been personally rewarding. I have had the opportunity to travel all over North and Central America meeting Friends from a variety of backgrounds.

In the past three years, our visitation program has led to a number of FUM and Evangelical Yearly Meetings naming representatives to QEW. Their membership on the Steering Committee has led to added spiritual depth to the organization and challenged some members to broaden their view of Quakers.

BYM has provided QEW with representatives that have provided a disproportionate share of leadership for the organization. And in turn, we have also brought new skills and leadership experience back to BYM.

Barbara Williamson, Mentoring Clerk

QUAKER HOUSE

Quaker House is a unique example of Friends' peace witness, located just minutes away from one of the nation's largest army bases in Fayetteville/Fort Bragg, NC. It pursues a threefold mission.

First, it offers a special, peaceful kind of support to American troops, their families and others who are dealing with recruiters. It counsels service members who have decided, usually for reasons of conscience, that they will not engage in armed violence as an instrument of national policy. It also offers accurate information about other discharge-related issues and recruiting practices to those considering enlistment.

Second, Quaker House helps organize peace vigils, rallies and other meetings, in cooperation with local, regional and national groups. It has, for instance, helped with the planning and support for two Quaker Conferences on Torture.

Third, Quaker House serves as a resource on peace-related issues for many other groups, principally Quaker Meetings, through seminars, workshops and publications. Several seminars and workshops have been held within Baltimore Yearly Meeting this year.

In this time of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, stresses on the troops and their families are intense, and the Quaker House workload is higher than it has ever been before. The staff hears from many soldiers who are unwilling to be re-deployed for second, third and even fourth long tours, and from members of activated Reserve and National Guard units and their families, who lack most of the support networks of the regular armed services. Many who call have already gone AWOL.

At least one soldier we counseled, Jeremy Hinzman, chose to go to Canada and was the lead plaintiff in the unsuccessful litigation to secure permanent residency for American military and their families. Now that Canada has begun to deport these soldiers back to the US, where they will stand trial and most likely be sentenced to prison, we will offer our support to the soldiers, but also make it a priority to help educate the public through awareness campaigns.

We operate the GI Rights Hotline throughout the southeastern US as well as Wisconsin, Minnesota and Oklahoma. Our three counselors handled over 8000 calls last year. The Hotline regularly receives calls from soldiers stationed and deployed from the southeast internationally, including Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as family members. The majority of callers want out of the service, and a significant number ask about conscientious objector status. This year we are also

piloting billboard advertising of the GI Rights Hotline service in North Carolina. Finally, our staff has played a key role in the recent national reorganization of the GI Rights Hotline (over 23 member groups) to make it a smoother administrative operation and to improve standards of quality counseling worldwide.

Founded during the Vietnam era, Quaker House will be 40 years old in 2009. Plans are underway for a history of the organization to be published early next year. This past year, the board conducted a successful capital campaign in order to renovate its small five-room office bungalow. The renovation will be complete this summer with a ribbon-cutting celebration scheduled for early fall. The building is used also by the small Fayetteville Meeting and as a meeting place for other friendly groups.

Chuck Fager, our capable director, continues to do his good work. He has become a leader in the movement to educate about torture, with international representatives coming to Quaker House and the surrounding region to learn more about the numerous torture training sites in North Carolina. Because units at Fort Bragg appear to be deeply involved in this unsavory, secret business, it has become an increasingly significant part of our agenda. This spring Chuck traveled to Europe through invitation by French and English organizations, including the Great Britain Yearly Meeting, to speak about torture issues before more than a dozen groups in four countries.

Quaker House is a place. And it is a service. But it is also a national emblem of non-violent conflict resolution and a unique Friends' witness to peace in a deeply troubled world.

Serving as BYM representative to Quaker House, along with serving on the Quaker House board, is an honor. We welcome greater board representation from meetings within BYM to serve on the Quaker House board. If you or your monthly meeting is interested in playing such a role, please contact me.

We also continue to be grateful for the financial support from BYM Friends and Meetings. This support is more welcome and needed than ever as our program grows.

Betsy Brinson, Representative to Quaker House Board

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

William Penn House is blessed by the quality and dedication of our employees. Our permanent staff consists of exceptionally qualified individuals who have

chosen to make their lives a witness to their faith and core beliefs. Our interns grace us with their perceptions, intelligence and fresh approaches to all aspects of William Penn House. Together we continue to test our leadings, to refine our programs, to upgrade our facilities and to improve our hospitality.

In 2007, we continued to increase the number of people who stayed at the House. Our occupancy was just shy of 70% for the year, which represents over 7500 times in the year that our beds were occupied, that breakfasts were served, and linens and towels were washed. This occupancy reflects the increased participation in Washington Quaker Workcamps, in our expanding peace and social justice programs and the increase in the number of overall guests who are in Washington to visit, to lobby, to attend conferences and to relocate.

We are enriching the Workcamp program to more deeply reflect the spiritual and service depth of the programs. We now include presentations on poverty and privilege; training on lobbying and other opportunities to stretch ourselves to be more actively engaged in the world that surrounds us. As we broaden the Workcamps, we seek to capitalize on our unique location on Capitol Hill and in our nation's capital.

A new commitment is to provide a bridge between various faith traditions to engage each other over the issues of HIV/AIDS and the fact that our faith is based upon the true meaning of loving one another. We are working to deepen our relationship with our Capitol Hill neighbors and with area Quakers. Our relationships with the American Friends Service Committee and Friends Committee on National Legislation are broad and deep.

Over the past few years, we have reinvested our increased revenue in the property. We have installed air conditioning, which is reflected in our 81% occupancy in the hottest months of the year. This past year we replaced our antique gas furnace with a state-of-the-art highly efficient system. We have upgraded all of the rooms with warm colors, ceiling fans and new furnishings. The Conference Room is now a well-lit, modern facility with new paint, carpeting and upgraded wiring. We have renovated our front garden into an inviting peace garden and are now working on the backyard, so that it is also an oasis in this dynamic city.

We have entered the modern age with online registrations, online donations, an e-web newsletter and international exposure through an internet booking service. To reinforce our Quaker presence, we attend yearly meetings, Quaker conferences and gatherings and many monthly meetings. We are assisted with our outreach by our National Consultative Committee members who represent 22 yearly meetings.

We are strengthened by our dedicated Board of Directors who are appointed by area Friends Meetings. Currently there are 13 board members.

In addition, our staff members are currently engaged with Friends Meeting of Washington, as a trustee of the monthly meeting, as a representative to FCNL, as members of marriage, property and peace and social justice committees. In addition, we serve Baltimore Yearly Meeting as clerk of trustees and Friends General Conference as treasurer, as a member of the Young Adult Friends' conference planning committee and as a trainer to improve dialogue among Friends.

INCOME	2007	EXPENSES	2007
Lodging	\$237,000	Personnel	\$249,500
Program	39,100	Program Expenses	35,300

OFFICERS

YEARLY MEETING

Clerk.....	Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring (07).....	2007-2010
Recording Clerk.....	Deborah Haines, Alexandria (03).....	2007-2009
Treasurer.....	Marion Ballard, Bethesda (07).....	2007-2009
Assistant Treasurer...	Laurie Wilner, Langley Hill (07).....	2007-2009

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk.....	Elizabeth "Betsy" Meyer, Sandy Spring (08).....	2008-2009
Recording Clerk.....	Meg Meyers, Baltimore, Stony Run (06).....	2007-2009

TRUSTEES

Clerk: Byron Sandford

Byron Sandford, Washington	2006-2009
Hank Schutz, Charlottesville.....	2006-2009
Frances Taylor, Goose Creek	2006-2009
Dick Bellin, Washington	2007-2010
Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring	2007-2010
Ramona Buck, Patapsco.....	2008-2011
Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run	2008-2011

Marion Ballard, Treasurer

Howard Fullerton, Clerk of Yearly Meeting

Office Staff

General Secretary: Riley Robinson

Development Director: Robinne Gray

Administrative Assistant: Ann Whittaker

Bookkeeper: Margo Lehman

Camp Administrative Secretary: Jane Megginson

Camp Property Manager: David Hunter

INTERIM MEETING

Adelphi	Frederick	Patuxent
Alexandria	Gettysburg	Pipe Creek
Annapolis	Goose Creek	Quaker Lake
Baltimore, Homewood	Gunpowder	Richmond
Baltimore, Stony Run	Herndon	Roanoke
Bethesda	Hopewell Centre	Sandy Spring
Blacksburg	Langley Hill	State College
Carlisle	Little Britain	Valley
Charlottesville	Little Falls	Warrington
Deer Creek	Maury River	Washington
Dunnings Creek	Menallen	West Branch
Fishertown	Midlothian	Williamsburg
Floyd	Nottingham	York
	Patapsco	

**SEARCH COMMITTEE OF
INTERIM MEETING**
Clerk: Janet Eaby

2009

Rachel Messenger, Alexandria (06)
Jean Wilson, Goose Creek (06)
Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder (08)

2010

David Etheridge, Washington (07)
Erik Uberseder, Dunnings Creek (07)

2011

Kevin Caughlan, Sandy Spring (08)
Janet Eaby, Nottingham (05)
Aron Teel, Charlottesville (08)

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE
Clerk: Meg Meyer

2009

Bob Fetter, Roanoke (07)
Susie Fetter, Roanoke (07)
Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run (02)

2010

Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda (07)

Ex-officio

Marion Ballard, Treasurer
Betsy Meyer,
Clerk of Interim Meeting
Howard Fullerton,
Clerk of Yearly Meeting

ADVANCEMENT AND OUTREACH

9 (8) Clerk: Deborah Haines

2009

Gladys Swift, Sandy Spring (06)

2010

Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco (04)
Deborah Haines, Alexandria (04)
Walter Brown, Langley Hill (07)

2011

Roger Starr, Sandy Spring (05)
Tracy Haidar, York (08)
Carol Phelps, Washington, (08)
Rosemary Davis, Patapsco (08)

CAMP PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

9 (10) Clerk: Tina Grady

2009

Charles Greene, Sandy Spring (06)
Ted Hawkins, Bethesda (06)
Wayne Finegar, Sandy Spring (03)

2010

Tina Grady Gibian, Sandy Spring (07)

2011

Allen Fetter,
Baltimore, Stony Run (05)
Paul Buchanan-Wollaston,
Deer Creek (05)
Greg Tobin, Frederick (05)
Tom Gibian, Sandy Spring (08)
Ron Lord, Sandy Spring (08)

Don Crawford, Valley (08)

Ex-officio

Trustees
Stewardship and Finance – Wes Jordan
David Hunter,
Camp Property Manager

CAMPING PROGRAM 18 (17)

Co-Clerks: Chrissie Devinney
Anna Best

2009

Lynada Johnson, Annapolis (06)
Clare Voss, Sandy Spring (06)
Jim Dickson, Friendship Prep (06)
Deborah Legowski,
Sandy Spring (06)

Betsy Krome, Williamsburg (03)
Nathan Harrington,
Sandy Spring (07)

2010

Tasha Walsh, Maury RIVER (04)
Chrissie Devinney,
Goose Creek (04)
Carol Hurst, Charlottesville (07)
Anna Best, Ashland (07)
Kate Davenport, Richmond (07)
Dave Diller, Adelphi (07)
JoAnn Dalley, Charlottesville (07)

2011

Betty LaBua,
Baltimore, Stony Run (08)
Michael LaBua,
Baltimore, Stony Run (08)
Karen Stone, Goose Creek (08)
Andrea Givens, Charlottesville (08)

CRIMINAL AND RESTORATIVE

JUSTICE 6 (8)

Clerk: John Worley

2009

John Worley, Sandy Spring (06)

2010

Linda Wilk, Hopewell Centre (07)
Bob Rhudy, Patapsco (07)

2011

David Greene,
Baltimore, Homewood (05)
Jack Fogarty, Sandy Spring (08)
Peggy Fogarty, Sandy Spring (08)
Al Simmons, Richmond (08)
Jessica Arends, Washington (08)

EDUCATIONAL LOAN 6 (7)

Clerk:

2009

Annie V. F. Storr, Adelphi (06)
Brett Leonard, Goose Creek (04)

2010

June Confer, Adelphi (04)
Sean Beeney, Langley Hill (07)
Barbara Haught, Langley Hill (07)

2011

Chris Fowler, Frederick (08)
Ting-Yi Oei, Herndon (08)

Ex-officio

Marion Ballard, Treasurer

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION

Clerk: Sheila Bach

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (02)
Margaret Stambaugh,
Gettysburg (02)
Martha Gay, Adelphi (02)
Sam Legg, Baltimore, Stony Run
(04)

Julie Gochenour, Valley (04)

Jim Rose, Patapsco (04)

Susan Hills, Langley Hill (05)

Friends in Education 9 (4)

Clerk: Annette Breiling

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 12 (10)

Clerk: Dellie James

2009

David Elkinton, Patuxent (06)
Aleen Starkweather,
Sandy Spring (06)
Susan Lepper, Washington (03)
Dellie James,
Baltimore, Stony Run (03)

2010

Mary Mallet, Sandy Spring (04)
Nora Caplan, Sandy Spring (07)
Darcy Lane, Sandy Spring (07)
Deborah Freed-Fishelman,
Baltimore, Stony Run (07)

2011

Chuck Veckert, Sandy Spring (05)
Elizabeth Koopman, York (08)

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE 3 (4)

Clerk: Chip Tucker

2009

Chip Tucker, Charlottesville (03)

2010

Katherine Smith, Maury River (04)

2011

Ruth Flower, Takoma Park (08)
Ann McKeithen, Charlottesville (08)

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

12(12)

Clerk: Virginia Schurman

2009

Susan Kaul, Bethesda (06)
Anne Buttenheim, Frederick (06)
Don Gann,
Baltimore, Stony Run (03)
Virginia Schurman,
Gunpowder (06)

2010

Lamar Matthew,
Baltimore, Stony Run (04)
Ria Hawkins, Bethesda (04)
Catherine McHugh, Bethesda (07)

2011

Gail Gann,
Baltimore, Stony Run (05)
Martin Melville, State College (08)
Michael Cronin, Washington (08)
Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch,
Valley (08)
Gary Sandman, Roanoke, (08)
Paul Luckenbaugh, Bethesda (08)

NOMINATING 12 (10)

Clerk: Barbara Thomas

2009

Charlotte Boynton, Langley Hill (06)
Andrei Israel, Washington (06)
Nancy Moore,
Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

2010

Barbara Thomas, Annapolis (04)
Catherine Tunis, Herndon (04)
Flossie Fullerton, Sandy Spring (07)
Kat Darnell, Frederick (07)
Dave Treber, Langley Hill (07)

2011

Jason Eaby, Nottingham (05)
Bronna Zlochiver, Sandy Spring (05)

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

12 (12)

Clerk: Bill Mims

2009

Alexander Barnes, Adelphi (06)
C.J. Swet, Pipe Creek (03)

2010

Ellen Arginteanu, State College (04)
Bill Mims, Langley Hill (04)
Debby Churchman, Washington (07)
John Farrell, Patapsco (07)
Malachy Kilbride, Washington (07)

2011

Harold Saunders, Annapolis (05)
Leada Dietz, York (05)
Barbara Williamson, Richmond (08)

Davis Balderston, Alexandria (08)
Maryhelen (Mel) Snyder,
Langely Hill (08)

PROGRAM 10 (11)

Clerk: Sheila Bach

2009

Nancy Coleman,
Dunnings Creek (06)
Don Gann,
Baltimore, Stony Run (06)
Jason Eaby, Nottingham (07)

2010

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (04)
Mary Campbell, Washington (07)
Dennis Hartzell, Washington (07)
Margaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg (07)

2011

Susan Griffin, Washington (08)
Peg Hansen, State College (08)
Lamar Matthew, York (08)
Betsy Tobin, Frederick (08)

Ex-officio

Presiding Clerk: Howard Fullerton
Registrar: Mary Campbell
Junior Yearly Meeting Clerk:
Karen Cunnyngham
Ministry & Pastoral Care:
Virginia Schurman
Young Friends Planners:
Kit Benz
Rebecca Dozier
Young Adult Friends:
Annalee Horne
Amrit Moore

Staff: Riley Robinson
Ann Whittaker

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 12 (5)

2009

Gwen Zanin, Herndon (06)
John Stephens, Alexandria (06)

2010

Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston,
Deer Creek (07)

**SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER
EDUCATION FUND**

Clerk: Rosalind Zuses
Howard Zuses
Advancement & Outreach:
Religious Education:

**RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD
RESOURCES**

Clerk: Karen Grisez

Karen Grisez, Washington
Anne Harrison, Patuxent
Joan Gildemeister, Washington

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE 14 (12)

Clerk: Natalie Finegar

2009

Arthur David Olson,
Takoma Park (06)
Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill (06)
Allison Sleeman,
Charlottesville (06)
Allen Briggs, Blacksburg (03)

2010

Sharon Stout, Adelphi (04)
Michael Boardman,
Baltimore, Stony Run (07)
Jim Riley, Hopewell Centre (07)

2011

Natalie Finegar, Sandy Spring (05)
Ed Hustead, Washington (08)
Wes Jordan, Annapolis (08)
Ellie Szanton, Bethesda (08)

UNITY WITH NATURE 12 (9)

Clerk: Sue deVeer

2009

Juliet Guroff, Goose Creek (06)
John Hudson, Sandy Spring (06)
Kathy Saunders, Annapolis (06)

2010

Jeanne Houghton, Langley Hill (07)
Rick Knaub, York (07)
Susan Warner,
Baltimore, Homewood (07)

2011

Sue deVeer, Frederick (05)
Linda Ubersdeder, Oxford (08)
Janney Wilson, Goose Creek (08)

YOUTH PROGRAMS 14 (15)

Co-Clerks: Anne Bacon
Erik Hanson

2009

Audrey Banach,
Baltimore, Stony Run (06)
Anne Bacon, Hopewell Centre (06)

Stephanie Warner, Adelphi (06)
Laurie Wilner, Langley Hill (03)
Janey Pugsley, Sandy Spring (06)
Stephanie Bean, Adelphi (06)

2010

Benjamin Zuses,
Sandy Spring (04)
Jerry Girbach, Patapsco (07)
Erik Hanson, Takoma Park (07)
Tom Horne, Takoma Park (07)
Jeannette Smith, Langely Hill (07)

2011

Annalee Flower-Horne,
Takoma Park (08)
“Becka” Haines Rosenberg,
Alexandria (08)
“Nony” Dutton, Baltimore,
Homewood (08)
Carol Seddon,
Baltimore, Stony Run (08)

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS

Co-Clerks:

Annalee Flower-Horne,
Takoma Park

Adam Heinz, Little Falls

Program Committee:

Annalee Flower Horne
Amrit Moore, Maury River

YOUNG FRIENDS EXECUTIVE

Clerk: Lydia Rain, Adelphi

Asst Clerks: Alex Duncan, Annapolis
Georgia McCandlish, Adelphi

Recording Clerks:

Hannah Gropper, Richmond
John Keenan, Frederick

Treasurer: Mace Smith, Langley Hill

Assistant Treasurers:

Tom Clement, Adelphi

Helen Robare, Hopewell Centre

BYFN Editors:

Jacki LaBua, Stony Run

Giovanna Selvaggio, Adelphi

Youth Programs Committee:

Matthew Bacon, Hopewell Centre

Rose McIntyre, Sandy Spring

Members-at-Large:

Jamie DeMarco, Homewood,

Joe Hammer

Samir Hazbourn

Katie Maloney, Mattaponi

Yearly Meeting Planners:

Kit Benz, Washington

Rebecca Dozier, Washington

Web Master:

Nigel Buchannon-Wollaston,

Deer Creek

AD HOC INTERVISITATION

Co-Clerks: Jean James

Susan Kaul

Walter Brown, Langley Hill

Jen Chapin-Smith, Adelphi

Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill

Flossie Fullerton, Sandy Spring

Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring

Eric Hanson, Takoma Park

Jean James, Richmond

Susan Kaul, Bethesda

Joan Liversidge, Sandy Spring

Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run

Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco

Gail Thomas, Bethesda

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY CONCERNS

Co-Clerks: Dennis Hartzell

Margaret Stambaugh

Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring

Betty Brody, Alexandria

Nancy Clark, Baltimore, Homewood

Hugh Fuller, Langley Hill

Martha Gay, Adelphi

Dennis Hartzell, Washington

Joe Izzo, Washington

Lamar Matthew,

Baltimore, Stony Run

Rebecca Richards, Gunpowder

Katherine Smith, Maury River

Margaret Stambaugh, Gettysburg

Bonnie Stockslager, Herndon

Aron Teel, Charlottesville

AD HOC YOUTH SAFETY

Clerk: Tasha Walsh

Jerry Girbach, Patapsco

Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda

Margo Lehman, Sandy Spring

Riley Robinson, Washington

Tasha Walsh, Maury River

**TORREAN/STARLAKE WORKING
GROUP**
Clerk: Susan Lepper

Nancy Beiter, Washington
Anna Brown, Gunpowder
Susan Lepper, Washington
Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring
Katrina Mason, Bethesda
Pete Schenck, Washington
Aleen Starkweather, Sandy Spring
Sharon Stout, Adelphi
Jane Stowe, Adelphi

WORKING GROUP ON RACISM
Clerk: Elizabeth DuVerlie

Kathy Angell, Baltimore, Homewood
Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch, Valley
Anne Buttenheim, Frederick
Jane Meleney Coe, Bethesda
Elizabeth DuVerlie,
 Baltimore, Stony Run
David Etheridge, Washington
Brian Gamble, Baltimore, Stony Run
Carol Phelps, Washington
Janet Phoenix, Washington
Pat Schenck, Annapolis
Gail Thomas, Bethesda

Numbers next to the committee name in **bold** represent the number of members recommends for each committee.

The numbers in paranthese represents the actual number of members on each committee.

REPRESENTATIVES TO CORPORATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE YEARLY MEETING

FRIENDS HOUSE INC. AND FRIENDS NURSING HOME, INC. TRUSTEES

2009

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Linda Pardoe, Patapsco (06)

Betty Kay Brody, Alexandria (06)

Deborah Boggs, Sandy Spring (05)

Ari Preuss, Sandy Spring (03)

Nominated by Board

Barbara Brown, Sandy Spring

Fred Leonard, Baltimore, Stony Run (06)

2010

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Susan Rose, Patapsco (07)

Megan Shook, Baltimore, Homewood (07)

Ann Trentman, Patuxent (07)

Nominated by Board

Ruth Flower, Takoma Park

John Smallwood, Langley Hill

2011

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Alan De Silva, Sandy Spring, (05)

Rachel Messenger, Alexandria (05)

Gene Klinger, Sandy Spring (08)

Beth Garrettson, Sandy Spring (08)

Nominated by Board

Georgia Maitland, Sandy Spring

Charles (Chick) Nelson, Bethesda

Virginia Lester, Alexandria

Mary Satterfield, Sandy Spring

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL

Clerk: Jeff Jones

2009

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Amy Christianson (05)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Board

Charles Horning (05)

Alkia Jones (05)

Cynthia McKee (05)

2011

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Chuck Harker, Sandy Spring (04)

Lib Segal, Washington (04)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Michael DeHart (07)

Barbara Gibian (07)

Peter Ligon (03)

Edward Stowe (07)

2010

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Carolyn C. Finegar, Sandy Spring
(06)

Pat Moles, Langely Hill (07)

Sandy Spring Meeting

John Hartge (02)

John Hines (02)

Board

2012

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Jodi Leeser, Sandy Spring (04)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Mary Grady (04)

Anne Hirschfield (08)

Board

Stephanie Burgevin

Steve Eller

Terry Franklin

Barbara Gaffigan

J. Curt Moffat

James Vereen

Board

Lin Delaney

Scott Henry

Laurita Portee

Ellen Pskowski

AFSC CORPORATION

2009

Lella Russell Smith, Goose Creek
(03)

2010

Nancy Beiter, Washington (04)
Richey Sharratt,
Baltimore Homewood (07)
Cathie Felter,
Baltimore, Stony Run (07)

2011

Riley Robinson, Washington (05)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
MIDDLE-ATLANTIC REGION OF
AFSC**

2009

Jolee Robinson, Adelphi (05)

**FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL
LEGISLATION, GENERAL COMMIT-
TEE**

2009

Bob Rhudy, Patapsco (06)
Ross Capon, Bethesda (03)

2010

Mike Snyder, Goose Creek (04)
Stan Becker, Baltimore, Homewood
(07)

2011

Karen Grisez, Washington (04)
Sharon Stout, Adelphi (05)

**FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

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)

2010

Becka Haines Rosenberg,
Alexandria (04)
Nancy Moore,
Baltimore, Stony Run (04)
Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring (04)
Mary Barnes, Maury River (07)
Mary Anna Feitler, Washington (07)
Sallie King, Valley (07)

2011

Jessica Arends, Washington (08)
Russell De Forest, State College (08)
Emma Churchman, Washington (08)
Brad Ogilvie, Washington (08)
Ann Riggs, Annapolis (08)
Laura Goren, Homewood (08)

**FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS
REPRESENTATIVE**

Barbara Myers, Richmond (08)
Alternate:
Bette Hoover, Sandy Spring (06)

**FRIENDS UNITED MEETING
GENERAL BOARD**

2009

John Smallwood, Langley Hill (06)
J.E. McNeil, Washington (08)

2011

Mary Lord, Adelphi (08)

FRIENDS WILDERNESS CENTER
(To be appointed by Unity with
Nature)

**FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE
FOR CONSULTATION,
SECTION OF THE AMERICAS**

2009

Robert Fetter, Roanoke (03)
Graham Johnson, Sandy Spring (05)

2010

Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder (08)
Jason Eaby, Oxford (08)

2011

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (05)
Laura Nell Obaugh, Hopewell Centre
(08)

PRISONER VISITATION AND SUPPORT
James Matsen, Oxford

**QUAKER HOUSE BOARD, FAY-
ETTEVILLE, NC**
Betsy Brinson, Richmond (05)

**WILLIAM PENN HOUSE CONSUL-
TATIVE COMMITTEE**
Michael Newheart, Adelphi (05)
Alternate:
Bonnie Peregoy, Annapolis (05)

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

The 338th annual session to be held at
Frostburg State University
Frostburg, Maryland
August 4-10, 2009

Theme: "The Business of Our Lives:
The Transformation of Faith into Practice"

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Elizabeth "Betsy" Meyer

October 18, 2008 at Charlottesville
March 21, 2009 at Sandy Spring
June 20, 2009 - To be announced
October 17, 2009 - To be announced

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

CENTRE

Clerk: Susan Williams

Dunnings Creek
Fishertown
State College
West Branch

CHESAPEAKE

(meets the 2nd Sunday of the 3rd, 6th, and 9th months)
Clerk: Ken Stockbridge

Annapolis	
Baltimore, Homewood	
Baltimore, Stony Run	March 8, 2009
Gunpowder	
Little Falls	June 14, 2009
Patapsco	
Patuxent	
Sandy Spring	September 13, 2009
Seneca Valley Preparative	

NOTTINGHAM

Clerk: Charles Hilaman

Nottingham	March 1, 2009
“The Brick” Meeting House	September 6, 2009
Little Britain, Eastland, Penn Hill	December 7, 2008

WARRINGTON

(meetgs the 3rd Sunday of the 2nd, 5th, 8th and 11the months)

Clerk: Andrew Hoover

Carlisle	August 16, 2009
Frederick	November 15, 2009
Gettysburg	
Menallen	
Pipe Creek	November 16, 2008
Warrington	May 17, 2009
York	February 15, 2009

INTERCHANGE DEADLINES

January 26, 2009

April 6, 2009

August 31, 2009

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ADELPHI

Mailing address: 2303 Metzerott Road, Adelphi, MD 20783
Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[Hearing assistance system available]
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.
Business Meeting: Second First Day of the month, following Meeting for Worship, except for May, July, and August when it is 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 Metzerott 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 Metzerott). 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).
Contacts: Clerk: Ann Marie Moriarty; Assistant Clerk: Mosi Harrington; Treasurer: Karen Cunningham; Ministry & Worship: Jolee Robinson; Religious Education: Jo Francis & Michael Levy

ALEXANDRIA

Mailing address: 8990 Woodlawn Road, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060
Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[Hearing assistance system is available]
Web site: <http://woodlawnfriends.org>
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: 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.
- Contacts: Clerk: James Courtwright; Assistant. Clerk: Linda Spencer; Treasurer: Megan Evans; Ministry & Oversight: Carie Roth-enbacher; Religious Education: Eli Courtwright (children) & Judy Elvington (adult)

ANNAPOLIS (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

- Mailing address: 351 Dubois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401
- Meeting place: 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: First First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.
- Travel directions: From Route 50 toward Annapolis take Exit 24 toward Best-gate 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.
- Contacts: Clerk: Barbara Thomas; Treasurer: Wes Jordan; Ministry & Worship: Phil Favero & Dot Walizer; Religious Education: Dot Walizer; Stewardship & Finance: Phyllis SInger; Peace: Sylvia Olivia

ASHLAND WORSHIP GROUP (RICHMOND)

- Mailing address: c/o Richmond Friends Meeting, 4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221
- Meeting place: 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, 669 W. Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24401
Meeting place: 606 Fraser Lane, Staunton [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 & Jeanne Tabscott

BALTIMORE, HOMewood (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 3107 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218
Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[Hearing assistance system available]
Telephone: (410) 235-4438-Meeting Office telephone
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: Third First Day of the month, 12:15 p.m.
Travel directions: On North Charles Street directly across from the Baltimore Museum of Art Drive, and John Hopkins University, Homewood Campus.
Contacts: Clerk: Mina Brunyate; Assistant Clerk: Claire Twose; Treasurer: Teresa Dutton; Ministry & Worship: Kevin-Douglas Olive; Stewardship & Finance: Corry Royer

BALTIMORE, STONY RUN (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 5116 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210
Meeting place: Same as above [Barrier-free]
[Hearing assistance system available]
Telephone: (443) 703-2590-Meeting office telephone; fax (443) 703-2589
e-mail: sroffie@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) & 10:00 a.m.); First Day School, 11:20 a.m. (10:20 a.m. in July and August)
Childcare for all meetings.
Business Meeting: First Third Day, 7:30 p.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).

Contacts: Clerk: Fred Leonard; Treasurer: Blaine Keener; Ministry & Counsel: Don Gann; Religious Education: Gail Gann;

BETHESDA

Mailing address: P.O. Box 30152, Bethesda, MD 20824

Meeting place: 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 address: bethesdfm@igc.org or info@bethesdaproject.org

Web site: <http://www.bethesdaproject.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: 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 Lane. Parking is ample. From the Red Line Metro Bethesda Station: At the top of the long escalator, at the bus depot level go 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 to 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 Edgemoor Lane. Follow it around to the right. 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 to 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.

Contacts:

Clerk: Stephanie Koeing & Michael Morfit; Treasurer: Alex Bell; Ministry & Worship: Margaret Plank; Religious Education: Cynthia Terrell; Stewardship & Finance: Roger Dawson and Ralph Hofmeister

BLACKSBURG

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 327, Blacksburg, VA 24063-0327

Meeting place:

Cooper House, 305 Washington Street SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web Site:

<http://www.blacksburgfriends.org>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 10:10 a.m.

Business Meeting: First First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Call Cooper House at (540) 552-2473 or

Clerk (540) 552-0200

Contacts:

Clerk: Steve Hulbert; Treasurer: Phoebe Crofts; Ministry & Counsel: Steve Hulbert; Religious Education: Elizabeth Briggs

CARLISLE (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 252 "A" Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]

[No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (717) 249-8899-Meeting House telephone
Web Site: <http://www.quakers-carlisle.org/>
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: 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).
Contacts: 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: 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: 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.
Contacts: Clerk: Cynthia Power; Treasurer: Allison Sleeman; Ministry & Worship: Chip Tucker; Religious Education: Emily Morrison (children) & Elizabeth Shillue (adult)

DEER CREEK

Mailing address: P.O. Box 415, Darlington, MD 21034
Meeting place: Route 161, Darlington, MD [Wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (410) 457-9188-Meeting House telephone
Web site: <http://www.deercreekfriends.org>
First Day schedule: 10:00AM Friends gather. 10:15AM First Day Schools for Adults: 10:15 to 11:30AM FDS for Children; Meeting for Worship 10:50 to 11:30AM.
Business Meeting: Third First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.
Travel directions: Deer Creek Friends Meeting is in northern Harford County, about forty miles northeast of Baltimore, about one-fifth mile east of US 1, on MD 161. Take 95 to the Churchville/Havre de Grace exit, head toward Churchville on Route 155. Make a right onto 161; follow this through Darlington about five miles. The meetinghouse is on the left shortly after you pass the Darlington Pharmacy.
Contacts: Clerk: Mara Walter; Treasurer: Henry S. Holloway; Ministry & Counsel: George Gregory; Religious Education: Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston; Stewardship & Finance: Richard Holloway

DUNNINGS CREEK (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: Bernard Hoffnar, 3238 Hickory Hill Rd., Six Mile Run, PA 16679-9231
Meeting place: Dunnings Creek Meeting House in Fishertown, PA
[Wheelchair accessibility with help] [No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (814) 928-5249
e-mail address: bif35@comcast.net
First Day schedule: Worship, 10:45 & 10:30 a.m. in July & August; First Day School, 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: Second First Day of the month, 10:00 a.m.
Travel directions: The Meeting is about nine miles northwest of Bedford, PA, From Bedford, PA take I99 north to the Rt. 56 exit; exit west pm Rt. 56. Go 3.1 miles to Old Quaker Church Road; bear left. Go .3 miles to the Meeting House on the left.
Contacts: Co-Clerks: Bernard Hoffnar and Marcia Rogish; Treasurer: Ingrid Hoffnar

FISHERTOWN (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Meeting place: 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: Third First Day of the month, 11:00 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.

Contacts: Jerry Miller

FLOYD

Mailing address: 1199 Christiansburg Pike, Floyd, VA 24091

Meeting place: same above
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship: 10:00; First Day School: 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting: First First Day of the month, 12:00 p.m. at the Meeting House, proceeded 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.

Contacts: Clerk: Rebecca Dameron Treasurer: Lee Henkel; Ministry & Oversight: Kate Garland; Religious Education: Karen Day

FREDERICK (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 723 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (301) 631-1257-Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.Frederickmonthlymeeting.org>

e-mail: clerk@Frederickmonthlymeeting.org

- First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:45 – 11:30 a.m.; mid-Sept. to Mid-June. Supervised park play Mid-June – Mid. Sept.
- Business Meeting: Fourth First Day of the month (8 out of 12 months) Time varies during seasons. See website calendar or newsletter.
- 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.
- Contacts: Clerk: Francy Williams; Treasurer: Karen White; Ministry & Counsel: Virginia Spencer; Religious Education: JoAnn Hunter; Stewardship & Finance: Lillian Herz

FRIENDS HOUSE WORSHIP GROUP (SANDY SPRING)

- Mailing address: c/o Sandy Spring Meeting, 17715 Meetinghouse Rd, Sandy Spring, MD 20860
- Meeting place: Friends House, 17340 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, MD [Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]
- Telephone: (301) 942-5100 Friends, 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: 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: Glatfelter Lodge, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (717) 630-9390

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School, 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting: 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 glass windows nearest the wall.

Contacts: Clerk: Margaret Stambaugh; Treasurer: Diana Henne; Ministry & Counsel: Margaret Stambaugh; Religious Education: Andrew Stone

GOOSE CREEK

Mailing address: P.O. Box 105, Lincoln, VA 20160

Meeting place: 18204 Lincoln Road, Lincoln, VA 20160

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://goosecreekfriends.pbwiki.com/>

Telephone: (703) 777-5979-Meeting House telephone

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:45 a.m.; First Day School, 10:00 a.m. (following brief worship with adults).

Business Meeting: 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 two miles south, on the left side of the road, in the village of Lincoln. Parking is in the lot across from the Meeting House.

Contacts: Clerk: Sheila Kryston; Treasurer: Tim Brown; Ministry & Oversight: Caroline Pelton; Religious Education: Ed Devinney & Wendy Gooditis; Stewardship & Finance: David Chamberlin

GUNPOWDER (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 737, Sparks, MD 21152-0737

Meeting place: 14934 Priceville Road, Sparks, MD
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (410) 472-4583-Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://gunpowder.quaker.org/>

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; 2nd Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Quakerism Discussion Group; 4th Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Bible Study

2nd Saturday of each month, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Silent Retreat

Business Meeting: 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 drive.

Contacts: Clerk: Amy Yerkes Schmaljohn & Steve Rives; Treasurer: Andrew Passmore, II; Ministry & Counsel: Virginia Schurman & Jean Wilson; Care and Oversight: Donna Smith; Religious Education: Mandy Hudson; Stewardship & Finance: Susan Rudy

HERNDON

Mailing address: 660 Spring Street, Herndon, VA 20170

Meeting place: 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 at 10:45 a.m.

Business Meeting: Second First Day of each month except May, July & September at 9:00 a.m.

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.

Contacts: Clerk: Henry Tunis; Treasurer: Al Taylor; Ministry & Oversight: Asa Janney; Religious Education: Liz Hoy & Chatherine Wilkins; Peace & Social Concerns: Ed Markham; Stewardship & Finance: Michael Marquardt

HOPEWELL CENTRE

Mailing address: 604 Hopewell Road, Clearbrook, VA 22624

Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (540) 667-9114

Web site: <http://hopecentre.quaker.org/>

e-mail: hopecentre@wvmcc.com

First Day schedule: Hopewell Meeting House: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; First Day School, 11:15 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: Second First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Clearbrook is seven miles north of Winchester. From I-81, take Clearbrook exit #321, turn west on Hopewell Road. The Meeting House is about one mile on the left.
Centre Meeting House is located in downtown Wincheter at 204 North Washington Street at the corner of Washington and Piccadilly Streets

Contacts: Clerk: Carol Melby; Treasurer: James Riley; Ministry & Counsel: Martha Hanley; Religious Education: Anne Bacon; Stewardship & Finance: Jim Riley

LANGLEY HILL

Mailing address: P. O. Box 118, McLean, VA 22101
Meeting place: 6410 Georgetown Pike, Langley, McLean, VA 22101

NOTE:	The Meeting House will be under renovation beginning about May 2008. Please call or visit our web site to learn alternate location for worship during renovation. [Wheelchair accessible meeting room] [Hearing assistance system available-72.9 MgH]
Telephone:	(703) 442-8394-Meeting House telephone
e-mail address:	langleyhill-owner@yahoogroups.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:	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.
Contacts:	Clerk: Rebecca Rawls; Treasurer: Jim Laity; Ministry & Worship: Steve Elkinton; Religious Education: 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:	See Eastland and Penn Hill
First Day schedule:	See Little Britain-Eastland and Little Britain-Penn Hill.
Business Meeting:	Third First Day of the 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.
Contacts:	Clerk: Suzanne Lamborn; Treasurer: Gilbert Ambler; Ministry & Counsel: Mark Brabson

LITTLE BRITAIN - EASTLAND (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Suzanne Lamborn, Clerk, 225 Lees Bridge Road, Nottingham, PA 19362

Meeting place: at Kirks Mills and Friends Roads, Little Britain, PA
[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 two miles, turn right onto Kirks Mills Road. Turn left on Friends Road at the Meeting House.

From points north/west: take 272 south after 283 merges with 30. At Wakefield, just after one passes Penn Hill meeting and the Fulton Fire Company, turn left or east on 272. Just after you cross the Creek turn south or right on the first road you come to. Continue on this road which eventually is named Friends Road. You will see the stone meeting house on the left as you get to the end of the road.

LITTLE BRITAIN - PENN HILL (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Suzanne Lamborn, Clerk, 225 Lees Bridge Road, Nottingham, PA 19362

Meeting place: 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 Route 222 at Wakefield, PA; 200 feet south of the split of US Route 222 and PA Route 272.

LITTLE FALLS (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P. O. Box 240, Fallston, MD 21047
Meeting place: 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: 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.
Contacts: 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 Dianne Grandstrom, Convener, 138 Twin Oaks Road, Louisa, VA 23093
Meeting place: 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: 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.
Secretary: Dianne Grandstrom

LYNCHBURG INDULGED (ROANOKE)

Mailing address: Heidi Koring, 108 Warren Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501
Meeting place: 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; (804-847-4301)

MADISON COUNTY WORSHIP GROUP

Mailing address: PO Box 164, Hood, VA 22723-0164
Meeting place: 1215 Kinderhook Rd, Hood, VA
[Not wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (540) 948-7827
First Day schedule: 1st of Month only; Worship at 10:00 a.m.
Travel directions: From US 29 south of Madison; 230W for 6 miles; to right on Kindlerhook Rd.; 1.8 miles to Driveway on right. House is up the hill.
Contact: Susan Bramley, Clerk: Tom Warder

MATTAPONI PREPARATIVE (WILLIAMSBURG)

Mailing address: c/o Charles Maloney, Dayspring Farm, 942 Buena Vista Rd, Cologne, VA 23181-4010
Meeting place: Dayspring Farm, 942 Buena Vista Rd, Cologne, VA 23181-4010 [Not wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (804) 785-9401
e-mail address: dayspringfarm@aol.com
First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m. first and third First Days
Business Meeting: 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.

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 *.

Contacts: Clerk: Charles Maloney; Treasurer: Neil Watson

MAURY RIVER

Mailing address: P.O. Box 582, Lexington, VA 24450

Meeting place: W. Midland Trail at Waterloo Drive, 10 miles west of Lexington, VA

[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship at 10:00 a.m.; Adult discussion 11:30 a.m.; 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: Fourth First Day of the month, 11:30 a.m.; potluck follows business meeting.

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.

Contacts: Clerk: Mary Barnes; Treasurer: John White; Ministry & Worship: Peggy Dyson-Cobb; Religious Education: Nancy Anderson

MENALLEN (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Barclay Brooks, Clerk, 45 Rice Avenue, Biglerville, PA 17307-0845

Meeting place: 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: 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 two and a half miles past the Biglerville traffic light. The Meeting House is on the right.

Contacts: Clerk: Barclay Brooks; Treasurer: Margaret (Peggy) Fisher; Ministry & Counsel: Barclay Brooks

MIDLTHIAN

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1003, Midlothian, VA 23113

Meeting place: 2502 Huguenot Springs Road, Midlothian, VA 23113
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://www.midlothianfriends.org>

e-mail address: quaker_town_crier@msn.com

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m. every First Day; First Day School, 11:15 a.m.

Business Meeting: 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 Hugue-nots Springs Road; travel about 2 miles; Meeting House on the left.

Contact: quaker_town_crier@msn.com

NORFOLK PREPARATIVE (WILLIAMSBURG)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 11469, Norfolk, VA 23527

Meeting place: 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: First First Day of the month, following Meeting for Worship at 11:30 a.m.

Travel directions: Call (757) 627-6317 for directions

NOTTINGHAM (OXFORD) (NOTTINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 260 South Third Street, Oxford, PA 19363

Meeting place: 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, 9:50 a.m.; Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 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.
Contacts: 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: 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: 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.
Contacts: Co-Clerks: Bob Rhudy and 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: 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: 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.
Contacts: Clerk: Cynthia Gonzalez; Treasurer: Dave Elkinton; Ministry & Counsel: Karen Horton; Religious Education: William W. Williams

PIPE CREEK (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 487, Union Bridge, MD 21791-0487
Meeting place: 455 Quaker Hill Road, Union Bridge, MD
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]
Web site: <http://www.pipecreekfriends.org>
Telephone: (301) 831-7446
First Day schedule: Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 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.
Contacts: Clerk: Tony Breda

QUAKER LAKE

Mailing address: c/o Tim Lietzke, Clerk, 10 Greentree Drive, Keysville, VA 23947
Meeting place: 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: Date and time varies call for information

Travel directions: Go about 3 miles south on 15 from Farmville to a stoplight. 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.

Contacts: Clerk: Tim Lietzke; Treasurer: Tim Lietzke

RICHMOND

Mailing address: 4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221

Meeting place: 4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221-2301
[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: 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.

Contacts: Clerk: Barbara Myers; Assistant Clerk: Margaret Edds; Treasurer: Kristen Hoogakker; Ministry & Worship: Monica Shaw; Religious Education: Barb Adams; Financial Stewardship: Sanford Hostetter

ROANOKE

Mailing address: PO Box 8023, Roanoke VA 24014-8023

Meeting place: Rice Room, Jefferson Center, 541 Luck Ave., SW, Roanoke
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (540) 929-4975, Meeting House telephone

Web site: <http://www.roanokequakers.org>

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; First Day School , 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting: Third First Day of the month, at rise of Meeting.

Travel directions: Call (540) 929-4975 for direction to the meeting place, temporarily at a Community Center.

Contacts: Clerk: Jenny Chapman; Treasurer: David Hurt; Ministry & Counsel: Tony Martin; Peace & Social Concerns: Cecily Wood; Religious Education: Charlie Finn

SANDY SPRING (CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 17715 Meeting House Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860

Meeting place: Same as above [Wheelchair accessible]
[Hearing assistance system available]

Telephone: (301) 774-9792-Community House

Web site: <http://www.sandyspring.org/>

First Day schedule: Worship, 9:00 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. 10-10:30 a.m. at Miller Center, Friends House.

Business Meeting: First First Day of the month, 11:00 a.m.

Travel directions: Sandy Spring is in Montgomery County on Route 108, between Ashton and Olney. Turn south from Route 108 across from the Post Office onto Meeting House Road. The Meeting House is the last building on the parking circle.

Contacts: Clerk: Jim McPherson; 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: Kerr Fellowship Hall, Boyds Presbyterian Church, 19821 White Ground Road, Boyds, MD
[Not wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]

Web site: <http://senecavalleyquakers.org/>

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: Fourth 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 un-

derpass) 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.

Contacts: Clerk: Lowell Christy; Treasurer: Thomas Shapiro; Ministry & Oversight: Melinda Kramer; Religious Education: Annette Breiling

SHEPHERDSTOWN ALLOWED (FREDERICK)

Meeting place: back room of Four Seasons Bookstore
116 W. German Street, Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Telephone: 304-876-3486 - Mike Raubertas
Web Site: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/shepfriends/>
First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Contact: Carol Robbins

SOUTH MOUNTAIN FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP (PATAPSCO)

Mailing address: c/o Patapsco Friends Meeting
Mt. Hebron House, 2331 Mt. Hebron Drive, Ellicott City MD 21042
Meeting place: Maryland Correctional Institute - Hagerstown
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (410) 465-6554, Patapsco Friends Meeting
Seventh Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Travel directions: Call (410) 465-6554 for direction to the meeting place, visitors must be registered.

STATE COLLEGE (CENTRE QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: 611 East Prospect Avenue, State College, PA 16801
Meeting place: 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: Usually First First Day of the month, 9:00 a.m.
Travel directions: From Harrisburg use 322W. Use Business Route 322 into State College. Turn right (north) on University Drive; go 1.2 miles. Turn left (west) on East Prospect Avenue. Go

one block to the Meeting House. From Huntingdon, PA, use Route 26 to University Drive and turn south.

Contacts: Clerk: Margy Frysinger; Treasurer: Virginia Byers; Ministry & Counsel: Hanna Peck and Jane Jenks Small; Religious Education: Rebecca Lerner Stewardship & Finance: Michael Grutzeck

TAKOMA PARK PREPARATIVE (ADELPHI)

Mailing address: P.O. Box 11365, Takoma Park, MD 20913-1365

Meeting place: Takoma Park Friends Meeting meets at 10 a.m on the upper floor at Still Point, 7009B Carroll Avenue, which is at the corner of Carroll and Westmoreland Street. Unfortunately, there is no elevator. [No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (301) 891-8887 (messages only)

Web site: www.takomapark.quaker.org

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.; second hours occasionally following meeting

Business Meeting: Fourth Sunday, following meeting for worship.

Travel directions: From Takoma Park and Silver Spring:

Follow University Blvd. (MD 193) heading east. The name will change to Greenbelt Road. Turn right (south) onto Kenilworth Ave. (MD 210). Continue for 1 block, turn left onto Westchester Park Drive for 1 block. The school is on the right. Parking is available. Go through the front doors; Friends will be meeting in the library, immediately across from the entrance.

Contacts: Clerk: Kit Mason; Treasurer: Erik Hanson

VALLEY

Mailing address: P O Box 781, Dayton, VA 22821

Meeting place: 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 on third and fourth First Day; First Day School: 11:15 a.m..

Business Meeting: Second First Day of the month, at the rise of meeting.

Travel directions: Call (540) 574-0261

Contacts: Clerk: Frank Barch; Treasurer: Sam Moore; Ministry & Care: Doris Martin; Religious Education: Kara Karr

WARRINGTON (WARRINGTON QUARTERLY MEETING)

Mailing address: c/o Stan Jones, Clerk, 1040 Old Mountain Rd., Dillsburg, PA 17019

Meeting place: Meetinghouse, Wellsville, PA
[Not wheelchair accessible]
[No hearing assistance system]

First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Business Meeting: First First Day of the month, 11:45 a.m.

Travel directions: Near Wellsville, PA, about 14 miles northwest of York, on PA 74.

Contacts: 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: 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 address: 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: 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.

Contacts: 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: 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: At the call of the Clerk.

Travel directions: On US 219, 12 miles southwest of Clearfield, PA.

Contacts: 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: Montessori School, 4214 Longhill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]

Voice Mail: 757/253-7752

Web site: <http://www.williamsburgfriends.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: 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 Road

Travel directions: The Montessori School can be reached from the Longhill Rd. exit off Route 199. Once on Longhill Rd. going away from Williamsburg, the school is two miles on the right.
Contacts: Clerk: Robert Solomon; Treasurer: Pam Tyng; 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: 135 W. Philadelphia Street, York, PA 17403
[Wheelchair accessible] [No hearing assistance system]
Telephone: (717) 848-6781
Web site: www.yorkfriendsmeeting.org
First Day schedule: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m. Worship Sharing/Discussion
Business Meeting: First First Day of the month, 9:30 a.m. (Except July and August)
Travel directions: 135 Philadelphia Street is in the center of York.
Contacts: Clerk: Leada Dietz; Treasurer: Louise Heckert; Ministry & Counsel/Community Life: Wim Neij; Stewardship & Finance: Jeff Lears

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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