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THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

REPORTED TO ANNUAL SESSION AT FROSTBURG, MD

8TH MONTH, 2009

The Spiritual State of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is as a tapestry, the warp and the woof of which are the doings and beings of the constituent monthly meetings. We prosper only to the degree that the Spirit moves among our monthly meetings as we worship and nurture one another in the Light, transforming our faith into practice. Our differing experiences of the Divine and our diverse ways of expressing our relationship with God are important for us; this pantheon of understandings and expressions gives us strength. We know the importance of expectant waiting for the whisperings of the Spirit to be heard as we seek clarity in moving forward. As we are faithful in listening (to each other and to the leadings of the Light) we lay down the warp on which we weave to bring forth the beautiful tapestry of our varied works in the world.

As we look at our individual Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports in an effort to take the pulse of our Yearly Meeting, we can discern common threads. Many of our Meetings find challenge in the effort to balance a life in the Spirit and the realities of the modern world. All are striving toward a more faithful way to walk in the world, seeking to evolve into a more blessed community. As we acknowledge our strengths and weaknesses as individual Meetings we notice that it is frequently the challenges which create an impetus for growth and change.

Most Meeting communities agree that the Meeting for Worship is the heart and center of the life of the Meeting. Some question how best to prepare the way for vocal ministry and strive to assure that it is grounded and Spirit-led. Others lift up appreciation of the living silence which can help us sink deeply into the well of centered worship. We know that messages can help deepen the silence and silence can create space for the messages to come. We seek to develop tender hearts which are open to receiving God's messages as they come through others to us in Worship. Several Meetings have found that creating a space before the rise of Meeting for sharing joys and concerns which have not risen to the level of a message in Worship provides an opportunity to know one another more deeply and to carry one another throughout the week; often Friends who might not speak during open Worship will share during this time.

The Yearly Meeting in general is facing challenges brought about by the economic “downturn,” though faithful stewardship of resources has allowed some Meetings to remain fiscally healthy. In spite of the difficult economic times, many of our Meetings are recognizing that where there is faith and a sound plan coupled with careful management of resources, needed funding often follows. Nevertheless, there are Meetings who are finding the financial climate chilling as they seek to be good stewards of their property and material resources. Maintaining an aging meeting house or building in order to accommodate growth has brought both striving and strengthening to the community.

Although many of our Meetings are pleased by their diversity, some strive to enhance this richness by attracting new potential Friends into their midst. We sometimes must question how much diversity we are really willing or ready to accept in our Meetings and recognize that though we can band together when we perceive a threat from outside our community, we continue to be uncomfortable with conflict from within. Even as we may value diversity, some wonder whether we value all forms of diversity equally. We will continue to explore this balance, looking to find the point where we can be open to new seekers and nurturing to those who are already part of our fellowship.

We wonder about growth. For our smaller Meetings, the difficulty of matching the needs of work to support the meeting with the available people to meet those needs has created concern. For several Meetings, the desire to grow through deep in-reach that can fuel dynamic out-reach has led to considering the Quaker Quest program or other ways of sharing their faith journeys with those both inside and outside the current Meeting community; for others, less formal ways of addressing outreach have led to fruitful sharing among Meeting attenders.

We acknowledge the need to be welcoming to visitors when they do come and to make our Meetings accessible, spiritually and physically, to all who might seek what we have to offer. Our desire to attract new members and grow our numbers provides us with opportunities. We continue to be called both to nurture our connections with the communities surrounding our Meetings and to nurture our faith journeys. We need to be inviting. And when our invitations are responded to, we must be ready to receive those who come! Integrating newcomers into the life of the meeting is an ongoing concern. We find that hospitality is a way we can enact our testimonies. It is also both the key ingredient in welcoming newcomers as well as nurturing those long among us.

We are rich in our children. Our Meetings recognize and appreciate the gifts and dynamic influence our younger Friends bring to our communities through their being and seeking. Even those Meetings who have few children acknowledge the spiritual awakenings and the energy that children bring. We want to protect the treasure we have in our children, preparing them to participate in the Meeting for Worship, making curriculum relevant to their lives, and making the presence of the children in meeting enriching for all. We continue to have concern for our First Day school teachers, worrying that we do not provide adequate support and nurture to these Friends. We seek ways to hold on to our youth, acknowledging their voices and behaving in ways which allow them to know how valued they are in the meeting. We strive to be clear that our youth represent an important part of our community in the present as well as for the future. Nurturing our youth provides a way to bring our faith into practice.

We have many routes to developing, maintaining and strengthening our sense of shared community; the awareness that we are bound together helps us be more gathered. Though special events, types of gatherings, and particular traditions differ from Meeting to Meeting, all treasure the ways they have developed to come together in community. These varied planned times we spend together give us a deeper and a broader view of one another which enlivens our shared worship.

For some Meetings, food (potlucks on First Day afternoon, or Friendly Eights during the week) provides the needed vehicle for connection; for other Meetings, frequent discussion groups serve both this need and the desire for continuing religious education for the Meeting's adult members; still others have found that a work project such as painting provides the space and time for desired connection while getting needed work done. This also is a way we bring our faith into practice.

Whatever the method, we acknowledge that knowing one another outside of our Worship helps to weave our hearts and lives into a more cohesive fabric. Specific challenges or needs can also draw us together as we pay attention to each other. Sharing life lessons learned and hardships experienced allows us to support and grow with one another. When serious losses occur, we are torn and our hearts are opened; it is an opportunity for compassion and also an invitation to lean on Worship as well as on one another for direction and spiritual solace. A thread which runs through our individual Spiritual State of the Meeting Reports is the recognition that getting to know one another deeply enhances our worship and

enriches our business practice. Meetings lament the “busyness” which decreases our opportunities to spend meaningful time with one another. Workdays, pot-lucks, and various traditional activities for each Meeting provide some of this opportunity; however, like an insatiable thirst, there is an ever more profound yearning for even deeper connection among members.

Our Meetings also recognize a strong intention to be connected to the wider world. Service, through which we can live out our testimonies, provides a thread connecting the individual’s faith journey to our wounded world. We strive to find ways to support one other in doing this. Meetings are sometimes challenged by the differences between individual and corporate action. While many Meetings have members who are social or political activists, fewer can claim activist status as a group. Many meetings would contend that we want to support the individual and also make space to join together with others in support of a shared goal. Individuality within community requires tender attention. We strive, individually and corporately, to put our faith into practice.

Our work in the world is varied. Some Meetings have made the move to create a presence on the web. For others, making sure to be visible in the community and sharing in those activities which are consonant with Friends’ testimonies has fostered connection through shared work. Some of our Meetings are working along side of other faith communities in needed humanitarian work, finding that the unity of Spirit which we share is often more important than the practices which separate us. Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends understand that these activities allow us to witness to our faith through our practice.

The paradoxical challenges of size present themselves throughout our Yearly Meeting. Smaller Meetings seek ways to share the work and not to depend too heavily on the same few people to get everything done. Larger Meetings worry that newcomers may not be brought into the leadership fold. For Meetings of medium size, particularly those which have experienced growth recently, having a critical mass of those in attendance who are well schooled in Quaker process and principles has at times been difficult. Those Meetings which are large enough to support two First Day opportunities for worship find that the nature of the two services may be quite different; creating time between the two meetings so that there is space for cross-fertilization, singing, committee meetings and fellowship has been valuable for some. There are blessings and challenges to face at every size!

Several Meetings carry concern about our Yearly Meeting's response to the Friends United Meeting personnel policy. A number of Friends continue to labor to reconcile our experience that there is that of God in everyone with our understanding of Friends United Meeting's personnel policies. For some Meetings, the work to understand this situation more fully has provided a forum for Friends to come to know one another better in that which is eternal, whether or not they have reached comfort with the policy or about how to respond to it.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business has created the opportunity for many Meetings to deepen. Doing business in the manner of Friends requires a profound appreciation for the workings of the Spirit among us, inviting God into all we do. This process requires time, patience and the willingness have trust in the Divine and in one another. Acknowledging and living into the difference between "sense of the meeting" and "consensus" has provided an underpinning for walking more humbly and effectively in the Light. Our members and attenders strive to use discernment. As we seek sound decisions we acknowledge a need to improve shared understandings of underlying Quaker principles and methods.

Through everything we do, we know the Spirit moves with us and through us, weaving us together into a community of faith. Large or small, urban or suburban, gray-headed or with young families, we know the movement of the Spirit among us, guiding us through the sublime grounding of community, holding us dearly. And we are grateful. We grow and diversify, live our testimonies, steward our resources, and share our love of the Divine through grace because God lives within us, always guiding us as we seek to transform our faith into practice.

MINUTES OF BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING

Interim Meeting

TENTH MONTH 18, 2008

CHARLOTTESVILLE MONTHLY MEETING

I2008-39 *Opening.* Friends gathered in worship at 2:30 p.m. Out of the silence, Clerk Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) spoke the 133rd Psalm written by an ancient family values advocate. The psalmist uses two similes for unity, the fragrant oil from the ceremony to ordain a priest and the morning dew on a high mountain – how refreshing that must feel in a desert climate. Unity doesn't mean you agree on every little point; there is unity in seeking God's blessing and finding it. We understand that we are all ordained into the priesthood of believers.

I2008-40 *Welcome.* Charlottesville Monthly Meeting welcomes all and appreciates the travel that Friends have undertaken today. Tandem Friends School, the only 'convinced' Friends School, welcomes us to its campus.

I2008-41 *News of Friends.* Please hold in the light Friends Virginia Schurman (Gunpowder) and Ria Hawkins (Bethesda) both of whom would like to be here, but are dealing with health concerns.

Linda Heacock of Richmond Meeting died recently; a memorial meeting for worship was held for her at Richmond and in Africa. Linda's ministry was embraced by Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

I2008-42 *Memorial Minute for Donna Rugg.*

Donna Marie Robinson Rugg, a beloved member of Richmond Friends Meeting, departed this life on 2008-03-27, having suffered an early onset of Alzheimer's disease. With her husband, Robert Donald Rugg, she became a convinced Friend, and they joined 57th Street Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in Chicago, Illinois, in 1969.

Thereafter they sojourned for two years in Ottawa, Canada, and returned to 57th Street until their removal to Richmond Virginia in 1974. She is survived by her parents, a brother and a sister, husband Bob, four children, and eight grandchildren.

Donna was born in Rochester NY on 1944-07-23 and grew up there, in White Plains, NY, and South Brunswick, NJ, until her marriage to Bob in Princeton, NJ, in 1964. She attended Douglass College as a

history major and later resumed the study of history at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), where in her junior year she received the Alden Bigelow prize for the best history term paper of the year. Much of her work at VCU focused on her interest in the history of Friends in Virginia until her illness forced her to lay down her academic work. In 1995, she was the Meeting Historian and Archivist, providing the inspiration for, and leading, the 200th anniversary celebration for Richmond Friends Meeting.

During a time when there were strong pressures to re-examine the role of women in American society, Donna chose to live as a traditional homemaker and mother. She made her home a place of welcome and spiritual nurture for all. She served Richmond Friends Meeting as Clerk of the Religious Education Committee and went on to serve actively on the Religious Education committees of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and Friends General Conference. She was active in the community, embodying ideals of simplicity, environmental stewardship, and nonviolent peacemaking in the home, in the neighborhood, and in the Richmond public schools.

Donna was a close friend and mentor to numerous members and attenders of her three monthly meetings, Chicago General Meeting, Illinois Yearly Meeting, Canada Yearly Meeting, Virginia Half Year's Meeting, and Baltimore Yearly Meeting, often taking a special interest in, and providing support to, mothers of young children. Even through the confusion of her illness, Donna remained cheerful and friendly. She was consistently honest, never pretending to understand what was happening if she didn't, or to recognize a person she didn't know.

I2008-43 Program Committee. Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented a minute in appreciation of Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill).

We recognize and deeply appreciate Rebecca Rawls's careful and loving service to Baltimore Yearly Meeting as Annual Session Registrar, 2002 through 2008. Rebecca's friendly attention to registrations, room assignments, beds, blankets and beyond assured comfort to the sessions' many attenders. The Yearly Meeting thanks Rebecca for six years of statistically perfect performance.

The minute was APPROVED.

I2008-44 *Friends in Unity with Nature*. Barbara Williamson (Richmond Meeting) reported that Friends in Unity with Nature Committee requests that Friends continue the process of raising the issue of certifying our Meetinghouses as green.

Friends noted that the form distributed at Annual Session is more appropriate to urban Meetings than to rural Meetings, but each Meeting should indicate what it is doing now.

I2008-45 *Travel Minute*. The travel minute for Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre) was returned, endorsed by the 2008 FUM Triennial Gathering's presiding clerk.

I2008-46 *Epistle*. Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) presented for the Epistle Committee, the other members of which were J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington) and Rebecca Haines Rosenberg (Alexandria).

Ken set the background for our consideration by explaining why the epistle was coming before Interim Meeting today. Ken noted that at this past Annual Session, the Epistle Committee worked throughout the week, trying to get a sense of what was happening each day. Early in the week, the assembled Friends lacked clarity around the FUM issues, and early drafts of the epistle reflected that. But by the end of the week, Friends made progress as reflected in a minute approved on Saturday (Y2008-62). The Epistle Committee found a place to insert language from that minute in the final revisions for the second reading on Sunday. However, the Committee did not revise some of the language that was previously in the draft. On Sunday, a concern was raised that the epistle did not adequately reflect the progress we had made late in the week and the unity we had achieved in some areas. In the final analysis, it was an issue of balance and tone, which the Committee could not readily address during the closing minutes of the Annual Session, so the matter was laid over to Interim Meeting (Y2008-58, Y2008-75). The substantive changes brought to Interim Meeting appear in the fifth paragraph and in the penultimate paragraph.

The Epistle was APPROVED with the insertion of a reference to M. Scott Peck and the omission of another sentence: "We are humbled by the knowledge that much of this waiting is due to our own folly."

In our consideration of the epistle, we were reminded of the important concern raised at Annual Session concerning a discrepancy of over \$400,000 in our fund accounting. This is money that, over a number of years, our books recorded as restricted funds, when it appears that, in fact, the funds are not restricted. This is not a matter of any money being missing. Instead, it is a matter of going through many years of accounting records to properly allocate money among restricted and unrestricted funds. The Trustees already have been able to reconcile most of this discrepancy, but will not turn the matter over to Stewardship and Finance Committee until the work is completed. While we do not feel that this funds issue needs to be part of the prophetic message of our epistle, we acknowledge that it is an important issue for us as a community.

Friends thanked the Epistle Committee for their hard work over this long period and expressed their appreciation to those Friends who have worked on the finance issue. The Epistle is attached.

12008-47 Peace Committee. Bill Mims (Langley Hill) spoke, noting that “we all need all of us.” Everyone is invited to Peace and Social Concerns networking day at Sandy Spring on November 8.

Bill presented a minute regarding continued support for the Peace Tax Fund. All 124 organizations which have affirmed it have been asked to reaffirm their support.

Friends were reminded that we have affirmed this in the past and support the Committee in reminding Friends of activities which may be undertaken. We have tested our leading with regard to the Peace Tax Fund and find that we are still in unity to support it.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting has been asked to delegate Young Adult Friends, as well as adult Friends, to attend a Peace Gathering in Philadelphia. Nony Dutton (Baltimore, Homewood) Jessica Arens (Friends Meeting of Washington) and, as alternate delegate, Andrei Israel (Friends Meeting of Washington) have been proposed. This delegation was APPROVED.

Malachy Kilbride, Friends Meeting of Washington, presented a minute regarding the death penalty case of Troy Davis, whom the State of Georgia intends to execute later this month.

A Friend indicated a concern that we not seem more concerned about the life of an innocent person than we would be about the life of a guilty person, and wording with that in mind was presented. A concern about the phrase "integrity of the criminal justice system" also was raised.

Friends APPROVED that the Clerk and the Committee revise wording with these concerns in mind, and expeditiously communicate our request for clemency to the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles. That letter is attached.

12008-48 Manual of Procedure Committee. Chip Tucker (Charlottesville) presented. The Manual of Procedure Committee proposed the following change to paragraph 3 of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee description.

Friends are encouraged to record their personal statements of pacifism by sending signed and dated statements to their Monthly Meetings and to the Yearly Meeting. The names of all persons filing such statements are to be listed in the Yearbook published following receipt of the documents.

APPROVED

Manual of Procedure Committee proposed adding the following paragraphs at the end of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee description:

The Right Sharing of World Resources Working Group (RSWRWG) is under the care of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee and works to keep alive throughout the Yearly Meeting the challenge to simplify our lives and to work in partnership with our sisters and brothers in the United States and throughout the world for a more equitable distribution of the world's resources. The RSWRWG works with monthly meetings and with the independent Quaker organization Right Sharing of World Resources, Inc. The RSWRWG facilitates the coordination and exchange of information, provides support for community development and self-help programs and raises funds for these programs. It may also bring to the attention of the Yearly Meeting other international and domestic concerns that affect the relationship between people of greatly different economic means wherever they may live.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee also appoints the Yearly

Meeting's representative on the Participating Members' Council of the National Religious Coalition Against Torture (NRCAT).

RSWRWG's and NRCAT's activities come to the Yearly Meeting as part of this Committee's report.

A concern was raised about the Peace and Social Concerns Committee appointing a representative of the Yearly Meeting to the National Religious Coalition Against Torture. The current Manual of Procedure does not permit committees to appoint individuals to represent the Yearly Meeting, thus bypassing approval at Interim Meeting or at Annual Session. In addition, some term should be specified for the appointment. A Friend suggested that names for appointments could be suggested by committees and reported to the Nominating Committee to bring forward for approval by the Yearly Meeting.

Manual of Procedure Committee proposed the following change to the Youth Programs Committee description:

The final sentence of numbered paragraph 3 which reads as follows:

All revisions to the Young Friends Handbook will be approved by a Young Friends Conference Business Meeting.

This should be replaced by the following sentence:

All revisions to the Young Friends Handbook will be approved by a Young Friends Conference Business Meeting and reported by the Youth Programs Committee to the Yearly Meeting.

Youth Programs Committee has not yet considered this proposal.

These additional proposals were referred back to the Manual of Procedures Committee for more seasoning, in consultation with the other relevant committees.

12008-49 Report of Camp Administrative Secretary. Jane Megginson (Frederick) presented the following report.

2008 Camp Administrative Secretary Report

It has been one year now since I started telecommuting. At first, there were lots of technical bugs to work out which, eventually, I figured out how to fix. That was very empowering, since I am not an IT person by training. I have marveled again and again, though, how one can really learn anything one wants by searching the internet. I can learn how to access my desktop computer in Maryland from my home in Pennsylvania, and I can learn how to make backpacking stoves that

weigh less than an ounce out of used aluminum cans. I enjoy working from home, although at times it can be lonely. The e-mails, phone calls and my trusty sidekick, Max, keep me company. Although you might not guess it, one of the biggest challenges of working from home is remembering to eat lunch!

This past year we have witnessed some big changes in the Camping Program as we welcome a new co-director to Teen Adventure, David Gregal. David joins Jennifer Schneider in ably leading the shenanigans we call TA. David grew up going to Shiloh as a camper with Jen Schneider. Both Jen and David worked as counselors and staff together at Shiloh for many years. They ran an excellent program at TA this past summer, and I am looking forward to many more years of smooth TA sailing with Jen and Dave. On another note, this past summer was the last summer that Dana Foster directed Shiloh Quaker Camp. Dana has worked in the camping program since 1988 and directed Shiloh since 1996. Like Dave and Jen, I worked with Dana at Opequon and Shiloh since we were both teens. So, for me, this is a bittersweet moment of change in our program. I am grateful for the 20 years of service, love, care, compassion and centered leadership that Dana has provided our program. I am very excited for her that she is moving on to do something she has wanted to do for a long time: managing the livestock at Scattergood Friends School. I am sure she will bring the same level of commitment, humor and love to that new role as she has brought to our program these past 20 years. We will certainly miss Dana.

Late last year all of my time was consumed with re-doing the camp website. We now have a website dedicated to the Camping Program that is better organized and hopefully easier to navigate. Our camps are really a business and I realized that we were not competing well with all of the other camps out there to get the attention of potential customers. The changing market is a big reason we are not fully enrolled at half of our camps. Now every private school has a day camp program in the summer. Since 9/11/2001, the summer camps market has changed dramatically. Many parents want to keep their children closer to them at all times. Our society has been driven by fear and the desire to control our environment; thus the boom in the day camp market and the decline in enrollment at residential camps. Another factor in declining enrollment at very rustic camps, such as ours, is the boom in technol-

ogy. We have become a culture of people driven by our gadgets, our constant contact with each other through e-mail, cell phones, instant messaging and television. Oddly, though, this contact with others now is mediated through the internet and airwaves. We are becoming less comfortable and practiced dealing with each other face to face. We are further removed from creating communities with each other based on substantive human interaction. We spend less time playing outside, interacting with each other in person and being in nature.

Competing in this market with so many new camps is a challenge. We have changed our approach to recruiting campers with print ads and websites, but I still believe that our best advertising, our most convincing testimony, is our campers. We need more campers at Shiloh and Opequon, and I think the best way to get them is from current and past campers (and parents) recruiting new campers for us. So please help us out by mentioning our camps, Shiloh and Opequon, to young people you know. Now, perhaps more than ever, it is critical for kids to get comfortable being in nature and creating community with other young people.

Teen Adventure and Catoctin continue to be fully enrolled, which helps us stay within our budget. I am pleased that once again, the Camping Program has not run at a deficit. Through careful stewardship, and in spite of skyrocketing food and fuel costs, the camps have stayed within their overall budget. Fiscal responsibility is something I take very seriously. I know that the Yearly Meeting has been struggling the past several years to keep within its budget. This coming year, camp fees will increase by \$50 per week for BYM campers in an effort to keep up with the increasing food and fuel costs, and to help the Yearly Meeting make a balanced budget. I want Yearly Meeting members and camp families alike to know that the Camping Program is not a drain on the Yearly Meeting finances, but an important source of cash flow and outreach for our Yearly Meeting. The camps are the main source of income sustaining the properties that the Yearly Meeting owns.

I'm planning a few changes for the coming camp season: an "enroll as we go" system, where spaces will fill up and close out (like reserving a seat on an airplane); signing up for work grants this year will be just like signing a camper up for camp and will also enroll as space is

available; Shiloh will have one-week sessions for the first time this year in an effort to increase enrollment in the third session; and we will be hiring a new director for Shiloh.

In my work and in this report about my work, I see a theme that is paradoxical. I am running a business, using all of the latest technology available, and I am a minister leading a religious education program that takes place outdoors. I constantly struggle to find the balance in these sometimes opposing forces. I watch our budget like a hawk, warning the staff to be careful with money, at the same time as I try to remain flexible enough to find a way for kids with little or no money to be able to attend camp. We try to keep the fees low for camp but we also need to balance that with paying our staff a fair wage and keeping our properties in good repair. My perpetual goal in my role as Camp Administrative Secretary is to be a good steward of this program, serving all of the constituents of BYM and the camps with a balanced outlook.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Megginson

October 18, 2008

Friends expressed their appreciation to Jane.

12008-50 Report of Camp Property Manager. J. David Hunter (Frederick) presented the following report:

Staff Report of the Camp Properties Manager (CPM)

To Baltimore Yearly Meeting

October, 2008

This was an exciting year to have the opportunity to serve the Yearly Meeting as the Camp Property Manager. Major projects were completed, new ones began, unique opportunities were seized and several surprises arose and were dealt with.

Catoctin Quaker Camp

The woodland wild flowers bloomed with a little more majesty this spring, and the bell sounded with an especially rich tone. We suspect that this was due to the fact that in the end of March 2008 the Catoctin Pond Water Quality Project was completed. The reports are in, and it

is clear that more children than ever enjoyed swimming and canoeing in our beloved lagoon this summer. Furthermore, the bacteria levels were consistently well below safe levels, and the water clarity was significantly improved.

The last phase of the work involved regrading the banks of the pond to minimize erosion, and create a freeboard around most of the pond to enable children to get in and out of the pond safely and to control plant and algae growth. This work also involved lining the pond with stone and washed stone dust to improve water clarity. This will allow sunlight to penetrate the water and reduce bacteria populations, creating a safer environment for swimming. We were able to accomplish these goals in a way that detracted as little as possible from campers' perception of the lagoon as a natural bathing beach environment, and we have been pleased to discover that the flora and fauna in and around the pond are recovering quickly.

We are developing a maintenance plan to protect our investment in the pond. We will be optimizing the amount of water we allow to flow into the pond during the different seasons and continuing to test the water in the pond and in the stream that feeds the pond to monitor bacteria levels. We will also want to renew the banks of the pond by adding material periodically. Water testing, and trucking in materials to maintain the banks of the pond, will represent an on-going expense, and there is labor involved. However, the amount of labor and expense is a small fraction of what it would cost to provide our campers with opportunities to swim in a pool or be driven to another bathing area. Furthermore, there is a clear consensus – the Goon is way more cool!

The total cost of this project, from 2006 to 2008, was approximately \$98,000. This can be compared to the expense of building a commercial pool which was estimated at roughly \$250,000 in 2005. As mentioned above, there will be costs associated with maintenance and upkeep of the pond but they will be a fraction of the expense of maintaining a commercial pool and should not approach this level again for a long, long time.

As you can imagine, a great deal of mud and sediment was removed from the pond. Discussion about what to do with this rich material

will be ongoing. Possibilities include improvements to the Fraz Field and creating a glen behind the pond for small group activities, tenting or worship. These are nice, unforeseen opportunities that undertaking the work on the pond has provided.

As reported in 2007, Frederick County, MD, is requiring that we obtain an approved site plan for Catoctin. A great deal has been accomplished in this area; however, there remains a great deal to do. Through the kindness of a survey equipment rental company, in the winter of 2007-2008 we were able to borrow a GPS surveying tool. Volunteers, the CPM and the Catoctin Caretaker began tromping all over the Catoctin property collecting survey data. That data and a significant amount of property description research were turned over to T.E. Scott & Associates, Inc., a civil engineering firm owned by a generous Catoctin parent. They were able to create a first draft of a site plan that was submitted to Frederick County in July. The site plan submittal was done in close consultation with Frederick County and we were hopeful that the plan would be reviewed and approved by the Frederick County Planning and Zoning staff on its first submission. That would have allowed us time to submit a building permit application and continue replacing camper cabins at Catoctin each fall as we had planned. Alas, it was not to be.

In reviewing the site plan, Frederick County found that there are zoning issues that will need to be resolved, and it will be necessary for the site plan to undergo a full, public review. It seems clear that this will eventually result in an approved site plan, but it will be a more involved project than we had originally hoped. T.E. Scott & Associates, Inc. is happy to continue working with us, and most of their time will be donated; however, it will be necessary for them to pass some of their costs on to us, and there will be additional application fees. However, we are all eager to keep working on this project and get the site plan approved. When we submit the site plan for the final review it may be helpful to have BYM Friends and friends of the camping programs submit statements or be present for the meeting. We will be sure to keep you informed.

Please remember in gratitude T.E. Scott & Associates, Inc. for all they have given to this effort, Chris Chiusano, of GPS Sales and Service,

for providing the specialized survey equipment necessary to collect the survey data (and instruction in how to use it) and the volunteers who spent cold hours in the wintry Catoctin woods.

Regrettably, we were not able to build a cabin this fall and continue with our cabin replacement schedule. We are looking forward to resuming the schedule in the fall of 2009.

Several issues were raised by the County Fire Marshal's office during their inspection of the camp property this summer. Issues like posting the address on Tower Road, signs designating fire lanes and indicating directions to cabins and filing of the emergency plan with the county were addressed by the camping program staff, maintenance volunteers and Stephen Dotson, the Catoctin Caretaker. There were also a few other issues that will need to be addressed in the off-season. One issue we will be addressing this winter and spring is the installation of an adequate exhaust hood and fire suppression system over the stoves in the kitchen. Bids on this work are already being sought and we are in discussion with trades-people who may be willing to donate components of this system or give of their time in an effort to address this issue. We are confident that this issue will be dealt with before camp opens in 2009, with only minimal disruption to the off-season rental schedule.

We are also working with the Fire Marshal's Office to determine the capacity of the existing dining hall and will address any issues that come up in this regard. Concerns the Fire Marshal raised regarding the exits of the camper cabins are also being addressed.

Other projects that were undertaken at Catoctin this year included the installation of a hand washing station near the Dining Hall, improvements to the camper cabins to discourage rodents and bats from taking up residence, roof repairs to the bathhouses and camper cabins and a new roof for the Infirmary/Studio.

Opequon Quaker Camp

Opequon continues to be a place that needs our attention. Since there is no caretaker there, any projects that are done there are done at work

weekends, by Camp Property Management Committee Members or by the CPM.

Much of what we undertake at Opequon consists of cleaning up, painting and smaller repairs and improvements. This year we were able to make significant improvements to the Director's cabin, replacing drywall and installing a yellow pine floor that was salvaged from some of the cabins that were replaced at Catoctin. We were also able to protect the slab and foundation of the dining hall pavilion where some of the soil around and under the slab had eroded.

The most exciting thing happening at Opequon will begin this spring. The Camp Property Management Committee is prepared to replace two of the camper cabins and looks forward to having them ready for the 2009 camping season. We have settled on a design that is quite similar to the cabin that was built at Opequon in the spring of 2004, but this cabin has been designed to be built in sections off-site and erected on-site. We are looking at bids from several companies who would like to fabricate the walls in panels, build the floor framing and the roof trusses, as well as provide many of the other materials needed to build these cabins. Then the prefabricated components and materials will be delivered to the site and erected. It is evident that this method will prove to be quite cost-effective, since the prefabricated components are less expensive than all of the materials would be if we bought them ourselves. This is because the companies that build these components are able to buy materials in such large quantities.

We are planning three work weekends this spring (April 25-26, 2009, May 16-17, 2009 and June 6-7, 2009) to erect these cabins. We are very excited to see these cabins go up and hope lots of Friends will come out to enjoy the fun!

Shiloh Quaker Camp

Friends may recall that between 1997 and 2000 significant improvements were undertaken at Shiloh. These included the building of some of the nicest bathhouses on the eastern seaboard, a new septic system and, in 2000 a new well. Since 2000, the well has served us faithfully. However, in the summer of 2007 we found that we were getting a great

deal of grit and sediment in the water, especially in the caretaker's residence. In an effort to address this problem, the water line from the well house to the caretaker's residence was replaced and the height of the pump was adjusted. This addressed the sediment issue, but since then we have had coli form bacteria in the water.

Coli form bacteria is not a harmful class of bacteria in itself, but it is an indicator that it is possible for other more harmful bacteria to be present. Water that is tested and found to have coli form bacteria in it cannot be certified safe for drinking. As a result, bottled water was made available for drinking at Shiloh this summer, and normal camp sterilization methods were used on all of the dishes and utensils.

It is generally necessary to sterilize a well after removing the pump or doing this kind of work. The well and water system at Shiloh have been sterilized several times over the course of the spring and summer. However, the coli form bacteria persist. After a great deal of research and consultation, we have determined that the well is being contaminated by water from the surface. There are several courses of action open to us that will address this issue. The Camp Property Management Committee will be examining these options this fall, and we are confident that the issue will be addressed before the dogwoods bloom in the spring.

Two of our favorite swimming holes in the river at Shiloh are no longer available to us due to property changing hands and the new owner's discomfort with allowing access to the river. We have discussed building a pond at Shiloh for several years now, and the loss of these swimming holes is making the pond at Shiloh feel like a more urgent need. We feel that we could build a pond at Shiloh for approximately \$75,000 and have already begun looking into possible sites and designs. We have learned a great deal in our experience working on the pond at Catoctin and would love to be able to put that knowledge to use at Shiloh. All we need is adequate funds.

Other work that has been going on at Shiloh includes addressing structural concerns in the camper cabins and continuing to work to control kudzu on the property. We finally feel that we have the kudzu under control inside our borders, but we also are aware that it will take five

to ten years to eradicate it.

Work Weekends

Much of the work mentioned above, as well as lots of maintenance, cleaning and other improvements are accomplished during work weekends. We have a great group of volunteers that come out to enjoy some simple and satisfying work in the beautiful places many of us have come to love. It is a great way for participants to enjoy some time with like-minded Friends. Furthermore, it is a very cost-effective way for the Yearly Meeting to maintain its camp properties. A complete list of work weekend dates can be found below.

We have come to rely heavily on work weekends for the maintenance and improvement of our camp properties. This point was driven home last spring and again this fall when we had a few weekends that were poorly attended, and we were not able to get as much done as we had planned. It became clear that we have placed a lot of eggs in the work weekend basket, and problems can result when we are not able to achieve our goals for a given weekend. We have also observed that attendance at work weekends seems to be declining. It may be time to consider whether or not work weekends are the most effective means for getting maintenance, upkeep and improvements done at the camp properties.

It may be time to begin looking at other alternatives, such as doing more coordination of service projects for young people, spending more time seeking out trade people willing to make gifts of their time and expertise, budgeting more money to hire people to do more work at the camps or making our Caretaker positions full-time rather than half-time. All of these alternatives are more costly in terms of time invested or in terms of money but we may have come to a point where it is easier to find donations to pay for work rather than finding volunteers to do the work. However, before we travel too far down that road I would like to say a word in praise of the work weekend.

I grew up visiting and working on a community farm where there was a plaque on the wall in the farm house kitchen that said “The Future Belongs to Those of Us Who Are Still Willing to Get Our Hands Dirty.”

These became words for me to live by. I am a believer in the strength that is forged in a group of people who are willing to come together, toil together and work towards a common goal. It is my hope that more Friends will recognize the value in working together and recommit themselves to making work weekends work more effectively. Come and participate! Encourage others to come and participate and, perhaps most importantly, allow the excitement of engaging in this process find a place in you. When we share a common goal with others, enjoy sharing in the work, and have the opportunity to celebrate achieving our goal all in the space of a day, we are satisfied in ways that are hard to find in the kinds of lives we lead in this day and age.

So many of the things we work at as Friends are long (really long) term efforts. Making real peace, building justice, preserving the environment and the planet, these are projects that are not finished in a week or two. When we set out, together, to clean a room, prepare a meal, build a cabin or clear a patch of brush, and in the course of a day or a weekend we accomplish what we set out to do, that is a wonderful and true gift to our Spirit. It is a richer gift when we have done it together, with other kindred spirits. The gift we give ourselves is even more lavish and satisfying given the knowledge that in reaching this goal together we have given a gift to our children and to our future.

2009 Work Weekend Dates

Spring

Opequon Quaker Camp - April 24-26, 2009

Catoctin Quaker Camp - May 2-3, 2009

Opequon Quaker Camp - May 16-17, 2009

Shiloh Quaker Camp - May 30-31, 2009

Opequon Quaker Camp - June 6-7, 2009

Fall

Opequon Quaker Camp - September 12-13, 2009

Catoctin Quaker Camp- September 19-20, 2009

Shiloh Quaker Camp - October 3-4, 2009

Catoctin Quaker Camp - October 10-11,2009

Catoctin Quaker Camp - October 24-25, 2009

Opequon Quaker Camp - October 31-November 1, 2009 (?)

Please visit: http://www.bymcamps.org/work_weekends.htm for more information and send an e-mail to davidhunter@bym-rsf.org if you

plan to attend.

Vehicles and equipment

For several years, the camping program has leased buses to transport campers. Over the last few years this practice has become very expensive and has been a constant source of difficulty for the camping program staff. This year we were presented with an opportunity to purchase several of our own buses and seized it. This summer we only had to lease one bus for about a month from outside the Yearly Meeting. We now own two “mini-buses” that seat 14 passengers and can be driven with an ordinary CDL license, and three larger buses that require a B class CDL with a passenger endorsement.

Owning our own buses has been a great boon for the camping program and will save us a considerable amount of money in the long run. It is practical as well as fun to have our own buses that we can outfit in ways that make the most sense to our own needs. It is also important to note that getting buses ready for use at camp, maintaining them and moving them from place to place represents a great deal of work that we were not doing before. It has also become necessary for the CPM to have and maintain a B class CDL which represents a significant time commitment and expense.

Owning our own buses also presents an opportunity to organizations and Monthly Meetings within the Yearly Meeting. We have begun to allow Friends Schools that are covered under the Yearly Meeting insurance to lease the buses for field trips and other events. We are able to offer the buses at rates that are well below rates charged by other leasing companies, and we have already used the buses on several occasions. Leasing buses to Friends Schools and other groups within the Yearly Meeting will help us defray the cost of owning the buses and offer a new service to Friends. We look forward to Monthly Meetings and other Yearly Meeting organizations having the opportunity to lease the buses as well, but expanding our offerings will require that we develop a larger group of CDL drivers. Friends who have or are willing to obtain a CDL license would be able to offer the Yearly Meeting and the camping program a great service, and it is a rewarding way to make a little extra income. If you live in the Sandy Spring area, the Frederick area

or near one of the camps and think that this is something you would be interested in doing, please let the Camping Program Secretary or the CPM know. We would love to help you in this way.

We also provide the camping program with five vehicles such as mini-vans or small SUVs that are used for running errands and transporting smaller groups of campers and staff. The camp properties also maintain four pick-ups that are used in the maintenance of the properties and that are shared with the camping program during the summer. In light of our concerns for the planet, we try to use diesel engines whenever possible, to maintain smaller vehicles whenever practical and to minimize the number of miles we drive.

Committee Work

The Camp Property Management Committee has been infused with new life this year. After work on the pond at Catoctin was complete, the Camp Property Management Committee went into a brief period of hibernation, but it has emerged with new life. It continues to oversee projects at the camp properties, help create the budget for the camp properties and support and offer guidance for the CPM.

This year several sub-committees have been formed and began meeting to help develop a longer view of some of the issues that the committee faces. The following sub-committees have formed and are developing recommendations for the committee to consider. The Energy Sub-Committee is looking at alternative energy, energy use at camp and how to minimize our carbon footprint. The Vehicle Sub-committee is considering how to provide safe transportation for our camps and camp property needs most cost effectively. The Development Sub-Committee is looking forward to supporting the work of, and offer assistance to, the new Development Director. They would also like to develop a better capital improvement budget and take a hard look at the resources that will be needed for capital improvement projects and major repairs over the next five to ten years.

It continues to be a joy to work with the Camp Property Management Committee. It seems to me that it is a rare privilege to be able to work with such a committed and skilled group of Friends, willing to give of

themselves and their time to such a remarkable degree. They are an inspiration to me in all that I do.

Rentals

We continue to strive to develop and support Friends and others who wish to use the properties in the off-season. It is a challenge to strike a balance between offering an adequate amount of support to those who wish to rent one of the camps and not allowing this work to occupy too much time. I am extraordinarily grateful to Ann Whittaker, who is beginning to help me with camp rentals by booking reservations, sending out information packets and helping with recording payments and sending out invoices.

Off-season rentals continue to make slow and steady growth in the revenue they generate for the camp properties. Revenue from the properties in Virginia continues to grow, and we look forward to having these properties used more often in the future. We offered the use of the Virginia properties to BYM meetings and to other Friends' organizations free of charge in 2008 to try to encourage Friends to remember that they too are beautiful places and available for our use. We had a few groups take advantage of this opportunity and one or two Meetings and organizations seem to be showing signs of making the Virginia properties "their place" for retreats and gatherings. This year we will also rent out the studio at Catoctin and the retreat at Shiloh for the whole off-season, generating about \$6,000 in revenue.

Caretakers

We are fortunate to have two caretakers who are willing to take on so much and do it with commitment. It is often a lonely and underappreciated job but we are blessed with two individuals who are willing to take on the work for love of the place and love of the programs we are able to offer there.

Stephen Dotson is our caretaker at Catoctin, and renters continue to enjoy his friendly, care-filled and unobtrusive presence at camp. He has done a great job of coordinating many of the projects that have brought us into closer compliance with the fire safety codes. He has

also worked hard to ensure that materials and projects were available for work weekend participants and other volunteers.

Ralph Reed continues to watch over Shiloh on behalf of the Yearly Meeting. He has put in many hours caring for our canoes. It is because of his ongoing and Herculean efforts that the kudzu at Shiloh is coming under our control.

Our gratitude is due to each of these individuals. Thank you and blessings to you both!

Budgeting

Since I came to this position our primary goal in the budgeting process has been to create an operating budget that accurately reflects the full range of expenses that we encounter in the operation of our camp properties. I feel that to a large degree that goal has been achieved. It is important to note that in March of 2009 we will have worked on and recommended a budget for 2010 to Stewardship and Finance. That is more than nine months before the budget cycle even begins and 21 months before it ends. So, it stands to reason that there will be areas that will need to be adjusted each year, expenses that we cannot anticipate, and time when it seems prudent to make investments that were not part of the budget for that year. However, we are getting closer and closer to accurately anticipating our annual expenses each year, and I think we can shift our attention to some new areas as we approach the camp property budget.

New goals for us to work towards in the future might include:

Covering more of the expenses that we encounter at the camp properties with revenue generated from the camp properties: Currently the Yearly Meeting supports the camp properties, as it does many other programs in the Yearly Meeting, by providing some of the funds needed to maintain the camp properties. Most of the time it seems that the Yearly Meeting is happy to provide this support, and those who enjoy the camp properties and the camping programs are abundantly grateful to the Yearly Meeting for this support. It may be that the Yearly Meeting is happy to continue supporting the camping programs and

the camp properties as they have in the past, but it may also be possible that the Yearly Meeting would be happy to have some of this burden removed if additional revenue could be generated in other ways. Some possibilities include:

Additional rental revenue – this could be accomplished by increasing the amount that is transferred from the camping programs budget into the camp properties budget. This would require the camping program to generate more revenue and would probably result in higher camper fees. We could also increase the rate for off-season renters or work harder at finding more groups to use the camp properties in the off-season.

Generating more revenue from sales of resources at the camps: Some possibilities for increasing revenue in this area include the sale of timber and firewood at Catoctin and Shiloh or the sale of parts of the property that are not useful or burdensome to us.

Finding ways to use the equipment we have for operating the camps to generate revenue in the off-season: Leasing our buses to Yearly Meeting Friends Schools is one example of this.

Providing for major repairs and improvements through adequate capital reserves: It is common for organizations to anticipate and plan for major maintenance and improvement projects by maintaining capital reserve funds. One, oversimplified, example of how this can work follows. Lets say we just put a new roof on a building. We know that in about 30 years we will have to replace the roof again. If we estimate that a new roof will cost \$3,000, we can put aside \$100 each year, and in 30 years we will have \$3,000 to pay for the new roof. Estimating all of the major repairs and improvements can prove to be challenging, but there are several method we can use to simplify the process.

Knowledgeable Friends have suggested that all responsible budgeting processes need to determine an annual amount to contribute to capital reserves and ensure that it is set aside over time. In the past we have relied on actual and hypothetical “windfalls” and contributions to provide the funds for these kinds of projects. In the 2009 budget there is no expense line for the capital reserves fund. In the past we have had an expense line for capital reserve in the budget, but it was not realisti-

cally funded with actual revenue, so it seemed pointless (and possibly dishonest) to keep that line in the budget. There are many ways we, as a Committee and as a Yearly Meeting, can provide these funds. It is my hope that we can make it a priority to decide upon a method for determining what annual amount is appropriate to contribute to such a fund and propose a way to fund it in the 2010 budget.

Developing a long-term capital improvement plan: It is wonderful to have a new Development Director in the office, and Robinne's expertise has already proven itself to be beyond value. We have some very critical and immediate capital improvement projects that need to be funded at the camp properties and some projects that would make a huge difference in what we are able to offer our campers. I think this is a great time for the CPMC to improve upon the existing list of improvements that are needed and desired at the camp properties and work with Robinne to develop a plan to fund them. Now that the annual operating budget is in fairly good order and we have a development director to assist us, there has never been a better time to develop a comprehensive, realistic budget and action plan for these critical and exciting projects.

Finally

As I have for the last five years now, I thank the Yearly Meeting for the opportunity to serve in such a meaningful and rewarding position. It is a rare opportunity to be able to work with such a committed and enthusiastic body of Friends. The depth of Baltimore Yearly Meeting's commitment to its camping program and to its young people is unique in the world, and you provided everyone involved with opportunities that are just not available anywhere else. I believe that it is that same commitment to outdoor religious education and to your future that makes us the unique and vital body of Friends that we are.

Humbly and gratefully submitted,
David Hunter

Friends expressed their gratitude to David and thanked him for driving the camp bus which transported many Friends to Interim Meeting today. This is a leap forward in our environmental witness.

Friends also expressed gratitude to T.E. Scott & Associates, Inc. for all they have given to the lagoon work, to Chris Chiusano of GPS Sales and Service for providing the specialized survey equipment necessary to collect the survey data (and instruction in how to use it) and the volunteers who spent cold hours in the wintry Catoctin woods.

I2008-51 Intervisitation Committee. Susan Kaul (Bethesda) and Jean James (Richmond) reported for the *ad hoc* Intervisitation Committee. This group hosted nine visitors from Friends United Meeting to Annual Session this year, as well as visitors from the Africa-Great Lakes Initiative, East Africa Rural Services Programme and Friends World Committee on Consultation. It has broadened its travel plans and hopes to send two people to Africa next year. It is looking for committee support persons, new travelers, and new travel companions. Tomorrow at Sandy Spring Meeting it will hold an afternoon retreat from 1 to 4 p.m. You are invited!

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Report

Fall Interim Meeting, October 18, 2008—Charlottesville

Two of our visitors to BYM Annual Session told us, with smiles ☺, “You are the kind of Quakers my parents warned us about.” We all laughed in recognition of what we had been told about “them.” Yes, we *are* different, but we are also the same. We now have begun sharing our hopes and our dreams and our concerns. Won’t you join us? Contact Intervisitation co-clerks Susan Kaul (Bethesda) susan.kaul@gmail.com, phone 301-986-0088 or Jean James (Richmond) fiveacwood@att.net, phone 804-752-2121, for more information.

A Friend in an FUM-FGC Yearly Meeting shared with us, “*In our relationship with FUM we can stay and be unhappy; we can leave and be self-righteous; or we can search for a third way forward. A group of us meet regularly to worship and search for the third way forward.*”

A Friend from an FUM-only Yearly Meeting told us, “*Our faith is based on experience. Direct experience with God is what defines us across the board—not peace and not missions. Our faith is not based on theology, which is why Friends have trouble discussing theology. Even in Iowa Yearly Meeting-FUM, which is pretty conservative, there is a wide range of theology. Some Iowa Friends would be very comfortable in BYM.*”

At last Annual Session, we in BYM welcomed nine visitors from FUM (FUM-office, Great Plains, New England, New York, South-Eastern, and Western), as well as visitors from the African-Great Lakes Initiative, East Africa Rural Services Programme and FWCC. Below are some other thoughts that were shared at our many events:

“Coming to unity on issues of sexuality will not happen quickly. It was 65 years from the time John Woolman began witnessing against slavery until the first meeting disowned the practice.”

“We are coming to a point in the telecommunication age where we can’t ignore each other. Learning to live with each other is going to be a major task for all Friends in the years to come. God speaks to every person—everyone speaks to me from God. To cut off other people is to cut off God’s communication with me.”

“We say that diversity is positive. We preach it, but do we practice it?”

“The world-wide Religious Society of Friends needs to become a gathered people to do God’s work in the world.”

“What do we get from each other? Relationships! FUM is the umbrella that makes relationships among different Friends possible.”

“Being right does not change hearts. The path before us is one of radical humility, radical simplicity of spirit.”

“Kenyan Friends are not bigots! They are nice people. Most Kenyan Friends are not focused on homosexuality. They are concerned with asserting their own sovereignty, with breaking the patterns of colonialism by saying ‘no’ to their former masters.”

“Real Quakerism is not just warm and fuzzy, but includes responsibility and accountability.”

“To lay down one’s life for one’s friends is not just physical martyrdom, but also the laying down of ego, agenda, and arrogance. We may even have to give up our infatuation with Quakerism as we understand

it.”

I2008-52 Nominating Committee. Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) brought forward the following nominations:

Toni Hudson (Sandy Spring) to Friends in Unity with Nature;
Lamar Matthew (Baltimore, Stony Run) to Program Committee;
Charles Fager (State College) to Religious Education, and
M.J. Foley (Williamsburg) to Religious Education.

These nominations were APPROVED.

Friends House Board has some members already serving:
Barbara Brown, Sandy Spring, for 2009 (appointed by the Board);
Ruth Flower, Takoma Park, for 2010 (appointed by Baltimore Yearly Meeting)

These appointments were APPROVED.

Two resignations were reported and accepted.

Kathy Angell (Baltimore, Homewood) has resigned from Friends General Conference Central Committee
Lorne Garrettson (Sandy Spring) has resigned from Stewardship and Finance Committee.

There are still opportunities for service on Youth Programs Committee which particularly needs people who are at least 25 years old and can serve as Designated Friendly Adult Presences. Camping Program, Friends in Unity with Nature, Indian Affairs and Stewardship and Finance Committees need additional Friends. We also need to appoint additional Friends to Friends General Conference Central Committee and Sandy Spring Friends School Board.

Nominating Committee also includes as members Molly Tully (Friends Meeting of Washington) and Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre), although they are not listed in the Yearbook.

I2008-53 Stewardship and Finance. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) reported that at this point in the year, \$150,000 in apportionments remains unpaid by our Monthly Meetings; this is \$50,000 more than at the same time last year. Please talk with your Meeting about this.

The committee appreciated the comments and help received on the planning for the hiring of a development director. There is now growing enthusiasm about raising money.

Natalie introduced Robinne Gray, who has been on the job as Development Director for six weeks. She is happy to be with us. Goals for Year One are to improve annual giving and gifts to camping programs and to communicate the needs and value of Yearly Meeting to other members of BYM. Robinne is available to visit Monthly Meetings to talk about Friends and philanthropy.

I2008-54 Friends United Meeting. Rich Liversidge (Sandy Spring), who serves as a Trustee of FUM, reports that a sub-committee of FUM is now looking at possibility of establishing an intervisitation program, based partly on experiences with our intervisitation program. Rich reported a genuine effort by the Executive Committee to find a “third way” to address the FUM personnel policy, which BYM and some other yearly meetings find objectionable and some yearly meeting support. Our two representatives to the General Board were immediately appointed to responsible positions: Mary Lord (Adelphi) to the Executive Committee; and J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington) as clerk of the Finance Committee. FUM has an opportunity to send to Kaimosi Hospital about \$250,000 of surplus medical equipment and supplies for just the shipping and handling costs. FUM is seeking to raise the \$15,000 shipping cost. In addition, FUM is raising the \$12,000 balance for a \$50,000 ambulance for Kaimosi. Rich was present to answer questions on the written report submitted by J.E. McNeil and Mary Lord.

Report of BYM Representatives to Friends United Meeting General Board

Mary Lord and I attended FUM GB for the first time as representatives of BYM. Rich Liversidge also attended as a Trustee of FUM. Mary Lord was asked to serve on the Executive Committee of FUM and I was asked to serve on the Finance Committee where I was immediately made chair. Mary and I took repeated potshots for BYM, but stood it mostly in good humor. Among reports of the work at the hospital in Kaimosi and other issues, some important things became clear to me. FUM is very much in a period of change. But there is a fundamental problem with creating an equal partnership with people in Africa due to vestiges of colonialism, cultural differences, distance and disparity in economics and technology. Many, if not most, of the issues with the management of FUM can be laid at that door.

Several Friends spoke of a different spirit that was seeking to find a path to move the work forward, despite our inability to reach agreement on the personnel policy and other matters. There were also opportunities for informal discussion of hot topics of theology. It was also clear that the interaction and morale of the Richmond staff is good, despite genuine anxiety over cash flow in this time of financial uncertainty.

Having said that, it is equally clear, that the GB is eager to have people on it, and working for it, who have financial and legal acumen. The agreement with Kaimosi hospital, for example, was immediately tightened up legally when issues were pointed out. My time in the Finance Committee let me see not only financial issues, but concrete steps towards their resolve. I was particularly pleased with Barbara Smith, the relatively new Director of Financial Services, as a woman who hates unanswered questions and unbalanced accounts. She and I set out a plan for resolving some earlier financial glitches which have made it difficult to see the exact lay of the land without a considerable understanding of finances. I believe that within a fairly short time the remaining issues of how the finances are reported will be completely resolved, allowing the books to be transparent to whomever is interested. This will also allow for all of us to determine how to build the organization.

The other two large issues were: a personnel manual and membership requirements.

We began with the chair of the Executive Committee noting the large empty space in the center of the room. "I was wondering," Cliff said, "what the empty space was for. I now realize it was for the elephant."

Mary Lord and the Executive Committee worked hard to find a third way for the personnel manual to move forward. But even as I and others were unable to approve a manual with the sexual ethics policy included--no matter how boxed and highlighted the information with which we were not in unity was--others were unable to approve a manual that did not contain that language. In the end it was agreed that the manual would be vetted by an Indiana labor lawyer and one familiar with discrimination and how it interplays with faith employers.

As for the membership requirements, there was much assurance that the requirements did not need specific financial support. The financial requirement, to the extent that it existed, had no teeth, we were told. I remarked, "I don't care to be gummed to death either." So we held any decision on the requirements until new members of the board had an opportunity to review them.

The good news from FUM is that Sylvia Graves, the General Secretary, was able to obtain a donation of more than \$250,000 worth of medical equipment that will cost only \$15,000 to ship to Kenya for the Kaimosi Hospital.

Finally, the newly formed North American Ministries Taskforce (which is looking for co-opted members), is particularly interested in promoting intervisitation among Friends.

I guess there is one more comment from me. I had my doubts when the Nominating Committee asked me to serve first as an alternate and ultimately as a Board member of FUM. I am not known, I think, for my ability to patiently tolerate what I perceive as injustice. But I trust the Nominating process, so I went. I must now say that I found this experience heartening and spiritually uplifting, and I came back with an even greater resolve to help find for all of us what God is leading us to through this struggle.

Yours for Peace and Justice--even among Friends.

J. E. McNeil with input from Mary Lord

12008-55 Supervisory Committee. Bob Fetter (Roanoke) handed out the work plan of the General Secretary for the year. As part of our effort in evaluating the General Secretary's work, we welcome input in the next few weeks on his work from individuals or committees. We are also concerned with nurturing the rest of the Yearly Meeting staff.

Friends acknowledged that we ask a lot from our staff.

12008-56 General Secretary's Report. Riley spoke of the large amount of work which happens in the office, mentioning especially the work of Ann Whittaker and Margo Lehman.

12008-57 Yearly Meeting Clerk. Yearly Meeting Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy

Spring) worked on the Yearbook and asked Friends to congratulate Ann Whitaker on it. He read page 4 of the Yearbook, (noting the absence of the Epistle), to indicate how we help historians deal with our actions.

Howard has done some research to help with laying down Fishertown Meeting. The records are sparse, but we have some history from laying down Winchester Centre and Black Creek. Fishertown Meeting's last Trustees and some of its last members, Bob and Mary Price Fisher, have died. We have authorized Centre Quarter to appoint Jerry Miller as a Trustee.

Friends from Abingdon, Virginia, Monthly Meeting visited this morning to consider joining our Yearly Meeting.

It had been our policy not to send money to other Friends' organizations until we received apportionment funds sufficient for cash flow needs. For this reason, none of the funds approved at Spring Interim Meeting have been sent to Friends United Meeting yet. However, Stewardship and Finance Committee decided today to begin sending money quarterly to other Friends organizations to which we have made a budgetary commitment.

12008-58 *Appreciation to Charlottesville Meeting.* Friends appreciated the opportunity to visit Tandem Friends School and appreciated the work of the Charlottesville Meeting in hosting Friends today.

I2008-59 *Announcements.*

Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Concerns has published a document "7 ways your Friends Meeting can be more trans-friendly." This is the first of a planned series of publications. These will soon be available on the BYM website.

An Eco-Peace delegation will go to Israel-Palestine March 30 through April 10, 2009. A variety of options for supporting or joining the process was presented.

12008-60 *Closing.* The meeting closed at 6:01 purposing to meet again at Sandy Spring on March 21, 2009.

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

ATTACHMENT A: 2008 GENERAL EPISTLE

Dear Friends Everywhere,

As we gathered together this year, we were called to “try what Love will do.” The 337th annual session of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) was held at Frostburg State University in the rolling hills of Western Maryland, where we explored William Penn’s advice. We seek here to share some of the struggle and Light that this week brought us, particularly with regard to our continuing relationship with others in the Friends United Meeting (FUM) community. We know that living honestly in loving community as Friends is both difficult and deeply rewarding.

In our opening retreat, Maria Bradley asked us to explore Penn’s quote in the context of some of the other “fruits of solitude” to deepen our understanding.

We are too ready to retaliate, rather than forgive, or gain by Love and information. And yet we could hurt no Man that we believe loves us. Let us then try what Love will do: For if Men did once see we Love them, we should soon find they would not harm us. . . . What we Love, we’ll Hear; what we Love, we’ll Trust; and what we Love, we’ll serve, ay, and suffer for too.

In the opening plenary talk, our Friend Betsy Meyer continued us on our journey with an exploration of John 15:12-17. In these verses, Jesus calls us to be his friends rather than his servants and challenges us to love one another not just with human affection, but with Divine Love—the piercing, consuming, awesome Love that God has for us. Betsy challenged us to consider how we are called to lay down our lives not only in the actual, physical sense, but also in other ways such as putting aside our own prejudices, agendas, and our need to be right. She reminded us that God is always teaching new lessons of love. “We may think we understand love and then we meet a person or a situation that challenges us. God is patient with us. God helps us let go of the parts of us that stand in the way of love, calling us to radical humility.” She left us speechless.

In our Bible study, Michael Newheart invited us to explore and deepen our understanding of I Corinthians 13, which tells us that “Love is patient; Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast; it is not proud. It does not dishonor others; it does not insist on its own way. . . Love never fails.” Michael also invited us to put this chapter into the context of the entire book, which makes clear that all the parts of the body of Christ serve a purpose, that Love is what gives that body life and holds it together, and that our aim must be to sustain our spiritual community.

We were enriched as always by the diversity of our experience shared in reports

and messages in our business sessions. As we began work once more on the thorny issue of our Yearly Meeting's membership with FUM, we were given the opportunity to read minutes and messages from many of our monthly meetings about the questions—both spiritual and financial—facing us with regard to FUM. These minutes and messages represented a remarkable diversity of both insight and minute-taking style, but made it clear that we are not in unity to withdraw from FUM. In our business sessions, we continued to strive to find common ground and foster common understanding of the issues before us. After such long work and deep pain, it remains difficult to see where God is leading us. Still, we became clear that we are called to remain engaged with others in FUM, as well as to witness for equality. As we continued our business together, we were reminded of how much other beautiful and sustaining work Friends in BYM have done this year. We know that we must be faithful in doing *all* the important work of the Yearly Meeting, in spite of the “elephant in the room”—our relationship with FUM.

We are heartened by the response of others in FUM to our intervisitation program, which is a source of energy within our Yearly Meeting. We rejoice in the growing numbers of visitors coming to our Yearly Meeting, and we encourage the other Yearly Meetings of FUM to visit not only us, but each other. At the same time, we seek to increase our visits to other Yearly Meetings and to try to meet the challenge of extending our intervisitation to the farthest reaches of FUM.

Friends working in BYM's camping program gave a moving and joyful presentation about their program this year, and even those of us who have never been involved in the program shared in their love and excitement. They spoke of hard days, long hikes, singing in sign language, and catching water snakes, all of which lead to a lasting relationship to nature and each other.

As always, the younger Friends among us modeled an atmosphere of joyful community for the Yearly Meeting as a whole. Our Young Adult Friends hosted the second annual “living history” program, inviting Friends of all ages to play games about William Penn and the founding of Pennsylvania. Our youngest Friends led the business session in a song about George Fox, complete with hand motions, and the Young Friends' report included metaphors about pirates and knights, complete with a homemade horse. Laughing at themselves and getting the rest of us to laugh at ourselves, Young Friends pretended to be pirates seeking the “X” that marks the spot that holds our community together. They found it in our hearts. The co-clerk of our Youth Programs Committee called us to speak directly with younger Friends if we want to better understand the youth in our Yearly Meeting.

Riley Robinson, our General Secretary, also contributed to our journey with his reflections on the vibrant spiritual life of BYM. Instead of a litany of accomplishments and duties, he regaled us with a story of a metaphorical and actual journey. He ended by relating his reply when asked how he could work such long hours. "It's different," he said, "when people are praying for you."

Clinton Pettus of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) gave the annual Carey Memorial Lecture. His background as a Virginian sharecropper's son and as a psychology professor and college president has brought him to the constructs upon which he acts, something which is true for all of us, as he explained. These constructs govern our behavior and our desire and ability to love and to hate. Love, as he defined it by citing the words of M. Scott Peck, is "the will to extend one's self for the purpose of nurturing one's own or another's spiritual growth." If you love your enemy, he suggested, you can let the animosity and hate in the heart of the enemy inspire you to honesty and fairness. You can, as Gandhi did, conceive of how your enemy can help you reach your goals.

We leave our annual session with renewed resolve and some additional clarity about our ongoing concerns with FUM even though we still lack clarity as to where God leads us next. We recommitted ourselves to our relationship with FUM in patient witness to our experience of God's all-inclusive love. We are clear that we have made progress, and we carry a sense of expectation and faith that our patient waiting on Divine revelation will be rewarded. Even as God is patient with our folly, we must be patient with waiting for Way to open, for all is made clear in God's time. "Though now we look into a mirror darkly, then we shall see face to face." We must reach for perfection even while realizing we may never be perfect. To this end, we continue to hold all Friends in the Light and ask you to do the same.

The many lessons of love this week have not fallen on deaf ears. We must continue to strive towards Divine Love, to love patiently, to love without boundaries, to love our enemies and let them inspire us. This, then, is the challenge in our theme: "Let Us Then Try what Love will do."

Yours in Love,
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

ATTACHMENT B: LETTER REGARDING TROY DAVIS

Tenth Month 18, 2008

State Board of Pardons and Paroles
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE
Suite 458, Balcony Level, East Tower
Atlanta GA 30334-4909

Re: Troy Davis

Dear Members of the Board of Pardons and Paroles:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), which comprises more than 45 Quaker Meetings in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, strongly requests that you exercise your power of clemency in the case of Troy Davis.

As people of faith, we are deeply disturbed by the use of the death penalty. Likewise, the thought that an innocent person could be put to death disturbs many people throughout the world, and undermines the criminal justice system. Because Troy Davis has been denied appeal and a new trial in the face of strong evidence of innocence, very real doubts that exist concerning his guilt will always remain unresolved should he be executed.

We recognize that you hold the power over this decision. Baltimore Yearly Meeting (Quakers) requests that you grant clemency to Troy Davis.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth F. Meyer, Clerk
Interim Meeting of
Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the
Religious Society of Friends

THIRD MONTH 21, 2009

SANDY SPRING MONTHLY MEETING

I2009-1 *Opening.* Friends gathered in worship at 2:30 p.m. Out of the silence, Clerk Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) told the story of Patricius, the shepherd boy who found his own shepherd and became the apostle to Ireland. She then led us in a recitation of the 23rd Psalm.

Sixty-eleven Friends from 21 meetings signed in.

Adelphi: Alexander Barnes, June Confer; Alexandria: Megan Evans, Jim Nations; Annapolis: Ria and Ted Hawkins, Barbara Thomas; Bethesda: Susan Kaul, Liz Hofmeister; Baltimore-Stony Run: Mike Boardman, Dellie James, Nancy Moore, Carol Seddon; Charlottesville: Frances and Hank Schutz, Allison Sleeman; Deer Creek: Doug Miller; Dunnings Creek: Jeff Pebor, Susan and Norman Williams; Frederick: Sue de Veer, David Wolinksy; Gettysburg: Margaret Stambaugh; Gunpowder: Barbara Bien, Virginia Schurman, Marshall Sutton; Langley Hill: Kate Allen, Walter Brown, Georgia Fuller, Bill Mims, Rebecca Rawls, Laurie Wilner; Little Britain: Linda Coates; Patapsco: Jim Rose, Ken Stockbridge; Pipe Creek: Frank Reitmeyer, Emily and C.J. Swet; Roanoke: Susie Fetter; Sandy Spring: Maria Bradley, Kevin Caughlan, Sharon Farrar, Natalie and Thomas Finegar, Howard Fullerton, Bette Hoover, John and Toni Hudson, Deborah Legowski, Rich Liversidge, Margo Inglis Lehman, Roger Starr, Ann Whittaker; State College: Ellen Johnson Arginteanu, Peg Hansen, Judy and Martin Melville, Lauri Perman; Takoma Park Preparative: Ruth Flower; Valley: Jean Marie Prestwidge Barch; Washington Friends Meeting of: Jessica Arends, Mary Campbell, Denny Hartzell, Andrei Israel, Malachy Kilbride, Carol Phelps, Riley Robinson, Byron Sandford; York: Leada Dietz, Tracy Haidar, Lamar Matthew, William Neij.

I2009-2 *Welcome.* Bette Hoover (Sandy Spring) welcomed all to Sandy Spring.

I2009-3 *News of Friends.* Please hold in the Light Friend Hugh Fuller (Langley Hill), who is confined at home after a month in the hospital and a month in rehab. He is healing and appreciates our support.

I2009-4 *Memorial Minute for Williamsburg Friend Robert Solomon.* Selections from this minute were read by the Clerk.

12 October 2008

Our dear Friend Bob Solomon left us on May 1st of this year, at the age of 52. Bob died of aggressive melanoma, a full year after all of us, including Bob, had thought that surgery had been successful in removing all of the cancer.

Bob left us as he had lived, quietly, after stoically enduring, for several months, the pain and sadness that inevitably attends fully facing one's own death. To the end, he tried to shield his friends and his loving wife Linda, from the grief he knew we were all feeling, by joking with us even as he was wasting away physically and in active pain. His great physical strength waning, he nevertheless faced these final struggles with the equally powerful psychological and moral strength that were evident throughout his life.

Bob was born in Iowa and raised by convinced Quaker parents, Ted and Marian Solomon. He was an active member of The Society of Friends and active in Friends Meetings in Ames, Iowa City, Chicago, Richmond and Williamsburg. He had been a member of our Williamsburg Friends Meeting for more than two decades. He was active in the civil rights movement and antiwar activities of the 1960s and 1970s, believed in Gandhian NonViolence and Peace, and was a member of Community of Faith for Peace. He firmly believed, and actively lobbied, that health care should be a basic human right and supported the Old Town Free Clinic in Williamsburg. He also supported, with his time and advocacy, equal rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people. Bob was serving as Clerk of Williamsburg Friends when he became too ill to attend Meeting.

Bob felt that one of his most important activities was his work as a Neurologist. He was known to be generous with his time with patients and went above and beyond any professional guidelines to help those who needed him. Many of his patients, as well as his fellow medical colleagues, felt called to testify to his generosity and devotion as a doctor.

We mourn his loss and miss the center of quiet and peace that emanated from him at each of our meetings. We wish all Friends to know how faithful and devoted he was, in both word and deed, to the Quaker

causes of Peace, Nonviolence and Selfless Service, and what an excellent and faithful exemplar he was of those principles that all Quakers agree emanate from the Light Within.

We all feel that our dear Friend Bob Solomon shared that Light in at least as great a measure as any of us. We miss him greatly.

I2009-5 Unity with Nature Committee. Sue de Veer (Frederick) reminded Friends that at last Annual Session, Friends Meetings were asked to complete and return a questionnaire about ‘greening’ meeting places. Additional copies of materials were made available. The results may be compiled into a chart showing what changes Friends are making. Please complete and return.

I2009-6 Naming Committee. Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) presented the following nominations for a three-person Naming Committee, to identify members of the Search Committee. The candidates are Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg), Hank Schutz (Charlottesville) and Thomas Gibian (Sandy Spring).

Friends APPROVED this naming committee.

I2009-7 Nominating Committee. Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) spoke requesting help in identifying individuals who may serve on Yearly Meeting committees. Please consider whether you or someone you know could give leadership during the 2009-2012 term. Friends were reminded that our committees generally have a six-year maximum term.

The following resignations were presented.

From Ministry and Pastoral Care: Anne Buttenheim (Frederick).

From Criminal and Restorative Justice: Al Simmons (Richmond).

The resignations were ACCEPTED.

The following nominations were made:

To: Friends in Unity with Nature: Susan Thompson (Pipe Creek).

To: Peace and Social Concerns: Frank Reitmeyer (Pipe Creek).

The nominations were APPROVED.

I2009-8 Request to become a member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Friends meeting at Abingdon in southwestern Virginia have requested membership in

Baltimore Yearly Meeting directly as a Monthly Meeting. Interim Meeting will acknowledge receipt of their letter of request.

A committee to visit the group was recommended, possibly to report back to Interim Meeting in June. Ministry and Pastoral Care has appointed Gary Sandman (Roanoke). Both Walter Brown (Langley Hill) and Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) from Advancement and Outreach Committee are willing to visit, possibly following on the completion of Friends General Conference's Gathering. Barbara Williamson (Richmond) is also willing to visit. Gary and Ken will work together with the Clerk of Interim Meeting to schedule a visit.

Friends APPROVED this proposal for moving forward.

I2009-9 Friends House. Ruth Flower (Takoma Park) presented changes to the Friends House By-Laws, noting that Yearly Meeting must approve by-law changes if they involve the composition of membership of the Board of Friends House.

The following additions (in italics) in the Friends House by-laws were approved by the Board of Trustees on Dec. 2008. These changes are required by the Maryland Department of Aging and by our own Board's desires for more specificity. The language stating that no resident may serve on the Board is the long-time language and requirement of the Friends House Board by-laws. The language adding one resident Board member is a requirement of the CCRC license.

ARTICLE II. Membership on the Board of Trustees

A. The members of this Board, known as "The Friends House Trustees," shall be nineteen (19) in number. Each trustee shall be a member of the Religious Society of Friends. ***No individual who is a resident of Friends House, Incorporated or Friends Nursing Home, Incorporated may serve or continue to serve as a Trustee, with the following exception: If the law requires a resident Board trustee, then one shall serve to fulfill the law.*** Members of the Board serve on a voluntary basis and receive no salary for services rendered.

B. Twelve members shall be appointed by Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, with four members being appointed each year for three-year terms.

C. Seven members shall be nominated by the sitting Trustees, with at least two members being nominated each year for three- year terms,

subject to approval and appointment by Baltimore Yearly Meeting in session. ***One of the seven members nominated by the sitting Trustees shall be the resident Board member if one is required.***

D. Trustees appointed for three-year terms shall begin their service at the Annual Meeting in September. Interim appointments to vacancies on the Board of Trustees caused by any reason shall be made by the sitting trustees, subject to confirmation by Baltimore Yearly Meeting in session. Persons so chosen shall commence serving upon appointment by the Board, and (if confirmed by the Yearly Meeting) shall serve for the remainder of the term for which they are chosen.

E. No Trustee shall be eligible to serve for more than six consecutive years or be re-appointed to the Board for a full term, after having served more than one full term, until being off the Board for one year.

APPROVED

I2009-10 Peace and Social Concern. Bill Mims (Langley Hill) reported that \$9,000 from the 2008 Operating Budget was sent to Friends Church Peace Teams in Kenya, as directed in minute I2008-10. In addition, he presented a minute supporting the National Religious Campaign Against Torture's request for a Commission of Inquiry about the behavior of the US forces and CIA over the past years. Ellen Johnson Arginteanu (State College) represents Baltimore Yearly Meeting at this group.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Quakers, endorses the National Religious Campaign Against Torture call for a Commission of Inquiry on acts of torture sponsored by the United States. Their call reads:

The United States must never again engage in torture. Torture is immoral, illegal and counterproductive. It causes profound and lasting harm, especially to its victims but also to its perpetrators. It contradicts our nation's deepest values and corrupts the moral fabric of our society.

We call for an impartial, nonpartisan and independent Commission of Inquiry. Its purpose should be to gather all the facts and make recommendations. It should ascertain the extent to which our interrogation practices have constituted torture and "cruel, inhuman or degrading

treatment.” Understanding the causes, nature and scope of U.S.-sponsored torture is essential for preventing it in the future and eliminating it from our system without loopholes. U.S. law will determine the extent of any criminal culpability.

As people of faith, we know that brokenness can be healed – both in individual lives and in the life of the nation. All religions believe that redemption is possible. Learning the truth can set us on a path toward national healing and renewal.

The United States must never again allow itself to be driven by blinding fears and bitter resentments in responding to national tragedy. The use of torture only serves to undermine our security in a dangerous world.

Nothing less than the soul of our nation is at stake in confronting U.S.-sponsored torture and completely renouncing its use. Let the U.S. reaffirm its values by establishing a Commission of Inquiry.

Chesapeake Quarter approved signing letters to each of Maryland’s eight congressional districts to co-sponsor a bill to set up the Commission.

The Minute was APPROVED.

I2009-11 *Intervisitation Committee.* Susan Kaul (Bethesda) made available a list of the Yearly Meetings that Intervisitation Committee would like to visit this year. She invited Friends to participate.

All Friends who do will be required to participate in a ‘travel training’ session. The Committee needs someone to volunteer to serve on the Committee and to track the visits and financial considerations for the Committee.

Jean James (Richmond) returned her travel minute of last year [I2008-31] endorsed by Western Yearly Meeting. The endorsement was read. Jean James seeks endorsement of her most recent travel minute from Richmond Monthly Meeting, and Friends empowered the Clerk to ENDORSE this minute.

Linda Coates (Little Britain) brought a travel minute from her Monthly Meeting

and endorsed by Nottingham Quarterly Meeting. This minute was read, and Linda stood and was recognized. Friends empowered the Clerk to ENDORSE this minute.

Maria Bradley (Sandy Spring) returned her travel minute of last year [I2008-17] with endorsements. The endorsement from Southeastern Yearly Meeting was read, speaking of her support to the Clerk. Her most recent travel minute from Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, which was endorsed by Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting, was read. Friends empowered the Clerk to ENDORSE this minute. Maria spoke of how she came to visitation through Friends General Conference and was received with appreciation by Great Plains Yearly Meeting which is very small and diverse. Maria has been requested to hold Southeastern Yearly Meeting in prayer, and she requests Baltimore Yearly Meeting's support in this endeavor.

I2009-12 Trustees. Byron Sandford (Washington) presented the following report.

Estate Matter. Since November 2007, the Trustees have been a party at interest in a legal proceeding involving an estate that includes both undeveloped land and liquid assets of substantial value. The decedent was a Quaker raised in Maryland, and the real estate is located near the Meeting she attended as a child. She consistently expressed an interest in having her estate used for charitable purposes consistent with her values and BYM's. However, there is a need for the court to confirm her intent because of the problematic nature of her final will, which has been admitted to probate.

The judge has given BYM official standing in the settlement of the estate. In December 2008, the judge permitted our legal fees to that date (\$260,000) to be paid by the estate. BYM is expected to help determine how the estate distribution should be made to satisfy the intent of the deceased. This complex and costly process continues, and the outcome cannot be certain until there is a final determination by the judge. The Trustees believe this is the proper course for us to take, consistent with our principles and the decedent's will.

Updating Signatories. During the summer of 2008, the Trustees authorized the Clerk of Trustees, the Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting and two other Trustees to be the authorized signatories on our investment

accounts. The signatures had not been updated since the accounts were opened, in some cases many years ago. What we thought would be an easy process was a tangle of requirements from the various securities repositories. The Trustees also authorized the consolidation and the reinvesting of the accounts. Due to the delays over the signatures, the consolidation of the accounts had to be postponed.

During this transition period, the market value of our accounts declined by \$166,800 (about 23%) during the year. The funds were invested conservatively, but still dropped from \$713,400 at the beginning of the year to \$546,600 as of year-end. Investment interest and dividend income of \$25,900 offset that decline somewhat. The largest losses were in funds managed by TIAA/CREF, Calvert, PAX and Friends Fiduciary Corporation.

Reconciliation of Reserves. The Trustees continue to make slow progress on reconciling the various reserve accounts of the Yearly Meeting. A good start on this was made last spring, but our volunteer efforts lagged through the winter. Today, we have reviewed additional progress and expect to have the bulk of our analysis done by June Interim Meeting Day. Many of the records must be taken back to our consolidation in 1968-69 to establish appropriate baselines and interpretations. Our analysis to date has found some instances of poor record keeping, incomplete files or inconsistent treatment of income or principal over time.

Our purpose is to recalculate and bring current the value of our various reserve funds so that we can confirm where we are financially at present. We are aware that accounting adjustments required due to the recent market decline may also affect several programs, by reducing the Yearly Meeting's unrestricted capital. This is an effort by BYM volunteers, and we welcome the assistance of other qualified BYM members in this effort. This effort is being led by Howard Fullerton and Rich Liversidge, with the able assistance of Margo Lehman as her duties and time permit.

Bush Creek Cemetery. The Trustees authorized the Frederick Meeting to proceed with tree removal and other improvements to the Bush Creek cemetery. There are some BYM funds available.

Laying Down Fishertown Meeting. The Trustees have participated with a working group that is addressing issues of laying down Fishertown Meeting and consolidating it with Dunning's Creek Meeting.

I2009-13 Supervisory Committee. Elizabeth Hofmeister (Bethesda) presented the Committee's report which follows.

In December, a three-person Sub-Committee of the Supervisory Committee conducted the annual job evaluation of the General Secretary and reported back to the full Committee in January. Based on that successful evaluation, the Supervisory Committee has continued the employment of our General Secretary, Riley Robinson, for another year.

At its December 2008 meeting, the Supervisory Committee agreed to give salary increases to all staff amounting to the cost of living (COLA) for the Washington metro area, plus an additional 2% increase payable beginning in January 2009. As the COLA was 5.5% for 2008, the staff's total salary increase beginning the first pay period in January amounted to 7.5%. With this increase, the total staff compensation costs in 2009, including salary, health and dental care and taxes will amount to \$496,575.

2009 salaries	\$356,605
<u>2009 benefits</u>	<u>\$139,970</u>
Total	\$496,575

Supervisory Committee recognizes that BYM has a very dedicated and talented staff whose salaries have not been in line with other nonprofits in the metro area. This concern has been raised by others in the YM. While staff salaries are not where we would like them to be, the Committee is mindful that the overall staff compensation package is fairly generous. It includes:

pay rates based on a 35-hour work week;

full health care coverage for individual employees with a \$100/mo.;

premium co-pay for family coverage (this will increase to a 50% premium co-pay for family coverage in 2010);

a retirement plan to which the YM makes a contribution; maternity/paternity and adoption leave; annual leave and three personal days/yr.; 11 paid holidays.

Nonetheless, Supervisory Committee recognizes the need to make adjustment to what employees take home in actual salary.

For the last several years, staff members have received annual increases amounting to COLA plus 1%. Giving staff a 2% increase in 2009 in addition to COLA, rather than the 1% increase which they have received for the last several years was a first step in a two-year effort to bring BYM salaries more in line with rates paid for comparable jobs at other non-profits in the area. Supervisory Committee was inhibited in providing more substantive increases in 2009 by the fact that the budget for this year had already been approved at Annual Session in August 2008.

Supervisory Committee committed itself early in the fall to looking at how to make additional adjustments in the pay scale beginning in FY 2010. As a first step, it reviewed and updated the job descriptions of four positions (some of which had not been updated since 2000). With job descriptions that more accurately reflect what particular staff actually do, the Committee then looked at the salaries of comparable positions in the metro area, using such resources as the salary survey done by the American Camp Association's scale for camp directors in the Mid-Atlantic region and several electronic programs that provide comparative salaries. Several members of Supervisory Committee also met in January with members of Camping Program Committee and Camp Property Management Committee to get their input on what salaries need to be.

Based on its own analysis of where BYM staff salaries should be and the helpful input of the other committees, Supervisory Committee is recommending broader adjustments for five positions in FY 2010. These adjustments would boost total staff compensation costs in FY 2010 by

\$71,993 or 14.5% over the 2009 level. The line item for staff costs would go from \$496,575 this year to \$568,568 in 2010. This recommendation has been forwarded to Stewardship and Finance which is preparing the overall budget to be presented at Annual Session in August.

Friends raised concern about whether some people are working part-time who should be working full-time. Another spoke with concern about such a large proposed increase during this time. A question was raised about whether a range has been identified for each position.

Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) of Stewardship and Finance Committee applauded Supervisory Committee in making such a recommendation, recognizing that it is needed, despite the current financial situation. It is now Stewardship and Finance Committee's role to make a decision as to how to respond.

I2009-14 Ann Riggs appointed to Friends Theological College. Rich Liversidge (Sandy Spring) reported that Ann Riggs, a member of Piedmont Friends Fellowship and a sojourner at Annapolis Meeting, has been appointed to the position of Principal of Friends Theological College (FTC) in Kaimosi, Kenya. FTC trains pastors to serve in Kenya and elsewhere in Africa. Ann has previously served at the National Council of Churches. Any funds to support her which are sent to Friends United Meeting will go in full to support her; no administrative funds will be withdrawn.

Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) reported on that Meeting's conversation of how to release Ann for this purpose. Annapolis Meeting has agreed to take care of her house and has raised enough for her to begin studying Swahili and to get her travel medicine. The Meeting is also hoping to raise enough for her initial travel and has a fund for her support.

A Friend spoke in support of this appointment. Friends are not aware of the actual amount of money which will be needed. Ann is available to visit with Meetings.

I2009-15 Stewardship and Finance Committee. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) and chair of the Development Sub-Committee presented Robinne Gray, who made a report. The Committee is working to shore up annual giving to the Yearly Meeting. It will identify Friends for major gifts and planned gifts, through Friends Fiduciary. A giving page has been put on our web-site. Frequently-

Asked-Questions about apportionment have been prepared. Baltimore Yearly Meeting will have four direct appeals each year, accompanied by an educational component. Robinne is also visiting Monthly Meetings and making presentations about philanthropy.

Stewardship and Finance will have an apportionment meeting on April 18 at 11 a.m. at Sandy Spring Community House. This is the time to learn about Baltimore Yearly Meeting's budget process. Monthly Meeting apportionment questionnaires have been requested and are needed.

The Committee recommended a one-time use of the mailing list in support of Ann Riggs' ministry, as long as it is done in consultation with Baltimore Yearly Meeting's annual appeals. APPROVED

The Committee presented a description for the work of a Development Committee. Stewardship and Finance Committee requests that Interim Meeting approve this Committee with the understanding that Manual of Procedure has not yet seen the description. The current sub-committee will continue for the present and understands that Nominating Committee may need help in identifying initial membership.

A Friend spoke of discomfort in receiving requests for funds more than once a year. Another noted that one purpose of these is for education about BYM, which Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends need. Baltimore Yearly Meeting Committees have to seek approval of Stewardship and Finance for use of the mailing list to raise funds. Manual of Procedure Committee has been asked to publish the current policy.

The proposal for a Development Committee was APPROVED. It will be forwarded to Annual Session. The Clerk of Trustees requested that at each Interim Meeting there be a treasurer's report.

I2009-16 Friends World Committee on Consultation. Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) spoke of her regret that she had scheduled today's meeting on the same day as Friends World Committee on Consultation's (FWCC) Annual Meeting near Portland, Oregon.

FWCC plans to hold its Annual Meeting in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting area in 2010. A local arrangements committee will be needed. Some of its work will be

transportation to and from airports. The Yearly Meeting is also asked to present an evening program describing Baltimore Yearly Meeting's unique qualities. Participants at the FWCC meeting are working on this plan and appreciate the support of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

I2009-17 *Fishertown Meeting.* Norman Williams (Dunnings Creek) reported that previous conversations of laying down Fishertown have changed. The two groups have worshipped together since December 7, 2008. The Meetinghouse at Fishertown is being rented to a Mennonite group for worship. Trustees of both groups have met to begin the process of reunification of the two Meetings. Friends expressed appreciation.

I2009-18 *Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns.* Denny Hartzell (Washington) reported that the Committee united with the Y2008-60 Minute of Concern from Young Adult Friends about same gender marriage. Yearly Meeting in Session in 2008 referred this minute to Interim Meeting for consideration. Interim Meeting Clerk, Elizabeth Meyer, asked the Committee to advise her on how Interim Meeting might do so. The Committee decided to invite Young Adult Friends to meet jointly with the *Ad Hoc* Committee at the 2009 Annual Sessions to explore how the Yearly Meeting might proceed to consider this minute. The Committee has also committed to preparing a brochure for Baltimore Yearly Meeting Monthly Meetings on the distinction between civil, legal marriage for all committed persons versus religious covenant marriage ceremonies.

I2009-19 *General Secretary Report.* Riley Robinson spoke of how a conversation with non-Friends had raised for him the question of whether we are as good as people think. He requested Friends to look at our lives in a new context.

Staff has been meeting and talking about ways to cut expenses. One measure of our organization's health is that "you're not suddenly hearing about a financial crisis. You've been hearing about it for years! But in our committees, and this Meeting, you see groups discussing things in a substantive way." Staff feels that the Yearly Meeting needs to do some visioning. Last June Riley asked us what we imagined for five years from now. These questions are still important.

Riley asked Baltimore Yearly Meeting staff to stand and introduced Margo Lehman, Comptroller, Robinne Gray, Development Director, Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant, and Alison Duncan, new Youth Secretary. Alison

mentioned that she has been present at two committee meetings and programs both for Young Friends and Junior Young Friends. Alison grew up in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, participated in BYM camps and graduated from Guilford College. She currently lives in Philadelphia where there are active Young Adult Friends.

I2009-20 Presiding Clerk's Report. Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) reported that the Clerk serves on three standing committees, Program, Supervisory and Trustees, which he has attended. He also has attended Intervisitation Committee.

The *Ad Hoc* Committee on Youth Safety is about ready to make its report.

Friends General Conference is having a consultation for Yearly Meeting Clerks and he plans to attend.

The theme of Yearly Meeting upcoming is “the business of our lives, the transformation of faith into practice.” Rates have been lowered for Yearly Meeting this year.

I2009-21 Appreciation to Sandy Spring Meeting. Friends expressed their thanks to Sandy Spring Meeting for hosting us and for the arrangements for evening entertainment.

I2009-22 Announcements.

Spiritual Formation Starter Kits are available; the new administrator for the program will be Tracy Haidar.

Friends are asked to send to the office information such as updates of Clerks and other officers of Monthly Meeting and meeting statistics which are published in the annual report. If anyone wishes to receive the *Interchange* via e-mail, let Ann Whittaker know.

Adelphi Friends Meeting member Esther Webb died two weeks ago today; the memorial service will be First First Day in April at Adelphi.

I2009-20 Closing. A Friend shared his experience of hearing the small voice of the clock in the room as a reminder of the role of silence in our lives. Another

spoke of a member who has entered hospice care saying she reports that she is “in the light, but appreciates Friends helping hold her in the Light.”

The meeting closed at 5:40 purposing to meet again at State College on June 20, 2009.

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

ATTACHMENT A: TRAVEL MINUTE FOR JEAN JAMES



Richmond Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

4500 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia

Travel Minute for Jean James

Jean James, a beloved member of Richmond Friends Meeting (RFM), has expressed her leading to travel among Friends to build bridges of understanding as a member of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) Intervisitation Program.

The Intervisitation Program of BYM seeks to strengthen the Religious Society of Friends and nurture the beloved community of Friends, especially within Friends United Meeting (FUM). While BYM's concern regarding an FUM personnel policy planted the seed, that concern is not the program's focus. Rather, as we in BYM faced the pain we felt as a result of that policy, we awoke to the fragility of the relations among the yearly meetings and monthly meetings of FUM. The goal of BYM's Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply to one another, strengthen our relationships, and build on the strengths of our faith community.

Although she did not begin attending Quaker Meeting until 2002, Jean's lifelong belief in the historic Quaker testimonies has guided her career choices. She spent her working life in a variety of community service occupations.

Since becoming a member of RFM in 2003, she has studied Quaker history and has completed the four year program of Theological Education by Extension Education for Ministry provided and administered by the School of Theology of the University of the South. Within Meeting, Jean has served on (and clerked) the Hospitality Committee, has served on the Building and Grounds Committee and has been co-editor of the monthly newsletter and co-clerk of the Care and Counsel Committee. Jean is now on the Ministry and Worship committee. As BYM's representative to the Virginia Council of Churches, she serves as a member of both the steering and coordinating committees. In all of these positions she has shown herself to be a well grounded and spiritually centered Friend with excellent listening skills.

We trust that you will benefit as we have from sharing Jean's insights and quiet faith. We send her with tenderness and love; we commend her to your gentle care and hospitality. She travels with our hopes and prayers, and we trust that you will find her time amongst you fruitful, prayerful and enriching.

Barbara L. Myers
Barbara Myers, Clerk
Richmond Friends Meeting
March 17, 2009

*Endorsed by Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisiting Meeting
April 21, 2009 Elizabeth J. Meyer, Clerk*

SIXTH MONTH 20, 2009

STATE COLLEGE MONTHLY MEETING

I2009-24 *Opening.* The Meeting settled into open worship at 2:30 p.m. Out of the silence, Clerk Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring) shared a message of joy from Psalm 36.

The following Friends registered their attendance:

Adelphi: Alexander Barnes, Mary Lord; Alexandria: Deborah Haines; Annapolis: Ann Riggs; Baltimore, Stony Run: Michael Boardman; Bethesda: Marion Ballard, Liz Hofmeister, Catherine McHugh; Gettysburg: Margaret Stambaugh; Langley Hill: Sheila Bach, Bill Mims, Laurie Wilner; Little Britain: Linda Coates; Oxford: Douglas and Janet Eaby; Patapsco: Ken Stockbridge; Richmond: Ted Heck, Barbara Williamson; Roanoke: Bob and Susie Fetter; Sandy Spring: Maria Bradley, Sharon Farrar, Joan and Rich Liversidge, Elizabeth Meyer; State College: Ellen and Jules Arginteanu, Jessica Arends, Andrei Israel, Denise DeGeorge, Peg Hansen, Martin Melville; Washington, Friends Meeting of: Debbie Churchman, Malachy Kilbride; West Branch: Walt and Peggy Fry; York: Leada Dietz, David Fitz, Tracy Haider, Lamar Matthew, Wim Neij; Staff: Riley Robinson, Robinne Gray, Alison Duncan, Margo Lehman, Ann Whittaker.

I2009-25 *Welcome.* Jules Arginteanu (State College) welcomed Friends on behalf of State College Meeting and urged us to stay as long as we can to enjoy the hospitality of the Meeting.

We heard news of Friends who cannot be here with us today. Our prayers go out to those who are ill, especially Flossie Fullerton (Sandy Spring), Hugh Fuller (Langley Hill), and Ron Mattson. We also heard with joy that our member Pat Kutzner was recently presented with an award honoring her many years of work with the Torreon Star Lake Chapter of the Navajo Nation.

I2009-26 *Abingdon Friends.* Barbara Williamson (Richmond) presented a report from the *ad hoc* Committee that recently visited Friends in Abingdon, Virginia, in response to their request to be accepted as a member meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Report from the ad hoc Committee Visiting Abingdon Friends

At Interim Meeting held Third Month 21, 2009, Baltimore Yearly Meeting received a request from Friends' Meeting in Abingdon VA

to become a member monthly meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Interim Meeting appointed an *ad hoc* Committee to visit these Abingdon Friends and to bring a recommendation back to Interim Meeting.

On Fifth Month 24, Gary Sandman (Roanoke), representing Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, along with other Roanoke Friends, visited and worshiped with Abingdon Friends. On Fifth Month 30-31, Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco), representing Advancement and Outreach Committee, Barbara Williamson (Richmond), a native of the Abingdon area, and Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring), Clerk of Interim Meeting, visited and worshiped with Abingdon Friends. We enthusiastically recommend that Baltimore Yearly Meeting accept and welcome Abingdon Friends as a monthly meeting among us.

Abingdon Friends meet for worship each First Day in the Spirit House on the Elderspirit Community campus and hold worship with attention to business on the second First Day of the month. We discerned a strong sense of spiritual community among the Abingdon Friends and a deep concern for spiritual nurture and for pastoral care within the meeting. There is a committed core group of approximately ten, including some very seasoned Friends, who give a sense of permanence to the meeting. In addition, the town of Abingdon is a cultural and arts center for Southwest Virginia, providing many outreach possibilities. Abingdon Friends have engaged together in social concerns work to support Riverplace, a program for prisoners reentering society. These Friends have a thriving adult religious education program and maintain a library. We have found that the Abingdon Friends are a lively spiritual community and may appropriately be recognized as a monthly meeting.

Due to their location, Abingdon Friends had a choice of several Yearly Meetings with which to seek affiliation. In the process of their exploring, they came to BYM Interim Meeting last Tenth Month, and they spoke with Don Gann. These Friends felt Don's warm welcome, and that was among the factors that led them to apply for membership in Baltimore Yearly Meeting. This is a reminder that all of us serve as ambassadors for BYM and the wider Religious Society of Friends community. We are all called to offer warm spiritual hospitality to everyone who comes our way, for as Abraham learned, you never know when you may be host to angels (See Genesis 18:1-15).

Friends APPROVED the following minute:

Interim Meeting accepts the report of the *ad hoc* Committee to visit Abingdon Friends and recommends that Baltimore Yearly Meeting in its 338th Annual Session accept Abingdon Friends Meeting as a member monthly meeting among us.

I2009-27 Treasurer's Report. Marion Ballard (Bethesda) presented the Treasurer's report. She reported that the financial review for 2008 was recently completed. At the end of the year we had about \$340,000 in permanently restricted funds, and about \$420,000 in temporarily restricted funds. Our unrestricted funds are valued at about \$2,000,000, of which \$1.9 million is the value of our property. There was a small surplus in our operating funds for 2008, resulting in an increase of about \$6,000 to the total of our unrestricted funds. There were unrealized losses of about \$150,000 in our investment accounts in 2008.

Contributions for the first six months of 2009 are somewhat below target, but are expected to pick up in the second half of the year. Payments on apportionments are also behind schedule, as quite a few meetings have not yet sent in their second quarterly payment. Friends are urged to encourage their meetings to pay the apportionment as early as possible, to help the Yearly Meeting manage its cash flow.

Marion Ballard reported that Trustees and Stewardship and Finance are working on improving and standardizing the way financial information is presented to the Yearly Meeting and raising the level of understanding of financial matters among Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends. They are also working with the Treasurer to create a handbook documenting established policies and procedures. The ongoing effort to correct past bookkeeping errors and establish the current status of our restricted and unrestricted funds is continuing.

I2009-28 Stewardship and Finance Committee. Marian Ballard (Bethesda) presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee in the absence of the committee clerk.

She first introduced a recommendation relating to the Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. Our member, Ann Riggs (Chapel Hill, sojourning at Annapolis) has been asked by Friends United Meeting (FUM) to serve as Principal of the College for the coming year, the first woman ever chosen for

that position, and the first member of a united yearly meeting. Marian Ballard introduced Mary Lord (Adelphi), who provided some background information on the Friends Theological College and its financial situation. Friends United Meeting particularly needs a recognized scholar with a doctorate to head up the College at this time, because they are going through an accreditation process and need an effective spokesperson. Ann Riggs feels called to take up this challenge. In order to accept the position, she will need to raise \$70,600 to support the work. Of this amount, FUM requires that \$40,000 needs to be raised by August 1. About \$17,000 in donations has been received in response to a recent fundraising letter.

Stewardship and Finance is recommending that BYM use \$20,000 for this purpose from the monies set aside for FUM. This would include \$10,000 from the current year's budget, and \$10,000 out of the \$36,000 set aside in previous years. All \$20,000 would directly support Ann Riggs' work, since FUM does not charge any administrative overhead on donations to a ministry account.

Friends carefully considered this recommendation in light of our peace testimony, our discomfort with some of the policies of Friends United Meeting, and our desire to support the strong leading of one of our members. Several Friends expressed the hope that Ann Riggs' service at Friends Theological College might make a real difference and help open doors that have been closed until now.

Friends APPROVED this recommendation.

Marian Ballard announced that the Development Subcommittee of Stewardship and Finance is being reorganized as a separate Development Committee, in order to give more support to the Development Director. Additional members are needed, and Friends are urged to offer their services if they feel so led.

Marian Ballard noted that Stewardship and Finance, after much hard work, will bring a budget to Annual Session which is not only balanced, but provides for a slight decrease in apportionments. This will be welcome news to those meetings that have been feeling burdened by the apportionment.

I2009-29 *Development Director.* Robinne Gray (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of the Development Director. She announced several upcoming events aimed at increasing Friends' understanding of the Yearly Meeting's financial needs. She noted that contributions this year have totaled

\$36,000. She urged Friends to take advantage of the new online donation feature on the BYM website, and to consider signing up for the automatic donor program. Arranging for automatic monthly or quarterly donations not only makes giving easier, but helps the Yearly Meeting to better project its income for the year. She urged Friends to give more attention to adequately supporting their local meetings as well as the Yearly Meeting. Many members and attenders do not seem to be aware that our meetings need our financial support. Robinne hopes to gently encourage a cultural change, so that giving, and giving generously, is considered normal in our meetings, as an expression of our priorities.

I2009-30 General Secretary. Riley Robinson presented the General Secretary's report. He distributed copies of a draft for a leaflet describing what services Baltimore Yearly Meeting offers to its meetings and members. He noted that the Yearly Meeting can provide many different kinds of resources, and we need to make these more widely known. He encouraged Friends to review the draft and discuss it with their meetings. Please contact the office if you have questions that are not addressed the leaflet, or if you know of other services available through the Yearly Meeting or its committees that should be included.

I2009-31 Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee. Joan Liversidge (Sandy Spring) presented the report of the *Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee*. She noted that the Committee has re-stated and broadened its charge, as experience has confirmed the transformative power of visiting among Friends.

Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee

Report to Interim Meeting

June 21, 2009

The goal of BYM's Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships and build our faith community.

We have joyfully completed nearly five years of intervisitation and are requesting an extension of our program for another three years. While our program began because of Baltimore Yearly Meeting's concern for Friends United Meeting's policies on sexual diversity and sexual conduct in community, the understanding of our mission has grown. We have become more aware of the fragility of the relations among all yearly meetings and monthly meetings within the Religious Society

of Friends.

During the past four years, our mission has matured as we have been exposed to other yearly meetings and other individual Friends. Our original concerns still exist, but in some areas our concerns have broadened. Being exposed to others has brought a clearer understanding of the variety existing within the Religious Society of Friends and has shown us that in other parts of the Quaker world, our vocabularies, our practices for both business and worship and our views of Quaker history are different.

We have appreciated the opportunity of bearing witness in an open-hearted approach to the Spirit moving among us. Our travels have given others the opportunity to speak with and be with unprogrammed Friends. It has become clear to us that intervisitation is a shared opportunity for us as visitors and for those we visit.

We continue to seek new, energetic companions for both our travels and our committee work. Join us! We will train you and accompany you on a most worthwhile journey.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean James (Richmond) and Susan Kaul (Bethesda), Co-Clerks.

Friends APPROVED extending the Intervisitation Committee as an *Ad Hoc* Committee for three more years.

Joan Liversidge noted that an FUM Triennial will be held in Mombasa, Kenya, in July 2010. She urged Friends to take advantage of this opportunity to travel to Kenya, to get to know Kenyan Friends, and also to participate in the meetings of the United Society of Friends Women. Other activities are also being planned in connection with the Triennial, including safaris and workcamps for visiting Friends.

Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco) read a travel minute for Walter Brown (Langley Hill) (See Attachment A).

Friends APPROVED endorsing this minute.

Ken Stockbridge read a travel minute for Joan Liversidge (Sandy Spring). (See Attachment B).

Friends APPROVED endorsing this minute.

Ken Stockbridge read a travel minute prepared by Deer Creek Meeting for their member Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston, who is active in the BYM Young Friends program, and who plans to visit several yearly meetings this summer in order to reach out to other groups of Young Friends. (See Attachment C).

Ken Stockbridge noted that the Intervisitation Committee would be willing to meet with Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston to help him to prepare for his travels and could help fund his visits to the two united yearly meetings on his list. Contributions in support of his travels could also be sent directly to Deer Creek Meeting.

Alison Duncan, Youth Programs Coordinator, read a travel minute for Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston (Deer Creek) prepared and approved by the BYM Young Friends business meeting.

Dear Friends,

The Young Friends (YF) community of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) would like to offer some additional words in support of Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston in his endeavors.

We believe that Nigel's desire to explore other Yearly Meetings will not only be a valuable experience for him but will also be beneficial for our YF community as a whole.

Even though we have a very vibrant youth program at BYM, we know very little about how the youth programs of other Yearly Meetings operate. By having Nigel visit other summer sessions, he will have the opportunity to share our community's practices and traditions in exchange for the wisdom of other YF communities.

That being said, we are thrilled that Nigel has felt called to undertake this journey because we feel that he is a stellar representative of BYM Young Friends. We lovingly call him Spiderman because he holds the

position of Webmaster on our Executive Committee. As a person, we feel that he embodies all the values of caring, trust and love that our community holds dear. He also gives good hugs and is an epic wink player! We entrust Nigel to you, hoping that you have as much fun hosting him as we do having him as a part of our community.

With Love and Light,
The BYM Young Friends

Friends expressed a sense of joy in seeing one of the Young Friends who has grown up among us setting out on this journey. We are grateful for Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston's faithfulness in pursuing his leading.

Friends APPROVED endorsing the minute prepared by Deer Creek Meeting for Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston, with the understanding that the Intervisitation Committee will meet with him before he begins his travels.

Elizabeth Meyer turned the Clerk's chair over to Lamar Matthew (York) for the next two items of business.

I2009-32 Supervisory Committee. Elizabeth Meyer presented a proposed minute from the Supervisory Committee:

We recognize many serious offensive features of the current U.S. immigration policy, and we request Friends who are so led to work toward immigration reform. However, we recognize that a policy which permits BYM employees to refuse to sign Forms I-9 puts BYM officers and supervisors in legal jeopardy and discourages our leadership, while failing to help any immigrants and failing to serve as a witness. Therefore, we direct our Supervisory Committee and our General Secretary to comply fully with the verification provisions of the immigration law. This minute amends the policy previously stated in Representative Meeting Minute 89-25.

Alexander Barnes (Adelphi) noted that the Peace and Social Concerns Committee is not altogether comfortable with the proposed minute. As an alternative, the Committee proposes that Interim Meeting simply rescind Representative Meeting Minute 89-25. The Committee agrees that it is unreasonable to require the officers, staff supervisors and volunteer supervisors of the Yearly Meeting to defy the law in the absence of any clear leading. Rescinding the personnel

policy expressed in the minute would resolve this problem.

Several Friends noted that concerns about injustices in the immigration law are still very pressing. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee has a working group on immigration issues in recognition of the seriousness of these concerns. In rescinding the personnel policy of the minute from 1989, we are not rejecting the concern that gave rise to it, but only the particular action it envisions.

With this understanding, Friends APPROVED rescinding the personnel policy mandated by Representative Meeting Minute 89-25. Friends asked that portions of the supporting document prepared by Supervisory Committee be included in the Minutes to further explain this decision.

**Supporting Document
Submitted by Supervisory Committee**

The Immigration Control and Reform Act of 1986 prohibits employers from hiring undocumented workers and requires employers to verify the immigration status of employees by means of Forms I-9. The Form I-9 documents that each employee hired after November 6, 1986, is eligible to work in the United States. The employee must fill out Section 1 of the form, attesting that she/he is a U.S. citizen or an alien who may legally work in the U.S. The employer must fill out Section 2 of the form, verifying that the employee has presented appropriate documentation to support the assertion that she/he may legally work in the U.S.

On June 3, 1989, at a called meeting of Representative Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting adopted the following policy (documented in Minute 89-25):

1. We recognize many serious offensive features of the Immigration Control and Reform Act of 1986. We request our Social Concerns Committee to initiate and lead an aggressive effort to work toward changing this law.
2. Baltimore Yearly Meeting will provide the I-9 form to all staff, current and future, employed after November 6, 1986, and ask them to complete the form or state that they cannot. Baltimore Yearly Meeting

will complete the employer form whenever possible.

3. Baltimore Yearly Meeting records that we will not refrain from hiring or continuing to employ an individual because she/he does not supply documents. However, employees who do not complete the form will be expected to participate in a clearness process.

In order to carry out this policy, Supervisory Committee recently designed a clearness procedure for employees who feel uncomfortable signing their I-9 Forms. Once the procedure is implemented, all permanent BYM employees signed I-9 Forms, and BYM is now in compliance with the Immigration Control and Reform Act of 1986. In seeking to comply with BYM policy, the Supervisory Committee found that our current policy discourages our leadership, does not help any immigrant and is not an effective witness to our Quaker testimonies.

Under the Immigration Control and Reform Act, persons or entities employing workers in violation of its provisions are liable for civil penalties of up to \$1,100 per violation for failure to comply with the I-9 documentation requirements. In addition, the law provides criminal penalties for hiring undocumented workers. In enforcing this law, the Government targets not only employer corporations and corporate officers but also managers, supervisors, human resources personnel and intermediate employees.

Our current policy places BYM leadership – including our officers, members of Supervisory Committee, our General Secretary and other employee supervisors - in legal jeopardy. This sends a discouraging message to the leadership of BYM. Our policy tells our leaders that regardless of their own conscientious feelings about the I-9 Form, they may be exposed to civil or possibly even criminal liability simply by accepting a position of leadership within BYM. BYM seeks to nurture leadership on all levels, and our I-9 policy interferes with this goal.

In addition, our policy does not provide for civil disobedience in good order. In committing civil disobedience, a person is led by conscience to disobey a law with a full willingness to accept whatever consequences result. In the case of an employee who feels she/he cannot sign the Form I-9, the major consequences to the refusal fall upon the employee's

supervisors. If enforcement action ensued, the employee would be fired unless she/he provided documentation and signed the I-9 Form, but the supervisors would be facing the penalties. Civil disobedience in which one person takes a conscientious stand and another person must suffer the consequences for that stand is not in good order.

The law requires employers to keep Forms I-9 on file. We are not required regularly to send the forms to the Government, and unless we are targeted for enforcement action, no one outside BYM would know of any noncompliance with this law. Thus, our policy provides no witness. In addition, our policy does not help immigrants. Our payroll service and the bookkeeping transparency demanded by our members require that each employee supply us with a social security number. Thus, with or without the Form I-9, we are not in a position to hire undocumented workers.

I2009-33 Search Committee. Janet Eaby (Oxford) presented the report of the Search Committee for a first reading.

No one has yet been identified to serve as Recording Clerk for the Yearly Meeting. The rest of the proposed slate is as follows:

Yearly Meeting Officers

Treasurer: Marian Ballard (Bethesda)
Ass't Treasurer: Laurie Wilner (Langley Hill)

Interim Meeting Officers

Clerk Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring)
Recording Clerk: Meg Meyer (Baltimore-Stony Run)

Supervisory Committee

Robert Fetter (Roanoke)
Susie Fetter (Roanoke)
Tasha Walsh (Maury River)

Nominating Committee

Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill)
Nancy Moore (Baltimore-Stony Run)
Charlotte Boynton (Langley Hill)
Andrei Israel (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Friends RECEIVED this report with thanks for the work of the Committee. Elizabeth Meyer returned to the Clerk's chair.

I2009-34 Memorial Minute. Elizabeth Meyer noted that we have lost some important members of our Yearly Meeting recently, including Susan Rose (Patapsco) and Miriam Green (Baltimore-Homewood), who will be memorialized at Annual Sessions. She asked us to reflect on all these precious lives, as she read a memorial minute for Elaine Conyers Bell, beloved member of Charlottesville Meeting.

Memorial Minute for Elaine Conyers Bell

Our beloved Friend Elaine Bell died early in the morning of November 10, 2008, in her home at Friends House, Sandy Spring, Maryland. Charlottesville Friends recognize and remember the many gifts she brought to the Meeting and celebrate the time she was given with us.

From the time she retired with her husband Colin W. Bell to Holly Hills Farm in 1976, near sister-in-law Barbara Bell, Elaine was an integral part of our Meeting. She seldom missed Meeting for Worship, Meeting for Business, Connections sessions, and Celebrations, and could be counted on to provide a new special dish or treat for potlucks. She scraped paint on a work day, delighted to have gained a new skill! She enjoyed worship with the Louisa Worship Group many times, and regretted missing any of Tandem Friends School's Wednesday Meetings for Worship. Elaine was often moved to vocal ministry at worship opportunities – calling us to reach higher, to continue the work of righting wrongs, restoring peace and health to areas of devastation and to minister to all of God's children.

Elaine's faith and activities within our Meeting were deeply spiritual and touched all who knew her. Her grace and dignity as she guided and mentored so many of us were inspiring. Elaine had a lovely sense of humor, a smile and a twinkle of the eye. She could often resolve an issue or nudge an irresolute Friend with her caring, gentle, firm push.

Working for peace was an integral part of Elaine's adult life. She was sustained by her Quaker values. She was an avid reader, whose goal often focused on understanding conflict and violence and the possibili-

ties for resolution. She opened her home to traveling Quakers, and her great joy in later years was sharing Holly Hills Farm with our Meeting during the annual bird walk. When the Meeting children discovered friendly birds, frogs or minnows at the pond, or met the newest lambs, or visited with the horses, she was delighted. Welcoming and sharing were two qualities Elaine possessed in full measure.

Elaine visited our Bosnian friends, the Zvonic/Selimotic family often after their arrival in 1993 and welcomed them many times to Holly Hills. Her caring and her attention to addressing needs she recognized meant a great deal to each of the family, and to Elaine as well.

Elaine's communication skills were put to good use when she served the Meeting as an Overseer. Although she was unable to travel as often as she had been accustomed to, she wielded a major talent for phone conversation, and kept in touch with many in the Meeting that way. She was a full and important member of that Committee, with this special gift for pastoral care.

She was one of three members of a Meeting *ad hoc* Final Affairs Committee, that published a valuable resource guide for those dealing with decisions at the end of life. She was also a member of the Interfaith Gay-Straight Alliance.

Elaine continued to receive and to share the newsletters from Friends Meetings in Swarthmore and Honolulu where she and Colin had served. She had a special affinity for Honolulu Friends and enjoyed many return visits. She had participated in wider Quaker gatherings as well: Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference, Friends Committee on National Legislation and the American Friends Service Committee, of which Colin had served as Executive Secretary for many years.

Her life is an inspiration.

I2009-35 *Naming Committee.* Margaret Stambaugh (Gettysburg) reported for the Naming Committee. Jean Wilson (Goose Creek) is being proposed for a second 3-year term on Search Committee.

Friends APPROVED this recommendation.

I2009-36 Nominating Committee. Andrei Israel (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of the Nominating Committee in the absence of the Clerk of the Committee.

He reported that the Religious Education Committee has been revitalized. The currently serving members are: Gwen Zanin (Herndon), Chuck Fager (State College), Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston (Deer Creek), and M.J. Foley (Williamsburg).

Names being brought forward for approval by Interim Meeting are as follows:

Religious Education Committee

Marsha Holliday (Langley Hill)

Virginia Avayesnan (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Annette Breiling (Seneca Valley)

Elise Hansard (Roanoke)

Josh Humphries (Charlottesville)

Friends APPROVED these nominations.

Nominating Committee is also recommending that the Friends in Education Committee be laid down because it has not been strong enough to function as an independent committee for some time. The Nominating Committee proposes that Friends in Education might be reconstituted as a working group under Religious Education. After discussion, Friends agreed that the Advancement and Outreach Committee might be a better home for the Friends in Education working group. Advancement and Outreach has expressed an interest in taking the working group under its care, because of the important outreach mission of Friends schools.

Friends APPROVED laying down the Friends in Education Committee and reconstituting it as a working group under the care of the Advancement and Outreach Committee.

Nominating Committee also brought forward the following minute relating to the need for conveners for groups of BYM representatives to outside organizations:

**Minute from Nominating Committee
Regarding BYM Representatives to Outside Organizations**

Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) requests that each group of representatives to its affiliated corporations and organizations name a convener with experience to bring old and new representatives together within a month of the close of BYM Annual Sessions each year. Just as BYM committees have clerks to ensure good order, our representatives need to think together about how to represent BYM at their respective organizations and how to communicate the activities of that organization back to the Yearly Meeting throughout the year.

If representatives of each organization can meet at Annual Sessions and name a convener, that Friend will be included with the clerks' roll call. If not, BYM Nominating Committee will name a seasoned member to serve as convener.

The convener should

brief new reps about the history, role and duties of the organization and its reps;

ensure that all new reps know when and where the organization will hold its meetings;

guide in travel arrangements for reps;

assist the group in participating effectively in the organizational meetings;

divide duties fairly, in particular the responsibility to communicate information back to the Yearly Meeting.

Ways our representatives might communicate to BYM include

putting information or links on the BYM website;

writing an article for the Interchange;

organizing interest groups and workshops at Annual Sessions;

speaking or sending written communication to Monthly Meetings.

Representative groups that would benefit from a convener include:

AFSC Corporation;

Friends Committee on National Legislation, General Committee;

Friends General Conference Central Committee;

Friends United Meeting General Board;

Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas.

Other corporations/boards to which BYM sends representatives already have designated leadership (i.e., Friends House Inc. and Friends Nursing Home, Inc. Trustees; Sandy Spring Friends School). Still others have only one rep (and possibly an alternate) who takes leadership naturally (i.e., Executive Committee, Middle-Atlantic Region of AFSC; Friends Peace Teams; Quaker House Board; William Penn House Consultative Committee; Prisoner Visitation and Support).

Friends APPROVED this recommendation. It will be forwarded to the Manual of Procedure Committee for integration into our established practices as appropriate.

Nominating Committee reminds committee clerks to review the committee descriptions in the Manual of Procedure for accuracy, and to fill out the Nominating Committee form asking for specific information about what each committee does and how it functions.

I2009-37 *Manual of Procedure.* Walter Frye (West Branch) read the following recommendations for revisions submitted by Chip Tucker (Charlottesville), Clerk of the Manual of Procedure Committee:

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERN COMMITTEE

p. 23, between paragraphs 2 & 3 insert this new paragraph:

“The Right Sharing of World Resources Working Group (RSWRWG) is under the care of the Committee and works to keep alive throughout the Yearly Meeting the challenge to simplify our lives and to work in partnership with our sisters and brothers in the United States and throughout the world for a more equitable distribution of global resources. The RSWRWG works with monthly meetings and with the independent Quaker organization Right Sharing of World Resources, Inc. The RSWRWG facilitates the coordination and exchange of information, provides support for community development and self-help programs, and raises funds for these programs. It may also bring to the attention

of the Yearly Meeting other international and domestic concerns that affect the relationship between people of greatly different economic means wherever they may live. RSWRWG's activities come to the Yearly Meeting as part of this Committee's report."

Friends APPROVED this revision.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

p. 25, insert new paragraph in penultimate position:

"The Committee also receives requests for exceptional one-time release of the Yearly Meeting mailing list – release to groups, that is, other than FWCC, FGC, and FUM, which are the three standing exceptions to the Yearly Meeting's policy restricting the mailing list against use for purposes of financial solicitation. If the Committee approves such a request, it is then forwarded to the next Interim or Yearly Meeting for final consideration."

Friends APPROVED this revision, with the understanding that changes may be required to address the situation of Friends House.

SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER EDUCATION FUND COMMITTEE

p. 26, paragraph 2. line 1:

currently: "Applications from schools, meetings, committees, Friends' agencies or individuals for a specific project must be received by February 15. In general, the Committee meets once a year, usually on Spring Yearly Meeting Day.

change to: "Applications from schools, meetings, committees, Friends' agencies or individuals for a specific project must be received by March 1. In general, the Committee meets once a year, usually at Spring Interim Meeting Day."

Friends APPROVED this revision.

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

p. 26, paragraph 1:

currently: "The Youth Programs Committee consists of eight to ten adults nominated by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Other members are the Young Friends Conference Clerks, the Young Friends Yearly Meeting Program Planners and two Young Friends appointed by the Young Friends Conference Business Meeting. The regional youth coordinators, the Yearly Meeting Youth-Quake representative, the Coordinator(s) of Junior Young Friends and the Youth Secretary are ex officio members."

change to: "The Youth Program Committee consists of 16 adults nominat-

ed by the Nominating Committee and appointed by the Yearly Meeting, as well as the Young Friends Clerks and two Young Friends appointed by the Young Friends Business Meeting. The Youth Secretary and the Junior Young Friends Coordinators (if appointed) are ex-officio members.”

p. 27, paragraph 1 and its enumerated subheads:

currently: “To do these things, the Committee will:

“1. Recruit and mentor adults in Baltimore Yearly Meeting who have a leading to work with Young Friends in the Yearly Meeting.

“2. Support the Youth Secretary in the coordinating and communicating with Junior Yearly Meeting and other Yearly Meeting Committees involved in youth programs.

“3. Ensure that the *Young Friends Handbook* is reviewed on a periodic basis (at least every three years) by the Young Friends Executive Committee and revised as needed. The Youth Programs Committee will review sections of the *Handbook* that pertain to the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the Young Friends and suggest revisions as needed. All revisions to the *Young Friends Handbook* will be approved by a Young Friends Conference Business Meeting.”

change to: “To this end the Committee does the following: provides a Designated Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) for every Young Friends and Junior Young Friends conference; recruits, trains, evaluates and mentors adults in the Yearly Meeting who have a leading to work with our programs; supports the Youth Secretary in coordinating and communicating with Junior Yearly Meeting and other Yearly Meeting committees involved in youth programs; provides the Yearly Meeting with access to the approved *Junior Young Friends Handbook* and *Young Friends Handbook* and ensure that Yearly Meeting is notified of major revisions.”

p. 27, paragraph 2 (penultimate):

delete all but the first sentence: “The Young Friends Yearly Meeting Planners serve on the Program Committee.”

p. 27, paragraph 3 (last). line 2:

delete “Conference” from the first sentence of this paragraph

Friends APPROVED this revision.

FRIENDS HOUSE, INC.

p. 33, paragraph 1. line 6:

currently: “These appointments are to begin with the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees next after the Yearly Meeting Session which

made the appointment.”

change to: “An appointment begins with the next meeting of the Board of Trustees after the Yearly Meeting Session which made the appointment.”

Friends APPROVED this revision.

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL, INC.

p. 34, paragraph 1:

currently: “The Board of Trustees of Sandy Spring Friends School, Inc., consists of from 20 to 30 persons, normally 24: six appointed by the Yearly Meeting, ten by Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, and the remainder by the Board itself. The Yearly Meeting annually appoints one or two trustees to serve four-year terms, commencing with the September meeting of the Board following their appointment, and continuing until their successors are qualified. Appointees serve. . . .”

change to: “The Board of Trustees of Sandy Spring Friends School, Inc., consists of between 20 and 30 persons, normally 24: four appointed by the Yearly Meeting, eight by Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting, and the remainder by the Board itself. Ordinarily each year the Yearly Meeting appoints one trustee to serve a four-year term commencing with the September meeting of the Board following appointment. Appointees serve. . . .”

Friends APPROVED this revision, with the provision that the Manual of Procedure Committee will look into whether the overall size of the Board has been reduced, or whether we are being asked to accept a smaller proportional representation on the Board.

I2009-38 Youth Secretary. Alison Duncan presented the Youth Secretary’s report:

Report of the BYM Youth Secretary

This year has been short for me in the youth programs. I was hired in January and just completed my first six months of work. However, a lot has happened in that short time. The office has worked to familiarize me with what I need to know to support the youth programs, and my orientation by the committee helped me understand the breadth of the Yearly Meeting. This is a rich Yearly Meeting with a strong self-knowledge, a lot of history and programs outside the youth programs, which I am still getting to know.

In the office I have facilitated relationships on many levels. I have contacted youth workers in other yearly meetings to make relationships, and hopefully learn and grow with their experience. I have written articles for the Interchange and attended committee meetings, in an effort to increase my knowledge of our Young Friends' program in the wider Yearly Meeting. I have made contacts between the Young Adult Friends and committees, and hope that Young Adult Friends continue to transition into the greater Yearly Meeting from the Young Friends' program.

For the program, I have compiled the youth's medical information in an effort to make it more complete. I have managed the books for the conferences, and each conference has run a surplus, which has accumulated to over \$10,000 in the past year. I have worked to update the contact information for Junior Young Friends and Young Friends and their parents, so that our events can be properly advertised throughout the Yearly Meeting.

I have been leading programming for the Young Friends Executive Committee, to help them think about what the program means to them and how we can further those ideals. The youths have become invested in increasing, diversifying and deepening the programming at conferences. I have also been holding the members of the Executive Committee accountable to their job descriptions. They respond with some prodding, but then take pride in their part of community stewardship. The conferences then run smoothly, under the youth leadership. The monthly meeting host of our bus trip and service conference remarked how well organized the weekend was.

I have also been planning programming for Junior Young Friends conferences. Some committed parents take a role in planning logistics and I am grateful for them. It allows me to focus on fun and educational programming that helps the Junior Young Friends build relationships with each other and Spirit. From this, and networking through the camping program, the Junior Young Friends program has grown in size. The average attendance more than doubled, with an average of 22 JYFs at a conference in this school year.

There have been some surprises. A new laptop purchased for me by the

Yearly Meeting was stolen from the inside of my car in Philadelphia. Luckily, the Yearly Meeting is insured, so the loss was not too great, and I now use an old laptop. I did expect to train volunteers to become FAPs and attended a FAP training so that someday I could participate as a trainer myself. I did not anticipate the ongoing training and maintenance of FAPs and the difficulties it would bring.

Luckily, the good outweighs the bad, and the favorite part of my job is that our Young Friends are becoming invested in being Quakers. I wrote recommendations for two Young Friends to be in the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program at Guilford, and many more are attending outside that program. Nigel Buchanan-Wollaston is visiting other yearly meetings this summer to find out more about how they organize their youth programs. JYF moms report to me that their children want to return to meeting after attending conferences, and at the last Young Friends Conference, the JYFs organized themselves to attend Adelphi on Sunday morning. At least three families, who were not Quaker before, now bring their children to meeting on Sundays.

Friends RECEIVED this report, with deep gratitude for Alison Duncan's presence and work among us.

I2009-39 *Announcements and Closing Worship.* Clerk Elizabeth Meyer called our attention to the important upcoming events listed at the end of the agenda. Friends APPROVED a minute of gratitude to State College Monthly Meeting for all they have done to uphold our work together.

The meeting closed with a period of open worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Haines,
Acting Recording Clerk

ATTACHMENT A: TRAVEL MINUTE FOR WALTER BROWN

Langley Hill Meeting
of the
Religious Society of Friends

*Meetinghouse located at
6410 Georgetown Pike
McLean, VA*

*Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 387
McLean, VA 22101*

Travel Minute for Walter Brown

We at Langley Hill Friends Meeting commend our member Walter Brown to your care. He is traveling among Friends to build bridges of understanding. He has been a part of Langley Hill Friends Meeting since its inception in 1961, and he has shown himself to be a well grounded and spiritually centered Friend with excellent listening skills. He is a student of Quaker history and theology and has a strong interest in deepening his understanding of the diverse world of Friends. He feels called to travel among Friends on behalf of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Program.

The Intervisitation Program of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) seeks to strengthen the Religious Society of Friends and nurture the beloved community of Friends, especially within Friends United Meeting (FUM). While BYM's concern regarding an FUM personnel policy planted the seed, that concern is not the program's focus. Rather, as we in BYM faced the pain we felt as a result of that policy, we awoke to the fragility of the relations among the yearly meetings and monthly meetings of FUM. The goal of BYM's Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare, and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships, and build our faith community. This program assumes that intervisitation will be in all directions and those interested will offer and receive hospitality.

Walter has been active among Friends all his life. In past years, he has served on our Overseers and Family Relations Committee (now called the Care and Clearness Committee) and Ministry and Worship Committee. He currently serves on the Advancement and Outreach Committees for Friends General Conference and Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Walter serves as clerk of the Ad-Hoc Advancement and Outreach Committee for Langley Hill and as a member of the Intervisitation Committee for Baltimore Yearly Meeting. He is also on the Central Committee of Friends General Conference.

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

In the Light,



Rebecca Rawls, Clerk
P.O.Box 387
McLean, Va.

ATTACHMENT B: TRAVEL MINUTE FOR NIGEL D. BUCHANON-WOLLASTON

Deer Creek Friends Meeting
1212 Main Street
Darlington, Maryland 21034

May 17, 2009

To whom it may concern:

Nigel D. Buchanon-Wollaston, a member of Deer Creek Friends Meeting, has come to us with the desire to expand his Quaker experience by visiting the annual sessions of several yearly meetings this summer. These include Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA), Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM), New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM), New York Yearly Meeting(NYYM), and Baltimore Yearly Meeting(BTM).

Nigel will be traveling with his mother to SAYMA and BYM. He will be accompanied by an adult from PYM for the other yearly meetings he attends. He is especially interested in learning more about the various young friends groups.

Our meeting supports Nigel in his endeavors and hopes you will benefit from his presence at your yearly meeting. We commend him to your care and hospitality.

Approved and minuted at our meeting for business held May 17, 2009.

George Gregory, Jr., Clerk for Ministry and Oversight, Deer Creek Friends Meeting



ATTACHMENT C: TRAVEL MINUTE FOR JOAN LIVERSIDGE



The Sandy Spring Friends Meeting House

SANDY SPRING MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
17715 MEETING HOUSE ROAD
SANDY SPRING, MARYLAND 20880
301-774-9792
e-mail: office@sandyspring.org

Sixth Month 7, 2009

Dear Friends,

Joan Liversidge, a beloved member of this Meeting, has opened to us her leading to worship, listen and learn as she travels among Monthly and Yearly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends over the next year. It is her hope and desire that her own faith and practice will be deepened through this experience. Joan is responding to a leading to explore the faith and practice of early Friends with the wider Quaker community, thereby deepening and enriching relationships. This call to travel among Friends is through the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation Program.

The Intervisitation Program of Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) seeks to encourage, prepare, and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships, and build our faith community. Visitors have traveled from BYM and they have received visitors for over four years. The Committee reports that intervisitation has been a profoundly rewarding and deepening experience as Friends worship and pray together over shared joys and concerns that arise as we live our faith in the world.

Joan has been active with Friends for over 25 years. She has traveled among Friends in the US and Kenya through her participation in Friends Family Service, Friends General Conference Couple Enrichment Program, Friends in Christ, and Friends United Meeting. She is currently Clerk of our Marriage and Family Relations Committee and served on Membership and Spiritual Care with a special interest for Pastoral Care.

Sandy Spring Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends unites with Joan's leading to this ministry of intervisitation. We trust that you will find her time amongst you fruitful, prayerful and enriching. We send you our loving greetings, and commend Joan to your loving care during her journey.

Sincerely,

Bette Hoover, Clerk

Bette Hoover

Approved: Sixth Month 7, 2009

*sent my Baltimore Yearly Meeting Interim Meeting,
Month 20, 2009. Elizabeth F. Meyer, Clerk.*

**338TH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

Frostburg State University
Frostburg, Maryland

Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Y2009-01 *Opening.* Friends gathered into worship at 3:00 P.M.

Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) welcomed Friends to the 338th Annual Session of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. He introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria) Recording Clerk; Paul Luckenbaugh (Bethesda) Reading Clerk; and Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi) Clerk of Young Friends. He also introduced Jason Eaby (Nottingham) who is handling the sound system, and those holding us in the Light today: Gary Sandman (Roanoke) and Edna Whittier (Roanoke).

Y2009-02 *Visitors.* Clerk Howard Fullerton welcomed visitors. Paul Luckenbaugh read a letter of introduction for Phoebe and Neil Anderson, Tallahassee Friends Meeting (formerly members of Langley Hill), representing Southeastern Yearly Meeting as part of our Intervisitation program.

We also welcomed:

Sipho Nsimbi, Clerk of Bulawayo Friends Meeting, Central and South Africa Yearly Meeting, and Chair of the Board of the Hlekweni Friends Rural Service Center near Bulawayo, Zimbabwe;

Deana Chase, Westport Friends Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting;

Jean Smith, Kaimosi Friends Meeting, East Africa Yearly Meeting;

Janet Hough, Chappaqua Friends Meeting, New York Yearly Meeting; and

Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch, Schuykill Friends Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Valley.

Y2009-03 *Regrets.* Clerk Howard Fullerton read a letter from Virginia Schurman, outgoing Clerk of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee, expressing her regret that she cannot be with us at this Annual Session. She had a knee operation yesterday and is recuperating.

Y2009-04 *Agenda.* After announcements, Clerk Howard Fullerton reviewed the agenda as it now stands. Friends expressed satisfaction.

Y2009-05 *Staff Introductions.* Riley Robinson (Friends Meeting of Washington) General Secretary, introduced members of the staff. With all positions now filled, there are nine full-time and two part-time or temporary staff members. Those present with us today are:

Jane Megginson, Camp Administrative Secretary

David Hunter, Camp Property Manager

Robinne Gray, Development Director

Alison Duncan, Youth Secretary

Margo Lehman, Comptroller

Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant

Maggie Dorr, Summer Office Intern

Riley Robinson reviewed the many activities and programs handled by these staff members. Riley Robinson also thanked those staff members who are not with us today: our two resident camp caretakers, Ralph Reed and Marco Borrega; and our part-time bookkeeper Emily Whittaker. He noted that a long-term planning conference will be held in October to look at what the Yearly Meeting does and what it should be doing. Friends expressed appreciation for our talented and hardworking staff.

Y2009-06 Reading Clerk Paul Luckenbaugh read a statement on “The Right Holding of Yearly Meeting” from London Yearly Meeting, which has been read before as an introduction to Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Session.

The Right Holding of Yearly Meeting
London Yearly Meeting, 1960

No organization or plan can produce a good yearly meeting if those who attend come for an inadequate reason. When the Religious Society of Friends gathers for its annual assembly, it does so because it seeks to come to know the mind of

God on the various affairs to be brought forward. We are ordinary people with the shortcomings of ordinary people and there is laid upon us the necessity of patience with one another in all our gatherings and especially in Yearly Meeting, and the willingness to accept the imperfect, arising from our human limitations. When, therefore, we find our Yearly Meeting falling short of the standard which it could reach, whether in worship or in deliberation, it behooves each of us to listen more intently for the voice of the Spirit and to seek the more earnestly that every contribution, be it the spoken word or in silence, is that which is in accord with the Divine leading. In our worship at Yearly Meeting it is laid upon us with special weight to listen. It is not our ministry that is required in worship, nor our inspiration in deliberations, but we seek to hear the true word of God speaking through our frail humanity and leading us to the place where He would have us be. This is the right holding of Yearly Meeting.

Y2009-07 *Epistle Committee.* Clerk Howard Fullerton brought forward the following names for this year's Epistle Committee:

J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington)

John Darnell (Frederick)

Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch (sojourning at Valley)

Rebecca Haines Rosenberg (sojourning at Alexandria)

Friends APPROVED these names.

Y2009-08 *Program Committee.* Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Program Committee. She reviewed arrangements for the week, and announced the evening speakers. On Tuesday evening, the speaker will be David Zarembka (Bethesda), Coordinator of the African Great Lakes Initiative, a project of the Friends Peace Teams. David and his wife, Gladys Kamonya, attend Lumakanda Friends Church. On Friday evening, the Carey Memorial Lecture will be given by Daniel Snyder (Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association), author of the recent Pendle Hill pamphlet *Quaker Witness as Sacrament*.

Sheila Bach noted that members of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee have made themselves available again this year to serve as listeners for any Friend who is feeling troubled. She announced that the Advancement and Outreach Committee will be videotaping brief interviews with Friends to be posted on Baltimore Yearly Meeting's new "Q-Tube" feature, designed to help introduce seekers to the Religious Society of Friends.

Y2009-09 Committee Introductions. Clerk Howard Fullerton invited members of Supervisory Committee to stand and be recognized, and then introduced the Advancement and Outreach Committee and the Camp Property Committee. He noted that many of our committees do not have a chance to report at our Annual Session, but their work is ongoing and we are grateful for their service.

Y2009-10 Manual of Procedure Committee. Chip Tucker (Charlottesville) presented the report of the Manual of Procedure Committee. He introduced proposed changes, as printed in the Advance Reports. Friends approved the changes in the following areas:

Description of the work of Peace and Social Concerns Committee;
Uses of the Yearly Meeting mailing list;
Application deadlines for the Sue Thomas Turner Fund;
Description of the work of the Youth Programs Committee; and
Appointments to the Friends House Board.

Consideration of the change in appointments to the Sandy Spring Friends School Board was laid over. The Sandy Spring Friends School Board, which is an independent body, has asked both Sandy Spring Friends Meeting and the Yearly Meeting to reduce the number of their appointments to the Board. Friends expressed concern about whether the Yearly Meeting has a responsibility to study this request, given the importance of maintaining Quaker influence on the Board. The Clerk will explore this question further, and report back to Interim Meeting.

Y2009-11 Travel Minutes. Joan Liversidge (Sandy Spring) returned a travel minute endorsed by Iowa Yearly Meeting (Friends United Meeting), which warmly welcomed her visit.

Walter Brown returned a travel minute with an endorsement from New York Yearly Meeting, expressing gratitude for his presence, and for the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Intervisitation program.

Y2009-12 Fishertown Friends Oversight Committee. Susan Williams (Dunnings Creek) presented the report of the Fishertown Friends Oversight Committee. Over the past year, three Friends resigned from Fishertown, and the remainder have joined Dunnings Creek in worship, where they were warmly welcomed. Fishertown and Dunnings Creek Friends will be exploring together the question

of whether to officially merge the two meetings.

Since November 2008, the Fishertown Friends Meeting House has been rented on Sundays to the East Allegheny Mennonite Church. The congregation is delighted with the building, is taking good care of it, and is paying enough rent to cover the cost of upkeep. They are exploring with Fishertown Friends the possibility of putting a small pre-built schoolhouse on the grounds, where they would hold classes during the week. Susan Williams noted that the arrangement with the Mennonites is not in writing, but is a handshake agreement between two historic peace churches.

Some questions were raised as to whether the presence of a school on the property would raise liability issues, and would involve meeting local and state codes. Susan Williams was asked to convey these concerns, and to suggest that a written agreement may be necessary.

Friends RECEIVED this report with appreciation for the progress that has been made in resolving the situation of Fishertown Friends. We are grateful for the loving care with which the Oversight Committee and local Friends have worked to address a sensitive and difficult issue.

Y2009-13 Interim Meeting. Elizabeth Meyer (Sandy Spring), Clerk of Interim Meeting, presented the report from Interim Meeting.

Interim Meeting Report to Baltimore Yearly Meeting Eighth Month 2009

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 18, 2008, in Charlottesville Virginia:

Approved a minute in appreciation of Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill) for her careful and loving service to Baltimore Yearly Meeting as Annual Session Registrar, 2002 through 2008.

Approved the general Epistle from 2008 Annual Session.

Approved the names of delegates to attend a peace conference in Philadelphia in January 2009.

Approved a minute regarding the death penalty case of Troy Davis,

whom the State of Georgia intends to execute.

Actions at Interim Meeting held Third Month 21, 2009, in Sandy Spring Maryland:

Received a request from Friends Meeting in Abingdon, Virginia to affiliate as a member Monthly Meeting in Baltimore Yearly Meeting and approved a proposal for moving forward on this request.

Approved changes to the Friends House bylaws providing for a resident Board trustee to comply with legal requirements.

Approved endorsing the National Religious Campaign Against Torture call for a Commission of Inquiry on acts of torture sponsored by the United States.

Approved the one-time use of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting mailing list (in consultation with BYM's annual appeals) to raise money for Ann Riggs' ministry as Principal of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya.

Actions at Interim Meeting held Sixth Month 20, 2009, in State College Pennsylvania:

Approved sending \$20,000 to Friends United Meeting to support the work of Ann Riggs as principal of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. This includes \$10,000 from this year's budget and \$10,000 from prior years' set-aside amounts for Friends United Meeting.

Approved extending the existence of the *ad hoc* Intervisitation Committee as an *ad hoc* committee for an additional three years.

Approved a procedure for designating a convener for groups of BYM representatives to various affiliated corporations and organizations.

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

Friends received this report with gratitude.

Elizabeth Meyer noted that Interim Meeting is forwarding the following items to Annual Session for approval:

- 1) *Abingdon Meeting*. After hearing the visitation committee's report at its

session on Sixth Month 20, 2009 in State College, Pennsylvania, Interim Meeting recommends that Abingdon Friends Meeting be welcomed as a member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Interim Meeting forwards the following minute for consideration:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting accepts and warmly welcomes Abingdon Friends Meeting as a member monthly meeting among us. The current officers of Abingdon Meeting are George Strawbridge, Presiding Clerk, Dryer Moss, Treasurer, and Nancy Hunter, Recorder.

Friends APPROVED this minute, and joyfully welcomed Abingdon Meeting into our fellowship.

2) *Development Committee.* At its session on Third Month 21, 2009, in Sandy Spring, Maryland, Interim Meeting approved the formation of a Development Committee as a standing committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The purpose of this Committee would be to establish policy and plans, advise and support the Development Director, and assist with the work of development.

Friends APPROVED the formation of a Development Committee as a standing committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

3) *Friends in Education Committee.* At its meeting on Sixth Month 20, 2009, in State College, Pennsylvania, Interim Meeting approved laying down the Friends in Education Committee as a standing committee, reconstituting it as a working group under the Advancement and Outreach Committee. Advancement and Outreach is eager to become involved in the work of Quaker outreach done by Friends Schools, and welcomes this new responsibility.

Friends APPROVED laying down the Friends in Education Committee as a standing committee and reconstituting it as a working group under the Advancement and Outreach Committee.

Elizabeth Meyer challenged us to consider what is our vision is for Baltimore Yearly Meeting. What is God calling us to do and to be? It is a vision that brings spiritual renewal and purpose. Friends who feel led to explore and articulate a vision for the Yearly Meeting are invited to a day-long session on October 3, 2009, from 10 to 3, to be held at William Penn House. Please let the office know if you are planning to come.

The meeting closed with a period of open worship.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

Y2009-14 *Opening.* Friends settled into worship at 9:30 A.M. After a period of open worship, Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerks' table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Recording Clerk; Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi), Clerk of Young Friends; Mace Smith (Langley Hill), co-Assistant Clerk of Young Friends; Sam Horne (Takoma Park), co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends; and Adam Heinz (Little Britain), co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends, also serving today as Reading Clerk.

Howard Fuller introduced Jason Eaby (Nottingham) who is handling the sound system. He introduced Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre) and Martin Melville (State College), who are holding us in the Light today.

Y2009-15 *Visitors.* We welcomed visitors. Adam Heinz read a letter of introduction for Emily Stewart (Durham Friends Meeting, Piedmont Friends Fellowship), who is with us as the Friends General Conference staff visitor.

Adam Heinz read a letter of introduction for Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt (Swarthmore Friends Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting), who is the Friends General Conference Central Committee visitor this year.

Howard Fullerton read a letter from Jackie Speicher (West Richmond Monthly Meeting, Indiana Yearly Meeting) expressing her appreciation for the chance to visit with us as part of our Intervisitation program. Jackie serves as pastor of the Xenia (Ohio) Friends Church, Wilmington Yearly Meeting. She is traveling under a concern for Right Sharing of World Resources and also is leading the morning Bible study this year.

We also welcomed:

Sylvia Graves, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting;
Louise Salinas, Associate Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas.
Laurie Perman (State College), Executive Director of Pendle Hill.

Howard Fullerton asked that we hold John Damon, of Kearney (Nebraska)

Friends Meeting in the Light as he faces liver transplant surgery. John Damon was a visitor to our Annual Session from Great Plains Yearly Meeting last year, and had hoped to attend again this year. We hope to see him at our next Annual Session.

Y2009-16 Camp Program Committee. Chrissie Devinney (Goose Creek), co-Clerk, presented the report of the Camp Program Committee. She introduced the directors of our camping program: Linda Garrettson at Catoctin, Elaine Brigham at Opequon, Riley Lark at Shiloh, and Jen Schneider and David Gregal with Teen Adventure.

Riley Lark, the new director of Shiloh, expressed his joy at serving in his new role after 10 years on the staff at Shiloh. He praised the dedication of the people he works with; the 25 counselors and staff at Shiloh give far more than their job description requires. His greatest disappointment is that Shiloh was under-enrolled this year, so that the wonderful experience it offers is not reaching as many campers as it could. He is grateful for the campers who allow themselves to be so vulnerable and open, for Baltimore Yearly Meeting's ongoing support, and for the grace that pervades the whole experience. He has been surprised and touched by the gratitude parents have expressed to him, sometimes almost in tears, for what their children are being given in our camping program.

David Gregal, co-Director of Teen Adventure, talked about the challenge of creating a camp without a camp property, for six groups of teens undertaking different challenges and adventures. He noted that Teen Adventure is an opportunity for experienced campers to take all they have learned at camp out into the world. The campers have responsibility for shopping for their own food, within a fixed budget, which is always an eye-opening and satisfying experience for them. The group in Rockbridge County, Virginia had access to a garden plot this year, and was able to experiment with growing food for the program. It has been a wonderful summer, filled with surprises and unexpected kindness.

Y2009-17 Adam Heinz read an excerpt from a former yearly meeting discussion on what makes camping special:

What makes Quaker camps special to campers, counselors, parents, and staff?

A spirit of community, care, trust, and lots of love, in spite of the differences.

A sense of self-confidence.

Many close friendships are begun.

Parents gain more trust and confidence in their children because of the maturing experiences their children receive at camp.

Camp is an environment where young people can experiment and take risks as they develop physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Campers are allowed to discover a sense of God or spirituality for themselves.

Y2009-18 Camp Property. Howard Fullerton introduced a Minute of Appreciation prepared by the Camp Property Management Committee.

Adam Heinz read the minute as follows:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting minutes appreciation for the work of Stephen Dotson as Catoctin Quaker Camp Caretaker from January of 2007 until May of 2009.

Stephen leaves the camp in better shape than he found it, and that may be the best way to measure the gifts that a caretaker gives. He has assisted visitors to camp, watched over camp when we were not able, cleaned up the messes we forgot, and repaired the things we broke during our visits. Many of our youth enjoyed the benefit of his experience when he provided opportunities to visit Catoctin and opened opportunities for them to serve the properties that have meant so much to them. Stephen has left a record of the seasonal work he has done at camp, the contacts he has made and the locations of a host of switches and valves that will serve caretakers at Catoctin for years to come.

We will remember Stephen for his diligence in encouraging us all to make every action be authentic and every interaction reflect the full light of integrity. This is the legacy that Stephen has left us, and it is this that will continue to guide and inspire us.

Friends UNITED with this minute, with gratitude for Stephen Dotson's time among us.

Friends welcomed the new Caretaker at Catoctin, Marco Borrega.

Y2009-19 Friends Meeting School. Meg Meyer (Baltimore, Stony Run) came

up to the clerks' table to serve as temporary Recording Clerk.

Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Clerk of the Advancement and Outreach Committee presented a proposal reflecting that Committee's awareness of the role Friends schools play in outreach. The proposal recommends that Baltimore Yearly Meeting establish a "Spiritual Care" relationship with Friends Meeting School, at its request, as follows:

Recommendation on Taking Friends Meeting School under the Spiritual Care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Presented by the Advancement and Outreach Committee

At Interim Meeting in June, the Friends in Education Committee was re-designated as a working group, and placed under the care of the Advancement and Outreach Committee (Minute I2009-36). Advancement and Outreach is excited about this new arrangement, as it will enable us to become more involved in the outreach work routinely done by Friends schools, as they teach and model Quaker values in the wider community.

Advancement and Outreach looks forward to working with all of the Friends schools in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting area in the coming years. Our immediate concern, however, is with the Friends Meeting School in Ijamsville, Maryland. Friends Meeting School has asked to be taken under the care of the Yearly Meeting, in order to strengthen and secure its Quaker identity.

Advancement & Outreach strongly recommends that Baltimore Yearly Meeting establish a "Spiritual Care" relationship with Friends Meeting School at this time. Taking Friends Meeting School under the spiritual care of the Yearly Meeting would not involve any legal or financial responsibility for the school. As we envision it, this relationship would involve:

Seeking to identify at least two Friends willing to serve on the Friends Meeting School Board as representatives of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Advancement and Outreach, through the Friends in Education working group, would take responsibility for identifying Friends willing to serve, and forwarding their names to the Nominating Committee.

Receiving regular reports from Friends Meeting School, with particular emphasis on the role the school plays in Quaker outreach.

Posting information about Friends Meeting School on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website to better inform Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting about the work of the school, and to assist with student and staff recruitment.

Holding Friends Meeting School in the Light, and acknowledging the important role it plays in supporting the Religious Society of Friends.

The Advancement and Outreach Committee expects that other Friends schools in the Baltimore Yearly Meeting area may also wish to come under the spiritual care of the Yearly Meeting in order to strengthen their Quaker identity. We look forward to exploring this possibility with any interested Friends school, provided that it is not already under the care of a monthly meeting, and that it is seriously committed to teaching and modeling Quaker values. Friends schools are often the most visible face of Friends in their community. It is important that we take steps to ensure that they are grounded in the Religious Society of Friends, and supported in their outreach mission.

Deborah mentioned that the situation of Friends Meeting School is unusual. It is grounded in Quakerism by a small preparative meeting, Seneca Valley Preparative, and has been unable to establish a spiritual care relationship with a monthly or quarterly meeting. Members of the Board of Friends Meeting School rose to be recognized, as did members of the Advancement and Outreach Committee.

This proposal will be laid over until Saturday, so that additional Yearly Meeting committees may consider it. Friends were encouraged to read *The Care Relationship*, a pamphlet describing the relationship between Friends and their schools, which is available from the Friends Council on Education.

Y2009-20 Committee Introductions. Deborah Haines returned to the clerks' table. Howard Fullerton introduced the Criminal and Restorative Justice Committee, the Development Committee, and the Educational Loan Committee, and thanked them for their work.

Y2009-21 *Friends World Committee for Consultation.* Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) and Louise Salinas (Fallsington Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting) presented the report of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas.

Louise Salinas spoke of how FWCC is about bringing Friends together, and getting beyond “us” and “them” to where we are all one family. She read the FWCC mission statement:

Answering God’s call to universal love, FWCC brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communications, and consultation, to express our common heritage and our Quaker message to the world.

Louise Salinas shared her experience of being in a workshop, held in Spanish, at a recent Triennial, where the topic was “Is the Bible Really Anti-Gay?” Many pastors from evangelical Friends churches had come, not to argue, but to listen and learn from the speaker, who was openly gay. It was an extraordinary occasion.

She also talked about being at an FWCC North Eastern regional gathering, held outside Philadelphia, where those in attendance were half Hispanic evangelical Quakers, mostly immigrants from Guatemala now living in places like Philadelphia and Baltimore, and half Friends from unprogrammed yearly meetings. Cooking meals together and getting to know each other was a wonderful experience, but best of all was a Meeting for Worship, which began with evangelical preaching and singing, and settled into rich, waiting silence.

Louise Salinas noted that FWCC has felt the effects of the economic downturn, but is keeping afloat with some belt tightening and with the generous support of many Friends. It continues to sponsor a variety of programs, including the Wider Quaker Fellowship, the directory of Friends in North America, and a new climate change initiative. The next FWCC World Gathering will be held in Nairobi, Kenya in 2012.

Sheila Bach spoke of the upcoming FWCC annual meeting, which will be held at the Pearlstone Retreat and Conference Center in Reisterstown, Maryland, March 18-21, 2010. She asked for volunteers willing to serve on a local arrangements committee, to help with transportation from the airports, and to plan local activities and trips for participants before, during and after the meeting. There will be

a number of Young (adult) Friends attending the meeting, who will be planning special activities to pull together and build their community, a sure source of energy and excitement. Friends who are able to help with local arrangements are encouraged to speak to Sheila Bach.

Flossie Fullerton announced that one activity during the inter-generational evening tomorrow night will involve decorating a welcome banner for display at the FWCC annual meeting. Friends of all ages are invited to add their greeting to the banner, as a message of welcome from Baltimore Yearly Meeting to Friends from around the world.

Y2009-22 *Greetings to Lumakanda Friends Meeting.* Howard Fullerton reminded Friends of last evening's session.

David Zarembka (Bethesda), assisted by his wife Gladys Kamonye (Bethesda) and daughter Joy Zarembka, spoke movingly of the work of African Great Lakes Initiative. AGLI is a project of the Friends Peace teams, which Friends from Baltimore Yearly Meeting were active in organizing a decade ago. It seeks to bring healing and reconciliation to Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Kenya, and the Congo, with the help of local Friends from the many meetings in East Africa. Every year AGLI organizes workcamps in which we are warmly invited to participate. David Zarembka asked us to see Friends in Africa not as "other", but as part of our family. He urged us to learn more, to engage more, and to care more about the sufferings of Friends in Africa, and the amazing work many of them are doing in peace building.

Howard Fullerton noted that Gladys Kamonye had brought us greetings from Lumakanda Friends Meeting, Lugari Yearly Meeting, where she and David attend. He asked if we would like to send greetings in return.

Friends enthusiastically APPROVED sending our loving greetings to Lumakanda Friends Meeting, with gratitude for the presence of David, Gladys and Joy among us this week.

Y2009-23 *Friends Theological College.* Ann Riggs (Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, Piedmont Friends Fellowship, sojourning at Annapolis) will be leaving next week to take up the task of serving as Principal of the Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya, on a one-year assignment. She presented a slide show illustrating the life and work of Friends Theological College, formerly the

Friends Bible Institute, which is under the care of Friends United Meeting.

The College offers a diploma, roughly equivalent to a Community College degree, in theological studies. It offers not only theology courses, but practical courses that would be of use to a pastor, including psychology, business management, and accounting, with an emphasis on the connection between the churches and the wider world. Most graduates become pastors of Kenyan Friends churches, a position which is normally unpaid.

The faculty is mostly Kenyan, but Americans are welcome to come as visiting teachers. Friends able to teach relevant courses are encouraged to volunteer, for an entire semester, or for a short course lasting only two weeks. The student body includes some students from outside Kenya, giving the school an international flavor. Most students are Quakers, but there are a few from other churches.

The College is currently seeking accreditation, which will require upgrading the library and acquiring more computer equipment. The computers will, among other things, enable the library to greatly expand its collection by subscribing to theological journals from around the world, which are readily available online.

Ann Riggs spoke of the challenge the College is facing in dealing with persistent shortages of electricity. This has inspired exploration of alternative sources of energy, and an emphasis on ecological sustainability. The College is also deeply involved in seeking to address the HIV/AIDS crisis, with support from Friends in the United States, including Brad Ogilvie, Associate Director of William Penn House.

The challenge of peacemaking is central to the mission of the College. All students are required to take training in the Alternatives to Violence Program (AVP). Some are receiving advanced training. Bringing volunteer trainers to the College means added costs for food and housing. Ann Riggs suggested that meetings might want to take this on as a special fundraising project.

Friends Theological College is a true partnership between Kenyan and American Friends. Ann Riggs looks forward to helping strengthen this partnership. She also hopes to be able to address some of the development challenges the College is facing, and to work on expanding opportunities for women in Kenyan Quakerism.

Ann Riggs expressed her deep appreciation to the Friends who raised the funds to make it possible for her to follow this leading, especially Annapolis Friends Meeting and Baltimore Yearly Meeting. She hopes Friends will continue to support her work and to hold her and the College in the Light.

Y2009-24 Adam Heinz read from Isaiah 11:6-9:

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
The leopard shall lie down with the kid,
The calf and the lion and the fatling together,
And a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
Their young shall lie down together,
And the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
And the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;
For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
As the waters cover the sea.

Y2009-25 *Peace Gathering.* Bill Mims presented a report on the Interfaith Peace Gathering held in Philadelphia, January 13-18 2009.

Report from the Peace Gathering, 2009

Imagine a very, very cold week in January in Philadelphia. Imagine it being a few days before the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—the celebration of a committed man of non-violence who said that a nation which spends more of its resources on the military than it does on human social needs is approaching spiritual bankruptcy. Imagine the week before the inauguration of the first African-American president in U.S. history.

Keep all of this in mind, as you imagine the historic Arch Street Meeting House in Philadelphia filled with over 400 peaceniks, of very diverse backgrounds, including Mennonites, Brethren, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, and, yes, Quakers. Imagine that Meeting House filled with singing, and preaching, and “Amens”, for almost an entire week. Imagine

Quakers celebrating with enthusiasm in programmed worship, while Mennonites and Brethren and Methodists and others hold their arms around Quakers, who are sometimes regarded by them as “not Biblically centered enough.”

Hold that image, and imagine that, for several days during that week, large groups of these peaceful folk stood in bitter cold in front of a gun store in central Philadelphia witnessing against the violence caused by the illegal straw purchases of guns made at that store. These peaceful folk were vigiling in the cold—the bitter, bitter cold—to try to get the owner of that infamous gun store to sign a voluntary agreement to stop illegal purchases—an agreement already signed by the likes of Wal-Mart. Imagine a dozen of these folks getting arrested, some actually charged with conspiracy. And in my view they were part of a conspiracy—a conspiracy to stop needless gun violence, through any peaceful means they could.

Even if you can imagine all of this, you will not come close to the feeling of being there, among spiritually committed peace folks, from all over the country. What a feeling! At moments, it settled deeply in my soul. It will be impossible to forget.

I am honored to have been allowed to be one of the representatives from Baltimore Yearly Meeting to this Gathering. The Gathering was two years in the making, and was born out of a message in the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

I hope and urge all Friends in BYM to be part of the ongoing work of this Gathering. It is easy. There are twenty-one areas of action that came out of the Gathering, and you can be part of any of them. Go to www.peacegathering2009.org, click on “Calls to Action Groups,” and sign up!

By the way, all twelve of those arrested were acquitted by a Philadelphia judge at their trial in May.

Friends RECEIVED this report with gratitude.

Y2009-26 Announcements and Closing. Howard Fullerton read several announcements. The Young Adult Friends will be presenting an interactive his-

tory activity again this year. All ages are invited, parents and children together. Adult Friends willing to play the part of historic figures are asked to come ten minutes early for orientation.

The meeting ended with a period of worship.

Thursday, August 4, 2009

Y2009-27 *Opening.* Friends gathered into worship at 9:30 A.M. Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerk's table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Recording Clerk; Linda Coates (Little Britain), Reading Clerk; Adam Heinz (Little Britain), co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends; Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi), Clerk of Young Friends; and Hannah Cropper (Richmond), member of the Young Friends Executive Committee.

Howard Fullerton introduced Jason Eaby (Nottingham), who is handling the sound system, and the two Friends holding us in the Light today: Paul Luckenbaugh (Bethesda), and Linda Wilk (Hopewell Centre).

Y2009-28 *Visitors.* We welcomed visitors.

Linda Coates read a travel minute for Sylvia Graves, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting, carrying loving greetings.

We also welcomed:

Jennie Isbell (Clear Creek Friends Meeting, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting), traveling for Earlham School of Religion;

Jim Syphers (Monongalia Monthly Meeting), Morgantown, West Virginia, formerly a long-time member of Baltimore Yearly Meeting; and

Allen Stockbridge (Salt Lake Friends Meeting, Intermountain Yearly Meeting).

Y2009-29 *Spiritual State of the Meeting Report.* Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch (sojourning at Valley), presented the Spiritual State of the Meeting Report, on behalf of the Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee.

Friends ACCEPTED this report, and APPROVED sending it out with our general Epistle. It will also be distributed to our meetings and published in the Yearbook.

Y2009-30 *Faith and Practice Revision Committee.* Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced the report of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee by reading from a review on the back cover of the new edition of Britain Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice:

This book is an attempt to express Truth through the vital personal and corporate experience of Friends....To Quakers, the visible mark of being a 'church' is not conformity to a particular creed, or liturgical or sacramental practice, but the quality of communal life which reveals the extent of the community's willingness to seek and to follow the Spirit's call to loving fellowship. This book is a treasure-house of spiritual wisdom....At best, there is an honesty, a toughness and a tenderness that is powerfully impressive.

Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. She expressed her joy in serving on this Committee, and her deep appreciation to the members who have met faithfully ten times a year since 2002. A draft version of the revised Faith and Practice has been published in book form. Friends are urged to take a copy back to their meeting, to work with the queries and advices throughout the year, and to send comments and suggestions to the Committee. Quite a few additional sections will be added in the coming years. It was published as a book at this time not because it is near completion, but because this was cheaper than photocopying, and makes the text more accessible. The Committee is grateful for the feedback it has already received from individuals and meetings. In response to a comment from the floor, Sheila Bach promised that future communications will be answered promptly. The Committee looks forward with anticipation to continuing this journey.

Y2009-30 *Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns.* Reading Clerk Linda Coates read a Minute presented for reflection by the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns:

The Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns asks your Monthly Meeting to consider the following query and to send your responses to us:

Historically Friends held a called Meeting for Worship to celebrate the religious commitment and spiritual union of two of their members. There was no legal or civil component to these earliest marriages, because the state did not sanction marriage between two Friends in a Quaker meeting house. Today many of our Friends are in a similar position. No legal jurisdiction within the boundaries of our Yearly Meeting will sanction marriage between two Friends of the same gender.

Is it time to return to this earlier practice of separation of church and state? In accordance with our testimony of equality, should we offer the same marriage under the care of the Meeting—no more no less—to all couples, while encouraging couples who are legally able, to have a separate civil ceremony?

The Committee will be distributing this query to each of our Meetings, and asks us to consider prayerfully our responses to it.

Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Center) reported on the action taken by Britain Yearly Meeting on same sex marriage at its sessions this summer. The Yearly Meeting united with a minute stating that all marriages within Quaker meetings are to be considered equal, regardless of the gender of the individuals being married, and calling on the government to recognize marriage equality. A participant described it to Laura Nell Obaugh as the most exciting and uplifting session of Britain Yearly Meeting in sixty years.

Y2009-31 *Visitors.* We welcomed visitors:

Mickey Holloway (Sarasota Friends Meeting, Southeastern Yearly Meeting), now living at Friends House; and

Ann Holloway (Schenectady Friends Meeting, New York Yearly Meeting).

Y2009-32 *Search Committee.* Janet Eaby (Nottingham) introduced the members of the Search Committee and presented a Search Committee report for a second reading:

Yearly Meeting Officers

Treasurer Marian Ballard (Bethesda)

Assistant Treasurer Laurie Wilner (Langley Hill)

Supervisory Committee

Robert Fetter (Roanoke)

Susie Fetter (Roanoke)

Tasha Walsh (Maury River)

Nominating Committee

Rebecca Rawls (Langley Hill)

Nancy Moore (Baltimore, Stony Run)

Charlotte Boynton (Langley Hill)

Andrei Israel (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Friends APPROVED these names.

Janet Eaby brought forward the name of Ramona Buck (Patapsco) for Yearly Meeting Recording Clerk. This name will be brought back on Saturday for a second reading.

Friends thanked the Committee for its work.

Y2009-33 Nominating Committee. Barbara Thomas (Annapolis) introduced the members of the Nominating Committee. About 200 Friends serve in positions filled by the Nominating Committee, either as members of one of sixteen committees, or as representatives to an outside organization. Barbara Thomas described these committees, and the many working groups that are outside the scope of the Nominating Committee's charge as truly the lifeblood of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Barbara Thomas brought forward three resignations:

Benjamin Zuses (Sandy Spring) has resigned from the Youth Programs Committee;

Catherine McHugh (Bethesda) has resigned from Ministry and Pastoral Care; Barbara Williamson (Richmond) has resigned from Peace and Social Concerns.

Friends ACCEPTED these resignations.

Barbara Thomas presented the Nominating Committee report for a first reading.

She reviewed the list of names being brought forward, with special attention to those who are being newly appointed or re-appointed at this time.

Barbara Thomas noted that two of our standing committees have been re-designated as working groups. Right Sharing of World Resources is now a working group under Peace and Social Concerns, and Friends in Education is now a working group under Advancement and Outreach. She explained that working groups and ad hoc committees are different from standing committees. They are not appointed by the Nominating Committee, but recruit their own members and are not bound by term limits. The Yearly Meeting now has seven active ad hoc committees and working groups. Although they do not appear in the Nominating Committee report, they will be listed in the Yearbook.

Barbara Thomas reviewed the appointments to outside organizations. Each group of representatives to a particular outside organization is strongly encouraged to name a convener and to keep in touch with each other. Nominating Committee will be hosting a gathering of representatives to outside organization to help move this process forward. There will also be an orientation session for incoming committee clerks to help them step into their new role.

The report of the Nominating Committee will be brought back on Saturday for a second reading.

Y2009-34 *Committee Introductions.* Howard Fullerton recognized the Indian Affairs Committee, the Religious Education Committee, and the Right Sharing of World Resources Committee, and thanked them for their service.

Y2009-35 Linda Coates read a selection from Patricia Loring's *Listening Spirituality*, Volume II: Corporate Spiritual Practice Among Friends, pp 139-140, highlighting the spiritual content of shared caring for a meeting property.

One often overlooked communal opportunity for fellowship, bonding and sharing about our faith and aspirations are the work days that meetings have appointed to maintain the meeting's physical property. In most meetings, to this day, times are appointed periodically to share in routine maintenance....These work times are usually presented and accepted, or shirked, as opportunities to share in the mutual responsibility for property. Sometimes the burden is chiefly borne by those who have a gift or taste for tidying, cleaning or outdoor work—or a special love

for the meeting house and its grounds....I've noted in several places where there is no shared manual work—sometimes even disdain of such work as an appropriate meeting activity—that there is often also a complaint of lack of sense of community in the meeting.

Y2009-36 Trustees. Byron Sandford (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of Trustees.

Report from Trustees

Since November 2007, the Trustees have been grappling with a bequest involving an estate that includes the home of an early Quaker family. The estate includes land and significant cash. The deceased expressed her desire that Quakers and their good deeds should be included in the distribution of her assets. Before the new year, the judge established that Baltimore Yearly Meeting had official standing in the settlement of the estate, that our legal fees to that date were to be paid by the estate, and that we should help determine how the estate distribution would be used to meet the goals of the deceased. The process continues, as is true with most legal proceedings, with delays following every forward step. Until it is settled, it is hard to speculate on the actual outcome.

The Trustees, working with our attorney, have presented our Cy Pres materials which reflect our efforts to honor the charitable wishes of the late descendant of long-time Friends. The attorney who is the administrator of the estate ignores the court's direction and continues to be a formidable obstacle to the process. It appears at this time that we are nearing a resolution. We have worked to keep the two local Meetings involved informed of the process.

We also have been informed that the Yearly Meeting will be the beneficiary of another more straightforward estate.

Facing the implosion of the financial markets last fall, the Trustees elected to leave our investments alone and to allow the markets to find equilibrium. As you recall, any action during that stressful period would have been an emotional response. As of 12/31/2008, our investments were valued at \$546,570, down 20% for the year. As of June 30, 2009, they had regained some of their lost value and were valued at \$575,265, including a reinvestment of dividends of \$12,688. As volunteers we

continue our financial review of BYM investments, including some that precede the unification of the two Baltimore Yearly Meetings. Progress is being made, but the task is arduous and time-consuming.

The Trustees authorized Frederick Meeting to proceed with tree removal and other improvements to the Bush Creek burying ground. The Trustees recommend that the agreement between Fishertown Friends and the Mennonite Church be in writing and that the property be insured. The Trustees endorse the Advancement and Outreach Committee's recommendation that Baltimore Yearly Meeting provide a spiritual relationship with Friends Meeting School without any financial obligation.

The Trustees encourage broad and full participation in the planned visioning workshop scheduled for October 3, 2009. Through such a Spirit-led process, we can deepen our spiritual center and bring new energy to our programs and ministries.

Friends RECEIVED this report with gratitude.

Y2009-37 Stewardship and Finance. Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. She noted that the Committee has taken special care this year to communicate with committees and local meetings to involve them more fully in the budget process, and that it has been a wonderful experience. She explained that the reports being distributed this year contain less detail than in the past. Complete details are available, for those who want them, in a binder that will be at the Information table.

Robinne Gray (Friends Meeting of Washington) spoke briefly about her first year as Development Director. The economic downturn has forced the Yearly Meeting onto a slower, more sustainable path of growth, which may prove to be a blessing in the long run. Robinne has visited 14 Meetings so far, talking about Friends and giving. She encourages Friends to take advantage of a generous gift that will match any new contributions to the Yearly Meeting, and to consider the automatic monthly donor program, which is now subject to a double match. She spoke of the special attention that she will be giving to fundraising to support the camping program, both its ongoing operations and its projected capital expenses.

Natalie Finegar presented the financial statement for 2008. She noted that we

ended the year with a slight deficit because of a reduction in the value of our investments, but that income and expenses were otherwise in balance. She noted that the financial statement represents the fruition of a long-term effort to improve the consistency, reliability, and transparency of our bookkeeping systems. The Committee is very grateful to Margo Lehman for the long hours she has put into getting that system into place.

Natalie Finegar presented the list of apportionments. She noted that apportionments have been lowered for quite a few meetings, in response to their appeals for help. In one case, the apportionment was lowered more than the 25% normally allowed, for one year only. Some meetings have agreed to accept increases, leading to an overall total for the apportionment of \$398,125 for FY 2010, as compared to \$417,500 for FY 2009.

Natalie Finegar presented the proposed budget. It calls for an increase in individual contributions from \$150,000 to \$183,000, and some belt tightening, to make up for the decreased income from apportionments. Cost saving measures that are proposed include changes in the employee health insurance plan which will have minimal impact on our current staff, a major reduction in copier expenses from \$10,500 to \$2,500, and a reduction in the travel budget for both staff and the Yearly Meeting Clerk, for a savings of \$1,650. In addition, committees that have not turned in expenses during the past several years will have their budgets set at \$0, with the understanding that they may come to the Yearly Meeting to ask for the funds needed to carry on their work at any time. Committees and working groups affected by this change in budgeting are: Advancement and Outreach, Camp Properties Management, Criminal and Restorative Justice, Educational Funding Resources, Friends in Education, Indian Affairs, Right Sharing of World Resources, Stewardship and Finance, Trustees, Web Publishing, and Youth Programs Committee. The budget for the Religious Education Committee has been reduced, in consultation with the Committee, from \$3,600 in 2009 to \$1,500 in 2010. The budget for Intervisitation has been reduced from \$12,000 to \$10,000.

With regard to the camping programs, grants from the Barry Morley scholarship have been suspended, possibly for several years, because of stock market losses. This is the only direct impact the stock market downturn has had on our budget. The \$100 camping scholarship for campers from Baltimore Yearly Meeting has been eliminated, at the suggestion of the Camping Program Committee. The original rationale for this scholarship was that Baltimore Yearly Meeting mem-

bers should get a discount because they were already supporting the camping programs through the apportionment. As sources of funding for the camping program have changed, this rationale has been weakened.

There are some items where the budget calls for increased spending. The Supervisory Committee has been reviewing job descriptions and researching salaries for comparable jobs in the non-profit sector. This analysis has led to the conclusion that some of our salaries are too low and must be raised to match even the low end of the spectrum of comparables. Proposed salary increases to meet these objectives will total \$60,000. In addition, the Stewardship and Finance Committee is committed to building up our unrestricted reserves, and had set the goal of putting at least \$10,000 into the reserve fund each year. The proposed budget for 2010 would be balanced so as to achieve a slightly larger contribution to unrestricted reserves of \$16,000.

Friends are encouraged to speak to members of Stewardship and Finance if they have questions or comments. From the floor Friends expressed deep appreciation to Stewardship and Finance for the impressive progress they have made toward getting the Yearly Meeting's financial house in order. The budget will be brought back for a second reading on Saturday.

The meeting closed with a period of worship.

Friday, August 4, 2009

Y2009-38 Opening. Friends gathered at 9:30 A.M. to sit for a photograph of our entire community, including the children. After the picture was taken, Gladys Kimonye (Bethesda), Reading Clerk, read from the Advices:

Rejoice in the presence of children and young people in the Meeting.
Recognize and affirm the gifts that they bring to the life of the meeting community.

Children and young people need their peer groups. They also need whole group sharing where they are an integral part of the Meeting, sharing experiences that deepen relationships. Part of sharing is learning to know of our past as Quakers. Even more important is the sharing of what we as Quakers understand as the Truth today and how it shapes our lives.

Y2009-39 *Roll of Meetings.* Clerk Howard Fullerton read the roll of Meetings. He had divided the roll into categories—Worship Group, Indulged Meeting, Preparative Meeting, Monthly Meeting—and then organized each category by the age of the Meeting. He noted that the process required considerable research, and some judgment calls. We are grateful to see so many of our Meetings represented here.

Y2009-40 *Junior Yearly Meeting.* June Confer (Adelphi) reported on Junior Yearly Meeting. This year at Annual Session our children have been experimenting with how to “walk cheerfully,” as George Fox recommended, learning through play, dance, story-telling and imagination how to value themselves and others.

The children of Junior Gathering came forward to sing with us. We sang “Dear Friends” as a four part round, and “How could anyone ever tell you that you’re anything less than beautiful?” Anna Rain (Adelphi), who led the singing, spoke of the joy she always feels during this part of the program at Annual Session, when we all see each other face to face.

Howard Fullerton noted that Karen Cunningham will be stepping down after six years as Clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting. A Minute of Appreciation is being prepared.

Friends united with the thought, expressed by June Confer, that our young people do indeed teach us to “walk cheerfully,” as they trooped out of the room.

Y2009-41 *Introductions.* Clerk Howard Fullerton introduced those at the clerk’s table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Recording Clerk; Gladys Kimonye (Bethesda), Reading Clerk; Sam Horne (Takoma Park), co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends; Georgia McCandlish (Adelphi), Clerk of Young Friends, and Helen Robare (Hopewell Centre) Treasurer of Young Friends.

Howard Fullerton introduced Jason Eaby (Nottingham) handling the sound system; and those holding us in the Light today: Betty Brody (Alexandria), Kit Benz (Friends Meeting of Washington), Jackie LaBua (Stony Run), and Alex Bean (Adelphi).

Howard Fullerton noted that Gladys Kimonye was at first reluctant to serve as reading clerk because she was afraid Friends would not understand her accent.

He noted that the majority of Friends in the world speak English with a Kenyan accent, and we need to get used to it. We feel blessed to have Gladys Kimonye among us.

Y2009-42 Gladys Kimonye read a passage lifting up the importance of expressing our faith in ways that people will understand:

Only such writings as spring from a living experience will reach the life in others, only those which embody genuine thought in clear and effective form will minister to the needs of the human mind. A faith like Quakerism should find expression in creative writing born of imagination and spirit, and speaking in universal tones that will be understood by many who fail to understand the common presentations of Christianity. It is no disrespect to truth to present it in forms that will be readily understood.

London Yearly Meeting, 1925

Y2009-43 General Secretary. Riley Robinson (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the General Secretary's report.

General Secretary's Annual Report

August 7, 2009

Yesterday some of us were over at the Performing Arts Center, taking a look at the building. It's a very well-designed facility, with a beautiful lobby, three performance spaces, rehearsal spaces, and classrooms. It is a wonderful home for developing artists. With the Lane Center undergoing renovation, we were there to see how the Arts Center would fit us as our home for Annual Session next year. Clerks considered lighting and acoustics. Others nobly volunteered to test whether a few inches of upholstery in each seat was really enough to support good concentration in Meeting for Business.

As we moved from room to room, we thought of incorporating these spaces for our own uses. Here we would want to bend the usual arrangement of the furniture a bit to make it work for us as Friends. There we might want to improvise, either on the intended use of the room or on "the way we've always done it," in a way that would likely mean a new experience for both the room and ourselves.

Some of our opportunities to go peeking were merely a futile temp-

tation into this or that small paradise. The piano room would have to stay locked, as would the band uniform room. The room packed full of percussion instruments would never be allowed to provide me the therapy experience that I truly deserved. And a Baltimore Yearly Meeting committee clerk vanished into the costume room, only to be extracted after being coaxed away from the thrall of a raspberry tutu.

Finding ourselves in a studio with a mirrored studio wall, some of us began to move and limber up a bit. The energy in the room rose for a moment as some of us broke from looking at the room to being in the room. I was watching people who had grown up in the BYM camping and youth programs and people who participate in unprogrammed worship. “That’s who we are,” I thought. “We bend, we stretch, we grow.”

We move, we flex, we breathe, we center, we free ourselves, and in so doing we help free each other. And we need to, as surely as we need the blood to flow in our arteries.

We balance. We balance and integrate our identities as members of Monthly Meetings, this Yearly Meeting, as being FGC Friends, FUM Friends, FWCC Friends. And we should. But just what does each of these mean? Once we know what they mean, what does it take to really fulfill the promise of these dimensions of our individual religious lives and corporate religious life together? This diversity of identities is ours, whether we fully recognize it or not. And we can recognize it. But sometimes we hesitate. After all, where will all of this take us?

Well, when does a set of movements become a dance? When do movements and spoken lines become theater? What are the conditions that must come together to cause this to happen? When does our Yearly Meeting achieve a rhythm and harmony in which we become music, perhaps elegantly composed, or perhaps freely improvised? It does happen. But not for all of us, and not as often as it could. Those of us here today are experiencing it to some degree or other. But, no surprise, most of our Yearly Meeting is not here and is not attuning to the Spirit that is given to us to share. What to do? What would feel comfortable? Or is that the right question?

This year our body, The Body of BYM, took a shock to its system, as did the whole country, in the realm of finances. Like all impacts, some parts of the body felt it more than others. This year the letters about annual apportionment went out to Meetings as usual, but the letters that came back were not. Meeting after Meeting said, in a way not heard before, not just "What has the Yearly Meeting done for us lately," but perhaps worse, "What does the Yearly Meeting do?" These queries were unfailingly polite, quite focused and well thought out. However, sometimes in person there was more of an edge. No comfort here. Most were from Friends whom "we," that is, some of us who identify ourselves as "BYM Friends," did not know. They were us, but did not know us. Of course it wasn't just that "they" didn't come to "our" meetings. We hadn't visited them, either. That's a situation that we have been able to improve upon this spring, and those of us who have been visiting have learned much. Here's a word for all of you center people. Not Centre Quarter, but all of the people in the center of BYM in Washington and Baltimore. You can go north. You can go way south. It actually takes just as many hours for you to drive to visit them as it has for them to have been coming to visit us all of these years! There are beautiful places to visit, and we were treated quite well. The opportunities for engagement have been rewarding. Still, these meetings highlighted some missing parts in our repertoire.

Listen. Listen. Hear.

What does BYM have to offer Monthly Meetings? How do you answer that question? Is anyone even asking you? Do you feel at ease talking about BYM at your Monthly Meeting? What might help you? For one, there has been no document to describe BYM to inquiring Friends. Take this "Handy Guide" document as an unadorned score. Maybe it might lessen the dissonance between those who know BYM and those who don't. As you read it, can you begin to gain a sense of the Yearly Meeting as a whole experience? Does it take you to a place where you hear the major themes of our Meeting of Meetings, as we are now or even as we might be in the future? It is an early attempt to describe our rhythm and structure to Friends who need to know. Who in BYM should care for this document if we keep it?

And here are five things that we haven't done, or haven't done

enough:

There is no regular venue at Annual Session where one or more Monthly Meetings share interactively from their experiences as Monthly Meetings. We miss significant opportunities to learn from them and to help them.

Monthly Meeting Clerks could get together to share during the year, but BYM doesn't bring that about. If the idea comes up everyone thinks it's a good idea, but we don't do it. However, Monthly Meetings do need each other.

At the April apportionment meeting, we could bring Monthly Meeting finance people face to face with Yearly Meeting program people (camping, youth, etc.) to explain what we do and how we manage ourselves.

Have you visited two other Monthly Meetings in the last year?
Could you this year?

This space is yours. Please do improvise here

Do these have the sound of a natural harmony? Would this fill in some blanks in the score we've been playing together? Could we feel more complete with more participation?

All. Together. Now.

From the floor Friends expressed their longing for a greater sense of vision and inter-connectedness within our Yearly Meeting. Friends welcomed the draft document describing what Baltimore Yearly Meeting does, as a way of reaching out to those Meetings that do not feel connected. We were urged to pay attention not only to "what the Yearly Meeting does for us," but to "what the Yearly Meeting does to change the world." We have been called to be a gathered people for larger purposes than our own. We were reminded of the long-range planning and visioning workshop that will be held on October 3, and urged to participate.

Friends RECEIVED the General Secretary's report with gratitude for the challenges it has set before us, and expressed appreciation to Riley Robinson for his work among us.

Y2009-44 Gladys Kimonye read from Daniel Snyder, "Quaker Witness as a Sacrament."

I came to believe that the deepest healing, whether in individuals, couples, communities, or whole political systems, is incarnation. Something new is born when leadings begin to emerge. This new thing is striving constantly to be born in everything, everywhere; it needs only our attention, cooperation, and sometimes our active intervention in helping to create the best possible conditions for its birth....I came to think of myself as a kind of nonviolent interventionist in the inner worlds of my clients. And then, finally, this perspective brought me full circle. If therapy is a kind of nonviolence for the soul, then non-violence is a kind of therapy for the culture....

Y2009-45 *Peace and Social Concerns.* Bill Mims (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Peace and Social Concern Committee. He reminded us that yesterday was the anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, and asked us to remember the hundreds of thousands of lives lost in the bombing of Japan.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee has been reflecting on the query: "What does it mean to live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all war?" This question has led to the lifting up of many seemingly different concerns:

How are we greening our Meeting Houses? Do wars overshadow other social justice issues? How do we end the enslavement to cheap energy that drives us to war? How do we get involved in homelessness? How do we go into schools and talk to children, so that we can create an alternative to the violence and drugs that threaten to steal their future? How do we lead the Yearly Meeting to larger involvement in the political realm? How do we support individual acts of conscience, as Friends seek a place of spiritual peace in their own lives?

The Committee's plate is full to overflowing. It has many concerns, but no clarity about which issues to bring to the Yearly Meeting, or what to ask of the Yearly Meeting.

Bill Mims asked us first to enter into silence, to join in a world-wide vigil in remembrance of what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki sixty-four years ago, and to pray that it never happens again.

He then asked us to continue in silence, and to write on the cards we had been given the answers to two questions:

“What have I done, or seen others do, that I feel has taken away the occasion for war?”

“Where am I most eager to put my efforts in promoting peacemaking and social justice?”

These cards, expressing the vision and deep longings of Friends, will help Peace and Social Concerns Committee discern where its focus should be. Friends are also warmly invited to come to the fall peace networking day on September 12 at Sandy Spring, to share more about their concerns and leadings in the area of peace and social justice.

Bill Mims spoke of Right Sharing of World Resources, which is now a working group under the care of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. He encouraged Friends to contribute to the wonderful work Right Sharing is doing in helping people around the world improve the condition of their lives.

Bill Mims left us with a traditional greeting to carry with us: “Peace be with you this day.”

Y2009-46 Indian Affairs. Dellie James (Baltimore-Stony Run), outgoing Clerk of the Indian Affairs Committee, presented a Minute of Greeting from the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Indian Committee.

Greetings and best wishes as you meet at Yearly Meeting Annual Session!

We are pleased to be in greater communication with you and to embrace together the importance and urgency of establishing/re-establishing a network of Quaker individuals and groups who are united in a shared concern for the wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples.

The recent organizational diminishment of Quaker concern and involvement in Indian work seems to create a particular and timely moment to strengthen a Quaker network and thereby to share information, resources, ideas, and contact through which Friends can be inspired

and strengthened for future Indian work and future relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

Kate deRiel and Elizabeth Koopman, co-Clerks

Dellie James noted that Elizabeth Koopman is now sojourning in Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and will be an invaluable link between our two yearly meeting committees. She spoke of the urgent need to better inform Friends about issues of Native Sovereignty and the destruction of sacred places. These issues are not in the past. They are ongoing, and they are serious. Friends thanked Dellie James for her report.

Y2009-47 *Youth Programs.* Ann Bacon (Hopewell Centre) and Eric Hanson (Takoma Park) presented the Youth Programs Committee report.

Ann Bacon began by asking the gathered meeting to sing “Happy Birthday” to Georgia McCandlish, Helen Robare, and Matthew Bacon, who are all celebrating birthdays today. She spoke of how strong and caring the Young Friends community is, and how much it is valued by those who participate.

Hannah Gropper (Richmond) spoke of her own experience of community with Young Friends. This community has given her the support she needed as she faced the disruption of moving from Richmond to Charlottesville, and now to Sandy Spring Friends School in the Fall. Other friends have fallen away, but the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Friends have always been there for her.

Ann Bacon reported that nine Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Friends will be attending Guilford College in the fall, and several will be in the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program. So many of our Young Friends have been accepted into this program over the years that we have been jokingly accused of trying to take it over by turning out too many potential leaders.

Eric Hanson announced that the revised Young Friends Handbook is now finally complete, and will soon be available on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website.

Ann Bacon described the program for training volunteers willing to serve as “Friendly Adult Presences” (FAPs) at weekend Young Friends and Junior Young Friends conferences.

Eric Hanson spoke of the wonderful work being done by Alison Duncan as Youth Secretary, and of the rave reviews she has received from our young people.

Ann Bacon spoke of what the Youth Programs Committee needs from the Yearly Meeting. The first priority is additional funding so that the Youth Secretary position can be expanded from three-quarter time to full-time. The Committee is also looking for Meetings willing to host Junior Young Friends and Young Friends weekend conferences, and to host training sessions for adult volunteers. More Friendly Adult Presences are always needed, especially in the Junior Young Friends program. Finally, the Youth Programs Committee needs more members. Friends are strongly encouraged to get involved in this exciting and rewarding area of service to the Yearly Meeting.

Y2009-48 *Committee Introductions.* Clerk Howard Fullerton recognized the Sue Thomas Turner Fund Committee, the Unity with Nature Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns, and the Ad Hoc Intervisitation Committee, and thanked them for their work.

Y2009-49 *Western Yearly Meeting.* Mary Lord (Adelphi) asked us to hold Western Yearly Meeting in the Light, as they struggle with issues of theological diversity. A minute was presented to this year's Session asking that Philip Gulley, well-known among Friends, be taken off the Yearly Meeting's list of recorded ministers because of his teachings regarding universal salvation. The Yearly Meeting did not unite with the proposed minute, and Philip Gulley is still a recorded minister, but the controversy has left deep wounds. Mary Lord asked us to pray for healing and reconciliation.

Y2009-50 *Southeastern Yearly Meeting.* Howard Fullerton announced that Phoebe Anderson (Tallahassee Friends Meeting, Southeastern Yearly Meeting) has brought us a report on the discernment process Southeastern Yearly Meeting is going through with regard to their membership in Friends United Meeting. This is a topic of interest to many Friends in Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Copies are available for Friends who wish to read this report.

After announcements, the Meeting closed with a period of settled worship.

Saturday, August 8, 2009

Y2009-51 *Opening.* Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the clerk's table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Recording Clerk; Susan Kaul (Bethesda), Reading Clerk; Adam Heinz (Little Britain, co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends; Samir Hazboun (Adelphi) co-Assistant Clerk of Young Friends.

Howard Fullerton introduced those holding us in the Light: Sandi Morton (Baltimore-Stony Run) and Joan Liversidge (Sandy Spring).

Y2009-52 *Memorial Meeting.* Clerk Howard Fullerton announced that our worship today will be extended as a Memorial Meeting for Worship.

Susan Kaul read a passage from Diana Lampen's writing on how we respond to death:

Death comes in so many forms. Some deaths leave us sad for a time but do not really upset the balance of our lives, especially if the death was of an elderly person, quietly rounding off a full and happy life....Whilst waiting a long time for an expected death can be a great strain, it does give the people involved time to adjust and work through some of their feelings. On the other hand, sudden death can bring an overwhelming shock. The survivors are left with a greater sense of the precariousness of existence; the experience can be shattering, a permanent alteration of life. Some are broken by it completely, and in the desire to help it is well to be aware of this possibility.

However much a death has been expected and prepared for, it is still a shock when the moment comes. This shock produces a numbness at first which is merciful. It may enable the bereaved person to carry out the practical tasks which follow a death. But it may not. If we are sensitive, we will see what help the bereaved person needs.

Susan Kaul read from a Memorial Minute for Miriam Green (Baltimore, Homewood).

Memorial Minute

Miriam F D Greene, March 31, 1923-April 30, 2009

Miriam F. Davis Green was a woman of many talents, strong convictions, and amazing organizational abilities. Miriam never lost her pen-

chant for greeting one and all with a mid-western, "Well, hello there." She could get on a plane and two hours later get off the plane and tell you all about her new friend from anywhere in the world. She was easy to talk to; always interested in your problems and often had very helpful practical advice. Miriam was always "turned out," dressed up—not dressy, coordinated, often wearing something she had knitted herself; nails polished and hair done. She had slim ankles and showed them off by wearing high heels. She was always on time. She had a way of cutting through to essentials and getting the job done. She could be a task master with herself, as well as with others, systematically working down the list of things to be accomplished.

A life-long learner and educator, Miriam was proud of her mother's attendance at every school board meeting in Illinois, where Miriam grew up. This highlighted the importance of education for her in childhood and also served as an early lesson in local politics. Miriam attended college in Tampa, Florida on a musical scholarship playing the clarinet. It was here that she met Joseph Elliott Green, Jr., a life-long member of Homewood Meeting. Miriam was fond of relating that after his first date with her, Elliott wrote his father, "I've met the girl I'm going to marry." And the rest, as they say, is history. Together, they never lost that sense of being in love, deferring to each other, taking pride in each others' accomplishments, and never criticizing each other.

After a sojourn in Texas where their first child, Marycarolyn, was born, the young couple came to Baltimore and Miriam was introduced to Homewood Meeting. She embraced Quakerism wholeheartedly. Miriam and Elliott made an enormous contribution to Homewood. For many years, Elliott led the First Day School. Every Sunday the whole family—Miriam, Elliott, Marycarolyn, J, John, and Jim—would be there at 10:00 a.m. and led children and parents in brief opening exercises before we students scattered to our respective classes. Of course, they were prominent on other occasions: potlucks committee meetings, adult discussions, and celebrations. At one party, Elliott held the assembled children spellbound as he lead them on a "bear hunt." Miriam and Elliott, between them, over the years, held every office and committee chairmanship of the Meeting.

Miriam received her Masters degree in Early Childhood Education from Goucher in 1957. She was the first teacher of the Govans Cooperative Nursery School, which met on the grounds of Morgan State College in the late 1950s. The Co-op was committed to racial integration from

its beginning. Katherine Whiteside Taylor, a member of the Meeting, had pioneered in research and writing about the cooperative nursery movement, and several families in the Meeting decided to put it to the test. This very successful school continued for many years after Miriam had moved on to the Baltimore Public School System, where she and Elliott both had careers as teachers and administrators.

Miriam was ambidextrous and once explained that when teaching primary grades, she would demonstrate writing at the blackboard both for right-handed and left-handed children. This is just one example of her attention to detail and her ability to recognize a child's individual perspective.

Their own children benefited from Miriam and Elliott's oversight of their education. However, the values and atmosphere of their home went far beyond formal education. The care and planning of their daily lives, the inculcation of Quaker values and history, the sense of personal responsibility and the voice in family decisions that were instilled created a home of love and security. This home was extended to many friends of the children; some friends were practically raised in the family.

Summers were spent on extended trips: visiting historical sites, camping, and enjoying time together. Elliott had a great interest in history and art. When he served on the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Committee on Records, he combined both interests in illustrating the *Handbook on Recordkeeping* with charming church mice.

After the children were busy with their own lives, Miriam and Elliott continued to travel during summers. One year they took a canal boat throughout England. They took their grandchildren to London on graduation trips, attending London Yearly Meeting Sessions and observing Parliament in action. Wherever they went, they attended Quaker Meeting.

Miriam completed her professional career as the first principal of a brand new Baltimore City elementary school where she stayed for thirteen years. After Elliott's retirement, he would often be involved in projects at her school. After Miriam retired, to public acclaim, she started a preschool/parent education program that met for several years at a church in her neighborhood, and she continued her participation on many boards of community organizations.

Miriam served on the Supervisory Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and was Clerk of the Yearly Meeting for six years. She also

served on the Board of Friends House for many years, driving back and forth to Sandy Spring almost weekly.

In 1992, Miriam was Homewood's representative to the Joint Committee to Commemorate the Bicentennial of Baltimore Monthly Meeting. It was she who persuaded Jane Bonny to author Homewood's part of *Minute by Minute*, a history of the constituent Meetings.

Miriam and Elliott enjoyed Johns Hopkins University's "Evergreen" continuing education program for seniors. They studied current affairs, art, different cultures, and the Bible. They continued to enjoy travelling, often with an Evergreen class in conjunction with their studies.

Elliott died in 1994. Miriam continued to study and travel and serve on Meeting and Yearly Meeting Committees, often travelling to Sandy Spring and far flung regions of the Yearly Meeting. She enjoyed visiting her children and their families; took great delight in her grandchildren and great grandchildren, and followed their interests and education with avid attention, writing to them every week. She was very proud of their accomplishments and loved showing friends their pictures.

Miriam kept in touch with Meeting members who had moved away and often visited them in her travels. Birthdays and anniversaries were noted with greeting cards from Miriam, as well as Christmas cards, which she sent to a long list of friends every year.

In 2003, Miriam was recognized by Goucher College, receiving the Alumnae Award for Excellence in Public Service. The Goucher chair was proudly displayed in her living room along with the Johns Hopkins chair. Miriam and Elliott each had advanced degrees from Hopkins. Miriam enjoyed singing and had a lovely soprano voice. She sang with the Retired Teachers Chorus of Baltimore City and recruited others in her efforts to keep the chorus integrated. From 1998 to 2007 she sang with the Friends House Chorale which had been started by Barry Morely in 1997.

Miriam also loved to dance, going to the ATEAZE Senior Center Wednesday afternoon ballroom dancing in the Dundalk school building where Marycarolyn had started school. Miriam delighted in driving around the neighborhood and pointing out the former family home. She also participated in ballroom dances on Friday evenings.

In 2007, Miriam moved to Friends House. It was time for her to leave the Rossiter Avenue home where so many Friends had enjoyed hospitality for committee meetings, surrounded by family photographs and Elliott's watercolors. At Friends house, Miriam continued to sing and

dance with friends as well as attend community events. It was soon felt that Miriam should be nearer Marycarolyn, so she went to a beautiful retirement home in Virginia Beach where she could be part of family gatherings with her great grandchildren.

We remember Miriam as one who took to heart George Fox's words: Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come, that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them; then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.

From the writings of George Fox, 1656

Homewood Friends Meeting, May 2009

Susan Kaul read from a Memorial Minute for Lois Smith Vaught (Sandy Spring).

Memorial for Lois Smith Vaught

Lois S. Vaught was born July 8, 1902 and grew up on an Indiana farm. Her childhood was uneventful, but she liked school as much as her only brother hated it. She graduated from a small Baptist college at Franklin, Indiana, where she met her future husband, Arnold Vaught. They were married June 13, 1926 when he graduated from Earlham College. They found a spiritual home in Quakerism and joined the Society of Friends. Arnold served as Pastoral Secretary of Chicago Monthly Meeting of Friends, during which time he studied in Chicago Theological Seminary and Lois earned an MA in Religious Education in the University of Chicago.

In 1931 they went to China as missionaries under British Friends, working with Szechwan Yearly Meeting of Friends in West China. Originally they went for a three year term to take the place of a man who was ill, to teach in a Friends' Boys' Middle School in Chungking, but stayed until 1944. During their first term of service the historic march of the Communists was accomplished. During their second term the Japanese attacked China. They lived for three years through heavy Japanese bombing, sometimes around the clock. All of the Friends properties in Chungking were destroyed--obliterated and their house on the hills received a direct hit, but was not destroyed. Their daughter, Virginia Ann, was born in 1940 at the height of the bombing. Arnold was lent by the mission to head up relief work.

When they returned to America in 1944 Arnold continued this work in New York City, and became Asian Secretary for Church World Service,

and later became Executive Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Homewood. The Vaughts were involved in unification efforts in first New York, then Baltimore Yearly Meetings. After Arnold retired from the Executive Secretary position at Homewood, he was Pastoral Secretary for four Monthly Meetings in Baltimore Yearly Meeting and Lois and he visited regularly. The visits were received with appreciation. Lois' academic teaching began as an English teacher in her home high school, then she taught English as a foreign language in a middle school in China. After their daughter went to college it seemed a time to return to teaching, this time in the elementary department of Friends Seminary in New York City. This was interrupted by their move to Baltimore, where she was invited to be an assistant teacher in the nursery school of Baltimore Friends School. Lois enjoyed teaching at all these levels. But most of her work has been volunteer, especially religious education in New York and Baltimore Yearly Meetings. She has been active in Girl Scouting, Church Women United (in several communities), and in the United Society of Friends Women. In Friends' organizations she served on a variety of committees. Stamp collecting over many years gave her contacts with collectors in other parts of the world, and she has enjoyed membership in stamp clubs. She also enjoyed knitting and reading.

The Vaughts lived in many cities: Chicago, Chungking, Chengtu, Santai, New York, Baltimore and Winchester, Virginia. In August 1980 they came to live at Friends House where they appreciated the slower pace in the rural atmosphere of Sandy Spring. Arnold died in 2000. Lois Vaught died in the nursing home at Friends House on May 8, 2009 at the age of 106. She is survived by her daughter, Ann Larson (Kenneth), two granddaughters, Dana and Tracy, a son-in-law, Mark Ryan, and one great-grandson, Taylor John.

Lois was a deeply spiritual woman who led a life of simplicity and quiet service. It is said that, "God has no hands but ours," Lois was the hands of God.

Susan Kaul read from a Memorial Minute for Margery Larrabee (formerly Friends Meeting of Washington).

Margery Larrabee 1919-2008
Quaker leader and spiritual teacher

After WWII, Margery Larrabee and her then husband, Kent Larrabee,

embarked on a life journey of Quaker witness in the world. While her husband Kent was the more visible activist, Margery was a deeply spiritual person who witnessed in less obvious but no less meaningful ways.

At that time she and her husband were attracted to the teachings of Scott Nearing who was an anti-war activist and a leader in a “back to the land” movement. Margery, together with her family and others, were a whole generation or two ahead of our present day concern for environmental sustainability and living more simply.

In the 1940’s, while her husband pursued the work of a Quaker preacher, Margery tended to the raising of their three children, Arthur, Benjamin and Deborah. In the early years, her children remember her as one who planted a garden, reaped its harvest and canned the vegetables and fruits for consumption in the winter. She made her children’s clothes and taught them how to identify animal tracks in the winter snows, and to name the constellations in the sky. She modeled a Quaker testimony of living simply and close to the land.

Margery graduated with a B.A. in history from Syracuse University in 1941. At Syracuse she was the captain of the women’s basketball team and also an accomplished diver on the swim team. She was a wife, mother and multi-career woman, a teacher, a social worker, a psychotherapist and a facilitator/leader in exploring spiritual matters.

After launching her family, she took up teaching as a career and later moved into working an advocate for children in the State of Delaware Department of Welfare. Later in life, then age 44, she earned a master’s degree in social work from the University of Pennsylvania and continued her advocacy for children who were caught in the welfare system.

In the mid-1950’s, she was a strong supporter of the effort to integrate Levittown, PA. In this time of crisis, she spent anxious nights working behind the scenes to support the first African-American family to move into Levittown, whose windows were broken and on whose lawn a cross was burned.

In the 1970's Margery's transitioned into being a social worker in private practice. She developed a flourishing psychotherapy practice. She was also an early proponent and teacher of Re-evaluation Counseling, a method of lay counseling. She was instrumental in bringing it to the eastern part of the United States. .

In her later years, Margery was a teacher and spiritual leader. She was an elder and minister in the Friends General Conference's Traveling Ministries Program, a board member of the Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology and an attender and teacher at the Servant leadership School in Washington, D. C.

Margery was often a workshop leader, a keynote speaker and an author. She was the author of two pamphlets: *Spirit-led Eldering* and *There is a Hunger: Mutual Spiritual Friendship*. She was the co-author of a pamphlet entitled *Spiritual Friendships*.

When Margery turned 70 she invited her family and friends to join her in a croning ceremony to celebrate and rejoice in her becoming an older woman. She delighted in thinking of herself as a crone- celebrating the wisdom, centeredness and perspectives of an older woman.

Margery will be remembered by her children for her great love and courage and her indomitable spirit in providing a home and creating a sense of family. She will also be remembered by her family and many others for her creativity, good humor, hard work and spiritual wisdom and leadership. "She was a remarkable woman who has left an imprint of holiness on generations of people....impressed with her great wisdom and her spirituality."

She is survived by her three children, Arthur, Benjamin and Deborah Larrabee and by her sister Elizabeth Ann Greenwood.

A memorial meeting will be held on Sunday, January 4, 2009 at the Arch Street Friends Meeting House, 4th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA, at 3 p.m.

Susan Kaul read from a Memorial Minute for Susan Rose (Patapsco).

Susan Norris Rose, May 4, 1938-April 1, 2009

On May 10, 2009, three Meetings—Patapsco Friends, Sandy Spring Friends, and South Mountain Friends Fellowship—celebrated the life of Susan Norris Rose. We have been enriched by her loving energy, and study, practice, and teaching of Quakerism. While she is missed, her gifts to Friends will remain.

Susan Norris was born in Pittsburgh, to Lois Ashworth and Frank Newkirk Norris. In her early years, Susan was an avid and enthusiastic Girl Scout. After nine years of Scouting she was honored by her selection to All-States Encampment in Wyoming, and after ten years of Scouting she was sent as an international Senior Scout to Jamaica.

She graduated from Cornell University with a degree in philosophy. Jim Rose, another Cornell graduate, entered her life, and they married in 1964. After a year and a half in India, they moved to Baltimore, where Susan continued her education. She graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Master's degree in psychology. Her career was full of change and variety, as she advanced from historian to scholar, to world traveler, to researcher in language acquisition, to real estate agent, to owner of and artisan at Artists and Framers, to publisher.

Susan brought great energy and joy to mothering her two sons. Joshua was born in 1966, and Andy in 1967. Andy introduced Quakerism to Susan when he attended Camp Onas. Joshua and his wife Renata O'Conner-Rose gave the Roses a grandson, Benjamin, in 2002.

In 1990, after attending a Quaker wedding, Susan started attending worship at Sandy Spring Friends Meeting in Sandy Spring, Maryland. Her life was changed. Of Friends meeting she wrote, "Nowhere else in my life am I so present, so alive. I am lifted up, better than I ever was. This is God and His People's gift to me: the gift of preemptive love that gathers and binds me to the people called Friends." Her studies of Quaker history and practice led her to offer instruction to others as her spirituality blossomed. In 1996, Susan joined several others to form a new Howard County Friends Worship Group and she served as its first clerk. That group grew and matured to become Patapsco Friends Meeting, which became a Monthly Meeting in 2002.

Serving Quakers became first nature to her. Within the framework of Patapsco Friend Meeting, she taught many sessions of Quaker 101, served on committees, cooked lunches, began a library, organized retreats, created a labyrinth from clothesline and stakes, and nurtured the meeting with regular messages during worship. Over her sixteen years of Quaker activity, Susan served on the board at Friends House; edited newsletters for Friends Peace Teams and the Sierra Club; studied and taught AVP at Patuxent Institution in Jessup.

One attender shares his first impression of Susan: “I saw her huge smile, and was nearly knocked down! I witnessed integrity, open mindedness and a willingness to think long and hard about her own beliefs. I was impressed. I figured if she could do that, so would I.”

In April 2004, an inmate from Maryland Correctional Institute in Hagerstown, MD wrote to Patapsco Friends requesting aid in starting a Friends Meeting at the prison. Susan was led to take on this ministry, as, she reported, “I woke up thinking about [him] and it was clear to me that [he] had made a very simple request...it was clear and compelling.” Deeply committed to the new South Mountain Friends Fellowship, Susan spent uncountable hours in her final years on the prison ministry. After organizing a group of Patapsco Friends to volunteer for the visits to the Hagerstown prison, two by two each Saturday, Susan herself was one of the two more often than not. In addition, she supported “the guys” by writing inspirational letters to them between visits.

Susan was an ardent reader, and her spiritual life was reflected in the writers she loved and quoted at Meeting. She had a deep respect for the life and writings of John Woolman and was instrumental in starting a Woolman discussion group which met for 4 years. Susan delighted in sharing her knowledge of Woolman’s life and his approach to dealing with a wide range of life’s situations, and his diligent application of Quaker values. In particular, Susan is remembered as beaming and rejoicing during the reading of the following passage from Woolman’s epistle for Friends in the back settlements of North Carolina:

“Where people let loose their minds after the love of outward things, and are more engaged in pursing the profits and seeking the friendships of

this world, than to be inwardly acquainted with the way of true peace, they walk in a vain shadow, while the true comfort of life is wanting. Their examples are often hurtful to others; and their treasures thus collected do many times prove dangerous snares to their children. But where people are sincerely devoted to follow Christ, and dwell under the influence of His Holy Spirit, their stability and firmness, through a divine blessing, is at times like dew on the tender plants round about them, and the weightiness of their spirits secretly works on the minds of others. In this condition, through the spreading influence of divine love, they feel a care over the flock, and way is opened for maintaining good order in the Society....”

Susan loved the poetry of Hafiz:

When one can surrender the illusion, the crutch,
of Free Will,
Though still live—for the benefit of others--
The highest of moral
Codes

She loved Jesus' Sermon on the Mount from Matthew:

“Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God....”

And Paul from First Corinthians: “Love is patient and kind, envies no one, is never boastful, never conceited, never rude, never selfish...”

Her diagnosis of lymphoma and attendant trials of treatments and disabilities began in 1994, soon after her discovery of Quakers. Of this, Susan said, “Without doubt, these 15 years I have been given are the most important years of my life. My diagnosis...awakened [me] to the joy of being on a spiritual journey, a journey to the Center...I have been blessed to learn to seek the loving kindness that binds us each to the other. I have been blessed to feel its power to bring me peace.

All is well.”

Out of the silence, Friends shared their loving memories of these departed Friends. We are grateful for their service among us. We hold in the Light their families and their Meetings, for whom they are irreplaceable. We remember with love others who were not so widely known, but are missed just as deeply.

Y2009-53 *Visitors.* We welcomed a visitor: Joyce Ajlouny, Ramallah Friends Meeting, Palestine, who is Head of the Ramallah Friends School. She will be leading an interest group this afternoon.

Y2009-54 *Epistle.* Becka Haines Rosenberg (sojourning at Alexandria) introduced the members of the Epistle Committee, and presented the Epistle for a first reading. Friends are encouraged to bring comments or suggestions to any of the members of the Committee.

Y2009-55 *Friends United Meeting.* Mary Lord (Adelphi) and J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the report of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives to the Friends United Meeting (FUM) General Board.

Mary Lord noted that our session this year has been enriched by the presence among us of Deana Chase (Westport Friends Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting), who serves on the FUM Board as a representative of New England Yearly Meeting, and Sylvia Graves, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting. She noted that John Smallwood (Langley Hill) is our third official representative to the General Board, and that Rich Liversidge also serves on the General Board as a representative of FUM Trustees. Any of these Friends would be glad to answer questions.

Mary Lord reviewed the committee assignments that have been taken on by our representatives on the General Board. She reviewed the work being done in Kenya at the Friends Theological College and the Kaimosi Hospital, where great progress has been made in recent years. She encouraged Friends to take advantage of the opportunity to find out more about the Ramallah Friends School by speaking with Joyce Ajlouny.

Mary Lord told us that Friends United Meeting is very fortunate in its staff and its leadership, but it suffering from persistent cash flow problems. The staff in the Richmond, Indiana, office, where the downturn in contributions has been felt

most severely, is working at reduced pay, and in some cases at reduced hours as well.

With regard to the personnel policy, the General Board is at a standstill. There is no prospect of reaching unity around a proposal to change the policy at the present time, and it will appear in its current form in the new edition of the handbook. Nevertheless, there are encouraging signs of movement in some of the FUM Yearly Meetings. If the Yearly Meetings shift their position to support a change in the policy, the FUM Board will certainly follow.

Mary Lord noted that Friends United Meeting has two Boards—one in North America, and one in East Africa. A joint meeting of the two is being planned. Finding ways to better interconnect and intermingle the Boards is a high priority in FUM.

J.E. McNeil told the story of looking for a lawyer to do some pro bono work researching employment laws that might apply to the FUM personnel policy. The person she eventually found is a gay lawyer from Indiana, specializing in employment discrimination, whose office at a Chicago law firm turned out to be next to the office of someone she was already working with on another pro bono case. When things come together, they can do so in amazing ways. She told us that she does not expect a major breakthrough as a result of exploring employment discrimination laws, but it seemed a reasonable step to take.

J.E. McNeil noted that as soon as she joined the General Board, she was tapped as Clerk of the Finance Committee. She thanked the Yearly Meeting for giving her a chance to do something she loves to do—working with numbers in a good cause. She noted that FUM received \$200,000 less in income than was budgeted for last year, out of a total budget of \$800,000. Although other non-profits are facing even steeper declines in income, addressing a shortfall of this magnitude will be very difficult.

Mary Lord urged us to ask our Monthly Meetings to support the work of Friends United Meeting, even if the Yearly Meeting cannot find unity to do so. African Quakers are by far the largest body of Quakers in the world, and we need to engage with them, both because we can help and because we have much to learn.

In response to a question we were told that Baltimore Yearly Meeting has not made any contributions to the Friends United Meeting general fund in six years.

Last year we contributed the funds we had set aside for FUM to the peacemaking work of the Friends Church Peace Teams. This year we contributed to support Ann Riggs' ministry at Friends Theological College. We do not have an escrow account as such. What we have is an accounting of funds that have been identified as an "undesignated reserve" in our budget over the years. \$7,000 in the budget for 2010, if the budget is approved, is to be added to that reserve, which exists as a commitment on paper, rather than an actual bank account.

Friends thanked our representatives to the Friends United Meeting General Board for sharing with us the love they so clearly feel for FUM, and for their patient witness on our behalf.

Y2009-56 Southeastern Yearly Meeting. Phoebe Anderson (Tallahassee Friends Meeting, Southeastern Yearly Meeting) spoke of her participation in a committee seeking to discern whether Southeastern Yearly Meeting should remain in relationship with Friends United Meeting. The committee approached the question through worship and worship sharing, and focused on underlying spiritual threads of truth, love, listening, and forgiveness. Southeastern Yearly Meeting is not clear to reinstate its membership in Friends United Meeting at this time, although it will continue to support the Ramallah Friends School, the hospital in Kaimosi, Kenya, and other FUM projects. The Discernment Committee is not being laid down, but will be undertaking a healing ministry within the Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting will continue to hold the question of membership in the Light, but will not move forward until there is unity.

Y2009-57 Search Committee. Janet Eaby (Nottingham) presented the name of Ramona Buck (Patapsco) to serve as Recording Clerk of the Yearly Meeting for a second reading.

Friends APPROVED this nomination.

Y2009-58 Nominating Committee. Bronna Zlochiver (Sandy Spring) presented the report of the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee reported two resignations:

Deborah Freed-Fishelman (Baltimore, Stony Run) has resigned from Indian Affairs.

Carmen Wren Beckett (Takoma Park) has resigned from Program Committee.

Friends ACCEPTED these resignations.

Bronna Zlochiver presented five additional names for a first reading. These names will be brought back tomorrow for a second reading.

Bronna Zlochiver reported that the Nominating Committee is satisfied that Sandy Spring Friends School is maintaining its commitment to Friends' values, as reflected in its Articles of Incorporation and Mission Statement, and that a reduction of the number of Baltimore Yearly Meeting representatives on the Board will not unduly decrease Quaker influence on the Board.

Nominating Committee proposes that the transition from six to four representatives be accomplished by attrition. The Committee further recommends that one of the representatives to the Sandy Spring Friends School Board be identified as the convener of the group, to serve as the Yearly Meeting's direct line of communication with the Board. Carolyn Finegar (Sandy Spring) has agreed to serve in this role and will be identified in the Yearbook by an asterisk (*). Patricia Moles (Langley Hill) will serve as alternate. In the future, one of our appointed representatives will be designated to fill that function each year.

Friends APPROVED this proposal for handling nominations to the Sandy Spring Friends School Board.

Bronna Zlochiver introduced the members of the Nominating Committee, and thanked Barbara Thomas for her outstanding leadership.

Friends APPROVED the report of the Nominating Committee

Y2009-59 *Manual of Procedure.* Friends APPROVED the proposed revision to the section of the Manual of Procedure relating to appointments to the Sandy Spring Friends School Board, which had been held over.

Y2009-60 *Budget.* Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) brought forward the budget for a second reading. She noted one change in the proposed budget: a line item of \$500 for the Young Adult Friends annual conference has been added. This will not change the bottom line, since the expense will be offset by contributions from the Young Adult Friends who attend the conference.

Friends APPROVED the proposed budget.

Y2009-61 *Apportionments.* Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring) presented the Apportionment schedule for a second reading.

Friends APPROVED the Apportionment schedule.

Y2009-61 *Friends Meeting School.* Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Clerk of the Advancement and Outreach Committee, presented the proposal for taking Friends Meeting School under the spiritual care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. She explained that the relationship envisioned is a simple one—to find two Friends willing to serve on the Board as Yearly Meeting representatives, to receive reports from the School, to post information on the Yearly Meeting website, and to hold the Friends Meeting School in the Light. Nothing more is envisioned at this time. She asked the Yearly Meeting to endorse moving forward with this relationship.

Friends APPROVED taking Friends Meeting School under the spiritual care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, along the lines proposed by the Advancement and Outreach Committee.

Y2009-62 *Recording Clerk.* Howard Fullerton read a Minute of Appreciation for Deborah Haines, who is stepping down as Yearly Meeting Recording Clerk after six years of service.

With the closing of the 338th annual session, Deborah Haines (Alexandria) completes six years of service as Recording Clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. During this time she has also periodically recorded at Interim Meeting. Of course, we are not losing Deborah; she is just putting on a different bonnet. In classic Quaker style, she has read back minutes as the meeting progressed. Her vast knowledge of Friends' history and of current Friends' faith and practice has served the Yearly Meeting well. The elegance and grace of her writing mirrors the grace of her manner of service and her deep faith. Normally, when we want to make a minute more expressive, we ask Deborah to do it because she is, after all, a poet. Asking her in this case hardly seems fair. We trust that she will feel our deep appreciation despite this inadequate minute.

Friends heartedly APPROVED this minute.

Y2009-63 Announcements and Closing. Clerk Howard Fullerton announced that 80 Friends created videotaped statements about their experiences with the Quaker way for the Advancement and Outreach Committee's "Q-Tube" project this week. The videotape will be edited by Jim Rose, and selections will be posted on You-Tube with a link to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting website, as a way of reaching out to seekers. Thanks to all who made this possible!

Howard Fullerton read a letter from the American Friends Service Committee, describing the reductions in staff and programs they have been forced to make because of the economic downturn. He expressed our distress as we see these cutbacks take a toll on programs and staff members we highly value.

August 6, 2009

The American Friends Service Committee sends loving greetings to Friends everywhere.

Since our last epistle in March, unfortunately the world economic crisis has persisted. We write today to inform you about the steps we are taking to ensure the financial health of the AFSC during this crisis. It is with sorrow that we share with you, our closest supporters, that we must significantly downsize the organization in coming months to ensure the long-term viability of our program.

In recent years, with the escalation of two wars, immigrant round-ups and detention, government spying and torture, and other pressing issues, AFSC built up its work to meet the need. Then the global economic crisis ensued, shrinking our income and investments. Therefore we are taking steps to ensure that AFSC will continue to operate strong programs despite the fiscal storm engulfing us.

After cutting expenses in this fiscal year, we are planning a deeply reduced budget next year to bring our expenses in line with what our community of Friends and other donors can support. Focusing on financially responsible decision-making—in consultation with our staff, partners, and committees—we have made difficult and painful decisions to reduce costs.

Among the steps being taken are salary reductions, unpaid furloughs, and increases in co-pays for health benefits across all staff. Senior leaders in Philadelphia and across the AFSC have taken the first and largest pay cuts. We are transitioning programs and closing offices, reducing publications, and consolidating space, among other steps.

Despite these efforts, layoffs have become necessary to ensure that sufficient resources are available for resilient, effective programs to carry out our mission against the culture of violence and promotion of peace, justice, and human dignity. We are fully aware how painful it will be to lay down programs and positions in this time of global need. Those who are being laid off will receive severance packages and support for retraining.

If we are to continue to promote a culture of peace and nonviolence, build toward systemic changes in the justice system, advocate for a civil, just immigration policy, and model community-oriented approaches to sustainable economic development, we must take these dramatic, difficult steps.

For more than 90 years, AFSC has partnered with Friends around the world to work against violence, destruction, and discrimination. We now ask for your help as we continue to nourish hope for a better world. If you wish to make a contribution to AFSC at this time, call 888-588-2372, ext. 1, or give online at www.afsc.org.

We welcome your support and ask that you continue to hold AFSC in the Light.

Paul Lacey, Clerk
Mary Ellen McNish, General Secretary

Howard Fullerton read from a letter from the Clerk of Hopewell Centre Friends Meeting, inviting us to a special Homecoming celebration marking the 275th anniversary of Hopewell Friends. Hopewell Meeting (now called Hopewell Centre) was established in 1734, nine years before the creation of Frederick County, on land granted to Alexander Ross (an Irish Quaker) and Morgan Bryan (an Irish Presbyterian). Ross and Bryan had brought about 70 families from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia to establish a new Quaker community.

The name “Hopewell” was chosen because many of these Friends came from Hopewell in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

The Homecoming celebration will be held on First Day, August 30, 2009, beginning with Worship at 10 A.M. It will include a legendary Quaker potluck, singing, storytelling, a display of vintage clothing and quilts, and the sharing of memories. All are welcome.

The Meeting closed with a time of grateful reflection.

Sunday, August 9, 2009

Y2009-64 Opening. Friends gathering into worship at 9:00 A.M. Clerk Howard Fullerton (Sandy Spring) introduced those at the Clerk’s table: Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Recording Clerk; Sam Horne (Takoma Park), co-Clerk of Young Adult Friends; and Mace Smith (Langley Hill), co-Assistant Clerk of Young Friends. He introduced Jason Eaby (Nottingham), operating the sound system, and those Friends holding us in the Light today: Mary Ann Casbolt (Baltimore, Stony Run), and Laura Goren (Baltimore, Homewood).

Howard Fullerton read excerpts from the Britain Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice relating to the purposes for which we meet in Annual Session:

“We did conclude among ourselves to settle a meeting, to see one another’s faces, and open our hearts one to another in the Truth of God once a year, as formerly used to be.”

Yearly Meeting in London, 1668

“The intent and holy design of our annual assemblies, in their first constitution, were for a great and weighty oversight and Christian care of the affairs of the churches pertaining to our holy profession and Christian communion, that good order, true love, unity and concord may be faithfully followed and maintained among all of us.”

Yearly Meeting in London, 1718

“Yearly Meeting is an occasion when the concerns of one group of Friends or another can be shared with the meeting as a whole, as it seeks God’s guidance and relates each particular insight or service to the others brought before it.”

Britain Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice 6:02-04

Y2009-65 *Minute of Appreciation.* Howard Fullerton read a Minute of Appreciation for the service of Karen Cunningham.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Minutes its appreciation to Karen Cunningham for her six years of service as Junior Yearly Meeting Coordinator.

Karen has brought caring and dedication to the JYM program and its participants, both staff and children. She has been active in recruiting and welcoming new staff and scheduling work slots to maximize work grants for those participating.

In attendance at all Program Committee meetings, Karen has promoted and supported JYM activities, keeping them a top priority in planning, facilities, and finance.

Throughout the year, she has kept in touch with JYM staff, bringing us together via e-mail and gatherings at BYM Interim Meetings.

We thank her for her service and wish her well.

Friends APPROVED this Minute, with gratitude for Karen Cunningham's gifts and for her ministry of caring for our children.

Y2009-66 *Right Sharing of World Resources.* Howard Fullerton announced that the Right Sharing of World Resources working group wishes to thank the Baltimore Yearly Meeting community for its generosity during Friday's collection. The total amount donated was \$641.00. This will cover start-up costs for 32 women to start fruit and vegetable vending businesses, or the cost of four milk cows in India.

Y2009-67 *Clerk's Report.* Howard Fullerton presented the Clerk's report, describing his activities on behalf of the Yearly Meeting during the past year and other items of interest:

Clerk's Report

1) As clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meting, I attended a consultation for Yearly Meeting Clerks held in Chicago, April 3-4, under the care of the Friends General Conference Ministry and Nurture Committee. Meg Meyer also attended, as Interim Meeting Recording Clerk. It was a useful and informative session. I have circulated materials I brought back from the consultation to the other Baltimore Yearly Meeting clerks and to Monthly Meeting clerks, and have passed items of interest on to Program Committee, Ministry and Pastoral Care, and our Development Director.

2) I am pleased to announce that I have invited Jorge Luis Peña Reyes from Cuba Yearly Meeting to visit with us while he is in the area to participate in the FWCC Section of the Americas Annual Meeting in March 2010.

3) One of the highlights of my year was attendance at a witness in Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. on June 11, sponsored by the National Religious Campaign against Torture. Some witnesses, including Arthur Larabee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, met with the President's staff. Some 10 to 15 Friends were present at the witness.

4) Many Friends may not be aware of the service provided by Jim Lehman (Sandy Spring) and Tim Mullady's (Annapolis) at a Boy Scout Jamboree in 2008. The National Scout Jamboree was held at Fort A. P. Hill near Fredericksburg, VA, a 75,000 acre military training reserve. The Jamboree site comprised about 4,000 acres in the middle of the reserve. More than 35,000 Scouts and 7,000 adult leaders from every state and 20 foreign countries attended. Friends of any variety were scarce at the Jamboree: 62 participants (8 adult leaders and 54 Scouts) identified themselves as Friends (Quaker). Jim and Tim served as chaplains.

The Jamboree was marred by an accident. A troop had hired a professional company to provide some large tents; tragically, one tent was located under a power line. When the center pole was hoisted into position by five or six men, it touched the power line. Four adult leaders were killed, the contract worker and one Scoutmaster survived. Tim assisted with chaplain duties.

Tim and Jim prepared for the final Sunday Meeting for Worship by setting out about 90 chairs. Over 150 people joined them in worship. Jim gave the introductory talk before settling in to worship. They later agreed there had been appropriate vocal ministry. After about 50 minutes, Tim closed worship and thanked all for coming. They welcomed

scouts from many states, Canada and Ireland (who announced they were officially Presbyterian). Tim and Jim provided Friends literature and information to many Scouts about the Spirit of Truth Award for Scouting Friends.

4) I wanted to report briefly on our continuing efforts to resolve past accounting discrepancies.

With the audit for 2005, the Yearly Meeting discovered we had an “unrestricted net asset deficiency,” a deficiency, for short. The deficiency was in excess of \$400,000. What does this mean? We should have liquid assets—stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, money market funds, etc. in excess of our restricted funds, whether permanent (endowment), temporary (earmarked gifts), or designated (set aside by us).

When the then Clerks of Trustees and Stewardship and Finance received the 2005 audit, they agreed that we had an accounting problem more than a spending problem. It appears that we have overstated our restricted funds by not charging restricted funds when they were spent, by improperly adding interest to the principal, and by borrowing from ourselves when we bought Shiloh Quaker Camp, promising to pay it back. We borrowed more than our unrestricted funds, that is, we borrowed some restricted funds. We then raised funds to pay ourselves back, but used the money to make Shiloh functional. There were other knotty problems that generally made our deficiency worse, including two years with operating deficits.

When the deficiency first became apparent, it was felt that no more than half of it was real and not due to improper accounting. The goal was to quickly determine the errors in accounting and develop a plan to reduce the rest of the deficiency. The work has been anything but quick. However, some accounting work has been done. Some funds that had been carried as permanently restricted have been reclassified as temporarily restricted or as designated (by the Yearly Meeting). During the entire period, liquid assets have been larger than the permanently restricted funds. The Yearly Meeting (unintentionally) ran a sizeable surplus. The surplus reduced the size of the deficiency to less than \$200,000. Unfortunately, the market drop most of us have experienced increased the size of the deficiency to \$300,000 by the end of 2008. The improvement in the market means that the deficiency is again shrinking. With further historical work on our accounts, it should decrease even further.

I have prepared a short report on my involvement in addressing this

problem. Copies of that report are available.

Y2009-68 Nominating Committee. Bronna Zlochivar (Sandy Spring) reported for the Nominating Committee. The following names are submitted for a second reading:

Stewardship and Finance: Jen Lee (Richmond)
Martha Gay (Adelphi)

Youth Programs: Sarah Bur (Baltimore, Homewood)
Ruth Fitz (York)
Greg Woods (Friends Meeting of Washington)

Friends APPROVED these names.

Y2009-69 Committee Clerkships. Howard Fullerton reviewed the list of Committee Clerks and noted changes. The corrected list will be published in the *Yearbook*.

Y2009-70 Junior Young Friends Epistle. Genevieve Legowski (Sandy Spring) presented the Junior Young Friends Epistle.

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Junior Young Friends Epistle, 2009**

To Friends Everywhere:

Hi! We're the Junior Young Friends (JYFs) from Baltimore Yearly Meeting. We came together in the first week of August to have fun, to learn about ourselves, and to talk about what it means for us to be Quakers.

We did *lots* of personality assessments. One was about seven kinds of intelligence. One JYF liked coloring in the pie pieces on the chart. Some questions from the Meyer-Briggs test made us really think about the way we think.

We did an exercise with Duplos that involved describing a structure without touching the Duplos; it was kind of hard, but extremely fun.

Some of the games we played were: Wa; a game with spoons and string that was mildly amusing; and British Bulldog, which was fun. Some of us liked Capture the Flag best, and some liked sleeping best.

We enjoyed listening to stories from Shakespeare, and an essay by Anne Lamott.

We had visitors come and they told us about the workcamps in East Africa. They also told us about what it was like to live in Kenya. It was very interesting hearing about their life in Kenya.

We had a visitor from an organization in West Virginia that made land mine detectors. He let us use one of the detectors, and it made a beep when it passed over a disruption in the Earth's magnetic field.

Some Young Friends (YFs) visited us and told us about Teen Adventure (part of our Yearly Meeting's camping program), and about being in high school.

We built a labyrinth for the all-ages celebration. We found a circular place that had a spot in the middle that made an echo when you talked. The labyrinth was made with tea lights in Dixie cups. The candles melted the wax on some of the cups and then caught fire—it was AWESOME!!!!

Being a JYF is fun, but writing epistles is not very fun.

Daniel Fitzick
Kier Hudson
Genevieve Legowski
Ana Phillips
Sawyer Smith
Rebeckah Fussell (in absentia)
Sam Hunter
Ana Newheart
Jasper Rain (in absentia)

The meeting RECEIVED this Epistle with gratitude, and APPROVED for-

warding it to Friends everywhere.

Y2009-71 Young Friends Epistle. Chelsea Barbour, Jacki LaBua, Jamie DeMarco, Katie Locke, Daniel Gillespie, and Dylan Walsh presented the Young Friends Epistle, describing their activities during the past year.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Young Friends Epistle, 2009

Dear Friends Everywhere:

This year, the Baltimore Young Friends feel our community flourishing as we continue to evolve. We welcomed many new members, rebuilt old relationships with monthly meetings, finally finished revising our Handbook, and rejoiced at the hiring of a new and wonderful Youth Secretary. Our five conferences this year were held over a wide geographic area, from southern Virginia to Baltimore, and they were all characterized by much hilarity in addition to our core values of caring, trust, and love.

In September, we kicked off the year with a conference that offered us an expanded world view as we were hosted by the historic Friends Meeting of Washington, exploring issues of sexuality, boundaries, and consent. Since YFs so enjoyed Peterson Toscano's workshop at annual session the previous year, we invited him back for a thought provoking encore performance about his experiences with homosexuality and the "degayification" movement, both on a personal and national level. Alison Duncan led us in a workshop on giving consent and respecting boundaries, and we felt enlightened by the discussions we had. To get to know our new YFs, we were assigned a random member of our community to eat dinner with. We also made use of the beautiful meetinghouse gardens for dining and spontaneous games. Speaking of spontaneity, unexpected dance parties often broke out in unexpected places. It was a great start to the year.

As is traditional, we held our November conference over Thanksgiving. Also as is traditional, we welcomed Young Adult Friends (YAFs) back into our community for the weekend, so that we could enrich old friendships and they could relive their glory days as YFs before

they got so old. We felt blessed to hold our conference at Homewood Monthly Meeting in Baltimore, since it had been many years since our presence had been felt there. Happily, we were not too destructive and Homewood strongly wishes to have us use their beautiful space again. Our conference was filled with celebrations of dance and music, beginning with a workshop on African drumming and dance which we very enthusiastically participated in. We also held a prom in the evening, which was characterized by much silly dancing and even sillier outfits. Our beloved FAP (Friendly Adult Presence) Eric Hanson astounded us with his radiant beauty in a glittery black dress! At this conference, our community both young and old grew by sharing their love for making loud noises, dance parties, playing dress up, and each other.

For our February conference, Young Friends met at Richmond Meeting and focused on the theme of love. Our Valentine's Day celebrations included gift exchanges and card making for our respective Stupid Cupids, and culminated in a "Love Feast." We set up a dessert table full of ice cream, cake, whipped cream, chocolate syrup...but no one was allowed to feed themselves! We were thrilled to have Jon Watts come and perform works from his album "The Art of Fully Being" for us, and enjoyed how he ended with a worship sharing on inward peace. YFs were delighted to discover that the most exciting and wondrous playground EVER was just around the corner from the meetinghouse, and much fun was had by all. We also rejoiced that our Handbook, three years in revision, was finally approved in its entirety!

A bus from Baltimore to Dayspring Farm near Williamsburg facilitated Maryland and DC Young Friends' transportation to the April Conference, traditionally the work con. Katie Maloney's farm, a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm, is a marvel of sustainable organic farming. We helped plant Swiss chard and onions and weeded at Four Winds Farm down the road. We slept around the campfire under the brightest stars we had ever seen. We learned by experience that pokeberry roots are purgatives (or some of us did). We made a CD of Young Friend audio genius, had a giant pillow fight, and grilled delicious things. The spirit of community thrived in the open spaces and the beautiful location.

Graduation con was a great way to end the year. It was kicked off

with an adventure: the basement at the Adelphi meetinghouse flooded the night before we arrived, leaving half an inch of sand, water, and unidentified muck covering the dining room and kitchen floors. We spent much of the first night cleaning it. Subsequently that floor was still wet at bed time, which meant that the entire YF community had to sleep together, carpeting every available inch of Adelphi's meeting room! It was quite cozy. Our con was packed with not one, but two, tie-dye workshops; lots of outdoor games including Frisbee, kickball, and a Barry Morley original known as Fraz; and of course the ever-present dance parties. As usual, the graduation ceremony was the highlight of graduation con. We went in a circle and shared wonderful qualities and memories of our Seniors. We had soooo many loving things to say that we had to have a time limit for how long you could compliment each Senior.

Alison Duncan's presence as Youth Secretary has been one of the big differences between this year and last year. She fits into this role perfectly. She helped collect money, fed the Executive Committee during the conferences, facilitated the planning of workshops, and lent her positive and vibrant presence to the improvement of the Young Friends community. She acts as a bridge between the Young Friends and the adults and administrators of BYM, filling a void in our community while managing to make it to every conference. Alison is awesome and does a fantastic job as Youth Secretary. We love her very, very much!!!!

The meeting RECEIVED this Epistle with great appreciation, and AP-PROVED forwarding it to Friends everywhere.

Y2009-72 *Young Adult Friends Epistle.* Sam Horne (Takoma Park) presented the Epistle of the Young Adult Friends.

**Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Young Adult Friends Epistle, 2009**

To Friends Everywhere:

Greetings from the Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

During these Annual Sessions we have felt an intense need for intro-

spection regarding our role within the wider community. We have been reminded of the fragility of our community in the face of divisive issues. We have been led to consider the skills of this community and our ability to effectively and independently create change in the greater community of Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

In searching for a better understanding of our role within the Baltimore Yearly Meeting community, we have spent much time in worship this week, both as individuals and as a community. As a group severely under-represented at conferences and Yearly Meeting sessions due to cost, distance, and time constraints, we understand that our community is under-seasoned and that our desire to create progress and change within Baltimore Yearly Meeting requires us to form a stronger, more seasoned community of our own. This has been our greatest challenge and our highest aspiration this year.

We wish to ask the greater community of Baltimore Yearly Meeting for understanding and compassion concerning our struggles to grow into our gifts and overcome the divisive issues we face. We also wish to make our leadings heard within the wider community, but know that we must fully discern these leadings within our own community before we can do so. While we continue to wait on the spirit for further gifts and leadings to be revealed, we take this time to reflect how far, as a community, we have progressed since this time last year.

We first gathered in December 2008 at Maury River Friends Meeting with the joint visions of fellowship, community building, and supporting those in greater need than ourselves. To these ends, we provided food for ourselves through the good graces of our appointed food committee, and took a trip to help pack care boxes for families in need, so that those less fortunate could enjoy a happy holiday season. We spent time outdoors, enjoying the beautiful area surrounding Maury River Friends Meeting as well as deeply valuing the opportunity to worship with the members of that Meeting.

We gathered again in June of 2009, at Frederick Monthly Meeting, where we spent time engaged in spiritual writing, in a workshop led by one of our own. Later we enriched our lives through appreciation of beauty when we took time to visit the local arts festival taking place a

few blocks from the meetinghouse. While there, we also returned to our camper roots, renting canoes and kayaks and demonstrating just what Opequon, Shiloh, Teen Adventure, and other camps had taught us to do with a paddle. We ate well but mindfully throughout the weekend, entirely through the efforts and talents of the community, and did not find ourselves too old to be really excited by the prospect of cookies and milk. And once again we funded the conference on a sliding scale of fees, asking each of us to give what they could, turning no one away, and finding ourselves in possession of surplus funds when a final accounting was made.

We put these surplus funds towards a new tradition of offering what scholarships we could to those YAFs who needed financial aid in order to attend annual sessions. At annual sessions we also continued our traditions of the Intergenerational Living History Exhibit activity, the YAF dinner out, and the ice cream social with the rising Young Friends, activities which have enriched our lives and the lives of the wider Yearly Meeting community in past years, and did so again this year. We continued to struggle throughout the sessions with a number of issues that have been much on our minds and hearts, but these struggles were balanced by our valued traditions and the many gifts we have found in the members of our community, and our ever-strengthening desire to share them with the wider Yearly Meeting and with each other. We trust that our community will find right order regarding how best to use our gifts to overcome these issues in the months to come.

We recognize that it is in the nature of our community to be in flux, but there are two things which enrich that community which we share unreservedly: love and a desire to see only the best brought forth in all members of our community and the wider Baltimore Yearly Meeting community. We leave you with the above thoughts and the singular quote:

“Let us see then what love can do.”

With love and deep respect,

The Young Adult Friends of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

The meeting RECEIVED this Epistle with gratitude and APPROVED for-

warding it to Friends everywhere.

Y2009-73 *General Epistle.* J.E. McNeil (Friends Meeting of Washington), Becka Haines Rosenberg (sojourning at Alexandria), John Darnell (Frederick), and Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch (sojourning at Valley) presented the General Epistle of Baltimore Yearly Meeting for a second reading.

To Friends Everywhere:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting gathered for the 338th Annual Session at the busy campus of Frostburg State University in Maryland, where construction is happening around every corner. There we explored the theme “The Business of Our Lives: The Transformation of Faith into Practice.” The theme reflects the efforts of all who gathered here including visitors from many other Yearly Meetings, to incorporate the Divine in our day-to-day life. We seek in this epistle to share some of the struggle and light that this week has brought us, about how we can transform the ethereal essence that is faith into the everyday concrete business of our lives.

About 25 Friends Gathered on Second Day afternoon and returned that evening and the following morning for our Retreat led by Ramona Buck and Jean James, which explored how our faith and our testimonies can lead us to fulfill our role as representatives of God on earth. The group shared understandings about the roles of wisdom, wealth and work in our journey as Friends, using worship sharing, guided imagery, small group work, and journaling, intertwined with periods of waiting worship. The retreat leaders shared generously through handouts to aid participants who want to bring some of the workshop back to their home meetings.

In our opening plenary session, David Zarembka, Bethesda Monthly Meeting, brought us a message focused on work by Friends to promote grassroots peace activities in the Great Lakes region of Africa. In his presentation, he interwove the voices of individuals from Rwanda who had perpetrated violence with the voices of individuals who had been victims of the violence. He also shared experiences from the period of 2008 post-election violence in Kenya. He advocated passionately for our continuing participation in Friends United Meeting and our ongoing financial support of the work in Africa, recognizing that the

business of our lives is to put our faith into practice. He lifted up with distress our tendency as humans to dichotomize our world into “us” and “them”, suggesting that we realize we criticize those elements in others which we also see in ourselves.

Our mornings began with worship sharing around the themes of our gathering, using the writings of John Woolman to challenge and inspire us to consider how we personally put our faith into practice. We were led in daily Bible study by Jackie Speicher, Program Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources and pastor of Xenia (OH) Friends Meeting, each morning, and David Fitz, York Monthly Meeting, each afternoon, to help the Spirit open the scriptures to us in the same manner that Jesus opened the scriptures to his disciples. Through different lenses they invited us to allow our direct experiences with God to illuminate the truths in the Bible -- and to use the Bible as a tool to guide our direct experiences with God.

Yearly Meeting members and committees have done joyful and meaningful work this year, and many of their reports have reflected the connection between faith and practice, between our Quaker communities and the wider world. Friend Ann Riggs, Annapolis Monthly Meeting, will be principal of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya this coming year, with Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s financial support. She told us of the variety of students and theological perspectives at the school, and about the international ecumenical cooperation that keeps it running. Our Peace and Social Concerns Committee asked us to be part of a worldwide vigil in remembrance of the use of atomic bombs against Japan in World War II, and asked us to hold up our own experiences of taking away the causes of war. As we prepare for another year of faithful committee service, our Nominating Committee reminded us of the need to nurture our individual committee members, to care for the particular gifts of those who do the work of the Yearly Meeting throughout the year.

Our General Secretary Riley Robinson reminded us that while all members of the monthly meetings were part of the wider world of Friends, not all of them knew it. We as a corporate body need to reach into our meetings to make the whole community of our faith a presence in the world. Our Advancement and Outreach Committee has begun an online video project called “Q-Tube.” Eighty Friends of all ages were interviewed about their Quaker experience and the videos will

be posted on the web as an outreach tool.

Our Junior Yearly Meeting has been practicing “walking cheerfully over the earth” at annual session this week, learning to embrace the similarities and differences in everyone they meet. Throughout the year, the young people of our yearly meeting have been experiencing miracles and transformations, making community--worship, discernment, creativity, “cuddle puddles”—and holding each other carefully even when they are geographically distant from one another. From our camping program, we heard of a challenge to campers to take camp into the world with them, to carry the values and lessons they have found there to friends and strangers at home. A high school Friend shared about the upheaval in her life in the past year, and how faithfully the Young Friends community has supported her, as others in her life have fallen away. And our Yearly Meeting is deeply grateful for the service of our Youth Secretary, Allison Duncan, whose loving care has given new energy to our programs for middle and high schoolers.

Throughout our annual session, we have been reminded of the unexpected Way Opening that may occur in our lives. We heard about events at Britain Yearly Meeting this year, where they have approved a minute supporting and advocating for same-sex marriage, which one British Friend called her most exciting experience at annual session in sixty years. One of our camp directors told of a literal way opening, finding a gate on a trail closed, and, through honest dialogue with an unknown man in a pickup truck, having it opened for the campers. In all of our lives, we may find joy in the wealth of possibility offered to us.

The presentation of the budget was a clear example of faith into practice. Much work was done by Stewardship and Finance Committee so that large changes of accounts and accounting could be understood by all. It is in the budget we see the concrete structure of our practice that enables us to continue to live out our faith.

BYM’s representatives to the Friends United Meeting board have been active this year, and continue to witness to the conviction that FUM’s discriminatory personnel policy harms the organization. They reminded us that we have heard much about FUM’s programs this week, in the presentations of David Zarembka and Ann Riggs, and that whether or

not BYM reaches unity on releasing funds for FUM, Friends may contribute to the organization or its ministries individually or through their monthly meetings. FUM remains our deepest connection with Friends in Africa, who represent the majority of Friends worldwide.

Daniel Snyder of Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting (SAYMA) brought us the Carey Memorial Lecture: the Spirituality of Restlessness. The restlessness he described and called us to, was of the soul—the searching of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the kitchen table at midnight and the dark night of the soul of Mother Teresa. We are called to see past the false securities of settled truths to a deeper encounter with the Divine and to greater faithfulness. It is in the darkness of the restlessness that we can find the transformation of our faith into practice and, equally important, the transformation of our practice into faith. As we strive toward more of what God would have of us, prayer becomes a lifeline. We cannot walk the road of faithful service alone. It is in the waiting that we can find the essence of God's love and the next step to take.

Though we leave this annual session still seeking the next step, we find comfort in the knowledge that even our restless desire brings us ever closer to the unexpected discovery of Way Opening. As we celebrate our faith, we recognize our patience and our restlessness and we continue to walk cheerfully over the earth.

Friends APPROVED sending this Epistle as our message to Friends everywhere from this annual session.

Y2009-74 *Letter of Appreciation.* Howard Fullerton read a Letter of Appreciation to Ann Whittaker, who is leaving the Yearly Meeting staff to take a position at Friends House.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Minutes its appreciation to Ann Whittaker, Administrative Assistant. In her years of service, her deep dedication to the Yearly Meeting was always evident. She expertly published the Yearbook and the Interchange and always provided a welcoming presence in the office. Her gracious support of the Youth Programs kept it alive during two years when there was no Youth Secretary. We wish her the best as she continues to serve the Quaker community at Friends House. She will be greatly missed.

Friends UNITED with this Minute, and joined in expressing our appreciation to Ann Whitaker for her loving and faithful service to the Yearly Meeting and all she has done to help knit our community together.

Y2009-75 Program Committee. Sheila Bach (Langley Hill) presented the report of the Program Committee. She announced that Lane Center, where we have met during our sessions in Frostburg, will be under renovation next year and will not be available for our use. Instead, we will be holding many of our Sessions, including business sessions and plenaries, in the Performing Arts Center nearby.

Sheila expressed deep appreciation to the food service staff at Frostburg State University, who have worked very hard to meet our needs and preferences. She also thanked Dave Treber, the Events Coordinator at Frostburg, who is one of our own, and whose son participated this year in the Young Friends program.

Friends expressed their appreciation to the Program Committee for planning a very enjoyable and stimulating Annual Session.

Y2009-76 Coffee House. Howard Fullerton thanked the Young Friends for the wonderful coffee house entertainment last night. He noted that the impersonation of the Clerk and the Recording Clerk were especially outstanding and seemed to demonstrate an understanding of Friends business process that will serve Young Friends well in future years.

Y2009-77 Carey Memorial Lecture. Howard Fullerton expressed Friends' appreciation for the Carey Memorial Lecture delivered Friday night by Daniel Snyder (Swannanoa Friends Meeting, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association). Daniel Snyder spoke on "Spiritual Restlessness." He described his own experience of seeking solitude and healing in a desert monastic retreat, at a time in his life when he felt overwhelmed by too much light, too much knowledge, too many certainties. He described a restlessness of the soul that calls us to leave behind that which is comfortable and safe, to go out into the wilderness to encounter God. If we embrace that challenge, and walk away from the patterns and assumptions that have constrained our lives, we come face to face with the love that can transform the world. It is love of God that teaches us to truly love each other.

Y2009-78 Registrar. Mary Campell (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented the Registrar's report.

Registrar's Report - 2009

Three hundred ninety-six of us gathered this week at Frostburg State University for Baltimore Yearly Meeting's 338th Annual Session. That's 20 more than were here last year. Fourteen people used first-time attender certificates. Using a certificate involved conversations within one's Monthly Meeting that started the process of becoming more familiar with Yearly Meeting.

We come from 37 Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings, and Worship Groups within our Yearly Meeting, as well as from 11 other Yearly Meetings, both on this continent and in East Africa.

I can remember when we used to do the roll call of Monthly Meetings and it seemed as if half the room stood up to show they were from Sandy Spring Meeting. Sandy Spring still sends the largest number of people to Annual Session - 56 this year - but they no longer seem to overwhelm the number coming from other monthly meetings the way they once did. This year, several of our larger Meetings also had sizable numbers of people here, including Adelphi (34), Baltimore, Stony Run (25), Friends Meeting of Washington (36) and Langley Hill (32). Equally treasured, of course, are the Friends who come from Monthly Meetings that just send one or two people to this gathering, such as Carlisle, Friendship Preparative, Gettysburg, Mattaponi Preparative, Norfolk Preparative, Valley, and West Branch.

In addition, our time together has been greatly enriched by the presence of visitors from outside our Yearly Meeting, some representing various Quaker organizations, many sponsored by our Intervisitation Program, and some simply coming on their own to spend time with us.

One of the great features of holding Annual Session at Frostburg is that if you register and pay in full ahead of time, you can pick up your keys, nametags and meal cards at any time at the University's registration window, and don't have to time your arrival to match our registration hours. More than 80 per cent of registrants did that this year. This simplifies your lives, and also simplifies the work of the Registrar and the Yearly Meeting staff here on site. We thank you.

There is quite a bit of work involved in seeing that you all are properly housed and able to get meals while you are here, and I certainly

don't do it alone. I want to thank this year's registration volunteers, who include Linda Wilk, Sheila Bach, Rebecca Rawls, Anne Bacon, and - most especially - Ann Whittaker of the Yearly Meeting staff and Dave Treber, our liaison to the University (and a member of our Yearly Meeting).

Friends expressed their gratitude to Mary Campbell and her team of volunteers.

Y2009-78 Bookstore. Nancy Coleman (Dunnings Creek) reported for the Bookstore. Business was down about 10% this year, but the amount of volunteer help was up. Nancy Coleman thanked all those who did such a wonderful job packing up. Receipts totaled \$9661.53.

Friends expressed their deep appreciation to Nancy Coleman for her work with the Bookstore. The Bookstore not only makes available a wonderful variety of books and crafts for sale, but provides space for exhibits about Quaker activities at home and around the world.

Y2009-79 Appreciations and Closing. Friends expressed their appreciation to Howard Fullerton, who has clerked these sessions with unfailing patience and good humor, and to the tireless microphone walkers, who have made it possible for us to hear what others have to say.

The 338th annual session of Baltimore Yearly Meeting was adjourned. We will meet again, as way opens, August 2-8, 2010, at Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland.

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. Here are some of the highlights of the past year:

Annapolis Friends Meeting has recently completed a first round of six public “Quaker Quest” presentations. “Quaker Quest” is an approach to outreach developed by Britain Yearly Meeting, which is now being promoted by Friends General Conference. It uses a series of brief personal presentation son a particular topic, followed by small group sharing, to show how shared experience of Spirit, not doctrinal unity, holds the Religious Society of Friends together. The Annapolis “Quaker Quest” programs attracted quite a few seekers and greatly energized local Friends as they sought to articulate their own beliefs in preparation for inviting the public in. Several other meetings in the BYM area are now exploring whether to organize their own “Quaker Quest” projects. The BYM A&O Committee will be following these efforts and providing whatever support we can.

Another of our exciting new projects also has British roots. The “Quaker Week” website developed by Britain Yearly Meeting features short video clips of Friends talking about what attracted them to Quaker meeting in the first place, and how they understand the Quaker way [<http://www.quakerweek.org.uk/>]. BYM A&O is planning to produce video clips of our own, which will be posted on YouTube and linked to the BYM website. Interviews and filming will begin at these Annual Session. This lively and personal approach to outreach, with its great potential for inter-generational activity, promises to be a lot of fun.

During the past year our attention has been drawn to the wonderful outreach work being done by Friends schools within Baltimore Yearly Meeting. We have offered to take on sponsorship of the Friends Education working group, which is replacing the Friends Education Committee. We hope to find ways to support Friends schools in their efforts to communicate Quaker values to students and parents—an important outreach activity—and also to make the Yearly Meeting more aware of the impact of these schools as a Quaker presence in the wider community.

We are also looking for ways to arrange visits within Baltimore Yearly Meeting to talk about how our meetings can become more visible, accessible and welcoming. We are prepared to offer workshops on outreach and meeting revitalization, or simply come to your meeting for informal sharing. Please let us know if your Meeting would be interested in hosting a workshop or an informal visit, or if you would like to be added to the BYM A&O list of corresponding members. The Spirit is moving. There is much work to be done. We would love to have you involved.

Deborah Haines (Alexandria), Clerk

CAMP PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Camping Program Committee (CPC) met four times this past year and held three additional meetings by conference call. In February we held a joint meeting with Camp Property Management Committee (CPMC). We welcomed several new members who have experience as parents of campers and a genuine love of our camping programs. The CPC worked diligently on many areas this year, guided by the Camp Administrative Secretary, our co-clerks and subcommittee leaders:

Financial Management
Staffing
Enrollment
Marketing and Outreach
Camp Evaluations
Transportation
Five-year plan

Financial Management

The Budget Subcommittee reports that the only philosophical change is the increase in property rental and vehicle costs. We have been discussing the option of higher fees at Catoctin, reducing the Quaker discount and higher fees at all the camps.

The Barry Morley Fund has dropped in value along with other investments. In this year's budget, \$24,000 from that fund is now not available. Since financial aid has already been given out, it impacts what we may or may not spend moving forward. Our Camp Directors have already been notified and ideas have already been discussed on how to make budget adjustments. We will need to make some changes and continue to watch pennies as we always have done in the past. The

largest difficulty with further reducing the camp budget comes when you realize how lean the camp programs run already. CPC is looking forward to working more closely with Robinne Gray; BYM's new Director of Development, to identify ways CPC can raise funds and support our camps.

An unforeseen benefit of our new enrollment system is that BYM is getting a tremendous boost to cash flow earlier in the season.

We continue to struggle with questions like, "Do we pay enough for Skills Week training?" and how and when to upgrade our equipment.

Staffing

CPC approved a Minute of Appreciation for Dana Foster, Director of Shiloh from 1996 to 2008. She has been an instrumental part of the leadership of Camping Program and the Yearly Meeting. Just being her true authentic self, she exhibits walking in the Light. Our list of specific expressions of gratitude is endless.

We will miss her and we wish her well as she moves forward in a new leading. From the Shiloh Director job description, "The Director leads counselors in creating opportunities for spiritual growth."

Our Camping Program Administrative Secretary suggested that this issue be kept front and center in the Shiloh hiring process.

Riley Lark, a former counselor and staff member at Shiloh Quaker Camp, was selected to be the camp's new Director. The Committee welcomes Riley in his new position and looks forward to working with him this summer.

The Committee supports Jane in preparing for and taking a sabbatical and voiced commitment to do what is needed to ensure the BYM camping programs run smoothly and continue our ministry to the youth of BYM while Jane is on sabbatical.

CPC appointed Jane Megginson to the committee that will be hiring the caretaker for Catoctin.

The CPC continues to labor with the salary structure of salaried and seasonal staff of the program.

In January the co-clerks of both CPC and CPMC met with representatives of Supervisory Committee to discuss salary concerns for the Camp Administrative Secretary and the Camp Property Manager. After the Clerks' Meeting with Supervisory, CPC and CPMC minuted their discomfort with BYM's lack of transparency on staff salary and benefit information. This approach hinders the work of committees. We believe the hasty decision of Annual Session in 2008 has resulted in a policy that is inappropriate for a non-profit organization.

Enrollment

We have instituted a new first-come, first-served Camper Enrollment Process, so that when parents sign up online they are actually enrolling. This will be like an airline seat reservation because it will close out a unit when the unit is full. This is how almost every other camp does it, and the technology we are now using has made this process possible. This will prevent the over-signing up for particular sessions.

Shiloh is offering one-week sessions for the first time this summer. The one-week option will be offered only in the third session which has the lowest enrollment. Offering one-week sessions during the third session at Shiloh did increase enrollment during that session, although now the middle session is a bit lower. Our overall enrollment at Shiloh is higher than last year.

Marketing and Outreach

The Marketing and Outreach Subcommittee has been busy trying out ideas to increase enrollment at Opequon and Shiloh. Our enrollment and work grant assignment process, one-week sessions at Shiloh, brochures for Opequon and Shiloh, NPR ads and house parties are all new this year. CPC members and camp alumni continue to visit Monthly Meetings, Friends Schools and other Friends groups to talk about our camping program. Slide shows, sing-alongs, Q and A, and personal stories are all part of the process of spreading the word about our programs.

Our Cookbook Subcommittee has met via email. They have begun to investigate self-publishing resources. The Catoctin Cookbook is available as a main source and appropriate credit will be given for the source of all recipes.

Camp Evaluations

The online survey results gave the Committee feedback about the operation of the camps, despite slightly fewer evaluations returned this year. About 40 people asked to be contacted and were called by Subcommittee members for the particular camps in question. The compiled data revealed high ratings for counselors and staff and some negative comments about the facilities and the quality of the food while “on the trail.”

The camps continue to place a high value on serving wholesome foods while keeping to our budget. The camp kitchens are staffed with knowledgeable and able kitchen managers who order food and supplies, plan menus and guide our volunteer cooks.

There has been progress on the theme of “One Camp” with camps exchanging letters and pictures. We see the connections forming among staff, counselors and campers.

TA had almost equal distribution of counselors from all three camps, and where there was clear evidence of “One Camp.” The staff created community very quickly during pre-camp and had meetings for worship in camp while trips were out – holding trips in the light more intentionally.

Opequon is spiritually in a very good place, having had a profound summer. Amazing queries were not sectioned off to the fire circle, but more in practice throughout workshops and other activities.

Transportation

Our Committee approved the Safe Driving Policy, added and approved the following:

“In Non-Medical Emergencies, such as weather or safety related emergencies, personal vehicles may be used at the discretion of Camp Directors as long as all related insurances and licenses required are met as described above. Any incidents of this happening need to be reported to Camp Administrative Secretary.”

The Committee continues to discuss ways to use our fleet more efficiently by combining trips and organizing trips closer to the camps themselves. Catoctin has

been using less gasoline by consolidating trips with the large bus. We continue to discuss replacing the bus rented from Sandy Spring Friends School for Opequon and the need for more drivers with Commercial Drivers Licenses at each camp to ease the work of driving for trips.

The Safe Driving Policy calls for at least two CDL drives at each camp; Elaine Bringham is currently taking classes for her CDL. A larger issue this summer will be a lack of buses, Sandy Spring Friends School will not rent buses to camp this summer. Much brainstorming has been done on ways the camps can share buses or take more trips that walk out from camp. Several CPC members spent time this spring exploring possible trails and campsites for our campers.

Five-year plan

Catoctin: In 2009 David hopes to finish the Catoctin site plan and build a cabin in the fall. In March or April a hood will be built over the stove and the tool shed near the entrance to camp will be improved. Landings have already been built for each cabin. In the fall of 2010, another cabin will be built. A renewable energy project is in the plans for 2010. Plans for 2011 are: a cabin and bathhouse improvements. The year 2012 will bring a cabin (no. 9) and more bathhouse improvements there. In 2013 plans call for building cabin no. 10.

Opequon: Two cabins will be built simultaneously this spring. Plans for 2011, last two cabins. In 2013 plans call for replacing bathhouses.

Shiloh: The well will be fixed before camp opens. A pond will be built in the fall.

The final piece of the big picture is the price tag for these projects, which is \$564,000. This requires fund-raising of \$361K over the next five years, which the Development Director feels is the maximum possible. Additional revenues for these projects will come from other sources: \$47K of other income (property sale of 30 acres of “TA property” at Shiloh), \$90K in released resources (timber sales under existing timber management plans, which David feels are very responsible and won’t negatively impact camp), for a total of \$137K in income generated. Reserves would furnish \$66 K. Not on this list is the Catoctin dining hall, which must be addressed at some point. Although it meets code, it actually isn’t big enough.

The question was raised whether the Shiloh pond could be built in time for camp in '10 rather than in the fall. CPMC will investigate.

Chrissie Devinney (Goose Creek), Co-clerk

CAMP PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Committee has had a busy and productive year continuing the work that we have focused on over the past several years and looking at new directions for the years to come.

Our primary task has been to refine our budget and to begin medium and long-term planning in light of BYM's scarce resources. As we have engaged in this work, we have kept our desire to improve environmental sustainability and to reduce energy usage. The Committee has strived to create a budget that reflects the actual cost of owning, maintaining, and improving all three assets properties and to more accurately project the costs of maintaining and improving the properties for the future. It is our hope that this will aid the Yearly Meeting in fiscal planning for the long term.

The Camp Property Management Committee determined that it could no longer postpone salary increases for the BYM Property Manager and the camp caretakers. The Committee made a heartfelt recommendation to increase compensation to a more competitive level. Salaries that were recommended for 2010 are more in keeping with comparable positions in our region but are still at the lower end of the range. This was done as part of a property budget that projects a reduction in financial support from BYM compared to recent years and with increases in the fiscal support that comes from the camping programs. The Camping Program's increase in fiscal support of the Camping Property budget was substantial and was generously included in the Camping Program budget without being requested.

Given the BYM governance structure, it proved necessary to seek guidance and advice from several other committees to institute these increases so over the year Camp Property Committee members met with Supervisory, Stewardship and Finance, Camp Programs and Development Committees to clarify salary concerns.

Over the next few years the Committee hopes to implement property improvements, which will make the camps more appealing to campers. One example of this is a pond at Shiloh. We also look forward to continuing to replace aging

camper cabins at the camps.

There were several unforeseen costs that were incurred this year. These expenses arose from the need to remain in compliance with (sometimes changing) fire and building codes. An exhaust hood with a fire suppression system was installed above the stoves at Camp Catoctin and received approval from the Frederick County Fire Marshal.

A new, county approved Site Plan is still needed for Catoctin and several Committee members are working to move this process forward. This site plan is necessary in order to make improvements or additions to the camp and its land. This is proving to be a time-consuming and expensive task and has delayed replacement of camper cabins at Catoctin.

Delays at Catoctin have benefited Opequon because it allowed us to construct two new cabins there instead. Volunteers were a critical part of building these two new cabins but we found that it was necessary to hire carpenters to complete this work so that the cabins could be ready for camp. The cost for these cabins was significantly less than the original estimate even factoring in the addition of paid help. We look forward to continuing to replace the aging cabins at Opequon. The cost of replacing these cabins can be reduced even further by supplying more volunteer labor.

Several improvements have been made to Shiloh. The garage has a new roof and the recycling shed has been improved so that it is much dryer after a rain. The kitchen and a few camper cabins have been painted, and minor repairs made. We experienced some difficulties with bacteria in the well in this summer of 2008. It was necessary for campers and staff to drink bottled water during the camping season. It was determined that surface water was getting into the well, and the top portion of the well was relined this spring. This has addressed the problem, and this summer (fingers crossed and knocking on wood) we have been using well water to meet all of our water needs.

The committee has begun a constructive dialogue with Robinne Gray, the new Development Director, to consider fund-raising ideas and Robinne, in turn, has visited the camps in order to get a first-hand feeling for why the camping program generates such an incredible sense of affection among so many of those who experience it. Our work with Robinne and our focus on development through fund-raising directed at camp alumni is an important part of our plans for the

future of the camp properties. We hope to augment funds for capital repairs and improvements through the carefully managed sale of timber at the camp properties. It is our hope that the expansion of rental income will augment the operating budget of the camp properties. Managing the sale of timber and improving our marketing efforts for off-season rentals will represent an ongoing focus for the Committee in the year to come.

Tina Grady, Clerk

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE

This has been another year of almost monthly committee meetings at the Friends Wilderness Center, a place where we can be in nature and work at the revision of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. As we continue working together, we learn to listen more deeply to each other. There are times when the process moves fairly quickly and there are times when we really have to search hard to find the right words.

There are individuals and meetings who have sent us suggestions for changes. We have gone through many of them, but that takes a great deal of time. By the time we are finished we will have gone through all suggestions and comments. Keep them coming!

When we finished our draft of the Queries, Advices, and Voices (QAV), we realized that we may upset some meetings by having sixteen rather than twelve sets of QAVs. However, we felt each set was important. If your meeting uses one set of QAV each month, you will now go for sixteen months before repeating.

There is now a glossary of Quaker terms, a very brief history of Friends, advices for clerks, a source of the quotations used, a brief history of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice, and acknowledgments.

Much more will be added in the coming years. There will be a section on the testimonies, the monthly meeting, growth and change, the wider Quaker community, and more advices for traveling among Friends, worship sharing, clearness committees, support committees, marriages, memorial meetings, estates and bequests, and on healing in meetings.

In trying to find the best possible way to put this new draft into the hands of everyone within the Yearly Meeting, we found that the least expensive method was to have it printed in a book through an on-line publishing company. Each

meeting and school will be given a copy. We will have copies for sale both at the Bookstore at Annual Session this year and on order throughout the year.

It is our expectation that every member and ongoing attender will purchase a copy of this draft, read it, discuss it in small groups, in the meeting as a whole, and in committees. As you read through this book, the Faith and Practice Revision Committee would like to know what you like and what you do not like. For those parts you do not like, please do not say "I don't like". Please tell us why you do not like it and how something could be better expressed. It also would help if you do not consider this an individual response, but a group response. There never will be anything written that everyone agrees is great! What is best for the Yearly Meeting as a whole is our objective.

Sheila Bach (Langley Hill), Clerk

INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Our Committee met three times this past year, mostly at Sandy Spring Meeting because it was centrally located to most members. Several members dropped off and one, Aileen Starkweather, moved out of town, leaving us with four to five people to do the work. We did grant money to several worthy causes: We sent money to Torreon to assist their 6th Annual Arts & Crafts Festival and to the Rahma Chapter of the Navajo to support their weaving/training program. We sent money to the American Indian Society of Washington, DC to support their scholarship program, and to the Baltimore American Indian Center to help them renovate their space.

Thanks in part to the efforts of our Friends Bill Miles, Elizabeth Koopman and Lamar Matthew, the Maryland State Prison system has now (as of Oct. 2008) granted sweat lodge privileges to Native inmates and the first sweat took place at ECI with Bill attending and assisting with the construction. This is an issue that has been of concern for the last five to 10 years. Thank you, Friends, for your patience and hard work. In other prison news, Leonard Peltier is due to have a parole hearing soon, he was scheduled for a Feb. hearing, but was moved from Allentown, PA to a high-risk prison nearby where he was beaten and thrown into solitary confinement for not identifying his attackers. He has since been moved back to Allentown, but his health is not good. Both Homewood and Stony Run have minutes of concern about his imprisonment. The latest word is that the parole hearing went well and a decision should be reached before the end of August. Supports are guardedly optimistic this time around. Keep tuned.

Our March meeting was attended by Karyn Wingard, the Indian Intern for FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation) who informed us of legislature pending in Congress on a new Tribal Law & Order Act that seeks to bring greater local control to tribal law enforcement agencies and better co-operation between tribal/state agencies. She will leave her post in July and we hope that FCNL will be able to replace her with someone as effective as she has been. With the diminishment of AFSC's (American Friends Service Committee) Indian work and the retirement of Pat Powers from FCNL, there is a concern that Native issues are no longer a high priority to the general public or to Friends on the East Coast.

On a more positive note, we are fortunate to have a relationship with Elizabeth Koopman who is the new Co-Clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Indian Affairs Committee and who will be continuing the ongoing correspondence and communication between our committees. Plans to connect with New York Yearly Meetings Indian Committee are being discussed. With shared responsibility comes shared strength, leading to better outcomes.

Pat Kutzner was with us last summer for our August meeting, along with Marlene Waykazoo from Torreon, who was the chaperon for two children attending Opequeon Camp. Two more children will be coming to camp this summer, but the Yearly Meeting budget committee informed us that because of the economy, they will no longer be able to host/pay for YM attendance for the chaperon as they have in the past.

Pat will be teaching a three-credit course on Business Management at Torreon which will receive credit at the Navajo Technical College for those who want to continue. This will be the first venture between the college and a non-profit and may lead to more opportunities for the Chapter. Pat began her teaching this winter despite being knocked over by a ram and needing a wheel-chair to get around. With support from the community she was well cared for and is now recovered.

The community store was closed for the winter but a small grant has allowed them to hire a part-time clerk, and a bathroom is due to be installed soon, enabling the store to stay open longer. The store has need of yarn, fabric, video games, school supplies, bedding and towels. They do not need clothes at this time. A woman's Craft Circle has been started that allows women of all ages to gather together every other Saturday and work on projects that encourage the younger woman to learn the old traditional methods first-hand. The 6th Annual

Arts & Crafts Festival flyer was printed in color and looked very professional. Attendance seems to grow every year as word spreads.

The Longest Walk II came through Yearly Meeting territory last summer with the intent to raise awareness of the destruction of sacred sites from logging and mining, among other things. Our Committee decided to show the DVD IN THE LIGHT OF REVERENCE at this Yearly Meeting session to highlight this issue. This DVD shows interviews with both sides, for and against the destruction of three separate and different tribal sites. It is very enlightening.

Our Committee is committed to being a resource for and about Indian issues. As I rotate off the committee, I can only hope that monthly meetings will take advantage of the opportunity to learn and digest these concepts so that we can move into the future with hope for better relations with our Native brothers and sisters.

Dellie James (Baltimore, Stony Run), Clerk

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee is concerned with deepening the spiritual life of Baltimore Yearly Meeting by calling forth and nurturing the gifts of the Spirit in the Yearly Meeting and supporting and assisting the Yearly Meeting with programs, retreats, workshops, activities at Annual Session, and other activities as needed; the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee serves as a member of the Program Committee.

The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee sponsored a one-day workshop for concerned Friends and attenders from various Meetings to gather at Frederick Meeting on April 18 of this year for the sharing of concerns and experiences of pastoral care. Topics included caring for the elderly, sick and dying, nurturing centeredness in Meeting for Worship, and community building and conflict in the Meeting. These topics will be offered again as a series of three workshops at Yearly Meeting session 2009. The Committee is hoping to offer more workshops in the future in different areas of the Yearly Meeting. Some suggested topics arising from this first workshop are parenting adult children, marriage enrichment, managing ongoing conflict (ex. within a family, within a community), sexual abuse, domestic violence, membership issues, mental health issues. Another suggestion from the workshop was to place policies (child safety, meetings' pastoral care handbook, etc.) and resources on the BYM webpage so that meetings could easily access them.

The Committee is responsible for bringing forward a leader or leaders for the Retreat which opens Annual Session each year. We are delighted that Jean James (Richmond) and Ramona Buck (Patapsco) will lead this year's retreat on the Yearly Meeting theme, "The Business of Our Lives: The Transformation of Faith into Practice."

At Annual Session Business Meetings, Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee has encouraged Friends to serve as Greeters and called upon others to sit on the "facing benches" holding Business Meetings in the Light. The Committee also identifies leaders to facilitate the daily morning Worship Sharing groups and Bible Study leaders at Annual Session. The Committee also takes responsibility for the conduct of Meeting for Worship during Annual Session.

The Committee has the Working Group on Racism under its care. Our liaison with this group is Jean-Marie Prestwidge- Barch, a member of both groups. We are grateful for the Working Group on Racism and their guidance and furtherance of this concern. For further information about their work this year, please see their Advance Report.

The M&PC committee also has the Women's Retreat, the Silent Retreats, and the Spiritual Formation Program under its care. The women's retreat was January 23 -25 with the theme "Let it begin with me: stepping into our own power," facilitated by Betsy Tobin and Helen Tasker (both from Frederick). The Silent Retreats were in spring '09 and October 10-12, 2008 facilitated by Jean Christianson (Annapolis). The Spiritual Formation Program nurtured deep spiritual growth in its participants this year. Forty-four Friends from 11 Meetings within BYM participated in the September and May weekend retreats held at Priest Field Pastoral Center in West Virginia. In addition to the 11 Meetings represented at the Retreats several other BYM Meetings continued their Spiritual Formation Programs during the year. The September Opening Retreat introduced participants to the program, allowed participants to sample several spiritual practices, and provided guidance for local group organization and sharing. Local groups met throughout the year in a spirit of community hospitality and fellowship, read spiritual books together, and shared their individual spiritual journeys and spiritual practices. The May Retreat featured special emphasis on the deepening of personal spirituality through sharing of personal stories, on the process of identifying and following leadings and on the community naming of each individual's gifts.

The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee is also concerned with deepening the spiritual life of the constituent Monthly Meetings by encouraging and supporting Monthly Meetings as they recognize, publicly affirm and practically support those individuals who exercise their gifts in faithful ministry and service. The Committee also supports and assists Monthly Meetings in fostering community and recognizing and addressing the needs of individuals within their Meetings.

The Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee sends suggestions to Monthly Meetings on the preparation of the Annual Report of the Spiritual State of the Monthly Meeting, in accordance with the guidelines in Faith and Practice. The Committee receives the approved reports and incorporates them, with concerns and information about events in the Yearly Meeting, into a Spiritual State of the Yearly Meeting Report which is presented at Annual Session.

The Committee considers requests for Yearly Meeting endorsement of minutes of support for members traveling in the ministry outside our Yearly Meeting. Such minutes usually are prepared by the travelers Monthly Meeting. This year, a minute was approved by Yearly Meeting for the travel of Laura Nell Obaugh (Hopewell Centre).

The Committee maintains the Guidelines for Embracing the Ministry of Friends and supports Monthly Meeting Committees of Oversight for these Friends. Currently, these guidelines are being revised by an ad hoc subcommittee.

Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee members hope to visit Monthly Meetings throughout the year. Monthly Meeting Committees of Ministry and Pastoral Care are encouraged to invite these visits.

The Committee is currently preparing a Manual describing its responsibilities and procedures. We are also compiling a resource directory of Friends led to lead workshops, retreats, or give talks to Meetings. There is concern about continuing to encourage Meetings to develop guidelines for child safety. The Committee was also asked to reflect on various issues as requested by officers of the Yearly Meeting, Meetings, or other committees, and an inquiry by a worship group about joining the Yearly Meeting. We offered a one-day scholarship to Annual Session to encourage those interested in attending our committee meetings.

The committee met five times during the year (at the three Interim Meeting days

and twice during Yearly Meeting Session) with an attendance of committee members of six to ten and a number of visitors.

Committee Members: Michael Cronin (Washington), Gail Gann (Stony Run), Don Gann (Stony Run), Susan Kaul (Bethesda), Ria Hawkins (Bethesda), Paul Luckenbaugh (Bethesda), Lamar Matthew (Stony Run), Catherine McHugh (Bethesda), Martin Melville (State College), Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch (Valley), Gary Sandman (Roanoke), Virginia Schurman (Gunpowder)

On behalf of the Committee, Virginia Schurman (Gunpowder), Clerk

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERN COMMITTEE

This has been another busy year for the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. As always, there is not a shortage of issues that we could address. Our plate is as full as ever.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan continue to be at the top of the list of our concerns. Together, the cost of these wars is enormous. The cost in human lives and human spirit is incalculable. The cost in dollars is over \$5000 per second, 24 hours per day, every day, no holidays. These wars are profoundly troubling to us as Quakers. They have been the major focus of our presentation to Yearly Meeting for the past two years.

Peaceful resolution of conflict was also a major topic at our annual Fall Networking Day, which was held just after the election last November. It was well attended, and feedback was very positive. We heard from J. E. McNeil, a Friend from Friends Meeting of Washington, who led us in a discussion of a movie on war and recruiting of soldiers. Those present also engaged in a wonderful day of sharing of successes and failures in peace and social justice work during the year. Finally, we brainstormed about ideas for work over a wide range of issues, from torture to race relations to peace.

The Committee met four times during the year, outside of Annual Session. We brought several issues to Interim Meeting for approval. We asked for and received BYM's continued support for the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund. The issue of payment of taxes for war is dear to the heart of many Friends. We also asked for the Interim Meeting to write a letter on behalf of an inmate, Troy Davis, who was sentenced to death. His conviction was full of legal inconsistencies and fraught with much doubt, and we hope that the letter from BYM, along with many others, played a role in his sentence being commuted by the

State of Georgia.

The Committee was greatly impressed with the peace work of Friends in Kenya; it was mindful of concerns about Friend United Meeting's (FUM) Personnel Policies. The Committee worked with the Body over the course of a year. As a result the maximum available funds of \$7,000 were sent to FUM specifically for peace work in Kenya.

The Committee also heard of the work of Quaker House, which has been helping conscientious objectors in the military since the Viet Nam war. The Committee passed the following Minute at its meeting on 31 Third Month, 2009: "The Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (BYM) supports the work of Quaker House. To assist Quaker House in continuing its work, the BYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee asks Monthly Meetings and individuals that are part of BYM to support Quaker House as way opens."

We continue to try to discern and season issues for the Yearly Meeting in the area of Peace and Social Justice. We welcome the participation in this work by everyone in the Yearly Meeting.

Bill Mims (Langley Hill), Clerk

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

This has been another great year for the Program Committee. The evaluations from our Annual Session in 2008 showed that people felt we had improved on several things, mainly food, over our first year at Frostburg State University.

We have been working hard during the year on making the 2009 Annual Session even better. Because the Program Committee has a specific reason for being in existence, most meetings have a full complement of members. The members follow through on responsibilities they have undertaken to make your time at Annual Session meaningful and fulfilling.

One question remains with us each year: What can we do to encourage more Friends and attenders at meetings to participate in Annual Session? We are well aware that cost is part of the problem. For 2009 we were able to cut costs by a small amount. It is impossible to cut costs and still be a self-sustaining program. We always hope that monthly meetings will help at least. For people who have never attended Annual Session, the three free-for-two-nights coupons sent to

each monthly meeting will help. It is our hope that once someone has used the coupons for two free nights, they will either pay to extend their time and/or come back the next year for the whole time.

Because of our excellent children's program, families with teen-agers and younger often find that their children want to return because of the friends they have made during the week. It is a time when children, especially those from small meetings with very few young people, are able to bond with other Quakers their own age. They realize that they are not alone as a Quaker child.

Consider attending Annual Session next year. If you cannot attend for the whole week, then come for part of it at least. The meetings for worship with a concern for business are very informative and a way of learning what others in both Baltimore Yearly Meeting and in other Quaker organization are doing. The workshops are numerous and informative. Interest groups enable groups to gather to discuss and learn about an issue. Most committee meetings are open to all. Come visit and find a committee you'd like to join!

Sheila Bach, Clerk

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Religious Education Committee experienced a fresh breath of renewal this year at Fall Interim Meeting and the introduction of new members to the Committee. To clarify our mission, we set and refined our goals of supporting First Day School teachers through the sharing of curricula, activity ideas, and other resources via the Internet.

Specifically, we are going to focus on adding four things to the BYM RE page:

- Names and e-mail addresses of RE Committee members;
- Links to other web pages that may be of interest to First Day School teachers (for both youth and adult religious education);
- Link to a catalog of curriculum available for sharing across BYM Monthly Meetings and information on how to receive it for three-month time periods; and
- Link to pages containing activity ideas for First Day School.

The Committee anticipates having this completed by the end of summer 2009. At that time, marketing through email and an announcement in the Interchange will be submitted.

M. J. Foley (Williamsburg), Clerk

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amidst a financially tumultuous year, the Stewardship and Finance Committee has persevered and risen to an array of challenges. Our budget process has been thoughtful and disciplined, our communication with Monthly Meetings has increased greatly, and the printed materials about our processes have improved greatly. Committee members and staff have labored long to bring this about.

Budget

Stewardship and Finance has spent the majority of its committee meetings working on refining the budget process and compiling the 2010 budget for consideration at Annual Session.

Budget process

The Committee has created a budget calendar to streamline the process and increase communication with Monthly Meetings and Committees within the Yearly Meeting. The calendar allows for reminders to Monthly Meetings about their approved apportionment and payments received on a quarterly basis. Additionally, we have created time goals for sending out the apportionment questionnaires and made personal contact with Monthly Meetings when the questionnaires were not received. Stewardship and Finance will continue to request proposed budgets from committees and programs at a slightly earlier date. Contact will be made when budgets are not received, or when Stewardship and Finance has questions.

The budget calendar also calls for an April apportionment meeting to be held every year. This spring the meeting was held on April 16, 2009 at Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting. Over a dozen Monthly Meetings sent representatives and a very thoughtful and spirit-led conversation ensued over concerns regarding apportionment and the financial state of some Monthly Meetings. It was also an excellent opportunity to answer questions about the Yearly Meeting Budget. Attendees of this Meeting and members of Stewardship and Finance volunteered to reach out to as many Monthly Meetings as possible to relay the proposed 2010 apportionment, and carry back any concerns that were raised.

Stewardship and Finance has recently begun discussing the need for a regular

meeting with committees and programs that have larger-than-average budgets. We have discussed including this meeting with the apportionment meeting to increase understanding of all aspects of the Yearly Meeting budget and to hear how the budget is transformed into the callings of Friends.

Budget Reporting

Stewardship and Finance has worked on a budget reporting process that will be more automated using our Logos accounting software. These new budget reports will look different than previous budget reports. The committee hopes that the streamlined budget report will be more comprehensible for Friends. Additionally, by creating the budget report through an automated process, we will avoid the possibility of human error. More detailed reports will be made available for Friends to review.

2010 Budget

The budget process this year was challenging. We decreased the apportionment total to the 2008 levels. Due to the changes within the financial markets and the economy some Monthly Meeting's financial situations, and therefore their apportionment amounts, changed markedly.

Significant cuts to proposed budgets have been suggested for the Administrative Budget, the Camping Budgets, Intervisitation and Youth Programs. These cuts were necessary in order to keep the apportionment levels lower and in order to balance program expenses with the salary increases proposed by Supervisory Committee.

Supervisory Committee proposed salary increases for some of the staff members. This recommendation came as a result of requests heard at Interim Meeting and Annual Session, and after considerable revisions of job descriptions and reviews of similar positions in non-profit organizations. The proposed increases in salary would put the affected staff members' salary in the low to mid-range for similar positions. These changes include changing a job title from "Bookkeeper" to "Comptroller" in recognition of the level of expertise needed to manage BYM's day-to-day finances.

Requests to use the BYM Mailing List

Stewardship and Finance received a request to use the mailing list for a fundraising letter for the Ann Riggs ministry to Friends Theological College. This use was approved at March Interim Meeting, 2009.

Apportionment Subcommittee

The Stewardship and Finance Committee appointed a subcommittee to review the appropriateness of the apportionment formula and method. The subcommittee has met three times to consider the current method and to compare the method to those used by similar annual meetings. It is anticipated that the Stewardship and Finance Committee will be able to make a recommendation to the annual meeting in 2010.

Development Subcommittee

The Development Subcommittee has proposed to become a full standing committee. We have drafted a committee description that is being reviewed by Manual of Procedure. The first reading for full committee status occurred during March Interim Meeting.

Robinne Gray, the Development Director has visited 12 monthly and quarterly meetings thus far in 2009 and plans more visits in the fall. She has presented a talk on “Friends and Philanthropy” that has been extremely well received. Friends have expressed an appreciation for the beneficial discussions about giving within the Monthly Meetings as well the opportunity to discuss and ask questions about Yearly Meeting activities.

Development work has been on-going this year. To date, (second quarter; June 30) \$37,128 in contributions has been received. We have also been offered the opportunity for a generous matching grant of \$50,000 for monthly auto-donor and one-time contributions. Contributions can still be made toward this matching grant.

The Committee continues to make better use of its accounting software and to look carefully at the Yearly Meeting’s financial procedures. Budget discipline, of course, will be a priority, but in this third straight year of budget cutting there begins to be real concern about how much more can be wrung out without doing damage. There is great appreciation for the progress of the new development program. There is also great appreciation on the part of the Committee for the

thoughtfulness of the dialogue that has occurred with Friends and Meetings this year.

Natalie Finegar (Sandy Spring), Clerk

SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER EDUCATION FUND

In 2009 the Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education Fund received 13 requests for funds. Representatives of the committee considered the requests and distributed, with great pleasure, \$8,040 in full or partial grants for 12 uses consistent with the purpose of the fund. The recipients were:

Friends School of Wilmington, NC, \$750 to host two Friends Council on Education (FCE) Workshops at the School;

Friends Select School, PA, \$590 to send two additional new faculty to FCE Workshops over the six annually budgeted;

Friends Seminary, NY, \$500 to write Friends Seminary's own Faith & Practice;

Greenwood Friends School, PA, \$550 to send faculty, staff and board members to FCE Workshops;

Lincoln School, RI, \$500 for a Friend in Residence to help write a statement on the School's Quaker connections & mission;

Mary McDowell Center for Learning, NY, \$750 to implement a curriculum on Quaker Testimony of Learning especially related to learning disabilities;

Oakwood Friends School, NY, \$500 to bring Peter Blood and Annie Patterson to lead a day of music celebrating Quaker history, testimonies & ideas;

Quaker School at Horsham, PA, \$750 for a day of training on Mindfulness with Irene McHenry;

San Francisco Friends School, CA \$600 to purchase FCE literature for new staff in new 7th and (2010) 8th grades;

Sandy Spring Friends School, MD, \$500 to send faculty to Art Larrabee Clerking Workshop & purchase copies of FCE "Advices and Queries for Friends' School Community Life" for new faculty;

Sidwell Friends School, DC, \$1,750 for a two-yr project to write/publish a Guide to Query Writing for students Grades 1-4;

Westbury Monthly Meeting & Friends School, NY, \$300 for two teachers to attend UN Conference on Teaching for Peace and Human Rights.

The Committee was very pleased with the opportunity to support Quaker faith

and practice in education again this year, and is especially glad to be continually reaching a wider group of Friends Schools. We unfortunately have not found a satisfactory means to transfer funds to the schools in Kenya, and are following the Guidelines on Giving and Receiving approved by the Quaker Peace Network—East Africa, March 19, 2006 in Uganda. These, for compelling reasons, require a level of administration that this Committee cannot provide, so we are sadly and reluctantly withdrawing our offer of grants to the African schools and communities. We hope that at a future time we will be able to take advantage of the ability of another organization to administer funds to the African schools that so desperately need assistance.

The Committee will meet in March 2010 to consider new requests. Request deadline will be MARCH 1, 2010.

Rosalind Zuses (Sandy Spring), Clerk, reporting from Auckland, New Zealand

YOUTH PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

In 2008 the Youth Programs Committee (YPC) continued to follow our leadings to bring about Young Friends (YF) and Junior Young Friends (JYF) programs full of love and light and truth. Following our leadings may mean that the program will be different than two years ago, five years ago, ten or 45 years ago. One of the joys of Youth Programs is that every conference, every new combination of YFs, JYFs and Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) reveal to us new truths about directions the programs should take. Our work on Youth Programs is not to make the Young Friends and Junior Young Friends programs conform to some pre-existing ideal, but that we create an environment where we all can experience continuing revelation from the Divine. We continue to try to discern between our will and God's will.

It might have been the will of some of us to have a Youth Secretary hired more quickly than the full two years it took us. But the Youth Secretary Subcommittee on Youth Programs listened carefully and worked hard to involve everyone affected by the decision. That work paid off as we ended up in unity around a position description and a person to fill the position. Alison Duncan accepted the three-quarter time Youth Secretary role just at the end of 2008. Alison was already familiar with the YF community through the camping program and over a year of FAP experience, allowing her a quick transition into the Youth Secretary position. Youth Programs has now developed a strong hiring process we can use the next time we must hire for the position.

As a part of its ongoing efforts to reach out to the larger BYM community, YPC organized “Youth Programs on the Road” (YPR) in 2008. Although initially in response to a letter of concern from Herndon Meeting, YPR represents broader aims of YPC to be in open communication with all of BYM. The clerks of the Committee along with five Young Friends went to Herndon Meeting in September 2008 to share information about the YF program. We listened to the concerns of some from Herndon Meeting, and Herndon Meeting heard from YPC members and Young Friends about why the Young Friends program is structured the way it is. Then in January 2009, YPC clerks and seven YFs took part in a mediated discussion with Annapolis Meeting. Young Friends and YPC members continue to be available to meet with any Monthly Meeting within BYM.

We continue to train Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) through our FAP training program. 15 people were trained at the 2008 Annual Session and a February FAP training at Stony Run Monthly Meeting. Going forward, the FAP Subcommittee will arrange more trainings at times and places beyond Annual Sessions. The FAP Subcommittee continues to develop training for “designated FAPs” or “DFAPs,” those members of the Committee who are legally responsible for a given JYF or YF conference.

The JYF program continued to struggle in 2008 with parent volunteers devoting all their energy to getting conferences together. They did organize the three JYF conferences. Attendance at conferences exceeded that of 2007, with 13 JYFs at the Feb 2008 conference, nine at the May 2008 Conference, 17 at the November 2008 Conference and 21 in March 2009. JYF conferences are built around yearly themes, recurring every three years. Throughout the three yearly conferences they move from examining the theme in terms of the individual, the community and then the world. The 2007-8 theme was peace, the 2008-9 theme is stewardship.

The Young Friends organized six conferences in 2008 and the first three months of 2009 (with an average attendance of 61), three Exec conferences (average attendance 16), and the Young Friends program at Annual Session. The Young Friends coordinated several compelling workshops including performer and gay rights activists Peterson Toscano, Quaker singer/songwriter Jon Watts, a drumming workshop and a yoga workshop. The YFs organized a work conference at Catoctin Quaker Camp. Also in 2008, Young Friends completed revising the document that describes the procedures and guidelines of their community, the

Young Friends Handbook.

The influence of the Young Friends' program affects YFs' college choices. In September 2008, two YFs enrolled in the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program (QLSP) at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. Another ten YF graduates are planning to attend Guilford in September 2009; five of these have been accepted into QLSP.

YPC continues to work with the Ad Hoc Youth Safety Policy Committee, managing the difficult process of crafting one Youth Safety Policy that covers everyone from 0-18, while keeping in mind the specific needs of all the programs. From January 2008 through March 2009, YPC met seven times. The Committee's four standing subcommittees also had several separate meetings.

In 2008, we gratefully took on five new members to the Committee. But we still need more people to help us to discern and carry out our work. Please join us.

Erik Hanson (Takoma Park) and Anne Bacon (Hopewell Centre), Co-clerks

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY CONCERNs

The BYM Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity Concerns continues to hold as its charge the work to gather and distribute information on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender concerns arising with Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The Committee also undertakes, to the best of its ability, to assist with advocacy activities that help to end oppression that is imposed on people because of real or perceived gender or sexual orientation concerns. Our existence as a special function of BYM goes back to a minute adopted by the Yearly Meeting in 1973.

As an "ad-hoc" committee, we do not have a set committee membership. Our members are those who have an interest or leading in this area and come from all over our Yearly Meeting, representing a wide variety of interests, genders and sexual expressions. We appreciate greatly the diversity of those who choose to work on these concerns and feel our Committee is strengthened by the wide variety of BYM Friends who participate in our activities. Attendance at our committee meetings has ranged from approximately seven to 12 people each time.

We held two committee meetings during this reporting period, in addition to our meeting during Annual Session in August, 2008. We met at Fall Interim Meeting, in October, 2008 in Charlottesville, VA and at Spring Interim Meeting, in March 2009 in Sandy Spring, Maryland. We will also meet during Annual

Session in August, 2009.

Our primary focus during this reporting period has been the publication and distribution of the first in our proposed series of educational guides which our committee intends to produce: "7 Ways to Make Your Quaker Meeting be More Trans Friendly." We have sought to distribute copies of this brochure to all Quaker communities within Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and have distributed some to other religious and community groups across the country. We intend to continue distributing these over the next year or so, and to begin on the second publication in this series, an educational piece on the specifically Quaker points of view on marriage/same sex commitment, and what this means in the current changing political and social climate in our country. In the next few years, we hope to produce additional educational publications such as these brochures on other gender and sexual diversity subjects.

Another focus of our Committee has been to encourage (by offering support and co-sponsorship) people from within our Yearly Meeting to present workshops or special interest groups on various gender and sexual diversity subjects during our BYM Annual Session. We are very proud of the quality of these workshops, and feel they offer excellent opportunities for learning and discussion among Friends in BYM.

Our Committee reminds Friends of our long-standing offer to provide knowledgeable speakers to respond to requests for presentations at Monthly Meetings or other Friends gatherings within BYM. Please contact the Committee cCerks to arrange this.

Dennis Hartzell (Friends Meeting of Washington), Co-clerk

AD HOC INTERVISITATION COMMITTEE

The goal of BYM's Intervisitation Program is to encourage, prepare and support Friends to travel among Yearly Meetings with the faith that we can listen deeply, strengthen our relationships and build our faith community.

We have joyfully completed nearly five years of Intervisitation and are requesting an extension of our Program for another three years. While our program began because of Baltimore Yearly Meeting's concern for Friends United Meeting's policies on sexual diversity and sexual conduct in community, the understanding of our mission has grown. We have become more aware of the fragility of the relations among all Yearly Meetings and Monthly Meetings within the Religious

Society of Friends.

During these past four years, our mission has matured as we have been exposed to other Yearly Meetings and other individual Friends. Our original concerns still exist but in some areas our concerns have broadened. Being exposed to others has brought a clearer understanding of the variety existing within the Religious Society of Friends and has shown us that in other parts of the Quaker world, our vocabularies, our practices for both business and worship and our views of Quaker history are different.

We have appreciated the opportunity of bearing witness in an openhearted approach to the Spirit moving among us. Our travels have given others the opportunity to speak with, and be with, unprogrammed Friends. It has become clear to us that intervisitation is a shared opportunity for us as visitors and for those we visit.

We continue to seek new, energetic companions for both our travels and our committee work. Join us! We will train you and accompany you on a most worthwhile journey.

2009 Visitors [eight visitors to seven Yearly Meetings]:

Maria Bradley: Great Plains and Southeastern Yearly Meetings

Walter Brown: New York Yearly Meeting

Linda Coates: New England Yearly Meeting

Erik Hanson: North Carolina Yearly Meeting

Jean James: Canadian Yearly Meeting, Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Joan Liversidge: Iowa Yearly Meeting (FUM), Convergent & Emergent Friends

Ken Stockbridge: New England YM, North Carolina Yearly Meeting
(FUM)

2009 Visitors to Baltimore (as of June 21, 2009):

John Damon, Great Plains Yearly Meeting

William Damon

Gladys Zarembka, traveling from Kenya

Representatives to the FUM General Board:

Mary Lord: FUM Board; Executive Committee

J. E. McNeil, FUM Board; Finance Committee, Clerk

John Smallwood: FUM Board
[Rich Liversidge, Trustee]

Current members of the Ad Hoc Committee: Maria Bradley (Sandy Spring), Georgia Fuller (Langley Hill), Howard Fullerton, ex officio, (Sandy Spring); Erik Hanson (Takoma Park), Jean James (Richmond), Susan Kaul (Bethesda), Joan Liversidge (Sandy Spring), Meg Meyer (Baltimore Stony Run), Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco), Gail Thomas (Bethesda)

Jean James (Richmond) and Susan Kaul (Bethesda), Co-clerk

WORKING GROUP ON RACISM

The BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) pursued its mission this year with particular emphasis on one point from the WGR's six-point Mission Statement: "Raise the awareness of BYM Friends regarding the realities of racial and ethnic discrimination and oppression in America, including institutional and cultural racism and the ways these phenomena affect all of us."

The 11 active members of the WGR have offered to visit Monthly Meetings and Friends' schools to consult and to participate in their efforts to enhance work on issues of race and racism. Individual members were invited to visit Valley and Patapsco Friends Meetings, and the Board of Sandy Spring Friends School. At two locations, we facilitated the screening and discussion of the DVD "Mirrors of Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible," and at the third we led a more general discussion. In addition, we have lent out books and DVDs from our growing pool of resources.

At the 2008 Annual Session two workshops by the WGR drew a large number of participants: one "White in a Multicultural Society," included the screening and discussion of the DVD above. The other, "Walking Our Talk: Diversity in Our Meetings and Becoming More Aware of Our Cultural Blinders," gave participants the opportunity to experience the emotional, spiritual and intellectual depth that can come up when discussing race. It drew on existing ideas and generated new ideas about organizing sessions on race and racism at monthly meetings. In addition, the WGR designated one table at lunch each day for interested Friends to come by and discuss issues of race. The response to this table was modest in volume, but those who participated were very appreciative of this initiative.

We have collaborated on two occasions with William Penn House. We had co-sponsored a weekend-long workshop (February 29-March 2, 2008), "White

Friends Confronting Racism: Doing Our Work," led by Lisa Graustein of New England Yearly Meeting. On February 8, 2009, we facilitated a viewing and discussion of "Mirrors of Privilege" to a large group at WPH's monthly potluck event.

We eagerly awaited the February 5, 2009, publication of the FGC book "Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship – Quakers, African-Americans and the Myth of Racial Justice," by Vanessa Julye and Donna McDaniel. We are now scheduling events related to this book, with the authors and also with Friends who have received training from FGC to facilitate planning and discussions. We encourage all Meetings within BYM to obtain at least one copy of the book.

We initiated a long-range planning process in November 2008 to set future goals and activities. The plans include an effort, spearheaded by David Etheridge of Friends Meeting of Washington, to "prepare a history of the response of Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends to slavery when it existed with legal sanction in the United States." The results would be presented at the 2010 Annual Sessions. David is offering a workshop at the 2009 session, "BYM Slavery History Potluck," to elicit stories and other material. The other workshop in 2009 will be a repeat of "White in a Multicultural Society." We look forward to the presence at BYM this summer of David Zarembka of the Africa Great Lakes Initiative. We also look forward to continued collaboration with and support from the Committee on Ministry and Pastoral Care.

Active members: Kathy Angell (Baltimore, Homewood), Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch (Valley), Jane Meleney Coe (Bethesda), Elizabeth DuVerlie (Baltimore, Stony Run), David Etheridge (Friends Meeting of Washington), Brian Gamble (Baltimore, Stony Run), Carol Phelps (Friends Meeting of Washington), Janet Phoenix (Friends Meeting of Washington), Pat Schenck (Annapolis), Maryhelen Snyder (Langley Hill), Gail Thomas, (Bethesda)

Corresponding members: Jeanne Houghton (Langley Hill), Elizabeth Smith (Richmond), Sharon Smith

Elizabeth DuVerlie (Baltimore, Stony Run), Clerk

TORREON/STARLAKE WORKING GROUP

The Working Group did not meet as a group in 2008 but there were several activities involving BYM members with Navajo from the Torreon/Starlake community.

Attendance of youngsters from the Chapter at BYM's camp Opequon was continued in 2008 at the middle two-week session, and the campers had a very good time. The chaperon in recent years, Joline Cayaditto, took a hiatus in 2008 for a family trip. She was replaced by Marlene Waukazoo, a former Chapter official who has visited Annual Sessions and two of whose children had been to camp previously; a younger son was a camper in 2008. As previously, the campers stayed with a Friend in Washington for a while before going to camp and did some local sightseeing. Following camp, there was also opportunity in 2008 for the campers and their chaperons to visit Friends Meeting of Washington (FMW). While there, they participated in a wonderful First Day School session on "alternative cultures" that ended in FMW youngsters learning how to say hello in Navajo before drawing pictures of the traditional Navajo residence, the hogan, that had been described to them.

As a result not only of hearing about the camp but also of being there, Marlene Waukazoo raised the question whether a Torreon youngster or two could have a longer camping time than the two years that is now Chapter/BYM, policy and could go through BYM camp counselor training. (The two-year policy had been established by the Chapter and BYM in order to spread the opportunity to go to Opequon more broadly among youngsters at Torreon while respecting the limit of no more than four at a time, which was desired by the Camping Program Committee, in view of the usually heavy application for camp slots.) This focus on being able to send back to the Torreon community more than the "salt" of a very gradually growing number of youngsters who had been to a Quaker camp led to an active discussion among the Indian Affairs Committee and among BYM Quakers who have been most actively involved with Torreon, that continued into the current year. A variety of alternatives were being considered at year-end, including sending the Director of Opequon and/or Opequon counselors out to Torreon or adapting a special BYM counselor training program for Torreon campers with youth leadership potential.

Friends also continued to be supportive of the Torreon Community Store. 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. The Business Skills training course is now recognized for college

credit by Navajo Technical College. A financial contribution was made again by the Indian Affairs Committee to the store for its activities in support of economic development at the Chapter.

Susan Lepper (Friends Meeting of Washington), Clerk

MONTHLY MEETING MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Meeting	2007			2008			Change (+/-)
	Full	Associate	Total	Full	Associate	Total	
Adelphi*	342		342	342		342	0
Alexandria**	130		130	132		132	2
Annapolis	63	18	81	66	19	85	4
Baltimore, Homewood**	118	25	143	119	27	146	3
Baltimore, Stony Run	450		450	441		441	-9
Bethesda	218	149	367	217	152	369	2
Blacksburg*	16		16	16		16	0
Carlisle*	43		43	43		43	0
Charlottesville	135		135	138		138	3
Deer Creek	55	15	70	54	15	69	-1
Dunnsings Creek	43	9	52	44	9	53	1
Fishertown*	10		10	5		5	-5
Floyd*	13	9	22	13	9	22	0
Frederick**	57	17	74	59	19	78	4
Gettysburg**	8		8	6		6	-2
Goose Creek	177	14	191	180	14	194	3
Gunpowder	102		102	99		99	-3
Heddon	52	30	82	63	26	89	7
Hopewell Centre*	78	22	100	74	22	96	-4
Langley Hill**	205	50	255	202	46	248	-7
Little Britton*	77		77	79	1	80	3
Little Falls**	39	14	53	39	15	54	1
Mary River*	35	7	42	35	7	42	0
Menallen*	44		44	44		44	0
Middlethian*	68		68	68		68	0
Nottingham**	116		116	115		115	-1
Patapsco**	22	10	32	22	10	32	1
Pattimont*	24		24	24		24	0
Pipe Creek**	17	2	19	18	13	31	12
Quaker Lake	8	1	9	8	1	9	0
Richmond	146	61	207	146	62	208	1
Rosemont	28	1	29	26	1	27	-2
Sandy Spring*	476	75	551	476	75	551	0
State College*	85	30	115	85	30	115	0
Valley*	28	9	37	27	9	36	-1
Warrington*	25		25	25		25	0
Washington**	438		438	360	77	437	-1
Williamsburg**	18	14	32	13	8	21	-11
West Branch*	112		112	112		112	0
York	33		33	35		35	2
Totals	4154	582	4734	4670	667	4737	3

* No report this year

** Revised last year's report

YEARLY MEETING BUDGET NOTES

The format for the budget has changed significantly. The summarized budget given here was approved at Annual Sessions in August 2009. The reasons for this change are many, but primarily they are:

This format is simpler and easier to read.

It is generated from our accounting software which will provide consistency in our year- to- year comparisons and help reduce budgeting errors.

It will encourage all of us to begin looking at the Yearly Meeting as a whole entity rather than a collection of independent programs.

It saves space and paper.

The new format presents the overall revenues of the Yearly Meeting, broken down into seven areas that are our revenue sources. Then the overall expenses are presented, broken down into eight areas. Each of these areas offer some detail as to the nature of the income or expenses and the detail is consistent from one area to the next. Because of these changes, some of the 2008 actuals may seem out of balance with the 2009 and 2010 budgets. This is due to the necessary reshuffling of the income and expenses to fit the summary categories.

If Friends would like a detailed budget, they can obtain one in either electronic or paper format from the Yearly Meeting office.

The Apportionment Schedule, Funds Activity and Investment Portfolio formats have not changed.

Detail Explanatory Notes:

In Administrative Expenses, Program Expense includes donations to other organizations and extended services. The detail of these amounts is as follows:

American Friends Service Committee	\$100
Center on Conscience and War	\$100
Earlham School of Religion	\$100
Friends Committee on National Legislation	\$100
Friends Council on Education	\$100
Friends House (Sandy Spring)	\$100

Friends House, Moscow	\$100
Friends Journal	\$100
Friends Peace Teams	\$100
Interfaith Conference of Washington	\$200
National Council of Churches	\$100
National Religious Coalition against Torture	\$250
Pendle Hill	\$100
Prisoner Visitation and Support	\$100
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$100
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$100
Sandy Spring Friends School	\$100
Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$ 50
Washington Quaker Workcamps	\$100
William Penn House	\$100
World Council of Churches	\$100
Friends General Conference	\$33,000
Friends World Committee for Consultation	\$13,500
Undesignated (set aside for Friends United Meeting)	\$7,000

Other Yearly Meeting Programs include: Spiritual Formation, Women's Retreat, Silent Retreat, and Young Adult Friends. The revenue for these programs is expected to equal the expenses and so they have no effect on the overall budget.

Friends approved at Annual Sessions to show zero net revenue over expenses and to instead move any overages to reserves. In Administrative Expenses, the 2010 budget anticipates \$16,473 to move to reserves. This includes \$10,000 for the Office Property Reserves and \$6,473 to unrestricted reserves.

YEARLY MEETING FINANCIAL REPORTS

2010 APPORTIONMENTS

Monthly Meeting	2008	2009	2010
Adelphi	21,000	21,000	20,560
Alexandria	12,600	12,600	8,400
Annapolis	12,300	11,900	10,310
Baltimore Homewood	22,000	23,000	20,700
Baltimore Stony Run	66,800	67,000	53,000
Bethesda	26,000	26,000	24,935
Blacksburg	2,100	2,100	1,580
Carlisle	3,500	3,500	3,460
Charlottesville	7,900	7,900	7,900
Deer Creek	3,200	3,200	4,000
Dunnings Creek	3,000	3,000	2,870
Floyd	900	1,000	1,000
Frederick	7,300	7,000	6,700
Gettysburg	600	600	300
Goose Creek	17,500	17,500	13,130
Gunpowder	8,000	8,000	8,000
Herndon	6,600	7,000	7,000
Hopewell Centre	4,500	4,500	4,500
Langley Hill	16,500	16,500	16,410
Little Britain	2,600	2,300	2,300
Little Falls	5,700	5,700	4,970
Maury River	3,900	4,000	4,000
Menallen	2,300	2,400	1,800
Midlothian	3,300	3,400	3,970
Nottingham	3,900	3,900	2,930
Patapsco	3,200	3,700	3,700
Patuxent	3,400	3,200	3,690
Pipe Creek	300	300	370
Quaker Lake	400	200	150
Richmond	14,000	15,000	15,300
Roanoke	2,600	3,100	3,100
Sandy Spring	45,800	46,200	57,750
State College	8,450	9,500	11,870
Valley	3,450	3,500	3,500
Warrington	2,200	2,200	1,850
Washington	60,000	59,000	56,270
West Branch	2,200	2,200	1,650
Williamsburg	2,500	2,000	1,800
York	2,400	2,400	2,400
Total	414,900	417,500	398,125

2010 BUDGET

Budget Program Detail			
Description	2008 Actuals	2009 Budget	2010 Budget
Revenue			
Apportionment	407,619		398,125
Contributions	94,604		183,000
Released Restricted Funds	5,300	0	0
Other Income	107,785	14,960	13,640
Administrative Income	\$615,309		\$594,765
Program Attendance	641,198		704,000
Contributions	11,643	19,000	11,200
Released Restricted Funds	0	24,000	0
Other Income	14,509	6,500	12,700
Camp Program Income	\$667,350		\$727,900
Vehicle & Property Rental	151,823		217,025
Contributions	11,285	12,000	12,000
Released Restricted Funds	33,404	0	0
Other Income	442	700	700
Camp Property Income	\$196,954		\$229,725
Attendance & Bookstore Sales	97,541		118,470
Contributions	4,550	0	3,000
Released Restricted Funds	500	525	525
Annual Sessions Income	\$102,591		\$121,995
Program Attendance	15,289	10,580	14,670
Contributions	275	10,500	0
Released Restricted Funds	0	1,000	0
Other Income	0	0	0

Youth Programs Income	\$15,564		\$14,670
Program Attendance & Book Sales	29,072	28,500	31,839
Contributions	380	0	0
Released Restricted Funds	0	0	0
Other YM Program Income	\$29,452		\$31,839
Contributions	0	0	0
Released Restricted Funds	1,500	0	0
Committee Income	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
Total Revenues	\$1,628,720		\$1,720,894

Description	2008 Actuals	2009 Budget	2010 Budget
Expenses			
Staff Expense	205,369		313,221
Consultants	270,317	10,000	5,000
Outside Services	6,222	9,000	5,800
Business Expense	67,911	61,900	66,600
Buildings & Grounds	12,583	17,125	15,800
Vehicles	272	275	300
Program Expense	59,495	72,100	63,100
Misc. & Depreciation Expense	7,200	1,950	1,401
Move to Reserves	0	10,000	16,473
Administrative Expenses	\$629,369		\$487,695
Staff Expense	301,342		319,349
Consultants	2,143	2,400	0
Outside Services	1,205	13,450	12,550
Business Expense	41,338	44,795	48,350
Buildings & Grounds	92,489		126,814
Vehicles	16,845	11,600	18,000
Program Expense	167,053		201,000
Miscellaneous Expense	0	1,950	0
Camp Program Expenses	\$622,415		\$726,063
Staff Expense	119,667		143,298
Consultants	535	0	0
Outside Services	85	0	0
Business Expense	33,103	32,650	17,500
Buildings & Grounds	46,502	48,250	52,250
Vehicles	37,929	20,000	47,500
Program Expense	673	0	0
Misc. & Depreciation Expense	70,481	23,680	20,500
Camp Properties Expenses	\$308,975		\$281,048

Staff Expense	11,000	11,660	10,790
Consultants	750	790	775
Outside Services	771	1,050	850
Business Expense	5,608	7,135	6,800
Buildings & Grounds	4,176	0	0
Program Expense	69,035	79,170	81,800
Miscellaneous Expense	0	37,485	20,840
Annual Sessions Expenses	\$91,340		\$121,855
Staff Expense	2,567	43,995	44,624
Consultants	600	800	1,000
Outside Services	18	0	0
Business Expense	0	950	870
Buildings & Grounds	375	1,160	660
Vehicles	0	0	0
Program Expense	5,078	9,935	11,060
Miscellaneous Expense	8	10,820	0
Youth Program Expenses	\$8,646		\$58,214
Other YM Program Expenses	\$26,839		\$31,839

Advancement & Outreach	0	180	0
Ministry & Pastoral Care	0	540	540
Peace & Social Concerns	12	270	270
Religious Education	1,101	3,600	1,500
Young Adult Friends	0	50	50
Unity with Nature	720	720	720
Criminal & Restorative Justice	0	270	0
Educational Funding	0	150	0
Gender & Sexual Diversity	33	180	300
Trustees	0	90	0
Web Publishing	0	288	0
Friends in Education	0	180	0
Indian Affairs	1,500	540	0
Working Group on Racism	270	300	300
Intervisitation	6,299	12,000	10,000
Right Sharing of World Resources	0	90	0
Faith & Practice	302	500	500
Committee Expenses	\$10,237		\$14,180
Total Expenses	\$1,697,821		\$1,720,894
Net Revenue over Expense	(\$69,101)	\$7,567	\$0

Regarding the difference between the 2008 Statement of Activities and the 2008 actuals: In the Accountants' Review on page 4, the change in Net Assets total is (\$ 134,622). However, in the BYM budget report the net revenue over expenses for 2008 is (\$ 69,101). The difference is \$ 65,521 which represents the net releases from restricted funds. The reason for this difference is that BYM treats the releases as current year income, whereas the auditors have recognized the income in prior years.

FUNDS ACTIVITY

	Balance 1/1/2008	Gifts or Fees	Disbursed	Transfers from Ed Loans	Interest on Invest- ments	Return	Balance
Permanently Restricted Funds [Note A]							
Bush Creek Endowment	586					586	
Education Fund Endowment	84,862	650				85,512	
Yearly Meeting Endowment	7,877					7,877	
Barry Morley Camper Endowment	239,179	6,645				245,824	
Total of Endowed Funds	332,504	7,295	0	0	0	339,799	
Temporarily Restricted Funds [Note B]							
Representative Travel	0	200				200	
Bush Creek Income	3,757					3,757	
Education Fund Income	156,322				(25,018)	131,304	
Barry Morley Scholarship Income	55,041				(74,641)	(19,600)	
Sue Thomas Turner Quaker Education	157,227		(2,750)		(46,904)	107,573	
Pre-College Fund	25,222				153	25,375	
Indian Fund Income	19,709		(1,500)		(5,529)	12,680	
Carey Memorial	6,258		(500)		(1,748)	4,010	
Reynolds Funds (combined)	43,400					43,400	
Camp Program Funds (combined)	11,655					11,655	

Camp Capital Reserves (combined)	93,457	9,369				102,826
Totals Temporarily Restricted Funds	572,048	9,569	(4,750)	0	(153,687)	423,180
BYM Designated Funds [Note C]						
<hr/>						
Camp Capital Projects - Easement	95,950		(5,030)		90,920	
Camp Alumni Fund	1,347				1,347	
Vehicle Reserves	31,932		(31,932)		0	
Fairhill Fund	197,327			1,193	198,520	
FUM Undesignated	36,100				36,100	
FUM Intervisitation Fund	560				560	
Friends in Education	2,387					2,387
Meeting House Loan Fund	57,353					57,353
Women's Retreat	8,171	648			8,19	
Spiritual Formation	7,719	1,965			9,684	
Servant Leadership	1,300				1,300	
Sabbatical Reserves	3,000				3,000	
Office Property Reserves	2,135		(2,400)	10,000		9,735
Total of Designated Funds	445,281	2,613	(39,362)	10,000	0	1,193
						419,725
Custodial Funds [Note D]						
Mathews Fund	2,605					2,605
Chesapeake QTR Fund	1,308	150				1,458
Total of Custodial Funds	3,913	150			0	4,063
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	1,353,746	19,627	(44,112)	10,000	0	(152,494)
						1,186,767

Note A: Permanently Restricted Funds are endowment funds. The income is spent as the donor specifies. It is often Temporarily Restricted.							
Note B: Temporarily Restricted Funds are restricted by the donor for specific purposes.							
Note C: BYM Designated Funds are funds designated by Annual Session or Interim Meeting							
Note D: Custodial Funds are held in trust for another friendly organization and are not available to the Yearly Meeting.							
The Custodial Funds were counted as Temporarily Restricted in the auditor's 2008 Review.							

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO AS OF 12/31/2008

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	5.45%	42,879	40,035
Calvert Social Investment Fund	Flexible	-28.69%	76,610	55,287
Pax World Fund	Bal. Fund	-30.27%	208,436	169,689
Vanguard	GNMA Fund	6.99%	77,028	79,122
TIAA-CREF	Mutal Fund	-36.24%	27,285	25,776
Friends Fiduciary	Mutal Fund	-23.06%	92,145	156,007
Total Mutual Funds Investments			\$524,383	\$525,916
Stocks & Bonds				
Sandy Spring Bancorp	30Shares		Gift	655
Total Stocks & Bonds				\$655
Grand Totals				\$544,383 \$546,571

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

STRACK | STANFIELD, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

15825 SHADY GROVE ROAD, SUITE 40
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ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE
RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC. as of December 31, 2008, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with Statements of Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of the BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.

A review consists principally of inquiries of Company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying 2008 financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The 2007 financial statements were audited by us, and we expressed an unqualified opinion on them in our report dated June 28, 2008, but we have not performed any auditing procedures since that date.



Rockville, Maryland
May 12, 2009

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, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 (SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)

ASSETS

	2008	2007
Cash	\$ 108,158	\$ 152,658
Accounts receivable	281,528	33,743
Inventory of publications, at cost	-	301
Prepaid expenses	17,630	6,900
Educational loans receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$35,000 in 2008 and 2007 (NOTE 3)	189,435	179,389
Notes receivable	1,187	1,741
Investments, at fair value (NOTE 4)	546,571	712,569
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation (NOTE 5)	<u>1,937,304</u>	<u>1,974,732</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 3,081,813</u>	<u>\$ 3,062,032</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 168,899	\$ 42,942
Deferred revenue	61,505	32,560
Note payable (NOTE 6)	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>254,904</u>	<u>100,502</u>
NET ASSETS (NOTE 10)		
Designated for camp capital projects	90,920	95,950
Designated for other purposes	328,804	349,329
Invested in land, buildings, improvements and equipment	1,937,304	1,974,732
Other Unrestricted	<u>(297,159)</u>	<u>(366,946)</u>
Total unrestricted	<u>2,059,869</u>	<u>2,053,065</u>
Temporarily restricted (NOTE 7)	427,242	575,963
Permanently restricted (NOTE 7)	<u>339,798</u>	<u>332,503</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>2,826,909</u>	<u>2,961,531</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 3,081,813</u>	<u>\$ 3,062,032</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, 2008 (REVIEVED)
 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 (SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)

	2008			2007		
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY PERMANENTLY		TOTAL	TOTAL
REVENUES, SUPPORT, GAINS, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS				\$ 407,619	\$ -	\$ 407,619
Apportionments	\$ 87,898	-	-		87,898	\$ 84,684
Annual session revenue	50,310	-	-		50,310	34,714
Other program revenues	80,905	9,719	7,295		97,919	156,657
Contributions	(1,198)	(153,690)	-		(154,888)	42,288
Investment (loss) income (NOTE 4)	21,944	-	-		21,944	16,793
Use of facilities	11,855	-	-		11,855	14,235
Publication sales	649,153	-	-		649,153	643,205
Summer camps	261,389	-	-		261,389	1,315
Other revenue						
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	1,569,875	(143,971)	7,295		1,433,199	1,376,460
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS	4,750	(4,750)	-		-	-
TOTAL REVENUE, SUPPORT AND RECLASSIFICATIONS	1,574,625	(148,721)	7,295		1,433,199	1,376,460

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 (REVIEWED)
 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 (SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)

	2008			2007		
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY PERMANENTLY	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
EXPENSES						
Program expenses:						
Yearly meeting and other programs	\$ 466,310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 466,310	\$ 290,171	
Summer camps	801,390	-	-	801,390	757,339	
General administration	195,699	-	-	195,699	154,902	
Fundraising	<u>104,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,422</u>	<u>11,901</u>	
	<u>1,567,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,567,821</u>	<u>1,214,313</u>	
Total Expenses						
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS						
NET ASSETS BEGINNING OF YEAR	6,804	(148,721)	7,295	(134,622)	162,147	
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	<u>2,053,065</u>	<u>575,963</u>	<u>332,503</u>	<u>2,961,531</u>	<u>2,799,384</u>	
	<u>\$ 2,059,869</u>	<u>\$ 427,242</u>	<u>\$ 339,798</u>	<u>\$ 2,826,909</u>	<u>\$ 2,961,531</u>	

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED
 DECEMBER 31, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)
 (SEE ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT)

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ (134,622)	\$ 162,147
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation	75,541	70,502
Losses (gains) on investments	183,076	(10,043)
Contributions restricted for long-term investments	(7,295)	(37,795)
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(247,785)	3,896
Decrease in inventory of publications	301	
(Increase) in prepaid expenses	(10,730)	(6,500)
(Increase) in educational loans receivable	(10,046)	(35,778)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable & accrued expenses	125,457	(18,920)
Increase in deferred revenue	<u>28,945</u>	<u>12,035</u>
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	<u>2,842</u>	<u>139,535</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(17,078)	(2,015)
Principal payments received on notes receivable-other	554	390
Purchase of land improvements, building improvements, and equipment	<u>(38,113)</u>	<u>(98,280)</u>
Net Cash (Used For) Investing Activities	<u>(54,637)</u>	<u>(99,905)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Contributions restricted for education endowment	7,295	3,935
Contributions restricted for capital improvements	<u>-</u>	<u>33,860</u>
Net Cash Provided By Financing Activities	<u>7,295</u>	<u>37,795</u>
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH	(44,500)	77,425
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Beginning of year	<u>152,658</u>	<u>75,233</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 108,158</u>	<u>\$ 152,658</u>

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)

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, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)

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% 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 2008 and 2007 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 \$1,000 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, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)

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, 2007, 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:

2009	\$ 46,196
2010 through 2013	<u>178,239</u>
	224,435
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(35,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 189,435</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:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 370,564	\$ 489,809
Money market funds	<u>176,007</u>	<u>222,760</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 546,571</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 712,569</u></u>

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
 DECEMBER 31, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)

4. INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Investment income for the year ended December 31 is as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Interest & dividends	\$ 28,188	\$ 32,245
Unrealized (losses) gains	<u>(183,076)</u>	<u>10,043</u>
Total investment (loss) income	<u>\$ (154,888)</u>	<u>\$ 42,288</u>

5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Land, buildings, improvements and equipment consists of the following:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Land and improvements	\$ 1,421,559	\$ 1,421,559
Buildings and improvements	791,804	791,804
Leasehold improvements	99,141	99,141
Furniture and equipment	165,959	163,559
Vehicles	<u>110,615</u>	<u>74,902</u>
	<u>2,589,078</u>	<u>2,550,965</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(651,774)</u>	<u>(576,233)</u>
	<u>\$ 1,937,304</u>	<u>\$ 1,974,732</u>

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 was \$75,541 and \$70,502, respectively.

6. NOTE PAYABLE

The Yearly Meeting has one unsecured note payable to the Homewood Meeting in the amount of \$25,000. Interest at 4% 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, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED)

7. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets are restricted for the following purposes:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Educational student loans	\$ 137,079	\$ 181,545
Grants	43,400	43,400
Quaker and spiritual life	107,572	157,227
Camp projects	114,481	105,112
Indian Affairs	12,680	19,709
Other operating purposes	<u>12,030</u>	<u>68,970</u>
	<u>\$ 427,242</u>	<u>\$ 575,963</u>

Permanently restricted net assets consist of the following:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Bush Creek Meeting Fund	\$ 586	\$ 586
Yearly Meeting Fund	7,877	7,877
Permanent Education Fund	85,512	84,862
Camp Scholarship Fund	<u>245,823</u>	<u>239,178</u>
	<u>\$ 339,798</u>	<u>\$ 332,503</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. Losses or 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 \$(154,888) and \$39,944 for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

There is ongoing historical research regarding the nature of the restrictions on each of the fund balances held by the yearly meeting to determine the appropriate net asset classification of each fund.

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, INC.
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2008 (REVIEWED) AND DECEMBER 31, 2007 (AUDITED))

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.

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.

STAFF REPORTS

Camp Program and Property staff reports can be found in the Interim Meeting minutes from October 2008. These staff reports for 2009 will be made at the Fall 2009 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.

For more than 90 years, day in and day out, AFSC has cooperated with Friends around the world to work against violence, destruction, and discrimination.

Throughout the past year, Friends everywhere have been pointing to a path that will foster real security for all people. Together, we have nourished hope for a better world. The challenges are many, and we are called to do much. We want to take this time to recognize our joint accomplishments in the past year.

Though we write this greeting in troubled times, we believe hope abounds:

We continue to work to end the war and build the peace in Iraq through nation-wide vigils, advocacy, lending a hand to Iraqi refugees, and prayers. With the touring Eyes Wide Open and Cost of War exhibits, which rely on a partnership between AFSC local staff and dozens of Friends' volunteers, we have brought attention to the heavy human and financial cost of the war.

With the help of 10,000 signatories and a few dozen partner organizations, we delivered the Roadmap for Peace, our principles to guide a new foreign policy, to the Obama transition team in January and engaged in a productive conversation about resetting the U. S. approach to foreign affairs. For the first time in many years, we have access to the president and the opportunity for ongoing dialogue.

To create a fair and humane response to the economic crisis, we made thousands of phone calls to Congress to put families first and pass an economic stimulus package that follows the Quaker values of simplicity, equality, and the belief in the worth of every individual. Our advocacy, hand-in-hand with other faith, labor, women's, and many other groups produced so many calls that we overloaded the Congressional switchboard.

Our staff has worked to help families stay afloat and communities to build a fair, prosperous, and sustainable economy in the U.S. and around the world. We stand

together to stop the economic exploitation of the weak. A few examples:

In Cleveland and in Akron, Ohio, AFSC staff continues to lead public campaigns to ask the sheriff to stop home foreclosures.

In Koh Kong Province of Cambodia, our staff members work with local communities to support fisheries and help people secure their livelihoods.

In Postville, Iowa, and around the U. S., AFSC partners with immigrant communities to protect the rights of all workers and to keep families together in the face of home and workplace raids by immigration enforcement agents,

In Zimbabwe, AFSC helps people displaced by violence build new homes, restore their livelihoods, and speak up for their rights.

On the international stage, we've served as an example of using dialogue and discussion to resolve conflict and prevent violence. We engaged the Iranian people and their president in a dialogue with U. S. religious leaders, fostered dialogue between the U. S. Congress and Iraqi Parliamentarians, and engaged in people-to-people diplomacy with China to help shape a new bilateral peace movement. Our digital storytelling project in Baltimore brought together a far-flung Somali Bantu refugee diaspora (see the stories at www.afsc.org/SomaliBantu). A community theater project in Pittsburgh opened the way for Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Israelis to discuss their differences and commonalities. We find time and again that after engaging in dialogue, people can resolve their differences and find it harder to see each other merely as enemies.

AFSC, with Friends' involvement and support, has hosted life-transforming opportunities for youth, including popular summer work programs in China and Mexico. In communities across the country, our staff has counseled young people on the truth about military recruitment. In support of this effort, our recent *It's My Life!* guide to alternatives to military service, based on the work of North Carolina Friends, has been distributed to hundreds of schools, libraries, and guidance counselors nationwide. Each young person who finds an alternative career to the military is a life possibly saved.

Also this year, the Service Committee and Friends reached out to those struck by natural and human-made calamities. For refugees in war-torn areas as disparate as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq, AFSC staff distributed needed

humanitarian supplies and worked to heal the wounds of war. In Gaza, AFSC staff and partners helped supply a hospital to help civilians caught in a conflict zone. And in Burma/Myanmar, AFSC staff and community partners helped feed and educate impoverished children after spring 2008's cyclone and flooding.

Yes, these are troubled times. Our world is suffering from a global recession, seven major wars, and many other violent conflicts. Millions of families around the world are mourning the loss of their loved ones, struggling to put food on the table, and many have been driven from their homes by violence or loss of income.

Those troubles make our work for peace, justice, and human dignity take on even greater importance.

We thank all Friends and our partners around the world for their ongoing support and perseverance. Our message and work – our hope – are needed now more than ever. Together, we will continue to take vital steps toward the better world we all seek.

In peace,



Paul Lacey
Clerk

Mary Ellen McNish
General Secretary

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION

The Middle Atlantic Region of the American Friends Service Committee continues to operate several projects within the area encompassed by Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Since its inception in 1996, the D.C. Peace and Economic Justice Program has collaborated with a wide range of community organizations and institutions to strengthen the capacity of D.C. residents to achieve economic self sufficiency and to strengthen the conflict resolution and civic leadership skills of D.C. youth. In 2008, after listening to the community and recognizing a knowledge gap regarding human rights, the D.C. Human Rights Learning Project was created. At the urging of AFSC-DC, the City Council of the District of Columbia declared D.C. a Human Rights City in December 2008. Human Rights Learning is conducted in a number of public schools located in the most impoverished areas of the District of Columbia. In addition, Human Rights Education is taught by AFSC staff at Sidwell Friends School. This project also works in coalition with D.C. groups

on peace and economic justice issues. Local Friends Meetings are involved in supporting the program and as volunteers. Another part of the D.C. Peace and Economic Justice Program is the Youth in the Know Leadership/Media Project, which works to educate new immigrants, especially those from Africa, on civil rights and work rights.

Four projects operate out of the Baltimore office. 1) Baltimore Urban Peace Program has worked with coalitions to build a culture of peace in local communities and to educate community members on the human and economic costs of the Iraq war. Both these objectives have been pursued in local colleges and communities. A listening project was conducted in the McElderry Park neighborhood, which has led to the creation of a neighborhood garden, the opening of a neighborhood wellness center, and participation of volunteers in Safe Streets Shooting Response events. 2) Youth Empowerment through Conflict Resolution teaches conflict resolution by training volunteers in Help Increase the Peace (HIPP) techniques, working with community groups to engage in better communication and use them to make a positive difference in their communities, and building conflict resolution skills in local schools. A pilot project at Baltimore Civitas School has increased interest in other schools. 3) Project Voice works with immigrants and refugees, providing referrals for free legal consultation, helping to adjust their immigration status, providing education on the process of applying for green cards, immigrant workers' rights. In cooperation with other organizations, the project also assisted asylees and refugees to access federal benefits and worked to minimize the impact of immigration raids. 4) Maryland Peace with Justice Program works in three prisons in Maryland, providing training in conflict resolution, theater and program development. Through this work, prisoners have been trained to mentor younger prisoners who are more prone toward violence. Clear indicators of the impact on the participants include a decrease in infractions and disciplinary problems, use of non-violent means to deal with conflict and address anger, increased communication skills, and ability to transmit these skills to other prisoners through mentoring.

The AFSC Pennsylvania Program, Empowering Voices for Peace and Justice, although based in Pittsburgh, continues to work throughout the state of Pennsylvania especially with the Eyes Wide Open exhibit and education on the human costs of the Iraq war. The Military Listening Project, which involved trained volunteers interviewing 30 soldiers and their families still provides dramatic readings for education in the costs of war and the need for non-violent approaches to conflict. A new listening project Through Mothers' Eyes will involve parents

of U.S. soldiers and mothers of Iraqi immigrant families to talk about the ways the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have affected their children. Other emphases in the Pennsylvania program include work on education on ending torture, and alternatives to military service.

Since the Middle Atlantic Region extends beyond the reach of Baltimore Yearly Region, it is work mentioning that other projects are operating in West Virginia (the West Virginia Economic Justice Program and the Appalachian Center for Equality centered in Logan,) and in Upstate New York (Community Advocates for Family Empowerment, Youth Empowerment, and Akwesasne.) Sidwell Friends School students have for several years gone to Logan to participate in building projects. On July 25, there will be a dedication of the House that Love Built, which the Sidwell students helped build. BYM members are encouraged to attend the dedication of the home built for two elderly disabled sisters, a project that began in response to a brutal crime committed against a young African-American woman in Logan.

Plans to develop a project in Virginia have been affected by the financial crisis. AFSC, like most non-profits, has experienced a major loss of funds, both in decreased donations and in the decline in the value of bequests due to the recession. MAR, along with the entire organization, is engaged in a process of looking at what impact this financial crisis will have on programs and staff.

Jolee Robinson (Adelphi), BYM representative to MAR Executive Committee of AFSC

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

“Politics” cannot be relegated to some outer place, but must be recognized as one side of life, which is as much the concern of religious people and of a religious body as any other part of life.

Lucy Morland, in Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting
Just over sixty-five years ago Quakers set up the first registered religious lobby for peace in Washington. They saw a role for principled, nonpartisan lobbying on federal legislation. Then, as now, a war was raging, the economy was in turmoil, and future peace seemed uncertain. That didn’t discourage Friends who started FCNL. They saw themselves as living in a historic moment. Decisions the U.S. government made would and did affect millions of people around the world.

We want to celebrate these 65 years of faith, hope, action, influence, and change. From its beginnings with just two staff members and a one-room office, FCNL grew to become a leader in lobbying for peace and justice in Washington, DC. A few early Friends reached deep into their pockets to support FCNL when its future was uncertain and money was short. Over the decades, financial and practical support from tens of thousands of people of many faiths has sustained our work.

In 2008 our team of lobbyists, communications experts, and organizers worked with Friends and others around the country to identify and advocate key, practical steps that Congress could take toward bigger policy changes. Much remains to be done, but FCNL made remarkable progress in the midst of a highly partisan Congress. In Congress, legislating and governing often took a back seat to positioning for the November 2008 elections. These highlights are just a small sample of what your nonpartisan Quaker lobby in the public interest accomplished in 2008. Please visit our website <www.fcnl.org> to learn more.

Legislative Issues

No New Nuclear Weapons: FCNL led the coalition lobbying strategy that resulted in Congress eliminating all funding for the Bush 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.

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.

Iran Blockade Legislation Fizzles: In June, House leaders reportedly pledged to "fast track" legislation that urged the president to initiate an international blockade on Iran, prevent Iranian diplomats from traveling, and which was tantamount to an act of war. FCNL spent the next 4 months intensely lobbying against the bill, H. Con. Res. 362, and helped convince 5 representatives to remove their names from the legislation, a rare step. Despite gaining cosponsorship from more than

half the House, the leadership decided not to bring the bill to a House vote.

Congress Invests in Peace: Legislation passed to create a civilian response corps, to strengthen the ability of the United States to help peacefully resolve and prevent deadly conflicts around the world.

A concept promoted by FCNL's Peace Prevention of Deadly Conflict program, the corps could be sent to crisis-torn areas to help countries restore basic services to their citizens and support political and economic reconstruction.

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. 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. FCNL Legislative Action Messages generated over 12,000 letters to Congress on energy legislation in 2008.

Victory for Native American Health Care in the Senate: The Senate voted to dramatically improve health care for nearly 2 million Native Americans by passing the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (S. 1200). Congress has not reauthorized the act in 13 years, leaving healthcare services for Native Americans grossly outdated and inadequate. The House failed to act, but prospects for passage of this legislation in 2009 are strong.

The National Congress of American Indians, which represents nearly half of the Indian tribes in the country, gave its annual legislative award to FCNL for our role in persuading the Senate, for the first time in more than a decade, to pass this legislation. FCNL urges government to "Honor the Promises."

Making Peace an Election Year Issue: Much of the debate in the presidential election centered on military strategies to resolve conflicts: continued fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, bombing Iran, and expanding the "war on terrorism." To widen the debate we published and distributed over 100,000 Questions for Candidates brochures, designed to challenge candidates to answer specific questions about how they will work to eliminate deadly weapons, conserve energy, provide health care to children in our communities, and promote diplomacy to prevent wars. FCNL worked with volunteers in several states to set up candidate forums, and we encouraged meetings, churches, and other local organizations to contribute to the discussion on peace in the elections by sponsoring or attending

public events and debates.

War is Not the Answer movement expands: FCNL now has more than 480 "War Is Not the Answer" yard sign distributors and has sent out nearly 1 million "War Is Not the Answer" signs and bumper stickers in the past six years. We distributed more signs and bumper stickers in 2008 than ever before.

FCNL's work in Washington makes a difference. FCNL lobbyists continue to prepare the best available information on our 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. Your political, financial, and spiritual support makes FCNL work.

Today, as in 1943, the centuries-long Quaker commitment to peace, social justice, and an earth restored provides a strong foundation to carry the message that War Is Not the Answer. Peace is possible through peaceful means. Thanks to you, FCNL can continue witnessing and working in Washington.

Joe Volk, Executive Secretary

FRIENDS HOUSE

Friends House Retirement Community has experienced many transitions in this past year. In a Retirement Community when there is a nursing center and assisted living as part of the continuum of care, declining health, life transitions and death are a part of our lives and considered normal more than unusual. But this past year there have been more than the usual unexpected deaths among independent residents which has had an impact on life in our community, especially when the residents are actively engaged in the life of the campus up to the time of their passing. Coupled with the uncertainty in the economy and adjustments with new leadership in the Executive Director role, this has lead to some unsettledness and apprehension on our campus which is not normal for this typically high energy community. In our day to day, the campus is very busy with meetings, special speakers and work, whether it is paid or volunteer, ours is an active place. I'm reminded frequently that we need to slow down and pay more attention to the spiritual side of our individual and community lives. This takes a different kind of focus and response than what we might be inclined to have, but yet so necessary and valuable.

From a Board perspective, one of the notable Bylaws change this year requires

that there be a resident Board member. This resident Board member is selected by the Board Nominating Committee and approved by the Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Friends House is in the process of receiving a license as a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) which requires that there be a resident Board member. Another Bylaws change approved this year involves the addition of the Board Quality and Improvement Committee which oversees the quality measures and program effectiveness for Assisted Living and the Nursing Center. In other actions, the Board approved a Conflict of Interest policy and received education regarding several issues related to Board governance. Each of the Board Committees met this year making recommendations for policy changes or additions. The Long Range Planning Committee ended the fiscal year with a recommendation to the Board of Directors on the key points or issues for the new strategic plan.

Leadership focus this year has been on updating technology and improving systems such as implementing a new payroll system and initiating a new staff orientation program. Operational focus, as indicated by the implementation of the Board Quality Improvement Committee, is on quality of care and meeting legal and regulatory requirements. A new Five (5) Star system was initiated by the Federal Government to compare facilities in areas of quality improvement, quality of care, survey results and staffing ratios. Friends House Nursing Home did obtain a 4 Star rating in this new system. This information is available at the Medicare.gov website under Nursing Home Compare.

Unfortunately, the downturn in the economy has made an impact in the amount of assistance received in the Friends House Assistance Fund this past year. Donations have decreased as many individuals and organizations have had to limit what they are able to give. The Board Assistance Fund Committee presented a policy which was approved by the Board of Directors on criteria for assistance that was implemented this past year. The Board has worked with management on ways to fund the assistance program since donations no longer cover the cost. Funding assistance will continue to be an operational and development initiative. We are in great appreciation to Baltimore Yearly Meeting members and Meetings that have continued to be generous contributors to the Assistance Fund. Friends House has been able to provide financial assistance to 16 residents in our low-moderate income housing program for rental assistance and for assistance for other medical related items. The total amount of financial assistance provided during the last year was \$82,376.

Friends House became a smoke-free facility in the fall of 2008. The Resident Association developed the policy with consensus by the residents at their July meeting. The Board approved a Smoke-Free Environment Minute at their September 27 meeting.

Long before the White House had a garden, Friends House has maintained the community garden concept, cultivating the earth and sharing our harvest. This spring, we did follow the lead of our First Lady, Michelle Obama, by bringing to campus a beehive that is being tended by two local beekeepers. I am told that the honey will be available for purchase by donation sometime this next year!

Karen Lehman, Executive Director

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING

At last year's session, after lengthy discernment, Baltimore Yearly Meeting decided to remain part of Friends United Meeting.

Your BYM representatives understood our task to be to participate fully in the FUM General Board, and to seek as possible changes in the personnel policy of FUM. The FUM General Board has met three times in the past year in Richmond, IN. There was also a called meeting of the Executive Committee. Your Board Reps have been active. Mary Lord serves on the Executive Committee and the Strategic Planning Task Force. J.E. McNeil is the Clerk of the FUM Finance Committee. Rich Liversidge serves on Trustees, and is the Trustees' Representative to the General Board. John Smallwood has been a "floater."

An overall report on the work of Friends United Meeting over the past year is covered in the Report of the General Secretary, Sylvia Graves. This report from the Board will highlight the work of your representatives and matters of special concern to Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

FUM Programs. There are several programs for which FUM has full responsibility (appointment of the director or field staff, financial oversight). These are the Africa Ministries Office, Kaimosi Hospital and Friends Theological College in Kenya; the Ramallah School; and the boys school program in Belize. FUM also partners and assists with a number of programs in Kenya under the leadership of Kenyan Friends. These would include Friends Church Peace Teams, Lugulu Hospital, and the Turkana mission project, among others.

On matters of special interest to Baltimore YM:

Friend Ann Riggs, Annapolis MM, has been appointed as the new Principal of Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, serving as interim for one year. She is the first woman to head that institution. BYM Interim Meeting released \$20,000 from funds designated for FUM to enable Ann to go to Kenya on time. She has been with us at Annual Session and leaves on Monday for Kenya. She seeks Friends willing to teach two-week courses in the coming year.

Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring, and FUM Trustee is working with the Ramallah School on a commercial development project for an unused piece of land owned by the school. The project has the likelihood of producing income for the school over a period of many years.

Work continues with Kaimosi Hospital Board to restore quality of care and integrity in administration. Much progress has been made, but much remains to be done. The hospital is in need of additional doctors and nurses. Friends with medical training are asked to consider whether they may be led to come to Kenya to serve for a time. Non-medical Friends are asked to consider “Adopting a Nurse” to support this work.

Finance and Administration:

Finance. FUM, like other non-profits, is suffering from the impact of the economic crisis. This is particularly affecting the Richmond, IN office, where staff is working reduced hours. We are very fortunate in the dedication of the Richmond staff. J. E. McNeil, Friends Meeting of Washington, is Clerk of the Finance Committee. The Committee has been working with the staff to develop clearer financial reports and fiscally responsible use of funds. FUM’s Richmond office continues to suffer a cash flow problem, due to generally reduced giving to the General Fund, as constituent Yearly Meetings also suffer financial squeeze. A Development Director has been hired to improve FUM’s fundraising capacity.

Personnel Policy. The Board of FUM is at an impasse and cannot find unity to change the present discriminatory hiring policy. It should be noted that the policy stating that marriage is between one man and one woman is also a stand against polygamy--which is still practiced in parts of Kenya, premarital sex and adultery. Your representatives vigorously present the views of this YM. The recently revised draft of the Personnel Handbook has been sent for legal review.

Nonetheless, we should not anticipate that the hiring policy will be changed in the near future.

Board Functioning.

There are two Boards of FUM—one in North America, and one in East Africa. The two Boards will meet together in July 2010 in Kenya. One important task will be to clarify decision-making and work to define global partnership and make it work. FUM is also exploring opportunities to use technology to permit more interaction between the two Boards. This work on developing a genuine international community is exciting and ground-breaking.

The North American Board continues to spend considerable time talking about divisions of theology and the Personnel Policy without finding unity. Last fall, Superintendents of five of the orthodox meetings wrote a letter as individuals (without the endorsement of their YMs) and subsequently made a presentation regarding these ongoing conflicts. Their suggestions did not find unity with the Board. A special called meeting of the Board will be held in September in New York to address questions of structure and functioning.

J. E. McNeil, Friends Meeting of Washington
Mary Lord, Adelphi

FRIENDS WILDERNESS CENTER

Our mission is to care for the natural setting entrusted to us and to enable all to find spiritual nurturance there.

The Friends Wilderness Center (FWC) is a 34-year-old spiritual sanctuary and wilderness preserve located in West Virginia, within 1-2 hours of the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area. It offers its membership and the general public a selection of events. There are also opportunities for individual or small group retreats, including overnight hospitality in our cabin; and camping.

FWC is located on Rolling Ridge Foundation lands, originally owned by a Quaker couple, Henry and Mary Cushing Niles, members of Baltimore, Stony Run Meeting.

The Center provides a place for individuals to find a deeper understanding of their relationship with the earth by offering a place and space for spiritual growth in

harmony with nature, and to find opportunities to be stewards of the land.

During the past year, the FWC continued offering programs and events. While some events were unique, most were perennial favorites, often led by board members or coordinated through them. Friends Wilderness Center encourages other groups and individuals in considering holding an event at FWC or Niles Cabin. These programs are very popular, especially the star-gazing, the Gardening With Nature, and the Open House. Appended is a summary of programs offered during the past year. Several program events are already on the calendar for the rest of the year. Please visit our web site, www.friendswilderness.org to learn more about future events.

Looking to the future, the Friends Wilderness Center board has explored several areas where it seeks to strengthen the Center's appeal to Baltimore Yearly Meeting as a resource, including

Making meetings aware of the Center and what it offers; Improving ties with 50 allies or sister organizations vis a vis environmental, educational, and spiritual concerns; Offering the center as a field location for environmental studies such as climate change, ecosystems and habitat.

The FWC conducted fund drives in the past year, including a special one-time appeal to members of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting. These appeals helped support a continued growth in income in 2008, yielding \$ 21,665; a copy of our financial report is available upon request. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

During the past year, Sheila has provided program support, financial management, hospitality and coordination of numerous events and activities. The board values her deep commitment to the FWC and her efforts in ensuring that the FWC retains its focus on its mission and vision, as well as providing visitors with a meaningful visit. This year, Sheila spent much time making sure that the Friends Wilderness Center's administrative needs and obligations were in order.

Lisa Payne (Goose Creek), Clerk

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

During the past week, we hosted the 4th grade class from Plymouth Meeting Friends School whose teacher, Will Starr, has brought his classes annually for 21 years. The day that they left, the House hosted two groups of women, many

retired, who were lobbying Congress to control nuclear technology. The day that these ladies checked out, they were replaced by 8th graders from Thornton Friends School who were engaged with Washington Quaker Workcamps on issues of hunger and homelessness. Sharing the House with the Thornton youth were a group of developmentally challenged young people and their sponsors from England who were completing a 6 weeks tour of the US.

On the day that these last two groups checked in, I walked to Union Station to catch the Metro. As I walked up East Capitol, I passed the Folger Shakespeare Theatre that was preparing for a banquet, at the Library of Congress; I crossed over East Capitol toward the Supreme Court with the US Capitol on my left. In front of the Supreme Court, the networks were setting up to broadcast the retirement of Justice Souter. As I continued, I overheard the conversations of two young men who were aides to US Senators, sharing their take on the Souter retirement and then continued behind three young women who also worked on the Hill who were discussing careers as we walked past the Senate Office Buildings. Fifteen minutes after I left the William Penn House, I was at the Metro Station at Union Station.

Through our doors pass the most extraordinary cross sections of the world population; young people on school trips, young people through Washington Quaker Workcamps seeking the transformative experience of service, people of all ages who are engaging their elective representatives in their efforts to transform society, families and individuals who are tourists here to experience the culture and history of this wonderful city. And when I reflect on why I am here and the mission of William Penn House, I am struck with gratitude and joy in having this tremendous opportunity to serve.

Washington Quaker Workcamps offers service opportunities in New Orleans, the hamlets of West Virginia, the inner city of Washington, DC. We work with the Capitol Hill Village who serves the elderly to help them to be secure as they “age in place”; we feed the homeless; we transform parks and we work with other agencies to reduce storm runoffs by building rain gardens. We study and seek to reuse, recycle and to improve our ecology.

Through our programs, we address issues related to peace, social justice, global warming and the environment. We seek to improve dialogue surrounding issues of gender and HIV/AIDS. We prepare seminars on human rights, lobbying and greening existing buildings. Through our Potluck and Dialogues series we are

engaged in the lives of our fellow Quakers and other activist who share their leadings monthly with area Friends.

And we host young and old, activists and tourists, US and international travelers, groups and individuals, who seek a safe, comfortable, affordable and convenient place to stay while being engaged in the plethora of reasons that draw people to the District of Columbia.

The staff of William Penn House reflects the concept of service and dedication that makes this place so special. On our current staff is Greg Woods, a recent graduate of Earlham College whose life was transformed through his high school service with an AFSC Workcamp. Faith Kelley, raised as an Evangelical Friend who has worked with Friends to develop dialogue and opportunities among Quaker youth; Wambani Lusinaka a Kenyan Quaker completing her master's degree so that she can return to Kenya to help improve the lives of Kenyan women; Ben Self, also a recent Earlham graduate who was raised overseas and is engaged in all of our programs as he prepares to continue his education and Kelli Mansure, a future psychologist, who savors each moment of life. Helping to provide opportunities for growth and exploration is Brad Ogilvie who has taken his life challenging illness to serve him as catalyst to help seek unity and dialogue among all people of faith on issues that are too controversial for most. Patricia Newkirk, an anchor and staff member extraordinaire at the end of the year moved to Seattle to enjoy her first grandchild.

This chart puts numbers to our service:

Detail of activities in

2008

2008	groups hosted	Work camps held	pro-grams held	potlucks & dia-logue	Monthly occu-pancy	beds occu-pied
January	0	0	0	1	45%	419
February	5	1	2	1	70%	588
March	10	2	2	1	89%	828
April	7	3	1	1	87%	783
May	6	3	1	1	81%	753
June	5	5	2	1	86%	774
July	3	2	2	0	67%	623
August	5	3	1	1	82%	763

September	6	3	5	1	84%	756
October	8	3	1	1	61%	567
November	4	0	0	1	52%	406
December	4	0	1	1	39%	293
Total	63	25	18	11	70%	7552

As we have engaged others in service, training and programs, we have addressed many of the same issues within the House. Last year through generous donations, we replaced our furnace with a highly efficient one that helps to reduce our carbon footprint. We have switched to fluorescent light, replaced most of our plumbing fixtures to ones that use less water, installed ceiling fans throughout the House. We have landscaped the front with native plants and with the help of young people we transformed our ratty backyard into a rain garden of beauty and simplicity. We are currently seeking bids and funding to install a vegetated roof on our Carriage House to help to further reduce runoff into the troubled Anacostia River.

And by following the Quaker testimonies of Simplicity and Integrity we seek to provide all of these services with a balanced budget:

Income and Expenses		2008
Ordinary Income/Expense		
	Income	
	Program Revenues	\$ 295,099
	Contributions	\$ 71,388
	Investment Income	\$ (3,311)
	Other Income	\$ 2,905
	Total Income	\$ 366,082
	Expense	
	Personnel	\$ 260,345
	Building Exp	\$ (5,614)
	Program Exp	\$ 84,451
	Insurance Exp	\$ 2,476
	Equipment loss	\$ 254
	Fundraising Exp	\$ 6,801
	Other Admin Exp	\$ 18,564
	Total Expense	\$ 367,276
Net Ordinary Income		\$ (1,194)

Byron Sandford, Executive Director

OFFICERS YEARLY MEETING

Clerk.....	Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring (07)	2007-2010
Recording Clerk	Ramona Buck, Patapsco (09).....	2009-2011
Treasurer	Marion Ballard, Bethesda (07).....	2007-2011
Assistant Treasurer.....	Laurie Wilner, Langley Hill (07).....	2007-2011

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk.....	Elizabeth "Betsy" Meyer, Sandy Spring (08)	2008-2011
Recording Clerk	Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run (06)	2007-2011

TRUSTEES

Clerk: Byron Sandford

Dick Bellin, Washington	2007-2010
Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring	2007-2010
Ramona Buck, Patapsco.....	2008-2011
Meg Meyer, Baltimore, Stony Run	2008-2011
Byron Sandford, Washington	2006-2012
Hank Schutz, Charlottesville	2006-2012
Frances Taylor, Goose Creek	2006-2012

Marion Ballard, Treasurer
Howard Fullerton, Clerk of Yearly Meeting

Office Staff

General Secretary: Riley Robinson

Development Director: Robinne Gray

Administrative Assistant:

Comptroller: Margo Lehman

Camp Program Secretary: Jane Megginson

Camp Property Manager: David Hunter

Youth Secretary: Alison Duncan

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Betsy Meyer

Recording Clerk: Meg Meyer

Abingdon	Frederick	Patapsco
Adelphi	Gettysburg	Patuxent
Alexandria	Goose Creek	Pipe Creek
Annapolis	Gunpowder	Quaker Lake
Baltimore, Homewood	Herndon	Richmond
Baltimore, Stony Run	Hopewell Centre	Roanoke
Bethesda	Langley Hill	Sandy Spring
Blacksburg	Little Britain	State College
Carlisle	Little Falls	Valley
Charlottesville	Madison County	Warrington
Deer Creek	Maury River	Washington
Dunnings Creek	Menallen	West Branch
Fishertown	Midlothian	Williamsburg
Floyd	Nottingham	York

SEARCH COMMITTEE OF INTERIM

MEETING

Clerk: Janet Eaby

2010

David Etheridge, Washington (07)
Erik Uberseder, Dunnings Creek (07)

2011

Kevin Caughlan, Sandy Spring (08)
Janet Eaby, Nottingham (05)
Aron Teel, Charlottesville (08)

2012

Jean Wilson, Gunpowder (06)

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Clerk: Betsy Meyer

2010

Liz Hofmeister, Bethesda (07)
2011

Bob Fetter, Roanoke (07)
Susie Fetter, Roanoke (07)
Tasha Walsh, Maury River (09)

Ex-officio

Marion Ballard, Treasurer
Betsy Meyer, Clerk of Interim Meeting
Howard Fullerton, Clerk of Yearly Meeting

ADVANCEMENT & OUTREACH 9 (9)

Clerk: Walter Brown

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)

2012

Ann Marie Moriarty, Adelphi (09)
Wim Neij, York (09)

CAMP PROGRAM 18 (18)

Co-Clerks: Chrissie Devinney
JoAnn Dalley

2010

Tasha Walsh, Maury River (04)
Chrissie Devinney, Goose Creek (04)

Anna Best, Ashland (07)

Carol Hurst, Charlottesville (07)

JoAnn Dalley, Charlottesville (07)

Kate Davenport, Richmond (07)

Dave Diller, Adelphi (07)

2011

Betty LaBua, Baltimore, Stony Run
(08)

Michael LaBua, Baltimore, Stony
Run (08)

Andrea Givens, Charlottesville (08)

Karen Stone, Goose Creek (08)

2012

Lynada Johnson, Annapolis (06)

Clare Voss, Sandy Spring (06)

Nathan Harrington, Sandy Spring
(07)

Bob Breyer, Baltimore, Stony Run
(09)

Kimberly DeSha-Doll, Baltimore,
Stony Run (09)

Kathy Lipp Farr, Washington (09)

Jackie Kosbob, Goose Creek, (09)

**CAMP PROPERTY COMMITTEE 9
(11)**

Clerk: Tina Grady

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)

2012

Charles Greene, Sandy Spring (06)

Nancy Coleman, Dunnings Creek
(09)

Bim Schauffler, Sandy Spring (09)

Dominique Zeltzman, Baltimore,
Homewood (09)

Ex-officio

Trustees

Stewardship and Finance – Wes
Jordan

David Hunter, Camp Property Man-
ager

**CRIMINAL & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
6 (7)**

Clerk: Linda Wilk

2010

Linda Wilk, Hopewell Centre (07)

Bob Rhudy, Patapsco (07)

2011

David Greene, Baltimore, Home-
wood (05)

Jack Fogarty, Sandy Spring (08)

Peggy Fogarty, Sandy Spring (08)

Jessica Arends, Washington (08)

2012

Michael Newheart, Adelphi (09)

DEVELOPMENT

Clerk: Natalie Finegar

Marion Ballard, Bethesda

Frannie Taylor, Goose Creek

Ex-officio

Robin Gray, Development Director

EDUCATIONAL LOAN 6 (7)

Clerk: Chris Fowler

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)

2012

Brett Leonard, Goose Creek (04)

Annie V. F. Storr, Adelphi (06)

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)

INDIAN AFFAIRS 12 (9)

Clerk: Pat Powers

2010

Mary Mallet, Sandy Spring (04)

Nora Caplan, Sandy Spring (07)

Darcy Lane, Sandy Spring (07)

2011

Chuck Veckert, Sandy Spring (05)

Elizabeth Koopman, York (08)

2012

David Elkinton, Patuxent (06)

Mary Corddry, Deer Creek (09)

Gerri Williams, Washington (09)

Pat Powers, Sandy Spring (09)

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE 3 (3)

Clerk: Katherine Smith

2010

Katherine Smith, Maury River (04)

2011

Ruth Flower, Takoma Park (08)

Ann McKeithen, Charlottesville (08)

MINISTRY & PASTORAL CARE 12(14)

Clerk: Jean-Marie Prestiwigde-Barch

2010

Lamar Matthew, Baltimore, Stony Run (04)

Ria Hawkins, Bethesda (04)

2011

Gail Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run (05)

Michael Cronin, Washington (08)

Paul Luckenbaugh, Bethesda (08)

Martin Melville, State College (08)

Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch, Valley (08)

Gary Sandman, Roanoke, (08)

2012

David Fitz, York (09)

Jean James, Richmond (09)

Andrew Mosholder, Hopewell Centre (09)

Ellen Massey, Washington (09)

Doug Miller, Deer Creek (09)

Frances Schutz, Charlottesville (09)

-----Recorded Ministers-----

Earl Redding, Adelphi
Marshal Sutton, Gunpowder
James Scherer, Deer Creek

NOMINATING 12 (13)

Clerk: Barbara Thomas

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)
Laura Nell Obaugh, Hopewell Centre
(09)

Molly Tully, Washington (09)

2012

Charlotte Boynton, Langley Hill (06)
Andrei Israel, Washington (06)
Nancy Moore, Baltimore, Stony Run
(06)

Rebecca Rawls, Langley Hill (09)

**PEACE & SOCIAL CONCERNS 12
(12)**

Clerk: Bill Mims

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)

2012

Alexander Barnes, Adelphi (06)
Frank Reitmeyer, Pipe Creek (09)
Chip Tucker, Charlottesville (09)

PROGRAM 10 (11)

Clerk: Sheila Bach

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)

2012

Nancy Coleman, Dunnings Creek
(06)
Don Gann, Baltimore, Stony Run
(06)

Jason Eaby, Nottingham (07)

Ex-officio

Presiding Clerk: Howard Fullerton
Registrar: Mary Campbell
Junior Yearly Meeting Clerk:
Ministry & Pastoral Care:
Jean-Marie Prestwidge-Barch

Young Friends Planners:

Justin Esposito

Rose McIntyre

Young Adult Friends:

Toby Gaffron, State College

Jenny Vekert, Sandy Spring

Staff:

Riley Robinson
Alison Duncan
Administrative Assistant

Martha Gay, Adelphi (09)
Genevieve Oei, Richmond (09)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 12 (10)

Clerk: MJ Foley

2010

Sarah Buchanan-Wollaston, Deer Creek (07)

2011

Chuck Fager, State College (08)
MJ Foley, Williamsburg (08)

2012

Gwen Zanin, Herndon (06)
John Stephens, Alexandria (06)
Virginia Avanesyan, Washington (09)

Annette Breiling, Seneca Valley (09)
Elsie Hansard, Roanoke (09)
Marsha Holliday, Langley Hill (09)
Josh Humphries, Charlottesville (09)

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE 14 (12)

Clerk: Letty Collins

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)

2012

Arthur David Olson, Takoma Park (06)

Jim Bell, Washington (09)

Letty Collins, Roanoke (09)

SUE THOMAS TURNER QUAKER EDUCATION FUND

Clerk: Rosalind Zuses

Howard Zuses

Advancement & Outreach:
Religious Education:

UNITY WITH NATURE 12 (11)

Clerk: Barbara Williamson

2010

Jeanne Houghton, Langley Hill (07)
Susan Warner, Baltimore, Homewood (07)

2011

Sue deVeer, Frederick (05)
Linda Ubersdeder, Oxford (08)
Janney Wilson, Goose Creek (08)
Toni Hudson, Sandy Spring (08)

2012

John Hudson, Sandy Spring (06)
Juliet Guroff, Goose Creek (06)
Susan Thompson, Pipe Creek (09)
Barbara Williamson, Richmond (09)

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS

Co-Clerks: Sam Flower-Horne,
Takoma Park
Adam Heinz, Little Falls

YOUNG FRIENDS EXECUTIVE

Clerk: Georgia McCandlish, Adelphi

Asst Clerks:

Samir Hazboun, Camp

Mace Smith, Langley Hill
Recording Clerks:
Daniel Gillespie, Baltimore,
Homewood
Katie Lauck, Maury River
Treasurer: Helen Robare, Hopewell
Centre

Assistant Treasurers:
Jamie DeMarco, Baltimore,
Homewood
Daniel Thale-Galat

BYFN Editors:
Joe Hammer, Camp
Alexandra Bean, Adelphi

Youth Programs Committee:
Matthew Bacon, Hopewell Centre
Liam Walsh-Mellet, Adelphi

Members-at-Large:
Abby Sauter, Camp
Ben Thale-Galat, Camp
Tom Webb, Camp

Annual Session Planners:
Justin Esposito, Goose Creek
Rose McIntyre, Sandy Spring

Web Master:
Nigel Buchannon-Wollaston,
Deer Creek

YOUTH PROGRAMS 14 (13)

Co-Clerks: Anne Bacon
Carol Seddon

2010

Jerry Girbach, Patapsco (07)
Erik Hanson, Takoma Park (07)
Tom Horne, Takoma Park (07)
Jeannette Smith, Langley Hill (07)
Greg Woods, Washington (09)

2011

Annalee Flower-Horne, Takoma Park
(08)

“Becka” Haines Rosenberg, Alexandria (08)

“Nony” Dutton, Baltimore, Homewood (08)

Carol Seddon, Baltimore, Stony Run
(08)

2012

Anne Bacon, Hopewell Centre (06)

Stephanie Bean, Adelphi (06)

Ruth Fitz, York (09)

Sara Bur, Baltimore, Homewood (09)

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

Josh Humphries, Charlottesville

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

Rich Liversidge, Sandy Spring
Katrina Mason, Bethesda
Pete Schenck, Washington

INTERVISITATION PROGRAM

Clerk: Georgia Fuller
Maria Bradley, Sandy Spring
Linda Coates, Little Britain
Janet Eaby, Oxford
Elizabeth Estrada, Langley Hill
Georgia Fuller, Langley Hill
Howard Fullerton, Sandy Spring
Martha Gay, Adelphi
Erik Hanson, Takoma Park
Andrei Israel, FMW
Jean James, Richmond
Sharon Knox, Baltimore, Homewood
Joan Liversidge, Sandy Spring
Meg Meyer, Baltimore, StonyRun
Jolee Robinson, Adelphi
Mel Synder, Langley Hill
Ken Stockbridge, Patapsco
Susan Vanderhoff, Baltimore, Stony Run
Babs Williams, Langley Hill

TORREAN/STARLAKE WORKING GROUP (INDIAN AFFAIRS)

Clerk: Susan Lepper
Nancy Beiter, Washington
Anna Brown, Gunpowder
Susan Lepper, Washington

WORKING GROUP ON RACISM (MINISTRY & PASTORAL CARE)

Clerk: Elizabeth DuVerlie
Kathy Angell, Baltimore, Homewood
Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch, Valley
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

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES (PEACE & SOCIAL CERNS)

Clerk: Karen Grisez
Joan Gildemeister, Washington
Karen Grisez, Washington
Anne Harrison, Patuzent

FRIENDS IN EDUCATION

(ADVANCEMENT & OUTREACH)
Clerk: Annette Breiling
Annette Breiling, Seneca Valley

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 HOUSE NURSING HOME INC. TRUSTEES

Clerk: John Smallwood

2010

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Ruth Flower, Takoma Park (07)
Megan Shook, Baltimore, Home-
wood (07)
Ann Trentman, Patuxent (07)
Joanna Burke, Alexandria (09)

Nominated by Board

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 Garretson, Sandy Spring (08)

Nominated by Board

Georgia Maitland, Sandy Spring
Charles (Chick) Nelson, Bethesda
Virginia Lester, Alexandria
Mary Satterfield, Sandy Spring

2012

Nominated by Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Linda Pardoe, Patapsco (06)
J. Michael Boardman, Baltimore,
Stony Run (09)
Frances Williams, Frederick (09)
Diane Younkins, Goose Creek (09)

Nominated by Board

Joan Liversidge, Sandy Spring (09)
Glenna Langley, Sandy Spring (09)

SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL

Clerk: Lin Delaney

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

Stephanie Burgevin
Steve Eller
Terry Franklin
Barbara Gaffigan
J. Curt Moffat
James Vereen

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)

Board

2012
Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Jodi Leeser, Sandy Spring (04)

Sandy Spring Meeting

Mary Grady (04)
Anne Hirschfield (08)

Board

Lin Delaney
Scott Henry
Laurita Portee
Ellen Pskowski

2010

Mike Snyder, Goose Creek (04)
Stan Becker, Baltimore, Homewood (07)

2011

Karen Grisez, Washington (04)
Sharon Stout, Adelphi (05)

AFSC CORPORATION

Convener: Riley Robinson

2010

Nancy Beiter, Washington (04)
Richey Sharratt,
Baltimore Homewood (07)
Cathie Felter,
Baltimore, Stony Run (07)

2011

Riley Robinson, Washington (05)

2012

Meg Meyer,
Baltimore, Stony Run (09)

**AFSC MIDDLE-ATLANTIC
REGION EXECUTIVE COMMIT-
TEE**

2011

Jolee Robinson, Adelphi (05)

**FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL LEGISLATION,
GENERAL COMMITTEE**

Convener: Bob Rhudy

2012

Bob Rhudy, Patapsco (06)
Gretchen Hall, Alexandria (09)

**FRIENDS GENERAL CONFER-
ENCE, CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

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)
Brad Ogilvie, Washington (08)
Ann Riggs, Annapolis (08)
Laura Goren, Homewood (08)

2012

Roger Wolcott, Sandy Spring (06)
Myra Wolcott, Sandy Spring (06)
J. Michael Boardman,
Baltimore, Stony Run (09)
Arthur Boyd,
Baltimore, Stony Run (09)

Sue Carnell,
Baltimore, Stony Run (09)
Patricia Fox, Bethesda (09)
Gail Thomas, Bethesda (09)

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

REPRESENTATIVE

Barbara Myers, Richmond (08)
Alternate:
Bette Hoover, Sandy Spring (06)

Laura Nell Obaugh,
Hopewell Centre (08)

2012

Kathy Wright, Sandy Spring (09)
Leada Dietz, York (09)

NATIONAL RELIGIOUS

COALITION AGAINST TORTURE
Ellen Arginteanu, State College (04)

**FRIENDS UNITED MEETING
GENARAL BOARD**

Convener: J.E. McNeil

**PRISONER VISITATION AND
SUPPORT**

(To be appointed by Criminal and Re-
storative Justice)

2011

Mary Lord, Adelphi (08)

2012

J.E. McNeil, Washington (08)
Riley Robinson, Washington (09)

**QUAKER HOUSE
FAYETTEVILLE, NC**

Betsy Brinson, Richmond (05)

FREINDS WILDERNESS CENTER
(To be appointed by Unity with
Nature)

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE CON-

SULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Michael Newheart, Adelphi (05)
Alternate:
Bonnie Peregoy, Annapolis (05)

**FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE
FOR CONSULTATION, SECTION
OF THE AMERICAS**
Convener: Kathy Wright

2010

Rachel Stacy, Gunpowder (08)
Jason Eaby, Oxford (08)

2011

Sheila Bach, Langley Hill (05)

**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS
BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

The 339th annual session to be held at
Frostburg State University
Frostburg, Maryland
August 2-8, 2010

INTERIM MEETING

Clerk: Elizabeth "Betsy" Meyer

October 17, 2009	Goose Creek
March 27, 2010	Patapsco
June, 19, 2010	To be determined
October 16, 2010	Richmond

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
Gunpowder
Little Falls
Patapsco
Patuxent
Sandy Spring
Seneca Valley Preparative

NOTTINGHAM
Clerk: Charles Hilaman

Nottingham
“The Brick” Meeting House
Little Britain, Eastland, Penn Hill

WARRINGTON
(meets the 3rd Sunday of the 2nd, 5th, 8th and 11th months)
Clerk: Andrew Hoover

Carlisle	
Frederick	February 21, 2010
Gettysburg	
Menallen	May 16, 2010
Pipe Creek	
Warrington	
York	

INTERCHANGE DEADLINES
January 25, 2010
April 5, 2010
August 30, 2010

FIRE CIRCLE DEADLINE
November 1, 2009

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ABINGDON

Mailing Address: 500 Beechwood Dr., Abingdon, VA 24210

Meeting place: Elderspirit Community in Abingdon, VA

[Wheelchair accessible]

[No hearing assistance system]

Telephone: (276) 628-3167

First Day schedule: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Business Meeting: Second First Day of the month

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: Clerk: George Strawbridge; Treasurer: Dyer Moss; Ministry & Pastoral Care: Steve McBrien & Elizabeth Matthews; Stewardship & Finance: Steve McBrien & Nancy Hunter; Peace & Social Concerns: (Committee of the whole)

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 Rothenbacher; 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 Bestgate Road. Go .5 miles to first right onto N. Bestgate Road. Take first left onto Dubois Road. Go to the end. Meeting House is on the left.
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, Home-

wood 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@bethesdafriends.org

Web site: <http://www.bethesdafriends.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

ELDERSPIRIT (ABINGDON FRIENDS MEETING)

Mailing Address: 125 Elderspirit Dr., Abingdon, VA 24210
Meeting place: Elderspirit in Abingdon, VA
First Day schedule:
Business Meeting:
Travel directions:
Contacts: George Strawbridge

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

MIDLOTHIAN

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 Huguenots 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: Jannahna 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 Garretts

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 underpass) and go straight ahead onto White Ground Road. The church is on the left approximately 2/10 of a mile down White Ground Road. Park in the far parking lot. We meet in the back building, 19821 White Ground Road, Kerr Fellowship Hall, on the second floor.

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

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS CATOCTIN QUAKER CAMP

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.

OPEQUON QUAKER CAMP

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.

SHILOH QUAKER CAMP

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]

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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