

Haddonfield Quarter

Outreach

March 2013

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Newsletter News

Upcoming newsletter themes are:

Apr.- worship & ministry
May- following our leadings
Jun.- nuts & bolts of a meeting (clerking, recording, etc.)

You are invited to write on the month's theme or on other topics. Karen Nulton will assist anyone who feels uneasy writing and wants help. (ksnhome@aol.com)

You can also encourage other Friends to write articles.

Please send all information and articles for the newsletter to peacepc@aol.com by the 15th of the preceding month.

Friends Enrichment Program's Empty Bowl Dinner

Friends Enrichment Program will host its annual Empty Bowl Dinner Fundraiser, on Sunday, April 7. For a freewill donation, guests will buy a bowl and will be treated to a soup and bread dinner, a Greater South Jersey Chorus performance, and a Moorestown Friends School robotics demonstration. The bowls that will be included in the sale are of the one-of-a-kind variety, some produced by amateurs, others bearing the signature of ceramic artists. Included will be many bowls produced by FEP children and young friends of FEP at the FEP Pottery Workshop... Under the guidance of ceramic artist and Moorestown Friends School art teacher David Gamber, workshop participants were taught basic pottery techniques & then made bowls.

Proceeds will be split 50/50 between the South Jersey Food Bank and the FEP scholarship fund for financially disadvantaged, underserved Moorestown children. For FEP children, the workshop is an opportunity to help relieve

hunger in our region and to raise funds for a group that provides scholarships that broaden recipient's horizons and gives them other opportunities that they would not otherwise have available to them [in art, music, sports, and summer camp].

The schedule for the Empty Bowl Dinner is:

- 4:00-5:00 robotics demo
 - 5:00-6:00 1st dinner sitting
 - 6:00-6:30 Greater South Jersey Chorus performance
 - 6:30-7:30 2nd dinner sitting
- For planning purposes, reservations are encouraged (call Moorestown Meeting 856-235-1561).

Monique Begg, Moorestown Meeting

Sacred Heart Gathering for Peace & Justice on 2/9/13

The overall theme of this Gathering was the well-known motto, "If you want peace, work for justice" and the model for this event is one which might well be emulated in communities throughout our country and the world. It was inspirational and educational, with a keynote address by Sr.

Simone Campbell, executive director of Network, and promoter of "Nuns on the Bus" trip to Washington to protest proposed cuts in welfare funding.

Her speech pointedly affirmed the need for all to listen to and tell stories of the underserved citizens and then to "touch the pain of the world" as we are led to act.

Following her talk, workshops were held so that participants could learn various ways individuals and organizations were involved in peace and justice issues.

Sister Zahida from the mosque in Voorhees spoke about her desire to lift up the role of peace in Islam. Other workshops dealt with environmental issues, racial justice in the U.S., and ending slavery in the U.S. and around the world.

A closing event called all to choose an action promoting justice in your life that one might consider undertaking as a result of what was experienced at this event.

Think what changes might occur if events such as this were held throughout our country on an on-going basis!

Miriam Feyerherm, Moorestown Meeting

EXTRA! EXTRA!

WRITE ALL ABOUT IT!

This is an open invitation to help build a stronger community. Over the past few months, Friends from every Monthly Meeting in our Quarter have expressed a hunger for better communication. We are intensely interested in what is going on throughout the Quarter.

Our newsletter needs help. We need a brave band of Friends to gather and spread our news.

We need writers. If you are one of the many professional or amateur writers among us, think about what you have to say to Friends. Does a particular phrase or topic keep returning to

you in worship? Write the message underneath and send it to us. Are you involved in peace and justice work? Tell us about it. Do you write poetry? We'd like to build a trove of articles and short poems to run as op-eds, features or highlights to themes.

We need proof-readers. Are you an English teacher, active or retired? Or maybe a spelling champion? We need Friends who do better than spell-check when preparing manuscripts for publication.

We need editors. Shaping a piece of writing for clarity and excellence requires diplomacy as well as literary skills. Can you help with one or more newsletter issues?

We need reporters! Do you have an inner Lois Lane or Bob Woodward? Here is your chance to produce great stories. Often, the Friends who are engaged in newsworthy pursuits lack the time or inclination to write about their work. But they will talk to interested listeners, who, if they take notes, become reporters.

We need fact-checkers who will look up quotes, verify titles and statistics, and contact the sources of stories for accuracy of notes when writers or reporters are unable to follow-up.

We need tipsters, people who hear about something intriguing and alert us to the accomplishments of folks in their meetings so we can follow up.

We need recruiters, people who know people who have something to share but wouldn't do so without encouragement.

We need promoters to distribute the newsletter and urge folks to read and discuss the articles.

None of the above need to be ongoing commitments. One time or occasional help can provide valuable assistance. If you feel moved to contribute in any way, email roseket@aol.com

Rose Ketterer, Haddonfield Quarterly Meeting clerk

Medford Meeting Looks Forward to 'Next Time' for Quaker Quest

When the six sessions of Medford Meeting's Quaker Quest program were concluded in October, there arose a new spirit infusing the atmosphere of the meeting. It is not so easily defined, but it is there.

We know each other better than ever before. We have been touched and inspired by the stories from our 18 speakers, all members or attenders. While each story--describing personal paths to Quakerism from diverse starting points--differed from each of the others in details, they showed an often surprising commonality.

Before we go on, you probably have a question: What is Quaker Quest?

It is described as "perhaps the longest-running Friends outreach movement in modern times, having occurred weekly in London since January 2002." In simple terms, it is a way to tell our story in a direct and heartfelt way to those who may be on a spiritual journey or curious about Quakers and Quakerism. First, a meeting core team chooses three topics, one for each of three sessions. At Medford we chose God, Family and Peace. Like most meetings who have conducted the program, we chose to present each topic twice, making six sessions. Ours were on successive Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons in October 2012.

We thus needed 18 speakers -- three for each session-- and our members & attenders came forward willingly. Also built into the program for each session were small group discussions, with Quakers & visitors in separate groups. And after the manner of Quakers, every session featured coffee, cookies & conversation. (A fully detailed explanation of Quaker Quest is found at <http://www.friendsjournal.org/quaker-quest/>)

After the sessions had ended, meetings for worship at Medford continued to reflect the

renewed spirit among us. We welcomed some new attenders and noted continued interest among others who had come to Quaker Quest sessions. But perhaps the real depth of joy was subtly revealed by one member who during a post-event discussion of our QQ road signs retrieved from around the county said, "Don't throw those away. We'll need them for the next time."

The next time? Why not? What better way to celebrate the 200th anniversary year of our Meetinghouse in 2014 than to offer this dynamic program again?

It's on the agenda of the working group even as we speak.

Carol J. Suplee, Medford Meeting

Pathways to Learning

After a successful fall series called Pathways to Learning, Medford Leas is having a new series this spring.

More than twenty different programs in eleven subject areas will be held through March, April and May for the general public as well as Medford Leas residents. Offerings will deal with the environment, gardening, international affairs, technology, art, music, and health, in addition to a gastronomic experience. Seven events involve a fee; many are offered at no charge.

The fall season enjoyed a very large turnout. Approximately 300 visitors from the wider community attended classes, lectures and performances. Some came to more than one event. Many had never before had contact with Medford Leas. Pathways is a way for non-residents to experience Medford Leas, while sharing in its resources.

The spring program promises to attract just as many attendees. In the area of international affairs, award-winning storyteller Noa Baum, an Israeli, will shine a light on the complex history that surrounds Jerusalem for Israelis and Palestinians alike. Another program will feature

speakers from the Carter Center, who will join with the Friendship Force of Southern NJ to celebrate World Friendship Day. Friendship Force is an international exchange program begun by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.

A series of five lectures by popular Medford Leas guest Karl Middleman of Temple Univ., will explore "New World boundlessness in music," reflecting America's land and open space and its changes in social issues.

For those who love gardening, Jenny Rose Carey will speak on "Historic Gardens of Phila." for the Annual Arboretum Lecture. She is an Oxford-educated biologist and teacher who is director of the Landscape Arboretum at Temple Univ. Ambler. In April, there will be a Daffodil Walk in the Medford campus Barton Arboretum, and in May, a visit to the Brandywine cottage of renowned horticulturist Davie Culp. Debbie Lux, Medford Leas horticulturist, will also hold a class on container gardening.

A look into our larger natural world will include a talk on the Pine Barrens and its unique ecosystem, which covers one-fifth of NJ. "A Penguin World" will tell the story of Antarctica through the pictures of Joanna Lippincott Patterson, a Burlington photographer and storyteller.

Another opportunity to enjoy nature and improve and maintain health will be provided by Fitness Walks on both the Medford and Lumberton Campuses. The Affordable Care Act will also be discussed by Jack Resnick, M.D., an innovation advisor and one of 73 doctors nationwide named to a special federal panel by Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Technologist Andy Pedisich will give a talk entitled "Embrace Technology - How technology has affected our world and how to get the most out of it. Dave Bartram, resident technology expert, will provide a Leas Forum on "cybersecurity," as well as workshops on the iPad.

And if you've built up an appetite contemplating these programs, the foods and flavors of the Southwest will be presented in a six-

course tasting menu created by Medford Leas chefs.

For details, go to Medfordleas.org.

Beth Bogie, Medford Leas Life

Spiritual Eldering Program

Medford Leas had a Spiritual Eldering program led by Rabbi Richard Simon from Temple Har Zion.

Spiritual Eldering is a program designed by Rabbi Schachter-Shalomi that deals with the spiritual (rather than religious) aspects of aging and helps participants find meaning and purpose in this ultimate but sometimes seemingly diminished stage of their lives. It defines aging as an accumulation not of years but of wisdom born from experience. This wisdom is seen as a heritage the elderly can pass on to others.

Through readings in *From Age-ing to Sage-ing* by Rabbi Schachter-Shalomi, class discussions, life review, reflection and meditation, and journal writing, participants learn to find and value the wisdom of their years.

This class or others are being set up. For information go to Medfordleas.org.

Kay Cooley, Medford Leas Life

Practical Options for Reducing Military Spending

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) and 100 other groups recently urged Congress to "Rein in Wasteful Pentagon Spending" Many military experts say cuts could be as high as \$1-1.5 trillion over the next decade without compromising national security." Since 60% of the budget goes to the military, deep cuts to "all other discretionary funding... will fall far short of alleviating deficit spending and the rising debt."

For more information: See FCNL's Practical Options to Save Billions in the Military Budget and papers on waste and fraud, military procurement, and base closures. (fcnl.org/issues/budget/)

In a separate letter, AFSC's R. Aura Kanegis and Mary Zerkel urged President Obama to put US spending priorities in order. Our nation is not broke, and dire warnings of fiscal disaster are false.

"The Pentagon routinely struggles to spend all (its money, ending) FY12 with \$100 billion in unused funding... Yet the Pentagon remains the only part of the federal budget not subject to audit, with documented levels of waste that far outpace the budgets of human needs programs."

Kanegis and Zerkel concluded: "Let's bring our Pentagon spending back to the pre-war levels of 2002 and make needed investments in job creation, education, healthcare, and the environment... We're not broke-but this nation will become increasingly broken if we don't change our budget priorities."

Linda Lotz, Haddonfield Meeting

Interested in Immigration Reform?

Many observers believe immigration reform may be possible this year. There is bi-partisan recognition that the current system is broken.

According to FCNL, positive features in a Bi-Partisan Senate Framework recently proposed by 8 Senators include:

- o A step-by-step process so 11 million undocumented people now living in the US can eventually become citizens.
- o Building the economy, strengthening families, and protecting workers.
- o Clearing the backlog in family and employment visa applications.
- o Providing better oversight and training on racial profiling and civil rights abuses.

o Providing legal status for those who entered the country as minor children ("Dreamers"), and a path to citizenship for agricultural workers.

Additional information can be found at: http://fcnl.org/issues/immigration/immigration_reform_gets_a_strong_start/ and www.iwj.org.

A national coalition of faith-based organizations including FCNL and Interfaith Worker Justice are seeking contacts in NJ who are interested in learning more about immigration reform and may be interested in speaking with members of the NJ delegation to Congress. Please contact Damian Morden-Snipper at 202-547-6000 or Damian@fcnl.org.

Linda Lotz, Haddonfield Meeting

John Woolman's Walk

In 1763 John Woolman, a pioneering Quaker abolitionist, entrepreneur, tailor and resident of Mt Holly NJ undertook a peacemaking journey to visit with Indians and to minister during a time of war in Wyalusing, where he was welcomed.

He rode horseback from his home in Mount Holly NJ to a few miles downriver from Wyalusing & then poled upriver to a Moravian mission camp in Wyalusing PA 250 years ago in 1763.

In June of 2013 Quakers will be arriving in Wyalusing to celebrate the Woolman legacy on June 22nd 2013. Some will be walking all the way from Mt Holly to Wyalusing as a pilgrimage (June 8th-22nd) along a similar route that Woolman took at the same time of year. You are invited to join the walk to Wyalusing for any portion of the journey or the entire anticipated 15 days.

The issues Woolman identified around the causes of and treatment of indigenous peoples, slavery and ethical shopping are as alive today as they were in Woolman's time.

Towanda Monthly Meeting is sponsoring this walk from June 8th-22nd. They request your help with announcing this, joining them for all or

a portion of the walk, being an "eldering" local contact, meeting for worship along the way, route tweaking, overnight accommodations, meals, drivers, prayers and enthusiasm.

For information or to help, contact www.WoolmanWyalusing2013.org or call Margaret Wood 267-536-9508.

Woolman's Walk email and website

Witness for Conscience Takes Many Forms

Pace work and conscientious objection to forced participation in war preparations is practiced in so many ways!

Saturday afternoon March 23rd War Tax Resistance will be explained by some whose witness has included withholding voluntary support for the military through federal taxes. From 2 - 4 a workshop will cover whys and hows: reasons some people are propelled by conscience to practice "wtr", the variety of methods used to resist & to respond to consequences. From 4-5:30 the event will be more informal as all are welcome to ask questions and hear experiences of many Friends and others in our area who have practiced resisting federal taxes which pay for war. How about coming out to Tabernacle Church, 3700 Chestnut Street, Phila. to meet local folks plus Ruth Benn from National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee & Ed Hedemann, War Resisters League from NYC. Believe it or not, I'm sure this will be fun as well as enlightening.

Suzanne Day, Westfield Meeting

Medford Leas & Medford Mtg. Program

Saturday March 23rd at 10:30 AM, Medford Leas and Medford Monthly Meeting will be co-sponsoring at

Medford Leas "A Land Twice Promised" followed by a light soup lunch. Free admission. Storyteller Noa Baum creates a moving testimony illuminating the complex and contradictory history and emotions that surround Jerusalem by Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Sharon Christenson, Medford Meeting

Upcoming Events

3/2 - Quaker College Fair, 12:00-3:00 4th & Arch Mtg, pym.org

3/5 - Citizens Serving The Homeless forum on plans for the Community of Hope in Burl. Cnty. 7:30, Medford Leas Auditorium, tabchris1@prodigy.net

3/15-17 - Middle School Friends Gathering, Haverford Mtg, pym.org

3/18 & 5/20 - Meeting for Worship for Healing, 7 pm, Haddonfield Mtg, Judy Barnes 856-287-9472

3/22-3/24 - Young Friends Urban Life Skills, Germantown Mtg, pym.org

3/23 - War Tax Resistance Information, 2 - 5:30, Tabernacle Church, 3700 Chestnut St., Phila. Suzanne, 856-829-7034 (see article)

3/23 - "A Land Twice Promised", 10:30, Medford Leas, lunch follows, tabchris1@prodigy.net

3/23 - Planning a Family Directed Funeral, 9:30-1:30, 15th and Cherry, pym.org

3/23 - William Penn Lecture by Michael Gagne, 7:30-9:30, 4th and Arch Mtg, pym.org

4/7 - Friends Enrichment Program Empty Bowl Dinner, 4-7:30, Moorestown Mtg, 856-235-1561