

# Concord Quarterly News

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Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 4 October 2012

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## Concord Quarterly Meeting Welcomes New Coordinator--Meet Averyl Hall!

Averyl Hall is a recent graduate of Earlham College. While at Earlham she was very involved in Quaker life on campus--working with Earlham's Quaker group and living in intentional community in a campus house with six other Quakers. She has attended various gatherings of Quakers--most recently working with the high school program at Friends General Conference. While she has been very involved in Quaker groups and organizations outside of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, she is familiar with Quaker communities in this region as well. Averyl is a graduate of Westtown School and while a student there she was involved in the Quaker Leadership Program. Averyl is excited to be returning to live in Pennsylvania and is looking forward to putting a ton of energy into all



Contact Averyl at [concordquarter@pym.org](mailto:concordquarter@pym.org) Or call 484-947-1221

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## Quarterly Meeting-Reflecting on FWCC's 6<sup>th</sup> Gathering of Friends in Kenya

Please join us for Concord Quarterly Meeting at Middletown Monthly Meeting on Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup>. The day will begin with Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. This Quarterly Meeting will include a youth program. There will be a presentation from Chris Stern on what it means to

listen to and respond to the voice of God in the present day. Following this presentation we will collectively reflect and respond to this topic.

**See the following flyers for more information on both the adult and youth program**

# Concord Quarterly Meeting

October 28, 2012

at

## Middletown Monthly Meeting

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- 8:15-8:30** Sign-in  
**8:30-9:45** Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
(Child care for all ages)  
Youth Group Program (see below and separate flyer)  
**9:45-10:00** Break  
**10:00-11:00** Adult Program

### Listening to the Inward Voice of Christ

*Excerpts from the epistle of the FWCC 6<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Friends, Nakuru, Kenya, April 17-22, 2012:*

“...As Friends we feel called to try to return to the conviction and simple faith of our Quaker ancestors and their transformed lives, so that we may once again become a prophetic people, speaking to God’s purposes in these times....Early on in our time together, we were asked the same question that God asked Elijah on Sinai: ‘What are you doing here?’ ...[Later on we asked ourselves the question:] ‘What will you do after you leave here?’ ...The inward voice of Christ Jesus is what will answer these questions for us....As Christ leads all of us, we can become the salt of the Earth and the light of our broken world.”

We will reflect on these words from the World Conference and what it means to listen and respond to God's voice as Friends today. There will be a short presentation given by Chris Stern followed by a period of sharing on this topic.

- 11:00-12:00** Meeting for Worship with Middletown Meeting  
**12:00-12:15** Announcements  
**12:15-1:00** Lunch provided by Middletown Meeting

### Youth Program

Concord Quarter’s Youth Group will have its first gathering of the school year at Quarterly Meeting. We’ll start gathering at 8:30 for fun and group building activities. Highlights of the morning are the production of a video to show other youth what we are all about, and youth business meeting, where we will learn about Quaker process and make plans for future gatherings. See separate flyer for more details.

**Note: Childcare is available beginning at 8:30.**

**Directions:** Middletown Meeting, 435 Middletown Rd., Media, PA 19063, is located on PA State Rte 352 one mile north of Rte. 1 in Lima, PA, just past Lima Estates on the south and Cumberland Cemetery on the north. Map at <http://www.pym.org/middletownquakers>; click on Map to Middletown Meeting link.

Concord Quarterly  
Meeting at Middletown

OCTOBER 28, 2012

TIME: 8:30-1:00



PROJECT



## CONCORD QUARTERLY MEETING YOUTH GROUP GATHERING

### HIGHLIGHTS

CREATE VIDEO ADVERTISE-  
MENT OF OUR GROUP

BUSINESS MEETING TO PLAN  
FUTURE GATHERINGS

FUN, COMMUNITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

MEET OLD FRIENDS, MAKE  
NEW ONES

FIRST GATHERING  
OF THE NEW  
SCHOOL YEAR FOR  
CONCORD  
QUARTER YOUTH  
FROM 5TH  
THROUGH 8TH  
GRADES!

CONTACT SUSAN WATER-  
HOUSE 610.692.2468 or-  
susan.waterhouse at west-  
town.edu FOR MORE INFOR-  
MATION

## Concord Quarterly Meeting Calendar of Events

### October

**5** Artist Illumination Night at The Hickman  
Wine & Cheese reception 6-8 PM; part of West Chester Gallery Walk

**12** Art of Caring at The Hickman

On Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, The Hickman will hold the 9<sup>th</sup> annual **Art of Caring** fundraising gala. See next page for more information.

**19** West Chester Meeting Family Movie Night  
Come one, come all! Worship & Ministry Committee hosts a family movie night, complete with popcorn, on Friday, October 19, at 7pm. The movie, *We Bought a Zoo* (PG), stars Matt Damon and Scarlett Johansson.

**28** Concord Quarterly Meeting at Middletown  
See flyer for detail.

### November

**1** *In the Morning Light*—Book Discussion  
@6:30 Author Pat Robbins will discuss her book *In the Morning Light* in the Mary Taylor House Community Room at The Hickman.

**2** Birmingham Friends Harvest Buffet @ 4:30-7 pm  
\$16 in advance/\$20 at the door – Children under 12 free  
For tickets, please contact Emily Myers at 610-212-3639 or [emily at DDRinc.com](mailto:emily@DDRinc.com)  
Featuring Fresh and Local Food, Pasture-raised turkey, Organic Vegetables, Vegetarian, Vegan, and Gluten Free Options. See next page for menu details.

**4** Planning Committee Meeting  
7:30 pm at The Hickman.

**7** 6:30pm APPRISE Program Medicare 101 at The Hickman

**10** 8am to noon Fall Clean Up - The Hickman

## December

5 @9am - 2pm Bazaar at The Hickman

## 23 Birmingham's Annual Carol Sing at 7 pm

Bring a friend or neighbor! All are invited to join us as we sing holiday favorites. After the singing, we will share cookies and punch.

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**Save the  
Date!  
October  
12, 2012**



The popular art-themed event features a live auction of 12 pieces of furniture painted by renowned local artists, as well as a silent auction with over 50 unique and highly desirable culinary, cultural and craft items. Guests will also enjoy a fine dining experience featuring local and fresh menu items and an open wine, beer and specialty cocktail bar. The fundraiser supports The Hickman's ongoing expansion plans to further our mission of providing affordable senior housing and care in West Chester. Reservations are \$125 each and may be obtained by calling 484-760-6416. For more information, visit The Hickman website at [www.thehickman.org](http://www.thehickman.org) and click on the **Art of Caring** tab.

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## Youth Committee Report

The Concord Quarter Youth Committee is up and running and planning events for our youth from 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades for the coming year. We have had two meetings since spring and have another planned in early October. Our Youth Group will gather at each quarterly meeting for fun and community building. At the October gathering we will be learning about business meeting and holding one of our own to plan events for the rest of the year. Our new coordinator, Averyl Hall, will help with this work, bringing her experience as a participant in the Quaker Leadership Program at Westtown School to the ongoing effort. All are welcome to join the work of this dedicated group of adults and help our youth grow in the Spirit. Contact Averyl to find out about the next meeting or others ways you can help.

**Concord Quarterly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
Held at Concord Monthly Meeting  
July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**

Meeting began with a period of silent worship. Friends welcomed Winifred Walker Mecherly from Milwaukee and Katie Larsen from Honolulu Meeting, visitors to our Quarter. David Scott welcomed everyone. Friends approved David serving as clerk for Rich Ailes who was unable to attend. There were 25 Friends in attendance. Friends from Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, Westtown, Willistown, and Wilmington were present. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Charles Spadoni's status was given by Beth Lawn. Unfortunately, Charlie's appeal was denied. His term goes to the end of 2013. He will be eligible for early release in June. It is a difficult time for Charlie and Beth asked that Friends keep him in their thoughts and prayers. If Friends wish to visit him, they should contact Serita Spadoni first. Cards and letters are always welcomed.

Friends minuted their appreciation for Charlie's two and a half years of faithful service as clerk and assistant clerk.

Concord Quarter search committee report was given by Tom Woodward and is attached to the minutes [see website for full report]. The committee requested that Friends approve switching from a part time contractor to a part time employee position. There is a legal difference between the two and the committee felt that the coordinator position is more appropriately a part time employee position.

**Friends approved changing the coordinator position to an employee position for a one year contract, no unemployment or severance, and no benefits besides two weeks of vacation.**

The search committee asked Friends to pass along recommendations for any cheaper alternate payroll services.

Friends minuted their thanks to the search committee for the work they have done.

Treasurer's Report was given by Ron Ploeg. The Quarter's finances for the past year were distributed to Friends. He highlighted the difference in timing between the covenants that Monthly Meetings send to the Quarter and the timing of paying a part time employee. There is not enough money in the Quarter reserve to cover the three months before the first monthly meeting covenant payment is due.

**Ron asked Friends for approval to designate the existing reserve as a operating reserve to cover three months of coordinator pay and to be repaid at least once a year. Unused operating income from the last fiscal year and interest income will be placed into this operating reserve. Friends approved.**

**Friends approved resuming requests that Monthly Meetings send contributions to the Tuition Endowment Fund in any amount that they deem appropriate.**

Ron announced that Bruce James' transition as Treasurer is moving forward.

Ron presented the proposed budget for the Quarter. He noted that the planning committee has not fully seasoned this budget, but is asking for approval of the budget as the Quarter is beginning the year now. **Friends approved the proposed budget.**

Friends minuted their gratitude for Ron's three years of dedicated service as Concord Quarter Treasurer and offered their best wishes in his new role as PYM Treasurer.

Environmental Festival Status was given by Pam Costanzi. There were seven people in attendance for the first meeting; they are putting together an outline for the festival. Pam asked that friends interested contact her.

Concord and Willistown's Joy's and Challenges were reported and are attached to the minutes.

The Hickman report was given by Debra Ward Sparre and is attached to the minutes.

Coordinator's Report was given by Beth Lawn and is attached to the minutes.

Friends approved a minute of gratitude for Beth's eight years of dedicated service on behalf of the Quarter as its coordinator. She will be missed.

Meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Lavin  
Recording Clerk

David Scott  
Clerk (pro tem)

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## **CONCORD MONTHLY MEETING**

### **Report on Joys, Concerns and going forward**

### **July 2012**

Concord Meeting in Delaware County, Pa has a long history going back into the 17th century. Currently the Meeting has been experiencing a very small number of attendees though the membership roster would indicate a much larger gathering of friends. The Nursery School after 38 years will not be able to function this coming year due to lack of enrollment. Maintenance issues that have been postponed for years have recently been dealt with.

After many years, the Concord Meeting roof was worn to the point that it had to be replaced. Happily the Meeting was able to go forward and the new roof should be secure for many years to come.

Our member, and Chichester Meeting caretaker, Robyn Young, has worked hard to successfully reacquaint and connect the community with the historic Chichester Meeting house.

It was with blessings of peace, joy and love that A Traveling Minute from Concord Monthly Meeting for member Brenda Beadenkopf's attendance at the April 2012 World Conference in Kenya of the Friend's World Committee.

In going forward it is the hope and aspiration of the Meeting to grow our membership and come to a resolution regarding the future of our Nursery School.

Raymond Hamilton  
Assistant Clerk  
Concord Monthly Meeting

July 22, 2012

To: Concord Quarterly Meeting recorder  
Fr: Willistown Friends Meeting  
Re: Annual Report from Willistown  
Submitted by: Pamela Costanzi

The past fiscal year at Willistown Friends Meeting, which just ended June 30<sup>th</sup> was an active and spirit-filled year. Highlights included:

- A balanced budget with donations from nearly 100 members and attenders.

- Several new families joined Willistown this year and have become active on committees

- Major renovations to the First Day School, including water and mold remediation, painting, repair to walls and new flooring. Old toys and materials were removed and existing and new toys and materials were organized. It looks great and, more importantly, is a safe and welcoming environment for our growing FDS.

- As part of the overall interior and exterior building improvements, two high power dehumidifiers were installed to remove moisture AND improve air flow throughout the building.

- Major tree work was done to protect the building from damage and to prepare 4 Ash trees from the impending arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer.

- Gutters were replaced to draw water away from the building. Additional projects to address water remediation for the lower level are in the works.

Plans are being discussed to add a handicap accessible ramp to the exterior of the building to allow for wheelchair access to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Social Hall.

- The Peace and Social Action Committee has energized members and attenders in support of projects at the Safe Harbor shelter in West Chester and has conducted monthly collections of food and money for the West Chester Food Cupboard.

- While the past year marked the loss of some long time members, the year also brought new members – particularly young families – to the Willistown Community. We continue to thrive.

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## **Coordinator's Report July 2012**

The last several months have been very busy with many meetings, programs at quarterly meetings, and a called meeting to discern way forward with the change in our coordinator

program necessitated by loss of funding from Yearly Meeting. We have taken our time and heard all voices and made a sound decision that will carry us forward in a manner that honors both our time and financial resources. A sub group of the Planning Committee has begun a search for a 20 hour a week coordinator who will help facilitate connections among the monthly meetings, and between the monthly meetings and the Quarterly Meeting. Community building programs will continue, but of necessity, some work formerly done by the coordinator will have to be taken up by volunteers. Our Quarter has grown stronger over the past years, and will continue to do so with the help of all its members.

With the new fiscal year July 1 we welcome a new treasurer, Bruce James, and a new assistant clerk, Bruce Harrison, both from Westtown Meeting. Rich Ailes and John Lavin will continue as clerk and recording clerk.

I ended my official work as your coordinator, and as an employee of PYM, on June 30. My position and those of the four other quarterly meeting coordinators on the PYM payroll have been laid down as of that date. I am continuing to serve in a very part time capacity until a new coordinator is hired. This past month I have been assisting the Planning Committee's work to hire a new coordinator, the Youth Committee in make plans for the fall, and also the group of people looking into holding a Quarter-sponsored Environmental Stewardship Festival next year. I am also keeping up communications and handling other ongoing work such as the Tuition Aid Fund and, of course, assisting with events. The picnic and tubing went well this year with 34 people participating, up from the last two years. Planning for events for the coming year will start at our meeting in August.

It has been my privilege to serve you these past almost 8 years. Working together we have seen our quarterly sessions grow stronger with wonderful programs for both adults and children and increasing attendance; we have taken on service projects; put together educational programs and intergenerational events; formed a youth group; danced together; floated down the Brandywine together; and grown together in love and in service to one another and our communities. Since I am not a member of Concord Quarter, I will no longer be among you as you continue the work we have started together. I leave wishing you many blessings as you continue your journey into community. I will miss you all. Please don't forget to invite me to the square dance and the tubing next year; I'll bring my granddaughters and introduce them to Quakers at their liveliest!

With much love,

Beth Lawn

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**The Hickman  
Annual Report to the Concord Quarter  
July 22, 2012**

### **Sharpless-Hall Replacement**

The Hickman Board of Managers and administrative staff currently are working with ParenteBeard to prepare a financial analysis of the various program models that could be housed

in the new Sharpless-Hall building. Our Strategic Planning Committee is working with the goal of having a plan in place by the end of 2012.

### **John Schwab's Retirement/Succession Plans**

As some of you may know, John Schwab, our President/CEO, will retire at the end of this year after more than 28 years of service to The Hickman. While John will miss his role as leader of The Hickman, he is looking forward to having the freedom that retirement brings, including time to spend with his new grandson, Spencer David Schwab.

Our Search Committee is working with a representative of CliftonLarsonAllen (formerly ThirdAge), who is doing a thorough search to find just the right person to complete the Sharpless-Hall replacement project, maintain The Hickman's reputation within our community, and help The Hickman grow and expand in the future. While John will be greatly missed, we look forward to the opportunities that this change will bring.

### **Surrey @ The Hickman**

Last year, The Hickman and Surrey Services for Seniors collaborated to develop Surrey @ The Hickman, bringing home care to seniors in the Greater West Chester area. Karen Wolfrom began her work as Director of Surrey @ The Hickman on August 1, 2011, and the business has grown and prospered under her fine direction. The Hickman and Surrey Services continue to provide in-kind support to this start-up company and see great value in helping seniors age in place. Services offered include transportation, information and referral services, home care, daily money management, home maintenance, and social and educational activities.

### **Mary Taylor House**

The Mary Taylor House has been open for just over one and one-half years. All units are leased. Pennrose Management Company manages the building for us. Mary Taylor House residents have become a cohesive group of caring friends and neighbors. They enjoy many activities together, including a wonderful Thanksgiving feast and New Year's Celebration. Daily, they can be found in the lobby library or community room putting together jigsaw puzzles or playing games on a regular basis. The Hickman is thrilled to have this addition to our campus.

### **Quaker Block**

The members of Quaker Hill – West Chester Monthly Meeting, the Friends School and The Hickman – meet monthly to discuss items of interest. We believe that it is important to maintain open lines of communication and to work together to the benefit of the all involved.

### **Staffing**

This year we bid farewell to some employees and welcomed others. New employees are:

- After many years with the Coatesville School District, Pedro Quiñones joined EMS and serves as our Director of Plant Operations. Khamphanh Sanouvang, who retired in 2010, found that he missed being at The Hickman and returned to his role in our Maintenance Department in August of 2011.
- Joe Barna, our new Dining Services Manager, has brought some new and exciting ideas to The Hickman dining rooms. He also is working with West Chester Friends School to cater student lunches in the 2012-2013 school year.

- Emily Siolek is our new Admissions/Marketing Director. Emily comes to us after 15 years at St. Francis County House. She is currently working to update our website and improve our marketing process in an effort to attract more residents to The Hickman.
- Andrew Batten joined The Hickman as Finance Manager in January 2012. Because he was previously employed by our auditors and was familiar with the management of our finances, this was a smooth transition.
- Paula Carman is ending her employment at The Hickman as Human Resources Director/Business Manager to return to her home state of Texas and Jayne Capwell-Gibbs will be taking her place. Jayne has extensive experience in human resources and the senior care industry.
- Additional new employees include Kathleen O'Connell, Development Associate, and Victoria Schmidt, Reception.

### **Chaplaincy Intern**

We were very fortunate to have Leslie Homer-Cattell with us for six months. Leslie, a chaplaincy student of the Mennonite faith, was able to add to the spiritual life of our residents through activities and one-to-one chats with residents who were in need of a compassionate ear.

### **Governance**

The Hickman's Board of Managers is currently made up of 18 members, 11 of whom are Quaker. Bob Adams is in his third year as Board Chair. Our board members bring a wide variety of gifts and talents to The Hickman.

### **Development**

Despite the continued economic uncertainty, The Hickman had another successful fundraising year in 2011. Highlights include:

- Total revenue of \$347,401, which was an increase in non-bequest giving of nearly \$30,000 from fiscal year 2010.
- Upgrade revenue (donors who increased their giving) increased 233%, while downgrade (donors who decreased their giving) revenue only increased by 167%. We had some of both, of course, but this report shows we had a much higher percentage of donors who increased their giving versus decreased their giving, which allowed us to realize a net gain of \$41,732. This is particularly important because discretionary giving has decreased slightly in the past year because of the recession and economic uncertainty.
- In 2011, 11 grant proposals were written, with awards totaling \$148,354 (\$50,000 for Surrey @The Hickman start-up costs). Only 2 proposals were denied, which is a remarkable success rate, given the decrease overall in grant funding available. In addition, The Hickman received \$46,700 in unsolicited grants – including \$5,000 for Mary Taylor House, \$20,000 in Resident Assistance and the balance in unrestricted funds.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debra Ward Sparre  
Board Member

**Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter**  
**Volume 9, Issue 4 October 2012**

Averyl Hall, Editor  
575 Fellowship Road  
Chester Springs, PA 19425

Clerk: Rich Ailes  
Asst. Clerk: Bruce Harrison  
Recording Clerk: John Lavin  
Treasurer: Bruce James  
Coordinator: Averyl Hall

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Birmingham  
Concord  
Goshen  
Middletown  
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Westtown  
Willistown  
Wilmington

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