



Susan Brodesser and *HomeAID for Africa*

Susan Brodesser needs meeting for worship. She makes it a point to not let anything interfere with joining her fellow meeting members at Birmingham Sunday mornings. She understands experientially what is meant by this statement from *Advices in Faith and Practice*:

Activity which is meaningful results from insights gained in prayer. Counseling which is helpful comes from bringing the divine perspective to human confusion.

(Helen Hole, 1962, *F&P*, p. 110)

A few years ago Susan was having some “human confusion” over where she might use her experience and talents to help the struggling families of the world. She had been a family therapist for over 18 years. At home raising two young daughters, Susan found herself still drawn to helping those in need, but unsure of how or where to direct her energies. She spent some time volunteering with Amnesty



Susan with some of *HomeAID*'s scarves

International, but needed something more. She had great compassion for mothers and children in other lands, perhaps heightened by her adoption of toddlers from China. The draw toward those less fortunate kept pulling at her, and she took her struggle to meeting for worship, asking for guidance.

Cont'd on next page

Friends, Money and the Earth at May Quarterly Meeting

Members of PYM's Eco-Justice Working Group will give a brief overview of what the Growth Dilemma means and explore with us how we might begin to address it in our own households and communities. Margaret Mansfield will offer the example of the Friendly Households Project, an initiative sponsored by the Eco-Justice Working Group, to engage individuals, families and meetings in lowering their own personal footprints. George Owen will speak to the Transition Town Movement, which focuses on building resilient, sustainable communities.

Sowing Seeds of Peace is the theme for the programs

for children and youth through high school. Children's activities including making May baskets, Godly Play stories, and making salad for lunch. The Young People's Group (middle school through high school) will have outdoor games and “Downtown Discussion” around the topic. All join together for May Day dancing around the Peace Pole and silk screen tee shirt making, then join the adults for meeting for worship and lunch.

See flyer insert and inside back cover for schedules. Please note that a tour of The Hickman's Mary Taylor House is being offered after lunch.

Susan cont'd from p. 1

Finally guidance came, in the form of a leading. Susan had had a concern for AIDS orphans for years; now she would take action, do something to help mothers and children in Africa, where there seemed to be the most need. She discovered that Africa has been hit harder by the HIV/AIDS virus than any other region of the world. Her research revealed that more than 17 million Africans have died from AIDS and another 24.7 million are infected with the HIV virus, approximately 2 million of whom are children. There are now over 17 million AIDS orphans.

Susan called together others whom she thought might have a similar concern. In May of 2005, she sent an e-mail to friends and members of Quaker groups and volunteer organizations she was connected with, inviting them to a meeting at West Chester Friends School. Fourteen people showed up, including three other Quakers. All expressed concern for the plight of mothers and children in Africa. Some had connections there already. Kim Brosnan-Myers, a teacher at Friends School and member of London Grove Meeting, had been to Kenya to work with Wangari Mathaai and the Green Belt Movement. The husband of Sally Metzger from Downingtown Meeting was born to missionaries in the Congo. Others had visited South Africa or had some other African connection. Several were teachers and one the development director at Friends School and daughter of journalist Jim Wooten, who spent time in South Africa and has written movingly about the people there. They all wanted to help. By the end of the evening *HomeAID for Africa* was born.

Six years later *HomeAID for Africa* is a well established non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has raised over \$235,000 through the creation and sale of finely crafted items made by its members, fundraising events, and donations. The members dye silk scarves, create felt products, and make jewelry, note cards, and other items for sale. *HomeAID for Africa's* mission is to help care for, educate, and promote self-sustenance for women and children affected by HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, and other serious diseases in Malawi, Southern Africa.

Since it is an entirely volunteer organization all the money *HomeAID* raises goes directly to those in need. Susan, Sally Metzger, Marina Pavluk from West Chester Meeting, and Chris Soleil spent 10 days in Africa in 2006 visiting programs in South Africa and Malawi. They went to AIDS clinics and sanctuaries and homes for orphan children, including Nkosi's Haven, named for a South African boy who touched many lives before he died of AIDS at age 12. Eventually the board decided to partner with the Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance which vets and monitors many projects in Southern Africa. Susan has been to some of the places where *HomeAID* is sending money and will visit others when she travels to Malawi for two weeks in July.

HomeAID for Africa is holding a benefit concert and sale in West Chester in May. They welcome volunteers for this event, described below, and others coming up. For more information on projects donated to and ways to help contact Susan at 610-399-0823 go to www.homeaidforafrica.org.

HomeAID for Africa Benefit Picnic and Concert

Saturday, May 21, 2011 5 pm to 8 pm

On the lawn at Quaker Hill (Biddle and High Streets in West Chester)

Bring a lawn chair and a picnic (or purchase food at the event), enjoy an evening of great music, and assist ill and/or impoverished women and children in Malawi, Southern Africa. There will be three bands (soft rock, bluegrass, and surf). Burgers and Hot Dogs (regular and veggie), Snacks, and Dessert will be available for purchase.

\$5.00 suggested donation (\$15 per family). This is a family event; sorry, no pets.

Circling Concord Quarter

Spring Worship and Program on Local Quaker Botanists at Chichester Meetinghouse

Concord Friends Meeting will host a Spring Meeting for Worship at the Old Chichester Meetinghouse located at 611 Meetinghouse Road, Boothwyn, on Sunday, April 17, 2011 beginning at 11:15 AM. A brief history of the meetinghouse will be presented. The meetinghouse, grounds, and caretaker's house will be open to the public.

On May 7 at 2 p.m., Robyn Young, local historian and caretaker at Chichester, will present a program on local Quaker botanists and scientists and their contributions to history. Light refreshments will be served on both occasions. Contact Robyn Young 610.453.4075 or herashouse at yahoo.com for more information.

Harmony on the Hill Offers Spring Programs

John and June Gallagher offer their special folk sounds on April 15 at 7 p.m. performing as *Whirled Peas*, Harmony on the Hill's first Spring event. Tickets are only \$10 with advance RSVP, \$15 at the door. Children 12 and under are free. Pick up tickets at Aztec Printing & Design in Trolley Square, Wilmington or just let us know you're coming and we'll hold them.

The 5th annual Berry Festival will take place June 5th from 1-4 p.m. and will feature hip-hop by the Chosen Dance company. More information on www.harmonyonthehill.org. Contact by e-mail harmonyonthehillconcerts@verizon.net, or call 302.652.4491.

Middletown Meeting Presents Program on The Beatitudes

Continuing their offering of opportunities to deepen Quaker spirituality in our meetings, Middletown Meeting will present *The Beatitudes: Are They Present in our Lives Today?* on May 21st from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. Here is an excerpt from the flyer: "*We are often so busy that we lose track of what is most important in our lives. The Sermon on the Mount is a call from Jesus to straighten out our priorities and put God first. As he preached to the crowd, Jesus laid a foundation for what we now call the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes continue the challenges of the Hebrew prophets, 'But what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.'*" Lunch will be provided. Childcare available with advance registration. For more information or to register please contact: Rich Ailes at railesjr@ailesdodson.org; Chris Stern at cevsstern1@verizon.net; or call Beth Lawn 610.872.1522..

Underground Railroad Tour of Quaker Meetinghouses Begins at Wilmington

QHHPF is sponsoring *An Underground Railroad Tour: The Delaware Quaker Connection* on May 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This bus tour will trace in reverse some of the trail of the Underground Railroad via Quaker meetinghouses in Delaware. The tour, led by Patricia Lewis and John Creighton, will begin at the Wilmington Friends Meeting House, 401 North West Street, Wilmington, DE, where a talk will be given by Robert Seeley, descendent of Thomas Garrett, the most famous Underground Railroad station-master in Wilmington, who worshiped at that meeting house. Then tour participants will be taken to the New Castle Courthouse, where Thomas Garrett stood trial for aiding freedom-seekers. The tour will then go to the Appoquinimick Friends Meeting House in Odessa, and participants can see where freedom-seekers were said to be hidden en route to freedom. Finally, the tour will end in Camden, DE, where both Quaker and African American abolitionists worked for freedom in tandem with Harriet Tubman. The tour will return to Wilmington at 1:30 p.m. A brown bag lunch will be included. Reservations can be made by sending checks for \$25 per person to QHHPF at 521 West Street, Wilmington, DE, 19801, by May 19, 2011. For more information, call Mary Starkweather-White at 302-299-5600.

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AFSC Co-Sponsors Preparing Our Children for Peace: A Conference for Educators

The American Friends Service Committee, in partnership with Alpha Delta Kappa (international Honorary Organization of Women Educators) is presenting a conference at Delaware Technical and Community College, Stanton Campus. It will provide K-12 educators with tools to help prevent violence in our schools and communities. Topics include the Eye to Eye Conflict Resolution Program for PreK-5, Help Increase the Peace for grades 6-8, Human Rights Learning for Grade 8-Adult, and Alternatives to Violence for Adults. Keynote speaker is Barbara Simmons, on "Bullying and Cyber-Bullying." Fee is \$10; lunch is provided; space is limited. For a registration form contact Rosalind Freeman, 4F43R872R at comcast.net.

Friends Association For Care and Protection of Children Holds Open House

Please come to our open house at Friends Association For Care and Protection of Children on Wednesday, April 13, 2011 4:30 - 7 p.m. Come see our new office building at 113 W. Chestnut Street, West Chester, PA. Bring a friend and hear an update on our revised Housing Programs and Services: Emergency Family Shelter, Supportive Housing, and Homelessness Prevention. R.S.V.P. 610-431-3598 ext. 219.

Willistown Meeting Seeks Children's Religious Education Coordinator

Willistown Friends Meeting, located in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania is a wonderful religious community consisting of many dedicated members and attenders. Many of these members have attended Willistown since childhood. Others have joined us more recently. We strive to provide a spiritual dimension as well as friendship and a sense of service to our community. Children are extremely important to this framework. We have been blessed with a dedicated Religious Education Coordinator who is leaving to pursue her career. Our Meeting is seeking an inspiring, able, enthusiastic person to serve as our new Religious Education Coordinator beginning in May 2011. We are beginning an active search immediately for a qualified candidate. For a detailed job description contact Geoff Wilkinson, gwilkcfp at comcast.net or 484-368-9599.

Spring Cleaning Can be Spring Greening

In the spirit of our May 1st Quarterly Meeting at West Chester, meeting member Linda Fisher encourages us to take advantage of opportunities to recycle. Here are some resources she suggests:

- ◇ *ConEd and PECO* both offer consumer appliance recycling through which they will give up to \$35 for your AC, refrigerator, or freezer. They also haul it away for free. Contact these web-sites to help: ConEd.com and PECO.com.
- ◇ *Earth911.com* for recycling electronics. Type in zip code and find nearest drop-off locations.
- ◇ *Freecycle.org*. You can post items for pick-up (called Offers) or place a Wanted ad. Nice way to not have to drive to a donation center and/or keep items out of landfills.

Let Linda or Beth Lawn know if you have other resources or ideas to suggest. Maybe we can get an items swap going at a future Quarterly Meeting or through the newsletter. Contact Linda at nlovingspirit@yahoo.com, or Beth at concordquarter@verizon.net, 610.872.1522.

An Evening of Renaissance Music to Benefit Hazard-Holmes Family

West Chester Meeting, April 6, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Elisabeth and Blythe Holmes, daughters of the late Richard Holmes and Kristin Hazard, who were members of West Chester Meeting. Suggested donation is \$15, \$10 seniors and students. For more information call 610-696-0491. If you cannot attend and would like to make a donation you may do so by sending a check to this address: Holmes/Hazard

Concord Quarterly Meeting

May 1, 2011

at

West Chester Monthly Meeting

425 N. High St. West Chester, PA 19380

7:45-8:00 Sign-in
8:00-9:30 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
9:30-9:45 Break
9:45-10:45 Adult Program

FRIENDS, MONEY AND THE EARTH

Our program will begin with a brief overview of what the growth dilemma means and then explore with participants how we might begin to address it in our own households and communities. Margaret Mansfield will offer the example of the Friendly Households Project, an initiative sponsored by the Eco-Justice Working Group, to engage individuals, families and meetings in lowering their own personal footprints. George Owen will speak to the Transition Town Movement, an initiative which focuses on building resilient, sustainable communities.

10:45-11:45 Meeting for Worship with West Chester Meeting
(children and youth join at 11:30)
11:45-12:00 Announcements
12:00-1:00 Lunch (provided by WC Meeting)
1:00 –1:30 Tour of The Hickman’s Mary Taylor House

CHILDREN’S AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S GROUPS (MS through HS)

Sowing Seeds of Peace

(See separate flyer inside back cover for schedules)

Activities for the younger ones include making May baskets, Godly Play stories, and making salad for lunch. Young People’s Group activities include outdoor games and “Downtown Discussion” around the topic of ***Sowing Seeds of Peace***. All join together for May Day dancing around the Peace Pole and silk screen tee shirt making

Child care available all morning for the youngest

Directions to West Chester Meeting: Take High Street north through West Chester to Quaker Hill, at the corner of N. High and Marshall. Parking is on the street in front of the meetinghouse and in school lot around the corner on Marshall. Limited parking next to the meetinghouse for the handicapped.

CQM Calendar of Events: Pull Out and Post

April

- 6 **Benefit Concert for Elizabeth and Blythe Holmes**
7:30 p.m., West Chester Meeting; An Evening of Renaissance Vocal Music. See p. 4 for details.
- 7 **Informational Seminar for Senior Veterans and Families**
11 a.m. and again at 6:30 p.m., The Hickman. Free informational presentation on VA benefits that can help pay for long term care. Please RSVP to (484) 760-6400. Refreshments will be served.
- 13 **Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children Open House**
4:30-7 p.m., 113 W. Chestnut St., West Chester. RSVP requested. See p. 4 for details.
- 15 **Harmony on the Hill: Whirled Peas**
7 p.m., Wilmington Meeting; see p. 3 for details.
- 16 **Preparing Our Children for Peace Conference**
8:30-3, Stanton, DE. See p. 4 for details.
- 17 **Spring Worship at Chichester Meetinghouse**
11:15 a.m.; refreshments. Contact Robyn Young for directions, 610.453.4075, or herashouse at yahoo.com.

May

- 1 **Concord Quarterly Meeting at West Chester**
8-1. Programs on Stewardship and Sowing Seeds of Peace. Details on flyer insert and inside back cover.
- 7 **Program on Local Quaker Botanists and Scientists**
2 p.m., Chichester meetinghouse. Local historian Robyn Young presents. See p. 3 for details.
- 21 **The Beatitudes: Are They Present in our Lives Today?**
10-2, Middletown Meeting. See p. 3 for details.
- 21 **HomeAID for Africa Benefit Picnic and Concert**
5-8 p.m., on the lawn at Quaker Hill in West Chester. See p. 2 for details.
- 21 **Underground Railroad Tour of Quaker Meetinghouses**
9-1:30, starts at Wilmington Friends meetinghouse. See p. 3 for details.

June

- 3 **Artist Illumination Series**
6-8 p.m., The Hickman, Meet the Artist Reception. Refreshments will be served. This event coincides with West Chester's Gallery Walk which is the same evening. Please see www.thehickman.org for details on the featured artist.
- 5 **Berry Festival**
1-4, Wilmington Meeting. See p. 3 for details.
- 15 **Summer Concert on the Lawn**
6:30-7:30 p.m., The Hickman, 3rd Wed. June, July & August. Bring a lawn chair. See website for details.

July

- 24 **Quarterly Meeting at Willistown and Picnic and Tubing on the Brandywine**
Details in next newsletter.
- 27-31 **Annual Sessions**
Residential sessions at DeSales University. Kids come free! Watch PYM Website for details.

- Ongoing**
- Gentle Yoga** Willistown. 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Bring a blanket, mat, cushion. Call Ellen Simmons 610.356.3930, or Sharon Bennett, 610.761.1962 for more information.
- Sacred Harp Singing** Birmingham. Laura Densmore 610.793.5102, LDensmo1 at swarthmore.edu.
- Tanguy Sings** 4th Saturday; contact Rich Aldred; raldred at comcast.net, or 610.399.6724.

Concord Quarterly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Held at Goshen Monthly Meeting
January 23, 2011

Meeting began with a period of silent worship. Clerk Charles Spadoni welcomed everyone. Connie Eash from Birmingham was approved as Acting Recording Clerk.

Minute of Remembrance The clerk read this minute of remembrance for members of our meetings who recently passed on; it was followed by a moment of silence:

We have had an unusual number of deaths among members of our meetings recently, and we feel it is fitting to take a moment before we begin our business today to acknowledge those among us who have passed on. Kristin Hazard and Rick Holmes from West Chester MM, Norm Reimer from Goshen MM, Tom Brown from Westtown MM, Bob James from Concord MM, and Toni Brinton from Birmingham MM, all have left us in the last weeks. We miss them at our meetings, and we grieve with their families, their meetings, and all who loved them at their loss. Let's take a moment of silence in remembrance.

Monthly meeting count. No one present was new to quarterly meeting. There were about 35 attending meeting for business. Friends from Birmingham, Goshen, Concord, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, Willistown, and Wilmington were present. The agenda was reviewed and approved. One addition was made: Rich Ailes will give a report on the Communications Workshop held Nov. 20th.

Treasurer's Report was given by Ron Ploeg. The financial statement was presented using the new reporting format, QuickBooks Reports. The new balance sheet has four subaccounts to which income may be assigned: the Operating Fund, the Reserve Fund, the Tuition Operating Fund (TOF), or the Tuition Endowment Fund (TEF). The first \$100 from each Monthly Meeting goes into the Operating Fund to meet the \$800 that was budgeted for the year. All remainder goes into the Tuition Operating Fund. Due to the suspension of the Tuition Endowment Fund (TEF) contributions for two years, Meetings can choose to reduce their covenants by 50%. If the number of applicants remains the same, tuition grants should be relatively unchanged. Separate TEF subaccounts are being created at Friends Fiduciary for each Monthly Meeting, so that residual interest for each Monthly Meeting can be tracked, even if TEF contributions by Monthly Meetings fluctuate. Income from these accounts will be combined and added to the Tuition Operating Fund. Monthly Meeting covenants are due by end of February. PYM requested a 1% increase. For meetings that don't respond, the amount for next year will be assumed to be the same as this year. The Treasurers Meeting will hopefully be early in February and will include treasurers from each MM. Friends accepted the treasurer's report and approved the new reporting format.

Coordinator's Report was presented by Beth Lawn. The October Quarterly Meeting at Middletown was rich with sharing from four Young Adult Friends and deep worship afterwards. The Communications Workshop held Nov. 20th was well attended with all meetings in the Quarter represented and people from several others quarters participating as well. Our next event is a square dance February 19 at Westtown School and a sleepover for middle school youth afterwards. Western Quarter has been invited to participate in both. Beth is working with Greta Rech, WQ Youth Coordinator, for the sleepover. Western Quarter has invited our families and children to several events recently, and Wilmington Meeting invited other meetings to share in their monthly field trips. These new opportunities for families to connect across the meetings address long standing goals of the quarter.

The Planning Committee wrestled with financial issues at the last meeting and heard several recommendations from our treasurer, Ron Ploeg. These were addressed in the Treasurer's Report above. The Quarter approved changes in the Tuition Aid Fund at the October Quarterly Meeting. Financial shortfalls plague all our meetings and our Yearly Meeting as well. Ron has been in touch with monthly meeting treasurers with suggestions for changes in process to improve cash flow.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has hired a Director of Meeting Relations, Martin Reber, from London Grove Meeting. Martin will start work on January 24th. He will head up a new program to have PYM staff work directly with Monthly Meetings to improve the relationship between PYM and individual meetings. He will be the direct contact person at PYM for all quarter coordinators. The hope is that meetings will feel more a part of PYM and feel supported by the many resources at PYM. For more information, please see Beth Lawn and also read the article about the program in the latest PYM News.

The next Concord Quarter Planning Committee meeting is January 30, 7PM, at The Hickman. Lola Georg and Martin Reber from PYM central staff will be joining us. All are invited to attend. The Planning Committee continues to visit monthly meetings, spending valuable time with Wilmington and West Chester Meetings this fall. A visit is scheduled with Willistown MM for January 30th. Concord Meeting is delighted with their new roof. Any member of the Meeting will be happy to tell you about it.

Joys and Challenges In the January 2010 meeting for business, Friends approved requesting a response from two Meetings per quarter to two queries: "What were your greatest joys and challenges this past year? What are your hopes for the next?" Goshen and Wilmington Monthly Meetings reported their responses.

Goshen Report - Joys and Challenges were presented by Tina Hallidy, co-Clerk. New cushions allowed members with allergies to return on a regular basis. This project brings the joy that comes from the toils of planting and tending over the past several years. Watching younger members move on and settle into the next phase of their life journeys, transferring to Meetings far away,

Minutes cont'd from previous page

including Texas and Costa Rica, brings a sense of joy -- one that comes with awareness of work well done. One member described this as a bittersweet satisfaction that comes when former Goshen members are cherished in their new meetings much as they were by us. Small spiritual nurture groups and the monthly adult first day Meeting for Learning improves the connectedness shared by individuals in the meeting. The quality of worship, and spiritual fellowship allows sharing from experience without concern for how it comes out, sharing the essence rather than the technique. Listening for and welcoming the Truth, as experienced both individually or corporately, provides sustenance that is tangible. It gives the motivation to seek continued progress in the coming year concerning property stewardship and influx of new members. Children are provided a First Day school lesson twice a month. On these Sundays the whole meetinghouse benefits from the additional positive energy coursing through the halls. At times the morning's lesson has led to vital vocal ministry when the children join the adults for Second Meeting. Challenges include stretching the energy of committees to meet the variety of needs of our members, and stretching funds to properly steward the lovely Meeting grounds.

Wilmington Report - Joys and Challenges were presented by David Scott: The "Harmony on the Hill" series of concerts continues to bring light and energy to the Meeting's urban neighborhood, and its associated annual Berry Festival was enjoyed by meeting members and neighbors alike. The Religious Education Committee is developing a Right of Passage program to reach adolescents in the Meeting. The Meeting has established a long-term plan for renewal of the meetinghouse and launched a capital campaign to fund it. The Committee on Care of Meeting is working on the ongoing issue of inactive members and on the well-being of Friends both distant and local. Worship and Ministry is addressing the need for adult religious education. Challenges include a small active membership, a shortage of members willing to clerk committees, and the difficulty of reconciling differences of opinion. The Meeting's hopes for the future are: That a successful capital campaign will lead to renewal of the meetinghouse; Care of Meeting's efforts will result in renewal of some inactive members; Programs for children and adults will be successful; The meetinghouse renovation will enable expanded use of the building by local groups; Renewal of the Meeting will help to renew the larger Quaker Hill community.

Response to the Reports: A Friend asks: "How do we address inactive members?"

Response from David Scott: A member might be inactive for decades. Sometimes they are shut-ins. Some are distant Friends, and the meeting might try to find local meetings to provide a new spiritual home for them. Some have been allowed to drift. If someone has had some connection with the meeting, either in person or financially, we consider them active. We write letters when possible. If there is no contact information or connection to the meeting, it is a gut wrenching decision to remove them from the roles. Gwynne Ormsby reported that when Birmingham has worked on communication with inactive Friends, some have returned to active membership.

Communications Workshop Report presented by Rich Ailes. About 20 Friends attended the workshop on November 20 at Willistown MM. Wright Horne, PYM Associate Secretary for Advancement and Communications, and Naman Hampton, PYM Web Manager, presented many helpful ideas to improve communication plans for Monthly Meetings. Many thanks to Willistown for providing great hospitality. Information presented included designing your message for the intended audience and various media available to reach that audience. Media covered included websites (PYM can help with these), Facebook, listserv, events, hangtags (door hangers to put on doorknobs in the neighborhood), and postcards to new people in your neighborhood were suggested means of communication. Another suggestion was to get out into the community to get to the people who don't visit your website. Google provides free services meetings can use, such as a mailing list of people who have recently moved into an area, and free phone numbers for meetings with phones. Calls to these numbers can be forwarded to any person in the meeting. The impact of your flyer or poster can be tested. Try to look at a billboard to see if you can get the message in six seconds as you drive by. Many billboards are not successful in getting their message across. Another test is to squint and look to see if the message on your flyer stands out. If it doesn't, then your readers won't get your message. Designing a message can help to attract visitors. Two examples were: Is your life so noisy that God can't get a word in edgewise? Silent Worship at Friends Meeting might be what you are looking for. Talk directly to your maker. Come to Meeting. Be a Quaker.

Quaker Quest: Michael Wajda encourages us to try Quaker Quest. The program shares individual Quaker experience, but also focuses on communicating our message and attracting visitors. There is a meeting out west that had a banner with Quaker Quest that pulled in about 12-15 visitors each time. There are tubes with handouts that are well received.

Memorials: Thomas Swain expressed appreciation for the many memorials for Friends he has attended in recent weeks. Thomas was moved by how well Birmingham responded to and cared for Toni Brinton's family and friends yesterday. He has also witnessed the support given by West Chester to families and friends of Kristin Hazard and Rick Holmes. Many from the wider circle of Friends attended the memorial of Mario Cavallini at Mickleton Monthly Meeting, where they comforted and grieved with Mario's family and friends.

Meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

Respectfully submitted,
 Connie Eash, Acting Recording Clerk
 Charles Spadoni, Clerk

Sowing Seeds of Peace

Concord Quarterly Meeting Children's and Young People's Group Programs

May 1, 2011

at

West Chester Monthly Meeting

Children's Program Schedule

8:00- 8:30	Sign-in, games and introductions
8:30- 9:30	Making May baskets and cookie flowers
9:30-10:30	Children will gather for two Godly Play® stories: The Sower and The Mustard Seed
10:30-11:00	May Pole dancing at the Peace Pole
11:00-11:30	Children participate in making salad for lunch and silk screen tee shirt making

*child care will be provided for the youngest children

Young Peoples Group (YPG) (Middle School & High School The "I wonder what the YPG at West Chester does?" program

8:00- 8:45	Sign-in, Introductory games
8:45- 9:30	Four Square / Outdoor Games (in gym if rain)
9:30-10:30	"Downtown Issues" typically the YPG would go to one of downtown West Chester's cafes or coffeehouses to discuss a previously selected topic. For QM we will be turning the courtyard or gym (if raining) into the WCMM YPG Coffeehouse to discuss ways we can "Sow the Seeds of Peace" in our home, school, neighborhood and town.
10:30-11:00	Join FDS for May Day dancing at the Peace Pole
11:00-11:15	Make silk screen t-shirts
11:15-11:30	YPG Meeting for Business (what we liked, what we would change, and what we would make better)

Both Groups

11:30-11:45	The children and YPG will enter meeting, as is West Chester's practice, in the last fifteen minutes of Worship with the adults of the meeting
12:00-1:00	Lunch

Please bring a plain tee shirt for silk screening.

- ◇ Please let us know the number and ages of children who may be participating so we can plan materials and supplies accordingly. Contact Youth RE clerk Melinda Wenner Bradley at 610-399-3519, mmwb at comcast.net; YPG clerk Todd Krasnai at takrasnai atcomcast.net, 484.872.8008; or Beth Lawn, CQM Coordinator, 610.872.1522, concordquarter@verizon.net.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter
Volume 7, Issue 2 April 2011

Beth Lawn, Editor
773 E. 24th Street
Chester, PA 19013

Clerk: Charles Spadoni
Asst. Clerk: Rich Ailes
Recording Clerk: John Lavin
Treasurer: Ron Ploeg
Coordinator: Beth Lawn

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Birmingham
Concord
Goshen
Middletown
West Chester
Westtown
Willistown
Wilmington

Coordinator's Report

The square dance and middle school sleepover at Westtown School were well attended and enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the people at Westtown for their warm hospitality! Ten young people slept over in the cabin after the dance, 8 from Concord Quarter and 2 from Western. A third youth from WQ joined us at the dance. During our rap-up session the young people said they would like to get together again and came up with a variety of ideas for activities. Greta Rech, WQ Youth Coordinator, and I will plan another gathering for mid to late May. Young people and their families from both Quarters will have an opportunity for furthering connections again in July at our annual picnic and tubing on the Brandywine, held jointly with WQ these past several years.

The Planning Committee continues to review the budgets for the Quarter and the Coordinator. Ron Ploeg, QM treasurer, and I each spent time with Lola Georg, PYM Associate Secretary for Business and Finance, to gain a better understanding of our Coordinator Program account. Ron will submit a budget to QM in May with recommendations. The PC also reviewed the process approved by the Quarter on a trial basis last April of nominating people from its own ranks for clerk and assistant clerk. It was decided to ask the Quarter to continue this trial process for this coming year. We will also ask the Quarter to lay down the positions of at-large-members of the PC for the Coordinator review since we have not found anyone to fill them for the past two years. We will ask the Quarter to assign the task of the Coordinator review to the clerk, assistant clerk and treasurer.

We decided to have a goal-setting session at QM in July. I will do a report to present to QM in May. It will be circulated to the meetings and published in the July newsletter in preparation for the July session. We will also be looking at freshening up the newsletter; your ideas are most welcome!

The Planning Committee continues to visit monthly meetings. We had productive visits with Willistown and Middletown recently. We will visit Birmingham in May. Our next Planning Committee meeting will be held May 15 at 7:30 p.m. at The Hickman. All are invited to attend.

Beth Lawn