

# Newsletter

JUNE, 2005

Arthur Boyd, Clerk  
Elizabeth DuVerlie, Recording Clerk  
Jacquelin Potter, Administrative Assistant  
Charles Cluxton, Finance Secretary  
Lamar Matthew, Executive Secretary



## **Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run**

5116 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

Phones: 410.435.3773; Fax: 410.435.3779

e-mail: [stonyrunfriends@starpower.net](mailto:stonyrunfriends@starpower.net) on the web at [www.stonyrunfriends.org](http://www.stonyrunfriends.org)

### **MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS JUNE 14, 2005, 7:30 P.M., AGENDA (tentative), note date change.**

Opening Worship.  
Consideration of Query 6.  
Continuing in worship, we consider:  
Review of Minutes of Monthly Meeting, May 3, 2005. (pages 4 - 7)  
Overseers Report.  
Memorial Minute for W. Berkley Mann. (page 12)  
FORMAL REPORTS:  
Religious Education Committee Report. (pages 8 - 9)  
Spiritual and Intellectual Nurture Committee (SINC) Report. (page 10)  
Ushers Report. (page 11)  
Ad Hoc Committee on Aging update. (pages 21 - 26)  
Setting of schedule for summer Monthly Meeting.  
Announcements.  
Worship Sharing and Silent Worship.

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#### **From the Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting For Consideration QUERY 6, HOME AND FAMILY**

Do you make your home a place of affection where God's presence is felt? Do you practice family prayer? Do you share your deepest beliefs and interests with all in the family? Do you grow together through sharing prosperity and adversity? Can you keep a sense of humor and avoid taking yourself too seriously? Do you establish family standards including the mutual obligations of children and adults? Are you as children learning to be accountable for your own actions? Do you as parents help your children to grow in independence and responsibility? Do you consider the needs of grandparents and older members of the family circle?

#### **From the Advices, HOME LIFE**

**a. Living With Self and Others:** Friends have a loving concern for the varieties of supportive relationships that exist. We realize that the range of long-term mutual commitments is now wider than traditionally accepted. Our Meeting communities now include persons living alone, two-parent families, single-parent families, married and unmarried couples, homosexual and heterosexual couples, single adults or extended families sharing a household, and larger communal groups. At present Friends are divided on the wisdom or rightness of some of these relationships. Nevertheless, we recognize that there are many kinds of domestic living situations in which individuals have made long-

term commitments to each other and in which a caring, sharing, supportive relationship can grow. We are all called to make our primary relationships responsible, loving, mutually enabling, and spiritually enriching.

The efforts of making a home should be shared with tender regard for the needs and abilities of all members and appreciation for their unique contributions. As we strive to create the peaceable kingdom at home we need to be particularly careful about anger and its expression. Stressful situations should be addressed openly and lovingly. Anger is an index of our discontent that needs to be heeded and carefully channeled. We should find the difficult middle way between uncontrolled anger, which erupts in violence and oppression, and suppressed anger, which may result in silencing individuals to avoid confrontations, ultimately amounting to a greater violence to all involved. Meetings can help by being open and supportive to victims of anger and abuse as they seek healing even though it may lead through emotional chaos.

Meetings should be aware of situational stresses some families must deal with. Such stresses may arise in any household, but especially where children have only one parent, all the adults work outside the home, families contain members of different faiths, or the household includes ill or infirm elderly members. These families, as well as others in our midst whose members have special needs because of physical or mental illness, developmental disability or handicap, may require extra loving support and sensitivity to their needs.

Finally, we need to be mindful of those who, for any reason, live alone. While such individuals often live rich, full lives and contribute much to others, they need to be particularly included in all aspects of the Meeting, for frequently the Meeting is their family. Times and places should be provided for them to find and know each other. Single young adults need reassurance as they make life choices, which may run counter to parental or societal pressures. We also need to be aware of circumstances such as illness or unusual stress, in which those living alone may require assistance or companionship.

Our Meetings and communities are composed of persons who live in many kinds of home situations. All of us as individuals, as well as our Meetings collectively, need to create an atmosphere that is accepting, supportive and caring toward all the persons in our midst, whatever their domestic groupings, enabling all of us to grow and share with each other.

**b. Marriage:** Marriage, undertaken with divine assistance and solemnized in God's presence, is a creative and joyful relationship. When two people make their vows to each other in the presence of God and their friends, they take each other as life-long partners, promising with divine assistance to be faithful to each other. Implicit in their covenant for life is a commitment to resolve, with God's help, the problems and disagreements that arise in living together.

Marriage presents unique opportunities for growth. Many of these challenges come wrapped in love. The need for equality and sharing within a marriage places on both partners the responsibility to preserve and build family life. Some redefinition of roles and sacrifice of traditional privileges may be necessary. Close to each other we become aware of our strengths and weaknesses, responsibly carrying them together.

We thank God, then for the pleasures, joys and triumphs of marriage; for the cups of tea we bring each other, and the seedlings in the garden frame; for the domestic drama of meetings and partings, sickness and recovery; for the grace of occasional extravagance, flowers on birthdays and unexpected presents; for talk at evenings of the events of the day; for the ecstasy of caresses; for gay mockery of each other's follies; for plans and projects, fun and struggle; praying that we may neither neglect nor undervalue these things, nor be tempted to think of them as self-contained and self-sufficient. (*Discipline* of London Yearly Meeting, 1959)

When difficulties arise, members should feel free to come to their Meeting for help and counsel. Meetings, in turn, should assist in finding solutions, guiding the couple to professional counselors if advisable. The Yearly Meeting Counseling Service may be of assistance. If, despite the best efforts of all concerned, members find that their commitments cannot be sustained, they should work for an amicable parting, avoiding if possible adversarial proceedings. Meetings should be supportive of persons in such a process, and accepting and affirmative afterwards. Especially heedful of the needs of children, they should help all members of a family to recreate loving homes.

**c. Sexuality:** The human reproductive process is one of life's great miracles. Sexuality, much broader than the act of reproduction itself, is a channel for perception, communication and enjoyment. Friends are aware both of the joy of human sexuality in its proper context and the need for its restraint outside this context, together with its limitations and problems when treated casually rather than as a precious gift of God to be used responsibly. We recognize too that celibacy is a special gift, a calling and an act of free will to be practiced joyfully by those who have received that gift. Education in matters of sexuality is an area in which the home should be the dominant influence. Children should be given factual information to suit their growing understanding on sexuality, family planning, and their responsibilities in this area.

**d. Raising Children:** Friends should take responsibility for family planning, which may sometimes include adoption or provision of foster care. When the number of children exceeds the financial, physical and even spiritual capacity of the parents, a hardship is worked on all involved. Thoughtful decisions either to have or not to have children should be accepted and supported by the Meeting. As children acquire much by imitation and absorption, family members should watch carefully their own words and actions, curb indulgence, practice forbearance, choose worthy companionship, recreation and television viewing, and subscribe to worthwhile publications. Children tend to become what is expected of them; they are susceptible to the influences of their surroundings, and early impressions are most lasting. Therefore, love and mutual respect in the home are vital. Adults should be conscious of the harmful effect on children of rigid or unrealistic expectations. We should seek to discover and nourish that of God in each child and to foster the child's own talents and leadings.

Self-discipline is the foundation on which character is built. Loving counsel and direction rather than compulsion should be the basis of development. Love, consideration, service and the acceptance of responsibility form a basis for ordered and satisfying family relationships. Children should share in the tasks of the home and in the exchange of ideas. As parents we can foster confidence and candor between ourselves and our children. Casual, wide-ranging, honest conversation within the family, a natural means of introducing children to perplexing issues and new concepts, is a potent way of communicating ideals.

Children should be taught early to speak and listen to God in their own way. Understanding and acceptance of Meeting for Worship can come to children early in life through attendance and parental participation. Full appreciation may come later, but uplifting reading, religious discussion and quiet waiting upon the Spirit can be practiced early.

Prayer is a precious and important part of daily life. The recognition that answers may come in unexpected ways not always understood is essential to our religious experience. Reading of the Bible and other religious literature provides opportunities for the spiritual growth of all family members, and for binding the family together. The family itself is a precious spiritual community. The resources of the Meeting can be important for families undergoing crises. Friends should be particularly mindful of the needs of children who are experiencing pain or loss. A Meeting can provide care and understanding, acting as an extended family. Not only are we brothers and sisters in the spirit, but we may be beloved aunts and uncles of all the children in the Meeting. The resilience of the Meeting as a nurturing community encompassing many generations supports each of us throughout the many stages of our lives.

**MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS  
MINUTES**

*Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run  
May 3, 2005*

**May. 05 – 1 - Consideration of Query 5.** The Meeting began at 7:37 pm in silent worship, with 21 people present (2 arrived later), during which Query 5, Personal Way of Life, was read, as well as a segment from the advices of the BYM Faith and Practice on The Practice of the Life of the Spirit.

**May. 05 – 2 – April Minutes.**

Corrections:

1. 04-3 Add Geni Elliott to the welcoming committee for Claire Salkowski-Bartlett and Richard Bartlett.
2. 04-6 Omit the last sentence of the third paragraph “(Distinction....)”.
3. 04-7 Marjorie Scott resigned from the Friends School Board of Trustees in January, 2005, but is remaining on the Board until June, 2005.
4. 04-8 Change the first sentence to : “Margaret Allen reported, noting something that had not appeared in the version of the budget in the newsletter: if there are more contributions than budgeted, Meeting policy states that an amount equal to the excess is to be taken from the Combined Unrestricted Fund and transferred in proportion to the Community Service Fund (approximately 2/3) and the Nurture Fund (approximately 1/3).” (This did occur for 2004 and is shown on the Trustees’ fund accounting statement.) (Note: this policy has nothing to do with whether the excess contributions were actually spent, or whether the Meeting ran a surplus for the year. In this case, there was an excess of contributions over the budgeted figure, the operating surplus was larger still, and the surplus is expected to be transferred in due course to investments.)

**May. 05 – 3 – Community, Care and Clearness Committee.** Diane Proctor gave the report.

Second reading: Request by Havala Salkowski-Bartlett and Sean McKinney to be married in July 2005 under the care of the Meeting. Approved. Their Committee of Oversight will be Bob and Gail Breyer, Phil Perkins and Margaret Allen, and Nancy and Dale Varner from Little Falls Friends Meeting.

Karie Firoozmand is recommended for membership in the Religious Society of Friends. This is the first reading.

First Reading: Kimberly DeSha-Doll requests membership for her daughters, Amelia Alyce Doll (DOB 16 May 1995), and Madeline Margaret Doll (DOB 17 September 1998). *Approved.* The welcoming committee will include Brian Gamble, Meg Meyer, Arthur Boyd, and Dellie James.

Second Reading: The request by Sam Legg to move his daughter Nancy Legg Crystal to former member status was *approved.*

Updates on members and families:

- ? Julia Barss gave birth to twins on April 30 in Ottawa, Canada.
- ? Brenda Blom welcomed the birth of a grandson.
- ? Inez Hawk’s mother died recently; we send our sympathy to Inez and her family.

- ? A baby boy was born to Carol Fegan's and Daniel Conrad's daughter, Marilise.
- ? There is a recent health concern for Suzanne O'Hatnick.
- ? Marjorie Scott was in the hospital last week – heart issues – now back home, doing better.

**The Formal Report** of the CCC committee was distributed at tonight's meeting. Diane Proctor spoke to the report for the committee. The committee encourages on-going sharing of information. The committee also encourages members and attenders to stay in touch with persons who are in difficulty.

**May. 05 – 4 – Naming Committee.** Jolanda Ferguson reported. The Naming Committee, comprised of Jolanda Ferguson, Michael LaBua, and Nancy Moore, recommended Gene Baron to serve on the Nominating Committee through May, 2008. The Nominating Committee terms of Deborah Bedwell, Brian Gamble, Gail Breyer, and Tonette Runde are proposed to extend through May, 2008. The report was *approved*.

**May. 05 – 5 – Peace and Social Order Committee.** Proposal: Elaine Yamada reported. The committee recommends that Stony Run join the organization, BRIDGE (Baltimore Regional Initiative Developing Genuine Equality), paying \$1,500 membership for 2005; to be evaluated after 3 years. The committee has been considering this since August 2003 and has become more acquainted with BRIDGE over this time. About 8-10 persons from the Meeting have participated in BRIDGE activities.

The committee has been impressed by: the grass-roots nature of the organization; members being encouraged to take on responsibilities in their congregations, and the commitment to building community. Participants represent a wide range of social and economic backgrounds from several congregations in the Baltimore metropolitan area. Bridge has been making legislative impact, addressing de facto economic segregation recognized by AFSC. It promotes education and affordable housing. Dues are 1% of congregation's operating budget, which would be the largest Stony Run contribution to another organization besides GEDCO. Our 2005 payment would be less than that, with consideration for raising the amount in future years. Dues mostly pay for coordinating staff (two persons). A 5-6 member core team would represent Stony Run, which could then coordinate activities with other Quaker organizations. Currently active: Maria Brown, Dave Diorio, and Laura Kinsey.

One Friend expressed her appreciation that BRIDGE involves a variety of persons of different faiths, helping persons who are shy or may not have advantages of education to become more involved with persons from other faiths; also, BRIDGE seems to echo many of our values. Another appreciated the committee's initial exploration before moving forward with a recommendation; this would enrich us all socially. The BRIDGE Steering Committee structure is in the process of changing to a Board of Trustees structure. The Leadership Committee meets monthly. We would likely have representation on the Steering and/or Leadership Committees. The first year's dues may come from last year's surplus. The committee's recommendation to join BRIDGE was *approved*, noting that funds from the surplus was not a factor in the approval.

Vandalism to our peace banner occurred last week; this is the fourth occurrence. The word "world" was cut out, so the banner was taken down. The question before us now is what to do? Should we reinstall it at a higher, out-of-reach location? Do nothing? Wait and reinstall later? Change the wording? Discussion ensued, with no consensus.

The Peace and Social Order Committee will consider this and will bring a recommendation back to a future business meeting.

**May. 05 – 6 – Nominating Committee – Formal Report.** Blaine Keener reported. This is the second reading for this report. The report has been distributed, with amendments, in the last two newsletters. The final revised report was distributed tonight. Lynn Patton to remain on the Peace and Social Order Committee until 2007. Remove Cindy Sellers from Finance Committee. Scott Sellers and Elaine Yamada to be removed from the Ushers Committee. Property Committee – Tony Triolo has asked to step aside. Suzy Filbert is the correct spelling of her name. The report was *approved*, with changes. It was suggested that Frank Hendry be added to Property. He has been attending PC meetings for 9 months – Nominating Committee to consider and recommend.

**May. 05 – 7 – Peace and Social Order Committee – Formal Report.** Elaine Yamada reported. The January retreat clarified for the committee the importance that our peace work begins at our spiritual center; committee meetings begin with worship sharing around a query. Members of the ad-hoc Peace Actions Committee continued to be very active and the committee thanked them and the many members of the Meeting who have moved forward a wide variety of peace and social order projects. The following updates were made: Suzy Filbert, with the help of Dave Robson, coordinated a counter-recruitment program at Towson High School. With respect to draft counseling, the committee decided to wait until a draft becomes a reality, if it does, before pursuing training. The AFSC Eyes Wide Open exhibit is scheduled to be in Baltimore on September 9, 10, and 11, possibly at Stony Run. The clerk noted that the letters to congress urging withdrawal from Iraq had been sent, and that the office of Congressman Benjamin Cardin called him in response. A member reminded the Meeting of the May 16th Conscientious Objector National Lobby Day.

**May. 05 – 8 – Men’s Retreat – Informal Report.** Lamar Matthew reported on the fourth annual Stony Run Men’s Retreat, which took place April 8, 9, and 10, 2005. Fourteen men from the Stony Run community gathered at Catoctin Quaker Camp, in the mountains above Thurmont, Maryland and enjoyed a weekend of fellowship, physical activity and food. Two service projects to benefit the camp were incorporated into the schedule: 1) One team of Friends sounded the depths of the lake to calculate the volume of water that needs to be treated for the upcoming "Lagoon" restoration project (see next item), and 2) Another team cut and split firewood from fallen trees on the property. It was noted that Baltimore Yearly Meeting has enlisted the Stony Run Men's Retreat organizers to share their expertise in developing a Yearly Meeting-wide Men's Retreat. The full report will be in the white pages of the June Newsletter.

**May. 05 – 9 – Request from Junior High Q’s.** The Junior High Q’s want to support restoration of the Catoctin Quaker Camp Lagoon (pond) with at least two initiatives: One, a bake sale May 8; two, to request a gift from the Meeting to the “Goon Fund”. The lagoon has been declared unsafe by the county health department because of high levels of bacteria. A permit for use of the beach will not be issued this year unless the problem is solved. A filtration system appears to be the only solution and would cost about \$75,000. The source of the contamination is not known. There has been a higher-than-normal rate of illnesses in recent years. Discussion included various suggestions, including: forward to FRAUC for consideration; Stony Run Meeting to match individual donations; consider other alternatives like a swimming pool; JHQ’s to help write a

proposal to the Meeting requesting funding or funding assistance, to make this a learning experience for our young people; do a mailing to our membership asking for individual contributions. Two proposals were put forth. First: The Meeting will match the proceeds from the May 8 bake sale. This was *approved*. Second: A recommendation that FRAUC consider a significant gift from the Meeting, possibly as a challenge grant, to encourage gifts from individual meeting members; the proposal for such a gift to come from the JHQ's, making this a learning experience by our young members. This, too, was *approved*. Junior High Q's making the request were Sarah Trescher, Jacki LaBua, Leo Winzenberg Kern, Gwendolyn Doll, Mae Schreck, and Grace MacFarlane.

**May. 05-10 - Announcements and Other Items of Note.**

- ? We received certificates for assistance to attend yearly Meeting; recipients to be designated by the Meeting. This will be advertised in the next Newsletter. CCC Committee will be asked to make recommendations.
- ? The Meeting received a letter from Charlottesville Meeting regarding their deliberations on FUM policy on sexual orientation; they could not reach clearness, but were led to forego their usual monetary contribution and will instead send enlightening literature to the FUM Board.
- ? The Meeting received thanks from AFSC for our annual contribution.
- ? The Meeting received thanks from Women for Afghan Women for our contribution.
- ? Fred Leonard found his name on a Google search regarding a quote from him at a Monthly Meeting. This may mean that other items from MM minutes and electronic documents and files could wind up in Google searches. The ITOP committee will be asked to explore this issue of confidentiality.

The meeting ended with a brief period of worship at 9:40 pm with 18 people present.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Manger, Recording Clerk and Arthur Boyd, Clerk

Friends who signed in, as they signed in: Arthur Boyd, Bruce Manger, John Steele, Karie Firoozmand, Jolanda Ferguson, Brian Gamble, Bill Reed, Lamar Matthew, Diane Proctor, Dellie James, Meg Meyer, Maria Brown, Margaret Allen, Elaine Yamada, Fred Leonard, Alice Cherbonnier, John Michener, Geni Elliott, Bill Morton, Sandi Morton, Blaine Keener, Bob Breyer, Mike Boardman.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE FORMAL REPORT - DRAFT**  
**Sixth Month 2004 – Fifth Month 2005**

The Religious Education Committee focuses its time on creating and operating the First Day School Program with the education and care of the young members, attenders, and visitors in our meeting. The Religious Education Committee would like to thank all of the many volunteers who have made the programs possible this year.

The committee reviewed its policies regarding childcare in the Roberts Room and for events other than First Day School. RE continues to be responsible for staffing the Roberts Room with qualified caretakers who care for children under 5 years old whose parent or guardian is attending Meeting for Worship or a First Day forum. The committee continues to believe that providing childcare for older children during First Day Forums and other events is outside the scope of this committee.

The Roberts Room childcare program is coordinated by Susan Vanderhoff. Paid staffers during the year were Stephanie Williamson, Melody Whitehead, Jessica Vanderhoff and Edwige Carrenard. We are pleased to report that \_\_\_\_\_ is planning to return next year. The number of children in the Roberts Room on Sundays ranged from \_\_\_ to \_\_\_. Volunteers are always welcome to help out in the Roberts Room.

During this year, there were 23 persons who volunteered to teach First Day School for one 10-13 week trimester. A number of other people were available to substitute during the year. We appreciate their commitment and availability. We also wish to thank the persons who volunteered to lead assemblies which were held during the summer and a few times during the rest of the year when First Day School did not meet. There remains, however, a great need for more people to become involved in RE as teachers. This year's teachers have overwhelmingly reported positive experiences with the classes they taught. It is the hope of this committee that more members of the Meeting will consider becoming involved with RE as a teacher, co-teacher, assembly leader, or substitute teacher. Teaching First Day School is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the young members and attenders of the Meeting and to refresh and deepen your own spirituality through direct contact with the terrific young people within our meeting. Persons interested in volunteering within Religious Education next year should contact Susan Hibbs.

Members of the committee and other volunteers continued to work on enhancing the curriculums of each of the classes. The efforts of these people are also appreciated by the entire committee. Basic two-year curriculums for primary and intermediate classes are complete with modifications being made based on feedback from teachers who are implementing the curriculums. A new Quaker values-based curriculum for the Upper Class is being used and evaluated this year. Initial reports were very positive. A survey for participants of RE and their parents and guardians will be distributed at the end of First Day School. First Day School classes at Stony Run continue to be divided at the beginning of a First Day School year as follows:

Pre-primary Class – children who are 4 by 8/31 and 5 year olds

Primary Class – children who are 6/7 completing P1/1<sup>st</sup> grade next June

Intermediate Class – children who are 7/8/9 completing 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade next June

Upper Class – children who are 9/10/11 completing 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade next June

Due to the level of topics that are covered, children entering Jr or Sr Hi-Q's must be entering middle or upper school.

This year RE again sponsored a variety of social activities, such as the ice cream social, a Halloween event at the Burial Ground, the Easter Egg Hunt, and the end of year picnic. The committee plans to sponsor more opportunities next year for parents and guardians of children, members, RE teachers, and committee members to get to know each other better and provide opportunities for informal discussion of Stony Run Religious Education.

Members of the Religious Education Committee are: Brian Gamble, Gail Gann, Linda Harder, Susan Hibbs (First Day School Coordinator), Michael LaBua (clerk), Nancy Moore, Cynthia Sanders, Carol Seddon, and Susan Vanderhoff. Teachers this year were: Margaret Allen, Lynn Jordan, Warren Bentley, Cynthia Sanders, Dave Bakker, Wendy Shields, Tim Shields, Kim Moreno, Jolanda Ferguson, Nancy Moore, Linda Harder, Joanna Fitzick, Melissa Triolo, Tony Triolo, Susan Hibbs, Gail Gann, Carol Seddon and Amy Rakusin. We recognize and give a special thank you to Margaret Allen who has dedicated many years to the Senior Hi-Qs.

Gift books were discussed and it was decided that this June we will present BYM Faith and Practice to all 8th graders. We will also present Bibles to the 5th graders. This year we will also present to 6th and 9th graders since they did not get gift books last year.

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### **REPORT ON THE FOURTH ANNUAL STONY RUN MEN'S RETREAT, MAY 2005**

The fourth annual Stony Run Men's Retreat took place, April 8, 9, and 10, 2005. Fourteen men from the Stony Run community gathered at Catoctin Quaker Camp, in the mountains above Thurmont, Maryland and enjoyed a weekend of fellowship and food. Except for an occasional gentian or bloodroot flower peaking through the dry leaves, Spring was barely visible in the woodland surrounding the camp. The nights were chilly but clear, and we were awed by the multitude of stars that shown in the dark night sky.

There were planned opportunities to share our life journeys and experiences and question what it means to be a "real man" through Quaker kind of way. All shared in the kitchen activities, preparing, serving and cleaning up. We noticed a Friendly phenomenon as we worked together, there were no orders given, no questions asked, instead, each man quietly picked up a task that helped to bring some delicious meals to the table.

This year we planned a service project for the camp into our schedule. With the direction of Andy, a Goose Creek Friend who is involved with the Lagoon restoration project, one team of Friends prepared the necessary gear, pounded in stakes on opposite sides of the lagoon and then boarded canoes to sound the depths of the lake. This exercise was necessary to calculate the volume of water that needs to be treated.

Another team of Friends filled the hills with the sound of chain saws and splitting mauls, as they cut to length fallen trees and split the larger logs. The firewood was racked up under the maintenance shed overhang, available for use in the lodge fireplace by the next folks to use the facility.

First Day morning we gathered at the clearing where a blazing fire circle had warmed us the previous night. Our worship was deep as sunlight poured down on us through the still bare trees. We reflected on how men for millennia have settled around fires to share their strengths and hopes. We were grateful once again for this opportunity to be together to understand and appreciate each other as fellow travelers on this great road of life. We closed worship and sang, "We're Wondering To and Fro," an old hymn that seemed appropriate, it ended with "We'll camp awhile in the wilderness and then we're going home." And then we did go home, right after lunch and clean-up.

A post script: Baltimore Yearly Meeting has asked the organizers and those involved with Stony Run's Men's Retreat to share their experience and guidance with the wider Quaker community as plans for a Baltimore Yearly Meeting Men's Retreat take shape. This new activity of the Yearly Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Fall of 2005.

## **Spiritual and Intellectual Nurture Committee (SINC)** **Formal Report – June 2005**

The Spiritual and Intellectual Nurture Committee seeks to nurture our individual and corporate relationship with the divine and to explore ways in which that relationship is manifested in the world. To this end, SINC develops, coordinates, and supports events and First Day forums that contribute to the spiritual nourishment and intellectual explorations of our Stony Run community and others in the broader community who wish to pursue these goals with us.

Annual events in this year's schedule included our introduction to Quakerism held in the fall, the attenders' breakfasts (Care, Community and Clearness Committee), and the Mother's Day breakfast. The majority of First Day forums were brought to us by various Meeting committees--- Finance, Peace and Social Order, Trustees, Unity with Nature, an ad hoc group that formed out of the "Hopes and Dreams" sessions called the Simplicity Committee, and Community, Care and Clearness. Finally, individuals also stepped forward to do special presentations about their own spiritual search and practice--Drew Leder with "Sparks of the Divine", Barbara Treasure with "Painting in the Light", Suzanne O'Hatnick with "The Intersection of Kundalini Yoga and Christian Meditation", Matt Thompson on his work with peace teams in Burundi, and Lamar Matthew with a visual recount of his time in Ramallah and the West Bank. Attendance at these events ranged from 12 to 45 people.

Outside the morning format, on First Day evenings, we have continued into the second year of the "Fireside Chats", bringing us wisdom of the elders of our Meeting who talk about their lives and their personal spiritual journeys. This year, we were honored with appearances by Sam Legg, Cynthia Kerman and Ross and Holly Sanderson.

The SINC committee meets monthly from September through May, and additionally as necessary. We provide guidance and direction for the scheduling of events, staying in contact with presenters as needed. We design the "Seekers and Speakers" series and carry out all its functions and occasionally design our own topics or series when there appears to be a need. We provide bagels, beverages and other hospitality as needed for the forums and fireside chats. We continue to work to maintain and improve the quality of the forums based on past experience, and to be responsive in a helpful way to the Meeting as a whole. We seek to sense the needs to the Meeting and to balance the requests from different committees and concerns as we move through the year. We want the whole community to be as informed as possible about upcoming events and, to that end, provide information as soon as it is available through the announcements, newsletters, flyers, and Stony Run website. Notice of "Seekers and Speakers" is also widely circulated to Friends School and as public information announcements to local newspapers, radio and TV.

SINC relies heavily on the energy and capability of the numerous members and attenders of Stony Run Meeting as presenters, facilitators and participants. We wish to thank them once again for their wisdom and generosity of spirit.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Griffith, clerk

SINC members: Mary Cieslicki, Matt Davis, Karie Firoozmand, Robert Goren (recording clerk), Russell Gray, Anne Griffith (clerk), Dellie James, Paris Kern, Betty LaBua, and John Steele

## **Ushers' Committee - Annual Report 6/7/05**

Ushers are Members of Stony Run who serve the community by greeting and directing those who attend the Meeting, by sheltering Meetings for Worship, by regulating mechanical and electronic systems in the meetinghouse and by dealing directly with incidental emergencies large and small. Presently, the regular duties of 'head usher' rotate among all committee members on a monthly basis. The Clerk acts as a coordinator rather than a director of Ushers' affairs and is primarily responsible for timely communications. All ushers are encouraged to add an "Usher" tag to their name badges and to be conscious of their role whenever they are in the Meetinghouse.

Greeting and direction are responsibilities that ushers share with all members of the Meeting, but we assume a responsibility to learn names and faces and to distinguish between regular attenders and strangers to the meeting in order to offer new-comers immediate attention. We are mindful of the Meeting's policy of not giving direct aid to strangers' appeals. We have just recently received the Yearly Meeting's bulletin on Sexual Misconduct.

Ushers shelter worship by controlling entry to Meetings in progress. In this, we are aided by Friends' punctuality; and we are gratified by the patience and unobtrusive entry of those who do arrive late.

Ushers are responsible for operation of the HVAC; elevator; and sound, alarm & other electrical systems. Climate is controlled within prescribed limits so that we are unable to make adjustments in answer to individual requests. Windows are usually closed to reduce the world's intrusions; and fans, which used to interfere with the sound system, are usually left off.

The Clerk asks the Meeting to remember that the 'head usher' gives up attendance in First Day Meeting for Worship in order to serve; and while First Day duties rotate among committee members, ushers are sometimes called for special events such as weddings and memorial meetings, of which there have been several over the past twelve months. This extra service is at once less visible and more appreciable because of the irregular times at which these events take place.

We recommend to the Meeting the service of three members who will be retiring as ushers: Charles Mallonee (end of terms), Scott Sellars (moving), and Elaine Yamada (resignation). The committee would welcome replacements for these three. We recommend to the Meeting the exceptional service of two emeriti: Bob Breyer, who serves on occasion when needed, and Harry Scott, who served annually each Twelfth Month, although neither was a nominated committee member.

William O. Miles 6/7/05

## **W. Berkeley Mann**

Berkeley Mann, a true Renaissance man and committed Quaker, was an engineer, businessman, community leader, devoted husband, father and grandfather.

Born February 12, 1918, in Swissville, Pennsylvania, Berkeley was first home schooled, then attended the Marston School, and graduated from St. Paul's School for Boys in Baltimore in 1935. Entering Johns Hopkins School of Engineering, he graduated in 1939 with a BSEE degree.

Berkeley's engineering career began with the General Electric Company in Schenectady, New York, followed by a long tenure with the Wolfe and Mann Manufacturing Company in Baltimore. Beginning as a draftsman, working in production control and as a sales engineer, he became Treasurer, Sales Engineer, Assistant to the President, and in 1957, became President of Wolfe and Mann Manufacturing Company. In 1970 he left Wolfe and Mann and formed W.B. Mann Associates, which he ran from 1970 until 1974. In 1974 he joined Electronic Power and Control Company as sales manager and part-time owner and retired in 1993.

A life member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Berkeley was also an active Rotarian, a member of Johns Hopkins Engineers, the National Telemetering Conference, and the Society for the Advancement of Management.

Berkeley was an avid reader and his home was lined with bookshelves from floor to ceiling. Although his collection was eclectic, his knowledge of history and economics was enormous and his ability to recite quotations from many sources astounded his audience. Along with reading, music was his passion, and he played his cello for over 70 years as a member of several chamber music groups. A weekly Friday night string quartet for over 50 years was his favorite end of the week activity.

Along with his wife Eleanor Rath Mann, Berkeley was heavily involved with Quaker activities. A member of Stony Run since 1950, he was First Day School teacher, Superintendent of School, leader of high school Young Friends, and a member of the Finance Committee, Trustees, and at one time Assistant Clerk of the Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends. He was also Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Taylor Home and a Trustee of Friends Lifetime Care of Baltimore, Inc. – Broadmead.

Two of Berkeley's major trusteeship roles were as a Trustee of Baltimore Friends School from 1955-1967, and Chairman from 1960-67. And following many other Quaker leaders, he served as a Trustee of the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital from 1962-1993 and Chairman from 1983-1993. For many years Berkeley went to Sheppard's Towson campus on Fridays as he was heavily involved in the oversight of the infrastructure of that institution. Upon retirement, he remained active in the Sheppard Pratt Auxiliary, and after taking a course as an archivist, he laid the groundwork for the creation of the Sheppard Pratt archives.

Berkeley and Eleanor were inseparable, although their interests were varied. She predeceased him in 2001 and he remained at Broadmead until his death on March 12, 2005.

He is survived by their four children: Marian Mann Fletcher, William Berkeley Mann, Jr., Frances Mann Rosenberg, Thomas Nelson Mann, their spouses and three grandchildren: Sarah Louise Mann, Benjamin Berkeley Mann and Thomas Anthony Fletcher.

A memorial service for Berkeley was held at Broadmead on March 26, 2005.

**NEWS OF BETH COPELAND:** Beth has been in a car accident in Tasmania. She has an extensive ankle injury for which she has had surgery. She also has facial lacerations and puncture wounds in the other leg.

We (Becky and Bruce) will fly to Melbourne on Wednesday, May 11 and arrive there on Friday. Beth will travel by ferry to Melbourne, as the doctor does not want her to fly. We will help to take care of her and work with the University of Melbourne to provide tutoring/note taking for the classes she will miss.

Her friend Karen, who was the driver, was just bruised - maybe there was an airbag. The other car came into their lane and hit Beth's side of the car. We think her hiking boots helped to prevent more damage to her feet and ankles. The doctor thinks she will be on crutches for up to 8 weeks.

As bad as this is for her, it could have been much worse for which we are grateful. Beth will miss a hiking trip to New Zealand in June and her fieldwork at Glacier National Park for her senior thesis. We know the Geology Department at Bryn Mawr will work with her so she will complete the thesis.

We will miss the Friends School production of *42nd Street*. Rob has promised to take pictures of the set he helped to build. Becky and Bruce (A continual stream of cards would lift Beth's spirits. Send them to Beth Copeland, c/o Dave Noble, 503 Sydney Road, Brunswick 3056, Victoria, Australia. 80 cents postage is required.)

**A NOTE FROM ELIZABETH KOOPMAN:** Dear Friends, As I wade through yet one more "household downsizing," sorting, packing, giving away and even casting out momentos of value for recycling back into nature, I discover many memories. Among these have been many, many notes and cards from Stony Run folk: members of the now well named Committee for Community, Care and Clearness, as well as non-committee Friends whose leadings for care resulted in notes of love, prayer, and support for both Joann Hunt in her illness and for me, her caregiver.

These expressions meant much as they arrived and as they were reread, as I have now done for the last time.

I am reminded that love and care belong to the entire community, as well as to committees, and individuals, knowing that - The ultimate miracle of

love is this - that love is given to us to give to one another.

Thank you for sharing that miracle with Joann and with me. Thank you for sharing it with one another. Thank you for sharing it with "the world."

Yours in Friendship, Elizabeth Koopman, (ed. Note: Elizabeth is presently at Heron Point, Chestertown, Eastern Shore of Maryland and preparing for a move to Foulkeways at Gwynedd, Pennsylvania.

**DAN'S IN DENALI:** Daniel Peerless writes that he is in Denali Park in Alaska, driving the Denali Natural History tour bus, which takes tourists back deep into the park and spots wildlife and talks about that amazingly beautiful environment. When he wrote he said, the snow was just melting and the housing area was swarming with moose about to give birth. "That makes things a little dangerous, as we have the tendency to walk with our eyes on the ground to keep from slipping, and can easily walk into the back of a 1200 lb moose". He will have spent several winters working at Nature preserves in Texas and Arizona, and says that he expects graduate school to be in his near future.

#### **"MAYBERRY" ON THE EASTERN SHORE?**

Catherine Prigg wrote the good news of her family as they have settled into the friendliest city on the Eastern Shore - Pocomoke City. The children are all in the neighborhood school and loving it! Their house is within walking distance of everything. In Catherine's words, "we live in a 'Mayberry' like town...It is the kind of neighborhood where the children are outside playing, riding bikes, etc. We are walking distance to everything - library, post office, city hall, police station, park and playground and stores. The ocean is 35 minutes away and culture is 25 minutes away in Salisbury. Lawrence is now only three classes away from his graduate degree. I am considering substitute teaching as my third career." They have had to do some unexpected renovation on the house and hope to have a full functioning kitchen very soon. They still feel very connected to their Quakerism and to Stony Run, and send greetings to all.

**FIRST DAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES:** Are you thinking of teaching or co-teaching FDS in 2005-2006? Hurry and grab your spot. If you haven't tried this great opportunity, you can arrange to see what it is like! Please contact Susan Hibbs.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE** from the Stony Run Community to our High School Graduates Deanna Meyer Boyd, Rachel Brocato, Jennifer Buell, Edward Arthur Dannenberg, Michael Doo, Toby Fitzick, Morgan Griffiths, Wesley Jamison, Linnea Meier, Helki Phillipsen, Cora Sellers, and Sam Wirtz.

**SEWING MACHINES FOR KIBIMBA:** On April 24, we had the privilege of having Matt Thompson speak about his experiences working with Friends Peace Teams in Burundi in Central Africa, just south of Rwanda. This work was sponsored by the African Great Lakes Initiative, a Quaker organization headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. Matt talked about the poverty and loss of lives in Burundi and shared a video he had made of the Peace Team building a house for one of the widows, and an interview with two women, a Hutu and a Tutsi, who organized a Women's Peace Committee in Kibimba. To become self-sufficient as widows and a community, a Sewing Project has begun. Eight used treadle sewing machines are needed. For \$800, we can make that possible, \$300 of which was pledged on Sunday. Will you please consider opening up your purses and your hearts to this simple project? We need at least \$500 more. Would you consider giving a machine or two or just a part of a machine to help with this effort? This request is made by Anne Griffith, clerk of SINC. Checks should be made out to Stony Run and earmarked for the Kibimba Peace Committee's sewing project. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

**A NOTE FROM JEAN ZARU, CLERK OF RAMALLAH MM:** Dear Friends, Thank you all for your emails and telephone calls through my illness. I feel so blessed with friends like you. You bring joy to my life and enable me to continue. I went last Sunday to Meeting for Worship. Attending was a Norwegian man, a Swiss woman, a woman from Christian Peace Teams, Marian Heackok from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Maia Carter Hallward (friends Meeting Washington) and Kathy Kamphoefner and Paul Pierce, AFSC Jerusalem. We had a visit after meeting and it was an enriching exchange. Listening to my body, to my family and friends, and deeply searching within myself, what does the spirit require of me at this point. I felt I had to cancel all my speaking engagements in July. I might travel to

the USA for rest and visiting my children and seeking another medical opinion. This month on the 17th, Kathy and Paul will use the annex for all day meeting with peace groups in the area. With warm best wishes to each and every one of you, and no more but my love, Jean.

**FORUM, JUNE 5: PALESTINE PRESENTATION:** Join Lamar Matthew for a visual recount of his recent visit to Ramallah and the West Bank. Lamar will share insights on possibilities for peace in Palestine and tell of the ongoing nonviolence activities in the region. The presentation will begin with light middle eastern breakfast fare and beverages at **9:00 a.m.**, program at 9:15 a.m., in the Dining Room.

**COME MEET GEORGE FOX AT CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING AT PATUXENT FRIENDS MEETING, SUNDAY, JUNE 12, at LUSBY, MARYLAND.**

**Tentative Schedule:**

**9:00 a.m.** Welcome and refreshments.

**9:30 a.m.** Business Meeting.

Childcare 9:30 to 10:45.

**11:00 a.m.** Meeting for Worship.

First Day School 11:15 to noon.

**12:30 - 1:30 p.m.** Lunch.

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m.** Young Friends Activities: Go to the Calvert Marine Museum or go wading in the Chesapeake. Bring towels, wading shoes and bathing suit. Children under 5 going to the Museum may have to be accompanied by a parent.

**1:30 - 2:30 p.m.** Meet George Fox and consider how his vision influences and reflects on Friends today. Wes Stone will portray George Fox on his visit to the Society of Friends' first General Meeting in America, held 1672 in Maryland. Please RSVP with the number of adults, and children and their ages by June 4. Hospitality will be available upon request. RSVP to Anne Harrison.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG WHEN IN THE MEETINGHOUSE.**

**A NOTE FROM NANCY KASSAM-ADAMS:**

Hi Friends, I see that the newsletter can be sent to me electronically, instead of paper -- that would be great. As a former Stony Run member, I love to see the newsletter and keep up with a bit of life at Stony Run. Thank you for sending it!

Shahir and I are busy with life and work in Philadelphia. I'm happy to be a part of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. Our daughter Rabiya is working for the Ms. Foundation in New York, and our son Rahim is a student at Brown. Best to all my f/Friends at Stony Run, Nancy Kassam-Adams

**THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER OF BALTIMORE** invites all to attend Islamic Awareness Day and Open House, **Saturday, June 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the Muslim Community Cultural Center of Baltimore, 3401 W. North Avenue. The day will feature an insightful exhibit on "Islam in America," by Amir Muhammad and a panel discussion Refreshments will be served. For more information - on the web at <http://www.asmib.com>.

**CARDS for CARES:** There is a new fundraising project to benefit CARES (Civic and Religious Emergency Services) and you are invited to participate. CARES is a project of GEDCO (Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation) and operates a food pantry and financial assistance center at St. Mary's Church in Govans. We will supply groups (ages 10 and above) with card making supplies and direction. The handmade cards are then sold and the proceeds are donated to CARES. Ways you can help: Organize a group who would like to participate in a fun, hands-on and creative service project. Come to CARES on a Saturday morning, 10:00 a.m. to noon, and help make cards with our clients and other volunteers. Call ahead for a schedule of Saturdays. Let us know of a place you think would be good to sell the cards. Buy some cards. They make great gifts and the cost is tax-deductible. Spread the word about the CARDS for CARES project to others who might like to make, sell, or buy the cards. Contact Becky Boynton (CARES volunteer) for more information. Cards are available on the bench across from the Book Sale Table in the hallway.

**AN INVITATION TO CELEBRATE FRIENDS MEETING OF WASHINGTON'S 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** Come and help celebrate our 75th Anniversary, **Sunday, June 26**. Join Friends at **10:30 a.m.** for Worship in the Meeting House and in Quaker House followed by Simple lunch in the Assembly Room at noon. At **1:30 p.m.** "The Faith That Binds Us: Our Historical Roots and The Potential of the Tree We Have Nurtured" will be

presented by Deborah Haines, Historian, Friends General Conference. Thomas D. Hamm, Earlham College, will discuss his recent book, *The Quakers in America* at **3:00 p.m.**, followed by light refreshments and conversation at 3:30 p.m.

At the time of the founding of Friends Meeting of Washington in 1930, a letter was sent to the new membership and to visitors. In part, it said: "The purpose for which this Meeting was organized may be stated as follows: To love and interpret Truth; to foster the habit of simple, spiritual worship; to find God through worship, and therewith to emphasize the spirit of unity; to provide a common ground for all Friends, and to strengthen through religious fellowship the consecration to human betterment."

"This Meeting is an "all-friends meeting." It is an independent enterprise, not connected with any Yearly Meeting, and it is no more identified with any one branch of the Society of Friends than with any other. Persons who are members of the Society of Friends may become members of the Friends Meeting of Washington merely by signifying their desire so to do, and by signing their names on the membership roll. This does not affect their status as members of their own Meeting."

Seventy-five years later, we want to celebrate the experiment of Friends Meeting of Washington and our part in the later consolidation of the two Baltimore Yearly Meetings.

Deborah Haines grew up in New York Yearly Meeting, and is now a sojourning member of Alexandria Friends Meeting in Virginia and recording clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. She carries a travel minute from her meeting, and has traveled widely among Friends speaking on the "Power of Early Quakerism." She has a PhD in history from the University of Chicago and a long-standing interest in Quaker history. She served as clerk of the Friends General Conference Centennial Committee during the centennial celebration in 2000, and is currently clerk of the FGC Archives Working Group and the FGC Advancement and Outreach Committee.

Thomas Hamm is curator of the Friends Collection and professor of history at Earlham College. A lifelong Friend, he is a member of First Friends Meeting in New Castle, Indiana, and the recording clerk of Indiana Yearly Meeting. He is the author of a number of works on Quaker history. His most recent book, *The Quakers in America*, was published

by Columbia University Press in 2003. His article, "Reading Fifty Years of Friends Journal" will appear in the July issue. He is one of the plenary speakers for this year's FGC annual gathering.

Friends Meeting of Washington s located at 2111 Florida Ave., N.W., Washington D. C. 20008. You can contact the Meeting at 202-483-3310 or [FMW.DCFriends@verizon.net](mailto:FMW.DCFriends@verizon.net) or on the web at <http://fmw.quaker.org>

### **BBC AIRED MEETING FOR WORSHIP?**

LONDON (AFP) - Listeners tuning into a regular British radio show which broadcasts religious services had an unexpected surprise -- a program made up largely of silence.

"BBC Radio's "Sunday Worship" which features Christian services, recently broadcasted from a meeting held by Quakers, also known as the Society of Friends," the Daily Telegraph newspaper reported.

"Quaker meetings are centered around a long period of quiet contemplation by the gathered participants -- usually lasting around an hour -- with no hymns, sermons, spoken prayers or priests. The BBC has previously had little to do with broadcasting Quaker meetings lest listeners believe their radios have broken down," the report said. The broadcaster's radio stations additionally have a technical back-up system which automatically transmits music in the event of a long silence, which it presumes is a technical fault.

The Sunday morning's 40-minute program was broadcasted from a Quaker school in Reading, west of London, and included a period of silence, although a shorter one than usual, the report added.

### **BYM ANNUAL SESSION INFORMATION ON**

**THE WEB:** The Summer issue of the *Interchange* is now on the web. The web version starts at <http://www.bym-rsf.org/> and the full PDF version of the *Interchange* can be found at

[http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/pubs/interchange/may\\_05.pdf](http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/pubs/interchange/may_05.pdf).

Note that **this issue has lots of information about our upcoming Annual Sessions in August**. Copies of the *Interchange* are available on the information table in the Hallway. You can also get your registration forms on-line, and read all about the workshops. See <http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/annualsessions/index.shtml> Also note the presentation of this year's charges at

<http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/annualsessions/charges.shtml> Be sure to **register before July 11**, to take advantage of these great prices!

### **EYES WIDE OPEN COMING TO BALTIMORE:**

Eyes Wide Open, the American Friends Service Committee's widely-acclaimed exhibition on the human cost of the Iraq War, features a pair of boots honoring each U.S. military casualty, a field of shoes and a Wall of Remembrance to memorialize the Iraqis killed in the conflict, and a multimedia display exploring the history, cost and consequences of the war. The exhibit will be in Baltimore **September 9, 10, and 11 at a location yet to be announced.**

"Since 1917, the American Friends Service Committee has championed the dignity and worth of every individual, the sanctity of human life and humanity's collective responsibility to promote peace. For almost 90 years of work in war zones on four continents, we have gained an intimate knowledge of the costs and horrors of war. When this exhibit was unveiled by our Chicago office in January 2004, there were 504 pairs of boots symbolizing the lost lives of US soldiers in Iraq. With each passing week, each stop in a new city, more pairs of boots are added to represent the newly fallen. Alongside the boots stands a wall of remembrance with the names of the more than 11,000 Iraqi civilians who have been killed since the US-led invasion.

As the exhibit makes its appearances across the country, families and friends come to grieve for lost loved ones and strangers honor those who gave their lives to a cause far from home.

At each stop, person after person leaves notes of commemoration, photographs of lost soldiers, identification tags, flowers, and American flags to accompany the boots on their journey.

Although a majority of Americans now believe this war is a tragic misadventure, the human cost of the Iraq War grows every day. How many more boots will be standing at silent attention before this war ends, before Iraqis and American soldiers are out of harm's way?

This traveling exhibit is a memorial to those who have fallen and a witness to our belief that no war can justify its human cost." Mary Ellen McNish, General Secretary, AFSC.

**In the meantime, you can watch *Wage Peace*.** This AFSC online movie tells the truth about the ongoing loss of life in Iraq—and encourages viewers to sign AFSC's petition to bring the troops home. Join thousands of others in waging peace. Please **sign the Iraq Peace Petition**, which demands an end to the war on Iraq. The majority of the U.S. public now oppose the Iraq War -- but to stop the violence, we need to make our commitment to peace more visible. **Wear AFSC's wage peace bracelet** and encourage your friends to do so, too. We can end this war! Download the movie, sign the petition and order bracelets at [www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org).

**BYM SPRING 2005 SILENT RETREAT**, sponsored by BYM Committee on Ministry and Pastoral Care, will once again offer an opportunity to enter that holy place, to find our Divine center. The Retreat will be held **June 10-12th**, at Dayspring Retreat Center in Germantown, Maryland. Registration deadline is May 27 (if not filled earlier). For more information, contact Jean Christianson.

#### **TSUNAMI RELIEF PROJECT AT FRIENDS**

**SCHOOL:** Friends Fifth Grade Forges Ties, Tsunami Relief Project with Sri Lankan School. When physician Carol Ritter traveled to Sri Lanka one month after the devastating tsunami in southeast Asia to treat the sick and injured there, she took with her not only much-needed medical supplies, but a cache of hand-made "peace" cards created by Friends School Fifth Graders.

The greetings were well received, according to Dr. Ritter, who upon returning to the States presented slides of her trip to the 63-member class, of which her son Eric is a member. Showing a photo of a local man holding one of the student's cards, she told the children, "When I gave him the card, his eyes welled up with tears." On the day of the tsunami, she explained, the man had come home from work only to learn that his entire family and their home had been swept away. "He was touched by your card." Along with her trip pictures, Dr. Ritter presented the students with a unique gift: 18 small colorful drawings, each designed and signed by a fifth grader from the Kilinochi School in Sri Lanka. The teacher there, Miss R. Thamilchelvy, sent Dr. Ritter the drawings along with a thank you note, in which she expressed hope that the two schools would remain in contact.

"They have so few supplies," said Lower School principal Greta Rutstein. "That they used what little they had to reach out to our students was moving. We felt we had to do something in return."

Led by their teachers and Lower School administrators, Friends Fifth Graders have launched a tsunami relief project to help the children at the Kilinochi School. Using the artwork created by the Sri Lankan students—and with the support of Wilmer Printing, which donated printing costs—the students have created greeting cards, sales from which will benefit the Kilinochi School.

The students, in assembly-line fashion, packaged the 8,000 cards and envelopes, which they are selling in packs of eight for ten dollars. Each package includes a note explaining the project and the message: "Thank you, you have made a difference!"

To ensure the project's success, the Fifth Grade has enlisted the support of their younger peers. All 293 Lower School students received a sample card and order form, along with a message noting, "If each student can sell at least five packs of cards, we will be able to make a sizable donation to a school desperately in need of our help."

All signs point to the service project's successful conclusion. As of May 9, the Lower School has raised more than \$4,000, and the orders keep coming.

**NEXT MONTHLY  
MEETING FOR BUSINESS  
IS JUNE 14, AT 7:30 P.M.  
Monthly Meeting has been rescheduled to  
Tuesday, June 14, so as not to conflict with  
Friends School Graduation.**

#### **TO ALL COMMITTEE CLERKS AND RECORDERS (OUTGOING AND INCOMING):**

Please forward (electronically is preferable) all committee minutes and other vital material to the Meeting Office at [stonyrunfriends@starpower.net](mailto:stonyrunfriends@starpower.net). Committee minutes will be stored electronically and also as hard copy in the Stony Run Archives.

**FIRST DAY SCHOOL PICNIC is June 12** at the rise of Meeting. The Religious Education Committee invites everyone to gather and celebrate the end of the First Day School Year

**VEGETARIAN COOKING CLUB** will meet on **Saturday, June 18, from 4:30-7:30 p.m.** in the Stony Run kitchen for cooking, dinner and fellowship using organic, vegetarian and locally grown ingredients. All ages are welcome to join in the fun and feasting. Please RSVP to Paul Phillips so an appropriate quantity of food can be purchased. The Cooking Club, which meets monthly, is sponsored by the Joint Stony Run-Homewood Unity with Nature Committee.

**YOUNG FRIENDS, PLAN NOW!** Are you an individual, male or female, who is or will be of draft age soon (18-26 years old)? Have you been wondering what it means to be a conscientious objector to war? A good summer project would be to review the materials in the manila envelope on the hall table ("TAKING AWAY THE OCCASION OF ALL WARS: The Quaker Peace Testimony and Conscientious Objection to War"). You might want to begin pulling together a "Peace Scrap Book" as described in one of the articles. Then plan to come to the program on **November 13**, on Conscientious Objection with J.E. McNeil from the Center on Conscience and War. If you have any questions or would like to review your thoughts with a counselor before then, please contact the Peace and Social Order Committee.

**JR HI Q HIGH FINANCE:** A letter from Linda Garretson, Catoctin Quaker Camp Director, to campers ignited a couple of kids from Stony Run. They decided to hold a bake sale and also to ask the Monthly Meeting to make a contribution to help restore the "Lagoon" at Catoctin. At May Monthly Meeting, Friends agreed to match whatever the kids raised at the bake sale. In addition, they directed the Junior Hi Q's to make a formal proposal to Funds Review and Use Committee, with either a 'challenge' or 'match' for members of the Meeting. Amazingly, **the Junior Hi Q's raised over \$400** in cash at the bake sale, which will now be matched by the meeting. And this was with 1 pan of brownies, a chocolate cake, an apple cake, two small angel food cakes, a cherry cheesecake and three small pound cakes. That's all. One cake sold for \$100. Other people just put in money. The Junior Hi Q's have decided to ask, additionally, for an initial grant from FRAUC's budget--so that it might actually be granted before camp begins this summer... and to

also ask FRAUC to create a major challenge/matching grant, which would challenge Meeting Members to contribute a set amount by December 31 and then, if this goal is met, the Meeting would then match that figure). Obviously, anything of this scale has to be approved by FRAUC and reviewed by Finance Committee and Trustees. If the request gets through the two committees this summer, the Meeting would get the request in September. This endeavor of Stony Run's Young Friends has been a learning experience in the process and ways of Friends' finances. Way to go Junior Hi Q's!

**COUNTER RECRUITMENT. WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Peace and Social Order Committee has developed a program to bring into high schools in an effort to educate young people on the limitations of military service. The program includes showing the video: "The Ground Truth," focusing on the plight of the wounded; and hearing talks by members of Veterans for Peace, Military Families against the War, and Iraq veterans. We are now ready to go into schools but we need invitations in. Anyone who knows of counselors, history or social studies teachers, political clubs, administrators - or any other entry into a school - should please contact Suzy Filbert.

**PEACE GROUPS USING THE RESTORED RAMALLAH MEETINGHOUSE AND ANNEX:** Felicia Langer, a distinguished Israeli advocate; a recipient of the 1990 Alternative Nobel Prize (Right Livelihood Award), known for her courage in defending human rights, and the author of the well-known *With My Own Eyes* and other books, spoke at the newly renovated Friends International Center in Ramallah. Representatives from human rights groups Al-Haq, Ad-Dameer, and Adalah, plus Palestinians that were helped by Felicia and her Friends were in attendance to hear Felicia speak about her experience with the Israeli occupation and to participate in a meeting titled "Experience of the Past in the Mirror of Today: Israel and Human Rights of the Palestinians." Jean Zaru, clerk of Ramallah MM and Maia Carter Hallward, member of Friends Meeting Washington, attending Hebrew University in Jerusalem, welcomed the group of over thirty peace and justice workers.

# Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Summer Yearly Meeting Day

## RICHMOND MEETING, SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2005

Dear Friends:

Summer Yearly Meeting Day will begin at **10:30 a.m.** at Richmond Friends Meeting House. Richmond Friends will provide Friday and/or Saturday night hospitality, and lunch and dinner on Saturday. Coffee, tea, cocoa & breakfast breads will be available Saturday morning for those arriving early.

### Committees Scheduled to Meet Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.\*

Ministry and Pastoral Care

Indian Affairs

Nominating (closed)

Ad Hoc Committee on Gender and Sexual

Diversity Concerns

Advancement & Outreach

Peace & Social Concerns

Religious Education

Youth Program

### SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE

11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. - \* Committees meet (Child care is available)

1:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m. - Lunch—donations appreciated

2:45 p.m.—5:00 p.m. - Interim Meeting (Child care is available)

5:30 p.m. - Dinner

### FIRST DAY SCHEDULE AT RICHMOND MEETING

Meeting for Worship: 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., First Day School: 11:20 a.m.

### Directions to Richmond Meeting House

**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.

## HOSPITALITY FORM

### RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR CHILD CARE, AND HOSPITALITY

**Returning this form is essential if you need overnight hospitality, meals, and child care.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Need hospitality:

Friday evening \_\_\_\_; for \_\_\_\_ (# of persons), Saturday evening \_\_\_\_; for \_\_\_\_ (# of persons)

List special needs, (i.e. allergies to pets, smoker) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to stay in a house with a smoker? \_\_\_\_\_

Will eat noon meal \_\_\_\_\_ (# of persons) Will eat afternoon meal \_\_\_\_\_ (# of persons)

Children's Program and Nursery! Need child care during the morning \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of children: \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs of children: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return by: June 11, 2005**

**Mail to:** Jean Washburn, 3201 Noble Ave. Richmond, VA 23222-2529.

**FOLLOW IN FRIENDLY FOOTSTEPS TO**

**CHESAPEAKE QUARTERLY MEETING**

PATUXENT FRIENDS MEETINGHOUSE

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

**STONY RUN MONTHLY MEETING  
FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS**

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, AT 7:30 P.M.

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING  
SUMMER YEARLY MEETING DAY**

RICHMOND MEETINGHOUSE

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

**BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSION**

JAMES MADISON CAMPUS, HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

AUGUST 1 THROUGH 7

## Introduction

Last summer, Stony Run Monthly Meeting approved the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Aging to explore if, and how, the Meeting could support initiatives in support of affordable care for aging Friends. The committee was to report its recommendations, particularly regarding funding, to the Meeting in November in time to include Meeting funding directives in the next budget if the Meeting approved.

The committee initially recommended that the Meeting make an outright gift of \$100,000 from Stony Run's Fund for the Aging to Friends Care, Inc. (parent corporation of Broadmead), with the directive to use the funds as Friends Care saw fit, with a preference for supporting a middle-income housing venture for senior citizens, such as Friends Care's proposed Campus View project at the Community College of Baltimore County Essex campus.

When this recommendation was published in advance in the Meeting newsletter, some Meeting members expressed opposition to it, and indicated an intention to "stand in the way" should it be brought to the floor of Meeting for Business.

In view of these strongly-felt convictions, the committee postponed making a formal recommendation and met to learn more about the concerns of the members and to confer with Tom Mondloch, Friends Care's executive director, and Henry Halloway, chair of Friends Care's board. During this period, the future of the Campus View project, which held promise for those with lower and middle incomes, became cloudy—and finally became nonexistent—following objections by some community organizations and a few members of the college staff. With Campus View no longer viable at this site, Friends Care had one remaining project in the works, Live Well With Friends, a lifetime care insurance policy offered through the for-profit Coventry CareLink, enhanced by a package of wellness, home maintenance, and referral services to be offered by a to-be-separately-incorporated not-for-profit spinoff entity of Friends Care. These services would be designed to make it possible for members to continue living at home as long as possible.

Further inquiries about the Live Well With Friends (LWWF) program showed it could be a suitable option for some, and its underlying fiscal plan appeared sound, but its insurance underwriting guidelines, and its relatively high cost (depending on options selected) meant it was not going to be a realistic option for middle-income Friends or Friends with pre-existing serious health conditions. Because the LWWF entity to be created to manage the service component would receive reimbursement from Coventry, however, its existence as an option could give financial stability to Friends Care, enabling its staff to continue to use its expertise to explore and develop other options suitable to a more economically diverse clientele.

The committee felt that the best way to proceed would be to seek to learn the viewpoints on aging, and preferences for living arrangements for the aging, held by Friends in the Baltimore region, something that had apparently not been attempted among Friends by Friends Care, and had not been done by Stony Run Friends Meeting for 15 years. Much had changed since then. A survey on aging was developed and circulated to area Friends Meetings, along with an invitation to an open discussion about aging, to be held on Saturday, April 16 at Stony Run. The results of 80 surveys have been tabulated, and the "hopes and dreams" for aging Friends expressed by over 40 Friends during the Open Discussion have been organized and prioritized for action. The information is on the pages that follow.

At its next meeting on June 5, the Ad Hoc Committee on Aging will seek to discern what next steps to take—including the possibility of asking the Meeting to constitute another Committee on Aging to pursue the findings of the year-long deliberations, survey, and open discussion.

*Ad Hoc Committee on Aging participants included: Martha Barss, Arthur Boyd, Bob Breyer, Maria Brown, Alice Cherbonnier (convenor), Becky Copeland, Frosty Davis, Elizabeth Duverlie, Don Gann, Gail Gann, Lamar Matthew, Ann Michener, John Michener, Diane Procter, Ann Tarbell, Elaine Yamada*

# “Facing Our Senior Years as Friends”

## Priority Actions for Follow-up

At the April 16 open discussion on aging, Friends affirmed our moral commitment to care for Friends who have limited resources, e.g., because they have made life choices in line with Quaker values. “There will be care and caring for all older Friends regardless of need.”

### High Priority concerns:

1. Yearly Meeting to hire a caseworker or social worker to train local Friends as resources for the aging—to begin as soon as possible.
2. YM office to be a central place for information about what facilities and assistance are available and help people plan. “A shocking number of people are not prepared.”
3. Create financial pool / aid fund to support individual Quakers with their individual retirement needs. (Consider using interest from SRFM’s Elder Care Fund.)
4. Create registry and clearinghouse of services for the aging, including competent and reliable service providers.
5. Friends Care should work more closely with the Meetings; more connections; build relationships both ways. (It is important to keep FC alive so it can coordinate efforts and take on projects of concern to Meetings.)
6. Adapt an existing low-rise apartment complex for middle-income, older Friends.
7. A hired professional may be needed to support creation of mini-Friends communities.
8. Consult with Friends Services on Aging (FSA) about lower-income models of elderly housing.
9. Further explore Stadium Place market-rate condos that are to be built.
10. Create website to coordinate efforts. (“It is difficult to compare programs, but we do need to make an independent effort to educate ourselves.”)
11. Promote and seek an urban location for middle-income housing for the elderly.
12. Be a focal point for resources for legal services and financial planning.
13. Seek group rates for health clubs for Meeting folks of all ages.
14. Provide referral services for aging relatives of younger Friends.
15. Series of educational programs for everyone, so we can collectively address questions about aging – e.g., Long Term Care costs and availability, housing options, different models, health care options, range of options beyond Baltimore.

## **Medium Priority concerns:**

1. Create housing near existing infrastructure, such as new Sheppard Pratt – or surplus properties.
2. Stage “a Friendly takeover” of an existing apartment building to create a mini-Quaker community.
3. Encourage all Meeting constituents to prepare advance health care directives, “Five Wishes,” etc.
4. Become involved in health care advocacy for the aging.
5. Explore co-housing, recognizing that this solution might not be as comfortable for the elderly as other housing solutions.
6. Encourage independent study of aging resources and arrange small-group visits to sites. Then hold Meeting forum for sharing. Take a list of essential questions – will help compare “apples to apples” when visiting several sites. Inform the Meeting of accurate facts, because it appears there are commonly held misunderstandings about existing facilities (e.g., costs, atmosphere).
7. Envision what we want for the future for the elderly and how we can insure the continuing integrity of values and Friends practices (e.g., income diversity as a value to be fostered, as well as racial diversity).
8. Consider developing housing for Quakers that offers no services.
9. Foster “aging and spiritual growth” programs
10. Develop a caregiver support network (spouses, parents, adult children, other family members). Need to respond to the needs of all Friends who are temporarily indisposed or who are disabled.
11. Explore home sharing
12. Build intergenerational relationships, such as having a day care facility at Broadmead at which residents could volunteer.

## “Facing Our Senior Years as Friends” Summary of Survey Results

*TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS TO SURVEY: 90 NOTE: Not all respondents answered all questions.*

**A.: High Priority** *(relative importance of 22 factors related to aging—“Very Important”):*

|   |    |                  |
|---|----|------------------|
| 1. Management of financial resources                | 63 | <b>A+B+ = 73</b> |
| 2. Fitness (diet, exercise, preventive health care) | 63 | <b>A+B+ = 74</b> |
| 3. Living arrangements at later retirement          | 55 | <b>A+B+ = 76</b> |
| 4. Financing health care                            | 52 | <b>A+B+ = 76</b> |
| 5. Participation in life of Meeting                 | 52 | <b>A+B+ = 80</b> |
| 6. Not becoming a burden on my family               | 49 | <b>A+B+ = 69</b> |
| 7. Interpersonal relationships                      | 47 | <b>A+B+ = 73</b> |
| 8. Spiritual development                            | 47 | <b>A+B+ = 79</b> |
| 9. Planning for long-term disability                | 42 | <b>A+B+ = 72</b> |
| 10. Legal matters                                   | 38 | <b>A+B+ = 73</b> |
| 11. Transportation                                  | 37 | <b>A+B+ = 75</b> |
| 12. Choosing health care plans                      | 34 | <b>A+B+ = 61</b> |

**B.: Secondary Priority** *(relative importance of 22 factors related to aging—“Somewhat Important”):*

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Health claim forms paperwork          | 43 |
| 2. Adapting home for disabilities        | 40 |
| 3. Transportation                        | 38 |
| 4. Physical security and safety          | 37 |
| 5. Home chores                           | 37 |
| 6. Legal matters                         | 35 |
| 7. Arrangements for temporary disability | 35 |
| 8. Further education or training         | 32 |
| 9. Planning for long-term disability     | 30 |
| 10. Participation in life of Meeting     | 29 |
| 11. Coping with accumulated possessions  | 28 |
| 12. Work (paid or volunteer)             | 28 |
| 13. Choosing health care plans           | 27 |
| 14. Financing health care                | 24 |

**C.: Least Important** *(relative importance of 22 factors related to aging—“Not Very”):*

|  |  |    |
|--|--|----|
| 1. Further education and training      |  | 43 |
| 2. Work (paid or volunteer)            |  | 25 |
| 3. Coping with accumulated possessions |  | 40 |
| 4. Adapting home for disabilities      |  | 27 |
| 5. Home chores                         |  | 25 |
| 6. Health claim forms paperwork        |  | 30 |

**Type of Living Arrangement Preferred in Retirement**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Continuing Care Retirement Community       | 41 |
| 2. Residential community living (no services) | 4  |
| 3. Life Care at home                          | 25 |
| 4. Living with a relative                     | 3  |
| 5. Living independently in own home           | 18 |

**Have you already made plans for retirement living arrangements?**

YES: 27; NO: 53

**How would you like Friends to assist you with aging?**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Prefer no involvement of Meeting   | 8  |
| 2. Provide information & referral services  | 38 |
| 3. Paid staff to counsel & arrange services   | 10 |
| 4. Set up & provide necessary services  | 12 |
| 5. Establish a middle-income Quaker-related retirement community in Baltimore region: | 43 |

**What is your anticipated involvement with Friends-related programs or services?**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. Work on planning and supporting a program    | 35 |
| 2. Put my name on a waiting list for the future | 40 |
| 3. I'm ready to make use of services now        | 3  |
| 4. None at all                                  | 16 |

**To what extent should Friends become involved in new programs or services in the Baltimore region?**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Major project of area Friends Meetings                                  | 42 |
| 2. Medium activity   | 23 |
| 3. The Meetings should not become involved in new programs for the elderly | 3  |

**Which of the following should be included in planning/implementing new programs and services?**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Broadmead/Friends Care              | 55 |
| 2. Sandy Spring Friends House          | 36 |
| 3. Other Friends-related aging program | 31 |
| 4. Independent consultant on aging     | 21 |

**Who should be eligible to participate in a Baltimore-area Friends-sponsored project for the elderly?**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. All Friends   | 13 |
| 2. All elderly, with priority to Friends                           | 58 |
| 3. All elderly, regardless of affiliation (no priority to Friends) | 3  |

**Respondent information:** Males: 21; Females, 50 (*reminder: some respondents did not answer all questions*)

Stony Run members, 51; attenders, 13

Homewood members, 9, attenders, 2

Gunpowder members, 7; attenders, 2

**Annual income level:**

Under \$16,000: 0; \$10-\$20,000, 2; \$20-\$30,000, 7; \$30-\$40,000, 3;

\$40-\$60,000, 17; over \$60,000, 40

**Anticipated monthly retirement income:**

Under \$1,200: 1; \$1,200-\$2,000, 6; \$2-\$3,000, 7; \$3-\$4,000, 15; \$4-\$5,000, 12; Over \$5,000, 18; don't know, 3

**Employment status:** Retired, 29; expect to retire in 5 years or less, 10; expect to retire more than 5 years from now, 37; live with partner who is already retired, 6**Current living arrangements:**

Alone, 27; with partner, 36; intergenerational household, 10; transitional arrangement, 1; retirement community, 5

## Draft Action Plan for Aging Friends

*Summary of gleanings of April 16, 2005 Discussion Session • An “X” indicates where the group felt the ideal/concern could best be dealt with.*

| <i>Ideal/Concern</i>                       | <i>Central Location</i> | <i>Individual Meetings</i> | <i>Multi-Meetings</i> | <i>Friends Care</i>        | <i>Yearly Meeting</i> |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Caseworker                                 |                         |                            |                       | X                          | X                     |
| Liaison Person                             |                         | X                          |                       | X                          |                       |
| Forums                                     | X                       | X                          | X                     | X                          | X                     |
| Financial Aid                              |                         | X                          | X                     |                            |                       |
| Caregiver support                          |                         | X                          | X                     |                            |                       |
| NORCs ( <i>Ad-hoc communities</i> )        |                         |                            | X                     | X                          |                       |
| Explore GEDCO possibilities*               |                         | X                          | X                     | <i>Only if there is \$</i> |                       |
| Website/Central place for info**X          |                         | X                          |                       | X                          | X                     |
| Research/Gather info                       |                         | X                          | X                     |                            |                       |
| Group purchasing***                        |                         | X                          | X                     |                            | X                     |
| Overall moral commitment to aging concerns |                         | X                          | X                     | X                          | X                     |

1. Immediate dialogue with Friends Care to learn if FC is important enough to us to go forward and, if so, are Friends willing to raise support to keep it going?
2. Form a new Ad Hoc Committee on Aging. First task: parcel out assignments and track progress of concerns and possible projects in above chart.

*\*Stadium Place, middle income housing*

*\*\* Compare & contrast what's available, e.g. Pacific Yearly Mtg & FSA*

*\*\*\*health clubs, legall/wills, financial*