

Newsletter



NOVEMBER, 2005

Arthur Boyd, Clerk
Elizabeth DuVerlie, Recording Clerk
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Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run

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MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2005, 1:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room

AGENDA (tentative)

Opening Worship.

Consideration of Query 11 - Education.

Continuing to Worship, we consider:

Review of Minutes of October 4, 2005 Monthly Meeting.

Community, Care and Clearness Committee.

FORMAL REPORTS:

Finance Committee, First Reading of the 2006 Budget.

What advice do we have on reducing the anticipated deficit?

INFORMAL REPORTS:

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Interim Meeting.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camping Program.

Stony Run Camping Weekend.

Announcements.

Silent Worship.

Close of Meeting.

From the Faith and Practice of Baltimore Yearly Meeting

QUERY 11 - EDUCATION: Do you provide religious education, including study of the Bible and of Friends' history and practices, in your Meeting? Do you ensure that schools under the care of Friends exemplify Friends' principles? Do you support and strive to improve the public schools?

From the Advices of Faith and Practice

Education has long been important to Quakers. Friends feel that education is a lifetime effort to develop an open and informed mind and a seeking and sensitive spirit. It became apparent to early Friends that some form of education would be necessary for leadership and ministry if the Society were to be effective in promoting Truth. In 1668 George Fox urged that schools be established for girls as well as boys. John Woolman, in 1758, cautioned Friends to "watch the spirit of children" and "nurture them in Gospel Love." And, in 1831, Joseph John Gurney exhorted, "We shall never thrive upon ignorance." Friends are concerned to educate for individual growth, community responsibility, a knowledge of God's

Religious Education: Friends hold that specific instruction in religious topics is vital in the preparation of the human spirit for living a whole life. The goal of our religious education is to strengthen the awareness of the presence of God and so build Quaker spiritual values and conduct. We learn these through experience and study. Religious education begins early in the home as the child participates in family silence, prayer, readings from the Bible and other religious works, and in family discussions. We set an example in our own lives and seek actively to guide our children's development of sensitivity to God and the world. Thus children can learn to know how God works through and among all of us as exemplified in the life and ministry of Jesus. As children grow, they broaden their religious experience through participation in meetings for worship

and for business. In First Day School classes conducted by the Meeting, the Bible, religious history and ideals, the world of nature, and the history, principles, and testimonies of Friends are more formally taught. As children are guided to an understanding of history and science, they are enabled better to understand religious Truth. A secure awareness of our role in God's world frees us for more sensitive responses to the leadings of the Inner Light.

Adult Education: Adult First Day School classes began among English Friends in the late 19th century and are continued by many Meetings all over the world. The main purpose of Friends' educational activities for adults is the development of spiritual depth in the meeting for worship. Meetings should foster activities that bring all age groups together. Conferences, workshops and retreats, organized by Monthly, Quarterly or Yearly Meetings or other Friends' bodies provide contacts with a variety of Friends' viewpoints. We should encourage adult members to follow their leadings in seeking education of all kinds and should be sensitive in offering the financial assistance sometimes needed to take advantage of such opportunities.

Friends' Educational Institutions: Friends' schools traditionally offer opportunities to put ideals into practice. They nurture students spiritually and intellectually. They seek to create an environment where pupils can grow together toward Truth through a wide range of experiences. They promote a way of life compatible with the Quaker interpretation of Christianity and are a means of Friends' outreach. While each Friends' school is unique, each is a caring community based on belief in that of God in each human being. Respect for the individual and a spirit of give and take among pupils and teachers characterize Friends' schools. For many years Friends have been concerned about the problem of exclusivity in private schools, especially in those carrying the name of Friends. Those concerned with any Quaker-related school would agree that each institution has a continuing responsibility to discourage snobbishness and feelings of false superiority, to encourage economy and simplicity and to cultivate a realization that with special opportunities go special obligations. A Meeting that has direct responsibility for a Friends' school, or that has any Friends' school in its community, should assist the school to maintain its Quaker character.

Public Education: Friends have supported public education from its inception, recognizing that Truth prospers best among a populace that is "led out" from illiteracy and ignorance. In local Meetings we share responsibility with our communities for public education. Through involvement as teachers, school administrators, parents or interested citizens, Meeting members can work to improve the programs of public schools. Opposition, for example, to overemphasis on competition, to military exercises in schools, or to overly lax or overly severe discipline can be a prelude to positive suggestions of alternatives. We should continue to use our influence as citizens to elevate the standards of the public schools, recognizing that the crux of education is how the school system treats the individual. The Quaker ideal is to develop each child's spiritual strength as well as intellectual and practical skills.

MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH A CONCERN FOR BUSINESS MINUTES

Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run
October 4, 2005

Oct 05 – 1- Consideration of Query 10. The Meeting began at 7:32 pm with silent worship and the reading of Query 10, The Peace Testimony; 20 people were in attendance; 4 people arrived later.

Oct 05 – 2 –Minutes of September 6, 2005. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Oct 05 – 3 – Community, Care and Clearness Committee report. Diane Proctor reported.

1. Marriage Clearness - Matt Thompson and Courtney Rose have asked to be married under the joint care of Stony Run and of Alexandria Meeting in spring of 2006. A joint committee of clearness from both meetings has met with the couple and recommends them for marriage under our care. This is the first reading of this request.

2. News of Members

Our member Charles Cluxton has been hospitalized for tests at St. Joseph's; he is due to be home tomorrow, October 5.

The welcoming for Sandy Robson took place at the home of Alice Cherbonnier, attended by Gail and Don Gann, Lamar Matthew (who brought "incredible food" from Pa.), while Arthur Boyd and Meg Meyer sent food.

The meeting's fall camping weekend in the mountains at Camp Catoctin was held this past weekend. At the meal with the greatest number present, there were 63 people. Almost half those present were children. There are reports of "a grand and

full time together.” One Friend pointed out that this same weekend, there were around 35 children attending First Day School, as well, testimony to the large number of children in our Meeting. A Friend spoke to the dilemma, truly wrenching for some, of scheduling the camping weekend at the same time as a special event at Friends School and requested that this be avoided in the future.

We welcome other news of those in our community.

Oct 05 – 4 – Nominating Committee. Blaine Keener reported.
Resignations: Phil Fratesi has resigned from Property Committee.

Nominations for approval (all terms are from October 2005 to May 2008):
Sandi Morton to Community, Care and Clearness; Brenda Blom and Bruce Manger to Ushers; Richard Bartlett, Claire Salkowski-Bartlett and Trish Lorch to Peace and Social Order. Friends approved these nominations.

Oct 05 – 5 – Formal Report: Burial Ground Committee

No one from the committee was present. There were a few questions and comments regarding the written report that appeared in the newsletter. The report listed “no interments” during the year, but Berkeley Mann, who died on March 16, 2005, was buried there this year. The Clerk commended the committee for its hard work, as it attends to, among other matters, some long-deferred maintenance. The Meeting accepts with appreciation their written report.

Sam Legg offered some history about the burial ground, especially in regard to concerns that Stony Run would run out of room, and was it sensible to allow Friends from Homewood to be buried there too. It was Elizabeth Bartlett who said, and so doing “brought down the house,” “We should be glad to have Homewood Friends in our Burial Ground.”

Oct 05 – 6 – Formal Report: Indian Affairs Committee. Bill Miles reported. Adding to the details in the written report, Dellie James noted that BAIC had a pow-wow this year in Patterson Park that appeared to be very successful, and they were glad to be back in Baltimore.

Bill provided an update on the meeting with the Maryland Dept of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), the superior (cabinet-level) office to the Department of Corrections (DOC), which runs the prisons concerning sweat lodge privileges in Maryland prisons on September 20 (separate written report). Present were Dr. Mary Livers, Deputy Secretary for Operations, a DPSCS legal counsel, Mr. S. Nathans, and three Friends – Lamar Matthew, Elizabeth Koopman, and Bill Miles – and one Indian Maria Bererra, who has been active at the federal level; she does a free-will ministry to native peoples in the prisons. This group of four was fully prepared with the points they wished to make and felt they made an impact. While it brought no immediate positive outcome, the department’s posture seems now to be “between reluctance and resistance, rather than between resistance and outright rejection, as in the past” according to Bill. Follow-up will be to request that the Department of Corrections Commissioner draft and approve a directive to permit sweat lodge spiritual practice. Lamar commended the dedication of the delegation to see this through. He felt he did not hear “anything negative,” and thus he found it positive. The group made clear their resolve to see this process through to the sought-after outcome.

Oct 05 – 7 – Informal Report: Chesapeake Quarterly Meeting. Michael Boardman reported, enhancing the written report that appeared in the newsletter. He highlighted the events relating to the 9/11 commemoration (Women in Black), the talk by Marq Anderson of AFSC about the Eyes Wide Open Exhibit, and the Peace Dragon prepared by Homewood Friends Meeting’s children. CQM’s Statement of Purpose was adopted and will soon be available on a website, to be announced.

Oct 05 – 8 – Informal Report: Friends School Liaison. Alice Cherbonnier reported, noting she has served a total of 15 years on the Friends School Board. Matthew Micciche seems to be fitting in very well as the new Head of School. The new science building and the new middle school building are completed. There is also a wonderful, new alumni house. She described the “intelligent design” of the middle school. It has much wonderful light and some curving walls that enhance the feeling of ease and openness. Its features include geothermal heating and cooling. The shingles on the science building are made of recycled tires, which look like slate. Plans are in the works to renovate the former middle school for use by the upper school -- part of an overall campus design that brings many improvements that will create a strong community feeling. Friends expressed interest in a tour of the new buildings some First Day. An Open House for the neighborhood has already occurred.

The school’s theme this year of “New Beginnings” includes reducing the expected total enrollment of 1000 pupils, in order to allow for smaller class size. Alice shared an anecdote about Stan Becker making a presentation on peace issues in which

he suggested (without promoting it) that one option to promote peace is to refuse to pay war taxes. Teachers held a brown bag to thrash out whether there should be a speaker to counter-balance this view. A Friend said he hoped Friends on the Board will be strong spokesperson for the traditional testimonies of Friends, and not feel there is a requirement to “balance” every position with a proponent of an opposite view.

Friends noted that the School was very supportive of the Eyes Wide Open project, including bringing the entire middle school to visit it and offering the use of the gym in case of bad weather.

There was a question about whether the athletic fields have artificial turf and good drainage. The answers are “yes.” The current artificial turf is very well tested and much improved over the earlier version.

Regarding landscaping between the Meetinghouse and the School, a Friend said she hopes that the Meeting stays well informed and can participate in planning for plantings. The landscaper is waiting until spring to plant some trees, because of the drought this fall.

A Friend noted the very favorable article about the school and the new buildings that appeared in the Baltimore SUN by a reporter, Jamie Stiehm, who is sometimes an attender here.

The Clerk noted that this is not the formal report for the school. Having a liaison is one of the several ways that the Meeting and the School interact. There is also a Quaker Dimensions Committee; member Joan Thompson is on it from the faculty. There is also a Board Committee, the Quaker Mission Oversight Committee, headed by John Baer of our Meeting. Diane Proctor asked if there are plans to maintain an additional link between the Meeting and the Head of School. In the past, this was an initiative of the Meeting, and the Meeting could initiate this with the new Head of School. This was referred to the Committee on Ministry and Counsel, which was the link in the past

Oct 05 – 9 - Announcements.

Maria Brown announced that BRIDGE’s annual meeting will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 6 in Hunting Ridge. She encouraged people to attend, especially since SRFM just recently became a member of BRIDGE.

The clerk of Ministry and Counsel reminded Friends of the sessions on Committee work, with two to choose from still coming up. These replace former sessions that were designed for clerks only. She said the first of the three was sparsely attended but very rich in content.

Friends were also reminded of the “Seekers and Speakers” series now under way.

Bob Goren shared additional details from the camping weekend, describing how some children “took over the singing” to wonderful effect – John Bakker and Josie LaBua and Katrina Restivo, daughter of Liz Entwisle.

Marjorie Scott told of a talk at Broadmead by woman who had been in three different concentration camps in WW II. She made an impassioned plea to find more ways to let children know more about the effects of war.

Quaker Readers’ Group will focus this year on CO issues. This season’s session will start out with viewing of a key segment of the film “Friendly Persuasion.” A Friend suggested making sure that the parents of middle schoolers and high schoolers know of this, as well as the First Day School teachers of these grades so they can let the Meeting’s young people know about this series.

Interim Meeting of Baltimore Yearly Meeting will take place on October 23. It will be the last meeting at which Frank Massey will be present, prior to his departure for a position at Guilford College.

After a brief worship, the meeting closed at 8:55 pm with 22 people present. The Clerk reminded Friends that next month the winter schedule begins, with Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business falling on the first First Day of the month, following Simple Lunch.

Respectfully, Elizabeth DuVerlie, Recording Clerk, and Arthur Boyd, Clerk

Friends present, as they signed in: Bill Morton, Lamar Matthew, Geni Elliott, Blaine Keener, Sam Legg, Sue Carnell, Mike Boardman, Nancy Moore, Bob Goren, Diane Proctor, Dellie James, Marjorie Scott, Maria Brown, Meg Boyd Meyer, Brian Gamble, Alice Cherbonnier, Eric Thompson, Joan M. Thompson, Robert Breyer, Michael Vermehren, Jolanda Ferguson, Arthur Boyd, Elizabeth DuVerlie

**REPORT ON THE PROPOSED 2006 STONY RUN BUDGET
FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 10, 2005**

Friends. The proposed budget for 2006 is attached. It shows a possible \$30,000 deficit. As you know, the Meeting approved a budget for 2005 with a \$21,000 deficit. The deficit for 2005 did not particularly concern us because the Meeting enjoyed surpluses in 2002, 2003, and 2004. We expected that additional income and fewer expenses would eventually balance the 2005 budget as they had before.

While we do not have all of our costs for 2005, Finance expects that income will not cover expenses for either 2005 or 2006. Our problems fall into four categories:

1. **Annual Contributions are not Enough:** 25 donor groups in the Meeting contribute half of the roughly \$100,000 in contributions that come in annually. Three of our larger contributors dropped off for various personal reasons in 2005 and are not expected back in 2006. 175 other donor groups contribute the other half. 200 donor groups contribute \$0.
2. **Other Income is Less than Projected:** Our income from the day care center will not be \$3200 but more likely \$800 because the appropriate lease is not in effect yet. Finance projected the income for 2006 to be \$800.
3. **Fixed Expenses are Increasing:** Fixed expenses (payroll, contribution to BYM, running the office, and Meeting House upkeep) total \$250,000. Discretionary expenses for committees and donations outside the Meeting are \$30,000. Camping scholarships were up for 2005 and will increase in 2006. We have begun to pay workers compensation insurance as we are required by law to do. The cost of health insurance for our employees increased in 2005 and will increase another 10% for the Executive Secretary in 2006. Property expects utilities to increase 20% in 2006.
4. **Endowments are not Receiving Contributions:** We all know the Endowments lost money in the last stock market downturn. Equally important, however, Finance is not aware of any significant new contributions to the endowments.

Finance proposes that the Meeting approve the projected budget for 2006 with the provision that the Clerk of the Meeting, Clerk of SOPC, Clerk of Trustees, and the Executive Secretary meet with Finance to develop a financial policy to propose to the Meeting for Business for years in which there is an operating loss. If an adjustment is required, Meeting will reconsider the 2006 budget.

Margaret Allen,

Clerk, for the Finance Committee

**Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run
2006 Proposed Budget**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	
1	SECTION I - Operating Budget				2003	2004	2005	2006						
2	Acct. No.				Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget						
3		INCOME												
4	4010	Contributions			95,589	101,995	92,991	97,595	1					
5	4101	Funds from Four Funds Endowments			175,632	159,916	148,388	149,380	2					
6	4300	Building Rental			1,515	5,150	1,500	1,500						
7		Burial Grounds House Rental				2,100	2,100	2,100	3					
8		Day Care Rental				400	3,200	800	4					
9	4400	Interest Income			297	216	500	200						
10		Interest from Trustees				49		0						
11	4200	Burial Grounds			2,244	407	0	0	5					
12		Total Income			275,277	270,233	248,679	251,575						
13														
14		EXPENSES												
15		Non-discretionary			218,785	235,166	243,998	252,633						
16		Operations			833	294	1,000	1,300						
17		Committees			10,438	8,478	8,300	9,650						
18		Affiliated Organizations			3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750						
19		Outreach			8,850	8,850	8,850	8,850						
20		Support for Members			2,978	2,691	4,088	5,260						
21		Total Expenses			245,634	259,229	269,986	281,443						
22														
23		SURPLUS OR DEFICIT			29,643	11,003	-21,307	-29,868	6					
24														
25	Notes on Total Income and Expenses													
26	1	Total Donations 4Q 2004 + 1Q, 2Q, 3Q 2005 equals the estimate of income for 2006												
27	2	5% of average endowments for last 3 years												
28	3	\$175 x 12 months												
29	4	\$100 x 8 months												
30	5	No burials anticipated												
31	6	Negative number in Surplus/Deficit means we expect to spend more than our income												

**Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run
2006 Proposed Budget**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
74	Acct. No.				2003	2004	2005	2006					
75		Operations			Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget					
76	5810	Archives			24	170	100	100					
77	5820	Literature			809	124	900	1,200	11				
78			Total Operations		833	294	1,000	1,300					
79		% OF EXPENSES			0.34%	0.11%	0.37%	0.46%					
80													
81	Notes on Operations			+Income	-Expenses	=Net	+Budget	=Variance					
82	11	2003 Literature		2,042	2,851	-809	800	-9					
83		2004 Literature		2045	2,169	-124	900	776					
84		2005 Literature					900						
85		2006 Literature					1,200						

**Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run
2006 Proposed Budget**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
126					2003	2004	2005	2006					
127		AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS			Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget					
128	5911	American Friends Service Committee			800	800	800	800					
129	5912	BYM Camping Programs			800	800	800	800					
130	5914	Friends Committee - National Legislation			800	800	800	800					
131	5917	Friends Council on Education			100	100	100	100					
132	5915	Friends General Conference			800	800	800	800					
133	5916	Friends World Comm. For Consultation			250	250	250	250					
134	5918	Quaker U.N. Program			200	200	200	200					
135		Total Affiliated Organizations			3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750					
136		% OF EXPENSES			1.53%	1.45%	1.39%	1.33%					
137													
138					2003	2004	2005	2006					
139		OUTREACH			Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget					
140	5913	Chesapeake Quarterly Youth Coordinator			150	150	150	150					
141	5962	Community Service			0	0	0	0	15				
142	5931	Friends School - SWOP			1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000					
143	5961	Funds Review & Use Committee			2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	FRAUC				
144	5981	GEDCO Cares			3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	FRAUC				
145	5941	Maryland Ecumenical Council			100	100	100	100	FRAUC				
146	5983	McKim Center			600	600	600	600	FRAUC				
147	5942	Right Sharing of World Resources			500	500	500	500	FRAUC				
148	5982	Social Order Assistance			1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	16				
149				Total Outreach	8,850	8,850	8,850	8,850					
150		% OF EXPENSES			3.60%	3.41%	3.28%	3.14%					
151	Notes on Outreach			Endowment	+ Op Budget	=Mtg Commit	-Expenses	=Ret Endow					
152	15	2003 Comm Svc		3,584	0	3,584	2,605	979					
153		2004 Comm Svc		3,628	0	3,628	2,615	1,013					
154		2005 Comm Svc		3,556	0	3,556							
155		2006 Comm Svc		3,652	0	3,652							
156	16	Equally to My Sister's Place, Healthcare for Homeless, Franciscan Center											
157													
158					2003	2004	2005	2006					
159		MEMBER SUPPORT			Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget					
160	5840	Camp Scholarships			700	1,945	2,800	4,000					
161	5830	Nurture (net of endowment)			2,278	746	1,288	1,260	17				
162		Subtotal Member Support			2,978	2,691	4,088	5,260					
163		% OF EXPENSES			1.21%	1.04%	1.51%	1.87%					
164	Notes on Member Support			Endowment	+Op Budget	=Mtg Commit	Expenses	Pd Endow	Pd Op Bud				
165	17	2003 Nurture		1,724	1,276	3,000	4,002	1,724	2,278				
166		2004 Nurture		1,744	1,256	3,000	2,490	1,744	746				
167		2005 Nurture		1,712	1,288	3,000							
168		2006 Nurture		1,740	1,260	3,000							
169													
170		TOTAL EXPENSES			245,634	259,229	269,986	281,443					

**Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run
2006 Proposed Budget**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
214	ENDOWMENTS				End of	Add from Fir	Total	Distributed	Available	Available			
215					2004	2005	2005	2004	2005	2006	Committee		
216		Endowments Held for Benefit of Meeting											
217	A	Combined Unrestricted Funds			2,298,081	7,903	2,305,984	118,156	109,132	109,320	Trustees	22	
218	B	Burial Ground			350,216	18,500	368,716	18,516	16,872	16,960	Burial Grnds	22	24
219		Meeting House Care			449,590	0	449,590	21,644	20,784	21,500	Property	22	25
220		St. Ambrose			40,000	0	40,000	1,600	1,600	1,600	Trustees	23	
221		Total of Four Funds			3,137,887		3,164,290	159,916	148,388	149,380			
222													
223	C	Community Service			77,098	3,861	80,959	3,628	3,556	3,652	FRAUC	22	
224	D	Nurture			37,185	533	37,718	1,744	1,712	1,740	Various	22	
225					114,283		118,677	5,372	5,268	5,392			
226		Total of Six Funds			3,252,170	30,797		165,288	153,656	154,772			
227													
228	Notes on Endowments Held for Benefit of Meeting												
229	A	Addition to Combined Unrestricted = \$11,003 of Income in excess of expenses in 2004 less \$1500 to Bridges less \$1600 of Actual Contributions											
230		over Budget = \$7,903											
231	B	Addition to Burial Grounds = \$18,500 formerly held by Finance											
232	C	Addition to Community Service = \$2,794 formerly held by Finance + \$1,067 which is 2/3 of excess of Actual Contributions over Budget in 2004											
233		Excess was \$1,600 x 2/3 = \$1,067											
234	D	Addition to Nurture = 1/3 of excess of Actual Contributions over Budget in 2004. Excess was \$1,600 x 1/3 = \$533											
235	21	Goes to Peace and Social Order Committee											
236	22	5% of the average adjusted year-end balances for the three previous years, distributed quarterly											
237	23	4% Interest received annually, distributed for Meeting Operating Budget											
238	24	Income not needed for Burial Grounds may be used for Meeting operating expenses; principal controlled by Burial Grounds Committee											
239	25	Principal Controlled by Property Committee											
240													
241					End of	Add from Fin	Total	Distributed	Available	Available			
242		Endowments Held for Benefit of Others			Total Fund	2005	2005	2004	2005	2006			
243		Elder Care			288,734	0	288,734	14,465	13,540	13,661	FRAUC	26	
244		Friends Helping Friends			199,262	0	199,262	7,383	6,933	6,984	Trustees	27	
245		Gross Memorial Fund			446,048	0	446,048	9,802	13,537	17,570	Trustees	28	
246		Jewett Fund			115,911	0	115,911	6,062	5,579	5,515	Trustees	28	
247		Sharp Fund			627,509	0	627,509	32,785	30,159	29,828	Trustees	28	
248		Taylor Scholarship			321,735	0	321,735	16,740	15,432	15,280	Trustees	29	
249				Total	1,999,199		1,999,199	87,237	85,180	88,838			
250				All Funds	5,251,369			252,525	238,836	243,610			
251													
252	Notes on Endowments Held for Benefit of Others												
253	26	Not distributed automatically; withdrawn only by FRAUC recommendation											
254	27	Scholarships for Friends School students distributed in December; rate is 3.75% not 5%											
255	28	Scholarships for Friends School students distributed 65% in August, 35% in December											
256	29	Distributed 50% in August, 50% in December to Swarthmore College											

FROM OUR FRIEND IN COSTA RICA: Dear Family and Friends, A few days ago I said to myself, What are you waiting for? This is it! At age 75, it's time to choose. There may be other places, other countries with more charm, more tradition, more refinement or culture or history. Costa Rica (CR) is not perfect, but I am here now to stay. So let me tell you about one of the major reasons I am choosing to settle here, and that is the spectacular, phenomenal, magical **WEATHER !**

Between the Atlantic and the Pacific, CR is only 74 miles across at its narrowest, 175 miles at its broadest. At an altitude of 3800+ feet, San José lies smack on the 10th parallel (same as Caracas & Trinidad) and is surrounded by 9000+ foot mountains. This explains, in part, why the year-round average daily highs vary only from 73 to 79 degrees, and the night-time lows from 59 to 66 degrees. Since 15 August when I arrived, I have yet to be really hot, and at night I am never without a blanket, occasionally two (no central heating). Even now during the rainy season the humidity is never enough to talk about, and thanks to gentle breezes, most days, the air is clear and crisp at wake-up and never, never muggy.

As for the rain, which comes every 8 or 9 days out of 10, it generally comes in the afternoon (this will end in November, until May or June). So when I go for my usual run or walk before breakfast, the sky is often blue and the green-covered mountains are there to gaze at. Clouds are present, but day-long overcast skies are the rare exception. Compare this to Baltimore's stifling heat, killer humidity, and bitter cold, Thank You Very Much, I choose CR! Oh yes, also, no mosquitoes, just a few ants.

Now there are many, many negatives to weigh all this against, but I will leave those aside for another time. I am well, getting to know a few kindred souls, volunteering at the Friends Meeting, and have started tutoring in Spanish, at \$4/hr.! I am at the point now where I can express my needs and understand most of what is being said in a one-to-one conversation. Local TV has given me a boost too (interesting differences, for another time). And my initial problem of unconsciously thinking in French, instead of Spanish, is now fading into the past.

I will return to Baltimore about 10 November, to stay over Thanksgiving, and am not sure about Xmas. I may need to return again to handle my stuff in storage. I am not looking forward to the cold weather.

I welcome your comments and/or questions. May Peace win out over war. Love & Blessings to all, Bill Read

JUST MARRIED: Evan DuVerlie, son of Elizabeth DuVerlie, married Sasha Morris on September 24, 2005 in a small ceremony, on the shore of Stone Pond, near Marlborough, NH, where they live. Sasha's 6-year-old daughter Nica, was part of the ceremony. Elizabeth is

delighted to have a new daughter-in-law and step-granddaughter.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION What is it? Does it apply to you? If you are a young person who has begun to wonder whether or not you will be able, for reasons of conscience, to participate in war, this program will help you start to clarify your thinking. On **Sunday, November 13**, attorney J.E. McNeil of the Center on Conscience and War will talk with the general audience from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. From 10:30-12:00 noon, J.E. will speak with young people only, in the FS Lower School Assembly Room. This program is open to the General Public. Parents and any interested young people are invited. The program begins with **bagels and beverage in the Dining Room at 9:00 a.m.**

BOOKS AUTHORED BY MEETING MEMBERS SOUGHT: The Library Committee wants to update our collection of books-in-print written by meeting members/attenders. As an author or relative of an author will you consider donating a copy of your family member's book? Please let us know if your book is already in the collection so we can feature these publications on our shelves. Categories in Stony Run's library include: Sacred Writing, Worship/Prayer/Spirituality, Peace/International relations, Environmental/Social issues, Quaker biography, History, Literature, Quakerism, and Children. Please leave the item in the Library Committee mailbox in the hall or contact Sandi Adams.

LITTLE MEETING: Religious Education is offering "Little Meeting," which is designed for any child who is still learning to center into prayer or who may be new to the Meeting and the practices of Meeting for Worship. The purpose of the class is to ease the process of our children's acclimation to the 'Big' Meeting for Worship by providing tools to assist in settling down and centering in. The children will be given a basic sense of silence as a pleasant state and a sense of community while working with other children to discover ways of being calm and peaceful together. On First Day when Little Meeting does not meet, the children can sit with their parents and practice their new skills in the first 20 minutes of 'Big' Meeting. **The Little Meeting takes place from 11:00 -11:20 a.m.** in Room 214 (to the right of the office) and will be offered **November 6 and 20, and December 4 and 18.** At 11:20 a.m. the students attend their regular First Day School classes. See the flyer on the hallway table for further details.

TUESDAY WORSHIP: Meeting for Worship is held **every Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at the Meetinghouse on the campus of Sheppard Pratt Hospital. The small brick meetinghouse is located at the top of the Charles Street entrance drive and is adjacent to the (new) parking garage.

Please park in the lot opposite the meetinghouse. Friends gather in front of the fireplace and there are opportunities for fellowship after Worship.

MUCH APPRECIATION AND THANKS: The Religious Education Committee thanks everyone who helped create the summer assemblies for our kids. Thanks to Russell and Laura Gray, Diane Proctor, Seana Coffin, Blaine Keener, Jolanda Ferguson, Peggy Steele, Nancy Moore, Carla Spawn-van Berkum, Ann Kehinde, Frosty Davis, Karie Firoozmand, Dotti and David Drumm, Lamar Mathew, Brian Gamble, Bob and Gail Breyer. We are also grateful to the many other adults and kids who lent a hand over the summer. A good time was had by all!

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS, open to all between the ages of 18 and 35-ish, meet for socializing, eating and worship on the **first Tuesday evening of each month at Homewood Meetinghouse**. The next gathering will be **Tuesday, November 1**. Bring food to share if possible, but come anyway; there's always enough. **Potluck is at 7:00 p.m., Meeting for Worship is at 8:00 p.m.**

QUAKER READERS' GROUP will meet **Tuesday, November 8**, (second Tuesday of each month) in the Dining Room at Stony Run Meetinghouse. The evening will begin with a light **supper at 6:30 p.m.** followed by discussion of a selected reading. This season's readings will center around matters of conscience and their effects on the individual, the family and the community. Copies of the readings will be available in the library. All are welcome to participate in this Friendly way of increasing our understanding of Quaker faith.

HUMANITARIAN HEROES: As his bar mitzvah project, Elliot Chen of Bolton Street Synagogue has created a deck of playing cards featuring humanitarian heroes from the world. Elliot, a friend of the Causey family, will be donating all of his profits to the Maryland Food Bank. To purchase this wonderful, unique deck of playing cards, or for more information, please contact Elliot and his mom.

VEGETARIAN COOKING CLUB: Unity with Nature Committee invites Friends to Vegetarian Cooking Club dinner on **Saturday, November 19**, from **4:30 to 7:30 pm** in the Stony Run kitchen. Folks will cook together and enjoy good food and good company. RSVP to Lynn Huntley if you plan to attend.

WORKDAY AT THE MEETING HOUSE: The Property Committee is having a workday on **Saturday, November 12**. We would like to do some yard-work (Friends School is removing leaves around the Meeting House), cleaning of closets and the boiler room. The

workday will begin at **9:00 a.m. and go until approximately 1:00 p.m.** Feel free to give what time you can; come for part, or all of the event. Juice, coffee, and morning snacks will be provided. **If you have, or know of items in the closets or boiler room that should be saved**, please contact Michael Vermehren.

A FRIEND'S ART: Anne Griffith invites you to an exhibition of her peaceful, minimalist, meditative landscapes at Gallery G, 5616 Newbury Street, in Mt Washington Village. Brigitte Pierrette Davis joins Anne in showing her nature-based, very gentle and graceful stone carvings, **now through November 27**. Gallery hours are Monday -Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LEND A HAND AT OUR QUAKER CAMPS: There is need for many hands at the upcoming work weekend at **Catoctin, November 4 – 6**. It is hoped that the work can be started on the Catoctin Pond Water Quality Improvement Project which Stony Run Young Friends have helped to fund. Another post and beam cabin will definitely be built at Catoctin. Please consider giving time and energy to these projects. Contact David Hunter at www.bym-rsf.org, 301.774.7663 (office) or 240.285.5186 (cell).

ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE: Friends School of Baltimore will host a Middle and Upper School Open House for parents and prospective students entering grades six through 12 on **Sunday, November 6, promptly at 1:00 p.m.** Parents of children entering Pre-Kindergarten (age four) through grade five may attend one of several weekday information sessions and tours hosted throughout the fall. Tours are limited to no more than 12 adults per session. (Pre-Primary and Lower School parent tours are available weekdays by appointment.) Friends School of Baltimore, an independent, coeducational, college preparatory institution founded in 1784, offers students age four through grade 12 a rigorous academic program guided by the values of peace, equality, community, truth and simplicity. To schedule an appointment, contact the Admissions Office at 410.649.3211.

YOUNG FRIENDS ASK: Do you have an interesting job, hobby or passion you would like to share with a younger generation? Young Friends, Stony Run's own inimitable high school fellowship group, is seeking adult members of our Meeting who would be willing to join us for an hour some Sunday to share their knowledge and wisdom. Young Friends typically meets each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. to Noon in the Meetinghouse library. Anyone who is interested in sharing time and conversation with our high school students in this way, be it this fall, winter or next spring, please contact Lynn Jordan.

SINGING FROM THE SACRED HARP at Stony Run Meetinghouse **today and each 2nd Sunday of the month, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.** (Bring a dish to share at the 6:00 potluck.). It's free, all are welcome, and singing requires no previous knowledge. Sacred Harp or shape note singing is an unaccompanied form of choral music predating colonial times and is characterized by strong rhythms and open harmonies, a truly unique sound and experience. Singing is from *The Sacred Harp*, 1991 edition; loaner books are available. For details contact Liz Cusick

WARM HATS AND GLOVES NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S HOUSING COALITION (WHC)

HOLIDAY PROJECT: Stony Run will again sponsor the Women's Housing Coalition holiday project. As in past years, we will provide the women residents of WHC with gift bags filled with necessary toiletries, warm hats, and gloves. Friends School second and third graders and their families will be decorating 40 gift bags and filling them with toiletries. Stony Run's Senior Hi-Q's will be decorating 60 gift bags and filling them with toiletries as well. Stony Run Meeting families are being asked for donations of **women's warm hats and gloves**. We would like to provide a hat and glove set for each of 100 gift bags. Please be generous. We are told that bright colors and lively patterns would be particularly enjoyed. While hats and gloves are our main goal, other items such as lip balm, combs, brushes, socks, and knee high stockings would also be welcome. Boxes will be in the Library to collect donations of hats, gloves, and other items. Monetary donations will also be accepted and may be placed in the collection box in the Library. The final date for collecting items is December 4th. For more details, contact Denise Wible. Thanks you, as always, for your continuing generosity.

SEEKING INFORMATION on the landscape painting located on the south wall of the library: Does anyone know who donated the picture, how it came to the Meeting House, its artist, age, subject, value - monetary or historically? The painting is in need of restoration and we are trying to establish the relationship between the cost of restoring vs. the value to the Meeting House. Please contact Michael Vermehren, Property Committee clerk.

WEDDING NEWS: Hi, I just wanted to drop a note to announce that Joyce Fisher and I were married on September 14, 2005. The ceremony took place in Washington, Virginia, and after a quick trip to London, we are back in Baltimore. Joyce, Alex and I look forward to moving into our new home in Perry Hall within the next month. Hope all is well at Stony Run, and I look forward to stopping by in the near future. Tim (Timothy Hearn)

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: The Miles White Beneficial Society of Baltimore City was founded and incorporated in 1874 to administer a trust established under the will of Miles White, a member of the Eutaw Street Meeting, the predecessor of Baltimore, Homewood Monthly Meeting. Its Articles of Incorporation state: "The object of this Corporation shall be to promote piety and Christianity, (especially by the dissemination of books and tracts); to extend aid to the young in their religious, moral, and intellectual training and education; and to relieve the deserving poor." Grants made each year in May to individual scholars for undergraduate education are based upon scholarship, character, service, prospective vocation and demonstrated need. Application must be returned before April 1 for the following academic year. Application forms may be requested, in writing from: The Secretary, The Miles White Beneficial Society of Baltimore City, Andrew Passmore, 15031 Priceville Road, Sparks, Md 21152. Email: apassmore@comcast.net

LIBRARIAN'S CHOICE, BOOK REVIEW: Dalke, Anne and Barbara Dixson. *Minding the Light: Essays in Friendly Pedagogy*. New York: Peter Lang, 2004. *Minding the Light* "grew out of conversations at the 2000 conference of the Friends Association for Higher Education" where educators considered the query "What is Quaker Education?" Each essay explores the elements of Quaker Education from a different perspective and yet there are strands that run throughout: the **priority of experience**: awaken fully to our encounters with the world, **integrity**: link education consistently with the whole of life, the **facts are friendly**: trust that the creation is welcoming and life-affirming, invite all voices: **include all** in the community of learning, **nonviolence**: **respect** for the tender souls of teachers and learners alike. Quaker Education models many of the best practices of education: teachers are facilitators and servant leaders; students are trusted and encouraged to take risks; classrooms are safe, welcoming, and student centered; schools are communities of learners; learning is reflective, experiential and inner-directed, and assessments are authentic and provide honest feedback. This book is a must read for anyone involved in Quaker education. It would be especially valuable for new faculty at any Quaker school. Sandi Morton

HAPPENINGS AT HEATHCOTE: Erica Wheeler, top notch singer/songwriter, will perform at an upcoming Heathcote house concert, **November 19 at 7:30 p.m.** Call 410-3443-1779 or email concerts@Heathcote.org for an invitation and directions. This will be Heathcote's LAST concert for a while, so please don't miss it!!! Erica Wheeler will also offer a writing workshop, "The Soulful Landscape: Writing with a Sense of Place" on **November 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Workshop participants will come away with a method of writing that can be used as a pathway to

deeper self-understanding and exploration. The cost is \$40 and the registration deadline is November 12. If you come to the concert you can take \$5 off the workshop registration! To register, send your check to: Heathcote Community, 21300 Heathcote Rd. Freeland, MD 21053. Also, bring a brown-bag lunch or pot luck dish to share (we're a vegetarian community so please don't bring any meat). OTHER EVENTS COMING UP: For more information on all events go to www.Heathcote.org. (Heathcote, the home of Carol Seddon, Ana, Dylan and Paul Phillips, is an intentional community located 30 miles north of Baltimore. It is nestled in a narrow wooded stream valley near Freeland, Maryland. Heathcote is a community of friends and family who choose to live cooperatively, and consciously create a better way of life. Residents strive to care for one another and for the natural systems that nurture them.)

THE TABLE IS SPREAD: AN INTERFAITH JOURNEY will take place Wednesday evenings, November 2, 9, and 16, from 5:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Towson Presbyterian Church, 400 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson. "An Interfaith Journey" is a time to learn from one another, to break bread, pray together, and share traditional foods.

November 2 gathering begins at **5:45 p.m.** with soup and sandwiches. At 6:30 p.m., speaker Rabbi Steven Schwartz of Beth El Congregation will share "Different Expressions of Judaism and Local Interfaith Efforts, as well as Judaism's Relation to, and Intersections with Christianity."

November 9 gathering begins at **5:45 p.m.** with soup and sandwiches. At 6:30 p.m., speaker Mr. Akbar Ansari, of Baltimore County Muslim Council, will share "The many aspects of Islam." **November 16** gathering begins at **5:45 p.m.** with a time to break bread together and enjoy soups and breads from many traditions. At 6:30 p.m., there will be a Celebration, a time to learn about feasts celebrated by Abraham's Peoples. Please R.S.V.P. to Towson Presbyterian Church, 400 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, MD

21204 or call 410.823.6500 or e-mail tpc@towsonpres.org. Give name and number of those attending, the date(s) you plan to attend and specify if childcare is needed.

AFSC ANNUAL PUBLIC GATHERING will be held **Saturday, November 5, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 4th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia.**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER (1:30 - 2:45 pm Plenary): Mary Frances Berry is the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. She served as Assistant Secretary for Education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare during the Carter Administration and was appointed by President Carter to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. President Reagan fired her

when she criticized his civil rights policies, but she sued in court and won reinstatement. President Clinton appointed her Chair of the Commission, where she served until 2004. A founder of the Free South Africa Movement, which initiated protests at the South African Embassy in the successful struggle for democracy, she shares AFSC's vision of equality and rights for all people regardless of color, race, ethnicity, religious persuasion or gender identification.

From 3:00 - 4:30 pm Courage on the Frontlines will focus on **Human Mobility:** AFSC supports people of color, who may or may not be immigrants, and are facing many challenges; some have been uprooted from their communities by Hurricane Katrina, others are harassed by self-appointed vigilantes along the U.S. Mexico border; **Stirring Up Peace:** In The Middle East AFSC supports nonviolent resistance and refusal in Israel and Palestine. Also, staff in regional offices is assisting in a campaign to market and sell local olive oil from groves in Palestine; and **Front Lines For Youth:** AFSC works with groups and parents who oppose sharing lists of high school students with military recruiters as mandated in the No Child Left Behind Act and supports Native American youth caught up in the criminal justice system.

Friday, November 4, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a special screening of "Hotel Rwanda," the true story of Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager who sheltered over a thousand Tutsi refugees from harm during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

All events held at the Holiday Inn are free and open to the public.

INTERIM GENERAL SECRETARY NAMED: This is an important time of transition for Baltimore Yearly Meeting. After seventeen years of service, Frank Massey is leaving his position as General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Frank will begin his new calling mid November at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The process for searching for a general secretary will take several months. Foreseeing the need for someone to serve on an interim basis as General Secretary in the coming months, The Supervisory Committee and Yearly Meeting clerks surveyed the Yearly Meeting for someone who might assure continuity in the Yearly Meeting office and provide continued support for the staff through the transition period and search for a General Secretary.

BYM's Presiding Clerk Lauri Perman and Interim Meeting Clerk Michael Cronin are pleased to inform Friends that Howard Fullerton has agreed to serve as interim General Secretary, beginning Wednesday, October 19. Further details will be forthcoming.

QUAKER YOUTH LEADERSHIP held its annual national planning committee meeting at Stony Run on First Day, October 16th. Quaker Youth Leadership is a national organization of students of all Friends Schools, which gathers annually to promote Quaker leadership within our

youth by discussing and implementing issues and ideas as they relate to Quaker concerns in these schools. The planning committee this year consists of students from Baltimore's Friends School, represented by Stony Run members Josie LaBua and David Lerner, The Thornton School, Sidwell Friends, and Sandy Spring Friends. The annual gathering will take place this year at Sandy Spring Friends School.

NEWS OF BARDHI FROM KOSOVO: Two years ago, Stony Run brought Bardhi to Baltimore to attend his senior year at Towson High. Bardhi is now a sophomore at Brigham Young University and is doing very well. He was one of three, from a field of fourteen applicants, accepted to BYU's graphics design major program. Bardhi sends his regards to Friends at Stony Run Meeting, and his gratitude

for having had the opportunity to worship with us and be part of the community for that year.

There is also sad news; after a lengthy illness, Bardhi's mother died in Kosovo, in late September. Cards or notes from F/friends moved to write him, would be appreciated. Contact the Meeting office for Bardhi's address.

FROM MATT AND FRANCES MICCICHE TO ALL FRIENDS: "Thank you for such a warm welcome! Our thanks to everyone who prepared the scrumptious feast and helped to set up and clean up. We feel very lucky to be entering such a generous and kind community of Friends. With gratitude, Francis and Matt."

GREEN CLEANING TIPS FROM THE UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

Many household cleansers contain ingredients that pose health and environmental problems. These include chlorine, phosphates, phthalates, ammonia, lye, formaldehyde, petroleum distillates and all kinds of other toxic things. They are also expensive and often smelly. There are non-toxic replacements for most of these cleansers and many can be replaced with inexpensive solutions made from every day ingredients. Some ways to detoxify your home:

Dishes: There are several dishwashing soaps and dishwasher powders on the market, many made from citrus extracts. Bi-O-Kleen makes a particularly effective dishwashing soap and dishwashing powder. For pots and pans, use a paste of baking soda and water.

General cleaning: Again there are several products on the market; Citra-solv is one. And here's a recipe: For each quart of a 50/50 solution of white vinegar and water, add a tablespoon each of citrus cleaner and liquid soap; works on counters, appliances, floors, even woodwork and furniture. It smells good. Most insects seem to hate citrus cleaners.

Tubs, Sinks, Toilets: Use a chlorine-free scouring powder like Bon Ami. Or use Borax or baking soda. Ecover's Toilet Cleaner is another good product.

Drains: Drain cleaners are some of the most toxic compounds available. To de-grease sink and tub drains, pour a ½ cup of baking soda down the drain followed by 1 cup of vinegar. Let it bubble for 15 minutes and rinse with hot water. For really difficult build up, repeat the procedure or leave the baking soda and vinegar overnight and rinse with hot water the next day.

Glass: A 50/50 solution of white vinegar and water works great. To avoid streaks, put a little dishwashing soap in the first time to get the old chemicals off the glass.

Mildew: Spray undiluted white vinegar on mildew and it wipes right off. Let it sit overnight if it hasn't been done in a long time.

Resources: Whole Foods in Baltimore (Fells Point and Smith Avenue) and the Health Concern in Towson are places that carry many green cleaning products.

The Stony Run UWN committee site has some articles on green cleaning and the Homewood committee page has a link to it.

There are also many, many web sites; here is a small sample:

Children's Health Environmental Coalition, www.checnet.org/healththehouse/education/.

Environmental Media Services, www.ems.org/household_cleaners/alternatives.html.

National Institutes of Health-Household Products Database, www.householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/.

A Real Life, the magazine where many of the tips above appeared, www.areallife.org.

With this piece, the Unity with Nature committee is starting a series of short articles on environmental issues. Please contact Liz Entwisle or Polly Heninger with comments or suggestions for future topics.