

Adelphi Friends Newsletter

Fourth Month, 2008

Adelphi Friends Meeting
2303 Metzert Road, Adelphi, Maryland 20783
(301) 445-1114

www.AdelphiFriends.org, <http://Adelphi.Quaker.org/>

Anne Marie Moriarty, clerk — Michael Levi, assistant treasurer

<p>WEEKLY SCHEDULE:</p> <p>Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Early Meeting for Worship (except 3rd Sunday) 9:45 a.m. Singing 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship</p> <p>Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Meeting for Worship</p>	<p>MONTHLY SCHEDULE:</p> <p>Second Sunday (Third Sunday in May, July and August): Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business</p> <p>Third Sunday: Singing begins at 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Fourth Sunday: Junior Meeting at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Fourth Sunday: Potluck at rise of Meeting</p>
<p>Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) under the care of Adelphi Meeting. Every Sunday: Meeting for Worship 10:30 a.m., currently at the home of Arthur Karpas, 6916 Westmoreland Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. Meeting for Worship for the Preparation of Business, fourth Sunday following Meeting for Worship.</p>	

FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL AUCTION

"Make new Friends, but keep the old...." Join Friends Community School in its annual fundraising auction on Saturday, April 12th, starting at 6:00 p.m. Adelphi Friends Meeting members and attendees are warmly encouraged to come! This annual event raises money for the Blackburn Scholarship Fund, providing financial aid to young people attending FCS, including Adelphi Friends Meeting children. The event will include a Mediterranean feast, live jazz music, both silent and live auctions, and tours of FCS' new "green" facility. The ticket price is \$20 per person.

In an envelope marked "FCS Auction Ticket Order", please mail a check to FCS, indicating the number of tickets you would like to purchase. No tickets will be sent to you: your names will be at the registration desk on the evening of the event. You can also buy tickets at the door. This is an adults-only event. Silent and live auction donations are also encouraged and welcomed! Questions? Call FCS at (301) 441-2100.

This will be the first annual auction at our wonderful new home—we hope to see many Adelphi Friends Meeting community members there! Our new address is 5901 Westchester Park Drive, College Park, MD 20740.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUNG FRIENDS VISIT MOSQUE

April 13th The Middle School Young Friends are going to visit the Moslem Community Center and Mosque on New Hampshire Avenue. We will leave Adelphi at 10:10 a.m. sharp and return by noon. Suggested attire: boys—long pants and shirts; girls—long pants or skirt (below the knee) and light covering for girls' heads.

Also middle school young friends save the date(s) 4/26 or 5/10 for our "Soiree". QUESTIONS???? Please contact Joanna Axtmann at jaxart@infionline.net or (202)723-4428.

TAKOMA PARK FRIENDS MEETING SECOND HOUR

Takoma Park Friends Meeting will have a co-operative Second Hour after Meeting for Worship on April 16, 2008. The theme of the Second Hour is, "What helps bring about in you a spiritual spring-time? What gets you going after a long winter?" Friends are invited to bring along something to share that answers these questions, such as a poem, a reading, a piece of artwork or whatever else inspires them.

Takoma Park Friends Meeting gathers for Meeting for Worship weekly at 10:30 a.m. at Friends Community School, 5901 Westchester Park Drive, College Park, MD 20740. For further information, call (301) 270-4239.

FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

April is a busy month at FCS. We have begun meeting with our new Head, Larry Clement, who is often in town working on his new, "handyman's special" house. We look forward to welcoming him into our school community at the beginning of his tenure, July 1. April 12 we will hold our annual AUCTION at our own, permanent home. This year, we are particularly interested in inviting all alumni to the auction so that they can tour and enjoy our new facility.

This April, the school will be able to celebrate Environmental Educators Week, April 14-18, by exploring our own exciting grounds. We have two types of wetlands, a stream, tadpoles, turtles, snakes, birds and a forest which is reclaiming land through a natural succession of plants. It is really exciting to have such an excellent, natural laboratory for our students to learn from. Through our Earth Day activities, we hope to teach good science along with the importance of sustainability and stewardship.

The 7/8th graders at FCS would like to thank Adelphi Meeting for the grant which permitted us to attend a Washington Quaker Workcamp. Thanks to your generosity, the older students had a very important, eye opening experience where they helped feed and do service for homeless people in Washington DC. Several students overcame their anxiety about meeting homeless people and came to understand that we are all human beings who should take care of each other. While a fuller report will be sent to the Meeting at a later time, here is a poem written by one of the students.

1,400 homeless

I spend time
Making myself look the way I want to look
They spend time
Finding the necessities of life

I have a bed
And a house
They have a blanket
And a box

I take things for granted
They take things from the trash

I saw them
Learned from them
They saw me
Not sure what they saw

In one shelter 1400
In one house 3

--Sarah Rose

WORKSHOP ON QUAKER BUSINESS PROCESS AT FRIENDS MEETING OF WASHINGTON

Following meeting for worship on Sunday, April 27th, FMW's Ministry and Worship Committee will sponsor a workshop on Quaker business process, meeting from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. or as needed. We are pleased to have the leadership of Deborah Haines, currently Recording Clerk of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Her description of the workshop follows.

Quaker Discernment: Quaker business process is a unique approach to decision-making that draws on the insight and expanded consciousness Friends experience in worship. To use a gardening metaphor: meeting for worship is when we plant and tend our communal garden; meeting for business is the harvest time. What kind of fruit will our particular garden produce? A meeting can only make corporate decisions by putting into practice the ideals of love, peace, and community that rise out of gathered worship. It is never easy. There are different opinions and conflicting personalities in every meeting, and these can easily lead to wrangling instead of unity in the face of real life problems and choices.

It helps if we realize that Quaker discernment requires a different set of tools than the ones most of us are accustomed to using. Secular decision-making relies on things like coalition building, information management, cost-benefit analysis, persuasion, pressure, and voting blocs. Quaker discernment relies on deep listening, patience, an unwillingness to sacrifice community, and a belief that way will open if we are faithful. It requires us to be unflinchingly honest with ourselves, to allow ourselves to be tested, to be vulnerable, to consider that we might be mistaken. It requires us to speak out when we might prefer to be silent, and to be silent when we might prefer to argue. It requires us to believe in the possibility of transformation, for ourselves as well as for others.

In this workshop we will explore ways of Quaker discernment. How do we, as Friends, choose what course to follow, individually and as a group? How can we deal more creatively with conflict? What does it feel like to look for and find "way opening?" The more we know about how Quaker business process works, the more tools we will have for confronting the inevitable challenges, so that meeting for business can truly be an expression and affirmation of our worship community.

Deborah Haines is a member of Alexandria Friends meeting. She recently completed six years as clerk of the Friends General Conference Advancement and Outreach Committee, and is currently serving as clerk of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Advancement and Outreach Committee, and as BYM Recording Clerk. She carries a travel minute from Alexandria Meeting, and has led numerous workshops on meeting revitalization, Quaker process, and rediscovering the power of early Quakerism.

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE QUAKER POTLUCK AND DIALOGUE

You are invited to a potluck & Quaker dialogue at William Penn House, Sunday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. Our Program this First Day is presented by Bette Hoover of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting and is called, "Just Peace Circles" www.justpeacecircles.org.

Just Peace Circles is a restorative and holistic approach to peacemaking that relies on deep listening and collective group wisdom to resolve problems, strengthen relationships and build stronger, more loving communities. A process that takes a step beyond mediation, the circles build on the values and principles of restorative practices, traditional peacemaking and Quaker process. We are called upon to "be the change we want to see in the world" (Gandhi) and restore balance to all our relationships. Circles of restorative dialogue offer a format to be that change and help make things better.

Bette is well known throughout the Washington area for her peace activism and commitment to nonviolent approaches to bringing people together. She led AVP (Alternative to Violence) and HIPP (Help Increase the Peace) workshops for many years and was the director of the AFSC-DC office for more than ten years. Currently she leads classes and workshops on restorative practices through Howard Community College and as a consultant.

William Penn House is located at 515 East Capitol Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Phone: (202) 543-5560, e-mail: Info@WilliamPennHouse.org, www.WilliamPennHouse.org.

NOMINATED BYM INTERIM CLERK

The position of BYM Interim Meeting Clerk has been vacant for the last few months. The Search Committee brought forward the name of Elizabeth Meyer, former Clerk of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting, to Interim Meeting on Saturday, March 29, in Williamsburg. Betsy is also known to many Friends as the coordinator of the BYM Spiritual Formation Program.

BYM SPRING 2008 SILENT RETREAT

Is your spirit in need of nourishment and refreshment? Come to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Silent Retreat at Dayspring. We will keep the silence from Friday evening until after worship on Sunday, enjoying the beauty of God's creation, reading, walking, resting, finding our own rhythms, listening for the Still Small Voice.

SPONSOR: Baltimore Yearly Meeting Committee on Ministry & Pastoral Care

FACILITATOR: Jean Christianson

WHERE: Dayspring Retreat Center, 11301 Neelsville Church Rd., Germantown, MD 20876

WHEN: June 13-15

ARRIVAL: 4:00-7:00 p.m. Friday. (Dinner at 7 p.m. All food is vegetarian.)

DEPARTURE: 2:00 p.m. Sunday.

COST: \$175. The fee covers six meals, bed linens, blankets, towels and washcloth.

REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED: Now till June 6th (if not filled earlier). Minimum number is 10 participants. Maximum is 18. Friends will be enrolled in the order in which checks are received.

BRING: Toilet articles, casual clothes, walking shoes, and a flashlight. Friends sometimes bring personal journals, devotional literature, sketch pads or needlework.

Questions? Call Jean Christianson at (410) 544-1912 or e-mail jschristianson@gmail.com.

NEXT RETREAT: October 10-13

SPRING WORK WEEKENDS AT THE BYM CAMP PROPERTIES

We are getting ready for another great summer at the BYM Camps but we will need your help to make it all possible! You are invited to join us at the camp properties for a series of work weekend this spring. Come and enjoy some time at the camps that have come to mean so much to so many, participate in some meaningful and satisfying work, enjoy the company of other Friends, or take the opportunity to learn your way around the camps before the summer of fun and growing begins. Painting, cleaning repairing and improving the camps offer us all a chance to get to know each other and to enjoy these beautiful places! You, your family, friends, and anyone else are invited to participate in one or more of the work weekends listed below. Work weekends provide a great chance to see our camp properties in a new season or for the first time. Give the gift of your time and enjoy the gifts our camps have to give.

You DO NOT need to have any building or carpentry skills in order to pitch in! We need all kinds of people to make contributions. You do need to have some energy and a willingness to get dirty, try new things, be flexible and enjoy the company of others who want to pitch in too. We need sweepers, painters, cooks, ditchers, concrete mixers, trail clearers as well as carpenters and handy people. All of us have contributions to make while enjoying some physical activity and the company of Friends!

Work weekends are held on both Saturday and Sunday; you may come just for the day or you may spend the night on Saturday night. You may arrive Friday night if you'd like to make a weekend of it, but there will be no dinner served on Friday. Feel free to bring food to share. We will provide simple breakfasts and lunches on Saturday and Sunday as well as the evening meal on Saturday night. Bring bedding (we do not always have enough suitable mattresses), flashlights, and anything else you may want. Cabins are generally available or you may bring a tent. Please visit our website before you come to make sure everything is on schedule. There may be times when we are sharing camp with other renters and cabin space will be limited.

Friends of all ages are welcome. Young people (0 to 18 years of age) should always bring their parents or a Friendly Adult Presence (FAP). Parents or FAPs will be responsible for supervising the young people under their care. All participants will be asked to sign a liability release waver and minors will need to have a liability release waver signed by their parents or legal guardians.

Location	Date
Opequon Quaker Camp	April 26-27, 2008
Shiloh Quaker Camp	May 3-4, 2008
Catoctin Quaker Camp	May 17-18, 2008
Opequon Quaker Camp	May 31-June 1, 2008

Please visit: http://www.bymcamps.org/work_weekends.htm for more information and send an e-mail to davidhunter@bym-rsf.org if you plan to attend.

Homeland Security 1492

Just ask the Native Americans
what happens if you don't control immigration!
Ask the Apaches, the Blackfeet, the Cheyanne.
Inquire of the Dakotas and Lakotas.
Question the Navahos,
the Sioux or the Zuni.

They will fill your ear
and possibly pierce your heart
as you realize what we did to repay
their warm welcome that
first Thanksgiving.

Now we continue to exercise dominion
over their land as we did over them
with the same grim consequences.

Where have all the flowers gone?
Where be all the brave warriors
and their peaceful families?
Where be the sparkling
water and fresh air?

Don't waste revenue building walls
If we treat the new immigrants
as we did those who owned
the land in 1492 and
how we have treated
their land ever since,
they will soon wish
they never came.

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Submitting material to the newsletter: Ann Marlowe, the Newsletter Editor, welcomes any material of interest to the Adelphi Friends Meeting community. The best way to submit material is by e-mail to afm-newsletter@earthlink.net. Either attach a Word file to the e-mail or type the information directly into the e-mail. You may also submit clean, typed copy and photographs to the newsletter box in the meetinghouse. No handwritten material please. Deadline for submissions is noon of the last Sunday of each month.

Contributions:

Please place in box in the foyer, or send to Michael Levi, 702 Malibu Drive, Silver Spring MD 20901.

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Adelphi, MD 20783

FIRST CLASS MAIL

with e-mail you get

C O L O R

(The E-mail version of the AFM newsletter includes color photos and art work and it cost the meeting nothing to send and print.)

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