

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter First Month 2011

Much thanks to those who have contacted us and asked to have their newsletters delivered only by email. This is very helpful in reducing our expenses. We currently have 330 members and attenders receiving the hard copy newsletters and we do want to continue communicating with all our members and attenders whether it is via email or hard copy newsletters. The current cost of the hard copy newsletter per year is approximately \$4.00. To change the way you want to receive the newsletter and/or other meeting news (electronically only via email or hard copy newsletter) send your request to vbfm.emailer@gmail.com or Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454, or leave a message at 428-9515. Include your name, address, phone number and email when making requests.

Weekly	10:30 – 11:30 am	Meeting for Worship – First Day School for younger children – join during or after Meeting for Worship	Weekly “Wings in Motion Yoga” – for breast cancer survivors. Class each Wednesday morning from 10:30 to 11:45 am at the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Building on 17 th Street.
Weekly	12:00-12:30	Silent Peace Vigil in Front of the Meetinghouse each 1 st Day	
Weekly	7 pm 7:30 pm	Mid Week Prayer Meeting followed by Worship sharing . Query: “What is the spiritual vision, the light and life, of our Meeting? Where does Meeting feel led?”	
Weekly	7 am each Tuesday & Saturday	<u>CATHOLIC WORKER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Breakfast</u> on the <u>Streets</u> : (prep begins at 6 am at Sacred heart Church). Serve and share a meal with over 100 brothers and sisters left out of the downtown boom, on Armistead St. (behind the HRT building on Monticello).	
Monthly 2/6/2011	First First Days 12:30 pm	Peace and Social Justice Meeting – all are welcome.	JCOC 2011 Meeting/School serve the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer. 2011 Dates March 8 April 6 May 3 October 6 November 8
Monthly 2/13	Second First Days 8:30 am	Meeting for Worship with attention to Business	
Monthly 2/20	Third First Days 9 am	First Day School Discussion – We are reading, “The Mystery of Quaker Light”	
-		CURRENT EVENTS	
1/28/2011	6-9 pm	Finding our Way through Conflict – Second in a series of workshops	
1/30/2011		Yearly Meeting intervisitation has lead to an Invitation for monthly meeting members and attenders to join Wilmington Meeting for Worship and Pot Luck	
1/30/2011	4 pm	Opening of the Seasons for Peace & Nonviolence , an interfaith ceremony including, dancing, skits, music – reception to follow. Location: Catholic Church of the Ascension, 4853 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach, VA (near the intersection of Baxter and Princess Anne Roads)	
2/1/2011	6:30 pm	Quaker Women are meeting at the home of Judith Stevens, 2245A Kendall Street. Phone 428-7744	
2/8/2011	6 pm	JCOC Shelter Meal	
2/18/2011		School Professional Day – no classes	
2/21		School closed, President’s Day	
		2011 EVENTS	
4/23/2011		Representative Body – location tentatively set for West Grove Meeting	
7/13-17		Yearly Meeting at UNC Wilmington Campus, Wilmington NC	

MEETING QUERY # 6. Growth of Our Children: Do we endeavor by example and precept to cultivate in our children a sense of openness and expectancy about life, and to aid them in their growth in spiritual understanding and moral discernment? Do we share with them the faith that guides the practice of Friends, while encouraging them to develop their religious insights as the Spirit of God may lead them?

Response: *When children attend our Meeting activities, they are involved and engaged. Several Friends School students and their families have visited us recently. We are always pleased to have children in our midst and are welcoming to all. At present few young people attend our worship services. Many in Meeting, however, are actively involved in the lives of our Friends School students and consistently guide them in Quaker principles. Those of us who are parents, grandparents, and other caretakers of our children hold them in the Light and hope to be examples for them to follow of the spirit of Friends in the world.*

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 1/09/2011

OPENING: 1st Month 9, 2011 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of the VA. Beach Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends opened with a period of waiting worship. Some 17 members and attenders were present.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Ruthanne Childress reported general income for the month of December to be \$5848.23 and expenses totaling \$2819.21. Restricted income for Steady Footsteps was \$1135 and expenditures for products raising those funds were \$923.50. HRSD funds will be moved to reserve funds as previously directed. Thank you to those who heard the request for additional funds. Your generosity has made it possible for us to meet our obligations for the year.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT: No report was made for January.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT: Ed Hollinger reported that several students and faculty attended the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference Feb. 3-5 at Friends Central in Philadelphia. School will be closed January 17 for MLK Day. An Open House will be held on Saturday, January 22 from 1 to 3 PM. A school ski trip to Wintergreen will be held February 17. Basketball season is underway with 4 teams, MS girls and boys and varsity girls and boys, competing in the league. VBFS will host the Regional Forensics Tournament this spring for Lower and MS students. Volunteers are welcomed. Four international educational trips for students are planned for 2011 with possible service components.

HRSD: is scheduled to begin line work in the vicinity of campus and the Meetinghouse in February. Attempts will be made to complete this work over the Presidents' Day holiday. They have asked for a January and February schedule of planned events from Meeting and School. Meeting has received our promised \$18,000 payment to cover our costs for this work

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Meeting has received 3 estimates on necessary major repairs to our fireplace ranging from \$3000 to \$3800. After also exploring possibilities of converting our 2 fireplaces to gas, at an estimated cost of @\$3800, B&G recommended and Meeting approved the conversion to gas. One member of B&G stood aside on this recommendation due to concern over fossil fuel use. Other members of Meeting who were concerned over respiratory health issues appreciated the plan to convert to gas. B&G will also explore the need to either clean or replace our ceiling ductwork with insulated ducts and to further insulate the attic area. Part of this will involve exploring the total cost of this project, which may also include replacing several ceiling panels in the Meeting room. We will examine our current finances for these projects and establish a timeline for the work. A Workday is planned based on the weather with dates TBA.

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE: The WEEKLY SILENT VIGIL FOR PEACE continues to be held in front of the Meetinghouse from 12 to 12:30 PM on First Day. Meeting members and attenders hold signs expressing our desire for peacemaking and our opposition to violence and war as means for resolving conflict. A nice photograph and article on the Vigil appeared recently in The Beacon. The second in the series of dynamic events in the form of workshops on FINDING OUR WAY THROUGH CONFLICT: EXPLORING OUR PERSONAL CHOICES will be held January 28 in the Meetinghouse. A POTLUCK is scheduled for 6 pm followed by a program from 7-9 PM on Helping Conflict Feel Safe: Creating Conflict Norms to be presented by Patricia Swan. All are invited to attend and bring a friend. The School community is also invited. A sign-up sheet for the Potluck is posted in our foyer.

Meeting members are encouraged to purchase available olive oil products and Steady Footsteps products for personal use and gifts. PSJ will continue to explore the most effective ways to use our time and funds to support Steady Footsteps financially and in our Quaker Community's consciousness. At present, the income from the Palestinian Fair Trade product sales as well as sales from Virginia Locket's art products is @ \$200.

Bob Clapp stated that a \$100 direct donation to SE Virginia Food Bank may be a more effective way to support the food bank rather than gathering individual food items and channeling them through the Lutheran Church since our direct financial donation would be leveraged 6 times when used for a \$600 food purchase.

Wes Cheney, who restores bicycles for those in need, can use donations to purchase bike locks (at a cost of \$10 each) in order to prevent the restored bicycles from being stolen.

PAMPHLET: Louise Wilson recommended a new Pendle Hill pamphlet written by Lloyd Lee Wilson, a former member of our Meeting, entitled, "Who do you say I am?"

WILMINGTON FRIENDS: Nancy Craft reminded us that Wilmington Friends have extended an invitation for our community to Worship with them and share a potluck on January 30. Nancy will be attending if anyone would like to ride with her.

EMPOWER HAMPTON ROADS: held its monthly board meeting in the Meetinghouse on January 6. Nancy Craft expressed their gratitude and appreciation for being hosted here.

SEASON FOR NONVIOLENCE; Bob Young reminded us that January 30 is the Opening Ceremony for the Hampton Roads Season for Nonviolence annually sponsored by the Hampton Roads Network for Nonviolence. The ceremony will be held at 4 PM at the Catholic Church of the Ascension on Princess Anne Road in Virginia Beach. We are also reminded to support the legacy of Dr. King on MLK Day, January 17. Several ceremonies will be held throughout Hampton Roads to commemorate his life and work

FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF TIDEWATER: Bob Clapp requested and received approval for placing literature concerning this organization in our foyer. FCAT is an organization dedicated to facilitating inexpensive and practical funeral planning.

CLOSING: Meeting for Business closed with a period of Silence.

Rebecca Mani, Clerk & Paula Justice, Recording Clerk

+++++

Meeting Query #7 to ponder for next month: *Do we endeavor to live in the life and power that takes away the occasion of all war, seeking to do our part in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations? Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against nuclear and all other military preparations, the bearing of arms, and all participation in war?*

+++++

Ministry and Oversight posts a list on the meetinghouse bulletin board with names of those for whom we have been asked to pray. Watch for this and feel free to add your name if you like. The list will be updated monthly. Perhaps this month we may want to add prayers of Thanksgiving!

+++++

HRSD is putting a 42 inch sewer pipe across the Meeting property. The location is from Donna drive across school's student and faculty parking areas, in front of the main school entrance at the top of the circular drive and across the early school playground between the cottage and the power line tower. Some preliminary work has already been done with the removal of the early school fencing. The actual pipe is anticipated to be laid when no one is on the campus, mostly at night and may start as soon as 1/29/2011. It is hopeful the process of laying the pipe will not take more than 5 days, but the results of this project may take a longer time to restore the land to its normal function. While we are not able to change the HRSD plans, we do need to keep track of all inconveniences and issues related to this project. **Please contact Nancy Craft with any information you have related to this project. craftn@juno.com, or 757-426-2019.**

Elizabeth City Daily Newspaper

The following article from the Elizabeth City Daily Advance announces the appointment of Zack Bray to fill in until a permanent general manager is named by the electric co-op (the interim manager of Albemarle Electric). Zack is the son of Gerald and Ellen Bray, both now deceased. They were founding members of Rockingham County Friends Meeting, north of Greensboro. Gerald's mother's family was from Up River Meeting in Perquimans county. Ellen's sister is well known in FGC circles; if the right name is coming to mind, it is Joanne Spears.

(NOTE: Some of you may remember Zack. He traveled with his father Gerald to attend our meeting as much as he was able.)

If you do not receive this newsletter electronically it means the meeting does not have an active email for you. **To receive the newsletter and/or other meeting news electronically only via email, send a request to vbfm.emailer@gmail.com.** Please include your name, address, phone number and email when making requests. If you no longer want to receive the hard copy newsletter, please include this in your email. You may also communicate via the meeting's mailing address, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

Please remember it costs the Meeting 50 cents for every returned newsletter. Please forward address changes to avoid returned newsletters.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share the monthly meeting minutes with members, attenders and others interested in the Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting. The minutes represent the official view of the meeting. Other articles relating to the meeting are included on a space available basis and reflect the views of the person submitting the information. The name of the person writing or submitting each article is included to avoid the impression the information represents the opinion of the meeting.
