

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Fifth Month 2011

WEEKLY	CURRENT EVENTS			MONTHLY
<p>EACH 1st DAY: (Sunday)</p> <p><u>10-30-11-30 am</u> <i>Meeting for Worship</i> First Day School- younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</p> <p><u>12:00-12:30 pm</u> <i>Silent Peace Vigil</i> in front of the meetinghouse</p> <p>EACH 4th DAY (Wednesday)</p> <p><u>8:30- 9 am</u> <i>Meeting for Worship</i> All are welcome with special invitation to School and Meeting Community</p> <p><u>7 pm</u> <i>Mid-Week Prayer</i> <u>7:30 pm</u> <i>Worship Sharing</i> Query: "What is the spiritual vision, the light and life, of our Meeting? Where does Meeting feel led?"</p>	5/19/2011	7-8 pm	School open house	<p>1st First Days <u>12:30 pm</u> <i>Peace & Social Justice Meeting</i></p> <p>2nd First Days <u>8:30 am</u> <i>Meeting for Worship with attention to Business</i></p> <p>3rd First Days <u>9 am</u> <i>First Day School Discussion – Pendle Hill Pamphlet, "The Use of Silence"</i></p> <p>4th First Days <u>9 am</u> <i>Meeting of Ministry and Oversight</i></p>
	5/20/2011	6 pm	Potluck followed by a program on Restorative Practices led by Andy Young from 7 until 9 pm	
	5/22/2011	12:30 pm	Brown Bag Lunch to continue the discussion on the Pendle Hill Pamphlet, "The Mind of Christ"	
	6/3/2011		Virginia Beach Friends School – Picnic Meeting is invited. The new Administrative team is to be announced during this time.	
	6/4/2011		Clean The Bay Day - Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440	
	6/4/2011	2 pm	Virginia Beach Friends School Graduation – Everyone is welcome to attend – a meeting for worship with attention to graduation!!	
	2011 EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES			
	Tuesdays & Saturdays	7 am	<u>CATHOLIC WORKER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS</u> <u>Breakfast on the 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).	
	5/29/2011	3 pm	Yearly Meeting Inter-visitation gathering in Greenville NC	
"SAVE THE DATES"	6/20-7/29	Virginia Beach Friends School Summer Camp 9-3 with extended hours		
	7/23 9/17 11/5	Clean The Bay Day Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440		
	7/13 – 17	Yearly Meeting at UNC Wilmington Campus, Wilmington NC		
	10/6 & 11/8	JCOC Meeting/School serves the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer 392-1480 tpaladini@yahoo.com		

NOTICE: Registration for Yearly Meeting MUST be turned in by 6/17/2011 if you are planning to stay on campus and obtain any meals from the college. Registration and program information is on the web site, www.NCYMC.org. Extra hard copy registration forms are available in the meetinghouse.

QUERY #11 *Social Justice and Equality. Do we reverence that of God in every human being with concern for the needs of each individual? Are we seeking to rectify existing social injustice and racial discrimination in our local communities and in the world at large?*

Response: These are powerful words, “to reverence that of God in every human being,” and we are always growing into that ideal. Overcoming prejudice and cultural fears of those who are different from us is a multi-generational task. Hopefully our children and grandchildren are more open and accepting than we are to seeing that of God in all. As a meeting we are active in organizations in our community which challenge and rectify social injustice, including the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center, Empower Hampton Roads, and Hampton Roads Network for Nonviolence. We now more than ever see the need to join with like-minded groups already active in this work in order to have greater impact. As individuals we are also committed in our jobs and volunteer work to help the less fortunate and disenfranchised in our community.

+++++

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 5/8/2011

OPENING: 5th Month 8, 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 14 members and attenders were present.

TREASURER’S REPORT: No report this month.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Pat Phelan Young reported. Patricia Phalen Young, Gwynne Wells and Tom Kennedy have created the first draft of the 2011-2012 slate of Meeting positions and committees. A copy of the slate is available for all members and attenders. Please review this draft prayerfully and make any changes or additions. The final draft will be presented for approval at 6th month Meeting for business. We are reminded that committee conveners are in the role of facilitators rather than primary decision-makers or in charge of committees. Outgoing clerks and conveners are encouraged to pass on their learnings in these positions to new persons. Nominating Committee expressed their gratitude to all who have offered to serve the meeting, and likewise the Meeting is grateful to NC for their service in this regard. Louise Wilson encouraged the meeting to consider adding a new and younger person to Representative Body. Pat Phelan Young reminded us of the importance of our Meeting’s history and that we need to appoint a new historian of our meeting to work with Louise Wilson, current historian, to record and preserve aspects of our past.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT: Patrick Gould reported and forwarded the following written report.

Development Activity. Meet with graduating class.

Administration. We are working closely with Linda in designing an administrative model for next year. The details should be fine-tuned by the end of this month and we will have a full report on the administrative team in our June report. (Linda will be announcing the team at the all school picnic on June 3rd. Meeting members are invited to attend).

Things Unlimited Property. Negotiations with a potential buyer for TU continue.

Laskin Road project and HRSD updates.

Laskin Road Project – Property committee reviewed the VDOT plans for Laskin Road that involves the Meeting property. The projected start date, if funded, is 2014. The committee agreed that 2014 is not that far away and we need to begin planning now for the impact this may have on the school.

HRSD issues – Lowes installed the new shed next to the cottage over Easter break. The installers said that it is the school’s responsibility to caulk and paint the structure. Since the property was to be put back to its original condition by HRSD, the committee does not feel this should be the school’s responsibility or expense. Trees and bushes need to be replaced. A general rule of thumb for quantifying this expense is \$250 per tree and \$30 per bush.

Budget and Finance is working on the 2011-2012 budget. The Lippincott and Waller donations: we are working on properly thanking and recognizing both families. The Tech task force has developed their "plan" and is now working on procurement.

Committee on Trustees is speaking with 4 potential SC members, who if interested, would join SC in July. COT is also in the process of doing SC self-evaluation and exit interviews.

Faculty – T. Jo and T. Megan Report. We heard from the faculty. Biggest concern is with contracts for next year. Firm word here has been held up while we determine the budget. Action soon.

FSCA report. Beth Allen with others has reanimated this group. What they're doing is very exciting and shows the enthusiasm of the school community. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6 with the "Day" being Tuesday, May 3rd. FSCA hosted a parent-provided pot-luck lunch for teachers in the Teachers' Lounge. The next meeting for the FSCA is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 17th at 9:00 a.m. in the Meeting House basement.

The Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held May 13. Spring Open House is planned for May 19. The All-School Picnic is planned for June 3.

The Friends School Community Association (FSCA) has been revived with a core group of enthusiastic parents who have been very active in sprucing up the campus and have taken the initiative to gain 100% parent participation in the organization. The FSCA hosted a potluck /Teacher Appreciation Day on May 3.

The School Committee is working closely with Acting Head Linda Serrette on the decentralized administrative plans for the 2011-2012 school year.

The HRSD project is completed on campus. The storage shed beside the Cottage has been replaced. Trees and bushes still need to be replaced, and this is being handled by the property committee.

Dialogue with the city concerning the Laskin Road expansion project continues.

Exit interviews were held with 7 graduating seniors who reported that they had felt very accepted and supported during their years at VBFS. They also thought that more firm discipline was necessary in the future to deal with classroom disruptions.

The school expects a donation of approximately \$100,000 from the estate of Ann Lippincott. \$30,000 was received from a maturing loan originated by John Waller. The Budget Committee is committed to balancing the 2011-2012 budget. Negotiations to sell the Things Unlimited property continue.

The task force on Technology upgrade is currently working on a plan.

The Committee of Trustees is currently interviewing 4 potential new School Committee members who would come on board in July.

The School Committee is currently planning a self-evaluation.

M & O: A successful and enjoyable Retreat was held for M&O at the Meetinghouse led by old friend, Miriam Burke on 5/7 10 to 12 noon followed by a delicious potluck! Eleven were in attendance. M&O is sponsoring a second brown bag conversation on First Day, 5/22 on the pamphlet, "The Mind of Christ", following our weekly Peace Vigil.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE will be sponsoring its 4th event in the series of "Finding our Way through Conflict" on 6th Day, 5/20. A potluck will be held at 6 pm followed by a program on Restorative Practices led by Andy Young from 7 until 9 pm. All are encouraged to attend and bring friends.

A coffeehouse is planned for Mid-summer as a fundraiser for Steady Footsteps and as a showcase for the talented artists and performers in our Meeting community. Olive oil (\$15 and \$13 per bottle) and t-shirts are still available for purchase from Meeting

REPRESENTATIVE BODY: Nancy Craft and Ruthanne Childres attended Representative Body in 4th month.

Discussion took place about how preparatory meetings and others can best join NCYM. Louise Wilson reminded us of our faithful longtime member, Canadian Marjorie Russell.

YEARLY MEETING: Meeting members and attenders are reminded to register for North Carolina Conservative Friends' Yearly Meeting to be held in Wilmington, NC 7/13-17. Registration forms can be found at the NCYM website. June 15 is the last day to register, and this date if Firm if you wish to stay on campus.

MARRIAGE: The marriage of Judith Stevens and Jack Callan was held under the care of the Meeting during Meeting for Worship on 4/17.

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

Rebecca Mani, Clerk and Paula Justice, Recording Clerk

+++++

Query #12 to ponder for next month: Outreach: Do we welcome newcomers and non-members to our meetings? Are they encouraged to share in Meeting activities and to consider membership when they are in agreement with the principles and practices of Friends? Are our younger members appointed to committees and encouraged to share in other responsibilities of the Meeting? Do we visit one another frequently, remembering those who may be lonely? Does this visitation and caring extend beyond the members of our own Meeting?

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.**

Much thanks to those who have asked to have their newsletters delivered only by email. This is very helpful in reducing our expenses. We currently have 317 members and attenders receiving the hard copy newsletters and we do want to continue communicating with all our members. 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.

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.
