

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Sixth & Seventh Months 2011

WEEKLY	CURRENT EVENTS			MONTHLY
<p><u>EACH 1st DAY:</u> (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><u>EACH 4th DAY</u> (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>	6/20 to 7/29 2011		Virginia Beach Friends School Summer Camp - 9-3 with extended hours	<p><u>1st First Days</u> <u>12:30 pm</u> <i>Peace & Social Justice Meeting</i></p> <p><u>2nd First Days</u> <u>8:30 am</u> <i>Meeting for Worship with attention to Business</i></p> <p><u>3rd First Days</u> <u>9 am</u> <i>First Day School Discussion – Pendle Hill Pamphlet, "The Use of Silence"</i></p> <p><u>4th First Days</u> <u>9 am</u> <i>Meeting of Ministry and Oversight</i></p>
	7/13 – 17 2011		Yearly Meeting at UNC Wilmington Campus, Wilmington NC	
	7/23/2011		Clean The Bay Day Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440	
	8/9/2011	Noon to 3 pm	T. Bobby's Birthday Bash! T. Bobby is a beloved feathered friend at the school for the past 12 years. He invites everyone to join him for his birthday celebration and a piece of cake.	
	8/22/2011 8/23/2011		School's first day back for new teachers. School's first day back for returning teachers	
	8/30/2011		First day of school for students	
	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"	9/17 11/5	Clean The Bay Day Contact Whit Peace, whitpeace@cox.net , 425-8440		
	9/15/2011	All school picnic. Everyone is invited – pot luck – bring a dish and meet the students!		
	10/6 & 11/8	JCOG Meeting/School serves the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer 392-1480 tpaladini@yahoo.com		

Query to ponder for the next business session: Query #1: Do we faithfully uphold our testimony for worship which is based on silent waiting, and for free and unprogrammed ministry that may be shared by all? Is there a living silence in which we feel drawn together by the Light of Christ, the power of God in our midst; and is this inspiration carried over into our daily lives? Do we come to Meeting with hearts and minds open and ready to worship in silence or in vocal ministry or prayer as the Holy Spirit leads us? Does our meeting encourage those who may have a gift for the spoken ministry?

Query #12: 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?

Response: Recently, we have made a concerted effort to welcome newcomers to our Meeting. We do reach out into our community in a number of ways. With the advent of our Meeting email, we are more aware of members' illnesses and personal needs and can respond promptly with our support through calls, visits, cards, and daily help. We also support all members and attenders in their individual endeavors. We are not an evangelical faith and do not actively seek new members but wait until they are drawn to us. We hope to find new ways to bring young people into our midst. We are not a perfect body and always seek for way to open in our Meeting and our hearts to include visitors, neighbors, and friends.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 6/12/2011

OPENING: 6thMonth 12, 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 15 members and attenders were present.

TREASURER'S REPORT: General Fund income: \$2793.49; Expenses: \$3039.38; Financial contributions met: VBFS - \$1110; Yearly Meeting: \$500, Steady Footsteps, \$87.50.

PROPERTY TASK FORCE: Meeting approved reimbursing the School for up to \$4,300 out of the HRSD reserve funds for expenses incurring during the HRSD project. Nancy Craft reported that Dominion Power will be replacing power lines across the campus starting this summer. Easement concerns will be examined and addressed. They will be visiting and examining the property throughout the summer. A fence will need to be constructed in certain areas and the dumpster will need to be removed. Construction begins this fall and the project should be completed by the end of 2012.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Pat Phelan Young (Pat, Gwynne Wells and Tom Kennedy) submitted the final draft of the 2011-2012 slate of Meeting positions and committees. Meeting approved the slate. A copy of the slate is available for all members and attenders. 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.

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT: Linda Serrette reported enrollment at 159. The school is concerned about increasing minor vandalism and trespassing on campus and is seeking new ways to address this issue in a positive way. We ask our community to hold this situation in the Light in order to expand awareness of possible solutions.

The Building and Grounds Committee is encouraged to become involved in helping with this concern.

A successful Spring Open House was held coupled with the Spring Arts Festival on May 19. Thirteen visitors attended. Two IPADS were acquired by way of a Title 2 Grant.

Coordinating Committee decided to make 6th grade a part of LS. By 2012, 6th grade will be fully integrated into LS.

The Leadership Team for the school has been selected. Discussions are ongoing concerning job descriptions for each teacher. In-service training will take place in August. Graduation on 6/4 was well attended and very moving.

A Planning Meeting for the School's future was held from 1-4 pm on 6/12 in the Meetinghouse.

The new school website is operational, and T. Barbara has taken over responsibility for this website. New marketing strategies have been and are being applied for the golf tournament, Open House, and Summer Camp.

A Mini- open house is planned for Bobby's birthday (Teacher Eileen's parrot)

The new shed has been completed.

School Committee met on May 31, 20011 to accommodate the teachers and staff members that wanted to attend School Committee meeting before summer vacation.

Development Activity for the SC this month was use of the Query: What Quaker principles, that are included in the VBFS mission statement, were held to during the challenging times the SC faced and how have these challenges made the SC committee stronger?

Response: We have adhered to our principles but have sacrificed dearly. The adherence to our principles has caused confusion and lack of trust towards SC, for some members in our community. This is of great concern for the SC. As we move into the future we will endeavor to rebuild our image, trust, and work for unity within our school community.

The Property Task Force is still working on the Laskin Road project. Billy Almond is helping with this.

Nancy C. will clarify if the money already given to the Meeting by VDOT includes Meeting replacing the sign and landscaping.

HRSD has caulked the new shed. The trees and shrubs will be done by Dominion Power in the fall.

SC gave Linda Serrette permission to take the necessary steps to make the campus secure regarding the recent vandalism and trespassing issues.

Advancement committee will begin marketing the summer camp program. The golf tournament was a success and the School thanks Meeting for sponsoring a golf hole.

COT has developed a formal meeting to educate the school's parents and staff regarding the new administrative model that will be implemented at the start of the new school year. This meeting will take place on June 12, 2011 between 1-4pm. All are welcome to attend.

FSCA the school's parent assoc. is up and functioning very well. They are full of ideas and energized.

Linda Serrette has made B&F aware the summer camp teachers are interested in starting a Scholarship fund in honor of T. Muff. They are willing to donate one day's pay to get the Scholarship started.

B&F will be reviewing financial policies and procedures over the summer to assist documentation in an operations manual.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: The 4th event in the series of "Finding our Way through Conflict" was held on 6th Day, 5/20. A potluck at 6 pm was followed by a successful program on Restorative Practices was led by Andy Young from 7 until 9 pm. Approximately 10 friends attended. Olive oil (\$15 and \$13 per bottle) and t-shirts are still available for purchase from Meeting

YEARLY MEETING: Nancy Craft and Ruthanne Childress were appointed as Meeting representatives for Yearly Meeting in 7th month. As way opens others may be appointed. 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 is firm if you wish to stay on campus.

LETTERS: Clerk received and read a letter from Judith Stevens and Jack Callan thanking the Meeting and the planning and clearness committees for their support in preparing for and carrying out their wedding and reception under the care of the Meeting. Clerk also read a traveling minute, Letter of Introduction for Marc Dawson of the Chattahoochee Worship Group of the Ohio Yearly Meeting who recently visited our Meeting.

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

Rebecca Mani, Clerk and Paula Justice, Recording Clerk

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News from the School

We are putting into place a more democratic way of running day-to-day operations of our school. The Head of School's responsibilities have not changed. However, five faculty members, serving as a leadership committee, will share duties previously performed by the Assistant Head.

Progress will be made and changes made as the need arises. The Leadership Resources Team will be assessed at the end of the first semester and again at the end of the school year.

We are pleased to announce the members of the VBFS Leadership team for the next academic year:

Curriculum - T. Barb

Safety and Physical Plant - T. Lisa

Communication - T. Barbara

Human Resource - T. Sue

Student Affairs - T. Carrie

We are excited about our new team and look forward to next year.

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 per newsletter. 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.
