

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Sixth and Seventh Month 2014

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

**6/23 Friends School Summer Camp Begins!**

**7/8 to 7/13 North Carolina Yearly Meeting - Conservative**, Guilford College, Greensboro NC

**7/12 The River Cleanup Days.** Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 [whitpeace.river@gmail.com](mailto:whitpeace.river@gmail.com) or more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, [Trista@LRNow.org](mailto:Trista@LRNow.org)

**7/20 2pm Memorial Service for Louise Wilson** at the Friends School Wilson Center

**7/21 7 pm Empower Hampton Roads Regional Equity Engagement Task Force Meeting** – Learning about felons' rights and how to regain their voting rights.

**8/8 Last week of Friends School Summer Camp** (Autism camp continues another week.)

**8/9 The River Cleanup Days.** Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 [whitpeace.river@gmail.com](mailto:whitpeace.river@gmail.com) or more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, [Trista@LRNow.org](mailto:Trista@LRNow.org)

### MONTHLY

**Moral Mondays 11:45 am for 30 minutes St Paul's Episcopal Church 815 Grace Street, Richmond, VA  
NOT EVERY WEEK NOW!: 7/7/2014, 7/21/2014**

**EACH 1<sup>st</sup> DAY (Sunday)**

- \* 10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School-younger children join Meeting during or after Worship
- \* 12:00-12:30 pm Silent Peace Vigil - in front of the Meetinghouse

**EACH 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY (Monday)**

- \* 11:45 am Moral Monday - Richmond VA St. Paul's Episcopal Church steps (across the street from the General Assembly/Capitol Park).

**EACH 4<sup>th</sup> DAY (Wednesday)**

- \* 7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer

**EACH 6<sup>th</sup> DAY (Friday)**

- \* 9 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship. All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community (except when school is not in session)

**1<sup>st</sup> First Days**

**9 am – Buildings & Grounds Meeting**  
**12 noon - Peace & Social Justice Meeting**

**2<sup>nd</sup> First Days**

**8:30 am - Meeting for Worship with attention to Business (except Seventh Month)**  
**Next business session is 8/10.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> First Days**

**9 am - First Day School Discussion**

**4<sup>th</sup> First Days**

**9 am Meeting of Ministry & Oversight**

### SAVE THE DATES 2014

**9/13, 11/1**

**The River Cleanup Days.** Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 [whitpeace.river@gmail.com](mailto:whitpeace.river@gmail.com)  
For more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, [Trista@LRNow.org](mailto:Trista@LRNow.org)

**10/7, 11/6**

**JCOC dates for 2014 – Contact Tracey Paladini to assist and for details**  
[tpaladini@yahoo.com](mailto:tpaladini@yahoo.com)

**2015 7/15 to 19**

**Yearly Meeting, Guilford College, Greensboro NC: Note: Change From Routine**

**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?*

[www.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org), [www.ncymc.org](http://www.ncymc.org), Facebook Group: North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative

**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.** Weighty members have set a welcoming example, remembering names, making calls, updating us all on the status of those who have been ill. We have been carrying these examples forward and are resolved to continue.

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Business with Attention to Business Sixth Month 8, 2014

**Meeting opened** at 8:30 with a reading of the query for the month. A dozen members and attenders were present. **The death of Wyman Harrison** was noted. His contribution to the Meeting was described. A card of condolence is being prepared to send to his wife, Doris.

**Yearly meeting was discussed.** Monthly meetings have been asked to look at the YM's financial statement and consider increasing the contribution for childcare. Ruth Ann Childres, Nancy Craft, Houston and Linda Shirk, and others who are able to attend were appointed representatives of our monthly meeting. A report from the Head of Friends School was received.

Admissions. There have been many new student visits over the last few weeks.  
Development. Once again the Senior Lunch was a tasteful event -thanks to T. Larry! The Golf tournament went off without a hitch and considering this was a rain date, there were still a fair amount of golfers.  
Maintenance. The Middle School has its new roof! We have also tiled the hallway floors. The old cottage deck and roof are completed. It will be ready for use as a venue for summer camp. Summer Maintenance is well underway.  
Life of the School. T. Jo produced a very enjoyable spring arts festival with a unique flavor. She incorporated technology and Karaoke into the vocal performances. I continue to be extremely proud of the high standard of performance T. Jo encourages in her students. Prom was a great success and all students seemed to enjoy themselves. Thanks to the Founders Day roof décor plus the talents of a few hardworking parents and staff, the gym looked great. This month has been a non-stop stream of events from chess and karate competitions to the end of this year's sports seasons, liberally interspersed with field trips, culminating projects and well-seasoned by summer fever! The final Alumni newsletter for this academic year will be mailed this month.  
Faculty. Evaluations have been completed and were a really good for both cross-divisional interaction as well as developing collegiality amongst teachers.

**School Committee report.** Linda Smith gave a moving account of the graduation ceremony, noting the special power of the speech of the valedictorian and what a testament to the positive power of Friends' education it was.

Our School Committee development activity this month responded to, "How does the School Committee orient board members to Quakerism, Quaker-based decision-making, and Meeting for Worship? How has the SC used Quaker-based decision-making for recent decisions?"  
 The School Committee Treasurer met with faculty and staff for the review and update of the school budget, a practice well received by the faculty.  
 Enrollment was up to 171 this year, an increase of 24 students. Enrollment for this fall as of the end of last month is up 27 from last year and 46 from 2 years ago. The fiscal year ending the end of this month the goal has \$1,500 needed to meet the goals of \$100,000. The Louise and Bob Wilson Scholarship Fund is a little more than half way to the goal of \$50,000 endowment fund. The following figures are not final at this time. Founders Day - \$10,338.86 plus \$15,220.00 in sponsorship = \$25,558.86, Golf - \$ 6,465.48.

**Treasurer's Report.** Tom Kennedy presented the Treasurer's report (Dave French being out of town). Treasurer REQUESTED that the budget for gas be raised from \$500 to \$1000. Meeting APPROVED.

Regular income/expenses

	May 2014	2014 Year to date	Budget
Income	\$517	\$5142.62	
Expenses	\$848.83	\$8891.71	\$32,258.00

Capital spending

May 2014	2014 Year to date	Remaining Budget
\$5083.50	\$5783.50	\$20,282.00

We've

e already exceeded our gas \$500 budget by \$200 and will need an estimated \$500 more for the year for a total of \$1200. The capital expense was half the payment for the new windows. This money was withdrawn from the Self Help Credit Union account, which was closed and the money deposited in our Towne Bank account. The remainder of that money will be spent on the second half of the window payment, expected in mid-June. The other money which was in the SHCU account was the money long held for purchasing Bibles for our youth (\$1770) and for an education fund (\$2,373). This money has been re-invested in the Friends Fiduciary Fund account and tracked individually there. 4. The treasurer is absent on vacation for a couple weeks; see any member of the finance committee for issues, and Bob Clapp for any donations.

### **Budget & Finance Report**

Met Thursday May 5, Tom Kennedy, Nancy Craft, Bob Clapp, and Dave French

Andy Young recently asked to no longer be convener. Tom Kennedy is now convener.

Ancient history: Please minute that: B&F approved the annual report of 2013 which Treasurer Dave French delivered to Business several months ago. As always copies are available on request. Lawn service is being paid with an automatic monthly bill pay. Investments are being transferred to diversified mutual funds under Friends Fiduciary Fund, with 5 separate accounts: Jonathan Barclay – Bibles, Lucy Stone – Education, Lippincott – bequest, VDOT Road Money, Rita Wass endowment. The contribution to Yearly Meeting has been paid in full. Future needs for capital improvement funds will be drawn from the Lippincott money.

Lloyd Lee Wilson has asked Yearly Meeting Finance representatives to be thinking about alternatives, for the likelihood that income will not cover expenses with the prior level of grant outlays. Yearly Meeting may be asking for more income in the form of voluntary contributions. We are forwarding the recommendation that grant level should be maintained as much as possible even if it means spending up to 10% per year of the Yearly Meeting accumulated reserves. Ruth Anne Childres plans to attend Yearly Meeting finance sessions representing us. It was noted that income lagged behind expenditure and is behind for the year.

Bob Clapp added a brief history of the Rita Wass endowment.

**Buildings and Grounds Report.** Window replacement will be completed by the end of this month or early next month. Larry Herz completed several small repairs on the Meetinghouse and Nancy Craft beautified the front of the property for graduation. A work day is scheduled for 6/28.

**MEO Report.** MEO met on First Day 5/25/14. The Etiquette statement was reviewed and approved and it will be printed in various formats. A donation was sent to the American Lung Association in memory of Bob McIvor. The Advices will be read in the face of the Meeting this month. Copies of these advices are available in the foyer.

**Peace and Social Justice Committee Report.** From Tom Bertrand, convener.

The Committee on Peace & Social Justice met for an hour following rise of Meeting on First Day, June 1. Present were Faye Bailey, Tom Bertrand, Tom Elder, Michele Ewing, John and Madison Galler, and Bob Young.

Friends shared their recent travels and activities, and discussed the impact on their lives of the books, poetry and voice of the late Maya Angelou. Bob Young called attention to a program that evening at Virginia Wesleyan College where he planned to share one of his poems about Angelou.

Friends also discussed the Peace Vigils of the Meeting. We reiterated our hope that at some future Meeting for Business the Virginia Beach Friends would enter into discernment to determine how committed we are as a Meeting to continuing our traditional First Day Vigils for Peace on Laskin Road. We agreed on the importance of careful wording of signage at such moments of witness – how the ideal is a sign that does not immediately offend but instead provokes thoughtful consideration of its message.

The following informational item is brought forward to Meeting for Business. So far, twenty members/attenders of Virginia Beach Friends Meeting have completed our Peace & Social Justice Survey, a process approved by Meeting for business in February of this year. We appreciate the care these twenty Friends have taken in responding to the survey and hope that others will commit the time to completing the survey, so that the results of our inventory of the P&SJ concerns of our Meeting will be more thorough and thoughtful. Friends will find a link to the survey at the very top of the Meeting's [www.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org) website. Just click on the link and fill out and submit the form on line.

While twenty members have completed the survey circulated by the committee, The desirability of greater participation was underscored.

**Hospitality Committee reported** that it continues to struggle with having someone to take responsibility for each week. The committee is down to three members. Members and attenders were encouraged to step forward. Changing the refreshment regimen was discussed. Those with ideas should pass them on to the committee: Faye Bailey, Jordan Storm, and Midori Bamba.

**Two suggestions for the Budget and Finance Committee** were discussed: first, to hold a coffee house to raise funds and, second, to include in the annual report of the treasurer a breakdown of the amount needed to cover the budget divided by the number of members and attenders. These matters were left to season.

**Bob Clapp expressed a concern** about the proposed repositioning of the entrance occasioned by the Laskin Road Project. He reported that he contacted officials and found that in their view the proposal had to stand to meet current standards. The question was raised whether the Joint Property Task Force should make a regular report. Nancy Craft, speaking for the task force, described the current project and noted that it is now in the hand of lawyers and there is as yet no progress to report.

Meeting closed with a period of silence.

Rebecca Mani, Clerk for the day, and Patrick Goold, Recording Clerk for the day

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**Have you responded yet? If not it is time!!!** If you have not yet taken the "Survey of Peace & Social Justice Activities and Concerns of Virginia Beach Friends" please do so. Go to <https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=buDY-0HcKtxmnUafTRvNSw#>

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**Virginia's Moral Mondays are continuing in Richmond 11/45 am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, next to the park at the General Assembly building**

*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.*

**Newsletter Notes: The Deadline for the newsletter is the day of our monthly Business session.**

We are encouraging folks to receive the newsletter electronically to help save our funds. **To receive the newsletter and/or other Meeting news electronically via email only, send a request to [vbfm.emailer@gmail.com](mailto:vbfm.emailer@gmail.com).** Please include your name, address, phone number and email when making requests. Please indicate if you no longer want to receive the hard copy newsletter. You may also communicate your request via our mailing address: Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

**Please remember it costs the Meeting 57 cents for every returned newsletter. Please forward address changes via email or regular mail to avoid returned newsletters.**