

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Second Month 2013

### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

**2/18 President's Day** – No School

**2/20 Administrative ½ day** – School Noon Dismissal

**2/22 School's Founders Day** at the Princess Anne Country Club, contact the school to attend.

**3/3 Noon** Presentation from Sally Guidas, Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

**3/4 to 3/8 School Spring Break & Spring Art Camp.** Contact the school for details and to sign up.

**3/9 Discovery Dinners 6:30 pm.** Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board, or Contact Paula Justice. Query: "How do we express our Quakerism in our personal and professional life?"

**3/19 JCOC Meeting/School** serves the dinner at the homeless shelter. Contact Tracy for details [tpaladini@yahoo.com](mailto:tpaladini@yahoo.com)

### WEEKLY

**EACH 1<sup>st</sup> DAY** (Sunday) 10:30-11:30 am

\* Meeting for Worship: 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 4<sup>th</sup> DAY** (Wednesday)

\* 7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer

\* 7:30 pm - Worship Sharing Query: "What is the spiritual vision, the light and life, of our Meeting? Where does Meeting feel led?"

**EACH 6<sup>th</sup> DAY** (Friday) 9 – 9:30 am

\* Meeting for Worship All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community

**EACH 3<sup>rd</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Day** (Tuesday & Saturday)

\* 7am Catholic Worker Breakfast on the Streets (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

**1<sup>st</sup> First Days** - 9 am

Peace & Social Justice Meeting

Noon- Knitting

**2<sup>nd</sup> First Days** - 8:30 am

Meeting for Worship with attention to Business

**3<sup>rd</sup> First Days** - 9 am

First Day School Discussion –  
The Great Divorce by C. S. Lewis

**4<sup>th</sup> First Days** - 9 am

Meeting of Ministry and Oversight

### SAVE THE DATES

**To Be Determined**

**The River Cleanup Days.** Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 [whitpeace.river@gmail.com](mailto:whitpeace.river@gmail.com)

**4/8, 5/13, 10/7, 11/18**

**JCOC Meeting/School** serves the meal at the shelter to feed the homeless. Preparation begins 3-4 pm with meal ready at 6pm. Contact Tracy Paladini to volunteer 392-1480 [tpaladini@yahoo.com](mailto:tpaladini@yahoo.com)

**2/9, 2013**

**Coffee House and silent auction** – fund raiser for Steady Footsteps

**3/8, 2013**

**School Spring Break** – school office is closed

**3/28 to 4/1, 2013**

**School Easter Break** - school office is closed on 3/29 and 4/1

**4/27, 2013**

**Representative Body meeting** – Durham Meeting House, Durham, NC

**5/3, 2013**

**School Golf Tournament** – fund raiser – open to all golfers and non-golfers!!

**6/8, 2013**

**School Graduation**

**7/10 to 14, 2013**

**NCYM-C Wilmington North Carolina** – Location: UNC Wilmington College Campus

**Query #8 to ponder for next month:** Do we observe simplicity and honesty in our manner of living? Are we careful to live within the bounds of our circumstances, punctual in keeping promises, prompt in the payment of debts, and just in all our dealings? Do we choose those activities which will strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual life; and do we avoid those harmful to ourselves and others?

[www.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org)

[www.ncymc.org](http://www.ncymc.org)

**Facebook Group: North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative**

**Query #7 Peace Testimony.** 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?

**Response:** *This query challenges us on many levels, from the very personal to our views on the role of our nation as a world power. In taking the time to reflect we recognize that many times we take what feels like natural action based on the situation in which we are immersed. Our area is steeped in, surrounded by, a military presence, the idea and machinery of war envelop us. When we see the stark contrast of our Quaker testimony with the huge size of the military in our surrounding area we feel conflicted, as many of us and our neighbors' direct livelihoods are military-dependent. We are challenged again as we review the world situation. The availability of information that shows us the many dangers and conflicts in which our nation might be at risk raises the specter of what to do- when is the use of force a deterrent, or an act of aggression?*

*Our lives are embedded in a culture that includes the reality and likelihood of war. All we do that follows the basic pattern of our American culture, from the food we eat to the things we buy for our modern lifestyle, contributes to the imbalance of resources in the world that creates occasions for war.*

*At the very most personal level, in our hearts, we study and pray and struggle to live in the strength of a power that can take away the occasion for war. In our daily lives, in our dealings with others, we wage peace. Our Meeting supports our efforts, and is a refuge for us as we struggle. In our joint effort we make a statement, conflicted though we are.*

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## **Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Second Month 10, 2013**

**Meeting opened** with approximately 19 members and attenders present.

**Membership:** The Clearness Committee for Membership for Louis Stadlin recommends a hearty welcome into Virginia Beach Friends Meeting. Meeting joyfully approved this recommendation.

### **Head of School Report:**

**Admissions:** Open House took place Friday, Jan. 26. Despite the weather and an early school closure, it was a success. Three applications have been made.

**Development:** The invitations for Founders Day have been mailed. T. Larry is exploring data base options. We have increased the number of postings and, in particular, photographs on our Facebook page. There has been a noticeable increase in activity on the page. Our website continues to undergo upgrades.

**Life of the School:** Semester two is underway. New electives include Odyssey of the Mind, Illuminated Manuscripts and "Digital Dj-ing". Basketball Season continues. The Middle School is oyster gardening and we hope to maintain our Pearl School status this year. The Cottage has been repaired, scoured and painted over the break. Even the program has been upgraded. The faculty and administration have started implementing the VAIS Visiting Team's Recommendations.

**Spiritual Life Update:** The MS/US Quaker Studies Curriculum was revamped last semester. Faculty Meeting for Worship has been re-instituted. It is on Wednesday mornings. MS/US Quaker Studies teachers are going to Pendle Hill this week. The QUIP Class took a leadership role in areas of service throughout the school, including mentorship sessions with Early and Lower School students. We had an Introduction to Quakerism presentation for parents in January. Six students attended the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference at Sidwell Friends last week.

**Facilities and Safety:** The office heating unit is under repairs. Woolman building's reserve heating ducts are in need of replacement. The security guard's last day was Thursday, Jan 31. He quickly became a part of the community and helped cut down on unauthorized pedestrian traffic. We will miss him! We have employed a safety officer/maintenance man on a part time basis. He will work with T. Lisa and also provide a pair of watchful eyes on our campus, without being armed. The gym roof repair is still in a holding pattern but it has not been leaking recently. RIMI Corporate Services (a security firm) has been giving us some pro bono assistance as we try to upgrade campus security. Faculty and staff will be having the final phase of alertness/safety training on Feb. 15.

**School Committee Report:** SC met on February 5, 2013. Linda Smith and Joanne Crass presented relevant information on the Quaker Based decision making and the role of the Clerk. Preparations for Founders Day are continuing. We want to remind everyone that it will be held at the Princess Anne Country Club on Feb.22. The proceeds go to the Louise and Bob Wilson Scholarship Fund. The tickets are \$75.00 and \$45.00 of the ticket price is going to pay for the food and room expense, \$30.00 goes to the scholarship. The Annual Fund is in process, the SC had 100% participation. The golf classic will be held on May 2, 2013 so mark your calendars. Even if you do not play golf, please come, join us for dinner. COT has contacted several individuals for potential SC members. On Feb.10 the Parent Association organized a fund raiser at Hilltop

locations of Panera Bread and Color Me Mine, to collect funds to add a table computer to the school library. Todd Askins, a former student of VBFS has volunteered to be SC Alumni rep. He has created a Facebook page.

**Treasurer's Report was delivered and is below:**

Some January income isn't reported above since it wasn't yet deposited due to the treasurer's absence, but it will be reported in February. The major income item is payment of \$810 rent for last and this year by the SOS prayer group. Back due rent is also

expected to be paid soon from two other groups. A year-end report will be available soon to give a full summary of 2012 income and expenses, and the several investment funds and their status. Letters to financial donors have been prepared and are being distributed. Anyone who didn't get a letter should contact the treasurer promptly. The finance and budget committee hasn't met recently. Recommendations for budget updates are expected from the Hospitality and Communications committees. Hospitality Committee requested a modification to the annual budget of \$600 to pay for supplies. Meeting approved.

**The Communications Committee reported:** The status of school-meeting house computer linkage - Tom and Whit will continue to encourage T. Jeff at VBFS. The status of telephone issues - We are pursuing purchasing a cell phone because it will be about 1/3 the cost of the current landline; therefore the budget for this item will be \$200 (vs \$486 in 2012). The committee clerk for upcoming year: Tom Kennedy will be convener for upcoming year. The committee reviewed other budgeted items and input for budget: Friends Journal - \$66/yr, Quaker Life - \$34.50, Outreach materials: no money allotted for this since no materials have been sold over the last year. However we would like to change this line item name to Outreach/Website: which costs \$60.

Meeting approved the additions to the budget recommended by the Communications Committee.

**Young Friends First Day School Committee presented the following report:**

The committee is seeking the consent of parents of Young Friends, recently photographed working on projects in First Day School, to publish their pictures on the VBFM website, visually demonstrating our commitment to youth education. Gwynne, Dee and Keith will pursue another basketball sports camp in the Wilson Center in March or April. Gwynne will get in touch with the school to get ideas of how to be effective in attracting Friends School students to the sports camp. Also, we might want to invite the parents/children of the church that is meeting in the Wilson Center. The age group for the camp is 5-8, both boys and girls. Admission is free.

The committee plans a brunch for parents and children of Young Friends on March 24, 2013 at the rise of meeting. They need two adults to volunteer to be with the children after brunch so parents can talk with the committee.

Gwynne is investigating a way to partition the Young Friends space in the basement. She will present information to Building and Grounds Committee, including Myra Brown's input about needs of our renters using the same space.

Volunteers are needed weekly to assist the committee members working with the children, please sign up!!

**The Peace and Social Justice Committee reported:** The Coffeehouse on 2/9/13 was a great success. Over \$1600 was raised to send to Steady Footsteps. The committee thanks all who attended, participated, and used their talents to provide food and entertainment.

Meeting approved inviting Sally Guidas, from the Virginia Interfaith Center on Public Policy to Meeting for Worship on 3/3/13 to share information on participation with this group. Time to be announced.

**The Committee of Ministers, Elders and Overseers reported:**

Discovery Dinners will begin again on 3/9/13, at 6:30 PM, in various members homes. Dinners include a query, "How does your Quaker faith inform your personal and professional life?" and are potluck. Hosts will contact those who sign up to coordinate contributions. MEO is creating a format for Clearness Committees for Membership and Marriage under the care of the Meeting.

**Building and Grounds Committee reported:** The committee will meet soon to create a long-range capital expense plan. All are welcome to attend when this planning meeting is announced. Meeting expressed gratitude for the work that upgraded the downstairs of our building. It is noted that the upstairs of the Meeting House also needs attention- the ceiling, the flooring and the windows all need immediate work.

**Old Business:** Meeting received a letter from the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia thanking us for our donation of \$200, which provided 600 meals. Meeting received letters from two groups whose annual donations are approved in the current budget, asking for continued support: Quaker United Nations and Church Women United. Meeting received a letter advising us of the details of the upcoming Friends General Conference. Meeting received a letter from Friends House Moscow, which will be referred to Peace and Social Justice Committee.

**Meeting closed with a period of silence.** Judith Stevens, Clerk and Patricia Swan, Recording Clerk

**Regular income / expenses:**

	January 2013	YTD
<b>Income</b>	\$1073.00	\$1073.00
<b>Expenses</b>	\$659.88	\$659.88

**Adult First Day School report:**

First day Adult School is now studying the book by C. S. Lewis, The Great Divorce. Meet the third First Day at 9am to discuss this new topic. Books will be made available to those who attend. You do not need to read the book before attending

*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. Please consider receiving this newsletter via only electronic emails. **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 via the Meeting's mailing address, Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

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