

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Eleventh Month 2013

CURRENT ACTIVITIES	
<p>11/26 School Full Day - Thanksgiving Feast</p> <p>11/27-11/29 No School – Thanksgiving Break</p> <p>11/30 1pm Memorial Service for Eileen Ghittino</p>	<p>12/20 School Winter Concert – all are welcome to attend! School Dismissal for the Christmas Holidays until 1/6/2014</p> <p>12/24 7pm Caroling in the Meetinghouse with open worship beginning at 8 pm through midnight.</p>
WEEKLY	MONTHLY
<p><u>EACH 1st DAY</u> (Sunday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <u>10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School-</u> <i>younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</i> * <u>12:00-12:30 pm Silent Peace Vigil - in front of the</u> <i>Meetinghouse</i> <p><u>EACH 4th DAY</u> (Wednesday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <u>7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer</u> <p><u>EACH 6th DAY</u> (Friday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <u>9 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship</u> <i>All are welcome, with special invitation to School & Meeting Community (except when school is not in session)</i> 	<p><u>1st First Days</u> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 am – Buildings & Grounds Meeting 12:15 pm - Peace & Social Justice Meeting <p><u>2nd First Days</u> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 am - Meeting for Worship with attention to Business (except Seventh Month) <p><u>3rd First Days</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 am - First Day School Discussion <u>The Great Divorce</u> by C. S. Lewis <p><u>4th First Days</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 am Meeting of Ministry & Oversight
SAVE THE DATES 2014	
To Be Determined	<p>The River Cleanup Days. Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 whitpeace.river@gmail.com</p> <p>For more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, Trista@LRNow.org</p>
1/14, 2/6, 3/11, 4/10, 10/7, 11/6	JCOC dates for 2014 – Contact Tracey Paladini to assist and for details
4/11-4/2014	FWCC Regional Gathering, High Point, NC
4/14-16/2014	FWCC Consultation, High Point NC
4/26/2014	Representative Body meeting, Durham Meeting, Durham NC
7/9-13/2014	Yearly Meeting, Guilford College, Greensboro NC

Query #5 to ponder for next month - Work of the Meeting: *Do we regularly attend our meetings for business, and are they held in a spirit of love, understanding, and forbearance? Do we seek the right course of action in humble submission to the Authority of Truth and in the patient search for a sense of unity under Divine guidance?*

Query #4: Work of the Meeting. *Do we assume our rightful share in the expenses of our Meeting? Do we regard our time, our talents, and our possessions as given to us in trust, and do we use them freely for the needs of others?*

Response: This query is about involvement in the life of the Meeting, and those of us assembled can truly answer “yes.” We recalled that Walter Brown gifted land for the meeting to us. Out of love, we give to the Meeting. Whether it is our time and talents, or our money, we find a joy in return, no matter how long we have been a part of the Community. We are fortunate to have a growing core group of people who continue the work to keep it alive.

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Eleventh Month 10, 2013

Opening: Virginia Beach Friends met for worship with attention to business in the Meetinghouse. The meeting began at 8:32 AM with silent worship. There were some 15 Friends and attenders present.

Head of School: A City inspector forced us to clear a number of trees around the pond behind the School. We are trying to find a suitable place for three large oaks that were donated for the grounds. T. Jo received a grant from Macy's, the criteria for which involve putting on a holiday show. Louise Wilson was a special guest at Grandparents day, and told the students how the first day of classes began on the beach. Increased faculty interest has sparked more environmental stewardship educational opportunities on campus. The School received a gift of I-pads from the Parents Association, which have proven to be a great addition to many classes. Five faculty attended the annual VAIS conference in Richmond.

School Committee: While the Committee has not met since last month's Business Meeting, two new members were welcomed: A new Meeting member, Tom Bertrand; and a parent, Ann Dworetsky.

Treasurer's Report: In October we had \$3,000 in income and \$1,200 of expenses. Committees are asked to affirm their needs for next year's budget as soon as possible!

Buildings & Grounds: Will contact professional painters about painting the eaves and fascia; the job seems bigger than Dave is prepared to tackle. They have two quotes already; anyone want to suggest another painter? John Waller (original architect for the Meetinghouse) visited and offered several suggestions for improvement work related to drainage, and ceiling and roof repair. B&G approved having gas fire logs installed in the basement (one item on our master list approved last month) and Andy Young is following up on that. Work may be done this month. Next work day will most likely be mid-December. The next committee Meeting is 12/1 at 9:00 a.m.

Ministers, Elders & Overseers: M.E.O. requested a change in the name of the Sufferings Committee to the “Nurturing Committee” to reflect a greater focus on caring for our faith community members. The Meeting did not find unity in this request and agreed to hold it over for prayer and thought. We agreed to host a meeting of the Wider Quaker Fellowship on the campus of both the School and Meetinghouse on 2/8-2/9/2014. This may require overnight hospitality for six or seven guests from throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Representative Body: It cost about \$1,000 to print the Yearly Meeting directory and minute publications. The Body approved an increase of \$10-\$15 in the Yearly Meeting registration fees to help cover the cost to our young families with attending children; as well as traveling expenses for the Yearly Meeting officials. A policy for the revision of the Discipline will be addressed in M.E.O. and discussed in Adult First Day School on 1/19, and brought back to Business meeting for approval. Dave French is our liaison. Yearly Meeting will be held at Gilford College in 2014, and at Wilmington in 2015. FWCC Gathering will be 4/11-4/13/2014 in High Point, NC.

Hospitality: Met10/27 and decided not to replace the dishwasher in the kitchen. A person to oversee each week's hospitality has been designated for through the end of this year. Refreshments will continue to be served upstairs so as not to exclude any with limited mobility. We have enough stainless flatware so that we will not need any more plastic. The Committee is working on eliminating the need for disposable plates. Friends were encouraged to help with cleanup each week, as there will be more to wash.

New Business: We approved a request from Steve Baggerly of the Catholic Worker for use of the Meetinghouse for a retreat on 4/13-15/2014. Because School will be in session, the Clerk will investigate further what their needs might be on that campus. We agreed to continue not to charge this group with rent. The Meeting agreed to allow the School to place a box in the Meetinghouse for donations to "Spirit Rising," a Mattaponi Native American charity that they support annually.

Closing: No further business appearing, meeting closed with a few minutes of silence, to meet again in 12th-Month

Patricia Phelan Young, Clerk and Andrew M. Young, Recording Clerk

News from the School

Our school collects dry good foods to donate to "Spirit Rising," a Mattaponi Native American group that the school has been supporting for many years. The tribe visits the school each year. Please have any donations in the Meetinghouse before the school Christmas break on December 20th. Recommend you bring donations by the 15th.

For anyone who wants a bit of Christmas spirit, attend the School's "Winter Concert." It is a great opportunity to see our school in action. This year they are presenting the play, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus"!!

Legislative Visits

The Interfaith Center for Public Policy is scheduling visits with our local state Senators and Delegates now, before the General Assembly convenes the beginning of 2014. We plan to meet whenever the Senator or Delegate is available with whoever is available. Our goal is to have the time to discuss the issues now, with our elected officials, when they have more time available with us. We visit in small groups and prefer to have at least one person in the group from the official's voting district. Please let me know if you are interested in visiting with any local state Senators or Delegates, and who you wish to visit.

Thank you, Nancy Craft

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.** 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.

Please remember it costs the Meeting 55 cents for every returned newsletter. Please forward address changes to avoid returned newsletters.