

June 2009



Lexington Friends Newsletter



Query

Do I recognize when I have enough?

Advices and Queries,
Pacific Yearly Meeting

Joys and Concerns

*See Back Page
for Full Details*

Lucy Arthur-Paratley
Patricia Griffith
Steve Stone
Kathy Ostrum
Maryrhea Morelock
Betsy Neale
Chie Togami
Shawn Huff
Breanna Davis Huff
Mark Williams
Zack Brock
Monica Hill
Jamie Hopkins
Lucinda Masterson's
sister, Laurie
Peter Schogol

*We recently had a very helpful **Quaker Experience** series. Our gratitude goes to the Ministry and Worship Committee for organizing and making it happen. We had a special history session with **Jane Calvert**. Our thanks to her for joining us.*

Calendar

June 12th Spiritual Nurture Potluck
hosted by Ministry and Worship at Lucinda Masterton's House on the topic of messages in Meeting for Worship and what they mean to each of us. Gather at 6:30 p.m., silent blessing and supper at 7:00 p.m., program at 7:40 p.m.

June 13th Meetinghouse Clean Up
Meet at 9:30 a.m. to help clean the Meetinghouse. Come anytime. Coffee and donuts for all!

June 14th Baby Shower for Jamie Hopkins at rise of Meeting. Bring a dish to share and a simple baby gift.

June 21st Fellowship Sunday/Father's Day Beth Rosdatter hosts "Skill Sharing in Hard Times" Stay after Meeting to discover ways to economize by doing it yourself. Bring sandwich fixings or side dish and your skills to share

June 27th Religious Education Committee Retreat 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Meetinghouse. All are welcome to evaluate the past year and plan the coming year.

July 1st Ministry and Worship Committee at Meetinghouse or Maryrhea's house.

July 12th Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Bring light snack and tend to LFM business.

July 24th Social Potluck for July Bring a dish to share to Richard and Betsy's house and then walk to the Arboretum to see Summerfest production.

Meetinghouse Renovation: Where Do We Go From Here?

See summary of Business Meeting notes within for discussion of whether we should hire a professional fundraiser. Come to the July Business Meeting (7/12) to continue the discussion.

The Fundraising Committee for Meetinghouse Renovation could use some more members. Please see Betsy Neale, Doug Griggs or Steve Stone if you feel the call to join them.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 1 Clare Carpenter and Geoff Young anniversary
June 2 Beth Stafford and Bo Huff anniversary
June 6 Devin Criswell-Marco
June 7 John Aurelius
Patricia Griffith
June 13 Mark Williams
June 14 Judy Burris
June 16 Cara Beth Cartwright
June 20 Christa Jilek
June 21 Rick and Vicki Aurelius
June 25 Geoff Young
June 28 Gina Rainey
June 29 Sheila Brenner
July 3 Adam Togami

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

happens Wednesday, July 29 – Sunday, August 2, 2009, at Earlham College, Richmond, IN. Further information on the Yearly Meeting sessions is in the Quaker Quill or see Betsy for more information.

Business Meeting Minutes and Monthly Income Statement inside.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

June 7, 2009

Attending: Betty Bergman, Sheila Brenner, Tom Brenner, Judy Burris, Claire Carpenter, Ben Griffith, Patricia Griffith, Doug Griggs, Frank Harris, Danita Hines, Janet Kazimir, Todd Kelly, Melissa LeVine, Jim McElhone, Richard Mitchell, Betsy Neale, Lad Simpson, Laurance Simpson, Pat Simpson, Steve Stone, Ray Wilkie.

Todd Kelly, Co-clerk, read the query for June:

Do I recognize when I have enough?

Advices and Queries, Pacific Yearly Meeting

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Finances Ben Griffith reported. This year our proportional share is \$112.50 per member. As of January 1, 2009, the date of our last statistical report to Yearly Meeting, we had 53 members. So the total for Lexington Friends Meeting is \$5962.50. The Yearly Meeting Budget and Finance Committee asks us to let them know if we will be paying our full proportional share.

Minute 09-23 Lexington Friends Meeting agrees to pay its full Yearly Meeting proportional share of \$5962.50, which is \$112.50 for each of its 53 members.

Fundraising Committee Report. Betsy Neale reported. At our May 2009 meeting for business, the meeting created a new fundraising committee to research options for raising the needed funds for the renovation. Thus far, we have five members on this committee, but each person has limitations on the time they can give to the committee. The members are: Susan Collett, Doug Griggs, Lucinda Masterton, Betsy Neale, and Steve Stone. If we decide to engage in a fundraising campaign, we will need more members on this committee.

On Wednesday, May 27th, 11 Lexington Friends met with Richard Barnes, a professional Quaker fundraiser. He gave an initial overview of the services he could provide to the meeting. One service he could provide is a feasibility study to assess the amount of money that the meeting might be able to raise. He would meet with a sample of members of the meeting community from which he would make his assessment. This sampling would probably take a couple of days and would cost \$2000 for time, \$280 for mileage, and \$100 for food for a total of \$2380. He would meet with as many of our members as possible for a series of confidential, sensitive inquiries. As a result of this sampling, we might better answer the question of whether we can afford the full renovation or only a partial renovation, as well as what kind of mortgage our meeting might be able to afford.

Meeting for Business Minutes Cont'd

Although the entire committee has not met, most of its members support the idea of hiring Richard to do a feasibility study for \$2400.

A discussion followed about various aspects and merits of the proposal. These aspects/merits included: concerns about the amount of money to be raised, more details of the fundraising campaign were outlined by those who met with Richard Barnes, some comments about the expertise of Richard Barnes, concerns about the narrow focus of only pursuing money within the meeting rather also including options beyond the meeting (building leasers such as a school, children's daycare, or adult daycare), highlighting the necessity of having a personal connection to any potential large donor (either within or outside of the meeting community), the idea that this type of fundraising necessitates a spiritual agreement on our vision, and the possibility of approaching other fundraisers.

Minute 09-24 After much discussion, Friends felt the need to let the proposal season for another month. We will ask the committee to get more information from Richard Barnes and bring a proposal to the July meeting for business for engaging the services of Richard Barnes.

Care and Nurture Committee Betsy Neale reported for the committee. They have been in touch with Kathy Bihl, who has remained on the membership rolls but has not attended in many years. Kathy has joined another church, which she feels is her spiritual home. She would like to be kept informed of our activities. The committee requests that she be removed from our membership list.

Minute 09-25 Lexington Friends Meeting removes Kathy Bihl from its membership rolls.

Property Management Committee Ben Griffith reported that the committee is preparing to repair the water damage to the meetinghouse, using volunteer labor. Materials will cost about \$600. The city's newly instituted storm water fee will cost us about \$75 per year. It is based on the amount of impervious surface on the property. Once we remove some blacktop, this fee should be reduced.

Peace and Social Concerns The committee is beginning to work on health care reform. We are going to ask the meeting to support HB 676, which promotes a single payer system. More on this next month.

Treasurer Treasurer Janet Kazimir presented a financial report, which will appear in the newsletter.

Finance Committee Claire Carpenter reported. She discussed a plan the committee is considering – to apply the growing building fund to our current mortgage balance. We are currently making very little interest on the money that is being donated toward the building fund. At the same time, we are paying 7% on our remaining mortgage of approximately \$79,000. The mortgage has 11 more years to run. It might be a better use of the building fund money to pay down the mortgage and save on mortgage interest, which exceeds the income

Meeting for Business Minutes Cont'd

we are getting on the building fund monies. The committee is considering contacting building fund donors to see if they would be comfortable with this plan.

Nominating Committee. Patricia Griffith reported. They nominate Ray Wilkie to fill a vacancy on Ministry and Worship.

Minute 09-26 The meeting approves Ray Wilkie to serve for the rest of this calendar year on the Ministry and Worship Committee.

The following committees had no reports: Outreach, Religious Education, Retreat Committee, Ministry and Worship Committee.

Meeting website We have not made the website as informative and useful as it might be. Frank Harris maintains our website and is interested in suggestions for inclusions on the website. Richard Mitchell suggested developing a committee to oversee communications within the meeting, including the website, the newsletter, and the email lists. He is going to be learning Google calendar, which may be useful for the meeting.

Meeting Schedule (See email and newsletter calendar for more details.)

Friday, June 12 Potluck on worship – what works well for us. Lucinda Masterton's home.

Sunday, June 14 Potluck and baby shower for Jamie Hopkins following worship. Bring a potluck dish. Simple baby gifts are welcome.

Sunday, June 21 Fellowship Sunday Discussion on the topic of "skill sharing in hard times – learning new ways to conserve, preserve, and do-it-yourself." Beth Rosdatter will organize the session. Friends with skills to share should contact Beth.

Sunday, July 12 Meeting for business

Friday, July 24 Social potluck at the home of Richard Mitchell and Betsy Neale. Walk together after supper to see KCTC's Summerfest production of Once Upon this Island. More information about the play is available at <http://www.kctcsummerfest.com/>

Friday, August 7 Spiritual nurture potluck – further discussion on worship. Details to come.

Sunday, August 9 Meeting for business

The meeting closed with a few more moments of silent worship.

Betsy Neale, Recording Clerk

Lexington Friends Monthly Income Statement - May, 2009

General Fund

Income

		YTD Budgeted Income:	\$15,766.00
		YTD Contributions:	\$13,991.54
			(11% below budget)
Cash/Checks	\$2,380.00		
In kind	65.00		
Monthly Rental	<u>540.00</u>	YTD Contributions Bldg Fund, 2009:	\$4,120.00
Total	\$2,985.00		

Expenses

Mortgage	(\$870.00)
Telephone	(38.44)
Utilities:	
Gas	118.48
Electric	143.00
Water	<u>39.77</u>
	(301.25)
Child Care	(165.00)
Insurance	(362.50)
Contributions	(175.00)
Misc.	(50.87)
In kind	<u>(65.00)</u>
	(\$2,028.06)

Income – Expenses = \$956.94

Fund Balances

General	-2,581.78
Design	2,785.91
Contingency	7,326.00
Friends Special Needs	1,325.00
Building	19,362.30

Direct Deposit to LFM is just a mouse click away

See Janet for more details

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS REPORT:

MONTHLY FOCUS FOR JUNE

MANCHESTER CENTER is a community center serving several downtown neighborhoods. The Center provides numerous services including preschool, after school, senior citizens programming, and special holiday events. We supply Christmas stockings for about 30 families each year. MC collaborates with many other community agencies. Information sheets, brochures and a list of needs are available on the table in the back of the Meeting room. Items from the list of needs can be brought and left on the table until Business Meeting which will be July 12 (a week later than usual due to FGC Gathering). Items will be delivered to Manchester Center in July.

CONGO

We would like to revisit concerns about atrocities in the Congo so that we can give it more attention. Further actions will be considered at the August meeting. Information can be found at the back of the Meeting Room.

KENTUCKY COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The quadrennial priority for Church Women United is "Building a World Fit for All God's Children". Areas to be addressed are health, environmental care, peace, and economic justice. Church Women United is also circulating petitions on the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Copies of the petition are available to distribute and can be found in the blue KCC folder on the bulletin board in the foyer along with information about the quadrennial priority and other KCC news.

[illegible]

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REQUESTS:

I. Religious Education/Experience/Experiments will hold a year-end retreat on Saturday, June 27th from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Meetinghouse. Join RE committee members, parents, and allies to evaluate the past year and plan for the coming year! Bring a snack or lunch; we'll provide lemonade and coffee. Can't make this meeting? send suggestions, observations, complaints, ideas to the clerk of RE, Gail Koehler, at gmkpah@aol.com or 859.335.5701

II. First Day School sessions will focus on reading Bible stories this summer. Adult volunteers are needed to lead the discussions. Please sign up on the clipboard or let Gail know which First Days you are available. It's fun and easy and gives you a chance to get to know our young Friends better.

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

Welcome back to Ray Wilkie! Ray was on the M&W committee, took some time off, and is now back!

We are holding Maryrhea in the Light; she is staying at Pine Meadows Nursing Home. If she is home by the next meeting on July 1st, we will explore whether she would like us to meet there or at the Meetinghouse.

Future Potluck Topics:

Preparing for Meeting for Worship; how do you prepare; how could we better prepare ourselves?

What detracts from the Meeting for Worship for you?

Would worship sharing encourage people to talk or could we encourage people to seek out clearness? Should some specific topic be suggested so that people could talk about the topic and each have an opportunity to say something in turn?

Could we use techniques to help people center: music in the beginning; expand the query process; maybe encourage readings.

There will not be a Spiritual Nurture potluck in July.

August potluck will probably continue one of the other topics concerning Meeting for Worship. Doug will try to find someone to host this at their home.

Latecomers:

We discussed options for latecomers and will discuss this more in future meetings. Some of the ideas so far include: No one should come in until the kids leave 15 minutes after the start of Meeting and/or latecomers should sit in the back benches near the door.

Feedback sheets on the Quaker experience:

People liked the course very much. There were mixed reviews on the book but overall Friends liked it. Suggestions included using the new Faith and Practice book the next time, having healthier snacks, using a more worship sharing approach. Overall, people thought that this was a positive experience, and want more.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL DADS! WE
APPRECIATE YOUR SACRIFICES AND CELEBRATE
YOUR LOVE.**

Joys and Concerns



Send articles and news
to Sheila Brenner, editor.
sbrenner@insightbb.com

Lucy Arthur-Paratley received the 2009 Lexington Youth Leader of the Year Award. We are very proud of her. Congratulations!

Patricia Griffith recently had some minor eye surgery which went very well.

We are sorry to hear that **Steve Stone's** father has died. We will hold all of his family in the Light.

Kathy Ostrum has been enjoying herself in Oregon while visiting her son. Her health has been good.

Maryrhea Morelock has been at Pine Meadows Health Center but is hopeful that she will be back at home by the end of the week. She would appreciate hearing from you.

Betsy Neale recently had angioplasty done and her surgeon is pleased with the way she is doing. We will continue holding her in the Light.

We have 3 graduates this year!
Congratulations to **Chie Togami, Shawn Huff**

and **Breanna Davis Huff**. We wish them all of life's best.

Mark Williams recently traveled to Indonesia and returned safely. We are grateful for that.

Zack Brock, son of Jenny and Dan Brock, married Erin Harper. Our congratulations to them!

Monica Hill broke her wrist. We hope she is healing well.

Jamie Hopkins is due at the end of June. We are all eager with anticipation. Hold her and her husband Nathaniel in the Light as they prepare for this big event.

Lucinda Masterson's sister, Laurie, recently biked cross country for cancer awareness. Congratulations and thanks.

Peter Schogol reports that the growth in his larynx was benign. We share in his relief.

Lexington Friends Meeting
649 Price Ave.
Lexington, KY 40508

