

August 2009



Lexington Friends Newsletter



Query

Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new life.

Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting

Joys and Concerns

*See Back Page
for Full Details*

Jim McElhone

Bob Guthrie

**Sellus Wilder and
Jessie Bessinger**

**Jamie Hopkins and
baby William**

Young Friends

Calendar

August 15th Dewayne Cleary-Budge Memorial Service Dewayne Cleary-Budge, son of Kathy Cleary, a friend of many Friends, died on Thursday, August 6, 2009. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Clays Mill Road.

August 16th Fellowship Sunday Join us after the rise of Meeting for food, fellowship, and letter writing on a topic of concern. Bring food items, such as sandwich fillings or casseroles to share. No time to get food? Come anyway – there is always plenty to share.

August 17th Care and Nurture Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Mitchell/Neale home.

August 21st Clean Up/Preparation Potluck Meet at 5:30 to clean the Meetinghouse and prepare for Morelock Memorial. Stop around 7:00 p.m. to share dinner and then continue to clean as necessary. Childcare available for the very young but other young Friends invited to share in the work. Bring lawn mowers, weed eaters and any other outdoor tools which can be used to spruce up the grounds.

August 22nd Memorial Service for Maryrhea Morelock Memorial Service for dear Friend Maryrhea Morelock who died on July 14, 2009. will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Meetinghouse. All are invited to bring finger food to share.

September 4th Spiritual Nurture Potluck Circle at 6:30 p.m. followed by topic TBA.

September 10th Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets at 9 Meadowbrook Rd. in Frankfort at 5:30 p.m., potluck at 6:15 and committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.

\$
Lexington Friends Meeting is running behind our projected budget. Please consider donating a little extra in order to balance the General Fund.
\$

Mark your calendars:

1) September 18th-20th -- All Kentucky Friends Gathering at Camp Kentahten.

2) September 25th -- Potluck and discussion -- Beyond the Basics of Child Safety in our Community-The latest installment in our continuing efforts to educate ourselves and ensure that our children are raised in an environment that ensures their safety at multiple levels. Co-led by Rosanne Fitts-Klarer and Gail Koehler
Childcare provided -- we would appreciate a call RSVP'ing the need for care, which ensures we'll have enough providers for people who attend: call Gail at 859.335.5701

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug 19 Shawn Huff
Aug 20 Gene& Marilyn Gallagher Anniversary
Aug 22 Betty Bergman
Aug 24 Russell Hayes
Aug 27 Carrie Webster
Aug 30 Judy Mahaffey
Judy Moffett
Steve Colley

**Business Meeting Minutes and
Monthly Income Statement inside.**

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

August 9, 2009

Attending: Betty Bergman, Judy Burris, Claire Carpenter, Peter Hardy, Janet Kazimir, Gail Koehler, Melissa LeVine, Tom Marco, Richard Mitchell, Betsy Neale, Lad Simpson, Laurance Simpson, Pat Simpson.

Peter Hardy, Co-clerk, read the query for August:

Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new life.

Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting

Friends responded to the query out of worship.

Memorial Service for Maryrhea Morelock Lexington Friends Meeting will be holding a memorial service for Maryrhea Morelock, who passed away July 14, 2009. Peter has printed up an announcement about the memorial service to send to organizations where people have known her. He is interested in suggestions of places to send it. We are asking Friends to bring finger food for refreshments after the service. Several Friends will be organizing the service.

Minute 09-32 Friends agree to hold a memorial service for dear Friend Maryrhea Morelock on Saturday, August 22 at 2 pm. Friends agree to purchase a notice of the service to appear in the Lexington *Herald-Leader*.

Finance Committee Claire Carpenter reported on the committee's research about what to do with the money in our Building Fund (currently \$19,000). The committee has been considering the financial implications of applying funds to paying down the principal on our current mortgage. The committee recommends that the Building Fund monies be applied to the mortgage principal, understanding that this represents an investment in the hoped-for future renovation. If we do this, we will keep a record of these monies as investment in the building.

A question was raised: if the Building Fund is spent down, and we are not able to embark on the renovation, what funds we will have available for repairs? The committee thinks that between the Contingency Fund (currently \$7000) and donations raised to meet the need at the time, we will be all right.

A Friend asked about the advisability of spending down the Building Fund so that it is not available to show a future lending agency as to our fundraising ability. Friends felt that it is advisable to run this question by Richard Barnes, our fundraising consultant.

Another Friend said that it offends her to just let the Building Fund sit and not use the money more productively in the present.

Religious Education This committee asks meeting to schedule a potluck discussion on child safety on Friday, September 25. (See calendar)

Peace and Social Concerns Judy Burris reported. The committee's focus for August is Right Sharing of World Resources. The committee's next meeting will be September 10 in Frankfort.

Nominating Committee Claire Carpenter reported that the committee is beginning earnest work.

Treasurer Janet Kazimir presented a financial report, which will appear in the newsletter. She noted that contributions have been low.

Outreach The committee had no report. Peter suggested that we think about hosting a yard sale at which we would make tables available to our neighbors to sell their things. Friends felt that we need to canvas our neighbors as to their interest in participating in such a yard sale and perhaps also talk with neighbors about the possibility of forming a neighborhood organization for this immediate neighborhood. They also feel that we are fairly busy and unable to pursue this in the fall. We will consider working on it for the spring.

The following committees had no reports: Care and Nurture, Property Management, Ministry and Worship, and Retreat Committee.

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

August 17 Care and Nurture Committee, 7 pm, at the home of Betsy Neale

August 21 Potluck to prepare the meetinghouse for the memorial service. Arrive at 5:30 if possible to begin the work. Dinner at 7 pm. Child care for the smallest children; others will be asked to help with meetinghouse preparations.

September 10 Peace and Social Concerns Committee at Judy Burris's home in Frankfort.

September 4 Spiritual Nurture potluck. Details to come.

September 18-20 All Kentucky Friends Gathering at Camp Kentahten.

September 25 Potluck discussion on child safety

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

Betsy Neale, Recording Clerk



Lexington Friends Monthly Income Statement - July, 2009

General Fund

Income

		YTD Budgeted Income:	\$22,072.40
		YTD Contributions:	\$18,639.13
			(16% below budget)
Cash/Checks	\$725.00		
In kind	67.81		
Monthly Rental	<u>382.50</u>	YTD Contributions Bldg Fund, 2009:	\$4,245.00
Total	\$1175.31		

Expenses

Mortgage	(\$870.00)
Telephone	(39.57)
Utilities:	
Gas	100.00
Electric	143.00
Water	<u>44.32</u>
	(287.32)
Child Care	(110.00)
Insurance	(362.50)
Contributions	(2275.00)
In kind	<u>(67.81)</u>
	(\$4012.20)

Income – Expenses = \$2,836.89

Fund Balances

General	-1,802.35
Design	2,785.91
Contingency	7,326.00
Friends Special Needs	1,325.00
Building	19,437.30

As noted above, contributions are 16% below budget. Please consider donating a little extra this month. Remember that automatic bank deductions are available.

See Janet for details.

It's The Little Things That Make A Difference

In an interview with NPR in the US, George Soros was asked why he had made his recent decision to donate \$35 million to the state of New York, for the purpose of helping low income families with schooling costs.

Part of his motivation was to enable the release of a further \$135 million in federal funding, which required the state to put up matching funds to release it. George's Foundation to Promote Open Society stepped in to give the state the money, which it could not afford.

Soros stated that "philanthropy has been badly hit by the financial crisis and so the usual donors actually are cutting back. I feel that people who can afford it should step up to the plate and actually increase their philanthropic donations."

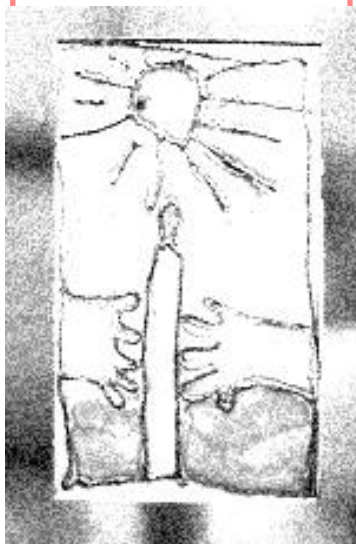
And what actually inspired him to make this particular donation? Whilst studying at the London School of Economics, he struggled financially, and was having to work as a waiter at nights to make ends meet. When his tutor found out, concerned at the possible impact on his studies, she informed the local Quakers about his circumstances, and they sent him a cheque for £40 (not as small a sum as it sounds at that time) to enable him to continue. George Soros still remembers how touched he was by that, and that inspired his latest philanthropy.

It seems to me that there is a lesson in this for all of us. We are often discouraged from taking action to help others by the small resources we have, and the seemingly insurmountable problems that are faced. Yet a small action, such as helping a struggling student with a little money, can have a major impact on that person's life, and later affect the lives of so many others. This is a practical example of the so-called "butterfly effect", where the image is given of the beat of the butterfly's wings causing a turbulent flow that results in the start of a hurricane. Whatever we think of the analogy, it is true that seemingly small and insignificant acts can have unforeseen consequences, beyond our immediate comprehension or intention.

The cynical in this world will often tell us how misguided our good intentions are, how we are wasting our time, as the difference we as individuals can make are too insignificant. It is true that often our efforts will be doomed to fail, or will make too little difference to effect change. It is also true, however, that working together, our small efforts start to aggregate and have a better chance of success in effecting meaningful change. The one sure thing is that if we make no effort then there will certainly be very little chance of change.

From the blog *Bush Quaker* 8/12/09

Joys and Concerns



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

Jim McElhone had surgery to remove a tumor on the brain. He came through the surgery well and shows basic improvement. He is staying with a sister for a while and would appreciate cards and letters. Write to him at: Jim McElhone c/o Bonnie Dowler 137 Laclede Ave., Lexington 40505.

Roberta Guthrie's husband, **Bob Guthrie** also had successful surgery for a brain tumor. Surgery went well and he is recovering at home. We are grateful for the happy outcomes for both Friends.

Sellus Wilder and **Jessie Bessinger** had an automobile fire on the way to meeting several weeks ago. We are grateful that they were not hurt. Daughter Elise is growing by leaps and bounds.

Jamie Hopkins and baby **William** joined us in Worship recently. Jamie reports that there have been lots of highs and lows in the almost 6 weeks since William was born--you are invited to ask about details as you feel led! She is also particularly appreciative of visitors right now. She says that unlike most folks she

does not require people to call ahead (though we include the number here so people have it) she reports that if either she or the baby isn't ready for the public they just don't answer the door. Her invitation is for people to drop in--they live at 1088 Chinoe Rd--home number is 859.296.4807.

Young Friends are starting a new school year. Best wishes for academic and social enrichment!

Consulting Summer's Clock

Consulting summer's clock,
But half the hours remain.
I ascertain it with a shock --
I shall not look again.
The second half of joy
Is shorter than the first.
The truth I do not dare to know
I muffle with a jest.

Emily Dickinson

Lexington Friends Meeting
649 Price Ave.
Lexington, KY 40508

