

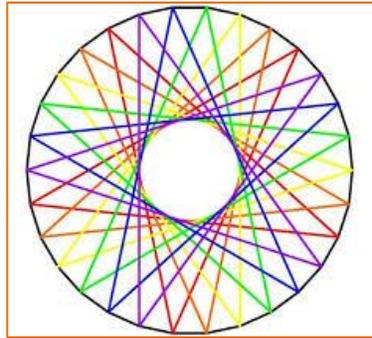
FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

State College Friends Meeting
October 2014
Newsletter



*State College Friends Meeting
611 East Prospect Ave.
State College, PA 16801
Phone (814) 237-7051*

A Note from the Editors



As we approach the second anniversary of our joint Editorship, we are looking at new directions for the Newsletter.

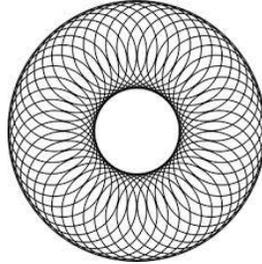
We are ready to accept your suggestions, contributions, feedback, and ideas.

Send announcements for publication to this email address:
SCFMnewsletter@gmail.com

Your editors, *Deryn Verity & Marianne Stevens*

Announcements

Page | 3 Meeting for Worship with concern for Business will be held First Day (Sunday) at 9am on October 5, 2014. An informal potluck lunch will follow.



The Finance Committee will be responsible for refreshment hour during October.

Interfaith Coffee Hour: Tuesday, October 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm – Panera Bread (downtown – corner of Beaver Ave. & Allen Street). A small, informal setting for interfaith conversation and sharing, hosted this in October by members of the Turkish Cultural Center. Suggested topic: The Islamic festival of Eid al Adha, marking Abraham’s sacrifice, takes place Oct. 4-5. What does the concept of sacrifice mean in your faith tradition, and/or to you personally?

A reminder: The CROP Walk will be October 19 this year! Please see the longer announcement about the CROP walk below.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Page | 4 *The Peace Testimony*

Do you endeavor to live "in virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars"? Do you work to make your peace testimony a reality in your life and in your world? Do you weigh your day-to-day activities for their effect on peace-keeping, conflict resolution and the elimination of violence? Are you working toward eliminating aggression at all levels, from the personal to the international?

QUERIES

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Stewardship of the Environment

Is the Meeting concerned that human interaction with nature be responsible, guided by a reverence for life and a sense of the splendor of God's continuing creation?

Are the decisions of the Meeting and its committees relating to the uses of property, goods, services, and energy made with sensitivity toward the environmental impact of those choices?

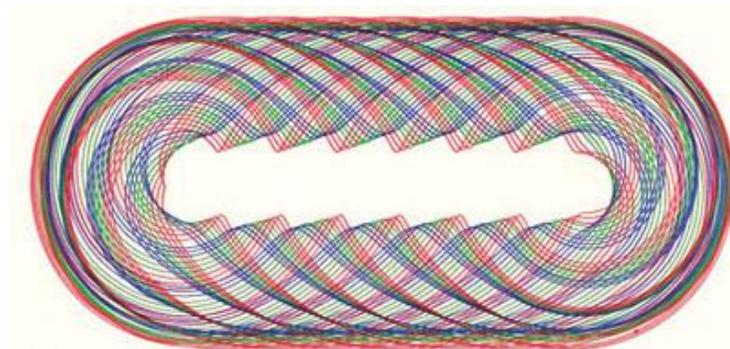
How does our Meeting learn about environmental concerns and then act in the community on its concerns?

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How am I helping to develop a social, economic, and political system which will nurture an environment which sustains and enriches life for all?

Am I aware of the place of water, air, and soil in my life? Do I consider with care the necessity of purchasing substances hazardous to the environment? Do I act as a faithful steward of the environment in the use and disposal of such hazardous substances?

Do I choose with care the use of technology and devices that truly simplify and add quality to my life without adding an undue burden to essential resources?



2014 CROP Walk Set for October 19

The 31st State College CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 19th at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, located in downtown State College on the corner of College Avenue and McCallister Street. Registration begins at 1:30 PM with the walk commencing at 2:00 PM. The 5K route winds through the borough, ending back at St. Paul's. There is no fee to join the walk.

In 1984 a group of local people joined together to organize the first-ever State College CROP Hunger Walk. Consisting of members of a number of local congregations, the walk planners set out to join the fight against hunger and poverty.

That first year the CROP Walk raised \$10,000. The most recent CROP Walk, held in October 2013, raised more than \$31,000. Since that first CROP Walk in State College the total amount raised has been \$457,000!

Remarkably, the highest CROP Walk totals raised here have been between 2007 and 2013, in tough economic times. Organizers believe this makes a statement about our community and its willingness to help those in need.

75% of the funds contributed to the walk go to Church World Service or any of a number of other relief agencies that a donor may designate; 25% of funds raised go to the local food bank.

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For more information and CROP Walk materials please contact Jim Campbell at 237-0676 or jimxc8@gmail.com

Over the years support for the CROP Walk has come from the faith community, community groups and Penn State student groups. We invite members of all congregations and groups as well as individuals in our community to join us this fall on October 19th.



BYM's Youth Programs Committee is hosting
Parents of Teens Conference

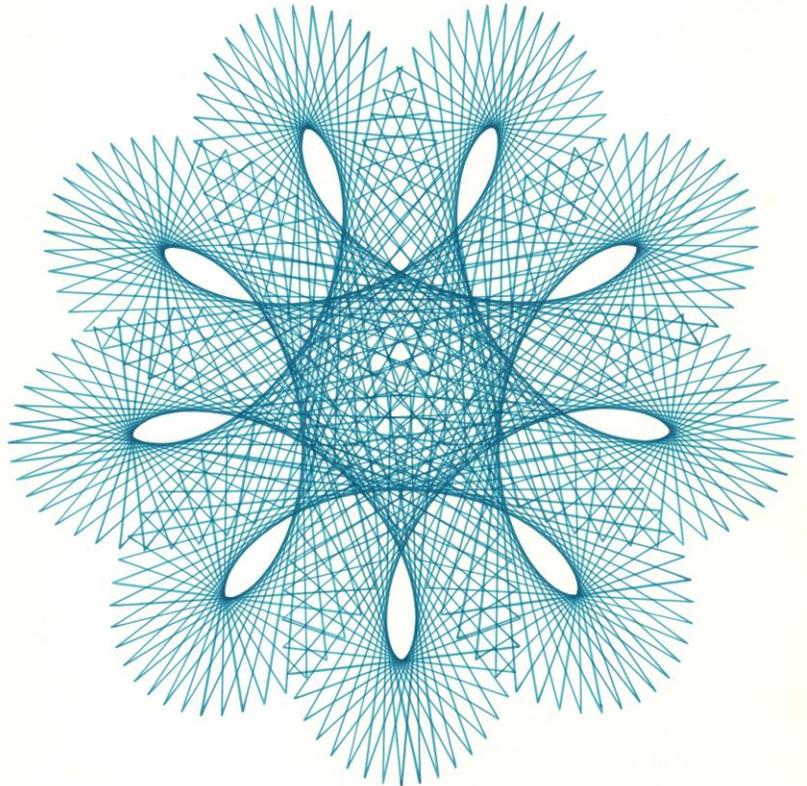
How to Growthfully Fight with your Teen
Presented by Emory Luce Baldwin of the
Parent Encouragement Program

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As opportunity for parents to see a 'con' from the inside, connect with other parents, and get support with parenting teens.

Register at

<https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/events/teens.html>



Page | 9 BYM's Religious Education Committee is hosting

REtreat: An RE treat for Religious Educators

Coordinating a Spirit-led First Day School:

Tools and Inspiration

Presented by Virginia Avanesyan and Steph Bean

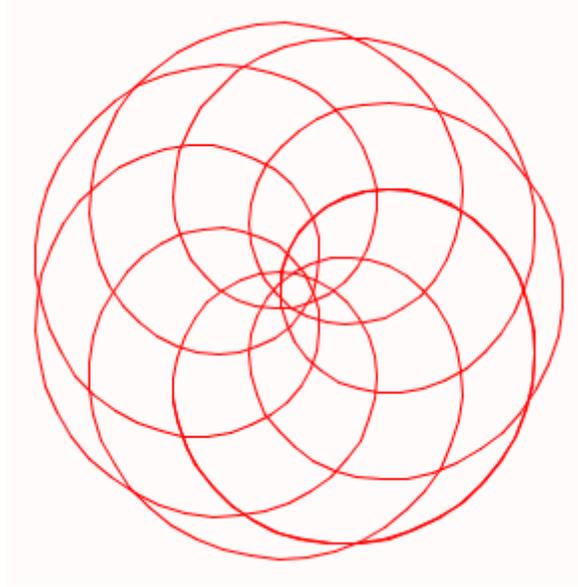
An opportunity for Quaker educators of all ages to share ideas, insights, and inspiration in a Friendly setting.

Register at

<https://bym-rsforg.presencehost.net/events/retreatforRE.html>

Both workshops cost \$50 and will be held at Stony Run Meeting (5116 N Charles Street Baltimore, MD) on Oct 18-19

Arrive at 11am, leave after worship on Sunday.



Minutes

SCFM Meeting for Worship with attention to Business

September 7, 2014

Selden Smith opened by reading the following:

Queries for Ninth Month 2014 from Baltimore Yearly Meeting:

The Social Order

Do you promote social justice and make your life a testimony to fair dealing? Do you seek to understand and appreciate differing cultures and social values? Do you support fair treatment of all regardless of race, gender, age and other differences? Are you concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged? Do you take your full share of civic responsibility by voting and giving service? Do you oppose the use of land, labor, technology and capital for human exploitation or in ways destructive to other living things?

There were many comments about our having laid down the Peace and Social Action committee this year, so that this work will need to be done by

the Meeting as a whole. Many suggestions were given about how we can do this.

Joys and Sorrows: Many shared personal joys and sorrows.

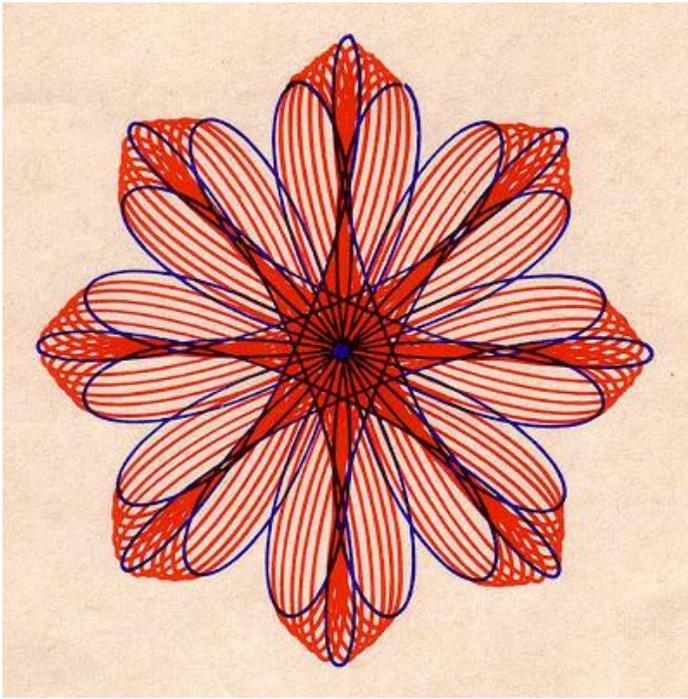
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¹¹ Campbell Plowden offered request for the group to hold his friend Mujaddid Muhammad in the light. He was the inmate co-founder of our Alternatives to Violence Project program at the McKean federal prison in 2009. After spending 23 years in federal prison, he was transferred to the Dept. of Corrections of Ohio State this past August to face charges of a parole violation that were on hold since 1989, where he continues to be incarcerated.

Finance Committee: Kerry Wiessmann reported that Connie Wheeler has spent many hours this summer balancing our books and becoming manager of all our accounts, investments and financial processes. Connie will give a quarterly report to business meeting in October. Friends united to minute thanks to her for all her hard work this summer.

The total cost of renovations to the garden level apartment was less than \$8,000 in large part because Larry did all of the skilled labor for installations. We did hire a contractor who did the bulk of the cleaning and painting, and worked under Larry's direction. Friends united to minute thanks to Larry for all his work on the apartment renovations.

Care and Concern Committee and a number of individuals in the Meeting also worked to make sure this renovation happened in a timely manner and helping to move Lawrence's belongings into the garden level and then back into the apartment.

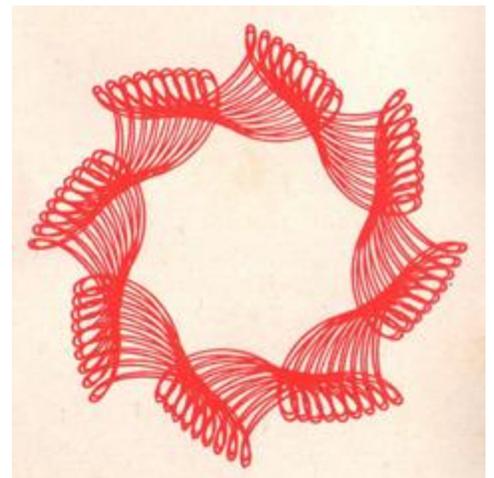


Request – Friends Meeting received a request in July from Dan Hendey, director of Friends School, to reduce the rent for this school year, to \$5000 instead of the contracted \$10,000 because of low overall school enrollment this year. It is a fluke that five families, each with two children at the school, moved out of the area. In addition the SCASD opened a

middle school Delta program this year, to which 6 additional students transferred. Finance Committee recognizes that Friends School has paid \$30,000 in the last three years, which is approximately \$24,000 more than the Coop would have paid in the same period of time. They believe that to some extent the Friends School rent has been supporting us for the last four years. Because of this, finance committee suggested that we maintain the contract with the school as is, but make a contribution to the school this year for \$5000 to help the school in its time of need.

After much discussion the Meeting united around giving a “rent rebate” of \$5,000 to the Friends School this year.

Kerry notified the Meeting that the finance committee approved the application of another credit card on our PSCU account so that someone from the religious education committee may have a credit card with a \$500 limit. If something is needed for the Meeting,



people who also have cards are Larry Greenleaf, Betsy Gamble, Peg Hansen, and Michael Grutzeck.

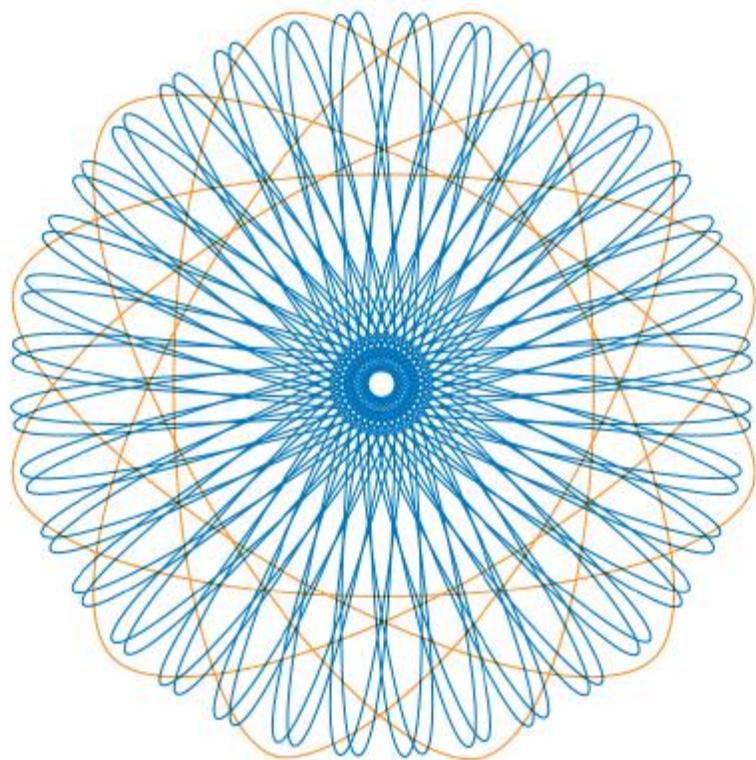
Ministry and Worship:

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¹³ Margy Frysinger asked the Business Meeting for feedback for having MFW outside in the summer. The feedback was that people wanted to still have it outside, but not to try to set certain times to do it. It can be spontaneous based on the weather. It was still important, however, that a microphone was available for those with hearing issues.

Minutes: The minutes from the July/ August business meeting were approved.

Addendum: The Meeting ended without several committees and speakers giving their reports. The Building and Grounds Report is given here as an addendum to these minutes and the others will report next month.



Building and Grounds: The committee met several times in August. In attendance at these meetings were Kathy Drapco Klein, Gary Fosmire, and Larry Greenleaf.

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Most of the construction on the apartment is complete, with the air handler and the kitchen cabinets to be installed when they arrive.

The following issues were discussed and assigned to committee members.

Sidewalk and dry basement, Larry

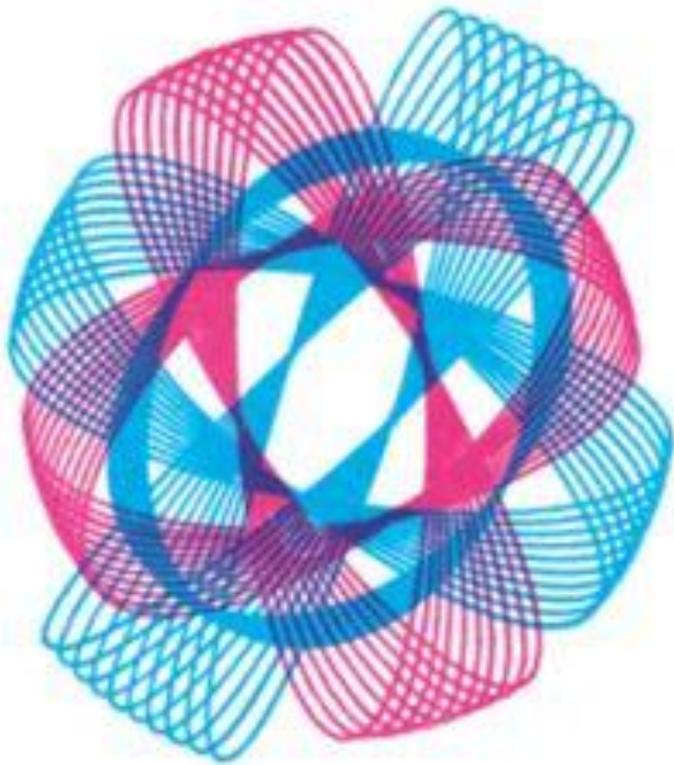
Signage, Lance

Solar Panels, Kathy

Gutter Repair, Gary

Respectfully submitted by Kerry Wiessmann

In attendance: Dan Hendey, Kim Kelmor, Dorothy Habecker, Cynthia deVries, Campbell Plowden, Lynne Grutzeck, Michael Grutzeck, Martin Melville, Kate Loomis-Adams, Heidi Loomis, Mary Way, Roger Way, Polly Dunn, Margy Frysinger, Gary Fosmire, Elizabeth Pennock, Jay Miller, Marjorie E. Nelson, Ann Sidone, Jules J Arginteanu, Ingrid Hoffnar, Bernie Hoffnar, Larry Greenleaf, Sam Findley, Renee Crauder, Kerry Wiessmann and Selden Smith



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RETURN REQUESTED