

**FRIENDLY
CONNECTIONS**

State College Friends Meeting

**MAY 2016
Newsletter**



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

Call for Articles, Photo, Thoughts - If your gift includes words, images, or just honest thoughts, please send them to the Newsletter email address: SCFMNewsletter@gmail.com

~ Brosi

Announcements

First Day (Sunday), 5/1/2016

9:00 am Meeting for Worship for Business

10:45 am First Day School

10:45 am Gather for Meeting for Worship

11:00 am Meeting for Worship

Join the **Spring Interfaith Picnic** (see below)

► On May 1, instead of having potluck after meeting, Friends are encouraged to attend the Spring Interfaith Picnic at 1:00 pm at Sunset Park. Please bring a dish to share - either vegetarian or with meat or dairy content clearly labeled. No pork, please.

- **SPRING INTERFAITH PICNIC - Sunday, May 1, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**, Pavilion 1 (center right), Sunset Park, State College. Meet your friends and neighbors of other faiths. Come when you want, leave when you wish - anytime between 1:00 - 3:00 pm.
 - Delicious halal food from Pita Cabana will be available;
 - Food Contribution suggestions from non-students: Vegetarian dishes always appreciated; Halal or Kosher food welcome from those who know how to prepare; Favorite dishes welcome too! *For our friends with allergies, please list your ingredients (No pork or alcohol, please.)*

► **Foxdale Meeting for Worship:** A Meeting for Worship is also held at Foxdale every first Day. All are welcome. Gather at 10:15 am in the nurses' conference room.

To find the Meeting, enter at the front of the building, turn left and walk down the hallway to Anthony House. Enter through the security door, walk ahead, and turn right at the second sign for the Health Services Administration. The nurses' conference room is ahead on your left.

► State College Friends Meeting is offering a workshop: **The Language of God: Finding the Presence of the Divine** at Foxdale Retirement Village on Friday, May 13, 6-9 pm and Sat., May 14, 8 am to 4 pm. Facilitators are Yuri Plowden from State College Friends Meeting and Mary Jackson Clark from Sandy Springs Friends Meeting. A donation of \$15 is requested.

Discover how the Spirit speaks to you revealing your innermost spiritual state as we explore this concept through discussion, small group sharing, and examination of waking and sleeping dreams, beloved fairy tales, and stories. Participants will learn to recognize how God speaks to them in ways they have previously overlooked.

To register, contact Dorothy Habecker,
<mailto:dorothyhab@gmail.com> dorothyhab@gmail.com.
Directions and other details will be emailed to registrants.

► The next **Saturday Social** will be a lasagna dinner on 5/14/2016, 5-7 pm in support of the Centre County Women's Resource Center. CCWRC director, Anne Ard will be there to share about their work. All are welcome! Suggested donation \$10/person (more or less). People who cannot attend, may make a donation for food costs and/or to the organization by writing a check to State College Friends Meeting with the organization name in the memo line.

► Susan Leach and her family would love to come visit State College this summer. They are offering to house sit for someone, two families would benefit! They'd be willing to house/plant/pet sit anytime between June 17th-August 14th.

Her contact info is: susleach@gmail.com, [814-574-2300](tel:814-574-2300)

Calendar

May 1 Spring Interfaith Picnic, 1-3 pm, Sunset Park

May 1 SCFM Meeting for Worship for Business

May 13-14 SCFM Ministry & Worship Workshop

May 13-15 BYM Spiritual Formation Spring Session. Registration:
<<https://bym-rsf1-org.presencehost.net/events/spiritform/>><https://bym-rsf1-org.presencehost.net/events/spiritform/>

May 14 SCFM Sat. Social, Women's Resource Center fundraiser

May 21-22 PYM Spring Family Overnight, May 21-22, Camp Dark Waters

July 3-9 FGC Gathering, College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Mo.

July 27-31 PYM Annual Sessions, Muhlenberg College.
Registration opens April 30.

Aug. 1-7 BYM Annual Sessions, Hood College, Frederick, MD

Sept.2-4 BYM Spiritual Formation Fall Session

Sept.17 SCFM Saturday Social, Park Forest Pre-School fundraiser

Sept.23-25 Upper Susquehanna Quarter Fall Family Gathering,
Camp Crystal Lake, Hughesville PA

Religious Education, an Overview

by Sunny Rehler

On March 30 there was a meeting of the RE Committee, the first since my recent appointment as clerk. This is a summary of that meeting.

Based on a report from Vilmos Misangyi, there has been an ongoing effort to introduce the High School and Middle School students to other religious traditions. So far our young Friends have been exposed to the topic of comparative religion in general, as well Catholicism and Buddhism in particular. In April there are meetings planned related to the Mormons and the Mormon minister will be giving them an overview.

In addition the Middle and High School students have been visiting Foxdale once a month for activities in which they interact with the residents in various ways (playing musical instruments, singing, word games, etc.) The residents we visit probably have little contact with kids and they seem to enjoy our visits.

Karen Anderson reported on K-5th Grade, saying that various substitute teachers have been doing activities with the kids and offering them topics from the Bible.

We discussed the upcoming event on April 27th, bringing the “Friendly Folk Dancers” to SCFM to perform and give a workshop at 7 PM in the Social Room. This will be preceded by a

pot-luck meal at 5:30 PM. Please come and bring others, who may be interested!

On May 8th there will be a “Parent’s Day Celebration”. Vilmos, Horst and Sunny plan to lead the FDS group in preparing some type of food or dish to serve at the Rise of Meeting. Vilmos will survey the teens to see if they have ideas about what to prepare.

On May 15, 2016 there will be a Shaver’s Creek Work Day for FDS. We are hoping that parents of small children will be willing to bring their kids and look after them; otherwise Karen offered to help look after the smaller children, if parents find this to be a difficulty.

May 22: Dorothy Habecker will be leading the FDS to plant various flowers and plants around the perimeter of the Meeting House. Families are asked to bring hand tools, such as trowels for the kids to use.

June 5: End of Year celebration and ice cream social. We are planning something special for ALL of the teachers, but most especially for Cy Devries, who has been involved in RE for the past 25 years.

June 14: There will be a program at the University Mennonite Church, beginning at 7 PM, during which Will Tuttle will be giving a presentation related to his book: “World Peace Diet”. He supports animal rights and advocates eliminating or reducing our consumption of meat and dairy products as a method to reduce our impact on the environment, as well as to reduce world hunger and to improve health.

We are sincerely grateful to all of our teachers, both past and present. At the same time, we are aware that additional teachers (especially substitute and temporary teachers) are urgently needed both to reduce the burden on the teachers who are most active with our Religious Education programs and to fill in when a permanent teacher is not available. If you are willing to consider the possibility of teaching at least on an occasional basis, please contact me at suncst@gmail.com and I can give you more details!

Our next scheduled RE meeting will be on Sunday, May 22, at the Rise of Meeting

Sunny Rehler



**State College
Friends Meeting**

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**Fundraising for
Centre County Women's
Resource Center
Saturday, May 14, 2016**

5:30-7:00 pm

Meat & Vegan Lasagnas DINNER

All are welcome!

Suggested donation \$10/adult (more or less)

\$5/student, young children free

CCWRC director, Anne Ard will be there to share about their work.

People who cannot attend, may make a donation to the organization by writing a check to State College Friends Meeting with the organization name in the note line.

BYM Spiritual Formation Retreats –SPIRITUAL FORMATION 2016

Spring Retreat - May 13-15

Fall Retreat - September 2 - 4

Priest Field Pastoral Center (Kearneysville, WV)

Do You Seek a Deeper Spiritual Experience?

Would Your Meeting Like to Deepen Its Spiritual Community?

You and your meeting are invited to participate in the BYM
Spiritual Formation Program

The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Spiritual Formation Program invites its participants into a deeper experience of God's presence through retreats, devotional readings, spiritual community and individual spiritual practices. Spiritual Formation provides a practical way for people in our busy culture to turn to God with their minds through spiritual reading, with their hearts through daily spiritual practices and with their human relationships through local friendship groups.

Participants attend retreat weekends either in the fall or in the spring, or both. During the year, participants attend two meetings per month: (1) the Meeting of the local group to share reflections on a spiritual book that all have agreed to read; and (2) the Meeting of the friendship group, a subset of the local group -- usually three to five people -- who meet to share spiritual journeys and to support one another in spiritual practices. In addition, each participant is encouraged to devote at least 15 minutes per day to a spiritual practice. Those who participate in the Program are rewarded with a closer relationship with God and an opportunity to form deep spiritual friendships.

<https://bym-rsf1-org.presencehost.net/events/spiritform/>

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Personal Way of Life

Do you live in accordance with your spiritual convictions? Do you seek employment consistent with your beliefs and in service to society? Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress and manner of living, avoiding wasteful consumption? Are you watchful that your possessions do not rule you? Do you strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths?



Do you strive to develop your physical, emotional and mental capacities toward reaching your Divinely given potential? Do you cultivate healthful and moderate habits, avoiding the hazards of drugs, intoxicants, and over-indulgence generally? Do you try to direct such emotions as anger and fear in creative ways?

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

Education

What is our Meeting's role in the life and support of Friends' education? If supporting or maintaining a Friends school, have we developed an appropriate relationship of Meeting and school? What is our role in the spiritual life of the school and its maintenance of Friends' principles?

What does our Meeting do to support education in the wider community?

What help do we provide for the children and adults in our Meeting to pursue the education they seek, whether academic, technical, or vocational? Do we make provision for children in our Meeting to attend a Friends school?

How do I show my concern for the improvement of public education in my community and in the world?

Am I aware of what Friends schools are doing and of their plans for the future? How do I show encouragement and support?

STATE COLLEGE FRIENDS MEETING
MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

Fourth Month 10th, 2016

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Meeting began with silent worship and a reading of the Queries on Care for the Meeting Community from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and a supplemental Query from State College Meeting:

Care for one another

Are love and unity maintained among us? When conflicts exist, are they faced with patience, forbearance, and openness to healing? Are avenues for exploring differences kept open? To what extent does our Meeting ignore differences in order to avoid possible conflicts?

Is the Meeting a safe, loving place? When we become aware of someone's need, do we offer assistance? Are the meetinghouse and the Meeting property physically accessible to all?

Do all adults and children in our Meeting receive our loving care and encouragement to share in the life of our Meeting, and to live as Friends? Do we truly welcome newcomers and include them in our Meeting community?

When a member's conduct or manner of living gives cause for concern, how does the Meeting respond?

How does our Meeting keep in touch with all its members?

Am I ready to offer assistance as part of my religious community serving its members? Am I equally willing to accept graciously the help of others?

Do I recognize and face disagreements and other situations that put me in conflict with others? Do I manifest a spirit ready to give or receive forgiveness?

Do I treat adults and children alike with respect and without condescension? Is my manner with visitors and attenders to my Meeting one of welcome?

Care in my home

Is my home a place where all members of the family receive affection and understanding, and where visitors are welcome? Do I choose recreation and a manner of living that enriches the body, mind, and spirit; and shows a high regard for family, community, and creation?

Is our family prepared to discuss such sensitive topics as death, faith, money, even sex and drugs, in a manner that allows openness and honesty, and also direction?

How do I help to arrange life at home so that there is an opportunity for all to learn and absorb by example what it means to live a life of Spirit-led commitment?

Supplemental Self-Assessment Query for State College Meeting

What does it mean to be a vibrant, welcoming, nurturing community with shared purpose?

One Friend remembered Mervin Humphrey, who she met when first attending State College Meeting. He made sure no one left without being spoken with. It made her feel like “someone knows I’m here and someone cares.” He was a big reason for the growth of the Meeting. Another Friend said all of us together can make up one Mervin.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Several reports were added: Religious Education, Memorial Committee, Finance Committee, Friends School, Buildings and Grounds, and Peace and Social Action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Worship and Ministry

Ann Sidone reported. The Spiritual State of the Meeting report for Baltimore Yearly Meeting had been sent out via email. Some changes were made after feedback. Friends present mentioned several other positive things to add, such as the bulletin board with peace and social action items, the sign replacement, the pollinator garden led by Dorothy Habecker, and the annual spring cleanup. It was suggested that the report begin with the positive and then discuss the challenges.

The Meeting approved making the suggested changes and then sending the Spiritual State of the Meeting report to BYM.

Ann continued with the rest of the Worship and Ministry report:

Arthur Larrabee's workshop on Friends' Decision-Making Processes is coming up on April 16. We will gather at 8:30, and the workshop will begin promptly at 9:00. Lunch will be provided, and we will finish around 3:30. A donation of \$25 is requested from Friends able to pay.

Another Adult Education opportunity is coming up on May 12 and 13: a workshop entitled “The Language of God.” See Dorothy Habecker or Yuri Plowden for details.

The group that has been laboring with the query, “How can we be a welcoming, nurturing, vibrant community with shared purpose?” has held two visioning sessions and has come up with its first set of recommendations. Worship and Ministry joins this group in recommending that Meeting for Worship be held at 10:00 between Memorial Day and Labor Day, with breakfast before meeting. Meetings for Business and committee meetings would be held after Meeting for Worship. Approval for changing the meeting time for the summer is requested.

Meeting approved changing the start time of Meeting for Worship to 10:00 a.m. beginning June 12th (after First Day School ends) and lasting until Labor Day weekend.

The group also recommends having a “fareweller” as well as a greeter, to thank Friends for coming and invite them back.

Meeting approved the concept of a fareweller who leaves at the handshake to be in the entryway.

(Note: Friends recommended finding a handful of people to be the farewellers. Worship and Ministry will work with Advancement and Outreach to accomplish this.)

The third recommendation is to change the way we assign Friends to help with social hour and potluck. The current practice of having committees each take a month is cumbersome to those who are on more than one committee, and is a particular burden to small committees. Helping in the kitchen would also be a nice opportunity for both newcomers and old-timers to interact with other Friends, instead of seeing the same people they already know from committee work. One suggestion was to have everyone help in the kitchen during their birthday month.

Meeting approved changing assignments of potluck and social hour to the month of each person's birthday.

(Note: It was suggested that we start with a chart of the entire year and have people sign up for their birthday month.)

Meeting for Worship will be held in Foxdale's auditorium on April 24 at 11:15.

On May 1, instead of having potluck after meeting, Friends are encouraged to attend the Spring Interfaith Picnic at 1:00 at Sunset Park. Please bring a dish to share – either vegetarian or with meat or dairy content clearly labeled. No pork, please.

Finance Committee

Connie Wheeler reported as treasurer. She went over the 2016 budget vs. actual report.

The first quarter report shows that we are in excellent financial condition but our income is not quite 20% yet in donations. This printed budget doesn't yet reflect anticipated income from fundraisers and the changed contributions approved at last month's business meeting. We will bring forth to Business Meeting the newly revised budget in June based on charity-fundraising dinners and reduced Yearly Meeting contributions.

Two slightly troublesome expenses: Water Sewage and Refuse is already 42% of yearly budget. Gas and Electric is already 45%. Most of that is probably gas for heating. The electricity line item was reduced by \$1800 in anticipation of the energy credits. We have not yet had a zero electric bill but expect that we will get a lot more energy credits in summer that we will carry over into next winter.

Mold expenses: money from Deferred Maintenance fund (\$10,000) was moved into our checking account to cover mold remediation.

Expenses are high in the budget for Religious Education. That is because the cost for Black Moshannon was paid this year rather

than last year and the money will be transferred from Friends Fiduciary so this cost will be reduced in the future.

One Friend asked when rental fees were last evaluated. Connie noted that fees were raised about a year ago.

Kerry Wiessmann reported for Finance Committee. The monthly Saturday dinners have successfully raised funds for local organizations. The first month raised \$500, the second month raised \$600, and the Japanese dinner done by Yuri and Yuri brought in \$740 before costs are removed, so it should be about \$500. Everyone loved the Japanese dinner! Foxdale residents have been very supportive. However, the dinners have not brought in young people and families. We are posting hand-made signs near the street by our Meeting sign, which are time-consuming to make and are not durable. Other churches have outdoor signs for current events. The Committee will ask building and grounds to consider an outdoor sign to advertise all our events.

Thanks to Polly and Katy Cleary the annual appeal card has gone out. There are still a handful of Appeal Cards to be hand delivered to Foxdale residents, so we can give them a mug at the same time. If anyone can do so, please see Kerry at the rise of business meeting. Feedback has been that people liked the appeal card.

Kerry reported that she and Kersey Bradley met with the Borough Zoning director, John Wilson, to explore what we may and may not do on our property, especially in thinking about raising money.

- We are not allowed to rent any parking spaces. We are zoned R-2, Residential area.
- Anything we do that is in keeping with our Meeting functions that raises money is okay. If it's a benefit to our society, like renting the basement to non-profits. Outdoor amphitheatre is OK.
- Renting our space for overnights in the basements might be problematic unless we have a Meeting person supervising – for liability purposes.
- Lodging for more than 7 consecutive days is not allowed – issues of being a hotel.
- We can host groups and ask for donations.
- We need to consult with our liability insurance if we decide we want to have sleeping accommodations in the garden level.

With the \$5600 less that we are paying to the Yearly Meetings, and \$2500 more that we are bringing in with the Saturday Social Dinners, we estimate that we need another fundraiser to raise about \$2000. Since our shortages in the last two years were \$9-10,000, and the adjustments we have already made, \$2000 more would hopefully be enough for us to be “in the black” at year's end.

Some fundraising ideas were suggested:

- Direct Sales table at the rise of Meeting – not a silent auction; we'd set items out and have a suggested donation for people to purchase. We could ask members and attenders to donate one item of value or one service.
- Marketing ourselves during the elections: We want to have a nice informational poster – need pictures and text – Katy Cleary will put it together
Colonial Printing in Boalsburg will print the poster

Polly and A&O will produce content

Mention Quaker Community – Foxdale and Friends School
- Sell soup – Judy is willing to make 48 quarts of chicken noodle and beef vegetable soup. We would need to have people to staff the sales table – polls are open 7am to 8pm. We only need to be there until the soup is sold.

Religious Education Committee

Sunny Rehler reported. The high school class has been learning about different religions and comparing them. They visit Foxdale one Sunday each month. The class will be consulted to see if they want to continue these activities next year.

The younger children have been doing activities and bible study. Most are grades k to 2nd, so it is harder to keep the older elementary age children interested.

The Friendly Folk Dancers are coming April 27th. On May 8th there will be a Parent's Day Celebration, and the children will

provide food at the rise of Meeting. On May 15th there will be a workday at Shaver's Creek. The smaller children will need some supervision. On May 22nd they will be planting the garden, and June 5th will be the ice cream social and last day of First Day School for the summer. The focus will be a celebration of Cy deVries.

Memorial Committee

Laurie Jeffreys read a memorial minute for Mercedes Tharam Richards.

Mercedes Richards was a Quaker presence. Her bearing spoke dignity and her eyes transmitted a keen intelligence, but her warm smile was embracing. Born to Quaker parents, Frank and Phyllis Davis, on May 14, 1955, in Kingston, Jamaica, Mercedes spoke often of childhood trips to Haiti, Panama, New York, Canada, and Europe. As an adult she loved to travel, visiting many places in North and Central America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. She continued her travels in pursuit of her education, earning the degree of BSc. (Special Honors) in Physics from the University of the West Indies (1977) her M.S. in Space Science at York University, Toronto (1979) and her Ph.D. in Astronomy & Astrophysics from the University of Toronto (1986). Multi-talented, Mercedes had studied classical violin performance and music theory, and had passed all but one of the examinations for the degree of Licentiate of the Royal School of Music before turning to physics. She was fluent in French; had working knowledge of German, Spanish, Slovak, and Czech; and she wrote several volumes of poetry.

While continuing her studies, Mercedes married Donald Richards in 1980 and bore their two daughters, Chandra and Suzanne. Her career took her to the University of North Carolina as a visiting scholar (1986-1987), to the Department of Astronomy at the University of Virginia as a faculty member (1987-2002), and to the Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics at Penn State University in 2002, where she remained for the rest of her career. Mercedes visited many universities and astronomical institutes. She had fond memories of her stays at the Vatican Observatory in Castel Gandolfo (1999), at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey (2000-2001), and at Heidelberg University, Germany (2013-2014). She also visited and conducted re-search at the Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona, Teide Observatory in Tenerife, the Spanish National Observatory in Madrid, the observatories at Skalnaté Pleso and Lomnický štít in Slovakia, and the South African Astronomical Observatory in Cape Town, and the Ondrejov Observatory in the Czech Republic.

Mercedes received numerous awards for her research, including a Fulbright Distinguished Chair Research award (2010-2011) which allowed her to conduct research on interacting binary stars at the Astronomical Institute of Slovakia, and the Musgrave Medal in Gold (2008) awarded annually for over 100 years by the Institute of Jamaica for achievements in art, literature, and science. Mercedes was elected president of Commission 42 of the International Astronomical Union, councillor of the American Astronomical Society, and member of the Board of Advisers of

the Caribbean Institute of Astronomy. She was a Harlow Shapely Lecturer for the American Astronomical Society, organized astronomy conferences in Sydney, Australia, in Tatranska Lomnica, Slovakia, and in other locations, and she served in a large number of administrative roles.

Mercedes worked extensively in the fields of computational astrophysics, stellar astrophysics, exoplanets, and the physical dynamics of interacting binary star systems. She was best known for her calculations of Doppler tomographs of binary stars to simulate gas flow and predict magnetic activity, and her work in this area is viewed as pioneering. She was the first astrophysicist to apply novel distance correlation statistical methods to large astronomical databases. As a teacher, Mercedes' passionate dedication to students of all ages and income classes was well known. She was a founder and director of SEECoS, a high school science outreach program at Penn State. Her introductory astronomy classes were among the most popular on campus. She was always concerned about the underdog in any group or society.

A birthright Quaker, Mercedes did extensive social work as a member of the Friends Meetings in Kingston (Jamaica), Toronto (Canada), and Charlottesville VA. In Kingston, she and her family were regular visitors to the childrens' hospitals, bringing clothes and meals and good cheer. In Toronto, Mercedes was active in the Meeting's First Day School, she served as Coordinator for three terms of the school curriculum, and she

visited prisons in Ontario during her participation in the Meeting's prison visitation program. In Charlottesville, she served on the marriage guidance committee and other committees. After the family moved to State College, Mercedes transferred her membership to State College Friends Meeting. Mercedes was a regular attender at Meeting and a faithful contributor to the local food bank.

Mercedes passed away on February 3, 2016 at the Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, PA. She is survived by her husband, Donald Richards, daughters Chandra Richards (Berkeley, CA) and Suzanne Richards (Harrisburg, PA), mother Phyllis Davis (Kingston, Jamaica), and brother Frank Davis (North Windsor, NJ). She was preceded in death by her father, Frank Davis, Sr. and sister, Yvonne Davis. To paraphrase her friend, Amy Leddy, "Mercedes gave so much to so many during her short time on Earth. She left an indelible mark within the scientific community—and more importantly she touched so many with her genuine kindness, warmth, humility, and desire to make a positive difference in the lives of others." A memorial service for Mercedes Tharam Richards was held on Saturday, February 13, 2016, at the Friends Meeting in State College, PA.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Larry Greenleaf reported. Mold Erasers, Inc., still has more work to do in the garden level. A meeting was scheduled with them but they did not show up for the meeting. The bill will be paid when the work is finished. The outside work will begin again soon.

One dehumidifier has been purchased for the garden level and another will be needed later.

Spring cleanup for the Meeting will be held on April 23rd.

Peace and Social Action

Committee of the whole.

Campbell Plowden reported that he did a talk and craft sale at Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting for their adult forum on Care for the Environment.

Lynne Grutzeck informed Friends that we are part of a group working on welcoming Syrian refugees. She also informed the Meeting that Interfaith Human Services has helped 1,808 Centre County residents so far in its fiscal year. There is a silent auction fundraiser on May 6th and 7th. See Lynne if you have items to donate.

Michael Grutzeck reported that he has been helping with income tax assistance through the RSVP program. He has found a lot of happiness doing this work. They have done 1200-1300 tax returns this year so far.

Claudia said the next fundraising dinner will be May 14th. More people are needed to help.

Laurie Jeffreys informed Meeting that she has been part of a group that tests water for nitrates, sulfates, etc. She has been doing it for 14 years.

Martin Melville said he has been doing podcasts, and they have been valuable to him. His URL is on the Social Action bulletin board.

Friends School

The report was postponed due to time constraints.

OTHER FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Marjorie Nelson presented the list of priorities for the 115th Congress' next legislative session with a request that we choose 7 of the 9 as our priorities.

The Meeting chose to eliminate reduce military spending and military responses to global and domestic situations, and reduce the influence of money in politics.

Priorities chosen are: advance peace building and peaceful prevention and resolution of violent conflict; promote nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation; support solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change; address poverty, reduce income inequality, and promote economic justice; advance policies to reduce mass incarceration; continue our witness and advocacy of Native American issues; promote fair, humane and demilitarized immigration policies.

No one had suggestions of other topics to include. Marjorie will send our choices to FCNL.

American Friends Service Committee

AFSC has proposed a visit to State College Friends Meeting, Foxdale, and Friends School.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting

BYM is having a Spiritual Formation Spring Retreat. Deadline to sign up is 4/20/16.

Upper Susquehanna Quarter

Melissa Rycroft, a visitor from Pennsdale Meeting, asked anyone who wants to be on the email list to contact her at Melissa.rycroft@gmail.com .

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you was received from Interfaith Human Services to say that our donation provided heat for a family home.

Friends General Conference will be held July 3 to 9, with the theme "Be Humble, Be Faithful, Be Bold."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kerry Wiessmann asked each Meeting committee to vision how the committee would like to see the garden level used. She also announced a LGBTQA prom on April 23rd that is an annual fundraiser. Tickets are \$35. Also on April 23rd is a Sader that is especially for LGBTQA friends as well as everyone else. It is free.

The Friendly Folk Dancers are coming on April 27th and places for 7 or 8 of them are needed for that night.

REVIEW OF MARCH MINUTES

One item that was missed from the previous minutes is a transfer of \$1000 from the Diane Spanier Fund at Friends Fiduciary. With that correction, the March minutes are approved.

Next Business Meeting for Worship: May 1, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Selden Smith, Clerk
Recording Clerk

Margy Frysinger,

Attending:

Kerry Wiessmann

Claudia Wilson

Connie Wheeler

Michael Grutzeck

Martin Melville

Lynne Grutzeck

Campbell Plowden

Yuri Plowden

Sunny Rehler

Kersey Bradley

Polly Dunn
(Pennsdale MM)

Melissa Rycroft

Suzanne Richards

Donald Richards

Mary Haight

Laurie Jeffreys

Gary Fosmire

Darlene Clark

Ann Sidone

Marjorie E. Nelson

Elizabeth Pennock

Larry Greenleaf

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RETURN REQUESTED