

**FRIENDLY  
CONNECTIONS**

**State College Friends Meeting**

**October  
2016  
Newsletter**



*State College Friends Meeting  
611 East Prospect Ave.  
State College, PA 16801*

Phone (814) 237-7051

**Newsletter suggestions, ideas, articles? Please submit to**  
**[SCFMNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:SCFMNewsletter@gmail.com)**

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## **Announcements**

► **Centre County United Nations Dinner** - The Centre County United Nations Association is holding its annual dinner at the Ramada Inn in State College on Sunday, October 23 from 5-8:30 pm. Richard Alley is the keynote speaker and will address The Good and Bad of Energy and Environment: Resilience or Refugees? He is a great speaker. If you have never attended, please join us! It is an evening of fun and fellowship with attenders from around the world. Please register by Oct. 14 . Contact: Robert Lumley-Sapanski, 400 Raspberry Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Cost: \$30 per person.

► **Harvest Fest Dinner: SPICING it up with Gratitude**  
Saturday, October 15, 2016 is our second annual State College Friends Meeting Harvest Celebration. Similar to last year we will start at 4:30 and end at 7p.m., serving a wonderful supper and providing musical entertainment. Our theme this year is SPICING it up with Gratitude. We look forward to another gathering of Friends and hope you will join us. If you haven't already please RSVP to Kerry at [814-571-8909](tel:814-571-8909) or [kgw11@scasd.org](mailto:kgw11@scasd.org) with number attending and ages of children.

► **Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) Basic Workshop (Level 1)**, Oct. 22-23, 9 am to 6 pm, Pajama Factory, 1307 Park Ave., Williamsport. This 2-day workshop is a transformative group experience which empowers us to resolve conflicts nonviolently. AVP is a nonsectarian & nonpolitical volunteer nonprofit, active in communities, schools, & prisons in 45 countries. Complete Level 1-3 Workshops to become an AVP Facilitator. Visit <http://www.avpusa.org/> [www.avpusa.org](http://www.avpusa.org).

Questions? Contact

<<mailto:tonywhite12@comcast.net>> [tonywhite12@comcast.net](mailto:tonywhite12@comcast.net) or [570-971-9509](tel:570-971-9509).

► The annual **Dunkelberger-Melville pig roast** will be Oct. 15 starting about noon. Bring a dish to share. Lots of room for the kids to rip & tear at 129 Appleblossom Lane, Centre Hall PA 16828 See ya, Martin Melville.

## Calendar

### **Oct.2 SCFM Meeting for Worship for Business**

Oct.2 World Quaker Day

Oct.7-9 PYM Young Adult Friends Fall Retreat, Chestnut Hill

### **Oct.15 SCFM Fall Harvest Celebration**

Oct.15 BYM 10th Month Interim Meeting, Sandy Spring Friends Meeting. Please RSVP. <<http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/interim/tenth16.html>> <http://www.bym-rsf.org/events/interim/tenth16.html>

Oct.21 Arch St. Meeting House Preservation Trust Annual Fundraiser.

Oct.22-33 Alternatives to Violence training, Williamsport, Pa.

Visit <<http://www.avpusa.org/>> [www.avpusa.org](http://www.avpusa.org). Contact <<mailto:tonywhite12@comcast.net>> [tonywhite12@comcast.net](mailto:tonywhite12@comcast.net)

## Interfaith Events

**OCTOBER 9-10 "REACHING BEYOND BIAS"** Visit from Islamophobia Expert, Dr. Todd Green. **Dr. Green is a religious historian who specializes in the areas of Islamophobia, secularization and interfaith dialogue.** A member of the faculty at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, Dr. Green is serving as a Franklin Fellow for the 2016-2017 academic year, advising the US State Department on Islamophobia in Europe. **Visit co-sponsored with Lutheran Campus Ministries, Lutheran Student Community, Muslim Student Association, 3rd Way Collective, Penn State Hillel, Wesley PSU, and other groups.**

- **Sunday, October 9, 2:00 - 4:00 pm - Special Interfaith Coffee Hour: Conversation with Dr. Green.**
  - LOCATION: University Baptist & Brethren Church, 411 South Burrowes Street, State College
  - **Audience participation expected!**
  - Light refreshments to be served.
  - Free and Open to the Public
- **Monday, October 10, 7:00- 8:30 pm, "What Is Islamophobia? The Causes and Casualties of Anti-Muslim Bigotry in the United States."** Public Lecture in **Memorial Lounge, Pasquerilla Spiritual Center**, on Penn State Campus. A reception will follow. Dr. Green will also be speaking with various groups on campus during the day on Monday, October 10.

# Quakerism 101 and Quaker Education Workshops

Friends School teachers, staff, students, and alumni will join Friends Meeting members to present two workshops covering basic Quakerism and Quaker Education. Come to learn something new, to answer your questions, or to refresh your understanding.

## QUAKERISM 101

Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

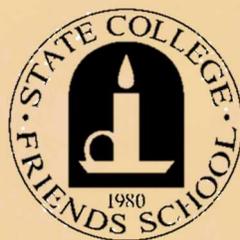
- 🍁 Quaker history and beliefs
- 🍁 Quaker testimonies and membership
- 🍁 Meeting for worship

## QUAKER EDUCATION

Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30 p.m.

- 🍁 History of Quaker education
- 🍁 State College Friends School education
- 🍁 Quaker decision making
- 🍁 Impact of Quaker education

A simple soup supper will be served at 5:15 p.m. before the workshop begins at 6:00 p.m. Call or email the school to register (237-8386 or [scfs@scfriends.org](mailto:scfs@scfriends.org)). Childcare will be available upon request.



## **Thinking About Race** (October 2016) – Witnessing Whiteness

“When we say that we do not see another person’s color, what we essentially are saying is that we do not see a person’s racial placement as meaningful ... that we do not see the ways that a person of color experiences the world differently than does a white-appearing person. Worse, being colorblind usually means that since we do not see differential experiences, people of color will have to convince us that race continues to matter in their lives. “ ....

“In addition to offending people of color and denying and dismissing their experiences, choosing colorblindness also has one glaringly negative ramification for white people. Being colorblind truly keeps us blind, blind to ourselves. Our whiteness, already a rather blurry topic, moves from being uncomfortable and out of focus to being purposefully hidden from ourselves. As we refuse to see the color in someone else’s life, we refuse to see the whiteness in our own.” (pp. 27-28)

- from **Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It**, second edition, 2010, by Shelly Tochluk. Tochluk trains educators to work with the diverse Los Angeles school population as an associate professor of education at Mount St. Mary’s College. She led workshops at the 2016 White Privilege Conference in Philadelphia

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Locations vary to allow access to more Friends. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, [david.etheridge@verizon.net](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net).

## Baltimore Yearly Meeting

### *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?

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?

**STATE COLLEGE FRIENDS MEETING**  
**MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS**

**Ninth Month 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Meeting began with silent worship and a reading of the Queries on The Social Order from Baltimore Yearly Meeting:

*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 difference? 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 no responses to the queries.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

There was one change to the agenda. An item under Action and Outreach Committee was added.

## REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS

### Religious Education Committee

Sunny Rehler reported. RE met and decided to continue to introduce students to different faiths, especially the middle school students. They will also visit residents at Foxdale once a month. For the First Day School celebration, three families met at Vilmos Misangi's house. The plan for the first day of FDS is a window cleaning project at the Meeting House.

Clearances are not required for people helping in FDS once or twice a year. Anyone volunteering on a regular basis does need to have the clearances. RE Committee has been updating the welcome letter and registration and release forms. They are planning younger children family get-togethers and an intergenerational gathering for October 1<sup>st</sup> that will be a cooking workshop entitled, "Plant-Based Meals that Satisfy." It will cost \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families. Please sign up by September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### World Quaker Day

Selden Smith reported that service projects are being planned for World Quaker Day on October 1<sup>st</sup>. They are looking for a way to get more input on those service projects. One idea is prison ministry. The Meeting does have several people involved in the Prison Society. Selden wondered if the next step is to refer the

planning to the Action and Outreach Committee. One Friend noted that service for each other at Foxdale is a way they are trying to increase participation in the Meeting for Worship held there.

Selden also mentioned that fundraising is being held for the Third Way Collective. They have asked if we could do a Saturday supper fundraiser for their organization. A Friend noted that they need to know that they have to help get people to the supper since Meeting members and attenders tend to be sparse. Another Friend questioned how this would affect the budget since the dinners for this year have already been entered into the budget.

*Meeting approved adding an additional Saturday dinner to raise money for the Third Way Collective.*

### **Worship and Ministry Committee**

Darlene Clark reported on membership transitions. Bernie and Ingrid Hoffnar have applied for transfer of membership from Albuquerque Monthly Meeting. Selden Smith has sent a request for transfer to the clerk of Albuquerque Meeting. A welcoming committee will be organized by Worship and Ministry. Martin Melville and Sunny Rehler volunteered to be on the welcoming committee.

Gabrielle Weismann has requested adult membership. She is away at school and has been asked when she might be in town for a clearness committee. Martin Melville requested to be part of the clearness committee.

### **Action and Outreach Committee**

Campbell Plowden reported on the Facebook initiative that was approved last month. It needs to be lively, so whatever anyone in the Meeting is involved with, please take pictures. Then send a blurb and the picture to Campbell. Be mindful about having permission to post pictures of people on Facebook. Give them a “heads up” so they can avoid being in the picture if they wish.

### **Discussion on Summer Meeting Time**

One Friend said she liked having Meeting for Worship at 10:00 a.m. during the summer. Another Friend did not support doing it again since several people did not know of the change and arrived at 11:00. Attendance was light. Another Friend said she had heard comments both ways. Several people noted that they did like having Business Meeting at 11:15 and that the time made it easier for potluck. Some speculated that the heat kept the numbers low; a suggestion was made to have Meeting for Worship downstairs in the summer due to the heat. It was noted however that the sidewalk to the downstairs is not handicap accessible because of the slope.

The discussion led to further thoughts. It was noted that in the old Atherton Street Meeting House, the first thing you saw when entering was the clothing bin for AFSC. It showed social action. We have a food bank bin. Could we install shelves in the second closet and enlarge what we do for the Food Bank? There could be a sign that lists current needs of the Foodbank. Another Friend noted that Foxdale has a collection box for clothes for the Faith Center. That would be another way for action. Bernie Hoffnar volunteered that he would coordinate getting clothes to Foxdale. Another Friend mentioned that Right Sharing of World Resources takes cancelled stamps as a way to raise money.

### **Buildings and Grounds Committee**

Gary Fosmire reported that the garden level walls have been rebuilt, wiring done, and they have been painted. Carpet has been placed in the south room. Floors were sealed and waxed in the north room. New light fixtures are planned that will be LED lights. The project is close to completion. Gary would like the Meeting to recognize the excellent job Lawrence has done with the cleaning of the area.

### **Friends School**

Ann Sidone reported. Enrollment numbers are fewer than the school had hoped. There are 114 students. This is mainly due to several families leaving the area.

A teacher inservice on students with learning differences was well received. There are two new board members and they have met their “Quaker quota.”

On October 29<sup>th</sup> there is a workshop on “The Care Relationship Between Meetings and Schools” in Philadelphia. It is presented by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and Friends Council on Education. Ann hopes there will be several attending from State College Meeting.

## **YEARLY AND QUARTERLY MEETINGS**

### **Other Friends Organizations**

October 1<sup>st</sup> is the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Drew Moore Meeting.

Foxdale Garage Sale has requested to borrow tables for the sale on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Meeting approved Foxdale Garage Sale Committee borrowing tables as long as they are not needed here.*

The 10,000 Villages Project group has requested using the Meeting House to meet on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. *Approved.*

**Next Business Meeting for Worship: October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 9:00am.**

Respectfully submitted,

Selden Smith, Clerk  
Recording Clerk

Margy Frysinger,

**Attending:**

Marjorie Nelson

Martin Melville

Yuri Plowden

Campbell Plowden

Denise DeGeorge

Jim Adams

Darlene Clark

Sunny Rehler

Gary Fosmire

Ann Sidone

Bernie Hoffnar

Elizabeth Pennock

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**RETURN REQUESTED**