

**FRIENDLY  
CONNECTIONS**

**State College Friends Meeting**

**March 2018  
Newsletter**



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

## Notes

If your gift includes words, images, or just honest thoughts, please send them to the Newsletter email address: [SCFMNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:SCFMNewsletter@gmail.com)

## Announcements

► Sign up to assist in First Day School:

<<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f4ea5a72ca31-assisting>> <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f4ea5a72ca31-assisting>

► On April 22, we will hold meeting for worship at Friends School 11:15 am.

► Upper Susquehanna Quarterly Meeting Creative Hands Gathering and Quarterly Meeting, March 17, 10 am-March 18, 2:30 pm, Greenwood Friends School, Millville, PA. Join Friends of all ages for an hour or a whole weekend of fun with fiber at Greenwood Friends School in Millville.

Making Peace Pals and other projects for

<<http://www.knitting4peace.org/>> [knitting4peace.org](http://www.knitting4peace.org/) will be our focus.

Bring your own supplies or share ours. Friendly lessons will be available.

Contact Amy and PJ Harte

<<mailto:amharte3@gmail.com>> [amharte3@gmail.com](mailto:amharte3@gmail.com) for hospitality. For more call Beth [570-324-2470](tel:570-324-2470) or email

<<mailto:ponderit@hotmail.com>> [ponderit@hotmail.com](mailto:ponderit@hotmail.com).

► United Nations Association, Centre County, Spring Speaker Series, March 13, 6 pm, 254 Health and Human Development Bldg., PSU: "The U.S., the UN and the Abdication of American Leadership" Dennis Jett, professor of International Affairs at Penn State, Professor Jett served as U.S. ambassador to Mozambique (from 1993-1996) and Peru (from 1996-1999).

For more information contact Robert Lumley-Sapanski:  
<mailto:[Rlumleyski@gmail.com](mailto:Rlumleyski@gmail.com)> [Rlumleyski@gmail.com](mailto:Rlumleyski@gmail.com) or [814-355-4997](tel:814-355-4997).

<<https://www.facebook.com/unacentrecountypa>> <https://www.facebook.com/unacentrecountypa>

► Rise Up Singing continues every 3rd Sunday, 4-6 pm. Bring your voice, your friends, your instruments and join the group! Upcoming sessions will be March 18 and April 15.

► Mar.22 SCFM 3rd Way Collective fundraising chicken dinner- 5:30 -7 pm

► As mentioned at the January 20 interfaith speaker event, here are some links to actions people can take to support the cause of the desperately suffering Rohingya people of Burma /Myanmar:

**Please support the following efforts for resolutions in the U.S. House and Senate:**

- [https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-us-representative-support-hr4223-and-sanction-burmas-army-now?clear\\_id=true&source=email-your-action-today-to-prevent-genocide](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-us-representative-support-hr4223-and-sanction-burmas-army-now?clear_id=true&source=email-your-action-today-to-prevent-genocide)
- [https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-senators-support-s2060-and-sanction-burmas-army-now?clear\\_id=true&source=email-your-action-today-to-prevent-genocide](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-senators-support-s2060-and-sanction-burmas-army-now?clear_id=true&source=email-your-action-today-to-prevent-genocide)



*Palm Sunday*  
Peace Walk  
State College



March 25, 2018 ~ 3pm - 5pm

A participatory one-mile walk focused on bringing together our diverse community to notice and acknowledge the many ways people are working for peace

Starting at UBBC - 411 S. Burrowes St.  
[facebook.com/events/187088018561665/](https://facebook.com/events/187088018561665/)



# *Speak Your Peace*

Creative Nonviolent Conflict Resolution  
Two-Day Experiential and Interactive Workshop  
April 7 & 14 or May 12 & 19 - 2018  
(March 15 deadline)

**LOCATION: University Baptist and Brethren Church**

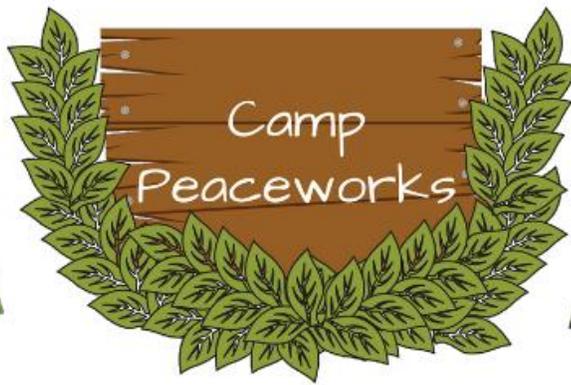
**411 S. Burrowes Street, State College, PA**

**FEE:\* \$20 for college students**

**\$60 for other community members**

(\* includes 2 lunches, refreshments, hand-outs and certificate.)

To register: Contact Marie Hamilton at [814-238-8745](tel:814-238-8745) or  
[gmfhamilton@gmail.com](mailto:gmfhamilton@gmail.com) OR use link: <https://speakpeacesc.weebly.com/>



The Centre County Women's Resource Center (CCWRC) is excited to announce our 2nd Annual Camp Peaceworks summer day camp!

**What is it?** Camp Peaceworks is a week-long experience that encourages young people to encounter bias and work toward social justice.

**What is social justice?** Social justice is a way of seeing and acting aimed at resisting unfairness and inequity while enhancing freedom and possibility for all. It has to do with improving how we treat others based on age, race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and economic class.

**Our Mission:** Camp Peaceworks empowers both youth and adult allies to work together to recognize social injustice and take action to promote equity and peace.

**Our Purpose:** Campers and adult allies may come from all walks of life, but will mindfully work together toward the same goal – a more peaceful society where all are valued and free, whether in their schools, communities, or elsewhere.

**What do you do at camp?** During camp, we create a safe space where we explore privilege, oppression, and the root causes of violence in our society. We also learn and practice how to face injustice together by becoming aspiring allies who take action to support others!

### **Who's it for?**

-Youth ages 13 to 17 interested in justice, who may want to attend camp (it's FREE)

-Adult Volunteers needed to serve as adult allies and facilitators during camp

**When:** July 23-27, 2018

**Where:** Seven Mountains Scout Camp- FREE for youth to attend.

### **How can I learn more?**

<http://ccwrc.org/getinvolved/camp-peaceworks/>

For information and questions please feel free to contact the CCWRC at:  
[camp@ccwrc.org](mailto:camp@ccwrc.org) Phone: 814-238-7066 Fax: 814-238-4449 [www.ccwrc.org](http://www.ccwrc.org)

## **Thinking About Race** (February 2018) – Service to the cause of racial equality

“It does no service to the cause of racial equality for white people to content themselves with judging themselves to be nonracist. Few people outside the Klan or skinhead movements own up to all-out racism these days. White people must take the extra step – they must become anti-racist.”

-- Clarence Page, 1996

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting. Contact clerk David Etheridge, [david.etheridge@verizon.net](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net).

## **Baltimore Yearly Meeting**

### *The Meeting Community*



### **QUERIES**

Are love and harmony within the Meeting community fostered by a spirit of open sharing? Do you endeavor to widen your circle of friendships within the Meeting, seeking to know persons of all ages and at all stages of the spiritual journey? Does the Meeting provide for the spiritual refreshment of all members and attenders? Do Friends provide spiritual and practical care for the elderly, the lonely, and others with special needs?

## **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting** *Spiritual Nurture, Ministry, and Religious Education*

Does our Meeting encourage the ministry of both word and deed? How does our Meeting recognize, develop, and nurture the gifts of our members and attenders of all ages?

Does our Meeting prepare all its members and children for worship and for a way of life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends? How do we teach about Quaker practices in business and worship and their importance to the functioning of our Meeting community?

In what ways do we support each other in order to seek God's will and act upon our understanding of truth? Is there opportunity in our Meeting to share the excitement of religious discovery and the possibility of religious transformation?

Does our Meeting provide opportunities for all in the Meeting to learn about:

- the Inner Light, the living Christ within, the Bible, the writings of Friends, our Christian heritage, other religious traditions and their respective roles in the history and formation of Friends' principles?
- the common testimonies Friends declare?
- the variety of expression Quaker faith takes today?

Do I maintain as part of my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth, with disciplined worship, inward retirement, and communion with the divine spirit?

Do I frequently read the Bible and other religious literature, including the records of the lives and experiences of Friends? Do I take the time to explore these resources with others, and likewise encourage my children? Do I share my own faith and spiritual journey, and encourage such sharing within my family?

**Note: no January Meeting for Worship for Business**

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

**Second Month 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Meeting began with silent worship and a reading of the Queries from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting on Meeting for Business:

*Is our meeting for business held in the spirit of a meeting for worship in which we seek divine guidance?*

*Are we careful to keep in the spirit of worship each of the concerns that emerge, whether of nurture, of Spirit, of social concerns, of property, or of finance?*

*Are Meeting decisions directed by prayerful consideration of all aspects of an issue and are difficult problems considered carefully with patient search for truth, unhurried by the pressures of time?*

*How do we respond if we notice the meeting has lost an understanding of the presence of God?*

*Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?*

*For the individual:*

*Do I regularly attend meeting for business and in a spirit of love and unity? If unable to attend, how do I attend to my responsibility?*

*Do I consider prayerfully the many concerns that are lifted up on any issue, acknowledging that the search for truth in unity involves what God requires, being open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the meeting?*

One Friend responded that we have not had issues to test us for a while. In the past there were some that were difficult but we tried. It's good to hear the queries and be reminded. Another Friend said that in the past, when

we had issues, were some of the times she felt proudest to be a Quaker, because we did come up with solutions.

## **CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA**

One report on fundraising dinners and time for reports of individual social action were added.

## **REQUESTS TO THE MEETING**

Marianne Stevens and Shelley Roderick have been doing a service called SWAP for the past two years using the Friends School building. However, it has been conflicting with use of the school for others. They would like to move it to the Social Room, using it once a month during the morning. The SWAP takes donations of items no longer wanted or needed. People then can take anything they may need or want that others donated. They usually have between 30 and 50 people attend. Leftovers are taken to charities. The activity melds with the ideals of Friends, including simplicity and stewardship. They would be able to work around any scheduled activities at the meeting house, and will officially book the room with Betsy. Friends are also invited to drop off items when they wish.

*Meeting approved use of the social room for SWAP once a month.*

Sunny Ruhler has been working with Marie Hamilton on a workshop entitled Creative Non-Violent Conflict Resolution that will be given at UBBC, with one workshop in April (7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>) and one in May (12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>). He asked for monetary support to help with mailings and flyers, and because they wish to offer a half price deal to students. *Meeting approved a one-time contribution of \$150 for the workshop. Finance Committee is charged to find that amount in the budget.*

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Gary Fosmire read a thank you letter from Lauri Perman. She appreciated the support and care she received during Tom's memorial service.

Two letters were read requesting to apply for membership. Lorna Arocena has been attending, and Yuri Plowden has decided to apply for

membership after years of service to the Meeting. Both are referred to Worship and Ministry Committee for the process.

A thank you letter from Wendy Vintage was read. The fundraising dinner for Interfaith Human Services was successful, and she appreciated the effort the Meeting made to have it happen.

## **REPORTS**

### **Friends School**

Dan Hendey reported. The lower number of students at the school has resulted in a big budget gap. Changes had to be made. The board, faculty, and administration deliberated a long time on how to “right-size” the school. The collaborative decisions are to lay down the pre-school, have classroom teachers teach the “specials,” and ask the wider community to teach mini-courses for an hour on Friday afternoons to give teachers a bit of prep time.

Dan also read the letter he sent to the community that announced his resignation at the end of the school year. Several Friends then expressed appreciation for all he has done for the school.

Ann Sidone read the letter from the Board of Trustees that announced Dan’s resignation and thanked him for his years of service.

### **Finance Committee**

Yuri Plowden reported. She presented the final Balance Sheet for 2017. We ended up with almost \$1000 more in contributions than budgeted, and investment income was higher than expected. The liability insurance was higher than budgeted because of timing of billing, and not abnormal increases. USQM donation was also reduced because they have less need for the money.

The revised 2018 budget was also presented. Friends School has asked to decrease the rent for this year; it will result in a loss of about \$5000 in

income. This is reflected in the revised budget. The Annual Appeal letter will be going out soon.

*Meeting approved releasing Friends School from rental payments the rest of the school year.*

*Meeting approved the revised 2018 Budget.*

### **Report on Fundraising Dinners**

Kerry Wiessmann reported that the Interfaith Human Services dinner raised \$914. She also presented proposed dates for the rest of the dinners.

### **Worship and Ministry Committee**

Martin Melville reported. The potluck for Right Sharing of World Resources will be April 8<sup>th</sup>. Friends are encouraged to bring simple food and donate at least the cost difference.

The Committee is still looking for a piano player and appeals to everyone to help recruit one. The person would be paid \$25 each time. Immediate suggestions were to ask at Friends School, and to put the request on the website and Facebook page. Other instruments can also be considered.

### **Outreach and Social Action**

Polly Dunn presented a draft list of leadings she is aware of that members and attenders have. This is to be given to Friends School as a resource. Email Polly with any additions, changes, and contact information. Meeting requested that the list be included with the minutes:

**DRAFT**

### **Quaker Life Committee**

State College Friends Meeting Resources for Friends School

### Organizations

Alternatives to Violence Project: Campbell Plowden (also individual ministry, [cplowden@comcast.net](mailto:cplowden@comcast.net))

Center for Amazon Community Ecology (CACE): Campbell Plowden  
(cplowden@comcast.net)

Friends Committee on National Legislation: Isabella Teti-environmental  
lobbyist, community organizer, PSU student ([ift5002@psu.edu](mailto:ift5002@psu.edu), 571-7463)

State College Friends Meeting: Gary Fosmire (clerk, [gjf5@psu.edu](mailto:gjf5@psu.edu) ), Polly  
Dunn (assistant clerk, ([dunnpolly@gmail.com](mailto:dunnpolly@gmail.com)))

### Individuals

Renee Crauder: Spiritual mentoring ([reneecrauder@gmail.com](mailto:reneecrauder@gmail.com))

Denise DeGeorge: Restorative Justice, social & emotional learning, conflict  
resolution, communication, cooperation, community building, PA Prison  
Society Visitor ([ddegeorge@gmail.com](mailto:ddegeorge@gmail.com) )

Cy DeVries: Diversity concerns & African American issues, Africa  
(Gambia, Senegal, Nigeria) & African Diaspora, elder Americans, social  
sciences research, PA Prison Society, Huntingdon chapter,  
([devries@juniata.edu](mailto:devries@juniata.edu), [cy.devries@gmail.com](mailto:cy.devries@gmail.com), cell 404-5938, home 234-9091)

Dorothy Habecker: Master Gardener program, pollinator gardens  
([dorothyhab@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyhab@gmail.com))

Johanna Jackson: Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ), Centre LGBTQA  
Support Network (CLSN), Centre Civic Action Network, adult  
teambuilding & conflict resolution, Shaver's Creek ([jmjacks44@gmail.com](mailto:jmjacks44@gmail.com) )

Kim Kelmor: Librarian, worked in Iraq ([kimberli.kelmor@yahoo.com](mailto:kimberli.kelmor@yahoo.com))

Susan Knox: PA Prison Society visitor's program, Centre County  
Correctional Institution (CCCI), Bellefonte ([knoxsusan0@gmail.com](mailto:knoxsusan0@gmail.com) )

Robert (Bob) Lumley-Sapanski: The Underground Railroad in Bellefonte  
([rlumleyski@gmail.com](mailto:rlumleyski@gmail.com), 355-4997)

Martin Melville: Responsible forest maintenance and lumber practices,  
pastoral (and whistling) ministry, Earlham School of Religion  
([martin\\_melville@hotmail.com](mailto:martin_melville@hotmail.com) )

Becky Misangyi: Gender-neutral classroom/hidden bias  
([rebeccamisangyi@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccamisangyi@gmail.com) )

Vilmos Misangyi: Quaker Business Meeting process ([vfm10@psu.edu](mailto:vfm10@psu.edu) )

Marjorie Nelson: PA Prison Society visitor, Rockview State Prison, Pleasant  
Gap

([margenels@gmail.com](mailto:margenels@gmail.com) )

Kerry Wiessmann: First Day School - Conscientious Objection (Alternate Military Service), School Counseling, Restorative Practices, *LGBTQA* (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Allies) Centre *LGBTQA* Support Network (CLSN) ([kgw11@comcast.net](mailto:kgw11@comcast.net) )

Ann Ward: Working in Iraq ([ajward1@gmail.com](mailto:ajward1@gmail.com), can also be reached via Facebook)

### Activities and Events

Right Sharing of World Resources

Candlelight Service

Updated 12/2017

[End of Draft]

Polly also noted that a card on information about Meeting is being constructed. Gabrielle Wiessmann is helping with the graphics.

### Individual Social Action Reports:

Campbell Plowden did an AVP workshop last weekend at a prison. Denise deGeorge is now a facilitator as well. Campbell also reported that Mujaddid has a hearing scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>, where a judge will consider an earlier release. Please hold him in the Light.

Campbell attended a memorial service for Chris Staley's dad yesterday, in Devon PA.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Gary Fosmire reported for Bernie Hoffnar. The Committee is working on several projects. A capital campaign will be needed for the bigger projects: repairing gutters, soffits and fascias, sealing the parking lot, replacing the garden shed, and reworking wiring in the building.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from December were approved. (Note: there was no BMFW in January due to extreme cold.)

**Next Business Meeting for Worship: March 4, 2018.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Fosmire  
Clerk

Margy Frysinger  
Recording Clerk

## **ATTENDANCE**

Kerry Wiessmann  
Polly Dunn  
Dan Hendey  
Lynne Grutzeck  
Rebecca Misangyi  
Laurie Jeffreys  
Amy Pritchett  
Ann Sidone

Yuri Plowden  
Nicholas (Sunny) Rehler  
Martin Melville  
Michael Grutzeck  
Darlene Clark  
Cynthia Merriweather-deVries  
Campbell Plowden

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**RETURN REQUESTED**