

**FRIENDLY
CONNECTIONS**

State College Friends Meeting

**July & August 2018
Newsletter**



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

May the richness of our diversity strengthen our community and our love

▶ **A Meeting for Worship is also held at Foxdale** every First Day. All are welcome. Gather at 10:15 am in the Meeting room.

▶ **Next Meeting for Worship for Business** will be held August 12 at 9:00 am.

▶ Friends will be saddened to learn of the death of Dean Tuttle. Dean passed away quietly on Wednesday, July 18 after a short illness. Dean celebrated his 108th birthday on April 6, and he is well known and loved by many F/friends.

Currently his family is planning a Memorial Meeting in the auditorium at Foxdale on Thursday, August 8, no time set, and the date likely but not certain. As soon as details are firm, we will let everyone know.

Condolences may be sent to his three children: Norman Tuttle, [3094 Pleasant Ridge Road, Summerfield, NC 27358](mailto:Norman.Tuttle@foxdale.org), Joyce Offman, [846 Blackberry Lane, Ashland, OR 97520](mailto:Joyce.Offman@foxdale.org), and Alan Tuttle, [1418 Westwood Lane, Wynnewood, PA 19096](mailto:Alan.Tuttle@foxdale.org).

▶ Rise Up Singing will take a break for the month of July and resume in August 19.

► On July 31, at 7 pm in the Auditorium at Foxdale, Marjorie Nelson will give a presentation on Quaker work for civilian victims of the Vietnam war in both south and north Vietnam as well as her experience as a POW for 2 months following the Tet Offensive.

► Rev. Dr. Barber's Plenary Address at FGC, "America must have a Moral Revival" is available for viewing on YouTube. Please view and share as led. Here is the link:

<<https://youtu.be/Xqaln5eYfSo?t=18m50s>>
<https://youtu.be/Xqaln5eYfSo?t=18m50s>

► FCNL News. The House of Representatives passed the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act with overwhelming bipartisan support! This is a major step forward for the peaceful prevention of deadly conflict. After years of persistent lobbying, we are so close to passing this important bill into law. But we can't stop now, and we need your help.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently passed a similar bill, but the full Senate has yet to vote on it. Tell your senators to join their colleagues in the House in supporting conflict prevention:

<<https://www.fcnl.org/updates/breaking-the-house-just-voted-to-promote-peace-1555>>
<https://www.fcnl.org/updates/breaking-the-house-just-voted-to-promote-peace-1555>

► Upper Susquehanna Quarterly Meeting Creative Hands Gathering, Aug. 3-5, Amy & P.J. Hart's home in Laporte, Pa.

Come join Friends of all ages for an hour or two or a whole weekend of fun with crafts at the home of PJ and Amy Harte in Laporte, PA. No experience is needed and kids of all ages are welcome. Friendly lessons and project help will be available all day.

If you would like to see some of the projects we are interested in, visit <<https://www.pinterest.com/bboyd5180/usqm-creative-hands-gathering/>>

<https://www.pinterest.com/bboyd5180/usqm-creative-hands-gathering/>. For more information about overnight accommodations, directions, camping, children's activities, or the whole event, email

<<mailto:usqm-notify@googlegroups.com>> usqm-notify@googlegroups.com.

► " <<https://pendlehill.org/learn/beyond-gender-based-violence/>> Beyond Gender Based Violence", July 29-Aug. 1. As national attention is focused on gender-based assaults and harassment as never before, Pendle Hill will host a conference where people of all gender identities will consider ways we can end gender-based violence and create a society where every person enjoys physical safety, human dignity, and opportunity to thrive. The program will include civil rights leader and public theologian Ruby Nell Sales, delivering the opening plenary, July 29 from 7:15 to 9 pm.

▶ Standing at the Gates for Justice every Monday at 4 pm at the Penn State gates at Allen St.

▶ Habitat restoration workparties organized by the Central PA IPL Circuit Riders are coming to the outdoors near you:

CALENDAR

July 25-29 PYM 338th Annual Sessions, "How our lives speak",
College of New Jersey

July 29-Aug.1 Beyond Gender-Based Violence, Register:
<<https://pendlehill.org/events/beyond-gender-based-violence>>
<https://pendlehill.org/events/beyond-gender-based-violence>

July 30-Aug. 5 BYM Annual Sessions, Hood College, Frederick,
Md.

Aug.12 SCFM Meeting for Worship for Business, 9 am

Aug.19 SCFM Rise Up Singing, 4-6 pm

Aug.19-25 Young Friends Camp Onas Gathering, contact Melinda
Wenner Bradley, <mailto:mwennerbradley@pym.org>
mwennerbradley@pym.org

Sept.21-23 USQM Fall Family Gathering at Crystal Lake Camp

BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING (BYM)

JULY

Caring for Others

Do you respect that of God in every person? Do you search yourself for and strive to eliminate prejudices such as those related to race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and economic condition? In what ways do you accept and appreciate differences among your friends and associates? Do you avoid exploiting or manipulating others to accomplish ends, however worthy?

QUERIES
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QUERIES

AUGUST

Outreach

Do you, as the way opens, share Friends' principles with non-Friends? Do you witness to your Quaker faith by letting your life speak? Do you make non-Friends welcome in your meetings for worship? Do you find ways to encourage their continued attendance?

PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING

JULY

Social Responsibility and Witness

How does our Meeting work:

- to overcome social, legal, economic, and political injustices, locally and in the wider world?
- for the funding of community services that does not rely on gaming income?

Does our Meeting serve the community through action on concerns for civic improvement? What actions are we taking to assure everyone equal access to education, health care, legal services, housing, and employment as well as equal opportunities in business and in the professions?

When a member has lifted up a concern, how does our Meeting respond?

Does our Meeting encourage those seeking clearness for their convictions of conscience to hold up such convictions with prayerful openness to the Light?



QUERIES
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QUERIES

Am I mindful of how my lifestyle and my investments can contribute to the improvement of the human condition, or to the exploitation of others?

Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience and to assisting others in doing so? How do I respond and support one who acts out of a clear leading when I am under the weight of another?

What am I doing to work for the betterment of my community to assure the maintenance of effective public services which do not rely on funding from gaming?

Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leadings?

AUGUST *Peace*

How does our Meeting act to advance peace, to oppose violence, and to support the constructive use of authority in our community, our nation, and the world?

What are we doing as a Meeting:

- to free our nation from militarization, so evident in our society and in its economy?
- to understand the causes of war and violence and to work for the development of the attitudes and institutions of peace?
- to recognize and correct the causes of violence within our communities, and to work toward overcoming separations and restoring wholeness?
- to increase the understanding and use of nonviolent approaches for the resolution of conflicts?

Do I live in the power of that Life and Spirit that takes away the occasion of all wars?

How do I maintain Friends' testimony that military training and all participation in war and its preparation are inconsistent with the teaching and the spirit of Christ?

Do I work for the establishment of alternative ways of settling disputes? Am I aware that to build a world community requires that we all face our differences honestly, openly, and in trust?

Do I treat conflict as an opportunity for growth, and address it with careful attention? Do I seek to recognize and respect the Divine in those with whom I have a basic disagreement? Do I look for ways to reaffirm in action and attitude my love for the one with whom I am in conflict?

STATE COLLEGE FRIENDS MEETING
MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

Sixth Month 3rd, 2018

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(No Meeting for Worship for Business in July)

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

For the Meeting as a whole:

How does our Meeting help to create and maintain a society whose institutions recognize and do away with the inequities rooted in patterns of prejudice and economic convenience?

Is our Meeting open to all regardless of race, ability, sexual orientation, or class?

What steps are we taking as a Meeting to assure that our Meeting and the committees and institutions under our care reflect our respect for all and are free from practices rooted in prejudice?

For the individual:

Do I examine myself for aspects of prejudice that may be buried, including beliefs that seem to justify biases based on race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, class, and feelings of inferiority or superiority?

What am I doing to help overcome the contemporary effects of past and present oppression?

Am I teaching my children and do I show through my way of living, that love of God includes affirming the equality of people, treating others with dignity and respect, and seeking to recognize and address that of God within every person?

One Friend noted that the Queries are passive, and things we already believe. Another mentioned the Parkland students who recently did a “die in.” The children are carrying on, but we should all speak up; the time has come.

Another Friend asked, do I recognize that each individual is unique and the value of that uniqueness?

At the Turkish community dinner the previous evening another Friend was asked, “what do Quakers believe?” When told the major belief was that of God in everyone, it seemed to catch their attention. Another Friend said she had experiences in the past week that reflect the State College community. One experience was talking with a Chinese family whose daughter is in elementary school but struggling with relationships there. She has no friends. At the bus stop no one will talk with her. The family said their cultural norms are different. For example, they do not say “please” and “thank you.” The other children don’t appreciate that. The Friend said she was puzzled and felt the family’s pain. This is a nice child. A second experience was the Turkish dinner, where those attending said they feel welcome in State College and love this community. A third experience she noted is that the school district has hired a new diversity director

because African-American students do not feel welcome here. What can we do to make a difference? Some feel welcome, other do not. How do we reach those that do not feel welcome?

Another Friend said that in 1967 this community did not have a barbershop that would cut black people's hair. That is different now, but cops from the wider area are not accepting, and pull over people of color, including those from the university.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

Some modifications were made to the agenda; it was then approved.

REPORTS TO THE MEETING

Buildings and Grounds

Bernie Hoffnar reported.

- The tree house is not used, and the Committee would like to get rid of it. This led to a discussion about whether the children still enjoy it, and whether it is safe. But there is a history of dangerous things happening inside it, it is not in good condition, and it is a liability issue. It would just take one child or other person falling to make it a big problem. It could be replaced with another play area. Meeting agreed that it should be taken away or taken down. If you are interested in it, please contact Gary Fosmire.

- On 6/4 the parking lot is to be worked on if weather permits. It requires a four-day period without use of the lot.
- The Meeting needs additional outdoor storage. Because of permits, it is easier to add a shed rather than take down the current shed and make it larger. David Jeffreys is organizing this, and the project is not to exceed \$4000.
- Replacement of the social room ceiling lights is coming.

Thanks was expressed for Bernie's clerking of Buildings and Grounds and all the work they are doing.

Nominating Committee

Katy Lumley-Sapanski reported. She handed out a draft of the committees for next year. Several corrections were mentioned, and with those changes the list was approved with thanks.

A discussion ensued on what type of committee Outreach and Social Action is, since it does not meet in person. The group decided it is a "virtual committee." Also, the childcare and Religious Education relationship is still being worked out. Worship and Ministry reviews the structure, while the Personnel Committee hires and oversees employees. Arranging the childcare is a big job. Becky has been taking names and following up with them – a weekly job. But she feels it is so important to have consistent childcare. She is not willing to turn it over to anyone else unless consistent care continues.

Religious Education

Becky Misangyi reported that today is the last day of First Day School. She is very grateful for the work of the teachers.

If anyone is interested in arranging the winter camping trip, please let RE know.

Memorial Minute

Ann Sidone, filling in for Laurie Jeffreys, read the memorial minute for Mary D. (Mardy) Shaw:

Mary Dearden Shaw (Mardy) was born in Philadelphia, PA on November 14, 1925 to Henry and Marion (Craig) Dearden. She was a birthright Quaker, joining her family as a member of Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. Mardy's early education was at Germantown Friends School, from which she graduated in 1943. While a student at Earlham College, she met her beloved, Mark Shaw. They became engaged shortly before Mark left to work on a two-year project with American Friends Service Committee in rural China. Mardy graduated from Earlham College in 1947 and joined Mark in China as his contract there was extended. They were married in a Quaker ceremony in Chungmou, China in 1948 and lived in China, and then Hong Kong, for two more years.

Mark and Mardy began their family with the birth of daughter Karen in Hong Kong, and then daughter Betsy in Philadelphia, where they spent a year after returning from China. In 1951 the family moved to State

College for Mark to continue his education. They joined State College Friends Meeting, and in time Mark joined the faculty at Penn State. Craig, Jennifer and Richard were born in State College, completing a very lively household. With her usual "can do" attitude, Mardy helped Mark build a large new house for their growing family. She also found time to return to graduate school at Penn State for a teaching certificate, and then reading specialist certification.

In 1967, the family moved to Pune India, where Mark was a part of a four-year project cosponsored by Penn State and the US Agency for International Development. (USAID) While in India, Mardy renewed her interest in art, taking classes in water colors and batik. She also volunteered with a local orphanage, adding some Indian vocabulary (Marathi and Hindi) to her extensive mastery of Chinese.

After returning from India, Mark resumed his university career, and Mardy taught in schools in the State College Area School District and Bald Eagle Area School District, first as a classroom teacher and then as a reading specialist. Mark and Mardy continued to travel, including another year in China in 1984. After retirement, Mardy took classes in sculpture, soon filling the house with her pieces. She loved gardening, both in their yard in State College and at their much larger property in Lempster, NH, where the family had always gone for summer vacations. For several years after they retired, Mark and Mardy enjoyed spending their entire summers at "The Farm".

In her 67 years as a member of State College Friends Meeting, there were few if any committees Mardy did not serve on. In addition she was a member of PYM's Quaker Life Council, and the Education Standing,

Annual Fund, and Worship and Ministry Committees. She also worked for the AFSC Clothing Committee. Mardy was very involved with the founding of the State College Friends School and served on its Board of Trustees. She also volunteered there, using her skills as a reading specialist. Mardy and Mark moved to Foxdale Village in 2006. Mardy served on the Quaker-directed Foxdale Board of Trustees, the Foxdale Residents' Landscape Committee, and she was active on several other committees. Mardy and Mark were married for 66 years. When Mark's health declined, his care and comfort became her primary focus. Mark died in 2015.

Mardy is survived by five children, Karen Snare of Verbank, NY; Betsy Wells (Tony), of Fairport, NY; Craig Shaw (Eileen O'Connor), of Seattle, WA; Jennifer Nikel (Andrew), of West Caldwell, NJ; and Richard Shaw (Patricia Milford), of Pittsburgh PA; six grandchildren, Chris Wells, Doug Wells (Wendi), Kate Snare, Eric Snare (Jazmine Carroll) Benjamin Nikel, Peter Nikel; and two great grandchildren, Hagen and Parker Wells. She was also predeceased by her sister, Kathleen Bahnsen, and a grandson, Carl Snare.

The Memorial Minute was approved with the addition of the date of Mardy's death, 4/3/18.

Update on Workshop with Marie Hamilton

Sonny Rehler reported that two workshops had been planned on “Creative Non-violent Conflict Resolution.” For the April conference, 12 people attended. It was an inter-generational group that included one high school student and some who were college age. The May workshop was postponed since the enrollment was too small, and it has been planned for the fall. They are hoping for some financial support. Sonny was asked to send the request to Outreach and Social Action with a requested amount.

This led to some questions about a working structure for Outreach and Social Action Committee. A lot has fallen on Polly Dunn since it is not a committee that meets. (Polly noted she did not feel it was a lot.) It was suggested that it may be time to see if there is interest in having a Peace and Social Action Committee again. Katy Lumley-Sapanski will follow up on the email. Someone else said she felt the need for inreach and outreach and a way to educate people on Quakerism. Another Friend said support for adult education was also important.

The clerk, Gary Fosmire, referred the structural questions to Worship and Ministry, asking the Committee to address underlying issues such as adult ed.

Friends School

Ann Sidone reported for Dan Hendey and Lisa Gamble. The “Centre Gives” fundraiser brought in about \$17,000 for the school. The Fun Fair raised about \$9,000. Mardy Shaw was remembered at the Fun Fair, which was fittingly the same day as her memorial service.

A party of appreciation was held for Dan Hendey and about 150 people attended. Last Friday was graduation for 8 students.

The Search Committee will announce an interim head of school soon. The preschool will be out of their space by next week, then Childspace will rent the building after the parking lot is finished. They are hoping to start with the youngest children by July 1st.

CORRESPONDENCE

Richard Shaw has requested a transfer of membership to Pittsburgh Friends Meeting. He would like to stay on the mailings for State College. Transfer was approved, and the clerk will respond.

Hana Wiessmann has requested full adult membership. Referred to Worship and Ministry.

Thank you letters were received from Right Sharing for World Resources and the Centre County Women's Resource Center.

Kerry Wiessmann showed everyone the framed calligraphy received from the Turkish Community of State College given at the dinner the evening before. Kerry said there was a lot of talk at the dinner about common beliefs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved for the previous BMFW with no corrections.

Next Business Meeting for Worship: August 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Fosmire

Clerk

Margy Frysinger

Recording Clerk

ATTENDANCE:

Kerry Wiessmann

Katy Lumley-Sapanski

Polly Dunn

Cathy Braasch

Sunny Rehler

Bernie Hoffnar

Ann Sidone

Yuri Plowden

Robert Lumley-Sapanski

Martin Melville

Becky Misangyi

Ingrid Hoffnar

Robin Perez Leyde

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RETURN REQUESTED