



Lancaster Monthly Meeting The Religious Society of Friends

Newsletter No. 565

February-March 2010

Clerk: Joe Moore

Assistant Clerk: Tom Latus

Recording Clerk: Maria Cattell

Treasurer: Karen Zimmerman

Assistant: Christine Fuller

Meetinghouse Scheduler: Jean Eaton

Newsletter: Editor: Jim Herr, 360 Blossom Hill Dr., Lanc. 17601 (569-7848) (e-mail to herrs at bellatlantic.net)

Keeper of the Label List: Karen Zimmerman

Circulation: The Scanlon Family

Caln Quarter Coordinator: Marie Ryan (610-777-5825, coordinator at calnqm.org)

CALENDAR

First-day - 8:00-8:55 AM - Early Meeting For Worship

- 9:00-9:50 AM - The Bible & Friends' Testimonies study. All welcome

- 9:10-9:45 Hymn sing in the meeting room. All are welcome to sing or listen.

- 10:00 AM Meeting For Worship. Children worship with us for the first 20 minutes, then go to First-Day School classes

Second First-day - 10:35 or so - Meeting For Worship For Business

Third First-day - Cooperative Meal

First First-day - 10:00 AM - Meeting For Worship, Cornwall Worship Group, Paymaster's Building, Cornwall Manor

Last First-day - 10:00 AM - Meeting For Worship, Willow Valley Worship Group (Joyce Collins 464-6363 for more information)

FORUMS

February 21 - Caln Quarter meeting for worship for business

February 28 - Home funerals by Cheryl Clark (see below) followed by shared meal

March 14 - Meeting for worship for business

ACTIVITIES

Every Saturday - 11:00-Noon - Vigil For Peace in Lancaster. For more information, call Charles Lane 394-5912

Sun. Feb. 21 - Winter Gathering of Caln Quarterly Meeting at Lancaster MM, including meeting for business, cooperative meal, and program

Mon. Feb. 22 - 7:00-8:30 PM - Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse

Sat. Feb. 27 - Dinners With Friends and friends (see below)

Sun. Feb. 28 - 10:00 AM - Meeting For Worship at Willow Valley

Mon. Mar. 1 - 7:00-8:30 PM - Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse

Mon. Mar. 1 - 7:00 PM - Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel Committees in meetinghouse (see below)

- ACTIVITIES CONTINUED -

Tue. Mar. 2 - 7:00 PM - Working Group on Work in meetinghouse

Thurs. Mar. 4 – 3:00 PM – Outreach Committee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Mar. 7 – 8:30 AM – Peace & Social Concerns Committee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Mar. 7 – 9:00 AM – Environmental Committee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Mar. 7 – 10:00 AM – Meeting for worship at Cornwall Worship Group
 Sun. Mar. 7 – 12:50-1:50 PM – Peaceful Families Subcommittee in meetinghouse
 Sun. Mar. 7 – 2:00-4:30 PM – Shape-Note singing in meetinghouse
 Mon. Mar. 8 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse
 Sun. Mar. 14 – 11:35 AM – Meeting For Business
 Sun. Mar. 14 – 3:00 PM – Talk by Dr. David Johnson in meetinghouse (see below)
 Mon. Mar. 15 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse
 Tue. Mar. 16 – Deadline for March-April newsletter
 Tue. Mar. 16 – 7:30 PM – Spirituality & Science in meetinghouse (see below)
 Wed. Mar. 17 – 7:10 PM – Working Group on Work in meetinghouse
 Wknd. Mar. 18-21 – FWCC meeting near Baltimore (see below)
 Sat. Mar. 20 -11:00 AM – 2:30 PM – Young Friends meet Middle Easterners (see below)
 Sat. Mar. 20 – 6:30 PM – Healing Racism Group with pot luck meal (see below)
 Sun. Mar. 21 – 11:30 AM or so – Cooperative Meal in the meetinghouse
 Mon. Mar. 22 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse
 Tue. Mar. 23 – 7:00 PM – Movie “Minds on the Edge” shown in meetinghouse (see below)
 Wknd. Mar. 26-28 – Yearly Meeting Sessions in Philadelphia (see below)
 Sun. Mar. 28 – 10:00 AM – Meeting For Worship at Willow Valley
 Mon. Mar. 29 – 7:00-8:30 PM – Spiritual Oasis in meetinghouse
 Thurs. April 8 – 7:30 PM – LIPW Spring Peace Forum at F & M (see below)

**LANCASTER MONTHLY MEETING
 THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
 HELD AT LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
 ON SECOND MONTH 14**

At about 11:40 am, after a brief period of silent worship, Clerk Joseph Moore took up the business of Meeting. The agenda was reviewed and approved, and minutes for First Month were approved as read. Clerk thanked Recording Clerk for her ongoing excellent minutes.

Worship sharing on queries on meeting for business.

Queries

1. Is our meeting for business held in the spirit of a meeting for worship, in which we seek divine guidance?
2. How do we respond if we notice the meeting has lost an understanding of the presence of God?

[PYM *Faith and Practice*, 2002]

Responses:

- We didn't always use “meeting for worship for business.” I appreciate that we do now.
- The second query reminded me of the ter-

centenary of Quakers in the U.K., when there was some contention. The Clerk sensed that responses to a particular issue were not in the spirit of seeking the presence of God. A Friend said, “Oh, God, help us—we are in a terrible fix.” After about 10 minutes of silent worship, the meeting took up the issue again and found an answer.

- In the last year I have often felt that I didn't want to attend business meeting because I had difficulty with all the conflicts. But I came, as a duty. And I realized I needed to be present to do what I can to maintain the spirit of worship.

- One challenge is that in meeting for worship we sit on all 4 sides of the room, but in business meeting, the clerk and recording clerk are up front. This tends to emphasize the clerks as leaders. We need to be extra sensitive to whether we are all leaders, because in a Quaker business meeting, we *all* must clerk the meeting. This is especially true in regard to the second query, if we feel we are drifting from prayerfulness, when anyone could speak a prayer asking us to return to silence. We need for all of us to be sensitive to God's nudging us as we meet for business.

- My work involves lots of meetings. I see

meeting for worship with attention to business as a real antidote to other meeting structures. It is radically different. One difference is the sense that everyone, including those who are silent, must be listened to. Everyone is a conveyor of truth. In my first experiences with Friends, things that would have been written off in other settings were listened to. And I was amazed to find truth, new insights, and an opening up. I try to take that kind of listening to my other meetings. But this is where it is nurtured, in the importance of listening for God.

- I have enjoyed the benefit of having clerks who help us focus on what we're here for, not decision making in the way of the secular world, but decision making with God leading us. We live in a world of secular thought with musts and have tos, influence and persuasion, and discussion. It is difficult to get free from that. In conflicts we tend to look for what we *have* to do, rather than focusing on what the light shows us. The clerk is helpful here, and others too, but I'm not sure we have a vocabulary for participating in what the light shows rather than what we think.

Clerk thanked us for our thoughtful comments and said he was especially grateful for the sense of shared responsibility.

Treasurer's report. Clerk reported for Treasurer Karen Zimmerman that income for January 2010 totaled \$4,421 and expenses totaled \$3,400. Income this January was about \$1,800 more than income in January 2009. Contributions to the Haiti Fund totaled \$1,470 and to the Solanco Pastor's Heating Fund, \$25. The Solanco Pastor's Heating Fund is to help people in southern Lancaster County with heating costs. Karen would like to see Meeting contribute more to this fund. Clerk asked for two volunteers to audit Meeting's books. Deb Hewes and Carl Perry agreed to do this.

Care & Counsel report. Nancy Bieber told us that Care & Counsel has received word of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Greenleaf Fund for Friends in financial need who are age 62 and above. Application can be made to the Greenleaf Fund through Care & Counsel.

Nancy also told us that since last year's forum on green burial interest in the topic has grown to the point where a working group is

being formed. There will be a forum on green burials on February 28 in Lancaster meeting-house. Other meetings in Caln Quarter will be invited to attend the forum and enjoy a shared meal.

Lois Frey Gray reported on the welcoming of new members. Haydn McLean's welcome was a dinner. Haydn was accompanied by his wife Gale, and the group had an interesting discussion on truth. Chris Weinstock-Collins, who transferred her membership from Swarthmore Meeting to Lancaster Meeting, was also welcomed in January.

Care & Counsel: The Rachel Fund. Liz Gates presented a report on proposed changes to the Rachel Fund, which was set up as a short-term loan fund for members of meeting by Robert Trimble in memory of his wife Rachel. The fund worked well for many years, but most of the loans made since 2005 have not been repaid. Therefore Care & Counsel, after consulting with Robert Trimble's son Philip, proposes to institute several procedures to provide better oversight of loans, both the decision whether to make a loan in the first place and when a loan is made, to have a committee work with the individual on financial management. In addition, Care & Counsel would like to be able to make outright grants of up to \$500 on occasion. Care & Counsel also welcomes volunteers who could offer financial advice to those who seek it.

A Friend asked about our response to individuals whose need is great but who are unable to repay a loan, so they would not be eligible for a loan from the Rachel Fund. Care & Counsel will work with such persons to apply to PYM's Martin Fund, which makes grants, not loans.

One Friend asked about the core needs being met by the Rachel Fund and whether the fund has become an administrative burden. Another Friend expressed gratitude that when she had received help from the Rachel Fund, it was a loan (not a grant) because that makes it about giving and receiving. Another Friend compared the fund to his extended family, which has its own pattern of lending among themselves; he felt Meeting needs to have something similar, such as the Rachel Fund.

Meeting approved the proposed changes to

the Rachel Fund. Care & Counsel will reevaluate the Rachel Fund within two years.

Outreach Committee. Haydn McLean, new convenor of Outreach Committee, announced that the committee is planning to show a film, "Minds on the Edge," which examines mental healthcare in the U.S. The showing is being held in cooperation with the Samaritan Counseling Center on March 23 at the meeting-house. Costs will be minimal. This is an outreach project in that it will be publicized through local media and the local community will be invited. Meeting approved the project.

Recorder's report. Recorder Cindy Hummel reported that at the start of 2009 we had 170 members and that at present we have 171 members.

John Pittenger Memorial Minute. Bob Lowing read John Pittenger's memorial minute, which was approved as read. Bob thanked Maria Cattell for weaving the document together from various sources. He also thanked Pitt's wife, Pauline, for meeting with the committee. The minute will be in Meeting's newsletter and also will be sent to *Friends Journal* for publication in their "Milestones" section (they will edit it). A Friend suggested that the minute could be posted on Meeting's website.

Proposal for mid-week meeting for worship. Bob Lowe has a leading to organize a mid-week meeting for worship. Please contact him if you are interested.

After a brief period of silent worship, Meeting for Business ended at about 1:10 pm. There were 47 present, including one child.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Moore, Clerk
Maria Cattell, Recording Clerk

Present: Nancy Bieber, Charles Bonner, Peggy Bright & daughter, Andrea Carty, Maria Cattell, Joyce Collins, Joseph DiGarbo, Faith d'Urbano, Jean & William Eaton, Mary Ann & Philip Eisemann, Christopher & Tabea Fitz, Elizabeth & Thomas Gates, Albert Geier, Grayfred & Lois Frey Gray, James Herr, Debra Hewes, Millicent Holzinger, Eugene & Judith Homan, Mark Horst, Cynthia Hummel, Lois Kelso, Amanda Kemp, John & Kay Lahr, Charles Lane, Thomas Latus, Patricia Lea,

Cynthia & Robert Lowing, Haydn McLean, Joseph Moore, Carl & Rachel Perry, Joanna & Loren Sadler, Deborah Spence, Raymond Trayer, Anne Wallace DiGarbo, Ursula Wanner, Erma Weaver.

SOME ERUDITION

OLD MONEY – Care and Counsel Committee wants Friends to know about the Greenleaf Fund, a relatively new fund of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) that provides financial assistance to Friends 62 years of age and older of modest means in need of help with housing, maintenance and residential costs, on-going medical care, health equipment purchases, and daily living expenses. To inquire about applying or for guideline information, please contact anyone on Care and Counsel, or contact the PYM Care & Aging Coordinator directly, George Schaefer (215)241-7068 or georges at pym.org

ELECTRONIC PRINT – For those members of our community who do not receive Grayfred Gray's email news bulletins, they are now being printed and posted on the bulletin board.

NEED CHOC – The Social Committee has realized that cocoa is important at our social events, especially during cold months. Others have felt this importance also—there is now a huge supply available in the kitchen. Please consult Marilyn Morrison or Jean Eaton before purchasing more cocoa. The Committee is experimenting with having cocoa ready for the children and adults after worship. They ask adults to supervise their children. To avoid the nearly-full cups of unconsumed cocoa, the Committee is offering ¼ to ½ cups with folks coming back for more if they wish. They're open to all suggestions.

YOUNG MONEY – About this time of year, everyone needs to be reminded that Meeting has a couple scholarship funds. If you'd like to know how to apply, please contact Chris Fuller, convenor of the Loans & Scholarships Committee 367-6130 or chrisfuller at embarqmail.com

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) also has a 0% interest college loan program for Quaker students. The Mary Jeanes Loan Fund and Anne Townsend Grant Fund are now taking applications from members of Lancaster Meeting and other Meetings in PYM for post-

secondary financial aid for the 2010-2011 school year. Loans average about \$1,000 per academic year. May 1, 2010 is the deadline for submission of applications. To download the form, please visit

<http://www.pym.org/education> and click on Post-Secondary Education Loans/Grants. For more information please contact the Education Programs Office at PYM: elkem at pym.org or call 215-241-7223.

AFRIGATES – As many of you know, this Spring Tom and Liz Gates will be traveling back to Kenya, where they lived for three years before coming to Lancaster. Tom will be leaving March 20, and will spend two months working at Friends Lugulu Hospital. He also hopes to visit Kaimosi Friends Hospital, visit local Quaker churches, do some teaching at the Family Medicine training program (the only one in Kenya), and establish contact with the Kenya Hospice and Palliative Care Association, whose medical director is a Quaker. Liz will be leaving on April 13, and will be returning to Lugulu for the first time in 13 years. She then will attend three weeks of meetings with the International Planning Committee for the FWCC Africa Section Triennial, and with the FWCC Central Executive Committee. While in Kenya, Tom and Liz hope to keep in close touch with the Lancaster Meeting community, as well as the wider world of Friends, through a blog (subject to the whims of technology and poor internet connection). Bear with them as they try this new technology (well okay, not so new). The blog can be accessed after March 20 at <http://gates-in-Kenya.blogspot.com>.

NOT JUST SUNDAY – Bob Lowe is interested in having a mid-week meeting for worship. Are you, too? Get in touch with him: 273-2074 or ralcast at comcast.net

ENTWINE – Attention knitters and crocheters: Judy Homan is interested in forming an *Afghans for Afghans* group. *Afghans for Afghans* is a humanitarian people-to-people project that sends wool hand-knit and crocheted blankets, sweaters, vests, hats, mittens, and socks to the beleaguered people of Afghanistan, specifically the children. This project is a partnership with the American Friends Service Committee. Check it out at www.afghansforafghans.org.

Judy envisions meeting monthly to knit/crochet for this cause, enjoy each other's company, and discuss Afghanistan. Interested? Call Judy at 397-4532 or email homanhome at comcast.net.

FRIENDLY FLEDGE – Quaker Parenting Initiative announces a new book: *Paths to Quaker Parenting Using Quaker Beliefs, Testimonies, and Practices: The Quaker Parenting Initiative's Guide* by the Quaker Parenting Initiative Writing Group, Harriet Heath, Editor.

In this book a group of Quaker parents explores the thing that parents of faith attempt and that parents of Quaker faith attempt in our particular way—to parent in the Light. They shared questions and experiences of how Quaker faith has supported and guided their parenting. Through the process of writing the book, the Writing Group was able to see parenting as a spiritual journey. This book is the outcome of that sharing.

Quaker Parenting Initiative also offers discussion series, family weekends, and workshops. For more information on the book and other programs offered by the Quaker Parenting Initiative, contact Harriet Heath [harriet_heath at hotmail.com](mailto:harriet_heath@hotmail.com); 610-649-7037. To order a copy of the book, send a check for \$14.95 plus shipping (\$3.00 for one copy \$4.00 for two). Make the check out to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Mail check to Harriet Heath 223 Buck Lane, Haverford, PA 1904.

QUEST – Queries for March, on spiritual nurture, ministry and religious education are adapted from the PYM *Faith and Practice*:

1. 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?

2. Does our Meeting provide opportunities for all to learn about the Light, the Bible, the writings of Friends and their respective roles in the history and formation of Friend's principles?

3. Do I frequently read the Bible and the records of the lives and experiences of Friends?

BOOKISH – Rita Varley, PYM Librarian, ex-

tends a warm welcome and invitation to LMM members and attenders to visit the newly renovated library at Friends Center. As Rita Varley puts it, “the library is visually beautiful and full of light that makes it easier to find books.” She went on to observe that the way in which people are so often led to the perfect book at the perfect moment is truly the Spirit at work. A recent visitor stepped into the library and said softly, “this is sacred space!” The ambience of the library also lends itself to cozy, comfortable hanging out with the books and other book lovers.

There are new online features on the PYM Library website. Most notable is the new search catalog software: “Destiny,” where one can log on as a guest and then browse to one’s heart’s content through the many books and other resources available including the “Top 10 books in circulation” and in Destiny Quest, the top 10 most recent additions. If you open an account, you can access even more features such as renewing your borrowed books online, and writing book reviews.

Fear of new technology can be daunting, but the library staff is available to help people use the computer software. Rita offers a gentle “hands-on” instruction in person, over the phone, or via email. Have questions? Contact: Rita Varley 215-241-7219 (Tues.-Friday); ritav at pym.org.

TIME IN

FOODIE – They used to be called Friendly Dinners, but that seems too confusing with our other Friendly Get Togethers. This year, therefore, we’re having “Dinners With Friends and friends” on Saturday evening, Feb. 27. You can decide to be a host or a guest of a shared dinner party of six to eight people. But you have to act quickly. On the round table there is a sign-up sheet that will be removed this Sunday afternoon. On Monday or Tuesday, the social committee will meet to establish the groups. And they’ll call you with your assignment.

LIVING END – Cheryl Clark, a Friend from Schuylkill Meeting, will present a forum on home funerals next week, Feb 28. Cheryl is a member of “natural undertaking” which is a nonprofit resource center dedicated to helping families care for their own at death. Her talk

will cover the personal, practical, and legal aspects of this work. Cheryl is hopeful that Friends will help her bring the reverent and time-honored tradition of caring for our own loved ones at this most sacred transition, back into our homes and faith communities. She has been a speaker and advocate for the Green Burial Council, and can answer questions about being better stewards of the burial grounds under our care.

We are inviting people from Caln Quarter to attend this forum. There will be a potluck afterwards to accommodate them and give us all an opportunity for further discussion on green burial with Cheryl.

ALL TOGETHER NOW – Despite mention in the newsletter, Care and Counsel Committee did not meet with Worship and Ministry last month. They will meet together on Monday, March 1, 7:00-8:30 PM.

LIGHT SHINE – The next meeting of the Outreach Committee will be Thursday, March 4, 3:00 pm in the meetinghouse.

POSSIBLE PEACE – Here’s one of a few events postponed because of snow: The Rev. Dr. David L. Johnson will speak on Sunday, March 14, at 3:00 PM. His presentation, “New Wine In Old Wineskins? Is Peace Possible In The Middle East?” is part of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee speaker series, “What will be the Religious Peace Witness for the 21st Century?” The public is invited.

Rev. Johnson is a member of the Churches for a Middle East Peace (CMEP) which is comprised of a coalition of 23 mainline and pacifist churches and offers an alternative to the prevailing point of view characterized by the religious militarism of both Arabs and Jews. From April through October of 2008, living in Amman, Jordan, Rev. Johnson served as the Acting Regional Director in the Middle East for the American Friends Service Committee and travelled extensively in the region.

Rev. Johnson also served as parish pastor for an international and ecumenical congregation in Cairo, Egypt and for nine years he served as the Lutheran World Federation as its Representative and Field Director in Jerusalem and the west Bank overseeing medical, educational and social services for Palestini-

ans including the Augusta Victoria hospital on the Mt. of Olives. He is also a retired Lutheran pastor from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Lancaster.

QUANTLY – The Spirituality and Science study group will meet Tuesday, March 16, at 7:30 PM in the Community Room of the meetinghouse. The book *Quantum Theology*, by Diarmuid O'Murchu, has proven to be not simply a dialogue between science and religion, but rather an exposition of quantum theory that unravels profound theological questions. Having covered Part One, (The Invitation), the group is moving on to Part Two, (The Dance), consisting of Chapter 4 “Energy, Movement, and Rhythm,” and Chapter 5 “Wholes and Parts.” All are welcome to join us. Any questions, please call Adele Berardi at 391-8915.

FOREIGNERS – Aj Ata from Iraq and Mina Abdeshahid from Egypt, two Elizabethtown students, came to a meeting of the Middle East Interest Group to talk of their experiences in their home countries and in the US. It was eye opening and heartening to hear from these generous young men. Now they are coming to our Meeting to dialog with youth from Lancaster churches and with Young Friends from South Central PA. We set the date for the first day of spring, Sat. March 20, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with refreshments at the start, and closing with lunch. If you would like to help, please contact Anne Wallace-DiGarbo

HEALTHY – The Healing Racism Working Group strives to recognize, and work to heal, racism. This effort involves both inward (spiritual) and outward (social action) components. We recognize three separate but related dimensions of racism: (1) the individual level, (2) the community level—the Meeting and Lancaster area, and (3) institutions and society at large. The group meets on the third Saturday evening of each month for shared meal, socializing, and business. It's open to all. For the location of the March 20 meeting, contact Ron Ashby 295-9956 ronashby at gmail.com

WIDE FRIENDS – All Friends are welcome to come to the Annual Meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas, March 18-21, near Baltimore, MD. Registration and information are

now available on the FWCC website:

http://fwccamericas.org/events/2010_annual_meeting_info.shtml. The Annual Meeting is the business meeting of Friends representing affiliated Yearly Meetings in the Americas and other interested Friends. It is also an opportunity for worship and fellowship with the wider Quaker world. Thus, business sessions, worship groups, regional meetings and workshops are open to all.

North Carolina pastor Deborah Suess will bring the keynote message on Friday evening, March 19. There will be events specifically for young adult Friends who attend.

COFFEE COMING – Our high school Friends are working on creating the second annual coffee house. A date hasn't been finalized—it will probably be either March 19 or 26. Stay tuned. If you'd like to help with this event, please contact Kay Lahr.

2 YEARLY – The March half of the annual sessions of PYM takes place March 26-28, (Friday-Sunday) in the Arch Street Meetinghouse, 4th and Arch Streets in Philadelphia. The theme for the sessions is “We Make The Road By Walking (How are we called to be prophetic in our witness?)” Although it is possible to attend without pre-registering, advance registration is appreciated, especially for those who wish to purchase meal tickets. Please go to www.pym.org/pm/ann.php or contact Sessions Coordinator Lou Ann Merkle at 215-241-7238.

The keynote speaker on Saturday evening will be Vanessa Julye, co-author (with Donna McDaniels) of *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship*. Vanessa will share stories and lessons from her ministry of racial healing.

MORE POSSIBLE – Lancaster Interchurch Peace Witness (LIPW) presents their Spring Peace Forum with Dr. Trita Parsi on Thurs., April 8, 7:30 PM in the Franklin & Marshall College Stahr Auditorium on College Ave..

Dr. Parsi will present an assessment of US-Iranian relations with “Between War and Democracy – Iran, Israel and the US.” He is founder and president of the National Iranian American Council and an expert on US-Iranian relations, Iranian politics, and the balance of power in the Middle East. Dr. Parsi

is the author of *Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings of Iran, Israel and the United States* (Yale University Press 2007), for which he conducted more than 130 interviews with senior Israeli, Iranian and American decision-makers. *Treacherous Alliance* is the silver medal winner of the 2008 Arthur Ross Book Award from the Council on Foreign Relations.

WANDER AROUND – Mentioned in last month's newsletter, but cancelled because of snow, here is information about a postponed event:

A labyrinth is an ancient but complex design based on sacred geometry that creates a pathway from the entrance to the center. Labyrinth walking is a journey of moving slowly, quietly, and purposefully in a space that encourages relaxation, reflection, and spiritual insight.

On April 18, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster invites you to walk its labyrinth and use it as a tool for healing. Seeking wholeness by using the body's energy centers, known as chakras, guides the mind, body and spirit toward integration and connectedness. We will explore the body's chakras from 1:00-2:00 in a facilitated workshop with Sandy Yeager. Following the workshop, participants will have a chance to walk the labyrinth. The labyrinth becomes a self-reflective tool that promotes awareness, empowers change, and inspires inner peace. Participants will receive written materials to take home. A \$7 registration fee and names of participants are requested by Sunday, April 11 and should be sent to: Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster Attention Kate Prisby 538 West Chestnut Street Lancaster, Pa 17603. Questions should be directed to Kate Prisby: dre at uuclonline.org or 393-1733 ex. 202.

COME PLAY – Discover the moving spirit in your body and your stories with an InterPlay sampler workshop to be held Saturday, April 24, 10 AM - 2 PM. InterPlay is a system of easy-to-learn embodied, improvisational forms that unleashes ease, creativity and the Spirit within. Led by Billy and Kate Amoss of Takoma Park/Washington, DC, certified InterPlay teachers, the sampler workshop is being sponsored by the Worship and Ministry Committee.

Childcare provided. Advanced registration required. Contact Chris Fitz: cfitz at hampshire.edu or 426-3301.

FIRE FUN – Now here's one that's still a way off: Camp Swatara. There's an annual gathering of Friends from Caln Quarter over the first weekend in May at this wonderful summer camp an hour north of here. You'll hear more about it as we get closer to the time, but for now, consider this: Chris Fitz is going to lead the campfire on Friday night. He's looking for story tellers, magicians, musicians, and general entertainers. Please let him know if you'll help.

BIG FRIENDS – And here's one that's even farther off: Every year there's a very large gathering of Friends from all over this continent. This year the Friends General Conference (FGC) gathering will be held at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Get more information at www.fgcquaker.org/gathering or call (215) 561-1700. There's a discount for first-time attendees at the gathering.

OTHERS SAY

This came as an open Letter to all Friends at Lancaster Friends Meeting:

I would like to personally thank all members of Lancaster Monthly Meeting for the cards, letters, email, and flowers sent to my house in regards to the recent passing of my step-father. My family in West Virginia continues to deal with this loss, and are doing fine. I hope to get back home soon. ...I am so appreciative of all the kind thoughts and prayers extended from all my friends at LMM.

Again, thanks to all.

Bob Lowe

Lebanon, PA

MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR JOHN PITTENGER

John Chapman Pittenger, or "Pitt" as he was known to many, died on December 6, 2009 at Homestead Village in Lancaster PA from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was born in Philadelphia on May 23, 1930, to Nicholas Otto Pittenger and Cornelia Vander Veer Chapman Pittenger.

Pitt did not grow up Quaker but there were

various Quaker influences in his early life. His paternal grandfather was a strong Quaker and Pitt's father, who as an adult did not participate in organized religion, was controller at Swarthmore College. So Pitt, who attended Swarthmore public school, knew the college campus and no doubt its Quaker ethos. Also, his mother, though a Presbyterian, was educated at Friends Central School and Swarthmore College. Following graduation from Phillips Exeter Academy, Pitt went to Harvard College. He became "convinced" and joined the Cambridge MA Meeting in 1948. After graduating summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1951 with a degree in American history, he went to the London School of Economics as a Frank Knox Fellow. From 1952-1955 he served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army infantry and did counter-intelligence duty, and then attended Harvard School of Law, graduating cum laude in 1958. In 1958 Pitt came to Lancaster PA to practice law and became the 27th member of Lancaster Monthly Meeting.

In 1965 and again in 1969 Pitt was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for the 96th District. Under Pennsylvania Governor Milton Shapp, Pitt served as Legislative Secretary (1971) and then as state Secretary of Education (1972-76). As Legislative Secretary, he helped steer Pennsylvania's first personal income tax bill through the General Assembly and guided the passage of the bill that created the Department of Environmental Resources. As Secretary of Education, Pitt established the Governor's School for the Arts and a government internship program for college students, led the fight for equal athletic programs for female students in public schools, and supervised a complete rewrite of the Pennsylvania School Code.

Pitt was passionate about public service. He was active in Democratic politics for many years and was widely respected as a person of great erudition, strong convictions and great integrity who cared deeply about others and worked on behalf of the disadvantaged people of his community and state. In his memoir, *Politics Ain't Beanbag* (AuthorHouse, 2005), he described his evolution from a pure "idealist" to an "idealist without illusions." He also discussed the satisfactions he gained from his

commitment to public life and urged others, especially young people, to make that same commitment.

Over the years Pitt had a close connection with Franklin & Marshall College (F&M) in Lancaster. He taught courses as an adjunct professor in the college's Government Department and served as pre-law advisor. He received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from F&M in 1981. In addition, he founded F&M's squash program and served intermittently as the team's coach for 15 years. The college plans to dedicate the John C. Pittenger Government Classroom in the Harris Center for Business, Government & Public Policy so that a new generation of students will be inspired by Pitt.

At his memorial service, held at F&M, several of his former students spoke of Pitt's devotion to education and to his students, whom he taught by example, inquiry, and thoughtful questions. He would give someone a book, saying "Read it and we'll talk about it." His mentoring focused on the intellectual development of his mentees and on public policy, public service and good government. F&M President John Fry called Pitt the "consummate educator" and Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell, one of Pitt's mentees, said Pitt's theme was "education, education, education." In addition to his many years of teaching, he wrote (with Henry W. Bragdon) an introduction to constitutional law for high school students, *The Pursuit of Justice* (Macmillan, 1969).

For Pitt, the promotion of education was not only a personal goal but was a moral duty to give American youth an equal opportunity to live a good and meaningful life

In 1982, when he became Dean of the Rutgers University School of Law, Pitt joined Westfield Meeting in Riverton NJ. He stepped down as dean in 1986, retiring to his family's Pittwillow Farm in southern Chester County, though he continued to teach at Rutgers until 1994. In 1987 he joined Oxford Meeting, Nottingham PA, and in 1997, when he moved to Homestead Village retirement community, he transferred his membership back to Lancaster Meeting, where he was one of the original members of the Milner Fund Committee and helped shape

its work. He also served on the Peace & Social Concerns Committee.

Pitt was active in community affairs with Good Schools PA, the Harvard Club of Central Pennsylvania, Family and Children's Services, Lancaster Foundation for Educational Enrichment, and Lancaster Opera Workshop. He was also a trustee of Lincoln University.

In 1981 Pitt married Pauline Miller Leet in

F&M's chapel. He is survived by Pauline, stepsons Josiah Leet of Lancaster PA and Matthew Leet of Oakland CA, and his sister, Jane Pittenger Kellenberger of Boulder CO.

By Maria Cattell, Charles & Millicent Holzinger, Eugene Homan, Robert Lowing
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