



Tending the garden . . .

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

Bulletin



Tending the garden . . .

Serenity in Evil Times

Clerk's Message, by Sally Weaver Sommer

Horace said, "When evil times prevail, take care to preserve the serenity of your heart." This is a tough command. It calls us to a level of trust in goodness that is sometimes hard to muster. How can our hearts be serene when all these terrible things are happening around the world? What about when the evil is very close – in our work places, our communities, our families?

This dilemma has manifested itself to me a number of times lately. I remember writing an email soon after we attacked Iraq. I was about to write "Blessings to you" at the end of the email. I thought to myself, "How can I wish blessings to this person when people in Iraq are experiencing so much of the opposite?" Is it fair for some of us to be blessed when others are so clearly not blessed? I ended up writing

"Blessings to all," thinking that if my wish included all people it would be acceptable.

In the spiritual formation group that I am part of, a recurring theme is the despair some members of the group feel when listening to the news and contemplating what our government is doing in various parts of the world. How do we live with the pain the knowledge of what our government is doing gives us? In another setting in which people were discussing their work place, a woman shared about the disillusionment she was experiencing as she realized her work place, a not-for-profit organization, did not really have the commitments that she thought it had. Decisions were being made that she thought were counter to the mission of that institution. This experience was causing

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Solstice Celebrations

By Eric Starbuck

Winter is a time of death — and at the same time, rebirth. Leaves are fallen, grasses withered, animals hungry — yet light is returning. Springtime promise resonates in the earlier dawns and later dusks.

Solstice marks the turning

point when victory begins to favor light over darkness.

God set the struggle in motion, ensuring only that neither death nor life triumphs completely.

Do you see God as a kind of Fa-

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Clerk's Message

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her much personal anguish as she recognized that the institution was responding to the economic pressures of these times in ways similar to for-profit institutions.

In both of these settings I was challenged to think about how I take care to preserve the serenity of my heart during times when evil seems particularly acute. Through reading about different personalities and interacting with a variety of people over the years, I have concluded that the task of preserving the serenity of one's heart comes more easily to some people than others. In addition, we experience and express that serenity in different ways. Some of us have been given the gift of feeling deeply, and to these people the pain may be particularly acute. Some of us have been given the gift of optimism, and to these people the possibilities of goodness are perhaps more clear. So, in part, our ability to preserve serenity may be a function of our personality.

But there are also insights we can draw on to help us preserve our serenity. The Bible is full of stories about the forces of good and evil. The Bible assumes that throughout human history evil has always existed and will always exist. We must face the fact of evil and face evil itself. It is here close to home and far away. Evil is not new and will not go away because we wish it

away. However, we are called to be faithful to goodness. God asks us to demonstrate an alternative to evil. It is in speaking out against evil and in attempting to live out a life of goodness that we preserve the serenity of our heart. We know that in the end goodness overcomes evil and not vice versa. Only through faithfulness can we maintain our patience and hope.

I think one of the reasons that we are sometimes paralyzed by evil is that some of us so rarely experience evil in its extreme at a personal level. One of the many things I have learned from Latin Americans is that it is possible to maintain hope in desperate circumstances. I remember vividly a visit to a health center in a remote area of Nicaragua. My students and I left the health center in a state of despair. The center already had next to nothing in terms of a building, supplies and equipment, and the government was cutting back even more on its funding of health care. As we were standing under a lean-to a bit down the hill from the center watching the rain, I thought about the doctor and nurse who talked to us about and showed us around the health center. They live with this reality day in and day out, knowing the huge gap between what they can give their patients in this remote village and what so many other health caregivers around the world can give their patients. However, they did not speak to us out of despair, but out of hope. They were doing all they could do and they expected us to do all we could do. They could not ask more, or less, of themselves or us.

May we preserve the serenity of our hearts through faithfulness to goodness and love in the face of evil wherever we find it.

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North Columbus Friends Meeting December Newsletter Clearness Committee on Ways of Working Towards Peace

Friends have agreed to the formation of a Clearness Committee to discuss what Friends need to do in a very unstable world to work together towards peace. While Friends have always worked for peace in many important ways, international crises prompt us to examine our positions, religious and practical. Members of this clearness committee will communicate through shared letters and e-mails before gathering for a meeting; the insights gained may eventually be shared with *Friends Journal*. The committee was empowered to select its own clerk and invites all interested persons to join in, contribute, and share in the discussion. Martha Maas will serve as interim contact person as the committee forms.

Lake Erie Representative Meeting, March 6, 2003

Representative Meeting

Broadmead Monthly Meeting welcomes LEYM for the 2004 Representative Meeting, on Saturday, March 6. Broadmead Monthly Meeting, which covers a 100-mile area in northwest and west central Ohio along Interstate 75, does not have a single meeting house location. However, LEYM has been invited to have Representative Meeting at the First United Methodist Church, 200 W. Second Street, Perrysburg, Ohio. See the registration form following.

How to Get There

From The North

Take I-75 to exit 195 (SR 795 Perrysburg-Millbury) and go west (left) into Perrysburg at exit light. After turning left, at the 4th stoplight turn right onto Louisiana Avenue (Way Public Library is on the right hand corner). Go over the railroad tracks and turn left at the next stoplight onto 2nd Street. Go one block to First United Methodist Church on the corner of 2nd and Walnut Streets. Turn left on Walnut and park behind the church.

OR

Take Route 23 south (and around the bottom of Perrysburg) to the junction with I-75. Go NORTH on I-75 to the first exit, exit 193 (SR 20 Perrysburg-Fremont). At the exit stoplight turn left on SR 20 into Perrysburg. At the 2nd stoplight (Zoar Lutheran Church is on the right hand corner) turn left (staying on Rt 20), go to the 4th stoplight and turn right on Louisiana Avenue (Way Library is on the right hand corner). Go over the railroad tracks and turn left at the next stoplight onto 2nd Street. Go one block to First United Methodist Church on the corner of 2nd and Walnut Streets. Turn left on Walnut and park behind the church.

From the South

Take I-75 north to exit 193 (SR 20 Perrysburg-Fremont) and follow the directions above.

From East and West

From the Ohio Turnpike, take exit 4A for I-75 north (Toledo) and south (SR 795 Perrysburg-Millbury). Go SOUTH and exit on the Perrysburg exit before actually exiting onto I-75. After turning left (west) at the exit stoplight into Perrysburg, go to the 3rd stoplight and turn right onto Louisiana Avenue (Way Public Library is on the right hand corner). Go over the railroad tracks and turn left at the next stoplight onto 2nd Street. Go one block to First United

Methodist Church on the corner of 2nd and Walnut Streets. Turn left on Walnut and park behind the church.

Schedule

8:30 - 9 AM	Gathering
9 AM	Meeting for Worship
9:45 AM	Greetings/Orientation
10 AM	Committee Meetings
Noon	Lunch
1 PM	Meeting for Business

Lunch

Lunch will include a casserole or soup for both vegetarian/nonvegetarian diets, salad, fresh fruit, cookies. We ask a \$5.00 contribution per person, and payment may be made March 6. Donuts and bagels will be available at registration time. Coffee and hot tea will be available throughout the day.

Childcare

Broadmead does not plan to provide childcare during Representative Meeting unless this service is requested in advance. Please let us know by February 21 if child care will be needed so that we can contact a childcare provider.

Overnight Housing

Friends who wish overnight housing in the home of an LEYM member or attender before and/or after Representative Meeting should contact Janet Smith at Jesmithq@aol.com or Judy Greenberg at 419-885-0441 or drwmg@buckeye-express.com by February 21. Overnight housing can be provided in Ann Arbor (3/4 hour to Perrysburg), Toledo, Perrysburg, Findlay, or Bluffton (1 hour to Perrysburg) depending on which location is most convenient.

Other Questions

Info: Judy Greenberg at 419-885-0441 or drwmg@buckeye-express.com or Janet Smith at Jesmithq@aol.com.

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Solstice Celebrations

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ther? Mother? Parents are givers. What about God as Child? The Solstice Child needs *our* gifts, as does the promised Springtime of peace and paradise.

Changing Meeting Status

By Betty Ford, Grand Rapids
Advancement and Outreach Committee

Ohio Yearly Meeting

LeRoy H. Curtis, Wooster
LEYM Representative to Ohio Yearly Meeting

The Advancement and Outreach Committee (A&O) is charged by Lake Erie Yearly Meeting with maintaining a list of Meetings within LEYM, including Worship Groups, Preparative Meetings, Monthly Meetings and Quarterly Meetings. Both the Worship Group and Preparative Meeting are generally under the care of a Monthly Meeting. When there is not a Monthly Meeting or a Quarterly Meeting to nurture a group, then it becomes the responsibility of LEYM to do so.

This article is intended to clarify the procedure for groups that want to change their status. If the group is under the care of a Monthly Meeting, it is the Monthly Meeting's responsibility to advise and oversee the transition. In turn the Monthly Meeting should notify A&O. If the group is under the care of LEYM, it will be the responsibility of A&O to advise and oversee the transition.

If a group wishes to be laid down, A&O would encourage and help the group explore alternatives. It is important to keep A&O informed of potential changes as well as actual changes. Clearness committees are most helpful in making important decisions and can be facilitated by A&O if the need is known.

I would like to share with you why this subject of changing status is of particular interest to me. My meeting, Grand Rapids Friends Meeting, has two Worship Groups and one Preparative Meeting under its care. Last year the Preparative Meeting asked us for information about becoming a Monthly Meeting. It made us as a Monthly Meeting consider what the procedure was and what our responsibilities are. We have met with the Preparative Meeting to share with them some of the responsibilities of a Monthly Meeting. They are gradually preparing themselves to become a Monthly Meeting as noted in their State of the Meeting Report. One of the Worship Groups seems to be increasing in attenders and has requested a Seekers Meeting. When the time is right and groups are ready for a "status change," we will know exactly what to do.

The members of LEYM's Advancement and Outreach Committee are available to help discern when it is time to change a group's status. A&O needs to be notified when a group's status changes. Monthly Meetings with care for groups are asked to notify the clerk of A&O of changes. Clerks are listed in the LEYM Annual Report.

Ohio Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends was held at Olney Friends School near Barnesville, Eighth Month 12-17, 2003: Seth B. Hinshaw, Clerk, and Bob Wilbur, Reading Clerk.

The Business Sessions of Ohio Yearly Meeting, held in the Yearly Meeting house, were held in the worshipful manner of Friends with solemn deliberation and silent waiting upon the guidance of the Spirit. Each vocal contribution was seriously considered for its adherence to Quaker ministry. Prior to morning business there were sessions for Bible reading and worship sharing.

Evening sessions consisted of an Open Meeting for Worship, separate men's and women's meetings for spiritual sharing, an evening on "The Future of Ohio Yearly Meeting: Discerning and Pursuing the Will of God," and Creating Peace SEED groups - Promoting the peace testimony by building bridges through communication skills presented by Scilla Wahrhaftig and sponsored by the Peace and Human Relations Committee.

The written responses to Queries of Salem and Stillwater Quarterly Meetings were read during business sessions with the Yearly Meeting Clerk writing a summary for the Yearly Meeting which was then revised, if needed, and approved for the Annual Report.

Of interest to some in Lake Erie Yearly Meeting would be the report of the Fiduciary Trustees of Olney Friends School on purchasing the land and buildings comprising the School. Over 15 months the Fiduciary Trustees studied the needs of the School, the Friends Center, and the Yearly Meeting. It was recommended that approximately 65 acres be sold to Olney Friends School. The Fiduciary Trustees report was accepted by the Yearly Meeting along with the recommendations pertaining to the sale of property which now allows proceeding with the legal requirements for the sale. This was a historical moment in the life of Ohio Yearly Meeting and Olney Friends School.

Correction to Minutes

By Janet Smith, Broadmead

Minute #7 in the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting annual minutes has a piece of incorrect information. It says that the Spiritual Formation spring retreat will be held at Michigan Friends Center. The spring retreat will meet at The Leaven Center, Lyons, Michigan. The date is okay. Would you please make a correction note for us. Many thanks and blessings!

Conscientious Objection and Taxes

Jim Satterwhite, Broadmead

In 1969, as I was graduating from college in Florida at the height of the war in Vietnam, I faced a dilemma. Should I go into the military to fight in Vietnam, or was there another option for someone who had come to the position that violence and war are wrong? At that time I was fortunate, as I was able to do "Civilian Alternative Service" as a Conscientious Objector under the Selective Service guidelines in effect at the time.

After I completed my alternative service I began wrestling on and off with the issue of war in a different way. I no longer faced the dilemma of whether or not to physically participate in fighting, but I found that now I was being asked to fund the military even though I had not participated in it for reasons of conscience. Over the years I grappled with this dilemma, and increasingly came to the conclusion that I needed to make a statement against the use of my tax money for the purpose of killing people my country designated as enemies. This conviction became clearer in the last 6 years, so my wife, Olwen, and I decided to "withhold" about 20% each time we filed our Federal taxes, since that is the approximate amount that goes directly to support the military (if you count other costs, that figure is much more than the 20%). We are asked to "pray for peace and pay for war." Despite many attempts to get a bill through Congress, there is as of yet no "alternative service" option for taxes that serve the military. Since I have been in CPT it has struck me again – when Palestinian friends show me bullets fired at them that were supplied by my tax dollars, I feel like I am not being very consistent in my actions.

A week or so ago there was a note in our door from an IRS Collections agent, who wanted to speak with me. We met on a subsequent day at a coffee shop in town, with a local attorney friend of mine as witness. The upshot of this meeting was as follows:

We can strike a deal with them whereby they will only take c. \$300/month for 36 months from my paycheck until the c.\$10,000 we owe is paid. This offer of theirs is the carrot. If, however, we were to continue

our "protest," this action would invalidate such a deal, and they would take the maximum (probably close to the whole paycheck, as Olwen is working full time, and the house is paid for). This means that for 5-6 months we would be living on one income. This part is the stick.

The agent talked about possibly going after Olwen for the amount that I owed from those years that we had filed separately by calculating my share of the equity before I transferred my interest in our house to her this year. This was part of the stick - to essentially threaten to make life difficult for Olwen if I did not cooperate. (The agent even asked clearly "Do you want to make life difficult for her?") He did say that the IRS would have to decide whether it would be worth the effort for them to go this route, but the threat was clear in any event.

The IRS agent was very sympathetic, but "just doing his job." He indicated several times that he had not encountered a conscientious objector to war taxes before, and that he himself had not made choices of conscience in the past at several junctures when he had had the chance. I gave him a copy of my cover letter that goes with my tax returns. I felt that it was good to have the opportunity to talk face-to-face, as a further part of the peace testimony. The agent even gave me a printout of something that came across his computer screen about Philadelphia Friends [Quaker] Yearly Meeting countersuing the IRS when it tried to collect from an employee's wages - the issue obviously intrigued him.

I have given him a definitive answer: I cannot agree to his terms, so he will have to go ahead and do what he has to do to collect the money.

I was struck again how sophisticated the system of carrots and sticks is - from the basic withholding tax, to the offer of lenient collection terms if I simply don't think about my money going to kill people and agree to cooperate in sending them the amount "owed." It's insidious, really. We are part of a culture of death that has become normal.

QUIP Call For Young People's Experience

Here's a "call for submissions" for young people to write about their experiences as Quakers.

<http://www.quaker.org/quip/>

-- click on "Call for Submissions" --

By Susan Jeffers, Ann Arbor

Sitting In The Market

By Jim Satterwhite, Broadmead

These last few days I have spent quite a bit of time sitting and talking to merchants in the old market. It's more of a ghost town than a market now - because of Israeli army checkpoints few people are willing to risk harassment from the soldiers in order to come into the Old City anymore. The Israeli army and settlers have also closed off some parts of the old market and expropriated others, so many merchants couldn't open if they wanted to. Still, a few shopkeepers do come and open shop in the morning on those days when there is no curfew. They have virtually no business, but are making a statement that they will not be driven out by the army or the settlers. Sitting there they have a lot of time on their hands, so I sometimes sit and talk with some of them. Several of them know some English, and I have picked up some words and phrases in Arabic, so we manage to communicate astonishingly well. We have talked a lot about religion, about the political and economic situation, about homes that have been demolished in their circle of family and friends, and about changes over the years. They often remark on how this used to be a thriving market, packed with shoppers. They seem forlorn, almost resigned, but still they come every day they can.

My North American mind sometimes tells me that that I should be getting on with my job, doing the work I came here to do - not sitting around in the market whiling away my time. Then I reflect, this is the work I came to do. A large part of the Christian Peacemaker Team's "job" is to simply be a presence, to listen, to help or offer encouragement where possible, but mainly to be there for the people we encounter. It is enormously important to build this rapport - without it none of what we do would have the same impact, but by the same token we are able to have the rapport because of our actions aimed at reducing the level of violence and working against the injustices that have become woven into their lives by the occupation.

Yesterday and today I had two moments that illuminated the experience for me. Yesterday I was sitting and talking to a local barber, having been invited to sit down and talk as I was on my way back to the apartment from sitting with other merchant friends. As I was sitting on a stool outside the barbershop an Israeli army patrol came up through the market. There were four soldiers, guns at the ready, two on each side of the narrow passage in combat formation. They seemed ill at ease, interlopers, wary of what they might find, yet determined to enforce "security." I suddenly realized that by contrast I was at home here, an invited guest, having a conversation. My conversation partners and I don't always agree on everything, but we have a mutual respect. We in CPT often reply to soldiers who ask if we aren't afraid to live "among the Arabs" that it is because we don't come carrying guns that we are not afraid.

Today something similar happened - I was sitting next to another shopkeeper friend who was reciting passages from the Koran prior to Friday prayers when the same patrol came by. It must have seemed strange to them to see me just sitting there while my friend continued his recitation, but I felt perfectly at ease - I felt centered as in a Quaker meeting. Today I was able to greet the soldiers as they walked by on their patrol, and to sincerely wish them a good afternoon. They are not my enemy, even if I challenge what they are here to do. If I am to help reduce violence here, then I must relate to the soldiers as human beings as well. If I am hostile to them, I fuel the cycle of violence. If I can find it in my heart to engage them as well, then I help prevent the violence around me from becoming a part of me as well.

Today I was able to bridge the gap. Today for me was a small moment of revelation, of the celebration of life - all in an instant, just sitting there in the market.

An Invitation to Read (and Write for) What Canst Thou Say?

What Canst Thou Say? is a quarterly newsletter on Quakers, mystical experience and contemplative practice -- a worship-sharing group in print. Friends from around the US and occasionally overseas share their personal experience of Spirit. Themes for upcoming issues will be Guidance (May), Precognition (August), and Darkness (November).

Send name and address to Mariellen Gilpin, 818 West Columbia, Champaign IL 61820, for a sample copy with queries for upcoming issues. Or email m-gilpin@uiuc.edu. If you can receive attachments in Word, we can email a copy. Save a stamp and save a tree. WCTS is \$8 for four issues a year, \$15 for two years. Subscriptions can be sent to WCTS, c/o Margaret Willits, PO Box 5082, Sonora, CA 95370.

Friends Committee on Unity With Nature and Earthcare Committee

By Al Connor, Ann Arbor

I. FCUN's Steering Committee met May 15-17 at Guilford College. The major outcome of that meeting was a change in the Mission statement that included providing "material support" for political and social action on environmental issues and legislation. Material support means financial support for FCNL's lobbying on energy and other environmental legislation, letter writing and phone calling, and meeting, sometimes collectively, with federal, state and local legislators and policy makers to persuade them to support policy and legislation that leads to developing communities that are more ecologically and economically sustainable.

The Steering Committee supported the position that the Free Trade Agreement for the Americas (FTAA) can not be supported by FCUN. Both FTAA, which has not yet been adopted by nations of the North and South America, and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) make corporations and their major investors sovereign and preempt sovereignty of national, provincial, state and local governments. Both agreements are not ecologically or economically sustainable. Much of the non-renewable natural resource base of the industrial world--U. S. A., Canada, Western Europe, Japan, Russia--are depleted to a level that they cannot support the populations of those nations. Transnational corporations of those nations are now taking the natural resources of non-industrial nations, mostly in the southern hemisphere of the Earth, depleting them in collusion with political, military and economic elites of those nations and impoverishing most of their population.

The Steering Committee urged its members and FCUN representatives from Monthly and Yearly meetings to inform their meetings about (1) policy and legislation at all levels of government that affect sustainability--positively and negatively--of their local, regional, national and global communities and (2) about spiritually led activity, with the purpose of maintaining or improving community, regional, national and global sustainability that meetings, committee and members can participate in and support.

II. The LEYM Earthcare Committee met at 2003 Yearly Meeting at Bluffton College June 13-15. Dick Hogan of Athens and Al Connor of Ann Arbor agreed to co-clerk the committee. Other members are Bill and Isabel Bliss of Ann Arbor, John Howell of Athens, Don Beardon of Cleveland and perhaps Shirley Bechill of Alma, MI.

Earthcare would like for First Day School curricula to include environmental and Earthcare content. FCUN has published a number of pamphlets that can be used by youth and adults to learn about the Earth, what is happening to it now, how human and corporate behavior is affecting nature, the spiritual and biblical basis for caring for the Earth and the Universe. One of those pamphlets, *Sustainability and Spirituality: a study guide for Friends and others*, outlines nine lessons. It also lists references and sources of more information. FCUN pamphlets are inexpensive and can be purchased in bulk. Other pertinent FCUN pamphlets include: *Healing Ourselves and Our Earth*, by Elizabeth Watson of Chicago Monthly Meeting; *Becoming a Friend to the Creation*, and *Caring for the Earth: Reflections on the Biblical Basis of Earthcare*, by Lisa Gould; *Walking Gently on the Earth: An Earthcare Checklist*, by Jack Phillips.

Monthly meetings can have adult study groups and forums on Sustainability, Spirituality and Earthcare using the above resources plus Kenneth Boulding's chapter, "The Economics of the Coming Spaceship Earth," in *Environmental Quality in a Growing Economy* and other Quaker and friends of Quakers writings on the issue.

The Earthcare Committee expressed support for Greenfire Farm that Dick Hogan and his family operate near Athens, OH. We urge Friends to visit Greenfire and perhaps participate in one of its programs.

Friends are urged to become informed about national, state and local environmental policies and legislation. Federal legislation now being proposed by the present Bush administration that the Committee believes should be opposed include the Clear Skies Initiative and the Healthy Forests Initiative. FCUN and the Earthcare Committee are also opposed to the Free Trade for the Americas Agreement (FTAA).

The Clear Skies Initiative proposes changing the Clean Air Act, that expires next year, as follows: Regulate emission of nitric oxides, sulfur dioxide and mercury. It omits regulation of carbon dioxide emissions. The first two gases create acid rain that pollutes lakes, rivers and streams. Mercury also pollutes waters, is toxic, is eaten by fish and can eventually get into human diets. CO₂ is the most prevalent gas emitted to the atmosphere. It traps heat from the Sun and causes

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FCUN & Earthcare

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global climate change. Coal-burning electric power generating plants and oil refineries are the most heavy emitters of CO₂ along with motor vehicles.

The Healthy Forests Initiative will open national forests to excessive road building, logging, and off-road recreational vehicles, supposedly to reduce the threat of fires that threaten the forests and country estates built in them.

FTAA, as has NAFTA, opens the gate for corporate investors to gain control over all industry and natural resources from Canada to the tip of Argentina. It will allow mega corporations to exploit the natural resources, labor and lack of environmental protection laws in South and Central American nations. They have depleted those resources in the U.S.A and Europe. Now they import them from non-industrial nations, process them here and in Canada, sell the processed goods here and back to the wealthy in the non-industrial world. However, those corporations are moving their industries to the "less developed world" to further exploit low wage labor, lack of industrial safety regulations, lack of environmental protection for workers and consumers and reduction of import tariffs around the world. The continued exploitation of the Earth's resources is not economically or ecologically sustainable for future generations. Corporations are superseding governments as makers of international, national and even local policy via trade agreements.

III. At the 2004 LEYM annual meeting, the Earth-care Committee will have a workshop on caring for and regenerating the Earth. The Committee also will have an hour of program time. Committee members will be meeting at Greenfire Farm near Athens, OH, sometime this Fall to start planning for workshop and the program time. We also will have committee meetings at LEYM. Anyone wishing to work with us on the workshop and program is welcome to join us. Contact either Dick Hogan at <hogangreenfire@msn.com> or Al Connor at <alconn@provide.net>.

In committee meetings and plenary sessions, Friends explored spiritual leadings and came to unity on a number of issues in the development of the life of FGC Quakerism. Of special interest will be the decisions about the location for future Gatherings, reported on by a member of the Long Range Conference Planning Committee.

Reflections from the 2003 Annual Meeting of the Central Committee of Friends General Conference

by Leonora Cayard, Pittsburgh

The 2003 meeting of the Central Committee of Friends General Conference took place October 23-26, again at the comfortable Brethren Conference Center in New Windsor, MD. As in the past, the kindness and warmth of Friends working together, attentive to the guidance of the Spirit, was refreshing to the soul, as was the brisk, sunny and bright autumn weather of this weekend.

After a rich opening worship, the first evening plenary brought the Secretary General's report. Bruce Birchard described the remarkable expansions of FGC's service to God and to our branch of the Religious Society of Friends, which had originated from a spirit-led planning process over the last decade. These program expansions include the Traveling Ministries Program; increase in religious education work through small conferences and a new Religious Education Newsletter; approval of the Ad Hoc Committee on Racism as a standing "Committee for Ministry on Racism"; substantial growth of the publications process and the bookstore; and development of a new website, www.QuakerFinder.org. All this growth necessitated some increase in staff, and, together with the expenses for the expanded program, caused a need for greatly increased funds. Fortunately, through a strong development program and the excitement among Friends about the new and growing programs of FGC, the increases in annual operating budgets have so far been met by substantial increases in contributions.

Bruce also shared a burning concern of his. It has become traditional in many Friends meetings to separate our spiritual growth and our social action, assign these areas to separate committees, and expect individual Friends to focus on one or the other. However, they should be integrated! George Fox had undergone a spiritual transformation which made violence impossible, and from this grounding he told the recruiters that he "lived in the virtue of that life and power that took away the occasion of all wars." Our spiritual life should lead us to social testimonies, and our work for peace and justice should flow out of our spiritual grounding. This message touched me deeply, and I feel the need to share it.



FCNL Annual Meeting

Nov. 13-16, 2003

By David Snyder, Albion

This year's gathering at Friends Committee for National Legislation was themed "Building a Culture of Peace." Thursday evening offered us the opportunity to hear from a true patriot and American hero(ine), Marian Wright Edelman, director of the Children's Defense Fund. She spoke passionately about the concerted ongoing efforts by the President and Republicans in Congress to undermine vital programs that serve children and their parents. In the succeeding days three different panel discussions examined aspects of what is required to build a Culture of Peace. One focused on efforts to build institutions and processes to avoid and respond to incidents which threaten or have included deadly conflict. Another examined differing responses to the USA Patriot Act and efforts to erode the Bill of Rights. And the third presented the experiences of two veterans who share the conviction that war is not the answer.

Meeting for Business sessions were sprinkled through the gathering. Our major effort was to review and eventually approve the revised Statement of Legislative Policy of FCNL. This document was last revised in 1994 and the Policy Committee of FCNL had spent the past 2 years soliciting input from the broad spectrum of Friends and circulating draft statements for review and critique. Working groups during the gathering again reviewed the Preamble and each of the four sections of the document. After threshing and seasoning, the new Statement was approved by the General Committee on Sunday morning. Participating in this work of the General Committee gave me an immediate opportunity to appreciate the health of FCNL as an or-

ganization. Divergent ideas were considered with care and strenuous efforts were made to adopt language that was clear and effective. As a newcomer to a group that includes individuals who have been involved since FCNL began, I felt welcomed and able to add my voice to the discussion.

Another inspiring aspect of the Annual Meeting that tells me that FCNL is meeting its mission has to do with the ongoing Capital Campaign to raise \$6.18 million to pay for the renovation of the building that houses the FCNL offices. Campaign Committee clerk Binford Farlow challenged those of us in attendance to give \$50,000 during the Annual Meeting! By Sunday morning the total amount given and pledged exceeded \$80,000! The total raised by the campaign is now well over \$5 million. These funds will allow FCNL to be housed in a "green" structure that utilizes geothermal heating and cooling, includes aspects of Permaculture in its design and landscaping, and is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For me, personally, the gathering was a time of spiritual renewal and challenge, an opportunity to learn that there is now a "Quaker Think Tank" examining issues of key importance to the survival of our world and to meet with old Friends and new. LEYM was well represented by at least twelve individuals who are either At-Large members of the General Committee or Yearly Meeting representatives. I enjoyed seeing those I had met at Yearly Meeting and getting to know others for the first time.

Earlham School of Religion Courses

Earlham School of Religion has two week intensive graduate courses which can be taken for credit or audit either in Richmond, IN, or four regional areas: Hartford, CT, Greensboro, NC, Marshalltown, IA, and Pasadena, CA. More information can be found at esr.earlham.edu.

Course titles are: Educational Ministries in the Local Meeting or Church, Introduction to Distributive Education & Spiritual Formation, Aspects of Writing as Christian Ministry, Theology and Worship, Group Pastoral Care, Ministry with Children, Joy of Sects, Gospel of Matthew, Emergency Pastoral Care, Ministry Among Unprogrammed Friends, Moral & Faith Development, Pastoral Ministry Among Friends, Writing for Ministry: Faith and Literature, Quaker Beliefs, Technology and Ministry, Christian Reconciliation: Conflict Resolution in Church and World, Exegesis of OT Biblical Narrative.

To register or for more information, contact Sue Axtell (800)432-1377 or axtelsu@earlham.edu.

FWCC Lower Great Lakes Regional Gathering,

Oct. 17-19, 2003

By Rosemary Coffey, Pittsburgh

Under the auspices of Friends World Committee for Consultation Friends from Lake Erie, Ohio Valley, and Ohio (Conservative) Yearly Meetings met at Waupoos Farms, south of Ottawa, ON, along with members of the St. Lawrence Regional Gathering of Canadian Yearly Meeting, for a weekend focused on singing, rejoicing, and building peace. The Americans were warmly received by the Canadians, several of whom had traveled to Xenia, Ohio, for last year's regional gathering.

Susan Lee Barton, Midwest Field Secretary, spoke of FWCC's mission of "strengthening the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends," an endeavor clearly supported by the combined gathering on this chilly October weekend. Topics under consideration included a possible linkage of the St. Lawrence folks with Uganda Yearly Meeting; opportunities for building peace together; and ways to implement priorities determined by the group. At lighter moments, Beverly Shepard of Hamilton MM led participants in sacred chanting, Carolyn Balderston Parry of Ottawa MM stimulated additional singing to her dulcimer accompaniment, and Rosemary Coffey of Pittsburgh MM led attenders in a time of international folk dancing.

In addition to the plenary presentations and discussions, participants met in four small groups and reported back to the whole. Group 1 considered the query: "How can we become better peacemakers ourselves within the Society of Friends and beyond?" One recommendation was to spend less time trying to get other people to stop fighting and more seeking to overcome the seeds of war in our own hearts. Within the Society of Friends, as in the outside world, often it is those with extreme (theological) positions who have captured the terms of debate, leaving the majority who prefer peace intimidated into silence.

Group 2 discussed how Friends might understand and support peace in Africa, drawing on the earlier presentation by Rosemarie and Bill McMechan on their time in Uganda. Specific projects that might be supported were purchasing a maize mill, putting a roof on the Meeting House, and supporting the participation of Young Friends in a work camp in summer 2004. Before the end of the gathering, the funds needed for the maize mill were all in hand, and contributions had also been received towards the roof, including \$20 earned by the attending children from selling cards and bookmarks that they had made during the weekend.

Group 3 focused on how Friends might offer understanding and peaceful support in the tensions between Palestine and Israel. Suggestions included the following: raise \$2-3000 to pay for the tuition of a student at the Ramallah Friends School; "adopt" (by offering moral encouragement to) a pilot (or other Israeli soldier) who is refusing to serve in the Occupied Territories; spread stories of hope, e.g., about Israeli women who peacefully monitor the checkpoints; be more loving in our own lives; look for opportunities for reconciliation among the religious tensions in our own communities; inform ourselves better (e.g., www.gushshalom.org for news about the peace movement in the area); become more aware of our own historical background as settlers or conquerors in this land where we live.

Finally, Group 4 considered how Friends might support the United Nations, persuade our own governments to rely less on military security, and enhance cooperation on these issues between Friends in the US and in Canada. Recommendations included the idea of developing and undertaking local and international fund raising events based on the disease model (breast cancer walks, etc.), where participants request sponsors for distances walked, run, skied, and the like. Possible themes might be "Walk for a Cure to War" or "Parade for Peace." Similarly, Friends were urged to encourage the UN to establish a fund dedicated to the development of preventive strategies and "cures" for war, again keeping to the medical model. Canadian Yearly Meeting was specifically asked to create a Canadian equivalent to the Friends Committee on National Legislation and to have the "sister" organizations work together, as well as to encourage the Canadian government to form a Ministry of Peace in the federal government along the lines of a similar department recommended in the US by Congressman Dennis Kucinich. Finally, it was suggested that Friends in both Canada and the United States be open to recognizing bilateral aspects of domestic issues and to working together in support of one another in pursuit of appropriate solutions.

In the discussion that followed, Canadian Friends explored the creation of a committee to seek to season and implement these proposals; several Friends expressed willingness to serve on such a committee. The hope would be to build something that would draw in all Canadians, not just Friends.

(Continued on page 12)

Preparing for the FWCC Triennial

By Margaret Kanost, Birmingham

Dear Friends,

As one of your LEYM representatives to the Friends World Committee for Consultation Triennial in New Zealand this January, I would like to share with you some of the process of preparing for the trip. For the past 9 months I have received mailings at intervals from FWCC concerning all the details of attending the Triennial.

First was to arrange the flight from Honolulu to Auckland because January will be New Zealand's summer and consequently high travel season. Then, later, the flights from Michigan to Hawaii and back. The flight from Honolulu to Auckland is 10 hours in length, almost due south, and crosses the International Date-line, which means losing a day--going--and retrieving it on the way back. In Honolulu I'll visit Dan and Shirley Peacock and daughter, Karen Peacock, with whom we had Meeting during our years on Saipan and who were also Earlham contemporaries. Dan was in a CPS unit that dealt with starvation at the U of Minnesota during WW II.

There have been numerous color-coded sheets from FWCC on what to take: Bible, Hymnbook, Being Faithful Witnesses--devotional guide, warm weather clothing, Passport, Sun screen, prescriptions etc. There is also very precise information from the New Zealand government on what NOT to take into their country: plant and animal products that might endanger the health of native plants and animals. For example do not take a summer purse of woven fibres or a necklace made of seeds or any fruit you may not have finished on the trip.

We are given helpful information on Cultural Sen-

sitivity--concerning our attitudes toward those Friends who come from many countries, languages, and branches of Quakerism. To assist us in this we are referred to Paul's words to the Romans Ch.14 v.19. "Let us then pursue what leads to peace and to building up one another."

There is a choice of a mid-week local field trip. I will take the city tour of Auckland with several stops. Since I have never been to New Zealand, I will take the Quaker Down Under Tour that follows the Triennial (at my own expense). It takes us to the Wanganui Quaker Settlement.

Having lived in Micronesia (Western Pacific) for 8 years from 1965-73, and working during those years for the Congress of Micronesia, I am particularly interested in learning more of other Pacific peoples. We are encouraged to take pictures of our Meeting with us to share.

So I have taken pictures of Birmingham Meeting indoors at the school where we meet during the school year, and others of our Meeting outdoors in Springdale Park, where we meet in the summer.

Hali Geissler, of Detroit Meeting, has sent me the responses his Meeting had to the study booklet we will be using at the Triennial, and which I distributed to all our Meetings earlier in the year. I will take those responses with me to share. If any other Meeting has a response to the study booklet or other message they would like shared at the Triennial, I will be pleased to carry it with me.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in June and reporting on the Triennial.

First Gathering of Midwestern Young Friends

by Rosemary Coffey, Pittsburgh

Senior high Quaker youth from Illinois, Western, Indiana, Central, Ohio Valley, Lake Erie, and other Yearly Meetings are invited to come to Western Yearly Meetinghouse, Plainfield, NJ (just west of Indianapolis) on Friday-Sunday, March 12-14, 2004.

This will be an opportunity to join high schoolers from other Friends' meetings and churches in a service project with an inner-city ministry to the homeless. There will also be small group discussions, open worship

Bible study, music, and games, as well as workshops on challenging issues designed to empower you to take action after you return home.

Registration forms and more details are available from Josh Medlin, Student Assistant, Friends World Committee for Consultation, Midwest Region, P. O. Box 2471, Richmond, IN 47375. You may also reach Josh at 765-939-1449 or medlinjosh@parallax.ws.

The First Gathering of Midwestern Young Friends

Sponsored by Friends World Committee for Consultation

By Josh Medlin

"In the world, but not of it" - Jesus and many Quakers

Who is it for?

Quaker youth in Grades 9-12 from Illinois, Western, Indiana, Central, Ohio Valley, Wilmington, Lake Erie, and other Yearly Meetings.

When?

Friday-Sunday, March 12-14, 2004

Where?

Plainfield Friends Meetinghouse (Just west of Indianapolis in Plainfield, IN, S 105 East S, at the corner of US 40 and S East St)

How much does it cost?

\$30. Meetings and Yearly meetings usually will help with this. We are collecting donations from those who can contribute to a scholarship fund.

What will we do?

Here is a tentative overview of the weekend's activities:

- Friday night - Introduction, games, small groups, worship, and free time;
- Saturday - Worship, service project, small groups, workshops, and free time;
- Sunday - Clean up, small groups, worship with Plainfield Friends, and good-byes.

Worship will include open worship, music, Bible readings/study, and possibly other features.

Friday night there will be snacks but no meal.

Mail/email registration forms and direct questions and comments to Josh Medlin, FWCC Midwest, PO Box 2471, Richmond, IN 47375, 765-939-1449, medlin-josh@parallax.ws. To guarantee hospitality, we need your registration form by February 25.

Young Friends,

"The First Gathering of Midwestern Young Friends" is a historic event, in that nothing similar has been held in several decades - there has not been a gathering for your age group of Midwestern Quaker youth. You are 21st century Quaker pioneers! As the theme indicates, we will seek to better understand how God is leading us to be different from the world. While anyone (in Grades 9-12) is welcome and encouraged to attend, the gathering is intended primarily for these yearly meetings: Illinois, Western, Indiana, Central, Ohio Valley, Wilmington, and Lake Erie. There may also be Young Friends from relatively nearby yearly meetings such as Ohio (Conservative) and Canadian.

Because of the different backgrounds everyone will bring to this event, we, the organizers, expect the youth and adult leaders to come with open minds and hearts, ready to listen to and learn from others.

Expectations/Guidelines for Young Friends (YFs)
(The YFs may collectively set more guidelines the first night)

- YFs should help with the jobs needed in the kitchen, on the grounds, and elsewhere.
- YFs should respect the meetinghouse and grounds.
- YFs should seek to fully participate in the gathering and include everyone, coming prepared to be around others with different beliefs and habits. Everyone should respect others' beliefs and feel free to express their own in a friendly manner.
- In order to build and maintain a sense of community, YFs should not bring personal CD or tape players (or any other similar devices).
- In respecting others, no smoking, recreational drugs, alcohol, or sexual activity is allowed during the gathering (boys and girls will sleep in separate rooms).

(Continued on page 13)

FWCC Gathering

(Continued from page 10)

Attendees at this gathering were encouraged to take the suggestions in all these reports back to their Meetings for discussion and action.

The First Gathering of Midwestern Young Friends

Sponsored by FWCC

By Josh Medlin

I affirm that I have read and agree to this list of expectations and guidelines.

Youth's signature

Please bring: a Bible (if you have one), bedding, toiletry, and a towel (if you will shower).

If there is anything special (music, poetry, a specific skill, etc) you would like to contribute, please explain:

Expected arrival time: _____. Will your parent/adult driver need lodging? _____

I have enclosed \$ _____ of the \$30 registration fee (please write checks to FWCC Midwest). If you need financial assistance, please first ask your local meeting or church and yearly meeting. If you are still in need, please contact us, and we will try to help. In order to provide financial assistance, we need others to donate to a scholarship fund. If you are interested, please indicate the amount you are giving or will give: \$ _____.

Youth's name: _____ Grade: _____

Address, City, and Zip Code: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail (if applicable): _____

Meeting/Church, Yearly Meeting: _____

Special communication, dietary, or other physical needs or restrictions: _____

Date of last tetanus vaccination: _____

Emergency contacts' name(s) and number(s): _____

Insurance company and policy number: _____

Please bring the insurance card or a photocopy of it.

Medical waiver and permission form

I give permission for the youth named above to participate in the "First Gathering of Midwestern Young Friends," in all of its activities, and to be transported as necessary. I release the leaders, Plainfield Friends Meeting and Friends World Committee for Consultation, from liability for any injury the youth may experience during the gathering. In the event of an emergency, I authorize the leaders to consent to any medical care advised by licensed health care providers and release the leaders and FWCC from any liability for the emergency care. In an emergency, I expect to be contacted as soon as possible.

Parent's/guardian's signature and date: _____

I give permission for my child to take the following medications: _____

Does an adult chaperone need to administer these? _____

Friendly Web Sites

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting <http://leym.quaker.org/>
Akron Friends Meeting <http://home.att.net/~ericstarbuck/AFM.html>
Detroit Friends Meeting <http://hometown.aol.com/detroitmgt/index.htm>
Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting www.greenpasturesqm.org
Holland Worship Group ... <http://www.hollandquakers.org/>
Pine River Friends Meeting www.pineriverfriends.org
Pittsburgh Friends Meeting <http://www.quaker.org/pgpamm/>
Red Cedar Friends Meeting.... <http://redcedar.quaker.org>
Toledo Friends Meeting...<http://www.wcnet.org/~tfriends/>
Wooster Friends Meeting..... <http://wooster.quaker.org>

Publications

Friends Bulletin <http://fb.quaker.org/>
Friends General Conference <http://quakerbooks.org/>
Friends Tract Association
..... <http://www.tractassociation.org/index.html>
Kimo Press, Chuck Fager.....<http://www.kimopress.com/>
Pendle Hill Bookstore
..... <http://www.pendlehill.org/bookstore.html>
Quaker Book Service <http://www.quaker.ca/qbs.html>
Quaker Hill Books..... <http://www.quakerhillbooks.org/>

Friends Houses

Casa de los Amigos, Mexico
..... <http://www.casadelosamigos.org/>
Friends House Moscow
..... <http://www.webcom.com/~peace/fhm/>
Quaker House of Fayetteville, NC..... <http://www.quakerhouse.org/>
Quaker Peace Center, Capetown, S Africa.....<http://capetown.quaker.org/>
William Penn House <http://penn-house.quaker.org/>

Information

Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts ... <http://fqa.quaker.org/>
Frequently Asked Questions.... <http://www.faqs.org/faqs/Quaker-faq/soc.religion.quaker>
Quaker Information..... <http://www.quakerinfo.com/>
Quaker Universalist Fellowship..... <http://www.universalistfriends.org/>
Quaker.org..... <http://www.quaker.org>
Quakers and the Arts <http://home.att.net/~quakart>
Searchable Web Directory..... <http://Quakerfinder.org>

Music

Friends Music Camp
..... <http://www.quaker.org/friends-music-camp/>
The Friendly FolkDancers.. <http://www.infinitejoy.com/ffd/>

Social Action & World Community

Alternatives to Violence Project International<http://avpinternational.org/>
American Friends Service Committee--Philadelphia,
..... <http://www.afsc.org>
Canadian Friends Service Committee
..... <http://www.web.net/~cfsc>
Fellowship of Friends of African Descent <http://www.fellowshipoffriendsofafricandescent.org/>
Fellowship of Reconciliation <http://www.forusa.org>
Friends Committee on National Legislation.....
..... <http://www.fcnl.org>
Friends Committee on Unity with Nature
..... <http://www.fcun.org/>
Friends for a Non-Violent World <http://www.fnvw.org/>
Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns
..... <http://www.quaker.org/flgbtqc/>
Friends Peace Teams<http://friendspeacetteams.org/>
Friends World Committee for Consultation <http://www.quaker.org/fwcc/FWCC.html>
Nonviolent Peace Force
..... <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org/>
Quaker United Nations Organization
..... <http://www.afsc.org/quno.htm>
Quaker Work Camps International.. <http://qli.quaker.org/>
Right Sharing of World Resources.... <http://www.rswr.org>

Schools

Friends Council on Education.. <http://www.friendscouncil.org/>
Friends School in Detroitwww.friendsschool.org
Olney Friends School..... <http://www.olneyfriends.org/>

Study Centers

Friends Center of Ohio Yearly Meeting..... http://www.ohiょyearlymeeting.org/friends_center.htm
Michigan Friends Center <http://michiganfriendscenter.quaker.org/>
Pendle Hill <http://www.pendlehill.org/>

Yearly Meetings and Others

Britain Yearly Meeting <http://www.quaker.org.uk/>
Evangelical Friends International. <http://www.evangelical-friends.org/>
Friends General Conference www.fgcquaker.org
Friends United Meeting <http://www.fum.org/>
Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative) <http://www.ohiょyearlymeeting.org/>

LEYM Change of Address

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____
Zip _____
Email _____
Meeting_____

Please return to:

Eric Starbuck
2314 Mission St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2423
Email: ericstarbuck@att.net

Thank you!

N

Broadmead Friends Meeting Observing 30th Anniversary

Joe and Claire Davis, Broadmead Accepted at LEYM June 1974, celebration September 15, 1974, Winebrenner Seminary, Findlay. 16 MM representatives present. 13 adults, 14 children, members.

North Columbus were our advisors, Cophine Crossman, Joy DeLeon, the Darlintons.

Met between Findlay and Bowling Green for a number of years.

Calendar

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

- ü 12/31/2003 ANSWERS TO MINISTRY & NURTURE QUESTIONS DUE, THOMAS TAYLOR, TOMNANCYTAYLOR@COMPUSERVE.COM
- ü 1/1/2004 DUE DATE TO CONFIRM RUSSIA TRIP WITH LEYM, KRI ANDERSON, KRINOEL@HOTMAIL.COM
- ü 1/16/2004-1/19/2004 THE QUAKE THAT ROCKED THE MIDWEST, KRI ANDERSON, KRINOEL@HOTMAIL.COM
- ü 2/21/2004 GREEN PASTURES QUARTERLY MEETING AT DETROIT FRIENDS SCHOOL
- ü 3/6/2004 REPRESENTATIVE MEETING - PERRYSBURG JANET SMITH JESMITHQ@AOL.COM
- ü 3/15/2004 DUE DATE FOR SPRING BULLETIN ERIC-STARBUCK@ATT.NET
- ü 4/30/2004 5/2/2004 SPIRITUAL FORMATION (WESTERN) THE LEAVEN CENTER, 419-874-6738, APRIL ALLISON
- ü 5/14/2004-5/16/2003 SPIRITUAL FORMATION (EASTERN), KATHARINE & KEN JACOBSEN, FRIENDS CENTER OF OYM, 740-425-1248
- ü 6/1/2004 DUE DATE FOR REPORTS FOR LEYM, ERIC STARBUCK, ERICSTARBUCK@ATT.NET
- ü 6/17/2004-6/20/2004 LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING 2004

MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER

DEBS ROUSH, MICHIGANFRIENDSCENTER.QUAKER.ORG/

- ü 1/24/2004 WINTERFEST - SOCIALIZING & CONCERT BY GEMINI (SAN AND LAS SLOMOVITZ)
- ü 2/14/2004 STORYTELLING-MUSIC-PROFESSIONALS, ERIC ENGEL AND CRAIG KUKUK
- ü 4/17/2004 LIVING LIGHTLY - ANNUAL ECO-SIMPLICITY PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOPS: LAND-USE
- ü 5/1/2004 ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE - INTRODUCTION

AND TRAINING: GEOFF BRIEGER AND MARGARET KANOST

- ü 6/5/2004 OJIBWE SPIRITUALITY -- WILMA HENRY, WHITE EARTH BAND, MINNESOTA TRIBE: WILL DISCUSS "SHIELD-VALUES TEACHING" AND LEAD PARTICIPANTS IN CRAFTING THEIR OWN SHIELD

FRIENDS CENTER OF OYM

BILL & FRAN TABER, 740-425-1248

- ü 3/12/2004-3/14/2003 "YOU ARE MY FRIENDS...", SUSAN SMITH
- ü 4/23/2004-4/25/2003 THE GOOD NEWS OF ISAIAH, BY JAMES HEALTON
- ü 4/30/2004-5/2/2003 ON BEING A SPIRITUAL NURTURER
- ü 5/7/2004-5/9/2003 CHRIST IN THE MEETING: HOW CHRIST WORKS AMONG US AND GIVES US A SENSE OF IDENTITY BOTH AS HIS DISCIPLES AND AS HIS PEOPLE, JOHN PUNSHON
- ü 5/14/2004-5/16/2003 SPIRITUAL FORMATION (EASTERN), KATHARINE & KEN JACOBSEN

WIDER QUAKER

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION, AMERICAS@FWCC.QUAKER.ORG

- ü 1/15/2004 YOUTH REGISTRATION FOR QUAKER YOUTH PILGRIMAGE
- ü 1/16/2004-1/25/2004 FWCC 21ST TRIENNIAL, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND
- ü 3/12/2004-3/14/2004 GATHERING OF MIDWESTERN YOUNG FRIENDS, JOSH MEDLIN, MEDLIN-JOSH@PARALLAX.WS
- ü 7/16/2004-8/14/2004 QUAKER YOUTH PILGRIMAGE: ENGLAND, GERMANY, NETHERLANDS

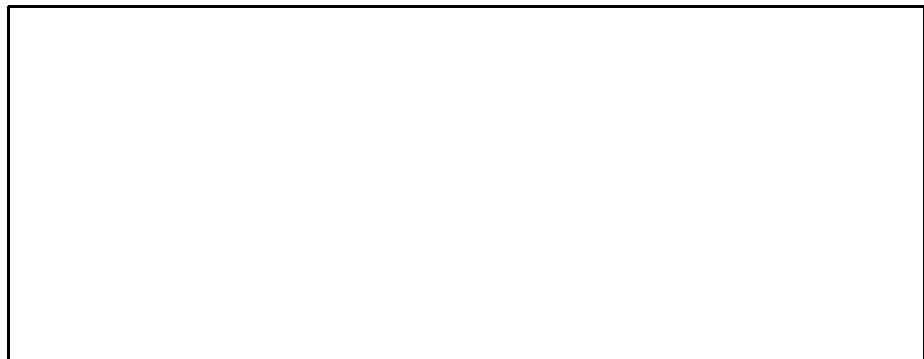
Address Service Requested



LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

Eric Starbuck
2314 Mission St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-2423
Email: ericstarbuck@att.net

*We may, every one of us, if we will,
hear that Divine Voice in the secret
of our hearts.*
Caroline Stephen



Winter 2004 Bulletin



LAKE ERIE REPRESENTATIVE MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Please make reservation for:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Accompanied by _____

Lunch Reservations? (No. eating ____) Recommended contribution \$5 each

I will need child care for

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Please return this form by February 21 to Janet Smith, 121 Cherry St., Perrysburg OH 43551-1422. Or e-mail the information to jesmithq@aol.com.

Info: Judy Greenberg at 419-885-0441 or drwmg@buckeye-express.com.