

QUAKER NEWSLETTER

GAINESVILLE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Newsletter Editor:

Annie McPherson

anniemcp@bellsouth.net

Meeting Place: 702 NW 38th St., Gainesville, Fla. 32605

Phone: 352-372-1070

<http://www.afn.org/~quakers/>

⇒ *Newsletter submissions are due the Monday before the last Sunday of the month*

NEWSLETTER, ELEVENTH MONTH, 2009

KAREN PORTER, CLERK

QUERIES for the Eleventh Month: **CARE OF THE NATURAL WORLD**

Queries: Do we live in harmony with nature? Do we live in keeping with the spirit of the unity, sacredness and integrity of all creation? Do we seek to minimize our consumption of the Earth's resources? Do we encourage equitable and sustainable use of those resources? Do we walk gently over the earth, seeing that of God in all of Nature? Do we seek to educate ourselves, our children, our Meeting, and our community about how our lives can be more in harmony with the Earth? Does the Meeting strive to bring all its practices in harmony with the natural world?

Advice: Maintain in ourselves, and encourage in others, a sense of responsibility for the environment, both for the present and for future generations. Avoid amusements that stimulate destructive emotions, are detrimental to the health or tranquility of others, or are damaging to the natural environment. Show a loving consideration for all creatures, cherishing the beauty and wonder of all God's creation. Share our sense of reverence and stewardship for the earth. Peaceable kingdom on earth.

Ministry & Nurture

Hold in the Light: Eleanor and Andy Merritt; The Allees: Bonner, Susan, and Mary; Amy Von der Porten, Bart Hulett, and Morrie Trimmer

Quaker Study Program: On Friday, December 4th we will hold our annual "Brainstorming Session." The first Friday in December is chosen every year to avoid the holidays. **Please mark your calendars** and plan to attend. Last year there were only three people here and that lack of input places a heavy burden on the sub-committee. There will be catalogs out for folks to browse for ideas. We meet in the meetinghouse. Potluck supper is at 6:00pm and discussion starts as soon as we can clean up.

On Friday, January 29th, 2010 **Walter Morris** will lead us in a discussion of the British pamphlet, "**Twelve Quakers and Jesus.**" These British booklets are usually popular. I will try to have them available soon after New Year's Day.

Barbara Luetke: I still have not heard if she has found hospitality for after Christmas (Dec. 25 – 28). If anyone has already offered hospitality, please let me know.

Milestones: **Morrie Trimmer** and **Betty Odum** have been involved in the meeting for over 50 years. The first recording of their participation is March 22, 1959. Betty was on the First Day School Committee, and Morrie was on the Building Committee. The meeting appreciates their presence and all that they have done over the years.

Words to Contemplate: “. . . too many well-intentioned people are so preoccupied with the clatter of effort to do something *for* God that they can’t hear Him asking that He might do something *through* them.” - **Thomas Kelly**

Special Occasion Film: There will be a showing of NOVA’s “The Bible’s Buried Secrets: Beyond Fact or Fiction” at the **Chalmer’s** home on Friday, November 20th. Potluck supper will be at 6:00pm with the DVD starting as soon as possible after that.

“The film presents the results of more than 100 years of excavation and centuries of biblical scholarship, digging deep into the origins of the Hebrew Bible. . . How did the worship of one god – the foundation of modern Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – emerge?” This landmark two-hour special “. . . provides unique insight into the deeper meaning of the biblical texts. . .”

Connie Ray, Ministry & Nurture Clerk



Friendly Reading Group: *Sandy Lyon, Clerk*

The Friendly Reading Group meets the First Day of each month at 2:30pm at the meeting house for tea, goodies and a lively and informal discussion led by the friend who selected that month’s book. You are welcome to join us even if you don’t attend regularly or have not read the selection for the month.

November 1st	The Giver	Lois Lowry	Sandy Lyon
December 6th	Three Cups of Tea	Mortenson and Relin	Mona Morris
January 3rd	Quaking	Kathryn Erskine.	Jean Larson

Contact Sandy Lyon or Betty Odum, to recommend books or if you would like to lead a discussion.



Holiday Craft Bazaar – Saturday November 21st 9am- 3pm at and around the meeting house.

We will sell crafts, jewelry, needlework, a University of Florida Stadium Quilt, gifts in a jar, Christmas ornaments and assorted gift items. We'll also have a bake sale, including sandwiches, and coffee. Members are asked to make donations of craft and gift items, baked goods and their time for this fundraiser for our Meeting. Check in Social Room for volunteer needs, sign up for work times and suggestions on packaging the baked goods.

Craft-making and creativity for this event meets every Friday 2-5pm until event.

Mona Morris

....From John Graham-Pole

How are you all? I'm so glad to have the chance to see the minutes up here in Nova Scotia - we have a small gathering here in Antigonish under the care of Halifax Meeting but I miss you all. Retirement is lovely - Dorothy and I are busy with our garden and in the kitchen, in the gym and walking the neighbor's dogs - as well as doing some writing and research together. We're making a very short visit to Gainesville at the end of the year - I hope we'll make it to meeting.



Love and peace to all Friends - John and Dorothy

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM MAKING PEACE:

Panel and Community Discussion

Tuesday, October 27th at 7pm

at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th St

Panelists: Hazem Data - former Executive Director, Council on American-Islamic Relations, Orlando; Reverend Jeremy G. Hole - Holy Trinity Episcopal Church; Rabbi David Kaiman - Congregation D'nai Israel.

Moderator: Rabbi Shaya Isenberg

Panelists and community members will have an opportunity to explore how we can promote peace and understanding among our peoples here in Gainesville and around the world. "When we who live outside the immediate theaters of hostilities carry on fighting with words, we are participating in the war-making. When we find ways to make peace within ourselves, within our communities and between our communities, we are contributing to peaceful possibility for the conflict as a whole." Rabbi Isenberg



Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets Sunday, 11/22/09 at 9:40am at the Meeting House.

Peace and Social Concerns & Earthcare Witness Committees are sponsoring the showing of the film "Coal Country," at the Meetinghouse on the evening of **Saturday, November 14th at 7 pm**. This film about mountain top removal is being shown nationwide by the Sierra Club. Please tell your friends!

From our SEYM Representative to QUNO

The September 2009 newsletter from the Quaker UN office (QUNO) tells us that this group is strengthening UN efforts in the area of peacemaking and preventive diplomacy. It is also working at developing leadership for a troubled world.

Mary Ellen McNish writes on behalf of QUNO:

The UN office has just passed its 60th anniversary, and our aims are as they always have been: to provide a space away from the microphones for quieter and more reflective diplomatic discussions on the challenges that face the international community, a place for Rufus Jones' "quiet processes and small circles" in which he hoped that "vital and transforming events" would have an opportunity to flower; to represent voices that are insufficiently heard in the corridors of power; and to work quietly to foster approaches to the international problems that are informed by friends' insights. These quiet but peaceful efforts are made possible by your commitment and support! Please check the website: www.quno.org

Laura W.

Around the Meetinghouse ♦ Jean Larson ♦ October 21, 2009

It is October now, and we have been having warm days with not so much rain. The greeneyes (*Berlandiera subacaulis*) and false pennyroyal (*Phlomis rigida*) I purchased at the Fall Native Plant Sale are comfortable in the flower bed by the driveway as you entering the parking lot. The bed is ready for renewal, and these few plants are a token in that direction. The nearby firebush, planted by Tracy Jeshow, is still blooming, as are some of the salvias.

In the children's yard, a dotted horsemint is showing white and pink streaked leaves. Behind the meetinghouse, the cassia looks ready to bloom and seems to wish it would rain more. The yellow tropical butterfly weed (*Asclepias curassavica*) still has a few blooms on it. The pine needles are falling now and piling up on the lawn and surely in the gutters as well.

I walked in the woods and checked on the status of the dead Chinese tallow. There are sprinkles of sawdust drifting down the trunk, signs that bugs are making their homes there are beginning the natural process of recycling.

A small vegetable garden has been planted in boxes under the windows of the children's room. The meeting was delighted to hear from the children and sing the "Inch by inch" song celebrating gardening.

ELEVENTH MONTH 2009 GFM CALENDAR

Worship 11am First Day (Sunday)

Unless noted, meetings are at the Meetinghouse

11/1/09	Sun	9:30am	Library Committee
		9:30am	Hospitality Committee
		2:30pm	Friendly Reading Group – The Giver
11/3/09	Tues	11:30am	Friendly Lunch at Books Inc.
11/8/09	Sun	12:45pm	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
11/14/09	Sat	7pm	Film: Coal Country
11/15/09	Sun	9:30am	Singing
	After rise of Meeting		Potluck
11/20/09	Fri	6pm	Potluck & Film at Chalmers
11/21/09	Sat	9am-3pm	Holiday Craft Bazaar
11/22/09	Sun	9:40am	Peace & Social Concerns Committee
		12:45pm	Bible Study
11/29/09	Sun	11am	Worship