

Caln Quarterly

Spring 2009

Spring Meeting for Business

May 2, 2009
Camp Swatara

Schedule:

- 9:00 - 11:45** Meeting for Worship Meeting for Business
11:45 - 12:30 Lunch
1:15 - 2:00 Plenary Session: "Heeding God's Call— A Gathering on Peace"

Are you doing all you can to bring peace into our world?

This session will summarize the January 2009 Gathering which took place at the Arch Street Meetinghouse in Philadelphia.

Joe DiGarbo, Lancaster Friends Meeting, attended this Gathering as the delegate from Caln Quarter. He will lead a discussion describing the Gathering and will help participants identify ways that they can bring peace into their, and the wider world, community. This historic Gathering called on all of us to understand the work of justice, non-violence and peace as being rooted in the gospel. The Gathering drew upon the work of Martin Luther King Jr. and others who fostered contemplation and activism to make the world a better place for all.

3:30 - 5:00 Intergenerational Presentation: "*Show Me The Franklins*"

Show me the Franklins! Remembering the Ancestors, Slavery and Benjamin Franklin focuses on the Black Franklins, the enslaved men and women of the Franklin household and the Africans who came into contact with Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia, London and Paris. Set in the context of a contemporary lecture, the play's action moves from an entertaining and informative lecture to a showdown between Scholar, an African American professor who is committed to the biased documentary record, and Jemima, an ancestor formerly enslaved by Franklin. A mixture of poetry, ritual, and song, this play offers a fresh take on slavery by asking us: What are the ancestors calling on us to do today?

Suitable for ages 8 and up. Ages 6, if accompanied by parent or caregiver.

Caln Quarter Officers:

Clerk: Deborah Miles, Deborah_miles@hotmail.com 610-269-3224

Recording Clerk: Jim Herr, herrs@bellatlantic.net 717-569-7848

Treasurer: Darlington Hoopes, DHoopes@lusa.com 610-678-0422

Quarter Coordinator: Marie Ryan coordinator@calnqm.org 610-777-5825

Discover Caln Quarter's website
www.calnqm.org
access CQ's newsletter; MM news-
letters; update your contact informa-
tion; access PYM's website; find links
to other Quaker organizations

Winter Meeting Of Caln Quarterly Meeting, The Religious Society of Friends, Held At Schuylkill Meeting on Second Month 15, 2009.

Minutes

Our meeting for business this morning began after a brief break following worship. At about 11:05 clerk Debra Miles took up the business of meeting and suggested our agenda.

Treasurer Darlington Hoopes, Jr. presented a report for the Quarter. He then mentioned that two of our Monthly Meetings have not provided their covenant reports. Meeting agreed to allow the treasurer to use figures from last year for those Meetings. Darlington then went on to tell us that he has a tremendous collection of papers that he inherited from previous treasurers and for which he sees no need. A suggestion was made that a committee consider this collection and save what is needed for historic consideration and preservation at one of the Quaker historic libraries. Taylor Lamborn and Ken Cook will examine this collection. The treasurer has not yet received a request for funds from our delegate to the Peace Gathering, Joe DiGarbo. He is said to be collecting his receipts and will submit a request in short order.

Since no one had prepared a report for CORC, Marie Ryan said she would attempt to weave that information into her report. She told us how moving she found the Gathering for Peace and said she felt utterly changed. Recently she has felt rejuvenated by listening to recordings of the meetings that are available on the internet. And she is looking forward to hearing from Joe DiGarbo at Camp Swatara. Marie expressed great appreciation for Francis Brown's individual effort to make this Gathering a reality. When asked, Francis then told us how he helped to create the first family weekend meeting of Caln Quarterly fifty years ago. He pointed out that this annual spring family gathering weekend at Camp Swatara is unique in the Yearly Meeting and he feels it is a powerful force that holds Caln Quarterly Meeting together and keeps it vibrant. Much of the success of the weekend, Marie said, has been a result of Monthly Meeting ownership, that is, individual Monthly Meetings take responsibility for organizing the weekend. And Marie suggested that Camp Swatara is a very important place to have children of elementary school age develop Quaker friendships. She hopes this year to have more unstructured time for the children and to spend more time with them outside.

Sandy Hale from Bradford Meeting came to us as a representative of the Friends Counseling Service, overseen by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM). The costs of counselors is underwritten by the Yearly Meeting, which enables counselees to receive the service at a negotiable fee, but the counselors to receive their normal charges. One of the newest services is the Care and Aging program, which will help Monthly Meetings help their older members who have difficult long-term needs and few resources. Another project is assistance for substance abuse. Sandy said that occasionally Meetings suggest members or attenders for her help.

Because there was no representative from Sadsbury Meeting, they had no report.

Megan Connolly reported that Schuylkill Meeting has found they need to strengthen outreach and in-reach. A number of people have found information about Quaker Quest to be very helpful. A group meets monthly to make prayer shawls, there is a new interactive web site, and a plan for Quakerism 101 starting March 16. For years and years, the Meeting has been trying to deal with the fact that 20% of their budget is used for heat. With 6-12 children attending, the First-day School is vibrant. For a little Meeting, they are mighty.

Jody Kinney from Uwchlan said she is surprised at the parallels with Schuylkill meeting. They have a new web site, a new outreach committee, and plans for Quakerism 101. There have been several deaths in the Meeting, which has made them a little more sober and aware of how precious they are to each other. There are cooperative meals, a sewing group, and movies shown occasionally, followed by discussion. In addition the Meeting has a Light Group, a hands-on healing group, and a monthly peace vigil. There are about 90 children in First-day School, including an extremely vibrant Young Friends group meeting in a renovated basement, and an excellent rope swing.

All 9 Monthly Meetings will report to us at Camp Swatara.

Minutes continue on p.3

FROM THE DESK OF THE COORDINATOR

This spring's quarterly meeting marks an important historical point for Caln Quarter. Fifty years ago CQ Friends responded "yes" to the following concern brought forward by Francis Brown of Uwchlan MM in Downingtown:

"A special concern was voiced by Francis G. Brown who felt that an attempt should be made to make the Quarterly Meeting more effective in reaching our young people, especially in the teen-age group by substituting a Week-end Meeting perhaps once a year for the usual Quarterly Meeting. This would help to bring the members of the Quarter into closer fellowship.Much favorable and no unfavorable comment on this special concern followed."

from Caln QM minutes 5 month 16, 1959 [courtesy of Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College]

At the summer business meeting held 8 month 15, 1959, the "Continuing Committee" of Caln QM, after study and discussion, presented a plan for the first "overnight quarterly meeting". It was agreed that the following year the spring meeting would be an *overnight* meeting occurring fourth month, 22 & 23, 1960 at Camp Hilltop near Downingtown. That first family weekend was attended by 55 young people and 50 adults at a cost considerably less than a weekend stay in 2009! At Camp Swatara, perhaps the 3rd location for the "overnight quarterly meeting," the quarter found a home for the event and has continues to meet there for more than 40 years.

The family gathering weekend has certainly met its intended purpose of reaching our young people and bringing members into closer fellowship. The early inclusion of PYM's Young Friends program and then the Middle School program has lent to the ongoing vibrancy and success of Camp Swatara. Another element that has factored into the ongoing success is that the monthly meetings share the responsibility for planning, organizing, and staffing the event. This has created a strong sense of connection to the event itself and to each other. Four of our larger meetings take turns at a 2-year commitment for planning Camp Swatara. Volunteers from each monthly meeting (Camp Swatara Reps) attend several planning meetings from September to March to help with the theme, schedule and other details. This roving responsibility, taken on voluntarily by many Friends in the Quarter, fosters a strong sense of community. Thus, one Friend, Francis Brown, gave voice to a leading and the community continues to take it up, making it theirs. "Take heed of the promptings of Truth and Love, for those are the leadings of God" urged the first Quaker, George Fox. [from *The Sacred Compass*, J. Brent Bill]

This spring we come together at Swatara in a celebration focused on Practicing Peace, a theme which emerged in 2007 at the "overnight meeting" of Caln Quarter. At that business meeting the quarter united in support of Uwchlan Meeting's minute proposing that the yearly meeting plan a national peace gathering. The minute affirmed that "of the many passages in Scripture dealing with the principle of love, we would highlight the injunction found in Romans 12:21 as being the most germane to the world situation today: *"Be not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."* We hold that there is power in acts of goodness -- of love -- and that this power can transform hearts, minds and attitudes from enmity to friendship, from war to peace. It could lead to a new response to terrorism."

Friend Francis Brown's leading that our yearly meeting could point the way toward a renewal of the Peace Churches' response to violence by calling people of faith to come together and begin work anew was embraced by the community, first by the quarter, then by the yearly meeting. The fruit of this leading, the Peace Gathering in January 2009, was an inspired week of worship, workshops, and music where old and new relationships were nurtured and peace-workers learned of the work being done and the work that needs doing here at home and abroad. An individual leading is a gift. Often, it's the energy of others' embracing the leading and working together that then brings the leading to fruition.

Join in fellowship with Caln Quarter Friends for the "overnight business meeting," our annual family weekend at Camp Swatara. Highlights of the weekend include Joe DiGarbo of Lancaster leading a plenary session on the Peace Gathering and Amanda Kemp, also of Lancaster, presenting her play, "**Show me the Franklins! Remembering the Ancestors, Slavery and Benjamin Franklin**" with her performance company Theatre for Transformation.

If it is not possible to stay for the weekend consider coming for Saturday. Let the registrar know! Scott.n.walck@gmail.com

April 15th Deadline

✦ **Young Adult Friends Weekend Workcamp with THE FRIENDS NEIGHBORHOOD GUILD** In North Philadelphia ~ April 24-26, 2009 (Friday evening-Sunday noon)

"An opportunity to connect, learn, serve and be transformed."

The Weekend Workcamp Program of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has a powerful, decades-long history of inviting Quakers and non-Quakers to spiritually-based service in low-income communities of Philadelphia. It offers an opportunity to increase awareness of economic, racial and cultural differences and inequalities as well as discover similarities, seeking to recognize that of God in everyone. Since 2006, the Workcamp program has been based at the Friends Neighborhood Guild, a Quaker-founded social service agency based at 8th and Fairmount—more details: <http://www.pym.org/education/yaf>

✦ **Propose an Interest Group or Workshop for Summer Sessions!**

Your Yearly Meeting Sessions Planning Group has been hard at work on the Summer Sessions. This year's theme - **Living up to the Light** - offers all of us an opportunity to continue exploring our faith and our witness both within our Society and in the larger world. In that spirit, we invite you to offer a workshop and/or interest group for Summer Sessions at DeSales University, to be held from Wednesday, July 29 to Sunday, August 2, 2009.

→ Please submit proposals by **Wednesday, April 15, 2009** to Michael Gagné, PYM Sessions Coordinator, by e-mail at michaelg@pym.org or by regular mail - 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102-1479. It is unlikely that applications received after this date will be included in the final workshop calendar. More info on offering a workshop available at: http://www.pym.org/pm/more.php?id=5650_0_6_0_M

Calendar of Events

Interim Meeting Schedule: Arch St Meeting

--April 11 --May 9 --June 13 9am gather, 9:30 am to 1 pm

Residential Sessions: DeSales University

--July 29 to August 2

April 18 Paul Lacey Speaks on Privacy Dilemma -the Barn at Pendle Hill 7:30 pm <http://www.pendlehill.org/about/directions.php>.
"Privacy and Keeping Confidences: Some Moral Dilemmas" is the theme of the third annual Stephen G. Cary Memorial Lecture

May 6 Tuning In: Mindfulness in Teaching and Learning at Arch St Meetinghouse

5:30 pm Open Reception **6:00-7:00** Program with Authors **7:00-8:00** Book signing and information discussion with authors

Come celebrate the release of Tuning In: Mindfulness in Teaching and Learning, featuring essays by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting authors and educators. The book contains a wealth of contemplative methods that can be used with any curriculum -including Children and Adult First Day School -- to support core skills underlying all learning and to support skills for centering and settling into worship with receptive awareness and a positive, open attitude.

Essays in Tuning In draw on the rich connections between mindfulness practices and Quaker practices rooted in being in touch with the Spirit with oneself and others. Essay authors Christie Duncan-Tessmer, Irene McHenry, Richard Brady and others will lead mindfulness exercises and speak about mindfulness in the classroom, followed by a reception and book signing. RSVP: www.friendscouncil.org childcare available, let registrar know

May 9 - Gathering for Extended Worship Mill Creek Meeting near Newark DE 9:30am- 4pm FriendMarcelle@aol.com

May 13 Quaker Artists Gathering

A spring gathering of Quaker artists will take place Wednesday evening, May 13, at Fourth and Arch St Meeting House.

Artist **Zan Lombardo** will be the guest speaker after dinner. The gathering is co-sponsored by the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts (FQA) and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. There will be a \$15 charge to cover dinner. Invitations will be sent to FQA members. If you'd like an invitation or more information, call Elke Muller at 215-241-7223.

Jun 19 - Jun 21 - Young Adult Friends Retreat --Location TBA

This retreat, planned by the new Young Adult Friend Working Group, in collaboration with the YAF Coordinator, will focus on community building, fun, relaxation, and exploration of joy in our spirituality. sadief@pym.org

June 27 - July 4 Friend's General Conference Virginia Tech U, Blacksburg VA <http://www.fgcquaker.org/gathering/this-year/>

Exeter Friends celebrate their 250th Anniversary!

Saturday Oct 17, 2009

There will be activities on the grounds of Exeter Monthly Meeting as well as a barn dance at the Crow's Nest Preserve in Elverson, PA. The preserve's website <http://www.natlands.org/preserves/preserve.asp?fldPreserveld=42>

Sunday, Oct 18, 2009

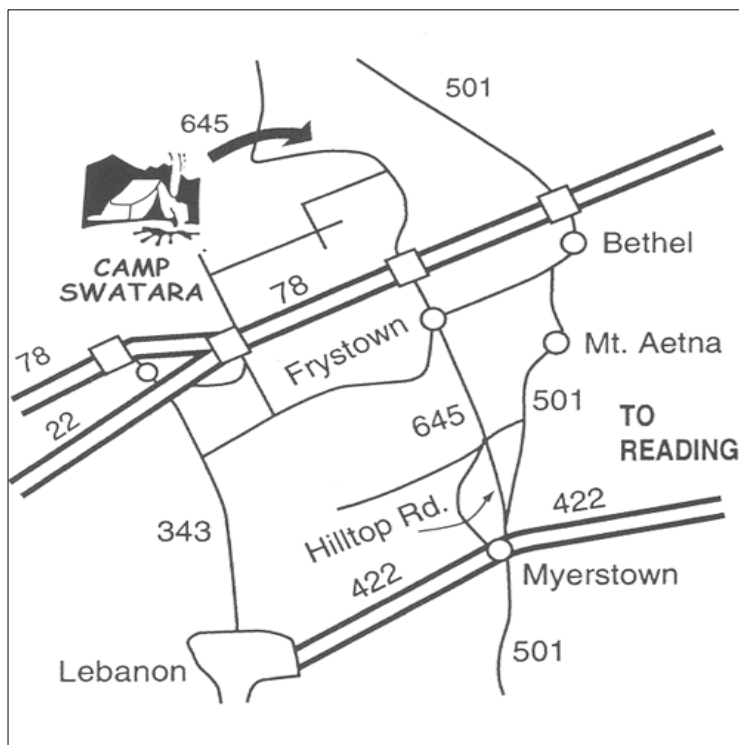
10am - Meeting for Worship **11am** - Quarterly Business Meeting

12:30 - Lunch (open hearth cooking of apple fritters, fresh pressed apple cider on site by First Day Students and wonderful soups to compliment the fall season, among other dishes as provided by Exeter Friends. There will also be activities for First Day Students such as bobbing for apples)

1:30 - Guest speaker: Architectural Historian **Seth Hinshaw** will discuss Exeter Friends' meetinghouse architecture in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the construction of the meetinghouse, among other related topics.

Caln Quarterly Meeting
of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
205 Elkins Avenue
Shillington, PA 19607

CALN QUARTER OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS



WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday 6-9 pm Registration
Saturday 9-12
Worship, Meeting for Business
1:15pm—5pm
Plenary on the Peace Gathering
“Show Me the Franklins”
Workshop Session A
6:45-10 pm
Workshop Session B
Contra Dance
Coffee House
Sunday 9am-1:30pm
Hymn sing
Workshop Session C
Worship
12:15pm Lunch

Located at the foot of beautiful Blue Mountain in northwestern Berks County, Pennsylvania, Camp Swatara is owned and operated by the Atlantic Northeast District Church of the Brethren and is a member of the Outdoor Ministries Association of the Church of the Brethren. <http://www.campswatara.org>