

Prairie Monthly Meeting

Last November Prairie Monthly Meeting, Saskatoon Worship Group, hosted a public forum on the international non-violent peace force. The Worship Group has doubled in numbers since the arrival in September of Frank Klassen and Sharon Wright and their children, Isaac, Jessica and Ahre.

South Kootenay Worship Group

Argenta Monthly Meeting welcomed the establishment of the South Kootenay Worship Group which will be meeting on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, September through June. 10:30 a.m. Singing. 11:00 Meeting for Worship in the meeting room under the Nelson Public Library. Contact Michael Phillips for information. (250) 364-2038. EMAIL: mphillip@netidea.com

Toronto Monthly Meeting

A picnic was held June 3rd with members of the Travelling Ministry Oversight Committee to discuss the Travelling Ministry Program of Friends General Conference. Members of the Meeting took part in the Gay Pride Parade in Toronto on Sunday, June 24th. Jane MacKay Wright has returned to Esgenoopetitj (Bumt Church, N.B.) on a Christian Peacemakers Team as a witness to government interaction with the native fishers with a view to averting further violence over the native lobster fishery.

Victoria Monthly Meeting

Our 1913 Meetinghouse is needing foundation work, and plans are proceeding to have this done. It continues to serve us and several community groups who use it, such as Victoria Storytellers and Amnesty Int'l. Our Meetings for Business have been helped greatly by a Clerk's Committee which meets prior to Monthly Meeting, to prepare the Agenda. Our Nominating Committee is

undertaking an "inventory of gifts" to facilitate the process of matching Friends with meeting service needs. On March 31-April 1, over 55 Friends from all parts of Vancouver Island participated in a gathering, with the theme "Light & Lively--Live Adventurously." This was held at the Fern St. MH, but the program was prepared by "up-Island" Friends. Social justice outreach continues to be an important part of Meeting life. We approved \$50 a month to go to the school at Port Renfrew, which has many First Nations children, toward an "adequate food" program. Several Friends attended the ecumenical Jubilee 2000 event-Year III. The focus was on First Nations issues and our response as churches. As well as native elders, we had Ed Bianchi (from ARC) and Julia Graham (from 10 Days for Global Justice) at this event which attracted 80 persons. Bill Eastman of Victoria Meeting was the co-ordinator. Mike Peddle is off to Guatemala for a month, beginning March 31, for first-hand observations on the management of the Pueblo Partisans project there, a co-sponsored Victoria Meeting/CFSC project. Our Peace, Earth and Social Action Committee has also been active in the area of letter-writing on a number of concerns--too many to mention here. Peninsula Preparative Meeting has decided to make application for monthly meeting status. This has been approved by Victoria Meeting, and is being forwarded to Western Half-Yearly and Canadian Yearly Mtg. A transition committee has been formed locally to work out details.

A called meeting, facilitated by Joy Newall one of our CFSC members, considered the request by CFSC for input vis a vis CYM and Project Ploughshares. The meeting was clear in supporting the continued involvement of CYM on the Board of Project Ploughshares, recognizing that it provides an excellent opportunity for our peace witness, and at the same time not binding the YM to decisions taken by Project Ploughshares. A Minute was

sent to Canadian Friends Service Committee.

The Clerk's Committee of the Meeting is working on a draft outline of tasks and responsibilities of Worship Groups under the care of VMM. (there are presently four on various locations on Vancouver Island.)

Forty-six Friends from Vancouver Island attended Western Half-Yearly Meeting at Sorrento, BC. over the Victoria Day Weekend. (160 were at WHYM) The Meeting appreciated the recent HMAC newsletter, outlining a variety of supports and services available through Home Mission and Advancement.

The June Meeting minuted its appreciation for the service of Arnold Ranneris, clerk pro-tem since last fall, when organizational changes made it necessary to have this service. We affirm the value of the Clerk's Committee which meets to plan and carry out our Meeting business.

Wooler Monthly Meeting

WMM was pleased to welcome David McKay, Regional Field Secretary for Canadian Yearly Meeting, at the May 27th Meeting for Worship. We are hoping to see him again in the future and are making plans for the fall.

Yonge St. Monthly Meeting

Yonge Street Meeting had a fundraising Book N' Bake Sale for the Chima Education Fund on Saturday, June 16 where CD's, Yonge Street Meeting 200th Anniversary T-shirts, sweatshirts, environmentally responsible cloth bags (large & small) were sold, as well as books and baked goods.

Births

Aidan Flynn MacCready, born March 14, 2001 to Alan Dixon and Kelly MacCready.

Jacob Sebastian Finn Jackman, second grandson for Pashta MaryMoon, was born Good Friday, April 13th! - 8 pounds, 3 ounces and 19 1/2 inches long.

New Members

Diane Walrich was joyfully welcomed into membership by Victoria Monthly Meeting

Jay Cowsill, Frank Klassen and Sharon Wright were joyfully welcomed into membership of Prairie Monthly Meeting (Saskatoon Worship Group).

Deaths

Margareta Rehak, died April 3rd in Parksville at the age of 88, three days after her birthday. A member of Victoria Monthly Meeting, she attended Mid-Island group.

Dorothy Hamson, wife of Ed Hamson, and a long-time attender of Toronto Monthly Meeting, died on November 22, 2000.

Dorothy Hamilton, long-time attender of Toronto Monthly Meeting, died November 22, 2000.

Congratulations:

Samson Madera Nashon has successfully defended his PhD thesis at OISE. The title of his thesis was Teaching and Learning High School Physics Through Analogies: A Case Study of Kenyan Classrooms. Samson has accepted a position as Assistant Professor, Science Education at the University of British Columbia.

Pamela Leach has been awarded a post doctoral fellowship, for research in the Political Studies Department at Queen's University.

Tony Richmond, of Yonge Street Meeting, was awarded an Outstanding Contribution Award at the University of Laval in Quebec from the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association.

The Grace of God in the Life of Lorraine Skinner

Lorraine Skinner died at home peacefully, in Victoria on May 11, 2001, at the age of 71, ending a long struggle with cancer. Lorraine and her husband, Max, were active members of Yonge Street Meeting in the late 70s and also attended Toronto Meeting. Lorraine gave powerful, sensitive and inspirational vocal ministry during Meeting for Worship. In the late 70s, Lorraine and Max became involved with a "grass roots" New Foundation movement among Quakers and travelled extensively in Canada, the United States, Britain and Northern Ireland, supported by Yonge Street Meeting with a travelling minute. This movement was attempting to reintroduce Friends to the prophetic Christianity of George Fox who stated Christ has come to teach His people himself.

Lorraine was born in Lethbridge, Alberta, August 13, 1930. She attended school in Lethbridge and Coleman, Alberta; Charlottetown, PEI, and Connecticut School of Dance, and graduated from University of Toronto in 1966. Lorraine taught ballet and modern dance in Charlottetown in the late 40s, was a nursery school and public school teacher, and was a member of the Society of Canadian Artists in the late 60s, exhibiting sculpture at several shows in Toronto.

Friend Lorraine Skinner was filled with the power of God's Love, acting as a messenger of Christ's Spirit. As she has moved on to a new world of peace, Lorraine's legacy of a determined loving spirit remains with us.