

Around the Family

Annapolis Valley Monthly Meeting

As of January 1, 2006, Wolfville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends will be known as Annapolis Valley Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Coldstream Monthly Meeting

Coldstream Monthly Meeting has welcomed into membership Tom Butler, George Downham, and Don Frost. Beth Osuch has joined us as a sojourning Friend from Seneca Valley Preparative Meeting in Maryland. Ken Muma has reaffirmed his membership in our Meeting.

We mourned the passing of Marydel Balderston, a long-time member of Coldstream Meeting.

Halifax Monthly Meeting

The Meeting supports the broadening of the Isolated Friends Committee to include (within our region) Isolated Friends, Distant Friends, and Friends who wish to be kept in touch.

A group of Friends has been meeting for worship and study in Middle Musquodoboit (more below).

Information on the historic Dartmouth Quaker House Museum, can be found at: <http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/quaker.html>.

Hamilton Monthly Meeting

On 12 December 2005, our Friend Bea Fletcher died. A memorial meeting will take place in the spring, since many of her family are at a distance.

On 22 April, a Spring Retreat is planned at the Meeting House, with a variety of activities to help us think about our life as a Meeting. Are we declining? If so, what should we do about it? If not, what has happened to the energy that used to enable all the activities and tasks we set ourselves? Do we need greater outreach? Fewer commitments and offices? Does our busyness affect our spiritual life positively or negatively? These are some of the questions we may be exploring at the retreat.

Ottawa Monthly Meeting

On 17 December 2005, Peter and Rose Mae Harkness hosted a book launch for Murray Thomson's memoir

entitled: *Mother, God Bless Her!* His book is based on the letters and stories of his mother during her life in China and Canada.

Saanich Peninsula Monthly Meeting

On 20 November, Saanich Peninsula MM discussed the significance of the Peace Testimony. We agreed that we are opposed to war. However, there was no clarity about our reaction to other forms of violence. We recognize that each individual is confronted with different challenges and has unique opportunities to promote peace. This realization underscores that the Peace Testimony is mostly exhibited through personal conduct in everyday life — our interrelationships, and our social, economic and political choices.

Toronto Monthly Meeting

Richard Broughton, a long-serving member of Toronto Monthly Meeting, died on 17 January 2006 at the age of 88. A Meeting for Worship for Burial was held at Friends House on 28 January 2006.

Western Half-Yearly Meeting

The spring gathering of WHYM will be held as usual on Victoria Day weekend at the Sorrento Retreat Centre. Beginning with a balancing workshop on Friday, 19 May, and ending with a final meeting for worship on Monday morning, 22 May. For information, contact registrar David Stevenson: dgsteven@telus.net, (250) 564.5695 or clerk Mick Monroe: mickm@shaw.ca, (250) 370.9491.

Friendly Musquodoboit Invitation

A group of committed Quakers who meet for worship in Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia, are inviting other Quakers to come to live in the village and contribute to the development of a Friends community. Here, houses are moderately priced. The community has a hospital, bank, post office, co-op store, pharmacy, gas station and garage, a cultural centre, schools, a casual lifestyle, and friendly neighbours. We are about one half-hour from the Halifax International Airport and one hour from Halifax/Dartmouth. Contact David Newlands at: newlands@primus.ca; 460 Archibald Brook Road, RR 5, Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia, B0N 1X0.

Around the Family

Friends General Conference 1-7 July 2006 near Tacoma, Washington, U.S.

Plenary speakers will include Sallie McFague, from Vancouver School of Theology, speaking about God's love and command to care for all living creatures; Laura Holiday, on the Quaker Institute of the Future; and Sue Williams, a social activist from Ireland YM who has worked as a consultant in political mediation and intervention in many places of war and social unrest.

Various members of CYM will be presenting workshops on: Mandala and Prayer Art; War as Disease; Chant; Water Action: Making it Happen; Sharing Our Stories on Justice; and Wool Gathering. As well, Janet Ross from Toronto will give the Bible Half Hour.

Please note that only CYM members who have attended a previous Gathering will receive an Advance Program in the mail; please contact us if you want one mailed to you. A few programs will be mailed to monthly meetings and worship groups. Look for more information at: www.fgcquaker.org. On-line registration begins March 1. Space is limited, so register early.

Religious Education Committee of Canadian Yearly Meeting

The Religious Education Committee of Canadian Yearly Meeting keeps two collections of curricula and study material — one for ADULTS AND ADULT STUDY GROUPS, and the other for CHILDREN AND FIRST DAY SCHOOLS.

CYM Members and Attenders can borrow these books, postage free, for up to three months. On the internet, visit: http://www.quaker.ca/Religious_Education/index.html for access to these excellent resources.

Send an e-mail to: AdultLibrary@quaker.ca or ChildrenLibrary@quaker.ca. Telephone: 519-775-2670 or write: CYM Travelling Library c/o Yarmouth Monthly Meeting, Box 105, Sparta, ON N0L 2H0.

Free Quaker resources on the web

Canadian Yearly Meeting online resources

<http://www.quaker.ca>

Our own Canadian Yearly Meeting resources web site, with sections on: Contacts and Information, Upcoming Events, Publications (including *The Canadian Friend*), CYM Committees, Resources, What's new?, and Other CYM Links.

Friends General Conference resources

<http://www.fgcquaker.org/library/fosteringmeetings/>

A rich and varied abundance of resources to help foster vital Friends Meetings.

Pendle Hill (PH) documents

http://www.pendlehill.org/le_publishing.htm

Free download of three lectures: "Quakers speak on the Bible, ministry, and their spiritual guides."

http://www.pendlehill.org/pendle_hill_pamphlets.htm

As well as information on ordering current Pendle Hill (PH) publications, here we find many free downloads of out-of-print PH pamphlets.

Quakers in the news

<http://quakersinthenews.blogspot.com/>

F/friends are invited to read, comment, and post links to this news reportage site concerning the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

Wikipedia project on Quakers

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Religious_Society_of_Friends_%28Quakers%29

Edit the work to maintain and improve Quaker-related entries on Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia.



An appeal on behalf of *The Canadian Friend* (CF)

As we begin our second century of publishing *The Canadian Friend*, many Friends have expressed gratitude for the blessings of connection and spiritual nourishment it brings. Please consider filling out the enclosed fund-raising card to help support this work, through a donation for your own subscription, a gift subscription to another person, or a general contribution. All donations are tax-deductible. For information, please contact the CF Business Manager, Seán Hennessey, at cf-businessmanager@quaker.ca or (250) 366-4372.