

Atlanta Friends Meeting Newsletter

Atlanta Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). All are welcome.

Meeting for Worship
Each First Day (Sunday)
10:00 -11:00 a.m.
701 W. Howard Ave.
Decatur, GA 30030
404-377-2474
afinquakers@hotmail.com

Resident Manager
Valerie Barlow

January 2009

Query:

What have you shared with your spiritual community in the last year that added depth and understanding to your life? What have you struggled with in the last year and how might you cope differently in 2009?

Submitted by Steve McLaughlin, member of Ministry & Worship Committee

Clerk of the Meeting
Steve Collins

Assistant Clerk of the
Meeting
Georgia Lord

Recording Clerk
Bill Holland

Treasurer
Pete McCaughan

Administration
Karen Morris

Care & Counsel
Dwight Harriman

Ministry & Worship
Suzan Kenworthy

Religious Education
Mary Jahntz

Social Concerns
Julia Parker Ewen

Newsletter Editor
Stoph Hallward

Young Friends Coordinator
Laura Norlin

Office Coordinator
Jonah McDonald

When did I turn Green? Perry Treadwell

You can't be a microbiologist and not have a sense of the balance of nature and human's place in it. So I was primed for Macroanalysis of the world, its nationalism, consumerism and imbalance taught by the Movement for a New Society in the early 1970s.

First, it was "bricks in the toilet" and living Christmas trees remembered by my children with some humor. We recycled "gray water" from our washer into a holding tank before it went back into the environment. I walked the entire Peachtree Creek basin documenting the pollution. I lectured about the environment at schools and colleges and began the intercampus bus between Emory and Grady. At that time, I found that neither the Georgia Conservancy nor the schools and universities in Georgia were ready to recognize the dangerous state of the planet. People taking the Simple Living workshops that I presented documenting the state of the globe we unmoved.

When Judith and I were Rightly Joined we decided to create a "green home." It began with replacing the lawn with a natural habitat. Low flush toilets (no more bricks). Fans replacing much of the AC. The home-made rain barrels long before the rage. Our dish washing is by hand, a time to meditate as Thich Nhat Hanh recommends. A solar clothes dryer. Energy star refrigerator. Tankless water heater. Fluorescent light bulbs when they were much more expensive.

Personally, I buy recycled clothes and shoes at thrift stores. I've never bought food at a McDonalds or purchased anything at a Walmart or a carbonated beverage in the last 35 years. Ask me why. My 19 year-old Ranger gets 22 MPG. Oh, there is probably more but you get the picture. Living simply green is much easier than being an unaware consumer. It is part of a Quaker Spiritual practice.

AFM Library News

Recent Acquisitions

Due to the diligent work by AFM members Pete and Rhenda XXXXXX, many new items purchased for or donated to the AFM Library have been added to the library's collections. A very few examples, arranged here by broad "Quaker Testimony" topic:

- 646.7 / L21

Simplicity

The Simple Living Guide: A Sourcebook for Less Stressful, More Joyful Living by Janet Luhrs
- 261.8 / K1

Peace

What Belongs to Caesar? A Discussion on the Christian's Response to Payment of War Taxes by Donald D. Kaufman
- 341.1 / M.1

The Pacifist Conscience

edited by Peter Mayer
- 248.4 / B1

Integrity

Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People edited by Dorothy C. Bass
- 302.3 / G18

Insight and Action: How to Discover and support a Life of Integrity and Commitment to Change

by Tova Green
- 289.6/P15

Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in a Cynical Time

by Raul Rogat Loeb
- 361.2/L15

Community

Seeking Truth Together: Enabling the Poor and Saving the Planet in the Manner of Friends by John P. Powelson
- 305.896 / S20

Equality

The Content of Our Character: A New Vision of Race in America by Shelby Steele

Special Collections Reminder

There library includes special sections of materials that three longstanding groups within the Meeting -ORIAAHXXX, the Green Friends, and the Bible Study Group - have set aside for quick browsing. You'll find those books and videos just inside the library door nearest the Meetinghouse office.

The Library Clerk's Annual Appeal to All Borrowers of AFM Materials

If you're planning on any kind of year-end or new year's thorough housecleaning, please be on the look-out for any AFM library materials (books, videos, Pendle Hill pamphets) you may have borrowed long ago and forgotten to return. Other library users might like to borrow the very item(s) you've borrowed and forgotten to return. Here's the year-end snapshot of library materials we haven't seen in quite a while:

<i>Number of Unreturned Items</i>				
<u>Year Borrowed</u>	<u>Adult Items</u>	<u>Juvie Items</u>	<u>Total Items</u>	
2008	31	11	42	
2007	22	1	23	
2006	16	6	22	
2005	20	8	28	
2004	17	6	23	
2003	21	6	27	
2002	19	2	21	
2001	29	5	34	
2000	39	5	44	
1999	27	2	29	
1998	16	1	17	
1997	23	10	33	
1996	<u>23</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>28</u>	
<i>Total:</i>	303	68	371	

--- Cal Gough, Library Clerk

FGCConnections - AFM

Friends General Conference is an affiliation of 14 yearly meetings and a number of individual monthly meetings, basically unprogrammed worship service. The staff of nearly twenty, and numerous committees provide extensive and very valuable service to its affiliates.

Here are a few commentaries by people in AFM, whose service to the Meeting has been greatly assisted by FGC.

Administration Committee, Tom Kenworthy - During the eight years I was on the committee FGC several times provided critical assistance on major matters where it was needed. One of those was with whom we could consult about methods of compensating our resident and another was how to go about establishing a staff position for direction of youth programs.

Religious Education, Betsy Eggers - Several teachers attended an FGC sponsored education workshop. Curriculum has been available through FGC for teachers and some have purchased and used it.

Listening With Our Elders

Elders in our meeting enrich the spirit of our lives but how do we respond to their needs and concerns? Is there a gap in how we care for one another? How can we get to know our elders better and mutually benefit from their presence? Care and Counsel Committee invites our elders (those over 75 – admittedly an arbitrary number, but a place to start) to a luncheon hosted by C&C at 12:00 noon on January 25, 2009 at the Meetinghouse. Those who live in the Metro area and who are in the directory can expect a personal invitation. Elders, please plan to join Care & Counsel on the 25th. We look forward to hearing your thoughts. For more information, contact Renda McCaughan.



YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL EVENT AT THE FRIENDS SCHOOL OF ATLANTA
Alum Night – Pizza and Connections

Join FSA Alums, Alum Parents, and welcome Alums from Quaker Colleges all over the U.S.A
Share and discover the many benefits of Quaker Education

January 7, 2009

6:30pm – 8:00pm

862 Columbia Drive

Decatur, GA 30030

Please RSVP by 12/30/08 404-373-8746 xt. 8141 or sway@friendsschoolatlanta.org

Review: *Sacred Places: A Guide to the Civil Rights Sites in Atlanta, Georgia*

Did you know that a black person, even a professor, couldn't get an Atlanta Public Library card until 1959 or that hooded Ku Klux Klansmen held a counter- demonstration when protestors picketed segregated restaurants downtown in 1964? Anyone who is interested in either the Civil Rights movement or in Atlanta history will appreciate Harry Lefever's new book, *Sacred Places: A Guide to Civil Rights Sites in Atlanta Georgia*. Lefever and his co-author, Michael C. Page, have developed a clear guide to 4 walking and driving tours of Civil Rights sites around Atlanta along with a fascinating history of the Civil Rights movement in Atlanta during its most active period, 1957- 1968. In choosing the title, *Sacred Places*, the authors wish to convey the sense of awe that these sites evoke in visitors.

As John Lewis eloquently states in the foreword, "What you will discover as you walk these roads of history is that the actions of everyday citizens- people just like you and me-transformed these plain, ordinary buildings into monuments of democracy". Many of these "everyday citizens" were students from Atlanta University Center (the consortium that currently includes Spelman, Morehouse, Clark Atlanta University, and Interdenominational Theological Center) who struggled for civil rights through sit-ins, kneel-ins, boycotts, protest marches, picket lines, and court cases. *Sacred Places* vividly portrays these young activists' roles in the movement while also including information about the contributions of elder ministers, Martin Luther King, Jr. and SCLC.

The guide portion of the book is user friendly, with color-coded sections for each tour, clear directions by car or public transportation, GPS coordinates, tour maps, detailed descriptions, and attractive photographs of each site. While the pictures and descriptions are adequate for arm-chair travelers to get a sense of many of the sites, others such as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Historic Site need to be visited to experience their full impact. The guide also includes information about the new Center for Civil and Human Rights set to open in 2010. History buffs will want to read the "Brief history " at the beginning, the site descriptions, and the chronology at the end since all of these sections include interesting descriptions of events and people in the Civil Rights movement in Atlanta. In fact, this book would be a welcome addition to any Atlanta resident's home library rather than just leaving it as a visitors' guide. You may look at Atlanta's landmarks through new eyes after taking these walks through Civil Rights history.

Susan Firestone

Friendly Eights Start in January

Have you wanted to get to know people in the Meeting but weren't sure how to make that happen? Friendly 8s are groups of 8 Quakers who agree to meet once a month to get to know one another better. Many groups are focused around an activity. Previous groups have included hiking, Quaker reading, eating at ethnic restaurants, knitting, and photography. Sign-up sheets will be out each first day in the greeting room during the month of December. Meetings will begin in January.

Announcements

Adult First Day Class,

Valerie Barlow, our Friend in Residence, will be sharing her Spiritual Journey with the Adult First Day School class on the first Sunday in January (1/4/09). and all are invited to come. During January we will read and discuss "**This We Can Say: Australian Quaker Life, Faith and Thought.**" This book invites us to consider not only what Friends in Australia say, but also what we can say. We will practice sharing our own written statements on different aspects of faith.

Workshop Proposals for SAYMA 2009 Needed

John Potter, workshop coordinator for SAYMA's 2009 gathering at Warren Wilson College, June 10-14, is soliciting workshop proposals. The 2009 theme is "Spirit Woven in Our Lives: a Tapestry of Light."

Possible workshop ideas could be Adult Education presentations, topics on Quaker history, clerking, and non-Quaker topics such as art- or music-oriented activities, dance, meditation, chanting, or travelogs.

A copy of the Workshop Application form can be downloaded from the SAYMA Web site in both RTF and PDF formats at http://www.sayma.org/online_documents.htm.

If you have any questions, please contact John at doctorbitmap@bellsouth.net or at 615-356-6356 (home).

Nominating Committee is looking for:

SAYMA representative (main duty, attending Quarterly Meeting and communicating between our meeting and SAYMA)
Fundraising Committee Clerk (new committee—new clerk could reinvent it)
Newsletter Editor (your text here!!)
Anyone interested can contact me at smacewen@comcast.net or 404.633.7787.

29th Annual Poor People's Day At the Capitol

February 11th & 12th, 2009

EDUCATION DAY

February 11th

Georgia Citizen's Coalition on Hunger

9 Gammon Ave, 30315

ACTION DAY

February 12th

"The People's Bailout" Caravan starting at the

Task Force for the Homeless

477 Peachtree Street 30308

Destination: State Capitol

For more info contact Bert Skellie at

bertskellie@gmail.com or 404-378-5883

Friends' Book Club Selections for 2008-09

We meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month. On January 25 the club will be discussing Tree of Smoke by Denis Johnson, Hosted by Judith Greenberg 404-325-1504 (jgreenb@bellsouth.net)

"Our life is love and peace and
tenderness; and bearing one with
another, and forgiving one another:
and not laying accusations one
against another; but praying one
for another; and helping one
another up with a tender hand."

Issac Pennington, 1828

Atlanta Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Twelfth Month 21, 2008
As Recorded Pending Approval

Tom Kenworthy presented the query: "Do you try to guard against the corrosive and corrupting effects of anger and annoyance?"

A friend said that as a Quaker, he was reminded when he was upset, he could always talk to the Lord.

In attendance were: Folami Adams, John Adams, Valerie Barlow, Joel Bowman, Ann Byrne, Betsy Eggers, Julia Parker Ewen, Sally Ferguson, Kathy Johnson, Susan Kenworthy, Tom Kenworthy, Harry Lefever, Georgia Lord, Sally MacEwen, Susan May, Steve McLaughlin, Karen terHorst Morris, Ronald Nuse, Bert Skellie, Jim Tolmach, Perry Treadwell, Denny Webster, Pat Williams, Steve Collins (Clerk), Judith Greenberg (Acting Recording Clerk). (25 friends)

1. Approval of Minutes of Eleventh Month Meeting for Worship with an Attention to Business.

Minute 08-12-01: Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the minutes of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of Eleventh Month 2008.

2. Advancement Committee. Tom Kenworthy reported that although two meetings had been laid down, North Georgia is blossoming with worship groups including the continuing Rome worship group and the Carrollton worship group with 10 attenders. If members are interested in helping with visitations to these meetings, please let Tom know.

3. Finance Committee. Sue May reported that although there has been an increase in contributions in December, we still project a budget deficit of over \$15,000. Friends are urged to consider additional contributions.

The suggested 2009 Meeting budget is \$142,790. Ideas of initiating a pledge-based budget and changing the fiscal year to March 1st were considered and rejected by the committee. The experience of Twin Cities Meeting indicated that neither of these approaches raised revenues, and the latter was also confusing to members.

Members of the Cabin Committee met with Finance to discuss their current operational needs and their hope to build a bathhouse at Ferguson Cabin. The estimated cost of \$1,000 for grading and adding gravel to the driveway (a capital expense occurring every five years) will be paid out of our Permanent Improvements Fund. John Carpentier will prepare a detailed proposal for the bathhouse construction and review it with Finance and Administration Committees prior to bringing it to Meeting for Business in January.

Finance recommended that the Nominating Committee request funds from the Representative Travel Fund to send a clerk to Pendle Hill.

If the Meeting breaks even this year, Finance will meet to reconsider the 2009 budget in January and possibly recommend restoring some of the cuts, such as:

- Ministry and Worship: \$400
- Social Concerns: \$500
- Gathered Meeting Retreat: \$800
- Nominating Committee: \$300

A recent large contribution to the Raise the Roof Fund allowed us to replace one ailing HVAC unit immediately with an off-season discount.

Minute 08-12-02: Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the tentative 2009 Budget of \$142,790 submitted by the Finance Committee with the understanding that if the 2008 budget objectives are essentially met, some items eliminated or reduced in the 2009 budget could be restored.

Budget and Detailed Report attached.

4. Administration. Karen Morris presented the final draft of the Meeting policy on hiring.

Minute 08-12-03: Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the “Policy on Hiring and Engagement of Contractors and Employees”.

Policy is attached.

5. Nominating. Sally MacEwen requested approval of the candidates proposed in 11th month, including: Elizabeth Tolmach (Recording Clerk), Paul Mangelsdorf (Clerk of Finance), and John Adams (Co-Clerk of Social Concerns).

Minute 08-12-04: On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Elizabeth Tolmach as Recording Clerk.

Minute 08-12-05: On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Paul Mangelsdorf as Clerk of Finance.

Minute 08-12-06: On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, the Atlanta Friends Meeting approves John Adams as Co-Clerk of Social Concerns.

The following names were put forth for approval at the January Business Meeting: Meredith Reynolds, Treasurer; Georgia Lord, Clerk of Administration; Dana Goldman, Clerk of Young Friends Support; and Perry Treadwell, SAYMA **Ministry and Nurture** Representative. **Open positions remaining are Fundraising Committee clerk, Newsletter Editor and SAYMA representative.**

Approval of changes to the handbook was requested by Jim Tolmach. The revised description for the Cabin Committee will be brought to the Cabin Committee for their input.

Minute 08-12-07: Atlanta Friends Meeting approves revisions to the Meeting Handbook for Young Friends Program Coordinator, Naming Committee, Nominating Committee, and Religious Education (RE) Recruitment Liaison from Nominating Committee.

See attached changes.

6. Ministry and Worship. Susan Kenworthy presented the first request for membership by Christina Repoley.

The Committee has accepted the transfer of Kathy Burke's membership to Santa Fe (New Mexico) Meeting, where she will serve as Friend in Residence.

The transfer letter is attached.

Minute 23-12-08: Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the transfer of Kathy Burke's membership to Santa Fe Meeting.

An oversight committee has been selected for the marriage of Laura Norlin and Hannah McDermott: Steve McLaughlin, Meredith Reynolds, Meredith Blake Williamson, Nan O'Connor, Lewis Fuller, and Lissa Place.

Wes Morris and Coryn Murphy were wed on November 29, 2008 under the care of the Meeting with special thanks to the following persons who contributed much food and hard work during the reception: Steve McLaughlin, Meredith Reynolds, Lynn Leuszler, Georgia Lord, Sally Ferguson, Jim Tolmach, Rebeca Tolmach, Sallie Carpenter, Jack Honderd, Betsey Eggers, Laura Norlin, Hannah McDermott, David Leuszler, Julia Dalia, Dwight Harriman.

In response to a question from a friend, the committee is aware of concerns about the use of the term "oversight" and has been prayerfully considering alternatives. The committee will also more fully consider the possibility of membership for the Burundi Friends.

7. Social Concerns. Julia Ewen noted that there will be a forthcoming Atlanta meeting on a key issue for women, "human trafficking". Details will be provided in the future.

8. Clerk. Steve Collins requested input to the Meeting's annual report to SAYMA for 2008 by the next Business Meeting (1st Month, 2009). Perry Treadwell urged committee clerks to focus on how the spirit is moving you and your committee rather than just listing tasks accomplished for the report. Georgia Lord pointed out that both an extended version for our own use and a shorter report (for SAYMA) would be useful. The Clerk will ask the Office Coordinator to post a copy of the 2007 report for reference on our web site.

The Clerk also announced that the initial two members of the Naming Committee are Perry Treadwell and Nina Gooch. A third member will be named shortly, with the goal of Naming being able to announce nominations for the Nominating Committee at the next Business Meeting.

We closed the meeting with a period of expectant waiting.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Collins (Clerk)
Judith **Greenberg** (Acting Recording Clerk)

Calendar for First Month, 2009

Area Meetings for Worship

Every First Day, 10:00 a.m.— In the Meeting Room and a small meeting in the Library.

Every 2nd and 4th First Day, 10:00 a.m. — Canton Friends Worship Group, 360 E. Marietta St, Canton, 770-720-4669 or wrlpneas@mindspring.com.

Every Fifth Day, 12:10 p.m.— First Thursdays at AFSC office, 92 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta 30303, other Thursdays at East Lake Commons, 404-378-5883 or bertskellie@gmail.com.

Every Sixth Day, 8:45 a.m.— Friends School of Atlanta, 862 Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA 30030, 404-373-8746.

Weekly Events

Every First Day (Sunday)

9:00 Adult Religious Education

9:15 Singing, Classroom

10:00 Meetings for Worship

Every Week Day (Monday – Friday)

8:30-9:30 Morning Silent Worship, Library

Every Second-Fifth Day (Monday-Thursday)

8:30-12:30 Smart Toddlers, Nursery/playground

Every Third Day (Tuesday)

7:30pm Silent Meditation, Meeting Room

7:00pm Bible Study, Library

Every Sixth Day (Friday)

12:00 Vigil at Colony Square

Other Events

01/4, First Day (Sunday)

11:15-1:30 Green Friends, AB

11:30- Potluck

11:50-1:45 CUR-AFM & ORAIIARH Mtg.

01/5, Second Day (Monday)

6:30-9:00 Lenox Place Neighbors

7:30-10:00 Spiritual Nurture Group, Mtg. Room

01/7, Fourth Day (Wednesday)

7:30-10:00 Administration Committee, Library

01/8, Fifth Day (Thursday)

7:30-9:30 Social Concerns Cmte, Library

7:30-9:00 Meeting for Peace, Library

01/10, Seventh Day (Saturday)

9:30-4:30 Completion & Creation Workshop, AB

10:00-2:00 AFGE, Library

01/11, First Day (Sunday)

11:30-12:30 Listening Ear, Atrium

11:30-1:00 Cabin Committee, C

11:30-1:30 SAYF Retreat Planning Mtg, Sr High rm

11:30-1:30 Ministry and Worship, AB

11:30-2:00 Care and Counsel, Jr. Teen Room

11:45-1:30 Finance Committee, Library

11:45-2:00 Religious Education Cmte Mtg, Nursery

6:30-8:30 Spiritual Nurture Group #2, Library

01/12, Second Day (Monday)

7:30-9:00 Meeting for Healing, Teen Jr. High Room

01/14, Fourth Day (Wednesday)

7:30-9:00 ORAIIARH, Library & Nursery

01/15, Fifth Day (Thursday)

6:15-10:15 Friendly 8s: Spiritual Journeys, Teen Jr D

7:00-10:00 Decatur Cool Cities, AB

01/16, Sixth Day (Friday)

Newsletter Deadline

5:00-Sun SAYF Teen Retreat

01/17, Seventh Day (Saturday)

SAYF Teen Retreat

01/18, First Day (Sunday)

Fri-12:00 SAYF Teen Retreat1

1:45-2:00 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, Meeting Room (*childcare available*)

6:00 Newcomer's Welcome dinner

01/19, Second Day (Monday)

7:30-10:00 Spiritual Nurture Group, Mtg Rm.

01/24, Seventh Day (Saturday)

10:30-2:00 Democratic Socialists of America, Library

01/25 First Day (Sunday)

11:30-12:30 Listening Ear, Atrium

11:30-1:30 Luncheon for Elders, Care/Counsel, Mtg rm

11:45-1:00 ORAIIARH, Teen Jr D

6:30-8:30 Spiritual Nurture Group #2, Library

Friends Book Club, See Announcement

Please confirm unique events by checking the announcements sheets and or contacting the Meeting.

Atlanta Friends Meeting
701 West Howard Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030-2902
Phone: 404-377-2474

ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

701 West Howard Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030

Clerk: Steve Collins, 404-687-8715: shcollins75@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Pete McCaughan, 770-730-0872: afmtreasurer@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: Stoph Hallward, 703-946-0229: grasstoe@gmail.com

Friend in Residence: Valerie Barlow, 678-863-7535.

Office: Hours M-W-F 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; E-mail address: afmquakers@hotmail.com

NAMETAGS: If you would like to have a permanent nametag made, leave a request in one of the baskets on the front table. Indicate whether you prefer one that hangs around the neck or that pins. When Carol Gray has made one for you, it will be placed in the black file box on the greeting table.

If you would like to be included in the AFM database and receive the Newsletter by mail and/or appear in future AFM Directories, please send your name, address, phone, e-mail address, etc to Nina Gooch by e-mail at ninagooch@gmail.com or by phone 404-371-9873. Please indicate if you want to be in the directory, receive the newsletter by mail, or both. This also applies to any change in existing database information, e.g. change of address.

To receive the AFM newsletter via e-mail, simply send a blank e-mail to afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahoo.com from the address where you want to receive the newsletter. You will receive a note back from Yahoo asking you to confirm your subscription; simply hit reply and you will be added to the list. There is no subscription fee for the newsletter.

To receive general announcements and participate in discussion, follow the same instructions only address the note to afmdiscussion-subscribe@yahoo.com. To receive announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting, send the same note to afmannouncement-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Contributions to the Atlanta Friends Meeting can be placed in the slot marked "Contributions" in the greeting area of the Meetinghouse, or mailed to the Treasurer at the above address. Thank you!

DEADLINE FOR 2ND MONTH NEWSLETTER: 1ST MONTH 16

Readers are encouraged to submit letters, articles, poetry, calendar notices and anything else of interest to Friends.

Items should be sent directly to:

Stoph Hallward

grasstoe@gmail.com

703-946-0229

This newsletter is a publication of the Atlanta Friends Meeting. Views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Atlanta Friends Meeting.