

Adelphi Friends Meeting
2303 Metzert Road, Adelphi, Maryland 20783
301-445-1114

Anne Marie Moriarty, clerk – Karen Cunnyingham, treasurer

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday:

Early Meeting for Worship 9:00 AM (except 3rd Sunday)
Singing 9:45 AM
Meeting for Worship 10:00 AM

Wednesday:

Meeting for Worship 7:30 PM

Monthly Schedule:

Second Sunday (Third Sunday in May, July and August):

Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business

Third Sunday: Singing begins at 9 AM

Fourth Sunday: Junior Meeting 10 AM

Fourth Sunday: Potluck at rise of meeting

Last Sunday: Newsletter submission deadline

Takoma Park Friends Meeting (Preparative) under the care of Adelphi Meeting

Every Sunday: Meeting for Worship 10:30 AM, at *Sangha*, 7014 Westmoreland Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

SAFE HAVEN AT ADELPHI, JAN. 29 - FEB. 5

Safe Haven, a local church-sponsored program that provides meals and shelter to homeless men in our community, will be hosted by Adelphi during the week of January 29. During this week, there will be many opportunities to assist with the program in a variety of ways. Here are some of the possible ways to participate:

Evenings, Jan. 29 - Feb. 4: Cook a dish (main course, or side dish, or dessert...) for about 16 to 18 people (currently the number of men in the program is holding steady at 13), and bring it to meeting basement between 6:30 and 7:00 PM (dinner is served at 7). You are most welcome to stay and enjoy the dinner along with the men and other volunteers.

Nights, Jan. 29 - Feb. 4: Come at 6:30 to spend the night. You'll help set up for dinner, and afterwards socialize (many of the men like to talk; some read, and some like to watch TV) until lights out at 10 PM. The men sleep upstairs, while volunteers are in the basement.

We all rise by 6 AM for a quick breakfast, and then everybody (men and volunteers) leave meeting by 7:00.

Early morning, Sunday, Feb. 5: While the men pack up to move to the next church, come and help get Adelphi ready for 9:00 meeting for worship: sweep and vacuum the upstairs, return benches and bench pillows to their places, load up the vehicle(s) with cots and men's things, drive the truck to the next church. (Lending your truck to make the move happen is greatly appreciated!)

As you can see, there are a variety of things that can be done, and many of them give an opportunity to interact with other members of the meeting community as well as with the men in the program. Please select an activity that most appeals to you, and indicate your choice on the sign-up board posted in the meeting house lobby. Updated information on availability of volunteer opportunities will be posted online by Alexander Barnes at <http://greenbelt.com/barnes/AMM/Ska1sh/> For more information about Safe Haven in general, contact Christine Ashley (christine@thorntonfriends.org) or Tom Skallerup (tskallerup@aol.com ; phone 301 587 9178).

Social Justice Volunteer Opportunities with AFSC DC

Friends, I am writing on behalf of approximately one hundred twenty workers (aka Day Laborers) who gather early each morning seeking employment near the corner of P and 15 streets at the northwest of DC.

In collaboration with DC Jobs With Justice, a partner organization, AFSC DC is calling to stand in solidarity with the workers. There is that of God in each one of these workers, most of them immigrants. Here are two ways you can help AFSC DC help them:

1. Announce a winter clothing collection to your community. Items needed are: winter coats, hats, gloves, thermal underwear, boots and heavy pants and shirts. Of course, please make sure that clothes are clean and in good condition! Drop off location is the AFSC DC office, 2211 14th Street NW. I take the opportunity to congratulate Dan Seder of Sidwell Friends School and all 6th and 7th graders for helping us with a full truck of needed clothes for the homeless and mostly for spending a meaningful time last October with DC homeless people!

2. Agree to prepare hot coffee and sweetbread (donuts, coffeecake, muffins, etc) for approximately 50 men one morning every two weeks. AFSC will help deliver and distribute them (hopefully with you!) to the workers.

These two projects are great for Area Friends Schools and any friends willing to dedicate time and energy to it. Please let me know how you can help and do not hesitate to call me for more details!

Sincerely, Peta Ikambana, Area Director, American Friends Service Committee, MAR- Washington DC Peace and Economic Justice Program, Tel: (202) 299-1050

January potluck

You are invited to a potluck & Quaker dialogue at William Penn House, Sunday, January 8, 2006, (The second Sunday of January), at 6:30 PM.

Our Program this First Day is presented by Byron Sandford, Executive Director of William Penn House.

A member of Friends Meeting of Washington, Byron will lead a discussion on the

In 1966, under the care of the Friends Meeting of Washington, William Penn House was founded by Bob and Sally Cory. As we celebrate our 40th year of service, we will look back at our legacy and share our vision of the present and future of this grand old House.

Our monthly potluck is the first Sunday of each month at 6:30 PM. This is an opportunity for fellowship among Quakers and attenders. Bring a dish to share; family members and friends are always welcome.*

Note: William Penn House is an alcohol and tobacco free facility. William Penn House hosts groups and individuals who visit Washington to help make this a better world. We also host programs and seminars on peace and social justice issues and on Quakers, past and present. William Penn House, A Quaker Center on Capitol Hill, 515 East Capitol Street SE, Washington, DC 20003, Tel: (202) 543-5560 Fax: (202) 543-3814 e-mail: Office@WmPennHouse.org <mailto:Office@WmPennHouse.org>, www.WmPennHouse.org <http://www.wmpennhouse.org/>, William Penn House info@wmpennhouse.org, www.wmpennhouse.org

Iraq War As Seen from Capitol Hill & Baghdad

Rick McDowell and Mary Trotochaud

Friends Committee on National Legislation senior fellows for Iraq policy, will share their first-hand experience in that war-torn country, their impressions of Capitol Hill since joining FCNL's staff last spring, and an assessment of congressional attitudes about the war and prospects for an early withdrawal.

Sunday, January 29th at 12:30 p.m. following Quaker worship, Bethesda Friends Meeting, On the campus of Sidwell Friends Lower School, Edgemoor Lane & Beverly Rd., Bethesda, Md., (three blocks from the Bethesda Metro station)

Rick and Mary returned to the U.S last March after living and working for two years in Iraq's "red zone." While in Iraq, they coordinated relief and development projects for the American Friends Service Committee and worked with emerging civil society organizations. They currently are part of FCNL's effort to raise up the "Iraqi voice" as they work for a just peace for the families of Iraq and the United States. They hear each day concerns from friends and associates in Iraq about security, living conditions, and the fragility of life.

Sponsored by the BFM Peace and Social Justice Committee

For directions to the meetinghouse go to the Bethesda Friends Meeting web site at www.bethesdafriends.org

Ralph & Liz Hofmeister, hofmeister@earthlink.net, 6759 Brigadoon Drive, Bethesda, Md. 20817, 301-229-6341.

Help Make the Camp Catoctin Lagoon Swim-able Again!

Are you tired of going on AFM camping trips to Catoctin and hearing that children shouldn't play in the pond due to bacteria in the water? With your help, a solution is within reach! We recently read in "the firecircle," a newsletter of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) camping programs, that a group of biologists, environmental engineers and others have developed a plan to ensure that bacteria levels in the pond will be kept well below a safe threshold. The plan will control the amount of water entering the pond and diligently monitor the quality of that water, as well as involve the installation of a UV disinfection system. The cost of the project is \$52,000, of which \$30,000 has already been raised.

We were excited to see a solution to this perennial problem, so we made a contribution, and we encourage you to help out with this project which will have such a direct impact on our kids' experience at Catoctin. Make your check payable to Baltimore Yearly Meeting and send it to the Catoctin Water Quality Project, Baltimore Yearly Meeting, 17100 Quaker Lane, Sandy Spring, MD 20860. Or, you can make a contribution on line at <http://www.bym-rsf.org>.

BYM Press Release: Tom Fox, November 30, 2005

QUAKERS PRAY FOR MISSING FRIEND

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) affirms that one of our members, Tom Fox, of Langley Hill Friends Meeting, is one of four Christian Peacemaker Team workers missing in Iraq. Our prayers and hearts are with him and his colleagues. Tom Fox has been involved with Christian Peacemaker Teams for two years and led a workshop at our annual meeting about his experiences in Iraq.

Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting are holding Tom, as well as the others missing, those who are working to free

them, those who are holding them, and all people affected by this situation. in the Light of God's Love. We pray for a peaceful resolution to the situation.

Tom Fox has been active in Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Fox served as Interim Youth Secretary for a year, and taught in the youth programs at the annual meeting for several years. He was a volunteer cook at the summer camping program. He is a well-known and beloved member of our Yearly Meeting.

Tom Fox is one of several members of Baltimore Yearly Meeting who have participated in activities of Christian Peacemaker Teams. Baltimore Yearly Meeting is formally affiliated with Christian Peacemaker Teams through the broader Religious Society of Friends. For further information about Christian Peacemaker Teams, see <http://www.cpt.org>. Members of the Religious Society of Friends have a long history of witnessing for peace and recognize that there is "That of God" in everyone.

Christmas greetings from Stephen, Christine, Ian, and Audrey

Dear Friends,

Warmest greetings to you all from Kampala! As you will read in the attached letter, we're alive and well, although things have been rather more turbulent (both here and internationally) than we'd like. Uganda's fragile democracy is teetering on the precipice of a precipitous fall into authoritarian rule, and with a past history that includes the awful atrocities of Idi Amin and Milton Obote, such a prospect has many thoughtful Ugandans deeply unsettled. Elections are on February 28th, so we're probably in for quite a ride between now and then. Ian (and to the extent she understand, Audrey) are certainly going to leave Uganda with a deep respect for American democracy.

We very much miss having a local unprogrammed Quaker Meeting to attend - yet we persevere with the local bible church (which at least has good Mennonite peace church connections). Actually Christine and I persevere - the children simply cannot accommodate the African pastor's propensity for 90 minute sermons!

We remain very concerned about the fate of our dear friend, Tom Fox, and wish that we could be physically present at Langley Hill to help the community to hold him and his colleagues in the Light (I'm still not yet spiritually at a place to hold his captors in the Light, even though I know Tom would wish it so). He and you all are in our prayers.

We'll be back in August - until then, please keep us in your prayers, and we'll do our best to hold you in the Light as well.

Merry Christmas!, Stephen, Christine, Ian, and Audrey

P.O. Box 7062, Kampala, Uganda

kadoka@shire.net

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM KAMPALA, UGANDA!

Listening to Christmas music helps, but somehow the tropical sun, raucous birds, and the mango tree just outside conspire to make us not feel particularly Christmasy. With Uganda's recent political turbulence and ever-present poverty, however, the holidays wish for "**peace on earth, goodwill towards men**" (and women) has particular poignancy and a new sense of urgency that make our Christmas unusually significant.

We are now 1/3 through our year in Kampala, where Stephen is a Fulbright professor of ethics in the Philosophy Department at Makerere University, dividing his time between teaching and writing a book on development ethics. Christine is employed on a US Agency for International Development project, along with 10 very hard working Ugandans, to monitor the performance of all the other USAID projects in the country. Ian (10) and Audrey (5) are happy and healthy, and enrolled at the International School of Uganda (ISU) where they enjoy courses in Ugandan culture, French, IT, library science, swimming, dance, and music. Ian is even learning how to play cricket (jolly good!) – ISU combines both American and British curricula. ISU is situated on a gorgeous grassy campus on a hillside outside Kampala, with excellent teachers and children from over 50 countries. Through this exposure, the world is becoming much bigger and more diverse for us all. In short, we are all enjoying the Uganda experience immensely, making new friends, and finding time for various excursions to the expansive Ugandan game parks and tourist destinations (like the source of the Nile at Jinja). We're even planning to venture afar in our trusty old Landcruiser, going on a post-Christmas safari to one of the Kenyan game parks.

The first half of 2005 seemed to fly past, as we made ready to travel abroad. Getting the house rented, belongings packed and stored, car sold, and all of us injected with seemingly countless inoculations (ouch!) was indeed a challenge. We somehow managed to do it all, with time left over to immerse ourselves in the Friends' General Conference annual summer week-long gathering of Quakers in Blacksburg, Virginia, and to enjoy a wonderful visit with Stephen's parents, Ray and Ginny Schwenke, in Largo, Florida. Then, before we knew what was happening, we were in East Africa – with a daunting new "to-do" list of "settling in" essentials, and the expected (and some unexpected) adjustments to make.

The year has been marked by a profoundly sad event, however, as Stephen's mother passed away on October 31st, after a long and courageous battle against Alzheimer's. Stephen and Ian flew back to Washington, DC for the funeral, sharing that bittersweet experience of feeling the deep loss of a remarkable and loving parent and

grandparent, while simultaneously being buoyed by the love, warmth, and fellowship of gathered family and dear friends. Reflecting on the inspirational, intelligent, wise, caring, and amazingly energetic life of Virginia Schwenke has led each of us to take stock, seizing an opportunity to re-evaluate life's priorities, and value anew the many blessings we have been favored with.

Thanks to the Internet, we remain in regular contact with our families and many friends. We've particularly enjoyed sharing news of our various adventures with the two grandfathers, Bob Lucas (in Cape Cod) and Ray Schwenke (in Largo), and hearing from dispersed brothers, sister, in-laws, and extended family. Friends too have made particular efforts to not let 10,000 miles come between us (with particular honors going to Adrienne!), as we frequently hear from many of you. Keep up the good work – hearing from you all is so appreciated. We're also on Skype, so you can call us for free if you have that software (and a microphone).

We wish you all a very wonderful, relaxing, and meaningful Christmas season, and the very best for the coming year. While we are enjoying our year abroad, we do look forward to re-engaging with our community of University Park, Maryland in August, reclaiming our two fat cats and our pampered parrot (thanks Barb and Emily!), and unpacking the too-many boxes (we may just leave a lot of them packed!). But that's months away – time now to munch on a mango and pad about in sandals and shorts!

Now, where to find a Christmas tree in Kampala? Mistletoe? Eggnog?

Merry Christmas from Christine, Stephen, Ian, and Audrey!

Submitting to the newsletter: Phillip Payette, the Newsletter Editor, welcomes any material of interest to the Adelphi Friends Meeting community. The best way to submit material is by e-mail to afm-newsletter@earthlink.net. Either attach a Word file to the e-mail or type the information directly into the e-mail. You may also submit clean, typed copy to the newsletter box in the meetinghouse. No handwritten material please. Deadline for submissions is noon of the last Sunday of each month.

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Carol Beigel at mailinglist@adelphifriends.org