

# The Herndon Light



6th Month 12, 2016 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 235

Jun 18 Interim Yearly Meeting Saturday June 18 Maury River Friends Meeting in Lexington VA  
Jun 26 Meeting Retreat at Friends Wilderness Center  
Jul 3 Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship  
Jul 10 NO MEETING FOR BUSINESS THIS MONTH  
Jul 17 Adult Discussion led by Jon Burton 9:00 AM "How do we demonstrate our core beliefs and testimonies?"  
Aug 1-7 BYM Annual Session at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland  
Aug 7 Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship  
Aug 14 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 9:00 AM

## Meeting For Business 6-12-16

At 9:00 AM on 6/12/16 Clerk Cat Wilkins gathered 20 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to business.

As a reminder, Recording Clerk Cathy Tunis read the minutes from the April Meeting for Business.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Devin Mahoney presented a recommendation from the Finance Committee to replace our current Verizon phone line with a combination service provided by ADT (our current fire alarm company) a ADT Voicemail system and internet based service from phone.com. The meeting hopes to maintain our phone number and voicemail system, although there likely will not be an actual phone in the meetinghouse and our fax machine will no longer have a usable connection. This is expected to save more than \$100 a month. It will require retraining for the HFM Phone Clerk (currently Margaret Rogers) and will mean that in the event of an emergency, Friends would have to use cellphones to contact 911. The meeting united with the recommendation

Amy Shinkman presented a recommendation from the Finance committee that the meeting appoint an assistant treasurer. The position of treasurer currently has a term of 3 years, with no restrictions on reappointment. Because the duties are relatively specialized, it is more difficult to transition. Amy expressed that the finance

committee conceived the role of assistant treasurer was both to assist the treasurer and to become familiar with the systems. No recommendations were made regarding the term of the assistant treasurer, the process of succession, or term limits. The meeting united with the recommendation to create a position of assistant treasurer, and passed the duty to the nominating committee to define the role and to identify a candidate. If possible, the Finance Committee would like to have the assistant treasurer position filled before the next appointment cycle comes due.

### MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT

Fred Cresson presented the report of the Ministry and Oversight Committee.

Fred reported that Jon Burton will lead an Adult Discussion session on 7/17 on "How do we demonstrate core beliefs and testimonies?" Fred also reminded Friends that BYM Annual Session this year is being held August 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> at Hood College in Frederick Maryland. To encourage attendance, first time attenders (or those who haven't attended Annual Session for 10 years are eligible for two days attendance free, including food and lodging. For other with financial needs, the Ministry and Oversight Committee has scholarship funds available to help defray the cost of attending.

### CLEARNESS COMMITTEES ON MARRIAGE

Fred introduced Kim Glazer, convener of the Clearness Committee for Marriage for Herndon Friend Aubrey Stanton and Lucas Last. The meeting united with the recommendation of the

Herndon Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends holds Meeting for Worship at 660 Spring Street in Herndon each First Day (Sunday). Hymn singing begins at 10:15 am. An unprogrammed Meeting for Worship begins at 10:30 am and lasts about one hour. After worshipping with adults for 10-15 minutes, children and teenagers attend First Day School classes until the end of Meeting for Worship. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information call the Meeting's telephone answering machine at 703-736-0592. The Newsletter Editor is Terence McCormally. Notices for the Newsletter can be sent to him at 2514 Trophy Lane, Reston, VA 20191 E-mail [tmccormally@ffpcs.com](mailto:tmccormally@ffpcs.com). Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Meg Wallace **WEBSITE AT** [www.herndonfriends.org](http://www.herndonfriends.org).

The Care Coordinating Committee is available for Friends in need. If you need assistance because of an illness or other emergency, contact Abbey Compton, Clerk, at [abbey.compton@verizon.net](mailto:abbey.compton@verizon.net); or Priscilla Chamlee at [dandpchamlee@gmail.com](mailto:dandpchamlee@gmail.com); or Fred Cresson at [cresson4@verizon.net](mailto:cresson4@verizon.net), or Stacey LaRoy at [stacebear@laroyfamily.com](mailto:stacebear@laroyfamily.com) or Margaret Rogers at [margrog@juno.com](mailto:margrog@juno.com)

clearness committee to take the marriage under the care of the meeting.

Harry Tunis reported for the Clearness Committee for Marriage appointed for David Vedova. The meeting united with the recommendation of the clearness committee that David and Anna are clear for marriage under the care of the meeting.

#### **HERNDON FRIENDS.ORG**

Ed Markam reported for the Ad Hoc Web committee that the meeting Web Site will be moved to the Quaker Cloud service provided by FGC. When the committee first looked at the Quaker Cloud service it did not have the features that Ed was able to build into our local system. The project has been improved, and currently supports 120 Quaker meetings. The Quaker Cloud program in build on the content management system Drupal, which is the same program we are currently using.

Ed will work with Recorder Cathy Tunis to transition the meeting directory to the Website. The Quaker Cloud calendar function uses a google calendar tool, so that people who use google calendar will be able to add the meeting calendar to their calendar with a couple of clicks. At present, the the Quaker Cloud does not include a list serv option, although the developers report this is a very commonly requested item and is high on their priority list for development. For the current time, HFM will continue to use the yahoo groups listserv. Likewise, the site is not currently customized for "mobile device" users, but the development team is also considering this with the next upgrade to Drupal which supports such custom sizing.

The Quaker Cloud service costs about \$10.00 a month more (about double) our current web hosting service.

On their website, one customer asked why the program was not provided for free as some other web hosting solutions are. This recalls the important internet adage: When an internet service has no charge for the product—you are the product.

Friend Liz Hoy, formerly of HFM, most recently of Wyoming Meeting reports that the Wyoming meeting has successfully used the Quaker Cloud and says it required a lot of work to get the content right.

The meeting united with the recommendation to move the website to Quaker Cloud

Kim Glazer reported that some Herndon Friends participated in the DC Pride parade and festival to support our LGBT community. In addition to Kim, Friends Maria Brinza, Camryn Joy Williams (in a

rainbow tutu!), and Leah Craig walked the parade route with 8 Friends from local meetings. Stacey Laroy was planning to join the group on 6/12 for the Pride Festival.

As part of her involvement with the Pride parade and festival, Kim drafted a statement which she printed out to be distributed at the Festival today. She shared the statement with the meeting:

"Herndon Friends Meeting accepts and appreciates diversity in our community and welcomes all who share our search for Truth. We understand that God, who loves all people unconditionally, leads our Meeting to honor the gender identity of each person as that person determines it. We affirm marriage equality because we recognize the Light in all sincere, loving, supportive.

"All people should be able to live out fully what the Spirit is leading them to be. Herndon Friends Meeting extends a welcome to all individuals who seek to share our Quaker spiritual journey and strives to be an affirming, safe, and nurturing place for everyone."

#### **STUDENT PEACE AWARDS of FAIRFAX COUNTY**

Margaret Rogers presented the annual report of the Peace Awards Committee. The program continues to grow, this year soliciting applications from all the county high schools and some private schools, and adding additional sponsors.

The annual awards ceremony was held March 13 at the Sherwood Community Center, and individual recognition of students in their end of year assemblies is still ongoing.

The annual meeting of the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County was held on May 12 at Herndon Friends Meeting. The size of Awards has been increased to \$350, with \$250 to the student and \$100 to a charity of the student's choice. The outlay for last year was about \$6500, with income of \$6000. The full report, the list of awardees, the minutes of the annual meeting, and related newspaper articles were submitted to the recording clerk

#### ***Meeting For Business 6-7-16***

#### ***Fauquier Friends Worship Group***

Katherine Cole presented the minutes of the First Meeting for Business of Fauquier Friends as a report to Herndon Friends on the progress of the worship group.

Katherine, Harry Tunis and Kim Glazer are the members of the Care Committee appointed to assist Bonnie Stockslager in the development of Fauquier Friends. The Worship Group has been

meeting monthly for the last two years at the Bealeton depot.

During discussion, Fauquier Friends united on the following minutes:

1) As an enhanced web presence may increase the ease with which those searching for a religious home could find FFWQ, Bonnie will continue efforts to establish a website with domain name as technical assistance becomes available. For now she plans to fund this herself.

2) Jean Lowe will pursue the establishment of a Peace Awards program for local area high schools based on the one started by Herndon Friends in Northern Virginia. She will work with a local Interfaith Group in which she is already active.

3) Following rise of Meeting for Worship Fauquier Friends will plan to start implementing discussions of Quaker topics based on Faith and Practice and other Quaker literature in lieu of their current practice of using this time for announcements. Discussions might last 15-30 minutes depending on the desires of those attending.

4) FFWG will continue to hold Meeting for Worship at the Bealeton Depot, one First Day a month; Bonnie will continue to schedule meeting for the third First Day whenever that is possible given the library's scheduling restrictions.

5) FFWQ would like to minute their appreciation of the service they have received from Devon Mahoney, treasurer of Herndon Friends Meeting. He has been generous with his time, which has been very helpful to FFWQ, which uses the bank account of Herndon Friends for its financial transactions.

The group felt that holding Meeting for Business was useful and would like to hold another business meeting at a future time. A date for the next meeting was not set.

### ***Solar Power at the Dome.***

Thanks to Bob Bruninga a friend of Friends Wilderness Center, there is now electric power at the Dome at Friends Wilderness Center.

Using an lightweight solar panel Bob installed the solar panel, an inverter, and a battery system, as well as some lights so that the Dome now has electric lights and a 120-140 volt outlet, suitable for charging cell phones and computers. Keith Curtis says the next step in civilizing the Dome is installation of some kind of toilet.

Herndon Friends will have the opportunity to inspect and operate the new electric system when they visit Friends Wilderness Center for the retreat on June 26.

### ***Quaker Pantheon Lucretia Mott***

Herndon Friends Middle School Class is finishing their review of 20 notable Quakers. This week was about Lucretia Mott and the testimony of equality.



Born Lucretia Coffin, she was struck by the unfairness that although she and her husband attended the same school to become teachers, she only made ½ as much. Her umbrage against inequality extended to slavery. She was born in 1793, 21 years after the death of John

Woolman—but no one would mistake her style for Woolman. Instead of sitting in quiet conversation with slave owners, trying to understand their thinking, and getting them to understand their own thinking, Lucretia was a fiery speaker. At the Second Antislavery Convention of American Women in Philadelphia in 1838, the protesters outside were so angry they burned the building—Pennsylvania Hall, finished just three days before—to the ground. It might not have burned to the ground if the fireman had been able to do their jobs, but the mob prevented it. Lucretia never gave in to violence; she was a pacifist, but she was never passive.

Her friendship with the young Elizabeth Cady Stanton and her involvement in women's suffrage began when they were both denied the opportunity to speak at the London World Antislavery Convention in 1840 because of their gender. That led to their collaboration with Susan B. Anthony and in 1948 and the Seneca Fall Convention with the Declaration of Sentiments, a Declaration of Independence style list of grievances against male oppression that ends with a rousing: *Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation, – in view of the unjust laws above mentioned, and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed, and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of these United States.*

Lucretia Mott did not leave as much written record of some of our notable Quakers, but her impact on history is quite impressive. That's one reason that she will be one of three Quaker women on the back of the \$10 bill (along with Susan B Anthony and Alice Paul) (and also Sojourner Truth and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who were pretty cool, too, even if not Quakers)

Brief Notes

Quotations from Lucretia Mott:

“The legal theory is, that marriage makes the husband and wife one person, and that person is the husband.”

“A child, like all other human beings, has inalienable rights.”

“It is time that Christians were judged more by their likeness to Christ than their notions of Christ. Were this sentiment generally admitted we should not see such tenacious adherence to what men deem the opinions and doctrines of Christ while at the same time in every day practise is exhibited anything but a likeness to Christ.”

And from Barak Obama’s second inaugural address:

We, the people, declare today that the most evident of truths -- that all of us are created equal -- is the star that guides us still; just as it guided our forebears through Seneca Falls, and Selma, and Stonewall; just as it guided all those men and women, sung and unsung, who left footprints along this great Mall, to hear a preacher say that we cannot walk alone; to hear a King proclaim that our individual freedom is inextricably bound to the freedom of every soul on Earth.

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