

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

**Annual Business Meeting
March 16, 2014 – 9:00**

New Garden Friends Meeting, Greensboro, NC

Attending

John Hunter
Marian Beane
Karen Garraputa
Tony Lowe
Ken Bradstock
Debbie Parvin
Joan Tillotson
Doris Wilson
Mike Johnson
Micah Barnhill-Wright
Linda Hunter
Christina Connell
Virginia Driscoll
Karen McKinnon
Jeff Brown
Lynn Newsome
Steve Newsome
Anne Van Newkirk
Marshal Edelman
Colby Solomon
Michael Wilson
Charles Reid
Deborah Bromiley
John Shuford
Carol Cothorn
Robert Mers
Joyce Mers
Gary Hornsby
Lynne Berla
Toby Berla
Kathy Kamphoefner
Paul Pierce
John Cardarelli
Janet Inmon
Lori Fernald Khamala
Robert Cooper
Margot Stern
Ben Gavin

Meeting

Durham
Charlotte
New Garden
Fancy Gap
Fancy Gap
New Garden
Friendship
Upstate
Upstate
Durham
Durham
Salem Creek
New Garden
Durham
Chapel Hill
Fayetteville / Quaker House
Fayetteville / Quaker House
Charlotte
Fancy Gap
Fancy Gap
Fancy Gap
Fancy Gap
Raleigh
Raleigh
New Garden
New Garden
New Garden
Salem Creek
Durham
Durham
Raleigh
Raleigh
Salem Creek
New Garden
Friendship / AFSC
Fayetteville
Chapel Hill
Durham

The meeting opened after a period of silent worship.

John Hunter, Clerk of PFF, welcomed attenders and visitors.

Clerk's Report (John Hunter)

The yearly meeting formation process is in its fifth year and made much progress in the last year.

The Fall Retreat at Davidson Friends Meeting was excellent, including a workshop by Scott Holmes on the criminal justice system.

The Annual Retreat this weekend has gone very well. Friends thank New Garden Friends Meeting for hosting a successful retreat and recognize Karen Garraputa's outstanding leadership in coordinating the retreat.

A conference planning committee concept has not been realized yet. The intent for the coming year is form a committee to involve more Friends in planning for the annual retreat.

PFF is well represented in Friends General Conference (FGC). Marian Beane, Karen McKinnon, Karen Stewart, Judy Purvis, and Suebear Hebner served during the last year. FGC has a wealth of information and programs available to Friends.

This year PFF welcomed Fancy Gap Friends Meeting as a new member of the Fellowship.

PFF continues its role for bringing diverse Friends Meetings together across the region.

PFF is exploring a way to increase youth participation and connections. Karen Garraputa is leading an effort to hire a coordinator for youth programming.

Friends expressed appreciation for John Hunter's hard work and leadership on the PFF Annual Retreat.

Friends General Conference Report

Karen McKinnon is serving on the FGC Nominations Committee which she is finding rewarding.

Marian Beane described her service on the Discernment, Planning and Priorities Committee. FGC is defining a vision, doing a consultation for deepening the spiritual lives of meetings, and working on outreach. Also, the committee is preparing for fund raising for the vision.

Karen Stewart is working on long range planning. Judy Purvis is involved in an organizational committee.

There are opportunities for more Friends from PFF to be involved in national efforts through FGC. This is a fine opportunity to connect with Friends around the nation.

Karen McKinnon added that the 2015 FGC Gathering will take place at Western Carolina University in Cullowee, NC. The planning committee for the Gathering will convene soon.

FGC requests email addresses from Meetings in PFF for infrequent communication. Friends will be hearing more from Representatives on this request soon.

Informational reports to annual meeting, attached

American Friends Service Committee Report

Lori Fernald Kamala reported for AFSC. Her report is attached.

It was noted that PFF members attended the AFSC meeting in Philadelphia.

Fayetteville Quaker House Report

Lynn Newsome reported on the many activities of Quaker House during the last year (report is attached).

Friends added that North Carolina does not have an Alternatives to Violence Project training program. John A. Shuford and Deborah L. Bromiley from Raleigh Friends Meeting are working on an initiative with Meetings in North Carolina. Lynn welcomed PFF to be involved.

Teen Report

Toby Berla reported that the teens had a successful program this weekend. Saturday included workshops on art and music as well as ultimate frisbee. Max Carter reported on his trip to Israel and Palestine. Games included “night moose” outside and “bear” inside. Remarkably, teens found a persistent snow pile next to a building in 80-degree weather.

Toby Berla and Andrew Wright see a nexus in PFF for youth from diverse Meetings. It may not appear spiritual, but the space and the room in our hearts are effective in making youth connections that serve all of us well. Lori Fernald Khamala shared her experience as a young Charlotte Friend making connections and bonding with youth from other Meetings. Karen Garraputa added that PFF youth who are now young adults are still connected and contributed to cooking and music this weekend.

Report of the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee (Marian Beane)

Marian Beane presented a report on progress of the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee (attached).

Nominating Committee Report (Marian Beane)

The Nominating Committee reported that John Hunter will continue to serve as Clerk of PFF. Jeff Brown will continue to serve as recording clerk. Tom Kagan of Raleigh Friends Meeting is serving as PFF Treasurer on an interim basis, with Bob Cooper serving as an assistant. PFF seeks a Friend to serve as Treasurer. Suebear Hebner is discerning service for another term on the FGC Central Committee. Karen McKinnon continues to serve on the Central Committee, and one seat is open for PFF to fill. The FGC Central Committee meets next in October. Friends are reminded that PFF has resources to support travel in part for Friends in service, as needed.

Treasurer's Report

A Treasurer's Report was not available for this meeting. The Treasurer's report to the PFF Representatives meeting this afternoon is attached to these minutes.

Youth Epistle

Micah Barnhill-Wright and Ben Gavin presented an epistle on the weekend (attached). Friends thanked the youth for attending and for their insightful comments that Friends will consider in future retreat planning.

Other Reports or Items for Consideration

PFF Representatives will ask for comments to evaluate the annual retreat and encourage Friends to respond and consider helping in the planning for the next annual meeting.

Regarding public position statements by PFF, John Hunter invited requests for statements to come from Meetings, for consideration in a future PFF agenda.

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Attachments

American Friends Service Committee Report
Quaker House Report
Yearly Meeting Formation Committee Report
Treasurer's Report
Youth Epistle from Annual Retreat

AFSC Area Office of the Carolinas Brief Report to Piedmont Friends Fellowship March 16, 2014

Submitted by Lori Fernald Khamala, AFSC staff and attender of Friendship Monthly Meeting

The American Friends Service Committee is privileged to have an office just blocks from two Greensboro Friends Meetings and from Guilford's campus, and this proximity encourages a lot of interaction and from Guilford, a lot of interns.

Structure: Two years ago, AFSC engaged in significant restructuring, resulting in four regions within the U.S. We are located in the South region, along with offices in Baltimore, West Virginia, DC, New Orleans, Miami and regional headquarters in Atlanta. Nikki Vangsnes of Durham Meeting serves on our regional Executive Committee. Ann Lennon has been serving as interim Regional Director and interviews for a new Regional Director are currently underway with an expected start date in the next couple of months. In Ann's absence, Lori Khamala serves as the interim Area Office Coordinator. Many PFF attendees met Toni Etheridge on Saturday, who is the newest full time staff member.

In our local office, we have two full time staff, one part time staff, two paid interns for temporary projects and currently three unpaid student interns. We have a strong volunteer and intern program. Despite limited staffing, we operate two vibrant and robust programs.

Peace & Economic Justice, led by Toni Etheridge: Our Peace & Economic Justice program is primarily implemented through working with groups of young people on a weekly or monthly basis to discuss social justice themes and develop leadership skills. Toni is currently working with youth at the Elimu Empowerment Services, a group serving primarily African refugee youth; the Newcomers School, a school for immigrant children; Dudley High School; and she is starting a new relationship with a group of Montagnard Dega youth. Toni has also organized visits to Congressional offices to promote issues of global peace, including a recent visit in collaboration with FCNL to urge the repeal of the Authorization of Use of Military Force (AUMF). In addition, our office has been involved with and very supportive of the Moral Monday movement. AFSC brought youth from Elimu Empowerment Services to the recent Moral March in Raleigh in February. Finally, AFSC seeks to promote understanding and connections with the Muslim community by inviting Quakers to join Open Houses at local Mosques and other ways.

Immigrant Rights, led by Lori Fernald Khamala: We continue to utilize digital storytelling as a medium to facilitate immigrants and young people to tell their own stories in their own words using 21st century technology. All of our short videos can be found at www.youtube.com/afscnc. We facilitate groups of mostly non-immigrants who are working for a more inclusive community. In Charlotte, this is an Immigrant Solidarity Committee held at Charlotte Friends Meeting with many Friends in attendance. In Greensboro, we are a key member of the Immigrant Rights Working Group. In Durham we are seeking ways to revive

our efforts there. We offer Know Your Rights workshops to undocumented immigrants about what to do in case of interaction with law enforcement and train folks to be able to take this back to their own communities. We are working on a Welcoming Greensboro Initiative, for our city to be declared welcoming towards immigrants and also implement concrete recommendations. We are also very involved in trying to create humane immigration policy, at the local level (deportation programs that rely on local law enforcement), state level (advocating for in-state tuition for undocumented students and drivers' licenses for undocumented residents)) and national level (federal humane immigration reform).

Connect: We send out a monthly newsletter and also daily updates from our facebook page (www.facebook.com/afscnc). To be added to our newsletter list, email LKhamala@afsc.org or call 336-854-0633. We are always looking for opportunities to visit local Meetings and would be pleased to offer forums. In addition, AFSC nationally has started a new Meeting/Church Liaison program as a way to better connect with Friends, as well as an Acting in Faith blog (<http://www.afsc.org/friends>).

Quaker House Report 2013-2014

Lynn and Steve Newsom, Directors

During this last year at Quaker House, Quaker House sponsored many activities and programs to reach out to the Fayetteville and Ft. Bragg communities; worked to build bridges and establish connections within the military; established a Domestic Violence Victims' Support Program; counseled active military service members, AWOL service members and veterans; traveled to present programs at many Meetings, Churches, and conferences; wrote articles for newspapers and magazines; developed presentations for children; and co-sponsored several peace and social justice events.

Forums we sponsored included the subjects of human trafficking, drones (featuring Medea Benjamin, the co-founder of Code Pink), torture, and domestic violence. The Baptist Peacemakers of North America came to Quaker House for a "Friendship Tour," and we were featured in their newsletter.

We attend Chaplains' Meetings at Ft. Bragg and the chaplains came to visit Quaker House for the first time in our history. We attend Behavior Health Professional Meetings which include members of the military; Lynn is on the Board of the Rape Crisis Center; and Lynn attended the annual "Forward March" conference, a gathering of military with civilians to learn about the mental and behavioral health problems the military is facing and how the civilian community can help. Lynn was able to speak about the work of Quaker House.

We continue working with QUIT (the Quaker Initiative to End Torture) and NCSTN (North Carolina Stop Torture Now) to work against torture. We created postcards supporting John Kiriakou and encourage people to send our postcards asking Senators Burr and Feinstein and President Obama to release the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence report on torture. We were co-sponsors of a vigil outside Senator Burr's office.

Our counselors, Lenore Yarger and Steve Woolford, continue to be very busy with soldiers who need help. There is an increase in Conscientious Objection applicants and soldiers who are being released involuntarily from the military on incorrect charges such as "personality disorder" when they actually have PTSD and/or TBI. Such less than honorable discharges strip soldiers and their families from vital medical and mental health benefits. We are blessed to have a psychiatrist, Dr. Rebecca Valla, who volunteers her time to diagnose these soldiers correctly. Steve and Lenore have been contacted by the media for information on these cases. We are helping many service members receive the medical benefits they deserve.

We continue to offer Mindfulness classes which are very helpful to soldiers suffering from PTSD and TBI and their spouses. We also continue to host music concerts and jams at Quaker House which attracts diverse community and military members.

Our Alternatives to Violence Project training attracted military social workers and a chaplain. The information on it was sent out by email to the mental and behavioral health professionals at Ft. Bragg by the Family Advocacy program director there. The North Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers asked to co-sponsor all trainings in the future, so they now act as our registrar and share the costs of the trainings.

Our Domestic Violence Victims' Support Program provided counseling to many victims, several of whom come regularly each week for therapy. Our therapist, Joanna, attends events in the civilian and military communities to speak about our program and raise awareness about issues of domestic violence in the military. She was, along with Lynn, interviewed on a local

radio station. The interview can be heard at our website.

We co-sponsored with the North Carolina Council of Churches, many churches, veterans and mental health organizations, a 2 day conference in Raleigh titled, “Carolina Soul Repair Journey: Recovering from Moral Injury after War.” This was the first conference on this important issue in the Eastern United States. The VA is now recognizing moral injury as a type of PTSD, which will hopefully open new doors for us in our work to help service members get Conscientious Objection status. Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, co-author of the book Soul Repair and founding Co-Director of the Soul Repair Center at Brite Divinity School in Texas, was the featured speaker. Quaker House was the registrar and fiscal agent for the conference, so everyone who registered used our website.

It has been a very busy, but extremely rewarding, year. Our new connections with military personnel are very valuable and helpful. We feel that we are able to support more effectively our wounded service members at a time when they badly need our help. We are committed to reaching out to the larger Quaker community as well as other faith communities to help others understand the struggles and pain that our service members, veterans and their families are suffering. We believe that faith communities need to minister to them and help them heal in spirit as well as body. “That of God” in them has been damaged by the 12 years of the war machine; we need to help them recover their Spirits.

Yearly Meeting Formation Committee Annual Report

Yearly Meeting Formation Committee report to PFF Annual meeting, March 2014

HISTORY

In the summer of 2009 Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF) took up the question of whether it would benefit by becoming a yearly meeting. Ongoing conversations and discernment among and with affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups resulted in the establishment of a Yearly Meeting Formation Committee in the

Fall of 2012. Its charge was to: discern a comprehensive plan for the formation of a PFF-related yearly meeting and recommend its relationship to PFF with a projected reporting date of March 2014. (See reverse side for more detailed history)

YEARLY MEETING FORMATION COMMITTEE (Formation Committee): its membership & labors

Affiliated meetings were invited to appoint representatives to the Yearly Meeting Formation Committee and the following Friends were appointed: RALEIGH: Martin King, Jennifer Lilly, Carol Morris; Salem Creek: Dee Edelman, Christina Connell, Dick Connell, John Cardarelli; NEW GARDEN: Dot Mason, Debbie Parvin;

DAVIDSON: Barbara Gardiner; DURHAM: John Hunter; SPRING: Dan Perry; Charlotte: Julie Stafford Highberg,

Marian Beane, Sandy Kahn; Upstate Worship Group under Charlotte's care: Doris Wilson & Mike Johnson.

The Formation committee held its 1st meeting during the spring, 2013 annual PFF Retreat and has met bimonthly throughout this year. We have worshiped and been well fed in body and spirit by hosting meetings. We have sought to be faithful to our charge, to spirit and to each other. We are grateful for the support & counsel of the PFF Representative Body and the helpful feedback and advice from PFF member meetings.

From these deliberations and our leadings the Formation Committee has prepared two documents that speak to its charge. These include: A vision statement and a set of core elements to guide the yearly meeting; and a statement that speaks to the Organizational Relationship of Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting and with Friends General Conference. (See separate documents)

PROPOSED TIME LINE FOR the ESTABLISHMENT OF PIEDMONT FRIENDS YEARLY MEETING

1) April, 2014: All PFF meetings will be invited to consider yearly meeting affiliation and if so led to minute their intentions and appoint yearly meeting representatives.

2) September 2014: The first meeting of PFYM representatives will be convened. Additional meetings will occur during the year for the purpose of ordering yearly meeting work including discerning its leadership.

3) March 2015- The first Annual Sessions of the PFYM will be held; observing visitors will be welcome

The Formation Committee is clear to continue to be active during this coming year for the purpose of providing support and guidance for the new yearly meeting. The Committee expects that it could be laid down following the Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions in March 2015.

The Yearly Meeting Formation Committee has been richly blessed from its labors together and with others and it commends this report to you for consideration, reflection and prayers.

PFF YEARLY MEETING FORMATION
PROPOSED VISION STATEMENT AND CORE ELEMENTS
*as revised at Yearly Meeting Formation Committee Meeting Salem
Creek Friends Meeting 23 February 2014*

Purpose/Summary

The Vision Statement and Core Elements are intended to clarify the guiding principles of the new Yearly Meeting and its affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups. This document launches us on a new spiritual adventure. We seek to be guided by spirit, through continuing study and prayer, to broaden our understanding of Quaker history and principles; to deepen our experience of Quaker worship, faith, and practice; to foster a loving and inclusive fellowship; to provide opportunity to connect with the wider Quaker community; and to strengthen our service and witness in the broader world.

Vision Statement

As a Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, we seek to foster a loving community of affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups by increasing and strengthening connections among members, attenders, and seekers and with other Friends' organizations. Our primary goals are to nurture monthly meetings and worship groups by supporting spiritual growth and to witness to our collective truth in the wider world.

Core Elements

SPIRIT- The Yearly Meeting is led by the inward experience of the spirit regardless of the metaphor or descriptive language that is used to express it.

Quakerism began in the 17th century as a Christian movement; Friends often referred to spirit as "Christ within" or "the inward light." While Christian expressions of spirit continue to be central for many Friends, in the 21st century other Friends feel led to describe their experiences in a variety of ways. Being led by the spirit means that we strive to cultivate that sense that moves us to interact with each other in a loving way that guides our decisions with openness to change and seeking a larger truth. We worship with an expectation of being "in the spirit," which allows us personally and corporately to recognize both higher truths and connectedness. Cultivation of spirit compels us to work in the world with compassion and care for all of creation.

QUAKER PRACTICE- The Yearly Meeting's practice is guided by the spirit, based on historical traditions and continuing revelation tested through corporate discernment.

Quaker faith and practice has identifiable though not dogmatic characteristics. A long standing tenet of the Quaker faith is that the revelation of truth has not been completed in the past and that new understandings arise. Discernment of clarity and truth is arrived at through worship and is based on a tradition of testimonies and queries and on living this faith as an outward expression of the inward experience. Our decision-making practice is characterized by discernment through listening, waiting for way to open, openness to multiple solutions, and fearless attention to truth as revealed in the present.

INCLUSIVENESS -Recognizing that inclusiveness enriches our spiritual lives, the Yearly Meeting welcomes and affirms individuals, monthly meetings and worship groups from a wide variety of social and theological backgrounds and experiences.

Rather than prescribing creed, the Yearly Meeting encourages individuals to become part of the corporate experience of Quaker faith and practice. The authenticity of the experience is based on inclusiveness, which in the 21st century, welcomes individuals and families with a wide range of religious traditions and practices and is affirming of diverse genders, ethnicities, racial identification, sexual orientations, ages, and beliefs. The Yearly Meeting is composed of monthly meetings with various modes of Quaker worship, understanding that there are multiple legitimate ways to seek and experience the spirit.

COMMUNITY & WITNESS- The Yearly Meeting fosters community within and between monthly meetings and worship groups, strengthens relationships with other Quaker organizations, and witnesses our truth to the wider world

The Yearly Meeting intends to create a community that honors all who seek both individual and corporate spiritual truth; where there is a supportive environment for individuals and monthly meetings and worship groups to take on challenges; where we follow in the footsteps of George Fox as we "walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one." The community provides the support that allows individuals to test leadings and to witness to the wider world. Belonging to the Yearly Meeting strengthens monthly meetings and worship groups in local, regional, national, and international recognition both within and outside the Quaker community. The Yearly Meeting also provides individuals opportunity for service and for witness through strengthened engagement with issues of concern.

STRUCTURE-The Yearly Meeting has a simple and sufficient structure to serve the evolving vision of the Yearly Meeting constituents.

The Yearly Meeting's establishment arises from the need of monthly meetings and worship groups for the benefits provided by a broader organization. The monthly meetings and worship groups are the source of both the people needed to do the work, and the group that determines what work needs to be done in support of Quaker practice. Its structure is designed to serve the needs of constituent monthly meetings and worship groups in growth and engagement with other Friends' organizations. The Yearly Meeting actively invites all to participate in decision-making and action, remaining flexible and acknowledging that all individuals carry truth and a responsibility for discerning and speaking their truth.

TRANSPARENCY & OPENNESS -Both in practice and in appearance, the Yearly Meeting will demonstrate transparency and openness.

The Yearly Meeting serves the needs of the monthly meetings effectively when all are made aware of the activities and actions of the Yearly Meeting and when activities and actions are undertaken in response to needs of the monthly meetings and worship groups. The Yearly Meeting facilitates open communication in a variety of modes and styles, being mindful that individuals differ in technological abilities and inclination, and learning styles, as well as familiarity with Friends' acronyms. While the Yearly Meeting encourages the use of various media for communication, it also recognizes that personal and corporate relationships are strengthened by face-to-face gatherings.

Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting Organizational Relationships as Proposed

I) PIEDMONT FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP (PFF)

- a) Name change to: Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting. This is the only change anticipated for PFF other than some coordination with the new yearly meeting around annual retreat, annual meeting and appointment of joint FGC representatives.
- b) All current programming, membership and member responsibilities will continue as they have been followed in PFF for many years:
 - i) Program Services
 - (1) Fall one-day retreat for adults
 - (2) Spring Annual Meeting and program retreat for adults and children
 - (3) A youth program operating throughout the year
 - (4) Financial support for Friends of member meetings who need help in attending Quaker events
 - (5) Other services as decided by PFF
 - ii) Membership - open by application to any Quaker meeting or worship group in the Piedmont area and adjacent areas of North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina.
 - iii) Responsibilities of member meetings and worship groups
 - (1) Appoint representatives to serve on the PFF Representative Body and to stand for service as officers as necessary
 - (2) Assist in the planning and execution of the retreats and annual meetings, with each meeting contributing as they are able
 - (3) Contribute financially as asked and as able to support the ongoing program services as determined by the PFF Representative Body

2) PIEDMONT FRIENDS YEARLY MEETING (PFYM)

- a) Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting will be a separate entity from Piedmont Friends Fellowship, and will be made up of member monthly meetings and worship groups
- b) Membership
 - i) Membership in PFYM is open by application to any Quaker meeting or worship group in the piedmont area of North Carolina and adjoining areas of Virginia and South Carolina
 - ii) Membership in the yearly meeting will require that the member monthly meeting/worship group also maintain or begin active membership in Piedmont Friends Fellowship. This is required because the programming function that benefits both entities will be carried out by Piedmont Friends Fellowship (see below), avoiding effort duplication. Therefore, each monthly meeting or worship group that becomes a member of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting will also have an active membership in PFF.
- c) Responsibilities of member meetings and worship groups
 - i) Appoint representatives (up to 3) to serve on the PFYM Representative Body and to stand for service as officers and PFYM representatives to other bodies as necessary. Meetings/worship groups may choose to appoint the same people to serve as representatives to both PFF and PFYM.
 - ii) Assist in the planning and execution of annual sessions and other between-sessions meetings
 - iii) Contribute financially as asked, able and needed to support the ongoing yearly meeting services as determined by the PFYM Representative Body
- d) Program - Spring retreat, Fall workshops, and year-round youth programming will continue to be provided

PFF Treasurer's Report by Tom Kagan

Summary and additions to the P.F.F. Treasurer's report dated 1/19/2014 for presentation at the 03/15/2014 P.F.F. Representative Meeting.

Our total cash balance has increased since the last report by \$1,550 to a new total of \$16,079.91.

Our only outflow was an honorarium of \$ 200 to Scott Holmes for his work at the Fall Retreat, which reduced our **total to \$15,879.91**

Donations from Members have totaled \$1,550.00 our last meeting including donations from Durham, Friendship, and Fayetteville.

This does not include any income or expenses associated with the Spring Retreat.

Piedmont Friends Fellowship Statement of Net Worth as of 3/15/2014

Account

Assets

PNC Bank	\$ 7,705.93
SHCU	<u>\$ 8,173.98</u>
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	<u>\$ 15,879.91</u>
Other Assets	
Super 8	\$ -
TOTAL Other Assets	\$ -
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 15,879.91</u>
LIABILITIES	\$ -
Net Worth	<u>\$ 15,879.91</u>

Youth Epistle, PFF Annual Retreat

Ben Gavin and Micah Barnhill-Wright

On the first night the youth arrived during dinner. Everyone sat in for the Granny D performance; the youth felt that it was aimed at an older audience. Later that night, the few youth and youth leaders from New Garden Meeting showed us a new game called “Zombie.” The next morning, after breakfast, we started the day with workshops. The first section of workshops consisted of cooking and a nature walk in Guilford Woods. The second section of workshops had an art workshop and guided mediation in the graveyard. We then ate lunch, and we had free time. Max Carter and Jane told the youth about the Guilford trips to the West Bank and discussed the Palestine-Israel issues. In the evening we played “capture the flag” and sang songs around the campfire. We played more games and went to sleep.

At the PFF Retreat, the youth enjoyed learning new games from Friends in Greensboro. We also enjoyed the food, especially the chili and the pancakes. The youth really enjoyed the amount of free time we had and all the space around the Meeting we could use. We were disappointed that not many New Garden youth came and that they didn’t stay to whole time. We also would have enjoyed a more involved intergenerational activity on Friday night. Next time the youth would prefer a sleeping arrangement with separate late and early (bedtime) rooms. Overall the youth really enjoyed this PFF retreat and we are very thankful that New Garden Friends Meeting let us use this space.