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MINUTES OF IOWA YEARLY MEETING (CONSERVATIVE)**

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For additional printed copies or for more information, contact:

Deborah Dakin, Clerk
Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends (Conservative)
206 2nd Avenue N.W.
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 895-8133
debdakin@gmail.com

**MINUTES OF IOWA YEARLY MEETING
(CONSERVATIVE)**
133rd Annual Sessions
Seventh Month 27 to Eighth Month 1, 2010

FOURTH DAY – WEDNESDAY – 7/28/2010

At the 133rd annual session of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) held at Scattergood Friends School, near West Branch, Iowa from Seventh Month 27 to Eighth Month 1, 2010.

The meeting for business, if it be Spirit-filled and properly understood by those present, is a hands-on, laboratory-like experience in which the whole fellowship comes face to face with the Spirit's demands for the sacrifice of time, treasure, convenience, and prejudice. . . .

The Friends business meeting is not just the peculiar Quaker form of getting things done; rather it should be seen as an essential part of the spiritual formation and the spiritual growth of every seasoned Friend, for it is that place through which we learn to walk hand in hand with each other and the Spirit out into the world to do the work of committed and obedient disciples. . . .

The meeting for business is one of the most important times for the personal use of prayer—prayer that we may stay in touch with the great and living Stream.

—William Taber

We are glad to welcome these visitors: Liz Oppenheimer, Twin Cities Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting and Laughing Waters Worship Group; Sonja Sponheim, Laughing Waters Worship Group, Minneapolis, MN; Claire Sponheim-Gauder, Laughing Waters Worship Group; Chris Sponheim-Gauder, Laughing Waters Worship Group (Friends from Laughing Waters carried a letter of introduction from their clerk); Jean Smith, carrying a travel minute from East Africa Yearly Meeting; David Eley of Austin, TX, and a member of Keystone Fellowship, PA, Ohio Yearly Meeting; Nancy Petersen of Minneapolis Friends Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting, traveling as a visitor from Friends General Conference and carrying a letter of travel from them; Jeff Swartzendruber of Mennonite Foundation in Kalona, Iowa; Christine Ashley, new head of Scattergood Friends School; Eldon Morey, Brainerd Friends Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting; Kary Morey, Brainerd Friends Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting.

**MONTHLY MEETING APPOINTMENTS OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO YEARLY MEETING**

Ames	Betty Young
Bear Creek	Cheryl Sutton, Herbert Standing
Decorah	Martha Davis
Des Moines Valley	Jean Sandstrom, Carol Spaulding Kruse, Sarah Mickle
Iowa City	Jeff Cox, Karoline Jarr
Lincoln	Dan Schlitt, Jean Eden
Omaha	Debbie Galusha, Carol Gilbert
Paullina	Jonathan Fisch, Inez Schaechterle
Penn Valley	Ginger Kenney
West Branch	Rebecca Bergus, Jim Cottingham
Whittier	Robert Yeats, Roy Hampton
Yahara	Steve Deatherage

**MONTHLY MEETING APPOINTMENTS OF
CARETAKERS TO YEARLY MEETING**

Ames	Ebby Luvaga
Bear Creek	Bob Winchell
Decorah	Bill Deutsch
Des Moines Valley	Sherry Hutchison
Iowa City	none appointed
Lincoln	Marge Schlitt
Omaha	Ian Taylor
Paullina	Judy Plank
Penn Valley	Chloe Wagner
West Branch	Larry Marsh
Whittier	None appointed
Yahara	None appointed

There are 12 representatives and seven caretakers present. Others may be attending later sessions or are assuming other duties at Yearly Meeting during meeting for worship with attention to business.

REPRESENTATIVES' APPOINTMENTS

The Representatives approved the names of the following appointments submitted by the monthly meetings for Nominating Committee:

Ames	A.M. Fink
Bear Creek	Jackie Leckband
Decorah	Martha Ahouse
Des Moines Valley	Sarah Mickle
Iowa City	Ruth Dawson
Lincoln	Lorene Ludy
Omaha	Michael Taylor
Paullina	Beth Wilson
Penn Valley	Jim Kenney
West Branch	Judy Cottingham
Whittier	Martha Hampton
Yahara	Lorene Ludy

The Exercise, Epistle, and Special Replies Committees, Yearly Meeting Reporters, and Auditing Committee are appointed by Representatives. We approved the following appointments suggested by Representatives to serve during the week:

Exercise Committee	Jean Sanderson, Nick Jacoby, Ginger Kenney, Steve Deatherage
Epistle Committee	Jeff Cox, Cheryl Sutton, Beth Wilson
Special Replies Committee	Marshall Massey, Inez Schaechterle
Yearly Meeting Reporters	Dan Schlitt, Carol Gilbert
Auditing Committee	Jim Cottingham, Cheryl Sutton

Readers for this morning's business sessions are Jim Kenney and Karoline Jarr.

We listened to the Midyear Meeting Committee report, the report of the Midyear Meeting treasurer, and the Midyear Meeting Youth Committee report. We appreciate the reports and we appreciate all the work Bear Creek Meeting does to host us each year. We hear their need for adjustments and assistance in hosting Midyear Meeting. There are various tasks behind the scene in preparing the meetinghouse for Midyear

Meeting and for clean up afterwards. Friends in other meetings near Bear Creek Meeting are encouraged to assist as able. Bear Creek Friends will send out an e-mail invitation for Friends to join them. We support their suggestion of hiring an assistant cook. We ask the Midyear Meeting Planning Committee to give careful consideration to this request and bring further suggestions to next Yearly Meeting.

MIDYEAR MEETING REPORT

The Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative), Midyear Meeting was held Third Month 27 and 28, 2010, at Bear Creek Meetinghouse near Earlham, Iowa. Approximately 100 were in attendance from Iowa and neighboring states.

Decorah Monthly Meeting member Bill Deutsch was our presenter this year. Bill has served our yearly meeting for over two decades with his gentle stewardship. The theme he offered for the Midyear Meeting was “Living in Gratitude.”

The first session, on Seventh Day, Bill spoke on “Gratitude: Having and Being,” as he led us through an exploration of *What is Gratitude?—What is not Gratitude?—And how do we know these by our actions, feelings, and so forth.*

From the worshipful silence, replies offered that gratitude is: a gift, appreciation, being thankful, recognition of blessings in life, not taking things for granted, begins with humility, may follow forgiveness, worship, joyful, peaceful, satisfied, being alive, giving, awe, and wonder.

To the question, “How do we feel gratitude?” we responded: by opening up, by having a willingness to receive, by being present, by being aware, by accepting help, by acknowledgement of kindness. We identified some of the many things for which we are grateful, listing health, family, love, music, Friends, friends, shelter, education, safe travel, freedom, discovery, food, sex, and sunshine.

In contrast, we recognized that we feel the state of being without gratitude when we act with bigotry, shaming, using “thank-you” as a formality, seeing the “glass half empty,” being narcissistic, angry, inhuman, exclusive—leaving others out, resulting in making us feel lonely.

Bill suggested that gratitude cannot be imposed. Rather, it is a practice, developed by first paying attention to those times when we experience the act or state of being. Bill told the story of *The Three Stone Masons*, which illustrates how our attitude toward life conditions our gratitude.

Noting how children tend to live primarily in the present, Bill offered how typically they are concerned with the way things are at the moment. This presence in the *now* doesn't open to fear of the future or regret of past and can help bring our experience to a fuller gratitude awareness. We are surrounded by natural beauty, given to us freely all the time in early morning sunlight, flowers and wildlife, the overwhelming silence of the undisturbed, silent awe, the sensation of *being gratitude*. Being fully present can be elicited by pieces of music, special poetry, groups of people, the experience of children, bringing us to our senses in the moment, reminding us of and for what we are grateful.

While we live with surties of abundance, Bill asked, how is it that others are so happy with so little? Are they living in gratitude? Is there a distinction between having and being? By these examples, Bill noted, we see that having Gratitude can flow into being gratitude.

In the evening session, Bill had us divide into six groups to discuss our individual stories, answering these questions: How do we feel Gratitude? How do we show Gratitude? For what are you grateful? Have you experienced being Gratitude?

In the last session, Bill explored, "Dealing with the obvious—if God is so obvious, why do we have to be reminded of the presence of God?" He offered that perhaps we develop a capacity to be aware of the obvious, aware of God and Gratitude, like our awareness of the beauty of the natural world. Bill concluded, "I leave you with this simple prayer of gratitude, *"Thank you."*

The gathering expressed sincere appreciation for Bill Deutsch's tender and Spirit-filled message. We thanked the Bear Creek Monthly Meeting once again for their generous hospitality and all of the work behind-the-scenes to prepare for this annual gathering. We appreciate the little cottage, which is a comfortable space now that it is heated, and we are pleased that only a few things remain before its completion.

We appreciated the good food and cooking of Terri Gillespie and all who helped prepare the good meals. The AFSC rummage sale generated \$717. We thank all who donated for this good cause.

In the process of discerning hosting in the future, Bear Creek Meeting has had additional discussions. There is a sense that because they are small, they cannot continue to host without making some changes. Ideas for consideration—encourage more Midyear Planning Committee participation, possibly hire an assistant cook, explore hospitality options, and write job descriptions for volunteers.

On behalf of Midyear Planning Committee,
Stan Sanders, clerk

MIDYEAR MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT

Contributions		\$3,089.82
Expenses:		
Committee expenses	44.58	
Babysitters	20.00	
Food	957.34	
Cook	400.00	
	<u>\$1,421.92</u>	(\$1,421.92)
		<u>\$1,667.90</u>
Hosting fee		(300.00)
Leftover money		<u>\$1,367.90</u>

MIDYEAR MEETING YOUTH PROGRAM REPORT

“Living with Gratitude” was the topic of the Adult Program. Gratitude was a theme of the Youth Program, as well.

Activities centered around mask making with natural materials, worship in the meetinghouse, sand art images of hope, a game of charades, and watching the movie “Blind Side.” Outdoor games provided additional time for getting acquainted. There was a spirit of enthusiasm and kindness within the group.

First Day morning we attended meeting for worship, and then gathered in Bear Creek Cottage. We sat in a circle and talked about gratitude. This led to sharing something we appreciated about the person sitting next to us.

Penny Majors generously offered to assist with the Junior Yearly Meeting activities during the weekend. Her gentle presence added much, as she encouraged even the youngest to be involved.

We were grateful that the Kislings arranged for their three great granddaughters to provide activities for preschoolers. There were no requests for childcare, so they were able to join the Junior Yearly Meeting group.

The committee for the Midyear Youth Program plans activities for Junior Yearly Meeting (K–8) and Young Friends (grades 9–12). Members of the committee are invited to assist with one youth session during the Midyear Meeting gathering, and have an opportunity to work with either age group. With several volunteers, this makes an opportunity to participate in the Adult Program too.

The Bear Creek Cottage was a warm and cozy space for youth activities. The assistance of the Yearly Meeting with this project is appreciated. There are plans to add steps up to the loft, and a railing. With the central location, Yearly Meeting groups are welcome to utilize the cottage for committee meetings or retreats.

On behalf of the Midyear Youth Program
Jackie Leckband

We heard the good report of the Interim Meeting.

INTERIM MEETING MINUTES

Third Month 27, 2010
Bear Creek Meetinghouse

Present: A.M. Fink, Martha Davis, Marshall Massey, Cheryl Sutton, George Bergus, Bill Deutsch, Jean Eden, Larry Marsh, Ruth Dawson, Lorene Ludy, Kathy Day, Marge Schlitt, Gordon Bivens, Meg McCormick, Beth Wilson, Jim Kenney, Carol Gilbert assistant clerk, Alice Hampton, clerking.

Meeting opened with a time of silent worship.

We approved Marshall Massey to attend as a visitor on behalf of IYMC to Ohio Yearly Meeting in Barnesville, Eighth Month 10–15, 2010. If he is not able, we will ask Ken Lawrence from Yahara.

We approved Jean Eden and Lorene Ludy to attend as visitors on behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) to North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative), to be held 14–18, 7th Month 2010.

Travelers who need funds in order to attend should seek permission from the Yearly Meeting clerk ahead of time to see if they can use the clerk's contingency fund. The money could be received before travel, if needed, or on a reimbursement basis.

Alice Hampton agreed to continue as clerk, and Carol Gilbert as assistant clerk, of Interim Meeting in 2011.

Meeting concluded with a time of silent worship.

Alice Hampton, clerk
Carol Gilbert, assistant clerk

We received the AFSC Corporation Report from Yearly Meeting representatives. We appreciate the honesty and forthrightness of the

report and acknowledge the pain that AFSC staff and committees must have gone through in the process described.

AFSC CORPORATION REPORT

The past year has been a wild ride for most non-profit organizations due to the ongoing financial crises in the United States and in the world. The AFSC has been severely affected. Budgets have had to be cut almost in half. Programs were ended and staff was let go. Wrenching decisions were made and on top of it all, a search was taking place for a new General Secretary.

Reductions in contributions and in income from investments (both those of AFSC and of donor individuals and foundations) forced cuts to the budget by almost half between the 2009 and 2010 budgets. Spending reductions had to be quickly implemented. Since then, budgets and contributions have stabilized and been brought into line with one another. Discussions are continuing about the future size and shape of the organization as programs are evaluated for effectiveness and cost. The audit of the 2009 finances was “clean” and some 2010 budget items were revised to allow for some small growth as compared with the preliminary budget. These efforts, though severe, seem to have succeeded and a smaller leaner AFSC is poised to continue its important work into the future.

The Corporation will not meet in 2010 and the annual meeting has been moved to March 2011. Ongoing discussions are taking place about the size and role of the Corporation. Proposals for change will likely be presented for approval at the March meeting.

The AFSC is pleased to welcome Shan Cretin as new General Secretary. Shan is former director of the AFSC Pacific Southwest Region and graduate of MIT and Yale and formerly on the faculty of Harvard and UCLA. Her experience is in the field of public health systems in an exhaustive variety of organizations and settings around the world. Please thank those who served on the Search Committee, including our very own Sonia Tuma.

Aid programs will evolve and continue. Campaigns for justice for immigrants and on the true costs of war are ongoing, aided by improved video and Web presentations. The redesigned Website is an especially attractive and easy to use way to keep up with activities of the organization. AFSC continues to be powerful reflection of our Quaker testimonies and a voice of sanity in a world that often seems to have gone mad.

On behalf of the AFSC representatives
Bob Yeats

We listened attentively to the epistles from Ohio Yearly Meeting and North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Conservative.

**EPISTLE FROM
NORTH CAROLINA YEARLY MEETING, CONSERVATIVE**

Seventh Month 17, 2010

Greetings to Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative from North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative, meeting at Guilford College in the middle of Seventh Month.

We are enjoying new routines on campus, as we meet in different buildings and stay in a different dormitory from those in which we have met over several decades in the past. We have endured the usual sultry weather of the height of summer in North Carolina.

Early in the first business session, we heard with interest and pleasure your epistle to us, and we continue to appreciate the communication and the sharing between our two yearly meetings. We regret that no one from Iowa was able to join us at our sessions. We noted the addition of Yahara Monthly Meeting to your membership and understand the promise of adding new members who can share both some of the work and the spiritual journey, which you are taking.

We have been enriched by many visitors from several meetings in nearby states, as well as those from the west coast of the United States, Alaska, Great Britain, and Kenya. They have enriched our worship, led our bible study, and joined in our afternoon conversations.

During our time together, we have focused our evening sessions on “Spirituality and the Arts” as we considered the changing views of Friends toward the arts over the last three centuries and shared personal stories of five of the artists in our midst of how spirituality and the arts have been expressed in their lives.

We have considered how the Yearly Meeting and its members support one another and others. We embraced the importance of sending delegates from our yearly meeting to the 2012 World Conference of the Friends World Committee for Consultation in Kenya, but realized that we must find ways to support these delegates financially. At the same time, the body of ministers, elders, and overseers spent considerable time discerning in what manner we can nurture Friends from outside the current boundaries of our yearly meeting region. We are thankful for the care and guidance our leaders of the youth program have given to the children and teens under their care. We have noted with satisfaction the eagerness the youth have shown to come to Yearly Meeting each summer and to spend time together.

We send our prayers to you in Christian fellowship for peace in the world and compassion toward those who are suffering and are in need.

Yours in Divine Love
Richard Miller, clerk

**EPISTLE FROM
OHIO YEARLY MEETING**

8/17/2009

To Friends of Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative

Dear Friends,

“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of the darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

II Corinthians 4:6

“That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

John 1:9

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose light we have gathered near Barnesville, Ohio for our 197th annual session.

During our yearly meeting from Eighth Month 03 through Eighth Month 09, we have appreciated presentations and programs that guide us to deeper contemplation of God’s love, peace and nonviolence, the Beatitudes, and spiritual gifts. We are saddened by the state of the world and the human suffering that is found in so many regions of the world. We welcome these presentations that invite us to consider the possibilities for relieving suffering through our actions or our support of programs organized by Friends and others.

Junior Yearly Meeting has been conducted concurrently with Yearly Meeting, with some adult Friends devoting their time to programs for younger Friends during meetings for worship with a concern for business. Their presentation on Seventh Day evening is always a time of special blessing for us all.

Christian Education Camp, held in Sixth Month each year, was again well attended by young people seeking knowledge of the truth and reality of a personal relationship with Jesus, and greater understanding of our Quaker faith and practice of unprogrammed worship.

One of our monthly meetings organized a Gathering in Sixth Month which was attended by Friends from many parts of the country. We rejoiced with these Friends, too often isolated and remote from meetings as they enjoyed Christian fellowship and spiritual refreshment during the Gathering in Bird-in-Hand, PA. We were likewise encouraged by the presence of so many hearts, tender toward the leadings of the Holy Spirit.

We recall that you gained another monthly meeting in recent years, and we are glad to learn that our brothers and sisters in North Carolina Yearly Meeting added a monthly meeting at their recent sessions. We are pleased to share that, only a few weeks ago, our Crossroads Worship Group in Michigan became our newest monthly meeting. We perceive that Truth is prospering among Conservative Friends, and hope that our three yearly meetings will continue to share news of growth.

We were glad to have a North Carolina Friend with us this year, and Friends from both there and Iowa in years past. We look forward to future sessions when we again experience the strengthening presence of Friends from both our sister Conservative yearly meetings.

In the light and love of our Lord,
Seth B. Hinshaw, clerk

We listened carefully to selections of epistles received from yearly meetings around the world during the last year. Yahara Friends served as the Document Committee, making the selections. We appreciate the depth and joy we heard in these epistles.

SOUTH CENTRAL YEARLY MEETING

“ . . . We have found strength through looking at our history, realizing we have matured over the years and yet have remained much the same—light hearted, ready to sing and dance through the night, yet going deep when we need to. Our steady commitment to actively living our testimonies has led us time and again to cutting edge witness on civil rights, abolition of the death penalty, peacemaking, and same gender marriage. Friends were particularly heartened to realize that in 1994 a seed for Friends Peace Teams was planted in SCYM. . . .”

OHIO VALLEY YEARLY MEETING

“ . . . At these sessions OVYM Friends also addressed a number challenging issues. One quarterly meeting reported that it feels morbidly weak, suffers from low attendance, and feels disrespected by the yearly meeting. This report spurred a discussion about the frail state of both of

our quarterly meetings. In addition, we have difficulty finding Friends to serve in many leadership and committee positions, including the Advancement and Nurture Committee. As a result, the work of this committee has been severely curtailed. The revision of our book of faith and practice has also been quite challenging. We have worked for ten years, laboring over several controversial issues, often failing to find unity.

Yet the Spirit's blessings continue to manifest themselves among us, strengthening our faith and resolve. We found long-sought unity on revised text on membership for our book of faith and practice, and reaffirmed our confidence in the committee laboring on revisions. Our business sessions reflected mutual respect, forbearance, and dependence on our Guide. All ages took joy in the high level of participation and enthusiasm in the youth programs, with a clear sense that our young Friends see OYVM as their home. Our young adult Friends credit their childhood yearly meeting experiences with helping to form their Quaker identities. We celebrated the resurgence of involvement by young adult friends, who engaged so fully in the activities of younger and older Friends that they longed for more time among their peers. We received joyfully the report from the teen trip to Alaska for Spirit Camp in conjunction with Alaska Friends Conference. The trip, which involved financial, physical, and spiritual challenges, rewarded the faith of all involved. The gifts of our Youth Secretary and Teen Committee, and the Spirit Camp staff, created a life-enriching experience for our teens with spiritual benefits already evident in the days following their return. . . .”

OHIO VALLEY MIDDLE YOUTH PROGRAM

“We enjoyed many activities together, such as rafting on the Whitewater River, biking, helping at the animal shelter, going to Bike Co-op, and listening to guest speakers.

While enjoying rafting, we saw all kinds of nature including dragonflies, herons, and turtles. We helped each other overcome our fears on the rope swing and we cheered each other on. We had no trash left from lunch because we used reusable containers. Not only did we leave no trash, but we left the river cleaner than we found it by picking up garbage on the banks.

We biked to the animal shelter, which took endurance, but saved gas. While we washed around 20 dogs at the shelter, we got to know the cats and dogs better by learning their names and socializing them. We were really showed what love can do. When we showed love to the animals at the shelter, not only did they get calmer, but they shared affection, too. . . .”

NETHERLANDS YEARLY MEETING

“. . . Loving greetings from the Dutch Friends. We take pleasure in sharing with you the inspiration that we received during our annual gathering which had as its theme “Conflict Prevention.” It was a great joy to us to be together with so many Friends and guests, young and old, from far and near, in the Woodbrookers House in Barchem.

During the welcome to Friends from abroad, a German Friend told us a story about someone who wanted to study Dutch. When asked, “Why do you want to do this, when it is hardly useful?” She answered, “Out of love.” This story was a fitting start to our gathering, since a loving desire to come closer to the other is an important step in the prevention and the healing of conflicts. The German Friend then surprised us by holding a short speech in fluent Dutch.

During the meeting for worship, our attention is caught by a toddler who is enchanted by a beam of sunlight coming in through the window. Time and again he totters over to it, trying to catch the sunlight in his little hand. A spontaneous and symbolic act that seems to express what we focus on in our meeting for worship. . . .”

NEW ZEALAND YEARLY MEETING

“. . . We were greeted on arrival with a reminder of the greenhouse gas emissions created by travel to this meeting. Our emissions are miniscule compared with those generated by war and its preparation. Due to such unsustainable practices the global environmental situation is deteriorating rapidly. Environmental pressures are likely to increase conflict situations. Our Quaker Testimonies are therefore becoming more important than ever. . . .”

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

“. . . We send our greetings of hope and peace from the 135th annual session of Illinois Yearly Meeting near McNabb, Illinois. In the context of economic difficulty, ecological degradation and international unrest, we gathered together guided by the testimony of simplicity to reflect upon the challenges that our experiences have brought forth, including our feelings of being overburdened with a perceived need to respond to everything. Through the testimony of simplicity we sought out the courage to respond to the challenges that surround us and to identify how to efficiently use our personal energy to address those challenges that speak to us individually. While many of our monthly meetings, in addition to the world around us, are experiencing various types of

anxious transitions, we are comforted with the realization that spirit-led engagement in such transitional moments can provide opportunities for spiritual growth and a deepening of our Quaker witness to the world.

Through worship, panel discussions, workshops, worship sharing, speaker presentations and fellowship, we explored the difficulty of living out the testimony of simplicity. Hollister Knowlton, clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness of North America addressed us with a message of simple, faithful environmentalism and urged us to reconsider our relationship to the Earth including practicing discernment on all our actions and purchases as they profoundly affect the health and survival of the earth and all its inhabitants. Joanna Hoyt, member of Portland, Maine, Friends Meeting who engages in sustainable agriculture/forestry and presence/listening/practical help to neighbors and guests at St. Francis Farm, presented “Being Freed Into and Through Simplicity” in which she shared her testimony of what led her to live a simple life. She identified fears that challenge her and others in living simply and presented the antidote to fearful living to be faithful living, which requires the constant practice of making spirit-led choices. She shared how she came to the realization that there is no security in what we can build up by ourselves and that all are safe because we are in God’s hands or none are safe at all. Through her presentation and presence at annual session we were challenged to identify that which is essential to our connection with the Divine and how that connection helps us find our own leadings and responses to our own fears. . . .

A message we would like to share with you is this: Let us be mindful of simplicity as it allows us to refocus our efforts from just doing in response to what we see in the world around us to allowing us to refresh the spiritual foundation and leading of our actions. Let us become self-conscious of tendencies to substitute action in the world for divine relationship in our hearts and minds. Let us remember that our faithful responses to the circumstances around us should be based on a simple thought from Friends’ practice: from turning inward comes forth outward action. And finally, let us be aware that the difficult aspect of this simple spiritual practice is not the listening to and receiving of inward guidance but in our setting things aside except for that guidance. . . .”

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

“. . . As we spent this time together in community we recognized the commonalities that connect us to one another and to many groups of Friends around the world whose epistles this year showed similar concerns. We do see ourselves in the other, and through this recognize

the spiritual and earthly ties that bind us in common needs and interdependence. . . .”

We now adjourn to meet again Fifth Day at 9:30 a.m.

FIFTH DAY – THURSDAY – 7/29/2010

9:30 a.m. Meeting for Worship

We return to the business of Yearly Meeting.

[As for the peaceable kingdom,] when so ever such a thing shall be brought forth in the world it must have a beginning before it can grow and be perfected. And where should it begin but in some individuals . . . and so spread by degrees . . . Therefore, whoever desires to see this lovely state brought forth in the general . . . must cherish it in the particular.

—Isaac Pennington

Bob Yeats and Martha Davis have been appointed readers this morning.

**MINUTE OF
THIRD AND FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES**

On the evening of Third Day, Collection was a panel of Friends who shared their personal experiences and thoughts about the Friends General Conference Summer Gathering. Panel members included: Nick Jacoby, Scott Greenler, Marshall Massey, Lorene Ludy, Joey Giffen-Hunter, and Deborah Fink. The Gathering is scheduled to be at Grinnell, Iowa in the summer of 2011. Although IYMC is not affiliated with FGC, several Friends from this yearly are serving on various planning committees for the 2011 Gathering. A.M. and Deborah Fink are co-clerking the Gathering Planning Committee.

Fourth Day afternoon events included reports from American Friends Service Committee Central Region Iowa Program Coordinator, Kathleen McQuillen, and Sonia Tuma, Central Region Regional Director, and Jonathan Fisch, IYMC representative to the Friends Committee for National Legislation. A representative of Iowa Peace Network was not able to be present. They have submitted a written report which will be included with written reports from AFSC and FCNL in the minute book.

Afternoon interest groups were on Alternatives to Violence Project and a Virtual Tour of Growing Power.

Evening Collection was led by Ken and Katherine Jacobsen of Stillwater Meeting, Ohio Yearly Meeting. Their theme was, "The Way of Love." Friends were moved by their loving presentation. They shared the threefold path of Love they practice. As individuals, we of release ourselves into the Life and Light of Love. In worship, we receive together from God. We respond by offering what we have received to one another and to the world.

We are blessed to have the presence of these visitors: Carolyn Wilbur Treadway of Bloomington Normal Meeting, Illinois Yearly Meeting; Roy Treadway, Bloomington Normal Monthly Meeting, Illinois Yearly Meeting visiting as a representative of Quaker Earthcare Witness and carrying a letter of introduction from them; Ken Jacobsen of Stillwater Monthly Meeting, Ohio Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Beloit Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting; Katherine Jacobsen of Stillwater Monthly Meeting, Ohio Yearly Meeting, sojourning at Beloit Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting; Elizabeth O'Sullivan, Twin Cities Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting, currently attending Cannon Valley Friends Meeting, NYM and Laughing Waters Worship Group in Minneapolis, MN; Ian Rhoades of Twin Cities Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting, currently attending Cannon Valley Friends Meeting, NYM and Laughing Waters Worship Group in Minneapolis, MN; Mike Conover of 57th Street Meeting, Chicago, Illinois Yearly Meeting and affiliated with Stillwater Monthly Meeting of Ohio Yearly Meeting; Sonia Tuma, Pacific Yearly Meeting, Director of the Central Region of the American Friends Service Committee, living in Des Moines, Iowa.

We listened to the Earth Care Subcommittee of Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report. We appreciate the report and reminder of previous commitments we have made as a yearly meeting. It is sobering to realize how much we have to do. We are grateful for how hard this subcommittee works to keep this before us and help us all be faithful stewards of the earth.

**REPORT OF THE EARTHCARE SUBCOMMITTEE OF
PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE**

In 2008, this committee brought a minute to the yearly meeting, which was approved. We encourage Friends to read that minute again (included with this report) and consider how we are doing on addressing

the issues it raises. A major focus of the minute is to work on creating communities and life situations that would reduce or eliminate the use of automobiles.

Events of the last two years make the importance of the minute more apparent. The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico reminds us that there are costs to using oil beyond what we pay at the pump. The failure to reach a meaningful agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit last December makes this November's Mexico summit more important. The U.S. Congress has failed to agree on a climate change bill, and if they do finally pass one, it will almost undoubtedly be insufficient to the scope of the problem. These things underscore that we can't wait for governments to act, but must make our own changes locally and in our own lives.

Good things are happening as well. The World Peoples Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, in Cochabamba, Bolivia, was a positive antidote to the failure of the Copenhagen summit. FWCC, with their Global Change initiative, is working to help Quakers develop appropriate responses to changes in the world. Around the planet, individuals, communities and groups, including many in this yearly meeting, are recognizing the need and working for positive change. The "Transition" movement and the "Twenty Minute Neighborhood" movement are examples of ways people are working to make their own communities friendlier to the Earth and more livable. The bottom line, however, is this: we have already used far, far, far more than our share of fossil fuels, and every drop we continue to use is gone forever, cannot be replaced, and is stolen from future generations.

Our human impact on the planet contributes to loss of habitat for other animals and plants, air and water pollution, depletion of resources (including water), climate change, etc. These factors contribute to societal stresses including war, migration and refugee issues, and social inequalities. Many of these are traditional Quaker concerns and cannot be addressed effectively without addressing the environmental factors behind them.

The Earthcare Subcommittee still struggles to determine what our role should be in the yearly meeting community and to find a means of communication that will work for the largest number of us. We are gratified that many of our monthly meetings, many individuals in the yearly meeting, and Scattergood Friends School are working to reduce their negative impacts on the Earth.

We ask that each monthly meeting take some time to consider what our faith calls us to do to demonstrate our care for the Earth. If we can then share that information with each other, we might all find ourselves led to do more.

For further information:

This Earthcare Minute was approved at Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) annual sessions in July 2008: http://www.quakernet.org/Earthcare/earthcare_minute.html

The World Peoples Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth took place in Cochabamba, Bolivia in April 2010. More information is available here: <http://pwccc.wordpress.com/>

FWCC (Friends World Committee for Consultation) is examining Friend's response to global change in all its facets. Learn more here: <http://fwccglobalchange.org/>

The Transition Movement is a vibrant, grassroots movement that seeks to build community resilience in the face of such challenges as peak oil, climate change and the economic crisis. Learn more here: <http://www.transitionus.org/>

Twenty-Minute Neighborhood is a concept for creating living environments conducive to "green" living, where all essential services can be reached within a twenty-minute walk. Read more here: http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kbenfield/to_live_smart_and_well_choose.html

We listened to the report of the Publication Committee. It is a resource to have the minutes in hard copy and on the Web. We appreciate Jeff Kisling's good work with the Web. It is an important outreach tool and a way people find us. We also thank Jeff for his many years of faithful work as clerk of this committee. We approve the report. There has been some difficulty finding Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) information through the Quakernet link (perhaps because IYMC isn't in the name of the link). We refer this snag to the next Web master and to the Publication Committee to consider.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

After receiving the first draft of the Annual Meeting Minutes from the clerk, Margie Haworth organized a proofreading gathering, so the proofread Minutes were finished in a very timely manner this year. Margie has been very helpful through the years, as we've coordinated the work of the Committee amongst distant Committee members.

Three hundred copies of the Minutes were printed by Goodfellow Printing, Iowa City, Iowa, at a cost of \$7.56 each, for a total cost of \$2,268.00. Both the cost per copy and the total number of copies printed were reduced this year. Again, this year, Goodfellow Printing shipped the boxes of Minutes to the monthly meetings for us.

The Committee continued its responsibility for the Quakernet website. Hosting fees from BlueHost were \$107.40.

Total expenses were \$2,375.40. Mailing costs are not submitted, as I was not able to get the bill to the treasurer in time due to extenuating circumstances, so approximately \$80.00 should be included for this in the upcoming budget.

I've worked on creating documentation the new clerk of this committee will need. In addition, I've exported the data for the membership directory in various formats, including text files and Excel spreadsheets.

Thank you for the opportunity to work on this committee. I have really appreciated the help of the Committee members in making things work despite the distances between us. I am most appreciative of the work the Yearly Meeting clerk, Deborah Fisch, has done every year, both in providing us with a very complete first draft of the minutes, and in doing so in such a timely matter. This has made the work of the Committee significantly easier than it would have been otherwise.

For the committee,
Jeff Kisling, clerk

We considered the report of the 2009 Entertainment Committee including the Income and Expense Report. We appreciate the report and the work of the Committee.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2009

The monthly meetings of Whittier, Iowa City, West Branch, and Decorah were the hosts for the 2008 Yearly Meeting annual session. The theme for these sessions was "Quaker Seeds." While we seriously considered an early Quaker metaphor of "the Seed," we also struggled and played with what the seed analogy means for us as Quakers in modern times. We had lively and interesting interest groups and meetings on topics that included working with HIV survivors in Kenya, healing, sustainable living, and energy conservation.

Receipts

Received from 2008 Committee	\$ 2,000.00
Contributions	10,036.00
Total receipts	<u>\$12,036.00</u>

Expenses

Scattergood Friends School	\$ 9,100.00
Child Care	400.00
Program	388.90
Misc. Supplies	109.72
Forwarded to 2010 Committee	2,000.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$11,998.62</u>
Balance forwarded to YM Trustees	\$ 37.38

We listened to the Archives Committee Report. We approve the report. We are still looking for a stack of rare newspapers of the late 19th century, *The Western Friend*, published in Kansas missing from the yearly meeting library in the William Penn Room on the Scattergood campus. Friends are asked to check their meetings and homes to see if the borrowed copies might turn up.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Archives Committee has been generally inactive during the past year.

Our agreement with the State Historical Society of Iowa for the deposit of records continues to the ending of the calendar year 2013, so no action toward continuing this agreement is needed at the present time.

The Archives Committee asks for the continuing of the \$200 amount allocated in the budget for the coming year to cover costs pertaining to archives as they may arise.

Herbert Standing, clerk

We listened to the Special Needs Committee Report. We appreciate the railing on the steps to the clerks' platform and the addition of the golf carts. We especially acknowledge those helping us keep up with the technological assists available to us, such as the good microphone system and wireless earphones. We realize we each are able to make ourselves more aware of each other and assist each other when we are more mindful. We are grateful for the committee leading us in this way and look forward to them continuing to help us become more aware of what we can do for each other so we all can participate more fully in Yearly Meeting. We are aware of the hard work and loving presence of Linda

Ray, clerk of the committee, even though she has been unable to join us in annual sessions these last two years because of health concerns. We approved the report as amended.

SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE REPORT

The work of the Special Needs Committee this year has been to refine the accommodations that have been implemented over the years and to expand those served by the Special Needs Committee such that a committee may not be necessary at some point in the future. It is the feeling of the committee that everyone has needs of one kind or another and that no one's needs are more special than anyone else's. Therefore if we set out to make Yearly Meeting and Scattergood Friends School accessible and accommodating for everyone then there may not be a need for a committee at some point.

In regard to transportation, Scattergood has agreed to routinely rent a golf cart each year prior to Yearly Meeting at their own expense. To ensure we have experienced drivers, no one will be allowed to drive the golf cart who has not had a driver's license for at least six years.

A list is being worked on regarding the accessibility of all the buildings, toilets, and showers on campus to make it possible for whoever is handling housing to place individuals in housing that meets their needs. Scattergood will also take responsibility for installing the raised toilet seat in the restroom down by the dining hall before Yearly Meeting each year.

Stairs with a railing are being constructed to make the podium in the Meeting House accessible so that anyone can feel free to participate as a reader or present a report or fully take part in the talent show.

Bob Yeats has purchased four sets of wireless earphones, which should improve people's options in regard to hearing what is going on. We still have the old system for those who prefer it, but technology has come a long way since our system was purchased and so we will be trying out these new options in hopes of improving reception for those who need it.

We will again be using the little flags in the dining hall for folks to signal for assistance. However, we are also considering just assigning several individuals each meal to oversee specific tables and actively offer assistance to individuals at those tables; i.e., "Does anyone need something to drink?" or "Would anyone like me to take their dishes to the kitchen?"

Perhaps most importantly, Deborah Dakin has written up a flyer for the registration table, which I will attach to this report, that invites folks

to freely make use of the accommodations offered and to offer their skills to make Yearly Meeting meet the needs of everyone.

Linda Ray, clerk
Special Needs Committee

Attached document from Special Needs Committee

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative)! We are so glad that you are able to join us and hope we will share a meaningful and faith-filled Yearly Meeting together.

We have two questions that we would like to ask of all participants:

1. What can we do to make your meeting experience successful?

We want everyone to be able to participate in our meeting as fully as they desire.

We are friendly and helpful people, but we don't always see what needs to be done. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you or someone you know could use a helping hand. Ask at the desk if you have any questions that we can answer for you.

Some Ways We Can Assist

Getting around campus for meetings and meals: We have a golf cart system, and people who would love to walk with you or your children, or lend an extra hand to carry things.

Getting a helping hand at meals for seating, or to get food and drinks: We have table helpers anxious and ready to be your servers in whatever way is best suited for you.

Making sure you are able to hear everything the Spirit gives voice to: We have new wireless headphones as well as the old assisted listening devices available at the back of the meeting house on the left side for your use.

Help us be your friend. "Ask and you shall receive"—to the best of our ability.

2. What can you do to help the create the success of our meeting?

It's a lot of fun to work together, and we have many ways for you to join in the fun. We are looking for volunteers to:

Be table assistants to help folks who need an extra hand

Help with meals (sweeping, serving, washing dishes)

Drive the golf cart (if you've had your driver's license for 6 years)

Please make a point of putting your name on our sign up sheets for whatever you are able to do, or talk to the helpful folks at the registration desk about your burning desire to help.

Gentle Reminder

If you are one of those people who enter meetings in a timely fashion, we applaud your good form. We also ask you to please consider taking a seat nearer the front and toward the center of the benches. This way, as the room fills up, people don't need to climb over other folks to get those last "remaining seats."

Thank you for joining us.
We are glad you are here!

We listened attentively to the queries and responses by monthly meetings, selected by the assistant clerk. We value the whole process of considering and struggling with the advices and queries corporately as monthly meetings and then sharing them at Yearly Meeting. It helps to ground and guide us in becoming who we are. We are encouraged by this documentation of what we are doing. We often despair at the condition of the world and how we lead our lives. This gives us hope that we can do things that make a difference. We were reminded that scripture promises we will never be asked to do more than we can do, but there are things we can do. This exercise of spiritual accountability helps us to share with each other what that is and encourages each other to even more faithfulness.

QUERIES AND SELECTED RESPONSES

1. MEETING FOR WORSHIP

Query: *Are our meetings for worship held in a spirit of expectant waiting and communion with the Holy Spirit? How do we prepare our hearts and minds for worship?*

How do we refer to that which is divine? How does ascribing gender to the Holy Spirit affect our worship?

How do we integrate our daily lives with meeting for worship? Do we seek opportunities for worship outside of meeting?

How does the vocal ministry of the meeting contribute to its spiritual life? In what ways do we recognize and nurture vocal ministry and other spiritual gifts?

Selected Response: The approach and impact of meeting for worship touches members of our meeting in many unique ways. Vocal ministry is particularly very powerful and helpful. We all get different meaning from vocal ministry and bring different images with us that help enrich our worship. The nature and imagery of the Spirit seems to be engrained in ones upbringing and what each one of us brings to meeting

in the morning. Some members believe that meeting for worship allows them to reflect on the week just concluded or the upcoming week. It is time to look at the positives and negatives, as well as a chance to reflect on what to do to improve or do better. It is a time for grounding, calming and centering, which is sometimes challenging but once achieved, one tends to be sealed from all the clutter and spin in the world, as well as all things uncomfortable. Worship is an opportunity to decompress and seek guidance from the spirit and other worshipers.

Members of the meeting are moved by the spirit to think, act in certain ways, or pray for other members of the meeting. It allows us the opportunity to lift others in the light before focusing on self. The Holy Spirit takes many different forms and functions. It is this majestic and powerful force, a floating light or totally infinite and eternal—of which we are minute particles. It is gender neutral and bigger than any of us or any church. It is like a sea that we are walking through in silence with worship serving as an avenue that opens the door for the spirit to come through. The Holy Spirit allows us to do many of the things that we do on a regular basis in our lives.

In silence, old prayers come back which some members spent time reciting.

2. OUTREACH

Query: *Do we encourage intervisitation within the Yearly Meeting and with other Friends?*

What are we doing to share our faith with others outside our Friends' community? How do we speak truth as we know it and yet remain open to truth as understood by others?

In what ways do we cooperate with persons and groups with whom we share concerns? How do we reach out to those with whom we disagree?

How do we make the presence of our meeting known to the larger community? Do we invite others to share in our meetings for worship and other meeting activities? Do we welcome everyone and appreciate the gifts that differences such as race, creed, economic status, disability, age, gender or sexual orientation may bring to us?

Selected Response: Mid-Year Meeting both energizes us and wears us out. It is a precious time of sharing, receiving, and giving Spiritual messages and visiting with other Quakers. It is also an opportunity for outreach as visitors come and we can make a greater effort to invite more people.

Two of our members have conducted Alternatives to Violence Community workshops, which are opening doors to sharing about con-

flict resolution. In our increasingly violent society, this message is more important than ever. FWCC, AFSC, FCNL, and other organizations continue to do important outreach work in many areas and we support them.

Several of us go with a group of Methodists to work on homes in Cedar Rapids damaged by the floods each month. The yearly meeting has given needed money also.

There are plans underway to have a regional gathering sponsored by Friends World Committee on Consultation this fall or next spring that will include Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative), and Iowa FUM meeting and others for a one or two day event. This may be followed by a larger group including Northern, Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri.

We are also interested in a meeting, perhaps a picnic with peace groups near us—Mennonites, Brethren and other groups. Our meeting for years has been involved with Iowa Peace Network and we hope to revive our outreach in this area.

We discussed at length our desire to attract more young people to our Meeting. We wonder if our emphasis on questioning and seeking rather than creed and dogma impedes or is an asset? We appreciated those who came to Mid-Year Meeting, and Cheryl will contact one couple she talked with and invite them to come and share some of their ideas about what would make our meeting more appealing. She also plans to develop a web site. We need wider access.

As we think about outreach we focus on our new Quaker Cottage. We continue to search for ways to use it.

3. MEETING FOR BUSINESS

Query: *How can we hold our meeting for business in the spirit of love, understanding and patient search for unity without becoming frustrated by differences of opinion or the pressures of time?*

How do we respond when no one else in the meeting seems to hold the views that we do on an issue? How do we respond to a dissenting minority?

How do we share responsibilities among Friends in our meeting? How do we serve our meetings?

Selected Response: Ministry and Counsel discussed ways to encourage attendance and participation at meeting for worship. Two suggestions were made: Invite attenders, individually, to join us; offer to provide childcare so parents can attend.

For new Quakers and attenders, meeting for business may seem mysterious. We agreed that this aspect of Quaker is very important and it needs to be experienced. In an announcement the week prior to meeting for worship, one of the co-clerks will give a short explanation and

invitation. We are hopeful that better attendance at our meeting for worship will also encourage more people to attend Yearly Meeting.

Appreciation was expressed for the skill of the clerks in conducting meeting for worship with attention to business, including the preparation and timing, and the clear minutes that are read back following action. Dealing with opposing views can be difficult, especially in a small meeting like ours, but we want every voice to be heard, with loving attention, and a will to stand aside when there is not unity.

4. HARMONY WITHIN THE MEETING

Query: *What can we do to deepen our relationships with one another? How does gender affect the way we relate to each other?*

How does our meeting balance the needs for honesty and kindness? What topics do we avoid for the sake of unity?

When in conflict with others, do we cultivate a forgiving spirit?

Do we look to that of God in ourselves and seek to address that of God in those with whom we disagree?

Selected Response: One person noted we must take time to truly listen to others. Just like musical harmony, there are many different ideas. It goes beyond tolerance for different ideas. We must respect them. Discussion was held about a previous retreat meeting had and how there are still many fond memories. It was agreed that a committee should be formed to arrange another retreat.

Reggie's "sleepout" was a way several adults got a chance to really bond with a number of the youth. An interesting observation was shared by one of our members, who recalled a time when many farmers were losing their farms. While he recalled direct efforts by other religious groups to help members keep their farms, he did not know of any such effort among the Quakers. This led to a broader discussion of how we are often uncomfortable talking with people in our meeting about how they might be struggling in hard economic times. It would seem we are responsible for helping each other in all types of hard times.

We still struggle at times with gender roles in our meeting, particularly as they relate to certain responsibilities and committee positions. Some topics that we might tend to avoid were mentioned: abortion, same-sex marriage (although our meeting did work through this a number of years ago and is generally supportive), and even traditional understandings of the Bible and Jesus.

The question was, do we have to have unity on all things to move forward together? We come to meeting for what we do have in common: seekers following a path of how to operate in the world, without necessarily having the same beliefs. We have in common to respect life and

love our neighbors as ourselves. Together we are on this path, with specific beliefs somewhat irrelevant.

It was noted that sometimes it is a struggle to see that of God in some others, some who may be somewhat disagreeable people. This struggle may be some of why we come together in this group, to walk that path where we are capable of doing that.

We are all different people, but at Meeting we strive to be the best that we can be. In the silence we can reflect on how well we have done on the quest to be the best people we can. Perhaps some of our reluctance to speak to hard economic times of fellow members is that people don't like to be told how to make decisions or spend their money.

It was mentioned that for a number of years AFSC has had a credit union that has made it possible to quietly assist staff with economic struggles.

A quote from Maya Angelou was given to help gain perspective: "You should question a naked person trying to give you a shirt."

5. MUTUAL CARE

Query: *How do we respond to each other's personal needs and difficulties in sensitive and useful ways? Do we encourage both men and women to share in care giving?*

What are we doing to welcome and draw members and attenders of all ages into the fellowship of the meeting?

How do we help our children feel the loving care of the meeting? What do the children contribute to the meeting?

How do we keep in touch with inactive and distant members and attenders?

Selected Response: We began the discussion by talking about a few of the ways we have cared for people recently. We talked about charity, what to do about people who are begging and asking for change; losing jobs; homelessness; divorce; family hardships. There are a lot of needs out there! Many of us found that it is easier to share help than needs. The main ways we care for people are by talking, listening, and offering practical help.

Both men and women have shared caregiving roles in the past.

We need more fliers for walk-ins and a plan for kids.

The meeting is more welcoming now than it has been in the past; it is a more inviting space . . . except for the stairs. People are friendly and inquisitive with new folks, explaining who's who and "Quakerisms", not having inside conversations.

There is an Iowa Yearly Meeting Facebook group—tools like this could be used to draw more people in. Children from the meeting have

grown up and moved away, some still attend meetings near their schools. They “feel the love of the meeting.” There is no formal process for keeping in touch with inactive and distant members though that seems to be working out well. People keep in touch on a personal, informal level.

6. EDUCATION

Query: *How can we most effectively foster a spirit of inquiry and a loving and understanding attitude toward life?*

What effort are we making to become better acquainted with the Bible, the teachings of Jesus, our Judeo-Christian heritage, the history and principles of Friends, and the contributions of other religions and philosophies to our spiritual heritage?

In what ways can we encourage an educational process that is consistent with the values Friends cherish? How do gender based expectations affect the goals we set and the way we learn?

Do we take an active and supportive interest in schools, libraries and other educational resources in our communities and elsewhere?

How do we prepare ourselves and our children to play active roles in a changing world?

Selected Response: Beginning and ending with enthusiastic endorsement of fostering the spirit of inquiry, among both adults and children, the discussion explored many paths.

Among children, encouraging meditation and inner resources for quiet times seems to help children become more independent and perhaps resist peer pressure. At the very least, the diversity of our First Day School teaching creates fertile ground for asking questions.

As always, the subject of the Bible and other sacred texts elicited sometimes skeptical responses. The Bible can be used to reinforce power against individuals and groups, and some among us have been oppressed by this use. It can reflect our social power structure, if it is not read with an open mind. Those who have approached the Bible without preconceived opinions can find it fresh and inspirational; keeping in mind the context can help this happen.

Many of us are inspired by writings from other traditions: the Torah, the Tao te Ching, Buddhist texts, for example. Reading the many commentaries on Torah can be a reminder of its continuing revelation. We appreciate the Quaker belief that if we listen carefully for the Inner Light, we can still experience God being revealed to us in new ways.

Of course, everyone has opinions about the public and higher education; most felt that the opportunity for youth to seek their authentic selves too often takes a back seat to learning content. Ideally, education brings forth the knowledge that one already seeks, as in the case of a

medical student seeking the wisdom to know what to do when alone with a patient.

Education that tries to meet children and adults where they are and to offer opportunities to experiment, explore and fail as well as succeed seems like the best kind.

7. HOME AND FAMILY

Query: *How can we make our homes places of love and hospitality?*

What different expectations do we hold for women and men, boys and girls? How can we bring more equality into our relationships?

How do we develop and maintain lines of communication?

In what ways do we share our deepest experiences, struggles, concerns and beliefs with our children and others, yet encourage them to develop their potential as the Spirit leads them?

What place do we make in our daily lives for meditation, spiritual renewal and reading of inspiring literature, such as the Bible?

How does our meeting support families of all kinds?

Selected Response: Of the households in our meeting, most consist of single adults. We wonder how well we support the needs of those who live singly. One member has taken an on-line course through Beacon Hill about five ways to read the Bible. Courses like this are means by which we can incorporate spiritual and religious teachings into our meeting and into our daily lives. We recognize the loneliness that can come with loss of family connections. A song from the Gees Bend community has lyrics “It’s a mean world to stay in, to live in. No brother, no sister, no mother, no father. It’s a mean world to stay in, to live in.” We are reminded of just how foundational family connections are, and how lonely the world is without them. One of the challenges of living alone is to keep believing that one is just as loved as others who live in a larger family. It’s a spiritual challenge to live in the knowledge that we are each of us equally loved by God. We are mindful of the fragility of families, and many are under severe stress. It doesn’t take much sometimes to pull a family apart. It is important for us to watch and communicate and be aware of each other’s needs as much as we can.

8. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Query: *How do we center our lives in the awareness of God the Spirit, so that all things may take their rightful places?*

How do we structure our individual lives in order to keep them uncluttered with things and activities? How does Meeting help us examine our personal lives for simplicity?

Do we choose recreational activities which foster mental, physical and spiritual health?

How are our lives affected by tobacco, alcohol and drug use? What can we do to deal with problems resulting from their use? What can we do to recognize and deal with unhealthy ways we treat ourselves?

How do we ensure that we act with fairness and integrity?

Are we sensitive to our own use of language which may be offensive or oppressive to others?

Selected Response: Time spent quietly whether in meeting or alone in meditation helps reaffirm our awareness of God. Spending time in nature sustains the Spirit.

We try to keep a balance in our lives—doing what is important but not becoming involved in too many activities. This is hard because there is so much that needs our time and attention. Meeting helps us stop and seek what our proper way should be. The queries are valuable in helping us question ourselves, our meeting and our larger communities.

We value our rural connections allowing us simple, inexpensive recreation; walking, biking, fishing, feeding birds, listening to music, etc. We need to allow ourselves time to relax, play, and have fun. Our ancestors frowned on being frivolous so it doesn't come easily.

There are many addictions in our fast-paced society. Computer games, time on the internet, excessive exercise such as running, lack of sleep, overeating, or overwork to name a few. Balance and discipline are important goals.

We are usually fair, honest and dependable. Keeping our lives simple and uncluttered is where we fall short. We have been taught to be careful—don't waste anything—it might be needed—so our shelves and closets are full. We have the books, diaries, pictures and letters of our ancestors—so precious to us. Is this clutter?

9. CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Query: *What conflicts do we perceive between the laws of the State and our religious convictions? How do we resolve those conflicts in our lives? In what ways do we assume responsibility for the government of our community, state, nation and world?*

How do we share our convictions with others? Do we express our opinions with courage, yet with love, mindful of the Divine Spirit within everyone?

How do we maintain our integrity when we find ourselves in a position of power? How do we respond when we feel powerless? Do we really respect and help those we seek to serve?

Are we careful to reach our decision through prayer and strengthen our actions with worship? Are we open to divine leadings?

Selected Response: The most obvious conflict between the laws of our nation and our religious convictions is the use of our tax money. There is no easy resolution of the problem of the largest portion of our taxes being used for military spending versus Friends testimony on peace. We are torn between taking responsibility for the benefits that our tax dollars bring to our state and nation, and the reliance on military power in any conflict situation. We have not arrived at any unified course of action regarding this difficult decision.

The current “gun fetish” that is currently so pervasive in our society is disturbing and contributes to the climate of fear that pervades our whole culture from home life, to our schools, and even to our legislators. Children learn coping skills from their homes and neighborhoods that in turn can lead to violent responses to many situations when their surrounding environment is filled with aggression. We are encouraged by the efforts on the part of schools to initiate programs on dealing with conflict situations by mediation rather than aggression.

We struggle as individuals with the moral question of how we would respond to an aggressor who invaded our homes or communities and recognize that if we could be as dedicated to peace making as those who are warriors are to war and violence we would be more effective.

In a disagreement when both sides claim to hold the “truth” about an issue it is difficult to discern what is the truth. In our current political climate, it seems that money often claims to be truth.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Query: *What are we doing about our disproportionate use of the world's resources?*

Do we see unreasonable exploitation in our relationship with the rest of creation? How can we nurture reverence and respect for life? How can we become more fully aware of our interdependent relationship with the rest of creation?

To what extent are we aware of all life and the role we play? What can we do in our own lives and communities to address environmental concerns?

Selected Response: We are all thinking about the damage humans/ we have done to our planet. We search for ways to make a difference. We know that we are all part of a system that operates far beyond our individual control. We remind ourselves of Don Laughlin's teaching of the importance of models, as we attempt to live closer to the divine, the good connection, with the universe. We are also thankful and appreciative for

Don's faithful attention and work for the environment over so many years. He is a model for us all.

We spoke of the importance of setting examples for our young people, as well as being open to the teachings young people have to offer us. It is through respect for creation and community that we may find way opening for us. We note that we operate with a deficit when we label anyone as 'other.' When we make a distinction between 'us' and 'other,' we can be sowing the first seeds of conflict.

We have taken new steps in our search for environmental responsibility since we last answered this query. We are grateful for the formation of the Earthcare Group, which is involving Friends from our meeting, the West Branch Friends Church, and the Iowa City Meeting. The group is actively addressing these questions. It is a growing and enriching experience for those involved, reminding us perhaps that lemonade can be made from lemons.

We are glad that last spring and summer the meeting embraced the idea of cooperatively harvesting and preserving corn to provide locally grown food for meeting families. It was a meaningful and fun project. Yahara Meeting is taking initiative to replenish some of what we are given. One of those gifts is petroleum. With the Earthcare Witness Program Yahara has suggested a way to calculate the true cost of travel and is asking people to pay that cost. Any funds contributed are being used to support Scattergood Friends School's goal of establishing wind power on campus.

We thought about how to continue our work. Perhaps the Earthcare Group can alert us to legislative action on such issues as the burning of coal, and the subsequent damage that causes. We heard about a group of people in Sweden who have calculated that if each person were to use energy at a rate of no more than 2,000 watts (17,500 kilowatt-hours annually), there would be enough energy to meet everyone's needs. This would be a significant limitation, but one that can be lived with.

We are aware of the compromises life requires of us. Do we fix or replace old appliances when new ones may be more efficient, but have a built-in obsolescence factor? Most difficult of all perhaps are the compromises we face within family and community life. Families are spread across the country, even the world. We are used to traveling for meetings, but are beginning to use conference calls, despite the lack of face-to-face communication.

Questions about the use of computers and cell phones, which often are outdated within a few years, raise questions about disposal. Modeling a lifestyle not dependent on satellites, the internet, cell phones, etc. is very difficult. Our world expects us to be tied into the electronic world.

We face a series of compromises that are not easy to figure out, especially if we have children. How do we make a difference with our small decisions in the face of the much larger system we are all part of? How do we walk the other way?

We charge ourselves to embrace and carry the magnitude of the first sentence of the Advice. “All of creation is divine and interdependent: air, water, soil, and all that lives and grows.” There is that of God in us and in nature. We may not always be clear about how to proceed, but we see clearly that it will require community to create change. None of us can do it alone. We are grateful we are not alone.

11. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Query: *How are we beneficiaries of inequity and exploitation? How are we victims of inequity and exploitation? In what ways can we address these problems?*

What can we do to improve the conditions in our correctional institutions and to address the mental and social problems of those confined there?

How can we improve our understanding of those who are driven to violence by subjection to racial, economic or political injustice? In what ways do we oppose prejudice and injustice based on gender, sexual orientation, class, race, age, and physical, mental and emotional conditions? How would individuals benefit from a society that values everyone? How would society benefit?

Selected Response: In addressing the question about our being both beneficiaries and victims of inequity and exploitation, Friends discussed the exhibit on race at the Science Center, and we were encouraged to visit this stimulating traveling exhibit.

Assumptions based on how we interpret the idea of race have an impact on how we treat each other and look at one another. One Friend pointed out that those of us who are not poor benefit from those who are living in poverty, such as having cheap labor to butcher our animals, take care of our lawns, or to serve us in restaurants, for instance. “Why are those of us who are privileged to live with more resources so blessed?” one Friend asked.

Even though we may be privileged, we can also be victims of the inequity and exploitation around us, as we understand how complicit we are in systemic racism and economic injustice by benefiting from it. Our own complicity, whether passive or active, may make it hard to live with ourselves as we feel the pain of others who are discriminated against by our society, and insofar as we understand that we have an obligation to challenge the systemic injustices.

On the question of immigration, one Friend suggested that our meeting dedicate a second hour to examine this difficult issue. Have we all done what we can or should do, both as individuals and in a corporate sense?

Has this meeting done as much as we can to work on peace and social justice concerns? Some among us feel that we use too many of our resources for our building and not enough to relieve suffering and to try to change the inequities we see around us. Examining how we use our shared resources is one way for us to respond to this query. One Friend observed that there are limits to what we can do and using some of our resources in taking care of ourselves up to a point is necessary so that we don't become a burden on others.

Friends expressed that it is discomfoting to see the inequity and exploitation in our community, our country and our world and not be able to end it easily. What are we called to do, as we see and understand these inequities? In the past, the meeting has had a unifying project, such as caring for a Sudanese family, which united us in our social action.

The life of the meeting on an ongoing basis helps all of us to lead examined lives where we consider how we might be change agents and take action. Some expressed that the inward life nurtured by the meeting helps us re-charge and sustains our spiritual lives so that we will have the energy to speak truth to power. "Can we unite on a single position on how to move towards economic justice?" one Friend asked. A response: Those of us who have been lucky enough to have experiences success and who have access to resources in excess of their needs should share these resources with those less fortunate, who often, through no fault of their own, have fewer resources than they need to meet even their basic needs.

12. PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

Query: *What are we doing to educate ourselves and others about the causes of conflict in our own lives, our families and our meetings? Do we provide refuge and assistance, including advocacy, for spouses, children, or elderly persons who are victims of violence or neglect?*

Do we recognize that we can be perpetrators as well as victims of violence? How do we deal with this? How can we support one another so that healing may take place?

What are we doing to understand the causes of war and violence and to work toward peaceful settlement of differences locally, nationally, and internationally? How do we support institutions and organizations that promote peace?

Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against preparation for and participation in war?

Selected Response: We struggled with the breadth of this query, which covers war, structural injustice and our communal and personal lives. We appreciate the Fox quotation which introduces the query: “We seek to live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars.”

A thread which was introduced early in the sharing and continued to weave its way throughout the discussion was the importance of treating people with respect. A frequent cause of violent incidents is the lack of respect shown an individual or group. When one treats others with respect, the attitude of the other may change; the attitude of both may change. We recognize the importance of peace beginning with oneself.

We considered difference among us and how those different from the majority tend to have a harder time. Dealing with those different from ourselves can be very challenging. Sometimes we may be intentionally disrespectful. Or we may unintentionally lack respectfulness because of unawareness or varying cultural expectations.

Difficult economic times may cause people to be more fearful, self-protective, and less caring of others. On the other hand, sometimes emergency situations result in people reaching out and helping each other. Some of the difference depends on whether people are able to come from a sense of abundance and love or a sense of scarcity and fear.

We are concerned that we have accommodated ourselves to terrible wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. We know that our country’s policies are creating death and misery for many and are thus making enemies for us. We don’t know what to do and have a sense of despair.

We see in Greg Mortenson (*Three Cups of Tea*) one who has brought life and hope to the same part of the world where war is bringing death and destruction. He does his work with a sense of deep respect for the people. What was his spiritual journey?

How can we move from despair to hope and empowerment? The quotation from George Fox is about personal transformation that results in a different way of being in the world. Are we able to be fully open to our moments of not being respectful, of not sharing, or not listening well and letting those moments of our personal lack become moments of transformation, of allowing a greater power to come into our lives?

We now adjourn to meet again Sixth Day at 9:30 a.m.

SIXTH DAY – FRIDAY – 7/30/2010
MORNING SESSION

We return to the business of Yearly Meeting.

Quakers are especially prone to false humility. Our Religious Society of Friends is collectivist, non-hierarchical, consensual. . . . When it is working at its best, our collectivism is a source of great strength. But it contains a shadow weakness. In abjuring ego, we sometimes allow self-effacement to make us timid. In waiting for Spirit to move us collectively, we sometimes fall into procrastination. . . .

Quaker process is by its nature slow. But let us not diminish ourselves or it by thinking of ourselves as plodders. Let our silence be full. When it is time to act, collectively or individually, let us act.

—David Morse

Bill Deutsch and Ruth Dawson have been appointed as readers this morning.

**MINUTE OF
FIFTH DAY ACTIVITIES**

Besides committee meetings on the afternoon of Fifth Day, Friends had the following choices of interest groups to attend: Kenya AIDS Crisis; Immigration Reform; White Privilege Conference and Visible Diversity; *Held in Love*, sharing stories; and Casa de los Amigos.

Evening Collection was “Prayers of the World,” a meeting for worship with attention to the mystery of life. The prayers were expressed in the beauty of the natural world (photographed by Ken Tapp), the poetry of Maia Tapp, the music of Ken Jacobsen, and the holy accompaniment of Katherine Jacobsen, all of Beloit Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting.

We are pleased to have these visitors present: Traci Hjelt Sullivan of Providence Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia, Yearly Meeting, Gathering Coordinator for Friends General Conference and carrying a letter of travel from them; Maia Tapp of Beloit Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting; Ken Tapp of Beloit Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting; Ann Fields, President of William Penn University in Oskaloosa, IA; Dana Foster formerly of Baltimore Yearly Meeting on Scattergood staff; Sam Taylor on Scattergood staff; Mark Quee, on Scattergood staff.

We listened carefully to the Yearly Meeting Trustees Report and accept the report.

YEARLY MEETING TRUSTEES REPORT

We appoint Barbara Garlinghouse and Pam Avery to the Scattergood Foundation Trustees, term ending in 2014, and Cheryl Sutton with term ending in 2012. We remember with joy the long and faithful service of George Welch on this and other Scattergood committees.

We appreciate the ongoing care of the meetinghouse by the students and staff of Scattergood. We especially note that the refinished floor looks as good today as when the work was done.

For the trustees
A.M. Fink, clerk

Trustees Financial Report

Checking account at First National Bank of Primghar

Initial balance 7/1/2009	\$5,475.23
From Iowa Yearly Meeting	1,000.00
From Entertainment Committee	37.38
From Eli Stakland	493.15
Interest earned	5.40
Total Assets	<u>\$7,011.16</u>

Disbursements

Meetinghouse repairs and floor	\$4,290.89
Prairie Township Trustees	493.15
Total Disbursements	<u>\$4,784.04</u>

Funds Available 6/30/2010 \$2,227.12

We heard the Scattergood Friends School Foundation Trustees Report. Because of the economy, this was the second year that the Foundation could not give usual financial support to the school. We are grateful that in this coming year this annual support will be able to resume and that some money has already been advanced to the School. We appreciate the careful work of the Foundation Trustees in helping

Yearly Meeting provide long-term support for Scattergood Friends School, which is a major outreach of the yearly meeting.

**SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL
FOUNDATION TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Foundation continues to carry out its mission of stewardship of the funds entrusted to its care for the use of Scattergood School. Because of steep market losses in the previous year which brought the market value of the accounts below the historic dollar amount of donors' contributions, the Foundation, according to its bylaws, was unable to support the School's scholarship fund during 2009–2010. The Foundation did, however, distribute \$16,235.87 to support the School's capital fund. The Foundation will resume supporting the scholarship fund for the upcoming year, and in fact \$25,000 of that support was advanced to the School on 5/11/2010 to help with the School's cash flow; the remaining scholarship support will be distributed, as usual, in 7/2010 and 12/2010.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010:

Total funds received	\$72,622.71
BC Ziegler interest and dividends	1,970.12
Hills Bank savings acct. interest	488.09
Pemberton Farm income	13,817.19
Billboard lease income	950.00
Westwood #1 interest and dividends	25,429.33
Westwood #2 interest and dividends	27,490.66
Mennonite MMA interest and dividends	587.32
New donations	1,890.00
Total expenses and transfers	\$16,235.87
Support to School scholarship fund	0.00
Support to School capital fund	\$16,235.87
Expenses	\$29,752.58
Accounting Services (paid by school)	0.00
Investment fees and bank charges	\$29,752.58

	6/30/2009	6/30/2010	+/-
Investments and Earnings	\$2,991,697.99	\$3,122,634.26	\$130,936.27
BC Ziegler interest and dividends	45,609.65	47,570.84	1,961.19
Mennonite Foundation	19,768.23	22,646.80	2,878.57
Westwood #1 (scholarship)	1,273,395.15	1,338,771.46	65,376.31
Westwood #2 (capital funds)	1,495,306.38	1,539,816.50	44,510.12
Pemberton Farm (24.68 acres)	85,150.00	85,150.00	0.00
Hills Bank savings	64,986.71	57,131.99	(7,854.72)
Accrued income	6,238.33	6,546.67	308.34
Prepaid Grant to School for 2010–2011	0	25,000.00	25,000.00

Historic Dollar Value of Contributions to the Endowment

	Additions to scholarship endowment	Cumulative scholarship endowment	Additions to capital endowment	Total Contributions to Foundation
2000–2001	—	834,846.00	—	834,846.00
2001–2002	5,727.50	840,573.50	—	840,573.50
2002–2003	155,125.10	995,698.60	—	995,698.60
2003–2004	98,210.51	1,093,909.11	—	1,093,909.11
2004–2005	64,232.49	1,158,141.60	—	1,158,141.60
2005–2006	17,383.50	1,175,525.10	—	1,175,525.10
2006–2007	147,836.95	1,323,362.05	1,568,250.00	2,891,612.05
2007–2008	66,135.18	1,389,497.23	—	2,957,747.23
2008–2009	1,890.00	1,433,270.76	—	3,001,520.76
2009–2010	41,883.53	1,431,380.76	—	2,999,630.76

We listened carefully to the Scattergood Friends School reports prepared for the Yearly Meeting by Farm Manager Mark Quee, School Head, Christine Ashley, and the School Committee.

We are touched by the joy, sorrow, and concerns being experienced at the school by students, staff, and committee. We are sobered by the immediate financial challenges being face by the school, in part due to the current economy, in part from aging facilities that need repair and in

part by the discontinuities occasioned by the change in administrative personnel.

We are excited to learn about the wonderful work being done at the farm and the growing outreach to the wider community to people of all ages and backgrounds.

We acknowledge and thank Interim Head, Ginny Winsor, for the ministry of love and the many gifts she brought to the school, including many improvements to help us make our facilities more accessible to all. Her service has given us time to find the right Head for the school.

We welcome new head, Christine Ashley and look forward to continuing to get to know her as we work together to assure the ministry of the school goes on. Her report makes us aware and in awe of the work she and the staff have before them, but also gives us confidence it can be done.

We learned the tuition for the next year will remain the same as last year, \$24,800 and this will be added to the report.

We encourage the staff and School Committee to let us know how and when we can help during the year, whether through prayer or service of some kind (including babysitting twins.)

We join with Christine in trusting that God will sustain us in the work ahead. We are filled with gratitude to the staff for making this outreach to the world possible.

SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL FARM REPORT

Dear Friends:

Apical dominance is a growth pattern in some plants in which a central leader hormonally exerts supremacy, suppressing the growth of other parts of the plant. Only when this dominant branch is removed can the rest of the plant assert itself and produce abundantly. Though the pruning of fruit trees offers a vivid example (and, for our purposes, a problematic analogy), of eliminating apical dominance, I prefer to consider the example of the basil plant. By harvesting the apical bud while the plant is still young, not only do we get to enjoy an immediate taste of summer, we are preparing the plant for increased production and more bountiful harvests in the future. Though the act is similar to cutting away a large branch of a fruit tree, our relationship to this act is different because it is also an act of harvesting. This serves as an apt image for the Scattergood Farm: how can we reap today, while ensuring increased harvests in the future? How can we do this in the midst of extreme weather events, depleting fossil fuel resources and economic uncertainty? We do this by building connections with the farm, in the kitchen and the class-

room, as well as the larger community; by thoughtfully considering our use of non-renewable resources and planning for a future with fewer of them; and by conscientiously building fertility in our soils, hopefully preparing for an abundant future while feeding ourselves today.

The Farm's greatest connection is made with our students. Last year we initiated a new Humanities class called Food for Thought, in which students read and wrote about food and farming, while planting, weeding, harvesting and shepherding. Environmental Science students conducted an experiment in broiler chicken production, trying to find a viable alternative to the Cornish-Rock cross. For the third year we offered a Biking/Farming weeklong trip in which students travelled to several farms, learning about others' methods while working on their farms. Two students completed the Farm Concentration program, in which they organized several academic requirements around their interest in the Farm and completed independent projects that helped further the mission of the Farm. Our passel of Projects and crews continued with Food Preservation, Animal Husbandry, and two Farm Projects, along with the year-long Farm, Chicken and Egg, and Recycling/Compost crews. All staff and students again took part in a Farm Work Day during student orientation, and the senior class helped plant a windbreak of spruce trees along the Farm's western property line. Our greatest connection to the Scattergood community however, is made in the dining room.

During 2009 the Farm produced for the school over 4,800 pounds of fruit and vegetables, 900 dozen eggs, four steers, 16 lambs, 100 chickens and 11 guinea hogs. This represented nearly all of the meat protein consumed during that year and nearly all of the vegetables and much of the fruit consumed from May until the end of December. In addition to growing for the school, the Farm successfully completed its final year of a CSA (Consumer Supported Agriculture) Program in which we supplied weekly vegetable and egg shares for 35 families. We also sold thousands of pounds of cilantro, cabbage, fennel, and tomatoes to New Pioneer Coop in Iowa City and Coralville.

We sought to produce more than food, however. Our relationship with Practical Farmers of Iowa grew to include a field day, two sponsored field trials, an article in their newsletter, a blog posting, two presentations at the PFI Cooperator's Meeting and with us hosting their "Know Your Farmer" Youth Summer Camp. In addition to the work with PFI, the Farm has also deepened our relationship with Taproot Nature Experience, an outdoor education program serving elementary school kids in Iowa City. Taproot groups have made numerous visits to the Farm and we hosted their spring Maple Syrup Festival (after tapping five trees out at the Farm). While these two groups have developed lasting

relationships with the Scattergood Farm, we have also become a popular destination for groups seeking tours of sustainable farms. During the past year we have welcomed 120 Iowa City kindergarten kids, 50 West Branch kindergartners and 15 Coralville Montessori kids, the Northeast Iowa Herbalist Society, the Iowa Recycling Association, two filmmakers with Sustaining Iowa, two transcontinental cyclists visiting sustainable farms from coast to coast, biologists from the University of Iowa taking a census of wild pollinators, and visitors from around the world who came with the Council of International Visitors to Iowa City (CIVIC). We continue to work with other vegetable growers and have nurtured important relationships with Grinnell Heritage Farm, Echollective Farm, and Genuine Faux Farm, all in Eastern Iowa.

None of this would be possible without the assistance of so many people. Dana Foster continues to oversee the livestock program while working with John Morman and Irving Treadway in the Scattergood kitchen to incorporate as much Farm meat and produce as possible. Sam Taylor has been working on the Farm full-time for his second summer and Joel O'Brien (Scattergood Graduate of 2008) and Sophie Shanahan have been so vital as interns. West Branch resident Steve Hoffman continues to cut our hay and help maintain our machinery, while Ken Fawcett has again done an excellent job with our conventional row-crops while acting as a consultant on many other issues. Finally, the members of Farm Subcommittee of the School Committee have been important advocates as we plan for the future.

In many ways the Scattergood Farm has reached its productive and relational capacities with the resources we currently have. As we seek new growth, we should work with the programs and people in place, but find new infrastructure and implements: an energy efficient residence that can attract and keep good employees while decreasing the use of fossil fuels, a building to welcome visitors and allow them a public restroom, a tractor that more sustainably and efficiently works our soil and prepares our greenhouse for planting. With these things we could more productively feed ourselves and better serve as an inspiration for others. Sometimes improvement requires radical change; sometimes we must simply make room for growth.

Respectfully submitted by
Mark Quee, Scattergood Farm Manager
On behalf of the Farm Subcommittee of the School
Committee

SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

July 2010

As I begin to wrap up my first month on the job as new Head of School, I feel a profound sense of gratitude that I am able to share in the history of this school and the work of the present, helping to carve out a healthy and bountiful future with a wonderful staff, school committee, and the yearly meeting community. My family and I have been welcomed with open arms; we can't help but revel in the beauty of our surrounding fields, prairie, and yes, even a swimming hole. I feel at home here, much like I imagine our students feel when they have traveled far and wide, and arrive to find a loving and care-filled environment. This is a beautiful and precious place to learn and grow, stretch and explore; and my family and I already treasure our time here at Scattergood.

Graduating Seniors: What's Next?

This spring, thirteen seniors attended the 2010 Commencement in May. Kia Cooney will attend Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. Sue Grossman will pursue her studies at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin. Siena Mann will attend Haverford College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Connie Kellner-Miller will enroll in the Farm and Industry Short Course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Claire Palmarini will attend Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. Some of our international students are returning home, while most of our students are enrolling in universities in the States. Sabrina Howell returned home to India this summer, and returns to attend Atlanta Christian College this fall. Jong Kyeong Cheon is returning home to Korea to continue his studies and is applying to universities in Korea and Hong Kong. Johnny Song will attend Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Christian Kayishema will attend Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Alex Kim will attend Diablo Valley College in California. Chelsea Yoo will attend Pratt Institute in New York City to study interior design. We are proud of our graduates, and send them our very best as they make their way into new stages of their lives.

Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Leah Spicer, our rising senior, for her selection as the Bob and Sara Berquist Scholar. The Sara Berquist Scholarship award was started in 1985 by Bob Berquist and is awarded annually in the spring to a junior who is returning for his or her senior year. The staff chooses this based upon the values of what it means to be an extraordinary community member. Congratulations to Ki Yea Shim, our rising

senior, for receiving the Fine Arts Scholarship. This scholarship honors a student who demonstrates a passion, commitment and ability for their chosen fine or performing art.

Each student has received a \$500 scholarship towards her tuition for the upcoming year.

Staff Transitions

We bid farewell to several staff members who have left Scattergood. Glenn Singer was let go mid-year; Rachel Howard, Michal Lynch and Bob Gutwein took over admissions as a team and performed admirably. Eryka Driscoll left the business office after six months of hard work. Maureen Doyle has been serving as the interim bookkeeper, and we are so pleased that she has worked with such vigor and fervor in this new environment. Michal Lynch leaves after five years to move in to her new home in Iowa City with her fiancé and our colleague Riley Lark, also leaving the Scattergood community. We wish Michal and Riley the very best.

It is with gratitude for her work that we bid goodbye to Ginny Winsor, who spent the last year as our Interim Head of School. She contributed much to Scattergood Friends School in just one year, and we are grateful for all of her hard work, efforts, and loving attention. She returns home to Omaha, Nebraska, where she plans to enjoy her retirement. She leaves behind a strong community of committed staff and inquisitive and healthy students.

Returning staff members are always a blessing for every institution, and Scattergood is no exception. We have an extraordinarily committed staff returning to Scattergood for the 2010–2011 year, and are happy that we can continue honing and utilizing the best skills and talents of each staff member in the upcoming year. Bob Gutwein has aptly served the Scattergood community as Dean of Students and now begins the 2010–2011 year as Director of Admissions. Over the course of the late spring and summer, the Dean of Students position and a humanities position were filled with two talented individuals waiting to join the Scattergood School community this fall. Shelly Hughes is making her way from Lebanon, New York, where she has been living and working for many years. She comes to us with extensive experiences as a clinician, counselor, residential life coordinator, and boarding school teacher. We are grateful that she has accepted the position as Dean of Students. Catherine From comes to us from Lexington, Kentucky, with strong interests in theater, English and composition. Catherine's own experiences as a student in a boarding school coupled with her mother's 30 years of teaching has had a strong influence on Catherine, and she is excited about beginning her work here at Scattergood teaching humanities.

Prominent Events

The 2009–2010 school year was challenging in many respects and still the school year ended with a profound sense of gratitude and appreciation for the strong community and optimism for the future. We began the 2009–2010 school year with 45 students and finished with 42 students. We admitted two students for the second semester: Pedro came from Bolivia for the semester following the footsteps of other family members in the past, and we thoroughly enjoyed his short tenure! In Joon entered as a sophomore student from Korea, and we are delighted to welcome him back this fall.

The death of freshman Lili Smith earlier in the fall of 2009 was a tragedy that the entire community struggled to accept. The community of students and staff grew even closer as they supported one another with loving care. Though Lili was here for a mere eight weeks, her presence was deeply felt, and her sudden loss resonated within the entire community for the year. Lili's family was very touched by our school mission, and our commitment to social inclusion. As a result, her family has bequeathed a portion of her memorial funds to our school to continue our mission to provide service opportunities for our students off campus. The family has also committed to raising \$10,000.00 each year for the next 4 years to help cover 8th block trips funds. The rain garden flowers are a tribute to Lili's life, and a plaque will be installed there and in the foyer of the school, thanking Lili for the lessons she shared with us, during her brief time within the Scattergood community.

The 2009–2010 school year marked the first year in the seven-year ISACS (Independent School Association of the Central States) accreditation cycle. Our report on the last cycle was accepted and Scattergood's accreditation remains in good standing. Jennie Schmidt conducted a survey questioning Scattergood's current and historical community. The results contain many "stories" that we need to surface, most likely in the smaller faculty sub-committees throughout the earlier part of the 2010–2011 year. During the upcoming school year, we will be preparing for the self-study by conducting extensive self-examination of our curriculum and mission. We will closely examine how we do what we do, in other words, and if we do what we say we do. Our Kick-Off Day will be September 17th when Kevin Rooney visits with the School Committee.

The Freshman Dinner had a 1950's diner theme and was wildly successful and resulted in spontaneous dancing. This annual event is a time when the Freshmen can come together as a whole and showcase their culinary gifts to the rest of the school community. The Sophomore Breakfast had a chocolate theme, serving cocoa, chocolate chip pancakes, and chocolate-dipped fruit. The Juniors prepared their annual

breakfast for the seniors and their parents; and their feature foods from the farm were fabulously prepared. (Our Farm-to-Table program is always a highlight with our parents and prospective parents.)

The fall All-School camping trip was again held at F. W. Kent State Park, and campers reported having had a grand time. This event always helps us celebrate our new bonds with one another as a community.

Scattergood Day and Intersession classes are always highlights of every year when students perform a play before friends and family or explore a new interest for one week. Faculty Follies was celebrated in a New Orleans-Jazz theme. Wandering street artists regaled us, and each class built a theme float. Cajun food rocked the palates.

The Prom theme was “Candy Land” featuring decorations of bright primary colors, snacks, candy-colored gowns and dresses, senior Queen, freshman King, junior Jester, and a sophomore Prince and freshman Princess. Three of the students were first year international students. This tells the story of Scattergood’s commitment to inclusivity, with words and deeds.

The Senior class work project was the product of a Green Schools nation-wide grant initiated by Michal Lynch and Sarah Harper-Smith. The first rain garden was completed by the 2010 Seniors, and with the help of Riley Lark, Joey Giffen-Hunter, Michal Lynch and Sarah Harper-Smith. The project was designed to help alleviate problems with water drainage around the science building. In the past, the drive behind the boys’ dorm and science building needed work as heavy rain came down the sloped drive, flooding the stairwell of the science building. Now we anticipate a much improved drainage system in that area. Margie Figgins will oversee the completion of that project in the fall of 2010.

Meanwhile, our 9th, 10th, and 11th graders headed out on week-long wilderness trips, canoeing down the 11-Point River in Missouri or backpacking near the Current River in Missouri, while the seniors completed their service project back on campus.

Block 8 Trips are four week-long trips for all juniors and seniors. The bike trip was extensive and was led by Hans Niehus. In preparation for this month long self-contained bicycle tour, students began physical conditioning five days a week for two months leading up to the trip. Students also gathered equipment and learned basic bike maintenance skills. A second group traveled to Washington D.C. with Irving Treadway and Colleen Schmitt and visited elected representatives, toured historical sites and museums, and explored the city. The whole trip is an invaluable complement to the students’ study of United States history and government and was enjoyed by all. Finally, Sam Taylor and parent Dave Abazs took a stalwart group canoeing and portaging through wind and rain and,

yes, even snow! This group was very busy canoeing and connecting to the local environment as well as locally-concerned environmentalists. The Scattergood canoeing members were often lauded in community newspapers as they travelled. We appreciate the hard work of both staff and students, and were happy to see them return safe and sound.

Head's Outreach

The last month has been a busy one. *The West Branch Times* published a featured article about the new Head at Scattergood as well as our solar project and grant, which is coordinated by Margie Figgins. I attended an Iowa City Chamber of Commerce event and established several new ties for Scattergood, including Iowa State Senator Dvorsky. Scattergood has been invited to sit on two Iowa City sub-committees: education and agriculture/business. We are exploring those invitations.

I was also invited to sit on a monthly group meeting with several West Branch leaders, including the Main Street Development director, the presidential library director, the National Park supervisor, the West Branch city manager, the West Branch school district's superintendant, the Hoover House director and the *West Branch Times* editor. This group will be meeting with the common intention of sharing news, establishing and extending connections both inside and outside of West Branch, and coordinating outreach efforts.

Facilities

During the year, Scattergood experienced major facility issues, some that had to be addressed immediately and others still waiting to be addressed. The roof on the science building was replaced in the summer of 2009 and completed before classes began.

Issues revolving around our septic system and wells, many of which have been reported before March of 2009, continue to cause us frequent concern. Storm water that infiltrates our septic system places an additional heavier load on our septic system, and we are sure that this system, already 25 years old, will need our serious attention quite soon, its life-span rapidly declining at this point. There have been times this past year when the system has not been operable already. There is concern about the subsequent contamination of our drinking water. Our art building bell tower now has a new roof, and the tower has been repaired to address water and related mold issues. Our biggest and weightiest issue of the spring was identifying and removing asbestos in the Art Building. This project, when completed, will cost approximately \$75,000, an amount that was not budgeted for, but simply had to be done. We anticipate that we will finally be able to finance the final repairs in the fall, but need approximately \$22,000 to do so.

A leaking roof in the duplex, as well as gathering water beneath the flooring, have posed concerns of mold. The boys' dorm also has had ceiling tiles removed due to mold, and drywall surrounding showers all over the campus have suffered mold and mildew until drywall has collapsed. We are very aware of the potential health concerns that arise if we allow mold into our housing for students and staff, and battle this problem with dehumidifiers; when the problems are structural, we need to address the issues with a much heavier hand.

An aging campus like Scattergood will need continual work until the facilities are upgraded and in some case, rebuilt. The questions before us are looming. What facility needs can and should take center stage during our upcoming capital campaign? Which issues cannot wait for an influx of funds three to five years down the road? How can our operating budget expand now so that we can address issues before they become real problems that ultimately need more funds to fix?

Finances

The Latta Harris accounting firm has been working with our bookkeeper and new Head to properly close out the 2009–2010 financial year.

In the course of the past month, our accounting practices have been discussed with the clerk and Consultation Committee. Our accounting practices need to be simplified, and policies and procedures that help us better track our funds need to be put into place immediately. This business office has been in transition for years with many people staying in the position for short bursts of time. The Head position has been in transition as well for the past couple of years. The result is that our accounting system has been complicated to the degree that it is not tenable and we will overhaul it immediately with the help and recommendations of Latta Harris.

The past two years have been an economically rocky period for our nation as a whole. We have witnessed and felt the financial shortfall in our homes, our towns and our local and federal governments. When the recession hit our financial markets, institutions like Scattergood suffered a decrease in funds that have traditionally been built into the operating budget. We began 2009–2010 with a deficit, and we ended the year with an even larger deficit. The shortfall has snowballed, due to expenditures of approximately \$140,000 on facility maintenance and projects that were not budgeted but had to be completed. We are in the process of digging even more deeply so that we have a completely transparent look at our current financial reality. What we know today, as we are facing the start of a new school year, is that our operational funds have been hit hard, our received tuition only covers a mere fraction of the costs needed to operate the school, and we need an influx of immediate funds to help

us navigate through the upcoming year. This is a serious situation, Friends.

This is our time to clearly take stock of our practices and processes in funding and managing the school. A complete audit of the School, Farm and Foundation's books will be finished after the current fiscal year. For the immediate years ahead, we need to apply fiscal conservatism throughout the budget even more stringently, and apply clear and simple accounting practices. Even these measures will not provide the relief that the school needs for the 2010–2011 year.

Many people have continued to assist the school in various capacities and contributed both financially and with their time, talents and hospitality to the Scattergood community. We depend on these to heighten our visibility and expand our resources to make Scattergood the best possible educational experience for everyone. We have an incredibly meaningful mission that is more necessary now than ever before. That vision has sustained the Scattergood School for 120 years. It is now time for us to ensure that Scattergood can be sustained for 120 additional years. I know that part of my work here is to bring Scattergood into the world and the world into Scattergood, and enable future generations of youth to enter the world prepared with a sense of global citizenship, growing spiritual awareness, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Tuition for the 2010–11 school year will remain unchanged from last year at \$24,800. At this time there are 54 students enrolled for the fall semester.

In closing, I humbly thank the School Committee and Yearly Meeting for providing me and my family with the opportunity to become part of the Scattergood community. I am grateful for the collegiality, the support shown to the school, and sharing and highlighting the important responsibilities we have as members of this intentional learning community. This will be an integral year for all of us as we pull together and carve out a vital and fiscally healthy future for Scattergood Friends School.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Ashley
Head of School

**SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL
COMMITTEE REPORT
JULY 30, 2010**

July 1 saw the culmination of the year-long permanent Head search as Christine Ashley joined the staff in that position. Christine comes with a long history of educational experiences from all over the world, though most recently from the Washington, D.C. area. Please join us in welcoming her and her husband, Mark Shanahan, and their children to the Scattergood Friends School community. The School Committee is appreciative of her energy, intelligence, enthusiasm, and kind but direct approach to working with others with the concerns of the school, evident already in this first month.

While Christine entered the community of Scattergood, Ginny Winsor planned her move back to Omaha. She has left her role as Interim Head but now becomes a part of the extended community that living at the school provides. The School Committee is forever grateful for Ginny's service to the school this past year and wishes her rewarding years of retirement.

We are faced with significant financial challenges. Our immediate cash flow is an impending worry. For the long term, we have a progressive strategic plan in formation, but this cannot address the concerns facing us today. Currently, the School Committee is beginning the research and planning for a capital campaign. Areas to be addressed in the drive will include staff housing and facilities. At the farm, we'd like to establish a new residence for two families and a food processing building. Many of our beloved facilities are in profound need of repair or upgrading as small issues have developed into larger issues from being left unattended over time from continued lack of funds. We also have an ambitious goal of increasing staff salaries 50% over five years, our salaries being either the lowest or some of the lowest in comparable schools throughout the country.

The School Committee and the Head believe strongly in the unique program and its opportunities that exist for students at Scattergood. Students leave Scattergood with skills, knowledge and a strong sense of self that stay with them as they become adults. We know we need to market the school even more effectively to share the gifts the school offers. As always, the Yearly Meeting's involvement is of the essence, and as the Head and the School Committee members visit monthly meetings, we hope to expand the dialogue and avenues by which to advance this wonderful institution.

For the School Committee,
Debbie Galusha, clerk

SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL FINANCIAL CONDITION REPORT

7/28/10

Scattergood's current financial condition is precarious, a result of two very difficult years in which the school has suffered from the general economic decline, from a legacy of inadequate attention to maintaining our infrastructure, and from the challenges of dealing with a transition in leadership. This has left us painfully short of operating cash.

The dramatic decline in the stock market in 2008 prevented the Foundation from making its anticipated contribution to the school's operations in the 2008–2009 school year. The result was an operating loss in that year of \$70,000, the approximate amount of the Foundation's previous annual contribution. In the 2009–2010 school year the Foundation was again unable to make a contribution, although it did provide a cash advance last month to the school of \$25,000 from the contribution planned for the 2010–2011 school year. The school and the Committee also struggled through most of the year with inadequate financial reporting. Changes in leadership and staff over the past several years led to inadequacies in the bookkeeping and accounting practices. The operating loss for the most recent school year was \$83,000.

In addition, in the 2009–2010 year, we were forced to spend \$140,000 on buildings and equipment. These were capital expenditures which were largely unfunded, but which were necessary just to keep the basic facilities in operating condition.

The School Committee and the new Head of School are in the process of addressing both the operational and the capital issues which have brought us to this condition. The operational issues will be addressed by reducing costs and by increasing enrollment and tuition revenue. It is our intention to implement the changes necessary without jeopardizing the quality of the educational programs or by changing the character of the student body. To achieve these objectives, however, the changes cannot be made precipitously. Our moral commitments to existing staff, students and parents require that the changes will be phased in over the next year or two. Those years will be both a financial and an organizational challenge.

The capital needs of the school are significant and are largely a product of inadequate attention to maintaining our facilities over a long period of time. The school's programs have also changed over time, and there are new facilities needed for the farm and the academic programs. To address these capital demands, the committee will be launching a capital campaign in the near future.

Fiscally austere measures have not been applied, but some smaller efforts have been made to cut spending. None of these efforts, however, will make up our cash flow shortage this year, or next year. It took us a few years to get to this point, and we need to ensure that we will be fiscally sound and fit for future needs of the students, staff and campus.

We were happy to have time to better welcome Ann Fields, President of William Penn University and hear a few words from her. She shared of her family's roots in farming and her path to the presidency at the University, as well as about William Penn. She lifted up the possibility for some collaboration with Scattergood. Many of us have benefited from educational opportunities at William Penn through the years. We look forward to getting to know her better as she continues to deepen roots and grow with the University as its president.

We close the morning session to reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

SIXTH DAY – FRIDAY – 7/30/2010
AFTERNOON SESSION

We resume the business of Yearly Meeting.

Give over thine own willing, give over thine own running, give over thine own desireing to know or be anything, and sink down to the seed which God sows in the heart and let that be in thee, and grow in thee, and thou shall find by sweet experience that the Lord knows that and loves and owns that, and will lead it to the inheritance, which is his portion.

—Isaac Pennington

Emma Deutsch and Sarah Mickle have been appointed as readers this afternoon.

We are happy that Joseph Kieltyka of Twin Cities Monthly Meeting, Northern Yearly Meeting has been able to join us at annual sessions again this year.

We heard a report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach to 2011 FGC Gathering. We approve the proposals and affirm that they feel rightly led. Lorene Ludy and other members of the Ad Hoc Committee are willing to meet for clearness with any Friends considering taking up

one of the two proposed projects still without someone to lead them. We understand that all workshop proposals will need to be submitted to the Gathering Workshop Committee by late September 2010 and at this time we don't know if more than a six-foot table will be available for an IYMC display.

**REPORT BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE
ON IYMC OUTREACH FOR THE
2011 FGC GATHERING**

In keeping with our instructions from the Yearly Meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee on IYMC Outreach for the 2011 Friends General Conference Gathering arranged a panel discussion on Third Day evening, in which Friends shared their experiences at FGC Gatherings in years past.

As a follow-up, we convened a meeting for Friends interested in outreach at next year's Gathering. We find that many Iowa Friends are indeed interested in specific outreach projects. These include the following, for which we already have leaders and volunteers:

- A display on Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative)'s history (essentially a polished version of the one in the auditorium), prepared by Marshall Massey. Marshall would welcome the assistance of someone skilled in graphic illustration.
- A workshop on IYMC's history and personal stories, convened and coordinated by Jeff Cox, with assistance from Marshall Massey. Jeff envisions drawing other Iowa Friends into this workshop, to lead discussions on specific topics.
- A Bible Half Hour, led by Callie Marsh, which she has already committed to.
- A Quaker Earthcare Witness display, in which Scattergood will be involved, which Joey Giffen-Hunter is working on.
- A Scattergood School and Farm pre- and/or post-Gathering event, facilitating travel between the Gathering site and Scattergood, for people who wish to tour these facilities. Joey Giffen-Hunter is also working on this.

We also have two other projects to propose, if anyone feels drawn to work on them:

- A display of photographs with short descriptive texts about each of IYMC's meetings.
- A "worshop" (which we envision as being something in between a workshop and worship, to provide FGC Friends with an introductory experience of the kind of waiting worship and discernment practiced by IYMC.

We look to the Yearly Meeting for its approval of these projects, and its affirmation that it feels they would be rightly led.

We listened to the report of the Discipline Revision Committee. We ask the committee to send monthly meetings the completed revisions of the Faith and Practice, the Discipline of Iowa Yearly Meeting, (Conservative) prior to the 2011 annual sessions so it can be considered by the monthly meetings as one whole document and Friends can come prepared to consider it for approval. We thank the committee for their continued work on this revision on our behalf.

DISCIPLINE REVISION COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee met six times this year. Members of the committee who have attended recent meetings are Gordon Bivens (Ames), Herbert Standing (Bear Creek), Sherry Hutchison (Des Moines Valley), Marge Schlitt (Lincoln), Jonathan Fisch (Paullina), Carol Gilbert (Omaha), Jean Eden (Lincoln), and Dan Schlitt (Lincoln).

The final sections on monthly meeting and yearly meeting procedures, as well as the introduction and appendices are nearly complete, pending final review of a few paragraphs. Since the last meeting of the committee, its clerk has been assembling and formatting the entire document. We expect to send it to all monthly meetings within a few weeks for review and comment. We have volunteers to create an index and do final editing for spelling, grammar, capitalization and “voice” so that a publishable version will be available for Yearly Meeting approval at the 2011 sessions.

For the committee,
Carol Gilbert, Clerk

The Postville Ad Hoc Committee Report was heard. We appreciate the report and learning of the work being done in Postville. We are glad we were able to respond in a helpful way to a crisis that happened in our neighborhood. We want to thank the Decorah Friends and particularly Bill Deutsch, who helped carry our good wishes to this community. We lay down this ad hoc committee with thanks for their faithful work on our behalf.

POSTVILLE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

The Ad Hoc Postville committee has not been highly active during this year of transition in Postville. The donation of Yearly Meeting to help to meet the needs of families in Postville has been most helpful and appreciated.

At the time of Yearly Meeting's donation last August, there were still more than 40 adults and 30 minors living in Postville who were detained in the raid at Agriprocessors a year earlier. These individuals were being retained by the federal and state governments to serve as witnesses in three court cases to be brought against Sholom Rubashkin, former owner of Agriprocessors. As such, they were unable to leave the country, but were also unable to work because they did not have work permits.

Through Postville's Hispanic Ministries staff, these individuals were assisted financially with rent, utilities and other living expenses, as well as assistance with filing paperwork for work permits and visas. At the time of this report in late July 2010, there are still three individuals who are in the position of being unable to leave, and unable to work, and still waiting for visa applications to be approved.

Many of the individuals receiving financial support through Hispanic Ministries a year ago were making application for U-visas. They were eligible for this remedy since they were victimized during their time in the U.S. In response to a Federal decision to drop all immigration charges against Sholom Rubashkin in early 2010, 31 individuals had their work permits revoked, and needed to leave the state or be deported by the end of March 2010, unless their visas were approved by this time. A much smaller group of individuals were retained to be witnesses for the third trial, and work permits and visas were granted to about a dozen of these individuals. Since June 30, 2010, the efforts of the Hispanic Ministries staff, which focused largely on legal efforts and financial support for this community for the past two years, has returned to its original mission of meeting the spiritual needs of a Latino population in rural small town Iowa.

As an informational item, Sholom Rubashkin, owner and operator of Agriprocessors, was convicted of 68 financial fraud charges in November of 2009, and has been recently sentenced to 27 years of prison time. Immigration violation charges against him were dropped (reportedly to save the costs of prosecution) in January 2010, and he was found not guilty of knowingly employing minors at the plant, at trial in May of 2010.

A comprehensive immigration policy that includes enforcement, penalties, a path to citizenship, and a recognition of the economic needs

of the U.S. and its immigrant population is needed to reduce the kind of suffering that resulted from the Postville raid, and current primarily enforcement only immigration practices.

For the committee,
Bill Deutsch

We listened to and appreciated the report on Friends Peace Teams prepared by our representatives.

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS REPORT

The work of Friends Peace Teams is carried out by its three initiatives with the support of a central office (Core). While the initiatives are financially sound, the Core budget is running a significant deficit.

All three initiatives continue to offer Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) workshops and Trauma Healing (HROC) workshop to individuals recovering from the ravages of war. The three initiatives are: the African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI), David Zarembka, coordinator; Peace Building en las Americas (PLA), Val Liveoak, coordinator; and the Indonesia Initiative (II), Nadine Hoover, coordinator. Each of these individuals will have completed a speaking tour in the USA by the end of the year. In addition to the workshops, each initiative has carried out projects to address the unique needs of its area.

AGLI has joined with ten other religious organizations to train civilian election monitors to look for any irregularities and, equipped with donated cell phones, report those irregularities to the proper authorities in order to prevent widespread violence from erupting. Oftentimes, the mere presence of an objective observer is enough to prevent problems. This effort was done in Burundi where it was quite successful; and AGLI plans to use it in the upcoming election in Kenya where tensions are also high.

Just a note in passing: AGLI's Facebook site has had over 100 hits from the U.S. military and over a 140 from the U.S. government in the past month.

David Zarembka is retiring. AGLI is initiating a search for his successor in August and the entire transition to a new coordinator will likely take months. David is working hard to make the process as seamless as possible.

Val Liveoak is also approaching retirement age and is hopes to cut back on administrative work in order to devote herself to program work. An AVP lead trainer from New York Yearly Meeting, Margaret Lechner,

spent six months with Val as her assistant and the arrangement worked quite well. Margaret is exploring with her clearness committee in New York the possibility of returning to Central America for another extended stay. That would be a welcome development.

Lilian Vega, an AVP trainer from Guatemala, has toured the Pacific Northwest and the Eastern Seaboard speaking on behalf the PLA. She was warmly received and her tour met with great success.

The Indonesian government opened the war-torn province of Aceh to an AVP team in 2010 and, for the first time, allowed them to travel freely without special permits. The workshops they did there were very successful. Lilian continues to make ceramic filters available to Indonesians; but the demand for these devices, which make contaminated water potable, far exceeds the supply.

Members of IYMC continue to support Friends Peace Teams in a number of ways, including hosting speaking tours. This past year, Eastern Iowa Friends hosted Alex Douglas, from the Friends Women's Association in Burundi, as she talked about creating community health care. Thanks to the hard work of Iowa City, West Branch, and Whittier Friends, Alex spoke to community groups, university and college classes, religious groups, a staff member of Iowa Senator Harkin, and also appeared on local access TV. Her talks were well received by the general public, and many people had the opportunity to learn about many facets of Friends peacemaking as well as AVP throughout the world. Alex was a fabulous speaker and hearing her speak about Friends Peace Teams touched everyone who heard her.

This fall, we plan to host Nelly del Cid from San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Nelly will speak of her AVP work as well as the ongoing, non-violent resistance movement to the military coup that replaced the democratically elected government in her country. The tour is in its initial planning stages, and monthly meetings that would be interested in hosting her should contact Deborah Dakin.

In closing, I note that this month, July, 2010, saw the death of Elise Boulding, one of the founding members of Friends Peace Teams. Her spirit lives on in our work.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Bruener

We received the Religious Education Committee Report. We appreciate the work of the committee and the good idea for meetings to share the richness of diversity with which they are approaching Religious Education work.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REPORT

Religious education reports were submitted by seven monthly meetings. They display a remarkable diversity of religious educational approaches.

Three meetings have been studying Friends service organizations. One has been studying its own history. One has been doing intergenerational programs. One brought in speakers from local worthy causes. One has been studying the Bible. Two have chosen a “reading group” approach to religious education for adult members, using an eclectic range of reading choices.

One meeting is excited about a new First Day School program in a new facility; another struggles inventively to continue in the face of low attendance; a third sends its children to a larger, non-Conservative meeting nearby.

Two meetings report that they are working on web pages, learning Quakerism by learning how to express it to others.

As usual, there are many ideas worth sharing in these reports, and one report specifically mentioned that the meeting found benefit in reading of the struggles and success of other meetings. So again this year, we will forward copies of all religious education reports to each meeting.

We encourage monthly meetings to read these reports, to appreciate the creativity and successes we are having. In addition we hope that we can be inspired by and use each other as resources for First Day programming. We as the committee offer ourselves as resources for ideas and referrals.

It is our belief that meeting adult and youth needs for inspiration, for discussion and for challenge in religious education programs, is one of the important ways that we take care of ourselves and shape our meetings. We are grateful for the many hours of effort and thought that go into providing for the education of our members and attenders.

Judy Cottingham, Bill Deutsch, Marshall Massey

We appreciated hearing the very informative report of the Pendle Hill Scholarship Committee.

PENDLE HILL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee met by telephone and agreed to the request of Deborah Galusha to participate in a clerking workshop at Pendle Hill in the fall of 2009. Deborah attended the workshop and expressed appreciation to the Committee.

Anyone in the yearly meeting may ask for the assistance of the Sojourner Fund to sojourn at Pendle Hill for up to a week or to participate in a workshop there. A request made to the Yearly Meeting clerk will be referred to this committee and considered. If approved, the Committee will inform the Pendle Hill registrar. The person requesting aid would then proceed to make their arrangements with Pendle Hill. If the fund is not used in a given year, the amount is not held over for use the following year.

Jean Eden, Roy Hampton, Wilmer Tjossem

We heard the report of our representatives to FWCC. We appreciate the report.

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT

Friends from Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) continue to actively participate in and support the work of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC). This worldwide organization continues to listen and respond to God's call, reaching out to fulfill our mission—a vision to heal the rifts in the Religious Society of Friends (RSOF) and find a common voice that can speak to the world.

The annual meeting of the FWCC Section of the Americas was held Third Month, 18 thru 21, at Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center, Reisterstown, Maryland, about twenty miles north of Baltimore. A gathering of over 80 delegates from all persuasions of Friends religious practice, from North, South, and Central America, as well as Europe, Africa, and Asia, conferred for three days on a range of issues and on-going projects to hold us, as one faith, in God's Light.

The main focus brought before the body by the executive committee was a proposal to redirect our collective energy toward organizing local and regional opportunities for Friends of different faith practices to join together for gatherings, worship, and fellowship; to bring FWCC to

where Friends are. Events suggested over the next two years could include opportunities for Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) to join in efforts with Iowa Yearly Meeting (FUM) and other regional meetings in worshipful gatherings. Events could be as simple as a half-day, outdoor, harvest picnic, or expanded to include a program similar to Midyear Meeting.

FWCC continues to struggle with the challenge of decreased availability of funds. The economic crisis is recognized among delegates worldwide and has brought our attention to how interdependent we are on one another, no longer isolated nationalities, but one family before God. We participated in workshops on Envisioning a Quaker Youth Pilgrimage Program in the 21st Century, and Mending a Broken World: Friends' Responses to Global Change, and look forward to the World Conference of Friends in Kabarak, Kenya in 2012.

Martha Davis continues to be active with the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage Committee. Ebby Luvaga and Stan Sanders are IYMC representatives to FWCC, where Stan continues in the role of the clerk of the Northern High Plains Regional Meeting, FWCC Section of the Americas.

For the committee
Stan Sanders

We heard Part I of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report. We appreciate the simple and direct suggestions given to us to help us start to come under the weight of how our behavior as individuals and meetings affects the Earth. We accept the challenge to make personal changes and help each other by sharing ideas and what we are doing with each other. There is much to be done and these suggestions help us begin.

We heard a proposed letter to senators of the states in which our monthly meetings are located that supports ratification of the new START treaty. We approve the amended letter and ask the clerk to send it out via e-mail on our behalf.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT – PART I

Earthcare Proposal

Many friends are already thinking and acting on the way their lives and life styles impact the environment. We offer three positive challenges to help you directly change the impact of how your behavior affects the earth:

1. Mow half as much lawn in the coming year as in the past.

2. How far does the food you eat travel to get to your table? Seriously consider how much diesel and jet fuel is needed for the food you choose.
3. Seriously consider your mode of overland long distance travel with the understanding that bus and train travel are the most environmentally economical, and flying and car travel are the worst.

Let's accept the challenge to make personal changes and help each other to hold ourselves accountable. What other things can you do? Let's encourage each other by sharing what we are doing. It will be wonderful to mark progress when we gather again at Midyear and Yearly Meeting.

Letter on New START Treaty

We ask the following letter be sent to all of our senators on behalf of our yearly meeting:

Dear Senator _____:

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has scheduled a vote on the New START (II) treaty on Tuesday, August 3. This is a treaty to replace START I, which expired in December, 2009.

We urge you to vote for ratification, for the following reasons:

1. The new treaty limits the U.S. and Russia to no more than 1,550 deployed strategic warheads each, and 800 deployed and non-deployed delivery vehicles each. It includes a streamlined and updated state-of-the-art system for monitoring and verification provisions to ensure compliance.
2. It is essential to begin dismantling some of the thousands of nuclear weapons before they get into the wrong hands.
3. These weapons are left over from the Cold War. Such authorities as President George H. W. Bush's National Security Advisor Steve Hadley, former Defense and Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, and Henry Kissinger all support ratification of the New START.
4. Senate failure to ratify the New START would not only provide an excuse for countries that don't have nuclear weapons to develop them, but also diminish any credibility of the U.S. as a peace-loving nation. It would threaten the very existence of life on this planet.

By ratifying the New START treaty, the U.S. will demonstrate its willingness to use its leadership in developing a safer world for all of us.

On behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting, Conservative (Quaker)
Deborah Fisch, clerk

We now adjourn to meet again at 9:30 a.m. Seventh Day.

SEVENTH DAY – SATURDAY – 7/31/2010
MORNING SESSION

We return to the business of Yearly Meeting.

“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, . . . neither is it beyond the sea . . . No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.”

Deuteronomy 30:11–14

Bob Yeats and Inez Schaechterle have been appointed as readers this morning.

We are pleased to welcome again Clifford Goltz of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Northern Yearly Meeting.

MINUTE OF SIXTH DAY ACTIVITIES

On the afternoon of Sixth Day Friends had opportunities to participate in a tour of Scattergood Farm and attend the Virtual Tour of Will Allen’s Farm.

Evening Collection was led by Friend Zachary Moon of Strawberry Creek Meeting in Pacific Yearly Meeting. He based his ministry on “Faithfulness” and used the story of Samuel and Eli from the Hebrew Scriptures to help Friends consider their own faithfulness to each other and God, by listening, seeking, and then surrendering to the call of God, though it is not easy and takes courage for each in their own way.

We listened carefully and with delight to the report presented to us by the Junior Yearly Meeting Friends. We notice and appreciate how Junior Yearly Meeting welcomes newcomers in their group. We see the benefits of JYM, not only at the end of the week when we hear their report, but also during the year and in the years to come. We recognize all the loving work that goes into preparing and leading JYM youth. We

thank the leaders and the youth for all they teach us. We especially thank Emma Deutsch and Carol Gilbert for their faithful service, as well as their many helpers.

EPISTLE FROM JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING

Dear Friends,

At Junior Yearly Meeting, we had a total of 12 children participating, but not all at once! This year there were five six-year olds.

A clerk visited our business meeting and showed us how Friends make decisions. We practiced making decisions in a way that makes everybody happy even though we don't always get everything we want.

We talked about "Tapping into God's Love" like a tree gets water from its roots and we get sap from maple trees. Then we made a tree from paper maché, adding more branches each day.

The Young Friends joined us in tie-dying cloth napkins. We also made steel drums, dipped candles, and pancakes.

We played games like Ladder Ball, Capture the Flag and Bat-Wad. A guest came and taught us how to do yoga, and we taught her some new "yoga moves" that we made up. Another guest helped us learn percussive hand games.

We went swimming in the Scattergood Friends School Pond and roasted marshmallows at a campfire there, even though it was raining a little. It was perfect for telling ghost stories.

In Friendship,
IYMC Junior Yearly Meeting

We listened attentively to the wonderful epistle presented by Young Friends. We want to thank Young Friends for the epistle, and also for their liveliness. We thank Flossie Cox and those assisting her for their time and spiritual gifts of leadership. We are happy Young Friends have been able to have their own space in the dorm this year.

EPISTLE FROM YOUNG FRIENDS

To Friends everywhere,

For the first year ever we slept in a high school dorm space with our friends instead of with our parents or sponsors. The atmosphere was relaxed, but helped build a tighter bond between already close friends. We hope we can make this a yearly tradition.

On Wednesday, Junior Yearly Meeting invited us to tie-dye with them. Everybody's clothing looked pretty hanging out on the line. That evening we had a campfire by the pond, made s'mores, played Chubby Bunny and Denali looked for snakes.

Sarah Mickle spent Thursday afternoon cooking with us. She taught us how to make gluten free cookies and cheesecake. They were scrumptious. We also decided to make our own pizzas for movie night. There was a dispute over some pizza dough ingredients, but in the end, we came to consensus.

We discovered a new board game this year called *Settlers of Catan*, and spent a lot of our down time sheep trading.

Our service project was pretty awesome. We helped re-shingle the small greenhouse behind our dorm with Adult Young Friends. The farm sheep watched us work. Danielle placed a red shingle on the roof among the black and green ones for Scattergood to remember her by. She will visit it in future years.

It was sad that our canoe trip was rained out on Friday, but Leonardo DiCaprio saved the day.

On the farm, we tasted really, REALLY delicious raspberries and corn. One un-named Young Friend tried to forage for carrots, but was unable to find any.

We sat in on two evening programs with the greater meeting and are thankful to the Entertainment Committee for the work they did finding speakers.

This week has been a great experience. Lots of memories have been made. And we look forward to returning next year.

Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) Young Friends

We were happy to hear the first epistle of our newly formed Adult Young Friends group. It was wonderful to hear of the many things they have been doing and we appreciate having them with us in our sessions. We are excited this group has been formed and we are looking forward to them helping us grow in Spirit as we continue to worship and work together in future years. We are happy to hear of their desire to connect with other young adult Friends in other yearly meetings and look forward to hearing more about this in the future.

EPISTLE FROM ADULT YOUNG FRIENDS

Dear Adult Young Friends from around the country,

Greetings from Iowa! Our group of AYF is in its first year of existence and this year has been a unique learning experience for our newly formed group. We had a grand total of five friends included in our group for the course of the week of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). Despite our small numbers we managed to have a wonderful time with the friends we had, each of us enjoying our yearly meeting experience.

Our week was filled with fun activities along with serious ones. The favorite games of the week were *Settlers of Catan*, Bughouse Chess, ping-pong, Ultimate Frisbee, foosball, and various card games. Most of our members stayed up late baking pizzas and cookies Friday night, while playing the fore mentioned games. For a service project with the Young Friends we aided Scattergood Friends School by repairing the roof of the campus greenhouse. We woke up bright and early at 5:45 Thursday morning and worked throughout the day, nearly finishing re-shingling the roof by dinnertime. The week was thoroughly entertaining, enjoying each other's presence in the sunshine and rain.

One of the goals of our group was to become more involved with the adult meeting. Along this line, two of our members involved themselves with the youth programs (JYM), while we all enjoyed serving on various committees throughout the week and enjoyed attending worship and business meeting. This taste of adult meeting was unexpectedly rewarding and refreshing. Although we did not verbally participate in business meeting or worship, we felt this yearly meeting was an excellent learning experience on the mechanics of Yearly Meeting.

We would especially like to thank the meeting for inviting and letting Zachary Moon (an AYF leader) present at IYMC this year. He was an inspiring figure for us with a powerful evening presentation.

In the future, we hope to build off of the experience of this year and hope to have more attendees from our age group at future IYMC annual sessions. Our group would greatly appreciate some contact with other AYF groups from around the country!

With love and light,

The Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) Adult Young Friends

We listened to the report of the Audit Committee and Yearly Meeting treasurer, including the statement for the FY ending 6/30/2010. We are reminded that it is helpful to the treasurer if monthly meetings can send apportionments quarterly or semi annually and not at the end of the year.

Concerning the funds for the Youth Weekend, the committee was laid down. We encourage the Representatives to include a line item of \$500 in the FY 2010–2011 budget so if Young Friends would like to have a retreat there will be some funds available, and we ask the Representatives to consider further how best to approach concerns expressed, particularly around support of youth and adult travel. We appreciate the work of the auditors and especially Yearly Meeting Treasurer, Jim Kenney.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

We have examined the Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) treasurer's books for the 2009–2010 fiscal year, and find them to be in good order. We appreciated the work of the Treasurer, Jim Kenney, in keeping the accounts of the yearly meeting and preparing a report for these annual sessions.

Jim Cottingham and Cheryl Sutton

YEARLY MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010

It has been a deep joy for me to experience at an intimate level the collective wisdom of our yearly meeting expressed in the heart wrenching decisions we make each year as to which of the many ministries seeking our financial support can use our limited resources most creatively. These last couple of years have been especially challenging as the ministries we support stand in ever greater need at the same time most if not all of our monthly meetings find it more difficult to maintain prior levels of giving.

As a result of these pressures the funds available for ministry at the beginning of each fiscal year has been decreasing the last several years. We began this last fiscal year with \$12,889 and now have only \$7,266 to begin the next fiscal year. As we have heard, Scattergood has experienced major financial challenges but continues to provide a powerful ministry through the vision it implants in its students preparing them to be a blessing to a world much in need of that vision.

In order to maximize the funds available to our Scattergood ministry I have recommended to the representative committee that we eliminate two of the three reserve funds we have been maintaining and budget these expenses yearly. This will give us an additional \$4,351 for next fiscal year's budget which will be presented this afternoon.

The attached 2009–2010 fiscal year budget which will be distributed provides the details of our last year's operations and will hopefully

provide a basis for considering the next year’s budget. I will attempt to answer any questions you may have as we consider collectively these important decisions.

Jim Kenney, Treasurer

**Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative)
Statement of Cash and Funds
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2010**

Cash balance July 1, 2009	\$19,855.66
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Receipts

Monthly meeting contributions	\$57,051.50	
Interest earned	46.12	
Total cash received		\$57,097.62

Disbursements

2009–2010 expenditures for budgeted items	\$62,720.31	
Less transfers to funds:		
FWCC Triennial Travel Fund	–700.00	
Young Friends Travel And Conference Fund	–500.00	
Total cash expended		\$61,520.31

Cash balance June 30, 2010	\$15,432.97
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General funds available for 2010–2011 fiscal year	\$7,265.98
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IYMC Reserve Funds

FWCC Triennial Travel Fund (balance 7-1-2009)	\$3,115.55	
Added this year (from page 1*)	700.00	
Spent this year	0.00	
Balance 6-30-2010	\$3,815.55	
IYMC Youth Weekends (grades 4–9):		
Balance 7-1-2009	\$1,381.27	
Added this year (from page 1*)	0.00	
Transferred to contingency fund	0.00	
Balance 6-30-2010	\$1,381.27	
Young Friends Travel and Conference:		
Balance 7-1-2009	\$2,470.17	
Added this year (from page 1*)	1,000.00	
Spent this year (not shown on page 1*)	–500.00	
Balance 6-30-2010	\$2,970.17	

Total reserve funds (balance 6-30-2010)	\$15,432.97
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*of the 2009–2010 budget
[Recommend we eliminate all possible reserve funds.]

We listened carefully to the report of the Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee – Part II. We appreciate the love expressed in the report. We understand that although our letters to senators and representatives may not actually be read by them, they are our testimony and their careful crafting by Peace and Social Concerns Committee is appreciated. We were reminded that we can also send letters on these concerns as monthly meetings and individuals and strengthen our witness. We are grateful the Peace and Social Concerns Committee helps us maintain a strong commitment to peace and justice issues. We are reminded that Friends have been addressing the government since the days of George Fox. We approve the report and the proposed letters and agree to seek to come under the weight of the proposed minute on immigrations. We are reminded we need to do more than just send letters to the government on these concerns. We are invited to make these concerns real in our own lives, carry them to our meetings, and engage in conversations with others as we can. We ask the Yearly Meeting clerk to forward the letters to the monthly meetings so we can also send letters as monthly meetings and individuals if led. Friends are encouraged to consider sending letters to representatives and senators to Ginger and Jim Kenney, who will make sure through the FCNL that they are hand delivered. Materials are also available from the AFSC Denver office that can assist us in having discussions in churches on welcoming the stranger.

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT – PART II

“For when I was hungry, you gave me food; when thirsty, you gave me drink; when I was a stranger you took me into your home; when in prison, you visited me.”

Matthew 25:35

IYMC Friends have continued this year to help feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, shelter the homeless, and visit prisoners. Our numbers are small, but a blessing that comes from small numbers is that each of our monthly meetings must join with their neighbors to share in the wide variety of work we are called to do.

Friends have reminded us this week that the most obvious conflict between the laws of our nation and our religious convictions is the use of our tax money. There is no easy resolution of the problem of the largest portion of our taxes being used for military spending versus Friends testimony on peace. We are torn between taking responsibility for the benefit that our tax dollars bring to our state and nation, and the reliance on military power in any conflict situation.

Our addiction to military spending causes suffering both far away and for those of us here at home. We see the need for a public discussion regarding the fact that there seems to be limitless funds for endless war making, while at the same time we are told there is no money to educate our children, feed and house our residents, ensure good basic healthcare for all, or maintain the infrastructure of our communities.

Because of this, we support the new project of Iowa AFSC partnering with the National Priorities Project in a campaign to build a grass-roots movement to change the priorities of our national budget. With the information available from www.nationalpriorities.org, Friends can educate themselves and their neighbors on how our military spending could be put to better use. We encourage members to support this campaign that gives people the necessary information to go to their city council and insist that the money squandered on war needs to be redirected toward the very real needs left untended at home.

* * * * *

The recent Supreme Court decision in *Holder v. The Humanitarian Law Project* holds that groups providing peaceful advocacy for organizations and countries labeled as “terrorist” by our government are in violation of the related Patriot Act provision. This decision has a direct affect on all groups that work for peace through other than military means. We find this criminalization of peacemaking to be antithetical to the history of the traditions of the Religious Society of Friends. It is a remarkably shortsighted strategy. After all, we do not attempt to make peace with our friends but with our enemies.

We ask the Yearly Meeting to send the following letter to our elected representatives asking them to change the Patriot Act to specifically exempt peacemaking and humanitarian aid from its reach:

Dear Senator _____:

The recent Supreme Court Decision, *Holder v The Humanitarian Law Project*, held that it is constitutional for the United States government to arrest persons and organizations involved in violence prevention activities with countries and groups listed as supporters of terrorism. Peacemaking is held to be “material aid” to a terrorist organization under the terms of The Patriot Act, even if it is in support of peacemaking activities. We of the Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) of the Religious Society of Friends strongly object to the criminalization of our peace-making activities aimed at making the world a better and safer place for all people. We ask that you work to amend the Patriot Act so that Peace and Humanitarian work is allowed and encouraged.

The goal of the peace work is to teach people who feel violence is their only option, a different way. We find the argument that teaching different ways to resolve conflict to people who don't practice it frees up their other funds to support terrorist activities to be foolish. It is hard to imagine that these groups already have designated peacemaking funds ready to be redirected. The idea is to show them a better way. The criminalization of peacemaking activities serves no practical end and only guarantees that more and more conflicts will be settled with rapidly escalating violence.

The Religious Society of Friends has been involved in peacemaking and violence prevention throughout its over 350-year history. We take seriously Jesus' instructions to love our enemy and attempt to live our lives in a way that reflects this truth.

* * * * *

Like the rest of our country, IYMC Friends are grappling with how to deepen our understanding of the many aspects of immigration issues. We feel it is important that we engage in loving and respectful dialogue with our neighbors about this subject.

We offer the following minute for approval:

“Do not oppress the alien, for you know how it feels to be an alien; you yourselves were aliens in Egypt.”

Exodus 23:9

We deplore the current climate in this country that encourages us to look upon our immigrants with fear and blame them for many of our problems. It is important that each of us become more versed in the issues present in the dialogue taking place across this country on immigration, so that we may help change the climate from one that is based upon fear, to one that will let us “see what Love can do.”

* * * * *

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee also requests that the following letter be sent to our elected representatives on behalf of the Yearly Meeting.

Dear _____:

We, the Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends (Conservative), request that Congress reform our immigration system. At present, our laws are arbitrarily enforced, and people who migrate here to work and become a part of our society find themselves unjustly punished.

As it was true for many of our ancestors, immigrants continue to come to this country for economic needs or fleeing persecution. Our

history shows how people from all over the world have brought their diverse cultures, perspectives, and resources to this land, and the wealth of creativity, innovation, and opportunities that have resulted continues to enrich our lives and communities today.

It is important that there be reasonable avenues for workers to migrate to the U.S. We urge you to support HR 4321, *Comprehensive Immigration Reform for American's Security and Prosperity Act of 2010*. This legislation is a start on creating a fair system that allows people to immigrate here lawfully. It also begins to provide a fair way to handle the millions of undocumented immigrants who are already here.

We ask you to work to ensure safe and legal ways for people to immigrate to this country, for the mutual benefit of us all.

**Peace and Social Concerns Committee
Budget**

The Peace and Social Concerns budget of \$1,100 included no carry over from the previous year. These are the requested disbursements for the upcoming year:

Alternatives to Violence Project	\$ 100
(to be split evenly between Iowa and Nebraska programs)	
AFSC Central Region (for Immigrant Voice Program)	50
Frontera de Cristo (for Agua Prieta Migrant Center)	95
Friends Peace Teams (for Peacemaking en las Americas)	100
Iowans Against the Death Penalty	35
Nebraskans Against the Death Penalty	35
Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty	35
Friends for a Nonviolent World	150
Monteverde Friends School	50
Ramallah Friends School	100
National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund	50
Quaker Earthcare Witness	100
National Religious Campaign Against Torture	100
Catherine McAuley Center	100
Total contributions	\$1,100

Our committee has met without our beloved Olive Wilson who passed away this past year. Olive was a tremendous guiding force for all of us, and her spirit is strongly felt whenever we gather. We learned a lot

from her and she will not be forgotten. This prayer by Freda Rajotte encompasses much of the spirit that Olive embodied for us all:

O Lord, I don't want to be a spectator
A tour passenger looking out upon
the real world
An audience to poverty
And want and homelessness.

Lord, involve me – call me –
Implicate me – commit me –

And Lord – help me to step off the bus.

Olive stepped off the bus. We are grateful for her help in showing us the way.

For the committee,
Deborah Dakin

We appreciate the report of the Ministry and Counsel Committee. We felt the Spirit moving throughout the report. We appreciate the ministry of Deborah Fisch in the world. We are blessed to have had her service as Yearly Meeting clerk. We are pleased at the attention to fellowship as a first step to strengthening our meetings. While we would not choose to see the diminishing numbers of IYMC membership, we are encouraged to look to this as an opportunity to strengthen the core of our spiritual center by nurturing one another.

We are grateful for Ruth Dawson's service as acting clerk of Ministry and Counsel in the absence of Alberta Kisling.

MINISTRY AND COUNSEL REPORT

In the absence of Alberta Kisling, clerk, the committee assembled and following a short period of worship, sought an acting clerk for the week's meetings. Ruth Dawson has served in this capacity.

The committee was asked by the clerk of Iowa Yearly Meeting, (Conservative) to be mindful of the shared ministry of our meetings for business where we listen carefully to the reports and respond as we are led by the Spirit. It is an important completion of the tasks at hand.

We were both cheered and concerned at the reading of the State of the Meeting Reports. There are a few common themes that bring to mind the loss of dear members this year, balanced by the joyous addition of

newcomers or Friends returning to meetings. The challenges of maintaining buildings and memberships, of attracting new families, of providing appropriate education for both children and adults, of nurturing spiritual growth at various levels of seeking and sharing, and careful structuring of meetings for business, the variety of ways the Advice and Queries are used, all are apparent as we read. We were uplifted to learn of many outreach efforts and the expanding range of intentional care being given to lessening use of natural resources in our meeting places and homes.

On Fifth Day we were privileged to hear Deborah Fisch present her annual report concerning her work with Friends General Conference as Associate Secretary for Programs and Traveling Ministries. Financial strains have meant cutbacks of funds and staff and reorganizing so that all ministry programs may be continued. Deborah has traveled 133 days since last Yearly Meeting, making many trips to Philadelphia to work out details of the restructuring required. She also visited nine different yearly meetings. Search for a new general secretary continues with expectation of appointment by next summer.

An excerpt from her report regarding the Traveling Ministries Program: “My hope and vision for the Traveling Ministries Program is that in the next few years we come more under the weight of supporting Friends called to gospel ministry. I would define this as traveling to meetings for the joy of worship and fellowship, seeking how the Spirit is prospering among Friends and sharing with meetings in ministry if led. One of the things we gain when Friends travel in the gospel ministry is that those traveling get to learn from those they are visiting, get an overview of where God might be inviting Friends to move as a faith community, and gain insights to share with other meetings they visit and their own. It is a circular ministry for going out and returning home.”

Deborah’s message to IYMC includes a caution about dwindling numbers in our meetings, that we not name that as a problem, but rather as the outcome or a symptom. “Small numbers of faithful people have changed the world. If we spend too much time focusing on size, fear of dwindling membership can keep us from living into the people God is calling us to be . . . let us consider how to better minister to those of us who are in our meetings. . . .” That should include the members who live at a distance or who rarely attend; nurturing fellowship is important in deepening the love and respect we come to have for each other.

In her report, Deborah speaks about how we may be shaping our meetings around our way of living, instead of looking to our meetings to shape us and change how we live in the world as Friends. Meetings for worship and the fellowship, outreach and business of our meetings provide the center around which to establish priorities for ourselves and

our families; this may not be easy or convenient. She concludes with this thought: “The good news is that we know we are hungry as individuals and as meetings for more connection with God and each other. We want to reclaim a sense of calling and purpose and we are beginning to do it together.”

Deborah’s humility in following the leadings of the Spirit underscores the great faith that she demonstrates and we were warmed by her heartfelt sharing of experiences. We are grateful for her service and wholly support her work. She will continue to carry a travel minute from IYMC.

We, as a committee, are considering ways in which IYMC may strengthen our bonds of mutual care through intentional intervisitation among meetings. We will be taking this opportunity back to monthly meetings for leadings and will revisit the idea at Midyear Meeting. Ministry and Counsel members have been asked to share ideas and responses meantime with each other.

Ruth Dawson, acting clerk

We close the morning session to reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

**SEVENTH DAY – SATURDAY – 7/31/2010
AFTERNOON SESSION**

We resume the business of Yearly Meeting.

Beware of betraying the just and the innocent in you . . . with a form and profession of the Truth, without the life, and so betray your own souls. . . . Now, Friends, deal plainly with your selves, and let the eternal Light search you, and try you, for the good of your souls; for this will deal plainly with you; it will rip you up, and lay you open, and make all manifest which lodges in you.

—Margaret Fell

Michael Taylor and George Bergus have been appointed as readers this afternoon.

We listened eagerly to the State of the Meeting Reports forwarded to the Yearly Meeting by Yearly Meeting Ministry and Counsel. Listening to the reports is one of the highlights of the Yearly Meeting in session. The discipline of writing them is important to us. We hold tenderly the losses of beloved members and the concerns shared by the meetings,

even as we find joy in the reports of continuing faithful work within our meeting communities.

STATE OF THE MEETING REPORTS

Ministry and Counsel has read the State of the Meeting Reports and heard many common themes: the importance of spiritual community; joy and vitality brought by new or returning Friends; outreach in peace and social justice issues; usefulness of the queries; appreciation of families and children; concern about declining numbers, energy and resources; the paucity of vocal ministry.

Ames Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Our separate spiritual lives meet each other at our meetings for worship and the common lunches that follow. The few of us who are able to come regularly connect in deep ways.

Some of our members travel often so we cherish those times when most of us gather at the meetinghouse.

Vocal ministry is infrequent but nourishing when it arises.

Meetings for business are sparsely attended. The discipline of answering queries deepens our connections with one another.

On the whole, our spiritual condition is adequate, but we feel that it would be improved if we could find ways for more of our members and attenders to regularly take part in the making of our community.

Bear Creek Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

This has been a difficult winter for our small rural meeting. It has been a special challenge for those living close to the meetinghouse just to shovel enough snow away to get the doors open. There were Sundays when the roads were so bad meeting was not held.

A web site is being developed for Bear Creek and this has presented all kinds of possibilities. What do we say that explains who we are and what we believe to those who don't know us? This is an exciting tool for "outreach" and a pathway to the future use of technology. It may also help distant members participate more in the work of the Meeting and draw them closer to us. Some ways to improve these connections might include sending business meeting minutes and newsletters, query responses, announcements, etc., to distant Friends. Interaction would be more effective if you can get people involved. Perhaps people could be alerted of which query is to be considered, when, to allow others to send

in their response prior to the meeting's discussion. More people might be included in committee work if their participation could be mainly via email or telephone. The meeting's website could be used for communication and sharing. It is also useful "in reach" as we examine our history and our core belief.

We have had some distressful undercurrents on occasion with several members feeling unhappy, hurt, and not in harmony with the meeting. We are trying to be more respectful and honest in our communication with each other.

Our members are very active in supporting Quaker organizations, advocating for women, children, and community and peace-building efforts, but we are searching for what God intends for our meeting. Other meetings are growing—we are not. We don't want to be bound up in ourselves. We want more local community involvement. We want the Quaker Cottage to be available to the community and others. We now have heat in it and hope IYMC committees will make continued use of it. We are seeking to find what the needs of others are and what we can do to help. What is the Spirit asking us to do? How can we be a beacon and a refuge?

Trust the Lord with all your heart
Lean not on your own understanding
In all your ways, acknowledge Him
And He will direct your path

Proverbs 3:5–6

Decorah Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Decorah Friends have continued to worship, study, work, and enjoy fellowship with each other. After worship each week, we share joys and sorrows, and gather for refreshments or potluck. We welcome visitors to our worship and other activities.

Our youth continue with service projects and religious education with adult guidance. Adults have explored a variety of enriching topics during our meeting for learning. We visited the Laughing Waters Worship Group, attended the Driftless Area Friends retreat, and attended Midyear and Yearly Meeting.

We labored over how to best use our resources of time and money to support individuals and causes that need assistance. Members are involved with the Decorah Area Faith Coalition activities and our ongoing response to the needs remaining as a result of the ICE raid in nearby Postville in May 2008. We have cared for the meetinghouse and

the environment by making energy efficient improvements, and we all rejoice that a large part of the back yard was converted to garden space.

Decorah Friends cherish the spiritual nurturing that is created and shared in the meeting.

Des Moines Valley Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Des Moines Valley Friends Meeting continues to have strong attendance and involvement by people of disparate ages and from a variety of backgrounds. We acknowledge that the Spirit moves through us in different ways and we seek to embrace those differences for the enrichments they offer.

We have a small but committed group of Friends who coordinate meaningful education programs, discussions and other activities both for our First Day School (for younger Friends) and for our Quaker Teens group. The Quaker Teens have spent much of the past year exploring what it means to be a conscientious objector.

We continue to strive to be welcoming to new attenders who may have little or no experience with the Religious Society of Friends. At the same time, we are careful to avoid proselytizing to or overwhelming visitors.

We continue to provide support for some longtime members. In one case, we seek to both help meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of the individual and also to do the same for his family members. For another member, we serve as “family,” being the primary contact and advocate for her care. These experiences help heighten our appreciation for the struggles that many elderly individuals and their families face trying to navigate and access the most appropriate types of care and supportive services.

We recently held a clearness committee for a couple requesting to be married under the care of the meeting in August. We look forward to helping with plans, participating in their wedding, and taking them under our care as a couple.

We also recently hosted a memorial service for a founder of our meeting, which brought together family, along with folks from a variety of different social networks with which she had been active. There was much to celebrate as these diverse people shared reflections of this Friend’s life.

Another couple has entrusted us with a document outlining their wishes for memorial services to be held under the care of the meeting at the times of their deaths.

We appreciate being able to come together as a spiritual community. Each of us is nurtured through collective worship, by the process of conducting meeting business together, and by the many opportunities we have to provide comfort, assistance, support and Friendship to each other—both inside the meetinghouse and in the wider community.

Iowa City Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Meeting for worship continues to be the core of our spiritual life as a meeting. Vocal ministry, though seldom, is always welcome and thoughtful, sometimes uplifting. One of the queries is shared concluding meetings for worship on the first Sunday, which has prompted discussion and sharing of experiences. Other Sundays we close meeting for worship with “After Thoughts,” a time for those in attendance to express concerns or messages not spoken earlier.

Attendance at meetings for business has been good this year. Two of the teen-agers are providing childcare for the young ones so their parents can be a part of the business. We welcome having the older children join meeting for worship during the last fifteen minutes each Sunday and enjoy hearing their reports. As a part of their exploring other faiths, groups of young people from two area congregations have visited our meeting and participated in First Day School.

On potluck Sundays there have been speakers from within our meeting or from others: three sessions on Quaker history, one on Quaker unity, one on what happens during meeting for worship, one on issues of conflict and curfew in Iowa City, which prompted a letter to the editor of the local newspaper.

The energy and experience of newcomers this year has stimulated and strengthened our meeting and we are blessed by their presence in many areas. We hold in the Light those who have been less able to attend due to illness and continue to seek ways in which to help in their care.

In July 2009, two Friends who had been married in 2008 under the care of the Urbana-Champaign Monthly Meeting repeated the ceremony under the care of our meeting. This was the first marriage under our care since the Iowa Supreme Court’s marriage equality decision. Since the couple had close family ties in Iowa City, and because the 2008 flood had prevented much of the family from attending their first wedding, the second ceremony had the benefit of enabling the family to participate, as well as providing legal recognition for the marriage. The couple exchanged vows and signed the certificate in the course of a regular First Day meeting for worship—a return to the custom of Friends before

separate marriage ceremonies became common. This was a truly joyful occasion for our meeting.

Lincoln Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Lincoln Meeting continues faithfully to gather for worship and friendship. Our group seems to be a bit smaller this past year, but we continue to worship and share our lives.

Our families with young children have not attended for some time now; however, we have a college student who joins us regularly and brings thoughts and ideas of a younger generation. Our meeting has also been blessed with the return of members who had been away.

One of our long-time members, who had been a strong presence in our meeting, died last June after a long illness. Her memorial service brought together family, friends and colleagues who all shared their experiences and memories during a worship service in the manner of Friends. Her spiritual influence is greatly missed.

Another long-time member is now under hospice care. She has always been an enthusiastic presence, contributing a lot of artistic creativity in her work with both children and adults, and she is also missed.

One of our former members who had been away for many years has returned to Lincoln, along with her partner. Both of them have brought strength and vitality to our group.

Recently we started peer groups meeting on a regular basis for spiritual health and support; so far, one group is active. A small group gathers weekly to read books together; this, too, strengthens our community. We continue to challenge ourselves to deepen our spiritual lives with discussions, sharing, books and meeting for worship.

Omaha Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Our Friends meeting has begun meeting for worship and business at a yoga school in downtown Omaha. The atmosphere felt a bit strange to some of us at first, but we have settled into it, and it now feels like ours when we are there. The sharing of space with another community feels appropriate for a meeting of our size, and the business location has proved less intimidating to visitors than the private homes in which we met before.

We continue to have a stable, solid core of members and long-term attenders, but have been blessed this past year by the presence and

energy of a few new attenders, as well. This is especially welcome since our children are now all off at college or living on their own.

Our meetings for worship are mostly silent, with minimal vocal ministry. We are largely content with this state of affairs, since our main hunger each First Day is for the worship, and our ministry to one another's needs continues to happen outside the formal hour of worship. While some of us feel insufficiently spiritual in ourselves, our worship together is an appreciated spiritual time.

Several of us have expressed good feelings about our second-hour activities. A major addition in the past year has been second-hour Bible study. We seem to have a great deal to bring to the text from our own lives and experiences, and this has proved a good way to open up and to learn a broader wisdom from one another.

We feel that our meeting has become less a formal institution than it was, and more a mutual support group on the Path, and this seems right for us at this time. Several of us have been going through major changes in our lives. We have felt quite comfortable in laying our personal problems and challenges before the Meeting.

Our connections as individuals to other worshipping bodies, both inside and outside the Society, continue to enrich us.

Paullina Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Paullina Monthly Meeting is sadly adjusting to the loss of Olive Wilson and the aging and declining health of long time members. We are blessed to have the sound of a small child in meeting for worship more often now, due to the return of young meeting families to the community. They are the future of the Meeting.

Our second Sunday monthly business meeting begins with lively and insightful answering of the query of the month, before addressing the business of the Meeting.

Individual meeting members are active in various local and national organizations involved in peace and social issues, especially Peace Links. Every Thursday the quilting group still meets in the Community Building although there are fewer of them.

Fourth Sunday meeting and potluck have been especially well attended. There is added vitality when people from Sioux Falls Worship Group are able to be with us. We appreciate the dedication of many members who drive long distances to participate in the life of the meeting.

Penn Valley Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Our meetinghouse is 103 years old and often creaks and crumbles from age, but inside it (and on the porch when the air conditioning fails) we feel rather like a solid community. Partly this comes from having two new members and several dependable new attenders, who bring to us strong spiritual lives and the willingness to share, and partly it may result from lots of chances to spend time together.

For years, we've been struggling with the question of outreach, "How do we let people know we exist without becoming obnoxious proselytizers?" Inspired by Quaker Quest, we decided to offer a class through *Communiversi*ty, Kansas City's grassroots classroom. Our intent was to inform, not to persuade, and apparently we succeeded on the latter, because none of our first "students" has come to meeting! But those who participated or helped us rehearse learned a lot about putting our practice and spirit into words and are eager to do it again.

As our worship is pretty quiet, we may be more aware of each other's outer paths than our inner ones. However, query discussions and business meetings are often lively and well attended, giving opportunities to share on many levels. Our activities, such as the annual retreat, forays into neighborhood activism, cooperation on the peace pole (nearly finished after perhaps ten years of slow progress) and work days have given us plenty of quality time together.

Certain concerns come up repeatedly. We saw in the symposium, "Awakening the Dreamer; Changing the Dream," that care for the earth is a spiritual as well as practical concern, on which indigenous people can inspire us. We show our concern in ways that range from growing and preserving our own food to political activism. Our meetinghouse borders on troubled neighborhoods, and we trying to find out if there are ways for us to be genuinely helpful there.

As a community, we continue to try to recognize our differences and commonalities and to hold each other in love and Light.

West Branch Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Amanda Patton and Steve Karaniklas of New York City will be married under the care of the meeting in the Hickory Grove Meeting House on the campus of Scattergood Friends School in July. We are delighted to be part of this happy event.

The local food group in our meeting continues to cooperatively grow, harvest and preserve beets, tomatoes, peas, corn and green beans for their

winter enjoyment. The Earth Care Working Group, made up of people from the Iowa City Friends Meeting, the West Branch Friends Church, and our meeting, also continues to be active in educating us about how we can better care for our planet. We are grateful for the testimony of these Friends among us.

In the spring, we found unity to approve a minute recognizing that gays and lesbians have the same rights as any other couples to request marriage under the care of the meeting. The process of finding clarity on this issue has been a long one, periodically requiring patience, listening, and care for each other. We find peace in having reached resolution.

We are a smaller group than we used to be. Sometimes we are barely a dozen people gathered for worship. We are saddened and somewhat puzzled by this attrition. Many members are retired and now travel more, and some families have moved away. We have few young families to attract other young families to the meeting. We have made a concerted effort to focus on a special First Day program for the fourth Sunday of the month, hoping the activity would attract a larger group of children at one time. Success has been mixed, but we will continue our efforts. We might find it helpful to talk about what is happening to our membership.

Worship nonetheless continues to be a special and blessed time for us. The sense of care and abiding respect within the meeting reminds us of our dependence upon the presence of God among us. We are grateful.

Whittier Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

One of our dear members, Jim Bromwell died this past year. Being an integral part of his final journey was a profound experience for each of us in Whittier Meeting. His presence is still deeply felt when we gather together.

In worship each week, we feel a sense of fellowship and caring for each other, including those who are unable to attend on that particular day. This feeling of caring stays with us throughout the week. We welcome anyone who feels drawn to Quakerism to share this with us.

We are keenly aware of suffering in the world, and help in small ways as we are able. We realize anew that war is not the answer.

We would enjoy the fellowship of inter-meeting visitation, and hope opportunities arise for that in the upcoming year.

Each one of our attenders and members is vital to our community. Meeting for worship offers a precious clearing to renew and replenish our selves amidst the busyness of our individual lives, and helps us seek those moments when, as Howard Brinton reminds us, “. . . waiting upon

the Lord is not an intellectual theological concept, but a living experience.”

Yahara Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting

Many of us attended Yearly Meeting in 2009 and came away refreshed and affirmed after we became an established monthly meeting. In the fall, we received news that our meeting would have to move once again. Our meeting has had at least six homes since we started worshipping together in 2002. In January, we moved to the Episcopalian student campus center, St. Francis House. We hosted a small open house in April and enjoyed the company of Friends from West Branch and Madison meetings and some people from the area who dropped in. The lack of a permanent meeting space has been the most significant barrier to our ability to deepen our roots and grow our meeting.

We are very well served by our clerk, who is dedicated to the meeting. We feel blessed by his attention to detail, as well as his spiritual sensitivity, which help us to function as a close knit group. Sometimes our size seems precariously small. We would like to join in more inter-visitation with other monthly meetings and the Laughing Waters Worship Group in Minneapolis.

Yahara Friends is doing well and we look forward to a more active outward ministry in the months and years ahead.

We heard the Yearly Meeting Recorders Report. We ask the Yearly Meeting Recorder to add a column for a net summary of gains and losses of the membership as a yearly meeting in future reports.

We are reminded that sometimes long-time attenders are only waiting to be invited to join our meetings. We thank the Yearly Meeting Recorder for the faithful service he gives the yearly meeting.

We paused from our business to turn to a time of waiting worship in memory of those who have passed away since last we gathered. We have treasured their lives in IYMC and their love will continue in our hearts.

RECORDER REPORT

Deaths

Iowa City	Myrtle Aydelotte	January 7, 2010
Paullina	Olive (Tjossem) Wilson	February 20, 2010
	Ray McCracken	April 20, 2010
West Branch	Virgil Smith	March 16, 2009**
	Nathan Coppock	Sept. 21, 2009
	Alice Marie Smith	Jan. 25, 2010
Whittier	Gordon Moore	September 22, 2006**
	Jim Bromwell	September 11, 2009

**Deaths in prior years, not previously reported

Births

None

Marriages under the Care of the Meetings

Iowa City	Chris Hansen to Jonathan Holm	July 5, 2009
	Repetition of ceremony held June 14, 2008 under the care of Urbana-Champaign Meeting.	
Paullina	Kathryn Jacoby to Deborah Fisch	September 5, 2009
	Held at Bear Creek under the care of Paullina Monthly Meeting. Reaffirmation of promises made in civil ceremony June 13, 2009.	

New Members by Request or by Certificate of Transfer

Ames	Earl Canfield	Certificate from Langley Hill
	Johanna Canfield	Certificate from Langley Hill
Iowa City	Harry Olmstead	Certificate from Birmingham, Alabama
	Jessica Pannell	Request
	Sam Pannell	Request
Lincoln	Jean Eden	May 2010 (Certificate from Yahara†)
Paullina	Inez Schaechterle	Request
Penn Valley	Elizabeth Sperry	December 6, 2009 (Request)
West Branch	Glenn Singer	September 13, 2009 (Request)
Yahara	Penny Majors	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Karen Greenler	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Scott Greenler	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Thomas Greenler	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Jean Eden	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Lorene Ludy	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Ken Lawrence	August 11, 2009 (certificate‡)
	Steve Deatherage	September 13, 2009 Certificate from DeKalb
	Elizabeth Crom	Sept. 30, 2009 Certificate from Madison

‡Transferred from West Branch to Yahara, then from Yahara to Lincoln

‡Members of Yahara Preparatory Meeting who transferred from West Branch upon the establishment of Yahara Monthly Meeting

Meeting	Births	Deaths	Certificates of Membership Received (Transfers In)	Memberships Transferred Out	New Memberships Granted	Memberships Discontinued	Total Membership
Ames	0	0	2	0	0	10	21
Bear Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
Decorah	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Des Moines Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	71
Iowa City	0	1	1	0	2	2	58
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0	0	24
Omaha	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Paullina	0	2	0	0	1	0	75
Penn Valley	0	0	0	0	1	0	70
West Branch	0	3	0	9	1	0	88
Whittier	0	2	0	0	0	0	40
Yahara	0	0	9	1	0	0	8
Totals	0	8	13	10	5	12	555

We heard the report of the Yearly Meeting Representatives. We approve the budget and the report with much gratitude to the Representatives for the work they have done on our behalf, especially in helping us give additional support to the school. We appreciate the work of the Ad Hoc Clerk Search Committee and Deborah Dakin's willingness to step into service of this beloved yearly meeting as clerk. We feel the weight of the needs of the Yearly Meeting around budget. We thank the assistant clerk for her service and willingness to continue as assistant clerk.

Minuted by the Yearly Meeting: Words are inadequate to express Yearly Meeting gratitude for many years of faithful service by our clerk, Deborah Fisch, but there are two we can use, in simple Quaker manner, "Thank you."

REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

The largest change in the proposed budget this year is an increase of 10,000 dollars to Scattergood Friends School. This represents a sizeable increase in the budget, but the Representatives feel that the school is the most important witness of the yearly meeting. One-half of this increase is

offset by the elimination of two one-time contributions to the Postville Fund and Cedar Rapids Flood Fund. Because the current economic situation affects many of our monthly meetings, we were hesitant to approve an across-the-board increase in apportionments. We relied instead upon generous offers from some of our monthly meetings to increase their apportionments.

We suggest that the amounts accumulated in the IYMC Youth Weekends Fund and the Young Friends Travel and Conference fund be released into the general reserve in case those funds become necessary to cover the gap between the amount raised by apportionment and the portion of the budget actually spent. The line item for Young Adult Travel will remain and a line item for possible youth weekends will be added.

We understand that this budget places a considerable strain on our cash reserves with the possibility that they could be drained to a zero balance. Because we anticipate our support of Scattergood to be ongoing, we encourage discussion in our monthly meetings around their ability to increase apportionments for the yearly meeting in the coming year and in other ways that they might support Scattergood Friends School. As Conservative Friends, we do not have the same expense that many others do, not having to maintain a budget capable of supporting pastors and other staff, instead a large portion of our ministry is through Scattergood Friends School.

**Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative)
Budget for Fiscal 2010–2011**

Contributions

American Friends Service Committee	\$ 1,000
Friends Committee on National Legislation	1,000
Friends General Conference	200
Iowa Peace Network	1,000
Friends World Committee for Consultation	1,000
Nebraskans for Peace	500
Friends Peace Teams	500
National Religious Committee Against Torture	100
Pendle Hill	500
Peace and Social Concerns Committee	1,100
Quaker United Nations Office	200
Right Sharing of World Resources	200
Scattergood Friends School	50,000
William Penn House	300
Total Contributions	\$57,600

Delegate Expenses

FCNL	\$1,300
Friends Peace Teams	1,300
FWCC, General	1,300
FWCC, Triennia	700
Quaker Earth Care	700
Total Delegate Expenses	<u>\$5,300</u>

Yearly Meeting Expenses

Archives Committee	\$ 200
Clerk's and other administrative expenses	400
Committee expenses (other)	500
Conscientious Objector PSC subcommittee	100
Iowa Yearly Meeting Trustees	1,000
Junior Yearly Meeting	1,500
IYMC Youth Weekends	500
Young Adult Friends	100
Young Friends	1,700
Special Needs Committee	500
Publication Committee	3,000
Quaker youth camp scholarship	500
YM Entertainment Committee (if receipts inadequate)	1,000
Midyear Planning Committee (if receipts inadequate)	1,000
Contingency Fund	1,000
Young Friends Travel and Conference	1,000
Total Yearly Meeting Expenses	<u>\$14,000</u>
Grand Total	<u>\$76,900</u>

Monthly Meeting Apportionments

	Percent	Dollar Amount
Ames	6.37	\$ 3,812
Bear Creek	8.68	5,200
Decorah	1.62	968
Des Moines Valley	20.14	12,060
Iowa City	6.76	4,048
Lincoln	8.34	4,988
Omaha	5.24	3,136
Paullina	10.33	6,188
Penn Valley	8.35	5,000
West Branch	17.89	10,716
Whittier	4.68	2,800
Yahara	1.62	968
Total Apportionments	100.00%	\$59,884

We received the report of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee to suggest a name for a new clerk for Iowa Yearly Meeting. We thank the committee for its work and concur with their recommendation of Deborah Dakin as the next clerk for Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). We thank Deborah Fisch for her many years of service to the yearly meeting, eight years as assistant clerk and twelve years as clerk. We welcome Deborah Dakin to the clerkship and realize that as Yearly Meeting members it is incumbent upon us to provide her with our full support as she takes on this new role.

AD HOC NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Representatives suggest the following Friends to serve the yearly meeting in the coming year:

Clerk	Deborah Dakin
Assistant Clerk	Deborah Fink
Treasurer	Jim Kenney
Assistant Treasurer	Burt Kisling
Statistical Recorder	Tim Shipe

We propose that the next annual sessions be held at Scattergood Friends School from Seventh Month 26 to Seventh Month 31, 2011.

We suggest Beth Wilson to break meeting on First Day.

For the Representatives,
Jonathan Fisch, clerk

We heard the epistles to Friends Everywhere, North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Conservative and Ohio Yearly Meeting prepared by the Epistle Committee. We appreciate the work of the committee and approve the reports.

EPISTLE TO FRIENDS EVERYWHERE

7/31/10

To Friends Everywhere:

Greetings from Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative), where Friends from monthly meetings and worship groups in Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Kansas and Minnesota are gathered for our 133rd annual session on the beautiful campus of Scattergood Friends School. We meet for our daily sessions of worship with attention to business in the Hickory Grove Meetinghouse which is now the school meetinghouse. The Scattergood School Farm contributes fresh produce for our daily meals, while our Young Friends contribute to the farm with a service project re-shingling the greenhouse.

At this year's annual sessions we are preparing to welcome next year's Annual Gathering of the Friends General Conference on the campus of Grinnell College in Iowa. In our opening session, Iowa Friends related their experiences of participating in the FGC Annual Gathering. We were challenged to reflect upon what it means to be Conservative Friends, and how we relate now to our historic practice of complete dependence on the Spirit in both worship and ministry. The spiritual practice of our meeting finds daily expression in the morning meetings where the business of the yearly meeting is considered in a prayerful search for unity.

We find hope as we listen prayerfully to reports from our monthly meetings, responses to the Advices and Queries, the minutes from Adult Young Friends, Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting, and the reports from delegates and representatives to Friends' national and international organizations. In the face of the challenges of war, environmental degradation, the exploitation of labor, and the persecution of immigrants at home and abroad, we discern the ways in which the Spirit

is at work in the world today. As the main ministry of Yearly Meeting, Scattergood Friends School holds a special place in our hearts, and we search for ways to strengthen and nurture its work under the direction of its new Head. A special joy comes from hearing the annual report of Scattergood Farm, with its growing networks of outreach into the broader community. In the early morning, we gather for Bible study in hopes of reading the Bible as early Friends did, and after our evening collection, we gather for song.

In keeping with the theme of this year's meeting, "Tapping into God's Love," our evening collections included a presentation by Katherine and Ken Jacobsen on "How do we practice the way of love together as Friends?" Later in the week, Maia and Ken Tapp and Ken Jacobsen presented "The Prayer of the World" using poetry, photography and song. Friday's collection featured Zachary Moon speaking on "Here I Am, For You Called Me: Faithfulness Beyond the Already Secured."

May the love and joy of God's Spirit bless you in the coming year.

On behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative),
Deborah Fisch, clerk

EPISTLE TO OHIO YEARLY MEETING

7/31/2010

To Friends of Ohio Yearly Meeting:

Gathered on the campus of Scattergood Friends School in our 133rd annual session, we heard prayerfully the reading of your epistle from your 2009 yearly meeting. We join you in the celebration signs of growth and spiritual life among Conservative Friends, and rejoice at the presence this year of visitors affiliated with Ohio Yearly Meeting: David Eley, Mark Conovan, and Katherine and Ken Jacobsen. Ken and Katherine presented an evening collection on "How Do We Practice the Way of Love Together as Friends?"

At this year's annual sessions we prepare to welcome next year's Annual Gathering of the Friends General Conference on the campus of Grinnell College in Iowa. In our opening session Iowa Friends related their experiences of participating in the FGC Annual Gathering. We were challenged to reflect upon what it means to be Conservative Friends, and how we relate now to our historic practice of complete dependence on the Spirit in both worship and ministry. The spiritual practice of our meeting finds daily expression in the morning meetings where the business of the Yearly Meeting is considered in a prayerful search for unity.

We find hope as we hear reports from our monthly meetings, responses to the Advices and Queries, the minutes from Adult Young Friends, Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting, and reports from delegates and representatives to Friends' national and international organizations. In the face of the challenges of war, environmental degradation, the exploitation of labor, and the persecution of immigrants at home and abroad, we discern the ways in which the Spirit is at work in the world today. As the main ministry of the yearly meeting, Scattergood Friends School holds a special place in our hearts, and we search for ways to strengthen and nurture its work under the direction of its new Head. A special joy comes from hearing the annual report of Scattergood Farm, with its growing network of outreach into the broader community. In the early morning we gather for Bible study in hopes of reading the Bible as early Friends did, and after our evening collection we gather for song.

Our annual meeting has been strengthened by the presence of visitors from Ohio Yearly Meeting. Mindful of our common heritage as Conservative Friends, we look for opportunities for intervisitation in the future.

In loving Friendship and on behalf of the yearly meeting,
Deborah Fisch, clerk

**EPISTLE TO NORTH CAROLINA YEARLY MEETING,
CONSERVATIVE**

7/31/2010

To Friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Conservative:

Gathered on the campus of Scattergood Friends School in our 133rd Annual Session, we heard prayerfully the reading of the letter from your 2010 yearly meeting. We join you in the celebration of signs of growth and spiritual life among Conservative Friends.

At this year's annual sessions we prepare to welcome next year's Annual Gathering of the Friends General Conference on the campus of Grinnell College in Iowa. In our opening session, Iowa Friends related their experiences of participating in the FGC Annual Gathering. We were challenged to reflect upon what it means to be Conservative Friends, and how we relate now to our historic practice of complete dependence on the Spirit in both worship and ministry. The spiritual practice of our meeting finds daily expression in the morning meetings where the business of the Yearly Meeting is considered in a prayerful search for unity.

We find hope as we hear reports from our monthly meetings, responses to the Advices and Queries, the minutes from Adult Young Friends, Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting, and reports from

delegates and representatives to Friends' national and international organizations. In the face of the challenges of war, environmental degradation, the exploitation of labor, and the persecution of immigrants at home and abroad, we discern the ways in which the Spirit is at work in the world today. As the main ministry of the Yearly Meeting, Scattergood Friends School holds a special place in our hearts, and we search for ways to strengthen and nurture its work under the direction of its new Head. A special joy comes from hearing the annual report of Scattergood Farm, with its growing network of outreach into the broader community. In the early morning, we gather for Bible study in hopes of reading the Bible as early Friends did, and after our evening collection, we gather for song.

Members of our meeting have found spiritual nurture in visiting your annual meeting in the past. Mindful of our common heritage as Conservative Friends committed to waiting worship and ministry under the leadership of the Spirit, we look for the way to open for intervisitation in the future.

In loving Friendship and on behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting
(Conservative),
Deborah Fisch, clerk

We listened to the good letter to the IYMC Friends not able to be with us at these annual sessions, prepared by the Special Replies Committee. We approve the letter as amended.

LETTER TO ABSENT FRIENDS

Dear _____,

We send loving greetings from Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). This year, we find our yearly meeting in the midst of great change.

One large part of that change is generational. Many of the beloved older Friends we leaned heavily on in years past were not present for this year's session; new Friends stepped forward, but how we missed our old Friends' voices! We are heartened, as always, by the many young friends among us, and are especially excited that our new Young Adult Friends group is already reaching out to Young Adult Friends nationwide!

Our clerk, too, is changing. The Yearly Meeting will miss Deborah Fisch's unique gifts in facilitation, but is very pleased to have Deborah Dakin as her successor!

As you may know, Scattergood Friends School faces grave challenges: severely decaying physical facilities, low faculty salaries, and

financial records that have become confused due to years of fairly rapid administrative turnover. In this last year, the school has also suffered from the nation's economic troubles, which temporarily interrupted the School Foundation's ability to contribute to scholarships and underwrite the costs of urgent repairs.

In the midst of this, we bade a regretful farewell to Scattergood's Interim Head of School, Ginny Winsor, but welcomed her successor, Christine Ashley, who brings an impressive combination of energy, determination, and skills to the position, and seems an excellent choice to tackle the work ahead.

At this pivotal time, we have also pondered Friends General Conference's decision to hold its 2011 Gathering in our figurative backyard at Grinnell College. It will be a welcome opportunity to meet and learn from Friends from elsewhere, but it will also be an opportunity to introduce ourselves to them.

We have asked ourselves, prayerfully, what we might have to share with such Friends. Two things seem clear: *First*, that our yearly meeting has something very unusual, both in the depth of its careful attentiveness to the guidance of the Spirit, and also in its deep roots as a stable community of Friends for many generations. *Second*, that Scattergood School is a unique example of a Friends educational program grounded simultaneously in the Spirit's guidance, in community, and in the earth. These are our treasures!

We have had some fascinating evening collections this year. Katherine and Ken Jacobsen, of Ohio Yearly Meeting, presented a three-step approach to prayer that many of us found very helpful. Maia and Ken Tapp, of Northern Yearly Meeting, shared an evening of prophetic poetry joined with striking photography. Zachary Moon, of Pacific Yearly Meetings, took us on a journey through the calling of the young prophet Samuel.

We, too, feel ourselves called.

We have greatly missed your loving presence and your gifts at this year's sessions, and hope that this separation will not be too long extended! And we all hold you in our love.

On behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative),
Deborah Fisch, clerk

We received the nominations for Yearly Meeting committees and our representatives to wider Quaker organizations from the Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee. We approve the report with appreciation to the committee for their work.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Committees and Representatives to Other Quaker Bodies

2011	2012	2013
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Archives Committee

Mikel Johnson	Daniel Treadway	Jeff Cox
Tim Shipe	Herbert Standing*	Inez Schaechterle

Document Committee

Yahara Monthly Meeting

Entertainment Committee

Ames	Decorah	Paullina
Des Moines Valley	Whittier	Omaha
Penn Valley	West Branch	Lincoln
	Yahara	
	Iowa City	

Yearly Meeting Young Friends Planning Committee

Sarah Mickle	Jules Galusha	Karen Greenler
Debbie Galusha*	Scott Greenler	Flossie Cox

Junior Yearly Meeting (for Yearly Meeting)

Danielle Black Eyes	Carol Gilbert*	Carol Spalding Kruse
Jean Sandstrom	Elizabeth O’Sullivan	Cheryl Sutton

Interim Meeting (appointed by monthly meetings)

Carol Gilbert*	Omaha	A.M. Fink	Ames	Lorene Ludy	Yahara
Larry Marsh	W. Branch	Alice Hampton	Whittier	Bill Deutsch	Decorah
Cheryl Sutton	Bear Creek	Kathy Day	DM Valley	Lois Tjossem	Paullina
Ebby Luvaga	Ames	Richard Johnson	BearCr	Deborah Fisch	Paullina
Marge Schlitt	Lincoln	Dixie Collins	Whittier	Cindy Winchell	DM Valley
Catherine Dorenbach	Lincoln	George Bergus	W. Br.	Ruth Dawson	Iowa City
Martha Davis	Decorah	Megan McCormick	Yahara		
Gordon Bivens	Ames				

2011	2012	2013
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Book Table Committee

Beth Wilson	Martha Davis	Liz Oppenheimer
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Midyear Planning Committee

Betty Young	Christina Kieltyka	Mikel Johnson
Megan Knight	Wanda Knight	Stan Sanders*
Osa Bricker	Winifred Standing	Roy Hampton
Jackie Leckband	Marion Love	Lorene Ludy
	Christine Kelly	A.M. Fink
	Ruth Dawson	

Junior Yearly Meeting/Young Friends (Midyear)

Cindy Winchell	Mikel Johnson	Megan Knight
Jackie Leckband*	Michael Taylor	Hana Norval
Patty Wengert*	Jules Galusha	
Anna Wiegel		

Ministry and Counsel Committee (appointed by monthly meetings)

Carol Gilbert	Christina Kieltyka	Karoline Jarr
Alberta Kisling*	Catherine Dorenbach	Andrea Holveck
Dorothy Rogers	Chloe Wagner	Judy Plank
Doyle Wilson	Gordon Bivens	Martha Hampton
Dixie Collins	Rebecca Bergus	Penny Majors
Martha Davis	Megan Knight	Marshall Massey
Marge Schlitt		
Ann Stromquist		

Publication Committee

Lynda Fife	Callie Marsh	Margie Haworth*
Steve Deatherage	Ruth Dawson	Ken Lawrence (Web master)

Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Cindy Winchell	Sherry Hutchison*	Judy Plank
Echo Ray	Jim Cottingham	Winifred Standing
Herbert Standing	Jim Bruner	Jackie Leckband
Ian Taylor	Marian Solomon	Rachel MacNair
Mark Patton	Quinn Dilkes	Lori Nelson
Ann Stromquist	Deborah Fisch*	Jesse Leckband
Ken Lawrence	Emma Deutsch	
	Bob Yeats	

2011	2012	2013
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Pendle Hill Scholarship Committee

Roy Hampton* Wilmer Tjossem Jean Eden

Religious Education Committee

Judy Cottingham* Bill Deutsch Marshall Massey

Scattergood Friends School Committee

Illinois YM and Northern YM are also invited to name a representative to the committee.

Terms end after School Committee's September meeting

Frank Griffith	Debbie Galusha*	Doyle Wilson
George Bergus	Ruth Dawson	Claire Cumbie-Drake
Dan Schlitt	Callie Marsh	Robert Winchell
Megan Knight	Lorene Ludy	Russ Leckband

2011	2012	2013	2014
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Scattergood Friends School Foundation Trustees

Gordon Bivens	Lowell Wilson	Robert Yeats	Barb Garlinghouse
Richard Johnson	Jim Dietz-Kilen	Larry Marsh	Pam Avery

2011	2012	2013
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Special Needs Committee

Joey Giffen-Hunter	Echo Ray* Sherry Hutchison	Harry Olmstead
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2011	2012	2013	2014
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Yearly Meeting Trustees

Roy Hampton	Jim Cottingham A.M. Fink*	Beth Wilson	Jonathan Fisch
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IYMC Representatives to Friends Agencies

2011	2012	2013
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AFSC Corporation Members

Rebekah DeWild	Lori Nelson Ann Stromquist, alt.	Robert Yeats Dan Schlitt
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2011	2012	2013
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Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

Jonathan Fisch*	Alberta Kisling	Deborah Fink
Rebecca Bergus	Nathan Tomer	Ian Taylor

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

Cindy Winchell	Ebby Luvaga	Penny Majors
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Iowa Peace Network

Rebekah DeWild

William Penn House Consultative Committee

Jim Kenney	Alberta Kisling*
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Friends Peace Teams Advisory Board

None named

Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee

Jeff Kisling	Ken Lawrence
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Adult Young Friends

Ian Taylor	Michael Taylor*	Jules Galusha
Karen Greenler	Nick Jacoby*	

Outreach to Friends General Conference Gathering Committee

Lorene Ludy*	Joey Giffen-Hunter	Marshall Massey
Megan McCormick	Nick Jacoby	

CLOSING MINUTE

“Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, “Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?” But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.”

Deuteronomy 30:11–14

“And this is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

John 15:12

As has been our practice for the past 133 years, we have gathered once again to take up the business of this beloved yearly meeting. Separated from the interstate and the busy world by only a long sound barrier, the campus of Scattergood Friends School provides both a place of safe haven for us to “tap into God’s love” together, and a means for us to reach out to the world through the ministry provided by the school’s staff and the School Committee.

During the week, we have been reminded that when tapping into God’s Love, we engage in a three-part practice that includes release and surrender of those things that block the Way, coming together to receive what we need so we can step into the Stream, and then offering what we have received to each other and the world. Perhaps it is like a plant that grows its roots down at the same time as it shoots up to the Light. Somehow, these three things don’t happen in succession, but at the same time.

During times of worship and fellowship, gathered under the great tree in front of the Main, in conversations at the meal table and over dishes, pots and pans, during our many committee meetings and during business sessions, we have spoken of our fears and hopes for our world, our meetings, our school, and our families and released, them at least for a time, to the care of each other, and the Divine. We have felt the impact of the absence of beloved Friends from these annual sessions, and in sharing our memories in worship and quiet conversations have noticed that their love continues.

During Bible studies and collections, during worship and through interest groups and the hearing of committee reports, at late night singing and around bon fires, in the laughter of the young children and loving presence of high school and adult young Friends, in the tender mentoring of our beloved elders, we have received encouragement and hope that help us root and ground our faith yet deeper in Love.

Through sharing and laboring with each other, we are beginning to find ways to better support Scattergood during this time of change and concern for the future. Through the simple act of being more mindful of each other, we are finding ways of assisting each other in daily tasks so that all of us can more easily participate in the life of the blessed community. Through encouragement and loving challenge, we dare to promise ourselves and the Divine that we will look for ways, however small, to change the way we are living in the world, so we can walk more gently on the Earth. We do not anticipate it will be easy, but we will continue to encourage each other, and trust that in seeking together, Way will continue to be made more clear.

And now, as the business of the Yearly Meeting nears completion, our time together once again comes to a close, and our thoughts begin to turn toward home. However, our work is not done, it is only beginning. We have news, joy and encouragement to share with Friends at home who could not join us this year. We will have the opportunity to welcome our brothers and sisters of faith at Friends General Conference Annual Gathering in Grinnell next summer. And, we will doubtless find opportunities in our homes, in our meetings, in our work and at play to continue to “tap into God’s love.”

We now conclude our 2010 annual sessions, planning to meet again, God willing, at Scattergood Friends School near West Branch, Iowa Seventh Month 26 to 31, 2011.

Deborah Fisch, clerk
Deborah Fink, assistant clerk

Reports received but not read in annual sessions

EXERCISE COMMITTEE REPORT

Recordings of the exercise of the Spirit, vocal ministry, given during the week:

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus said, “my brethren are those that hear the word of God and do it.” In Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Jesus speaks about the Word of God. In John, he speaks *as* the Word of God. “You are my friends if you do what I command.” Dear Friends let us hear and do what God commands during these days we are together.

I am comforted to be finding Center with Friends in this small meetinghouse next to the interstate. My American mind is like this interstate. Some of my thoughts have to get to New Jersey, others to California. But Love is here, not going anywhere. Perhaps we can find peace right here in this small meetinghouse next to the highway.

Usually I try to get here early and have the wonderful experience of people coming in and settling into worship. It’s like slowly wading into a swimming pool on a hot day, gradually acclimating until you realize you’re floating. Coming in early today, I realized I had forgotten to select helpers to hold the microphones, so I left to do that and then came back in. Coming into a room that had already settled was like jumping into a swimming pool on a really hot day and I thought, “Aahh! Thank you! Just what I needed.”

A worship service starts when the first person comes in and begins to center, and continues with its full intent only when the last person enters and centers.

Today I hear the Presence. A few years ago, when I first came to Scattergood, I felt embraced and loved. Some know that my mother died a few years ago, and that my pain lasted a long time. In my pain, I could not hear the Presence, although I knew it was there and had never left me. That is true for us all: the Spirit never leaves us even when we do not know it is there.

Worshiping at Santa Cruz Meeting some time ago, I looked up at another worshiper and was struck by how beautiful she was that morning. As I looked at other worshipers, I saw that they were all exceptionally beautiful that day. I realized then that in God's eyes we all look that beautiful all the time.

I have faith in what I cannot prove, but which, deep down, I know is true. Some things I cannot comprehend, but I can experience. I struggle for the faith to surrender so that Christ may dwell in my heart. If we try only for what is knowable, we limit ourselves. With faith, we can go beyond knowledge.

In pre-modern times, the community, not the individual, was emphasized. Great works of art went unsigned, and we have no way of knowing who created them. With our culture's heavy emphasis on the individual, the notion that grace lies within the Meeting, and not the individual, is a re-centering.

When we try to learn to swim, we try to keep our head above the water, from a survival instinct. But we really need to fully immerse ourselves, to become comfortable in the water. To learn about the Spirit, we often stay too much in our heads, too much in the rational, the intellectual. But it is better to let yourself sink, to get fully immersed, and to let your mind and body, your entire self, be bathed in the Spirit.

It can be hard to stay in that place of releasing and receiving when we are receiving a message that is hard to hear.

I'm jealous of Samuel in that the story relates his struggle to figure out the source, Eli or God, of a single voice that was speaking to him.

God speaks to me through multiple voices. My struggle is to discern which of the many voices I hear are carrying God's messages.

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Northwest Yearly Meeting has a "Samuel School," where adults mentor children to help them learn how to distinguish God's voice from other voices. We need to do that for each other as often as we can. Each of us is either a prophet or a potential prophet.

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There is a danger in telling the dramatic Eli and Samuel story. We can't expect everyone to have a "middle of the night" experience. The prophet Jeremiah spoke of a time to come when everyone would hear God's voice. The Inward Teacher has been speaking to us all of our lives, and we must listen.

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In Scripture, Jesus said "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." We are all children, and each of us is afflicted with something in need of a blessing. So, let us all come as children to the Promised Land and receive the milk and honey freely available to all. Let us hope that someday the whole world will be gathered into joy, into Light, into that which is lasting and eternal.

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Lord thank you for your presence. Thank you for being among us. I can feel you here. Praise you. Fill our hearts with joy, God. Eliminate the obstacles that keep us from the paths we should go. Oh holy one! Oh holy one! Oh holy one!

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What has been with me this past week is joy: the joy of being faithful; the joy of being in community with loving friends; the joy of seeking together; the joy of being called. The words of George Fox come to me: to "walk cheerfully over the Earth, answering to that of God in everyone." I sometimes carry a concern to welcome young families with children to our Meeting. They will come if they can see us walking joyfully as carriers of the love that is in each person.

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One of the Bible passages this week was from Ephesians and spoke of comprehending the breadth and length and height and depth of God's love. My experiences this week have definitely reinforced that message.

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I came into this building alone one day this past winter, when I was on a brief task. The moment I entered this room I was engulfed by extraordinary living silence that was so full and deep that I could only pause

the moment the door closed behind me and I stood in this space. I am positive we are blessed by the loving presence not only of the Holy Spirit but also of all the souls who have gathered here, who have sought here. I am sure they are with us now.

Exercise Committee

Ginger Kenney, Jean Sandstrom,

Nick Jacoby, Steve Deatherage

Report updated after worship on 8/1/2010

Written versions of reports given Fourth Day Afternoon

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION REPORT

We were very fortunate to have had Joe Volk come to Iowa right after FCNL Annual Meeting in November for a week-long ambitious Peace Tour. He addressed religious leaders, congregations, foreign relation councils, and was interviewed on the radio and by newspapers. He talked about the Iraq and Afghanistan wars; the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; social, economic, and justice issues, and reached a wide audience.

Joe joined FCNL in 1990 after working for eighteen years for AFSC. He has lobbied congress to support peaceful prevention of deadly conflict and, last year, FCNL successfully lobbied for a Complex Crisis Fund for the State Department and USAID that will provide civilian agencies with much needed funds to help prevent and mitigate crisis. He and his staff are working to build support with key Senators for ratification of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) signed by the U.S. and Russia to reduce the number of deployed nuclear weapons in each country. He and his staff have consistently lobbied to support the CLEAR Act that would put a price on carbon emissions, refund pollution revenues to consumers, and not favor one technology or industry over another. Since 2001, FCNL has worked to end the war in Afghanistan and this year collected 6,500 signatures asking for an exit strategy; these were personally delivered to Congress. FCNL has worked hard for health insurance reform; the legislation President Obama signed in March is not perfect but a step forward.

Joe will retire from FCNL in February and a search committee is working to find a replacement. He has been a strong, effective executive secretary and will be greatly missed.

Much work by FCNL has been done this year in regard to the mid-term elections. What happens in this election could determine what the

FCNL community is able to accomplish in 2011 and beyond. One hundred thousand FCNL “Questions for Candidates” brochures have been distributed. FCNL is a non-partisan organization working to keep people involved. We need to channel the disgust of people to work for healthy change and not abandon the government to powerful money and special interests. Questions about greed on Wall Street, no regulation on oil rigs in the Gulf and ever increasing amounts of our tax dollars to fight wars need to be addressed.

FCNL has placed special focus for two years on “Our Nations Checkbook” Campaign. Representative Alan Grayson introduced a House bill: “War is Making You Poor” Act, which makes a direct link between war funding and poverty. FCNL is working to persuade more members of Congress to cosponsor this legislation.

Two valued staff members recently left. Legislative Secretary for Foreign Policy, Jim Fine, has moved to Irbil, the capital of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region in Iraq to oversee the Mennonite Central Committee programs in Iraq. Devon Helfrich, Legislative Secretary for FCNL’s Sustainable Energy and Environmental Program, has been accepted to the Technology and Policy Program at MIT.

Many FCNL donors have made a commitment to increase their annual giving by 25% for the next three years. This increase is essential because other donors have been unable to maintain their giving as a result of the recession. With this action and by FCNL staffing cuts and budget restraints, FCNL is financially “holding our own.”

FCNL is grateful for the continued strong support of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative).

Submitted by
Alberta Kisling, FCNL General Committee Member

**A BRIEF REPORT FROM THE
CENTRAL REGION OF THE AFSC**

July 2010

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from AFSC’s Central Regional Office. It’s a pleasure for me to visit with you once again about the good work of Friends and AFSC’s ongoing programs for peace and justice.

It’s no secret that the past year has seen more than its share of problems. Among them, the economic crisis continues to impact people around the globe. Like many non-profits, AFSC was forced last fall

to make a number of painful staff and program cuts. We now face heightened challenges with fewer resources.

I'm pleased to report, however, that our spirits have not been diminished. Across the Central Region, Friends and other volunteers continue to team with AFSC staff to do remarkably creative work for peace and justice. We're not naïve enough to think we'll change the world tomorrow; we simply won't let cynicism and conventional wisdom keep us from moving toward the world we all envision.

Additionally, I am excited to report that we have appointed a new General Secretary, Shan Cretin. Shan has been the regional director for the Pacific Southwest Region for 7 years and has many years of work in healthcare quality improvement in places like rural China, the Middle East and Alaska. She also has a history of working with organizations to improve and implement effective planning processes. We're very excited to have Shan play this new role at the AFSC.

Below is a quick look at some of our work over the past year. As always, I warmly invite your feedback and thank you for your continued support.

Building Peace

AFSC continues to work hard to hold President Obama to his pledge to withdraw all U.S. combat troops from Iraq by August 2010 (and all U.S. troops and bases by the end of 2011). When President Obama was considering additional troops for Afghanistan, AFSC led the chorus of voices urging him to reconsider; in the end, he sent fewer troops than many predicted.

Throughout the year, we've continued to highlight the many ways in which excessive military spending robs our communities of the funds we need to meet human needs. We're continuing to make the sorts of connections and build the kinds of alliances which we'll need to transform our national budget into one which builds, rather than threatens, peace.

In Kansas City, AFSC has hosted two such forums. The first brought health care experts and advocates together to examine the link between excessive military spending and inadequacies in our health care system. The second forum looked at the \$700 billion Pentagon budget in an era in which half of the public schools in Kansas City are closing due to funding shortfalls.

Up Interstate 35 in Des Moines, where budget cuts threatened hundreds of teachers, AFSC spontaneously organized a vigil to welcome U.S. Secretary Arne Duncan with the message that our communities need money for schools, not more war. Duncan said he agreed with our message.

Meanwhile, our peace work with young people is expanding, and what a blessing it is to experience their excitement and share their passion with you. Across the nation, AFSC offers young people education on organizing, media work, and program design. In return they bring to our work creativity and energy. Have you heard about “Organize the Hope”? Fifteen AFSC Peace Fellows have been working on thirteen campuses in seven states, including Missouri and Iowa. Near Des Moines, our pilot project is at Central College, where we recruited two young men whose life experiences led them to this fellowship.

Marshall, whose parents are from Mexico, is passionate about making a space where all students can feel welcome and safe in sharing their opinions. Omer, who collected plastic bags to raise money for his family in a refugee camp in Sudan, wants to help his friends and the public know that “war should never be the answer.” A survivor of terrible violence, Omer’s witness for peace is personal. With AFSC’s help, Omer and Marshall organized a series of events on campus to educate students and faculty about peace issues. Their group even won an award for best campus organization!

Educating and Advocating for Immigrant Rights

AFSC’s insistence that “No Human Being is Illegal” continues to be tested in our nation’s wrenching debate over immigration. In the face of Arizona’s new law legalizing racial profiling and the continued nationwide detention and deportation of immigrants, AFSC brings immigrants and allies together to advocate for comprehensive reform, reunification of families, and fair treatment of all people.

For over a year now, our Colorado Immigrant Rights Program has been leading interfaith vigils outside an immigrant detention center. Each day, 400 immigrants are detained without due process in prison-like conditions in Aurora, Colorado, often for months at a time. At a recent vigil, a man being detained put a homemade sign up to the window that said “Thank You,” expressing to the crowd his appreciation for our continued presence and witness.

In Iowa, our work with immigrants takes a different shape. An immigrant from Mexico, Sandra Sanchez directs our Immigrants Voice Program and its educational and advocacy efforts. Because the federal government has generally moved away from large workplace raids and towards quieter but equally troubling door-to-door arrests, Sandra is focusing more on presenting Know Your Rights workshops and helping other immigrant advocates adjust to new realities.

Meanwhile, the legal services component of IVP, directed by Jody Mashek, continues to meet a critical need for affordable paperwork which unites refugee and immigrant families. This program helps over

1,000 people each year from over 50 countries. If you're ever in Des Moines, please stop by Friends House on a Tuesday afternoon (during our legal services walk-in hours) to experience the beautiful diversity of newcomers to our state.

Sonia Tuma, Regional Director

Submitted by Christine Sheller IPN Volunteer, who could not be present but did submit the following report:

IOWA PEACE NETWORK REPORT

This has been an eventful year for Iowa Peace Network. It has been a year of re-visioning our mission and choosing priorities for IPN to continue its peace witness in this day. As might be known, IPN did some restructuring over the last year due to budget cuts. After many years of renting from the Friends House in Des Moines, IPN moved its office last summer to the Stover Memorial Church of the Brethren, 4100 6th Ave in Des Moines (50313). There is a very nice space for an office, a resource center and small group meetings. We continue with the same phone number (515) 255-7114. We also now receive mail at the Stover Memorial Church address. We moved from a paid-half-time coordinator to a quarter-time volunteer-coordinator, paid on stipend.

Christine Sheller served as coordinator August 2009 through May 2010. She is a student at the Church of the Brethren school, Bethany Theological Seminary in Richmond, Indiana. She was able to complete her ministry formation (supervised ministry placement) with IPN this year.

Major projects of the year included publishing two *Dovetails*, IPN's newsletter, and planning and hosting an alternative gift fair for the holidays and IPN's annual open house, as well as completing a Penalty Sharing request. The alternative gift fair and annual open house were held jointly on December 6, 2009, at the Stover Church. IPN collected over \$670 in donations including sales on pottery and other items. Pottery was thanks to IPN supporter and Earlham Friend, potter Russ Leckband. The PSC request was completed and processed in February 2010.

Other activities of IPN this year include several things. During the holiday season, in addition to its own alternative gift fair, IPN tended tables at two additional gift fairs: one at the United Methodist Church in Eldora also hosted by Ivester Church of the Brethren, and the other in Cedar Falls at the Unitarian Church. Additional contacts were made at

these events, as well as fundraising. In December, IPN co-sponsored the prayer service for peace in Iraq and Afghanistan hosted by the Des Moines Area Ecumenical Committee for Peace held the 28th.

Iowans for Diplomacy with Iran, a group meeting in Des Moines, resumed meeting over the winter; IPN has been kept up to date with their activities and participated in conversation surrounding this group's energies and planning. In February, IPN co-sponsored a candlelight vigil for the 1,000th U.S. combat troop death in Afghanistan, organized by Catholic Peace Ministry and Students Against War. The coordinator also attended a state-wide roundtable meeting in February on vision and hopes for planning a state-wide peace conference.

In March, IPN co-sponsored the International Women's Day event in Des Moines, hosted by Iowa United Nations Association, and hosted an informational table there. Also in March, IPN co-sponsored the annual Palm Sunday peace service and Procession for Peace hosted by the Des Moines Area Ecumenical Committee for Peace. Also this spring, IPN coordinated with Just Peace Outreach Group (JPOG), a Mennonite peace group in Eastern Iowa, to host IPN supporter Weldon Nisly, in Kalona on Saturday, April 10, to share about his return trip to Iraq this January, after being there with Christian Peace Teams in 2003. His talk was titled "Return to Rutba: Modern Good Samaritans in Western Iraq."

The coordinator attended several peace events in the Des Moines area throughout the fall, winter, and spring as well as the Bethany seminary Presidential Forum on the social and spiritual movements of the Brethren, Mennonites, and Friends. She was also able to visit and speak in several churches this spring. E-mail calendars of peace events were sent out monthly or bimonthly. We continue to need your support to continue work for peace in Iowa.

A new coordinator will be hired for the summer, and continued funding is needed for a part-time salary. We covet your ideas and support as we continue to walk together on the path of peace.

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE REPORT

Hospitality is an integral part of what we do here at William Penn House and has been the main focus of our mission since the Cory's opened their home to young peace protestors in 1968. We provide a space for conversation, a place of welcomeness, a bed and a breakfast and get out of the way so new things can happen.

Faith Kelly
William Penn House Hospitality Coordinator

A new kind of work camp is being offered July 26–August 15. Two weeks will be spent at Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and one week in Washington D.C. exploring the history, present, and future relationships of Friends and Indians.

An Eco-Workcamp was held June 22–July 27 with activities that explore the environmental issues of our times and ways to make a difference. *The Art of Questions: Applications of Appreciative Inquiry for Social Justice*, a two-day work camp exploring ways inquiry through open questions help to bring greater peace to the world as well as promoting justice and equality, was held in March.

Monthly potlucks are hosted the first Sunday of every month with a presentation/discussion facilitated by a Quaker. Recent subjects were:

Music and Ministry by Jon Watts of Pacifica Radio

Freedom of Speech by Grigsby Hubbard

Friends Women Association by Dr. Alexis Nibona

Quakers and Web 2.0 by Mary Crauderueff from Washington, D.C.

Parks and People by Steve Coleman

Interfaith Cooperation & the Politics of Climate Change by Chris Brown.

In a recent Penn Notes newsletter staff was asked to respond to how they “Let Your Life Speak,” Greg Wood spoke of witnessing in New Orleans. He came to realize witnessing is being fully engaged mentally and spiritually. He said, “People we serve are often more grateful for the relationship than the service.”

Byron Sanford, director of William Penn House is working, on nurturing the leadership of our youth:

- The average age of staff is 34 and dropping.
- The hospitality and work camp coordinators are in their mid-20’s.
- Five members of the board of directors are 30 or younger.
- We release our staff to travel among friends and allow them to serve our broader community by paying their travel and registration costs.

“If our Quaker faith is to grow and survive our youth must be engaged at all levels. We must ask younger Friends to serve, give them meaningful work and respect their decisions and approaches. We must recognize that with young people the past informs not dictates. We must accept that we will be challenged. Planting and nurturing the seeds of the future is our present work.”

The Committee requests a \$300 donation for support of this important Quaker facility.

For the committee,

Alberta Kisling and Jim Kenney

**SCATTERGOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL
BALANCE SHEET, JUNE 30, 2010**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
Hills Checking Account	85,454.29
Office Cash	710.00
Savings Account: Hills Bank	3,949.03
Trip	915.48
Total Checking/Savings	91,028.80

Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	74,564.88
Total Accounts Receivable	74,564.88

Other Current Assets	
Allowance for Bad Debt	-10,000.00
COBRA Subsidy Receivable	1,192.02
Other Assets: Westwood Account	27.49
Prepaid Bills	2,865.50
Total Other Current Assets	-5,914.99

Total Current Assets	159,678.69
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Fixed Assets

Automobiles	109,840.35
Buildings	3,369,723.03
Equipment	532,083.08
Land	239,870.25
	-
Accumulated Depreciation	1,942,155.00
Total Fixed Assets	2,309,361.71

Other Assets

Pledges Receivable	288,533.10
HJ Heinz Stock	1,815.24
Total Other Assets	290,348.34

TOTAL ASSETS	2,759,388.74
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	<u>50,024.50</u>
Total Accounts Payable	50,024.50

Credit Cards

VISA (Hills Bank)	<u>-169.29</u>
Total Credit Cards	-169.29

Other Current Liabilities

Due From/Due To Foundation	-4,796.48
Deferred Income	100,375.00
Deposits for Tuition and Housing	34,438.75
Due to Farm	8,000.00
Due to Student Bank	450.00
Interest Payable	230.13
Payroll: FICA	751.61
FWH	681.00
MCARE	175.76
SUP	260.00
SWHIA	201.00
Payroll Liabilities	3,165.91
Retirement Plan Liability	39,530.98
Notes Payable	<u>100,000.00</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>283,463.66</u>

Total Current Liabilities	<u>333,318.87</u>
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Total Liabilities	333,318.87
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Equity

Opening Balance	2,897,044.41
Net Income	<u>-470,974.54</u>
Total Equity	<u>2,426,069.87</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>2,759,388.74</u></u>
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The following guidelines did not arise from the Yearly Meeting sessions but are printed here for reference.

GUIDELINES FOR REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENTS FROM IOWA YEARLY MEETING (CONSERVATIVE)

The Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) treasurer makes all reimbursements for budgeted funds.

Clerks of Yearly Meeting committees that have approved budgets should submit bills for payment and/or requests for reimbursement directly to the Yearly Meeting treasurer. Receipts should be included when requesting reimbursements. Clerks are also responsible for giving names, addresses and clear instructions regarding to whom the check is to be written and where it is to be sent. For example, the clerk of the Publication Committee can send the bill for printing of the Yearly Meeting Minutes directly to the Yearly Meeting treasurer.

Members of committees with expenses that are reimbursable by the Yearly Meeting are asked to submit their receipts to the clerk of their committee who will then forward them to the Yearly Meeting treasurer. For example, someone from the Junior Yearly Meeting Committee may purchase supplies for the Junior Yearly Meeting. They should submit the receipt for those supplies to the Junior Yearly Meeting Committee clerk who will then forward them as approved to the Yearly Meeting treasurer.

Members of the Yearly Meeting who are **official representatives to a wider Quaker organization on** behalf of the yearly meeting, such as AFSC, FWCC, or FCNL, can submit travel expenses with receipts and/or documentation directly to the Yearly Meeting treasurer. Funds are disbursed on a first-come basis. Representatives are asked to visit with their co-representatives to get an idea of who expects to be traveling and what kind of assistance they might need from the travel funds. Traditionally, these funds are underused and we urge Friends to seek reimbursement if needed.

Friends seeking **to use unassigned budgeted funds**, such as the scholarship money available for Quaker Youth Camp, are asked to submit requests to the Yearly Meeting clerk for approval before April 1. After April 1, those seeking assistance will be informed of the amount available. Those seeking assistance for the first time will be given priority so that as many young people as possible have the opportunity to attend a Quaker camp. If no requests are received by April 1, the clerk will approve requests on a first-ask basis.

Unbudgeted requests: All requests for financial assistance not in the fiscal year budget should be submitted to the Yearly Meeting clerk,

who will consult with the Interim Committee clerk if action must be taken before the next annual sessions. If there is an urgent request, the Interim Committee, which conducts the business of the Yearly Meeting between sessions, may be called to meet.

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DIRECTORY OF MONTHLY MEETINGS AND WORSHIP GROUPS

Ames Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10 a.m. First Day

Business: 2nd First Day following worship

Location: 121 S. Maple, Ames, Iowa

Clerk: Betty Young, 1121 Harding Ave., Ames, Iowa 50010,
(515) 292-3801

Bear Creek Monthly Meeting

Pre-Meeting: 10 a.m. First Day

Worship: 11 a.m. First Day

Business: 1 p.m. 3rd First day

Location: approximately 3 miles north of Earlham, Iowa

Clerk: Jackie Leckband, 19186 Bear Creek Road, Earlham, Iowa 50072,
(515) 758-2232

Decorah Monthly Meeting

Pre-Meeting: 9:30 a.m. First Day, except in summer

Worship: 10:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. in summer) First Day

Business: Scheduled every six weeks

Location: 603 E. Water Street, Decorah, Iowa

Clerk: Marlene Ahouse, 1775 Silver Creek Road, Waukon, IA 52172,
(563) 568-3041

Des Moines Valley Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10 a.m. First Day

Business: 11:30 a.m. 2nd First Day

Location: 4211 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, (515) 274-4717
(answering machine)

Clerk: Claire Cumbie-Drake

Iowa City Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10 a.m. First Day

Business: 2nd First Day following worship

Location: 311 N. Linn Street, Iowa City, Iowa, (319) 351-2234
(answering machine)

Clerks: Tim Shipe, Jeff Cox, Karoline Jarr

Website: <http://www.iowacityfriends.org/>

Lincoln Monthly Meeting

Every Sunday: 10:30 a.m., Worship

First Sunday: Potluck after worship

Third Sunday: 9 a.m., Meeting for Business

Other Sundays: 9:15 a.m., Premeeting

Location: 3319 S. 46th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, (402) 488-4178

Clerk: Jean Eden, 5905 Wolff Lane, Lincoln, NE 68521, (402) 476-4948

Omaha Monthly Meeting

Worship: 9:45 a.m. First Day

Business: 11 a.m. 3rd First Day

Location: Please call (402) 553-2211

Clerk: Debbie Galusha, (402) 553-2211

Paullina Monthly Meeting

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m. First Day

Business: 9:30 a.m. 2nd First Day

Potluck and discussion follow worship on 4th First Day

Location: on U.S. 59, 3 miles east and 1.25 miles north of Paullina, or 5.5 miles south of Primghar, Iowa

Clerk: Doyle Wilson, 5541 A 400th Street, Primghar, Iowa 51245, (712) 757-3875

Assistant Clerk: Beth Wilson

Penn Valley Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10 a.m. First Day

Business: 1st First Day following worship

Location: 4405 Gillham Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64110, (816) 931-5256, fax (AFSC office) (816) 561-5033

Clerk: Shane Rowse, (816) 241-5821

Website: <http://www.kcquakers.org/>

Scattergood Friends School

Collection 8:10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,

Worship: 3:45 p.m. Tuesday

Community Meeting Friday, 3:10 p.m.

Location: 1951 Delta Avenue, West Branch, Iowa 52358, 2 miles east and a half mile south of West Branch, Iowa

All times above are while school is in session.

Please contact the school to confirm, at (319) 643-7600 or mainoffice@scattergood.org.

Head of School: Christine Ashley

Website: <http://www.scattergood.org/>

Sioux Falls Area Worship Group

Worship: 9 a.m. First Day

Business under the care of Paullina Monthly Meeting

Location: Dow Rummel Village Conference Room, 1321 West Dow Rummel, Sioux Falls, across Lake Street from the stadium

Contact: Anna Gieschen, 1101 South West Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57105, (605) 376-8863

West Branch Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10 a.m. First Day

Business: 2nd First Day following worship

Location: 317 N. 6th Street, West Branch, Iowa

Clerk: James Cottingham, 1996 Delta Avenue, West Branch, Iowa 52358, (319) 643-5949

Whittier Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10:30 a.m. First Day

Business: every two months at call of Clerk

Location: 3200 Whittier Road, Springville, Iowa 52336, 3 miles east of Highway 13 on County Home Road

Clerk: Deborah Dakin, (319) 895-8133,
or call Mary Mendenhall, (319) 393-6069

Yahara Monthly Meeting

Worship: 10:30 a.m. First Day

Business: 11:15 a.m. 1st First Day

Location: 1001 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, 53715
(Saint Francis House)

Mail: Yahara Friends Meeting, PO Box 14332, Madison, WI 53708-0332

Clerk: Ken Lawrence, (608) 242-9029

Website: <http://www.yaharafriends.org/>
