

*Simplicity * Peace * Integrity * Community * Equality * Stewardship*

OAK PARK FRIENDS
NEWS
May 2013



Longwood Gardens, PA

Photo taken by Renee Southworth

Oak Park Friends Meeting – Religious Society of Friends
720 Chicago Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60303
708-445-8201

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.oakparkfriends.org

Meeting for Worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Clerk – Helen Dickinson
Recording Clerk – Judy Erickson
Treasurer – Valerie Lester
Newsletter Editors – Pamela Timme and Bob Southworth
(<mailto:ptimme@hotmail.com>)
Submission deadline – 25th day of the month

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our dear friend of so many years, Carol Zimmerman, has walked on peacefully into spirit, on Tuesday morning, April 16th

Fletcher Gurney, father of Adrian Fischer has passed. Below is the obituary from the Chicago Tribune:

All who knew Fletcher B. Gurney, 81, will remember his loving spirit and many enthusiasms, including history, tennis and world travel. He was educated at Little Outfit, Southern Arizona [School](#) for Boys and [Beloit College](#). He had a stellar career in the chain industry and was on the Board of Rotary/One, where he also edited and wrote articles for the Gyrator. After he retired he served as an interpreter at the Chicago History Museum and volunteered for WITS and the Chicago Literacy Council. He is survived by his loving wife Margaret, seven children and their spouses, eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Donations may be made in his memory to the Rotary Foundation or the Chicago History Museum. A private memorial service was held in April.

Published in Chicago Tribune on March 15, 2013

Marti Matthews is planning a trip to Lebanon Valley College in central Pennsylvania for the Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology on Memorial Day weekend, May 24-27. If you would be interested in attending and travelling with her, please contact her at martim1234@sbcglobal.net. For more information on the conference, and to register, go to www.fcrp.quaker.org.

Third Sunday Sing-alongs - Join Friends every third Sunday of the month at OPAL at 9:40 am for fellowship through song

The Ministry and Care Committee want you to be aware that there is a suffering fund for those that need. Contact a committee member for details.

Paz is available for hire for jobs such as stenciling, signwork, yardwork, tuckpointing, brickwork, stonework, interior and exterior painting, and other odd jobs. Please contact him at 773-844-2977 for more information.

OPFM welcomes donations for the needs of the meeting which include the meeting space, activities and charitable giving. Donations can be mailed to Oak Park Friends Meeting, PO Box 3245, Oak Park, IL 60303.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see the meeting website at www.oakparkfriends.org for further information.

Sat-Mon, 5/18-19, ILYM Semi-Annual Work Weekend, McNabb.

The next ILYM Semi-Annual Work Weekend will be Saturday, May 18 to Sunday, May 19, 2013. Please save the date and join us whether for the weekend or just for a day. Other committees are welcome to

propose areas to work on as well. Come enjoy working with Friends as we maintain the ILYM 12 acre campus. We really need everyone's help even if for just a day. Any skill level is welcome. We will be doing pruning, cleaning, and making the campus ready for yearly meeting.

Wed-Sun, 6/19-23, Illinois Yearly Meeting, McNabb. <http://www.ilym.org/>

Sun- Sun, 6/30-7/6, Friends General Conference, 2013 Theme: At the Growing Edges of Our Faith, University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO, Registration info here: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At this time, the Nominating Committee reports that there are still some unfilled positions for the coming year. Please contact Cossy Ksander, John Muhlenberg, or Bob Southworth if you are led to assist with the following:

Recording Clerk – Responsible for keeping notes at the Business Meetings
Peace and Justice Committee Members
Trailside Garden Rep – Located at Thatcher Woods
Green Network Rep
Children's / Teen Religious Education Committee Clerk & Members
Finance Committee Members
Librarian
Crop Walk Coordinator

BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Please see the meeting website at www.oakparkfriends.org for further information, including reports from individual committees.

April 2013

Adult Religious Education Committee. The committee is planning an outing to a labyrinth, possibly on July 7th to Garfield Park. Plan to bring a bag lunch to eat at the Monet Garden, then do the labyrinth.

Peace & Justice Committee – Kelly reported on a protest about the Boeing Corp's manufacture of drone aircraft. Drones are used to do automated assassinations with no accountability for who is killed.

State of the Society Report – A draft version will be read at the May Business Meeting for changes and approval. The draft is available for viewing online at www.oakparkfriends.org

A Day in Our Village is June 2nd. Some people who have helped with this in the past are unavailable on that date, and it is unclear if we will attempt to participate this year.

QUERY QUOTATIONS

Rooted in the history of Friends, queries reflect the Quaker way of life, reminding Friends of the ideals we seek to attain. We approach queries as a guide, using them not as an outward set of rules, but as a framework within which we assess our convictions and examine prayerfully the direction of our lives and the life of the community. Here are a few selections from Faith and Practice, published in 1997 by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends:

Education

What is our Meeting's role in the life and support of Friends' education? If supporting or maintaining a Friends school, have we developed an appropriate relationship of Meeting and school? What is our role in the spiritual life of the school and its maintenance of Friends' principles?

What does our Meeting do to support education in the wider community?

What help do we provide for the children and adults in our Meeting to pursue the education they seek, whether academic, technical, or vocational? Do we make provision for children in our Meeting to attend a Friends school?

How do I show my concern for the improvement of public education in my community and in the world?

Am I aware of what Friends schools are doing and of their plans for the future? How do I show encouragement and support?

AND IN CONCLUSION...

For winter's rains and ruins are over,
And all the season of snows and sins;
The days dividing lover and lover,
The light that loses, the night that wins;
And time remembered is grief forgotten,
And frosts are slain and flowers begotten,
And in green underwood and cover
Blossom by blossom the spring begins.

Algernon Charles Swinburne (1837–1909)

Atalanta in Calydon (1865)