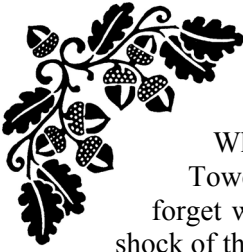




*Salem Quarter News*  
*Fall 2011*

*No one can serve two masters,  
for either he will hate the one  
and love the other,  
or he will be devoted to the one  
and despise the other.  
You cannot serve God and money.*



## Coordinator's Corner

Phil Anthony

Where were you when the planes went into the Twin Towers on 9/11/2001? I don't think anyone will ever forget what we were doing that Tuesday morning, and the shock of the attack.

Myself, I was driving to a meeting of quarterly staff when the account of the first plane came from a radio announcer trying to remain calm enough to report the news. At first, I recall, he thought it was a tragic accident. Then the second plane hit. . . . There was a little bit of *hubris* in his voice, or maybe he was just whistling past the graveyard, when he informed us that bad as it was, the World Trade Center was so well constructed that the damage would be limited.

I continued on to the Arch Street meetinghouse. It wouldn't be until later that I'd learn just how bad it actually could get, that those two weren't the only planes involved, and that the Twin Towers would collapse—with national trauma and great loss of life—soon afterward. So would another part of my own innocence. And somewhere in my mind, I was hearing the opening movement of Mozart's *Requiem Mass*. The words were clear. *Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison*: “Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.”

Before long all of PYM's coordinators were assembled in Room 1a on the second floor of Arch Street. All had heard the news on their way to our meeting. We tried, valiantly and quite unsuccessfully, to get some work done. After less than an hour, we gave up.

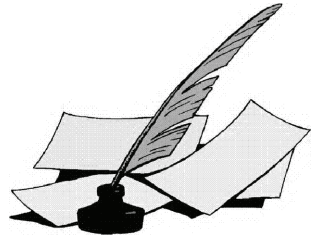
We closed our meeting and adjourned to a grill to drink coffee and watch the images that were played over and over again on the large-screen TV set on the wall until they were seared into our brains. It was a couple of hours before the bridges over the Delaware re-opened for our New Jersey coordinators, and local streets at least had cleared out

*(Continued on page 22)*

Cover Art: “Fox” by Molly Carpenter, Salem MM, Oil and Acrylic on sculpted panel. Quote: Matt. 6:24, English Standard Version.

# *From the Clerk's Diary*

*Barry Sloane, clerk*



It has been almost ten years since the horror of Sept 11, 2001. I still ask myself what happened and what can we do to prevent such an awful thing from happening again. This evil occurred because many people were not truthful. Here's a true-false quiz to illustrate my point:

1. There is only one religion and only one faith.
2. A nation is stronger and better if there is one agreed-on morality.
3. God's laws should be enforced because this is the true way.
4. Other nations should also follow God's law.

Of course all these statements are false; after all, exactly what is "God's law?" Yet many people ardently believe them. These four assumptions are the core of radical fundamentalist Christianity and Islam—and practically any other fundamentalism we may imagine. (The exceptions are those that don't think in terms of nations.)

Following these assumptions leads to religious absolutism, which is the belief that a particular faith represents absolute truth and must therefore be accepted by everyone. This of course leads to intolerance, bigotry, suppression of intellectual pursuits, and hatred of others who do not share those beliefs. In the Muslim world this has led to political terrorism, but we Christians are no strangers to this. History, for example, tells us of the Inquisition.

Political terrorism in the Muslim world really started to take off 25 years ago with the Islamic revolution in Iran. Here's another true-false quiz:

1. In order to maintain a reliable source of oil, we must install governments that are friendly to us.
2. We encourage democracy throughout the world, and particularly in the Middle East.
3. Our government policies are designed to foster peace and stability.

If you answered true to any of these questions, you've been watching

too much Fox News lately.

Let's look a little closer at the seeds of political terrorism, particularly Iran's case. In 1954 the U.S. engineered a coup in Iran and installed the Shah. This was done partly because the duly elected Iranian government was "Socialist" and it would not be in our interests to have ARAMCO's oil supply disrupted. In reality, "disruption" meant nationalization. This, of course, would have meant that someone besides ARAMCO would reap the profits, but we would still have bought the oil—at the time, who else could have bought it? I realize this greatly oversimplifies the situation, but the point is, truth did not prevail here.

The Shah of Iran reigned as a merciless despot until the 1989 revolution, with our enthusiastic and obvious support. Given that sordid history, the revolution should not have been a surprise to anyone. One could argue that the U.S. and our allies are largely responsible for that revolution and the ensuing political terrorism from the Muslim world. One could further argue that our policy decisions that were made were based on half truths and lies.

In my work world of accident prevention, I have over the years never seen an accident that didn't have more than one cause; some obvious and some not so obvious. In fact most accidents I have investigated have had more than 12 causes, both proximate and underlying.

I believe that 9/11 is like those accidents; there were numerous causes from numerous governments, people, and circumstances. However, there is in my estimation, one overriding core cause. That is failure to discern, tell, and live in the truth.

So maybe we could prevent this from happening again and honor our dead by going forward, consistently and loudly telling the truth. I learned the truth in Rhodes, Greece. A few years ago, Dianne and I walked into a mosque and the imam greeted us. In very broken English he told us that Islam is a religion of love, and the Muslim radicals were dangerous and crazy. Then he said the truest words I ever heard—"We are one! We are all one! We are all one!" Maybe we should remember that.

# *Wanted—Quaker Musicians*

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*Helena Bew  
Seaville MM*

Quarterly Meeting Worship & Ministry Committee is looking to explore worship through music. Possible outlets are intergenerational musical activities at our monthly meetings, or even a concert at Friends Village at Woodstown next spring.

A good way to begin, we decided, would be to come to know each other and have an exchange of ideas out of which a program might be formed. We hope there would also be an opportunity to enjoy making music together as we learn about one another!

If you'd like to try this out, please introduce yourself by e-mail or phone to me—<thebews@comcast.net>, (609)884-7068—or Phil Anthony, quarter coordinator, <saalemquarter@gmail.com>, (856)769-0066. I'm a pianist and organist myself, and maybe we could get together at my home in Cape May Point. I'd look forward to our sharing our musical gifts with each other and the quarter.

## *Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes 06/12/2011*

Salem Quarterly Meeting met 6/12/2011 at Seaville Monthly Meeting. Out of worship, clerk Barry Sloane convened the meeting, welcomed Friends, and thanked Seaville for their hospitality and the fine soups. There was a Friendly presence for business of nineteen representing six of the seven monthly meetings in the quarter.

Minutes of the quarterly meeting on 03/13/2011 were approved as they appeared in *Salem Quarter News*.

Mike Ayars (Woodstown) reported from Steering Committee as its clerk. He highlighted the move of the coordinator's office to Friends Village. He noted the upcoming special programs sponsored by the quarter. The Steering Committee approved a minute concerning the forwarding of funds to PYM from the quarter and on behalf of the monthly meetings. He also noted the details of the progress of the Salem Quarter Web page.

There was no formal report from the Indian Committee, but coordinator

Phil Anthony noted that they have met twice and are moving forward.

Mike Ayars (Woodstown) reported from Friends Village. They are reviewing the campus master plan and keeping the future in sight. There are plans for a guest house in the near future.

Phil Anthony, coordinator, reported from the Worship & Ministry Committee. They met at Seaville on Friday evening, confirmed the clerk of the committee, heard a report on the prayer group, discussed possible quarter-sponsored programs for the future, and heard a brief report on the Gifts Working Group. [*See Worship & Ministry report, p. 19.*]

Gary Holmes (Woodstown) reported from the Salem Quarter Trustees. The committee met in April at the Lower Alloways Creek meetinghouse and cleaned in preparation for the Salem County Historical Society Open House tour. During the event approximately forty visited the meetinghouse.

The wall is damaged at the Port Elizabeth cemetery. It apparently had been involved in a collision with a car. Upon investigation, Gary found that the accident had been reported to the state police. The wall will be replaced with insurance coverage.

Bill Carrigan (Mickleton) reported from Friends School. They have been winding up the school year. Graduation will be on Tuesday, 6/14; there is a worship service this evening at the Mullica Hill meetinghouse at 5:30 pm for the graduates, their families, and friends. All Friends are welcome as well.

Recent activities at the school included a production of "The Wizard of Oz", dedicated to the victims of the recent rash of tornadoes in the south and midwest.

The Board of Trustees heard a presentation of the "Got Kindness" campaign inspired by Rachel's Challenge. She was the first person killed in the Columbine school shooting incident in 1999. Rachel Scott believed that "if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same." The board is currently formulating a policy on the issues of social values and bullying.

Pending approval from the community, the school is planning a greening project, the installation of solar panels. The project was initiated by an outside investor who hopes that in addition to the opportunities for

education regarding green energy, financial savings for the school, and private investment opportunities for groups or individuals, there will be the chance for Friends School to be a pioneer and model for other private and public schools in the field of green energy. Private investment opportunities are expected after 8/1.

Bill noted several other items from Friends School. Emily Blanck is continuing to work on a Woodlands Trail project on the property as an environmental education facility for the school and the community. A summer camp program will be available beginning later in June. In conclusion, Bill stressed the need for donations to the Annual Fund.

In response to the thorough report from Friends School, the suggestion was made that we make a donation to the Annual Fund. Friends approved the following minute:

*Salem Quarterly Meeting approved a donation of \$1,000 to the Annual Fund of Friends School Mullica Hill.*

Announcements were made and the meeting was closed in worship.

*Rebecca Shapiro*, recording clerk.

### ***Salem Quarterly Meeting Child Safety Policy***

*Approved by Salem Quarterly Meeting in session, 9/14/2008.*

1. Decisions about child care and executing child safety policy will be made by the Steering Committee or a committee appointed by the Steering Committee. The decision of Steering Committee or its appointed committee will be final.
  
2. An unpaid person or any person under the age of 18 years who works with or supervises children on a recurring basis will have been a member or attender of a Friends' meeting for at least six months, be recommended by Friends of that person's meeting, and be a person about whose service Steering Committee knows no impediments.

3. A person who is paid and is over the age of 18 years who works with or supervises children on a recurring basis will have been a member or attendee of a Friends meeting for at least six months, be recommended by Friends of that person's meeting, have a criminal background check, and be a person about whose service Steering Committee knows no impediments.

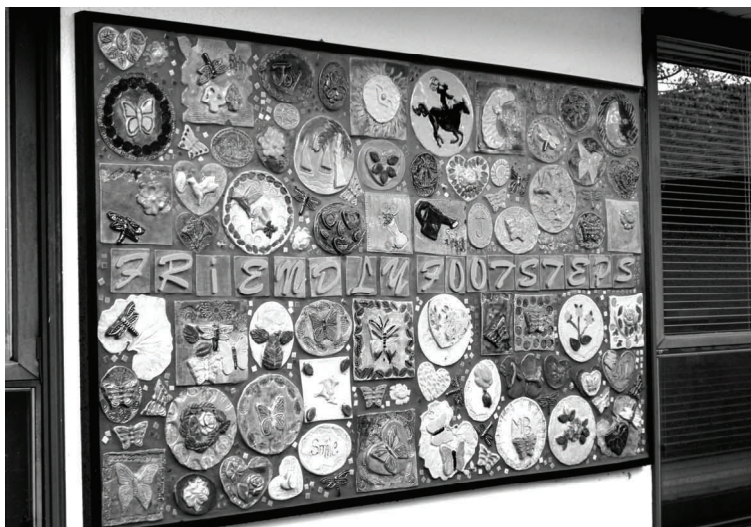
4. A person over 18 years old who works with or supervises children up to six hours at a time at a quarterly meeting function may do so for one function before a criminal background check is made, provided that person has been a member or attendee of a Friends meeting for at least six months, is recommended by Friends of that person's meeting, and is a person about whose service Steering Committee knows no impediments.

5. A person who accompanies minors on an overnight event must have a criminal background check before attending the event, except that parents or legal guardians may accompany their own children without a criminal background check.

6. Any allegations of sexual misconduct should be reported as soon as possible to either the clerk of Salem Quarter or the clerk of the Salem Quarter Steering Committee, who will then follow the required legal procedures.



*From Our Friends Village*  
*Daphne Hollingshead*



Friends Village residents collaborated to create a beautiful tile collage for the Friends Village Residential Garden. This project was the latest effort in the HeART and Health Program partnering Appel Farm’s Ann Makris and Gail Scuderi (a member of Woodstown MM) with Friends Village.

About a dozen Friends residents joined Activities staff members earlier this year to design clay tiles using molds, tools, and agile fingers! Residents painted images that include a mounted cowboy swinging a lasso, hummingbirds, flip-flops, and even one that affectionately reads “SMILE”!

After a repeated series of firing and glazing, the tiles reached their current state of perfection. The 80 brightly colored tiles were then glued in place to create the “Friendly Footsteps” sign. It now hangs with pride on an exterior wall of the building. A dedication took place between thunderstorms on a rainy day in April.

The continued creative collaborations between Friends Village at Woodstown and Appel Farm Arts and Music Center are funded by a grant from the Salem Health and Wellness Foundation.

“Friendly Footsteps” is visible to residents and visitors alike through the windows of the Assisted Living, Evergreens, and Residential sections of the campus. The sign really brightens the garden and reminds everyone to stop and smell the flowers.



## *From Our Friends School*

*Bruce Haines  
Head of School*

Where are the Quaker students?

On June 14 Friends School graduated 14 wonderful young people! The messages they shared in their graduation speeches were moving, but the heartfelt and tearful messages they shared in meeting for worship on the Sunday afternoon prior were even more so. They taught this author a new word: “famliness!”

Each one carried deep respect for classmates, teachers, and family members. Clearly a tight group, they demonstrated the deep and profound ways they have learned to care for and take care of each other, revealing God within. It was evident that the school had again fulfilled its mission to graduate young people who carry with them the values of simplicity, harmony or peacefulness, integrity, community, equality, service, and stewardship.

Besides demonstrating that they are capable, grounded young people



who have found their voices, they are also very well prepared academically. Four will attend Pope Pius VI, one each will attend St. Joe's Prep, St. Augustine, Padua, Westtown, George School, and Moorestown Friends, one or two to Tatnall, and one each to the Glassboro Fine & Performing Arts Academy, Gloucester County Institute of Technology, and possibly one to Kingsway. In all cases each student has earned the opportunity to confer with his or her family and chose where to go next.

Ironically, and sadly, only one of these amazing young people is a Quaker. Out of 188 students at school this year only four are members of the Society of Friends and a handful more are children or grandchildren of members. There is an ongoing conversation that needs to begin now and extend into the next year to answer the question: "Why are there so few Friends at Friends School?" And then, of course, the follow-up question: "What will it take to enroll more children from Salem Quarterly Meeting at Friends School?"

A significant portion of the school's budget goes towards need-based financial aid, and Quaker families are a priority, so hopefully money is not the issue. Clearly there are fewer Friends in the world today, against a growing population. But still, locally, Friends' children are underserved by one of our principal means of outreach, and the one specifically focused on their needs. To begin a dialogue on these questions please write to Bruce Haines, head of school, at <bhaines@friendsmh.org> with your thoughts.

## *Notes from the Budget Workshop*

*The Salem Quarter budget workshop was held at Woodstown MM the morning of Saturday, 7/9/2011. Panelists were Tad LaFountain, Princeton MM, clerk of Burlington Quarter and an investment analyst; Lola Georg, Media MM, associate secretary for business and finance of PYM; and Di-  
anne H. Sloane, Mickleton MM, treasurer of Salem Quarter. It was moderated by Tom Etherington, Mullica Hill MM.*

*No transcript is available of the panelists' remarks. We're glad, however, to publish the notes that Tad and Lola sent before the workshop to help Tom pull together his questions. Many of these points were covered in the course of the panel discussion or responses to questions.*

### **Tad LaFountain:**

My approach to this topic is based on my 55 years in the Society of Friends and my career as a stock analyst who has covered technology compa-

nies. Despite what some would say, I don't find the two realms mutually exclusive; in fact, I've found lessons from each to be of immense value in the other. Here is a set of observations that I have found worthwhile:

1) OST – The business practice of Objective/Strategy/Tactics has tremendous utility in helping to define both a philosophy of management and a process. When that structure gets inverted (as it tends to do in Quakerdom), short-term and small considerations end up defining strategies and, most unfortunately, objectives. A Budget as a Spiritual Instrument does not and should not mean that every aspect needs to be the result of spiritual discernment. Instead, we need to open ourselves to the Spirit for our objective and consider those strategies which should be Spirit-led in like fashion. But we must realize that not all strategies need to be the result of input from the Spirit, and tactics (which are particularly germane to a budget discussion) should mostly be viewed as conforming to strategies instead of being held up to some Divine mirror.

2) Air Force Colonel John Boyd years ago came up with the OODA Loop, which has become a mantra within the armed forces. But there's nothing inherently militaristic about Observation |Orientation| Decision | Action. Any organization (even one driven by the Peace Testimony) can benefit from the sort of self-examination that the OODA Loop requires. A set of Quaker queries specifically crafted so as to challenge our meetings and other organizations to self-check in this way would probably be very useful.

3) A typical budget has income and revenues up top, followed by expenses so as to generate a net income or surplus. At Princeton Monthly Meeting, we have inverted our budget so that expenses come first and various income streams are subtracted, leaving what we call a Funding Responsibility. That structure has an inherent advantage of highlighting just what needs to be donated to allowed the discerned expenses to be supported. By contrast, PYM uses a budget (The Budget Structure From Hell, as viewed by this Friend who has a Wharton MBA in multinational finance and has spent a career analyzing financial statements of companies whose operations often generate tens of billions of dollars of revenues and expenses as a result of extensive product lines made and sold across several continents, but who finds PYM's presentation regarding \$5 million spent in Philadelphia more confusing than clarifying) that buries the Yearly Meeting's needs in the middle of the presentation. It's no wonder that member meeting support runs about a third less than needed to make things work.

In order to be a Spiritual Instrument, a Quaker budget needs to clearly show what is being done, how much it costs, and how much support is nec-

essary to make it work. I defy anyone to examine the PYM budget and figure out how much is spent on which programs that the membership deems worthy of support. We are provided data by Standing Committee and by function (compensation, rent, etc.), but there are no available data to identify which programs are receiving what resources. Friends don't care (in the grand scheme of things) which committees receive money, or on what functions the money is spent. Programs=Interests, ergo until the presentation is made by programs, there will be virtually no way that the PYM budget can be a spiritual instrument. Rent as divinity? Please!

4) "Judge not lest ye be judged" seems to have morphed into a modern-day Quaker aversion to discipline and measurement. At the end of the fiscal year, the entirety of the typical Quaker budget discussion revolves around meeting the numbers and covering the expenses (without invading the principal—the ultimate Quaker sin, and these days one of the few we recognize). Here's where the spirituality of the instrument completely breaks down. When was the last time you heard a report from a committee (or a staffer) that described the year's efforts in terms of meeting or exceeding expectations that were incorporated in the budget at the start of the year? We don't just avoid metrics—we have no idea what they are or could be. But a budget as an instrument means that objectives, strategies, and tactics have been agreed upon and implemented for an organizational reason, so it would only be reasonable to expect that good stewardship would mandate some sort of review and evaluation to see how the process worked.

This is not to call for "body bag count" quantification of "success" as we had during the Vietnam War. And in all fairness, much of what we tend to do is difficult or impossible to quantify. But we don't even bother to assess qualitatively, let alone quantitatively. Do we sidestep this important aspect of our budgetary/management process because it's difficult, or because we're lazy, or because our culture has ignored it? Or are we fearful of what such a discussion might engender? Interesting questions, but I don't recall them ever being asked let alone answered.

5) I believe that we suffer tremendous damage by thoughtless use of the phrase "as Way opens." A budget as a spiritual instrument is really no different from Francis asking the Lord to make him an instrument of His peace. We are supposed to be the Way, and reliance upon the Spirit regards our strengths, our energies, and our wisdom so as to maximize the effectiveness of our active involvement. It does not mean an abject passivity that awaits some external force to do the heavy lifting. There is much heavy lifting to be done, but the Spirit doesn't make the load lighter; it makes it more worthwhile. Effective budgeting, which should reflect unity

in desired goals and strategies, should be viewed as opening our Way so that we are purpose-led and purpose-energized.

6) Finally, the budgetary aspect of Quakerism that gives me the greatest angst—why are Friends so cheap? Short of putting a roof over their heads, providing three squares a day, having a semblance of a wardrobe and some basic financial security (such as insurance), what else commands the diversion of resources so that Quakers find it so hard to support their own Religious Society? In my own meeting, only about half the membership makes any financial contribution. I don't know if I find that more depressing or appalling, but neither aspect is particularly attractive. The only reason I can come up with for failing to provide ongoing financial support for one's Meetings (monthly, quarterly, and yearly through the covenants) is because one is destitute. If that's the case, how come our Personal Assistance Fund isn't receiving more requests?

Our discussion of budgets as spiritual instruments breaks down when there is a lack of unity in the budget—both in terms of discernment and actual financial participation. What is left is an unfortunate sham, particularly when people call themselves Friends and fail to exhibit any conformity with the provisions in *Faith and Practice* that specifically outline the responsibilities of membership in our Society. There is no harm or shame in providing small amounts of support when that is all that can be accommodated. But not participating at all ends up eroding a lot more than just our finances.

### **Lola Georg:**

1) Why is a budget a spiritual document? Because it reflects our values. With a budget, we fund what is important to us. It is very interesting to notice those items that do not get funded, particularly in relation to our values. When there is plenty of money, we can fund all kinds of things. When there is less money, decisions have to be made about what to fund, and that is exactly the point at which values come into play.

Anyone can balance any given budget based upon their individual values. However, when we have to work together to collectively decide the values upon which decisions will be made, it is more difficult. Our federal budget reflects the value that military might is better than diplomacy and peace because approximately 40% of the federal budget goes to military spending, while only 2% goes to diplomacy, development, and war prevention.

2) When looking at a budget for a meeting, there are some basic things that must be provided for. The main one, of course, is the actual worship space.

A worship space represents the basic needs of a meeting, for there is no meeting if there is no worship. And the worship space must be safe. After the meeting's basic needs, there is a need for community with and amongst the members of the meeting. However, to realize our full potential, a meeting can discern a common leading. What are we called to accomplish together? The answer to this question becomes the mission or a guiding principle. Unfortunately, unlike other non-profit organizations or companies, in Quaker meetings, there seem to be many individual missions—many individual people following individual callings. This can make budgeting difficult. Conversely, if there was a shared purpose and shared goals, resources could be aligned to accomplish great things.



3) Stewardship is an important concept in this context. Being good stewards means taking care of what we have been entrusted with. We have been entrusted with buildings and funds from previous generations, but we are also entrusted with donations and covenants today. What does it mean to be good stewards of these assets? How we care for them is a spiritual metaphor for how we care for each other. People put their time, their talents, and their treasure where their hearts are. Where are our hearts? If we are not adequately giving to our spiritual community with our time, talents, and treasure, then where are we giving them? This is similar to the idea of looking at what does not get funded. If we are not giving to our community, then by definition we are giving elsewhere. The question is where.

4) A budget is a plan. This is what we expect to do in the next year. But it

is only a plan. No budget can ever plan perfectly, as no one can perfectly predict the future. However, after the budget is approved, life actually happens. It has been my experience that Quakers spend a disproportionate amount of time developing budgets, and little time reviewing how the plan is actually working. There is an underlying assumption that once the plan is approved, everything will work out as planned. This is an invalid assumption. Why are we so invested in developing a budget, but not very invested in looking at reality? I think this is also a spiritual issue because it keeps us focused in the future instead of in the present. It is my experience that spirit rises in the present, it does not wait to the future to reveal itself. Nor does it wait for budget season.

5) As a financial person, this leads me straight to the issue of variable costs versus fixed costs. When we have too many fixed costs, we have few choices in the present to make changes. With a more variable cost structure, we are able to change and adapt more quickly. Businesses are very aware of this fact and seek to build variable cost structures in order to defray unexpected expenses and maintain profitability. From the perspective of a spiritual community, a more variable cost structure enables us to pursue unexpected opportunities or spiritual leadings. How many times have we known that something must be done about a particular situation; however, there is no money in the budget so we feel as though our hands are tied? Is this a morally defensible position?

6) Finally, a word about cash flow. In a family budget, we get paid from our employer, and then we pay our bills. Most Quaker meetings have ongoing expenses such as electricity, heating, etc. Instead of collecting money at the beginning of the year, and then spending it—we spend the money and *hope* that donations will cover our expenses. “Hope” is not a strategy. Spending money we do not have and then hoping people will donate is like charging things on credit cards and hoping to win the lottery. It is not good fiscal stewardship in my view. The Lord does provide and miracles do happen, but the Lord also helps those that help themselves. As I see it, budgeting so that funds are collected before they are expended is the preferred method.





*“Gathered Among Friends”  
The 2011 Tri-Quarter Experience  
Camp Ockanickon, Medford, N.J., 9/30–10/2*

In attempting to describe the sublime qualities of a “gathered” meeting, we can do no better than borrow the words of the late Thomas Kelly (1893-1941), birthright member of the Wilmington (Ohio) MM, educator, and prolific contributor to Quaker literature and thought. What follows are condensed excerpts from Thomas Kelley’s treatise on “The Gathered Meeting”. The full pamphlet can be found in its entirety at <http://www.tractassociation.org/tracts/the-gathered-meeting/>.

“A blanket of divine covering comes over the room, and a quickening Presence pervades us, breaking down some part of the special privacy and isolation of our individual lives and bonding our spirits within a super-individual Life and Power—an objective, dynamic Presence which quickens in us depths that had before been slumbering. We stand together on holy ground.

“But we need not go to places remote in space and time to find similar experiences of joint elevation, where individuals find the boundaries of their separateness partially melted . . . and find themselves wrapped in a

sense of unity [where] . . . silence becomes a bridge not of separation but of communication.

“It is transient. The sense of Divine covering in a group is rarely sustained more than three-quarters of an hour, or an hour. . . . One cannot seize hold upon it and restrain it from fading . . . or restore it the next Sunday at will. [And yet we will not forget that] . . . we have been re-energized with that Power and re-sensitized by that tenderness to meet the daily world of men.”

For many, the Tri-Quarter Gathering of Friends is just such a fleeting yet profound experience, extended by the luxury of a precious three days. A spirit-filled weekend holds the possibility of a collective experience over time. Your higher awareness may come at any moment, that fleeting moment when you feel the immediacy of the Divine Presence and of our inseparable oneness. And, since each of us—even our children—will experience these transcendent moments (together if not simultaneously), it remains a “gathered” experience that we have shared.

We, the 2011 Planning Committee of the Tri-Quarter Gathering of Friends, hope to see familiar faces—as well as new ones—who will join us in this time of reflection and renewal. You’ll choose from among the many activities being offered for every age, including workshops on Saturday morning, hayrides and bonfire at night, square dancing, games, boating, stargazing, six hearty meals, and abundant free time for solitude and prayer. Accommodations range from screened cabins to heated lodges. The setting is the white sand pinelands of New Jersey. . . a perfect setting to be “Gathered Among Friends.”

Although a function of the Salem, Haddonfield and Burlington (N.J.) quarters, all F/friends are warmly welcome. For more information—or to receive a “Weekend Schedule & Registration Form”—please contact Marsha Gaspar at <mstar8000@yahoo.com> or (856)869-3431. The 2011 Planning Committee includes: Marsha Gaspar, clerk; George Crispin, camp liaison; Cindy Cox Crispin, registrar; Joe Tingle, treasurer; Carleton Cox Crispin (all from Woodbury MM); Kandy Lippincott, Moorestown MM; Sandy Ridgway, Mullica Hill MM; Jarry Jones, Moorestown MM; Meed Barnett, Atlantic City Area MM; and Phil Anthony, Chestnut Hill MM.

## *Worship & Ministry Report* *10 Sixth-month 2011*

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Seven Friends from Mullica Hill, Salem, and Seaville MMs plus the quarter coordinator gathered at the appointed hour of 7:30 pm in Friendship Hall at Seaville MM. Following a period of worship, the group welcomed Rebecca Shapiro to her first meeting as clerk of the committee.

Becky reminded us that because of her other responsibilities around the time of quarterly meeting, she needs a co-clerk to write and deliver the report to the business meeting. There was some discussion of the responsibilities involved. The coordinator, she noted, had offered to create the report until a co-clerk should come forward. The offer was accepted as a stopgap measure.

A meeting for prayer under Worship & Ministry's care was held at the home of Paul Zinader in Pittsgrove Township on 5/29. The next fifth First-day will be 7/31, but the Zinader home will not be available. It was approved to rent a room at Cumberland County College for this meeting, as we have once before.

The committee explored possibilities for programs that Worship & Ministry might offer the quarter, as minuted at its March meeting. Interest was sparked by a suggestion of musical worship that would call on the musical gifts and talents of quarter members. This could lead to performance for an audience, perhaps at Friends Village, with the wider community invited as well. Or it might involve an interactive program similar to the carol singing at the December quarterly meetings for the past two years.

As a first step, an article will be written for the Fall *Salem Quarter News* inviting musicians who are interested in participating to identify themselves. Names and information—type of music preferred, instruments played, availability—will be collected by Helena Bew of Seaville MM. Helena herself is a classical pianist and organist who has years of experience playing for churches' Sunday services. Gatherings of musicians will be scheduled, with participants deciding how they might exercise their gifts.

Another Friend spoke of a musical program he facilitated at Live Oaks

Friends Meeting in Houston, Texas. He divided the congregation into three groups, gave them each a different part to sing or play, rehearsed them, and then brought them together to perform their parts. This was a way to include children in the program, which our committee felt is desirable. It also underscores the importance of rehearsals before bringing their program to a wider group.

Other possible programs were mentioned. There have been inquiries about another meditation retreat like the one held at Mullica Hill MM in May 2010. The committee could offer a full-day session on spiritual accountability that would allow Friends to explore what Viv Hawkins presented at our March quarterly meeting. If there is interest, these will be considered at the September meeting of Worship & Ministry, to be held on 9/9/2011 at a location to be determined.

The coordinator gave a brief report on the activities of the Gifts Working Group. After losing both its original clerk and her successor last year, a convenor has been identified, and the group has had several meetings to discern its way forward. It met in May with Viv Hawkins to consider places where the spiritual accountability program and the gifts program might work effectively together. The group has been invited to lead a gifts program at Seaville MM next fall, and this will be considered at its meeting on 8/20.

Since no one felt called to the position of co-clerk for the committee, it was decided to lift this up at quarterly meeting and ask if someone might feel a nudge in this direction. Prayers were requested for several people, and the meeting closed in worship shortly after 9:00 pm.

For the Committee,  
*Phil Anthony*, coordinator.



## *Reflections*

*Tom Etherington*

My cat has cancer.

Her sides bulge out with a spleen enlarged by the many diseased cells it is trying to eliminate. My cat knows nothing about that. She lives in her day-to-day world and knows nothing of the future. The vet and I have agreed that the best treatment is to make her comfortable until her time is up. She gets up in the morning and goes outside to see if she can out-run a better breakfast than I will provide. She usually comes back inside and settles for what I offer. She then goes out and roams the neighborhood, or takes a nap in the sun or in the shade depending upon the day. 10 PM is her bedtime. I go outside and call her and she comes trotting up and comes inside.

She lives her life day by day, minute by minute. She spends no time worrying about the evil growing inside of her. If she were as smart as I think I am, she could spend her days fretting about her future, fearful of what lies ahead, but her mind is incapable of comprehending the future, so instead she goes on enjoying life.

The capacity of human beings to think of the future is both a blessing and a curse. It enables us to save a bit of today's resources to make tomorrow's life a bit easier. We can foresee the results of our actions and that foresight enables us to care for each other in ways of which my cat is incapable.

But our ability to consider the future can put us in chains. We can end up living our lives in fear of a never-to-be-realized future. We tend to blame our condition on modern society, but this condition is not new. Wise men of all generations have encouraged us to live life in the present rather than the future. Our concern for the future sometimes goes too far and we fail to appreciate the many blessings of today. We squander today fretting about what may or may not happen in some imagined tomorrow. Alexander Pope described this condition with the line "Hope springs eternal in the human breast, man never is, but always to be, blessed." Jesus advised his followers "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

My cat benefits from my ability to consider the future, but she also teaches me of the peace to be had from living life one day at a time. It is prudent to plan for tomorrow, but today is where we live our lives.

*(Coordinator's Corner Continued from page 2)*

enough for me to get home.

Well, I started for home anyway. It was slow driving, of course. And somewhere approaching Broad and Lehigh I realized I had another errand to run first. I made the right turn, cut over to 4th Street, parked, and rang the doorbell of fellow Chestnut Hill member Jorge Arauz. He too had heard the news—by then, was there anybody who hadn't? He showed me into his kitchen, and we settled into prayer.

An hour or so later, I figured out what I really needed to do. All the world, it seemed, was shutting down, huddling in fear. All air traffic was grounded, state and federal government buildings locked tight. But *Quakers offer a culture of hope in the face of a secular human culture of fear . . .* for perfect love casts out fear. Even if our love isn't perfect, we can try to be. . . .

I left Jorge and went on to the Chestnut Hill meetinghouse. I went in, flung the doors and windows wide open, and sat in worship. Soon I was joined by a couple of others who lived nearby. That night at seven, we held a called meeting for worship, with all comers welcome to join us.

It's important, I think, to add that we weren't the only ones. There were two Catholic churches in our area that did the same thing, and an Episcopalian church, and a synagogue. Quakers (thank God!) have never had a monopoly on righteousness. Our small effort was part of a much larger spiritual response to what had occurred.

What happened after that is a matter of public record. The "Axis of Evil"; the invasion of Afghanistan, and then of Iraq. The creation of "homeland security" and the establishment of the Transportation Safety Administration. The Patriot Act. Guantanamo.

I often found myself thinking of Abba Sisoës, one of the fourth-century monks in the deserts of Egypt.

A brother came to him with a complaint against another monk, demanding that justice be done. Sisoës urged the brother to drop the matter. But, he declared, he wanted retribution. "Leave it to God," the old man advised. " 'Vengeance is mine,' saith the Lord." The brother replied, "No, I will have vengeance on the one who has wronged me."

Sisoës began to pray. “God, we no longer need you to care for us, since we do justice for ourselves.” Hearing this, the brother fell at his feet and begged for forgiveness. Or, as PYM’s Phil Mullen asked in an e mail at the time, “What part of ‘love your enemies’ don’t you understand?”

This is no place to argue political decisions, even if I were inclined to. But I can’t honestly believe that the most convinced hawk actually wanted a war, let alone two of them, with no coordinated peaceful effort to undermine Al-Quaeda’s attraction among the disaffected. All of us hoped for a U.S. policy to address friction that helped Al-Quaeda recruit members and transform them into extremists who were ready to give their lives to harm us. It is far less costly, in both resources and human lives, to forestall the next war than to wage the current one.

This is the issue, largely ignored in 2001, that Salem Quarter will examine at quarterly meeting ten years later. “Nonviolent Responses to Terrorism” will seek to explore approaches that can’t change the past but can reduce the probability of a repetition. While the role of the military may be a matter for debate, measures that reduce tensions among groups and promote peaceful resolution of disputes are far less costly than the spread of war.

Rick Howe of Doylestown MM has called on all the monthly and quarterly meetings in PYM to work with this topic on the tenth anniversary of the attack. He sees it not only as a way to re-examine our own Quaker commitment to nonviolence. It is also, he believes, a way that we can witness to the Friends’ peace testimony by reaching out to our non-Quaker neighbors, inviting them to join us in dialogue. His proposal comes to us with the support of his own monthly and quarterly meetings, as well as PYM’s Peace & Concerns Standing Committee.

Rick notes: “In the grand scheme of things, nonviolence as a response to conflict is in its infancy. While many of our neighbors may feel the notion is utterly absurd, as we and they talk about nonviolence, the more we and they may grasp its power to generate pro-social change.” Come join us at Greenwich MM’s lower (Orthodox) meetinghouse on 9/11/2011 for conversation among ourselves and with others in our communities to reach out toward solutions that match our faith.

Directions are on p. 26, and the day’s schedule is on the back cover. I’ll look forward to seeing you there.

 *Salem Quarter Calendar* 

*[These are only a few of the things that will be happening around the quarter in the upcoming months. Ask your Steering Committee representatives about what the other meetings are doing as time gets closer—Ed.]*

**Fri, 9/9: Quarterly Meeting Worship & Ministry.** The quarter's Worship & Ministry Committee gathers at 7:30 at the home of Becky & Mike Shapiro, 110 S. Main St, Elmer. Potluck nibbles will follow. For directions, call Becky at (856)358-2385, or e-mail her, <heddwch@comcast.net>.

**Sun, 9/11: Salem Quarterly Meeting.** Full schedule for quarterly meeting at Greenwich MM is on the back cover. Business meeting will start at 3:00 pm at Greenwich MM's Lower (Orthodox) meetinghouse. Brown-bag supper at 5:00, "Nonviolent Responses to Terrorism" at 6:00 (public invited, candlelight worship at 7:00. Directions, see p. 26. For further information, call the coordinator, (856)769-0066, <saalemquarter@gmail.com>.

**Sat, 9/17: Mickleton Pulled Pork Dinner.** To benefit the Little Red School House, a dinner there from 2:00 to 5:00 pm will feature pulled pork on a roll, BBQ sauce, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, and homemade apple cake. Tickets cost \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door, and are available starting in August at Haines Pork Shop or from Gloria, (856)223-5111.

**Fri-Sun, 9/30-10/2: Tri-Quarter Gathering.** Theme of this year's gathering at Camp Ockanickon, Medford Lakes, N.J. Is "Gathered Among Friends". See the article on p. 17 for more information. To receive the Weekend Schedule & Registration Form, e-mail Marsha Gaspar, <mstar8000@yahoo.com>, or call (856)869-3431.

**Sat, 10/1: Friends School Fall Festival.** Call the school, (856)478-2908, for details of this annual event.



**Sun, 10/2: Movie Night at Salem MM.** Salem MM's Worship & Ministry Committee hosts a movie night in the meeting's annex starting at 7:30 pm. Tentatively scheduled, *Tangled*. Further information from Becky Shapiro, (856)358-2385, <heddwch@comcast.net>.

**Thu, 10/6: Friends Village Golf Outing.** The tenth annual Golf Outing will be held once again at the Centerton Country Club, Pittsgrove, N.J. Proceeds will benefit the Friends Village Benevolence Fund. The brochure for the event will be found at <[www.friendsvillage.org/files/44\\_2011GolfBrochure.pdf](http://www.friendsvillage.org/files/44_2011GolfBrochure.pdf)>. For further information, call Daphne Hollingshead, (856)769-1500, or e-mail her, <dholingshead@fhaw.org>.

**Sun, 11/6: Movie Night at Salem MM.** Salem MM's Overseers host a movie night in the meeting's annex starting at 6:00 pm—movie to be announced. For further information call Becky Shapiro, (856) 358-2385, <heddwch@comcast.net>.

**Thu-Sun, 12/1-12/4: Ten Thousand Villages at Woodstown MM.**

Once again Woodstown hosts the Ten Thousand Villages crafts sale in conjunction with the Friday evening Woodstown by Candlelight tour. Times will be announced as the date comes closer; call the coordinator, (856)769-0066, <saalemquarter@gmail.com>.

## *Directions to Greenwich Meeting*

1. Take Rt. 77 or 40 to Pole Tavern Circle (where 77 & 40 cross) and follow directions from #2 below. **OR** Take Rt. 49 to Shiloh and turn onto 620, then follow the directions from #4. below.
2. From Pole Tavern Circle take Rt. 635 to Rt. 49. (Route 49 joins from the right. No need to turn, just continue straight ahead.) [If you run into a detour on Rt. 620 around a car show, don't worry. The detour should take you to Rt. 49. Go left on route 49.]
3. Continue on 49 East for about a mile to the small town of Shiloh. The road is suddenly surrounded by trees.
4. From Shiloh take Rt. 620 to where it dead-ends at Rt. 703.
5. Go left. Follow that road through Greenwich. The meeting-house is on the left.

For next year's summer newsletter, Tom, I think we also want to add directions via NJ 77 through Bridgetown, making the left-right dogleg onto 607. It's not as pleasant a drive, but the roads are more major and probably easier for some folks to follow. (Also, it's shorter for those coming from Seaville to take NJ 49 west to the dogleg and then 607 to Greenwich, instead of continuing on to Shiloh) - Phil.



***Salem Quarter News*** is the official publication of Salem Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and appears four times a year. Please address all comments and questions to Phil Anthony, Coordinator.

***Acknowledgements*** Picture credits: Cover: Molly Carpenter, Salem MM. P. 9 Debbi Callahan, Friends Village. P. 10 Friends School. P. 15 Phil Anthony.

***Editorial Advisory Board*** Tom Etherington, Mullica Hill MM; Becky Shapiro, Salem MM; Judy Suplee, Mullica Hill MM; Cindy Vitto, Mullica Hill MM.

**Salem Quarterly Meeting** meets in session for business four times a year and carries on activities at other times; see the Quarter Calendar for details. It is made up of the southernmost Quaker congregations in New Jersey. The monthly meetings gather for business once a month and meet in worship every Sunday. Many also provide children's or adult First-day School (religious education). The worship groups schedule their meetings differently. Call the listed numbers or visit the websites for information. The monthly meetings and worship groups making up Salem Quarter are:

**Greenwich:** Upper Greate Street P.O. Box 18, Greenwich, N.J. 08323  
(856) 451-8217, 15 Sep–15 Jun, Lower Greate Street 15 Jun–15 Sept,  
First-day School 10:30 am, worship 11:30 am

**Mickleton:** 413 Kings Highway, Mickleton, N.J. 08056 (856) 845-7682  
[www.pym.org/salem-qm/mickleton](http://www.pym.org/salem-qm/mickleton) [www.meetup.com/mickletonmeeting/](http://www.meetup.com/mickletonmeeting/) Worship 10:00 am, children's First-day School 10:15

**Mullica Hill:** 2 Woodstown Road (Route 45 just south of Route 77), P.O. Box 67, Mullica Hill, N.J. 08062 (856) 478-2184 [mullicahillfriends.org](http://mullicahillfriends.org)  
Sunday School 9:45 am, worship 11:00 am Sep–May; worship 10:00 am Jun–Aug

**Salem:** East Broadway at Walnut Street, P.O. Box 7, Salem, N.J. 08079  
Worship 10:30; First-day School 9:15 am Sept.-May

**Seaville:** 3088 South Shore Road (Rte. 9, 1 mile S. of Rte. 50), Ocean View, N.J. 08230 (609) 624-1165 [seavillequaker.tripod.com](http://seavillequaker.tripod.com)  
Worship 10:00 am; Children's First-day School 10:00 am. Beach meetings (weather permitting) , south side of 59th Street jetty, Ocean City, 12 Jun–Labor Day, 9:00 am; Grant Street beach, Cape May, May–Oct, 9:00 am

**Southern State Worship Group:** Call Roshan Dinshah for info 856-694-3025

**Woodbury:** 124 North Broad Street, Woodbury, N.J. 08096, (856) 845-5080  
[www.pym.org/pym\\_mms/woodburynj\\_salq.php](http://www.pym.org/pym_mms/woodburynj_salq.php) [www.meetup.com/Woodbury-Friends-Meeting/](http://www.meetup.com/Woodbury-Friends-Meeting/) First-day School 10:00 am, worship 11:15 am

**Woodstown,** 104 North Main St., P.O. Box 13, Woodstown, N.J. 08098,  
(856) 769-9839 <http://www.woodstownfriends.org/> First-day School 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am

**Coordinator:** Phil Anthony, P.O. Box 55, Woodstown, N.J. 08098-0055  
(856) 769-0066 [salemquarter@gmail.com](mailto:salemquarter@gmail.com)

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LISTMASTERS

**Salem Quarterly Meeting**  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the  
Religious Society of Friends  
PO Box 55  
Woodstown, NJ 08098-0055  
**Change Service Requested**

*Quarterly Meeting*  
*Lower Greate St. Meeting House*  
*Greenwich*  
*September 11, 2011*  
*(Directions on p. 22)*

*2:30 Gather*

*3:00 Business Mtg.*

*5:00 Brown-bag Supper*

*6:00 "Nonviolent Responses  
to Terrorism"*

*7:00 Worship*

*Child care, beverages, and dessert provided.*