



Salem Quarter News

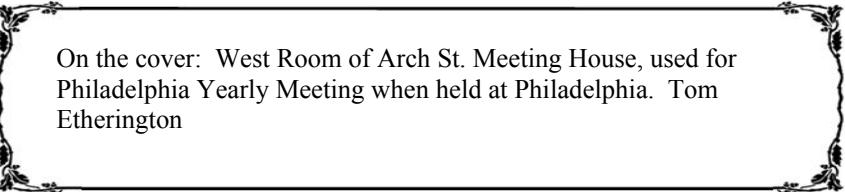
Spring 2014

*Let us consider
how to provoke one another
to love and good deeds,
not neglecting
to meet together.*

We can grow in love for others by knowing that God made their souls. And by trying to put ourselves in their shoes and trying to understand why they act as they do. It helps us to be more loving when we try to understand what has influenced them to come to their current actions and attitudes.

Growth in love arises from our growing relationship with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will lead us into ways of love. As we grow in love our whole paradigm shifts from centering on ourselves to centering on God. This results in altering our usual attitudes toward others and therefore altering our unhealthy patterns of behavior toward them.

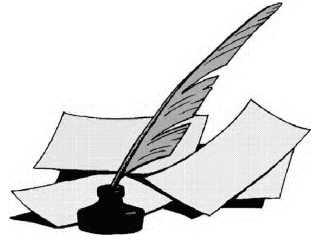
Virginia Schurman



On the cover: West Room of Arch St. Meeting House, used for Philadelphia Yearly Meeting when held at Philadelphia. Tom Etherington

From Darkness to Light

Barry Sloane, Clerk of Quarter



When I was in fifth grade, I read an essay in my civics book from the Mayor of a Midwestern town. He said that if you look for good in people, you will find it; if you look for bad, you will find that too. The question we all have to answer is who would we rather know; good people or bad people? He also said that you can always find the good in people no matter what. I was struck by that then and still find it to be true today. This brings me to my story.

During my childhood, our next door neighbors were, euphemistically speaking... “a little difficult.” Mrs. Weeks was a widow who lived in a corner property butting up to our property and the folks who lived behind us. Living with her was her daughter, Lenora; a lawyer at a time when very few women were lawyers, and her son in law, Ralph who was a well-connected municipal judge. I never once, in the 18 years I knew Mrs. Weeks, saw her smile. She looked like an evil witch and she acted like it. I have truly never met an angrier person. She scared me as a child to the point of persistent nightmares. To this day, I shudder at the intensity of her hatred.

One of the first things I remember about her was when she hung a lot of dirty rags and strung chicken wire on our side of her property. After several attempts to reason with her and her family, my parents asked the police to do something. The town I grew up in was a relatively affluent suburban setting and they had ordinances about things like property maintenance, so this seemed like a logical response. The cops wouldn’t do anything, probably because of Ralph, so my father built a fence. Mrs. Weeks responded by throwing broken glass over the fence knowing that we kids often went barefoot in the summer. That was just the start.

She took my sister and her best friend to court charging them with attacking her and ripping her mink coat. They were away in summer camp during the month this supposedly happened and they were 11 years old at the time.

She had six dogs she regularly walked. One day, she turned her dogs on my brother who was walking by on the other side of the street. When my parents took her to court regarding this, the transcripts were myste-

riously altered.

When our neighbor to the rear moved in, he couldn't understand all the acrimony and he got along with the Weeks family—for a month. Mrs. Weeks poured tar on his newly planted hedge and later tried to take a hatchet to new plantings my father had put in our front yard and in the process threatened my father with the hatchet.

The son-in-law and daughter actively participated in a lot of these activities and the family was so toxic that nobody in our neighborhood would willingly have anything to do with them. At one point they had put a .45 automatic prominently in a rear window of their house facing us, having previously making some veiled threats. I remember the detectives coming out and dutifully taking notes and yet three weeks later, the police report on the incident disappeared; the well connected judge again.

As a kid, the take away for me was these people were totally evil and the police and courts could not be trusted. Did I mention that I really hated those people? Then one day everything changed.

Ralph died. His last act on Earth was retrieving a balloon for a kid out of a tree. It had never occurred to me that these people were capable of any sort of kindness. This one act started a change in my perspective about these people.

When Mrs. Weeks died, Lenora was by herself. Some of the nuns in the convent in the neighborhood would visit her. I found out that Lenora had no food in the fridge; only beer and lots of it. She eventually withered away from loneliness and whatever demons she had to face.

Years later, I finally processed that personal hurt from these people. I don't know why she was like she was, but it is pretty clear Mrs. Weeks was an angry, hurt and broken human being. I cannot begin to imagine how her demons affected those nearest her. I feel so sorry for them and their self-imposed misery. What a hellish existence! Yet there must have been kindnesses they shared among each other and they were kind to their dogs.

When I think about these people, I realize that they were capable of caring and they were so vulnerable. I cannot hold a grudge in spite of their behavior toward us. I am grateful to have known them and learned the lesson they had for me. I guess that mayor from the Midwest is right ... you can find the good in everyone.

Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes

12/8/2013

Salem Quarterly Meeting met 12/8/2013 at Salem Monthly Meeting. Out of worship, assistant clerk Tom Etherington (Mullica Hill) convened the meeting, welcomed Friends and thanked Salem for their hospitality. There was a Friendly presence for business of seventeen representing five of the seven Monthly Meetings in the quarter.

Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting on 9/8/2013 were approved as they appeared in the Salem Quarter News.

On behalf of the **Nominating Committee**, Peggy Warner reminded Friends of the location of the current list of officers and committees. She indicated that the annual meeting will be scheduled for January 2014 and highlighted the positions that will need to be filled.

Christine Cameron (Salem) presented a report about the **2013 Tri-Quarter Gathering** on behalf of Marsha Gaspar (Woodbury), clerk of the **Tri-Quarter Gathering**. The report highlighted the workshops, experiences, as well as the statistical attendance data. (*See report p. 12*)

The **Finance Committee** report was presented by Michael Shapiro (Salem). The Quarter expenses are at or under budget for the fiscal year. All bills that have been presented to the Treasurer have been paid and monthly meeting covenant payments are being received on schedule. The Finance Committee will be meeting in early February to consider the 2014-2015 budget and review our financial status.

Mike Ayars (Woodstown) reported on behalf of the **Steering Committee**. Paul Somers filled in for the committee clerk while Mike was traveling. The Steering Committee asked the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer to provide a balance sheet to the Finance committee for consideration. The Salem Quarter Fellowship of Quaker Artists will be having an art show including performance art beginning on Friday 12/13 with a reception at Friends Village. The delay on mailing of the latest Salem Quarter News is being addressed. Program topics for future quarterly meetings include The Underground Railroad and Cornelia Hancock. (*See report p. 11*)

Sandra Boone Murphy (Mickleton), clerk of the **Indian Affairs Committee** presented a report from the committee. Sandy spoke about the impact that the lack of official recognition has on the local tribe. She noted that they are not asking us for anything at this time, but remain appreciative of the minute of support we previously offered. In view of the updated political environment, they are continuing to seek state recognition through the Attorney General's office and also federal

recognition. Sandy shared her recent experience of attending the Naming Ceremony to which Friends were invited and the general public is not included. Sometime attender of Greenwich meeting and Quarter Indian Affairs committee member, Carol Lively received her name, Whispering Nightingale, at this gathering. They asked the Finance Committee to continue to maintain their budget line item despite the lack of use so far.

Mike Ayars (Woodstown) presented a comprehensive report on **Friends Village** highlighting reports on the Memory Care unit, effects of the Affordable Care Act, Friends at Home and the Salem Quarter Fellowship of Quaker Artists art show.

The Worship & Ministry committee met at the home of Michael & Rebecca Shapiro (Salem) on Friday evening, out of worship they heard reports and confirmed details for planned events.

Paul Somers (Greenwich) reported from the Trustees. They have not had any issues other than the placement and subsequent removal of plastic flowers adorning graves. He noted that area residents have an emotional connection to the cemetery and often are found contributing to the physical care of the property.

Friends School Mullica Hill is delighted to be hosting the PYM Pastoral Care Thread Gathering on 2/22/2014.

Additional announcements were made and the meeting was closed in worship.

Rebecca Shapiro, recording clerk

In meeting frequently together,
opportunity presents
for the exercise of goodly care,
one over another for general benefit
and the encouragement
and preservation of individuals
who may be exposed to
temptation and trial.

Elias Hicks to Benjamin Blydenburgh, c. 1816

My Friends, My Choice

What do you think of when you here the name *Friends Village at Woodstown*?

Do you recall family who lived on campus; a summer job; a volunteer project? Friends Village may be a destination you visit regularly, or perhaps you have yet to see any of the expansions of service over the past decade. You may never have toured at all. If that's the case we hope you will take the opportunity to come see us soon.

We also hope you think of Friends Village as a resource; not only for housing in retirement, but also for healing. Short-term rehabilitation on our campus is open to anyone who needs therapy after a hospitalization. Rehabilitation with an eye toward returning clients to their homes and communities is a large part of what we do. You don't have to be a resident of the Village to utilize this service.

Assisted living is another component of Friends Village services. The Hancock Assisted Living wing was created by renovating a section of the original building to create eight new assisted living units, each equipped with a kitchenette and private bath, but connected to a communal living space as well. This project represents the first expansion of assisted living services in Salem County in the past eight years.

The new space, which opened in February, has a very modern décor with warm, bright colors. We have already welcomed several new residents. If you haven't had a chance to visit, please call and schedule a tour.

Friends Village is also a resource for care in the home. *Friends At Home* was launched last year.

Designed for seniors who need extra assistance at home, either during a downturn in their health or as part of recovery from a short-term injury or illness, the Friends At Home staff is ready to help clients maintain their independence in their own home for as long as possible.

All of these aspects of service — rehabilitation, assisted living and home care — are part of the Friends Village mission to support our older population. Friends Village is a non-profit organization with over a century of experience dedicated to comprehensive housing and dignified, flexible healthcare for older adults of moderate means.

Supporting this mission includes raising funds. The Friends Village



Development Department seeks grants to support projects which benefit our residents; coordinates direct appeals to individuals; and organizes special events. You can help by marking two dates on your calendar: May 15 and September 17.

May 15 is the date of this year's Golf Outing. Yes, it will be in the spring, not the fall, and will be held at the Town and Country Golf Links in Woodstown. Even if you don't golf, you can join us for lunch. Details for the outing are available on our website www.friendsvillage.org.

On September 17 we will celebrate our anniversary celebration. Friends Village was founded in September more than 115 years ago. This event will honor the past, celebrate the present, and chart a course for the future. And we are seeking volunteers to help plan this celebration. Join us won't you? Contact Mary Lou Frank, assistant director of development, at 769-1500, ext. 2744.



NEW KITCHEN FEATURED - Friends Village Executive Director Tom Lyons reviewed plans for the Hancock Assisted Living with staff members (left to right) Patience Oakes, MSW, and Mary Kopec, RN, unit manager.



Gail Scuderi with her creations at Friends Village.

Friends Village and Salem Quarter Arts Fellowship Come Together

Salem Quarter's annual art exhibit on December 8th at Salem MM, the largest exhibit yet, was moved the following day to Friends Village where it remained for six weeks. With the formation in May of Salem Quarter Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts there was a surge of new energy for the visual and performing arts and a desire to share those gifts with Friends Village, which is under the care of our Quarter.

We are grateful to John Maisch, Director of Resident Services, who provided the opportunity for this exhibit and did an excellent job working with our art committee. An artists' reception was held on December 13th and what those in attendance saw, heard and tasted was impressive. Tables were laden with appetizers, exotic wraps, fruits, fancy desserts and beverages. Five performing artists gave us song, piano playing and poetry. Their contributions were lovely and we would have welcomed many more performances because we had the time and space for them.

The walls of the Hancock Gallery and its glass showcase were filled with 85 pieces of art work from 19 visual artists from Greenwich, Salem, Woodstown, Mullica Hill and Mickleton Meetings. Media represented included paintings, photography, ceramics, sculpture, quilting, cartooning, computer generated drawings, found objects, woodworking and jewelry. 19 pieces of art were sold, two having been created by firsttime

exhibitors.

Complements and expressions of joy were received from Friends Village staff, Board of Directors, residents, and visitors. We were told repeatedly that what made our exhibit exceptional was its wide variety of media and the diversity of expression within each medium.

This was an amazing event made possible by a few people. Friends Village has invited us to exhibit again this December/January. Imagine the possibilities for a second exhibit that would be planned and executed by a much larger committee! We welcome, and indeed encourage participation from Friends throughout the Quarter. Envisioning the next exhibit and initiating start-up needs to begin this spring. Let us know in what way or ways you would like to contribute your gifts by contacting Mary Waddington at marywaddington@comcast.net.

The 2013 Art Committee:

Christine Cameron	Paul Somers
Molly Carpenter	Jennifer VanGeem
Dana Gayner	Mary Waddington



Paul Somers at the piano.

Report of the Steering Committee to Salem Quarterly Meeting December 2013

Thanks to Paul Somers for clerking in the Clerk's absence.

Following up on an inquiry from Seaville, the Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer are preparing a balance sheet of all Salem Quarter restricted, designated, and unrestricted fund balances. Steering Committee will consider it and may give the Finance Committee some input.

Salem Quarter Fellowship of Quaker Artists continues under the care of the Steering Committee. The Quarter is hosting an artists' reception at Friends Village, and will be the featured art exhibit at the village through January.

We will inquire at our mailing house why the winter edition of Salem Quarter News was so delayed in reaching our members. It was delivered to them early to prevent the normal holiday delays.

Future Quarterly Meeting programs:

March (at Woodstown): Underground Railroad (program being developed with input from Quarter members with strong URR interests).

June (at Lower Alloways Creek): Cornelia Hancock, possibly with a re-enactor/presentation from a member of the Hancock family.

Mike Ayars, clerk

Report in the 2013 Tri-Quarter Gathering of Friends to Salem Quarterly Meeting on December 8, 2013

On behalf of the Planning Committee for the 2013 Tri-Quarter Gathering of Friends, I am pleased to report that over 70 Friends from 13 Monthly Meetings shared a weekend together that focused on how we meet and respond to the transitions in our lives.

The theme “**Transitions: Trusting the Process**” was explored via workshops presented by four Friends from Salem Quarter: Sandra Boone Murphy of Mickleton Meeting presented the workshop “**Spiritual Revelation and Resolve**”; Dennis Deems of Woodbury Meeting led the workshop “**Receptivity and Responsiveness through Story**”; Marsha Gaspar of Woodbury Meeting delivered the workshop “**Trusting & Tapping Our Spiritual Connection**”; and George Crispin of Woodbury Friends facilitated the workshop “**Embracing Change**”. All workshops were well-attended and well-received. Other activities included special children’s workshops, an all-day challenge course on Saturday, intergenerational games, guided stargazing, boating and canoeing, free time for reflection, hayrides, bonfire, teen social and worship at the Camp’s outdoor lakeside chapel.

Increased Attendance

We are encouraged that attendance was up from last year’s 59 participants to 71 this year, still far from the 100 we had enjoyed in 2010. We believe that the slump in the economy has been a factor in our decline in attendance in 2011 and 2012, so it is a promising sign that we saw 16 new attendees this year. Thus, we will continue our “tell a Friend” campaign to bring attendance up again in 2014. Attending, 15% were from Burlington Quarter, 37% were from the Haddonfield Quarter, 44% were from Salem Quarter and 4% were from other Quarters. Again, 13 Monthly Meetings were represented at this year’s Tri-Quarter.

As to ages of participants, there were 49 adults (69%); 8 teens (11%); and 14 children (20%). While we are gratified with the increase in attendance, we did miss quite a few of our “regulars” who were not able to attend this year due to a variety of reasons spanning from being away at college to the infirmities of aging.

Increased Support

Responding to the shortfall of \$1,500 that the Tri-Quarter experienced in 2012, the three Quarters came through in 2013 with increases

as follows: Salem Quarter, from \$500 to \$800; Haddonfield Quarter from \$600 to \$1,000; and Burlington Quarter from \$500 to \$1,000. This totaled \$2,800 in support from the three Quarters.

We were also blessed by a last-minute grant from Friends Institute for \$1,500 which was judiciously disbursed by our Registrar to ten Friends between ages 18 – 40 years per the parameters of the grant. A proposal will be submitted earlier in 2014 so as to make best use of an FI grant, should one be forthcoming, meaning that we will seek out and offer scholarships to young adults who have stopped attending because they could not afford the relatively modest fee.

Fees, by the way, were kept the same as in 2012, in sensitivity to those of us affected by the economy. As an example, the “early bird” fee for an adults was \$155 for a weekend that included the aforementioned activities plus three nights of lodging and six hearty meals ...a frugal “vacation” by most standards.

Finances

We believe we will be breaking even this year – that is, our intake will cover expenses -- as opposed to being down by \$1,500 as we were last year. This will be due to increased attendance as well as the generosity of the Quarters and Friends Institute.

A detailed report of the 2013 financials will be provided at the March 2014 meeting.

Respectfully submitted in faith and service/ peace and love,
Marsha Gaspar, Clerk, and Cindy Cox Crispin, Registrar

The Holy Pony

by *Michael Hainsworth*

I grew up during the Fifties in a town that was in a transition from what had once been a Colonial Plantation to a suburban collection of modest tract homes. For some reason, development had been very piecemeal leaving a few parcels of land undeveloped for years. My favorites had features like a stream or even better yet, some sort of pool where we might imagine huge fish lurking under the surface just waiting for us to drop them a worm on a line, although I must admit all we ever saw turned out to be tadpoles. There were also trees to climb and some of the trees had the added benefit of providing apples, pears, peaches or plums. The fruit seemed to go from rock hard to rotten overnight but it ripened in an order we quickly learned and took advantage of. We built “forts” in the trees and under them which were generally respected by the other kids, although we usually abandoned each fort soon after it was completed. There was nothing like wandering down to your latest fort, on a hot summer day, falling in the water and topping it off with a couple almost ripe peaches.

Vestiges of the old Plantation were still there. It was now called a Farm. It had been owned by the same family since before the Revolution, their Deed was a Land Grant signed by George 3rd. All that was left was the Big House, a smaller Manager’s House several barns, pastures and a Pony breeding operation. They sold registered Welsh show ponies that were absolutely beautiful, ready to enter in prestigious horse shows and cost about as much as the surrounding houses.

The man who cared for and trained the show ponies had an arrangement that allowed him to keep his own non-registered ponies there as well. He sold Pony rides every Sunday as well as an occasional pony from him inventory. Mr. Jim took pride in his work and every pony on the place, regardless of its value, was healthy, properly groomed and good natured. He also had a way with kids. He would let us come around and watch, even help, so long as we followed his instructions. I learned a lot from him. He would buy old arthritic ponies and use them as stable mates for the young excitable show ponies. The old ponies were calm and they would keep the youngsters calm as well. He would make a few bucks by selling the stable mate when its charge was eventually sold, keeping them together and easing the adjustment to their new home. He taught us how to approach a pony, to avoid anything that would startle it, to be gentle yet confident and how to read the signs ponies use to tell you what they are thinking.

The really interesting thing I learned was the importance he placed on reading people. When he was doing Pony rides, he started sizing up potential riders as their cars entered the lot. He was looking for what he called a herky jerky kid. What he meant by that was a kid who didn’t listen, made sudden moves or otherwise would confuse or startle a relatively inexperienced pony. He found that Fathers who drove aggressively tended to have herky jerky kids. When he came across one he made sure the kid was assigned a mount that

won't panic, even with a saddle full of chaos. Sometimes, there were problems with a parent who wanted to select the mount. Mr. Jim couldn't just say "I've diagnosed your family with Herky Jerky syndrome, which is contagious to young ponies, and therefore, your child may only be exposed to ponies that are immune." He had to be more diplomatic. A Diplomat he was, if he had been working at the State Department, we wouldn't have had to worry about the Russians in Eastern Europe. He could have calmed them down with praise and thanks for their efforts, invited them to a big, friendly barbeque followed by a Victory Parade, with cheering crowds tossing flowers and passing out snacks. They would have been halfway to the Russian border before they had any second thoughts.

He had been born and raised not a quarter mile from my house. When he was my age the streams had catfish and bluegills in abundance. They trapped rabbits, squirrels and muskrats for food and their pelts. Each family kept at least one pig and a few chickens as well as a vegetable garden. Each Fall they would butcher the pigs and smoke the meat for the Winter. Everybody there worked on the farm and was paid by the day, when there was work. There was no school, everybody worked, when there was work.

The system had evolved when New Jersey finally abolished Slavery in 1846. Crops and Livestock still needed to be tended. Everybody still needed a place to live and something to eat. Everyone was now free to come and go, if you had somewhere to go. The old slave huts were still there but now they could command rent. Day wages and credit against the rent kept things going for close to 100 years until trucks and tractors destroyed the market for mules along with a lot of hand work in the fields. Crops still needed to be picked by hand but the Depression provided cheap, migrant labor on demand. The end came when the Government bought the old cabins, knocked them down and built a public housing co-operative. For some reason, neither Mr. Jim's family nor any of the other families got one of the new units. The Farm did give them generous use of a truck to move them and their things to Camden. If it had not been for the huge investment in barns, fences and pastures, from the days when they bred horses and mules, there would never have been a pony operation and I would never have met Mr. Jim.

Sometimes you just have to adapt and sometimes things seem fine the way they are. I had no complaints. The neighborhood was crawling with kids my age. Our Fathers were almost all WWII veterans who were obsessed with domestic life, Little League and home improvements. They all had good steady jobs which were sure to last forever. Our Mothers were always home, unless they were at the Hospital having another baby. There were two new schools in town, one Catholic and one Public, the classrooms were crowded but that kept the teachers from pestering you too much unless you were very unlucky or really out of line. One of the things the Nuns did, to keep the class occupied between lessons, was prayers, specifically "Hail Mary's". Passing out a test three Hail Mary's, erasing the blackboard two Hail Mary's, etc. Of course you didn't want to waste all those prayers so the Nuns would let you decide what you wanted to pray for. They had all sorts of ideas, the Communists, famines

in Africa, unbaptized babies, cancer, you name it, the list went on and on. The really neat thing was you got to pick whatever you wanted to pray for, sort of like Green Stamps. I picked a pony.

You may have heard that God works in mysterious ways. I'm here to tell you, He also works on his own schedule. I recruited my brother and the kids on the block to help me and we racked up the prayer count but still no pony. Then, one day, it happened. I look out of my fort and there it was, a miniature version of the Lone Ranger's horse "Silver". I don't know if it was male or female, didn't notice. It was absolutely beautiful, the coat was so clean and bright it reflected the sun. It just stood there, looking at me. I was able to walk up, gently pat its neck and take hold of its halter. It had only a halter, no saddle or bridle. That did not seem unusual since I had been praying for a pony and had never said anything about a saddle. It really worked, it was a miracle. God is supposed to have infinite everything but I didn't want to test his patience by going back to him with a list of accessories. I would have to handle the saddle myself. Maybe I could learn to ride bareback; besides, I suddenly had a lot of things to take care of before I could do any riding.

The first thing I had to do was find some kind of lead. I had a hold on the halter but that was a last resort thing to do. This pony had perfect manners and holding it by the halter would make it "head shy". I needed to find some kind of rope, to tie to the halter, so the pony would be able to move its head while I held the rope instead of the halter. What I had was my belt, which served the purpose but left my pants a little loose. The fort was under an apple tree. While the apples were not yet ripe, I discovered that the pony seemed to enjoy them. I gave it a couple but soon discovered that stretching to pick an apple caused my pants to fall down. So, I held the pony with one hand and my pants up with the other. It was time to go home. I literally had my hands full.

We started for home; I was leading the pony and thinking about all the things I had to do right away. My father was a rigger at the shipyard and loved showing me the things you could do with a length of rope. I was sure he would "help" me make beautiful custom leads fit for a Holy pony. Where I was going to keep it was going to be more of a challenge. We didn't have a stable or anything that could serve as a stable. We had a fenced in backyard that would keep it secure but was clearly too small for pasture or exercise. I had a feeling my mother was going to have an issue with turning the backyard into a paddock, besides the expense of building a suitable shelter and the cost of feed. How was I going to earn that kind of money? Of course, I would take it to school with me. That would help with the pasture and exercise but meant a second fence and shelter. It also meant I would have to deal with the Pastor and the Nuns that ran the school. Now I knew that the Pastor would have to start the process to get the pony recognized as an official miracle. I could also imagine him making room for a holy pony somewhere but I had a feeling that the Nuns were going to have an issue with pony poop. I could imagine them all getting together and praying that the pony be transferred to the Vatican or a Trappist monastery somewhere. This was getting more difficult by the minute.

Then a local Cop pulled up alongside of us. “What ya got there?” He said. The Chief of Police was my father’s cousin and most of the Force was related to him in one way or another. I was accustomed to their making “small talk” or “suggestions” to keep me out of trouble. I saw them as friendly but strict. I explained the miracle of the Holy pony to him. “Did you check the Pony Farm to see if they were missing any ponies?” He asked. That seemed awfully far-fetched to me. They had good secure fences and gates and the ponies were never alone when they were at pasture. I had never heard of one of them just wandering off. But, it was something that someone might ask so we turned around and headed to the Pony Farm, with a Police escort, to clear that up.

Before we got to the farm itself we came upon a car with a horse trailer parked in the lot. Out of it pops a man who looked really mad coming right at me. I was sure he was going to hit me and I wanted to run but I couldn’t run leading the pony. The pony was scared, as well, and wanted to run but that wasn’t going to work. I could never keep up and a panic stricken pony running loose on the road was liable to get hit. All I could do was try to calm the pony by patting its neck while my pants fell down again.

Then the Cop appeared between us and the man. He pushed the man back and said “You touch that boy, you wake up in Jail.” They started to argue. The man accusing me of stealing his pony. Now the Cop got really mad. He told the man to shut his mouth while he still could. He promised to send him to Jail, if he didn’t behave and told him he better have proof of every statement he made or being sued by my Father would be the least of his problems. I could tell the Cop was on my side but there was a problem. Evidently, the man had a “bill of sale” that the pony was his. The Cop talked about the pony as if it were Godzilla; terrorizing the town until I singlehandedly captured it and went looking for the fool that let it loose on an unsuspecting community. While nothing he said was an outright lie, it had nothing to do with the truth either. The truth was that he was doing two things at the same time. He was calming down the man and giving me a chance to think about these new developments. While I might have Mr. Jim, my Father, the Police and even God himself on my side; Herky Jerky man had a “bill of sale”.

I lead the Holy Pony into the trailer and the Cop shut the door. I never looked back to watch it go. Over the years, the market for show ponies fell off and Mr. Jim got out of the business. They knocked down the old big house and built a senior citizen complex, The Manager’s house was knocked down for a Pizzeria, the barns were knocked down for a new Middle School and the little streams where Mr. Jim caught fish and we caught tadpoles were enclosed in cement pipe and buried as sewer mains. I suppose everything has to adapt, in its time, and I was no exception.

Society of Friends



Beach Meeting

May to October

9am Sundays

7 pm Wednesdays

Congress Street Beach

Near the Jetty

Cape May, NJ

All Welcome

Check Out Our On-line Edition

Last December our Newsletter was delivered late. This was the result of an unusually large amount bulk mail, both at the mailing house and in the Postal Service. Our production schedule has been changed in an attempt to prevent this from happening again.

But, should you not receive your copy of SQ News in a timely fashion for any reason, our on-line edition can help fill the gap. In the past, the on-line edition has been posted on the website when the mailed copy is delivered to our mailboxes. From now on, the on-line edition will be posted to our website when the printer sends the copies to the mailing house. So it should be available about the middle of the month before quarterly meeting.

The on-line edition is posted on the Salem Quarter website at www.salemquarter.net. It has color photographs and active hypertext links and is posted in PDF format so it is viewable on any computer, tablet, or smart phone. From the homepage, follow the link to Salem Quarter News, which will take you to a page that offers links to all of the booklet format editions as well as many older editions

Be a Part of Salem Quarter News

The content of Salem Quarter News is totally dependent upon contributions from our members. News of your meetings activities and programs, creative writing (poems, stories, essays) are always needed, as are pictures of life in Salem Quarter, illustrations for written contributions, and photographs, drawings or paintings for the front cover. See page 22 for more information on how to contribute.

Join us at
March Quarterly Meeting
at Woodstown Meeting
March 9 at 9:00 AM

(see back cover & p 22 for directions and agenda)

Suzanne Day, a member of Westfield meeting, will bring March Quarterly Meeting the report of PYM's Long Range Planning group, which has been working for almost two years on the strategic direction for our Yearly Meeting. After a series of Listening Sessions in every Quarter (including Salem Quarter), they have discerned common needs, aspirations, and yearnings across the monthly and quarterly meetings.

Suzanne will lead a discussion of these needs and aspirations, and the proposed significant changes to PYM that will focus energies in a significantly streamlined manner.

She will tell us how they are looking for ways to assist local Meetings, foster dynamic, spirit-led communities that nurture the spirit, welcome seekers, encourage diversity, and engage more with our children and young people.

Suzanne will lead a discussion on how effective communications and technologies can connect Friends and communicate clear messages about Quakers. She will suggest how to simplify governance and administration; hold annual sessions and other PYM-wide gatherings; and facilitate effective, PYM-wide corporate witness and social action. She will listen for our input and experiences.



Yearly Meeting, Past and Future

Tom Etherington

Because the program at QM will be a presentation about the future of PYM, I've been thinking about just what a yearly meeting is. The first groups of Friends meeting together were groups for worship. The formation of decision-making, minute writing groups actually began with a yearly meeting of Friends in England. They met primarily to address the conditions of Friends suffering imprisonment or loss of property or livelihood as a result of their testimony to the gospel ministry and so was known as a Meeting for Sufferings. As suffering increased, Quarterly meetings came about as a means to meet Friends increased needs. Drawing from a smaller geographical area, they could meet more frequently. Eventually monthly meetings were established consisting of Friends from the worship groups in a much smaller area.

When Friends felt the need to tone down their radical witness and bring a more ordered witness from a more conservative society, George Fox was able to re-purpose the existing structure of yearly, quarterly and monthly meetings to be the arbiter of Friends conduct. These meetings could control membership (so Friends wouldn't be blame for outrageous conduct of non-members) and gave a legally recognizable structure for Friends marriages, as well as enforcing a uniform code of conduct for Friends.

As Friends lost the distinctive discipline and ministry that had defined them for hundreds of years, and many Friends began to see themselves as just one of many denominations of the Christian church, their yearly meetings, including our own Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, began to function more and more like the central services of a Protestant denomination. They produced curricula for First Day Schools (using a Quaker name for a Protestant form), coordinated publicity and relief work, and represented Friends on inter-denominational church councils. Money left to them by Quaker businessmen and industrialists enabled a wealthy Society to establish and maintain offices and staff.

The recent financial crisis has caused us to think seriously about our yearly meeting. Many of the financial legacies are used up and, the most recent generation of Friends having largely eschewed involvement in business and industry, there is little hope of sustaining gifts in the future. It seems there is little or no chance of sustaining the yearly meeting as it is. The challenge is to find ways for the old forms to sustain us or to replace them with forms that meet today's needs.

Directions to Woodstown Meeting House

Coming from the south, enter Woodstown on Rt. 40, 45 , or Yorketown Rd., S. Main St. At the traffic light in the center of town, go north on Rt. 45. The meeting house is directly ahead as you approach the first turn after the light.

From the north, enter Woodstown on Rt. 45 from Mullica Hill. After you cross the bridge into town, the meeting house is about a half mile on your right, just before Rt. 45 turns left.

Google: Friends Meeting, 104 N. Main St., Woodstown, NJ

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 Tom Etherington, editor.

Electronic files are appreciated by the editor, including e-mail, and/or .doc, .txt, .rtf, and .odt files sent as attachments. Paper copy is OK. A printed page consists of 39 lines of about 490 words, plus the header.

Photographs and drawings are also preferred in electronic format. The larger the file size, the better. (I.e. more pixels are better, set picture size to large when possible.) Although most will appear in black and white in SQNews, please submit photos in color. Send contributions to etherington.t@gmail.com. It will help if you start the subject line with SQNews. Mailing address is Tom Etherington, 5775 Irving Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08109. Questions? Send to the above e-mail or call 609-206-5329. Deadlines for 2014 are Jun 27, Apr 28, July 28, and Oct 27.

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Salem Quarterly Meeting meets in session for business four times a year and carries on activities at other times. 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,
Worship 9-9:45, 9:45-10 After-words and general fellowship, 10:00- no
longer than 11:00, First Day School, children and adults.

Mickleton: 413 Kings Highway, Mickleton, N.J. 08056 856-423-3782
mickletonmeeting.org 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
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
Worship 10:00 am; Beach meeting (weather permitting) Congress Street
beach, Cape May, May–Oct, 9:00 am Sundays, 7:00 PM Wednesdays

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

Woodbury: 124 North Broad Street, Woodbury, N.J. 08096, 856 -845-5080
<http://www.pym.org/meetings/location/woodbury-monthly-meeting/>
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- 478-4618 www.woodstownfriends.org First-day School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Salem Quarterly Meeting
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the
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Quarterly Meeting
March 9, 2014
at Woodstown Meeting House
(Directions on p. 22)

9:00 Gather
9:30 Program—The Future of PYM (see p. 16)
10:30 Worship
**12:00 Lunch (soup and bread provided by
Woodstown Mtg.)**
1:00 Business Meeting

Child care, beverages, and dessert provided.