

Salem Quarter News

Fall 2018



*Trust in the Lord,
and do good;
Dwell in the land,
and feed on His faithfulness*

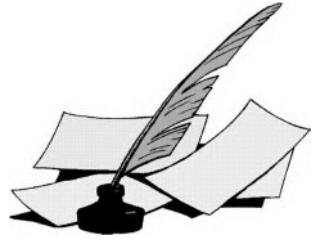
The basic response of the soul to the Light is internal adoration and joy, thanksgiving and worship, self surrender and listening.... And in brief intervals of overpowering visitation we are able to carry the sanctuary frame of mind out into the world, into its turmoil and its faithfulness, and in a hyperaesthesia of the soul, we see all mankind tinged with deeper shadows, and touched with Galilean glories.... But the light fades, and the will weakens, the humdrum returns. Can we stay this fading? No, nor should we try, for we must learn the disciplines of His will, and pass beyond this first lesson of His Grace. But the Eternal Inward Light does not die when ecstasy dies, nor exist only intermittently, with the flickering of our psychic states. Continuously renewed immediacy, not receding memory of the Divine Touch, lies at the base of religious living. Let us explore together the secret of a deeper devotion, a more subterranean sanctuary of the soul, where the Light Within never fades, but burns, a perpetual Flame, where the wills of living water of divine revelation rise up continuously, day by day and hour by hour, steady and transfiguring.... Only if this is possible can the light from the inner sanctuary of the soul be a workaday light for the marketplace, a guide for perplexed feet, a re-creator of culture patterns for the race of man. Thomas Kelly

On the cover: Seaville Meeting Annex, Christine Cameron
Psalm 37:3 NKJV

It's Not Wise to Fool with

Mother Nature

*Dietrich Preston
Clerk of Quarter*



We should be holding the people of North and South Carolina in the light as they are either evacuating or bearing down to brave hurricane Florence. It must be difficult to leave your home only to dread what you will come home to after the gale storm passes as I never have experienced such a catastrophe. I would hope that most if not all residents would heed the authorities mandatory evacuation, but there always seems to be the ones who want to wait it out. I hope they all find a way to evacuate even though they don't want to, for their safety to say the least.

I'm reminded of the story of Noah's Ark. A rather dark story where God sees that his people have become wicked with the exception of Noah and his family. God instructs Noah to build an Ark with exact specifications. Noah then was to gather his wife, his sons, their wives and a male and female of each species of animal from the earth to board the ark and be saved from the looming 40 days and 40 nights of torrential rain.

Regardless of the way this story is told in the Bible, I do not believe God to be angry, punishing or vindictive as it is sometimes portrayed. Rather I believe God challenges us to be responsible, prepared, to make the right choices and to help one another when it is needed. Dwellings and personal property can be rebuilt and replaced albeit with a great amount of physical work and financial undertakings. May we all pray that everyone that resides in the area is safe.

By the time you all are reading this, the storm will have already passed and recovery efforts will be taking place. Human beings are far from perfect, however I find they are very resilient and have the uncanny ability to get back on their feet with an even stronger resolve. Communities will unite to restore whatever damage has been done and stories will be talked about for decades to come. After the rain tapers off, the winds die down and the clouds drift away, the light will always come again.

Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2018

Salem Quarterly Meeting met on Saturday, 9/8/2018 at Seaville Meetinghouse. Out of worship, clerk Dietrich Preston (Woodbury) convened the meeting, welcomed Friends and visitors, and expressed our gratitude to Seaville Friends for their gracious hospitality. We thanked Steve Chase for his presentation this morning.

There was a Friendly presence for business of 22 representing all seven of the monthly meetings in the Quarter.

Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting on 6/10/2018 were approved as they appeared in the Salem Quarter News.

Reports from Quarter Committees:

Finance

No report available.

Nominating: Gail Scuderi

The Quarter Nominating Committee will meet in the next month.

Worship & Ministry: Christine Cameron

The Worship and Ministry report is attached. (see page 8) Worship and Ministry is to convene a called committee for a Memorial Minute for Becky Shapiro to be presented at our December QM. Christine Cameron, Tom Etherington, and Tacy Trull were named to this committee. Tom Etherington is to call a meeting of this committee. Becky's memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 22, at 1 PM at Salem Friends Meeting, followed by tea sandwiches in honor of Becky.

Friends School Mullica Hill: Mike Ayars

School has started. John Bond of Mickleton Meeting has succeeded Bill Carrigan as clerk of the Friends School Board of Trustees.

Indian Affairs: Sandra Boone Murphy

The Indian Affairs Committee report is attached. see page 11 Friends appreciated the very strong and heartfelt message.

Trustees: Paul Somers

We've made no progress in getting the Port Elizabeth Cemetery mowed. We continue to look for someone to cut the grass there. Ken Thompson (of Seaville Meeting) has goats for hire. Diane Metz will touch base with Ken. Paul Somers is the clerk of Quarter Trustees.

Tri-Quarter Gathering:

Lots of good programs for adults and kids are planned. Registration is light so far, but they get more in September, and walk-ins. There is good participation from Haddonfield Quarter, thanks to Linda Lotz (their coordinator). Registration forms are on the Salem Quarter web site.

PYM: Bob Horvay

The new 2018 Faith and Practice has been published. A discount is available for orders for \$100 from the publisher. The next Continuing Session will be November 3 at the Arch Street Meetinghouse. The PYM Nominating Committee is looking for a clerk of PYM, and a Recording Clerk.

Arch Street Meeting is looking for people to act as guides (docents) and has offered to come to monthly meetings to talk about interpreting Quaker Meetinghouses. Mickleton is considering inviting Mullica Hill and Woodbury to meet at Mickleton Meeting. The discussion may benefit our own historical outreach to our meetinghouses including LAC.

Quaker Day will be October 7 this year. Should we have open houses in our own meeting? Publicize in local papers? Friends suggested that Jared Valdez could prepare press releases. Steering Committee will consider this.

Lower Alloways Creek Mike Ayars

The 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse committee will meet in Salem at noon on September 16 to review the final draft of the Preservation Plan. Salem Meeting held a Meeting for Worship at LAC in August. It should be more widely publicized to invite other meetings to worship there. Salem put a sign out front and invited our neighbors at least one of whom attended.

Marketing Communications Mike Ayars reporting for Jared Valdez

Jared reported that 145 unique people opened our Septem-

ber e-bulletin, which was opened a total of 230 times, showing that many people go back to open it up multiple times. This is positive news, indicating that interest in Salem Quarter's electronic communications is growing. Our e-mail list has 374 people. That's a 39% open rate: the industry average for a church is 25%. Our August e-bulletin was opened by 121 unique people.

Salem Quarter News:

Update on new editor: we continue to search for a new editor to organize the submissions we get. Carleton Crispin is interested in assisting a new editor. Jim Murphy expressed interest and he will talk with Tom Etherington.

Old Business:

Incorporation status: Jack Mahon is working on tax exemption paperwork. Mickelton and Seaville are incorporated. Friends Foundation is as well.

Upcoming Quarterly Meetings:

December 2018 QM at Mullica Hill: Friends House Moscow with Pat Stewart: Quakers in Russia, their support of Conscientious Objectors, and an orphanage. Their English language web site is <https://friendshousemoscow.org/>. Friends can subscribe to their newsletter.

March 2019 QM at Woodstown: Buddhism and Quakers –Seijaku Roshi is an American Zen Master, Parent, Priest, Author, Blogger, Keynote Speaker, and visionary pioneer on The Principles of "Authentic Spirituality for The 21st Century". The Pine Winds Zen Center web page is at <http://www.jizo-an.org/>

June 2019 QM at Mickleton: Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's collaborative on gun violence.

New Business:

New Recording Clerk: Nominating Committee will begin to search for a recording clerk to take Becky's place.

Bob Horvay delivered stamps to the Indianapolis Meeting that he has collected over the years. They auction them off and

the proceeds are sent to Right Sharing of World Resources. Besides Mickelton, Salem and Seaville meetings are collecting stamps. Friends should leave 1/8th of inch around stamps when they cut them off an envelope.

Additional Announcements - Around the Quarter:

Greenwich: They are moving back to Upper Meetinghouse on October 1.

Mickleton: They collected back-to-school backpacks.

Salem: They held Meeting for Worship at the 1756 Alloways Creek Meetinghouse in August. Two memorial services are scheduled: Becky Shapiro on September 22 and Jean Whitaker (Suzanne Culver's mother) on September 30.

Seaville: Sewing machines and fabrics have been collected and sent to Syria. There is a special need for walkers and crutches and Medical equipment is needed. They made cloth bags for the food pantry next door. They are also collecting back-to-school supplies.

Woodstown: They are finalizing the Music at Friends schedule for this fall and next spring. We no longer hold the Ten Thousand Villages Festival Sale: it has been discontinued by Ten Thousand Villages. Woodstown serves and sells Fair Trade coffee and tea on the Friday night of the Woodstown by Candlelight tour, and continues to host music that evening.

We closed with worship.

Mike Ayars
Recording

Worship & Ministry Committee

The Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee met on Friday, September 7, 2018 at Mullica Hill Meeting, with eight Friends from four meetings in attendance. We began with worship and considered the need for a new clerk of Worship & Ministry, following the passing of Becky Shapiro. We talked about what Becky had brought to our committee ~ nurturing the depth and richness of our worship. We considered the multiple roles Becky had filled (leading our time together with sensitivity for the needs of worship, taking minutes of meetings, attending quarterly meetings, committee communications, making arrangements for workshops and projects and following up on them, etc.) We decided to try splitting the large amount of work among two or three positions (presiding clerk, recording clerk, and corresponding clerk). Christine Cameron agreed to serve as recording clerk. The presiding clerk's position will be temporarily filled with alternate committee members on a rotating basis, until a Friend is led to offer to serve in the presiding clerk's role.

We talked about some of the projects the committee has brought to the Quarter previously. We discussed further the idea of an afternoon workshop inspired by the Pendle Hill pamphlet, "Welcome to Meeting for Worship," possibly to be held in early November, which would be facilitated by Francisco Burgos, Director of Education at Pendle Hill. Vocal ministry, its discernment and practice would be one focus of the discussion. Friends would share "how we worship," learning from each other's meetings ways to deepen the connection to spirit, and to each other.

Other items carried forward from our last meeting were discussed. A workshop series led by Marcelle Martin, using her latest book "Our Life is Love" as a "one book, one quarter" study is still planned for 2019. Tom Etherington will contact Marcelle to find out a timeframe for the program. Connections are still being made towards prison ministry, taking on writing letters to a prisoner, and supporting the work of Mary Waddington.

We spoke about our Worship & Ministry Committee's work for the Quarter, and the importance of simply listening, of paying attention to Spirit, of giving time to that of the Divine within us.

We discussed the need for Quarterly Meeting to bring forward a Memorial Minute for Becky Shapiro. We shared our thoughts and memories of Becky ~ the immeasurable amount of work she did for the Quarter; her dedication to communication with each other and with Spirit; her ability to clarify and put into simple words the ideas and thoughts of those present at Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business; her patient listening, unhurried attitude; her celebration of the sweet tastes of life, sharing the bounty of baked goods made by Becky together with her husband Michael and talking of family recipes and the memories and stories to go with them; how she never minded sharing her time with people, didn't complain, was cheerful and loving; and about the remarkable partnership shared by Becky and Michael; how she "got the job done"; how she was a treasured Friend (big F and small); how much her presence is still felt; how very much she will be missed.

We closed in worship, and will meet again on Friday, December 7 at 3:00 p.m. at Mullica Hill Meeting.

Friends School Mullica Hill Announces New Board Clerk



Friends School Mullica Hill announces the appointment of a new Clerk of its Board of Trustees. John Bond, founder of River-Winds Consulting in West Deptford, is a long-time Trustee at Friends School Mullica Hill. He has served on many of the Board's committees over his 10 years of service including Assets, Head Support & Evaluation, and Trusteeship. John steps into this new leadership position with the 2018-2019 school year.

"This is an exciting time for Friends School Mullica Hill, as the school's 50th anniversary is almost upon us," said FSMH Head of School Matthew Bradley. "John is the right person to lead our Board through this milestone anniversary and into the next chapter of the school's journey."

John and his wife, Theresa, are long-time residents of West Deptford. Their three grown sons are pursuing careers and interests in law, photography, and music education. John is a member of Mickleton Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. He is a Publishing Consultant and specializes in advising publishers, societies, and authors on issues connected with creating and distributing content.

John succeeds Bill Carrigan as Board Clerk. Bill, who served as Clerk for the last eight years, is the chair and a professor of American History at Rowan University. Bill will continue to serve on the FSMH Board on various committees. Bill is also a member of Mickleton Monthly Meeting. John said, "Bill successfully helped guide the school and oversaw some major initiatives during his tenure. Friends School is forever in his debt for his time and devotion."



***Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee
Quarterly Report 8th day, Ninth month, 2018***

*“As long as the sun shines
and the rivers run,
our hearts are bound to yours.”*

We are grateful for the place of welcome by committee member Lois Dinshah, host of our most recent meeting in August; we are reminded of Friends' foundational practices, meeting in one another's homes for worship and business. For us this includes recognition of the Lenape homeland, for Fenwick's treating with the Lenape Peoples that we are blessed with this intentional community of Salem Quarter Friends.

Having been asked by Nanticoke-Lenape Tribal Chief, Mark Gould, to lift a message, we discussed the importance of Indigenous sovereignty, self-identity, and the contrasting harms of misappropriations. Striving to withhold judgment of such acts and/ or persons committing such offenses – touting Indigenous sweat

lodge practices, using racist mascots, and falsifying Tribal membership - we send light and pray for specific individuals named by several Tribal Nations' Peoples as being forces that dilute authentic conversations and steal authentic space, the voices of true Indigenous cultures. We seek clarity toward righting such acts.

Friends shared articles and books that move their thinking more deeply in daily practices. The articles identify the violence against Native American women and a Methodist mission Native American Boarding School; the two books are written by Robin Wall Kimmerer – *Braiding Sweetgrass* and *Gathering Moss*. **We wonder whether Friends might join us in a Book Club style reading of *Braiding Sweetgrass***, with details to come as way opens.

Toward healing our communities, an “atrocious” was named by N-L Council/ Supreme Justice, Pastor J Norwood, posted in the Philadelphia Inquirer. We were called to assist a meeting (within PYM) for repatriation of a skull of an ancestor. The primary voices were introduced, others were asked to refrain from gossip yet pray for resolve. Love, relationship building, and silence guided by the light were simply our tools. We have read in a Native publication that this work was exemplary.

Members of this committee, representing Toward Right Relationship workshop facilitators and PYM's First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative, networked with Young Friends bringing to Annual Sessions the workshop *Re-discovering America: Understanding Colonization*. We were joined by SQ Friend Emily, seasoned in holding the space. Feedback was very positive. Also during Annual Sessions, Thursday am MfBusiness, Emily read the Minute of Religious Service, drafted by Rebecca Shapiro on behalf of SQ Worship and Ministry, approved by this body last Quarterly meeting.

Coming joys include a table at Tri-Quarter, a talk with Downton FM, a workshop with Collingswood High School, NJ curriculum modifications, and The (Fall) Gathering weekend at the Cohanzick grounds. We ask that SQ Friends keep the relationship chain strong by being present with one another and sharing

the good words, toward propagating the unique ways of SQ Friends. Using the Salem Quarter webpage, Friends may “contact us” with concerns and inquiries.

Submitted by love,
Sandra Boone Murphy, SQ IAC clerk

A New Editor for Salem Quarter News

This is the last issue of the Salem Quarter News that I will be editing. I have served as editor since 2007, and figure it's about time that I give someone else the opportunity to take the newsletter on. Starting with the next issue Jim Murphy will be the editor. Please send all contributions to Jim Murphy at jsmurphy3958@yahoo.com.

An example of faithful living:

Tom Etherington

I grew up in Almonesson and attended the Almonesson Methodist Church. Harry Peters was one of my Sunday school teachers as an example of living life faithfully to his beliefs. He wasn't really enthusiastic about attending church. He didn't find much of value in the sermons but he would go every week faithfully. His thinking was that, although he didn't get much from it, God had been good to him and he needed to witness to God's goodness. He figured that someone who needed to go to church might see him go and follow his example and be blessed for having gone. Frankly, when he got to church he would choose a seat behind one of the pillars and take a little nap.

One thing he felt strongly about was that Sunday should be a day of rest and he didn't want to be responsible for anyone else having to work Sunday or having the peace of that day interrupted. Consequently he always checked the gas gauge in his car on Saturday. If he figured he might not have enough gas to last until Monday, he filled up on Saturday so that no one would have to work on Sunday to pump his gas. He also refused to cut his lawn on Sunday because the noise of a power mower might disturb his neighbors. Someone pointed out to him that the neighbor was out there cutting his grass with a power mower on Sunday, so what was the point? His reply was that that was his neighbor's choice. If his neighbor wanted to run a power mower on Sunday that was his neighbor's business. But Harry would not be the cause of disturbing someone Sunday even though his neighbor didn't care one way or the other.

Information for Visiting

(see also www.salemquarter.net)

Greenwich: First Day (Sunday) Meeting for Worship: 9:30 am – 10:15 am (Oct 1 to June 30 at Upper Meeting House and July 1 to Sept 30 at the Lower Meeting House.) First Day School for Children: 10:00 am. First 15 minutes are spent with the Meeting for Worship, except the First First Day of each month when Meeting for Business is held at rise of meeting.

Mickleton: 413 Kings Highway, PO Box 231, 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 ; Worship 9:45 After-words and general fellowship 10:45, Meeting for Learning 11:15

Salem: East Broadway at Walnut Street, P.O. Box 7, Salem, N.J. 08079; Worship 10:30; Adult First Day School 9:15 am **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 meetings** from Memorial Day to Labor Day weather permitting **In Cape May** Windsor Ave and the water, 9:00 am Sundays, **in Ocean City**, 23rd St. and the beach, 8:30 AM Sundays

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/pym_mms/woodburynj_salq/.php 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; 856-478-4618 <http://www.woodstownfriends.org> ; First-day School 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am

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LISTMASTERS

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Religious Society of Friends
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Change Service Requested

Salem Quarterly Meeting

***Sunday, December 9, 2018
Mullica Hill Meeting House***

***The program will be a presentation from
Friends House, Moscow, Russia.***

***Beverages and dessert will be provided.
Check the Salem Quarter eBulletin
for the day's schedule.***