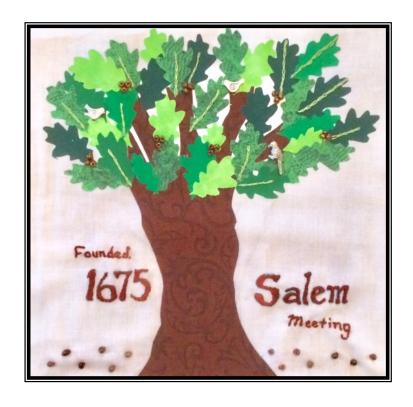
## Salem Quarter News

Summer 2019



In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. My sunrise meditation means more to me now than ever. At dawn it is easier to feel the universe is one organic whole, held together by that Radiating Power of Love which flows through everything—including thee and me.... By using the power of mature, redemptive love we can show each individual that we need his or her uniqueness to make us whole. We will then see that we have something to give others and that others have something to give us.

Rachel Davis DuBois, c. 1978



#### Speak Forward

What has fallen before us, will live on in our hearts, our minds, our souls, and our Spirit Be it flesh-and-blood or a forest-of-trees, once spoken words will forever endure

> As we cherish you, your gifts, your deeds, your witness, and your merit We'll speak forward of those memories, our hope to keep them secure



Front Cover Salem Meeting PYM Quilt Square Revelation 22:2

# "Pride in the Name of Love" By Dietrich Preston, Clerk of Quarter



June has been designated "Pride Month," greatly to a degree in recognition of the Stonewall Riots in Greenwich Village, Manhattan. Where in late June 1969 the gay, lesbian, transgender community were harassed, raided and persecuted by New York City Police Officers causing resistance and protest. While not a perfect world, our society has come a long way from the way things were in 1969. Woodbury's City Council (with support from the Woodbury Police Department!) has been promoting and welcoming the gay community to reside and start businesses here. Woodbury Monthly Meeting took out an advertisement in our local paper promoting Pride Month and welcoming all. Unfortunately, WMM was the only religious institution in Woodbury to do so. I feel proud that the Society of Friends religious organization does not shun people based on their sexual orientation, and it affirms that I'm with the right group of people.

My son Liam is gay. He came out to me when he was 12 or 13, which I thought was rather young, but when thinking about it, that's about when I started liking girls. He is 16 now and will be a senior in high school in the Fall. His biggest activity that he enjoys is being in the color guard. They have extensive practices and he has competitions all over the Delaware Valley. The color guard performances come very naturally to him and he's very good at it. I've grown to greatly appreciate this performance art. I like that the kids take it very seriously and they work hard at it. He has stuck with this since he's been in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and I am very proud of him that he never guits. He is still in the minority and he can sometimes feel isolated especially from straight boys. I am most proud of him that he stays true to who he is and he doesn't let peer pressure shape who he is. While I do give some constructive criticism (oops sorry, "opportunity areas") from time to time as fathers tend to do, I feel he has a lot of courage and deserves to feel proud of himself as well. I read the following quote on Facebook the other day:

"Gay Pride was not born of a need to celebrate being gay, but our right to exist without being persecuted. So instead of wondering 'why there isn't a straight pride movement' be thankful that you don't need one."

I feel this quote really holds true to all prejudices and persecutions that have existed in the world.

Dietrich

## Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes June 9, 2019

Meeting was opened with worship by Clerk Dietrich Preston at the appointed hour of 1:00 p.m. at Mickleton's meetinghouse. Fifteen people attended, representing five meetings in the Quarter.

Recognition was given to the iconic Salem Oak Tree, the oldest white oak in New Jersey, which fell this week. It resided in the Salem Friends burial ground and was over 500 years old.

Minutes of last Quarterly meeting for business in March were approved.

#### **Reports from the Quarter:**

*Tri-Quarter* – Cindy Cox Crispin noted that Camp Ockanickon has changed its name to YMCA of the Pines. Cindy reviewed program materials for the gathering which will be September 27 – 29, 2019. The theme this year is "Listening with our Hearts."

*Finance* – Jack Mahon reviewed 2018-19 income and expenses. There was a slight surplus. A budget for 2019-20 was presented and approved. (Summary p 7.)

Nominating – Peggy Warner brought forward Sandra Boone Murphy for recording clerk, which was approved. John Bond was approved as liaison to Friends School Mullica Hill. The assistant clerk position will be considered at a later time. (Full list of Officers & Committees, p 20.)

Worship and Ministry – Jim Murphy reported highlights of their meeting. Eight Friends representing four meetings came together at the Mullica Hill meeting annex on Thursday, June 6 at 3 p.m. Emphasis was placed on intervisitation within the Quarter. (See full report on p 6.)

Indian Affairs Committee – Sandra Boone Murphy spoke about the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Powwow and announced the 2020 winter *One Book: One Community* selection. (See full report on p 8.)

Friends School Mullica Hill – John Bond reported that Eighth Grade graduation events are taking place over the next three days. Student artwork was exhibited at Friends Village. Two new members on the board are Monica Shelley Williams from Rowan and Jim Zakrewski from TD Bank. The opening event for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be September 28<sup>th</sup> and the culminating weekend will be May 15 - 17. Filming for a video history project is ongoing. The school is getting good press in local publications.

Lower Alloways Creek Meeting Restoration – No report

(At this point in the meeting Dietrich had to leave and Paul Somers took over clerking.)

PYM Continuing Sessions – Bob Horvay encouraged Friends to attend Annual Sessions July 24 – 28 held at the college of New Jersey. Important discussions of the racism audit, as well as concerns about other "-isms" in our Quaker community, will take place.

#### **Old Business:**

Regarding the Salem Quarter Incorporation, Jack Mahon is working with the lawyer who worked on Burlington Quarter's incorporation documents.

Thanks was extended to Mickleton for hosting today's event. The morning program on immigration by Nicole Miller of the Newark office of the American Friends Service Committee was well received.

The Quarter will meet next on September 8<sup>th</sup> hosted by Woodbury Meeting with Melinda Bradley sharing her Quaker ministry in England, Africa, and South America.

In December we will meet in Salem with the program to be announced.

#### **New Business:**

Additional announcements around the Quarter:

Greenwich approved two display ads to run in local publications. Paul reported of a break-in event which left a racist hate message at their lower meeting-house. Discernment by Friends led to a police report documenting the incident. Salem Quarter Friends express support of Greenwich and their work to end discrimination in their community. (Minute of Support, p 9.)

Mickleton Meeting highlighted its mass shooting signs on the lawn and stated that Cease Fire NJ was interested in obtaining a picture of the signs.

Mullica Hill Meeting had a welcoming for a six-month-old baby.

Woodbury Meeting is hosting a speaker, Erica Armstrong Dunbar, on June 21<sup>st</sup> for recognition of Juneteenth.

Woodstown Meeting is hosting an event on June 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Coalition for Peace Action. The video produced by Jon Watts is on the meeting's web page.

Meeting closed with worship at 2:50 p.m.

Gloria Horvay, Recording Clerk

#### Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee Meeting June 6, 2019

The Salem Quarter Worship & Ministry Committee met on Thursday, June 6, at Mullica Hill Meeting Annex, with eight Friends from four meetings in attendance and Jim Murphy clerking.

We began with a period of worship.

Friends shared thoughts on the Pendle Hill pamphlets "Quaker Views on Mysticism" By Margery Abbott (#375) and "Invitation to a Deeper Communion" by Marcelle Martin (#366), and on the film shown at the Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology, "As It Is In Heaven."

We discussed program possibilities, the availability of facilitators, and the need to get an understanding of what program scheduling would work best for our Quarterly Meeting community. We talked about ways to get to better know both the spiritual strengths and needs of our varied monthly meetings, including a possible email survey of everyone in the Quarter.

This committee is led to visit each of our monthly meetings, to share in worship, and meet with all who have an interest in worship and ministry. Our focus would be on how we can best support our monthly meetings as they work to enrich and deepen their worship experience.

We still plan to have Marcelle Martin guide this committee for a future quarter-wide series based on her book, "Our Life Is Love."

Our tentative schedule for our quarter-wide visitations, pending approval from each monthly meeting, is:

<u>July 7th</u> at 9:30 a.m. Greenwich Friends Meeting at the Lower Meetinghouse.

#### July 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Seaville Friends at their beach meeting at 23rd Street and the beach in Ocean City, and then to Seaville Meetinghouse for their 10 a.m. service.

#### August 18th at 10:30 a.m.

Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse (on Buttonwood Avenue in Hancocks Bridge) when Salem Meeting holds its annual quarterwide summer worship there with a bag lunch picnic at rise of meeting.

Jim Murphy will clerk our next meeting, to be held on Thursday, September 5 at 3 p.m. at Mullica Hill Meeting Annex.

The meeting was closed in silent worship.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Cameron, Recording Clerk

#### Salem Quarter Budget Summary

SUMMARY			
Salem Quarter Budget	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20
Income [Schedule A]	Budget	project ytd	Budget
Total Fiduciary Income	\$ 2,880	\$ 6,659	\$ 3,013
Total Covenant Income	\$ 16,000	\$16,440	\$16,440
Total Donations to Education	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000
Total Other income	-100	226	\$ 34
Total Income	\$ 21,780	\$26,825	\$23,487
	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20
Expenses [Schedule B]	Budget	project ytd	Budget
Total Administrative Expenses	\$ 7,450	\$ 6,330	\$ 7,445
Total Newsletter Expenses	\$ 3,300	\$ 4,097	\$ 4,100
Total Program Expenses	\$ 4,325	\$ 2,980	\$ 4,600
Total Property Expenses [Net]	\$ 4,125	\$ 646	\$ 3,788
Total Schedule B Expenses	\$ 19,200	\$14,053	\$19,933
	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20
Fund Exp. & (Inc.) [Schedule (	Budget	project ytd	Budget
Alloway Creek MH Mainten.	\$ 2,625	\$ 1,428	\$ 638
Alloway Creek MH Preserv.	\$ -	\$ 7,149	\$ 2,800
Net Education Expenses	\$ -	\$ (670)	\$ -
Fellowship Quakers in the Arts	\$ 100	\$ (84)	\$ 116
Marketing & Comm.	\$ 800	\$ 4,800	\$ -
QuakerSpeak Video	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ -
Total Schedule C Expenses	\$ 5,525	\$11,623	\$ 3,554
TOTAL Expense	\$ 24,725	\$25,676	\$23,487
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ (2,945)	\$ 1,149	\$ -

#### Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee Quarterly Report, June 9, 2019

"... As long as the sun shines and the rivers run, we shall bind our hearts to yours" - Lenape

We are thankful for the opportunity gifted by Jacquelyn Wilson (Mullica Hill) to worship at her home with intention of taking up the business of our Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee. Friends of three SQ meetings were in attendance. Grounding was found in a Lenape land acknowledgement, and in an easy manner of heart sharing, Friends lifted and affirmed one another's joys and concerns.



Toward Preserving Tribal Relations By invitation from the Nanticoke-Lenape Tribal Nation, on behalf of SQ, IAC members traveled to the Cohanzick Tribal Grounds for The Spring Gathering. This blessing offers Friends an opportunity to meet N-L Tribal members and families in a relaxed, festive, social environment. The gatherings are biannual; we wonder whether SQ Friends might consider a visitation in October. Each year, the second weekend in June calls attention to the local powwow, an emersion in culture; this year represents the 40<sup>th</sup>

Annual Nanticoke-Lenape Powwow, open to the public.

Holding Institutional/ Structural Accountability: Over the years, Nanticoke-Lenape Tribal Nation's Chiefs and Council members have shared with committee members specific acts by non-native people that represent cultural appropriations. These misappropriations deny the voice of Native Peoples and propagate stereotypes, myths, and biases. IAC Friends threshed a drafted Minute, recognizing appreciation of indigenous culture. This potential Minute has been held over for further seasoning.

Education Braiding Sweetgrass left participants wondering about the phrase, "...becoming indigenous with the land," that of reciprocal gifting. With intention for further examination, the IAC invites Friends to take up a "summer field-trip visitation" in South Jersey - Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, The South Cape May Meadows Trail System, Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, Scotland Run Park, Wharton State Forest. We welcome your observations/ sense of reciprocity reflections. A recommended First Day "reciprocity" resource is The Legend of the Cape May Diamond by Trinka Hakes Noble; illustrator E.B. Lewis used photographs to create likenesses of Nanticoke-

Lenape Tribal citizens, some known to IAC Friends. The IAC hosting of One Book: One Community (Winter 2020) selection is *Strong Medicine Speaks* by Amy Hill Hearth; details will be posted on the SQ IAC website next quarter. Library consultation is ongoing; coming conversations are anticipated with Nanticoke Lenape elders and *EmbraceRace*, an organization that "fights systemic racism by supporting parents to raise children who are brave, informed and thoughtful about race."



The IAC is open to the SQ community; our next meeting is set for 1 p.m., Thursday August 22, 2019, at the home of Jacquelyn Wilson. Friends closed with expectant worship. Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee, Sandra Murphy, facilitator

#### Minute of Support for Greenwich Friends

Preamble: In recent years, Friends of Greenwich have labored with community intention toward lifting local historic truths in the form of Freedom Tours, inclusive of Ambury Hill & Springtown AME Church, a focal point for people of African American heritage as well as the AME Gouldtown and St. John UMC (Fordville), both central to Lenape Tribal Nation People (Christian and Traditionalists). Given the spirit led allyship that moves throughout our quarter – documenting the underground railroad, hosting an "immigrant family's" transition, ongoing relations with local Lenape in the formation of Fenwick's Colony - highlighted by the Immigration program hosted this day. Salem Quarter Friends stand united in lifting the voice of the voiceless, past and present, toward a transformed, beloved community; this is the way of peace and love that has served us, that serves the will of God, yesterdays, today, and tomorrows. We affirm the following minute:

Those gathered, 9th day Sixth month 2019 for Salem Quarterly Meeting for Business, heard of an incident of "racist language" put upon our Greenwich Lower Meetinghouse and faithful community. Salem Quarter Friends hold in the light our Greenwich Friends who continue to radically serve the Creator, undaunted by blasphemous acts. We commend Friends' exemplary manner of discernment and trust in their use of resources, we, the body of Salem Quarter, stand with our sisters and brothers of Greenwich in spirit and extend invitation to access fortification by our additional ways & means, body mind and soul.



## Friends School Mullica Hill Turning the Page John Bond

The trees and flowers are in full bloom with the smell of fresh cut grass in the air. This surely is a reminder that it is graduation season. Friends School Mullica Hill held its graduation on June 11<sup>th</sup>. It is a poignant event that leads everyone in the audience to reflect on the pages they have turned in their own lives.

For the students graduating from the school after many years (sometimes ten), they are faced with leaving behind friends and teachers, but the excitement of new ventures in high school and beyond lies ahead.

I have been to most of the last 15 graduations for the school, including one for my own son. The worship that precedes it and the event itself is the highlight of the year. When people discuss the school, many times they point to the graduation ceremony as the evidence of the value of a Quaker education.

The students each give a short speech to express their thoughts on the page turning in their lives, many times including their thoughts on the school as well as thanking their parents and those people that helped them along the way. There are few dry eyes in the audience as these inspiring young women and men express some truly profound feelings in only a few minutes.

Their maturity and poise are the best "evidence" of the philosophy that underlies the school. That is, "Friends School Mullica Hill empowers students to achieve their full potential and become responsible global citizens by providing a comprehensive academic program infused with Quaker values in a diverse and inclusive learning community."

The school's graduates end up in many walks of life in many parts of the country and the world. They serve as ambassadors trying to make the world a better and kinder place. With our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary starting this coming school year, I invite everyone in Salem Quarter to become involved with the school through a visit, volunteering, or a donation. The world needs our graduates more than ever before and Friends School Mullica Hill needs your support.

Friends School Mullica Hill Eighth Grade class trip to Costa Rica





#### Friends Village at Woodstown Arianne Hegeman

The Summer months are quickly approaching, but school is always in session at Friends Village at Woodstown. Our community embraces education in every corner of the campus as we plan internal department meetings, host community workshops, train staff members and engage with friends and family. This approach makes Friends Village a refreshing place to be, no matter what time of year.

Our internship and job shadowing efforts include partnerships with several educational institutions such as: Rowan University, Rutgers University, Penn State University through the Friends Services Alliance, Shenandoah University, Salem Community College, and Salem County Vocational Technical School. Health care, hospitality, and marketing are just a few career tracks that make Friends Village the perfect place to learn and receive practical experience. Our staff makes sure every college and high school student walks away with an accurate account of the collaborative effort that is necessary to maintain and grow a senior living community. Friends Village is also proud to showcase the creative side of students with rotating art galleries that feature the

artwork of Friends School and Quinton Township School students. Students and their families enjoy an artist reception during this time, where they can formally share their work with friends and family as well as our residents and staff members.

The learning doesn't stop with student interns and youth. Our staff members also benefit from our commitment to personal and professional growth. We plan quarterly Competency Fairs that feature mini workshops for staff from every department. Each workshop requires the staff member to complete a quiz, ensuring that essential information such as communicable disease prevention, fire safety, and patient transportation is absorbed by those delivering our services. Friends Village also has a tuition reimbursement program for staff members who are continuing their education as they work. All of this makes Friends Village a place of growth and opportunity.

Our residents and other seniors continue this theme as they plan and host their own educational activities like "The Philosophical Society," a learning series that meets in our Fenwick Auditorium on a monthly basis. We also work with several organizations like the AARP, AAA, Salem County Department of Health's Office on Aging, and New Jersey's Division of Motor Vehicles to offer community workshops on health management, financial literacy, vehicle safety, fitness classes, and much more.

We invite you to visit our website at www.friendsvillage.org to learn more about our upcoming events and programming.



#### Book Review/Children's Topic: Effects of War Gloria Horvay

Inside Out & Back Again, by Thanhha Lai, Harper, c2011 Pax, by Sara Pennypacker, Balzer & Bray, c2016

Experiencing war through characters in a book gives children understanding of why we value peace. As Quakers, our peace testimony is one of the tenets of our religion. These two books give children, ages nine to twelve, insight into the horrors of war.

*Inside Out and Back Again* is a work of fiction, although the author has written her own story in a poetic form. She was born in Vietnam, but when Saigon fell, her family fled as the Communists took over. In sparse words, full of feeling, she describes weeks packed on a river boat before being found by the American Navy and taken to Guam. From there her family was relocated to a refugee camp in Florida until a sponsor could be

> found. Finally, they made a home in Alabama, but the family endured hate from neighbors and bullying at school.

> The family draws upon deep strength to counter the unpleasantness they had to endure, eventually becoming Americanized and accepted. The lessons of truth here for American children are two-fold: 1) to recognize how war displaces people and 2) to understand the plight of refugees and immigrants. As you read this poetic narrative, you feel as if you are experiencing a year in the life of ten-year-old

Ha. While Ha was born into a different culture, she has the same feelings as any child. Her story gives our children a global perspective.

While Ha is surrounded by a strong, loving family to help her endure global changes, Peter, in Pax, is seeking family he lost. After his mother died,

Peter found a baby fox which had also lost its mother. Boy and pet fox were inseparable until war came, Peter's father enlisted, and Peter had to live with his grandfather. Peter was forced to abandon Pax, his best friend and companion, into the wild.

Back

When Peter became convinced it was his duty to find Pax, he encountered a woman who had lost a leg in a war twenty years previously. Over the course of their weeks to-

gether, she explained what killing a man in war did to her. She and Peter help each other find the strength and courage they need to overcome emotional hurts and move on with their lives. Much wisdom is imparted in their friendship.

Also detailed in *Pax* is how war effects nature and the environment. Pristine meadows and woodlands were blown up to divert the enemy. Wildlife was rendered homeless and even destroyed.

Are Peter and Pax reunited? Can a fox raised as a pet survive in the wild? Read to the end to discover author Sara Pennypacker's solution to this challenge.

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#### The Mighty Salem Oak Salem, New Jersey

1419 - 2019

On Thursday, June 6th, 2019 at around 6:00 in the evening, the stately Salem Oak lay down, after standing tall for an estimated 600 years. She was at home, in the Salem Friends Burial Ground on Broadway, in the small historic town of Salem, New Jersey. She had battled time, gravity, and mother nature for several hundred years, losing several limbs, and requiring a great deal of care, before finally succumbing to her fate. She was surrounded by her descendants, the town that loved her, and a few hundred deceased Friends, all of whom benefitted over the years and centuries from her stately bearing, her ongoing endurance, and her deep roots that preceded not only the birth of this nation, but the European settlement of its lands.

The Salem Oak is believed to be a part of the original forest that covered Salem County, before Salem was established in 1675 by an English Quaker named John Fenwick. Legend states that Fenwick signed a treaty with the local Lenni Lenape under the shade of the Oak's widereaching branches. This was one of the few treaties with Native Americans that was never broken. The Quakers of Salem have continued to have a strong relationship with the Lenni Lenape in the area. Fenwick would later build a homestead not far from the mighty tree. The area around the Oak became a Quaker Burial Ground, where generations of Quakers have been, and continue to be, laid to rest. Betsy Ross's father was buried beneath the Salem Oak's branches.

Her life span was double the 300-year average of most White Oaks. In that time, she witnessed the clearing of her forest home, and many other events that history has forgotten. She saw Lenni Lenape, early Quakers, European settlers, free African Americans, and their descendants, grow, build, and gather around her. She watched as Revolutionary War soldiers marched through her peaceful town. She impressed Charles Lindbergh with her fall foliage as he flew over Salem on October 21st, 1927, on his way from Atlantic City to Wilmington, Delaware, in celebration of his solo trip across the Atlantic Ocean. She saw travelers and shipments of goods arriving at the Salem port down the street, and witnessed the birth of industry in Salem, as a huge bottling plant was built behind her.

The mighty Oak watched generations bid farewell to their loved ones, as they were laid to rest around her. She offered silent comfort to those who came to visit their deceased friends and family, embracing them

with the shelter and cool shade of her vast canopy. She offered a peaceful place for sunrise services, social gatherings, and quiet reflection. She enticed hundreds of children to try to stretch their arms around her massive trunk and provided them with a giant prop to run around and hide behind while playing. She inspired local artists to try to capture her beauty, her significance, her peacefulness, her impressive stature, and her sheer awesomeness, in every medium.

In 2000, she was bestowed the honor of being named a Millennial Landmark Tree, by a project through the America the Beautiful Fund. This recognized her as one of the top 50 trees in the country with historical significance. In 2016, she was declared the largest White Oak in New Jersey by the Department of Environmental Protection. At that time, she towered at 103 feet tall, with a circumference of 22 feet, 4 inches. She had a crown fit for royalty, spanning 104 feet.

The Salem Oak is survived by countless descendants. Many of her children are planted in back yards, cemeteries, parks, and along streets throughout Salem City and Salem County. In 1875, one of her seedlings, the Centennial Oak, took root in the Salem Presbyterian Cemetery on Grant Street in Salem, NJ. In 1932, in commemoration of George Washington's 200th birthday, another of her seedlings was planted along the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia. This is the road that leads to Mount Vernon, our first President's home. Since she fell, many past residents of Salem have reached out, stating that they have planted some of her seedlings in the yards of their new homes in states across the US. Numerous institutions, groups, and businesses throughout Salem County adopted her name and her image over the years. She will continue to live on, through her descendants, and in the adaptive use of her name and her mighty silhouette.

The Salem Oak continues to rest in the Salem Friends Burial Ground. The Salem Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends owns the property and the Oak. They have cared lovingly, and at great expense, for the Oak for the last half of her life. They are carefully coordinating the safe and respectful removal of the wood from private property and will work to make small pieces available to locals as they can. They appreciate the importance of the Oak and thank everyone for the outpouring of love and cherished memories that have been shared since the Oak fell. They request the public's consideration at this time, to remain outside of the cemetery walls, and have respect for the Oak, the burial grounds, and the families of those buried beneath her.





### The Glass Memorial Peace Essay Contest Mickleton and Mullica Hill Monthly Meetings

Mickleton Monthly Meeting and Mullica Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends present the winners of the tenth annual Glass Memorial Peace Essay Contest: *Elle Cox, Nathaniel Rodwell Simon, and Elana Furlong*.

This year's theme was based on the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. quote:

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daylight of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."

Entrants followed these queries: How do Quaker values inform your approach to issues of racial justice? Describe and give an example of what the "bright daylight of peace and brotherhood" would look like. What does Dr. King mean by the phrase "the starless midnight of racism and war?"

Their winning essays follow:

#### Elle Cox, First Place Winning Essay

Martin Luther King once said, "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is tragically bound to the starless night of racism and war that the bright daylight of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word." In his speeches, King would invoke Quaker values, but he would also acknowledge the horrible truth of racism. He would give examples of everything he would say because it happened every day. King would present his ideas so people that would hear his speeches could actually think about what is going on and not be blinded by the racist lies that were accepted, like how we couldn't trust black people because of the color of their skin. He would speak in a way that everyone understands, because the people that heard him wanted to know more, and wanted to hear more.

Dr. King has demonstrated many Quaker values, from the way that he talks, to his actions. He wanted to spread those values to everyone, especially the idea of equality. Equality was something that blacks didn't have, as they had different water fountains, different bathrooms, and different spots on a bus always labeled either color or white. He wanted a fairer lifestyle for all Americans, and not for blacks to be hated and treated horribly. He wanted a peaceful land, one where we could count on each other and trust everyone, and not have blacks being forced to go get a drink from a separate water fountain. Dr. King had integrity, and he did the right thing even though he knew some people did-

n't want to listen or some people thought he was wrong. He was saying what was true to him and what he thinks should be true throughout the land. He wanted a loving community, where everyone is supportive of one other and no one gets placed lower than another.

Dr. King said that he refuses to accept the view that mankind is tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war. We can understand this concept of "midnight" by reflecting on the Charleston Church shooting that happened in 2015. This mass shooting was done by a 21 year old white supremacist, as he murdered 9 African Americans during a bible study. The shooting targeted this church because it was one of the oldest black churches and has been a symbol for community around civil rights. The killer showed racial hatred towards the church and towards the people he killed. Dr. King had made an impact onto this country and many believe him, but there sadly are still some people out there that will not accept people that look different from them. Which is what Dr. King is explaining in that quote, if there is just hatred why would there be beautiful stars, because hatred is ugly, but if we all accepted each other, peacefulness and community is beautiful and so are the stars. His quote means that with racism and with war we hypothetically wouldn't have stars and it would just be darkness and despair because that is how we treat each other, with no emotion.

However, Dr. King did not believe that we were doomed to live that way forever. He believed in the goodness of people, so he took a stand and described a community for everyone based on equality and trust. The "broad daylight of brotherhood" will happen when our hearts are shining because with our emotion and everything that we do is out of the goodness of our hearts. We are all shining stars unless some of us still treat others badly.

In conclusion, Dr. King had a dream of a peaceful community of equals. That dream applied to everyone, no matter your color or race, and he had this dream because he believed in all of us. Since he did not live to see his dream realized, it is our responsibility now to reward his faith in us.

#### Nathaniel Rodwell Simon, Second Place Winning Essay

When Martin Luther King Jr. said "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daylight of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word," he meant that he knew that a world where people won't have to worry about being hurt or disadvantaged because of who they were. This is what Quakers have been doing for hundreds of years. The general population is still working for this, but we get closer every time someone is offered a hand up instead of a put down. If we keep doing this, we just might achieve Dr. King's dream.

I believe that racism is something that is completely opposite from all of the Quaker values. Be it by conducting the underground railroad or leading the abolitionist movement, Quakers have been against racism for a very long

time. In all of the Spices, there is something that can be pointed to that is against racism. Equality for instance is at its core against racism. While not explicitly brought up, equality means that everybody should be treated fairly given time for their voice to be heard. The Jim Crow laws, which were instituted after the Civil War to make it hard for people of color to get a strong footing in life were not created with equality in mind. Things like segregated bus cars and bathrooms were used as a way to show people of color that they were inferior and undeserving of shared space. When the 14th Amendment was passed, the Constitution now demanded that all people should receive "equal protection under the law." Though it took another century, eventually schools, public facilities, and buses all had to desegregate because of legal arguments based on this clause in the 14th Amendment. This proved that the fight for equality was gaining ground, but there is still a long way to go before we reach the top of the hill.

The bright daylight of peace and brotherhood would be a time when no one had to worry about being hurt or harassed because of the color of their skin, who they want to love, or what religion they want to believe in. It would be a time when you could let a neighbor stay in your house and not worry about anything going missing or being broken. People would help the homeless or impoverished in their free time, or take the time to talk to the people who sit against buildings waiting for someone to offer them a job or some spare change. I think that if we all thought about the Quaker testimony of integrity, we might be willing to do this. According to Google Dictionary, integrity is defined as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness. If we all used a moral compass to guide our decisions instead of relying only on our inherent biases, we would treat people with equity and fairness, not by making snap judgements about a person because of their outward appearance. That is a world I want to live in.

When I think about the phrase "the starless midnight of racism and war," I think about how the world was in the late 50s and early 60s. The Korean War ended in 1953 and the United States became involved in the Vietnam War by the end of that decade. War is what most people knew. When Dr. King was 4, Hitler took over Germany. When you have three wars in your lifetime like Dr. King did, it's hard not to think about war, and it most likely shaped his life. During the early 50s, the Civil Rights Movement was becoming stronger. Dr. King became a figure of the movement, holding speeches that spoke on that issue. If you take the phrase at face value, it's talking about how when faced with all of the violence and bigotry that the period between the end of The Civil War and the 60s when Dr. King was most active it might seem like there isn't any light at the end of the tunnel. For some people, that was true, there was no hope, but in the end, Dr. King brought that hope.

Dr. King spent the entirety of his adult life working for peace and justice, and that is truly something to remember. He didn't use violence or insults to get his point across, he said what he felt, and left it up to the listeners to choose how to receive his message. This is something that everyone should think about before they speak. Maybe if enough people do this, we will see the bright dawn of hope at the end of the tunnel.

#### Elana Furlong, Third Place Winning Essay

Peace and equality are like stars. We can't always see them, but we know they're there. We just have to have enough motivation and emotion to find them. Martin Luther King Jr. was someone who genuinely wanted to find those stars. I think if there were more people like him in this world, there would be enough passion to overcome racism. Equality is so difficult for us because we all are used to labels, and we grew up with the philosophy of if you're "different" you automatically are treated unfairly. Ever since the beginning of time labels impacted this world. Brotherhood is something that won't work if everyone doesn't work together. Of course not all of the world will agree with one another, but each community at a time is a great way of moving forward to achieve that goal of brotherhood.

Martin Luther King Jr. was so passionate about fighting racism. If you watch videos of his speeches, you can see that raw emotion in his eyes. He fought until the day he died for everyone to be treated equally. Dr. King stated that "truth and unconditional love will have the final word." He was so optimistic for a bright and equal future. If more and more people were as zealous as Dr. King was, we would be so much closer to equality. Dr. King never gave up on his journey to find brotherly love. I think in most situations people give up because it's just too hard. We need to stay strong and continue the fight Dr. King put up.

We are very acclimated to the labels our ancestors created. It was known that if you were "different" you would be treated unfairly. Yes, we definitely have come a long way from those labels. We no longer have the infuriating rule of separated bathrooms, but there are still labels used today. We are all human. Just because our skin color is different doesn't mean anyone should be put down for something they can't control. I know we can shake these labels by working together and never giving up.

Community in my mind plays a big part in brotherhood. We can't unfortunately have the whole world get along, so why not take baby steps and do it by community.

Community is a favorite Quaker spice because that means everyone is together in one unit. Communities can be a special bond that is hard to break. If each community works together, eventually brotherhood will be in our hands. No, I'm not saying the whole world will love each other and be equal, but we do need more brotherhood in our lives. I think community is a great way to get closer and closer to a loving future.

In conclusion, racism is an awful thing that lots of people unfortunately have to deal with. We need to get our telescopes out and really look for the stars of peace and equality. If we have more people like Martin Luther King Jr. that are so heartfelt about ending racism, we will reach equality for all some day. That day when we finally do, will be a truly amazing day. Labels have been a part of this universe since the beginning of time. We can work together so the only label we have is "human being." With communities working together, brotherhood will be one step away. Now, let's get together and find those shining stars of peace and equality.

## Officers and Committees of Salem Quarterly Meeting

As of Salem Quarterly Meeting 6/09/2019\*

Clerk – three-year term, two consecutive terms only; first term ends 2021

Dietrich Preston, WBY

Assistant Clerk – three-year term ends 2019

Tom Etherington, MUL

Recording Clerk – three-year term ends 2022

Sandra Boone Murphy, MIC

Treasurer – three-year term ends 2020

Jack Mahon, WTN

Assistant Treasurer – three-year term ends 2022

(TBD)

Salem Quarter Trustees: Cemetery-Grounds – three-year term, at least one per monthly meeting

Responsible for the care and maintenance of the properties and cemeteries entrusted and/ or deeded to Salem Quarter, excluding the Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse and surrounding grounds.

2020: Maurice W. Ayars Jr., WTN

Preston Carpenter, SAL

Barbara Jean Chadwick, SEA

Rick Williams, MIC

2021: David Cadwallader, SAL

Paul Somers, GRN (clerk)

#### Salem Quarter Auditors – three-year term Passonsible for the annual audit of the accounts of the tree

Responsible for the annual audit of the accounts of the treasurer.

2020: Gloria Horvay, MIC Walt Pierson, MIC 2022: Ben Ford, SAL

Salem Quarter Liaison with Friends School at Mullica Hill Board of Trustees – three-year term

Act as a liaison, disseminating information between the school and the Quarter.

2022: John Bond, MIC

Salem Quarter Education Fund Committee – three-year term Receive applications for scholarship, determine scholarship awards and disseminate distribution of funds.

2022: Alice Waddington, SAL

Judy Isenhart, MIC

2020: Lori Talbot, GRN

Tacie Trull, SAL (clerk) Tom Etherington, MUL Sally Crane, WTN

2021: Robert Holden, SEA

Salem Quarter Worship and Ministry – terms not established Responsible for the provision of guidance and support for the spiritual life of the Quarter and the support of the Monthly Meeting W & M committees in the Quarter.

(All members of Monthly Meeting Worship & Ministry or Ministry & Oversight Committees)

Clerk, currently rotating clerks each Quarter. Recording Clerk, *Christine Cameron*, SAL

PYM Nominating Committee – three-year term, Quarter entitled to two members

Representatives from the Quarter bring names from the Quarter to the attention of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee in an effort to match gifts and skills to appropriate PYM committees.

2021: Bob Horvay, MIC

Salem Quarter Lower Alloways Creek Committee: Meetinghouse-Property – members to be nominated by the committee and approved by Quarterly Meeting.

An action group to oversee stewardship, management and use of the Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse building and property.

Penny Watson, GRN
Mary Waddington, SAL
Jim Waddington, SAL
Paul Somers, GRN
David Culver, SAL (clerk)
Maurice W. Ayars Jr., WTN (rec. clerk)
Keith Ragone, WTN
Preston Carpenter, SAL
David Cadwallader, SAL
Christine Cameron, SAL
Jared Valdez, MIC
Ron Magill (ad hoc)

Indian Affairs Committee – members to be nominated by the committee and approved by Quarterly Meeting.

This Quarter Committee formed 12/2009 with unity, to faithfully ally with the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation and act as a liaison between this Tribe and the Quarter.

Sandra Boone Murphy, MIC (clerk) Lois Dinshah, MUL Carol Lively, GRN Jim Murphy, WBY Jacquelyn Wilson, MUL

Salem Quarter Steering Committee – appointed by monthly meetings. Ex officio, quarter officers.

Responsible to act on behalf of the Quarter between quarterly sessions, arrange for quarterly meeting programs, and other such business as directed by the Quarter.

Paul Somers, GRN (clerk)
Bob Horvay, MIC
Gloria Horvay, MIC
Tom Etherington, MUL
Michael Hainsworth, SEA
Diane Metz, SEA
Helena Bew, SEA
Maurice W. Ayars Jr., WTN
Jack Mahon, WTN
Dietrich Preston, WBY

Finance Committee – appointed by monthly meetings, one per meeting. Ex officio, Steering Committee treasurer.

Responsible for the creation of an annual proposed budget based on the covenants pledged by the Monthly Meetings in the Quarter. Final budget approval is given by the Quarter in session.

Burt Doremus, GRN Barry Sloane, MIC Joan Boarts, MUL Ben Ford, SAL Diane Metz, SEA Jack Mahon, WTN

Nominating Committee – appointed by monthly meetings, two per meeting plus one from Friends Village Board. Responsible for bringing forth names and securing the willingness to serve on Quarter Committees as approved by the Quarter.

Grace Thompson, GRN
Anne Lester, MIC
Ruth van Veenendaal, MIC
Peggy Warner, MUL
Ben Ford, SAL
Diane Metz, SEA
Gail Scuderi, WTN (co-clerk)
Chris Mahon, WTN (co-clerk)

#### **Clerks of Meetings**

Greenwich: *Grace E. Thompson*Mickleton: *Barry Sloane* (interim)
Mullica Hill: *Jeffrey Summerton* 

Salem: Tacie Trull

Seaville: *Michael Hainsworth* Woodbury: *Dietrich Preston* Woodstown: *Kahlil Gunther* 

### Friends Village at Woodstown Board of Trustees – three-year term, nominated by Friends Village, approved by Quarterly Meeting

2020: Maurice W. Ayars Jr., WTN (advisor to the board)

Susanne Culver, SAL (advisor to the board)

Richard Ridgway, MUL (asst. clerk, asst. secretary)

Grace E. Thompson, GRN Stephen Waddington, SAL Joan Ayars, SAL (treasurer) Sandy Ridgeway, MUL (clerk)

2022: Daniel J. Murray
Arley Johnson, MIC
Jeffery T. Gibson, WTN
John Bond, MIC
Carlton Gardner
Richard Warner
Glenn Shirley

<sup>\*</sup>Editor's note: Subsequent to Quarterly Meeting for Business, the list has been modified as guided by both Salem Quarter Steering Committee and Salem Monthly Meeting.



#### Joy in Serving: Moment of Appreciation for Gifts Absorbed Into Society

With deep appreciation, may we say Salem Quarter Friends are well served by SQ Nominating Committee. It is good to hear those named to serve, better to hear one's opening acceptance, and best to hear unity of approval.

One challenge for a Nominating Committee is being in relationship with one another. We've taken into our hearts the *Faith and Play* "Gifts" story. At one point this quarter was called by Worship and Ministry to bring into fruition a Gifts Working Group, naming and threshing out spiritual gifts and those gifted. Multiple Friends having transitioned, this Gifts Working Group has unofficially released itself.

During this same period internal structures of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting intentionally morphed, stepping toward contemporary conditions. What remains constant is Spirit.

Annually we find the SQ list of committee representatives and extended Friendly groups providing oversight. In addition to these individuals there have been others called to serve in spaces of our wider Philadelphia Yearly Meeting community. Regrets to those who elude this Friends knowing, examples known to this Friend include:

Nominating Committee, Robert "Bob" Horvay (MIC); Quaker Life Council, Julia Carrigan (MIC); Administrative Council, Emily Blanck (MIC) and Barry Sloane (MIC); Willits Book Trust, (Granting Group) Lisa Garrison (GRN); Aging Assistance and the Quaker Buildings and Programs (Granting Groups), Joan Ayars, (SAL); Indian Committee (Granting Group), Jim Murphy (WBY); First Contact Reconciliation Collaborative, Sandra Boone Murphy (MIC) and Jim Murphy (WBY); Social Justice Resource Friends, Sandra Boone Murphy (MIC); Recently released with thanks, Multicultural Audit Steering Committee, Sandra Boone Murphy (MIC).

Then too are the numerous gifts in service within each of the SQ Monthly Meetings. To all of these Friends we share kudos; our collective Light would be less warm without you tending the spiritual fires. And finally, to the mentors and those who have come before us may we celebrate the Inner Light that has lifted up Fenwick's Colony creating all that is Salem Quarter. May we continue to listen to all Children of the Light and propagate this faithful community, one gift at a time, embracing The Creator.

#### Information for Visiting

(see also www.salemquarter.net)

- Greenwich: First Day (Sunday) Meeting for Worship: 9:30 a.m. 10:15 a.m. October May at Upper Meeting House, 720 Ye Greate Streete, Greenwich, NJ and June September at the Lower Meeting House, 1064 Ye Greate Streete, Greenwich, NJ
- **Mickleton:** 413 Kings Highway, P.O. Box 231, Mickleton, N.J. 08056; 856-423-3782; mickletonmeeting.org; Worship 10:00 a.m., children's First-day School 10:15 a.m.
- 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 a.m. After-words and general fellowship 10:45 a.m., Meeting for Learning 11:15 a.m.
- Salem: East Broadway at Walnut Street, P.O. Box 7, Salem, N.J. 08079; 856-935-3381; Adult First Day School 9:30 a.m. and Children's First Day School 10:45 a.m. Sept.-May (gathering from Meeting for Worship at 10:30 a.m.)
- 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 a.m. Beach meetings from Memorial Day to Labor Day weather permitting In Cape May Windsor Ave and the water, 9:00 a.m. Sundays, in Ocean City, 23rd St. and the beach, 8:30 a.m. Sundays
- Southern State Worship Group: Call Bill Geary 609-898-8892
- **Woodbury:** 124 North Broad Street, Woodbury, N.J. 08096; 856 -845-5080; www.pym.org/meetings/meeting/woodbury-monthly-meeting; First-day School 10:30 a.m., Worship 11:15 a.m.
- Woodstown, 104 North Main St., P.O. Box 13, Woodstown, N.J. 08098; 856-478-4618; www.woodstownfriends.org; First-day School 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.

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#### Quarterly Meeting Sunday, September 8, 2019 Woodbury Friends Meeting 124 North Broad Street Woodbury, NJ

10:00 Meeting for Worship

11:00 Program: Melinda Bradley - Quaker ministries in England, Africa, and South America.

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Meeting for Business