

KENNETT FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER

December, 2009



Date	Day	Time	
5	Saturday	8 am	Men's Breakfast – Men & Boys cook, eat, and converse.
6	Sunday	8:30 am	Care & Counsel – brief meeting in the kitchen
		9:30am	Called Meeting for Business – Finance – details p. 3
		9:30 – 10:45 am	Christmas Play preparation. Teachers Amy & Elaine
		10:45 am	Break
		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship – all – Family Sunday <i>Older children requested to remain in Meeting. Childcare available for youngest children.</i>
			At the rise of Meeting Family Sunday Refreshments. See p. 2 for committee members If Friends chose, Meeting for Business will continue after a brief repose.
13	Sunday	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
		9:30- 10:45 am	Christmas Play practice Childcare available for the very small. Teacher Noreen.
		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship – all
		11:15 – 11:45 am	Christmas Play practice. Teachers Amy & Elaine
		At the rise of Meeting	Worship & Ministry Committee meeting
18	Friday	6 pm – 8 pm	POSADA – leaves from Kennett Meeting – details p.5
19	Saturday	9 am- 3 pm	Kennett Area Community Services Annual Food Distribution
20	Sunday	9:30 am	FAMILY CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST (Covered Dish)
		10:00 am	visitor from the North Pole
		10:30 am	Children present original play/singing of Christmas carols
		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship – all <i>Older children requested to remain in Meeting. Childcare available for youngest children.</i>
24	Thursday	7 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Meeting (unprogramed)
25	Friday		Christmas Day
27	Sunday		No Adult or Youth Classes – NO childcare available
		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship
31/1	Thursday/Friday		Final Day 2009/New Year 2010 begins
Jan.2	Saturday	8 am	Men's Breakfast rings in the New Year
Jan.3	Sunday	9:45 am	No Adult or Youth Classes
		10:45 am	GATHERING
		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship

GREETER FOR MEETING FOR WORSHIP IN DECEMBER: MaryEtta Clendenin
GREETER FOR MEETING FOR WORSHIP IN JANUARY: Letitia Dalton

FAMILY SUNDAY REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE FOR DECEMBER: Mary Claire & Scudder Stevens, Janet Ruggieri, Mary Ann Piccard, David Tennent, Gordon Hesse, Jean Tennent

Family Sunday Refreshment Committee for January: D&B Brumbaugh, N. Closs, N. LaPara, A. Moss, S. McLaughlin, S&C Kastriner.

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS MONTH:

12/6 Called Meeting for Business 9:30 am

12/18 Community Posada leaves from Kennett Meeting at 6:00 (see p. 5)

12/19 Annual Kennett Area Community Services Food Distribution held at Meetinghouse

12/20 Family Christmas at Kennett Meeting

12/24 Candlelight Christmas Meeting

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: Monday, January 4, 2010

Hadley Programs in December and January:

Fri. Dec. 4, 8 pm at Kennett High -

“The World of Olive Oil”

Fri. Dec. 11, 7:30 pm at Lower Brandywine Presbyterian – **Choral Scholars Concert**

Fri. Jan. 15, 8 pm at Unionville High, Christopher Densmore speaking –

“Abraham Lincoln, Civil War, Slavery, and the Chester County Quakers”

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 8, 2009 MONTHLY MEETING

-A letter was read from Fairville Friends School requesting that another member of Kennett Meeting join the school’s Quaker Committee for Care and Concerns.

-Eliot Dalton gave updates for House & Property: the new heat pump was installed. New ducting was installed downstairs but not covered. It is suggested that the vents not be covered until next year. A garbage disposal has been installed. Smoke alarms and emergency alarms are being replaced. One kitchen stove may need to be replaced. HVAC installation is running slightly more than estimate due to the thickness of walls that had to be penetrated for installation of ductwork.

-Sarah Kastriner advised that she and Amy Vitsorek had attended a Godly Play workshop. Family Christmas Meeting will be on December 20th. Sarah is heading up the breakfast. Anne Hanzel and Eliot Dalton volunteered to help.

-The Meeting took up the guideline revisions proposed last month by the Sara Bowers Committee. Use of funds from Sara Bowers fund for running of the Meeting is still under discussion. However, the Meeting moved forward to approve revisions 4 – 11 under “Guidelines for Use of Income” and all of the “Guidelines for Administration” with the inclusion of the provision that Sara Bowers Committee will report to Monthly Meeting when there has been “any emergency distribution of funds.”

-The seriousness of the finances of the Meeting (also examined when the 11th Query on Stewardship of Resources was considered) caused Friends to propose a Called Meeting on December 6 at 9:30 am.

Committees scheduled to give annual reports in January: Education (Samuel Martin Fund), Trustees, House & Property, Recorder.

Complete minutes and committee reports are available in the binder on the hall table in the meetinghouse.

THE 12TH QUERY: INTEGRITY AND SIMPLICITY

What does our Meeting understand to be the meaning and implication of our testimonies on simplicity and integrity?

How do our Meeting’s actions demonstrate this understanding?

As a Meeting, what are we doing to encourage members to embody integrity and simplicity in their everyday lives?

Sunday, December 6 at 9:30 am **Called Meeting for Worship for Business**

ALL MEMBERS AND ATTENDERS are urged to attend this very important meeting concerning the financial future of Kennett Meeting. At the November Meeting for Business Friends were in agreement that important decisions lay ahead. The attendance of every individual is important.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN with a period of worship at 9:30 a.m. and will end for a break around 10:45 am. Meeting for Worship will follow, then Family Sunday Refreshments. If the Meeting feels the need to continue discussion, Meeting for Business will resume around noon.

CONSIDER estimated 2009 income is generated as follows: 74% of total income from member and attender contributions, 22% comes from return on investments (Friends Fiduciary), 3% comes from donations (use of building) with 1% marked as "other". When expenses exceed income, by what means can the Meeting increase income or decrease expenses?

A Reminder from Dan George about 2009 Contributions

The Monthly Meeting's fiscal year ends on December 31.

If you plan to make a contribution, please send to Kennett Monthly Meeting, Box 122, Kennett Square, PA 19348 or hand directly to Treasurer Dan George at Meeting. For your contribution to be credited to 2009, it needs to be in the Treasurer's hands by December 31.

December Meetings of Care & Counsel and of Worship & Ministry Committees

Care & Counsel will meet at 8:30 am in the Kitchen on December 6 as scheduled.

Worship & Ministry has changed their meeting to December 13 at the rise of Meeting for Worship.

A Message from Care & Counsel:

Care and Counsel has received two important communications from PYM on Care and Aging.

One is **the announcement of the Greenleaf Fund**. This fund "provides financial assistance to Friends (and those in sympathy with Friends) 62 years of age and older of modest means in need of help with housing, maintenance and residential costs, on-going medical care, health equipment purchases and daily living expenses." The bulletin will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. The committee has a copy of the guidelines for anyone interested.

The other is **a request from the Aging Resource coordinator** of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Care and Aging program. They are conducting a survey to help guide their work of supporting aging Friends. Care and Counsel committees are asked to respond to a questionnaire. Our committee intends to do this. To help us with this survey, we welcome insights from any one in our Meeting community as to our needs and our care of our aging members and attenders.

We all should be aware that "assistance with emergency needs may be available at other times of the year." from PYM and, of course, from our own Meeting.

SARA BOWERS FUND APPLICATIONS Due January 15, 2010 . Turn to page 6 for other grant application deadlines.

QUAKER FAIR 2009

Lunch	1227.75	Snack Bar	293.00
Country Kitchen	900.00	Plants	192.10
Children's Room	126.00	FDS crafts	124.02
Pony Rides	185.00	Gift Shop	2002.50*
Knitwear	1326.00	Attic	2002.00*
Books	1574.70		

*record breaking total

TOTAL: \$9953.07

Dear Kennett Friends,

November 21, 2010 was picture perfect day for our 48th Annual Quaker Fair. What could come from a crystal clear fall day, unexpectedly warm but with a hint of crisp, well over 80 volunteers, and an important mission to raise funds for service, social justice, and peace programs throughout the world but a day of joy, celebration, and deep satisfaction for our local community and our Meeting community? Love in action was evident all day, in many ways.

Several snapshots bring the day into focus:

Children working diligently alongside the elders of our Meeting to contribute to making a meal for all to enjoy...

All week long, the Meetinghouse gradually transforming into a festive gathering place to shop for treasures, play, purchase homemade foods, or meet a friend for lunch.

The beautiful work of the children of our Meeting, made available freely

Generations of Friends whose Parents and Grandparents “worked the Fair” as a labor of love.

New activity leaders bravely “taking the reins” of departments with the support of those who had done the work so well for years before.

New members of our community experiencing the Fair, with the rest of us wondering how we ever “pulled this off” without them

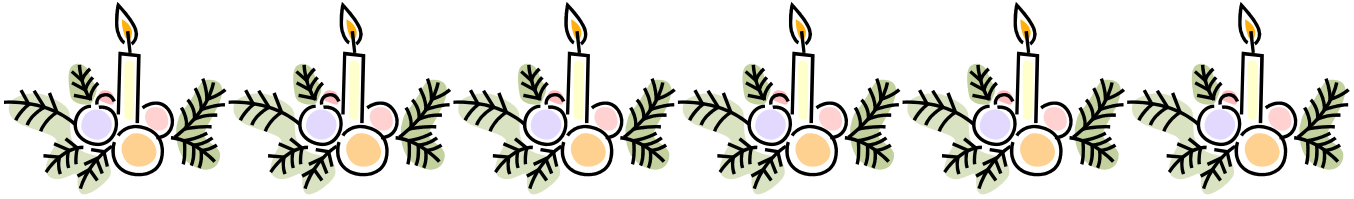
People giving of their time and talents – and encouraging others to do so as well – it seemed like whatever gifts each of us have were needed and offered.

We thank each and every one of you for being a part of this day in any and all ways. We have all sorts of ideas about the 2010 Quaker Fair, and our Committee will be re-grouping in a VERY short time to begin this labor of love again. We will be asking for involvement from the Meeting as we proceed, and are happy for any and all voices to get involved. One thing we know is that the more people get involved with their hearts, minds, and time, the richer the experience is, and the better the spiritual, emotional, and financial growth is.

In Deep Appreciation,

The 2010 Quaker Fair Committee

(EHN)



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

December 18, 6 pm – 8 pm - P O S A D A – the symbolic journey of Mary and Joseph as they sought shelter in Bethlehem.

Everyone is happy to hear that the tradition of the Posada (a Christian celebration rooted in Mexican tradition) will return to Kennett Square this December.

Celebrants of all ages are invited to assemble at Kennett Meeting on Friday evening by 6 pm – dress warmly and bring a flashlight for each participant. Sojourners will travel over to – and down- East Linden Street and circle back up to THE GARAGE Community and Youth Center for a FIESTA.

December 19, 8 am – 3 pm – FOOD DISTRIBUTION – The lower level of the Meetinghouse will be taken over by Kennett Area Community Services for the annual “Buffington” Christmas food/bike/toy distribution.

December 20, begin at 9:30 am – TRADITIONAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS

BREAKFAST AND MEETING FOR WORSHIP

9:30 am Covered Dish Breakfast

If you are able, please bring something to share

Beverages will be provided

10:00 am Visitor from the North Pole

**10:30 am Program – an original play presented by
First Day School. Carols for all.**

11 am Meeting for Worship

While every attempt will be made to stay on schedule, your patience is requested.

December 24, 7 pm

CANDLELIGHT MEETING FOR WORSHIP

No childcare available.

December 27 and January 3

Please check the calendar page for First Day School information

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

LOOKING INTO THE NEW YEAR....

ON CIVILITY – Adult Class facilitated by Laura MacKelcan on November 29, 2009.

Laura's interest in this subject grew from reading the work of P. M. Forni, professor at the Kreiger School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins University. Look for more Worship & Ministry sponsored Adult Classes on similar subjects in the coming year.

From The Institute for Civility in Government (www.instituteforcivility.org):

“Civility is claiming and caring for one's identity, needs and beliefs without degrading someone else's in the process.”¹
...and it begins with us.

Civility is about more than merely being polite, although being polite is an excellent start. Civility fosters a deep self-awareness, even as it is characterized by true respect for others. Civility requires the extremely hard work of staying present even with those with whom we have deep-rooted and perhaps fierce disagreements. It is about constantly being open to hear, to learn, to teach and to change. It seeks common ground as a beginning point for dialogue when differences occur, while at the same time recognizes that differences are enriching. It is patience, grace, and strength of character.

Schedule of Annual Reports from Standing Committees at Kennett Meeting

- January: Education (Samuel Martin), Trustees, House & Property, Recorder
- February: Memorial
- March: Sara Bowers
- April: Social Services
- May: Nominating
- June: Care & Counsel, Religious Education, Worship & Ministry, Library
- July, August, September: none
- October: Hadley
- November: Old Kennett
- December: Finance

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REMINDS US....

Details will be forthcoming for **A CLOTHING COLLECTION** in January

STUFF THE VOLVO food collection in February

FAIRVILLE FRIENDS SCHOOL NEEDS GOOD QUAKER PRESENCE

Fairville Friends School is under the care of Kennett Meeting. The school has an established Quaker Committee for Care and Concerns where Friends serve in an advisory capacity. This is an integral component of the relationship of the school to the Society of Friends. At this time, the Committee seeks one new member from Kennett Meeting to serve. A knowledge of Friends practice and process and the ability to meet 3 times a year is necessary. Questions? See Sarah Kastriner.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES TO BE AWARE OF:

- Applications for grants from the **Sara Bowers Fund** are due to the committee by **January 15, 2010**. Friends are encouraged to submit applications for worthy causes, either within or without the Meeting. Application forms are available on our website, kennettfriends.org. This year we offer on-line filing as an alternative to paper filing. See application form for instructions.

-PYM Tuition Aid Program Applications – due no later than February 15

-Samuel Martin Fund Applications – due no later than March 15

-January Kennett Meeting Newsletter submissions due January 4