

KENNETT FRIENDS MEETING

of the Religious Society of Friends

MAY, 2007

DATE	DAY	TIME	
5	Saturday	8 am	The Men's Group Breakfast – Meetinghouse Kitchen. For Men and Boys of all ages. RSVP to Scudder appreciated for food planning but not required to attend.
6	Sunday	9:45 am	Adult Class: About Western Quarter
		10:45 am	Youth FDS: Classes for K-2 and grades 3-8
		11:30 am	Gathering by FDS followed by 11 am Worship
		noon	Family Sunday Refreshments
		noon – 5 pm	<u>Religious Education Committee meeting</u> <u>Nurturing & Engaging Committee meets</u> Cinco de Mayo Fiesta – downtown KSq.
12	Saturday	8:15 am	Kennett Spiritual Growth Group – see p. 2
13	Sunday	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
		9:45 am	FINAL Youth FDS:
		10:45 am	Classes for K-2 and grades 3-8
		10:45 am	Gathering followed by 11 am Worship
19	Saturday	8:15 am	A Course In Miracles – chapter 6
20	Sunday	9:45 am	Adult Class: Planning Session for next year, Bring your ideas, calendars and commitment.
		10:45 am	Gathering followed by 11 am Worship
	At the rise of meeting		<u>Worship & Ministry Committee Meets</u>
26	Saturday	8:15 am	Kennett Spiritual Growth Group – see p. 2
27	Sunday	8:30 am	<u>Care & Counsel Committee Meets</u>
		9:45 am	Adult Class: Peace Testimony (II) Led by Eliot Dalton
		10:45 am	Gathering followed by 11 am Worship
Saturday, June 2			Men's Breakfast – see entry above for May 5 th for details
Sunday, June 3		11:00 am	Meeting for Worship – Summer Schedule Gatherings are not planned during the summer months. Worship is held at Old Kennett June 24, July 29, August 26
			Looking Ahead.....
Sunday, June 17		1 – 4 pm	Tubing on the Brandywine – Western Quarter Family Event at MaryEtta Clendenin's

GREETER FOR MEETING FOR WORSHIP IN MAY: Kathy Gamble

FAMILY SUNDAY REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE FOR MAY:

Kathy & Paul Gamble, Barbara Pope & Lee Anderson, Chris & Bruce Howells, Yvonne Boeger, Melanie & Mike Pratola

Family Sunday Refreshment Committee for June:

Sachiko & Dan George, Sandy Tucker, Annie & Rich Burrows, Barbara & Phil Mounts, Sandy Tucker, Ilona & Joe Lind

DEADLINE for the SUMMER (June, July, August) NEWSLETTER: May 29

**Committee for Monthly Meeting Supper on June 10: Sara Bowers
And Officers**

Regularly Scheduled Meetings – monthly unless changed by Clerk/Leader

1st Saturday, 8 am	Men's Breakfast Group – Scudder Stevens
1 st Sunday, at the rise of Meeting	Religious Education – Anne Hanzel, Mary Claire Stevens
2 nd /4 th Saturdays, 8:15 am	Kennett Spiritual Growth Group Contact: Yvonne Boeger – meets at Crosslands
3 rd Saturday, 8:15 am	A Course In Miracles, contact: Sheila Steuteville
3 rd Sunday, at the rise of Meeting	Worship & Ministry 4th Sunday, 8:30 am
4 th Sunday, 8:30 am	Care & Counsel – Kathy Gamble, Clerk

5TH Query To Be Considered In May – EDUCATION

What is our Meeting's role in the life and support of Friends education?

If supporting or maintaining a Friends school, have we developed an appropriate relationship of Meeting and school? What is our role in the spiritual life of the school and its maintenance of Friends' principles?

What does our Meeting do to support education in the wider community?

What help do we provide for the children and adults in our Meeting to pursue the education they seek, whether academic, technical, or vocational? Do we make provision for children in our Meeting to attend a Friends school?

HIGHLIGHTS OF MONTHLY MEETING – April 15, 2007

Presentation of several requests for regular use of our Meetinghouse resulted in considerable discussion. Tish Dalton, for House & Property, brought requests forward for Meeting consideration. Concerns raised regarding shared use of facilities and equipment as well as cost of utilities. As all requests would include use of FDS rooms, matter has been referred back to House & Property and Religious Education Committees to consider before bringing back to Meeting for Business.

Letters requesting membership were happily received from Norma Closs and from the Gates Family: Stephanie, Scott, Merritt and Laura. Both requests were referred to Care & Counsel Committee.

Items Carried Over: PYM Minute regarding same-gender marriage. See p. 3

Same Gender Marriage – Elizabeth Rhoads

Due to a request from PYM, the issue of Same Gender Marriage has been discussed during the Meeting for Business in March and April and has been held over until our May 13th Meeting for Business. We have reviewed previous thinking on this issue as recorded in our KFM Minutes and we have discussed the following item from PYM:

"Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, in session, felt strongly to affirm all marriages conducted under the care of Monthly Meetings. We [PYM] approved this minute prepared through two revisions: *'Philadelphia Yearly Meeting affirms the marriage of same-gender couples conducted under the care of Monthly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends.'* We know the truth of this but our sense is that our wording might be imperfect. We are asking all Monthly Meetings to reflect on this minute and to respond in writing to Yearly Meeting before its next annual sessions."

As a result of our discussions, the following Minute was proposed during our April Meeting for Business:

"Recognizing the three truths:

- 1. God loves absolutely everyone – no exceptions.*
- 2. God blesses all marriages.*
- 3. Monthly Meetings approve marriages to be conducted under their care.*

PYM recognizes the right of member Monthly Meetings to take under their care the marriage of same-gender couples."

Your attendance and participation as we continue our discussion is important. In order to help us have a Spirit-led discussion, please prepare for the May 13th Meeting for Business by your careful and prayerful consideration of this issue.

Volunteer Drivers

Sarah Betson has a standing appointment in Chestnut Hill on Tuesdays. Jean Tennent arranges, with Sarah, a monthly schedule of volunteer drivers to take Sarah from the meetinghouse at 9:45 am to her 11 am appointment. She finishes at 1 o'clock and the driver returns Sarah to her home in Oxford.

It is an easy trip, the company is exceptionally agreeable and your hour in Chestnut Hill, delightful. There are currently several regular drivers but others continue to be needed.

Please call Jean or sign up on the Announcement Board in the Meetinghouse.

SUMMER KENNETT MEETING NEWSLETTER

Please be thinking ahead to your inclusions for committee meetings and other events. The summer newsletter will be issued during the first week of June and will cover 3 months. Please submit by May 29 to Anne Hanzel.

Recalling The Wild Asparagus

Taken, with permission, from correspondence between Mark and Lars Farmer, Mark writes:

Thinking of the crocus as our first sign of Spring in Kennett, I was reminded of a wonderful experience at Kennett Meeting.

In the 1970s, the naturalist Euell Gibbons who often appeared on public t.v., wrote a book ("*Stalking The Wild Asparagus*") about foraging: the gathering of edible native wild plants, roots, fruit and blooms from the nearby hills and valleys.

Many at Meeting read the book, and Dick Lighty, a professor of Botany, organized a day for us Meeting members to go out and gather plants from the local environment, growing wild, and bring them back to the meetinghouse to prepare a meal.

Of course the Lightys, Tennents, Bob McKinstry and others will remember this- especially the Lighty, Tennent and Way kids.

Dick made up some local maps showing where to look and a list of plants to get and we divided up into groups. On a Saturday morning our groups set out at 9 AM to our assigned locations and "gathered" the "crops." We met back at the meetinghouse at noon, and proceeded to make and cook soups, salads, desserts, etc.

It was a wonderful meal. The dessert included flower blossoms which were delicious! Anyway, it was a memorable experience for me and for the First Day School kids at the time. And it can be again – some of those areas must still be undeveloped enough that those plants still grow there. Let me know what people remember about Euell Gibbons and that day.

NGA – NEIGHBORHOOD GUILD

MaryEtta reminds everyone that it is time to remember the Neighborhood Guild during your shopping trips. Collection of NEW items only will commence in October. Bedsheets, underclothing, socks, and children's clothing are all needed.

CLOTHING COLLECTION ENDS MAY 6

REMEMBER.....please have all bags of clothing in the back of our dining room for pick up on Monday morning, May 7th by the Clothing Bank truck. Slips will be there to fill out for taking deductions.

All clothing should be clean and good repair. Shoes should show little wear. Thank you.

FORMING – SUMMER BOOK CLUB

Like to read? Like to talk about what you read?

Anne Hanzel would like to form a summer book club. Contact her if you would like to take part. Book suggestions and your ideas welcome.

ADULT CLASSES IN MAY

Kennett Friends have made their interests clear: Adult Class is important to us!!!
On May 6, talk with Kathy Hahn and Chip Thomas about Western Quarter – *listen* AND tell them what YOU think.

Join in on May 20 for the 2007-2008 Planning Session. If you cannot attend this session, don't hide your light - please e-mail or call-in your contributions to Betsy or Thomas. Eliot Dalton leads session II on the Peace Testimony on May 27.

NURTURING OUR HEARTS, ENGAGING OUR SPIRITS Weekend Events Begins Year-Long Process

Friends gathered on Friday evening, April 27 for dinner, friendship, and the start of the long-anticipated sessions to “re-energize, re-new, re-prioritize and re-commit” themselves to Kennett Meeting. Spread over 3 days, the entire weekend program consisted of over 16 scheduled hours and ended with Meeting for Worship on Sunday. Participants were encouraged to attend the entire program. Throughout the weekend, the number of participants remained at 40.

Leaders Laura Melly (Chestnut Hill Meeting) and Therese Miller (Lewisburg Meeting) were joined by Caley Fritner (Moorestown Meeting) who fulfilled the job of scribe and photographer.

Through paired, small group, and large group ‘exercises’, participants considered many questions and challenges. By Saturday night many worked through what was described as “brain freeze” or “Quaker overload.” The memory was full! Happily a good night of sleep in our own homes had everyone return cheerful and invigorated for Sunday morning breakfast and for the final few hours of work.

Many participants requested that some of the written output from the weekend remain taped to the Meetinghouse walls for further contemplation and to share with other Friends and attenders who would arrive for Meeting for Worship at 11 a.m. As this program moves forward, it is hoped that everyone will feel involved, even if they were unable to attend this initial program.

Closing worship was emotional and joyful. It was the great hope of all who attended the weekend to be able to include our newly arrived Friends in the energy and excitement that was generated throughout the 3 days.

Sunday also brought forth a beautiful, sunny morning to what had been a long, cold April. Light shone on and from within Kennett Meeting.



THE WORK CONTINUES....

**The next Planning Committee Meeting will be held at noon on Sun., May 6.
This Committee remains open to all who have a desire to participate. Come.**