

**Fort Collins Friends Newsletter**  
**Fort Collins Friends Meeting, Religious Society of Friends**  
2222 W. Vine Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80521  
(970) 491-9717 April - May 2011  
www.fortcollinsquakers.org

---

**Every Sunday Meeting for Worship and First Day School 10:00 a.m.**  
**Business Meeting: June 18; Pot Luck May 15, June 18**



**Don Smith recounted some of his experiences as a Conscientious Objector during World War to the First Day School on a recent Sunday. . Don spent several years in a work camp for refusing to serve in the military. Trace Martyn and Zach Hill listen on either side.**

---

**May 21. Work Day – The Glazing Project (p 4).**

**May 28. Crafts Morning (p. 4)**

**June 3. Young Friends at Elitch.**

**June 5 –12. Gathering at Ghost Ranch and painting of Meeting House**

**July 3-9 Friend General Conference in Grinnell, IA**

**Aug 12-14 Gathering on the Poudre: Fort Collins Camping Trip**

## **Advices and Queries**

New opportunities present themselves at every stage of life. Approach the aging process with courage and hope. Honor that which you have been, welcoming new possibilities for wisdom, objectivity, and greater knowledge of the Spirit. Realize that as time passes, new ways of receiving and reflecting God's love will open. Inspect your finances while you are in good health, making whatever provisions are needed for the settlement of your affairs. Consider the value of a living will and other documents that express your wishes for your end of life. Make sure that those dear to you are well informed, so that you and they are freed to live more fully.

## Queries:

Are we aware of those in our meeting who endure tragedy or loss?

Do we seek to understand their needs and to comfort them? Do we, in loving concern, extend assistance to those who require it?

Have I prepared for my own death and for the deaths of those I love with the same care as for other events in my life?

Have I learned what I can about the aging and dying process? If not, what prevents me from learning about these topics? Do I fully discuss and share this information within my family?

How can the meeting help me find clearness about the difficult questions surrounding aging and dying? Do I know whom to contact when I am in need of spiritual support or material assistance? What am I willing to ask of the meeting? Am I willing to accept what the meeting has to give?

From *IMYM Faith and Practice*, p. 127-128



### Treasurer's Report for the 4<sup>th</sup> Month

**Greg Shubert**

April 30, 2011 balances totaled \$10,826, up \$86 from last month. Reserves are about \$7,600 of this total.

Regular contributions for the month were \$1,640. This is about 70% of the expected monthly contribution (\$2,333). Including interest and rent, total income was \$1,915.

Regular expenses (mortgage, utilities, supplies, religious education, etc.) came to \$1,353.

Other expenses included \$400 to IMYM for financial assistance, \$66 to Friends Publishing for our listing in Friend's Journal, and a \$10 fee to the Colorado Secretary of State.

Total expenses were \$1,829. Income exceeded expenses by \$86.

We received and passed along \$150 for Mike Gray's ministry.

The yard sale proceeds were about \$493 net. This will be accounted for in the May report.

Since upcoming expenses include the balance of the painting, about \$4,000, we ask Friends to consider what amounts they may be able to contribute toward this in the coming months.

Contributions may be left in the Quaker Oats container, sent to our Meeting House, or sent to the treasurer at: 3826 Galileo Dr. #A, Fort Collins, CO 80528.

## Adult Religious Education in the Fall: Sept. 30, Oct. 7, Oct. 14 **Patti Davies**

Religious Education, in conjunction with Ministry and Counsel, will sponsor an adult education series this coming fall. So save these dates.

The series will be held on three successive Friday evenings: **Sept. 30, Oct. 7 and Oct. 14**. The committee felt that this type of scheduling allows for greater participation by Friends, based on past experience. A theme and content for the series has not yet been set. The committee is very interested in hearing from Friends who have ideas and issues for structuring the evening sessions.

Contact Rob Werge ([robwerge@comcast.net](mailto:robwerge@comcast.net)) if you have any suggestions.



**Andreana Brenner with some handy assistance puts a few Easter eggs (from the community flock) through their paces. Young Friends hid eggs and asked the adults to find them. This editor still sees “hidden” eggs from time to time.**

**Religious Education: First Day School Summer Sessions**  
*Patti Davies*

The committee has developed a summer schedule for conducting First Day School. Beginning on June 5, however, we will have just one person assigned to the class. As the group can range in size from 6 months to 16, the committee asks Friends to be available for “pitching in” if necessary. Due to travel and vacation commitments, the committee is

unable to cover several Sundays, including June 12 and July 10. . We are asking for a volunteer to cover for these two and other dates should a member of the committee not be present. If you are so moved, please give a member of the committee (Rob Werge, Trace Martyn, Bob Shively, Luana Hikes, Patti Davies) a shout out. Like other committees, Religious Education is looking for a few new members. As this is “nomination time,” if you are so inclined please let the committee know.

The summer session will begin on June 5, after our “graduation trip” to Elitch Gardens on June 3.

The committee thanks Don Smith speaking to Young Friends about his Conscientious Objector experience. In the fall, we would like to incorporate more Friends from Meeting, possibly in a series of “Why I became a Quaker.” These would be short 10-15 minute talks with the Young Friends followed by other activities.

**Buildings and Grounds**  
*Carol Reilly*

The contractor for painting the Meeting House (M&E) estimates it will cost \$580 extra to pay for the newly discovered wood damage that they have found before the painting of the building. If more damage is found, the price will likely increase.



**There will be a workday for window glazing on May 21 and all help will be appreciated!**

More workdays still need to be scheduled for other projects, for example, fixing the fence on the west side of the property. A new sprinkler system has been installed which should help to conserve both water and the caretakers' time (from moving hoses from place to place). The painting of the Meeting House is scheduled for the week of June 6-12. The caretakers will be away during the scheduled painting time and only one entrance must be left open. It would

be best to minimize the number of people coming and going from the meeting house that week to minimize exposure to the lead paint that will be removed.

**Craft Projects May 28**

Friends with an interest in craft making for a holiday sale may gather with their materials and projects at the Meeting House on May 28 at 9:00 am.

**THANK YOU, FRIENDS *Roz Doak, Mary Carol Randall!***



Our Spring Garage Sale was a big success and contributed over \$520 to the Meeting! So, many, many thanks to all who donated items, large and small, and to shoppers who came out on a windy day to help make the day such a worthwhile fundraiser. Special thanks to **Charlotte Miller** for creating wonderful baked goods - cakes, pies, cookies, brownies and decorated cupcakes! Volunteers helping to pick up donations, set up and price - your help was invaluable: **Rosalind Larsen, Rob Werge, Shannon Harker, Bob & Jed Shively, and Betsy Munson**. Thanks to **Jeanne Nash** for the use of her cash box, too.

Sign makers & "wavers" - **Alicia & Cara Randall, Zach Hill, Rebecca Morris, Rosalind Larsen, Andreanna Brenner and Harris Schweiterman**- your lively action really brought in the shoppers!

Volunteers who filled 'shifts' on Saturday to

help shoppers (the list disappeared, so not sure if we have all the names...) **Shari Due, Rosalind Larsen, Sheila Brenner, Betsy Munson, Charlotte Miller and Cara Randall and Bob Doak**.



Of course, thanks to everyone who helped at the end of the sale to box up, clear up and clean up to put the First Day School back in order - everybody really pitched in.. And, to the volunteers who schlepped the 'leftovers' to Once Again Thrift: **Bob Doak, Rob Werge and Tom Brenner**.

## State of the Meeting

*Each year the Meeting is asked to share a statement of its condition with Friends at the regional gatherings. The following was written by our clerk, Rebecca Morris, and shared at business meeting. This is part 2 of her report.*

**Buildings and Grounds**  
Committee members worked closely with the coordinators of the Community Garden Project utilizing space in our adjacent lot, preparing a number of 8' x 10' family garden plots for interested families in the community. We also added a chicken coop, with several dozen chickens, which provided many eggs for community members and for Meeting potlucks. We have also donated hundreds of pounds of produce from the garden to our local food bank. A late fall workday brought Friends together to replace aging play equipment for our children.

Our treasurer and the Finance Committee ensure that our Meeting remains fiscally sound, keeping us on track with regular reports on our income, expenses, investments, and other financial concerns. Our new Fundraising Committee helped organize a Gourmet Dinner in October, which provided great food, fellowship and raised additional funds. They

also coordinated production and sales of holiday crafts for fundraising and held a car wash.

One of the many joys of Quakerism lies in the community we find among Friends. This is true not only for our monthly meetings but also for our regional and yearly meetings. In the past year, Friends from our monthly meeting have attended various Quaker events including the Gathering of Friends General Conference, Intermountain Yearly Meeting (with a record 27 Fort Collins Friends and their children in 2010), Colorado Regional Meeting, and the Quaker Women's Retreat. Friends attending these meetings typically returned spiritually renewed and inspired to a new level of activism.

Friends from our Meeting continue to serve in various capacities at these larger Quaker gatherings as well as serving in organizations in the local community. Rich Harter and David Zimmerman serve as meeting representatives to IMYM Continuing Committee and as a member of the IMYM Watching Committee. Rich also serves as Clerk of Colorado Regional Meeting. Jonathan Taylor serves on the IMYM Service Task Group and as representative to IMYM Nominating Committee. Shannon Harker is the meet-

ing liaison to FCNL. Charlotte Miller serves as the Fort Collins Friends Meeting Liaison to AFSC and as one of the Colorado Regional Meeting's representatives to the General Committee of FCNL. Rob Werge continues in his work a coordinator for children's programs for Colorado Regional Meeting and IMYM. Charlotte and Rob helped with fundraising at the annual gala of the Geller Center for Spiritual Development, an interfaith community with outreach to students at Colorado State University.

We continue to publish a monthly newsletter in paper and electronic form, and keep up a FortCollinsQuakers.org website, where we post meeting news, photos, events, and information about Quaker practice for the wider community.

In summary, the Fort Collins Friends Meeting has sustained its active group over the past year. We continue to strengthen our connection to the surrounding community and through this participation our Meeting continues to grow spiritually.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Rebecca Morris,  
Clerk***