

# The Canadian Friend

Volume 103, No. 4

October 2007

## Canadian Yearly Meeting in Session



### IN THIS ISSUE:

View from the Clerks' Table  
Counter-Recruitment  
What Flavour Quaker Are You?

The Canadian Friend (ISSN 0382-7658) is the magazine of Canadian Yearly Meeting, and is published five times a year on its behalf by the Home Mission and Advancement Committee. The Canadian Friend is sent to all members of Canadian Yearly Meeting and to regular attenders. It is funded through quotas and free-will donations of the membership to further the work and witness of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Canada.

**\* Articles, Poetry, Photos and Drawings**

All submissions are always welcome, and not need share the theme of the issue. Please send to:

Keith Macgowan, Editor  
E-mail: [cf-editor@quaker.ca](mailto:cf-editor@quaker.ca)  
Telephone: (250) 478-2226  
992 Haslam Ave.  
Langford, BC V9B 2N2

**\* Advertising**

Send camera-ready or clear, readable copy to the editor, preferably by e-mail. Advertising rates and details are available on request.

**\* Subscriptions and Donations**

Subscription rates for one year are: \$28.00 for Canada, \$39.00 CD for the U.S., \$49.00 CD for other countries. Single copies are \$5.60; with insert, \$7.60. We welcome donations to help cover the costs of publication and distribution. Please contact:

Seán Hennessey, Business Manager  
E-mail: [cf-businessmanager@quaker.ca](mailto:cf-businessmanager@quaker.ca)  
Telephone: (250) 366-4372  
Argenta, BC V0G 1B0  
(Cheques are payable to The Canadian Friend.)

**\* Reproduction**

Copyright © 2007 is held by Canadian Yearly Meeting. Please request permission before reprinting excerpts longer than 200 words.

**\* Publications Mail Registration No. 09887**

**PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER**

The cover is printed on 60%, and the pages on 30%, post-consumer recycled paper.

**NEW ADDRESS? PLEASE LET US KNOW.**

Please send updated address information to:  
Canadian Yearly Meeting  
91A Fourth Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2L1  
E-mail: [cym-office@quaker.ca](mailto:cym-office@quaker.ca)  
Tel: (888) 296-3222 and (613) 235-8553

## *From the editor's desk.....*

Hast thou thought of editing?  
Do Friendly writings make you sing?  
Can you accept a monthly fee  
To encourage creativity?  
And talk to Friends near and far  
About their journey's guiding star?

Can you write? And can you read?  
Can you spot a boring screed?  
And can you keep your mind from frettin'  
When the computer changes all to Breton?\*

Do you wish you had a chance  
To make a real difference?  
And do you wish all Friends could see  
Your awful, awful poetry?

If you find that this is so,  
Then please do apply below.

Many thanks,  
*Keith Macgowan*

\* True story.

---

**Home Mission and Advancement  
Committee invites applications for the  
position of Editor of The Canadian  
Friend. Application deadline:  
26 October 2007.**

**Starting date: 1 January 2008.**  
**For further enquiries or to receive an  
information package, please contact  
Jane MacKay Wright, 111 McNevin St.,  
Providence Bay, ON P0P 1T0  
(Tel. 705-377-6074; E-mail:  
[janemw@amtelecom.net](mailto:janemw@amtelecom.net) )**

---

The Canadian Friend can be viewed online at:  
<http://www.quaker.ca/cfriend/cfriend.html>

## In This Issue.....

### Theme: Canadian Yearly Meeting in

#### Session

CYM 2007: The View From the Clerks' Table	<i>by Beverly Shepard - page 3</i>
Young Friends Epistle	<i>page 4</i>
Young Adult Friends Epistle	<i>page 4</i>
Consultation and Renewal	<i>by Mona Callin - page 5</i>
Gleanings...	<i>courtesy Edith Miller - page 5</i>
Photo: Kelly Ackerman	<i>page 6</i>
Lost and Found	<i>by Carol Bradley - page 6</i>
Peace Concerns at CYM 2007	<i>by Arnold Ranneris - page 6</i>
Joys and Challenges of the Work of M&C	<i>by Sue Starr - page 7</i>
News from the Food Co-op	<i>by Don Alexander - page 8</i>
Signs of Hope	<i>by Arnold Ranneris - page 8</i>
Counter-Recruitment	<i>by Fiona McMurran - page 9</i>
Photo: Elen Cheatley and Marika Haspeck	<i>page 10</i>
Photo: Erin McDougall	<i>page 10</i>
Report of the Special Interest Group on Friends United Meeting	<i>page 11</i>
Photo: Jessica Tellez and Betty Peterson	<i>page 11</i>
Letter to FUM	<i>page 12</i>
'New' Biotechnology	<i>by Anne Mitchell - page 13</i>

#### News and Views

What Flavour Quaker Are You?	<i>by Evalyn Parry - page 14</i>
------------------------------	----------------------------------

A Faith Beyond Belief	<i>by John Calder - page 15</i>
Peace File Plea	<i>by Jane Zaritz-Bond - page 16</i>
Long Distance Calling....	<i>by Margaret Slavin - page 16</i>
Canadian Friends Enrich Pendle Hill	<i>by Shirley Dodson - page 17</i>
Where We've Been: Quaker Oats, The Titanic and Collective Memory	<i>by Kyle Joliffe - page 18</i>
Update on Court Case of US "War Resisters" in Canada	<i>by Jane Orion Smith - page 19</i>
Egan-Pimblett Trust Account Established	<i>page 20</i>
Yonge Street Half Yearly Meeting	<i>by Judy Gilbert - page 20</i>
A Canadian Department of Peace?	<i>by Ray Cunningham - page 21</i>

#### Reading and Reviews

New to QBS	<i>page 22</i>
------------	----------------

#### Diversions

Crossword	<i>by Peter Stevenson and Jesse Thompson - page 23</i>
Croctic Solution	<i>page 24</i>
Some Interesting Web Pages .....	<i>page 24</i>

#### Around The Family

Monthly Meeting News	<i>page 25</i>
Other News	<i>page 26</i>

#### Departments

Classifieds	<i>page 24</i>
Credits, Upcoming Themes and Deadlines	<i>page 27</i>

The cover photograph, by Bruce Diennes of Annapolis Valley Monthly Meeting, is of Christine Davis presenting her Sunderland P. Gardner Lecture at CYM sessions.

# CYM 2007

## The View From the Clerks' Table

by Beverly Shepard

Everyone who was there and to whom I have spoken about Yearly Meeting 2007 has said it was “wonderful”, or words to that effect. This is good to hear, but what does it really mean? We got a lot done? We felt good? We experienced deep worship? We had fun? Oh, yes, I think: those things and much more.

As Quakers, we are both pleased and satisfied when we believe we have done our business in right order: worshipfully, attending to each other and God, giving time where it is needed, understanding when a matter needs to be laid aside, and knowing what is important for us to do. Sometimes all these factors seem to fall into place naturally; sometimes we need reminders. Most Friends I’ve talked with seem to feel we did our business well. We considered some recommendations (from the Consultation and Renewal Working Group final report) about our Society with care, but with trust that they had already been through a long process of discovery and discernment, and that we had already been heard. The most far-reaching and profound recommendations were approved in that spirit and fairly quickly, showing that Friends know it is important to care for ourselves if we are to remain able to care for others. When that process began to slow dramatically, we moved to those outward concerns. We affirmed our support for a number of important peace initiatives and took the next steps toward a future Minute of Record to restate our peace testimony for our times. An array of Special Interest Groups - pre-scheduled and ad hoc - both reflected and illuminated our testimonies and our work. We have entered into some deep consideration of the place that Christianity - the concept and the word - has or ought to have in our past and in our present, a journey that includes a searching assessment of our membership in Friends United Meeting.

So, we feel we have done the work of the Spirit in our time together, but the Spirit was at work outside the business sessions as well. Singing and chanting and balancing, assisting Friends assailed by the mid-week storms, walking the peace path among the lanterns commemorating Hiroshima Day, talking at meals, welcoming and embracing Friends from other Yearly Meetings, playing and laughing and working and sharing our cares and sorrows - all of these and more intensified the sense that we were truly a blessed community, present in the Presence.

As presiding Clerk, I watched Friends assemble for each session, quietly, lovingly, faithfully - ready for the challenges of doing business by our extraordinary practice - and I felt overwhelmed each day by the beauty of this “peculiar people” and the power of our peculiar ways. This year, I invited Young Adult Friends to sit at the clerks’ table during sessions, as led, and several of them did (one at a time). I found the support of their presence and energy very valuable, and they expressed to the clerks their appreciation for the experience. (Don’t you just love win-win situations?)

At the rise of Yearly Meeting, I moved from the position of presiding clerk to that of mentoring clerk, part of a team which includes Dale Dewar as presiding clerk and Anne Mitchell as incoming clerk. Next year at Camrose, Alberta, I will sit at the clerks’ table some of the time and preside for only some of that time, easing myself away from the table and back into the body of Friends on the other side of it. Serving as Clerk of Canadian Yearly Meeting has been a demanding and rewarding experience, one in which I have felt very blessed - by God, by faith, and by all of you.

Beverly Shepard is a member of Hamilton  
Monthly Meeting.

# Young Adult Friends and Young Friends Epistles

## Canadian Yearly Meeting, August 4-11, 2007 King's Edgehill School

### Young Friends Epistle

The young friends at 2007 CYM in Windsor Nova Scotia had a very fulfilling week. The teen facilitator was Cheryl Barendregt and with help from Julie Sullivan, they kept us busy with fun activities such as building bridges without talking, and watching a very interesting movie. It was called "The Secret", and was essentially about the power of positive thinking and how it can change our lives. We had many discussions with Andrew Esser-Haines and Erin McDougall, Bill Curry and Dale Dewar, Oskar Castro as well as Anne-Marie Zilliacus and Meredith Egan. On Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday we had the option to go swimming and all who participated had a great time.

Discussions with Oskar and Anne-Marie/Meredith were essentially pro-peace and many of the YF's were deeply moved by our discussions.

Bill and Dale gave us their famous sex talk, need we say more.

And Andrew and Erin helped us understand our roots and position as Young Friends, and taught us many unknown facts about our history in Canada.

### Young Adult Friends Epistle

Eleven YAFs gathered this year on a patch of grass on the second day of CYM. We had not been programmed, and many of us came with committee business—y'know, "adult stuff." But we gathered in order to meet one another and to share a few words about our spiritual journey. Several were returning to CYM after a prolonged absence of up to twelve years. Others were relatively new to Quakerism. All articulated that a spiritual yearning had contributed to the decision to attend.

Over the week we have attended business meetings, participated and escaped from adult programming, gone for walks into town, and sought the best culinary introduction to Canada for the American YAFs among us (poutine!). YAFs made up half the attendance at Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting for Worship for Business, served as Clerk and Recording Clerk and led Worship Sharing. YAFs Erin McDougall and Andrew Esser-Haines came Traveling in the Ministry and presented to Young Friends about belonging in a faith community. In the larger Meeting for Worship for Business YAFs and teen YFs alternately took a seat at the Clerking table and enjoyed this engaged introduction to the work of Clerks from "the other side." At lunch in the food co-op YAFs and YFs were seen lifting one another into the air as part of an ongoing balancing workshop.

The transition from teen YF to YAF can take many decades, and the way is not always easy. We are grateful to YFs for including us in their community. Finding one's place in the Quaker community is an exercise in both belonging and alienation, as we see our spiritual home with new eyes.

# Consultation and Renewal

by Mona Callin

In the documents Friends received when registering for Canadian Yearly Meeting held at Kings Edgehill School, Windsor, Nova Scotia in August 2007 was the Final Report from the Consultation & Renewal Working Group (commonly referred to as C'nR). Friends had been advised by the Clerks, Beverly Shepard and Dale Dewar, in their pre-CYM literature that Consultation & Renewal would be a significant agenda item for decision in the 2007 business sessions. The final report was received during the Tuesday August 7th business sessions and the Working Group was thanked for their work over the past three years.

In total, 27 recommendations were brought forward for consideration this year. The first recommendation was that we should continue to meet annually as one unified Yearly Meeting. In the second group of recommendations, we were encouraged to examine how Australia Yearly Meeting is organized and determine if the Australian Model has anything to offer Canadian Friends. These were both approved.

The next group of recommendations was related to religious education visitations, publications and CYM Children's Program. One major change was to nominate a Children's Program Coordinator who resides in the region of the upcoming annual sessions. The coordinator would become an ex-officio member of YM Program Committee and be accountable through that committee. These recommendations were approved. Hope was expressed that appropriate Friends would be led to that work of Quaker Education.

The Working Group had six recommendations for Ministry & Counsel including: that Yearly Meeting of Ministry & Counsel and Continuing Meeting of Ministry & Counsel examine the description of their functions in CYM Organizations & Procedure to discern whether these descriptions are consistent with current needs and practices and whether either the practices or the Discipline need revision, and; to consider the wisdom of having Continuing Meeting of Ministry & Counsel function as a standing

committee of CYM rather than a parallel meeting.

Young Friends were well represented at Yearly Meeting. They have their own Yearly Meeting, which concurred with the recommendation that CYM employ a Youth Secretary on a part-time basis. It is suggested that applicants for the position supply a recommendation from their Monthly Meeting together with an indication of the Meeting's willingness to assume responsibility for arranging supervision, spiritual nurture and care for the individual in the position. This recommendation was approved.

This is an incomplete report of the discussion and decision-making concerning the Conclusions and Recommendations from the Consultation and Renewal Working Group at Yearly Meeting 2007. I would like to close by repeating the closing statement of the Final Report. "We were reminded that worship is the central element in all that we do. We may disagree about testimonies that were established in the past, but we reunite in worship – worship being at the core of our lives individually and as a religious society. We are called to set aside our individual desires and listen to the guidance of the "Spirit that unites us all".

Mona Callin is a member of Hamilton Monthly Meeting.

## Gleanings...

Courtesy Edith Miller

Tom Findley lives by a river upstream from a Native reserve that harvests and sells wild rice. He says, "They know I drink from the river; I'm their Quaker canary!"



Kelly Ackerman, hard at work at the food co-op.  
Photo by Bruce Diennes

## Peace Concerns at CYM 2007

by Arnold Ranneris

Peace concerns will always be on the top of the agenda at any CYM gathering, but this year had a particularly good focus.

The Canadian Friends Service Committee Tuesday evening was particularly inspiring. We had five presentations around the theme of Spirit-led work for social justice. Orion Smith acted as convener, and focused the sharing by describing the events leading up to the abolition of the slave trade. Other speakers shared about their involvements: Gianne Broughton via service in CFSC and most recently around the Responsibility to Protect response, Vince Zelazny shared his leadings as a forest ecologist, Oskar Castro, who works with AFSC on anti-military recruitment with young people, spoke of his grounding as a mystic and seeker in his work, and Monica Walters-Field on her work for peace and justice in Jamaica.

Other concerns came up in Meeting for Business: the reactivation of an Ad Hoc Committee on War Taxes, endorsement of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, hearing Thousand Islands Meeting's amplification of the concern from 2006 Yearly Meeting's "Towards a Culture of Peace", and approving Toronto Meeting's request for support for the initiative toward a Federal Department of Peace.

Elaine Bishop's Quaker Studies series put Friends' testimonies in historical perspective, with the morning theme lectures. Special Interest Groups were offered around such topics as "Military Recruitment of Youth", "Responsibility to Protect", "Toward a Moral Economy", "Afghanistan, What are the Options?", "Seeking a Non-Violent Defence Policy", "Signs of Hope: Quaker Ecology Action Network", and "Quaker Initiative to End Torture". The Sunderland P. Gardner lecturer, Christine Davis, spoke of witness for peace and justice and reconciliation in Scotland and more widely in Britain Yearly Meeting. Her lecture will be printed as a Canadian Quaker Pamphlet, and is a reminder of Quaker peace witness elsewhere.

Arnold Ranneris is a member of Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting.

## LOST AND FOUND

Carol Bradley, for Programme Committee.

It was a wonderful Canadian Yearly Meeting! Not least, there was nothing exciting left in the Lost and Found. Mostly sweat shirts, which is not surprising as we all took off our heavy clothes as soon as the sun warmed the day. There was lots of sun! We found a pair of sunglasses, in a wine-coloured case from Germany, which are looking for their owner.

The sweatshirts are: brown size 4 hoodie (rumoured to be Luca's), black large adult NX hoodie, black "Tomboy" size 9 zip-up hoodie, navy women's size medium Mountain Equipment hoodie, and black women's size medium Wind River hoodie!

Anyone who wants to claim any of the above: please send \$5.00 for postage and packing to me at 121 Dill Rd Ext, Windsor, N.S. B0N 2T0, and you shall have it. Anything unclaimed will go to the local Salvation Army by the end of September, though I will hold onto the sunglasses until next year.

Thank you all so much for everything you contributed to such a fine Meeting, and thank you for your great clean-up!

# Joys and Challenges of the Work of M&C

by Sue Starr

**Y**early Meeting of Ministry and Counsel (YMM&C) is composed of all members of Monthly Meeting of Ministry and Counsel who are present at Yearly Meeting, or those asked to serve their Monthly Meetings in this capacity at Yearly Meeting. Yearly Meeting of Ministry and Counsel through its Continuing Meeting provides care and support for all Meetings for Worship across Canada and for the worship which underlies all business sessions of the Yearly Meeting and for all Meetings for Worship held during Yearly Meeting. (Canadian Yearly Meeting Organization & Procedure, from Sections 7.10 and 11)

Each year, early in the week of Canadian Yearly Meeting in session, YMM&C invites all Friends attending CYM to an open Meeting. In Windsor this year, during this Meeting, Friends joined small sharing circles to consider our joys and challenges in working with Ministry and Counsel in our local Meetings.

We considered some queries and a number of helpful ideas were offered. Here are a few:

## **How do we see that people will not be neglected when ill or distressed?**

- Explain the function of M&C more often.
- Help people to know how/when to have a Committee of Care.
- If someone used to come regularly and doesn't come, check on them.
- Make it a point to contact people who are sick. One larger meeting has a visiting committee with a book for people to jot down concerns.
- We don't always need to have a committee – most people have friends and we need to alert them to our concern.
- When there's conflict in a Meeting, you can hold a person in the light without them even knowing and it helps.
- Divide the Meeting into groups of around 8 to keep in regular contact with each other (larger Meetings), or set up buddy systems (smaller Meetings).
- Add an individual Friendly note to minutes when sent out to members and attenders.

- Match up a Friend with e-mail to inform a Friend without e-mail of events.
- Encourage Friends, if they are going into hospital and are unable to directly contact M&C, to get someone else to do so.
- Encourage worshipful sharing to provide news of absent Friends.
- At least 1 person could act as an M&C contact, and could name 2 people if a Committee of Care is needed.
- M&C must get to know the people in their meeting.
- Remember to nurture the nurturers.

## **How do we see that the life of the community will be vibrant?**

- The welcoming function can be for everyone.
- Allow time and space for afterthoughts in worship sharing format.
- Study groups.
- Encourage Friends to get involved in wider service among Friends and in the community.
- Include the youngest Friends.
- Circulate a short e-mail every week on something spiritual – a quote or a query. Arrange for those without computers to receive the message.
- Offer workshops on Quaker process.
- Open Business Meeting with a Query.
- Discuss a definition for a vibrant meeting.
- Take back the central core of Quakerism.
- Work to find balance between outside activities and nurturing the Meeting community
- Support Friends in developing end of life plans.
- Use the resource "Grounded in God: Care and Nurture in Friends Meeting", edited by Patricia McBee, available from Quaker Book Service.
- Some have dealt with conflict by looking at it honestly and finding a way to hold it lovingly.
- Provide and participate in training in resolving conflict.
- Thousand Islands Monthly Meeting has developed a set of written steps for resolving conflicts. Vancouver Monthly Meeting has developed a process.



- Smaller wide-spread Meetings may or may not have an M&C, and operate on an ad hoc basis when there's a need for clearness committees, committees of care.

**How do we see that Meeting for Worship is held in right spirit and the spiritual needs of individuals are looked after?**

- Hold worship sharing within Meeting around this theme.
- Rely on Elders or experienced Friends in Worship Group to help stay rooted.
- Offer workshops on vocal ministry.
- Read Advices and Queries - some suggest at end of Meeting, some suggest beginning. We need to read the barometer of the Meeting
- Offer 1 small teaching every Sunday – from Elders, seasoned Friends
- Provide a prayer box in the meetinghouse for Friends to write down requests that a prayer circle will hold in the Light

Sue Starr is a member of Prairie Monthly Meeting.

## News from the Food Co-op

by Don Alexander

**F**un and good-will prevailed throughout the food co-op area at Windsor, Nova Scotia. More than 80 people took part in the out-door feed-fest.

A hard working local committee set the stage for a well-organized site and scrumptious meals. A continuing committee for food co-op was established three years ago in Windsor. It carries the memories of successful menus and organization from one-year to the next. A manual has been developed, and with the addition of this year's menu and experience it will be fine-tuned by the food co-op archivist. A total of 12 members have formed an e-mail list of people who are available for year round consideration of food co-op matters.

Don Alexander is an attender of Pelham Executive Meeting.

## Signs of Hope

Quaker Ecology Action Network and Ecology Concerns Special Interest Group at CYM  
by Arnold Ranneris

**E**nvironmental concerns and actions are alive and well within our Yearly Meeting. Thirty Friends shared in this Special Interest Group. We shared some of the work of QEAN as reported in Reports in Advance for 2006-07 and noted the changed attitude of government and the community at large, from one of needing to advocate around issues to being part of the solution-seeking network.

Participants who are active in Quaker Ecology Witness (QEW), CFSC, the Earth Charter, Quaker Institute of the Future, KAIROS, and involved in Nuclear concerns shared their involvement and action. In particular we note the excellent work of Quaker Ecology Witness and the reports via Tracey McCowan (CYM representative to QEW) and Hollister Knowlton of QEW, as well as the excellent publications available.

In our own Yearly Meeting, we are aware of the discernment going on in CFSC on environmental concerns. We are mindful of recommendations affecting CYM's structure and relationship with CFSC. We look forward to further discussion of these as part of the ongoing Consultation and Renewal process in 2008.

We will continue our internal networking, and outreach to the Quaker community in ways that open to us in word, witness and education. Persons interested in QEAN should consult the website [www.quaker.ca/qean](http://www.quaker.ca/qean). Our time together concluded with a showing of the DVD "The Earth Charter", and a time of worship and thankfulness for the work going forward.

Arnold Ranneris is a member of Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting.

# Counter-Recruitment

by Fiona McMurran

General Rick Hillier's words, "We are the Canadian Army, and our job is to kill people" are some of the most chilling I have ever read. As someone who has been concerned about the increase in military recruitment activity in Canada since the election of the Harper government, I was pleased to attend CYM's Special Interest Group on Counter-Recruitment. Jane Orion Smith, General Secretary of Canadian Friends Service Committee, introduced our speaker, Oskar Castro, from Philadelphia. Oskar has been working in the area of counter-recruitment for many years, and is the National Coordinator for the Youth and Militarism Program of the American Friends Service Committee.

Oskar gave us the background to the present-day American counter-military movement, which is extensive and well-organized. Nevertheless, it is hard-pressed to compete with the U.S. government that spends \$4 billion per year on military recruitment; this amount does not include any recruitment done by the individual branches of the military itself, or by the military schools. Since September 11, 2001, the American military has been once more in the process of heavy recruitment, and it has huge financial resources to inculcate militarism at every level of society. For example, young people can download, for free, a sophisticated and easily-accessible video-game, America's Army. Indoctrination in the guise of entertainment is an old and effective technique, and state-of-the-art technology enhances the appeal of the message.

Working against this militarization of the culture are many different groups, including a coalition, United for Peace and Justice, with a working group producing anti-recruitment literature and presenting workshops. The American counter-recruitment initiative originally arose out of opposition to the Vietnam War. The American Friends Service Committee's Youth and Militarism Program began twenty years ago, and includes various initiatives, including personal counselling for youth. This is a key component of the program since the reactivation in

1980 of the Selective Service Registration Act of 1917. Under this Act, American men (but not women) are required when they reach the age of 18 to register with the government so that they may be called up more easily in the case of a military draft. Those who do not do so risk being fined or jailed, but other penalties are more common, and more effective: loss of eligibility for government grants towards higher education or any other federal programs. It is therefore vital that American youth are advised about their options.

The *No Child Left Behind* Law passed in 2001 has, paradoxically enough, helped in the military recruitment drive. Like businesses, colleges and universities, the American military is allowed to recruit in schools. It is now permitted to access any school's information database of students; any school refusing to turn over information to the military risks losing its federal funding. Parents can demand that their child's information not be given to military recruiters, but very few schools inform parents that they have this right. In fact, most schools do not even know the law. The AFSC's Youth and Militarism Program works to inform schools of the necessity to inform parents of their right of refusal.

In the United States, military recruiters regularly target the most vulnerable youth: the "poverty draft" victimizes respectable, hard-working young people of colour, Hispanics and those whose backgrounds are working class and whose parents cannot afford the expense of a college education. Most of us are aware of the distortions and promises made to these young recruits—we have heard them from the Americans in Canada as resisters of the Iraq War.

Although Oskar's overview showed me how different the history of Canada is from that of the United States in terms of the militarization of the culture, this gap is narrowing with alarming speed. Discussion in Parliament on the legitimacy of our presence in Afghanistan was reduced to name-calling and jingoism. Supporting the troops is equated to supporting the mission in Afghanistan. And our youth are increasingly vulnerable to this increasing

glorification of military culture.

Recruitment for the Canadian military has increased enormously since the beginning of 2006. In the discussion that followed Oskar's talk, two Friends from Newfoundland reported on the increasing number of military visits to schools. One elementary school was treated to a visit from the local military, complete with a tank to climb in and disassembled guns for the children to put back together. Appalled, we asked: "What can we do?"

Oskar urged us to collaborate with groups opposed to the war in Afghanistan and to find out about counter-recruitment strategies and use them. AFSC has a list of excellent resources, as does Operation Objection in Toronto. We need to ask questions of military recruiters, and we must provide young people with appropriate questions to ask of the recruiters, and of themselves. We need to encourage teachers to include anti-war material in



Elen Cheatley and Marika Haspeck ham it up at CYM.

Photo by Bruce Diennes.

their curricula. We need to demand that our schools, colleges and universities allow counter-recruiters on their premises along with the military, in the name of democracy. We have a right to be heard, and our young people have the right to be able to make informed choices.

Fiona McMurran is a member of Pelham Executive Meeting.



Erin McDougall watches a hard-played soccer match.  
Photo by Bruce Diennes.

# Report of the Special Interest Group on Friends United Meeting

**O**n August 9, 2007, during the CYM Sessions, several Friends gathered together to discuss concerns regarding Friends United Meeting at the Special Interest Group facilitated by Signy Fridriksson, our CYM representative to FUM.

After hearing brief comments from the more than thirty attenders, Signy provided information and context that specifically addressed two pressing concerns, namely 1) FUM's employment policy that is understood by CYM Friends to go against our testimony of equality, and 2) FUM's reaffirmation of the 1887 Richmond Declaration of Faith at the General Board Meeting of FUM held in February 2007 in Kenya.

After much discussion, the Friends gathered in the SIG were in unity on bringing recommendations to the larger CYM body.

Before identifying these recommendations, it is significant to note the following experiences of Signy with other FUM Friends. Signy has found it quite hard to carry the weight of dialogue with Friends who have caused such hurt and angst among CYM Friends and other Friends.

As well, Signy relayed to us the great steps taken as

recently as last Fall (2006) when FUM Friends made a conscious decision to set aside theological and other differences and be present with one another with open, listening hearts.

Our recommendations:

1. We recommend that a committee be appointed by CYM Nominating Committee to review CYM's participation, relevance and affiliation with FUM.

2. We also recommend redirecting the funds budgeted for FUM to go to a specific project, rather than into FUM's general budget which would more directly support their employment policy with which we do not unite. We suggest the above named committee determine this designation.

3. We recommend that CYM approve the attached letter to FUM and its affiliated Yearly Meetings stating our concerns about the process by which the Richmond Declaration of Faith was reaffirmed and restating our concerns regarding FUM's employment policy.

(Editor's note: these recommendations were approved by Canadian Yearly Meeting. See facing page for the text of the letter.)



Betty Peterson and Jessica Tellez enjoy a chuckle together.  
Photo by Bruce Diennes.

# Letter to FUM.....

Dear Friends of Friends United Meeting;

In our time together at Yearly Meeting, August 3 – 11, 2007 in Windsor, Nova Scotia, Canadian Friends laboured over our relationship with FUM, especially in light of the recent reaffirmation of the Richmond Declaration of Faith, made at the meeting in Kenya in February 2007, and the continuing employment policy that excludes many of us from service within FUM. Our valuing of community with Friends of different traditions and of the work of FUM programs throughout the world is tempered by our difficulties with processes and issues such as these.

When, in the 1980's, there was interest among some yearly meetings that FUM reaffirm the Richmond Declaration of Faith, our yearly meeting was quite clear that we did not agree. Our position has not changed, and we very much regret that the document was affirmed without full consideration by the constituent yearly meetings. From reading the FUM general board minutes, and reports of those present, it seems clear that unity was not reached. We question why it was felt necessary to affirm this document as a statement of faith for FUM when there was clear disagreement from some representatives. Our understanding of right ordering is that this should have been referred back to member yearly meetings for further study and seasoning.

We were distressed by reports of the message delivered as the devotional by Andrew Kurima, clerk of Uganda Yearly Meeting, prior to these deliberations. He quoted Romans 1:8-32, saying that homosexuals and even those who support them are worthy of death. Although in his later letter of apology he said that he was referring to spiritual death, we find these remarks hateful and completely unacceptable. We need to let you know that based on these remarks, every Friend in Canadian Yearly Meeting would be “deserving of death”, spiritual or otherwise, because we view homosexuality as being no more intrinsically good or evil than heterosexuality. Openly gay and lesbian Friends serve in positions of responsibility and respect within CYM. We ask that a clear statement be made by FUM condemning all acts of violence towards homosexuals or their allies, particularly because such violence exists and is acceptable within some countries where FUM has membership and projects.

Canadian Friends continue to be much exercised by the continuing policy of FUM that implicitly excludes Friends in committed gay relationships from service as employees of FUM. We believe this is in direct opposition to our Quaker Testimony of the equality of all people and, as well, that this policy is not in agreement with the Spirit of Christ. While FUM's employment policy is limited to employees and volunteers, such a statement validates attitudes of intolerance that can lead to violence towards gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered and queer persons.

Due to our concerns, we have decided to designate our financial contribution to FUM for 2008 to a specific project, rather than to the general fund. We are also appointing a committee to review the involvement and participation of CYM in FUM.

As members of the FUM family, we feel appreciative of the great work that Friends of FUM have done in many countries, and of the efforts to carry out this work in a spirit of partnership. We continue to desire unity and community among all Friends, and look forward to a time when hurtful issues that divide us are resolved. We invite Friends among FUM into further dialogue about biblical interpretation and Quaker process.

In the living Spirit of Christ,

Beverly Shepard,  
Presiding Clerk  
Canadian Yearly Meeting.

# ‘New’ Biotechnology

by Anne Mitchell

**A**t a Special Interest Group at CYM in August, 26 Friends from across Canada considered some of the ethical and theological questions around new biotechnologies.

One query posed was: Genetic resources are a common heritage. How can we ensure that advances in biotechnology respect the integrity of creation, and that such advances do not give power to the few at the expense of the many? Another query for us to consider: Are the benefits and risks of biotechnological change shared equitably?

Biotechnology is "the application of science and engineering in the direct or indirect use of living organisms or parts or products of living organisms in their natural or modified forms". (Canadian Environmental Protection Act).

Using living organisms to produce something – known as biotechnology – is one of the oldest sciences known to humans. However, ‘new’ biotechnology raises special concerns because it involves the permanent alteration of natural biological materials and processes and the ability to transfer genes between hugely different species. These advances in biotechnology research have occurred and continue to occur at a rapid pace. The first genetic engineering experiment was carried out less than 35 years ago; the first cloned large mammal, Dolly, was announced 10 years ago. Research with a view to commercialization is currently going on with genetically modified food, fish, trees and plants engineered to produce pharmaceuticals. Biotechnology already impacts on what we eat, how our food is produced, how we view and treat disease, how we clean up the environment, how we use DNA evidence in the judicial system. How will the impacts change in the future as biotechnologies, nanotechnology and information technologies converge?

The World Council of Churches is convening a global consultation on genetics and new biotechnologies in December 2007 in South Africa. The consultation is intended to help concerned people, faith groups and ecumenical partners to develop a network world-wide to monitor

developments and speak out on issues related to genetic engineering. I plan to attend the WCC consultation as one of six representing the Canadian Council of Churches Biotechnology Reference Group.

In preparing for this consultation, I am interested in developing a conversation with Canadian Quakers on new biotechnologies. What are our fears and our hopes? How do our Quaker testimonies of simplicity, equality and peace lead us in relation to these new biotechnologies?

At CYM I asked those interested to send me short articles – 600 words – on some aspect of biotechnologies. I plan to publish them in a pamphlet which could be made available at the WCC consultation and afterwards. If any of you have concerns – or hopes – around new biotechnologies, I would love to hear from you. I’d be particularly interested in a consideration of the challenges and/or potentials of ‘new’ biotechnologies starting with Friends testimonies of simplicity, equality and peace. I believe Friends need to reflect on how the growth of these technologies will influence our view of creation and human behaviour.

When I return from the WCC consultation, I plan to distribute any report and suggest next steps to Canadian Friends. I hope we can continue the dialogue with Friends in Canada and at CYM in 2008.

Anne Mitchell ([annemitchell8@sympatico.ca](mailto:annemitchell8@sympatico.ca)) is a member of Toronto Meeting. Anne is working on this concern with the Quaker Institute for the Future. Her work is supported by her Meeting, by CFSC and by the Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust. Toronto Meeting has appointed an Oversight Committee to work with Anne on this concern. As well, Anne is Executive Director of the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy (CIELAP) which publishes research reports on biotechnologies – [www.cielap.org](http://www.cielap.org). Other sources of information include: [www.biportal.gc.ca](http://www.biportal.gc.ca); [www.cban.org](http://www.cban.org); [www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org); [www.etc.org](http://www.etc.org)

# What Flavour Quaker Are You?

by Evalyn Parry

Friends, we are divided by many things:  
Geography; Theology; what songs we like to sing.  
But there is a simple question that I think unites us in  
the end:  
a question we've all been asked, by one who's not a  
Friend:

"A Quaker? Really? Wow, huh. I've never met a  
Quaker before. You seem so...I mean, you dress so  
norma – I mean, I thought you guys all lived – sort of  
like the Amish or something? But you drive a -- I  
mean you're – okay, wow, cool! I guess I have no idea.  
So tell me, what is a Quaker?"

And perhaps you, Friend, like me, give an answer that  
explains something,  
and yet not everything,  
and personally I'm always left wondering  
how accurately  
I have actually  
described my peculiar people – because we ARE a  
peculiar people,  
each as unique as the way we answer  
"exactly what kind of a Quaker am I, anyway?"

I was born to a Quaker mother, but is a Quaker born,  
or made?  
Best grown in sun, or shade?  
If washed too often, will a Quaker fade?  
These are the questions that plague my seeking,  
questioning Quaker-mind,  
and at three in the morning (or around that time)  
I start to find  
more queries than answers  
like: "was that voice I thought I was hearing in worship  
actually that of the Divine Maker?  
Maybe not.  
Maybe in worship I've been asleep, not awaker!  
Is it possible that I'm just a big ol' Faker Quaker?  
Just a Birkenstock-wearing muck-raker?  
A potluck dinner banana bread baker?  
An oatmeal maker, an organic tomato staker?  
A tie-dye booty-shaker?  
Oh no.... could I be a FLAKER Quaker?  
A "God has asked me to say that I need a ride home  
from meeting today!" ministry-maker?

A placator?  
An agnostic, Jewish, Buddhist Pagan Universalist  
Quaker?  
A bad decision-maker?  
With no creed or dogma, sometimes I do get stuck in  
this never-ending, Quaker-questioning rut.

What about you, Friend?  
Are you a quality Quake?  
Does alphabet-soup-committee membership a real  
Quaker make?  
What flavour best describes your Quaker stripes?  
Or is it unquakerly anyway to divide Friends into  
different Quaker types?  
Do you put your faith into practice?  
Do you practice what you preach?  
Is it a prerequisite to believe George Bush should be  
impeached?  
Do you have shaggy shaggy locks, and a pair of  
leather breeches?  
Or are you a vegan pacifist who won't even kill leeches?  
Are you a trend setter, a Sally-Ann, second hand-  
shopper, a left-wing political name-dropper?  
Are you a Foxy Friend?  
A Margaret kinda-Feller?  
An Elizabeth Fry-er?  
An only-organic food buyer?  
A Mary Dyer?  
A truth teller on all occasions, or an occasional liar?  
A Willy Penn, or a James Naylor?  
An incorrigible, conspiracy theory, mass group-emailer!  
A fossil fuel abstainer?  
A plain speaker?  
A seeker, a freaker, an outside-the-liner,  
A slip-between-the-cracker,  
A stand-up-and-be-counted, truth-to-power yakker?

Has the foundation of my query been properly laid?  
Is a Quaker born, or made?  
Best grown in sun, or shade?  
If washed too often, will a Quaker fade?

Evalyn Parry is a member of Ottawa Monthly  
Meeting. This poem was an address to Friends  
at the FGC Opening Plenary, June 2006.

# A Faith Beyond Belief

by John Calder

In her excellent pamphlet "Open To More Light" Betty Polster offers the following observation, "One of the largest obstacles to CYM moving toward our vision arises out of a fear of conflict. This is a common fear among Friends, and I am sure many of you share it with me. The conflict may be one of language or of belief. We do not want to disturb - we do not want to be difficult - we do not want to hurt - and so we do not share our differences of thought, word or experience in the open, loving way which would help all of us to grow. Instead we remain silent. Is there some way we can work together on this?"

This article is, in part, written in response to that challenge. One of the liberating teachings of Jesus is that fear is the opposite of faith. The full and abundant life is to be led, not in the spirit of fear, but of love. If we wish our meetings for worship to be the beloved community for sincere seekers, let us find our way forward and encourage an exploration and celebration of the diversity of experience of the spiritual journey among Friends. The understanding that Friends have been seekers from our early history should help us not only to tolerate, but to welcome and encourage diversity in the search for an authentic and experiential faith both in our own lives and in the life of our faith community. The spiritual journey is a lifelong adventure. How wonderful to share with others along the path, remembering how far we ourselves have travelled and looking forward to yet more light.

Sharing one's spiritual journey is often seen as a tender and risk-taking challenge. We know that our meetings are made up of members who are sincere seekers, many of whom have come to us from other traditions. Some have been wounded by various forms of spiritual malpractice, and they seek a safe haven where they can "be still and know". Our form of worship involves a turning inward which encourages us to be present to one another in those things which are eternal. Many Friends are now familiar with the idea of listening in tongues. It involves receiving, with thanksgiving, ministry you are having difficulty hearing, and translating the words so that they may

speak to you. Another insight I cherish is the experience that the Divine Spirit speaks the language of the heart and that through grace the Spirit speaks to every heart in a intimate, compelling and personal voice. Quaker worship is experiential and mystical and invites us to open ourselves to the teacher within. It should not surprise us that words are a poor vehicle for sharing these deep experiences. As Barclay observed, "For when I came into the silent assemblies of God's people, I felt a secret power among them, which touched my heart. And as I gave way unto it, I found the evil in me weakening, and the good lifted up....". How difficult much of this is to transform into words, and how deeply we need to attune our hearts so we may hear where words come from. As George Lakey observed in a paper on conflict, "Quakers join other mystical traditions in knowing that spiritual union happens more through listening than talking, more through experiencing than formulating, more through surrender than control".

Worship Sharing is a method of communication familiar to many Friends. It is a method in keeping with the philosophy of "creative listening" as urged by Carl Rogers. Another wonderful resource for Canadian Friends is the pamphlet "Open To New Light" by Betty Polster. A Meeting for Listening, called for the sharing of spiritual journeys would be a gift to many of our members and attenders. Such a meeting offers us a way to safely share our journeys and to grow our beloved community. The rewards of such sharing are many, but they surely include a deeper sense of community and spiritual renewal.

To listen deeply to others in a spirit of worship is a powerful gift. The size of the group is not important. Two or three together is wonderful. The limit would be the number that could be truly heard and upheld. It is an illuminating discipline and a healing ministry to truly listen from the heart. Such a meeting, called for the sharing of spiritual journeys, has the opportunity of enriching our meetings for worship by creating a safe haven for all those living their measure of the Light. The following queries are suggestions only, and are offered in the hope that they



might inspire Friends to call a meeting for worship for the purpose of sharing spiritual journeys.

If you could give a spiritual gift to this meeting community, what would it be?

What was your religious background, if any? What gifts did it give you?

What led you to seek further?

What role is played in your journey by the Judeo-Christian roots of our Society?

What new Light has enriched your life?

What role models or heroes have inspired you in your journey?

Is there religious language you have difficulty hearing?

What can this teach you?

What feeds your soul?

John Calder is a member of New Brunswick Monthly Meeting.



## Long Distance Calling.....

by Margaret Slavin

***D**o we share anything other than "the silence"? What place for prophetic witness?*

What does a family share, I wonder? Yet one year in my family there were 80 of us at the family farm in Saskatchewan, many of us strangers who were generations away from sharing the actual family name.

We Friends share a history. Some is specific to Canada, such as links to Argenta Friends School, or Camp NeeKauNis or the old settlements at Yonge Street, Pelham, Yarmouth Plain and Coldstream. Other history is universal to Quakerdom, such as the lives and writings of George Fox, James Nayler, William Penn, Isaac Penington, Lucretia Mott, John Woolman. The fact that I can't name a single African Friend, though, from past history, even though there have been Quakers there since the late 19th century, makes me nervous: it may be that some of these touchstone names just seem so to me because so much of Canadian Friends' history is linked to Pennsylvania.

Beyond shared Friends' history are the Judeo-Christian roots. Varied and questioned as those stories now must be, there is always, as at family reunions, someone who knows our relation to the Jesus who says, "I have called you friends," (John 15:15) and the deity who announces, "The word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart." (Deut. 30:14)

In Canadian Yearly Meeting we do also share silence. Not all Friends elsewhere share this form of worship, however. The deeper identity is likely the shared conviction that there is a Spirit within who guides us, and that the corporate experience of this guides our Society.

A prophetic voice does need a hook to hang its hat on when it rises in Meeting to prophesy—common experiences, stories, some shared sense of why we are here. But when we nurture these, paying heed to "the promptings of love and truth," do you not find it true that the "words will be given" (Queries 1 and 13)?

*Send your question to [writeaway@nexicom.net](mailto:writeaway@nexicom.net) or mail to 206 Perry St., Peterborough ON K9J 2J2.*

## Peace File Plea

by Jane Zavitz-Bond

**S**end your account of Peace action activity, including activities of deceased Friends you have known, to the CYM Archives for inclusion in the Quaker Peace Action File. Encourage others to share their peace activity. Any reports will remain, under routine Archival procedures, closed for 30 years or for your lifetime unless you give permission for their use, but will establish a record resource for the future that will not exist unless you help. Thank you.

Jane Zavitz-Bond is a member of Yarmouth Monthly Meeting and is the CYM Archivist.

# Canadian Friends Enrich Pendle Hill

by Shirley Dodson

What's the connection between Canadian Friends and Pendle Hill, a Quaker retreat and study center in Wallingford, Pennsylvania? As it turns out, there are lots of connections, and these connections are bearing fruit for Friends.

This past summer CYM clerk Beverly Shepard once again led her chanting workshop at Pendle Hill. She recorded a CD at Pendle Hill in 2002 which included the voices of that year's chanting workshop participants.

Also this past summer June-Etta Chenard, former Pendle Hill resident student and Canadian Friend Editor, returned to lead a workshop titled, "Mandala Prayer Art." June-Etta held a successful art show at Pendle Hill a few years ago, and one of her collages hangs in my livingroom in Swarthmore.

A highlight of the 2007 Philadelphia Yearly Meeting sessions was the July 29 presentation by Canadian Erin McDougall and Philadelphian Andrew Esser-Haines on "Living Our Faith Out Loud". Erin, currently a student at the Earlham School of Religion, was a Pendle Hill resident student in Spring 2006 and a participant in the Summer 2006 Young Adult Leadership Development program. She and Andrew are traveling in the ministry, sharing their concern for unity among the different branches of Friends.

The CYM Home Mission and Advancement Committee offers a scholarship each year to enable one member of Canadian Yearly Meeting to come to Pendle Hill for eight days for a sojourn, or personal retreat. Information is available on the CYM website at [www.quaker.ca/hmac/hmacpendlehill.html](http://www.quaker.ca/hmac/hmacpendlehill.html). Pendle Hill encourages Canadian Friends to explore this possibility.

Pendle Hill seeks to serve Friends and Quaker meetings through programs designed to support Quaker faith and practice. Our Fall Clerking workshop with Arthur Larrabee is full, but we plan to offer another next Spring. Below is basic information for three upcoming programs. Pendle Hill is aware that cost is often a factor for participation in our

events, particularly for Canadian Friends who live at a distance. We have matching scholarship funds available and urge Friends to ask about them.

October 22-26: Faith to Follow: Responding to Call, a short course with Viv Hawkins. In a Spirit-led context, those present will encourage and empower each other to respond faithfully to spiritual calls. Viv Hawkins offers this workshop under the care of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting and endorsed by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

November 2-4: Inquirers' Weekend: an introduction to Basic Quakerism, with Jean-Marie Barch and Michael Cronin. For anyone seeking a deeper grounding in the basics of Quaker faith and practice, with opportunities for worship, discussion, sharing, and questions. Jean-Marie Barch serves on several committees of Friends General Conference and travels among Friends in FGC's Traveling Ministries program. Michael Cronin is a member of Friends Meeting of Washington, DC, and has taught Inquirers' Classes there for 20 years.

January 11-13: Recording: Spiritual Discipline and Communal Gift, a weekend with Mario Cavallini. A workshop focused on the practical and spiritual dimensions of recording, designed for both new and experienced recording clerks of Quaker meetings. Mario Cavallini, a member of Mickleton Monthly Meeting (NJ), has written minutes and epistles for Quaker groups ranging from clearness committees to annual sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

For more information on these programs, visit [www.pendlehill.org](http://www.pendlehill.org), phone (610) 566-4507, ext. 3, or email [registrar@pendlehill.org](mailto:registrar@pendlehill.org). For scholarship information contact John Meyer three weeks in advance of the program at [johnm@pendlehill.org](mailto:johnm@pendlehill.org). The input of Friends is important to us at Pendle Hill. Please let us know if you have questions, concerns, or suggestions for programs. We hope to welcome you to Pendle Hill soon.

Shirley Dodson is the Director of Communications at Pendle Hill.

# Where We've Been: Quaker Oats, The Titanic and Collective Memory

by Kyle Joliffe

**O**n April 14, 1912 the cereal Quaker Oats was on the breakfast menu for the first class passengers of the ocean liner Titanic. Sadly, for many of those on board it was one of their last meals as that evening the ship hit an iceberg and sank a few hours later. Only 711 of the 2,224 passengers and crew on board survived this most famous of all naval disasters. The world reacted with shock, anger, investigations, grief and public memorials such that this event has been etched in the collective memory of our culture. The memory of it has also been boosted by recent subsea pictures of the wreck, exhibits of artifacts recovered from remains of the ship on the ocean floor, and a major motion picture.

An editorial entitled "The Titanic Disaster" appeared in the May 1912 issue of The Canadian Friend. In its first paragraph the writer questioned why it happened, but acknowledged the power of the forces of nature:

"The recent disaster of the great ocean liner and the sad fate of so many of her passengers has cast a gloom over many hearts. With profound amazement we pause for an explanation. Why such a calamitous visitation to so many homes? Why so sudden and sad a separation between dear ones? Could it have been averted? Was it a dispensation of Providence for a warning to mankind? Was it the direct result of carelessness, of indifference, of the craze for notoriety in records of speedmaking, of undue trust in the skill of the modern shipbuilder and in the perfection of wireless communications? But no answer to these and similar questions is forthcoming. Yet the appalling fact thrusts itself upon us and, though answerless, intensifies our feelings and conveys a message not lightly to be set aside. The wisdom and skill of mankind have their limitations. The elements, which are made to serve us so well, when usurping the mastery, become heartless tyrants."

The editorial went on to talk about the loss of life caused by hurricanes, as a further measure of the uncertainty of life on land and at sea. The "mastery of wind and of the wave" made futile any struggle against the forces of nature when "the Almighty Hand is withdrawn". The writer then contrasted the "earnest efforts" to determine the cause of the disaster against the monthly toll from strong drink, i.e. liquor, which was much greater though not as visible in the damage it did to people's lives. And so the writer thought that more efforts could be made to abolish the trade in liquor. And the writer asked, too, "Why not seek to abolish war and avoid many of the attending evils?" The editorial concluded with words about the role of providence in life:

"Our life is frequently likened to a voyage and many dangers seem to defeat our purpose and divert our course. Loss may overtake us from no fault of our own. At an unexpected moment the call to depart this life may come to us. Surely the great lesson these recent disasters all teach is the importance of being ready to meet our Maker ... Nothing comes upon the child of God what He permits and, and tragic disaster becomes true blessing in disguise."

It is hard to say how comforting such words were at the time of this tragedy. Today there are only two living survivors of the Titanic and the wreck continues to slowly disintegrate on the ocean floor. Yet the story of the Titanic will continue to fascinate people, as it is made up of thousands of life and death human stories interwoven together by the sinking of this ship. Our own life stories are no less unimportant, but perhaps not so dramatic.

Kyle Joliffe is a Quaker historian.

# Update on Court Case of US “War Resisters” in Canada

by Jane Orion Smith

Conscientious objectors (or “war resisters”) from the US military continue to come to Canada seeking seeking refuge. There are approximately 40 known cases in Canada and an indeterminate number living “underground”. CFSC works closely on this issue with the War Resisters Support Campaign (WRSC), a coalition of concerned groups.

The long-term prospects of these resisters rests on the political will of the government and progress through the courts. In spring, the Federal Court of Appeal (FCA) upheld the Federal Court’s decision in the Jeremy Hinzman/Brandon Hughey cases. Both men are seeking refugee status in Canada. Their claims were refused by the Immigration and Refugee Board [IRB]; the Federal Court upheld the decision of the IRB; they appealed to the FCA. Their lawyer, Jeffry House, is seeking leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The FCA decision denied Jeremy and Brandon a chance to have their refugee claim revisited with evidence disallowed in the hearing by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). Additionally, the FCA refused to answer a question certified by the Federal Court addressing the level of responsibility of “mere foot soldiers” and how asylum rights under the UN Handbook for Refugees should be applied to them, if at all. (For more detail, download CFSC’s recent update at: <http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/documents/COupdate0607.pdf>)

The Federal Court’s question implied that rights of conscience (usually considered a universal right for every human being) could be limited by rank. How the Court responds to this question is of importance to all concerned with rights of conscience in relation to the military. CFSC submitted an affidavit to the Supreme Court of

Canada addressing this issue as part of the documentation supporting leave to appeal to this court.

A decision about the appeal is expected this fall. (Developments will be in the CFSC E-Newsletter). The decision is based on the public and national importance of the case. If the Supreme Court agrees to hear the case, a court date will be set and preparations will proceed. The potential for a Court decision that better defines and protects the rights of conscientious objectors from within the military would be a great stride forward. The Court case will be expensive; if you can support the case financially, please contact CFSC ([cfsc@quaker.ca](mailto:cfsc@quaker.ca) or 416-920-5213) for further information.

Regardless of the outcome of the Court case, but particularly if the case is refused, Canadians need to speak to the Members of Parliament, write letters to the Editor, and participate in public events that make clear that Canada should provide a mechanism for US war resisters to stay in Canada, that Canada should be a sanctuary for people of conscience and the war-affected. Without signals of public support, the likelihood of deportations escalates. (Several other war resisters have had their refugee claims and access to a court process refused, so this threat is real). Please act now. Visit, call or write your MP (all parties need to know); write a letter to the Editor; participate in the upcoming 27 October peace events across Canada. Your support will help secure their right to asylum. Please contact CFSC if you need any resources to help.

Jane Orion Smith is a member of Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting, sojourning at Toronto Monthly Meeting.

## Egan-Pimblett Trust Account Established

Meredith Egan, who staffs the Quakers Fostering Justice program committee, has four children (Grace, Brigid, Jonah, and Nat). Recently the children's father (Meredith's ex-husband) Brian Pimblett, was remarried. Four days into his honeymoon, Brian tragically suffered a heart attack and died. He was 47 years old.

As you can imagine, the family has been both in shock and in mourning, while all the while having to get into gear to address many, many practical details, not the least of which is the financial security of the children until they are no longer dependents. To assist with the ongoing support of the children, Meredith opened a trust account at VanCity Credit Union on their behalf. Donations to the trust fund are most welcome and, I would say, encouraged, given the nature of this tragic situation affecting not only CFSC staff but four Young Friends within our community. Donations can be made out to "In Trust for Egan-Pimblett Children", citing the account number in the memo line (account 67827, Branch: 36) and sent to:

VanCity Credit Union  
Branch Number 36  
Unit 150 - 32555 London Avenue  
Mission BC V2V 6M7  
Telephone: 604-820-6753

If you have any questions about the trust account, please speak with Corinne Jewer at VanCity. Meredith wishes to thank everyone for the support she and the children have received to date. It would be helpful to her if people did not contact her for details, updates, etc. as she needs to focus her attention on supporting the family. Your understanding is very much appreciated. Cards to the family are welcome and can be sent to:

Meredith Egan  
329 Third Avenue  
Mission, BC V2V 1N5

## Yonge Street Half Yearly Meeting

June 2-3 2007 Camp NiKauNis  
by Judy Gilbert

On Friday evening, Camp NeeKauNis welcomed our gathered group into the beauty of nature, with a special welcoming party of mosquitoes, of course! Friends greeted Friends, registered and found accommodation, and gathered for an evening meal. All meals were open, sharing times, with food carefully planned for all our varied requirements.

Arriving as we did, from our busy work-filled lives, the phrase "Slowing down to the speed of life", a phrase from a Quaker Earthcare pamphlet on simplicity, set the stage for a quiet, reflective gathering on Friday evening.

On Saturday, approximately 10 children of varied ages attended the children's program. They reviewed Woolman's life through his feelings, concentrating on some incidents such as the killing of a bird, and the inability to complete a bill of sale regarding a slave. The children explored feelings through making masks, and developed wonderful plays on the incidents in Woolman's life.

The Saturday adult program focussed on two quotations. "You can't preach the virtue of diversity and then put restrictions on what that is," and, from Rufus Jones, "I pin my hopes to quiet processes and small circles, in which vital and transforming events take place." Participants divided into 'small circles' to share reflections, guided by thought-provoking questions. On Saturday evening we were entertained with children's plays, some impromptu stories and poetry, and later shared the state of society reports from our four meetings.

After closing around noon Sunday, the Foxfell annual meeting continued into the afternoon, organizing and finalizing many decisions for the September opening of the building.

It was deeply rewarding to meet at a meaningful level with others from nearby Meetings.

Judy Gilbert is a member of Toronto Monthly Meeting.

# A Canadian Department of Peace?

by Ray Cunnington

**H**ow do you help spread the idea of a Canadian Department of Peace? Here's an account of what happened in Hamilton.

Early last December an assortment of Hamilton citizens gathered at the Friends Meeting House in West Hamilton to discuss the world situation. Many had deep misgivings about the war in Afghanistan. During the evening all agreed that bringing peace to a war-torn country was a worthwhile enterprise, but they questioned whether tanks and bullets were the right tools to make the Canadian mission a success. There was also some concern about motive. Many felt unsure whether our troops were there to better the lives of the people or whether the goal had more to do with a Trans Afghanistan Pipeline.

Feeling confused and unable to discern how to be helpful, the group turned their attention to the controversial notion that Canada should establish a Department of Peace. This daring suggestion, championed by Senator Douglas Roche and former Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, has sparked considerable support in Vancouver, Victoria, and among some bureaucrats in Ottawa.

Revolutionary as it may sound, such an idea is already being discussed in some eleven countries including the U.S. and Japan. One government-watcher recalled there were cries of disbelief and ridicule years ago when it was first suggested that Canada should establish a Department of the Environment. Yet today nearly everyone understands the need for such a body.

"What might a Department of Peace look like?" someone asked. Since the topic had been presented a few weeks earlier, at the Fifth Annual Peace Education Conference at McMaster, the reply came quickly. "As a start, a Department with a Minister could help pick up and coordinate the various human security mandates presently spread between Foreign Affairs, National Defence, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Department of Justice, many of whose interests occasionally conflict. At the same time it could provide government with better access to civil society."

Everyone wanted to know who would pay for such a department. They were told that a very small percentage

of the military budget could be used to make each branch more efficient, at the same time boosting Canada's efforts in the field of human rights. Apparently the government presently spends some \$20 billion a year (up from \$16.3 billion) on what it calls peace and security, yet very little is directed towards peace. Most of the money goes into the armed forces. Whether this money is wisely spent or not is an open question. While soldiers generally win battles, it is civil society which largely determines the political outcome.

Since wars today are watched by television around the globe, decisions affecting the military are vastly different from colonial days when most of our defence institutions were established. Government actions of every kind are now routinely exposed to public scrutiny; hence the use of military force to achieve political ends has profound limits, especially when an exit strategy is far from clear.

To bring Canada's peacekeeping efforts more in line with bold new initiatives being taken around the world, a Canadian Department of Peace would gradually address five major areas of concern. It would work with the United Nations to strengthen human and economic rights. It would press for the abolition of nuclear weapons and control of small arms. It would support the role of women and children internationally, aiming to reduce domestic violence and inter-religious conflict. It would promote peace education at every level. Like Germany and some other European countries, it would start to train a civilian peace service for use as an alternative force available to send to trouble spots.

The evening meeting ended with a formal proposal that a Hamilton Chapter of the Working Group for a Federal Department of Peace be founded. Since that time the United Nations Association in Canada (Hamilton Branch) has endorsed the proposal and the Religious Society of Friends is helping to coordinate the actions of others who wish to join. Regular meetings are now being held in Hamilton.

Ray Cunnington is an attender of Hamilton Monthly Meeting. The Canadian Department of Peace website is [www.departmentofpeace.ca](http://www.departmentofpeace.ca)

# New To QBS

The following titles have been added to our stock. For a complete listing of QBS books, see our 2007-2008 Quaker Book Service Catalogue, which was included in the Summer 2007 edition of The Canadian Friend and is also available on the CYM website, [www.quaker.ca/qbs](http://www.quaker.ca/qbs).

**Expectant Listening: Finding God's Thread of Guidance** by Michael Wajda (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #388, 2007) The author tells of his experience and the testimonies of others in listening, hearing and seeing these aspects of seeking and finding God's messages. He has for many years followed a deep call for Quaker ministry. (32 pp; \$7.50)

**Emma Field** by Carol Williams (Journey Publishing, Merrickville ON, 2007) Book One of a planned series of novels for adults as well as young people is the story of Emma, growing up in a pioneer Quaker family in the mid-1800's on a farm on the shores of Lake Ontario. The author, an attendee at Ottawa Meeting, portrays well the expressions and


problems of a young woman facing life in an early Quaker and Methodist community in Canada. (Soft cover: 309 pp; \$24.95)

**Opening the Scriptures** by Tom Oates (Quaker Press of FGC, 2006) These are excellent lecture-lessons given by the author at FGC's 2005 annual gathering, based on Bible selections explored through the eyes of George Fox and other early Friends; the lectures shed Quaker "light" on individual Bible study for contemporary Friends. (60 pp; \$14.90)

**Ground and Spring** by Beth Allen (Quaker Books, London, 2007). A Quaker from childhood, married to an Anglican minister, Beth Allen presents a penetrating and comprehensive view of being a Quaker, with timely references from past Quakers. As a liberal, with an honest understanding of orthodox and conservative values, she provides helpful views on God, worship, ministry and daily life from her own experience. (128 pp; \$22.50)

QUAKER BOOK SERVICE

# Quaker Book Service



Mail orders, enclosing payment, may be sent to:  
Quaker Book Service, Box 4652, Station E,  
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5H8.  
*Phone orders cannot be accepted.*

For orders from Canada:  
Please add the following mailing costs.  
Value of an order up to \$12.50 - postage \$2.00  
Orders between \$12.55 and \$20.00 - postage \$4.00  
Orders between \$20.05 and \$50.00 - postage \$6.00  
Orders over \$50.00 - postage \$8.00

For orders from the United States:  
With payment in U.S. currency, you pay only the catalogue prices. No extra payment is necessary for the postal charges since the exchange rate difference between Canadian and U.S. currency is sufficient to cover postage costs to the United States.

For orders from outside North America:  
We require an extra 20% to be added to the total cost of the order, to cover the extra mailing charges.

# Crossword by Peter Stevenson & Jesse Thompson

## ACROSS

- 1 \_\_ Paulo  
 4 On holiday, perhaps  
 7 Satisfied, perhaps  
 8 Meadow  
 9 See 42-Across  
 14 Pills, e.g.  
 15 Cultural no-no: var.  
 16 Tree's underground systems  
 19 Type of edible offal  
 21 Free software project  
 22 Med. professionals  
 23 Ted Rogers, e.g.  
 24 Coffee bottom  
 26 Latin God  
 27 See 42-Across  
 29 Leading actions?  
 30 Med. Professional  
 31 What we don't roll  
 35 Paranoia provokers  
 37 Laments  
 39 "How Can I Keep from Singing?" e.g.  
 40 Supplanted  
 42 What 9- and 27-Across add up to  
 45 Like many new TVs  
 46 Cooler, perhaps  
 47 To conduct or direct the steering of a ship  
 48 Pen  
 49 Odyssey, e.g.  
 50 Mork and Alf, e.g.

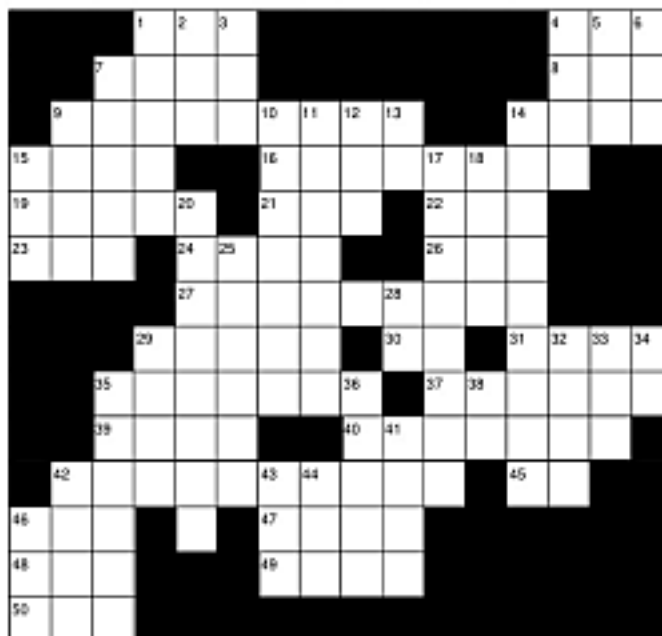
## DOWN

- 1 Dawn  
 2 In the manner of

- 3 Venerable, perhaps  
 4 Spanish exclamations  
 5 RCMP officer  
 6 Subdominants  
 7 Model who has appeared on the cover of hundreds of romance novels  
 9 Committee of \_\_  
 10 Former school site  
 11 Monthly Meeting first held in 1806  
 12 Legal doc. describing a bilateral or multilateral agreement  
 13 Catherine or John, e.g.: abbr.  
 14 One who is muscular and burly  
 15 How one might get to Friends House  
 17 Addition  
 18 "Portrait in \_\_"  
 20 Tailor who works with cuffs and collars  
 25 Post again  
 28 "Let me think . . ."  
 29 The then-\_\_ split: phonemic split that differentiated the voiced and unvoiced "th" sound

- 32 Like some cheddar  
 33 Killer Bundy  
 34 Party paramilitary org.  
 35 "You're a darling!"  
 36 Like most Muslims  
 38 UV's opposite  
 41 Together, with "in"  
 42 Response to "Can!"  
 43 Meth  
 44 Radical Can. social work approach  
 46 Interjection expressing disapproval or disgust

\* \* \* \*  
 \* Answers will \*  
 \* appear in the \*  
 \* next issue \*  
 \* \* \* \*





## Some Interesting Web Pages .....

### Croctic Solution from the Summer Issue

WE MUST NOT  
HAVE CHRIST  
JESUS THE LO  
RD OF LIFE P  
UT ANY MORE  
IN THE STABL  
E AMONGST TH  
E HORSES AND  
ASSES BUT H  
E MUST NOW H  
AVE THE BEST  
CHAMBER THE  
HEART GEORG  
E FOX AN EPI  
STLE TO FRIE  
NDS

<http://farmingtonmeetinghouse.blogspot.com/>

A website for the restoration of the Farmington Meetinghouse, in New York state, onetime home of Genesee Yearly Meeting. An important site in the history of the Quaker, abolition, women's rights, and native land rights movements.

[www.qiap.ca/](http://www.qiap.ca/)

Official web page of the Quaker International Affairs Program in Ottawa.

[http://www.adherents.com/lit/sf\\_quaker.html](http://www.adherents.com/lit/sf_quaker.html)

A list of Quaker references in Science Fiction.

<http://www2.gol.com/users/quakers/>

The home page of Tokyo Monthly Meeting.

<http://www.quakerinfo.org/service/friendsopportunities.html>

Quaker Information Center's Volunteer Opportunities with Friends

<http://kimopress.com/GOP-guide.htm>

The Quaker Guerrilla Outreach Project

<http://www.scn.org/friends/quest.html>

Quaker Experiential Service and Training, an internship program sponsored by the University Friends Meeting

<http://www.quaker.org/#9>

Quaker.org's list of Young Friends links.

<http://quakerlists.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/quaker-cyf>

This list is focused on Canadian young and young adult Friends. "We hope to use it to help (A)YFs keep in touch and to provide a way of letting (A)YFs know about service opportunities, retreats etc."

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/yaquaker/>

"Young Adult Quaker" is an E-mail list for discussions between Quakers (members of the Religious Society of Friends), especially young adults, about beliefs, experiences, spiritual journeys, and anything at all, for the purpose of helping us get to know who we are.

### Classifieds

**BARGE HOLIDAYS in France**  
on one of the most  
attractive river  
navigations. Highly  
recommended.  
[www.johannacharters.com](http://www.johannacharters.com)

# AROUND THE FAMILY

## Hamilton Monthly Meeting

On 17 June HMM had its annual outdoor Meeting for Worship in the garden of Helen and Andrew Brink.

On 30 June 2007 family and F(f)riends gathered in celebration of the wedding of Dawn Lepard and Ryan Tucker. Dawn and Ryan are living in Rochester, NY. In July Hamilton Monthly Meeting hosted a welcome shower for Xander, grandson of Mona Azziz-Zamisa, after Meeting for Worship.

WALKING AMONG OUR ROOTS, a potluck and discussion about HMM history and archives, October 27, 2007. Do you know how our wonderful backyard garden was started...who designed our meetinghouse...where Hamilton Friends held Meeting for Worship in the early days...where the yellow piano came from...how we ended up in West Hamilton...where to find a short history of our Meeting...? Have you had a chance to browse through our photo collection? Would you be interested in a group "field trip" to Newmarket, to visit the Canadian Yearly Meeting Archive at Newmarket, to see what's there that pertains to HMM and other Quaker meetings in Canada?

## Montreal Monthly Meeting

After 50 years of checking out Montreal, Tony Meech has transferred his membership from Radcliff-Barking in England.

We are sad to announce the death of our Friend Cheryl Neill on September 4, 2007. Her family hosted a celebration of her life on September 15, 2007. Anyone who shared in the joy of Cheryl's life is encouraged to support the arts, write a poem, sing a song, dance until it feels good.

In her own words:  
"You gotta put one foot in front of the other,  
One step could change it all

Ramble all over - no matter where you wander.....  
You're walkin' to find who you are."

## New Brunswick Monthly Meeting

News has been received of the death of Alice Male in Massachusetts. Alice and her husband, Ray, American Friends from Princeton MM, NY, were long-time attenders of our (PEI) worship group. After Ray died, Alice continued to live in their Island farmhouse until frailty required her to live full-time near her family in the States. We remember Alice with great fondness for her wisdom, cheerfulness, and independent spirit. Her daughters Susan and Laura and loved granddaughter Sharon also visited PEI and joined us many times for meeting. A memorial meeting for Alice is scheduled on PEI with members of her family present.

## Ottawa Monthly Meeting

We ask our clerks to write a letter to Premier McGinty on behalf of the meeting, asking that the uranium exploration license for the lands of the Ardoch and Sharbot Lake first nations be voided, in light of the lack of proper consultation with these first nations, and in light of environmental concerns around the mining and use of uranium.

## Pelham Executive Meeting

Mildred Nelson died peacefully on August 23rd, 2007 just a month before her 94th birthday. Mildred was a member of Wooler MM but was active in Pelham Executive Meeting for many decades. She and Stirling (d.1994) and their son Cal (d.1988) will be remembered fondly by Camp Neekaunis attenders in the 50's, 60's and 70's. A Memorial Meeting is being held at Wooler on Sept 9th at 2 pm. Another Memorial Meeting will be held at Friends House, 60

Lowther Ave, Toronto, ON on Friday, Sept 28th at 1 p.m.

## Vancouver Monthly Meeting

We ask Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee to establish a working group on uranium to address issues around the mining, refining, export and use of Canadian uranium. This committee may include corresponding and associate members of CFSC as well as full members. Our response will be sent to CFSC with a copy to Dale Dewar, Clerk of Prairie Monthly Meeting.

## Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting

A discussion/sharing series around our practices as a Meeting has been held and has helped to integrate new and longtime Friends, within Victoria Friends Meeting.

Friends Gale Wills & Sabra Peil, and Michael Phillips & Lynne Phillips are now living in Victoria and part of Victoria Friends Meeting.

Our Peace Eath and Social Action Committee continues its advocacy concerns for peace, environmental and justice issues. We join in the KAIROS concerns wherever possible, including recent efforts to have the Canadian Government be more explicit about Canadian mining companies' operations in the world. We have been made aware that Canada is not a member of the International Whaling Commission (since 1978) and so is not privy to discussions and voting on whaling matters.

Linda Hill of Duncan Worship Group will give leadership in the Inclusive Leadership Summer Training Institute again.

Duncan Worship group publishes a "One Step Newsletter" on how individuals are implementing Earth Charter Principles.



## Wooler Monthly Meeting

On May 26, Elizabeth Rolston (pictured), Clerk of Wooler Monthly Meeting was presented with the "Friends Emblem" for her many years of work with the Society of Friends and Scouts Canada. Presenting the emblem was Dan Nelson, Assistant Clerk and FGC Representative for the Friends Committee on Scouting, a FWCC Section of the Americas affiliated program.

## Yarmouth Monthly Meeting

Yarmouth Meeting held a Harvest Supper at the Meetinghouse in support of Mary Edgar's NVP work in Uganda. The funds go to the Great Lakes related projects for which she was a volunteer. These projects need support in order to continue responding where so many have been involved and suffered in the violence. She goes back in October to assist once more. Our love and prayers go with her.

## Canadian Young Friends Yearly Meeting

The NEW Canadian Young Friends Website is up and running: <http://www.yf.quaker.ca/>

## Britain Yearly Meeting

British Friends celebrated National Quaker Week in September.

# The Canadian Friend

October 2007  
Volume 103, Number 4

## For this issue

Editor: Keith Macgowan  
Editorial Support: Stephanie Deakin, Alan Tatro

## Please help! Your articles, poetry, drawings and photos are needed!

Submissions are needed, and do not have to be related to the issue's stated theme. Material from Young Friends is particularly welcome. Please send all submissions to the editor, whose contact information is on the inside front cover. Written submissions should typically be between 15 and 650 words.

## Themes, deadlines and queries for upcoming issues

Due date: October 15, 2007 (For the December issue)

**THEME: A QUAKER VIEW OF SIN**

Due Date: January 15, 2008 (for the March issue)

**THEME: MINISTRY: A SPOTTER'S GUIDE**

Due date: March 15, 2008 (For the May issue)

**THEME: PROTEST AND TRUTH TELLING**

The Canadian Friend can be viewed online at:  
<http://www.quaker.ca/cfriend/cfriend.html>

The Canadian Friend acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Publications Assistance Program towards our mailing costs.

The word "Canada" in a stylized serif font, with a small maple leaf above the letter 'a'.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40012338  
REGISTRATION NO. 09887  
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:  
THE CANADIAN FRIEND  
ARGENTA BC V0G 1B0