

Friends Meeting *Weekly Bulletin*

May the richness of our diversity strengthen our community and our love

First Day (Sunday), 1/10/2010

- 9:00 am Meeting for Worship for Business
- 10:00 am Worship Sharing in Foxdale's Meeting Room
- 10:45 am First Day School
- 10:45 am Gather and settle for Worship
- 11:00 am Meeting for Worship
- 12:20 pm Pot-Luck

Fourth Day (Wednesday), 1/13/2010

- 12:00 pm Campus Meeting for Worship, Pasquerilla Center, Rm 118
- 4:30 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship, Foxdale, E-75

Sixth Day (Friday), 1/15/2010

- 8:45 am Friends School Meeting for Worship

Seventh Day (Saturday), 1/16/2010

- 1:30 pm Peace vigil Saturday, corner of College and Allen St.

First Day (Sunday), 1/17/2010

- 9:45 am Friendly Forum (see below)
- 10:00 am Worship Sharing in Foxdale's Meeting Room
- 10:45 am First Day School
- 10:45 am Gather and settle for Worship
- 11:00 am Family Meeting for Worship
- 12:20 pm Social time

► **Friendly Forums, 9:45 am, Meeting Room, All Welcome**

January 17: Martin Melville will lead a **worship sharing** session on the State of Meeting for State College Monthly Meeting. Please ponder this topic in advance and come prepared to share and listen.

January 24: Rebecca Plummer will lead a dynamic presentation about her work in **Guatemala** and respond to questions.

No Friendly Forum on **January 31**.

► Please support the weekly **peace vigil**, every Saturday, 1:30-2:30 pm at the gates at the corner of Allen St. and College Ave.

► **Weis Gift Cards.** To benefit SC Friends Meeting, purchase Weis gift cards in multiples of \$25 through Dean Tuttle. They can be used the same as cash at Weis Markets and Weis will contribute a percentage of your purchase total to the meeting. Checks must be made out to: **State College Friends Meeting.**

State College Friends Meeting

611 East Prospect Ave., State College, PA 16801
814-237-7051 • www.statecollegefriends.org

Gather and settle. The time from 10:45 to 11:00 am on Sunday is a time for Friends to gather in the meeting room to prepare and settle for worship. Enter whenever you are ready. While we expect silence in the meeting room during that time, we cannot expect silence outside of the meeting room until 11:00.

Meeting for worship. State College Friends Meeting welcomes you to our silent, “unprogrammed” worship, ideally led by God’s Spirit. We have no designated ministers. A period of about twenty minutes is needed to center down into inward stillness. Spoken messages come from the spiritual depth of our lives and from the leadings of the Spirit. It is wise to ask oneself these questions before rising to speak: is my message from the Spirit, or from some other place? Is the message for me or for the whole group? Is the time to give it now or at some other time? It is best to follow each message with a period of silence in order to absorb what it has to tell us. When a message speaks to the condition of those present, out of the deepest parts of ourselves, and is harmoniously developed and deepened—and not too long—a profound sense of spiritual community may occur among us that freshens and delights. We call this a “gathered” meeting.

Closing meeting for worship. Our time of worship does not necessarily end at noon—it ends when the appointed person, attuned to the spiritual sense of the meeting, recognizes the appropriate moment.

Contacting Care and Concern. We hope that Friends will contact members of the Care and Concern Committee to request prayer or to be held in the Light, to request assistance, or to make the committee aware of changes in your lives or of others that you believe should come to the Committee’s attention. Contact Lynne Grutzeck, 237-1862.

Contributions to the Meeting are always welcome and needed. Checks may be placed in the donation box in the entry hall or mailed to: State College Friends Meeting, 611 E. Prospect Avenue, State College, PA 16801

The Meeting office. Betsy Gamble, the Meeting secretary, is in the office Mon. through Fri., from 5:30 -6:30 pm. She may be reached by e-mail, office@statecollegefriends.org, or by phone, 237-7051. Please let her know of any scheduled meetings or events in the buildings so scheduling conflicts can be avoided. Scheduling of non-standard tasks should be done through Louise Sandmeyer.

Bulletin and Newsletter. Bulletins and newsletters are available on the Web. Go to www.statecollegefriends.org and chose Bulletin or Newsletter. The Newsletter can be received by mail or email. To be added to the mailing list, send your name, address and zip code to the meeting office. To receive announcements, newsletter notification and bulletins by email,

► **Clearing the Closets, Take your Pick.** All of the coats, hats, gloves, umbrellas and bags that have accumulated in the closets have been moved to the rod in the closet farthest from the door and closest to the Meeting room. Anything remaining is now available to anyone in the Meeting community. After Jan. 10, the remainder will be donated to a local charity

► **1A Friends School Conversation, Jan. 24.** Friends are invited to join State College Friends School Head Dan Hendey and members of the Quaker Life Committee (Meeting members and Friends School parents and staff) for an informal conversation about the school. What do you know of the school? What are your impressions of how we are doing in providing an education that is consistent with Quaker testimonies? Do you have any questions?

We would also like to use this occasion to hear Friends' perspectives about the school and to explore ways of strengthening the Meeting-School connection. Please bring your ideas and any suggestions.

Please come for a (rescheduled) conversation on Sunday, January 24 at 1 pm (after refreshments) in the Meeting Room of the Meetinghouse. Child care will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

► **Friends Committee on National Legislation** shares with us their 2009 successes:

Congress created a new fund to help peacefully prevent deadly conflict, something FCNL has been advocating for nearly 5 years.

Both the House and Senate have passed legislation to improve access to and availability of health care services among Native Americans. This has been a goal of FCNL's Native American program for more than a decade.

As FCNL lobbied to strengthen legislation to address global warming that was moving in Congress, we also successfully advanced a bipartisan, stronger alternative

See a more complete list: <http://action.fcnl.org/r/104984/74290/0>. As a new year and a new decade begin, let's pause to celebrate how much we have achieved already. Thank you for helping us get this far.

Action: Ask your Rep. to Co-Sponsor New Legislation. More than 90 members of Congress have taken a key step to reform our nation's broken immigration system, The Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity Act (H.R. 4321):

<http://action.fcnl.org/r/104987/74290/0>, introduced by Rep. Gutierrez (IL), would help keep families together, bring undocumented immigrants out of the shadows, and uphold immigrants' human and civil rights. Please ask your representative to cosponsor this bill, or say thanks if he or she has cosponsored already: <http://action.fcnl.org/r/104988/74290/0>.

PLEASE VISIT OUR ADVOCACY TABLE FOR HELP IN WRITING YOUR ACTION LETTER RE THE ABOVE ISSUE AND ANOTHER URGENT ONE: GAZA:THE SILENT CRISIS.

(Peace & Social Action Committee)

► The draft version of the **new BYM Faith and Practice** is available. Get your copy by contacting the BYM office at 301-774-7663 or admin@bym-rsf.org with your current email address.

Calendar and Upcoming Events

Jan. 18 SCFM Peace & Social Action Committee, 7:30 pm in E-75 Foxdale

See the websites of BYM (www.bym-rsf.org), PYM (www.pym.org), USQM (usqm.org), SCFM (statecollegefriends.org), State College Friends School, FGC (fgcquaker.org), (www.statecollegefriendschool.org), Pendle Hill (www.pendlehill.org) for further info.

► Upcoming State College Friends School Events

Open House – Our first Admissions Open House of the season will be held on Fri., Jan. 15 from 9:30 a.m. – noon. We'll be inviting prospective families to visit that morning to tour the school and see the classrooms in action. We'd appreciate your help in spreading the word.

Free Winter Play Days – On Saturdays (Jan. 16, Feb. 20 and March 13) from 9:30 to 11:30 AM the Friends School is hosting Play Days for children from 3-7 years old. The school's Community Room and a classroom will be open for supervised active and imaginative play. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend to the school and enjoy a morning out of the cold. Refreshments and snacks will be served. All are welcome.

Sing with King – I would like to invite all families and friends to participate in the King Chorus for our annual production of *King in Montgomery: Ten Years in the Non-Violent Civil Rights Movement*. This is an uplifting and moving performance that needs your voice to come alive. Previous choir experience is not necessary, only the desire to sing out in a big group. Contact the school for more information or to sign up.

► **An Exhibition of Amazon photography** by Campbell Plowden Center for Amazon Community Ecology (CACE). Reception, presentation by photographer and display of native handicrafts, Sun., Jan. 10, 3-5 pm, Elk Creek Café, Millheim, PA. Photo exhibit at the Café: Jan. 5 – Feb. 2.

► **Midwinter Gathering of Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns, Feb. 12-15.** With a theme of "*Stitching our quilts – Waving our banners*", the Gathering will be held at the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center in New York's Hudson valley. Contact: nymidwinter@gmail.com or see <http://sites.google.com/site/midwinter2010>.

► **Friends Conference on Unemployment.** Join us for a day-long conference for unemployed Friends and attenders and their supporters who are trying to help. **Sat., March 6, 9 am - 3:30 pm.** at Burlington Conference Center in N.J. Contact Melissa Elliott at puddinriver@sprintmail.com or (215) 843-4827.

Notices for the weekly Bulletin should be sent by Thurs., 6:00 pm to efgamble@yahoo.com, 404-2831. Notices for the monthly *Newsletter* should be sent to Cynthia Bartok by the third Sat. of the month. (SCFMnewsletter@gmail.com, 100 Sandy Ridge Rd., State College, 16803).