



Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter Volume 10, Issue 4 Oct 2014

Being Powerful Servants: Using Spirit-Given Gifts

Thomas Swain, Middletown Meeting

Thomas Swain has served many roles in our community since coming to Quakerism in the 1970's. From 2007 to 2012 he was clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and he is now serving as clerk of PYM's Nominating Committee. But he has always had a special leading to help Friends become aware of their gifts, and he has been a workshop leader in that field for many years. Thomas will share that leading with us at next Quarterly Meeting at Middletown. Below is an account of his most recent experience in the UK where he led several of these workshops.

From February 4 to April 2, 2014 I traveled under concern to share about Spirit-Given Gifts among British and



Danish Friends. I left Philadelphia International Airport on the evening of February 4 and arrived the next morning at Heathrow. There was a Tube strike, and it took me another six hours to reach my hosts' destination in Highbury, London. Alec and Linty Davison have opened their home to me as a home base while in this ministry. Alec is one of the principal members of the Kindlers. The Kindlers promoted my visiting among British Friends

for the last two years. I held one workshop at Friends House directly under its auspices. This was done with the help of David Botwinick and Gretchen Castle (lots of fun that day).

This year I had fewer planned weekends – Woodbrooke (two courses), Friends House in London, Swarthmoor Hall, Isle of Wight, and Denmark Yearly Meeting where I was its keynote speaker. During my stay I spent time visiting dear Friends that I have made over the last ten years. I also researched the Quaker connection with Shakers in the Manchester area which entailed looking through old minute books. Can you imagine what Quakers did in 1747?

At the end of each workshop, I shared my travel minute. One such endorsement conveys the similar appreciation that others wrote in endorsing my Middletown minute: "We give thanks for Thomas' time amongst us. He has been a faithful vessel and his ministry has helped us all as we seek in turn to be thankful to our calling."

Different opportunities opened during these visits. Last

year I contributed seven articles of a series to the British Quaker Journal, *The Friend*, for which I wrote while traveling. This helped to share with a wider Quaker audience about my concern for Spirit-Given Gifts.

It might be helpful here to define what a Spirit-Given Gift is. A gift is any ability that is given by the Spirit that strengthens the meeting community. [A need is a gift too.] A skill or talent can be used in different ways. A gift is used to nurture the love within and outside of the Quaker Meeting. A gift carries its own impact or energy to transform the giver and the receiver. This is the work of the Spirit. Gifts are meant to speak to the injustice in our world. Gifts are meant to show mercy. Gifts are



meant to heal the pain of our neighbors. Why wouldn't I want others to know the gifts that I have to restore and rebuild our world? They might be able to help me if I told them what my Spirit-Given Gifts were.

One of the major writers about spiritual gifts in the United States is Elizabeth O'Connor. She writes, in *Eight Days of Creation*, that 'If there are ten people in one of the small groups of the church and each is an evoked person exercising his [/her] gift of the Spirit on behalf of the whole, then you have a group with power to attract. People gather around it. They respond to it, they love it, they hate it. Such a group has the power to heal, to liberate, to tackle the demonic systems and structure of society.' My sense is that Spirit-Given gifts are essential.

The presentation at our October Quarterly Meeting will explain more of what Spirit-Given Gifts are and offer a way of identifying your own gifts.

For a nice interview with Thomas check this web page: <https://thefriend.org/article/thomas-swain>

Concord Quarter looking to Partner with Local Friends Schools for Visitation Program

Looking to leverage the interest in Quakerism that might be in non-Quaker families who choose to send their children to Quaker schools, the Quarter hopes to start a coordinated program where school families will be invited to worship with Meetings in the Quarter. More information will be forthcoming at our next Quarterly Meeting in October. We are asking Monthly Meetings to consider this in their Meetings for Business before then and come to QM prepared to discuss the issue.

New Friend on the Block brings her experience with Youth to Concord Quarter

(Note: KerryLynn Resnik, whose family's entrée into Goshen Meeting has created quite a spark, relates her experience with the youth program at Charlotte Monthly Meeting in North Carolina, where she was a driving force for many years.)



Charlotte Friends Meeting First Day School was a wonderful way to introduce our young ones to the ways of Quakerism and helped build the foundation for a love of life centered around our faith community.

The specifics of the program has varied over the years based

on the ages of the children involved but typically there were four classes: Wee ones 0-4, 5-9, 10-12 and teens. The classes taught lessons around the principles of the SPICES, integrating service projects in line with the principles.

All age groups were involved in the projects as much as possible. If the children chose to raise money for a specific cause, they would all do crafts according to their ability to sell to the meeting; make flyers about the cause; and speak at rise of meeting on what they'd learned about the issue each 1st day as well as what they hoped to accomplish with the money they raised.

Members of meeting also contributed their various gifts helping the children on their journey through Quakerism.

One friend made pottery with the children as an item they could sell to raise money for their cause. Another played the guitar and taught the children songs from wee ones to the teens. Friends on various committees volunteered lessons with the older children.

One year the teens wanted to learn more about other religions, so they visited other congregations in our community two Sundays a month and made a report at rise of meeting on what the experience was like for them. A few times a year Meeting hosted an overnight shelter on site, and the children were so excited to help, setting up the sleeping area, preparing the meal, setting the tables, even drawing pictures for the guests to welcome them. It was really wonderful to see that budding sense of service even in the smallest friend.

Another friend was an artist and did some lessons around spiritual healing through art. The children had a great time, and they were always so proud of their drawings. Another friend with an interest in yoga did lessons on meditation and tied it in as a way to learn to center oneself in meeting.

What made this so special were the many Friends involved. I think that really helped the children feel a part of the meeting and build their sense of community. The children bound us together. Like a village we raised our young together, benefiting from the experience of wisdom as well as the exuberance of youth.

– KerryLynn Resnik, Goshen Meeting

Looking for a Miracle

Editor Note: For a few years Middletown Meeting has presented workshops on Quaker Spiritual Life at PYM's Annual Sessions. This year the title of the workshop was "The Presence in the Midst - How can we encounter the Presence in the Midst in our Meetings today? How can we be guided by this Presence and Power in our worship and in our lives today?" This brief essay is Chris Stern's reflection on that workshop experience.

Yearly Meeting always brings on a certain amount of anxiety for me. I want to believe that we will experience a deepening of the Spirit and a real sense of being led together, but I do not want to set my sights too high. My dreams have been squashed too many times by the harsh reality of "hot issues" that arise at the business sessions and the fractured community and hurt feelings that prevail. So, as we traveled up to Allentown together, the conversation drifted from our hopes and dreams, to reality, and back again. Could our workshop this year on "The Presence in the Midst," penetrate through the well preserved tradition of business as usual?

There were close to 30 registrants for the workshop. We had to open the waiting list so that everyone could attend. That was a new experience for us! Our room was well suited to the format that we had chosen, and it began to



fill up. That was encouraging!

We opened with an original short skit that contrasted the well-worn approach of "trying to do it all ourselves" with an alternative of facing our own limitations and asking for help from a power greater than our own "by looking to Christ to lead us." People listened well and laughed at our playful attempt to look at of our own foolishness. They seemed to be really drawn into the fun. The "Fish Bowl" discussion afterward included important contributions from all of the presenters, and it reached a good place of depth and openness. We were reminded that none of us

are the experts, but we all need to look to a power greater than our own to be led. That was hopeful!

As we opened the discussion to all the participants, people contributed many good testimonies of how the message we shared had real meaning for them and their Meetings. Others challenged us to find ways to carry this message to the whole Yearly Meeting. That was amazing! One person mentioned that she was satisfied with things the way they are. This was

answered by others who longed for a real experience of "The Presence in the Midst" in their Meetings. That was extraordinary! Hope prevailed, and we sat together, gathered in worship, waiting to be led. That was a miracle!

– Chris Stern, Middletown Meeting

PYM Long Range Planning Changes Up Ahead

After five years of hard work, PYM's Long Range Planning Group was laid down following the Yearly Meeting's approval at Annual Sessions 2014 of the 5-year plan entitled "Rekindling Our Fire"

(<http://www.pym.org/long-range-planning-group/files/2014/06/5-Year-Plan-for-PYM-2014-0617.pdf>)

Although that plan lists six strategic directions for the Yearly Meeting during the next five years, most people are focused on the fourth strategic direction which is to simplify and strengthen the governance and administration of the Yearly Meeting.

Annual Sessions will continue, but Interim Meeting will not, following the Annual Sessions 2015. In its place, "Continuing Sessions" of all Yearly Meeting members will meet at least two times between Annual Sessions to consider all matters that have not been delegated to the new "Administrative Council," the new "Quaker Life Council," the Nominating Committee (which is to be reconstituted) and a temporary "Implementation Committee."

The Administrative Council, consisting of not more than 15 appointed members (with the General Secretary, Clerk and Treasurer being additional *ex officio* members), will have authority and responsibility for, among other things, "property, finance, budget preparation, investments, development, grant-making, personnel and periodic strategic planning." In July 2015 a Granting Committee will be established under and be appointed by the Administrative Council.

The Quaker Life Council, consisting of not more than 15 appointed members (with the General Secretary, Clerk

and Treasurer being additional *ex officio* members) will have authority and responsibility for, among other things, "nurturing the life of monthly and quarterly meetings and providing advice and assistance requested, planning for annual and continuing sessions and printing and distributing literature in the name of the Yearly Meeting."

The process for establishing the two councils is as follows. The currently constituted Nominating Committee will nominate eight members of an Implementation Committee that will include the Clerk (or Alternate Clerk) and General Secretary as *ex officio* members. Once Interim Meeting acts upon those nominations, the Implementation Committee will nominate seven at-large members and each Quarterly Meeting (of which there are thirteen) will have the opportunity to nominate a member of a so-called "Renewed Nominating Committee" that can have up to 20 members. It is anticipated that Interim Meeting will act upon those nominations by January 2015.

The Renewed Nominating Committee will then nominate members of the Administrative Council and the Quaker Life Council and their respective clerks. In the spring of 2015, Interim Meeting will appoint the members and clerks of those two councils from those nominations. Based on information provided by standing committees, working groups and granting groups in response to a survey to be distributed by the Implementation Committee, the two councils will then begin to organize to do their respective work and report on their respective undertakings to the Yearly Meeting at Annual Sessions 2015. – Charles Spadoni, Coordinator

Concord Quarterly Meeting Coordinator Report

If you ever get bored and want something to do, I suggest you turn to the worldwide web and review the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Calendar <http://www.pym.org/calendar/> and PYM's Community Calendar <http://www.pym.org/community-calendar/> (which includes events sponsored by quarterly meetings and monthly meetings). You will be amazed by the number and diversity of Quaker faith-based programs and events most of which are being held within easy driving distance of your home.

Among the events you will see are those that PYM runs for children in elementary school, in middle school and in high school (that latter being referred to as "young friends"). Each program is headed by a well-trained coordinator (Ben Camp, elementary; Matt Sanderson, middle school; and Hannah Mayer, high school) who is dedicated to including each child in a loving and faith-based community. In May 2014 I saw Matt and Hannah in action at Camp Swatara where the middle school friends and young friends have their final conclaves of the year. Both coordinators are quite impressive.

By now you may have been greeted by a Friend with the question "How does the Truth fare with thee?" If you have, then Christie Duncan-Tessmer, PYM's new General Secretary (as of September 1, 2014) has had her intended effect. At PYM's 2014 Annual Sessions she suggested that each Friend reinstitute that question when she or he meets another in an effort to focus all of us on the importance of the Spirit in our daily lives. Also, she has requested each of us to visit during the coming year at least two other monthly or quarterly meetings so that we can experience the Spirit among the body of Friends that is Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

To that end Christie plans to visit at least two monthly or quarterly meetings each month until she has visited all

104 monthly meetings and 13 quarterly meetings that make up PYM. Being faithful to that promise, she visited and spoke at Bucks Quarterly Meeting (held at Plumstead Monthly Meeting) on August 24, 2014 where she spoke on "Leaning In With The Inward Teacher."

Christie's path and mine crossed there because I attended that quarterly meeting to see how it operates. Interestingly, Bucks Quarterly Meeting has a schedule of events similar to Concord Quarterly Meeting's schedule. It includes a children's program, worship, an adult program and lunch (brown bag with desserts and beverages provided). The only major difference in the business meeting I observed is that all of the monthly meetings give annual reports at the quarterly meeting held in August whereas at each Concord Quarterly Meeting two monthly meetings give biennial reports.

The only significant event that has occurred since my last report is that the Planning Committee established an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Betsy Swan (Willistown), Bruce Harrison (Westtown), Tom Woodward (Goshen) and me to proceed with all deliberate speed to work out the details of a plan to implement a Quarter-sponsored program in which parents of students attending local Quaker schools are invited to attend meetings for worship at the Quarter's constituent monthly meetings at specified times during the course of a year.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Quarterly Meeting that will be held at Middletown Meeting on October 26, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles B. Spadoni, Coordinator

Concord Quarterly Meeting

October 26, 2014

Middletown Monthly Meeting

8:15-8:30	Sign-in
8:30-9:45	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
10:00-11:00	Program on Using Spirit-Given Gifts with Thomas Swain
11:00-12:00	Meeting for Worship with Middletown Meeting
12:15 -1:00	Lunch provided by Middletown Meeting

Being Powerful Servants: Using Spirit-Given Gifts

This would be a time to share Thomas Swain's experiences of traveling in ministry among British Friends with the message of being able to use our Spirit-given gifts, how they are identified and nurtured in others. It also will be an experiential time of learning how this would work for a Meeting community.



"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house" – Matthew 5:14-15

Note: Childcare is available beginning at 8:30.

Directions: Middletown Meeting, 435 Middletown Rd., Media, PA 19063, is located on PA State Rte 352 one mile north of Rte. 1 in Lima, PA, just past Lima Estates on the south and Cumberland Cemetery on the north.

For more info and a map to the meeting go to <http://concordquarter.org/meeting-maps/>
You can also email Charlie Spadoni, Coordinator, at concordquarter@pym.org

Concord Quarterly Meeting Calendar of Events

- September 28 **Concord Quarter Hayride-Campfire**
Join Us at the Stratton's Wynnorr Farm for a Hayride and Campfire Potluck. Bring a campfire dish for yourselves and enough to share. 5 PM to 8 PM. Sign up at our website <http://concordquarter.org/hayride-2014/> \$5 contribution per person
- October 5 **The Hickman Homecoming**
10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Meeting for Worship followed by a buffet dinner followed by the narration by Chenda Davison, of Wilmington Monthly Meeting and a former Board Member of The Hickman, of two short stories regarding "The Importance of Family." Contact Eliza Mohler for reservations no later than September 30, 2014 at either 484-760-6413 or emohler@thehickman.org.
- October 26 **Concord Quarterly Meeting at Middletown Monthly Meeting**
8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thomas Swain will lead a program entitled "Being Powerful Servants: Using Spirit-Given Gifts." For more information, go to <http://concordquarter.org/>
- November 16 **Western Quarter's Inaugural Convergence of First Day School Programs**
10:00 a.m. at West Grove Meeting. All families and First Day School Programs of meetings in Concord Quarter are invited to attend. For more information go to <http://westernquarterquakers.org/event/the-first-first-day-school-convergence/>.

Concord Quarter Hayride-Campfire

Sunday, September 28 - 5 PM to 8 PM



**Join Us at the Stratton's
Wynnorr Farm**

Hayride and Campfire Potluck. Bring a campfire dish for yourselves and enough to share.

We request a \$5 donation per person to cover Quarter's cost.

Sign up at our website
<http://concordquarter.org/hayride-2014/>

Stratton's Wynnorr Farm is located near the junction of Rt 352 and Rt 926
1631 East Street Rd, Glen Mills, Pa



For more info call 610-256-3572 or email concordquarter@pym.org

Concord Quarterly Meeting Held at Concord Monthly Meeting - July 20, 2014 Minutes

Opening Worship: The meeting opened with a period of worship at 8:30 am.

Welcome: The clerk welcomed the 24 Friends present as the meeting began. Individuals were present from the following member monthly meetings -- Birmingham, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, and Willistown.

Coordinator's report (Charlie Spadoni): A report on the Quarter's and the Coordinator's activities over the last three months was received with great appreciation, is *attached* to these minutes, and was published in the newsletter. Charlie has now been able to worship with all the meetings in the Quarter and has assisted in a number of Quarter activities, including those of our

Young Friends. Note also was made of the meeting in Reading on the strengthening of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Quarterly Meetings.

Treasurer's Report – Financial Statements 06/30/2014 (Bruce James -Westtown): The report was approved and is *attached* to the official copy of these minutes. The Meetings in the Quarter were able to increase their support to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting by 17% this year. The value of the Tuition Endowment Fund rose by nearly 25% in the last year, due to contributions and capital growth. Operating Expenses have been increasing, largely due to postage charges. We maintain a comfortable surplus in the checking account.

Clarification of Last Meeting's Minutes (Richard Ailes -Middletown): Rich Ailes noted that the minutes of last Quarterly Meeting might be misleading to someone reading them who does not have access to the budget that was presented and is available only with the official copy of the minutes. Therefore an explicit minute is made here that "(1) \$800 for programs are no longer included in the Coordinator's Budget and are instead set forth in a separate line item and (2) any unexpended amount in the Coordinator's Budget on June 30, 2015 will be transferred to the Tuition Endowment Fund."

Proposal re Monthly Meetings' Outreach to Parents of Students Attending Quaker Schools

(Betsy Swan -Willistown): Betsy proposed that the Quarter invite non-Quaker families with children enrolled in local Friends' schools to visit monthly meetings during the course of a school year. Betsy suggested that the Quarter adopt a program in which it would invite non-Quaker parents of children in local Quaker schools who are interested in learning more about Quakerism to attend constituent monthly meetings. Monthly meetings would take turns welcoming such families to their respective meetings. A host meeting might hold an educational program after meeting for worship on a topic of its choice. The Meeting approved that the Planning Committee and the Coordinator move forward with this idea (including possible creation of an *ad hoc* committee), as there will be many details to work out. They will report back to our next Quarterly Meeting with the hope of implementation after that.

Joys and Challenges R e p o r t s : Willistown and Concord: The report of Willistown Monthly Meeting was made by Betsy Swan and that of Concord by Valerie Peery. Willistown's is *attached* to these minutes. Concord Meeting has accomplished the streamlining of its business meetings, to general appreciation. The Meeting remains challenged by its small membership, which presents difficulty in accomplishing the many tasks needed to maintain its property.

The Hickman Report (Mark Snyder –Chairman of the Board): The Hickman has a new executive director, Pamela Leland, and is thriving under her leadership. The staff also are doing a fine job of providing high quality services to its residents. It continues to work on upgrading its current building and providing better facilities for those with dementia. They are engaged in meeting the zoning and planning requirements. The 19 members of the Board include 10 Friends. The full report is *attached* to these minutes.

Thomas Brown Endowed Chair (Bruce Harrison -Westtown): The target of \$100,000 starting funds for the Chair for Quaker Faith and Practice at Westtown School has been achieved. The implementation of the next steps of making Westtown Meeting and the Quarter parties to the agreement that established the fund is still underway, as there are legal details that still have to be resolved. When further action by the Quarter is needed the matter will be brought before it again.

Announcements of upcoming events:

-- Annual Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will be held July 23-27-- Middle School, Young Friends and Families Pool Party August 9, 2014 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. sponsored by Western Quarter, Hockessin, DE. See Western Quarter's website for details-- Planning Committee August 10, 2014 7:30 p.m. Concord Monthly Meeting-- Young Friends of Concord and Western Quarters' Get-together August 17, 2014 2:30-4:40 p.m. Kennett Meeting. See Western Quarter's website for details-- Chichester Meeting House will be open for meeting for worship on September 21, 2014.-- A Quarterly Meeting family event at the Stratton farm is being planned for late September.-- Next Quarterly Meeting October 26, 2014 – Middletown

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Harrison (Clerk) David Leonard (Recording Clerk)

Willistown Monthly Meeting - Report to Concord Quarterly Meeting - July, 2014

The year at Willistown was marked by several significant events as well as many of the daily joys and challenges faced by meetings for worship. Our work – on committees and as a community - has focused on tending relationships and on stewardship of our resources. Several times this year the membership at Willistown has pulled together to support Friends within our congregation; these have been our strongest moments. Though our focus has been primarily inward, we find ourselves now fit and ready to begin looking outward to the larger Friends community as we embark on our next year together.

Willistown's handicapped access addition is nearly finished. The wheelchair lift is operational, having carried its first passengers at the beginning of the summer. There are details yet to attend to, but the addition is both functional and beautiful; it will be opened officially this fall with a public celebration. At the same time that we celebrate the joyful achievement of making our building fully accessible to all attenders and members, we have mourned the loss of our friend and architect, Jonathan Dyer, who died in May. Jonathan's wife and children, Gina, Sam, and Henry, are members of Willistown, and the Meeting community pulled together to support them with nourishment, respite, and guidance during the last four months of Jonathan's life. It was a testament to the power of love in our community.

Also driven by the call to love was Willistown Meeting's decision to oversee the marriage of Sue Renz and Cate Stevenson in June. Theirs was the first same-gender marriage held under the care of Willistown Friends Meeting. Cate and Sue, together with their children, have been members of Willistown for several years. They approached the Meeting in January 2014, months before the decision to make same-gender marriage legal in Pennsylvania, to ask for permission to marry under the care of the

Meeting. Because of the foresight of Friends in the Meeting, Willistown several years ago discussed and came to unanimity on our desire to hold same-gender marriages under our care. Thus, in February we responded with joy and clarity to Sue and Cate's request to celebrate their commitment and love in the presence of F/friends at Willistown.

Perhaps the greatest challenge we face grows out of the need to transform *commitment to our faith* into *commitment to our Meeting Community*. Certainly we are not alone in this conundrum. First, we need to be creative in our definition and division of the work of the Meeting: is the work we undertake on committees and as a Meeting the most valuable and the most necessary for the Meeting to thrive? The number of members involved in the *work of the Meeting* is not growing, and the younger members of Meeting (those between 30 and 65) need to be encouraged to participate actively in roles which fit the time they have to share. We need to actively develop the next generations of leaders within our Meeting.

Additionally, we need to continue to discuss the finances of the Meeting in context of the changing economy. First the conditions of the market and now the reduction in Friends Fiduciary's disbursements have diminished the income we generate annually, shifting the responsibility for funding the work of the Meeting and upkeep of its property. This emphasizes the necessity for us to find balance among a matrix of needs including: Meeting program, financial contribution *from* members/attenders, property upkeep, contributions *to* local programs, contract support with First Day School and book-keeping, new membership ... If we are not thoughtful, we will continue to try to provide the same programming and support we have in the past with less financial and volunteer support, rather than looking to provide equivalent (and do-able) support to our community.

We continued to have a vibrant First Day School this past year, attracting primarily children between four and ten years old. We were thrilled to hire a young Friend, a Westtown alum home from college before entering graduate school, to teach First Day from late winter through the early summer. The children loved her and dug into the program with her. We are lucky to have a small, capable and committed group of members who will pick up the responsibility of teaching First Day until we are able to hire a new teacher. As seems true of many Meetings in the Quarter, middle and high school aged young friends come to worship only occasionally.

The work which lies ahead of us this coming year not only includes nurturing our worship community and stewardship of our property, it calls us to consider the processes we have developed to accomplish these tasks. Finding the time to undertake this work speaks both of the overall good spirit of the Meeting and of our growing ability to look both forward and outward. We will, for example, be looking at the policies for maintaining our burial grounds – record keeping, communication with local funeral homes, procedures for reserving space, guidance for families holding memorials. Additionally, we hope to complete our on-going project to build and launch a website for the Meeting which, in addition to our Facebook page, are the Meeting's two most prominent outreach efforts.

Though we will continue to think creatively about ways to draw new attenders to Willistown, our conversation in June with Sallie Jones and Ron Ploeg about PYM's Long Range Planning process was exciting. It began to turn our attention outward toward the wider Quaker community. It was an excellent way to refocus us as we ended the year, inspiring a desire to encourage and support Willistown members to grow in their faith and understanding of Quakerism through involvement in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in the coming year.

Annual Report of The Hickman to Concord Quarter

Pamela Leland has completed her first eighteen months as executive director of The Hickman, first in an interim role and then as our full-time senior staff member. The Hickman continues to grow and thrive under her excellent guidance and leadership. During the past year there have been a number of changes in our administrative staff. While we were sorry to have former staff members leave us, we have been fortunate to attract new staff who are bright and competent and who bring a strong desire to keep The Hickman moving forward.

After eight years with The Hickman, Marilee Mohr, Assistant Executive Director and Director of Resident Care, left in June as she and her husband relocated to South Carolina. We are fortunate to have found Ron Masayko, a skilled R.N. with management experience, to take on the role of Director of Resident Care effective June 23, 2014.

We continue to move forward with our plans for the replacement of Sharpless-Hall Building. Our plan includes replacing our current building with one that includes a secure memory care unit on the first floor and multiple levels of personal care on the remaining floors. Our staff is in the process of learning more about the needs of the growing number of seniors with dementia and Alzheimer's disease and the best ways to serve them and their families. In the meantime, Greenbrier Development continues as our development partner on this project. They and the architectural firms of Lenhardt Rogers are working with The Hickman and its attorneys as we currently resolve zoning and planning issues with the Borough of West Chester. In addition, we have begun work on the \$3 million Capital Campaign needed for the Sharpless-Hall project.

The Mary Tyler house continues as a well-run, attractive and safe community for low-to-moderate income seniors. We work productively with our partners at Pennrose Development and Pennrose Management to ensure good stewardship of this apartment building in the heart of West Chester.

The Hickman's Board is currently made up of 19 members, 10 of whom are Quaker. Mark J. Snyder is in his first year as Board Chair, with Ronal Petrocelli of Willistown Meeting serving as Vice Chairman, J. Dean O'Banion of Willistown Meeting as Secretary and Kenneth M. Witek as Treasurer. We have welcomed new board members Andrea Taylor of Centre Meeting, Deborah McKenty and Stephen Olsen.

And so, we are happy to report that The Hickman continues to provide our residents with high quality personal care services in a warm and home-like atmosphere. We do this in an affordable and financially secure and responsible manner while keeping our eye toward the needs and desire of our future residents. - Respectfully submitted - *Mark Snyder*.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter
Volume 10 Issue 4 October 2014

Rich Ailes, Editor
310 Park Avenue
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Clerk: Bruce Harrison
Asst. Clerk: Rich Ailes
Recording Clerk: David Leonard
Treasurer: Bruce James
Coordinator: Charles Spadoni

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Birmingham
Concord
Goshen
Middletown
West Chester
Westtown
Willistown
Wilmington

Editor: Rich Ailes
Phone: 610-543-7321
E-mail: concordquarter@pym.org

Published: January, April, July and October
Submissions Due: March, June, September and December 15