



Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter Volume 13, Issue 2 April 2016

Birmingham Meeting asks, "Who is My Neighbor?"

The Good Samaritan story is one of the most beloved stories in the Bible. Birmingham Meeting chose this story as part of its Quarterly Meeting program because the story is as relevant today as it was during Christ's time, and it is key to the Quaker testimonies. In the parable, a lawyer wanting to test Christ asked him what was most important in life. Christ asked the lawyer what was written in the Jewish scripture, and the lawyer said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." Then the lawyer, wishing to justify himself asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Christ told the story of the Good Samaritan to answer this question.

In the parable, Christ was speaking to Jews who saw Samaritans as despised enemies, yet he chose to make a Samaritan the hero of the story, promoting peace, equality, and community. Today, as then, the parable offers a



vision of how people can be neighbors to others, even those whom the community looks down on or those with different religions or ethnicities. The story teaches people to be of service to others in need.

The Good Samaritan story inspired Quakers in developing the Quaker testimonies.

In the Quarterly Meeting program, the children from the Quarter will perform two plays: one that enacts the story that Christ told his audience and a second story that puts a modern-day spin on the story. After the performance, the Worship and Ministry Committee will lead an intergenerational worship sharing that will help us explore the idea of "our neighbor" in our contemporary lives. The goal of the program is to help the

audience consider various ways that Quakers from our community can be neighbors to others. The program will help children as well as adults examine how we support peace, community, equality, and service. All are invited to consider these important ideas. - *Marty Boston, Birmingham*

Saving Lives via Land Mine Detectors

Over the past seven years the Peace Center of Birmingham and, subsequently, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee at Birmingham Meeting have raised over \$12,400 to purchase 12 land mine detectors. They were bought through the manufacturer, the Schonstedt Instrument Company, which generously matches one for each landmine detector Birmingham purchases, thereby doubling the number of detectors that we can count as our contribution to eliminating unexploded ordinance that can cause death and suffering. Where are they sent? The mine detectors are sent to the United Nations Mine Action Service, which is the operational arm of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and the U.S. Department of State, which determines areas of past conflict most in need of clearing unexploded ordinance. For example, some of the detectors have gone to Nepal, Gaza, and Libya.

These landmine detectors are a type of metal detector used by surveyors searching for metal pins placed in the ground to mark property boundaries. Some time ago Frank Lanik, a member of Woodstown Friends Meeting

and a surveyor by profession, recognized that the Schonstedt surveyors' tool was light in weight, easy to use, and ideal for detecting land mines. Frank Lanik came to

one of our peace fairs and demonstrated the detector. Our interest in making a difference was immediately stimulated.

How have we raised \$12,400? We've held two Peace Fairs, engaged our young Friends to create crafts that were sold, created and sold peace t-shirts with an artist's logo creation, and sold many, many quilts and quilted bags made by our very generous member Ruth Young.

It is our plan to continue to raise money to support the procurement and shipment of land mine detectors; we hope that other Quaker Meetings and other groups and individuals will join this endeavor. Information on contacts to obtain the mine detectors can be obtained from Birmingham Friends Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee (Ted Brinton, 610-388-6006).

- *John Lavin, Birmingham*



The Docent of Chichester Meeting

A few hundred years ago some Quakers came over from a small town in England called Chichester, accompanying William Penn on his way to a region that would soon be named Pennsylvania. A new Meeting sprouted up as a result of this journey in an area a bit south and west of the settlement at Philadelphia: Chichester.

The Meeting, though on the National Historic Places of the US, has seen better times. One half of the interior has the floor ripped out because of termites and ground hogs. The former took up residence in the wood, and the latter became under-wood dwellers. Judy Reese, a Quaker out of the Portland Meeting in Maine, is the new caretaker, although she refers to her position as a "Docent," defined as "a person who is a knowledgeable guide, especially one who conducts visitors through a museum and delivers a commentary on the exhibition." This gives you an idea of what Judy is trying to do at Chichester. She has already conducted a few tours for local students and their teachers, and she is hoping to do more.

If anyone can restore the crumbling meetinghouse and grounds to national historic health, Judy can. Just look at her biography. She is a certified social worker with a doctorate in Psychology. She has touched base in all 50 states, owing that nomadic life to her father's profession: jockey turned trainer/owner of racing horses. She grew up traveling the racing circuit all around the country and even through Europe. During that time she was involved in the caring and training of horses that frequently resulted in concussions from multiple falls. In adulthood, she pursued masters and doctorate work at Rutgers, and along the way gave birth to four daughters, raising them on her own. Judy has done long stints as a Development Director for several schools, never having any difficulty moving into new positions because of her reputation for raising funds. Those jobs helped put her daughters through primary and secondary school. All but one has since graduated with honors at well-known colleges. That last

daughter has been kept from graduating only because of her penchant to travel to far away places doing service work.

Judy has suffered from two incidents of traumatic brain injury in the recent past that have knocked her down a notch in the job market. Her last recuperation found her searching out a place that would allow her to live independently and be of use.

She wrote to almost every Meeting in the Northeast until she found Chichester Friends Meetinghouse. She came to the job with her service dog sidekick Harper Lee, which provides her barking notifications of oncoming seizures. Since becoming the new caretaker



several months ago, Judy has been actively pursuing contributions for renovating the grounds and meetinghouse. Aside from restoring the inside of the meetinghouse, she wants to make the place attractive to young students by a raising couple of heritage breed hens and a garden which she hopes will supply local food banks with fresh produce.

You can get a taste of her work by attending one of the two Meetings for Worship to be held in the meetinghouse on April 17. Along with the worship Judy will conduct a tour of the grounds providing historical background of the community of Quakers who established the Meeting in 1688. If you attend, you won't be disappointed by the information she provides nor the personality from which the info springs forth. Judy will give tours any time of the year. Email her at ChichesterFriendsMeeting@hotmail.com or call her cell at 704-315-8357. - Rich Ailes, Middletown Meeting

Seek and You Will Find – Looking for the Heart of a Meeting

Penny Briggs is a Pennell. Pennell Road is Rt 452, that snakes its way out of Lima PA and meanders down through Glen Riddle, Aston, Twin Oaks, Linwood and on into Marcus Hook. Abraham Pennell, in the 1800's sold a plot of land to a bunch of dispossessed orthodox Quakers just outside of Media, which became Middletown Meeting. That was Penny's grandfather. Her grandmother was a poet. They had four boys and one girl. Penny claims the boys were all "rascals" creating all sorts of trouble when they were young. Eventually all four became recorded ministers who traveled in the ministry and sat on the austere facing bench of Middletown. One of Penny's favorite memories was the monthly socials which the Meeting held for the purpose of having fun. These four brothers would always participate in a highly competitive game of dominoes that provoked a lot of good natured shouting and back slapping.



Penny's father, James Pennell, was a "mystic" who only spoke in Meeting "when God told him to." He trembled before he spoke. He was once asked in Ohio to lead a programed worship, but he would only lead an unprogrammed one. He did that and the service was much appreciated. Her uncle Arthur delivered his ministry in the sing song style of early Friends, meant to highlight the ministry and not the minister. Penny recalls many traveling ministers in her youth who bound Quaker meetings within a

strong spiritual message. And they were heard by everyone because they worshipped and spoke from the facing bench.

A few weeks ago, Thomas Swain, Clem Gerdemann and I sat with the 95-year old Penny Briggs for a thoroughly enjoyable luncheon at Crosslands, a mini two-hour story telling fest that had each of us hankering for more. Clem, our newest member, had instigated the meeting by inquiring about the history of Middletown. Thomas, who lives at Crosslands, made arrangements with Penny, who was only too happy to oblige. It was a lively event because Penny is a walking anecdote factory. She is a former Westtown School teacher who was known for her yarns. She spun many for us that afternoon.

All of our Quaker retirement communities are "history" rich treasures. Penny told us many other things about our Meeting that afternoon. Her willingness to share her past with the three of us gave us a deeper sense of the Christian and social community which is still present at Middletown. How close to all of us in Concord Quarter is the availability of such a precious source of knowledge from older Friends. It might be a good time to take advantage of it and reach out to those Friends like Penny Briggs who worked so diligently to give us the gift of Quaker community. - Rich Ailes, Middletown Meeting

Critical Update on Refugee Project

The West Chester Area Refugee Resettlement Committee, which is made up of representatives from seven Quaker meetings, three churches, the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester, and the Islamic Society of Chester County, were disappointed to learn that the young Congolese refugee couple who were scheduled to arrive in West Chester on March 23, 2016, will not be resettled in our area. Lutheran Children and Family Service in Pennsylvania, the refugee resettlement agency with which the committee was working, is closing, and its cases have been transferred to Lutheran agencies in other parts of the country. (Banzabugabo and Janet will be going to Omaha, Nebraska.)

LCFS is exploring the possibility of Bethany Christian Services' taking over its refugee resettlement role in our region, in which case the WCARR committee might co-sponsor another family with that organization. It's also possible that WCARR might work with HIAS (Hebrew Immigration Aid Society) or NSC (Nationalities Service Center), the other two refugee resettlement agencies in our region, to co-sponsor a family. Stay tuned. - Susan Brodesser, Birmingham Meeting

Friends Fiduciary Fund Options

In 1993, Concord Quarter established a tuition endowment fund (TEF) to provide tuition assistance to children of members of the Quarter (other than members of Wilmington MM) who attend Friends Schools. In December of that year, the endowment was seeded with an initial amount of \$10,000 which was invested in the Friends Fiduciary Corporation's Consolidated Fund. Over the past 22 years the TEF has grown to \$190,000. During this time, Friends Fiduciary has added three additional fund offerings to its portfolio: the Quaker Green Fund, the Short Term Investment Fund, and the Quaker Index Fund. All four funds provide cost-effective and socially responsible investments consistent with Quaker values, practices, and principles.

The Consolidated Fund, which started in 1975, is made up of 70% equity, 25% fixed income, and 5% real estate investment trusts (REITs). Its annual operating expenses, which include administrative and investment management services, are paid by its investors and are roughly equal to .75% of asset value. Semi-annual distributions are made based on a 3-year rolling average of unit value. A distribution rate of 4.25% is being used for 2016, and it will drop slightly to 4% for 2017 and thereafter. The distribution rate serves to protect the investment against inflation over time. Over the past 10 years, the Consolidated Fund has had an average annual return of 6.7%, and it has regularly outperformed a blended benchmark.

The Quaker Green Fund started December 31, 2013. Unlike the Consolidated Fund, it has a semi-annual distribution rate of 3.5%. The fund has a composition of fossil-fuel-free, cleantech-alternative energy, conservation oriented stocks and bonds. The fund is less diversified than the Consolidated Fund because of its focus and smaller asset size. Operating expenses are slightly higher than those of the Consolidated Fund at .90% of asset value, and the management fee is fixed at .90% of asset

value. While the fund has performed at a lower annual rate of roughly 2.72% since inception, it is expected that as this investment sector matures and continues to gain acceptance, its performance will be equal to or above the Consolidated Fund's in the years ahead. Since the fund's inception, its return has exceeded its blended benchmark by .16%.

In April 2012 the Short Term Investment Fund was rolled out w to provide returns better than money market funds for investors with one to five year time horizons. The fund is invested in roughly 80% short-term bonds and 20% money market securities offering extremely low risk and volatility. The management fee is fixed at .49% of asset value. The fund has returned .91% annually since its start, which exceeds the .41% of a blended benchmark. The minimum initial investment is \$25,000, but it may be waived on a case-by-case basis given the right constituent circumstances.

The Quaker Index Fund, which became available in April 2013, requires a minimum investment is \$1,000,000. Therefore, it is not relevant to the Quarter given the amount it has to invest.

As we move forward in discerning how to invest our funds, consideration should be given to splitting off some portion of the Consolidated Fund and investing it in the Quaker Green Fund which is a more environmentally-protective-based fund than the Consolidated Fund. Additionally, utilizing the Short Term Investment Fund to hold all semi-annual distributions from whichever one or both of these funds we are holding provides the opportunity to earn a small return on this twice-a-year distribution prior to being sent to schools for tuition aid.

Please come to our next Concord Quarter business meeting in April, being held at Birmingham Meeting, to ask questions and share your thoughts on how we might best manage our TEF funds. - Tom Haviland - Westtown Meeting & Quarter Treasurer

Important Work at Next QM Business Meeting on Tuition Endowment Fund

At the upcoming Quarterly Meeting for Business at Birmingham in April, Friends will be asked to review our strategy for the support of the Tuition Endowment Fund.

In 2013 the Quarter approved a minute on the TEF for an aggressive approach to increase the fund's principal by distributing only the income generated from the fund for grants instead of doing a match from the Quarter's Tuition Operating Fund (TOF). The TOF was a percent of the current contributions coming from Meetings for the endowment. After extracting the match percentage, the remainder of the current contributions was sent to Fiduciary to increase principal. The problem with this approach was the principal increased at to slow a rate. Those present wanted future generations to benefit from a larger principal that would generate more income. They requested that the strategy be reviewed in 3 years (April 2016).

At a later Quarterly Meeting Friends approved to send to Friends Fiduciary any excess funding provided by the meetings for the coordinator budget. For a number of reasons a large budget surplus accumulated for the coordinator's salary and expenses. Originally the hours for the coordinator were set at 20 per week, but Charlie Spadoni has found he only needs 15 hours per week to complete his work. Rich Ailes has been compensated for doing graphic services throughout the year, but those hours combined with Charlie's hours do not add up to 20 hours per week. Meetings have been sending in support funds based on 20 hours per week. Because of this, a surplus ballooned last year to the point where over \$19,000 was sent to Friends Fiduciary to increase the principal of the TEF. Tom Haviland, our Treasurer, will bring new coordinator budget figures to the Quarterly Meeting as part of the fiscal year 2016/2017 budget review to correct this imbalance. - Rich Ailes

Concord Quarterly Meeting's Announcements & Calendar of Events

Minutes of the January 31, 2016, Quarterly Meeting at the end of this newsletter have been posted on the Quarter's website (<http://concordquarter.org/documents/?category=Minutes>). If you have any comments on those minutes, please send them to David Leonard, Recording Clerk, at leonard@berkeley.edu.

- Each Thursday** The Hickman holds **mid-week meeting for worship** from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in The Hickman Living Room. All are cordially invited to attend.
- April 17** **Meeting for Worship at Chichester Meetinghouse**, 611 Meetinghouse Rd., Boothwyn, PA 19061 (Sunday) 11:15 a.m. followed by a tour and talk about meetinghouse history with Judy Reese
- April 23** **Youth Event - Ropes Course** For Children in grades 3 to 12 (Saturday) 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Westtown School. In the morning, the younger children (3rd to 5th grades) will get to explore the low ropes course. In the afternoon, the older children (6th to 12th grades) take on the high ropes course. Pete Lane will be taking those waiting for one or more of their siblings to finish the course on a hike that will take them to little known parts of the campus. For more information, go to the Quarter's website at <http://concordquarter.org> or contact the Coordinator at 610-256-3572 or concordquarter@pym.org.
- April 23** **"The Crisis in Burundi and the Quaker Response,"** a talk by Elie Nahimana, the Administrative Coordinator of the Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities Program in Burundi, a part of the Friends Peace Teams African Great Lakes Initiative. (Saturday) 11:00 a.m. in the Farm House at Kendal at Longwood CCRC, 1109 East Baltimore Pike, east of Kennett Square, PA.
- April 24** **Concord Quarterly Meeting at Birmingham – 8:15 AM to 1 PM – see page 5 for details**
- April 29 – May 1** **PYM's Middle and High School Programs at Camp Swatara** (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon) Bethel, PA. The Coordinator will be a Friendly Presence, and he will be transporting students by van that will depart from West Chester MM (425 N High St., West Chester) at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 29 and return at about 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 1. If you are interested in such transportation, contact the Coordinator no later than April 10, 2016.
- April 30** **Quaker Minister Ralph Green's One-day Workshop "LOOK TO THE LIGHT – Our Spiritual Basis for Action"** (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Middletown MM, Lima, PA. For more information, go to <http://www.middletownquakers.org>
- June 26** **Tubing on the Brandywine (Sunday) 12:30-4:30 p.m.** Details to follow.
- July 24** **Concord Quarterly Meeting at Concord Monthly Meeting.** Details to follow.
- July 27 - 31** **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions** (Wednesday to Sunday) Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA
- Workshop Survey** **Concord Quarterly Meeting's Planning Committee** would like input from the Quarter's members on the topics a workshop or other program conducted by the Quarter should address. Members or attenders may submit their responses to the Coordinator via email (concordquarter@pym.org) or first class mail (116 South New St., West Chester, PA 19382). They can also complete the questionnaire on the Quarter's website: <http://concordquarter.org/lets-try-this/>



APRIL 17, 2016—11:15
CHICHESTER MEETINGHOUSE

Meeting for Worship, at 11:15 am
Tours are available before and after Worship

Ropes Course
Saturday, April 23, 2016
8:15 AM to 3:00 PM
(no rain date)

At WESTTOWN SCHOOL
under the supervision of Westtown School



LOOK TO THE LIGHT
Our Spiritual Basis for Action

A one day workshop/retreat with Ralph Greene
at Middletown Meeting
April 30th, 2016 10 am - 2 pm.



Concord Quarterly Meeting

Birmingham Monthly Meeting

April 24, 2016

Who is My Neighbor?

8:15-8:30	Sign-in
8:30-9:45	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
10:00-11:15	Meeting for Worship with Birmingham Meeting
11:15-11:30	Announcements and break
11:30-12:30	Intergenerational Program
12:30-1:00	Lunch (provided; donations to Right Sharing of World Resources accepted)



The program for April's Quarterly Meeting will focus on the question "Who is my neighbor?" This intergenerational program will begin with a play presented by the children who will practice their parts during the meeting for worship. Act 1 of the presentation will be the Good Samaritan story as it appears in scripture. Act 2 will use the same plot, but will be placed in a modern-day setting of a school playground. After the performance the Worship and Ministry Committee will lead an intergenerational worship sharing to help us explore the idea of "our neighbor" in our contemporary lives.

Middle School and Children's Program

8:30-10:00	Crafts making to support the Play
10:00-10:30	Join parents for Opening Exercises and the first 15 minutes of MFW
10:30-11:30	Preparation for the Play
11:30-12:30	Intergenerational Program (see above)
12:30-1:00	Lunch with parents

Note: Children and youth may join in at any time during the morning. Childcare is available for the youngest beginning at 8:30.

Directions: Located at 1245 Birmingham Rd., West Chester PA 19382. From Rte. 202 take Rte. 926 west; go south at Birmingham Rd; look for the meetinghouse on the left.

For more info and a map to the meeting go to <http://www.concordquarter.org>

Concord Quarterly Meeting at Wilmington Monthly Meeting - January 31, 2016

Opening Worship - The meeting opened with a period of worship at 8:18 am.

Welcome - The date of this meeting was moved from the previous week due to a serious snow storm. Representatives were present from the following member monthly meetings – Birmingham, Chichester, Concord, Goshen, Middletown, West Chester, Westtown, and Wilmington. Willistown Meeting was not represented.

Approval of Minutes -- Bruce Harrison (Clerk) The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held on October 25, 2015 and taken by John Lavin as Acting Recording Clerk were approved.

Treasurer's Report -- Tom Haviland (Treasurer)

The report was accepted and is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1. The transactions reported are routine, including transfers to the Yearly Meeting and of the surplus from the Coordinator budget to the Tuition Endowment Fund. (As Wilmington MM does not participate in the Quarter Tuition Endowment Fund, its share of the surplus was returned to it.) One Friend recorded that he is uneasy that at the moment we are routinely budgeting for more money for the Coordinator than is needed and then transferring the surplus to the TEF. Another Friend noted that this practice is necessary because the Coordinator costs are unusually low, by historical standards, and we want the MMs to budget appropriately for the normal costs. It is time for member meetings to begin consideration of their contributions to the Quarter and the Yearly Meeting for the next financial year. The meeting acknowledged that the variability in fiscal years within the Quarter and the Yearly Meeting is awkward but seems to be working.

Agreement with Friends Fiduciary Corporation -- Tom Haviland (Treasurer)

Concord Quarterly Meeting approves the new form of Custody and Investment Agreement between Concord Quarterly Meeting and Friends Fiduciary Corporation that such corporation submitted to the Meeting for approval. The Clerk is authorized to execute and deliver such agreement in the name and on behalf of the Meeting. The Meeting hereby designates its Treasurer to be its Fund Representative and its Clerk to be its Second Authorization with respect to all of the Meeting's accounts and sub-accounts held by Friends Fiduciary Corporation. The Fund Representative and the Second Authorization must act jointly to make any withdrawals from, or changes in the allocation of, amounts invested in any of such accounts and subaccounts.

Coordinator's Report - Charles Spadoni (Coordinator)

The report was received with appreciation and is attached to these minutes at Appendix 2.

Planning Committee's Recommendations re Joys & Challenges Reports and Minutes -- Bruce Harrison (Clerk)

In response to the requests made at the last Quarterly Meeting, the Planning Committee considered these two topics and minuted the recommendations attached at Appendix 3. One Friend noted that the substance of action minutes approved in one Quarterly Meeting will be subject only to stylistic changes when the final minutes are approved in the following Quarterly Meeting. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the committee and approved its recommendations.

Refugee Resettlement Report -- Susan Brodesser (Birmingham)

The report is attached at Appendix 4 and was received with appreciation.

Inquiry re Renewable Energy Use by MMs and FCNL priorities responses from MMs -- Bruce Harrison (Clerk)

Member monthly meetings are encouraged to discuss these issues.

Joys and Challenges Reports

The report of Wilmington MM was presented by Brian Fahey and is attached to these minutes as Appendix 5.

The report of Goshen MM was presented by Tom Woodward and is attached to these minutes as Appendix 6.

Both reports were received with appreciation.

Count of those in Attendance - As the meeting ended 22 Friends were present.

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

Appendix 1: TREASURER'S REPORT – FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 Q2 (Oct – Dec) - January 31, 2016

- Second quarter receipt and spending activity was consistent with previous quarters and in line with expectations.
- Total Income from Covenant checks and Program contributions for Q2 were \$56,620 while Total Expenses were \$28,224 (this includes outgoing funds to PYM and TEF).
- Account balances from the first two quarters are in line with the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year Budget.
 - CQM will begin conversation about next year's budget at CQM's upcoming Planning Committee meetings and it would be helpful for each Monthly Meeting to review, discuss, and reach a decision regarding their budgeting for CQ and PYM support for 2016-2017 and to report these intentions back to the CQM Treasurer.
- Q2 Income and Expense report and notes are shown on page 2.
- Q2 Assets report and notes are shown on page 3.
- Friends Fiduciary, with whom we invest our Tuition Endowment Funds with, has recently issued a New Custody and Investment Agreement to all of its constituents for review and signature. An authorizing minute needs to be written and included with our acceptance of this agreement.

The new agreement reflects the growth and changes in FFC operations and the addition of 3 new investment fund options. The following comes from FFC's New Custody and Investment Agreement cover letter where they summarize the New Custody and Investment Agreement as doing 3 things:

1. updates the agreement provisions to what is believed to be current industry standard,
2. incorporates our current investment options and operations and,

- removes a potential source of liability for our constituent investors by deleting the indemnification provision in the current agreement.

Income and Expense Report

Income Notes

- Covenant checks were received from 5 Monthly Meetings significantly increasing the corresponding Covenants subaccount balances.
- The Tuition Endowment Fund (TEF) received funds from the Friends Fiduciary semi-annual dividend distribution.
- The PYM balance (from Q1 and Q2 Covenant checks) will be sent to PYM and reflected in Q3.
- Gifts were made by participants of the Fall Hayride and Christmas Drop and Shop programs

Expense Notes

- 2014-2015 Coord Surplus funds of \$17,440 were sent to Friends Fiduciary (Tuition Endowment Fund). As Wilmington Meeting does not participate in the CQM TEF program, their Coord Surplus of \$1,899.82 was returned to them with the recommendation for the funds to be used for their Meeting's tuition aid outreach program.
- Covenant Expenses for the Coordinator (includes Ailes Graphic Services) and Operating costs were normal.
- Program costs were for Hayride and Drop and Shop programs.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Income and Expenses (run date 1/20/2016) [REDACTED] Assets Report

- \$500 was moved out of Reserve into the Operating Fund to cover Program expenses.
- All Checking Account subaccounts are in good position and as expected.
- \$19,797.38 was contributed in Q2 to TEF (FFC) and the Consolidated Fund (what we are invested in) unit value increased from \$45.10 to finish the year at \$46.21 per unit. This was due in part to the stock market bounce back from a weak 3rd quarter. However, signs of a struggling economy continue to be a concern (slower global growth, weaker corporate profits, rising interest rates, and slowing growth in China).
- The Tuition Operating Fund (TOF) subaccount received the Friends Fiduciary semi-annual dividend distribution. As a reminder, these funds are used in their entirety in the fall for Friends education tuition assistance for CQ families.

Concord Quarterly Meeting Assets (run date 1/20/2016) [REDACTED]

Appendix 2: Coordinator's Report

I have been working collaboratively with Western Quarter's coordinators to establish an on-going program for children so that they have the opportunity to meet and establish friendships with other Quaker children. Such bonding is a key ingredient for engaging children in Quaker youth activities, including those sponsored by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Very few children venture forth alone to participate in such activities.

On December 12, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Sarah Kastriner (Western Quarter's Coordinator), Robin Harper (Western Quarter's Youth Coordinator), Tom Haviland (Westtown MM) and I had the pleasure of engaging with 15 children (aged three to twelve) from Concord and Western Quarters in our first co-sponsored "Parents' Day Off" program. Most of the children helped to create a Christmas scene using play dough while others made "God's Eyes" using Popsicle sticks and yarn. While the children were working with the play dough, Tom challenged them to remember the names of their compatriots and entertained them with real-time photographs of their work. After an indoor cooperative game, most of the children moved outdoors to play "frazzleram," an ultimate Frisbee-type game using a soccer ball. Elson Blunt (Westtown MM) provided instructions on how to play the game and refereed the match: boys (including Tom) against the girls (including Robin). Guess who won? After snacks, some of the crew helped Tom make, bake and decorate Christmas cookies. The others played games. A pizza lunch followed. The children continued to play indoors until pickup time at 1:00 p.m. All left with smiles on their faces. We hope to see all of them and more at the next Quarter-sponsored event for children.

West Chester MM held its open house for families of children attending Quaker schools. It welcomed three families whose children attend West Chester Friends School. Rob Vosburgh, an attender of West Chester Monthly Meeting whose two children attend West Chester Friends School, gave a heartfelt introduction to meeting for worship.

The Quarter is sponsoring a lot of other programs during the first quarter of 2016, including its 5th annual intergenerational square dance at Willistown MM on February 20, 2016 (snow date February 27, 2016), a Concord/Western Quarters-sponsored roller skating event for families on February 28, 2016 (it starts with meeting for worship at Kennett MM at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch at Kennett MM, followed by skating at the Christiana Skating Center in Newark, Delaware), and Tom Woodward's three-part workshop on Quakerism and the Gnostic Gospels that begins at 2:00 p.m. on February 28, 2016 at The Hickman (which will be providing cookies). I hope you join us at one or more of them.

At the request of the Planning Committee, we have in place (in large measure as a result of the efforts of Rich Ailes (Middletown MM, the Quarter's webmaster) a process by which members and attenders can (1) provide recommendations for workshops and Quarterly Meeting programs and (2) collaborate in one or more undertakings. So far I have received several suggestions about workshops that I will pass on to the Planning Committee at its next meeting.

We meet next at Birmingham MM on April 24, 2016. I hope to see you there. In Faith, Charles B. Spadoni, Coordinator

Note: for Appendix 3, 4, & 5 – Planning Committee, Refugee Report and Joys & Challenges Reports go to <http://concordquarter.org/documents/?category=Minutes> and select January 2016 minutes

Concord Quarterly Meeting Newsletter
Volume 13 Issue 2 April 2016

Rich Ailes, Editor
310 Park Avenue
Swarthmore, PA 19081

Clerk: Bruce Harrison
Asst. Clerk: Deb Wood
Recording Clerk: David Leonard
Treasurer: Tom Haviland
Coordinator: Charles Spadoni

Address Service Requested

Concord Quarter Meetings

Birmingham
Chichester
Concord
Goshen
Middletown
West Chester
Westtown
Willistown
Wilmington

Editor: Rich Ailes

Published: January, April, July and October

Phone: 610-543-7321

Submissions Due: March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15

E-mail: concordquarter@pym.org