



Metamorphosis

May 2009

Meeting for Worship Sundays at 10 AM at Explorations Academy, 1701 Ellis Street, Bellingham

Phone 360-734-0664 <http://www.geocities.com/bellinghamfriendsmeeting> Mailing Address P.O. Box 30144 Bellingham, 98228-2144

Co-clerks Janine Bruton & Mimi Freshley

Ministry and Counsel Members: Doris Fern, Mimi Freshley, Janine Bruton, Dorrie Jordan and Howard Harris

Query for May

How do we prepare our hearts and minds for worship? Do we meet in expectant waiting for the promptings of the Divine Spirit? Is there a living silence in which we are drawn together by the power of God in our midst? Is this inspiration carried over into our daily living?

From your new Metamorphosis Editor

Communication makes for good community-building!

I would love to see **book reviews**--just a paragraph or 2 about the last book read by the reading group or spirit group or simplicity group or anything you think Friends would like to read. I'd also like brief **reports on your recent experiences** on Friends retreats, Quarterly, Annual or FGC Meetings, or anything that would share the wider world with our meeting, or to share experiences in our own meeting events with those who might have missed out. I'd like to start a **Joys and Sorrows** section for the announcement of births, illnesses, or any situation you'd like Friends to hold in the Light. I can do a little editing, so if you just want to dash a note to me I can edit or re-write if you wish. Little quotes that are meaningful to you are great ways to fill any blank spaces and share some inspiration. I'd like to get all newsletter information by the Thursday after Meeting for Worship for Business, if possible, so I can e-mail it on Friday. Please send anything you'd like to see in Metamorphosis to me at sharon_trent@comcast.net or mail it to me at 1160 Saint Paul St., Bellingham 98229.

Ministry & Counsel Report

1. The Clearness committee for Iris Graville's membership transfer met with her during Quarterly Meeting, and all feel clear to approve the transfer as soon as we receive word from University Meeting.
2. Several other clearness committee reports were received, with a satisfactory conclusion in one case, and a waiting period in the others.
3. We will go back to using NPYM queries for a time, read them only once, during worship, and publish them in Metamorphosis.
4. We are looking for songsters to lead singing on May 17 and June 21. any volunteers?
5. Torrey has asked for a baby welcoming for Christina Crosetti's baby, now that Christina expects to attend meeting for worship regularly. This can take place May 31, as requested, or any Sunday.
6. Last year's high school graduates, plus Evan Horner who will be graduating this year, are invited to attend the June 7 or July 5 potluck, when they will be given the Meeting's gifts for them.
7. Sara Koopman of Vancouver, BC, daughter of Bobbie DeBoard, a former meeting attender, will be asked to talk to us June 28 about her recent experiences as an accompanier in Colombia.
8. We hope to have a report next time on the Quaker QUEST program.

9. The committee is working on revising our welcome brochure and thanks Friends who have made suggestions and provided examples from other Meetings.
10. M&C will meet next June 8, 7:00 pm at Doris'

Schedule

May 10	Potluck	
May 17	Singing 9:30	
	<i>Tuesday, May 19th</i>	<i>Book Group at Joan Offenness', Anne Dillard's <u>For the Time Being</u></i>
	<i>Saturday, May 23rd</i>	<i>Birding on Lummi Island with John Horner</i>
May 24	No 2 nd Hour (Ski to Sea)	
	<i>Monday, May 25th</i>	<i>Spirit Group at Doris Ferm's on the first half of Jim Pym's <u>Listening to the Light</u></i>
	<i>Saturday, May 30th</i>	<i>Mothers Leading the Way-statewide health care reform rally-see article for details</i>
May 31	Bob Schultz on FCNL Baby welcoming at rise of Meeting for Annelisa Crosetti	
June 7	Potluck (Fathers Day)	
June 14	Meeting for Worship for Business	
	<i>Tuesday, June 16th</i>	<i>Book Group, location tba on Bernieres' <u>Corelli's Mandolin</u>. See Susan Richardson to get a library copy</i>
June 21	Bellingham Friends' share Woodbrook and Pendle Hill experiences	
June 28	Sara Koopman (tentative) – experiences as an accompanier in Colombia	

Care of Meeting Volunteers are needed: contact Ministry & Counsel to volunteer

DRAFT Minutes for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business – May 13, 2009

Clerking: Janine Bruton; Recording Secretary: Betty McMahon; Present: Doris Ferm Mimi Freshley, Dusty Andersen, Don Goldstein, Joanne Cowan; Torrey Moorman, Ron Metcalf, Howard Harris, Annelise Pysanky, Sharon Trent, John Hatten, Adrienne Row, Christina Crosetti, and Larry Thompson

- 5.1 Our business began with silent worship. Janine read a quote from Nelson Mandela, "For peace with one's enemy, one needs to work with one's enemy. Therefore, our enemy (or perhaps someone who challenges us or someone we need to avoid) needs to be our partner." This allows for growth. One needs to *listen*.
- 5.2 Our History: Howard spoke about the relationship between Quakers and Native Americans. In the 1600s, there were 200 treaties. Native Americans never violated any of these treaties. One treaty was *not* broken by the opposite side, and this was the treaty signed by William Penn and a Native American tribe. Quakers did not want to convert the Iroquois; they only wanted to teach them farming, as they were basically a hunting tribe. The association that existed then between Quakers and Native Americans still exists today.
- 5.3 Our Future: A Friend referred to the message presented at PNQM about letting go of clutter and focusing on what really matters. A guest expressed looking forward to getting involved in the life of our meeting. There is a wish for connecting with our Lummi neighbors.
- 5.4 The agenda was adjusted and approved.**
- 5.5 April's Minutes were corrected and corrected as follows:**
The business meeting adjourned at 3:10 rather than 3:45 pm. Jeanine Hart-Horner will be referred to as Jeanine *H*. Janine Bruton will be referred to as Janine *B*.

In the Members' Concern section, Don's concern was omitted and changed to: *Don suggested that BFM stop using a business line to receive phone messages if a regular attender would be willing to have his/her personal phone number listed instead. The person would need to use an answering machine or voice mail, and would need to modify his/her greeting message to indicate that messages could be left for BFM. S/he should also be someone who rarely is away for long*

periods. This change would save us about \$40 per month, which money could go toward funding the children's program honorarium. If the person whose phone we were using agreed, we could still have a white pages listing for BFM but not a yellow pages listing. Don volunteered his own phone but also offered to look for someone else who was better qualified. **Meeting agreed to the change and asked Don to follow up on details.** (Annelise has volunteered to take on this responsibility.) Dusty's concern About Red Rock Prison was omitted and changed to: *BFM became a donor for the Buddhist Sangha at Red Rock Correctional Center in February 2007. The intent at that time was in the spirit of helping the Buddhist Sangha there to be able to accept religious donations on a reliable and consistent basis and to help the men focus on their meditations and become more compassionate and spiritually stronger. Dusty reported that since that time, Red Rock has continued to seize donations, and there are continued frustrations with policy changes. For example, Warden Frank Luna, Chaplain Proy, Chief of Security Trujillo and Warden Stolc approved all of the items sent in the last donation in advance. The chaplain was informed in advance that it was being sent, and it was received at the facility in December 2008. It was immediately seized. The following February, they decided to change their policy on property and procedures for donations. As a result of the February changes, some of the donated items received in December were rejected. In light of these frustrations, Dusty asked BFM if they would like to continue to be a donor. Friends decided they would and also asked for reports at business meeting. They also asked that any letters written on behalf of the Meeting be approved at business meeting. Dusty suggested that Friends at Red Rock establish a policy and procedure on which we can rely. She asked that we request, in writing, the exact procedures, forms, approved vendors and policies that are required for Buddhists, Wiccans, Native Americans and Christians. Dusty agreed to write the letter and send it to all Friends via e-mail or hard copy so it can be ready before the next business meeting.*

5.6 Committee Reports

Peace & Social Concerns

1. Farmers' Market: Our guest, Tom, shared about continuing our representation at the Saturday Farmers' Market. P & SC will bring the following to business meeting:
 - a) Friends can sign up if they wish; there is no obligation to fill the schedule.
 - b) Storage of materials and supplies will remain with Tom or Doris. If Tom (and Lorina) are out of town, and Doris is also, arrangements will be made for materials to be dropped off with a Friend or picked up at Tom's or Doris'.
 - c) The frequency of participation need not be every Saturday. If the sign-up sheet gets filled, fine. If no one signs up for a particular Saturday, it's okay to just skip this day.
 - d) Tom offered to continue to supply the petitions and letters. The topics include war (no war), the environment and health insurance for all. Tom gets his information from FCNL and the Internet.
2. Our concern of the month is Rwanda (see "Friends Journal" April 2009). A hat will be passed at our May potluck on the 10th.
3. Jeanine will compose the letter for our May potluck regarding the right to vote for those who have been recently released from prison. (She may also want to follow up on immigrants being held in detention camps and the rights they should have to not want to immigrate.)
4. Holly reported on WPJC's upcoming workshop (Bob Schultz). WP&JC requests BFM sponsorship of this workshop. **Our meeting approved.** Jeanine H. and Holly will attend, and everyone is welcome. The workshop will occur on Saturday, May 30th, from 4-6 pm at the Whatcom Peace and Justice Center and is entitled, "Tools for Faith-based Advocacy." There will be a second hour the following day on a different topic, led by Bob.
5. We, as yet, have not set the date for our next committee meeting. Jeanine H. will contact committee members.

Children's Committee

War toys are being collected, for the purpose of being relinquished, in conjunction with other faith groups. The children will be making a peace dove with the collection. Please support this effort, and more are welcome to work on the planning committee for this effort.

Adult caregivers are needed as our toddlers are growing older and we have many active boys.

Adrienne expresses thank you for the Meeting's continued support of the Children's Program and the effort being made to show her our recognition. Adrienne also commented on the tremendous support she receives from Jessica Bee.

Background checks will be conducted for Sherri Kneeoosh and Kelly

There are now approximately 20 children who participate in our First Day School.

Treasurer's Report

There is a positive \$430 cash flow. The honorarium fund contains \$875, and combined with pledges for the remainder of the year, there is enough to pay our Children's Program coordinator \$200 beginning with this month of May. **The meeting approved.**

Regarding the phone issue, Don reported that since last Business Meeting, Annelise Pysanky has come forward to offer her home phone number (360-734-0664) as the new number for inquiries and messages for the Meeting. The changeover was made on April 29th, and Qwest will be answering the old number with a message saying that it is out of service but that calls are being taken at the new number. Annelise has modified her voice mail greeting message appropriately, and changes in the phone number have been requested for the Meeting website, Metamorphosis, the Meeting directory, the NPYM Directory, our Friends Journal listing, and on the QuakerFinder.org website. Don asked to be informed of any other places where our phone number might need to be updated. This change will save BFM over \$40 per month. (Thank you to Annelise and Don.)

Finance Report

Finance Committee brings the following Decision Item to M4W4B on May 3, 2009:

We recommend that Bellingham Friends Meeting establish a new officer position, to be called Trustee (unless someone can suggest a name more congenial to Friends which would be equally acceptable to financial institutions), with a term of five years. The duties of the Trustee shall include being a third authorized signer on BFM financial accounts, along with the Treasurer and Clerk of Finance Committee. We expect that the changeover will be gradual, as new accounts or account services are initiated in the future. We also hope to have a name to suggest soon to Nominating Committee for this position.

Finance Committee also brings the following Information Item:

There are currently enough donated funds and pledges in hand to begin the funding of the honorarium for Adrienne Solenberger Row at \$200 per month in May, for the remainder of 2009.

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8. We hope to have a report next time on the Quaker QUEST program.
9. The committee is working on revising our welcome brochure and thanks Friends who have made suggestions and provided examples from other Meetings.

10. The Schedule:

May 10 potluck

May 17 singing 9:30 - no second hour

May 24 Memorial Day weekend, Ski to Sea - no second hour

May 31 Bob Schultz on FCNL; Baby Welcoming

June 7 potluck

June 14 M4W4B

June 17 singing 9:30 - Woodbrook & Pendle Hill

June 28 Sara Koopman (?)

11. M&C will meet next on June 8, 7:00 pm at Doris'.

Friends Earthcare Committee Report

Eco Suggestion of the Month - nesting season for birds - keep cats inside, leave snags for cavity nesters, put out hair, animal fur, string for nest material, don't put out dryer lint due to residues present, building a brush pile for shelter, time pruning prior to or after nesting season - before May and after late July.

Speak Truth To Power: Recently, Interior Secretary Salazar and Commerce Secretary Gary Locke promised to re-instate the consultation protections that have protected endangered plants and animals for decades. Still, there's work to be done. Secretary Salazar needs also to reverse the Bush rule that exempts activities causing global warming from ever being considered a violation of the ESA. The rule has tremendous implications not just for polar bears, but also for much other wildlife, from mountain caribou to Canada lynx to salmon.

Please thank Secretary Salazar and Secretary Locke for restoring consultation to the ESA. Ask Secretary Salazar to further strengthen protections for endangered wildlife and reverse the Bush polar bear rule.

You can find more information regarding this at the Conservation Northwest website at conservationnw.org

Contact Secretary Salazar directly at 202-208-3100 or exsec@ios.doi.gov.

Birding trip to Lummi Island led by John Horner will be held on May 23rd Saturday. We plan to carpool then take the ferry to the island and John will take us to 2 different birding areas. This will be a morning activity because the birds are more active then. We will have more specific information about times later this month.

5.7 Member Concerns

Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting

Don reported that the turnout for the recent Quarterly Meeting session, with adult program planned and organized by Bellingham and Lopez Island Friends, was very high (183) despite an increase in suggested fees, and this was quite gratifying to the planners. The program appeared to have gone smoothly and attendees were generally happy with it.

Don also informed us that Adrienne Solenberger was approved during the session to become the next Children's Program Coordinator for Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting, beginning her service in that role this summer. In the meanwhile she is Assistant Children's Program Coordinator, serving under Peg Bernstein as Peg finishes her term.

Friends Committee on National Legislation

1. Urge President Obama to investigate torture, by urging our senators and congressman to vote for an impartial commission to investigate those who broke United States and International Law by authorizing the illegal, immoral, and unconstitutional.
2. Ask congresspersons to STOP funding the Afghan war.
3. Sign the petition against nuclear weapons.
4. Ask for federal support for programs to promote peace and stability in Kenya.

5. Consider placing an FCNL "War in NOT the Answer" sign in front of your house or meeting.

Red Rock Prison Project

Dusty Andersen read her letter and is working on a freedom of information request.

5.8 Clerk's Concerns

Janine expressed appreciation to all those who contributed to the agenda for today's business meeting.

5.9 Proccess Suggestions

Today's meeting was a wonderful combination of efficiency and comfort.

Meeting for worship with attention to business adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Cash Flow, 4/1/2009 through 4/30/2009

Category	Amount
INFLOWS	
Contributions to Meeting: Operating Fund	1218.00
Contributions to Meeting: Honorarium Fund	625.00
Contributions to Meeting House Fund	55.00
Contributions to FCWPP	135.00
Contributions for Los Ninos Fund (April Cause)	137.50

TOTAL INFLOWS	2,115.50
OUTFLOWS	
Administration - Total	-1,135.00
Rent: Explorations Academy	-475.00
NPYM Assessment-2nd half for fiscal 2009	-660.00
Children's Program Committee - Total	-178.86
Childcare	-78.86
Honorarium for April	-100.00
Communications Committee - Total	-96.75
Newsletter printing	-11.98
Friends Journal listing (full year)	-40.00
Other Communications Committee (phone)	-44.77
Donations Out - Total	-272.50
FCWPP	-135.00
Los Ninos Fund	-137.50

TOTAL OUTFLOWS	-1,683.11
=====	
OVERALL TOTAL	432.39

HONORARIUM FUND

Prior Balance	150.00
Contributions in April	625.00
Transfers from MHF in April*	200.00

TOTAL	975.00
Honorarium paid in April	-100.00

BALANCE	875.00

Childrens Corner

For the months of May and June the Children's Program will be discussing Quakerism and Quaker testimonies. The focus for May will be on nonviolent communication and peaceful play. June will lead into

topic discussions on experiencing the Light, self awareness, and introducing contemporary Quakers. contemporary Quakers. Please see Adrienne to sign up as a teacher or preschool volunteer.



Speak Truth to Power

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Birding Trip to Lummi Island



On Saturday, May 23rd, John Horner will lead us to 2 different birding areas. The ferry leaves at 8:10 and we'll return at 11 AM (10 if the weather is terrible.) The following people have agreed to drive: Doris Ferm (756-0621), Judy Hopkinson (713 816 3009), John Horner (, Dorrie Jordan (354-3736) and Mimi Freshley (933-4566) to schedule a meeting place and time or meet at the ferry. Friends who have gone bird-watching with John have been delighted with his knowledge and presentation.

Mothers Leading the Way Statewide Health Care Reform Rally.

May 30th you have an opportunity to make a strong statement for a national, non-profit single payer healthcare at a rally in Seattle at which upwards of 2500 persons are expected to attend!

If you would like to ride the United for National Healthcare bus from Bellingham to Seattle please sign up right away by contacting Aileen from the local United for National Healthcare group at aileensatushek@prodigy.net or 398-2295. The bus will leave at approximately 9:30 pm for the 12:30 rally from Bellingham to Pratt Park (18th Ave. S. and Main St. near Yesler.) After the rally, we will be marching from there to Westlake Mall. There will be buses for those who cannot march the full distance.

40 statewide community organizations have endorsed the March. Snacks and beverages will be provided for the trip down and beverages for the trip back. For more information visit www.may30march.org

Joys and Sorrows

Only joys were reported this month. Annelisa Rose Tanwyn Crosetti was born on April 19th. She is the daughter of Christina, sister of Nadia and Demetrius. Sharon Trent retired on April 15th. War Toys into Art project is going well and will have space at the Farmers' Market the last Saturday of each month.

Quarterly Meeting – Clearing the Clutter, Making Space for What Matters – Compilation of Friends' Experiences

It was fantastic to have so many Bellinghamsters, there, including most of our families including the very new Annelise and Junior Friend Liam. Adults had fun working with children, and they are eager to go to the next Quarterly. Our resource person Cary Koenline gave a great, animated presentation about clutter without even a hint of judgment. She stayed the entire weekend, and participated with singing and presentations with Tom Rawson - who was again a wonderful host for family night. I seem to know almost everyone after all these years, so I felt very much at home, appreciated and acknowledged. It was unseasonably cold and campers were challenged. Everyone enjoyed it, and the sense of connection deepened throughout the weekend. Our library will soon have CD of the opening presentation. I enjoyed worship-singing and the talent night. You should have seen Teagan dance!



I mind the Light, but I was Born to Boogie!

God does not die on the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when our lives cease to be illuminated by the steady radiance, renewed daily, of a wonder, the source of which is beyond all reason.

-Dag Hammarskjöld



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