

# The Iowa Friend

Iowa Yearly Meeting: Spreading Like Prairie Grass to Make the Love  
of Jesus Christ Known in the Heartland and Beyond

October 2006

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 61 - No. 10



*October is.....*  
***Clergy Appreciation Month***

## **Boards-of-Work Retreat October 20 - 21**

**@Camp Quaker Heights**

**hosted by: Church Extension**

**RSVP to:** Steve Santee (517 W. 7th St., Madrid, IA, 50156) by October 14. This is retreat is for all those who serve on the various IAYM boards of work. Our schedule for this event is:

**October 20:**

Dinner 6:30 pm  
Worship 8:00 pm

**October 21:**

Breakfast 7:45  
Devotions 8:30  
Board Meetings 9:00  
Lunch @noon with BOC to follow

**Cost:**

free for those staying in cabins or camping;  
\*\$25.00 per room @Tall Oaks Lodge, up to 4 people per room (9 rooms available; reserve a Tall Oaks Lodge room by sending a deposit of \$10.00 to Camp Quaker Heights, 22605 V. Ave, Eldora, IA, 0627. Balance due upon arrival; deposit returned w/ cancellation dating Oct. 1 or sooner)

**Bring:** Bedding, towels (supplied in Tall Oaks), toiletries, snacks (supplied by participants), and an expectant spirit (generously supplied by the Holy Spirit to all who desire) Any additional questions regarding the retreat? Contact Linda Garrison at 641-751-4088



## **Caring for the Forgotten Child Campaign Update**

### **Campaign Goal Reached!**

Thanks to the generosity of each and every donor to the *Caring For The Forgotten Child* campaign, the \$4.25 million goal has been reached!

Recent major gifts from Jim Smouse of Marshalltown and Dick and Anne Booth of Hot Springs, Arkansas took us to the goal and beyond. "We are so excited about the success of the campaign, the largest in Quakerdale's history", remarks Michelle Herman, Executive Director. "It was a lofty goal, on that was established on the faith that others would understand the need and join in the effort."

Thank you for caring about young people who are falling through the cracks of Iowa's child welfare system and whose parent or guardian understands the importance of stability and education, but is not able to offer one or both due to life circumstances.

"We are so grateful for each donor and volunteer! This home is a reality because of you. On behalf of the Rena Van Orman Promise Home staff, the young people and their families, thank you all for sharing your gifts and your time!" says Director of Development, Donna Lawler.

This article was taken from Quakerdale's campaign newsletter, May 2006 edition.

# FRIENDLY FLASHES

I hope that a good many of you were at our Fall Retreat and heard Gladys KAng'ahi speak. Our theme was "HE RESTORES MY SOUL". We all know that life can sometimes become a bit much and we need that walk beside the still waters.

Friends were smart enough to realize the healing power of silence, because it brings us to the presence of Christ. In a world that is hurtling along at such a fast pace that whatever we buy is obsolete by the time we arrive home with it, is it any wonder that stress related diseases are on the increase?

A few weeks ago a much loved family member died after a long and fruitful life. She was ready to go home to her Savior and leave behind the pain that had become her constant companion. Yet being in her presence was so comforting because of the peace that dwelt within her soul. I pray many of you are blessed by friends like this. People you can go to and find the calming peace of the Lord.

If you have not yet read *PASSING ON THE COMFORT* from the reading list, I urge you to do so. This book deals with a different kind of calming. The calming that comes from the gift of a stranger. In this case comforts made in the U.S. and sent to Europe for the refugees. An Keunung-Techelaar was a young wife who opened her home and her heart to these people and still held sacred the remaining few comforts that had survived. This story will open our eyes to the battles that are fought not with bullets but within human beings during a time of war when calm and God's presence can seem far away.

War, stress (which is war waged within our bodies) requires a faith that is childlike. A faith that just accepts and still believes in God's promises. That he is with us always and all things work together for our good. Especially in these times we need to react as Abram and march off in the direction God has pointed out to us.

I would like to ask you to mark your 2007 calendars for Saturday April 14th Spring Fling. The theme is *A CHILD LIKE FAITH*. Come and learn and laugh with us as we restore ourselves after the cold days of winter. Mark down also July 19 - 22, 2007 for Triennial in Indianapolis. The theme is *WOVEN INTO A TAPESTRY OF LOVE* from Colossians 2:2 the Message translation. I will be there leading early morning worship. This will be my first triennial and I am quite excited about going.

We each have within us the love of Christ and our experiences may be the message that someone we meet needs to hear in order to be restored. We, as a society, are about restoring souls and being restored in the process. Please join us at one of our meetings either locally, state or nationally. The King James translation of Col. 2:2 reads "That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love." We are one in the Lord.

Blessing,  
Linda B.



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## New Pension Law Allows Tax-Free IRA Distributions

*By Jeffrey Swartzentruber of  
Mennonite Foundation (MMA)*

I had intended to write an article about Charitable Trusts for this edition of *The Iowa Friend*. However, a new law was signed by President Bush in late August that impacts persons with IRA's who are 70½ years of age or older. The following may impact you if you are that age or may impact someone you care about.

Individuals now have the opportunity to give directly to charities from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's) – without the hassle of paying income tax first – thanks to the new legislation.

The ability to make direct contributions to charities from an IRA is available for 2006 and 2007 tax years and applies to outright lifetime transfers only. In addition, IRA owners must be age 70½ or older to take advantage of the new law, and tax-free donations are capped at \$100,000 per year per donor.

Benefits for certain donors. Some of the benefits include:

- Individuals who don't or can't itemize their taxes in order to claim charitable gift deductions.
- Donors who have reached their charitable deduction limit.
- Donors living in states that don't allow charitable deductions.
- Most important – Individuals may satisfy their required minimum distributions by gifting directly from the IRA to charity.

Don't focus on the \$100,000 maximum. Rather, focus on your individual situation. Are you using all of your required minimum distribution? If not, you may want to consider using that portion for your charitable gifts for 2006 and 2007. Or, if you have already gifted for 2006, just shift your thinking to 2007 and 2008 (but the gifts are done in 2006 and 2007). Maybe you are thinking about a charitable gift that is slightly larger in these two years.

Currently this only applies to calendar years 2006 and 2007. We think Congress is "testing the waters" to see how many persons may do these transfers with their IRA's.

Mennonite Foundation can help. If you are interested in learning more about this new legislation, or would like to make a charitable donation from your IRA, I can help you to incorporate this into your charitable giving plan. Remember, this will be an outright gift to your church or other chosen charitable organization in a direct way.

Jeff Swartzentruber, CPA, PFS, serves Iowa and Illinois individuals, families, churches, companies, and institutions in the areas of gift planning, financial and estate planning, and asset management as a Mennonite Foundation representative and a vice-president of MMA Trust Company.

He can be reached at his office at: 605 B Avenue, PO Box 700 Kalona, Iowa 52247-0700, by phone (877) 656-4242 Ext. 11, and by e-mail at [Jeff.Swartzentruber@MMAPartners.org](mailto:Jeff.Swartzentruber@MMAPartners.org).

# MEETING MOMENTS & VITAL SIGNS

**Lynnville Friends** is beginning a new women's Bible study on Wednesday evening. It is a light-hearted look at the life of Joshua based on the Marilyn Meberg book "Overcoming Difficulties". Also, a home group will begin at Wilma Kaldenberg's home on Tuesday's with a program called "Alpha". Its purpose is to learn why we believe what we believe. Please continue to pray for Lynnville as they continue their search for a pastor.

**College Avenue Friends's** USFW group is starting out their fall with a USFWI's Quakerdale Quilt-Tying Group. Their first meeting is October 10th. The finished quilts are given to Quakerdale Homes for troubled children and youth. The quilts are their's to keep, to use as a bedspread, wrap themselves in, and generally to remind them that someone loves them enough to give them this gift. The church has also hired on a new secretary. Her name is Mary Fowler.

**Honey Creek - New Providence Friends** announces their new web site. It's hcnp.org. It has a history of their church along with photo albums from their family camp and Worship in the Roundhouse. Congratulations goes to the following who participated in The Iowa Games: Kendra DuChane, Spencer Nelson, Joey Longobardi, and Lowell Broer. The mission's group reports that MAF in Venezuela (where Dan Whitehead had previously been stationed) is in the process of selling everything to the Venezuelan government in order to close ("temporarily") the MAF program in Venezuela.

**Motor Friends** have listed the following activities for their October calendar. Silly Lunch on October 8th - this is lunch will be served in a very silly way! Roadside Pickup and Lunch on October 22nd - the church will be taking care of picking up trash along their area of Highway 92 during the Sunday School hour. Lunch will be supplied by the Ministry and Counsel following the event. Also, 2 different fund-raisers are starting for the building fund. They are selling pie certificates that can be redeemed at Village Inn and they are also selling bricks to pave the way for the new addition to the church.

## Weddings:

### From Fairfield Friends

Late May - Brad Hesseltine & Jenny Meyers. Brad's parents are Jon & Nancy Hesseltine, and Jenny's parents are Jeff & Carol Meyers.

June 17th - David Kane & Katie Miller. David's parents are Shelly & David Clark and Dan & Lynn Kane.

June 17th - Brandon & Phoebe Hoskins. Phoebe's parents are Tom & Katie Hoskins.

June 24 - Mark Thornton & Amber Bloomquist. Amber's parents are Allen & Darla Melcher.

July 8 - Jesse Elmore & Deann Gillett. Jesse's parents are Pastor Dave & Lori Elmore.

All the newlyweds have attended Fairfield Friends Church, but not all the weddings were at the church. The church family was quite pleased to have so many of "their" young people joined together under the watchful eye of the Lord!

**Grace Community Friends** reports that they will be hosting their first all-church retreat on October 27-28. The theme is "Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a new heart, Oh God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me". Also, they are started a new men's group at the end of August. They meet weekly on Sunday's at Hardee's. The USFW ladies are hosting a soup supper the last week of October.

**Salem Friends** welcomed their new pastor, Nathan Martin and his wife Brianna. Nathan and Brianna are recent graduates of Gordon-Cornwell Seminary located in Boston, MA.

## Deaths

**Wayne Weitzell**, of LeGrand Friends Church, died Monday, September 11, 2006 while en route to Marshalltown from a Des Moines hospital. He was a life-time resident of LeGrand, having been born, raised, educated, and ultimately establishing his own home in the town. He was an active member not only in the church, but also in the community (Fire Department, Masonic Lodge, City Council, Mayor, Senior Citizens, and local coffee club). Services were held at the church with burial in Rose Hill Memorial Gardens in Marshalltown. He is survived by his wife Jackie, four children, nine grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

**Ruth Bailey, 103**, of Marshalltown died on April 3, 2006.

Ruth was an active member of the Marshalltown First Friends Church where she was a long-time organist, active in the Mary Anna Circle/USFW. In 1992, she was awarded the Partners in Aging Advocacy Achievement Award by the Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging for her work visiting and entertaining in nursing homes. She is survived by a son, five grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 21 great-great-grandchildren.

**Wendell M. Willard, 84**, of Marshalltown died June 5, 2006. He was an active member of Marshalltown First Friends Church. He had a career in law enforcement. He attended the FBI National Academy and worked as Chief of Detectives of the Marshalltown Police Department. He is also remembered for playing the banjo.

**Mary Sparks**, died on August 3rd at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines. She is survived by her children, Patricia and Paul McKinley, Bill and Olga Sparks. Funeral services were held at Bangor Liberty Friends on August 7th. Mary served on numerous committees and helped in many ways at BLFC. The church will miss her quiet gentleness and caring attitude as a member of the church and Liberty USFW for many years, a wonderful example of a Godly woman.

**Brandon Ray**, 46, died unexpectedly while on vacation in Mountain View, Utah on June 21st. His wife Eleanor was with him, as they journeyed together by train through the Rocky Mountains. His memorial service was held at West Branch Friends on June 29th. Brandon was born in Iowa City, attended high school in Washington, and college at the U of I. For over twenty years, Brandon had been employed at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Iowa City, most recently as Night Administrator. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor and their son David.



# Friends Disaster Service's Work in Stratford, IA



James and Michael Daniel working on installing drywall in a garage of a home that was completely destroyed by the tornado.



Sam Ritchie, Dan Ritchie, Vi Gray, Wayne Tuttle and John Lane testing the stress level of a deck completed on our last day at Stratford.



Arlen Daleske, Mary Humrichouse, Nancy Ritchie applying drywall mud to a basement of a home that was rebuilt after the tornado.



Mary Humrichouse and Nancy Ritchie preparing Bibles showing the 'steps to salvation'. Eight Bibles were given to families in Stratford.

We would like to say a hearty **THANK YOU** to each and every one that helped with work at Stratford the weeks of August 14th and 21st, 2006. We had 18 people volunteer to help us with the work. As you will probably recall, Stratford was hit by a tornado November 13th, 2005. Twenty homes were completely destroyed and another 15 were heavily damaged by the tornado. We heard lots of stories about how the town was cleaned up within a week to the point you could hardly tell a tornado had devastated the town. After the clean-up was completed, many faith-based groups came to Stratford to help with the rebuilding which is nearing completion. We wanted to share some pictures with you that we took as people worked in Stratford. A special thanks to Honey Creek-New Providence and Bangor Liberty Churches, and all others, for providing cookies and other food for us.

**Thanks again and God Bless you all!**  
**Nancy and Dan Ritchie**

Sam Ritchie, Neil Martin and Wayne Tuttle putting the final touches on a dugout at the Stratford School.



Betty Aterburn and Margaret Good painting on a house in Stratford.



Ann Nichols, Neil Martin, Wayne Tuttle, Sam Ritchie and Vi Gray working on a deck that was completed later that day.

# YOUNG FRIENDS IMPACT 2006

**High School growth-oriented  
Youth retreat  
MINISTRY PREP 101  
November 11-12, 2006  
Fairfield Friends Church**

**Cost: \$50 with preregistration  
(postmarked Nov. 1)  
\$55 at the door**

**Lodging: participants will be staying in the  
parsonage of Fairfield Friends church**

**Bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries,  
long-sleeve t-shirt and gloves for  
broom ball. Bible, athletic shoes**

**Contact: Anthony Nieuwsma @  
newsma213@hotmail.com or  
(641)236-6412**

Up Next....

## FEAST

**Middle River Friends Church**

**Tuesday, November 7 6:30 pm**

**RSVP to Jadon Ross (roscol\_24@hotmail.com) or  
Middle River (515)989-3319 by November 3**

## College Scholarships for Iowa Yearly Meeting students

### Mission Board Scholarship

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2007-2008 academic school year. People within Iowa Yearly Meeting seeking intentional study in missions at a Christian college or seminary and wanting to pursue education to prepare for full time mission's work with a Friend's organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2007-2008 scholarship, please contact Diane Martin, IAYM Mission's Presider, 3227 Pheasant Avenue, Rockwell, IA 50469 or call 641-822-3694.

### Trustee Scholarship Applications

The trustees of Iowa Yearly Meeting are now taking applications for their \$500 college scholarship. Any Christian student who is planning to attend a recognized college may submit an application. Applications can be obtained by contacting the Yearly Meeting office at (641) 673-9717 or email iaym@mahaska.org.

Application deadline is January 1, 2007.



## Work Day Camp Quaker Heights

### October 14 at 9 am

At work day we will concentrate on fall cleanup; bring your rakes (marked with your name), gloves, desire to wash windows, scrub down walls, clean gutters, rake leaves, pick up sticks and walnuts, de-bug light fixtures and window sills as well as a cheerful attitude. There should be jobs for all ages.

*We'll start at 9 am*

*lunch served at noon*



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h. Total (Sum of 19g and 19h)	i. Total (Sum of 20g and 20h)
540	540

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## *From our General Superintendent...*

### *Ron Bryan*

Joyce and I traveled to the annual Quaker Superintendents and Secretaries meeting held at Camp Quaker Ridge outside of Colorado Springs, Colorado. There were a total of 18 present which included members from Mid-America to New England Yearly Meeting and several organizations in between. We met to retreat and to gather around to discuss and reflect on the topics of a call on our lives, and what does that mean to each of us. The topic of authority in Friends work and organization filled a good portion of our time. The actual theme for our gathering was "Being Faithful to Our Calling With Love and Authority".

As I have found at each of the previous gatherings, this was a bountiful time of deepening relationships with friends and going deeper with Christ. It is helpful to hear and exchange information from other members of our denomination, to physically witness the heartfelt desire to serve God with faithfulness from other parts of our nation, and to discover the similar ways God is speaking to us though we are separated by many miles and even theological views.

God is good, all the time and all the time, God is good. We sang and prayed in the shadow of Pike's Peak and enjoyed the incredible beauty and inspiration of His creation. The times of reflection and dialogue are to be valued throughout life, and I believe this with all my heart.

I will close with what I was clearly sent to share and it was well received those in attendance. During our last worship time together, I felt led of God to say this:

**"I fear that we as Friends have left our first love. We have followed the world as defined by intellectuals rather than faith!"**

**What motivated our early leaders?** Finding the Kingdom of God!

**How did they testify and witness?** By telling others about encountering Christ and what Christ had done in their lives. By witnessing to the reality of that love!

**Why were they persecuted?** Because they spoke of knowing God intimately and invited everyone, even the religious leaders to obey the truth of the Gospel as revealed by Jesus Christ! They did not assume that everyone was already in the Kingdom, they witnessed to all!

They were unafraid of what man could do to them. Obeying Jesus commandments was their motivation! To have peace is to know the author of peace. We cannot make peace, it must come from within. It is the fruit of God's Kingdom!



pictures of Pike's Pike and Camp Quaker Ridge Lodge

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