

PALM BEACH MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

HISTORY

Part 1: 1955-1975
Jean Pusey Irwin

Part 2: 1976-2000
Ellie Caldwell



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Typesetting and Cover artwork: John Palozzi
Editing: Ann Kelley

Published by
Palm Beach Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

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Dedication

To the founders of Palm Beach Meeting:

“They built it so it would be here for us.”

(Plaque in the library of Palm Beach Meetinghouse)

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INTRODUCTION

The first 20-year history of Palm Beach Meeting (1955-1975) was written by our last founding member, Jean Irwin, in the 1990's primarily from her memory with a few of additions from the Business Meeting minute books. Jean did a wonderful job capturing the sense of that time as the Meeting began to form and the property was beginning to take shape.

A transplant from the Northeast, I arrived at Meeting at the end of that time around 1978 after an invitation from member Ruth Dickinson, who worked in my husband's office. For the first few months, I was careful not to attend more than two weeks in a row to avoid being put on a committee. By 1979, however, I was pregnant with my first child, the Meeting gave me a baby shower/potluck picnic at Phipps Ocean Park in Palm Beach, and I had become part of the Meeting.

We published Jean's account in 2001 and she died in 2013 at age 93. By then I had begun to think about the second 25-year history but knew my memory could not be our only resource. So I started going through minute books, jotting down interesting details, and adding an occasional memory. This was a long process with the distraction of children and work; months would go by while it gathered dust.

Finally the notes were completed, then typed up, and cleaned up to some extent. Still it sat in a folder in my workroom. Once in a while, I'd try to get someone to take over the project but no one was willing. Then 2020 arrived, a year that will live in infamy: a world-wide pandemic with all of us forced to stay home to keep ourselves and each other safe. A perfect time to resurrect a long-neglected writing project!

The period from 1976-2000 was marked by much involvement in the community. Xavier Cedano (later known as Javier del sol) was involved with Latin American Immigration and Refugee Organization (LAIRO) for a number of years and set up various clubs for neighborhood children: Kids on the Go, Earthkeepers, plus tutoring and arts programs. We also contributed to language programs, the YWCA domestic assault program, and environmental work.

Of particular note during that time was the attention we gave to handicapped accessibility, prevention of vandalism of the back fence, and guidelines for outside groups using the Meetinghouse.

Floridians tend to be transient and seem to move frequently. Because of this, we have had many dear people who worshipped with us for a while, contributed their gifts, enriched our lives, and then moved on.

This was also the time of post-Vietnam, conflict in Latin America, growing tension in the Middle East, and issues around imprisonment, immigration, and housing. Many individuals in the Meeting were involved in these activities, living out their commitment to the Quaker Testimonies of Peace and Equality.

As I write this, our Meetinghouse has been closed for ten months: no Meetings for Worship, Meetings for Business, groups meetings, potluck lunches, committee meetings, or the warm fellowship we've experienced over the years. We hold Meeting for Worship on Sundays by Zoom and have managed to hold two Zoom Business Meetings. We stay in touch by email, telephone, Zoom, and texting, utilizing all the technology that Quakers in

1976 could hardly have imagined. We are in a time of forced separation and quiet, with small numbers, and sometimes dimmed hope.

The history that Jean Irwin prepared is a guiding light in this time. Even when everything was new, uncertain, and untried, people had hope that it was important to build something for those who would come after. We can feel today that we are coming to a kind of new beginning. Who knows where Palm Beach Meeting or our world will be in another 25 years?

Climate change, immigration, poverty, and health crises will all determine how we survive as a Meeting, town, state and planet as we go forward. We have learned, during quarantine, how to stay in touch, and we have looked to the past to guide our care of our community. As we come out of this time, we hope others will be led to look inward and search for those who know about silence and its healing quality for ourselves and our planet.

Ellie Caldwell
Recording Clerk
March 2021

HISTORY PART 1

1952-1977

by Jean Irwin

And so, I find it well to come
For deeper rest to this still room,
For here the habit of the soul
Feels less the outer world's control:
The strength of mutual purpose plead
More earnestly our common needs:
And from the silence multiplied
By these still forms on either side,
The world that time and sense have known
Falls off and leaves us God alone.

--John Greenleaf Whittier

Palm Beach Friends Meeting first gathered in Lake Worth in 1952 and was one of the first Monthly Meetings established in Florida. In the beginning, many of our members were snowbirds, returning to Michigan, New York, or Ohio after the winter. However, by 1975, membership had changed to include more year-round residents. This has meant increased involvement in the community and year-to-year consistency with programs and leadership. Over the years, Palm Beach Friends have responded to the many changes that have occurred in this "winter paradise," from civil rights to immigration. Throughout this time, Palm Beach County has been a place of continuous development. In the midst of this growth, Palm Beach Friends Meeting has established itself as a significant religious community, rooted in unprogrammed worship, led by Quaker testimonies, and committed to societal improvement.

The following are some interesting items from the early minutes and historical recollections from Jean Irwin, whose family was one of the first to gather a society of Friends together in this "alien land." Originally from New Garden Meeting in Pennsylvania, she and her husband Richard moved to Palm Beach County in 1951 and soon after began to reach out to others to establish a Meeting.

The first official Monthly Meeting for Business was held at the Drew home, 827 N A St., Lake Worth, in February, 1955. The following month, an annual budget of \$200 was approved and in April, the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice was chosen as the discipline for Palm Beach Meeting. In July, the Meeting for Worship was moved from the West Palm Beach YMCA to Sam Ackerman's house at 812 S Lakeside Dr., Lake Worth. The reading and answering of a Query each month was an important part of each business session. Mention is made of the Florida Friends Conference held each winter at Orlando or St. Petersburg Meetinghouses. (They were the only other Monthly Meetings in the state at the time.) In the fall of 1955, there was the first mention of Quaker eating: "A basket lunch will be held next First Day." AFSC and the migrant project held their work sessions in homes.

The ladies of the Meeting were sewing each week from November to April on layettes for the children of the local migrant workers and AFSC Material Aids program.

At the beginning, Meeting for Worship was one half hour with quite regular adult discussions before or after. By the fall of 1956, the Irwin family with their two children had returned from two years in Washington, D.C. and we had a Children's First Day school class of five. This included the Craig's two children and Paul Cobb's step-son. As the number of attenders grew, Meetings in private homes became less desirable.

The January 1957 Monthly Meeting records that Richard and Jean Irwin gave \$500 to start a Meetinghouse Fund. (This was a memorial to Jean's mother who was visiting when the newspaper article of the first gathering in 1952 was discovered. She died the following year.) Within three months, there was \$3,000 in the Fund. Edward and Gertrude Drew offered the lot at 823 N A Street, adjacent to their winter home, for \$5,000.



In one business meeting, a discussion was held on whether “Negroes” would be permitted to attend our Meeting. This was a residential area and it was reported that Lake Worth had regulations prohibiting integrated housing. The issue was unresolved because at the time there was no need to reach consensus. But people were aware there could be future problems.

In May 1957, we had a state charter of incorporation and a zoning exemption, and in August the \$5,000 goal was reached to purchase the property from the Drews. Construction plans began. Members particularly asked that the architect’s drawings include large double doors in the front, a prominent feature of Philadelphia Meetinghouses.

PALM BEACH MONTHLY MEETING
SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

10th month 12th, 1957

Dear Friends,

Palm Beach Monthly Meeting wishes to share with you the enthusiasm we all feel for the growth, both in numbers and in service, made by our Meeting in the past months. With the help of many Friends in the Palm Beach area and of those visiting us, we have become a live Meeting.

Our Friendly experiences, spiritual and secular, have been in every way encouraging and satisfying. At the meeting for business, Twelfth month 1956, the Meeting took its first step in the formation of a First-day School. The sewing group met regularly through the winter and spring months, collecting and repairing 20 boxes of clothing and making 278 layette garments for the A.F.S.C., the migrant workers of Florida, and the Visiting Nurse Association.

The growth of activities, successful meetings with Friends on visitation, and a vital increase in membership, all point out the definite need for space and a permanent meeting house. Accordingly, in Second month 1957, a committee was formed and a few months later funds were raised in the Meeting and a suitable site was purchased on North A Street, Lake Worth.

An architect has given his service and drawn a plan which seems to fill our requirements splendidly. We have been advised that a basic building can be constructed for \$20,000.

Do not these efforts and plans speak well for the health and growth of the Palm Beach Meeting? They have been made possible by resident Friends, attenders and visitors alike. Our sincere thanks to you all.

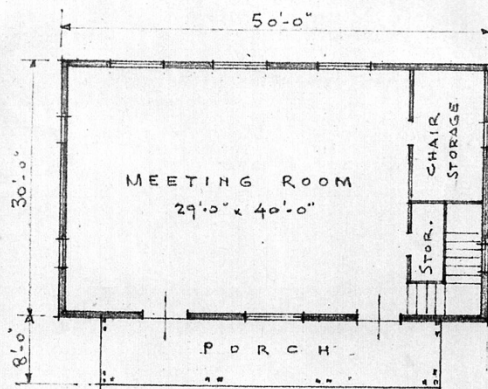
The future of this Meeting is in your hands. Many Friends will wish to have a continuing part in the firm establishment of this young Meeting, and with God's help in making it a contributing factor in the future progress of Quakerism throughout Florida.

In order that all concerned Friends may be able to share in the growth of this Meeting, we present the enclosed pledge plan. We hope your response will be such that soon we will be meeting with you in our own meeting house.

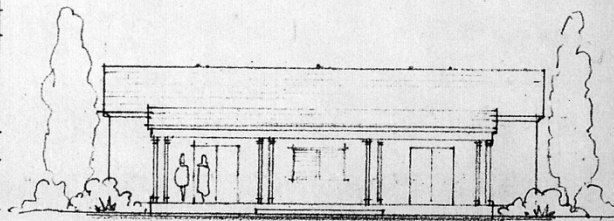
Sincerely,

Richard M. Irwin, M.D.
Chairman- Meeting House Committee

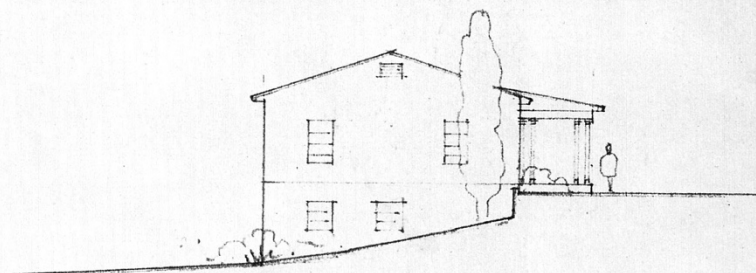




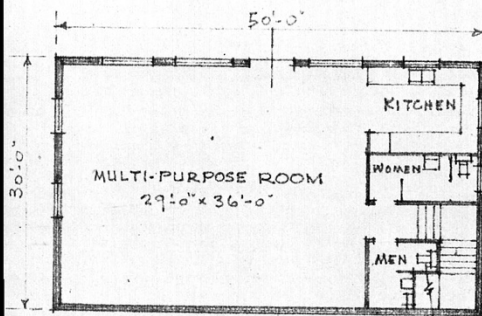
UPPER FLOOR PLAN



FRONT



SIDE



LOWER FLOOR PLAN

PROPOSED MEETING HOUSE
FOR
PALM BEACH MONTHLY
MEETING OF FRIENDS
AT
LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA

Wiliard J. Smith
ARCHITECT

OCT 1, 1957

In these early years, there was mention of visitation from such outstanding Quakers as J. Barnard Walton from Friends General Conference who, with his brother Jesse, visited the southeast coast and Florida Friends each winter from January to April. Barnard died in early 1963; the Saturday evening lecture at Southeastern Yearly Meeting's annual gathering is named for him. During the 1950's and very early 1960's, he did the most to bring Florida Friends together. He had a remarkable memory for Quaker families and their ancestry.

Other prominent Friends who visited with the Meeting included Raymond Wilson, FCNL, Clarence and Lilly Pickett, AFSC, Howard and Anna Brinton, authors and director of Pendle Hill, Rachael DuBois, and Henry Cadbury.

Ruth Fraser, activist, religious educator, and former YMCA worker in China, joined us in January 1958. She was particularly noted for her spoken ministry, Biblical scholarship, First Day School work, and social concern. We were increasing our involvement in migrant work since Jean Irwin was on the state board of the Florida Christian Migrant Ministry. Edmund Goerke from New York Yearly Meeting spent several winters here and set up a visitation in the West Palm Beach jail.

By 1958, we had at least 25 members and the following committees: Ministry and Overseers, Meetinghouse, First Day School, Social Service, and Hospitality. That winter is the first record of Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and Palm Beach Friends gathering for Sunday worship and a picnic at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park. This was held for many years while Barnard Walton was visiting in this area.

There are many important omissions in the Minutes with no statement regarding the Meetinghouse ground breaking that was held, probably in February 1958, while Clarence Pickett was visiting. We had newspaper publicity with pictures and still have the gold shovel used to turn the sand! (Pickett received a Nobel Peace Prize in 1947 for his work with the American Friends Service Committee.)





In 1958, the Tuesday Sewing Group reported producing 291 layette items, several crib quilts, 36 girl's dresses, and bed jackets made from men's white shirts for the Visiting Nurses Association. The layette items were donated to the County Health Department and AFSC.



Sewing group at Irwin home, 1957-1958, for AFSC and local migrants

At this same time \$10,000 was donated to the Meeting by an anonymous friend of James Hollingsworth's for the building, provided we matched the amount. This was accomplished and construction was begun with Sam Ackerman overseeing. It was not much more than a "shell" by August 17, 1958, when the first Meeting for Worship was held, and the first business session was held on September 7, 1958. Our tax-exempt status was also granted at this time. Our donor was so impressed by our accomplishment, she gave another \$10,000 which supplied a heating system, floor covering, and a parking lot.

First Meeting -
Aug. 24, 1958

Present

Ruth Fraser	Paul Cobb
Ethelyn Karst	Betty Cobb
Ann Ody	Jean Irwin
Michael Craig	Dick Irwin
Ricky Irwin	Eliz Craig
Patty Irwin	Sydney Craig
Billy Reynolds	Esther Weismann
Syd Craig, Jr.	Frances Lathrop



That October, the old Meetinghouse benches from New Garden and London Grove Meetings in Pennsylvania arrived via Jere and Amy Powell's boat. They also transported clothing and baby garments back to AFSC in Philadelphia in the late spring each year. For many years, Friends enjoyed a Sunday afternoon cruise with them. Friends would bring food and enjoy the then undeveloped view of the Intracoastal Waterway.

In 1959 our Children's First Day school had two and three age groups necessitating the purchase of the folding doors downstairs. At the conclusion of that year, Paul and Betty Cobb and their two children moved to Pennsylvania. Paul was one of the people most involved in the beginning of Palm Beach Friends Meeting and his departure was a deep loss.



Rachel DuBois Retreat
April 3,4,5 1959



The following year, 1960, both Peggy Atkinson, Lynn Scott, and their children came to the Meeting and created a burst in activity. There were ten in the First Day School. Social Concerns spread to a nursery for black children in West Palm Beach, a county children's home for blacks, a boys' school library in Okeechobee, migrant issues, and supporting integrated restaurants.

Peace issues involved a public Peace Forum, supporting Albert Bigelow's nuclear protest in the Pacific Ocean. Our Quaker library was started by building bookshelves by the stairway upstairs and the first newsletter was published in 1960. Notable Friends who visited were Bliss Forbush, author and Friends School Headmaster, of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and Floyd Moore of Guilford College

By 1960, the Queries were no longer read and answered in Monthly Meeting but rather discussed in First Day School monthly and answered by the Ministry and Overseers Committee for Business Meeting. The membership was 31 in 1961 and 1962, and there was evidence that summer attendance would be 5-18 and winter 25-30. Predominantly we had a "snowbird" group with few permanent residents. (Note: Today our attendance has increased to about 40 year round, but only a few more in membership. There has been a complete change to almost totally year-round members but a greater number of "in and out" attenders. In addition, we are now conducting clearness committees with prospective

members, placing more emphasis on readiness and commitment for membership.)

During 1961, we lost the Scott and Atkinson families to the north (although the Atkinsons returned later for a short period of time). A big event mid-year was the installation of a telephone. Another first was the cancellation of Monthly Meetings for business during July, August, and September. A Meeting information brochure was printed with a picture of the Meetinghouse drawn by Eliot Atkinson on the front. Christmas 1961 was the first recorded Christmas dinner after Meeting for Worship with 55 present. By now it was a regular event to have "potluck" lunch following Business Meeting. Records note that Alfred Hartwig, a member of the Meeting and a retired New York teacher, began the first SEYM newsletter.

Our first Quaker wedding was held in the Meetinghouse in 1962, of Garth Doyle and Lenore Barrett. Mary Haussermann joined in May and became active in peace work and a United Nations Project. Vera Norton, a retired librarian and mid-west Quaker, was a long faithful contact with the Lake Worth Church Women United.

With the help of Mabel Kenyon and others, the Meeting began English classes for foreign born in the Meetinghouse two nights a week using the Laubach system. In the beginning, mainly local Finnish people attended, but later this included Cubans, French, German, Polish, and Russians. At the peak, there were 12 teachers involved with nearly 40 students. This was the first effort in Palm Beach County to teach English to foreign-born people. By 1967, the public schools began adult classes and our program ended.

We had the experience of sponsoring and resettling a Dutch family in Boca Raton. We provided money and helped them find a place to stay, but failed to interest them in the Meeting.

The year 1963 was important for Florida Quakers. The annual gathering was too large for Orlando or St. Petersburg Meetings, so we located a suitable conference center mid-state for the Easter weekend gathering. Our Meeting did the registration for the first two years. Lake Byrd Lodge in Avon Park, owned and operated by the Congregational Church, included a lake, camping facilities, and a large lodge. It proved an ideal situation and supplied our needs for many years. The Yearly Meeting status also commenced in 1963 and the job of formulating a SEYM Faith and Practice began.

Our adult discussion group usually met for six months in the winter and centered around a book or pamphlet purchased from Pendle Hill, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, or Friends General Conference, frequently religious or Bible study.

In the winter of 1964, with the help of AAUW, the League of Women Voters, the Human Relations Council, and the Y's, we sponsored the FCNL 20th anniversary dinner and program at a West Palm Beach hotel. 125 persons attended. Ruth Fraser was a major planner for this event starring Raymond Wilson. In 1964 we housed the Canada-Cuba

Peace Marchers, about 12 people, at the Meetinghouse. They stayed a few days, but due to parking lot showers and general noise, the neighbors objected. We discovered that in order to live in peace with the neighborhood, we must not allow people to stay overnight in the Meetinghouse again.

In July 1964 Alfred Hartwig died and was missed for his great organizational abilities. He was clerk for five years and SEYM newsletter editor.

By 1965 we became involved in another community undertaking. The minister of the Congregational Church in West Palm Beach contacted representatives from many religious organizations, both Christian and Jewish, for the purpose of combining efforts to help solve some community problems. The interaction and cooperation was a wonderful experience for those who represented the Meeting in the Association of Religious Organizations. Over the next 10 years ARO was involved in various community concerns in Palm Beach County: work in the schools, a Teen-Parent Code and responsibilities, programs emphasizing values, a weekly TV panel, a pre-marriage clinic for students, Travelers Aid, a school for high school girls with babies, and dealing with race relations.

Throughout the 1960's, we had a "Christmas Collection" each December, dividing the money between the AFSC and a local migrant project. In January of 1965, the Meetinghouse was pictured on the front page of the Religion Section of the Palm Beach Post with a statement of Quaker faith. September 10, 1965, Josephine Gray's daughter Diane was married to Harold Quintan in the Meetinghouse.

About this time, Bill and Roberta Channel arrived in our midst. He was in charge of a local AFSC project on housing for migrants. This was a favorable contact for the Meeting and Roberta helped in all aspects of the Meetings for Worship and for Business.

Mid-winter 1966, we helped with an AFSC Peace Conference at the First Methodist Church, West Palm Beach, with Dr. Harold Bassly of New York, a well-known "peace advocate" in the troubled Vietnam years. 400 attended.

Another new experience occurred when we helped organize a concert by the Guilford College Choir at Grace Episcopal Church, West Palm Beach.

During the late 1960's, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) used the Meetinghouse for regular gatherings. A few members of the Meeting were involved in these activities.

The Yearly Meeting had grown enough in four years that Betty Trimmer of Gainesville Meeting was selected as the first part-time paid secretary.

The Meeting budget for 1968 was \$3000, and the cost of painting the outside of the building was \$390. The rust-colored square matting upstairs was replaced by green

carpeting.

At this time we welcomed Peggy Atkinson back into our midst and social action was strengthened. In this period of the late 1960's and early 1970's, at least ten or more persons in the Meeting were very actively involved with local projects bringing the Meeting in at every opportunity. The Palm Beach Funeral Society was formed fostering a less expensive, pre-arranged funeral, and some of us served on the board.

For several months, we experimented with a mid-week Meeting for Business (7:30 PM, the first Wednesday of the month). It was only possible because most of us were in the Lake Worth and West Palm Beach areas. However, we soon returned to the monthly Business Meeting after Meeting for Worship.

As early as 1969, the Friends Committee on National Legislation Hotline was reported after the Meeting for Worship but the Meeting had only intermittent newsletters.

Charles Batchelor, a "founder" of the Meeting from New York, died and was missed for his regular First Day message on love. For years, Charles had objected to a large framed, authentic Quaker bonnet hung on the south wall of the Meetinghouse, which the Meeting finally agreed to remove. It was returned to Elizabeth Craig who had given it to the Meeting. Since then, no pictures have appeared in the upstairs Meeting room.



During this time, the Minutes record the first written concern over the heat during Meeting for Worship in the summer. We already had electric heat in winter. These years we had a picnic each summer or early fall at the Irwin's, or at a county park, plus some campouts in the Keys with Miami Friends. This was a time of considerable Yearly Meeting involvement and discussions of joining Friends United Meeting and/or Friends General Conference. The need for draft counseling was extensive and under the care of Bill Channell. Edward Drew died in 1969; he had sold us the land for the building and was the first Clerk of the Monthly Meeting.

In 1970, our Meeting did the registration and arrangements for SEYM at Lake Byrd Lodge, Avon Park, the first time since the beginning years of 1963-64. It was a memorable time with Jan de Hartog speaking about The Peaceable Kingdom. We noted 168 attendants and a record 142 for one meal, which was a stress on the facilities!

Having a local AFSC office in the Meetinghouse gave us direct contact with low income housing needs and migrants, although the AFSC presence did not last long. At the request of AFSC, Ruth Fraser and Mabel Kenyon went to Indiantown to witness refusal of service to an African-American at a restaurant. A lawsuit followed with success. Doris Brockmiller organized a Meeting newsletter several times a year after intermittent production for some time.

Sandwich lunches following worship encouraged fellowship during the summer months, when there was no meeting for discussion. During the Business sessions, October through June, the attendance was usually between 14 to 24.

Peter Vermillya and Linda Travers, students at FAU and attenders at Meeting for over a year, were married here in 1971 under the care of the Meeting. On March 13, 1971, after long and thoughtful consideration, a letter of dismissal was sent to James Kemp, a transfer member since 1965, from Peoria, Illinois. His disruptive behavior during Meetings for Worship and Business had become a serious problem. This did not deter him; he was with us for several more years.

On a happy note, Mary Wilson from Stuart transferred her membership from Princeton New Jersey Meeting. A long-time Quaker and artist, she served the Meeting in many ways, especially ministry and children's First Day School.

At this time, we began serious consideration and collection of funds for air conditioning which was completed in 1973. There was a two-month attempt to serve low income elderly in Lake Worth a hot meal once a week, but there were few takers. The Fort Lauderdale picnic with Miami Friends was rescheduled in 1972 and 1973.

In three months we lost two very valuable members: Ruth Fraser died February 27, 1973 and Joe Round, April 18. During this year, Mary Dee, Pearl Ewald, Sheridan Crumlish, and Dick Ryder all became members.

In 1975, I-95 was soon to become a reality. Sheridan Crumlish painted the upstairs walls a new color. At this time, one-hour worship was held in summer only, half-hour in winter. SEYM conducted a feasibility test for a Florida Friends intentional community. This was the year for another treat: Douglas and Dorothy Steere were in our midst for a few days.

During 1974, we had a small school downstairs. The building was approved for 5-6 children. Joan Fridshal taught her children and two or three others (not Quaker). In this year we replaced the roof.

In October 1974 Walton Weisman gave 625 shares of IBM stock to the Meeting; this was the basis for our endowment fund known initially as the Walton Fund, later renamed the Trustees Fund. He was the husband of the late Esther (Hallock) Weisman, Flora Hallock's sister-in-law. Walton never worshiped with us, but joined us to eat, socialize, and contribute financially. He admired the way Friends reached decisions and spent their money. He wanted to reduce his involvement in gift giving decisions, so gave the job to us.

In June of 1975, David and Mary Richie visited. He was founder of the work camps movement which fixed houses in the slums of Philadelphia. The following year, they spent a month with us visiting schools and leading First-Day discussions on John Woolman.

The minutes note that Ruth Dickinson was a member of Social Concerns Committee and became a member in 1976. Moving to Florida from New England, she worked for Florida Rural Legal Services.

The SEYM Half Yearly Meeting began with a Thanksgiving weekend at O'Leno St. Park. This was a time of socializing and worship for Quaker families.

In August 1975, Julia Hogan and Gary Anderson were married under the care of the Meeting. She was a former attender of First Day School.

SEYM began a serious investigation of land and fund raising for an intentional community in mid-Florida. Later there was serious consideration of the Roseland facility, but after a weekend gathering there, the brakes were put on this project. At this time, we held 3/4 hour worship in the winter. The library was in the process of being expanded at this time. New bookshelves were built downstairs with funds from the Charles and Elsie Bachelor memorial.

During this time, Peggy Atkinson and others in the Meeting were involved in prison visitation and art classes at the youth detention center and a women's halfway house. Pearl Ewald brought to the Meeting a concern for migrant legislation and peace issues.

SEYM sessions began at the Methodist Youth Camp in Leesburg in 1976, which was large with many facilities. A Spanish-speaking church began using the building in the fall of 1976, for the next couple of years. Once the group became very large, we had to later terminate the offer.

By 1977, I-95 was with us. In our usual discussions of “seeking more seekers,” Mary Dee suggested we put a sign on the west side of the building visible from I-95! No action was taken. \$10,000 was given by our Meeting to SEYM for an endowment fund for operating expenses.

For a while, potluck dinners were held downstairs by Common Ground Food Co-op, with music, talk, and food. Plans began for a month-long visitation in January 1978 by Paul and Esther Goulding, retired from FGC.

In December 1977, after a long, upsetting period dealing with James Kemp, the procedure of physically keeping him from the Meetinghouse began. It was a very difficult time for Friends. Many in the Meeting tried to counsel him, but finally we came to unity in action.

During these first twenty years of Palm Beach Meeting, a variety of activities were commenced, including migrant, peace, immigration, and children’s issues. A high turn-over of members in the Meeting led to a range of endeavors. but there was always a high level of involvement from members. There wasn’t much money, but this was a time when a lot of social action was going on, since few agencies were available then to help people in Palm Beach County. We also experienced a high level of involvement with other churches, since we were one of the few in the area. This made the public more aware of us, as we were connected in social concern for the county.

HISTORY PART 2

1976-2000

by Ellie Caldwell

1976-1977

During this time, Palm Beach Meeting was involved in several projects in the community and welcomed a number of visitors which was especially common during the winter. Paul and Esther Goulding stayed with member Mary Hausserman for a month and visited with members. Their "perceptivity was said to be heartening and helpful." Also, Vernal Kahl from India spoke after a potluck dinner. We later gave some financial support to his work in Agra, India.

In reaching out to the community, we hosted guests from Sojourners House (a shelter for battered women and children connected to the West Palm Beach YWCA) for Christmas Dinner. For a while, Ellie Mitchell (later Caldwell) was involved in talking with battered wives, and the Meeting collected food and money for incidental needs at the shelter. Also, we helped put on a Christmas Party at the detention center (which would not be possible a few years later). Peggy Atkinson made prison visits to Henry Butler; Ellie Mitchell accompanied her on one of those visits.

Many members living in Lake Worth, including Susan Glaser and Pearl Ewald, were part of the Common Ground food co-op at that time and participated in a tea house/potluck at the Meetinghouse. This continued until 1982.

After Clerk Roberta Channel was absent for many months because of tension in the Meeting, she passed on the job of clerk to Richard (Dick) Ryder. The 1977 budget was \$4419; donations totaled \$3826.

1978

For several months, the National Organization for Women (NOW) held an open house on Saturday mornings at the Meetinghouse where women gathered for coffee, Danish, and discussion. Ellie Mitchell opened for the group.

The Social Concerns Committee frequently brought forth Mabel Kenyon's concern for Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) action on bills to support Native Americans. Each year we included a school for Native Americans in the Social Concerns Committee budget.

Also we established a scholarship fund of \$500 for a nursing career-oriented student from Lake Worth High School, which was later given to Ruth Dickinson's daughter Ruth Leary.

In March, Mary Wilson reported that the Ministry and Oversight Committee recommended expanding worship to one hour from the 45-minute worship that had been practiced since the founding of the Meeting in 1955. Business Meeting approved, but decided to make this change in the fall when there were more attenders. Worship sharing was set up after silent worship for the summer. Meeting for Worship was still 45 minutes on Business Meeting Sundays, usually the second First Day.

Peggy Atkinson, Pearl Ewald, and Mabel Kenyon attended a Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Conference in St. Petersburg with Lynn Carol Henderson and American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) for Mobilization for Survival. For many years Pearl and others were active in WILPF locally.

Tom Nuttall was welcomed into membership.

During that time Peggy Atkinson worked with Richard Jorandby of the Public Defender's office on an alternative sentencing project. This would later develop into TOP House, a halfway house which the Meeting supported financially.

After Vera Norton stepped down as Recording Clerk, we minuted thanks for her years of expertly typing the minutes. She relocated to Indiana where she had family.

Meeting approved Dick Ryder's proposal to get a piano for the Meetinghouse and Jean Irwin's suggestion to get new hymnals. Vera Norton suggested that Meeting create a Pendle Hill scholarship for its 50th anniversary. Nothing came of this, but we have over the years helped people attend Pendle Hill for workshops or retreats.

A new religious group called EMIN, an esoteric movement, began meeting at the Meetinghouse 1-7pm on Saturdays and Monday and Wednesday evenings under the care of Bill Madden. Also a Spanish church was still meeting here, but later grew too large and was asked to find another location.

During October 1978, mid-week worship sharing was started at Pearl Ewald's with Flora Hallock, Ellie Mitchell, and later her son Aaron.

Dick Ryder brought a concern about an alarming exhibition of weapons at the Lake Worth Beach under the name of US Army recruiting. A silent vigil was suggested.

On November 1st, we met with Nan and Tom Brown from Pendle Hill to discuss the values of Quaker education and the Pendle Hill experience. Peggy Atkinson went to FCNL for a meeting on November 30th as the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) liaison. Also, Virginia Redfield attended Church Women United as a representative of SEYM.

In social concerns, Pearl Ewald reported on a car caravan to Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station to witness against nuclear power plants. The group was to be in Palm Beach County November 12th to speak at the Unitarian Church. Also the Fast for United Farm Workers ended on November 20th with a gathering at the Meetinghouse with music and speakers.

A member of Miami Meeting, Heather Moir, appealed to Friends to honor the forgotten tradition of two minutes of silence on the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month in remembrance of Armistice Day, the original name of Veteran's Day.

In December we hosted Steve Stallonas, a visiting friend, who offered a workshop on the Gnostic Gospels with a mid-week meeting for worship sharing.

Continuing our involvement in local social concerns, we collected presents for the women in art classes at Sojourners House. Also, we contributed to a Christmas Party for Operation Concern, a farm workers' organization in Boynton Beach.

1979

Reaching out to the community, the Social Concerns Committee was beginning to be concerned with the needs of Haitian refugees (first mention of what would become a large immigrant population in Lake Worth). Frequent boatloads of Haitian immigrants were washing up on Palm Beach County beaches as people tried to escape poverty and political violence.

In April, we considered a donation of loud-speakers for worship, but Meeting felt if

those who offered vocal ministry would stand to speak and enunciate clearly, the hearing needs of the meeting would be better served.

We discussed the idea of having a Meeting secretary.

Hospice was using the building for a support group for caregivers.

In March, Viola Purvis and Steve Jordan led a workshop at the Meetinghouse entitled Creative Conflict Resolution.

In April Ellie Mitchell led an SEYM Gathering workshop on women's concerns and Mary Wilson assisted Johanna Jordan with a workshop on Art and the Spirit.

Through the Social Concerns Committee, in May, we sent a telegram to Gov. Bob Graham regarding the clemency board and the death penalty. Work on the ex-offender program continued. We agreed to pay the rent for one room, \$2500 for one year, for Top House. Flora Hallock offered to donate an additional \$2500 for a second room.

Miriam Burke, Earlham College professor of psychology and religion, gave a workshop June 2-4th at Cenacle Retreat House in Lantana entitled Eliminating Self-Defeating Behaviors.

In September we welcomed Patricia and Arthur Robins into dual membership with Westbury (NY) Meeting.

We sent a letter from the Social Concerns Committee opposing nuclear energy to the Palm Beach Post.

The Regional Picnic was held November 18th in Ft. Lauderdale where we heard reports from Friend World Committee for Consultation (FWCC).

SEYM was considering the future of Cisney House, an apartment building next to Orlando Meeting which had given it to SEYM. For a while, Ellie Mitchell served on the Cisney House Committee for SEYM. (It was later returned to Orlando Meeting which sold it in 2017.)

We gave Enid Ackhurst a farewell lunch before she left to teach for a year in Saudi Arabia. A science professor at Palm Beach Atlantic College, she was recruited for female students needing a woman professor to study science.

We briefly considered the idea of adopting a Vietnamese boat family and establishing a "Quaker residence" near the Meetinghouse.

On November 24th, Cheryl Jackson and Phil Baker were married under the care of the Meeting.

In November, new member John Bryan agreed to serve as FCNL Representative. Virginia and Charles Redfield held a "welcome into membership" party for John.

Marie Stilkind and Heather Moir reported on their attendance at the FWCC Triennial Conference.

In December, the Social Concerns Committee sent letters to Congress protesting the deployment of nuclear weapons in Europe.

A long-time member of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, Mabel Kenyon, turned 93.

1980

In January, hospitality was extended to David Ritchie who was traveling in the

ministry to discuss early work camps. He also spoke on John Woolman, gave workshops at Palm Beach Junior College, and led discussions on accepting death and transition. At that time, Curt Reagen from FWCC also visited.

In membership news, we welcomed Charles Redfield into membership. He later served as Treasurer. Ada and Hank Mayer transferred their membership from Palm Beach Meeting to Oneonta (NY) Meeting. While living here, they often invited friends to their boat on the Intracoastal Waterway on Sundays after Meeting for Worship.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee held a discussion on the Iranian situation and the invasion of Afghanistan.

In January, the Meeting decided to employ Dan Bassuk as secretary for a five-month trial period. Shortly after his arrival, he spoke to humanities classes at Twin Lakes High School on draft counseling. In Meeting, he led discussions on Quaker worship and a world conference on religion and peace.

George and Helen Bliss from FCNL sojourned with us in February.

In March, Sydney and Elizabeth Craig's names were removed from the membership list since we hadn't heard from them in many years. They were founding members and assisted in building the Meetinghouse.

On March 2nd, Palm Beach Area Draft Counseling, WILPF, PB Meeting, and other organizations held a training session on non-violent protest at Palm Beach Junior College, led by Warren Hoskins from Miami Meeting. Xavier Cedano and Cathy Weber of Meeting were involved.

In April, Meeting was concerned with vandalism, especially the back window.

In May, Henry Lelaurain led a discussion entitled Discussion Principles Based on the Movement for a New Society about the network of social activists committed to the principles of non-violence.

Isabel Smith transferred her membership to Winchester Center Meeting, Winchester, VA. A 15-year member of PB Meeting since 1965, she had left the area with her husband Monroe in 1973.

The Social Concerns Committee sent a telegram to President Carter to express opposition to a military response to the situation in Iran.

The Walton Fund further contributed to Top House, the halfway house for ex-offenders run by Bill Pagola: \$200 and then \$400 a month for ten months. Peggy Atkinson worked hard with the men and the manager to get it off the ground. The morning of its official opening, June 11th, the manager resigned, not an auspicious beginning. Later, as the year ended, TOP House, was not doing well. There was inadequate supervision and services were not accessible. The lease was up in June and the project came to an end.

We gave \$500 to Marie Stilkind's son Ted to attend Earlham College.

In June, Dan Bassuk gave a slide presentation entitled The Divine Descent. Also we held a Sailing Out with young Friends with Arnold Hess, on June 7th.

Food was collected for the Haitian refugee community.

We gave money to Sheridan Crumlish and Mary Wilson to attend the Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering in Ithaca, New York. They reported to the Meeting on July 13th.

In October, we held a discussion group on Quaker by Convincement.

Draft counseling at local post offices was being conducted by Marie Zwicker.

Ruth Dickinson was named chairwoman of Eating Meeting.

In November 1980, we helped with the Thanksgiving Dinner at Operation Concern. We also held our annual Christmas Dinner at the Meetinghouse. Ellie Mitchell wrote up some ads that we placed the Palm Beach Post. Worship was now from 10:30 to 11:30, but still 45 minutes on Business Meeting Sundays.

On November 29th, Marilee Mansz and Bruce King were married under the care of the Meeting; a reception was held at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach.

Francis Hall, an SEYM retreat leader, visited PB Meeting.

1981

In January, Donald Wright, Eleanor Mitchell, and her son Aaron Mitchell Caldwell were taken into membership. Memorial minutes were written for the following people: James Hollingsworth, who secured funding for the Meetinghouse to be built in 1958; Aida Round whose "life was proof that love is what binds us at the ground level of our being;" and Walton Wiseman who donated money to start the endowment fund, called the Walton Fund.

Early in that year, we consulted an attorney regarding action against James Kemp because of his disruptive behavior during Meeting for Worship. Angry about the Meeting donating to Emergency Assistance, whose services for poor women included funding abortions, Jim would rise during worship and forcefully recite the Lord's Prayer every Sunday. Meeting held many discussions with Jim to resolve our concerns over his disruptive behavior, but nothing changed. Finally, Business Meeting came to unity to ask him to leave and a registered letter was sent reading him out of Meeting. Jim refused it, and the letter was read to him over the telephone. For a time Jim sat in his car in the Meetinghouse parking lot while his wife Thelma attended worship. In February, Mary Dee visited Jim and Thelma and reported that he had accepted the action of the Meeting. Later they moved back to Peoria, Kansas.

Meeting recorded a minute of appreciation for Mary Wilson for her work with youth. Mary was someone the children gravitated to and she often organized interesting First Day School programs, usually involving art work.

Fifty members and attenders were present at the 1980 Christmas Dinner.

The budget for 1981 was \$5150.

As for members, Kitty Banter transferred her membership to North Columbia (OH) Meeting, and Robert Murray transferred his membership from Phoenix Meeting. Cathy Weber was active in draft counseling and being paid \$25 a week from the Peace and Social Concern Committee's budget.

In April, we started giving London Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice to new members.

Michael Luhan spoke to Meeting in May on the situation in El Salvador and Guatemala.

In May, Marie Zwicker was welcomed into membership.

Mention of the seating arrangement during Meeting for Worship was made in the

minutes: "There are no sacred chairs. Members and attenders are urged to fill in the circle and not leave the clerk sitting alone."

The Social Concerns Committee began to place draft and peace information into the schools, which was permitted by a US Supreme court ruling in 1982.

With some members of Miami Meeting, several people from PB Meeting met at the home of the Zims' in Tavernier in the Florida Keys. In addition, the Meeting held a summer picnic at the Irwins' house in the summer: "Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all."

A scholarship for higher education for Meeting young people was set up, especially for Quaker colleges.

In June, we considered the idea of funding a traveling Quaker, helped by the Walton Fund.

Mary Dee attended the Friends United Meeting (FUM) Triennial.

Member Donald Wright (69) died May 18th: "Although with us for only a short time, Don's light shown brightly and was an inspiration to us all."

New attender Jim Ackerman supplied pop-up sprinkler heads. Later, because of vandalism, the Property Committee decided to remove the sprinkler heads and put in native plants. This sufficiently reduced the need for watering the landscaping, so we were able to turn off the irrigation system.

College scholarships were given to Siobhan Shea, attending Earlham College, and Henry Chalmers, attending Swarthmore College.

Since the weather was nice, we held a Meeting-wide picnic at Dreher Park.

We considered the use of the Meetinghouse to shelter people during hurricanes. This did not happen until 2004 during Hurricanes Jeanne and Wilma when eight people stayed at the Meetinghouse.

Six people from Meeting attended a workshop at Miami Meeting on journal keeping, led by Viola Purvis.

In October, we gave money to support Palm Beach Area Draft Counseling.

Francis Hall gave a workshop on Nurturing the Spiritual Base of Life.

Ruth Dickinson requested more substantial food for Eating Meeting: "There has been an excess of desserts lately."

On November 6th, we held a program about child raising from a Quaker perspective.

We worked on the Equal Rights Amendment in hopes it would be ratified by the Florida Legislature. (It wasn't.)

During December, we started a prayer group at 9:30am on Sunday mornings.

Steve and Johanna Jordan of Winter Park Worship Group led a workshop entitled Dealing with Negative Emotions in Meeting and in Personal Relationships.

Wilmer Tjossen visited from AFSC.

We again gave money to Quaker Center in Orlando.

Lee Sterns gave a program on Peacemaking—A Friendly Outreach Approach.

We were still having problems with vandalism in the afternoons.

1982

George Webb visited in January.

We held a picnic with Ft. Lauderdale and Miami Friends at Hugh Taylor Birch State Park in February.

We were invited to the dedication of Morningside Friends Church, an Evangelical Friends Meeting, in Port St. Lucie, on February 28th; Mary Dee attended.

In April we had many social concerns: the Victim Witness Program, anti-Semitism, the Krome Avenue Detention Center in Miami, Haitian immigrants, Crossroads in Lantana, and Gospel Rescue Mission. The meeting drafted a statement on human rights.

Pearl Ewald represented the Meeting at Church Women United.

We held a discussion of The Aquarian Conspiracy; then in May, we discussed Quaker process, and Virginia Redfield led a discussion of The Choice is Always Ours.

In June, Mary Dee and Marie Zwicker attended the Regional Meeting of FWCC in Frogmore, SC on St. Helena Island.

In the early days of the Meeting, several women had prepared layette sets for AFSC Material Aids, but since the sewing machines were no longer being used, we donated them to the Delray Beach Haitian community.

In October, Philip Owens transferred his membership from Ridgewood (NJ) Friends Meeting.

Palm Beach Draft Counseling requested help distributing material and doing draft counseling.

Mabel Kenyon died September 13th at the age of 96. She cared about the blind, blacks, and Native Americans. She had been an avid bike rider in her earlier years and hadn't requested membership in Meeting until age 90.

In the November Meeting minutes record the first mention of a stair elevator. We were becoming aware that our two-story construction was not handicapped accessible. When someone in a wheelchair attended, they were dropped off at the front doors and 2-3 strong men volunteered to lift the wheelchair the 2 steps onto the porch and 1 step into the Worship Room. For the handicapped person to join us for potluck, the process had to be reversed, although they were able to wheel themselves through the downstairs doorway. Increasingly we realized this arrangement was not suitable and sought out solutions.

During December, questionnaires on emergency information were distributed for the files. These were later called In Case of Emergency (ICE) forms.



Jean Irwin Pearl Ewald
1982

1983

In January, we minuted thanks to Carol and Richard Ploch for their help with the library. We also minuted appreciation to Jean Irwin, outgoing clerk, for "her orderly mind which keeps track of so many threads of the life of the Meeting."

In February, Raymond Wilson visited the meeting with Bob and Cathy Wahrmond from FCNL.

Peggy Atkinson was giving the weekly hotline report from FCNL and Meeting supplied stationery and addresses for people to respond with letter writing.

George Watson gave a workshop on March 25th: Israel in Biblical Times And Now. We enjoyed visiting with him and his wife Elizabeth.

In April, we welcomed Margaret Barovich into membership, a transfer from Medford (NJ) United Monthly Meeting. Her mother Aida Round was an active member of PB Meeting for years.

The minutes of the April Business Meeting record further discussion of putting an elevator in the stairway. However, at the May Business Meeting, we decided it would not be feasible and welcomed other suggestions.

On May 24th, Kathleen Mitchell Caldwell was born to Eleanor Mitchell and Gary Caldwell, the first child born to a member of PB Meeting. At this time Ellie changed her last name to Caldwell.

We boycotted Campbell and Libby products because of their use of child labor in the fields and the spraying of pesticides.

In June, John Bryan and Valerie and Tabby Page withdrew their memberships.

We installed ceiling fans in the worship room.

We gave a scholarship to Guilford College for a Quaker student.

Patricia Robins died September 11, 1983, a dual member with Westbury (NY) Meeting. In October, we accepted Jerome Sill and Albert and Muriel Barker into membership.

Ruth Dickinson's daughter, Ruth Leary, died July 1st and a memorial was held July 24th. She was 36 years old and had struggled with cancer for a number of months.

At our Annual Retreat, Virginia Redfield gave a workshop entitled By Whose Authority Speak Ye? She presented an accelerated learning method using the right/left brain. We made large bishop mitres to wear around the Meetinghouse to experience what it was like to view ourselves as having that kind of authority. We made quite a spectacle!

Jean and Dick Irwin visited China and later showed slides of their trip.

In November, Virginia Redfield was nominated for Clerk, and Bob Murray for Treasurer, to begin in January 1984.

We welcomed Richard and Ann Lane into dual membership with Poughkeepsie (NY) Friends Meeting. A welcoming picnic for new members was held November 20th at Bob and Barbara Murray's house.

Bob Murray, Mary Dee, Peggy Atkinson, and Virginia Redfield wrote an article for a Palm Beach Post supplement on Quaker history, outreach, philosophy, and way of worship. Virginia Redfield appeared on the cover holding a Quaker hymnal.

On December 3rd, Dwight Duncan spoke about the ex-offender program which our

meeting was involved in through Peggy Atkinson.

We sent two telegrams against the death penalty to our senators.

Pearl Ewald reported more volunteers had come forth to replenish draft counseling materials at the high school, including Lois and Tom Van Lent and Muriel and Al Barker.

The Property Committee dealt with the repair of Halloween damage.

Continuing our discussion of accessibility, we considered a wheelchair ramp for the front door. Mary Hausserman looked into it, but we found it would be heavy and too difficult to store in the worship room to be practical.

In December, we held our annual Christmas Dinner.

The \$400 remaining in the emergency fund was given to the alternative sentencing and ex-offenders program.

Virginia Redfield held a Thanksgiving Service at King David's Nursing home with silence, prayer, and singing.

We held a discussion on sanctuary for Nicaraguan and El Salvadoran refugees. We felt if we were to create a project to help with this issue, we needed more people involved. It was suggested that we support other Meetings' efforts and the Catholic Church in Indiantown. A public meeting on this issue attracted the press and protesters showed up on the front lawn. Police and the fire department were called to disperse the crowd. This resulted in the fire department inspecting the premises and requiring several building upgrades for fire code: emergency lighting, occupancy signs, and a ban on cooking due to lack of proper ventilation.



Marie Stilkind, Peggy Atkinson, Aaron Caldwell (3), Mary Dee,
Ellie Caldwell, Kathleen (4 months), Susan Glaser, Tom Van Lent,
Lois Van Lent, Bob Murray 1983.

1984

David Ritchie gave a slide show talk on Africa on January 14th and 15th.

For the Social Concerns Committee, Peggy Atkinson reported on two destitute families we were helping.

On January 22nd Althea Postlethwaite, from Orchard Park Friends Meeting in Buffalo, NY, spoke to us about First Day School: handling mixed ages, irregular attendance, dividing responsibilities among eight people, and using Quaker material, including children's creative response to conflict.

We were having a problem with unwanted books being left at the Meetinghouse. Over the years, many people have left large furniture, dishes, and other kitchen articles. We encouraged people to ask first.

In March, the Social Concerns Committee collected medical aid to send to El Salvador and money for the Central Committee for Conscientious Objection.

We had a potluck picnic at the Irwins' house after worship. The Irwins hosted several potlucks over the years at their house in West Palm Beach.

Peggy Atkinson and Bob Murray reorganized the library with a new DOT system. They put together a sign-out sheet for people to borrow books.

We continued consideration of First Day School; Meeting approved hiring someone for \$25 each Sunday whether children came or not.

On May 20th Sandy Beers gave a report on Quaker Center in Orlando and led a discussion of Bible reading.

On May 21st, we held a memorial for Raymond Santiago at the request of his wife from Poughkeepsie (NY) Meeting. Five members attended.

In June, we collected medicine and vitamin bottles for FUM hospitals in Africa. Friends had heard that patients were carrying medicine home in leaves or discarded bottles, and Quakers all over the country started collecting and shipping bottles. This proved to be more of a burden than help, especially with import fees.

A new attender Gail Souda led a discussion on starting a Waldorf School at the Meetinghouse. She and her two children attended Meeting for Worship for several months.

Flora Hallock age 98 died July 5th at home. Her memorial was held October 14th, her birthday. She had transferred her membership in 1957 from Purchase (NY) Meeting. She was remembered for being a dear and generous person. People particularly recalled her saying, "Oh, my," in a certain tone of voice.

Peggy Atkinson died October 31st at the age of 72 and a memorial fund was established in her name. A memorial service was held November 4th. Her commitment to social justice was deep and long lasting. It was said at her memorial that "the rest of us have to pick up her Light and try to shine a little brighter now that she's gone."

In November, children and adults started meeting together upstairs from 10-10:30 for music and discussion aimed at bringing the children into the Quaker experience. Virginia Redfield volunteered for the first four weeks. Someone was hired to be with smaller children 10-10:30 and then with all children during worship.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee gave \$500 to Carl Welsher for trial

expenses, to Southern Poverty Law Center (Klanwatch), Amnesty International, Central Committee for Conscientious Objection, National Farm Workers Ministry, and SHARE for Central American refugees. A letter was sent to the Florida Council of Churches supporting their work for peace. Ann Lane suggested fasting on the Thursday before Thanksgiving Day and giving the food money to Oxfam.

New guidelines for use of the Meetinghouse were posted. The minutes note: Ellie Caldwell "has the responsibility for accepting the organizations which may use the building. Groups with a potential for large numbers will not be accepted."

In December, Meeting approved sending two \$1000 scholarships from the Walton Fund to Earlham and Guilford Colleges for use by Friends. We continued aid to Henry Chalmers at Swarthmore College. Also we gave \$1000 to the SEYM Projects and Resources Committee Fund.

Six-month subscriptions to Friends Journal and Quaker Life were offered to regular attenders and new members. We gave these subscriptions for a number of years.

Virginia Redfield reported for the First Day School regarding the need for separate classes for adults and children. She asked for prayerful concern to find someone led to work with children. Ellie Caldwell purchased an easel and newsprint pad. New toys and books were also needed.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee worked with the Palm Beach County Peace Coalition on a vigil at Lake Worth City Hall protesting intervention in Nicaragua.

Our annual Christmas Dinner was held following meeting for worship; thanks were expressed to Susan Glaser and Lois Van Lent who cooked turkeys.

A sculpture entitled Quaker Nun by Peggy Atkinson was given to the meeting by her daughters Elisa Stewart and Joan Atkinson in memory of Ruth Dickinson's daughter Ruth Leary. Terry Worden built a pedestal for it in the stairway from money donated in Ruth's memory.

We went caroling for the first time in the neighborhood on December 23rd. We did this for several years, inspired by those in Meeting who had grown up with it. The first year, we found few people at home, but enjoyed ourselves anyway, especially the hot cocoa and cookies afterwards at the Meetinghouse. The second year, a few neighbors joined us, and the third year, some people responded negatively, so we decided to lay it down. It's hard to create the "Christmas spirit" in Florida weather!

We approved the budget for 1985: \$6405.

1985

In January, minutes of appreciation were approved for Mary Dee for her six years as clerk of the Ministry and Oversight Committee, and Bob Murray for his four years as Meeting Treasurer. First Day School scheduled Marilyn Parker and Terry Worden as teachers for the next four weeks, and then Bob Murray.

Jean Irwin gave the Registrar's report: 28 regular members, three dual, and three members who died or requested that we drop their membership.

Tom Van Lent asked for support for the Palm Beach County Peace Coalition

regarding non-violent actions in the event of a US invasion of Nicaragua.

The Property Committee concerns for 1985 were painting the downstairs and repaving the parking lot.

In February, Catharine Eckfeldt was approved for dual membership with Haverford (PA) Meeting.

The FCNL hotline report was now being given every Sunday by Tom Van Lent; he distributed sample letters to encourage people to respond to issues by sending letters to members of Congress.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee assessed local needs and made recommendations to the Walton Fund. Pearl Ewald brought information to our attention about the Pledge of Resistance from the Peace Coalition regarding Central America.

In March, Mary Dee brought forth a concern about prison visitation. Since Peggy Atkinson had died, no one in Meeting had picked up this ministry.

We received a report on Ted Hoare's visit in February and minuted thanks to Mary Dee for arranging it.

Terry Worden and Marilyn Parker were welcomed into membership.



Terry Worden

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee donated to Southern Poverty Law Center and Peace Information Network

The Meeting was still discussing our concern for handicapped accessibility.

In April, Dick Ryder led a four-week discussion on mysticism for our Adult First Day School. Then Catharine Eckfeldt gave a talk on the role of Christ in Quakerism.

We sold greeting cards by Bobby Buskirk; she and her husband Phil were longtime members of Miami Meeting whose home in Homestead later suffered extreme damage in Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

In membership news, Robert Murray volunteered to be SEYM representative to FGC. In addition, Tom Van Lent was appointed to the board of South County Migrant Coordinating Council.

We made a contribution to the Association for Retarded Citizens in Riviera Beach.

We decided to begin asking for requests in writing for use of the building.

In May, Terry Worden reported on a visit to the Gospel Rescue Mission and the Meeting approved a donation of \$500.

The Meeting gave Wendy Geiger \$100 to attend the Gathering of Young Friends at Guilford College in June. Also the Meeting approved giving a \$100 scholarship for a non-American friend to attend.

Bill Madden of the EMIN community and Bill Larrison, a local Methodist minister and counselor, received permission to hold weekly evening seminars for the divorced and separated.

In June, Katherine Jeffries and James Cater were married under the care of the Meeting. Katie was a frequent attender at Meeting and our worship room captain's chairs came originally from Cater's Furniture Store in Lake Worth. In October, a letter was received from Penn State Meeting thanking us for our part in the Cater/Jeffries wedding.

The Adult First Day School discussed The Course in Miracles and The Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster.

In July, a Regional Gathering and picnic were held with Miami Meeting with 44 adults and 7 children.

The Meeting received a letter from Binghamton (NY) Community Friends Meeting to introduce Don and Mitzie Ruswick and their children John and Annette, who had recently moved to Delray Beach. Another letter was received from Stamford-Greenwich (CT) Friends Meeting to introduce Santina Sciaba.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee reported they sent \$50 to The Daily Bread Food Bank in South Miami to expand their warehouse and add refrigeration.

Virginia Redfield reported for the Hospitality Committee, thanking everyone for contributing to the coffee hour after meeting. Since this has become a lunch shared by everyone, she suggested we call it "Loaves and Fishes" and continue this practice until the Christmas Dinner. (This was the beginning of what evolved into our weekly potluck.)

In October, Heather Moir, the new clerk of FWCC, Section of the Americas, spoke to Meeting regarding the 16th Triennial Meeting held in Oaxtepec, Mexico in August.

In November, Meeting continued to give subscriptions of Friends Journal to the West Palm Beach and Lake Worth libraries. Meeting asked the Nominating Committee to choose a Clerk of Communications to take care of the newsletter, reports to the SEYM newsletter, and advertising. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee reported a \$100 donation from their budget to Quaker Center in Mexico City for earthquake relief plus \$75 to the Prison Visitation Committee.

Meeting approved sending the following telegram to President Reagan: "As we strongly urge you to focus on and negotiate in good faith the fate of mankind, we will hold you in the Light, in hopes you will be known as the Peace President of History."

Pat Ryan shared prayer and devotions at King David Convalescent Home as a representative of PB Meeting on Thanksgiving Day.

In December, Ellie passed on the Meeting newsletter to Philip Owens, after doing it for five years. Marilyn Parker wrote notes to visitors asking if they would like to receive the newsletter.

We hired Terry's son, Randy Worden, for child care during meeting at \$10 per week.

After Christmas Dinner, Bill Madden gave a talk and slide show on his experience at Findhorn in Scotland.

Occasionally Aaron Caldwell, now age 6, accompanied his mother Ellie to Meeting for Worship. One Sunday as worship was drawing to a close, he rose to his feet and stood silently. His mother wondered what would come forth since Aaron had been known as a rather rambunctious child. He said, "When I'm upset, I climb into the tree in my front yard and feel better," and sat down. A sigh of both relief and appreciation passed through the room.

1986

Jean Irwin, Membership Recorder, reported at the January Meeting for Business that we had 35 members including 4 dual members.

People expressed an interest in the Alternatives to Violence program (AVP), a training program in how to deal non-violently with conflict. We did present AVP programs for some time, with trainers coming at one point from St Petersburg Meeting.

Yearly meeting was collecting writings for Gleanings, an anthology of SEYM meditations, to be edited by Marie Stilkind, clerk of the Publications Committee. PB Meeting contributed several quotes; we have a copy in our library.

Suggested donation for use of Meetinghouse was now \$10. Interest income on the PB Meeting checking account for 1985 was \$15.69.

David Ritchie again visited in January and spoke on his experiences in Kagawa and Finland.

Trustees Fund disbursements for 1986 totaled \$13,394.

Frequent attendee Bill McGill was involved in counseling in Belle Glade, helping with a half-way house for AIDS patients leaving the hospital.

In April, Philip Owens, Treasurer, was ill, so there was no report. Jean Irwin had inspected the books and reported they were in excellent condition.

Meeting approved a contribution to the FCNL sticker project. The stickers were for car windows with the FCNL pledge: We seek a world free of war and the threat of war. We seek a society with equity and justice for all. We seek a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled. We seek an earth restored.

Gainesville Meeting was offering sanctuary to Central American refugees, including a family. PB Meeting was not in unity on the proposal that we offer sanctuary since the Meetinghouse was not equipped to provide bathing or sleeping.

The idea of an intergenerational community and school was proposed to the Meeting; Josephine Gray offered to look into this.

The Peace Coalition Against Intervention in Central America, led by Susan Glaser, was now meeting at the Meetinghouse. During May, Palm Beach Area Draft Counseling,

including members of the Meeting, were conducting draft counseling in local schools.

Members of the Meeting proposed plans for outreach to Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group. Mary Dee, Serrin Anderson, and Ellie Caldwell were involved in this.

Guy Gray made a presentation on Eastern religions.

As in previous years, we were swamped with a large mango crop from the trees out front so were giving them away or selling them to the neighbors.

Philip Owens died August 19th at the age of 74. In October, Terry Worden stepped into the role of Treasurer of the Meeting.

The wedding of Mary Dee's son Tim Dee and Carol Elizabeth Calloway was held June 28th in a park in Deerfield, Florida, under the care of PB Meeting. Several in Meeting attended.

Dick Ryder's daughter, Susan Ryder, and Shibab Ahmed were married Aug 23th in the Meetinghouse.

In November, the Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group began the process of becoming a monthly meeting. They asked for PB Meeting oversight and planned to bring the issue to Yearly Meeting for clarification. SEYM requested two PB Meeting members to nurture and advise; Marilyn Parker and Phoebe Collier volunteered.

Stuart Worship Group, also under the care of Palm Beach Meeting, requested a visitation, which happened in April.

Elizabeth and George Watson presented a workshop in November followed by potluck.

We began the process of discussing changes to SEYM Faith & Practice which was being worked on, chapter by chapter, by the SEYM Publications Committee. Each chapter was to be forwarded to Meetings for approval.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee donated to Adopt-a-Family in Lake Worth.

The Christmas Dinner was held December 21st.

In December, the memberships of Richard and Janet Squires were transferred to Ames (IA) Friends Meeting. They had been members of PB Meeting for nine years. It was noted in the minutes that Dick "was always a stickler for Quaker Process and will be much missed."

\$200 was donated to ProNica, a service project of SEYM, for a Toyota to help with the work in Nicaragua.

The Peace Center in Lake Worth was incorporated in December to coordinate local activities on peace, justice, labor, interfaith, students, women, minorities, environment, and seniors. It was intended as an educational and activist group, staffed by Pearl Ewald, Susan Glaser, and Javier del sol.

1987

Patricia Ryan became a member.

Douglas and Dorothy Steere worshipped with us January 11th. We remember her singing O God Our Hope In Ages Past during worship.

In February, Betty and Richard Broughton became dual members with Toronto

(ONT) Meeting. John Cruz was also accepted into membership in April. Quaker Life and Friends Journal were again given to new attenders.

The Social Concerns Committee again gave money to Brother Joe Ranieri of The Lord's Place for a new center for the homeless in Pahokee. Brother Joe was famous for raising money for homeless services by camping out in a dumpster.

In March, Dick Lane died at the age of 82. He had been a dual member of PB Meeting and Poughkeepsie (NY) Meeting for four years.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee hosted Richard Snodgrass from the United Farm Workers who showed a video. In addition, the Committee sent a telegram to Congressman Dan Mica asking him to vote against money for the Contras in Nicaragua.

Terry Worden led our first discussion of having a TV and VCR in the Meetinghouse. We finished guidelines for closing the Meetinghouse although this has been an ongoing project over the years.

A letter writing kit was put together by the PB County Peace Coalition for responding to letter writing requests from FCNL.

The Meeting discussed an ongoing concern about signage and considered a light for the front sign.

In membership news, the Meeting received word that Vera Norton had died in Indiana in February at age 85. Transferring her membership from Bloomington (IND) Monthly Meeting in 1962, she had been a member of PB Meeting for 23 years until 1985 when she returned to Indiana to be closer to family. After Meeting for Worship, we were sitting downstairs reminiscing about her and Kathleen Caldwell age 3 said, "Don't be sad Vera's died. We don't really die, you know."

In May Bob Murray moved to Boston and in February transferred his membership to Beacon Hill Meeting in Boston, MA.

Jerome Sill and Katherine Davis were married in the Meetinghouse on July 19th. Many family members and friends from their retirement community attended, and afterwards Meeting provided a reception downstairs. This was when we realized one AC unit was not enough for a two-story building.

In October, we began a discussion of "Ceremony of Commitment" in the section on marriage in SEYM Faith and Practice, seeking to broaden the definition of marriage to include same sex relationships. There was no consensus at this first meeting.

People in the Meeting, especially Javier del sol and Susan Glaser, were taking care of Pearl Ewald who was failing.

In November, Friendly 8 Dinners were organized by Caroline Campbell and later Gary Arthur. These have been popular among Quaker Meetings over the years. A host volunteers and prepares a main meal, and 7 guests sign up to bring side dishes or desserts. We held them for a number of years although some began to morph into Friendly 6's.

We were now holding the usual 60-minute meeting for worship on Business Meeting days as well as other First Days.

Gregg Schaaf was taken into membership as a sojourner from Friends Meeting of Washington, DC.

In December, the Christmas Dinner was again held at the Meetinghouse. JoAnne Cooper and Imelda O'Meara were accepted into membership.

We began to hold a First Day School for Adults starting at 9:45.

Pat Ryan attended a meeting of New Foundation Fellowship, which focused on early values of Quakerism; Meeting contributed \$300 toward her travel and lodging.

1988

Our membership was at an all-time high: 35 members with 33 adults, 2 children, 5 dual members, and 1 sojourner. Norris Fussell became a member, transferring from Sandy Springs (MD) Meeting. David Ritchie, work camp movement veteran, visited in January.

Pearl Ewald died January 14th; her memorial was held at the Methodist Church since we felt the Meetinghouse would not be large enough. Many members attended and received bookmarks with a quote from Pearl.

Marie Zwicker, Tim Felton, and Norris Fussell volunteered to help on the City of Lake Worth's sesquicentennial committee.

E.B. Walton was hired to construct a retaining wall on the south side of the property.



The National Organization of Women (NOW) was holding weekly potlucks at the Meetinghouse.

In February, Ruth Zalph received a minute of support for her participation in Cape Action Committee Caravan, Key West to Nevada.

A member of PB Meeting, Sheridan Crumlish, then attending Key West Worship Group, visited the Meeting.

Comment was made in the Business Meeting Minutes of the lack of unity in the December and January Business Meetings and the need to accept and resolve differences in the manner of Friends. Following the report, there was an extensive exchange of views, which finally necessitated a hand-clasped circle of silent worship.

Gregg Schaaf and Alice Kunkle were married April 16th at Friends Meeting of Washington, DC.

In April, Caroline Campbell was welcomed into membership.

Guidelines were set up for Adult First Day School.

Roger Brooks presented a workshop on May 7th on non-violent conflict resolution.

We held a Regional Meeting, May 15th, with Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group and Miami Meeting. After worship and potluck, we discussed Helen Hole's article on what it is to be a Friend and Friends' procedures.

Roger Brooks was reporting weekly on the FCNL Hotline.

We held a garage sale on May 28th, organized by Tim Felton and Caroline Campbell. It netted \$360 for the retaining wall project.

Trustees approved that Meeting would cover the \$85 registration fee for people attending Friends General Conference Gathering to be held that year in Boone, NC.

Ruth Zalph asked for financial help to participate in a Walk through Russia.

We received a letter from Pat Ryan requesting a Religious Education Committee and specifying contents of the program.

Diana and E.B. Walton were welcomed into membership.

Dorothy and Bob Allenson visited in July to work on our library.

Mel O'Meara resigned from membership.

A tea bag shortage in the kitchen was noted by Tim Felton.

Trustees allocated \$75 from the Walton Fund for an SEYM Pilgrimage with Sharon Beinert, Executive Secretary.

In October, the Ministry and Oversight Committee reported that a Clearness Committee had met with Pat Ryan for three hours to discuss Quaker Process and her threats to Meeting. No understanding was reached; the committee reported that they "continue to find and anticipate disruption in the situation with Pat Ryan." They ended by saying, "Our great concern is with ministry to those members and attenders who are with us." Shortly after, Pat discontinued attending Meeting for Worship.

The Meeting received a letter of resignation from Virginia Redfield in her role as clerk. A minute of appreciation was brought forth for Virginia's "devotion as clerk to Meeting for the past five years."

In November, the Meeting divided the Ministry and Oversight Committee into Worship and Ministry and Committee on Oversight for a one-year trial. We purchased a songbook and tape. Later we would become aware that "oversight" was associated with

slavery and changed the name to Care and Counsel Committee.

Guy Gray offered the Meeting some Florida slash pines.

There was the first mention in the Business Meeting minutes of the property to the north, which Gregg and Alice Schaaf had bought; they offered the back lot to us for an extension to the parking lot.

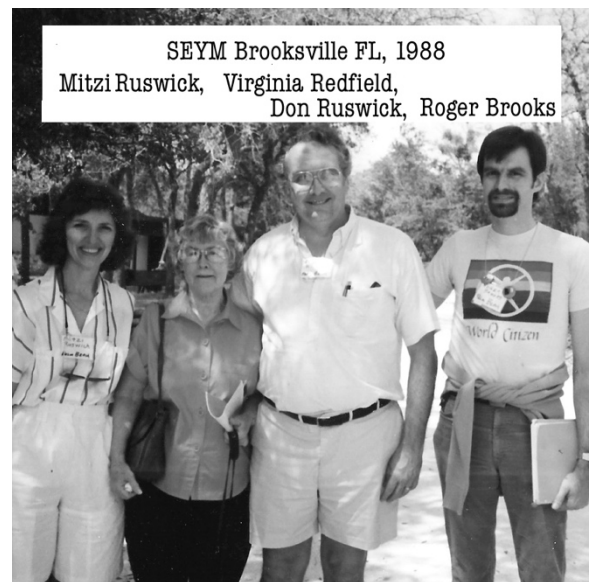
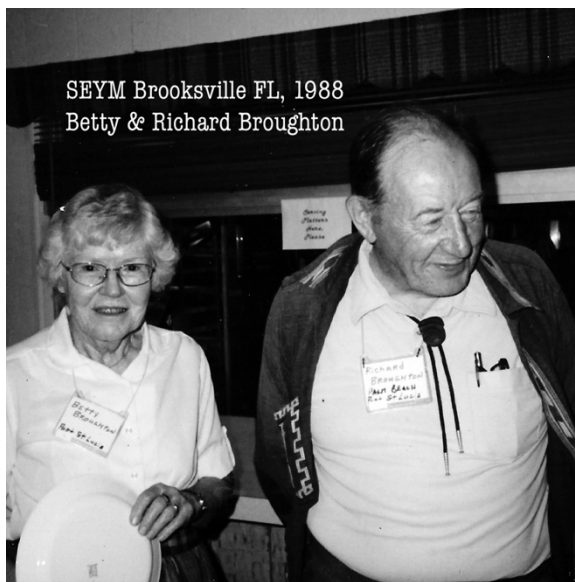
On November 5th and 6th, Marty Grundy presented a workshop on nurturing attendees and members.

In December, Virginia Redfield was appointed to serve as a representative to the ProNica Board of Directors.

To help with clean up after weekly potluck, we tried a sign-up sheet.

Ellie Caldwell sent Christmas cards to people we hadn't seen at Meeting in a while.

The annual Christmas Dinner had 53 participants.



1989

In January, Janet and Richard Squires transferred their membership to Ames (IA) Friends Meeting. We welcomed Gary Arthur's transfer of membership from Asheville (NC) Meeting. Jean Irwin, Recorder Clerk, reported there were now 35 adult members, 5 dual, 1 sojourner, and 2 children. Douglas and Dorothy Steere visited during the month.

A hospice group and a women's AA group were now meeting at the Meetinghouse.

Roger Brooks and Javier del sol were conducting draft counseling in local schools.

Ruth Zalph became involved with Habitat for Humanity and encouraged Friends to join her; several members have volunteered with HFH over the years.

Don Ruswick read from the queries at Meeting for Business to suggest that we limit our discussions of money and property matters, which seemed to be taking much of our time and attention lately.

In April, the Meeting approved the SEYM Faith and Practice changes regarding Ceremony of Commitment; the planned threshing session for April 12th was cancelled. In May, Richard Irwin expressed disagreement with the Meeting's approval of the Faith and Practice changes regarding ceremony of commitment. He and two other men in Meeting felt we had been hasty. Meeting revisited the issue and referred it to the Ministry Committee for further discernment. On June 21st, fifteen people again discussed Ceremony of Commitment. After extensive consideration, we concluded we were not in unity to make this change to the SEYM Faith and Practice.

Thelma Kemp and Dora Tjart asked to be removed from membership.

In June, we hired Lois Lattman for child care during the summer months.

A Called Business Meeting was held to discuss the offer of land by Gregg and Alice Schaaf. After much discussion, plans for a parking lot were approved pending approval by the City of Lake Worth. In March the City of Lake Worth gave final okay for the parking lot and construction began. The total cost turned out to be around \$45,000, including land clearing, paving, and landscaping.

In October, the Walton Fund contributed \$250 to the SEYM Youth Pilgrimage to Quaker sites around the northeast.

In October, 24 members and attenders met for a retreat at Duncan Center in Delray Beach with Janet Shepard and Irene Ramsay, under the auspices of Pendle Hill on the Road.

Marie Stilkind transferred her membership from Miami Meeting.

A rummage sale made \$1,012.24 which, with member and attender donations, covered the cost of the addition of an AC unit downstairs.

A Peace and Social Concerns working committee was established to investigate community needs.

In November, thirteen people attended a meeting with Val Ferguson, Gen. Sec. of FWCC.

Norm and Ann Moody invited Friends to their home and showed The Power of Myth, Bill Moyer's interviews with Joseph Campbell.

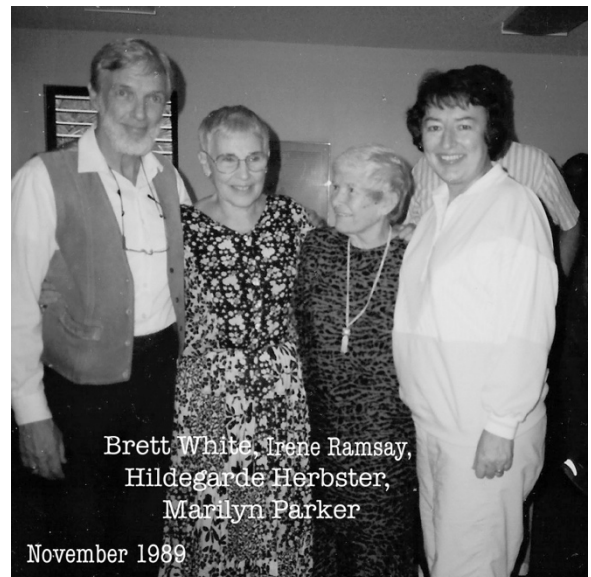
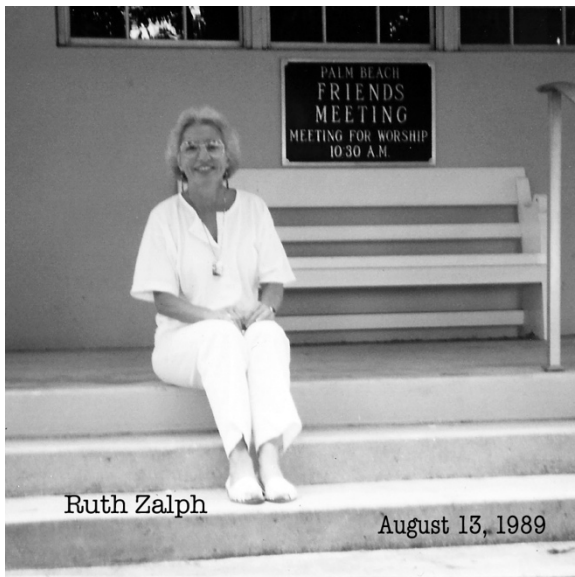
Meeting approved \$100 to be given to Ruth Zalph to travel to Papua, New Guinea, to build houses for Habitat for Humanity, but later she was unable to go and the money was

given to the local HFH group.

A yoga class with teacher Vera Paley was approved for use of the building. This class went on for a number of years with around a dozen participants each week.

Meeting approved the Property Committee's recommendation that the City of Lake Worth be asked to install a security light on the utility pole for \$8 a month and also that we remove a mango tree for the 20-ft driveway required by the City of Lake Worth for the enlarged parking lot.

The Nominating Committee recommended that certain jobs become 2-year terms: Clerk of Meeting, Recording Clerk, Treasurer, Clerk of Ministry and Worship, Clerk of Overseers, Social Concerns, and Clerk of Property.



1990

In January, Norris Fussell and Dick Irwin audited the books and found they were in good shape.

Mary Wilson transferred her membership to State College (PA) Meeting after being a member for 19 years. She died in 1999 at the age of 92 from complications of Alzheimer's disease.

A record number, 71, attended Meeting for Worship on January 14th. We usually attributed increased attendance in early January to an enthusiasm of New Year's Resolutions.

In February, the Ministry and Worship Committee asked that we consider the spiritual quality of Meeting: "The Committee itself is to practice the Presence and be open to each other's Light, and speak not from the head but the heart."

Gary Arthur offered to present a Quaker Classics Forum the first Sunday of the month; Thomas Kelly's A Testament of Devotion was scheduled from March to June.

Meeting held a discussion of the purpose of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee and specified areas of interest to provide focus for committee activities: 1. US foreign policy (especially Central America), 2. immigration reform, 3. military spending and the World Peace Tax Fund, 4. federal housing assistance for Native Americans, 5. humane treatment of animals, and 6. a local vs. global focus.

The captain's chairs in the worship room were found to be in need of refinishing. Sally Gottlieb offered to refinish one chair to see how much of a job it was. Later Dick Irwin took the rest home, one by one, to refinish and return to Meeting.

In March, a questionnaire on spiritual growth was proposed by the Ministry and Worship Committee to be distributed to members and attenders. Also the Committee asked committee clerks to prepare descriptions of their committee functions.

We packed and shipped books to Ramallah Friends School in Palestine.

In April, a recommendation was received from Bob Allenson, SEYM clerk of Worship and Ministry: "Since ministry should flow out of worship, the committee should be called Worship and Ministry." Meeting approved. Later it was brought to our attention that "overseers" has slavery connotation and changed the Ministry and Oversight Committee to Ministry and Counsel.

In SEYM news, Ken Liebman sent a letter inviting Friends to bring original poetry to read at his Yearly Meeting poetry workshop. This was the beginning of Ruth Dickinson sharing her poetry. Our SEYM apportionment was now \$30 per member and \$15 per attender. The Business Meeting minutes recorded the first mention of the Sarasota Building Fund to which the Walton Fund later contributed.

In May, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee requested that we purchase AVP tapes and literature.

We were notified of the passing of Leo Newlin, a faithful winter sojourner from Indiana. He and his wife Fleta lived in Okeechobee, Florida, in the winter and drove about 3 hours round trip to attend worship with us on Sundays.

People were asked to keep Meeting announcements brief and "limit proselytizing," which had begun to be a problem.

We donated \$250 from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee budget to Basic Foundation for planting in Costa Rica as part of Arborfilia's project of reforestation.

At a Called Business Meeting on May 20th, Meeting approved the recommendation that three people must approve property expenses.

In June, Meeting requested that Virginia Redfield write a letter to Orlando Meeting regarding divisions in their Meeting.

In October, Meeting accepted Tom Kirkman into dual membership with Morningside Meeting in New York City.

In Peace and Social Concerns news, we purchased a draft counseling video. We read and approved a letter from Sandy Springs (MD) Meeting regarding the Iraq-Kuwait conflict; Meeting then sent out a similar letter to local newspapers.

Meeting came to unity that only groups with a Meeting sponsor would be allowed to use the Meetinghouse.

Norris Fussell took copies of Friends Journal to the Lantana Correctional Center.

In November, Marty Grundy presented our annual workshop: Drawing a Line between the Demands and Enticements of the Dominant Culture. What is Required by Being a Friend?

We donated \$50 to the Center for Constitutional Rights for the defense of Marine Corporal Jeffery Patterson facing court martial for refusing to go to Saudi Arabia. Also \$50 was donated to Prison Visitation and Support, a Quaker-oriented organization.

The Property Committee was asked to work out a solution to the long-standing problem of children climbing the fence on the west side of the parking lot, causing frequent damage. In addition, the Committee again asked people to consult the meeting before donating furnishings or appliances.

In December, Roger Brooks transferred his membership from Miami Meeting.

1991

Due to decreased numbers, we combined the Worship and Ministry Committee and the Oversight Committee again. Jean Irwin, Membership Recorder, reported 30 adult members, 2 children, 6 dual members, and 1 sojourner to equal 39 total members.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee had much activity regarding letter writing on the Middle East to President Bush in response to an Atlantic Monthly article on Muslim rage. Muriel and Al Barker were following up on the Marine war resister's case. Mary Hausserman visited Rep. Harry Johnston to express her views on US seizing food for Iraq. Meeting sent a letter of thanks to Rep. Johnston for voting against force in the Gulf.

Seventy people attended the wedding of Roger Brooks and Margaret Pfander under the care of the Meeting on January 25th. The minutes recorded that "Many felt it was truly a Meeting for Worship."

In February, Meeting gave \$200 to Javier del sol for draft counseling and training. Also he was given use of the Meetinghouse for an arts program for children.

Paul Jolly of Pendle Hill visited February 21th. Also, Meeting donated \$600 for Fran and Bill Tabor to visit in November. It was said to be "invigorating!"

Gary Arthur held a Worship Study Meeting with a Concern for Peace. The Peace

Coalition of Palm Beach County was meeting at the Meetinghouse on Thursday mornings.

In March, since we had not heard from Arthur Robins in a couple of years and he had not responded to correspondence, his dual membership was laid down and a letter was sent to Westburg (NY) Meeting.

Gary Arthur wrote a short piece on improving the hearing quality of vocal ministry, an on-going problem.

The Hospitality Committee reported that napkins, disposable plates, and sundry items were oddly unaccounted for; Business Meeting considered this strange.

In May, Meeting welcomed Eleanor Schuster into membership.

In hospitality news, Friendly 8 Dinners were being scheduled during the summer. Meeting approved people bringing their own plates for potluck; we were also considering purchasing china. Later the Hospitality Committee recommended and Meeting approved purchasing Corelle plates from the Corning outlet at \$1 apiece. (Purchased by Phoebe Collier.)

In June, the Ministry and Oversight Committee recommended that Pat Ryan be removed from membership after a 3-year absence. As there was no response from her, the Meeting for Business reached unity to stand by "action taken." Also, we accepted the requested termination of Don Ruswick's membership.

The Adult First Day School presented programs on The Gospel According to Shug, led by Eleanor Schuster, Native American Cultures led by E.B. and Diana Walton, and Remembering Pearl led by Javier del sol.

In June, Meeting approved Mary Hausserman's request of \$100 for ACLU Palm Beach.

Terry Worden reported for the Property Committee: "All is relatively well."

In the wider Quaker world, ProNica requested \$435 for travel money for a conference in Managua; the money was raised from the Meeting floor. Jennifer West was given a Travel Minute for her trip to the South Pacific and Gary Arthur for his trip to Costa Rica.

The Business Meeting ended with a moment of silence, not to reconvene until our October 1991 Meeting for Business, which had been customary for some time.

In October, Kitty Eckfelt was removed from dual membership.

In November, Meeting approved a letter by Mary Dee to Ken Leibman, SEYM clerk, regarding Friends United Meeting (FUM) realignment: "The importance and uniqueness of FUM is underappreciated by those who opt for realignment." FUM is to "serve as a bridge bringing together all manner of Friends. Accepting and respecting are essential."

Meeting approved giving Javier del sol \$625 for the 1992 Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice Peace Camp. Meeting approved Joe Sheridan's request for \$20 for an ad in the Santaluces High School literary magazine: Let Your Light Shine, with the Meeting address and the word "Quaker."

A talent show was held in October featuring Palm Beach Meeting Friends' "hidden abilities." Thirty-one people attended. It included a potluck supper beforehand and dessert table after the show. We continued to hold talent shows occasionally over the years. The talent was usually mixed, from Javier's dancing, a young person playing guitar or piano, Ruth Dickinson reciting a poem or singing, the Erdman family famously singing My Baby's

Got Me Wrapped Up in Chains, to the Devine-Bisby family singing Will You Still Love Me When I'm 64? Gradually enthusiasm—or talent—for these events faded. The desserts were also popular.

In December, the Meeting donated \$150 for a Christmas Party for Guatemalan children.



New Parking Lot 1991

1992

In February, the Trustees Committee proposed having a disbursement in the Walton Fund for Ethnic Community Activities, along with the Conference Fund and the Contingency Fund.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee presented a report on their involvement with the Guatemalan community: a neighborhood food co-op, ESOL classes, tax preparation (by Jennifer West), transportation, and driving migrant families to a health fair at the Congregational Church and to the movies and library. Since Ruth Dickinson's car was becoming damaged, Meeting considering purchasing a car or van. Immigration help was being given by Javier del sol and Juan Gomez, an attorney with AFSC.

Bill Rapp, clerk of SEYM Peace and Social Concerns, asked for priorities of local committees. We listed Guatemalan issues, conflict resolution, children's education, the food co-op, and Latin American Immigration Rights Organization (LAIRO).

The Hospitality Committee reported: "All are fed abundantly."

In April, \$100 was given to Ruth Zalph to support her trip to Rio de Janeiro.

In response to comments that First Day School should be more Bible-based, Norris Fussell and Javier del sol noted that "children are often uncomfortable with Jesus or God-oriented discussion, so direct relevance of a lesson to their daily lives may be more helpful."

Bill Bailey offered his 1985 station wagon to the Meeting, but considering the liability issues, we had to decline.

In May, Meeting approved the Ministry and Oversight Clearness Committee recommendation of the marriage of two members of Adirondack Friends Meeting in So. Glens Fall, NY. They were living in Florida, wished to marry at the Meetinghouse, but were married under the care of their own meeting.

Judy Wiegand, Recording Clerk, reported that a "world-class collection of carpenter ants...needs to be evicted."

Twelve people met with Wilmer Joceym and his wife.

On May 1st, Jim Slitor, Clemencia Ortiz, and Carmen Mendez spoke at the Meetinghouse with great insight and knowledge on the situation in Guatemala and Latin America.

In June, Meeting approved the use of the Meetinghouse for seven weeks in the summer for Friday and Saturday workshops. In addition, The Green Party was meeting at the Meetinghouse and Gary Arthur was offering weekly yoga.

In membership news, in October, Jim and Sherry Slitor were welcomed into membership. Steven Thomas (Tom) Kirkman died July 19th; his memorial was held August 2nd. His memorial minute read: "He will be greatly missed."

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee was focusing on a Lake Worth summer camp for youth with roller skating, pool, volleyball, and trips to the Junior Ranger Camp at MacArthur State Park. Fifteen youth were participating in two peace camps. There were plans for free dental care. We continued to be involved with LAIRO for translation, school registration, and material aid (clothing, food, etc.)

We received a thank you note from Lois and Tom Van Lent for help after Hurricane Andrew destroyed their home in Homestead, FL. They went back to Lois' home in South

Dakota, and later settled in Key Largo.

In November, Elaine Riess was welcomed into membership; she attended the Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group, under the care of PB Meeting.

Javier del sol was invited to speak at a social studies class on Peace Education at North Grade Elementary in Lake Worth. Members helped Javier with a health fair in Lantana. Also, NOW was meeting at the Meetinghouse on Wednesday evenings.

Rene Crauder led the fall retreat November 6th-8th: Quaker Spirituality: What Is It? How Do I Get It? Do I Really Want It?

In Peace and Social Concerns news, in December, we received thanks from LAIRO for help with their Thanksgiving Dinner; their Christmas Party was also held at Meetinghouse. Meeting purchased educational materials for the children. In addition, we contributed \$200 to the "Let Freedom Ring" celebration about the life and work of Martin Luther King in West Palm Beach.

We were concerned with containers being sent by the state-side office of Pro-Nica in St. Petersburg to Managua, Nicaragua. There was "risk and embarrassment about [inappropriate] contents that may be in containers." We agreed to support the organization but wanted more accountability.



Norris Fussell Muriel Barker Al Barker



Barb Letsch Vera Paley Helen Rodrigues 1992



Flora Hallack, Peggy Atkinson, Public Defender Joranby, Pearl Fwald



Ellie Caldwell, Clerk - 1992



Gary Arthur



Jim Slitor Vera Paley 1992



Marie Zwicker

Terry Worden

1993

In January, Yumi Lansdowne, Miami Meeting, coordinated the Florida Peace Coalition Caravan to collect young people from Miami to Tampa for a Quaker gathering.

The LAIRO Christmas Party for farm workers had an overflow crowd. In addition, Javier received a LAIRO grant to teach reading and writing to ten youth in the county.

In February, Warren Hoskins from Miami Meeting held a workshop on conflict resolution with the First Congregational Church in Lake Worth for teachers and volunteers working with children.

Jean Irwin gave the annual Recorder Clerk's report: 34 regular members, including 2 children, 3 dual members, and 1 sojourner member.

John Calvi, Quaker healer from Putney, Vermont, presented a workshop on February 5th, followed by potluck and discussion; 34 attended.

On February 12th, we enjoyed a concert by Annie Patterson and Peter Blood Patterson; 80 tickets were sold at \$5 each.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee donated money to ProNica for a windmill at Cooperativa Logartello. In addition, the Meeting supported several local, non-Quaker young people to attend The Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice Summer Peace Camps. Also we gave \$250 to Chris Andres for his journey of peace and humanitarian aid to Bosnia and \$250 to Interplasts for children in Honduras needing plastic surgery.

At this time, Sherry and Jim Slitor were doing the mowing, weeding, and trimming of the Meetinghouse property.

In March, Judy Weigand was welcomed into membership.

LAIRO used the Meetinghouse for tutoring for six weeks during the summer.

Javier del sol and Jennifer West organized a tag sale on the front porch.

In April, we participated in Earth Day with South Florida Greens, African-American organizations, and Citizens on Task.

In May, Javier del sol was working with the First Congregational Church in support of Youth in Action, a multi-racial group with recreational and community service projects.

Marie Stilkind and Kevin Salerno were trying to revitalize Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group to meet regularly and to start a newsletter. Currently they had up to eight attenders for worship. Jerome Sill offered \$1200 to cover the rent.

In July, Elizabeth West, Jennifer's sister, was married at the Meetinghouse.

In September, fifteen members and attenders met regarding SEYM's affiliation with FUM. After a lengthy discussion, it was the sense of the Meeting that the SEYM affiliation with FUM should be discontinued and our ties with FWCC and FGC should be strengthened.

In October, Roger Brooks transferred his membership to Zurich, Switzerland, where he had moved with his wife Margaret. Wendy Willcox was welcomed into membership.

In terms of the wider world of Quakers, a Pendle Hill scholarship was made available through SEYM. Six-month subscriptions of Friends Journal were given to five new attenders. John Cruz attended the SEYM Fall Representative Meeting in Tallahassee.

We were engaged in work in the community with youth; a theater group was meeting at the Meetinghouse. Over 300 people were served by the draft counseling materials that

year.

First Day School had as many as 12 young people now.

Judy Wiegand took over the newsletter from Javier del sol.

A folk concert was held October 8th at the Meetinghouse with Bob and Dana Kogul, sponsored by the Palm Beach Folk Society and the Meeting.

In membership news, Jerome Sill died October 12th; a memorial was held November 14th. Joanne Cooper Storch asked for her membership to be dropped since she had moved to Corvallis, OR, with no nearby Quaker Meeting. Kevin Salerno was welcomed into membership.

Friendly Bible Study was being held on Wednesdays.

Our Fall Retreat was held November 20th and 21th on Restorative Justice facilitated by Eduardo and Clara Diaz.

We held a discussion and potluck with Marina Riadi on November 13th

In December, Meeting approved Sister Rachel's request from the Guatemala Mayan Center to start Al Falit literacy training program for Mayan and Hispanic women from Guatemala to be held at the Meetinghouse Monday-Thursday, 8-10:30am, January through May with 20 women and 3-4 teachers. Child care was provided by Sue Wagner, wife of member Rick Wagner.

\$500 from the Walton Fund was given to Amigos Construction and County Development Corporation in Miami, for housing construction and repair of damage from Hurricane Andrew in southern Dade County. Peace Camp was held at the Meetinghouse December 3rd-5th.

The LAIRO Christmas Party was held at the Lake Worth First Congregational Church on December 18th; Meeting helped with the kitchen and gifts.

For the first time in many years, there was no Christmas Dinner at the Meetinghouse. Later it was replaced by a Thanksgiving Dinner.

Meeting gave support for a Community Wall in the Lake Osbourne area, which included the unveiling of a 1000 ft mural painted by the community. Called The Peace Wall, it symbolized the coming together of black and white areas separated in the early days of Lake Worth.

Muriel Barker, speaking for the Hospitality Committee, expressed concern about keeping the Meetinghouse clean especially when there are events. The Nominating Committee has created an assistant clerk position.

1994

In January, Jean Irwin, Recorder Clerk, reported that we had 35 members, 2 children, 3 dual members, and 1 sojourner. Richard Ryder's wife Margaret died.

Gweneth Walker, Quaker composer from Vermont, presented an impressive evening of music on January 7th at Bethesda-By-The-Sea Episcopal Church. Several members of PB Meeting attended. It was a beautiful performance beginning with choir members lining the sides of the church brushing palm fronds against their legs.

Friends were reminded to be careful with the carpet and chairs in the Meetinghouse. The table at the front of the room was a gift to the Meeting, is fragile, and should not be

leaned on. Also the kitchen table with the breadboard was a gift. Jean has noted the history and donor on the bottom of the tables.

In February, the Ministry and Overseers Committee was offering Clearness Committees. Lon Clay Hill gave a talk on the Hubble Space Telescope.

In March, in membership news, Pam Lane was welcomed into membership. Ruth Zalph went on a vigil for Sarajevo through Interfaith Pilgrimage and Fast.

In April, Miami Meeting suggested intervisitation among other Meetings as a way to get to know others in SEYM.

Reaching out to the community, PB Meeting had a major part in a Friday night Bryant Park Film and Talent show. LAIRO used the Meetinghouse during non-school hours for language tutoring.

Susan Herr-Hoyman developed a format for the preparation of First Day Programs with a month-long theme.

The Meeting thanked Shauna Coolican for picking up Guatemalan children for programs at the Meetinghouse. On April 30th, we held a yard sale to benefit the First Day Program; it brought in \$700.

In May, Ruth Zalph brought a letter from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee to the Business Meeting requesting international debt forgiveness for Nicaragua; she earlier had attended the ProNica Board Meeting.

In Peace and Social Concerns, the Meeting donated \$500 to the Lake Worth Martin Luther King Day event. Members of Meeting expressed a concern about a hunting ranch in Belle Glade; Muriel Barker presented information on the "sport" of bow hunting fenced animals. Ruth Dickinson presented an SEYM minute on gun control regarding the manufacture of guns. The Conscientious Objector Committee continued its efforts; the Meeting donated \$50.

Susan Herr-Hoymann was assessing our library holdings.

The new AC was installed in May for \$1805.

The Finance Committee brought the annual finance letter to Meeting with a question about whether or not to state a suggested dollar amount for member and frequent attender donations in line with the annual budget and our apportionment from SEYM. Over the years, it has generally been the sense of the Meeting that we do not state this amount since many people give of their time and energy while others are more able to donate financially. We agreed that we need both and decided to continue the policy.

On June 5th, a memorial was held for member Eve Bailey's husband, Richard (Bill) Bailey, who died May 26th. He and Eve met attending Stony Run Friends Meeting in Baltimore, MD. They married and moved to Florida in 1991.

At a Called Business Meeting in August, we discussed painting the downstairs. The environmentally safe paint recommended by Eleanor Schuster was "regrettably too costly." Javier used a semi-gloss white and was paid \$12 an hour.

We continued to discuss handicapped accessibility. Terry Worden estimated the cost at \$500-\$25,000 depending on the chosen method. (The project ended up costing \$140,000 with a lift, library, and children's room added upstairs and down.)

We were researching carpeting and the downstairs ceiling. Terry recommended covering the tiles with sheetrock to reduce sound and improve appearance. We replaced

the front porch posts.

Virginia Redfield presented the fall retreat, Gifts and Needs of Meeting, based on her School of the Spirit studies.

We welcomed Bob Lustbader into membership.

After looking at the work of our weekly potluck, we concluded that we needed more people to help.

We sent a letter to frequent attenders about membership.

We decided to send our full apportionment money to SEYM despite our lack of unity on affiliation with FUM. Virginia Redfield reminded us that we had also never come to unity with SEYM on ProNica and had continued to question SEYM financial decisions. We hosted the SEYM ProNica committee.

In December, Meeting received a total of \$91,000 from the estate of Mildred Hollingsworth who died June 18, 1994, which was added to the Walton Fund. Later in 1995, the Trustees changed the name of the fund to the Trustees Fund since by then it contained more funds than the initial Walton Wiseman donation.

We held a Regional Gathering with Miami Meeting.

1995

On February 1st, Ruth Fishel held a workshop on developing goals.

An additional \$5,000 was donated to the Amigos Construction Company in Miami.

The Trustees decided to try to meet two to three times a year, not just once in February.

In February, the Property Committee brought forth nine items needing attention, including a shopping cart in the parking lot. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee was presenting AVP. Vera Paley was offering Saturday morning yoga classes.

Archivist Jean Irwin reported that she had slides and photos of the Meeting and would put them into pictures for an album.

We donated \$500 to the School of the Spirit, which Virginia Redfield had attended and later Ellie Caldwell and Bhetty Waldron attended.

On March 3rd-5th several of us met at Miami Meeting with Vinton Deming from Friends Journal.

Meeting approved that the Property Committee could raise its limit to \$300 for purchases without bringing the request to Business Meeting for approval. Meeting for Business ended with silence, and the minutes record, a "heartfelt rendition of the Doxology in gratitude for our ability to reach unity on the shutters" for the worship room. Also the Meeting approved painting the kitchen cabinets, but it never happened.

In May, Shauna Coolican and her daughters Jane and Tacy Sallen were welcomed into membership.



Jane, Shauna, Tacy



Tacy & Jane Sallen

In property news, the mango trees were trimmed and we purchased a new refrigerator. Javier was cleaning the Meetinghouse. Joyce Cavasian donated a bougainvillea plant for the back fence. We were considering replacing the ceiling in the worship room instead of painting it, due to doubts that painting the old ceiling tiles would be successful. Meeting requested there be no further property projects until fall.

The Social Concerns Committee proposed a liaison between meeting and FCNL. We were compiling a list of Native American issues.

The Meeting was looking into liability issues with outside groups using the Meetinghouse. A group stayed overnight in the Meetinghouse; Terry stated that we did not have insurance coverage for this.

A letter of thanks was received from Charles Guggenheim for assisting him with a film.

In June, the Meeting approved Judy Wiegand's request for a "joys and concerns" section in the newsletter. She encouraged people to send her items to include.

One of the wooden benches went to Hulett Pest Control for exterminating termites.

We held an extensive discussion of a Yellow Page listing: Jupiter/Hobe Sound, WPB, Delray/Boynton, Boca Raton, Pompano/Coral Springs, or Ft. Lauderdale. (In 2021 someone might ask, "What is a phone book?")

We were considering putting a small sign on 10th Avenue east of the exit from I-95. Later we ordered a sign from Friends General Conference and wired it to a sign already in place.

We discussed and approved the business procedure section of SEYM Faith and Practice for the SEYM Publications Committee.

In October, Javier del sol and the Social Concerns Committee encouraged Friends

to volunteer at Café Joshua for the homeless. Marie Zwicker presented slides and a talk about her trip to Guatemala.

In November, it was reported that PB Meeting had a listing on the SEFLIN network at the Lake Worth Library.

We discussed ways to improve Meeting for Business and held a worship sharing session on First Days before Business Meeting.

We did not come to unity on continuing to give money to FUM projects, two hospitals in Africa, through our Trustees Fund. We also lacked unity on SEYM's decision to retain affiliation with FUM and on what it meant for our Meeting to be in affiliation.

The Social Concerns Committee reported that Richard and Elizabeth Broughton wanted us to look at prison ministry and violence among juveniles.

Holiday cards were sent to Friends who had not been to Meeting in a while, something we have continued off and on through the years.

Jean Irwin commented that ten people on the Ministry and Oversight Committee was too large, the result of combining the committees and suggested a split.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee sent \$100 to the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice, \$100 to Veterans for Peace, and \$50 to the Native American Museum in Washington.

\$100 was given to SEYM on behalf of Bob Allenson and Mary Snyder, traveling Friends.

We held an informal Meeting to discuss coming to terms with SEYM's decision to retain affiliation with FUM. SEYM Executive Secretary Nadine Mandolang was present to help facilitate.



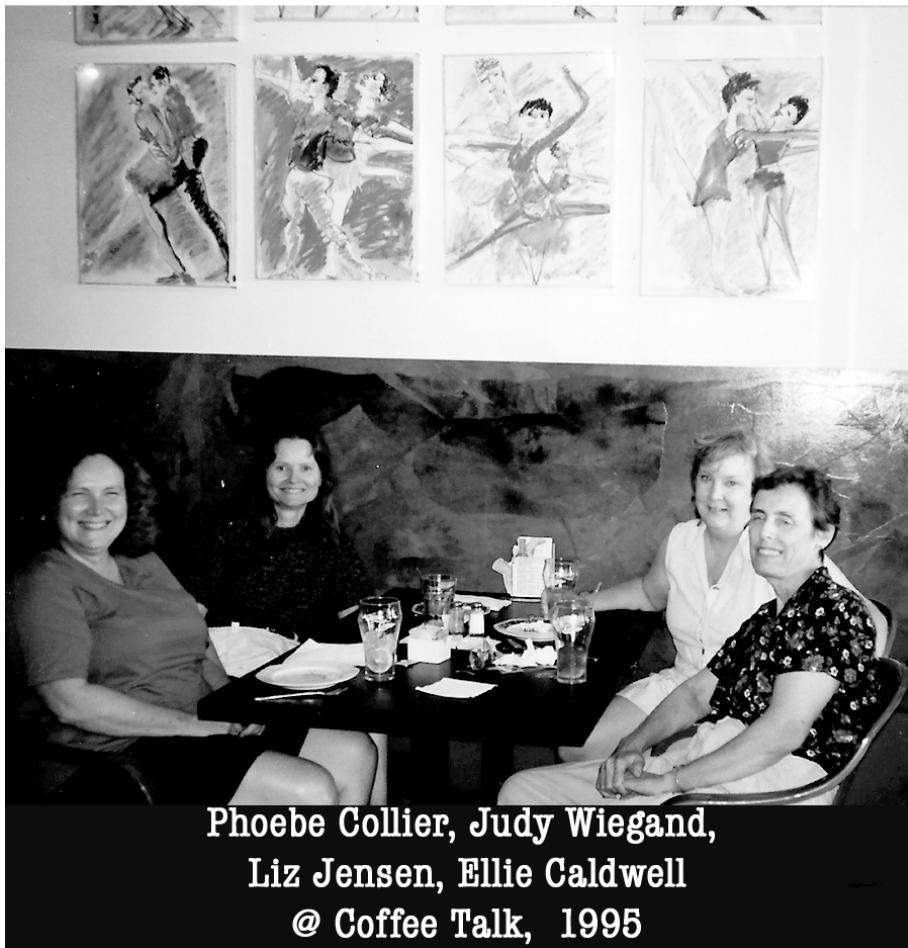
Liz Jensen



Liz Jensen & Judy Wiegand



**Liz Jensen, Paul Ruhlen,
Brian Humphrey, Mary Jo Klingel
FGC Virginia Gathering 1995**



**Phoebe Collier, Judy Wiegand,
Liz Jensen, Ellie Caldwell
@ Coffee Talk, 1995**

1996

In the new year, the Property Committee was dealing with water leaks. The Social Concerns Committee was collecting stuffed animals for children in war-torn areas.

A Meeting for Listening was held regarding FUM, including issues of Christocentrism, Quaker process, and exclusivity.

The Membership Recorder reported we had 39 regular members, including 4 children, 3 dual members, and 1 sojourner.

Ruth Dickinson reported for the Property Committee that the Meeting was raising the recommended donation scale for use of the building. A proposal was made that when a group was charged a fee, one member of meeting needed to be involved in the group. This was sent back to the Committee for consideration.

In property news, the Meetinghouse was tented for termites January 2nd. Rick Wagner and Javier del sol pressure cleaned and painted the front. We replaced the rotted and leaking downstairs double doors.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee urged SEYM to support the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice Youth Peace Camp. Also Friends were encouraged to support the Walk for the Earth, a Journey for Future Generations to be held February 24th-April 13th.

An AVP workshop was held February 16th-18th and was self-supporting, from contributions by participants.

Quakerism 101 was being held; participants purchased their own books, with two sets for the meeting. A subscription to Quaker Life was approved.

\$1000 was given to Eleanor Schuster from the Trustees Fund for her trip in May to a conference in St. Petersburg, Russia: Sharing Tools for Personal and Global Harmony. She led a workshop on the Future Search Project. The Minutes recorded: "We view this gift to Eleanor as our Meeting's gift to the world."

Property Report: Ben Walton worked on the louvers and vents to stop leaks. We were exploring the idea of aluminum siding. We were getting bids on vertical blinds for downstairs. We replaced the door to the upstairs due to rot.

LAIRO was using the Meetinghouse for a program with youth with a Juvenile Justice Partnership Grant. Ellie Caldwell, Ruth Dickinson, Javier del sol, and Jean Irwin collaborated on a letter to LAIRO communicating our support. Javier was using the building for youth theater groups, arts and crafts, and storytelling.

In March, we welcomed Paul Ruhlen into membership, a sojourning Friend from Kansas City, MO.

In April, after two meetings on the FUM affiliation issue, we "acknowledged a lack of unity, accepted that it was all right to disagree, and felt that at this time the issue should be laid down."

At SEYM Yearly Gathering, Ellie Caldwell, Gary Arthur, and Ruth Dickinson met with Brian Humphrey, and two Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group attenders to discuss their interest in become a monthly meeting.

In May, Virginia Redfield was reimbursed for copying expenses and given \$100 honorarium for her work on Quakerism 101.

At that time, five or more children attended First Day School every Sunday.

Meeting approved Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group borrowing our Quakerism 101 books.

In September, we held a Called Business Meeting to consider our concern about the SEYM 1995-96 budget shortfall. Meeting discussed suggestions, and representatives brought a report to Representative Meeting.

In October, Meeting approved the First Day School Committee recommendation that children stay with their parents in Meeting for Worship for the first ten minutes of worship. In the past, children joined their parents for the last ten minutes of worship which people felt did not contribute to a calm ending of worship. From the beginning of PB Meeting, when children attended, they and their teachers have stood at the front of Meeting at the close of worship, introduced themselves, and shared their First Day School lesson.

Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group officially requested monthly meeting status from SEYM. The next requirement was monthly visits from PB Meeting by the Visitation Committee, Marilyn Parker and Phoebe Collier.

The Property Committee recommended and Meeting approved installing two light fixtures on the front porch. The siding plan for Meeting was approved by the City of Lake Worth.

In November, it was recorded that Meeting was holding in the Light Ruth Dickinson who collapsed and required emergency assistance at the beginning of the Business Meeting. (Terry Worden later reported that this Sunday saw a very large increase in donations which pleased Ruth. Any time our coffers ran low, Ruth offered to repeat her performance.)

Allen Oliver, FGC Nurture Coordinator, and his wife Cynthia, led our November annual retreat and were housed at Holiday House in Lake Worth.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee sent \$100 each to Doctors without Borders, Native American College in Santa Fe, NM, and Southern Poverty Law Center for Tolerance Project. The Meeting approved a donation from the Trustees Fund Community Fund of \$500 to the Bryant Park playground project, commemorated by a plaque at the playground. The Committee also financially contributed to a Peace Camp canoe trip, Peace Camp at the Meetinghouse, and craft supplies for the year. Friends approved Vera Paley writing manufacturers of art supplies to ask for donations for programs for children at risk.

The Property Committee installed a motor sensor light at the back door. This worked well over the years; however, at some point, people hanging out on our bench discovered they could dismantle the light. We considered a request to remove some pavement at the west entrance for a children's play area, but decided against it.

In December, Judy Wiegand attended a clerking workshop at Pendle Hill; Meeting contributed \$200 from the Conference Fund of the Trustees Fund. Phoebe Collier transferred her membership from Tallahassee Meeting. The Meeting approved that our mailing list be shared with FCNL for one year, as requested by Paul Ruhlen after his visit to a FCNL conference.

We approved giving \$100 to the Salvation Army. We decided to delete our listing in Quaker Life. The Hospitality Committee created a list of people to open and close the Meetinghouse on First Days.

1997

In January, Rick and Doug Wagner were welcomed into membership. Jean Irwin, Membership Recorder, reported 39 regular members, 4 children, 3 dual members, and 1 sojourner member to equal 43.

Mary Haussermann died June 14, 1996 at the age of 77. She had been a member for 35 years since 1962. She was involved in Women's League for Peace and Freedom and her community in Delray Beach, especially for handicapped accessibility.

In February, we ordered 2 cases (36) of FGC hymnals and 1 spiral hymnal. They cost \$20 apiece and were purchased by members in memory of someone. Eve Bailey made beautiful calligraphy bookplates for each hymnal. When we sing, we often note the name at the front, reminding us of past members or family.

In March, Liz Jensen was welcomed into Meeting and volunteered to take over as editor of the newsletter.

We approved a travel minute for Eric Shank, an attender of Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group who was traveling to Moscow to "assist in trying to reform Russia's criminal justice system."

We were working on the SEYM Discipline Concern section of Faith and Practice.

LAIRO was meeting at the Meetinghouse Monday through Thursday from 4-6pm.

For the First Day School Committee, Shauna addressed a member's request that we give Bibles to children. The Committee requested and Meeting approved sponsoring a Girl Scout troop to which three of our children belonged.

The Trustees Report was given by Jean Irwin; Bob Lustbader did a review and found the books in excellent order.

Ellie Caldwell asked Friends to consider changing the name of the Meeting to Lake Worth Friends Meeting. Response is not recorded, but it didn't happen. Javier also suggested Jaeger Village Friends Meeting for the Native American tribe whose land we occupy.

SEYM approved Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group's request to become a monthly meeting at the SEYM Gathering in March. This was to be laid over one year for final approval.

In April, Barbara Letsch was welcomed into membership. Margaret Barovich requested that her membership be laid down. Margaret was spending more time in Pennsylvania and seldom able to attend Meeting.

The Social Concerns Committee invited Paula Wilson, of Miami Meeting and AFSC, to discuss immigration and welfare issues. The Committee gave \$500 to the AFSC Mayan Project.

The Property Committee recommended shutters for the first floor and was considering a fence around the AC unit to prevent the "leaping depredations of children," as recorded in the minutes.

A member for 14 years, Al Barker died May 5th at the age of 76. His memorial was held May 10th. To commemorate his faithful dishwashing, a plaque above the sink reads: Al Barker Memorial Dish Washing, which Javier and the First Day School children decorated. Al was also remembered for always having peppermints in his pocket for the

children.

In June, we began a discussion of the upstairs carpeting. The Property Committee requested input on redoing the kitchen cabinets. We agreed to purchase downstairs shutters.

On September 9th, Roberta Channel (85) died in Atlanta, GA, where she had moved after being clerk of meeting for many years and a member for 15 years.

Our annual retreat date was changed from November to February.

Rick Wagner reported for the Property Committee requesting \$245 to stripe the parking lot and \$185 to prepare and repaint 3 sets of double doors. We have had damage to the fence again.

In October, we hosted SEYM Representative Meeting (later called Fall Interim Business Meeting). Sixty-four adults and twelve children attended at a cost to the Meeting of \$230. This included housing with Friends, preparing Saturday lunch, and takeout dinner, after which some friends went contra dancing at the Calvary United Methodist Church in Lake Worth with Gary Arthur.

Mary Dee died October 29th, a member of PB Meeting for 24 years. Her Memorial Minute called her a "channel of God's love and light." She was married to Matthew Dee for 53 years; her memorial was held Saturday, November 22nd.

Anne Devine was hired to clean the Meetinghouse for \$12 an hour, 3-5 hours each time. We were still having fence problems.

A computer was donated by Liz Jenson's family that we thought could be used to keep records and the library inventory. However, people objected to having this technology in the Meetinghouse, so it was eventually donated.

A massive demonstration against the launch from the Florida Keys of Cassini, a plutonium-fueled space vehicle, was held October 3rd-5th.

On November 23rd, we attended the Regional Picnic with Miami Meeting and Ft. Lauderdale and Stuart Worship Groups at Hugh Taylor St. Park in Boca Raton.

Our neighbor Paul Wise upgraded the electrical outlets.

In memory of Mary Dee, \$985 was donated to the Meeting, with which we purchased books for the library, including Rise up Singing, and donated to AFSC and the SEYM Secretary's Fund.

In December, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee donated to Tribal College, SPLC, and Earth Connection out of its annual budget.

1998

Jean Irwin, Membership Recorder, reported 39 members plus 5 children, 3 dual members, 1 sojourner to equal 43.

We held a Meeting for Healing that was well attended.

After serving as the first Treasurer of the Trustees Fund for 24 years, Jean Irwin retired and recommended that Ellie Caldwell be named as Treasurer. Meeting approved. The Meeting minuted thanks to Jean for her years of service.

The Social Concerns Committee held a moving discussion with Harvey Holland and others from Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation.

In February, the Property Committee put deadbolts on the outside door downstairs. The vinyl chairs were reupholstered. (The chairs were originally purchased by Flora Hallock in memory of her sister Esther Wiseman, wife of Walton Wiseman.)

The Florida Coalition of Peace and Justice was meeting at the Meetinghouse.

Michael Wajda, Development Director of FGC, conducted our annual retreat. We minuted appreciation to Jeanette Page for providing child care.

In March, we rescheduled Adult Forum on First Days from 9:45am-10:30 to 9:30-10:15 to allow time for people to prepare for worship

We welcomed Anne Devine and her daughters Clarke and Harriss Bisby into membership, transferring from Homewood Meeting in Baltimore, MD.

The Property Committee was concerned about children in the LAIRO program not being properly supervised. Also, the sign out front was defaced. In April, the committee reported it was giving some attention to the key issue.

We created an attenders' packet of numerous pamphlets to hand out to frequent attenders.

We had concern about the Juvenile Justice Program at the Meetinghouse, but Javier reported it was "low intensity damage" and mostly nuisance issues.

Liz Jensen and Ruth Dickinson were working together on the newsletter.

In May, the Meeting gave Kathleen Caldwell financial help to attend the teen program at Pendle Hill. Elaine Reiss and Kevin Salerno transferred their memberships to Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group. Jakob Posti was born to Jo and Steve Posti on May 1st. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee reported that Javier del sol had set up an Earthkeepers Nature Club for kids.

In June, the Meeting approved a request from the "Imagination Club" of PB County School of the Arts to hold a monthly coffeehouse.

Javier del sol painted the worship room.

Dan Seeger visited Meeting on June 6th.

In September, Stan Andrews and Sabrina Tuttle were welcomed into membership.

Michael Sturm gave a workshop on energy flow and the concept of shared spiritual energy.

We sent a letter to the Scottish Rites of Lake Worth to express our opposition to their sponsoring periodic gun shows.

Shauna Coolican brought a concern regarding an appeal for help from a local mother and asked for clearness on how to respond.

In October, the Meeting gave a Friends Journal subscription to Nancy Sheridan.

Meeting approved Bhetty Waldron's use of the Meetinghouse for a program on Your Money or Your Life, on personal finance.

We discussed our weekly potluck after worship and decided to continue. But the minutes read that F/friends were to be aware there was no "Designated Food Fairy" who made it happen, including set up and clean up. A newsletter article was planned to request more help.

We discussed the issue of inaudible messages and will ask soft-spoken members to speak up.

The annual retreat was moved to early March.

Shauna was checking with an insurance company to make sure we have adequate coverage for groups meeting here.

Meeting approved Rick Wagner's request to offer Tai Chi at the Meetinghouse; he was asking participants for a donation for expenses and snacks.

We approved Pax Christi's use of the Meetinghouse, 5-7 people, to work on ending the death penalty.

The coffeehouse for PB County School of the Arts was very successful.

Meeting offered support to Bob Lustbader for his leading to prepare material aid packets for Kosovo. Over the years we participated in several AFSC collections of packets for groups around the world.

In November, we contributed \$200 to a neighborhood event held by ProNica to help Nicaragua with recovery from Hurricane Mitch. Also \$500 was donated from the Trustees Fund to ProNica and \$1000 to AFSC for hurricane relief efforts.

We approved bumper corners on the tables downstairs to protect children accompanying their Guatemalan mothers to the literacy program.

We approved asking Trustees to prepare guidelines for use of the Meetinghouse; the Property Committee was overwhelmed by requests. In addition Liz Jensen was researching insurance liability issues. Meanwhile, the "More than Talk Coffeehouse" donations were being held in escrow while we figured this out.

In December, Jean Irwin reported for the Archives Committee that we were being asked to submit our archives to Bill Rapp, SEYM Archives Committee, to be stored at the University of Florida. Muriel Barker, Jean Irwin, and Javier del sol offered to follow up and see what should be archived.

We welcomed Jan Hamilton into membership, a transfer from Albuquerque (NM) Friends Meeting.

The annual budget was presented, which led to a discussion of Yellow Pages advertising and our Pendle Hill pamphlets.

1999

In January, Jo, Steve, and Jakob Posti were accepted into Meeting. We gave them a copy of Britain Faith and Practice and many hugs, which over the years became part of the tradition of welcoming new members at Business Meeting.

Jean Irwin, Membership Recorder, gave the annual membership report: 43 regular members, including 3 dual members, 1 sojourner, and 7 under age 21. Six members joined in 1998, but two other members transferred to Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group.

We now had better liability insurance for outside groups using the building. In addition, Treasurer Shauna Coolican requested a bookkeeping assistant to fill in for her if she was on vacation. Anne Devine offered to serve.

Kids on the Go Youth Theater and the Earthkeepers Nature Club continued in 1999. Javier and Ellie were continuing to collect used bikes and get them fixed them up for kids in the community. Also the bikes needed helmets and locks. The Meeting approved installing a bike rack for the Meetinghouse.

As Gary Arthur stepped down as clerk, he thanked the Meeting for the opportunity

to serve. The work gave him enjoyment and the opportunity to grow. He thanked Friends for their trust, help, and advice.

Our annual retreat was held February 13th with Nadine Hoover on Living the Spirit. We considered enhancement opportunities for our spiritual lives and the effectiveness of the Meeting's committee structure.

A rack for Pendle Hill pamphlets was installed. Later Gary Arthur and other members felt a base was needed for the pamphlet rack. Donations were received for the \$235 cost of a Shaker chest, which was refinished by Dick Irwin.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee participated in Earth Day at Bryant Park in Lake Worth. Meeting decided to encourage involvement but not sponsor; we donated \$250. The new clerk of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, Joyce Zerwekh, announced that we needed to identify Meeting's shared vision for social concerns.

Joyce Zerwekh was welcomed into membership, a transfer from University Friends Meeting, Seattle, WA.

We held a threshing session on the Death and Bereavement section of SEYM Faith and Practice.

Introductory subscriptions of Friends Journal were given to Helen Rodrigues and Bob Stanton.

Ellie Caldwell organized a workshop for women in mid-life, Saturday, June 12th, led by Mary Jo Klingel of Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group. About 15 women attended from Palm Beach and Miami Meetings and Ft. Lauderdale Worship Group. We discussed issues of mid-life and ended with an exchange of origami boxes made by Mary Jo.

\$100 was given to Kathleen Caldwell for Teen Week at Pendle Hill and \$430 to Ellie Caldwell for the Spiritual Enrichment workshop at Pendle Hill.

Meeting approved Buckley Griffith giving a class on drumming for pre-schoolers. Fees were collected, and \$75 was donated to Meeting. The minutes noted that this and Kripalu were exceptions to the guidelines as we do not generally provide space for paid programs.

The Ad Hoc Carpet Committee was dealing with various considerations, such as ecological concerns, personal taste, and Meeting needs and budget. Jan Hamilton, Eleanor Schuster, and Joyce Zerwekh met with the regional sales manager of the eco-friendly ReSource carpet company.

On May 22nd the Peace and Social Concerns Committee held a potluck dinner followed by a threshing session to help discern priorities. The committee minuted appreciation to Javier for years of service as clerk. Jean Irwin reminded us that "historically our social concerns activities stem from 3 main factors: 1. Specific interest and commitment of individuals, 2. specific abilities, and 3. time to engage in the work, e.g., making infant garments, prison visitations, or ministry to farm workers." The following priorities were set: AVP, local youth, environment, legislation/FCNL, strengthening community among ourselves, and prisoners. The Committee recommended more AVP training with the Guatemalan community and continuing letter writing campaigns.

Ruth Dickinson gave an overview of the Earthcare Nature Club outdoor activities including the involvement of St. Andrews Church.

Meeting approved the importance of providing consistent, competent toddler care

and is looking into hiring someone.

Property Committee recommended and Meeting approved ReSource carpet company to install carpeting in the worship room.

In June, Dick Ryder's membership was laid down by his request.

The Hospitality Committee recommended and meeting approved deferring coffee preparation until after the rise of meeting since this had led to lengthy socializing before worship.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee reported on the Earthkeepers Nature Club activities, and Javier's presentation of AVP training at the Cenacle Retreat House with the Guatemalan Center staff.

Kathleen Caldwell volunteered to come when she could to provide toddler care for volunteer hours for high school graduation.

The Adult Forum put together a flexible schedule in summer during July and August. The discussion of Friends for 300 Years resumed in September.

The Meeting decided to put locks on the outside AC box; switches were vandalized with a repair bill of \$280.

Ann Lane died May 14, 1999 at the age of 90. She and her husband Richard had joined the Meeting in 1983 as snowbird dual members with Poughkeepsie (NY) Meeting.

In September, we were continuing to deal with guidelines for use of the building, especially the issue of groups loitering after programs and annoying the neighbors.

The Meeting decided to obtain a safe deposit box (previously held by Jean Irwin).

For the Property Committee, Anne Devine reported the committee was still deliberating a solution to the back fence to "permit access but not invite it" and to prevent further destruction of the fence. In addition, we were considering the idea of a portable awning for kids' activities outside.

Anne Devine reported the Library Committee was working on book cataloging and discarding. Also, they were creating a display area for attender and new member material and for Pendle Hill pamphlets.

Meeting discussed the use of "clerk of the meeting" in letters to the editor to give them more weight. Meeting concluded that it would need approval by Meeting for Business. Some members doubted whether it would add any gravitas for readers of the Palm Beach Post.

In October, Meeting finally approved new guidelines for use of the building. Judy Wiegand resigned as clerk of the Ministry and Oversight Committee; Meeting expressed appreciation for her service.

Eve Bailey reported that the Adult Forum would continue to look at Quaker history during November and December. Film evenings were being held at different homes, starting with Phenomenon at the Sturms'. It was suggested that each week at the rise of Meeting for Worship, we announce the Adult Forum topic and child care teachers for the following week.

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee donated \$200 to the North Carolina Yearly Meeting Friends Disaster Service for hurricane relief. The Meeting gave \$200 to Paul Ruhlen to attend the FCNL Annual Meeting. We agreed to do group letter writing the first Sunday of the month on a topic recommended by FCNL. We held a Work Day on

Saturday, October 23rd.

Rita Lucey, a School of the Americas activist and advocate for women in prison, spoke to the Meeting on Friday, November 5th; 38 people attended.

Thanksgiving Dinner was organized by Eve Bailey and Muriel Barker, who devoted much time and thought to extensive decorations and organization.

Jean Irwin was concerned about the roles and functions of the Ministry and Oversight Committee now that PB Meeting had grown and suggested that we might want to split the committees again. An Adult Forum on Jan 23rd following potluck explored this topic.

The First Day School prepared a large number of school kits for Haitian children. The Committee was considering a revised teacher schedule, so one teacher served several weeks in a row, rather than one Sunday a month, to increase continuity.

In December, Meeting approved \$200 from the Contingency Fund for a Haitian literacy project undertaken by the Meeting children.

On December 5th, we met with Miami Meeting for our regional gathering at Hugh Taylor Birch St. Park.



Hannah Sturm, Judy Wiegand, Ruth McCaffrey, Deirdre Hickey-Sturm
Writing letters for FCNL



Mary Wickes & Ruth McCaffrey



Austin & Harriss



Clark & Melanie



Eve Bailey

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2000

In January, Meeting welcomed Kevin Salerno's "return to the fellowship of PB Meeting."

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee held a follow-up discussion of Rita Lucey's presentation on women in prison, to consider how we might reach out to ex-prisoners in Palm Beach County. Rita had spent time in prison as the result of her School of the Americas activism.

The Property Committee brought a recommendation which Meeting approved to hire a groundskeeper with an interest in native plants. Plus the fence repair was now urgent.

The first 25-year history of PB Meeting was being prepared by Steve Posti, Liz Jensen, Jean Irwin, and Ellie Caldwell.

The Girl Scouts held a fashion show at the Meetinghouse on January 19th. The older girls modeled dresses they had designed and sewn and the younger girls displayed doll dresses they had made. Shauna Coolican emceed in a scandalous strapless gown from her college prom days.

The FGC Executive Committee met at the Meetinghouse January 4th-6th, a rich experience for members as well as our Meeting. Meeting for Business approved the following minute: "Meeting expresses great appreciation and gratitude to Barb Letsch for her competent, gracious management of the hospitality." We housed and fed approximately 30 people.

The Property Committee reported that they were continuing to discuss handicapped access, the downstairs acoustics, and fan repair upstairs.

Palm Beach County Home Schoolers held a workshop at the Meetinghouse on February 25th.

In March, Sheridan Crumlish's membership was transferred to Morningside (NY, NY) Meeting on his request. Bhetty Waldron was welcomed into membership and given London Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice.

Members of the Meeting visited Stuart Worship Group on March 26th.

The Property Committee continued to look into handicapped access options. It was felt that a ramp out front would invite roller skaters and skate boarders.

Nancy Bieber from Lancaster (PA) Meeting presented our annual retreat on March 3rd-5th: Building Spiritual Community.

We received some correspondence regarding possible legal action against a former insurance agent for PB Meeting; this was referred to Anne Devine who was able to settle the situation.

We explored the idea of purchasing the property to the north of the Meetinghouse, offered by Gregg and Alice Schaaf, who years earlier had given us the land in the back to extend the parking lot.

Trustees were beginning an exploration of having the Trustees Fund accounts managed through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Fiduciary Fund (later called Friends Fiduciary).

In 2000 PB Meeting needed a minimum \$345 donation per member annually to meet the budget.

Meeting agreed to pay the registration fee out of the Trustees Fund for anyone attending the FGC Gathering. Rick Wagner and Gary Arthur visited the Stuart Worship Group. A Worship Sharing “opportunity” was offered Saturday April 29th, at 7 pm, as a follow up to our annual retreat.

Sixteen women who had experienced incarceration in PB County jails met with members of PB Meeting for informal discussion and lunch at a park in Belle Glade. The minutes reported, “The women confirmed the inhumane and unhealthy existing conditions similar to those reported by Rita Lucey. There’s a need for a halfway house to provide security and community support.” Joyce Zerwekh later contacted a representative of the group to learn how the meeting might help. We made a connection with PANDA (Pregnant and Addicted), an organization in Belle Glade serving ex-offenders. We donated money for grant writing for a halfway house for women and we supplied the women with career-appropriate clothes.

Jean Irwin reported on the archives; the Meeting minuted thanks to Judy Wiegand for her recent work updating the membership data. Minutes were being regularly reproduced and sent to the University of Florida for the SEYM archives.

In May, Michael Sturm was welcomed into meeting.

The Nature Conservancy met with us to present a program on Water for Our Future.

On May 17th, Liz Jensen died at age 43; her memorial was held May 21st. A member since 1997, she had served as newsletter editor, clerk of finance, and SEYM Treasurer. The minutes report that she was “a buoyant spirit among us.”

The Meeting gave \$1000 from the Trustees Fund to Jo and Steve Posti to travel with SEYM Friends invited to participate in Cuban Yearly Meeting’s Centennial.

There was no Adult Forum for July or August.

The Property Committee again reported concern about use of Meetinghouse by outside groups, especially in terms of handicapped accessibility. We decided to find out what other faith groups have done, get input from Action Mobility, and identify consultation sources.

Kevin Kyle Salerno died August 19th at age 48; friends spoke of his “seeking heart and delightful humor.” His memorial was August 27th. He was known for restoring antiques and caning chairs.

In September, Meeting approved making the Ministry and Oversight Committee into two committees.

Helen Rodrigues was welcomed into membership.

Friends in Unity with Nature (FCUN) met at the Meetinghouse for educational forums.

Meeting recommended that select items from the newsletter be sent to the Palm Beach Post for advertising and outreach.

The Property Committee reported that the back fence had been closed off with cross bars to minimize risk of injury. This repair finally created a barrier that would not invite vandalism but would also block the area.

Javier reported the urban garden project was progressing. For years the Trustees Fund provided funds to the community gardens for equipment and supplies.

Jo Posti reported for the First Day Committee: More clarity was needed about the

responsibilities of parents and teachers. Meeting approved that the upstairs would be off limits for unsupervised play after potluck; more teachers and helpers were needed.

The Ministry Committee was asked by Jean Irwin to suggest procedures when inappropriate disruptions occur during Meeting for Worship. Over the years we occasionally experienced people who felt the need to minister to us at length, were intoxicated, felt led to play the piano several times, or spoke inappropriately about politics or their personal issues. The Ministry Committee recommended and Meeting approved that members of the committee would be prepared to address the problem by speaking to the person, asking them to step outside or come downstairs, or otherwise respond to the issue promptly in order to protect the Meeting for Worship.

In October, the Trustees proposed two threshing sessions after potluck on long-range planning for the Meeting, the property, and use of Meetinghouse. There was no follow up report that this occurred.

The Meeting approved Joan Carney's request for a transfer of membership to PB Meeting from Ft. Lauderdale Friends Meeting.

Bhettie Waldron thanked the Meeting for helping her to participate in the FGC Gathering.

The Meeting approved Shauna Coolican's request that a young man from the Help Increase the Peace Program (HIPP) be able to fulfill his community service obligation with the Meeting. He helped in the First Day School, worked in the parking lot, did yard work, and washed dishes.

Meeting donated money to Barb Letsch to help furnish the Broward Children's Center Pediatric Respite Home.

The Property Committee met with Paula Beuhl, Director of the Equal Opportunities Office (EOO) at FAU, who had helpful suggestions regarding handicap accessibility.

Meeting approved Ellie Caldwell's request for \$10 for a Friday Parents' Night, a dinner of pizza followed by time for parents to get together upstairs while members of the Meeting babysat the children downstairs.

Ellie Caldwell attended a Lake Worth Ministerial Group luncheon.

Meeting hosted a discussion of Crime and Punishment in Florida by two Florida Atlantic University (FAU) professors of Criminal Justice on Friday October 20th.

In November, Jan Hamilton recommended a sheet of guidelines for the person breaking Meeting for Worship. Shauna volunteered to put this together.

Ellie Caldwell distributed cards with the name and location of PB Meeting to local motels, something left off most motel church listings. Javier looked into placing announcements in the Lake Worth City directory.

Meeting did not come to unity on buying license plates to announce the Quaker presence: MIND THE LIGHT followed by our name and address.

Meeting decided to develop a website for PB Meeting; however, for many years we were lacking anyone skilled in technology and computers.

\$100 was donated to Penn House in Washington, DC. We purchased subscriptions to Friendly Woman and Friends Historical Association.

The First Day School Committee announced the need for a discussion about classroom management.

Beth Leary was welcomed into membership.

After two threshing sessions on handicapped accessibility, building expansion was not recommended at this time.

With a bequest from Kevin Salerno, a concrete bench with a memorial plaque and some plantings were given to the community garden.

In cooperation with Ft. Myers Meeting, we held Prayer Gatherings in homes and hearts on December 23rd, from 4-5pm.

Bob Stanton was welcomed into membership.

We were continuing to offer HIPP workshops. Friends were exploring the idea of establishing a SE Regional office of AFSC in Lake Worth.

In our State of Meeting report for 2000 we reported the following: Paul Ruhlen, our pianist, left for graduate school. We welcomed new attenders Tim Waring, Elizabeth Lay, Michael Caciopoli, Hunt Smith, and Ruth and Bill McCaffrey. Phoebe Collier moved to Langley Hill, MD to marry Neal Andersen. Tim Felton moved to Caribou, ME. Caroline Lanker and her daughter Nancy moved to Tampa. Aaron Caldwell spent the year in Glasgow, Scotland through New College in Sarasota; Ellie and Gary Caldwell visited. In the fall, we held a Fun Night when young and old shared skills, including yoyo tricks, storytelling, and round singing. We also had a Poetry Evening and Folk Singing. In September we held a yard sale, with donations from Caroline Lanker and others. In June we held a pool yoga potluck summer bash at Ellie Caldwell's with Vera Paley leading pool yoga.

On New Year's Eve, a small Meeting for Worship was held at Gary Arthur's house as we ended the first year of the new millennium and hoped for peace and reconciliation in the New Year.

