

The Iowa Friend

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

September 2003

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 58 - No. 8



THRESHOLD

By Ron Bryan, IAYM General Superintendent

The Annual Ministry Conference has come and gone. Those who were able to take in a part of or the whole came away blessed and inspired. From the very articulate speaker, Randy Quate of North Carolina, to the many informative and well planned workshops, there was a clear voice of unity and anticipation of what God is doing in our Yearly Meeting. One word emerged in the course of the week that many people began to see and voice, that word was "Threshold". We seemed to sense that God was leading the Yearly Meeting onto a new threshold of ministry and opportunity.

From the thrilling reports out of our mission outreach teams, to the unity within the Church Extension committee and their commitment to move forward into the future, we heard and felt the presence of God. And as we look to the next year we are determined to pursue our goal of a Capital Campaign that was approved in the Spring of 2003. This campaign is aimed at helping us fulfill our identified mission emphasis:

- ✚ new mission and outreach opportunities
- ✚ strong pastoral leadership
- ✚ a modern and healthy Camp Quaker Heights



This year's guest speaker, Randy Quate, delivers a powerful message - "The church that is committed and unashamed can change the world."

With the unity displayed at our Conference and as it spreads out into all of our membership we shall be built up and excited about the Kingdom of God in our midst.

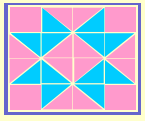
As your new General Superintendent I want everyone to know that my calling for the next year, is centered around our theme "COMMITTED AND UNASHAMED". Romans 1:16 states very clearly that we are to be unashamed of the Gospel for that is why we exist as a part of the Church. If



Yearly Meeting Ministry Conference found us recording Spencer Thury, Wilma Kaldenberg, Sallie Wolff Graves and Todd Leet as ordained of God and prepared for ministry in the Friends Church.

we are humble before God and man, but firm in our faith, our witness shall be true and our testimonies will have impact. With this as our center, then most assuredly there is a new "threshold" of ministry opportunities before us. Much effort shall be expended to not leave any one behind, but we must move forward. There are so many souls that do not have the "peace of God which surpasses all understanding" within, we can truthfully express that there are ministry opportunities for every person and every Meeting.

My request for each person and Meeting is this, what need is there in my home, or neighborhood or community that I can help fulfill? Am I willing to make myself available as a humble servant of God, to reach out in the name of our Lord whether expressed or demonstrated to my neighbor? Do I want to be a contributor and not just a spectator in the always exciting Kingdom work of affecting lives?



Friendly Flashes

*"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord.
"They are plans for good and not for disaster, to
give you a future and a hope."*

The Iowa Ministry Conference was an exciting and fun time. It was great to see the diversity of Quakers in attendance. We ranged from Elders with canes or walkers to babies in strollers. In between were the body of Friends, some with a single earring, (male) ankle bracelet (female), from high heels and hose, to flip-flops, business suits to shorts, blues jeans to full length dresses. We cover the spectrum; all of us bonded in our faith and love of Jesus Christ.

The talent night also gave us the full range of the gifts God has given to each of us. Guitars, Trombone and Piano accompanied the musical gifts of voice for an evening of music laughter. Whether the hauntingly beautiful trombone solo of The Lord's Prayer or the acapella singing of original music by one of our young teenagers, we were moved by the many ways praises to the Lord was sung. We also laughed until our sides hurt and tears ran down our cheeks at the PigLatin song and of course the country ballad with the pickle in the ear. Sorry you missed out, but that is what happens when you aren't at this yearly event.

Our Celebration of Service saw the installation of a full board for Iowa USFW. Ann Davidson led a time of open sharing as we celebrated the life of Edith Radcliff. She went to Africa in 1946 and served faithfully until her last breath. We saw two societies lay down their members, Trinity and Grinnell. After years of serving in the church, they no longer are able to meet in an organized fashion. We also heard from the new society - Grace, with an age range from high school to middle age. So how have they attracted the younger members needed to keep a society going strong? They did it by stepping out side the box!

Grace realized that one more night meeting just to visit was not going to be appealing to women with already full schedules, so they have a community service project at each meeting. All things we have never done before, at least not as part of our USFW meeting. Why not? We used to gather to roll bandages, to sew baby layettes. To sort clothes for AFSC. We worked on a project while we had our lesson and we bonded together. From this time we also learned of each other's needs and prayer concerns, we nurtured and strengthened one another.

As young women come to our churches, do we make them feel welcome and listen to their ideas or do we in the name of "the Quaker way" (you know, waiting on the Lord to lead all of us in the same direction) place a wet blanket on their enthusiasm and smother out the leading and their interest at the same time? We come in all sizes, shapes and interests, age has nothing to do with it, God speaks to all of us. Whether in piglatin or with a pickle stuck in our ear, dresses or blue jeans let us come together to serve God and celebrate our diversity.

See you at the Fall Retreat - October 11th at CQH!

Peace - Linda Burnett



CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS

Dear Friends,

Camp Jubilee, a camp for persons with disabilities, used the Quaker Heights Campground this summer for several days. We were utterly amazed on how your congregations came together to assist us and our campers. I am still in awe that people from your congregations came and assisted us in providing a safe Christian camping experience for persons with disabilities. Ric and Linda, the camp supervisors, were so helpful and delightful to be around. They were always willing to assist us in any problem that we had. The congregates were willing to work with our campers and put many smiles on their faces. I have directed camps for persons with disabilities across the state of Iowa for 13 years and have never seen so much collaboration. My staff was shocked and kept saying, "where did these people come from"? I told them that they were with the "Friends" church and have come on their own.



We were quite impressed with your fellowship, which I will never forget. I have been speaking to people all over about how your congregates were so helpful and always willing to pick up any slack.

Once again I would like to thank Ric and Linda Garrison. They are the most generous, loving, and giving people I have met in a while. They deserve an award or recognition for what they have done at Quaker Heights. I will be including my experience at Quaker Heights into my speeches that I deliver to groups across Iowa. You have a hidden secret -- Quaker Heights and the Garrisons. What a combination!!!

Camp Jubilee 2003 was a great success, thanks to all of you!

Sincerely,

Michael Murphy, Camp Jubilee



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

September 19-21 - FUM Emerging Leaders Conference
22 - 6:30 pm, Camp Board @ CQH

September 28 - Pastor's Retreat @ CQH
thru October 1

October 3 - 8 - FUM Board @ North Carolina
4 - 9:30 am, C.E. Retreat @ Grinnell
11 - USFW Fall Retreat @ CQH
11 - 9:30 am, M&C Bd @ YM Office
16 - 5:30 pm, Task Force @ CQH
19 - 2:30 pm, P&CSC Bd @ YM Office
25 - 2:00 pm, Church Ext. @ Davenport

November 1 - 9:30 am, BOC @ YM Office
15 - 9:30 am, Stewardship Bd @ YM Office



Appreciation Recipients

2003 Ministry Conference

BETTY ARTERBURN of **Bangor Liberty Friends** has been a quiet, unassuming witness to the Marshalltown community through many avenues of service. For several years she has been reading to children at the Franklin elementary school one morning each week and helping nursing home residents play Bingo one afternoon a week. For four years she has also given one day a week to volunteer at the Veteran's Home. There she helps the residents with crafts and getting them to and from various activities. In the last couple of years, she has added working in the supply closet at the House of Compassion homeless shelter. One day a week she helps hand out necessities to those who are less fortunate in the community. She is also an intricate part of the committee that organizes and distributes school supplies each fall to the needy children in the area. In addition, Betty assists in planning and cooking the meal that our church provides at the House of Compassion once each month. We are happy to formally recognize her for these contributions to the well being of the community. We are sure that many, even in our church fellowship, are not aware of all that she does.



HELEN BARTHOLOMEW of **Middle River Friends** at Carlisle has been a faithful member for over 60 years. She has worked on the farm and belongs to Farm Bureau. She has taught adult and high school classes at church, as well as belonged to Ladies Aid (now called Quilting and Comforter Projects). Her teaching includes Bible studies in the Carlisle care center. She belongs to the Indianola Christian Womens Club and helps with "Come Home to Carlisle" celebrations in the fall. Church activities also include the mission committee, Friendly concerns committee, and the prayer chain. She is a very busy lady but finds time for her family, grandchildren, and friends.

KATHLEEN DARLING of **West Branch Friends** was instrumental in the placing of a Peace Pole in front of West Branch Friends Church. As it happened, they were set to pick out the plaques on September 12, 2001. They thought it was a fitting memorial to those who lost their lives on 9/11 to continue with their plans. She also planned a celebration of the Peace Pole for the two times after the Peace Pole was set at West Branch's "Christmas Past" celebrations. More recently, she has been an active member in "West Branch People for Peace." In that capacity, she has interviewed local young people about their views of war and wrote articles which appeared in the West Branch TIMES. She is currently helping to plan a summer event which will bring the community together to celebrate peace issues. In addition, Kathleen has been faithful in ministry to many of our senior members.



DONNA LUNDBERG of **LeGrand Friends** is one of the most caring, "behind the scenes" persons we know. If someone is sick, has had an accident, or experienced a death in the fam-

ily, Donna is the first person to make a meal or bake for them. Donna is also a source of support for others in need. For instance, Donna is a source of support for a diabetic woman in our community—she runs her errands, helps with her shopping (not an easy task for a diabetic), and when necessary, visits her in the hospital. Donna also visits many of our community and members who are in the nursing homes. She is also a "life-line" for a lady in our community who has MS and is the mother of 3 children.



She often brings them to church and Pioneer Club every week. When this woman has treatments that leave her exhausted, Donna brings the family a meal. She also supports many of our school and community activities. She can always be relied upon to provide a ride to anyone who is unable to provide their own transportation. She regularly helps with our church groups such as Wednesday Afternoon Club (WAC) and our Wednesday night Family Chuck Wagon. She also has helped to sponsor children for camp. The big thing about Donna is that she's there—sensing a need—meeting it—and most people don't know because she does it so quietly.

LLOYD MC DONALD of **Honey Creek New Providence Friends**—"It is great to have (Mr.) McDonald (Pastor) back in the community," are words that have been heard since Pastor and Martha McDonald returned from North Carolina several years



ago. Lloyd has been very active in the renovating of the old grocery store in New Providence that will be opening as a soda shop. He has poured out much labor into Camp Quaker Heights the last two years. We in prayer meeting know of Lloyd's concern for the Middle East. He is also a pulpit supply for area churches. "Kind, soft spoken, gentle, wise, truthful, loving" are some words that come to mind when thinking of Pastor Lloyd.

PHYLLIS PHIPPS of **Grinnell First Friends**—Our missions committee would like to honor Phyllis Phipps. She gives greatly to the Grinnell community. She works at the hospital, where she also heads up a program for the American Cancer Society that does outreach to recovering breast cancer patients. She is on the local board of directors for Habitat for Humanity. She also works with SHARE. This program is open to all in the community and exchanges food for volunteer service. Phyllis has also been a hospice volunteer and still does some work with them from time to time.

HELEN SETTLE of **Marshalltown First Friends** has for years been instrumental as an encourager of local outreach ministries as well as the foreign missions of the church. Her continuing efforts have involved our church in the local "House of Compassion" ministry, regularly cooking meals at this kitchen with other volunteers for our community Soup Kitchen ministry. Helen is also a frequent monitor for our overnight homeless shelter ministry. She keeps these needs in front of our congregation with frequent announcements and reports and recruiting of volunteers to help with these and other ministries. In addition to serving as a vol-



- continued on page 7

"The Challenge of Dealing with Today's Child"

CE Fall Workshop - October 4, 2003

Sunday School/Children's Church teachers, youth workers, parents, grandparents, family members, friends, neighbors, childcare workers - mark your calendars for the upcoming workshop sponsored by the IYM Christian Education Board. It will be Sat., Oct. 4, 2003, at Grinnell First Friends Church, 9:00 AM-2:30 PM. Lunch will be on your own; you may bring your own or go to one of the local restaurants.

Our topic this year, "The Challenge of Dealing With Today's Child", is one that is probably confronting you or someone you know. Many of the children we come in contact with are struggling with difficult situations which leave us, as influential adults in their lives, confused and frustrated as to how to relate to them. This workshop will offer you insights, ideas, help, encouragement, and the reminder that you are not alone.



Our speaker is Mrs. Linda Wilkerson (pictured above), a committed Christian and veteran educator. An elementary principal in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and a former classroom teacher, Linda has over 30 years of experience working with children of all ages. With her husband, Dick, she has worked in the Christian education department of their church as Sunday School teachers, youth workers, and leaders of a puppet ministry. Linda combines solid Christian faith with practical wisdom drawn from life "in the trenches" with children. She and Dick are parents of two grown sons.

The registration fee for the workshop is \$15 per person, with the 5th person in a group free. Someone from your church may have picked up a registration form at Yearly Meeting; if not, check with your pastor. Or contact:

Jan Palmer: (319)258-4956 - home
(319)931-4000 - cell
jjepalmer@hotmail.com - e-mail

Please send registrations (checks payable to Iowa Yearly Meeting) by Sept. 24, 2003 to:
 Jan Palmer, Box 203, Salem, IA 52649



October is Clergy Appreciation Month

check out:
www.clergyappreciation.org

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor; especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Timothy 5:17).

FIRST FRIENDS OF GRINNELL CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF MINISTRY



The celebration begins Sunday, September 21st, with worship in the manner of Friends during the first quarter of the 20th Century and will continue highlighting 25 year periods during the next two Sundays.

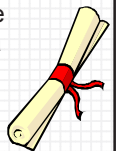
On Saturday, October 11th, we will have an evening gathering for snacks, fun and fellowship for all ages. Sunday morning will feature 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 current worship service as it is honored today, followed by a cookout and potluck. The afternoon will include a DVD of past slides and pictures, drama sketches, music and time to share. Child care will be provided on Sunday.



We welcome anyone who has had a past connection to First Friends or who would like to visit. For information, call Evelyn at (641) 236-8430.

AMY WYATT - RECIPIENT OF THE VANDERVELDE SCHOLARSHIP

LeGrand Friends Church (LFC) announces that Amy Wyatt is the 2003-2004 recipient of the Vandervelde Scholarship. Amy attends Marshalltown Community College studying Child Development. She plans to be a Preschool or Head Start teacher. In addition to her scholastic pursuits, Amy is a wife and mother of four who runs a full-time in-home daycare. She is quite active in LFC, providing leadership to Pioneer Club, the Missions Committee, and the Family Camp Committee, as well as working in Children's Church and the Nursery.



The Vandervelde Scholarship is made possible through LeGrand Friends Church by a grant from Marjorie Vandervelde in honor of her father, the late Dr. E. M. Mills. Dr. Mills was LeGrand's country doctor in the early 1900's. Recipients of the scholarship are judged on a combination of qualities including educational goals, character, church involvement, and financial need.



MEETING MOMENTS

180 WOMEN ATTEND USFW CONFERENCE AT MIDDLE RIVER

- We are honored to welcome Kevin, Gayle, Chelsea and Rachel Mortimer to Middle River Friends. Kevin began his pastoral duties in January of this year. We appreciate his leadership and look forward to the future.

Our fellowship has welcomed the following new members in the past several months. Rick and Rhonda Bland and children Michele, Milar and Faye; Kevin and Gayle Mortimer and children Chelsea and Rachel; David and Nichole Kessler and children Kaylynn, Natalie and Tristen; Renita McGrail; Harold and Shirley Billington; Cliff and Kathy Brandenburg and daughter Stacy; Alicia Floyd and children Kenny, Arielle and Jake.

Dedication services for Tristen and Natalie Kessler, children of David and Nikki Kessler was held on February 2, 2003. Desaree Dawn DeVore, daughter of Don and Denise DeVore was also presented for dedication on April 13, 2003.

April 5, 2003 marked the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Barb and Wayne Rupe. They celebrated with a reception at Birdland Shelter in Des Moines.

April 12, 2003 Middle River Friends hosted the USFW Spring Conference attended by 180 women from Iowa Yearly Meeting. Linda Barnett gave an inspirational talk on the Quilt of Life and displayed quilts. Dean Johnson also shared about the Friends Disaster Services.

Maundy Thursday services were held April 17, 2003 with the emphasis on the Last Supper. Easter lilies given in memory of loved ones adorned the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, the first Easter service in the new church. After sunrise service we enjoyed a wonderful breakfast followed by our regular morning worship service.

Graduating seniors Lindsey Grooters, Todd Gladson, and Anthony Rupe were honored on May 18, 2003. A special reception was held after worship service in the Social Hall.

May 25, 2003 Doris and Marvin Hoeksema celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a reception at Middle River Friends. A special memory book was created with all the cards they received.

The First Annual Family Church Camp out was held on June 7, 2003. Even though it rained, members brought their tents and campers and enjoyed an evening together around a bonfire. Everyone reported having a wonderful time.

Becky and Lyle Kolosik were honored during worship service by the Youth group as they were retiring after 7 years of serving as youth leaders. Becky and Lyle had several surprises as the youth spoke of things they will remember and the great times they have had over the years. Rick and Rhonda Bland have taken over leadership of the youth. They will have many challenges and blessings too look forward to.

We hosted a Box Supper Bridal Shower for Abbi Albritton and

Jason Nolte on June 8, 2003. Both bride and groom were present and received many gifts that will be useful as they start their life together. They were married in a beautiful ceremony at Middle River Friends on June 14, 2003.

SAYING GOOD-BYE AND HELLO AT LEGRAND

- LeGrand's Pioneer Club closed out the school year with a bang. We treated a whole building-full of Clubbers and their parents to an Old-Fashioned Homemade Ice Cream Social and topped it off with a rousing game of Bible Bingo. It served our purpose well as many new folks came over the "threatening threshold of church" and found out we could have a pretty good time!

In May, our adults served a well-attended Memorial Day Weekend breakfast to wrap up our Sunday School year. On its heels, we hosted a potluck as a part of interviewing a candidate for our open Senior Pastor position.

A one-day "I Still Do" Video Marriage Conference was presented in mid-June, followed by a Sunday morning service where couples could renew their wedding vows. Thanks to the committed committee who had the vision to make this important event happen!

The Grand Send-Off Farewell Gala honoring Ron and Joyce was held Sunday, June 29 at 6 p.m. in the LeGrand City Park. The Ron Bryan Family Singers provided a musical program and entertainment followed by ice cream and cookie refreshments. Many folks attended the "Farewell Gala" enjoying the fellowship and entertainment.

NEIGHBORHOOD DINNER AT BEAR CREEK - Time flies at Bear Creek Friends as it does for everyone! Our new minister and wife, Dallas & Eleanor Gilreath moved into the parsonage right before Easter. It was good to have them "at home" for that special holiday.

The annual Good Friday Service was held April 18th at Earlham Friends, with participation by all members of the Earlham Ministerial Association. Our children enjoyed our yearly community Easter Egg Hunt on the 19th, despite moving indoors because of the rain. Then on April 20th, Bear Creek hosted Earlham Friends for our traditional Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m., followed by breakfast.

Dallas & Eleanor, and Eleanor's sister, Sarah Kritzer, hosted a delicious supper at the church for all members on May 18th. Afterwards, we "toured" the parsonage, which the Gilreaths have turned into a lovely and welcoming home.

In an effort to reach out to others, Bear Creek invited everyone in the "southern section" of our neighborhood to come for supper at the church on June 27th. A time of visiting and meeting with old and new neighbors was enjoyed by all. We plan to continue this outreach with more neighborhood suppers for other sections of our area.

On June 29th, the ladies from our meeting provided Sunday dinner for the Cook family reunion following the morning church service, and all church members were invited to stay for the meal and visiting.

2003 is half over! Time does fly when we're busy, but we are just thankful for so many reasons to be busy!

The Iowa Friend (USPS 582-120)

P.O. Box 657

Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Email: iaym@kdsi.net

Website: www.iaym.org

Subscription Price (Individual).....\$10.00 per year

Subscription Price (Group).....\$9.50 per year

Published Monthly Except August

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
THE IOWA FRIEND
P.O. Box 657
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

VITAL SIGNS

BIRTHDAY - On June 8, 2003, **Adeline Rhoten**, of Middle River Friends, was honored on her 80th birthday with a reception in the church Social Hall hosted by her family.

DEATHS

Faythe Edwinna Gibbons Smith passed away June 29, 2003 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, IA at the age of 89 years. She was born in Warren County and worked at Continental Western Insurance Company for 20 years. A long time member of Middle River Friends Church is survived by two daughters, Judy Smith of Longmont, CO and Jo Ann Steffen of Oskaloosa; a son Stephen Smith of Carlisle; a sister Honor Hoover of Indianola; niece, Janette Gibbons and nephew, Dwight Gibbons; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren; and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Smith. Graveside services were held Wednesday July 2, 2003 at Middle River Cemetery in Carlisle with Kevin Mortimer officiating.

Harold Bacon, 90, passed away on June 3, 2003, in San Antonio, Texas. Harold was born on July 3, 1912 in the Liberty, Iowa area. Harold married Lela Yountis on June 21, 1942. Harold and Lela had two children; Eileen and H. Eugene. She preceded him in death in 1983. In 1989, he married Lois Murfin in San Antonio, Texas. Harold was active in the First Friends Church of Marshalltown of which he held several offices. Services were held on June 6, 2003, at the Marshalltown Friends Church.

Shirley Hoover, age 85, died suddenly Wednesday morning, May 7, 2003—just four months and one day following the death of her beloved husband, Kenneth, Sr. Funeral services were held at LeGrand Friends Church with Pastor Ron Bryan officiating. Shirley is survived by two sons, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a sister-in-law, Esther Stoner of LeGrand. Shirley was an active member of LeGrand meeting all her married life and was responsible for bringing beautiful flowers from her garden to decorate the sanctuary.

MARRIAGES

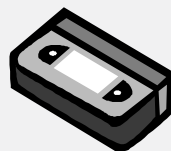
Abbie Albritton and Jason Nolte were married June 14, 2003 at Middle River Friends Church. Parents are, Kim and Paul

Albritton and Patty Nolte of West Des Moines and Marvin Nolte of Des Moines.

Jessie Phipps and Josh Ziegler were married Saturday, May 24, 2003 in a beautiful afternoon service honoring to our Lord. Rev. Ron Bryan officiated. The couple plans to reside in Ames.

Sarah Kathryn Kennedy and Timothy Lynn Schoenfield were married May 17, 2003 at First Friends Church in Marshalltown in an evening ceremony. Sarah is the daughter of Steve and Mary Kennedy. Timothy's parents are Terry and Karol Schoenfield. The couple is living at 2080 King Ave, Apt #18, Des Moines, IA 50320.

RUFUS JONES



Eminent historian of mysticism, teacher of philosophy, religious reformer and healer of schism, leader of the American Friends Service Committee, exponent of

Quaker service to mankind in all parts of the world.

The film on Rufus Jones and the booklet which is a companion to it are available to check out from the yearly meeting office. Learn more about the 20th Century Quaker more than 50 years after his death.

A great number of people who are enthusiastic about this man, collaborated on this project. They felt it would be a source of pleasure and better understanding of what contributes to what Rufus Jones called "a rightly fashioned life," if a wider circle became acquainted with him and his work.

RUFUS JONES A LUMINOUS LIFE (video) brings out Rufus Jones's sunny personality.

*and
A RUFUS JONES COMPANION (book) begins with a brief biographical sketch, and there follows quotations from writing by and about him. These give his wise and frequently humorous reflections on life, philosophy and religion.*



Both are available for checkout from the Yearly Meeting Office.

Periodical Postage Paid at Oskaloosa, Iowa

unteer, Helen has also represented our church as a delegate to the "House of Compassion" Board where she has given significant service in various committee works. These are behind the scenes works that not many see but without which these ministries would be unable to exist. So, thanks to Helen, the Kingdom of God through Friends in Marshalltown has a wonderful witness in our community, reaching out to meet needs of the most needy members of our society.

LYLE SMITH of **Motor Friends** is our person for this award. One has to note his efforts within the meeting and committee structure. At Motor he has served on almost all committees. He has been active in at least two other Friends Meetings, and it is probable that his efforts there were equal to what we have experienced at Motor. The Yearly Meeting has profited by his legal expertise. It was primarily his effort that sowed the seed and grew Friends Development Fund into existence. Virtually all areas of Iowa Yearly Meeting have been blessed by his life. Many hours of volunteer labor have been put into Quaker Heights Camp. With all this, how does one find time to be involved outside the church structure? He enjoys taking college courses, as well as writing and working with Habitat for Humanity. This latter needs special mention. He has assisted in the construction of several homes to be sold to those who perhaps would not be able to move their families into better homes and better lives. Currently a home is being constructed locally and Lyle is there. His retirement plan did not include much time for sitting. May his example be a good model for the rest of us.



DONNA STEDDOM of **College Avenue of Oskaloosa Friends**

*A good choice, without a doubt
 Painting and cleaning, inside and out.
 Decorating for showers is this busy gal-
 making "money trees" for every "susie and sal"!
 providing candles for dinners and our tea at twilight
 also many luncheons, to everyones' delight!
 You can count on her to bake cookies and cakes
 You can count on Donna for whatever it takes!
 She could be heard singing in the choir
 over the years, during the worship hour.
 There § much more, let us not forget,
 she also takes part in a ladies quartet
 One enormous task certainly must be
 when she was chosen to be a church trustee.
 As coordinator of this very busy committee
 the list grows as we think of your ability.
 She's a wife, home-maker, mom and grand-mom!
 We love you and thank you—Donna Steddum!
 —by Barbara Workman*



GREG AND KAREN TJOSSEM of **Hesper Friends**—Working through the Decorah Area Faith Coalition, Greg and Karen have been a driving force in setting up the Decorah Free(Medical) Clinic, which is currently open one night a week and serves people with no or little insurance from Winneshiek County and the surrounding area. Greg volunteers his exper-

tise as a doctor, Karen as director. The project fills a very real need and continues to grow, with at least six doctors involved, donated medication, and space donated by a Decorah church.

LES AND LA VOLA TROUT of **Center Friends** are the strength and foundation of our group and need to be recognized with the honor. Les is a birthright member of Center Friends, located NE of Newton, and he has lived, married, and raised his family there, within sight and walking distance of the church. Their telephone number is used for church information, transportation, cemetery, etc. Les and LaVola each teach the youngsters' Sunday School classes and are truly loved and remembered for that. They call on new neighbors, the sick and elderly, and send cards of remembrance. They bring flowers and are always the first to church. Les waters any summer plantings that need extra attention. He has a Christmas tree farm, brings a tree, sets it up, decorates, and in due time takes it away. LaVola belongs to a Ladies Chorus which has a weekly schedule of entertaining at nursing homes, etc., and Les often joins them as Santa Claus or whatever the occasion calls for. When it is yearly meeting time, we can depend on both to be our representatives.



HOMER AND WILMA WEST of **Pleasant Plain Friends** are a true team in lay ministry. It is not possible to single out one of them. They are involved across our community with people and activities, so they have a broad connection to the community. The result is that they often bring needs and opportunities to serve to light and also often engage our prayer chain on behalf of people in need.

**FCNL REPRESENTATIVE
 TO
 VISIT OSKALOOSA**



Jennifer Chapin Harris, Young Adult Program Coordinator for FCNL will be visiting Oskaloosa October 12th - 15th. Jennifer will be speaking at College Avenue Friends Church on Sunday morning, October 12th and again at William Penn University on Monday, October 13th. She will be sharing in two sections of Quaker Values at 9:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Jennifer began working at FCNL in October 2002. A lifelong Quaker, she was raised in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC. Jennifer graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 1999, with a bachelor's in English and history. She spent one semester studying at Oxford University's Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, earning her master's in journalism at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism in 2001.

She worked for several newspapers and news agencies including Agence France Presse in Paris and the Daily Hampshire Gazette in Massachusetts. While living in the Chicago area, Jennifer volunteered for several non-profit groups and political groups, including Quakers Against the Death Penalty.

If you would like more information about Jennifer's visit, please contact the YM Office at (641) 673-9717.

GRACE WOMEN START USFW GROUP

Grace Community Friends recently formed a USFW Society in Mt. Pleasant where 27 ladies have membership. Three of those members have dual memberships between the Grace and Salem societies. Grace will be holding their meetings on Saturday mornings while the Salem ladies will be meeting on Fridays. Grace USFW is especially appealing for those ladies who have jobs outside the home or other commitments during the week. The ages of those participating range from young ladies in school to those who are re-



tired. This age variance is seen as an opportunity for ladies of all ages to work and learn together. It is a time when the older generation can work and learn and be a positive example to the younger ones in an environment of work, study, and fellowship.

The Grace society assisted at Mt. Pleasant Christian School's Annual Auction. The ladies helped by working in

the lunch line during the afternoon portion of the auction. On April 19th, the ladies of Grace USFW sponsored a meal for the attendees. Chicken from favorite recipes, rolls, and drinks were provided. Attendees shared salads and desserts. Tables were decorated in spring pastel colors along with Easter grass, baskets decorated with eggs; pastel silverware and also jellybeans were spread along the tables.

Bluegrass gospel music was provided by Annie Savage-Webster and Stacy Webster along with other members of "Sweet Grass" of Iowa City. (Annie is the Daughter of Deb and Dr. Alfred Savage of Mt. Pleasant). Dr. and Mrs. Savage and Annie are all members of Salem Friends. There were 107 Present during the evening.

Grace USFW feels a real burden for the involvement in mission work of all types and has been very focused in beginning this work with an emphasis in community missions at this point in time. Other avenues for mission work will be explored in near future. Exploration into the USFW reading list is anticipated.



Bangor Liberty Friends Church Celebrates 150th Anniversary, July 12 & 13, 2003

In a spirit of rejoicing and thankfulness, many Friends gathered together on July 12 & 13 to observe and celebrate the 150th anniversary of Bangor Liberty Friends Church. Saturday afternoon people gathered for a time of sharing memories and letters were read from those who were unable to attend. Later, tours were available to the Bangor Friends Cemetery and Camp Quaker Heights.

A catered evening meal was served followed by an evening program at 7:15 p.m. where Friends worshipped in song, special music and poetry, as well as a time of sharing reflections and memories. Several former pastors shared at this time also.

The Sunday Morning Worship Service followed the usual format with congregational singing and a children's message. Again, there was opportunity given for those who wished to share, followed by open worship after the manner of Friends. The morning message was given by Ron Bryan, Superintendent of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends, who reminded us the practices of the last 150 years have changed, but the message has not! He urged us to strive to be a spiritually healthy people, worshipping in a spiritually healthy meeting, determined to minister in Jesus' name in our local community.

A catered lunch was served at noon with additional tours of the cemetery and camp. The weekend closed with our *Concert Under the Stars*, presented by local talent, after which ice cream and cookies were served.

Bangor Liberty Friends is grateful for God's faithfulness which has sustained us for 150 years, and pray that we will be faithful and obedient to follow His leading into the future.