



# The Iowa Friend

April 2007  
Vol. 62 - No. 4

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

## Africa Reflections

By

*Sarah Martin*

*Riverside Friends Church*

### News from Camp Quaker Heights



Camp Quaker Heights Workday is scheduled for April 7th. Start time is 9am with

lunch provided. There are plenty of indoor and outdoor projects to be accomplished!



We are looking for volunteers for our 2007 camping season. Please contact the Yearly

Meeting office or CQH to find out how you can be part of a successful camping season!



If you have not taken an "I Love CQH"

offering....please do. Your gifts help to get our facilities stocked and ready for the camping season. Thank you to those churches who have already given toward this offering!

My trip to Africa in February helped confirm that I really want to share the hope and love of Jesus to people overseas. I have been considering being a missionary nurse in third world countries for over a year.

In Africa, my eyes were opened to the real sacrifice and hardship that accompany being a missionary. When I first began reading about missionaries or hearing their stories, I was amazed by the adventure and how they saw God's hand in their work. Before this trip, the word "adventure" brought thoughts of excitement or a thriller. Now when I hear the word "adventure", I also think of the hardship and pain that can go hand in hand.

At the Kaimosi Hospital I saw malnourished patients in the wards. It was like a picture you see of starving people and you have to look away because you cannot bear it. However, this was in real life and just a hand reach away. I felt hopeless of what I could do to help. Supplies were limited at the hospital with only one thermometer and one blood pressure machine. Windows were broken throughout the hospital and medical supplies weren't available that were needed to treat the patients. I was amazed to see the Kenyan nurses' faith and devotion to do their best for the patients even with limited supplies.

One night after returning to the guest house from the hospital, I just felt overwhelmed. How could a seventeen year old girl help or make a difference in any way? I was overwhelmed by the poverty and did not want to face the reality any more. When I pulled out my Bible, I realized I had been relying on my own strength and had not been relying on God's power and strength. I cannot do anything to make a lasting effect on my own. However, God can work through me and touch many people for Christ that I never thought possible.

Becoming a missionary nurse will be a huge, exciting adventure with a lot of pain, loneliness, and suffering included. By keeping my eyes focused on Christ, the burden will be lighter and I will see God's hand at work. God has not called me to be successful but to be faithful. The trip to Africa helped me realize that following God's call is the only way to live. My desire is to follow Christ to the very end with no reserve, no retreat and then there will be no regret.



Sarah with the Kaimosi nurses, Sophia and Gladys

# Friendly Flashes

by: Linda Burnett

The March/April Advocate has the final results of the 2006 budget. This year, even with undesignated funds, 10 of our projects were underfunded. In 2005 the undesignated offerings allowed the board to fully fund all of the projects. I am praying we can do better this year.

When we refer to the 4Funds, Children and Youth, United Thank Offering, Keys to the Kingdom, Christian Service, Peace and Social Concerns as projects; it is much too easy to forget the human element. In our own lives when the money needed does not appear because of unforeseen events, we have the luxury of using our savings. Our missionaries, however, do not have that ability. A short fall greatly impacts what they are able to do in their chosen country.

Our Funds provide for the food, housing and other basic needs of the people we sent to serve overseas. The children they are serving also have needs. They need books, new desks, more living space, help with food for lunches and scholarships so that the children can go to school in the first place. We have workers at the Indian centers with out enough funding and retired missionaries without retirement money to support themselves. One orphanage is seeking help to become self supporting and to bless those around them.

We ourselves need to help keep the Advocate affordable so that all of us can keep up- with the various efforts on our behalf. Our boards and the boards that oversee these "projects" need help with the traveling expenses.

None of these are about things. We are helping real people serve those in need for us. This year, as November and December come around, we need to send an extra offering....a generous offering to make sure that all projects for 2007 are fully funded. It is the right thing to do.

Blessings come from blessings given.

Let us be givers.

**The United Society of Friends Women International (USFWI) will hold it's Triennial Sessions July 19-22, 2007 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana.**

**"Woven Into a Tapestry of Love" - Colossians 2:2 will be the theme for the conference.**

**Quaker Men International is also meeting at the same time and the same registration form can be used for both events.**

**Registration forms can be obtained by contacting the Yearly Meeting office or by going online to: [usfwi.org](http://usfwi.org).**

## Erin Beane -

# Reaching Iowa State for Christ!

IAYM Mission Board's Quarterly Emphasis

## LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF

My name is Erin, and I would love to take the chance to tell you a little bit about myself and the ministry God has led me to. I was very blessed to grow up going to Le Grand Friends Church. As far back as I can remember I went to church, Sunday School, Bible School, Quaker Heights Camp, etc. It wasn't until 7th grade that I really understood what it meant to have a personal relationship with God. God used some very difficult situations in my life to start me searching for something or someone that would not let me down. This is when God brought me to my knees and brought me into a relationship with himself.

I grew in my walk with the Lord through junior and senior high, but I have definitely grown the most my last 4 ½ years at Iowa State University. God has taught me to allow him alone to fulfill me and has really opened my eyes to others' need for him. In my last two years of college, God gave me a heart to reach out to the women in my sorority. Through those years of ministry, God showed me that he wanted me to go into full time ministry at Iowa State. This January I began an internship with Campus Crusade for Christ, working with women living in the dorms and sororities.

## THE NEED

Living in the dorms and in my sorority, God has shown me how much students need him! Students are looking for something or someone to fulfill them. Partying is typical and almost expected of college students. Drinking is a huge problem. It leads to a lot of bad choices. My freshman roommate woke up in the emergency room because someone slipped something in her drink and the cops found her passed out in a parking lot. Last year we had a hit and run fatality related to drinking. It breaks my heart as I see women I know and care about enter into very unhealthy relationships, often leading to decisions they can never take back. There were many nights my friends didn't come home because they chose to go home with a guy instead, even ones they just met. These are some of the realities of a lot of college students. They are broken and living an empty life, trying to fill a void that only God can fill.

Erin has shared her heart with the Missions Board of Iowa Yearly Meeting, and we would like to support her work and witness at Iowa State. If you would like to give toward her financial support, please send a check to "Iowa Yearly Meeting Missions" and send it to Bob Watson, 803 Minnesota, Glidden, IA 51443. Put "Erin Beane" on the memo line.

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news."  
- Romans 10:15b*



# Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

## Anniversaries

A celebration was held February 24, 2007 at the Woolson Friends Church Fellowship Hall to honor **John and Eloise Hadley's 65th wedding anniversary.**

John and Eloise were married February 14, 1942 in Memphis, Missouri. They are the parents of J.D. Hadley, Mike Hadley, Susan Hunt, Jim Hadley, Sandy Wolfe, Nancy Pence, Daniel Hadley, Debbie Hadley, and Joe Hadley.

Even though an ice storm appeared to try and dampen the afternoon celebration, several family members were able to arrive. Sam Ritchie kept a watchful eye on the changing weather, and fallen trees, making sure we would be able to proceed with the celebration. An afternoon meal was served by flashlight and candle light as the electricity had gone off. The meal was followed by a time of sharing of memories from the oldest to the youngest. A great time was had by all.

## Deaths

**Paul R. Baiotto, 87**, formerly of Rubio did on Thursday, March 22, 2007 at Maplewood Manor Nursing Home in Keota. He was born in Lockman, IA June 14, 1919 to John and Veda Baiotto. He grew up in Pershing, IA, graduated from Attica High School in 1936 and from John Fletcher College (now Vennard College) in Oskaloosa. He married Helen M. Watkins in Des Moines on July 30, 1941.

Paul worked for Swift and Co. in Des Moines for two years then served in the U.S. Army. He worked as a supply minister then a full time minister at Bangor, IA for four years, then as a minister at Arnolds Park for 29 years, moved to Rubio where he was the Rubio Friends Church minister for 14 years until he retired in 1991. He served on the Board of Trustees for William Penn College, the International and National Friends United Meeting Boards, many of the Iowa Yearly Meeting's boards, and served as Camp Director at Camp Quaker Heights in Eldora, IA.

Rev. Baiotto is survived by his wife Helen of Keota, three daughters: Beth Miller of Boerne, TX, Marilyn (Nino) Cellamare of Spirit Lake, IA, Carol (Ron) Long of Rubio, three sons: Mike (Jacki) Baiotta of Staunton, BA, Chris Carey of Las Vegas, NV, David Carey formerly of Tempe, AZ, 10 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 3 sisters: Arlene Oberto, Margaret (Jim) Dunlap, Gladys McBride, one brother Earnest (Joyce) Baiotto.

Services were held on March 26, 2007 at Trinity Friends Church in Richland. Burial, with military honors by Richland American Legion Post No. 504, was at the Richland Friends Cemetery.

**Grace Community Friends** has scheduled a weekend retreat for families on the weekend of April 20-22nd. There will be events for youth on Friday night, a women's luncheon on Saturday, and other sessions for the whole church family. Guest speaker is Gwen Diaz.

**College Avenue Friends** hosted "The Ripple Effect" on April 1st. The ministry consists of a husband and wife drama team from Wisconsin. After the program the Jamaica Mission's trip team had a chance to meet with the Snodgrass's to learn about incorporating drama into missions.

**Fairfield Friends** had a "Youth Sunday" on March 4th. There were exciting reports from the youth mission's trip to Colorado last year. And a sharing of plans for this year's missions trip to Tennessee in July. The youth also led worship for both morning service. Following the morning worship services, the youth served lunch as a fundraiser for this year's trip.

**LeGrand Friends** hosted a Pioneer Club Pinecar Derby. The race winners are: Design - Zane Johnson, Speed - Eliza Ulery, Pastor's choice - Megan Kellogg, and Celebrity Race - Jay Wyatt. The church will be presenting "Bow the Knee" - a dramatic musical for Easter for their weekend Easter Celebration. Also, "Thank You" to our Friends at LeGrand for hosting Spring Body and serving a wonderful lunch to those who attended this event!

**West Branch Friends** is having their 2nd Annual Library Tea! Tea! Tea! The proceeds from this event goes to their library fund to provide new books. Some of the interesting menu items are: Cucumber Rounds with Salmon Mousse, Blackberry Sage Tea Cookies or Mint Truffles and a variety of teas to taste. A new ministry has started with the collection of postage stamps to benefit the Quaker Missions Project through Mattapoissett Friends meeting. Box Tops for Education are also being utilized for this ministry. A short seven week study is being started called "The Way of Transforming Discipleship" - from Companions in Christ.

## Reminders:

USFW Spring Fling....

April 14th at Bangor Liberty Friends

Cost is \$10...

Theme: "A Child-like Faith".

All churches should have received summer camp brochures. If you need a copy of these forms, please contact the Yearly Meeting offices. Quaker camps are scheduled throughout the month of June and a College Bash Weekend is slated for July 13-15.



Friends United press  
2006 Top 10 Best Sellers List

**Disciplines of the Spirit**

*by Howard Thurman*

**The Journal and Major Essays of John Woolman**

*edited by Phillips P. Moulton*

**Engaging Scripture: Reading the Bible with Early Friends**

*by Michael L. Birkel*

**A Living Faith: An Historical and Comparative Study of Quaker Beliefs, 2nd Edition**

*By Wilmer A. Cooper*

**Signs of Salvation: New Life Where Grace and Truth Meet**

*by Ben Richmond*

**Encounter with Silence: Reflections from the Quaker Tradition**

*by John Punshon*

**The Creative Encounter**

*by Howard Thurman*

**The Mood of Christmas & Other Celebrations**

*by Howard Thurman*

**Reminiscences of Levi Coffin**

*edited by Ben Richmond*

**A Near Sympathy: The Timeless Quaker Wisdom of John Woolman**

*by Michael L. Birkel*

All these titles are available from Friends United Press. For questions, email or call (765) 962-7573 or 1-800-537-8839. Materials in inventory are shipped the next day.

## Telling Our Stories of Giving

One of the things I hear often in my travels in churches is “the younger people in the church just don’t understand what it means to give.” While I don’t disagree with that statement, I want to follow up with a question. “Have you told your story of giving?” Most times the response is “My story is nothing special. Who would want to listen to it?” Humbleness can be a virtue, but teaching in the moment, with passion can be a blessing. It also can be an eye-opening experience for you, the storyteller.

Telling your story of giving to your faith community does a number of things when done in the right spirit. It opens doors for others who may be pondering or struggling with how to give back to God for the blessings they have received. Those blessings come in many forms—good health, time to build solid accountable relationships, talents that God has used in your life to change lives or save lives in a unique way, and monetary gains. Give testimony to experiencing the joy of the journey. Give testimony to 1st Peter 1: 6-8. How have the trials of fire tested your faith, refined it, made it stronger? Give praise to God for what He has done in your life. It’s not what you have done; it is what Christ has done for you and how you have applied it to His Glory.

**Tell your stories simply, humbly.** Was there a trial of some sort that refined you, or refined your understanding of your faith walk? How did you respond to that trial—there may be more than one? How did the Lord bless you? What was your response to that blessing, those blessings? How did the focus shift from you to God? Did your understandings then shift?

**A story.** Many years ago a young couple started out in life giving 10% of their earnings to the work of the church. They struggled a bit with health problems while farming. The doctors told the husband he needed to give up farming, so he switched to an ag-related business, which in time grew to many businesses. He started out by saying “God, I want to use you in my business”, but found God saying to him, “It’s my business, and I want to use you”. So, they increased their giving from 10%, to 20%, then 30%, and now 50%. They found that the more they gave, the more they had. The sharing they did with teaspoons, God returned to them with a No. 16 scoop shovel. He used an entrepreneurial talent that God grew and blessed. My friend applied that talent, not only to his businesses but also to church organizations that were created. One of those organizations was MMA. To God be the Glory!

**Share your stories of giving.** Share your stories of faith. As you share across families and generations, new learnings happen. Others faith walks are encouraged and increased. Challenges may be issued. They are challenges of faith!

*Jeff Swartzentruber serves Iowa and Illinois individuals, families, churches, companies, and institutions in the areas of gift planning, financial and estate planning, and asset management as Mennonite Foundation representative and Vice-president of MMA Trust Company. He can be reached at his office at: 605 B Avenue, PO Box 700 Kalona, Iowa 52247-0700, Phone 877.656.4242 ext. 11.*

## ***Illegal Immigration-Solutions:***

### ***Part 2 of 3***

Last month's article mentioned microlending as a positive way to address illegal immigration. **So what is Microlending?** Microlending was started in Bangladesh by Muhammed Yunus, who recently won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts. What he discovered was that through a small loan, usually a few hundred dollars, the very poor could dramatically change their economic situation. The difficulty was that traditional banks would not loan to the very poor due to a lack of collateral.

He began The Grameen Bank to provide these small loans to the very poor at low interest rates. The results have been astounding. The repayment rate is 95-98 %, significantly higher than that for traditional loans ("Frequently"). Generally loans are given to start small businesses or make agricultural improvements. A loan of as little as a hundred dollars, money that you and I can actually afford to provide, can mean the difference between living in extreme poverty and making a comfortable living. A loan might be used to purchase a sewing machine and start a small sewing business, or it could be used to buy chickens and sell the eggs. The poor know their own local economy, and are best able to determine what goods or services are needed. The extra income provide for a second or third meal/day for a family, sending children to school, adding another room to a one room house, or replacing a leaky roof with a new one, etc.

Microloaning has also been used successfully in poor communities in the United States. Potential recipients must provide a business plan in order to receive a loan. They also meet with a group composed of other loan recipients often from the same neighborhood or community. Peer pressure is used to make sure that people pay off their loans. One of the advantages to microloaning versus other types of donations is that as loans are repaid, the organization can reuse the money to make new loans. Your donation could end up helping many different families.

Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR) is a Friends group that provides microloans to cooperatives of Friends groups in Africa and Asia. Their website is [www.rswr.org](http://www.rswr.org). A sample of current projects include Wamudoga Friends Church Women who are planning to use the loans to start various agricultural projects and sell the resulting produce providing extra income for their families. Another loan will go to Mukuyu Village Friends Widows to raise and sell various agricultural products ("Projects"). What could be more Biblical.

*James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world."*  
*James 2:15-17 "If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."*

Unfortunately RSWR does not have any microlending projects in Mexico or Central America at this time. So The Peace and Social Concerns Committee is recommending a group called Jubilee House Community, Inc., a faith based interdenominational community in North Carolina. They started The Center for Development in Central America in Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua. Here are some facts about Nicaragua and Ciudad Sandino:

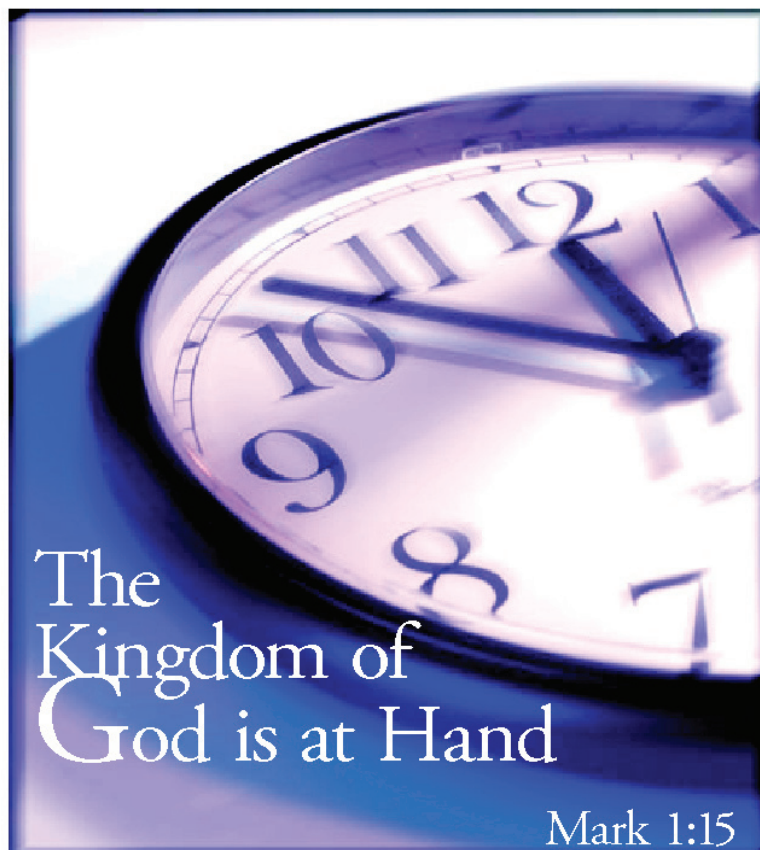
- \*Nicaragua has suffered from 100 years of War, Dictatorships, and economic interference from other countries.
- \*In Nicaragua eight out of ten people live in poverty with one out of four living in extreme poverty.
- \*In Ciudad Sandino people receive one gallon of water for their entire family per day.
- \*Ciudad Sandino has no garbage pickup.
- \*These infrastructure problems lead to a high death rate from disease, malnutrition, and parasites.
- \*The unemployment rate in Ciudad Sandino is 80%.

The Center for Development in Central America has started several projects to address these problems. Through Microlending, twenty-four women were able to build a garment factory where they design, manufacture, and market their own line of clothing. The factory employs 65 workers and the women have now begun to develop a spinning cooperative that will employ 20 more people. A business cooperative was started that produces prefabricated construction materials.

Another group runs a water filtering business helping to address people's water needs. CDCA has worked with farmers on agricultural improvement projects to encourage them to grow crops that can provide them with a living wage in this area. Sesame Seed production began with 16 farmers and has expanded to 2,000 growers. The CDCA is also working with farmers to encourage them to grow organic soy, honey, black beans, coffee, and peanuts. Rather than focusing on keeping people from entering the United States illegally, the CDCA is helping to create businesses in Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua, which give people hope and reason to live; work; and take pride in their community.

If you are interested in giving to the work of Jubilee House Community or contacting them for more information, their address is 2425 Spicewood Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106-9768, their phone number is 1-828-251-4409, and their e-mail address is [jhc@jhc-cdca.org](mailto:jhc@jhc-cdca.org)

*\*\*resources for this article can be requested by contacting the Yearly Meeting office.  
article submitted by Paul Kessler, P&SC committee*



## Iowa Yearly Meeting Ministry Conference 2007

**August 1 - 4**  
at Camp Quaker Heights  
(located near Eldora, IA)

+ **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**ALAN WEINACHT**  
Former superintendent of Indiana YM

+ **WORKSHOPS INCLUDE -**  
- John Muhunji of Africa FUM  
- EFM  
- Mesquakie Mission  
- Pictorial review of General Board  
Meeting in Kenya and the FUM  
Worktrip to Cuba  
- Community Involvement by  
Paul Kessler - P&SC

*And more!*

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**THE IOWA FRIEND**  
(USPS 582-1201)

**P.O. Box 657**  
**Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

phone (641) 673-9717  
e-mail [iaym@mahaska.org](mailto:iaym@mahaska.org)  
website [www.iaym.org](http://www.iaym.org)

**STAFF**  
Ron Bryan  
*General Superintendent*

Linda Garrison  
*Camp Coordinator*

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