



The Iowa Friend

April 2008
Vol. 63 - No. 4

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

Iowa Friends to Lafitte, Louisiana written by May Swarm

Our trip to Lafitte LA began at 4 am on March 2, 2008. We loaded up in Mount Pleasant and headed south. Our group included Pat Coffin, Jack Swarm and May Swarm from Salem Friends Church and our friends from Crawfordsville, Dallas Davis and Margaret Patterson. Although it was sixteen hours, it was a pretty good drive, almost all four-lane now and just about straight south. We met up with Jeff Cook and his sons, Vince and Kyle from New Providence somewhere south of Memphis and planned to help each other get through New Orleans. Fortunately for the Cooks, we lost each other before we took a couple wrong turns and ended up under the freeway, cruising through a pretty rough section of New Orleans at 9 o'clock at night. It was here that we saw the 200 homeless people living in tents under the freeway ramps and knew that we had travelled 900 miles and ended up a world away from home. We soon were back on the right road and reached Lafitte a short time later. We were welcomed by Friends Disaster Service site coordinator Jim Moore, Jim Powell and Jack. We stayed in an old school that was converted to volunteer housing by the town of Lafitte. There were two large dormitory rooms, a large dining/gathering room, a kitchen and nice bathrooms. The town had built a shower house that the ladies used and the men used the FDS shower trailer. The Intercoastal Waterway goes right down the middle of this little town and is right behind the school building. We saw barges moving up and down the waterway all day and all night. Each morning began with breakfast at 6:30 followed by devotions then off to work at 8:00. In cooperation with Southern Mutual Help Association, FDS is building their fourth house, for an eighty-year-old man named Teddy. Teddy's house and property were condemned after the flood. The house we worked on was ten feet in the air, built on pylons with a wooden walkway all around it. We were able to visit a house recently completed by the FDS teams and hear the story of the proud new owners. They had been flooded out of a mobile home. The wife told us, "We always had a home but we never had a HOUSE. We are so grateful to FDS!" FDS has also completed numerous "rehab" jobs in the area. We had two meals provided for us that we shared with a group of college students working in Lafitte. We were treated to authentic Jambalaya one evening and shrimp pasta and fresh speckled trout another evening. The Mayor and citizens of Lafitte are very grateful for the volunteers who come to help.



These are pictures of Teddy and his house.



Our Friends from Iowa Yearly Meeting in Lafitte.



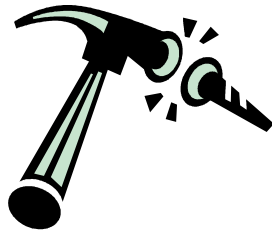
This is Darlene (with Mary Humrichouse) and her house.

Lafitte suffered damage from both flooding and tornadoes during Katrina. The economy is supported by shrimping, shipping and oil refining. While much work has been done, the destruction from Katrina is still visible everywhere. It is almost overwhelming to think about the work yet to be done but it is equally uplifting to talk to the people, hear their stories and know that our God is the God of Hope and new beginnings..... Some other volunteers that were able to travel to LaFitte in the third week of March included Bob Burnham and Tony Wingerter from Grinnell, Don and Mary Humrichouse from New Providence, John Humrichouse from Iowa City, and Dennis and Phyllis White from Postville.

Camp Quaker Heights Volunteer Opportunities:

April 21-23 and 28-30 Kitchen Work Days

Specifics given by email closer to date. If we have a large number of workers, we will include the renovation of the shelter house and completion of Springdale Cabin.



May 3
Spring Work Day
Clean all buildings, grounds, gutters, trails, miscellaneous tasks. Complete building projects. Place poles for outdoor lighting.

June 22-27

Addition staff needed for Senior High Camp as many will either be serving as Young Friends Staff or participating as campers. Camp Jubilee is July 7-11, and assistance will be needed that week as well. If you can't give a week, consider coming every day for the breakfast, lunch or supper. This consistency allows us to continue to provide excellent service in the kitchen, and may free CQH staff to clean bathrooms, make repairs, or continue the ongoing maintenance tasks.

STAFF

October 3-5
Anniversary Celebration
with USFW and CQH@
Camp Quaker Heights
60 years for Camp and
125 years for USFW



Pray for summer staff and interns!

Christian Education Inspiration *by Patti Phillips*

There are some good things happening with Christian Education in Iowa Yearly Meeting. CE board would like to share what is happening at one of our meetings. If you'd like to share something that is happening at your meeting contact Charlotte Stangeland, 641-676-1532 or kindra@mahaska.org.

Here's what is happening at Bloomington-Muscatine:

Not having many children who come to our church, we had been trying to come up with a program to attract more children. The program that we put together consists of music, puppets, crafts and a meal. We call our program "An Evening with Friends & Family." We start our Thursday evenings with a simple meal for the family and workers from 5:30-6:00. Then everyone splits into two groups for the rest of the evening. For the next 30 minutes half of the kids and their parents go upstairs to the sanctuary for Kindermusic. The other group stays downstairs in the fellowship hall for singing, a puppet skit based on a Bible story and then they do a craft that pertains to the story. After their 30 minutes we trade places, those downstairs go upstairs, and those upstairs go downstairs. At the end of the night we meet in the sanctuary for a song and a closing prayer.

This program takes about 7 - 8 workers each night (including kitchen staff), we have 16 children and their parents who come every week, so we feed approximately 40 people. The parents stay and participate in activities with the children the entire evening, so we are able to minister to the whole family. Kindermusic was the part of the program that parents were initially attracted to, but they have told us that now they also love the meal (no cooking, cleaning up, or fast food), and the kids love the puppets, singing and doing crafts.

We chose Kindermusic because we have a licensed Kindermusic instructor as a member of our church and we knew that she had people waiting for her to start new classes. Her willingness to join her Kindermusic with our desire for a children's program gave us a chance to minister to children and their families in our community that we could not have otherwise reached.



Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

Deaths:

Maxine Evelyn (Hoover) Beane, 91 of LeGrand died February 12, 2008. Services were held at LeGrand Friends Church on February 16th, 2008 and committal service was held at the LeGrand Friends' Cemetery.

She was born on December 31, 1916 to Quaker parents Clyde and Margaret Hoover on a farm near LeGrand, Iowa. She graduated from LeGrand High School in 1934 and attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, IA. She married Ercil Beane in a traditional unprogrammed Quaker ceremony at their LeGrand Friends Church on November 26, 1938.

She and Ercil Lived on and operated his family farm north of LeGrand for 2 1/2 years before moving to her childhood farm where they lived for almost 66 years and where she was an active partner in all phases of the farm. She treasured the life and work of the farm.

Maxine was very involved in Friends Church programs on the local level, as well as in national and international leadership roles. She served as Program Editor and President of the United Society of Friends Women International. During the six years of her presidency, she participated in meetings across North America, as well as Kenya, Palestine, Greece, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Thailand, India, Persia, England, Jamaica, and Central America. She also served on board of governors of the Earlham School of Religion. She was an inspirational speaker, retreat leader, facilitator, and administrator for various meetings, convocations, and commencements.

Maxine worked extensively with her husband in many countries in Africa, Asia, the Mid-East, Europe, Central and South America lecturing on the philosophy of life and the chiropractic profession. As a team they developed Chiropractic Live Research Centers in 69 countries. For her service and significant contributions to the Philosophy, Science and Art of Chiropractic she was granted an honorary Doctor of Chiropractic Humanities Degree from Sherman College of Chiropractic, South Carolina.

She is survived by her husband, Ercil Beane, her 5 children, David (Judy) Beane, Daniel (Sarah) Beane, Marian Beane, Evan (Cindy) Beane, and Joel (Rita) Beane. Also her 10 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

Among the many ingredients of life that were important to Maxine were her family, spiritual experiences, the farm, gardening, books, Quaker faith and practice, chiropractic philosophy and practice, and the many lessons she drew from nature. Meditation and contemplation were central to her daily life at home, in nature, and in public places. From her experiences, observations, and reading she was convinced of the oneness of God's creation, and the great outflowing and self-giving love of God as demonstrated to us by Jesus. She firmly believed that "...neither life, nor death...can separate us from the love of God."

Rev. Lewis Savage, 93 of Mt. Pleasant, IA died on March 10, 2008. Services were held at Salem Friends Church on March 15, 2008. Lew Dysart Savage was born near Salem at the family's farm. He graduated Salem High School and attended William Penn College and William Jewell College. On May 26, 1936, he married Esther Stanley in Indianola, IA. She preceded him in death in 2001.

Lewis taught in several rural Iowa schools and served as pastor in Quaker churches in Iowa, Ohio and Indiana. In 1968, Rev. Savage returned to the Salem area to serve the Cedar Creek Friends Church.

He was a member of Salem Friends Church and served as chairman of the Lewelling House Board for twenty years. He enjoyed farming, reading and doing historical research on the Quaker Church, the Underground Railroad and genealogy studies on his family.

He is survived by one son Stephen (Marilee) Savage of Salem, OH, 3 daughter, Sharolyn (Loren) Lisk of Mt. Pleasant, IA, Joan (William) Kildow of Lancaster, CA, and Rosalie (Jerry) Padgett of LaCrosse, WI; and one daughter-in-law, Elaine Savage of Grand Island, NE.

Gary LeRoy Arnold, 69 of Oskaloosa IA died on March 17, 2008. Services were held at College Avenue Friends on March 20, 2008. Gary was born in Webster city, IA and graduated from Kamrar High School. He married Josie Mellinger on 1960 and they made their home in rural Kamrar. Gary farmed and held various other jobs in the area. Josie passed away in 1992. He married Becke Cutler in 1994 on Colo, IA. In that year they moved to Oskaloosa where they purchased the Red Carpet Inn and have operated it until the present. Gary was a "man of the land" he loved watching his plants in the garden and in the fields grow from seed to harvest, and he even enjoyed the canning process. He also enjoyed raising pigs and will be remembered for just taking a fist full of soil and savoring its aroma. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, golf, bowling and was a loyal Hawkeye Fan.

He is survived by his wife, Becke of Oskaloosa, and their 7 children and their many grandchildren.

The Friends University Concert Choir is on tour and is scheduled to perform at Marshalltown Friends on Friday, April 11th @ 7 pm and then they will be travelling to College Avenue Friends where they will perform on Saturday, April 12th @ 7 pm. They will also be part of College Avenue's morning worship service on Sunday the 13th of April. The choir will be performing "Our Quaker Heritage" concert that depicts lifestyle traits of the Friends. All of the music is either written by a Quaker composer, or represents something of the Friends lifestyle.

We (the many representatives of Iowa Yearly Meeting) were thankful for the wonderful hospitality given last Saturday at Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church....

Thank YOU!!

FRIENDS BOY'S SCHOOL--BELIZE

Second Chances Bring Positive Changes



In 1981, a small country once called British Honduras became independent Belize. Quaker influence in Belize began in the 70's as Sadie Vernon began developing a program for girls to be given the opportunity for education. Sadie's success resulted in a girl's high school. She then saw the need for young men, who had failed the entrance exam to secondary school. Sadie founded the Friends Boy's School to give these boys a second chance. Now in its fifteenth year, The Friends Boy's School continues to prepare young men for the exam by giving them a year of supplemental training. Over half of the population of Belize is under 18, so keeping young men in school is vital in confronting illiteracy, unemployment and gang participation.

Mike and Kay Cain have been the directors of FBS since 1998. They had come earlier on a work team and answered God's call to minister to young men in Belize. The 12-15 year old young men have been a joy as Mike and Kay have seen over 400 come through this school. Many of the FBS graduates have gone on to secondary school and even university. Several have been valedictorians of their classes in further education. Second chances often turn a life around.

Mike and Kay Cain have served at FBS for twelve years. They had planned to retire in June of this year. To date, no one has come forward to take the role of director. Pat Shrock, a volunteer teacher at the Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya, was asked to consider coming to Belize. She was hesitant at first since junior high boys had never been her calling. Pat is currently working at Belize with the Cains. Pat is learning to love and appreciate the boys, who come from such varied and difficult backgrounds. They work together in small groups of three or four on spelling, reading and English skills. Pat is helping with an art class and reading Robinson Crusoe every day after lunch.

In February she accompanied the students on a science field trip to a marine biology site sponsored by the Hugh Parkey Foundation. They learned about the mangroves, the coral, and the manatee in an island setting. In January one of the teachers arranged a "Career Day" bringing in leaders of the community to speak to the boys. Mr. Silvester, now an attorney, recounted personal experiences of having to walk the long way to school to avoid the gangs. He asked the class of sixteen if any of them had the same experience. Seven raised their hand. Some of the boys act out in class. Many of them are simply seeking attention as they come from poverty stricken broken homes with few positive role models. Some of the boys are moved from the mother's home to grandma's to auntie's to brother's and back again. It was especially touching for Pat when one of the twelve year old boys embraced her in a bear hug. These boys need what every boy needs: love, attention, affirmation and another chance! In February Pat began home visitations to encourage these families. It is heartbreaking to see some of the circumstances but heartening to see that they value education.

Board games are played every day at lunch time. The boys look forward to this time. Those who are weak academically are often strong in games! It also gives the Cains and Pat an opportunity to bond with them in a non-academic setting. Because Mike and Kay Cain and Pat Schrock feel so strongly about the worth of this ministry at the Friends Boy's School, Pat has volunteered to serve as Interim Director until a permanent replacement is found. Mike and Kay have agreed to delay their retirement until December 2008 so Pat can finish classes for a M.A. in Discipleship. This has been presented to FUM and informally approved.

The purpose of this mission's emphasis is to help raise additional needed support for Mike and Kay Cain. They are currently behind \$11,000 in their mission's support. Let's come together as a Yearly Meeting and help them to finish their ministry at Friends Boy's School in Belize strong. Please consider supporting Mike and Kay Cain through prayer and financial giving.

Send donations to Bob Watson,

IAYM Mission's Treasurer,
803 Minnesota Street,
Glidden, IA 51443

and mark it Mike & Kay Cain--Belize.



Building our Past, Present, and Future

A message from the IAYM Stewards Board

As we move further into 2008, our thoughts go to the need to complete the Capital Campaign which began in 2004. We, as a Yearly Meeting, can be proud of all we have accomplished so far. God has asked us to step out in faith and He will provide. God has been faithful, and we need to continue being faithful to Him as we enter this final phase of the Capital Campaign. I tend to look at this venture as a 3-legged stool. We need all three legs in order to maintain balance. The 3 legs consist of 1) Camp Quaker Heights (Tall Oak Lodge) for \$300,000, 2) Church Extension (Missions and Outreach) for \$360,000, and 3) Leadership (Pastor Internship, Mission Internship and Retired Minister and Missionaries) for \$240,000. At this time, the first two "legs" have been completed, but it is time to put our time and energy into completing the last "leg" so that we can have complete balance. This need is approximately \$200,000.

Tall Oaks is completed and in use. Those of you who have visited the camp have seen firsthand how nice it is and appreciate being able to stay there for meetings. Our young people often dedicate their lives to Christ for the first time at Camp Quaker Heights. It is a vital ministry of the Yearly Meeting. We must continue helping those young people "grow" in their Leadership positions within the Yearly Meeting through possible internships. Hopefully our young people are getting Leadership training all through their lives, but it usually increases from Middle School through High School. As they hear and respond to the call of God on their lives and desire to pursue further education to serve Him more fully, we as a Yearly Meeting need to be prepared to back them and give them opportunities to serve more fully in Pastoral Internships or Missionary training as they feel called. This takes prayer, commitment of time, and money. We must not let our young people down. There is a lot of talk about the "Brain Drain" that Iowa faces as our best and brightest young people pursue careers in other states where they are reimbursed for their efforts at a much higher rate. We also can lose some of our best and brightest in the ministry if we don't give them opportunities to serve and grow right here in Iowa.

What about our current Pastors? They need the opportunity to grow in their calling by taking advantage of Professional Conferences so they can become revitalized and eager to pursue their Passion and the Vision of God's calling on their lives. They need to do this in order to help our churches/meeting houses grow. Friends have an important message to share, but we as a group, need to join with them and give our Pastors an opportunity to do so.

Let us not forget those who have been faithful and answered the call of God on their lives! Our retired Ministers and Missionaries also need our support. They have given generously of their time and talents and now should reap some of their reward on earth by our giving back to them.

So, Iowa Yearly Meeting, we as a Stewardship Board, challenge you to step up and help complete the last "leg" of the Capital Campaign. Perhaps you want to take a Special Offering for this, maybe additional pledges to be completed by August, 2009?? Some churches might prefer to plan a Special event with the proceeds going toward our current, past, and future leadership of Iowa Yearly Meeting. Whatever methods you choose, we ask for your help as you prayerfully consider what God would have you do. It would be great to know that we have completed our goals to help Iowa Yearly Meeting grow and serve the Lord more fully!



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Periodical Postage Paid
Not for Profit
Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Subscription Price (individual)...\$10.00 per year (group)...\$9.50 per year

Published monthly except August

Upcoming IAYM Events

2008 Yearly Meeting Ministry Conference

**August 6 - 9 at William Penn
University, Oskaloosa**

“Serve in Seasons of Change” October 3-5, 2008

Quaker Camp Dates

Little Fry	May 30-June 1	\$150
Fry	June 5- 8	\$150
Fox	June 15-19	\$200
Jr. High	June 8-13	\$250
Jr. High Wknd	June 27-29	\$100
Sr. High	June 22-27	\$250
Sr. High Wknd	June 13-15	\$100

Registrations will be available in April.
Find them at your local church or on-
line at iaym.org.

Garrison Memorial Scramble 4-person Best Position Tournament

**8:00 AM Shotgun Start
April 19, 2008**

**Westwood Municipal Golf Course
Newton, IA**

\$200 per team

Includes 18 holes of golf, cart,
lunch and prizes

Sponsorships Available.....

Event Sponsor - \$1000
Birdie Sponsor - \$ 500
Par Sponsor - \$ 250
Holes Sponsor - \$ 100

Mail registration & \$50 to the IAYM office by
April 11, 2008 and receive 1 free mulligan per
team member.

Questions? - Anthony Nieuwsma
641-236-6412
newsma213@hotmail.com



Need Forms or more information?

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