

THE IOWA FRIEND

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends



New Ideas for 2015

In 2013 we celebrated our 150th anniversary and focused on our history. In 2014 we put our thoughts and prayers into the future, utilizing a World Café gathering. For 2015 a theme appears to be emerging that requires us to talk about the present. "What is the matter at hand?" is a question that we have distributed to each of our churches. What about the now aspect of who we are?

As the Annual Sessions Planning Committee has only met once, not all of this thought has been finalized. From Joshua 1 we note the words to be "strong and courageous" and from Psalm 90:1 we observe that God is our sanctuary in the storm. I would ask that as the Planning Committee meets again on January 15 will all those who remember can pray for that gathering. We want to hear from God and follow His leading.

Where we may be lead is to desire to continue and follow through with what we began August of last year urging each church to discuss these three questions, (1) Where is our identity found? (2) What is the matter at hand? (3) What are our top 5 core values? From the urgings of our Clerk, Daryl Coffin the question has come as to how do we complete a process of analyzing the last two years and how does that lead us as an entire Yearly Meeting to develop a new vision and mission statement that we may all rally around?

In closing let me add, that with my retirement and the prospect of new leadership for the Yearly Meeting this highlights more the process of New Ideas and a New Direction and the need to not stop what we began two years ago without completing the task at hand. In fact it seems to me to be the very appropriate time to bring all of our thoughts about vision and mission into focus again for a useful tool in planning how we may all move forward with a new spirit of cooperation and unity.

From what I have written thus far I notice many question marks. Which to me underscores the necessity for the local churches to each prayerfully consider these three questions and for each of us to bring our findings to the Yearly Meeting Sessions, July 29-August 1, 2015.

~Ron Bryan, General Superintendent

Missions Moment

Dale Graves



Dale Graves of FUM met with the Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board and other interested Friends at Grinnell Friends Church on Nov 23. Dale is spending a year in Belize working with the Belize Friends

School and exploring other opportunities for Friends ministries in Belize.

His talk was very informative and enlightening. Education in Belize is modeled after the British educational system. Grade school is available to many students, but admission to High School requires passing a very rigorous test. As Belize High Schools only have room for about 50% of the students of eligible age, many do not meet the standards for admission, and simply spend their days on the streets, seeking ways to obtain a little money for food and other necessities.

The Belize Friends School exists to help students who have not passed the test learn the necessary information to be able to pass and be admitted to High School. As education in Belize is not wide-spread, many young people do not see any necessity for it. Belize is a very poor country, with much corruption and lawlessness.

At present there are 18 students enrolled. There is room for several more. The school has started a soccer team this year, which the students greatly enjoy. They have also recently purchased a bus, so they can take all the students to games and on field trips in one vehicle.

Starting in January, Dale will facilitate several conference calls with the Belizean school board and several interested Friends in the US to discuss possibilities for expanding the school and perhaps taking on new ministries. Your prayers for this endeavor are much appreciated.

NOTE: The Barbers' financial account with FUM is still in arrears, as contributions to their support has not met all the necessary expenses. As FUM has advanced these funds, it is necessary that they be repaid. So we need to continue to make contributions to FUM for this cause. Any funds sent to the Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board will be forwarded to FUM to help erase this deficit. Thank you for your prayers and continued support for all of our mission projects.



Save the Date!

Saturday, February 28th, is a big date!

The **Winter Family Banquet** occurs every year on the 4th Saturday in February, so circle the 28th on your calendar. Remember these three important details: 28th, 12 noon, and MTC Atrium William Penn University. If you remember these, you will not be late or lost.

This is our first major event of the yearly meeting year and will serve up a good time of fun, food, fellowship along with a likely spiritual booster shot. The past four years have been attended by 110-125 people and there is room for more yet, so kick "Ol' Man Winter in the chops and come join us.

We will have some announcements and updates about the future and then---the Main event.

Forty minutes that will feature the children of our Mesquakie Friends Center in person and also some pictures of their facilities and activities. This is a great opportunity to bring your mission and people to you. I think it will be a very valuable 40 minutes for all mission minded friends.

Don't forget the pie auction. It is a phenomenal event in itself and is not forgotten by any who have experienced the action.

Reservations are \$12 per ticket and \$13 at the door. We need reservations turned in by Monday, February 16th,

when we will guarantee an order for meals. Late reservations can still be made by the following Monday, Feb. 23rd, and this will be the deadline for reservations. There will be some extra tickets at the door for any who can't reserve in advance. Reservations can be paid at the door to save the hassle of using the mail.

Reservations can be made to

Chuck Watson: charleswatson902@msn.com
Phone 641) 673-3755 or 902 Penn Boulevard,
Oskaloosa, Ia. 52577.

Also Bill McCracken:

wcmccracken@hotmail.com phone 319) 694-3265
or 3381 Elm Ave., Brighton, IA 52540

OBITUARIES

Ruth Muriel (Street) Weinmann

May 6, 1926—July 22, 2014

Hesper Friends Meeting would like to express their appreciation for the life of Ruth Weinmann. Ruth was the daughter of Granville and Avis (Hawks) Street and grew up in the Hesper community and Hesper Friends Meeting. After her marriage to Vernon Weinmann, December 27, 1948, work took them to other locations. When Vernon retired, they returned to Hesper and the Friends Meeting. Ruth was active in the Hesper Friends Women group (USFW), served on Ministry and Counsel, the Missions and Christian Ed committees, and helped with other Meeting responsibilities. She was always willing to help with projects, both in the church and in the community, and sewed many lap robes for the VFW. She was the primary caregiver for her mother during her mother's last years and also cared for her aunt and uncle after her mother's passing. Ruth will always be remembered for her willingness to help others and the Meeting. Hesper Friends appreciate her ministry among us and commend her to the loving care of her Lord.

Robert L. Street, 75, of Hesper, died Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014, at the Winneshiek Medical Center in Decorah. Robert was born December 28, 1938, to Leroy and Lueda (Brenna) Street. He attended the Hesper School through 8th grade and graduated from the Mabel High School in 1956. He went on to graduate from William Penn College in 1960. He married Clista Joyce Rose November 13, 1960, at the Christiansburg United Methodist Church near Ottumwa. Robert had started working in carpentry on his time off from college and continued with that after they were married. He worked for Lloyd Foltz until 1974, when he began working at Luther College in Decorah as a carpenter and locksmith. He worked at Luther until July 22, 1999, when he was paralyzed in an auto accident. His injury didn't prevent him from participating in activities at the Hesper Friends Meeting, where he was a life long member, and the Hesper Public Cemetery. Robert was a member of the Hesper-Mable Area Historical Society, the Toot and Whistle Club, and the Hesper Improvement Club. He also enjoyed restoring antique gas engines, blacksmithing, black-powder shooting, helping with Steam Engine Days, and building and flying radio-controlled airplanes.

Robert is survived by his wife, Clista Joyce, of Hesper; two sons, Arden of Hesper and Brian (Jeanne) of Mabel; a brother, Douglas (Barbara) of Rockford, Ill.; a sister-in-law, Marcia Street of Cedar Falls; and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Harold.

Wilma Evelyn West, 90, of Fairfield, formerly of East Pleasant Plain, died Tuesday, December 19, 2014, at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. She was born May 11, 1924, in Clark County, Missouri to Archie Ronald and Bertha Irene Pruett Cochran. She grew in Kahoka and graduated from high school in Revere, MO in 1942. Wilma married Homer G. West August 8, 1959 in Memphis, MO. He died May 28, 2014. During World War II, she worked at W.A. Sheaffer Pen Co. in Ft. Madison and later at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in Middletown, IA. She moved around the country with her husband while he worked construction. They moved back to Iowa in 1987 after his retirement. Wilma was very active in the Pleasant Plain Friends Church, the USFW, and the Thunderbird Association for Red Cloud Tribe in South Dakota, helping collect and distribute clothing. She also collected and distributed food to local families and always helped those in

need. She was a member of the Antique Auto Club of America and judged car shows for 10 years and was an active member of the Brighton Lions Club. Wilma held many jobs while moving around the country but homemaking was her most important job. She enjoyed gardening, baking and canning, sewing and quilting.

Wilma is survived by her daughters, Sharon West of Fairfield and Lana Cox (Uli Trieb) of Davenport, step son Jake West (Nancy) of Blue Grass, six grandchildren 12 great-grandchildren, two brothers, Ronald Cochran of Weaver, IA and Robert Cochran of Argyle, IA; and three sisters, Lois Wixom of Keokuk, Twila Harper of Kohoka and Norma Jeanie Satori of Columbia SC. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Ronald Davis, and step daughter Connie Sue West, grandson Ron Hansel, sister Erma Cochran, and half brother Stanley Cochran.

SAVE THE DATES

Events coming up

Young Adult Winter Retreat

February 6-8

West Union, IA

Our Young Adult Winter Retreat is coming up.

For more info check out:

IAYMyoungadult.wordpress.com

or contact Emma at:

emmamacy@gmail.com.

You can register at

www.iaym.org/events.

Blizzard Blast

Middle School Lock-in

Feb 20-21 6pm-6am

Marshalltown, IA

For more info check out

IAYMyouth.wordpress.com or

contact Anthony at:

pastor.anthony@grinnellfriends.org.

Register at www.iaym.org/events.

Young Adult Winter Retreat

Vision

\$45

February 6-8

Discover God's
VISION for
IAYM, yourself,
and your church

West Union, IA

RSVP online at <http://iaymyouth.wordpress.com>

Cost - \$25 now, \$30 after Feb 15

FEB
20

Middle School
Lock-In



WORSHIP

IAYM Youth Ministries

Blizzard Blast

Drop Off:

Feb. 20

6:00 pm

Marshalltown

1st Friends Church

What to Bring...

Gym Clothes

Swim suit

Towel

A friend

Pick up:

Feb. 21

6:00 am

Marshalltown

YMCA

Camp Dates

June 5-7

Young Adult

June 12-14

Little Fry (K-2)

June 14-19

Mid/High School

June 21-25

Elementary (3-6)

Scholarships Opportunities

Trustees Scholarship

Applications are now being taken for a \$500 college scholarship to be distributed in the 2nd semester of the 2015-2016 academic school year (January of 2016). College students within Iowa Yearly Meeting are encouraged to seek an application through the Yearly Meeting Office.

Deadline for this scholarship is February 1st, 2015. A recipient will be determined at Spring

Body 2015.

Make inquiries to:
IAYM, PO Box 657
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 673-9717 or email
iaym@mahaska.org

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board announces that scholarship funds are available for adults and youth within Iowa Yearly Meeting for short term mission trips. Guidelines for this opportunity are available at the yearly meeting office and can be found on the IAYM website. The maximum amount for each scholarship is \$150. Deadlines for Applications are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. Contact the Yearly Meeting office for more information!

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2015-16 academic school year. People within Iowa Yearly Meeting who want to pursue an education at a Christian college or an accredited college or seminary to prepare for full time mission's work with a Friend's organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2015-2016 scholarship, please contact Mary Glenn Hadley, IAYM Mission's Board, 611 South R St. #6, Indianola, IA 50125 or call 515-961-0606. The deadline is March 1, 2015.

Peace and Christian Social Concerns

“Peace”

By: Don Coffin

For us as Friends, there are several testimonies or truths brought to us by the Holy Spirit as found in the scriptures. The key testimonies are: peace, integrity, justice, simplicity and equality. Each of these testimonies are an expression of the inward truth as revealed by the Holy Spirit through the scriptures, teachings, and the helpful word of other believers.

These testimonies are not hard and fast staked to any one interpretation. They are as dynamic in meaning as the Holy Spirit and God are dynamic in their leadership through changing times and challenges. The basic testimony does not change but our fulfillment of it, as our obedience as to God may vary.

For example, we Friends believe in peace, no matter the cost. Therefore, for us, war isn't ever the answer. But in light of events of past years the pressure to war is great and we as Friends must continue to find answers for peace when we are surely tempted toward like conformation. As Friends we are required by the Spirit, we believe, to seek forgiveness from personal violent

thoughts, clear our hearts of the hatred, find peace in ourselves and promote peace toward and with those who would be enemies.

We believe there is no other way to live with God as our Lord.

We will not meet violence with violence. This means we will choose service in the military that does not require the taking of life or the preparation to take life.

We will not carry a weapon of any kind in order to respond to violence or the threat of violence.

We believe that Christ always sought a peaceful conclusion even to the point of personal suffering and that we've given our pledge to follow in His steps doing likewise.

Further, we believe that anything that brings harm to another is construed as violence.

Therefore, we pray for peace and actively seek to educate ourselves in the ways of peace and campaign for peace.

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P.O. Box 657
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
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e-mail iaym@mahaska.org
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Iowa Yearly Meeting CALENDAR of Upcoming Events

2015

Let's plan to 'Party for Jesus'
YEA!!

Lynnville Friends Church
will be hosting
USFW Spring Fling
9:30 to 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 28, 2015

Now taking ticket reservations
for the Winter Family Banquet

See page 2 of the newsletter for
more details!

February 28th @ noon
\$12 in advance/ \$13 at the door

February

2/28 Winter Family Banquet
@MTC at William Penn

March

3/7 BOC @ College Avenue Friends
3/11-14 Ron to Mexico City for FWCC Meeting
3/21 Spring Body of Representatives
@ Fairfield Friends

April

4/6-8 Pastors Short Course @ Oskaloosa

June

6/5-7 Young Adult Weekend Camp
6/12-14 Little Fry Camp
6/14-19 Jr/Sr High Camp
6/21-25 Elementary Camp

July

7/29—8/1 Yearly Meeting at WPU