

# FOX TALES

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Publication of United Society of Friends  
Women

**Western Yearly Meeting  
June 2011**

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**From Your President, Peggy Hollingsworth**

Food, Family, and Faith! These three words have been roaming around in my thoughts as I have prepared to send this message to you. On Sunday, May 1, the USFW groups of Russiaville Meeting finalized four months of concentrated work when they presented finished copies of our newest cookbook for sale during our Homecoming. Combining the best from the past edition in 1972 with many new recipes, the 225 page spiral bound book (prepared so professionally by our own Mary Frances Taylor) has already provided many hours of happy browsing. Memories of families now and then have been brought forth as we recall the important place that they played in professing and promoting our Christian faith within our larger community. And, more and more it seems that food and fellowship are always at the core of our church and family gatherings.

Likewise, within our Western YM USFW community, these three words play an important role. We have just experienced a wonderful time of spring renewal and refreshment as we enjoyed the warm hospitality at Spring Conference hosted at First Friends of Kokomo, with assistance from Russiaville and New London. **Thank you,** Kathy Newby, for all of your work in bringing this day to fruition.

Our tea during our yearly meeting sessions at Plainfield is a highlight of our USFW year. We will be together again this year on Saturday, July 23 at 5:00 p.m. Reservations at \$8.00 each must be made with the WYM Registration **by July 1, 2011.** [Send to: WYM Office, P.O. Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168] Visit the website, [www.westernym.net](http://www.westernym.net) for registration blank/info. Toll Free WYM # is (800)909-3452. We'll be having our usual time of fellowship and fun, while Sam and Becky Barber, now serving in Belize, will be speaking during our combined mission service at 7:00 p.m. with the Quaker Men. The offering will go toward the support of the Barber family in their continuing ministry. If you are only attending the USFW events, you will not need to pay the registration fee. If possible, come earlier that day for some of the board sponsored workshops at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. You will be blessed and inspired. John Muhanji of FUM's East Africa Office will bring the message at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship service combined with the Training & Recording Service. All of these provide great opportunities to learn more about our mission efforts around the world. Plans call for all FUM field staff to be present during the FUM Triennial to be held at Wilmington College, July 27-31. Hope to see you there, as well. Both yearly meeting and FUM gatherings are reunions of our extended faith family! Here are some future dates for our WYM USFW to keep in mind and mark on your calendar. Saturday, September 24 will be our Fall Conference, hosted by Fairfield, near Plainfield (Camby, southwest of Indianapolis). Our focus will be on learning about new programs happening at Quaker Haven Camp. Tuesday, April 24, 2012 will be our Spring Conference, hosted by Sugar Plain, near Thorntown. I trust that your summer schedule will allow you to join us for celebrating together as WYM USFW. I look forward to seeing you in my Quaker travels!!

Peggy Hollingsworth

**From Your Adult Missionary Secretary, Ruth Hadley**

I hope you are receiving (or borrowing a copy) and reading the Advocate. This keeps us updated on activities and needs of our field staff.

One of the needs is from Ann Riggs, Principal of FTC (Friends Theological College) at Kaimosi, Kenya. FTC is in the process of being accredited (can take up to four years), but for this to happen, at least 50% of its income must come from Kenyans themselves. (Evidently, about 75% of its present income is from the USA.) This does not affect anything given from the Sarrin Fund which provides scholarships. Sylvia Graves does say, though, that there is a greater number of students in need, and the Sarrin Fund is “being distributed somewhat differently than it was for awhile”.

Some of the students are finding ways to earn money to pay their own tuition. By now, you should have received information about the “2011 FUM Summer Mission Project: KIDS FOR KIDS”. The donations to this summer project (vacation Bible schools, other children’s programs) will enable FTC and students to increase the goat herd, to build their shelters, and to buy feed. Sammy is one of the students eager to work with these goats and “kids”. Other students who are looking for projects to earn tuition are hoping for donations for sewing machines and supplies, and for buying greenhouses.

May we help our children continue to earn moneys to help others earn their way through FTC.

Ruth Hadley

Adult Missionary Secretary

**From Your Treasurer, Pam Sims**

Balances in Funds

General Fund	\$2,369.45
Newsletter Fund	577.78
Scholarship Fund	142.07
Book Fund	3,270.19
Least Coin	92.32

We have not paid for any of the books yet, so that fund is large at present.

Total Spring Conference Offering to date is \$2,007.00. We will be sending camp scholarships of \$600.00 each to both Quivering Arrow Camp and Soaring Eagle Camp from our Spring Conference Offering as well as \$300.00 to Choctaw for their children's program. The remaining funds of \$507.00 from the offering will be put in the Scholarship Fund.

**Treasurers**, if you have not sent your Least Coin funds yet, please do so immediately. So far I have not received many. I will be sending them on by June 15.  
May the Lord's blessing be with each one of you.

Pam Sims, Treasurer

## **From Your Christian Service Secretary, Leanna Roberts**

If we are truly Christians, all of our lives are ones of Christian service. As you know, this is the way my reports always begin.

There are some stages of our lives when we are able - are freed - to do more than at other times. Authors of Blueprint lessons write in a challenging way about doing "new things", but we can remember that new opportunities come to us every day, some being large and some being small. Let's remember to support the Christian Service projects identified by the USFWI board, contribute to our local food pantries, call a lonely friend, write a note, smile at an overworked cashier in the grocery store, extend a sincere compliment to someone each day, make someone's burden a little lighter, make cute dresses for little girls in Haiti, knit a prayer shawl, make frogs for campers at Quaker Haven, do quilting, make comforts, volunteer at the local hospital, deliver Meals on Wheels, make items for sale at WYM to benefit the Native American centers, etc. I know you wonderful women do many of the above, plus many others not mentioned.

"It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.  
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;  
You spread His love to every one; You want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the flowers are budding,  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;  
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, You want to pass it on.

Springtime blessings to all,  
Leanna Roberts

## **From Your Children & Youth Secretary, Kathy Newby**

The Spring Conference was a great success and a good opportunity to preview the children and youth's literature for the 2011-2012 year. During conversations with ladies looking at the children's books, there seemed to be a consistent concern for most of our USFW members: How and who would use these children's books? I have a few ideas that I hope will help you to realize the full potential of our great and inspirational materials that are carefully chosen for our children.

1. Assign someone in your meeting to be responsible for promoting the children's literature available. They could talk about a particular book during Sunday School. They could put a small article in your bulletin or newsletter promoting the "Book of the Week (Month)". They could post copies of the covers of the books on the Children's Bulletin Board. Be creative.
2. Put a copy of "Baby Animals" and/or "It's My World, Too" in the Nursery. They are board books that will hold up well to rough use and "baby love".
3. Have a book and movie night using a copy of "Letters to God". Compare how the movie differs from the how the book is written. Discuss which version is preferred by the majority. This could be a good and inexpensive family program. And don't forget the popcorn and the Kleenex.
4. Remember that some of the books on our Junior reading list are almost adult level reading and are just as stimulating, interesting and inspiring as the regular Adult reading list. Some of these titles are, "Toward the Goal: The Kaka Story" and "Extra Credit".
5. Use the story collections as time fillers during Sunday School. By keeping a copy of Desmond Tutu's book "Children of God: Storybook Bible", "Goodnight Warrior", or "Big Thoughts for Little People: ABC's to Help You Grow" in the Sunday School classroom, the teacher has an opportunity to fill that last 5 minutes with a short inspirational story. Older children's classes can read a different viewpoint of a popular Bible story.
6. Of course, you could just read to your meeting's children. Read "God Gave Us Christmas" during your annual Christmas program or children's party. Read "When God Created My Toes" for a Children's Sermon or Vacation Bible School.
7. Speaking of VBS, if your mission project is helping other children, take a few minutes to read "The Big Red Tractor and the Little Village" or "My Name is Sangoel" to the participants.

I hope these suggestions help you develop your children's reading in your meeting. It is so easy to slip a book into any schedule and the children enjoy being read to from a very early age. Make your list and bring it to Yearly Meeting. We will have these books and more available during that time. If you would like to purchase some of these titles before YM, give me a call or an email and I will send them right out to you.

Kathy M Newby

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**From your Peace & Social Concerns Secretary, Marilynn Bell**

"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness." James 3: 17 and 18 NIV

An email from the Center on Conscience and War tells about International CO Day on Sunday, May 15. That date is the 70th anniversary of the opening of the first Civilian Public Service (CPS) camp at Patapsco Valley State Park, Maryland. "...where for the first time in history, conscientious objectors were allowed to perform non-military alternative service instead of military service." A new CPS website is to be launched. Sponsors for the event were the Mennonite Central Committee U.S., Center on Conscience & War, American Friends Service committee, Church of the Brethern, and the Kansas Committee for a CPS Memorial.

The Spring 2011 Volume VI Issue 1 of "Peace Ways AGLI" (African Great Lakes Initiative) tells about some projects being used to help restore trust and lessen the possibility for future conflicts. Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities-Ruwanda (HROC-Ruwanda) has a project of sack gardens cultivating vegetables in a small space. This gives people with very little land a way to feed themselves. A group of widows in Mutaho organized a goat exchange project with two women sharing and caring for a pregnant goat then when the baby goat is born, each has a goat and the exchange expands. Some of us met Del and Suzanne Livingston from Friendly Waters for the World in Kenya in 2010. They have taught groups how to make bio-sand filters which provide clean water in an inexpensive way cutting down on water-borne diseases.

The USFWI Peace and Christian Social Concerns projects for 2011 are important and worthwhile projects. The Kenya Peace Curriculum needs funding for printing and training teachers. The curriculum is to be used in about 1500 Friends elementary schools so the request is for \$5,000.

The second project is for Eli and Sybil Jones Scholarships at the Ramallah Friends Schools. For more than a century these schools have taught Quaker values including peace and integrity through a wide variety of circumstances. Because of occupation, the West Bank has suffered economically so scholarships to the schools are very important. USFWI has designated \$3,000 for this project.

The third project is \$2, 000 for the support of Samson Ababu who works with Right Sharing of World Resources. (RSWR) Some of our USFW-WYM women met Samson Ababu when they were in Kenya in 2010. Samson works with USFW and other women's groups in Kenya to train group leaders and potential project partners to wisely use loans for businesses so the women are better able to feed their families and pay school fees.

Thanks for your support of these projects. Sometimes it may seem that what individuals or small groups do may not be important, but together we make a difference in people's lives that help make the world a better place in which to live.

**From Your Stewardship Secretary, Susan Felix**

Ephesians 5: 19 – 20

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This past week has been pretty spectacular in terms of warm weather and sunny skies, at least some of the time. We surely were thankful for a reprieve from the rain but today, Sunday; it was cold and rainy when we arrived at church. Once inside we warmed up quickly with greetings from friends as we caught up with them and their week.

When Quakers worship there are periods of silence in which each of us contemplates what is in our heart and on our mind. Today offered me a different appreciation as I observed our service in a new way. At one point I looked across the church and saw one of our member's sons speaking quietly with a gentleman who knew him and the focus the child had on that man was incredibly touching to see. Later his sisters ventured to the other side of the church to speak to a member they knew well and again that same beautiful focus from children who are all under five. Their conversations were so very quiet and respectful; I wish I could have heard them. Children are so precious and we all have the responsibility to care for them, what a privilege that is to a church body, what a joy children are to Christ.

We sang "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" and as my husband and I sang I could hear how off key I was, I try to keep my voice low because I know I sing off key and I truly love the lady who sits in front of us every Sunday so I don't want to run her off. I also listened as my husband sang beside me and I was so thankful that he was singing with me, so thankful for the wonderful man God brought into my life. Neither of us can sing well but I think we do make a joyful noise unto the Lord. I think music is such an important part of service, words that speak to each of us and touch our hearts in a lasting way. My Grandmother had a beautiful soprano voice and knew the words to more hymns than I can count. She would sing hymns at home so I had the gift of faith and music from her to carry with me throughout my life. I cannot ever sing "Amazing Grace" without getting choked up and being unable to sing at least part of the song because of my love and memories of her. What a gift God gave me when he gave me her! She used to take my brother and me to revival meetings in the summer time with much singing and preaching then we would walk back to her house as we spoke quietly along the way so as not to disturb people on their porches. My memories warm me and make me grateful for the love that surrounds me, my faith comforts me because I know my God is always with me. The thoughts I had in church today are blessings that sometimes we may miss if we aren't paying attention and it is the small joys that add up to great ones. In the future I will read the bulletin so that if we are going to sing "How Great Thou Art" I can sit all the way in the back of the church because I like to sing that one loud and my friend in the pew just in front of us won't move to another pew.

**From Your Stewardship Secretary, Jennifer Hodge**

**Provided by Peggy Hollingsworth**

One of the Quaker classics included on the 2011-2012 USFWI Reading List is A Testament of Devotion by Thomas R. Kelly. It seems appropriate that with our new theme of “Be Still and Know” that this 1941 publication would once again be brought to our attention. The chapter titles - “The Light Within,” “Holy Obedience,” “The Blessed Community,” “The Eternal Now and Social Concern,” and “The Simplification of Life” – all point toward taking quality time from our busy lives to know and be known by our inward teacher. The 27 pages of “A Biographical Memoir” by Haverford College colleague Douglas V. Steere outline for the reader the highlights of the author’s background, his family, and his spiritual journey.

With the Friends United Meeting Triennial to be held at Wilmington College this July, it brings to mind that Tom Kelly and his sister, Mary, were brought as children to this center of Quaker education from their rural Ohio home. Their widowed mother wanted them to have more opportunities and she worked hard to make that possible. Tom, as we know, went on in his short life to be associated with many Friends institutions of higher learning, both as student and teacher. For the past 50 years on the tree-shaded campus of his alma mater at Wilmington, generations of students, teachers, and Friends have been nurtured as they come and go from classes and events at the Kelly Religious Center. Tom Kelly’s student, T. Canby Jones, has been a large part of many of the activities there through the years. Mary Kelly Farquhar, Tom’s sister, remained in Wilmington throughout her life. From 1950-1952 she served as Editor of The Friends’ Missionary Advocate from her Fife Avenue home, just across the street from campus. [See Mary’s picture on p. 15 of the 1980 edition of USFWI’s history, Growth Unlimited.] Wilmington Friends Meeting, located downtown, hosted the 1957 USFW Triennial in the splendor of its 1890’s stone building. The sanctuary is constructed on the *Akron Plan*, which is designed to allow speakers to be heard better, since the depth of the room is about one fourth of its width. Ellen Robinson and Ruth Stoffregen are past USFWI presidents from Wilmington YM. Their small but dedicated yearly meeting USFW group has hosted several conferences at the College, with their most recent one being held at a hotel conference center in Cincinnati in 2001.

Many Friends with Western YM ties now reside in Wilmington. The two pastoral families who come to my mind immediately are Jim and Anne Ellis (Ridgefarm, Marshall, New Salem, Union Street of Kokomo) and Bob and Leuola Beck (Hortonville and New London). They, along with all of the other friendly folks in Clinton County, Ohio and environs, will be glad to welcome you to their adopted community anytime, but especially July 27-31, 2011 for the FUM Triennial sessions. If you come, you will be *blessed!*

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## **IYM/WYM Women's Retreat**

Are you remembering that the Women's Retreat will be coming up on September 12 and 13 at Quaker Haven? It is a great time for fellowship with other Quaker women and a beautiful time to be at Quaker Haven. It begins at 2:00 with registration from 12:00 till 2:00. Cost is \$60 for the meals and lodging. We are not out to make money, just cover costs of Quaker Haven's charge and enough to pay the Retreat leader a little.

Our leader this year will be Della Stanley Green, well known to WYM women. She will be an enthusiastic and spiritually deep leader.

We have "a share your talent" on Monday night so come prepared with either music or verse.

Send your registrations in to Judy Taylor, one of the IYM women on our committee, [djtaylor@comcast.net](mailto:djtaylor@comcast.net) by September 1.

See you there!!!

Florence Peery, Marilyn Bell – Western committee members

## **Items sent to Haiti**

I mailed 65 dresses and 9 pair of shorts. I have 25 more dresses to send when I get another box.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE AND ARE SEWING. One dear lady in her 90's from First Friends Kokomo made 61 for us! She is out of material. If anyone has extra they will not be using, bring them to YM and we will pass it on to her.

Florence Peery