

FRIENDS CENTER

N E W S L E T T E R

GUILFORD COLLEGE • GREENSBORO, N.C. • FALL/WINTER 2006

Friends Odds & Ends *Friends Center Director's Report*



Max L. Carter

As I write these lines, the memory of the Amish school shootings in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania is fresh in my mind. For several days this fall the nation was transfixed by the morality tale being acted out in the tragic deaths of five Amish girls, the wounding of five others, the suicide of their assailant, and the remarkable response of the Amish community.

"Grief and grace" was the description given by many to the forgiveness and assistance offered the shooter's family by the Amish community. Many were amazed by such magnanimity and selflessness. It was almost as if our culture had

forgotten such behavior is possible!

One Amish bishop remarked that this event was their "9/11," yet their reaction was so different than our nation's in 2001. A Virginia Amish bishop noted that this was the worst tragedy to hit Amish society in 300 years, yet his community was taking no new precautions.

During a visit with two of my classes to an Amish community shortly after the shootings, I commented to one of the residents (himself a former student at Guilford!) that legislation is already being proposed to arm school teachers. "Will Amish teachers be packing heat?" I asked Dave. "Well," he responded, "We did move the wood stove into the classroom this week!"

What accounts for such a different attitude?

A Guilford student speaking in College Meeting for Worship recently put her finger on it, though not referring to the Amish shooting in particular. "In my spiritual practice I have learned the necessity to respond rather than to react," she said.

That, I think, is the secret to how the Amish could actually behave the way Christian teaching says we ought to act. Through careful acculturation, modeling, and community guidance, the Amish are raised to integrate into their lives the very beliefs of the church. So, when a crisis arises, they respond out of a context of personal and community history and future hope; they respond biblically. In contrast, many of us react out of anger, hurt, despair, and confusion; we respond without reference to eternal verities.

At our best, Friends can do this too. Our history is replete with stories of Quakers "responding" to crises rather than "reacting." An adult student in one of my off-campus courses for "other-than-Quakers" commented to me this fall that her denomination told her what to believe. "Quakers," she said, "show you the way."

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Campus Ministry Highlights

Standing out among a plethora of campus ministry activities in the past year were the three work trips to Louisiana taken in conjunction with North Carolina Friends Disaster Service (NCFDS). More than 75 students, staff, parents, siblings and friends partnered with FDS on the projects in Bogalusa, La. to build one new house and repair at least two dozen others. Thirty more from the College will join N.C. Quaker Men this fall in a project at the MOWA Choctaw Center in McIntosh, Alabama, a center recently given to North Carolina Yearly Meeting (FUM) by the Associated Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs.

College Meeting for Worship continues to grow in attendance and impact, and morning, midweek, and vespers worship draw a steady, if smaller, crowd for quiet worship in the early and late hours of the day. The bi-weekly campus ministry newsletter, the *GCRO Caw*, features religious activities, commentary, and the occasional reprint of a College Meeting for Worship message. Each issue is archived at www.guilford.edu/caw.

Regular campus Quaker historical walks, six-week series of "Quakerism 101," teas & talks, small group discussions, interfaith visitations, and frequent speakers and other programs are offered through Friends Center's campus ministry program. Friends Center also supports the work of area campus ministers who work with the college's Guilford Christian Fellowship, Buddhist Meditation, Catholic Fellowship, Hillel, Episcopal Fellowship, and other religious groups.

Special emphasis weeks for the year include "Take Back Your Time Week" (October 23-28), Religious Emphasis Week (January 21-27), and Quaker Festival Week (April 15-21). ■



Students help replace the roof of the Quaker Lodge during a fall work trip to Choctaw Friends Center. Find out more on page 7.

Quaker Leadership Scholars Program Endowment Fund

Established by Ann and David Raper

Guilford College Trustee Ann Raper and her husband David have established a very significant endowment fund to provide operational support of the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program (QLSP).

QLSP is a four-year program in academics, spiritual formation and mentoring to prepare future generations of servant-leaders for the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Income generated from the fund will support scholarships and/or program costs as determined annually.

Currently, QLSP consists of 53 students and five staff members who come together to explore community, faith, spiritual experience and diverse visions of Friends. Young alumni who have participated in the program have gone on to serve in a variety of ways such as Quaker work at the United Nations, the National Ministry with Farm Workers, and as teachers and pastors in Friends schools and meetings.

Ann Trueblood Raper, an early-retired gerontologist, is the granddaughter of D. Elton Trueblood, Quaker theologian, author and teacher who served on Guilford's faculty from 1928-30. She is also the great-niece of Phillip Furnas, a long-time Guilford professor. David is a financial economist. They have two children, Jonathan and Caroline (Carrie), and are members of New Garden Friends Meeting (NCYM-FUM). Ann was appointed as a member of the Guilford College Board of Trustees in 2003 and served on the Friends Center Steering Committee from 1991 to 2003.

"David and I have a deep commitment to Guilford College and to QLSP," said Ann. "We hope others will join us in supporting the work of Guilford College and Friends Center."

"The Rapers are a fine example of the servant-leadership we hope to inspire in young Friends," said Friends Center director and QLSP founder Max Carter.

"We are quite pleased that Ann and David have taken the lead in securing the financial future of this program," said Senior Director of Development Anne Hurd. "They embody the life of giving and learning we hope for Guilford College students." ■

Kenneth Addison Ross Bequest

Guilford students involved in the QLSP will benefit from a very generous bequest from the estate of Kenneth Addison Ross (Dec. 1924-Aug. 1961). Ross was the son of Lola Mae (Perkins) and William Bascom Ross. His great-grandfather, Needham T. Perkins, was on the faculty of New Garden Boarding School, which explains one of the reasons that Ross, a UNC-Chapel Hill graduate, chose to leave half of his estate to benefit students at Guilford, a further reason was his interest in young people. The other half of his estate has been left to Quaker Lake Camp, a place he loved. Ross was a gifted musician and taught himself to play the accordion in order to accompany vespers services at Quaker Lake Camp. A trained organist, pianist, and master of the carillon, Ross served in this latter capacity at Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill. Ross worked as a building contractor, taught at the junior high level and shared his musical talent at many institutions in the Greensboro area. His service as a chaplain's assistant in World War II left him with a love of travel. Friends Center is deeply appreciative of this generous gift. ■

Profiles of the First Year Quaker Leadership Scholars for the 2006-2007 Academic Year

Emma Deutsch is from Decorah, Iowa, and is a member of Decorah Friends Meeting (Iowa Yearly Meeting – Conservative). A lifelong member of Friends, Emma has participated in fifteen yearly meetings and various other Quaker gatherings. Traveling to Washington, D.C., for peace marches and later, attending the 2005 World Gathering of Young Friends in England, gave Emma the opportunity to experience what brings Friends together as well as the range of diversity found amongst the various Friends traditions. Emma recognizes her home meeting as a place of spiritual grounding and support for her as she travels. Emma spent the past year working for the Heifer Project and learned, among other things, that working with animals is a calming and centering activity for her.

Jocelyn (Jossie) Dowling is from Takoma Park, Maryland, and attends Adelphi Friends Meeting (Baltimore Yearly Meeting). Raised a Unitarian Universalist, Jossie recently declared herself at home with Quakers, after years of participation in Catoctin Quaker Camp and Young Friends Conferences. She currently serves as a member-at-large on the Young Friends Executive Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and has also participated in "Teens for Peace." An especially powerful Young Friends meeting for worship with a concern for business held at yearly meeting sessions this past year gave Jossie hope and affirmed her belief in the possibility of peaceful resolution. She looks forward to learning more about Quaker history and current practice in the supportive community of QLSP.

Megan Fair is from Wilmington, Ohio, and is a member of Wilmington Friends Meeting (Wilmington Yearly Meeting). When Megan was twelve, she and her family began to attend meeting for worship regularly. She links this with her strong leadership roles at school, in her meeting and also her growing in social awareness and activity. Megan helped create her high school's only community service organization and served as its president, also taking active leadership in her high school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes. An active member of Young Friends programs at monthly and yearly meeting levels, Megan was both camper and counselor at Quaker Knoll camp. She has traveled with young Friends to the Quaker United Nations Office, Friends Council on National Legislation, YouthQuake and to the 2005 World Gathering of Young Friends – which she describes as a life-altering experience.

Emma Graham is from Middlebury Center, Pennsylvania, and is an attendee at Wellsboro Friends Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). A graduate of Westtown Friends School, Emma participated in Westtown's Quaker Leadership Program for three years, as well as attending a Quaker Leadership Conference at Sandy Spring Friends School. She has participated in both Camp Dark Waters and Shiloh Quaker Camp and numerous other Quaker gatherings. Among these, Emma cites an experience during Teen Adventure Leadership Training as particularly significant in fostering closeness with a group of people, through a process of hearing and answering queries together. Emma delved into Westtown's understanding of itself as a Quaker school and the applications of the testimonies of simplicity and integrity through an exploration of the dress code for meeting for worship.



2006-2007 First Year QLSP

Grey Grantham is from Norwich, Vermont, and is a member of Hanover Friends Meeting (New England Yearly Meeting). Grey comes from a family of social activists – her application contains a newspaper picture of her at an Equal Rights Amendment march at the age of one! Throughout her life she has participated in antiwar demonstrations and last year performed a dance at a Tsunami relief benefit. Grey currently serves on her yearly meeting's Young Friends Ministry and Counsel and serves as clerk of Young Friends Monthly Business Meeting for her home meeting. The Quaker testimonies of peace, simplicity, and equality are central to Grey's faith and practice, within Friends and in the wider world.

Laura Herman is from Anchorage, Alaska, and is a member of Anchorage Friends Meeting (Alaska Friends Conference). A Quaker in 'mind' for most of her life, Laura cites her 'heart' engagement as happening during the summer of 2002, when the Alaska Friends Conference Young Friends began a two summer exchange program with East Coast Young Friends, mostly from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. This exchange led to Laura's experiencing the Friends General Conference (FCG) Gathering where the deep and powerful bond formed between 150 young Friends from all over the United States and Canada, in just seven days, was profoundly transformative. Laura's truly astounding list of activities include peace rally planning and attendance, HIPP facilitator training, peace and social justice work in her high school, expression of concern for the environment and for those who suffer from hunger and other deprivation.

Hannah Johnston is from Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and is a member of Swarthmore Friends Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). A graduate of Friends' Central School in Philadelphia, Hannah also attended a number of PYM Young Friends Gatherings, including one on the Alternatives to Violence Program. She has participated in various forms of activism, ranging from writing letters, to organizing a political film series, to protesting against the war in Iraq, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund. Of particular significance has been Hannah's recent work in Monteverde, Costa Rica, where she volunteered at Escuela de los Amigos, the Monteverde Friends School. Hannah believes that Quakerism is more of a way of life than a religion and finds evidence and expression of that in incorporating the testimonies in her daily life.

Kevin Muhanji is from Kisumu, Kenya, and is a member of Nairobi Yearly Meeting. Kevin has taken a major part in youth organized rallies at his church and school, in which he has been the narrator of an AIDS/HIV awareness program. Kevin's concern for the survival of his communities in the face of this rampant disease is expressed through these rallies which encourage youth to abstain from irresponsible sexual behaviors. Kevin credits his involvement with this work through a deeply moving spiritual experience in which he felt the Spirit of God speaking in a transforming manner. This experience took place in Friends School Kamusinga and Kevin reports that the Quaker worship experienced in this school changed his life completely.

Robin Nicholson is from Richmond, Indiana, and is a member of West Richmond Friends Meeting (Indiana Yearly Meeting). Robin's father's family has always been Quaker, while Robin's mother was raised a Nazarene. Worshiping with these two different faith traditions gave Robin an appreciation of the infinite paths to God, and desire to seek connections rather than differences. Robin participated in Young Friends during middle and high school and has spent several years doing child care, Bible study, and arts and crafts for the children in her meeting.

Zack Pinsky is from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is a member of Central Philadelphia Friends Meeting (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting). Zack has been going to the same meeting for his whole life and notes with gratitude the powerful presence of the Spirit in and through the deep connection of those gathered for worship. A recent internship at Friends Journal gave him the opportunity to read stories by and about unprogrammed Friends from all over the United States. A graduate of Friends Select School, Zack has spent many hours in service, both through school and through meeting activities. Zack cites the testimonies as important guides to a life style that invites participants into a life dedicated to service to others.

Deena Zaru lives in Mount Airy, Maryland and is from Ramallah, Palestine. She is a member of Ramallah Friends Meeting (Middle East Yearly Meeting), a fourth generation Quaker on both sides of her family! Recently Deena did an internship at the UNESCO Center for Peace, which made use of her lifelong commitment to the Quaker peace testimony. Growing up in the occupied territory of Palestine has strengthened Deena's resolve to work for peace – it has also deepened her faith. Living under the constant threat of violence, praying to the accompaniment of bombs, and from that fear recalling her grandmother's advice to actually talk to God took Deena to a sense of peace and relationship with God that has not left her. Her Quaker faith has given her a strong cornerstone in a complicated and confusing world and she looks forward to further exploration of Quakerism with other young Friends. ■

- Deborah Shaw

Update on the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program, Fall 2006

QLSP began the fall semester with a fair amount of transition. We found ourselves missing last year's senior class, whose members have gone on to a variety of fascinating projects. These include work with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, writing and performing songs about early Friends under a historian's grant from Pendle Hill, graduate work in social services and physical therapy, teaching English to the children of Hispanic immigrants, and exploring monastic mysticism, Quaker-fashion. Guilford is fortunate to have retained the services of two just-graduated QLSPers, one of whom is responsible for international and multi-cultural recruiting in the admissions office, while the other coordinates the activities for the more than 50,000 hours of volunteer work done annually by Guilford students.

QLSP also welcomed eleven new first-year students, who come from meetings as far-flung as Alaska, Iowa, Kenya, New Hampshire, Indiana and Palestine, representing a rich mix of both Friends United Meeting (FUM) and Friends General Conference (FGC) yearly meetings. Indeed, this first-year group has by far the most diverse theological and historical background of any year level to join QLSP in the past five years. Their early efforts at spiritual community building show that young Friends are capable of great sensitivity and flexibility, as the group includes students who are devout Christians and others who question the existence of a deity altogether!

The QLSP staff also evolved considerably to start the 2006-2007 school year. Along with long-time staff Max Carter and Deborah Shaw, as well as Scott Pierce Coleman and recent QLSP graduate (and current NCYM-FUM pastor) Michael Fulp, this fall we welcomed Frank Massey to the staff with great enthusiasm. Frank brings a wealth of spiritual wisdom, a profound knowledge of Quaker faith and practice, and gifts in healing

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and discernment to his work with the fourth year group, QLSP's Worship and Nurture committee and individual spiritual direction. We also bid farewell to 1999 QLSP alum, Betsy Blake; we were sad to see her move on from her one year of work at Guilford.

At fifty-three students, QLSP is now as large a group as it has ever been. The staff is engaged in discernment at this time about how quickly and how broadly to grow further, as an average of 8-10 Guilford students expresses interest in joining the program each year. Among the questions we are considering is whether QLSP can productively provide space for young adults from non-Quaker backgrounds to explore a call to Quakerism, even as it trains young Friends for a life of ministry after college.

Despite its growth, the QLSP continues to offer its members a strong grounding in Friends' history and theology, along with spiritual formation and work in the practice of discernment. We also provide students with the opportunity to experience many aspects of the life of a meeting community, with weekly worship (and monthly pot lucks) exploring both programmed and unprogrammed worship, committee work, budget management and conference planning, practical experiences of clerking and the challenging corporate discernment of business meeting. The staff often marvel at the level of dedication QLSPers show to the program, given the wide range of other extra-curricular activities – not to mention academics – that most of them are involved in at Guilford.

QLSP's recent emphasis has been on the discernment of gifts and exploration of vocational call to ministry. This fall, the eight students on the service committee took responsibility for designing and leading the annual fall retreat, which focused on committing ourselves to service as a practical and faithful means of exploring both gifts and call to ministry.

Using New Garden Friends School's (NGFS) new high school campus as our base, the group spent the Friday evening sessions reflecting on queries about the meaning and value of service in their lives. Drawing upon these queries as a basis for stepping out into the world Saturday, the students broke up into groups of 5-10 to spend the day at various sites – roofing at a Habitat for Humanity project, making Halloween masks with kids at a homeless shelter, spending the day with ex-convicts at a halfway house, and serving lunch and singing songs for patients at a Greensboro hospice.

Gathering back at NGFS for dinner, we closed the retreat with worship-sharing on the day's experiences and the implications for our unfolding individual exploration of service throughout the coming year. Many students shared that this retreat had been a highlight of their Guilford careers and a surprisingly refreshing break from the pressures of their "normal" lives, even though it lasted much longer than our retreats usually do. The service committee hopes that the retreat experience will guide program members into a sustained practice of service and activism grounded in spiritual disciplines and careful discernment.

As you can tell, QLSP is a full and multi-layered experience. We look forward to sharing our community with you any time you find yourself Guilford-bound! Weekly worship takes place every Friday at 5:30 p.m. and we would be glad to welcome you there. If you are a graduate of QLSP reading this update, be on the lookout for an announcement soon for the all-QLSP reunion being scheduled for the 2007-2008 school year, the 15th anniversary of the program! Blessings in the meantime. ■

- Scott Pierce Coleman, director of the Initiative on Faith and Practice and director of the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program

QLSP Profile: Senior Nathan Sebens Follows a Leading

As members of the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program at Guilford College, we often talk about and are encouraged to seek out leadings in our lives. This became very real to me this past summer. In search of a final project, I began to think about things that are important to me. At



Nathan Sebens

Guilford, I am a music major and have a concentration in Quaker Studies. I have also worked at a Quaker summer camp for three out of the past four summers. From these passions I began to feel a leading. Lately I have been very concerned with the divisions in Quakerism, and knew that in some way I wanted to work to defy

those. The idea of a universal Quaker Camp song book was born.

At first, I wasn't very enthusiastic about it, thinking that it seemed like a pretty far out there idea. But then, as they say at Catoctin Quaker Camp in Maryland, the way opened. When I went in search of camps, ten camps quickly responded to my offer, very excitedly inviting me to come and collect their songs. When I looked for money, the Bonner Foundation (a service based scholarship) stretched their regulations on religiously organized service to fully fund my trip. It was at about this time that I knew I needed to compile this book.

So I went on the trip, visiting ten Quaker camps from North Carolina, to Maine, and west to Indiana. Those camps were Quaker Lake Camp, Camp Celso, Junior Friends Conference, Camp Dark Waters, Camp Onas, Quaker Knoll, Quaker Haven, Friends Camp, Catoctin Quaker Camp, and Friends Music Camp.



Friends Music Camp

Almost immediately it was clear to me that the songs were the least important part of my journey. My trip was facilitating a cross-division conversation that very rarely happens in Quakerism. For many people, I was the first "programmed" Quaker they had ever met. I have come to the conclusion that, and this is pretty radical, if we can't get over our divisions, if we can't become that great people to be gathered that George Fox saw on Pendle Hill, then we as Quakers cannot offer our full witness to the world. If ever there was a time when this world was hungry for a Peace witness, and witness for equality, and an example of simplicity, it is now.

Now I am working on the song book (which is coming along), and hope to do some traveling to share about my trip and the book. Hopefully, in learning to sing some of the same songs, we can learn to meet and talk to each other. We have to learn to see other branches as brothers and sisters, instead of those "unprogrammed hippies," or those "programmed Jesus freaks." When we learn each others' names and faces (and songs!), we become real. Without that reality, we may as well become four different religions. ■

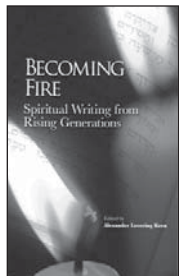
- Nathan Sebens, co-clerk of QLSP

QLSP Alumni and Current Student Accomplishments

What can you do with a Quaker education?

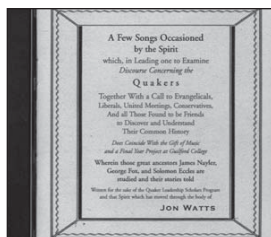
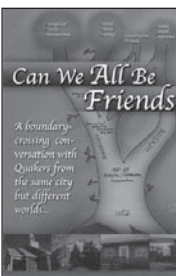
- Write books
- Create quilts
- Produce CDs and DVDs
- All the above

Evidence that “d” is the correct answer is seen in the creative work of several Guilford students and alumni who have been active in the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program and Campus Ministry.



Alex Kern '95 has edited *Becoming Fire* (Andover Newton Publications, 2006), an anthology of a range of spiritual voices from “rising generations.” While at Guilford, Alex served as clerk of QLSP and of GCRO, the Guilford Council of Religious Organizations. He is currently on the staff of Andover Newton Theological Seminary in Massachusetts and serves as the Protestant chaplain at Brandeis University.

Betsy Blake '99 and Coleman Watts '02, have collaborated on *Can We ALL Be Friends?*, a DVD which explores the Quaker diversity represented by four Friends meetings in Greensboro, N.C. In wide use around the country, the DVD was especially helpful in preparing participants in the 2005 World Gathering of Young Friends. Betsy continues to travel in public ministry among Friends; Coleman is an independent film producer. Both were active in QLSP.



Jon Watts '06 produced “A Few Songs Occasioned” as his QLSP senior project, drawing on extensive research into early Quaker history and his own musical talent to create seven original songs about the spirituality of George Fox, James Nayler, and Solomon Eccles. Jon is currently the Kenneth Carroll Scholar at Pendle Hill and is

continuing to create original music.

Kate Selby '09 stitched her first quilt during her first year at Guilford in response to a Quaker Social Testimonies course she took in the Hut. She is shown here (far left) with other members of Guilford Council of Religious Organizations (GCRO) (Erin Burns '07, Tristan Wilson '07, and Max Carter) holding the quilt. Featuring lines from Whittier’s “The Meeting,” the normative testimonies of Friends, and a pictorial rendering of the Hut, the quilt is put to utilitarian purposes in the Hut keeping warm slumbering late-night scholars. ■



Annual Fund

Thank you for helping us come close to our goal of \$50,000 for Friends Center’s annual fund for 2005 - 2006. We received gifts totaling \$46,997. We greatly appreciate your support for the on-going work of Friends Center on campus at Guilford as well as in the larger Quaker community. We will be focusing on enlarging the number of contributors to the Annual Fund in the hope of making the 2006 - 2007 institutionally budgeted goal of \$54,000. A big thank you to the White Fund at First Friends Meeting in Greensboro, N.C., for contributing to the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program scholarships. Also, special thanks to Patsy and Keith Cheadle of Forsyth Friends Meeting for their very generous \$10,000 gift to the Quaker Leadership Scholarship Program Endowment. Although this very generous contribution is not included in the Friends Center annual fund, it does make a major impact on the strength and vitality of Guilford’s Quaker programs. A special thank you also goes to members of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting (FUM) United Society of Friends Women who commit the proceeds from their annual fall gathering offering to help further Quaker programming and campus ministry at Guilford.

We are also encouraged by and deeply appreciative of the support the following Friends meetings and organizations contributed for Friend’s Center annual fund and for specific projects: Asheboro Friends Meeting, Asheville Friends Meeting, BellSouth Telecommunications, Chapel Hill Religious Society of Friends, Charlotte Friends Meeting, Davidson Friends Meeting, Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund, First Friends Meeting, Friendship Friends Meeting, GTE Foundation, Goldsboro Friends Meeting, Martin Casey Landscape Company, The Mary L. Cook Public Library, New Garden Friends Meeting, New Garden United Society of Friends Women, North Carolina United Society of Friends Women, North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends, North Carolina Yearly Meeting- Conservative, Oak Hill Friends Meeting, RF Micro Devices, Inc., Rockingham County Friends Meeting, Spring Friends Meeting, Third Haven Monthly Meeting, White Plains Meeting, Winston-Salem Friends Meeting, Women’s Society of First Friends. **Our annual fund goal for 2006 - 2007 is set for \$54,000 ■**

- Leslie Essien, library associate for serials



QLSP members made Halloween masks at a homeless shelter during a service retreat.

Landrum Bolling's Life Speaks

Until yesterday when I met him, Landrum Bolling was just a name to me. Actually a rather important name – it graces the building I first saw on Earlham College's campus when I took my daughter to school there last fall. So I was curious enough about the man to attend the Tea in the Hut as well as his lecture and the showing of his film.



At nearly 93, Bolling is energetic, ready to impart information and great stories from his many years of extensive work in peace and education. He has a very impressive resume, which includes being president of Earlham from 1958-1973 and serving as president and chairman of the board of the Lilly Endowment. In addition, he acted in a non-official capacity in the Middle East as a “messenger” between the various leaders and governments who were having difficulty with direct communication. It was for his expertise in Middle East affairs that he was sought out to be the Distinguished Quaker Visitor this week. Currently he is Director at Large of Mercy Corps International, which “works amid disasters, conflicts, chronic poverty and instability to unleash the potential of people who can win against nearly impossible odds.” - Mercy Corps International Web site. Landrum Bolling exemplifies the mission of Mercy Corps as he continues to harbor hope for a peaceful solution to the long-standing Middle East crisis.

This ability to hope is truly amazing, given his approximately 40 years of dealing with this problem that just won't go away. There is not space here to fully summarize Bolling's expert analysis of the situation, but following are a few nuggets of his wisdom that stayed with me.

- 1) Things are not as bad throughout the region as the media would have us believe. (Remember their unofficial motto is: “If it bleeds, it leads.” In other words, conflict is much more newsworthy than peace! There is a lot of good happening there, but it is not well-reported.)
- 2) As a corollary to that, access news from balanced information sources, rather than relying on quick and easy (and often sensational) ones. He suggested reading the New York Times, Christian Science Monitor and the New York Review of Books, all of which are available in Guilford's Hege Library.
- 3) Maintain hope! If people can learn and be allowed to truly listen to one another, compromise can happen. He witnessed this process in the Balkans during their conflict in the '90s. Rationality dictates that things must change, if for no other reason than demographics. There is no space for all displaced Palestinians to return to their homeland, but if that basic human “right of return” were afforded them in principle – as it is in actuality for all other of the world's refugees – they might be calmed and become willing to work out a plan peacefully. Similarly, the Jews know that the Palestinian population is increasing at a significantly faster rate than theirs, and that they really don't want to live as a minority in a land they claim as their divine right. This should motivate them to come to the peace table.
- 4) There is a solution to the crisis: two sovereign states living peacefully

side by side, using the 1967 boundaries. A third party, which Bolling believes must be the U.S. – only because of its power, is required to help negotiate this agreement.

What an inspiration it was to be in the presence of this Distinguished Quaker Visitor, who has let his life speak in such a powerful but humble way over several decades. And the next time I visit Earlham College and walk into the Landrum Bolling Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and Social Science, I will remember its namesake with great fondness and admiration. ■

- Kate Hood '76 Library Associate for Serials

Sergeant Thinks Iraq War is Immoral

Sergeant Ricky Clousing of the 82nd airborne division has seen the underside of the American military machine.

On Oct. 5 in front of a crowded audience in the Community Center, Clousing told how his service in Iraq had led him to the belief that the American occupation of Iraq was immoral, and that he could not participate in it.

In November 2004, Clousing's unit was ordered to deploy to Baghdad in support of the elections. When he arrived in Baghdad and began his work as an interrogator, Clousing was surprised to find that the reality of American operations in Iraq was dramatically different from the image of the war portrayed by the media at home.

“One day I heard my commanding officer briefing his superior; he told him that we had ‘37 terrorists in custody,’ when we had a total of 37 people, few of whom had been linked by any evidence to terrorism,” Clousing said “This taught me that in Iraq there is no black and white as the media would lead you to believe - the use of the word 'terrorists' is misleading and attempts to justify an unjust war.”

As Clousing's tour of duty drew to a close, the perceived injustices of the war became more difficult to live with. He spoke of an incident in Mosul where an innocent civilian was killed right in front of him. Sgt. Clousing has lots of these stories. He also tells of his decision to take a stand against what he saw was wrong.

“I went to my commanding officer and told him that he needed to address the fact that some of his soldiers were out of line. He just started screaming at me that I didn't understand war, and that things like this are inevitable.”

When Clousing went AWOL, he expected to be apprehended by the military immediately. After a year of not hearing from the military, and lots of thinking, he turned himself in. Fort Bragg told him that his case had been transferred to Fort Lewis, but when Clousing contacted Fort Lewis they had no record of him.

“At that time I decided to go public with my story,” Clousing said. “I called a press conference, and sure enough, as soon as I went public, the military found my paperwork.”

Sgt. Clousing's experiences are not isolated incidents.

“What Ricky Clousing did was a tremendous encouragement to me,” said Nathan Sebens, senior music major and conscientious objector. “He could have taken the easy way out and kept his mouth shut, but instead he chose to follow his conscience.”

On Oct. 12 Sgt. Ricky Clousing was sentenced to three months in the brig, given a reduction in rank, and forced to forfeit two-thirds of his pay for the time he spends in the brig. ■

- Pete McGuire '07 fourth year QLSP Student

* Excerpted from a story that first appeared in the Oct. 27 Guilfordian

Adult Programming of Friends Center

Friends Center's Quaker Renewal Program (QRP) offered a fall book study series off-campus, piggy-backing with the visit of Middle East peace authority Landrum Bolling. Using the AFSC's *When the Rain Returns: Toward Justice and Reconciliation in Palestine and Israel*, participants attended Bolling's campus presentations and then studied the book for three weeks.

In cooperation with Surry Quarter of North Carolina Yearly Meeting (NCYM-FUM), the QRP offered a six-week series, "Quakerism 101," in October and November. Co-leaders with Max Carter of the series, held at different Meetings in Surry Quarter, were Kathleen Coe, Frank Massey, Tony Lowe, Sid Kitchens, Deborah Shaw, Brent McKinney, John Porter, Betsy Blake, Scott Wagoner, and Randy Quate. Sixty people registered for the series.

Friends Center's QRP program in the spring of 2007 will be a book study of Brian McLaren's *The Secret Message of Jesus*. McLaren will be the speaker at the 2007 sessions of (NCYM-FUM). Details for the March-April book study series are incomplete at this time. ■

Fall Work Trip

Twenty-seven students, staff and family members journeyed to the MOWA Choctaw Friends Center in McIntosh, Alabama for the Fall Break Work Trip. The Choctaw Friends Center reaches out to members of the Choctaw nation offering educational support (plans for an after-school program), material support (thrift shop), and other ministries in this economically depressed region.

The Guilford College students, representing every region of the US and one student from Kenya, replaced the roof of Quaker Lodge, the main program building at the Center, rebuilt a room so that larger public gatherings can take place, installed a restroom, reorganized the thrift shop and material, and played with children who stopped by in the afternoon. These were five days of intense and exhausting work filled with laughter and joy as we encouraged and pushed one another to try out new skills—from climbing to the top of the roof to working power tools. We left with a sense of satisfaction in the work we accomplished, the new connections we made with other Guilford students, a deeper understanding of our gifts and interests, and with the knowledge that our work will further the work of the MOWA Choctaw Friends Center. ■



- Frank Massey

Friends Odds and Ends *continued from page 1*

I wish it were universally so among Friends. We all fall short of that high praise. But that is what we try to do at Friends Center in our many programs – especially with our college students. The courses we offer, the speakers and visitors we bring to the College, the activities we arrange through campus ministry, and even in our attempt as staff to model an authentic Quaker life, all are attempts at creating a culture that will help our students learn how to respond rather than react.

Yes, we fall woefully short here, too! In the pages of this newsletter, however, I hope you will catch glimpses of what we intend – and how many of our students have responded!

A final note: next year we enter Friends Center's 25th year of existence. This observance coincides with the beginning of our drive to raise \$1,500,000 in immediate endowment to support the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program in perpetuity. In the coming years we will seek an additional \$1,500,000 to support campus ministry, academic and off-campus programs, work trips, and international Friends scholarships through increasing our Annual Fund and adding to endowment.

I hope you will join us in this ministry of equipping and nourishing servant-leaders for Friends and the wider world. Your response will be deeply appreciated. ■

- Max L. Carter

Friends Center Embarks on Major Fund Drive

As has been mentioned frequently in these pages (lest you not get the hint!), Friends Center is beginning a major fund drive to endow permanently the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program. To do that, we will need to raise \$1,500,000 by 2008. With the full cooperation of the College's Advancement Office and the inspiration of the magnificent Raper gift, we are optimistic that we will be able to meet that goal.

Why that figure – and why 2008? Earnings off that amount will support a full-time director and provide support for QLSP student activity. 2008 is the year when Friends Center will fully embrace the programs currently supported by the Lilly Endowment-funded Initiative on Faith and Practice (IFP). It is also the year when Friends Center must begin matching the \$450,000 Lilly challenge grant to transition programs of the IFP into Friends Center.

How can you help? Outright gifts, multi-year pledges, and contributions to the Annual Fund are the ways that will be most helpful in meeting our needs. Planned giving will certainly help us down the line, too!

Thanks to all who have already supported this goal and who have indicated their readiness to help. We are deeply grateful. ■

Students Create Draft of an Ethical Purchasing Policy for Guilford College

Students in Max Carter's senior "Quaker Faith & Practice" course in the spring of 2006 created a draft policy on ethical purchasing and procurement for Guilford as a class project. Drawing on readings in books which analyzed the Quaker response to money and morals, the students created a 13-page draft which is now being vetted on campus and further refined by student groups.

Authors were Wendy Rodriguez and QLSP students Evelyn Jadin, Casey Rhoades, and Nathan Sebens. An electronic copy of the document is available upon request. ■

Stimulating Visitors Challenge the Community

Speakers at the College this fall have included Mercy Corps director-at-large and JM Ward Distinguished Quaker Visitor Landrum Bolling, speaking on the search for peace in the Middle East; author and president of Evangelicals for Social Action Ron Sider, speaking on Christian holistic ministry and public policy; Christian Peacemaker Teams members Art and Peggy Gish, speaking on their peace work in Hebron and Baghdad; Sgt. Ricky Clousing, talking about his decision of Christian conscience to stand court martial rather than return to Iraq; and editorial cartoonist and Judith Weller Harvey Quaker Scholar Signe Wilkinson, speaking on Quaker influences on the cartoonist's art.

Friends Center has partnered with on and off-campus groups to bring these stimulating visitors. Join us for these upcoming special visitors to campus and Greensboro.

Upcoming Special Speakers

Melissa and Dean Johnson

Sunday, January 28, 1:00 p.m.

College Meeting for Worship, Moon Room of Dana Auditorium

Melissa Johnson is a pastor in the Church of the Brethren; Dean Johnson is the director of the Plowshares Peace Consortium of Earlham, Goshen, and Manchester Colleges.

Luby Casey Campus Ministry Visitor Tony Campolo

Monday, January 22, 7:30 p.m.

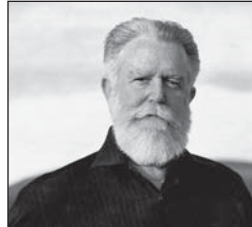
Dana Auditorium

Campolo is an author, evangelical pastor and social activist, noted speaker, and sociologist.



Tony Campolo

Special return visit: James Turrell



James Turrell

Wednesday, January 24, 7:30 p.m.

New Garden Friends Meeting

Turrell is a Quaker and an internationally acclaimed artist using the medium of light.

Friend-in-Residence Ben Pink Dandelion

Tuesday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.

Community Center of Guilford College

Pink Dandelion is a British Quaker, author, and sociologist. He will be speaking on "The Liturgies of Quakerism: Tradition and Innovation in Quaker Worship."



Ben Pink Dandelion

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