From the World Office

Balls – they come in all sizes and colours and patterns. I seem to have an awful lot of them all around my desk right now. These balls have different labels such as ‘number of headsets for translation’, ‘plans to attend the Africa Section triennial’, ‘budget 2008-2012’, ‘world office report to Tri’, ‘talk for Ireland YM’, ‘travel plans for…’, ‘set up personnel committee meeting,’ and so forth – too many balls to count.

This variety is one of the aspects of this position that I love – it’s never boring. Last month, I shook hands with the Pope in Rome; earlier in the year, Moses Musonga and I had taken a 22.5-hour bus ride from Kigali, Rwanda to Nairobi – after an 18-hour trip to get there. On one day, I can be discussing visions of Christian unity and the next day planning for the next edition of *Quakers Around the World* and repairs to the fax machine.

Being at the hub of a network of connections, as the World Office is, presents opportunities to see how intricately and sometimes invisibly Friends are tied to one another. We ARE part of a larger family. It reminds me how startled I was when I first saw the Quaker Tapestry exhibit in Kendal, UK. I was prepared to see some nice two-dimensional embroidery and instead I found three-dimensional works of art with intricate stitches and patterns. It was quite beautiful.

This August, 325 of us will have the opportunity to see the three-dimensional family of Friends when we gather in Dublin at the Triennial. We’ll explore our intricate connections, pray and sing, and share our divinity. And I’ll probably come home with a whole new set of balls for my office. It’s an exciting prospect.

General Secretary
FWCC World Office

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Cover: Friends in Rural Chalatenango, El Salvador. (Photo: Loida E. Fernández G.)

Quit Torture Now quilt (opposite) produced by the Quaker Initiative to end torture
The Quaker Initiative to End Torture—
First Conference Report

John Calvi

Friends from 18 yearly meetings gathered on June 2-4 2006 at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina, to learn about United States-sponsored torture and to plan how to end it. Several non-Friends worshipped and worked with us as well. Sixteen speakers, including three survivors of torture, provided information and inspiration to 126 conference attenders.

After a period of welcome and worship, Jennifer Harbury gave a riveting keynote, giving us a brief but comprehensive overview of US torture. She spoke from her personal experiences including the CIA-sponsored torture of her deceased Guatemalan activist husband in the 1980s through the May 2006 United Nations hearings on United States compliance with the Convention Against Torture. This was followed by the film, Hidden in Plain Sight, which gave a vivid history of the School of the Americas and the 20-year struggle to close the school that has trained Latin American military officers since the second world war. The film and the question and answer session offered by two survivors brought participants a sense of immediacy and responsibility.

On Saturday morning, a panel of three speakers introduced us to the topics of direct action, legislation and executive monitoring and treatment, which were followed by workshops providing in-depth information to conference participants on these topics, and on strategic planning. On Saturday afternoon, Hector Aristizabal, using the techniques of the Theatre of the Oppressed, depicted his own experience as a survivor of torture and then engaged the audience in a powerful interactive movement that moved us toward hopeful engagement to end the practice of torture. Chuck Fager and Bal Pinguel then took the stage to exhort us towards the long work ahead, moving us from learning to action. We next joined in a town meeting to brainstorm ideas in the categories of education, legislation, treatment, prisons, and media/strategy. After supper, work groups in those categories met to plan action. A hard day’s work closed with a folk music concert donated by the Short Sisters.

Sunday worship was led by our five elders. The conference ended in a second town meeting in which we heard from each work group and discussed the future of QUIT. There was a clear sense of the Meeting towards the following actions: educating our meetings and others; asking for monthly, quarterly, and yearly meeting support (minutes, donations, conference attendance); using the QUIT website (www.quit-torture-now.org) as a resource of information and events; joining the QUIT listserv via the website to share news and ideas.

Conferees appreciated the planning team’s care in creating an excellent conference on a difficult topic presented with a tone of reverence, and they thanked the elders for prayerfully setting the tone for spiritual work. The planning team was asked to plan a second conference June 1-3 2007.

I found this gathering to be a sign of Quakers at our best. We have a tradition of Christianity to bring practical comfort to those suffering the worst injustice. This is perhaps the ugliest subject on which to learn basic information and to plan actions for change. I was honored to be among many Friends who had brought their talent and experience to other fronts of social justice and change over the years and were now facing a new work with hope and care.

The history of Friends is full of small works of a few that grow to involve whole meetings. What at first seems impossible, later becomes a cause of justice, and still later becomes a part of our best history. We hope, as we consider the efforts to end slavery, women’s suffrage, prison reform, that we are now witnessing the beginning of another important long term Quaker work.
Section News

Africa Section:
The section said farewell to Helen Musotsi, the long-time secretary in the Section office, at the end of June. Edith [Nancy] Mijega Kidiya has joined the staff to assist Executive Secretary Moses Musonga.

The Section will have its triennial conference 31 January – 4 February 2007 in Kampala, Uganda, at the Cardinal Nsumbuga Leadership Training Centre. They extend a warm invitation to Friends around the world to join them for this time of worship and business. Please contact the Africa Section for more details: fwcc-as@swiftkenya.com.

They are in the process of producing their first newsletter in many years, awaiting funds for its distribution.

Section of the Americas:
Staff member Edward Sargent has retired and now Sharon Frame is the Campaign Assistant and database manager. The section is in the second half of its capital fundraising campaign which has been going well.

In the past few months, the section has sponsored three regional meetings: for the Southeast held in North Carolina; for the Lower Great Lakes held in Ohio; and for the Northeast held in New York state. These are smaller group opportunities to gather Friends interested in connecting with the wider family.

Asia-West Pacific:
No staff changes! Kenneth Co Ching Po of Hong Kong continues as section secretary, with the volunteer assistance of Valerie Joy of Australia YM.

Lindsay Gregory of Aotearoa/New Zealand YM is now the section representative on the Quaker UN Committee-New York and has served a year as its co-clerk. Topsy Evans of Australia YM does the same for Quaker UN Committee-Geneva; she also doubles as the Section Treasurer.

Their next section gathering will be in India in November 2008 – think ahead!

Europe & Middle East:
One of the many regrettable side-effects of the Israeli attack on Lebanon was the cancellation of the Middle East YM which had been set for September in Brumanna, Lebanon. It was to have been the first get-together of these two monthly meetings and isolated Friends in many years. Nonetheless, plans are being made to re-schedule. Keep an eye on the website for updates: www.fwccemes.org. They are also mourning the passing of Violet Zaru who contributed so much to Friends work in Ramallah.

Executive secretary Bronwyn Harwood recently returned from visiting Russia for a meeting of the Friends House Moscow board, to meet with the monthly meeting in Moscow, and to visit the Friends missionaries in Elektrostal who are from Northwest YM in the US.
News from the Quaker UN Offices

Geneva

New Staff
Three new Programme Assistants joined QUNO Geneva at the end of August. David Ahmed, Aletia Dundas and Oliver Robertson will work on the Global Economic Issues, Peace & Disarmament and Human Rights & Refugees programmes respectively.

Peace and Disarmament
In July three QUNO representatives, from Geneva and New York, attended the UN Review Conference on Small Arms and organised side events focused on issues of demand, youth violence and gender. While it was disappointing that no specific future directions came out of this conference, QUNO will continue to work on this important issue. QUNO is also hosting a meeting at the end of September to consider how organisations based in Geneva can support the new United Nations Peacebuilding Commission, which works to support countries emerging from conflict.

Human Rights and Refugees
In June the new UN Human Rights Council met in Geneva for its inaugural session. Joint work by Canadian Friends and QUNO helped ensure that one of the first decisions taken by the new Council was to adopt the draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration has been 11 years in the making (though some say it’s 500 years overdue!) and will now go to the UN General Assembly in New York for approval. QUNO’s report on the Council’s first session, Righting Historic Wrongs, is available from www.quno.org

Global Economic Issues
Following the suspension of the Doha negotiations on world trade, QUNO is jointly organising a discussion in late September, looking at the interaction between multinationals and least developed countries in the process of economic growth. Titled “Corporate Social Responsibility & the Doha Round: Are there Win-Win Opportunities for the Private Sector & Developing Countries?” the meeting will include business leaders, trade associations and negotiators from developing countries.

New York

The Quaker UN Office, New York, is delighted to announce the appointment of Robert Callard as its new Director and UN Representative. Robert comes to QUNO NY with an impressive background including a 27-year career in the US Foreign Service. He has worked on a variety of peacemaking activities including Bosnia, Haiti and Darfur. His experience working with the United Nations has included working directly on UN peacekeeping in the former Yugoslavia, work with the sanctions committees at the UN, and he has co-authored three UN Security Council resolutions. Robert has been a member of the Religious Society of Friends since age 19. He is a member of Friends Meeting of Charleston, West Virginia, and has served as Clerk and Elder in numerous meetings within the US and internationally. He is eager to connect his lifelong love of the United Nations and his Quaker faith in service at QUNO NY.
Nancy Irving, FWCC General Secretary, reports on the work of various committees set up following the 2004 Triennial.

One of the biggest differences in how the World Office works since the last Triennial is the use of newly-formed international committees which meet by telephone conference call.

**International Finance Committee**
Since 2004, there is an International Finance Committee, clerked by Nancy Wallace of Illinois YM. All four section treasurers serve on the IFC, along with Treasurer Roger Sturge, Tim Brown of Britain YM, Ray Treadway of North Carolina [C], Helen Bayes of Australia YM, plus Nancy Irving and Michael Booth from staff and Tom Hill from the Central Executive Committee. It now meets on a quarterly basis for about an hour each time, with documents and reports circulated in advance. They regularly receive the financial reports and investment reports.

**Investment Sub-Committee**
Two sub-committees of the International Finance Committee are the Investment sub-committee and the Costed Work Plan group. Tim Brown guides the Investment sub-committee which has engaged an investment advisor in the UK and has made recommendations about investing our US-based funds. They receive quarterly investment reports and advise the Treasurer. They also meet by conference call.

**Costed Work Plan Group**
This has nearly finished its work. After the last Triennial, when all yearly meetings were asked to increase their donations to FWCC by 10% per annum on a cumulative basis during the triennium, Britain YM's Finance & Property Committee asked for a business plan for FWCC. This has been a major endeavour, to say the least. At this writing, the first draft has gone to the International Finance Committee for their consideration and revision before its submission to the Central Executive Committee and eventual distribution to reps ahead of the Triennial in Dublin. One of the inherent challenges was to create a budget through 2012 because there is a proposal to hold a World Conference in 2012 and not hold a triennial in 2010. E-mail and conference calls have kept this committee’s work going.

The Central Executive Committee has also made use of *ad hoc* sub-committees. Preparatory to the work of the Costed Work Plan group was the work of the *ad hoc* Mission Committee that developed our new mission statement and did preliminary strategic planning. This Mission Statement is:

**Answering God's call to universal love, FWCC brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communications, and consultation, to express our common heritage and our Quaker message to the world.**

From this they developed a set of questions or queries to help us discern whether to adopt a new project or to continue existing work. Their work was mostly by email with a couple conference calls and is completed.

**Nominating Committee**
The Nominating Committee has already been at work. With the re-structuring of the New York Quaker United Nations Committee, it was asked to name the four FWCC committee members, one from each Section. They consulted broadly with the sections and others, had one conference call, and made recommendations to the Central Executive Committee which, under the revised Constitution, could make the decision by electronic means. The Nominating Committee is presently working by the same means on identifying someone from Africa Section to fill the upcoming vacancy on the Geneva Quaker United Nations Committee to take office in January 2007. Beyond that, they are already pondering filling vacancies of our officers to be considered at the Dublin Triennial in August. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please send an email to...
world@fwcc.quaker.org and it will be forwarded to the committee. Ann Stever of North Pacific YM is the clerk.

**World Conference 2012 Sub-Committee and Governance Committee**

The CEC has named two more *ad hoc* committees to work on recommendations to bring to the Triennial. They are the World Conference 2012 sub-committee, comprised of the Section Secretaries, the General Secretary and Martín Garate, and the *ad hoc* Governance Committee, comprised of the Section Clerks, the General Secretary, and Reuben Shibutse. If the decision is made to have a world conference in 2012 and not a triennial in 2010, then our governance in the interim is an issue and may require re-visiting the Constitution. This committee is considering those possibilities. Both emails and conference calls are essential to the progress of these committees.

**International Membership Committee**

Continuing to meet face-to-face twice a year is the International Membership Committee, comprised mostly of members of Britain YM, as has been the tradition. Under recommendations that will come before the Triennial, this committee may be re-structured to serve as a general meeting for international members, using electronic means more heavily to create community.

*Africa Section Executive Committee, clerked by Gladys Kang’abi of East Africa-North YM*
Discovering in more depth the wide variety of Friends groups and yearly meetings south of the Rio Grande over the years has given the Section of the Americas an enormous array of possibilities for learning from Friends in this area and for supporting the ministries Friends have in different countries. From Bolivia to Cuba, Central America and Mexico, visitation and face-to-face encounters, along with workshops on varied themes, have proven to be a great instrument of sharing, communicating, mutual understanding and support amongst Latin American Friends and the rest of the Section. Recent themes include the Biblical basis for conflict resolution in the church, our Quaker identity, the character of the Church in the 21st century, ways of working for peace, and Why Friends are Friends, amongst others.

More than offering solutions or answers, visitors and those visited are often left with questions that lead us into an even deeper search for understanding the commonalities we all share as Friends: what are the spiritual lessons that visits to different yearly meetings teach us all? How do we hear God’s voice through others who may be different from us? What is God telling us, teaching us through the testimony of other Friends? How do we share what we have learned in our visits with those Friends back home?

The workshops are led by very capable Friends on the varied themes. The pattern followed is to invite a Friend from one sub-region to come and share by visiting churches or meetings and then to lead a workshop. For instance, in the last two years, Esteban Ajnota from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, led a workshop in Honduras for Central American Friends, Maudiel and Aminda Arevalo from El Salvador led workshops in Bolivia and Peru, and Manuel Guzmán from México led workshops on Barclay’s Apology and Why Friends are Friends in Honduras, Guatemala and Cuba.

Here are some comments on their experiences:

We were in La Paz and Desaguadero, a border town in Bolivia. God gave us the opportunity to share with our brothers and sisters on the theme “Our Quaker identity” in the Max Paredes church compound. We had an attendance of about 40 Friends from at least three different YMs.

Later on we participated in the sixth bi-national Conference of Friends from Bolivia and Peru. There were around 600 Friends. We gave four talks on the Family, our workshop and also preaching. It was a blessed time where we felt the presence of God’s Spirit amongst us. Then we also visited Santidad Friends group in Peru, who were meeting for the first time as a yearly Meeting. This was also a precious time for sharing the word of God.

During these activities in the border town, most Friends present were sitting on the floor. Friends here are very intelligent, well organized and very creative. I had a sense that amongst some of the leadership of these YMs, there is interest in working beyond barriers that divide them to some degree. (Maudiel and Aminda Arevalo, workshop in Bolivia)

The activity at Camp Peniel was a great blessing. Themes we considered really were themes they were eager to study and much needed. Many pastors had crude experiences in their own lives, families and churches. We tried to understand where these conflicts came from and we had a good opportunity to ponder in our experiences as lead-
ers and pastors and to consider whether or not we are many times responsible for these conflicts. I thank you all for allowing me to help Friends in Honduras and pray God multiplies his blessings on you so you can facilitate more of this support to other places where there are Friends. (Esteban Ajnota, Honduras workshop, 2005)

Another relevant aspect of FWCC/COAL ministry amongst Latin American Friends has been the Publications Consultation that followed the 2005 Section Annual Meeting in Tempe, Arizona, USA. Participants included representatives from Latin America, some Spanish speaking Friends from the USA and others representing Quaker organizations that work in both places. We met for two days for dialogue and to see if we can work together in this area of common concern. This emerged from a COAL proposal in 2004 to focus on religious education materials for young Friends and children.

As a result of this consultation, a workshop on “The ABCs, of the Art of Writing” took place recently in La Paz, Bolivia, where 18 Friends from at least four yearly meetings participated. Plans were developed to have a second of these in July 2007, where participants will share some of their writings which hopefully will result in publication.

But most relevant of all is to be able to discover and share the gifts that already exist amongst Friends, and to realize that Friends’ testimonies are expressed in different languages, different contexts and backgrounds, but are grounded in the same teachings and principles of peace, love and understanding that early Friends in these countries encountered through the work of hundreds of others that came to Latin America to share the Good News of God’s love to all.

El Salvador YM Friends in Soyapango, El Salvador. (Photo: Loida E. Fernández G.)
Different aspects of Quakerism in the American Midwest

Inga Page, Britain YM

Reflections on the 2006 Quaker Youth Pilgrimage

This summer I was one of 26 young people aged 16-18 who traveled around Ohio, Illinois and Indiana for four weeks, exploring different expressions and histories of Quakerism. The pilgrims came from England, America, Germany, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and the Netherlands, with leaders from Ireland, Hungary and America. We were supported by Susan Lee-Barton, who works for FWCC in America, and who was a welcome bringer of food, post and messages from our families.

The best aspect of the pilgrimage for me was the complete range of wonderfully amazing people I met. It was so interesting hearing about everyone’s different experiences, lives and cultures. We found we had both differences and similarities in the way we see Quakerism. This was usually discussed as a group when we ‘worship shared’, which allowed all of us to express our views in a way very close to ministry. This kind of activity brought us closer as a group.

We were amazed to discover that outside Europe there are four main types of meetings. Only one type is un-programmed (like I am used to); there are three different types of programmed meetings. It was strange for us to visit meeting houses which seemed more like churches, with stained glass windows, organs and a layout where the Clerks, Elders and Overseers sat on a raised platform at the front. The fact that they had planned, pastor-led worship was also a shock. It all left me questioning what Quakerism really is.

My first visit to a semi-programmed meeting was with my home-stay family; it was nice that the pastor spoke about us. The ministry came at the end of the meeting for worship, and was very rushed and there wasn’t really any pause for thought.

I had difficulty relating to the last meeting we visited, as the building and the way of worship seemed very alien to most of us. But in spite of this they were very welcoming and we had a good time; we played lots of games, went on a horse and cart ride.

My favourite place was Chicago, where we stayed in the very welcoming meeting house. It was left up to us to decide on our activities, so we played in the huge water fountains, swam in Lake Michigan, and visited the Chicago Institute of Art. This was where we really bonded as a group.

We learned a lot about the Underground Railroad, which was an escape route for slaves. Quakers helped a great deal in this and there was a large concentration of historical sights in the Midwest. Everywhere we went had some kind of relation to the Underground Railroad.

Our work project - with Habitat for Humanity - was soooo fun! We learned lots of new skills for building a house and I learned how to tile. The project builds houses cheaply for people who could not otherwise afford to buy their own homes.

I can’t finish without mentioning the number of ‘pot lucks’ (bring and shares) we had, with vast quantities of food. Another aspect which came up frequently was having to stand up and introduce ourselves. By the end of the month, “Inga Page from Sutton PM, London, UK” had become Inga-London-UK!
The World Office has launched its new website, www.fwccworld.org, with many new and enhanced features.

As well as the usual information that visitors may expect, there are three new searchable databases.

The first is “find Friends”, an invaluable resource for Friends and others who are travelling in various parts of the world. Visitors to the website can search in a variety of ways to find meetings and churches in different regions. The information can also be seen in a comprehensive list or on a map. Yearly meetings are listed, as well as independent monthly meetings, churches, worship groups, and isolated Friends. Once visitors have found the relevant meeting or church, they are redirected to the relevant yearly meeting’s own website. Yearly meetings can update the information on the database, but additions can be made only through the World Office.

The second database covers other Quaker organisations around the world. These include International Centres, schools, service organisations and many others. Organisations are encouraged to add themselves to the database using the form on the website. Information can also be updated.

“Testimonies in Action” is the third new area. This will be a listing of service projects, and it was due to go live on the website as Friends World News went to press. Again, people involved can submit and update projects.

While the aim is to be the “Google of the Quaker world”, a one-stop search engine for Friends groups, organisations and projects around the world, only a small number have been added initially. The World Office is encouraging Friends to submit and update information to provide a definitive list.

The new-look website also features information on the 22nd FWCC Triennial, being held in Dublin during August 2007, news of United Nations work, and descriptions of the various types of Friends around the world. There is also a very useful Quaker FAQ, and of course contact details for the World Office and Section offices. Information on how to contribute to the work of FWCC is also found on the site. We hope you’ll make this site one of your favourites!
Opportunities for Service to the World Office

The Nominating Committee is beginning its work towards bringing names forward to the Triennial in August for service positions beginning January 2008. They would appreciate your offers of service and suggestions of others who might serve. The positions include:

- Clerk [Presiding Clerk]
- Assistant Clerk
- Clerk, Central Executive Committee
- Treasurer
- At-large member of Central Executive Committee [2]
- Members of the International Membership Committee (including people who would like to be correspondents with isolated Friends). Note this committee is proposing to re-structure itself to primarily be composed of international members themselves.

In the coming years, vacancies will arise on the two Quaker United Nations Committees, for New York and for Geneva. These positions require some expertise and experience in the work of the United Nations or in the particular areas of focus of each office. If you would like to be considered, the Nominating Committee is collecting names of those who are especially interested or qualified. One person from each section serves on each QUNC.

In addition, the International Finance Committee, which is appointed by the Clerk of the Central Executive Committee, will have openings. If you have some knowledge of finances and/or investments, your offer of service would be welcome.

Please send a letter or email about your interest or with the suggestions of other names to the Nominating Committee, via the World Office in London: 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK or world@fwcc.quaker.org. Ann Stever of North Pacific YM is the clerk. Members of the committee are: Anna Baker of Northwest YM; Tim Brown of Britain YM; Anne Englehardt of German YM; Gael Howell of Aotearoa/New Zealand YM; and Neva Kegode of Nairobi YM.
Meet the World Office staff

Nancy Irving, **General Secretary**, member of North Pacific YM, enjoys ‘the variety’ in the work she does where ‘no two days are alike’. A lawyer by training, she lived and worked for a year in the Republic of Georgia promoting civil society as a programme of the American Bar Association. She was appointed a representative of her yearly meeting to FWCC in 1995 and served on the Executive Committee and Visitation Committee of the Section of the Americas in the 1990s. She attended George School, a Quaker boarding school in Pennsylvania, as a teenager and has been involved as a Friend at local, national and international levels ever since. She necessarily travels a great deal in her job as General Secretary and can never be found too far away from a stack of crossword puzzles and her laptop.

**Thecla Geraghty**, the **Office Manager**, is an American with a background in insurance and law office management. She is a member of Britain YM. She came to Quakerism when she moved to London in the 1990s and serves as an elder in her local meeting. Working closely with the General Secretary, she coordinates the diverse strands in the work carried out in the World Office, maintains the database and is currently coordinating the development of the new FWCC website. She is a keen weaver and aficionado of crime novels.

**Michael Booth** is a British Friend, who, as **Financial Administrator**, looks after FWCC’s finances on a day-to-day basis, preparing monthly statements, getting accounts ready for their annual audit and participating in the International Finance Committee. Before working for FWCC, he was on the European Planning Group for the 1985 World Gathering of Young Friends (and still has the WGYF T-shirt!). Michael attended the World Conference in Elspeet in the Netherlands in 1991 and an Annual Meeting of EMES in Germany in the 1980s, and since then has worked extensively for Friends locally and nationally, clerking his own MM, being an elder, and serving on committees within Britain YM. He went Friends School Saffron Walden and was convinced during a school pilgrimage to the 1652 country whilst sitting on ‘Fox’s pulpit’. Outside of Quakerism, he is an enthusiast of industrial archaeology and railways.

**Graham Ellis, International Membership Secretary** and member of Britain YM, was a lawyer before working for Friends. Besides working for FWCC, he is also warden of a Friends Meeting House in London. He came to Quakerism after attending his first Quaker meeting for worship in the week that an assassination attempt was made on Pope John Paul II, seeking a quiet space to work out his reaction to the seeming senseless violence involved. A keen cyclist, he has twice ridden a stage of the Tour de France (although not at the same time as the Tour itself!).

**Lee Taylor, Coordinator of the 22nd Triennial**, is a British Friend who, as an AFS exchange student and Fulbright Fellow, lived and studied in the USA in various places including Bronxville High School and Smith College. Lee is an educational consultant and Visiting Senior Research Fellow in the Open University Business School. Before working for FWCC, she was aware of Friends internationally as her monthly meeting has close ties to the Quaker farm and training centre at Hlekweni, Zimbabwe, and with young Friends in Central and South Africa YM, with whom there is a camp exchange. Lee is an Overseer in her Meeting, and always tries to attend meetings in other countries she visits. Lee has three children; her daughter was married this summer. She enjoys walking with her dog and omnivorous reading.
Some Yearly Meetings in 2007

Here are the first few pieces of information which have come in for the Calendar of Yearly Meetings for 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Yearly Meeting</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 23-25</td>
<td>Philadelphia YM</td>
<td>Arch St Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5-8</td>
<td>Southeastern YM</td>
<td>Leesburg Fl.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-8</td>
<td>South Central YM</td>
<td>Waco TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>12-15 April 2007</td>
<td>Ireland YM</td>
<td>Lisburn, Northern Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Piedmont Friends Fellowship</td>
<td>Quaker Lake, Climax, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25-28</td>
<td>Northern YM</td>
<td>Lion's Camp, Ros Holt, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6-10</td>
<td>Southern Appalachian YM and Association</td>
<td>Asheville, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14-17</td>
<td>Lake Erie YM</td>
<td>Bluffton, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-16 July, 2007</td>
<td>Aotearoa/New Zealand YM</td>
<td>Friends Settlement, Whanganui</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19-22</td>
<td>North Pacific YM</td>
<td>Portland OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22-28</td>
<td>New York YM</td>
<td>Lake George, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 24-29</td>
<td>Iowa YM (Con)</td>
<td>West Branch, IA</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 25-29</td>
<td>Illinois YM</td>
<td>McNabb, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 25-29</td>
<td>Ohio Valley YM</td>
<td>Richmond, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 30-August 4</td>
<td>Pacific YM</td>
<td>Redlands, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 4-9</td>
<td>New England YM</td>
<td>Smithfield, RI</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 4-11</td>
<td>Canadian YM</td>
<td>Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Sept or early Oct</td>
<td>General Conference of Friends in India</td>
<td>Rasulia, Hoshangabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>25-28 October</td>
<td>German YM</td>
<td>Quakerhaus, Bad Pyrmont</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 10-11</td>
<td>Japan YM</td>
<td>Shimotsuma, Ibaragi</td>
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Friends World Committee for Consultation

Friends World Committee for Consultation was established in 1937 to be a channel of communication between Friends, helping us to explore and nurture our identity as Quakers so that we can discover and be faithful to our true place in the world as a people of God.

FWCC is a consultative, committee-run, organisation enabling Friends and their yearly meetings to work cooperatively. Yearly meetings and other Quaker bodies affiliate to FWCC through its four sections, Africa (with its office in Nairobi, Kenya); the Americas (Philadelphia, USA); Asia-West Pacific (Hong Kong); Europe & Middle East (Edinburgh, UK). FWCC meets as a world body every three years when the representatives of the affiliated yearly meetings gather for a Triennial meeting which is organized by an International Planning Committee and the World Office in London, UK. FWCC activities and programmes are decided by the Triennial and Section meetings.

Further information about FWCC and its activities can be obtained from the World Office or the Section Offices whose addresses are on the inside back cover of Friends World News. Contributions to the work of FWCC are always welcome and can be sent to any of the offices.

Friends World News

Friends World News, the bulletin of FWCC, is published twice each year. If you wish to receive a personal copy, please contact the World Office (or the Section of the Americas if you live in North America). There is no set subscription fee but a donation to cover the cost would be welcome. Please send to the World Office anything you would like considered for publication in Friends World News – articles, letters, news, photographs and other illustrations, about the activities and religious witness of Friends. All materials received will be acknowledged although the editor cannot make any commitment to publish. Please say if you wish photographs or other materials to be returned.
FWCC Publications

(1) Faith in Action: Encounters With Friends (£5/$8)
(2) 21st Triennial Talks - (set of 3) (£6/$9)
(3) & (4) World Gathering of Young Friends Study Book
Quaker Faith & Practice Around the World
£6 (£9) each, or £10 (£16) for both
(5) Friends World News (twice yearly by request)
(6) Triennial T-shirts (£9, £6, £11) plus postage
(7) Triennial Mugs (£20, £14 plus postage)
Triennial items available from Alan C. Pim -
email alan@clonfadda.com for details
(8) Cheerfully over the World, a handbook for isolated
Friends (£5/$8)

Contribution / Order Form

Friends World Committee for Consultation
relies on contributions in order to carry out its
ministry. To contribute to the work of FWCC
please fill in the form below indicating the
amount of the contribution and your method
of payment.

To order any of our publications: Circle the
appropriate number on the list and enclose the
list with the form below to: the World Office for orders
and contributions in £sterling or the Section of the
Americas for orders and contributions in US$ (addresses below). Publications will be shipped with
no additional charge. Fill in the form below, indicating
the total cost of the items ordered and your method
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Method of Payment: cheque or money order to
FWCC in £Sterling or US$ (circle one) or by PayPal via
our website www.fwccworld.org

Details of Payment:
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The planning for the 22nd Triennial, to be held in Dublin, Ireland, from 11-19 August 2007, is well underway. The International Planning Committee met in May to discuss progress, and consider concerns, speakers and plans for the FWCC Triennial business.

Around 325 participants have been identified – both representatives from Yearly Meetings and a range of observers from Quaker organisations and all the sections. Fundraising continues for the Travel and Accommodation Fund.

The orientation speaker on our theme, ‘Finding the prophetic voice for our time’, will be Marion McNaughton, whom many Friends will know from her years at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre.

Each morning there will be a worship session arising from a different worship tradition, with a Friend from that tradition speaking on the theme. Worship sharing groups will follow worship.

We hope that many Friends are using the Study Booklet – available at www.fwccworld.org – to think through the issues in our challenging theme, and to stimulate representatives with their preparation.

There are six concerns that will be followed through in working groups, each addressing the question “what is our prophetic voice in response to…”

1. Civil Liberties and Human Rights
2. HIV/AIDS
3. The Environment
4. Young Friends
5. Outreach and Growth
6. Facing Violence in our Societies

A wide range of interest groups have been proposed by participants. They will take forward the planning for FWCC as part of the ongoing ‘SNAP’ review process.

On a practical note, the Local Arrangements Committee and the FWCC office are working hard to ensure that visa requirements can be handled as smoothly as possible and to make all the arrangements needed.

If you would like to buy a Tri 22 tee-shirt, or a beautiful specially commissioned Irish pottery ‘co-operation’ mug, visit www.fwccworld.org for details. The proceeds benefit the work of the Irish Local Arrangements Committee.

We want as many F/friends as possible to be involved in spirit if not in person at the Triennial, and we will be using the website to post information both before and during the event.

Lee Taylor, Triennial Coordinator