From the World Office

For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord:
I sing for joy at the works of your hands.
How great are your works, O Lord,
How profound your thoughts!
Psalm 92:4-5 [NIV]

My gratitude for the abundant Divine gifts relating to our experience together at the 22nd Triennial in Ireland this past August still sustains me. The two weeks spent in Ireland were lessons to me in ‘letting go and letting God’ – and God worked through so many people, Friends and friends! So many of the comments on the evaluation forms mentioned that this gathering was truly Spirit-filled. We are definitely the Religious Society of Friends.

That is not to say that it was easy all around. Indeed, from coping with delayed flights, missed connections and departures in the wee hours to special dietary needs, to making photocopies and answering all sorts of questions, to dealing with serious medical emergencies, the Local Arrangements Committee and Irish Friends imbued this time with their unceasing hospitality. Throughout our time together, volunteers stepped forward and carried the burden of myriad tasks, large and small.

My gratitude includes being asked to continue the privilege of serving you for five more years. Never have I had more challenging, demanding and fulfilling employment; it truly feels like a calling. I feel blessed.

With best wishes for a blessed Christmas and 2008 for all,

General Secretary
FWCC World Office

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Cover: FWCC Clerk Duduzile Mtshazo cuts the 70th anniversary cake assisted by Tim Brown of Britain Yearly Meeting and John Fitzgerald of Ireland Yearly Meeting who were celebrating their birthdays as well. (Staff Photo.)
Friends approved a proposal for a World Conference in 2012, prepared by a working group of the Central Executive Committee, and ask the Central Executive Committee to carry it forward. This Conference will be held instead of the triennial that would normally be held in 2010, and will herald a change to “Plenary Meetings” occurring up to five years apart. (See Page 16.)
Large turnout for

Philadelphia area celebrations

Over the weekend of September 15-17, more than 170 Friends came to the Philadelphia area from as far away as England, Ireland, Mexico and the west coast of the US to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of FWCC. Haverford College hosted a reception in the Magill Library with a welcome from President Stephen Emerson. Swarthmore Friends Meeting was the host of the next day’s program. Friends whose connections with FWCC go back decades joined younger Friends and others who wanted to learn more about FWCC. They heard twenty presenters plus a choir from one of the Philadelphia Hispanic Friends churches.

Panelists spoke on FWCC-related topics that ranged from why FWCC was created and how FWCC has served to uplift our testimonies to challenging us to look at the face of Friends in the future. You can see photos from this event on our website (www.fwccamericas.org). The program and a new graph showing the growth among Friends since 1937 are also on the website. Look for downloadable audio files of speakers’ talks to come soon.

Celebrations continued last weekend in Massachusetts, where Friends in Cambridge hosted a forum addressed by Executive Secretary Margaret Fraser and several former and current FWCC representatives from New England Yearly Meeting. At a potluck lunch which included a large birthday cake and a chocolate fountain, participants were able to watch a DVD of the previous weekend’s events in Pennsylvania.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to the many Friends who made these events possible. Your care, concern and enthusiasm for the work of Friends World Committee will help carry FWCC through for another 70 years!
308 Friends from 41 countries, representing many different branches of the Quaker family, met at King's Hospital School in Dublin from 11th to 19th August 2007. At our time of arrival, we were welcomed by Irish Friends, who with great love, dedication and enthusiasm made us feel part of their lives. Thanks to their contacts and enormous work by the visa team (Ireland and the FWCC World Office), visas were obtained for a much greater number of participants than was formerly possible, making the gathering more truly representative of our whole membership.

Ireland has a long Quaker tradition dating from 1654 when William Edmundson settled in Ulster. From the beginning Quakers established a reputation for fair dealing and good works. They are still remembered for providing food and employment during the great famine in the 1840s. More recently, in Northern Ireland, they worked to bring opposing sides together and thus contributed to reconciliation. The island of Ireland contains the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom, but Irish Quakers have one Yearly Meeting.

The theme for the Triennial was

**Finding the prophetic voice for our time**

In our daily worship we have heard seven Friends giving their message on the theme. We have been reminded of the tradition of prophecy in the Old Testament and in the early Christian church. We have learned of the characteristics of the prophets, including humility and faithfulness, and even a reluctance to take on a job they never applied for. Just as the Old Testament prophets and George Fox challenged the people of their own time, we have been challenged to realise the prophetic message of God's love in our lives.

Let the love of Christ flow into us, and through us to others that they too may know Christ. If George Fox returned to the world today, would he feel that we were continuing his ministry? Prophetic words are however not enough - prophecy is also action. We can recognise prophetic ministry in the persistent and patient witness of our Quaker organisations and the many examples of peace and community building in the troubled regions of our world. The growing number of Friends transforming their lives to help our endangered planet are also living in the prophetic tradition.

We have felt the joy, passion and excitement of such committed living. It is our hope that we can recognise and encourage the prophets among us. Can we be open to the possibility of ourselves being called to such service which leads us to the fruit of the spirit (Gal.5:22)? During the Triennial we worked together on many vital concerns of Friends today, such as the destruction of the environment, human rights, HIV/Aids, Violence, outreach and growth and the increasing involvement of young Friends. We were blessed by the energy of a larger number of Young Friends at this Triennial, several of whom played an important part in the planning and running of this meeting. Worship and sharing groups enriched and deepened friendships, as did the excursions organised by Irish Friends. As we were together, news of the earthquake in Peru, the landslide in Kenya and the typhoon in the Philippines reached us. We stopped our proceedings to pray for those affected by these disasters and continue to hold them in our hearts.

At the business sessions, some important decisions about the future of FWCC were reached. Instead of having a Triennial in 3 years time, there is to be a World Conference in five years time.

Welcome, Friends, to Kenya in 2012!

Duduzile Mtshazo, Clerk
Friends World Committee for Consultation
The Clerks and Executive Secretaries of each of the four sections comprise the rest of the Central Executive Committee. Bronwyn Harwood has announced her retirement from the post of Executive Secretary of Europe & Middle East Section as of April 2008 and Marisa Johnson of Britain YM has been named her successor.

The Central Executive Committee has changed its schedule of meetings so that its annual gathering will be held in conjunction with section gatherings from 2008-2011. Its next meeting will be in November 2008 in Bhopal, India at the time of the Asia-West Pacific Section Gathering. In 2009, it will meet at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Section of the Americas. In 2010, the Africa Section will host them and in 2011, it will gather with Europe & Middle East Section.

At the end of each Triennial FWCC thanks those who complete years of service to the organisation. It is bittersweet as their guidance and participation have been so formative for FWCC, letting them go is difficult. So with great appreciation, FWCC says thank you and go well as they complete their terms at the end of this year.

Tom Hill, Ohio Valley YM & Wilmington YM Clerk, Central Executive Committee [formerly Interim Committee] 2001-2007; formerly Clerk and Treasurer, Section of the Americas

David Blamires, Britain YM
Assistant Clerk FWCC 2004-2007

Martín Gárate, Philadelphia YM resident in Chile
Member-at-large, Central Executive Committee, 2004-2007

Reuben Shibutse, Nairobi YM
Member-at-large, Central Executive Committee, 2001-2007

Ann Stever, North Pacific YM
Clerk, Nominating Committee 2004-2007

Libby Perkins, France YM
Clerk, International Membership Committee 2004-2007

FWCC is grateful for the continuing service of these officers until 2012:

Duduzile Mtshazo, Central & Southern Africa YM Clerk FWCC

Roger Sturge, Britain YM
Treasurer

Nancy Irving, North Pacific YM
General Secretary

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Jocelyn Burnell, Britain YM
Clerk, Central Executive Committee

Elizabeth Gates, Philadelphia YM
Assistant Clerk FWCC

David Bucura, Rwanda YM
Member-at-large Central Executive Committee

Kenya Casanova de Sales, Cuba YM
Member-at-large Central Executive Committee

John Fitzgerald, Ireland YM
Member-at-large Central Executive Committee

Martín Gárate, Philadelphia YM resident in Chile
Clerk, Nominating Committee

 Roger Sturge, Britain YM
Treasurer

Nancy Irving, North Pacific YM
General Secretary

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The 22nd Triennial Meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation took place King’s Hospital School in Dublin from 11-19 August 2007, with 308 Friends from 41 countries, representing many different branches of the Quaker family, in attendance. The meeting was clerked by Duduzile Mtshazo, with Rosemary Coffey, Foote Lund, Helen Rowlands, alternating as acting Recording Clerks. For the first time at this triennial there was real-time transcription in plenaries. This involved a stenographer recording contributions verbatim and displaying the text on a screen.

On Sunday, Friends received the report from the World Office. The report covered location and staffing changes since the 21st Triennial, the structure of the office, communications, travel among the Sections, United Nations work, ecumenical links, and innovations involving materials newly available over the internet.

This was followed by the Central Executive Committee Report, covering administration, financial oversight, planning for future international Quaker gatherings, and reorganisation of the international membership program and overall FWCC governance. The CEC also gave considerable attention to the staffing and structure of the World Office. Friends expressed special appreciation to the CEC and the staff for their hard work in recent years.

Then Nancy Irving withdrew and Tom Hill, Clerk of the Central Executive Committee, reported that, the CEC recommended to the triennial that Nancy be reappointed as General Secretary of FWCC for the term 1 January 2008 through 31 December 2012. The Meeting approved this recommendation.

Finally on Sunday, Roger Sturge, Treasurer of FWCC, presented the Treasurer’s report. The financial situation of the organization had greatly improved from the beginning of 2004 to the end of 2006, though it was still £10,000 short of the desired goal of maintaining a six-month reserve. The figure for Total Funds at the end of 2006 remained substantially higher than those at the ends of 2004 and 2005.

On Tuesday, Friends accepted a “Budget Forecast Summary 2008-2012”. Roger expressed appreciation for the hard work of the International Finance Committee, introducing those members present. He explained the assumptions used to arrive at the projections, and he pointed out that it allows for the restructuring of the central office staff to include a second full-time person with expertise in modern communications to promote closer communications with and among the sections in the face of more infrequent Plenary Sessions.
Among individuals who have assisted the Treasurer are Nancy Wallace, Clerk of the International Finance Committee; Michael Booth, financial administrator of FWCC; and Nancy Irving, General Secretary. Thanks were expressed for the hard work of these and other Friends, including the members of the International Finance Committee.

On Monday, Friends heard the first of the Section reports. The Africa Section report recorded changes in staffing and membership of the Executive Committee, and reports on that committee’s activity. A variety of conferences have been held; there has been prayer and practical work for peace in Africa and the wider world; support has been given to Friends churches and meetings in different parts of the Section. Gladys Kang’ahi, Clerk, highlighted the benefit which electronic communication brings in circumstances when travel is difficult. The Section emphasises support for young people and is working for the revitalisation of Quaker life in Tanzania. It is also working closely with FUM Africa Ministries. The Section is moving forward in its expression of the unique African flavours of Quaker life.

Elizabeth Mertic, Clerk, spoke to the Section of the Americas Report. It highlights ongoing work to bridge political and linguistic divides by bringing Friends together from North and from Central and South America in the work of the church, in spite of continuing difficulties obtaining visas. The section has worked on communication of Quaker faith and experience through provision of training, pilgrimages, translation and growing use of electronic media. It has also embarked on a three-year fundraising campaign, and has already raised $2 million of its $2.5 million target. Work for peace and justice has continued, including work with women, young people, work for the resolution of conflict and work to end torture. The Section continues to support the Wider Quaker Fellowship on behalf of Friends worldwide.

On Thursday, the meeting received the Asia-West Pacific Section (AWPS) report. The section works toward the goals of FWCC through Section gatherings, intervisitation with yearly meetings in the Section, the AWPS Newsletter, and increasing contacts with Friends from non-affiliated YMs in the Philippines, Indonesia and Nepal. The AWPS Associate Secretary also has been visiting African yearly meetings. In his report to the Plenary, Dilawar Chetsingh, Clerk, noted that, while fewer than 3,000 Quakers are affiliated with the Section, almost 10,000 members of non-affiliated Friends churches live in the region. The Section has been reaching out to many of those Friends. Conscious of the need to improve communication, AWPS is paying new attention to the website and is proposing to translate Quaker writings into Hindi, Japanese, and Korean. The next gathering of the Section is to be in Bhopal in November 2008; resources are being sought to invite Friends from unaffiliated meetings plus two representatives from African meetings to participate. Valerie Joy has been appointed Executive Secretary of the Section as Kenneth Co has re-located to Shanghai.
The Report of **Europe and Middle East Section (EMES)** followed. The Section has been challenged by the needs of new groups for spiritual nurture and connection with the wider Quaker community. A visitation programme featuring seven Friends each linked with a particular group or area had been undertaken. Julia Ryberg (Sweden YM) has been appointed as Ministry and Outreach Coordinator. Annual meetings were held in Sweden, Switzerland, Scotland and the Netherlands since the 21st Triennial. Other activities included new publications, a successful Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in 2004, peace and service consultations, ecumenical connections, and cooperation with the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre in Birmingham, England. Marit Kromberg, Clerk, noted that the Section consists of 11 Yearly Meetings, all in the unprogrammed tradition. In addition, there is a group in the Conservative tradition called Athens Christian Meeting in Greece; members of Ohio YM are scattered throughout the Section; and foreign workers from Northwest Yearly Meeting are active in Russia. The Section is looking to cooperate with the Evangelical Friends Mission in Europe. The Section is impressed with the determination of Middle East YM to play a peace-making role in the region, even though it has not been able to hold an annual meeting for some years. The Section rejoiced in the re-opening of the Meeting House in Ramallah as the Friends International Center. The Section is grateful for the work of young Friends as volunteers in Palestine.

Finally on Monday, Friends began a process that Nancy Irving called **FWCC: Looking Ahead.** She reminded us about the Strategic Needs Analysis Process (SNAP) undertaken at the 2004 triennial, which has informed FWCC’s work since. Friends were asked to offer guidance on specific activity to be carried out in the next few years. Nancy gave the meeting four queries to respond to in smaller groups. Later in the gathering, Nancy and Kirk Wright gave feedback on the responses. In summary, recommendations fall into four areas:

- More emphasis on personal and small group contacts through section exchanges
- Information resources
- Faith and action: opportunities and success stories
- Leadership development at the Yearly Meeting level and among young Friends

The full text of the responses has been recorded and is available from the World Office. Friends were also asked to carry the ideas back to their Yearly Meetings and worship groups. In particular, Nancy challenged us with the question: “Is your Yearly Meeting ready to accept and take responsibility for visitors travelling in the ministry? Can you arrange for a welcome, organise travel and give hospitality?”
The full text of the responses has been recorded and is available from the World Office. Friends were also asked to carry the ideas back to their Yearly Meetings and worship groups. In particular, Nancy challenged us with the question: “Is your Yearly Meeting ready to accept and take responsibility for visitors travelling in the ministry? Can you arrange for a welcome, organise travel and give hospitality?”

On Tuesday, Friends agreed necessary to make some changes to the Constitution adopted in 2004 to accommodate the new structure necessitated by the change from triennial Meetings to Plenary Meetings occurring up to five years apart.

On Wednesday, Friends took a break from formal business to go on excursions in the Dublin area. They returned to business on Thursday to receive a report from the International Membership Committee (IMC). The IMC has the care of 86 individual members, 6 monthly meetings, 3 recognised meetings, and 30 worship groups. Graham Ellis, Secretary of the IMC for the past four years, reminded the gathering that the IMC is responsible for deciding matters of membership when there is no monthly or yearly meeting in the area. It is also responsible for worship groups in countries where there is no established Quaker meeting and for authorising such groups to become recognised meetings when appropriate. He thanked the Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the IMC for their support. Friends expressed gratitude for Graham Ellis’ service as International Membership Secretary, which will conclude at the end of the year.

The meeting then considered reports from the Quaker United Nations Offices in Geneva and New York. One continuing focus has been the Great Lakes area of Africa; another has been small arms and light weapons. After 56 years of work by QUNO, conscientious objection to military service as an international right was finally recognised for the first time by the Human Rights Committee in November 2006 as protected by the Civil and Political Rights Covenant. QUNO has also continued to work on the problems of child soldiers, on women in prisons and children of imprisoned mothers, on refugee protection, indigenous peoples’ rights in a global context, and other issues.

David Atwood spoke of the recent work of Friends centering on the Crime and Criminal Justice Commission in Vienna, the conflict in northern Uganda, and the new UN Peacebuilding Commission. QUNO’s guiding principles are respect for individuals and the search for opportunities to open up space for new Light. The UN system is flawed and must be improved; in the meantime, it is all we have.

Betsy Blake and John Fitzgerald, who were clerks of the North American and European planning committees for the World Gathering of Young Friends, reported on the gathering, which was held in 2005 in Lancaster, England, with 226 Friends in attendance. The twin themes were “I am the Vine, you are the branches” and “Let us then try what love can do.” The experience of ‘being pruned’ was true
of the gathering, which produced new growth in many forms. Many African Friends did not receive visas and were prevented from attending. So a second gathering was held six weeks later, at Kanamai, Mombasa, Kenya. In the disappointment and unfinished work of the first gathering, as well as in the Mombasa gathering, the challenge to "see what Love can do" was truly felt and acted upon.

On Friday Janet Scott, of Britain YM, reported on FWCC’s work with other Christian churches. Quaker influence can also be seen in the World Council of Churches’ decision to use consensus-based decision-making instead of voting. Friends are also active in the new Global Christian Forum, which includes Roman Catholic, evangelical and Pentecostal churches which do not participate in the WCC.

On Saturday, the triennial received a minute from an Interest Group of Young Adult Friends:

**Young Adult Friends Committee**

Young Adult Friends [YAFs] from around the world met together throughout the week at the 22nd FWCC Triennial in Dublin. In our search for the best way to harvest the fruits of the World Gathering of Young Friends 2005 we recommend that FWCC Central Executive Committee form a YAF Committee as set out in the proposal attached to this minute. We pray that this committee will be a catalyst for YAFs in all Sections and look forward to seeing the fruits of their work throughout the world.

Friends rejoiced to receive this minute and forwarded it to the Central Executive Committee for its attention, expressing appreciation of the example in observance of Quaker process and the spiritual power demonstrated by Young Adult Friends through their participation in the Triennial. Such a committee will be formed in 2008.

Other than plenary business sessions, Friends gathered in a variety of ways during this triennial. **Morning worship times**, in both programmed and unprogrammed forms, focussed on the triennial theme and there were Spirit-led messages from ministering Friends: Doreen Dowd, Ireland YM; Marion McNaughton, Britain YM; Bill Medlin, Indiana YM; Lizz Roe, Britain YM; Stephen Wamboka, Uganda YM; Ken Comfort, Northwest YM; Maria Yi Reyna, Cuba YM. Twenty-one Worship and Sharing Groups met on six occasions through the gathering.

Six **Working Groups** met to season concerns submitted by Yearly Meetings. The reports of these groups are included as a supplement to *Friends World News*.

Nancy Irving joins a Spanish-speaking Worship & Sharing Group. (Staff Photo)
From the Quaker United Nations Offices

Geneva Summer School

Twenty-five young people from Britain, Bosnia, Canada, Kenya, Nepal, Serbia, the USA and Yemen spent two weeks at QUNO this summer. They engaged with experts, negotiators and country representatives on matters related to disarmament, human rights, intellectual property, peace building, refugees and trade. A mixture of Friends and non-Friends, participants formed sessions ad-hoc, outside the timetable of the summer school, to discuss a range of subjects based on their backgrounds and personal experiences.

Despite the tightly packed schedule, the group had a chance to walk in the beautiful Swiss countryside, swim in Lake Geneva and discover the night-life of this international city.

Recent Publications (all available at www.quno.org)

- Joint NGO Statement on Freedom of Religion or Belief (delivered 13 September, 2007)
- Women in Prison and the Children of Imprisoned Mothers - A briefing for Friends by Women In Prison Project Group, August 2007. (Available in English and Spanish)

QUNO Work in New York

The Quaker UN Office in New York continues to work diligently on issues of peace and security at the UN, both those on the agenda of the world body and those that Friends’ communities have identified as concerns.

The crisis of renewed fighting in the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been on the agenda of the General Assembly and the Security Council as well as the focus of a report from the Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs. QUNO continues to collaborate with other civil society organizations to raise concerns about the humanitarian needs of citizens in North and South Kivu (DRC). Many Friends live in these areas.

In September, QUNO was pleased to host a debriefing session for a Quaker delegation that participated in a meeting of religious leaders with Iran's President Ahmedinejad. We are exploring opportunities to build further connections around this work.

Finally, the Quaker UN Offices in New York and Geneva continue to focus on ways to support the work of the Peacebuilding Commission which has recently celebrated its one year anniversary.
World Office Accounts 2006

All figures are in Pounds Sterling (£ GBP)

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<td>General Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>The figures below show the</td>
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<td>within the section.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>60,661</td>
<td>Staff Search and Relocation Costs</td>
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<td>28,192</td>
<td>Publications (inc FWN)</td>
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<td>International Members</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Triennial Preparation and Running</td>
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<td>Investment Income &amp; Interest</td>
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<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>25,612</td>
<td>15,704</td>
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<td>Other General Income</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>667</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total General Income</td>
<td>188,121</td>
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<td>Total General Expenses</td>
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<td>Designated Funds Income</td>
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<td>Designated Fund expenditure</td>
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<td>Total Unrestricted Income</td>
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<td>173,320</td>
<td>(Triennial Preparation)</td>
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<td>Restricted Funds Income</td>
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<td>Grants Made from Endowment Funds</td>
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<td>Endowment Fund Income</td>
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<td>Restricted Funds spent</td>
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<td>Gain on Investments</td>
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<td>8,559</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>256,621</td>
<td>198,727</td>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>174,792</td>
<td>341,577</td>
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* The contributions for unrestricted funds received from the Operating Fund of the Section of the Americas were $95,366 in 2006 and $94,042 in 2005. The sterling equivalents are included in these figures.

Statement of Funds

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<tr>
<th>At 1:1:2006</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Investment Gain</th>
<th>Transfers between funds</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>At 31:12:2006</th>
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<td>Restricted Funds</td>
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<td>Total Funds</td>
<td>£ 351,749</td>
<td>£ 244,977</td>
<td>£ 11,713</td>
<td>£ -</td>
<td>£ 174,792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the third year running a surplus has been achieved. The World Office is continuing to be careful about what it spends and appreciates the support of a generous grant from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. Despite continuing changes in the exchange rate between the Pound Sterling and the US Dollar, the result has been an increase in general reserves to £70,347. We are moving in the right direction but we need to increase the level of income and reserves if the work is to develop as we are planning, particularly with the decision to hold a World Conference in 2012.

Roger Sturge, Treasurer
3rd International Salon for Peace Initiatives, May-June 2008 in Paris, France

The second edition of this event was a great success. Thus, the French Coalition for the Decade is already preparing the 3rd International Salon for Peace Initiatives. It will take place on 30, 31 May and 1 June 2008 in Paris, at the Cité des Sciences et de l’Industrie. It will host the second edition of the International Conference on the culture of non-violence and peace, organized by the French Coalition for the Decade in collaboration with the International Coalition for the Decade. This Conference will provide a space for reflection and encounter for people committed in this field, in France and in the world. It will take into account the death anniversaries of Gandhi (1948) and Martin Luther King (1968). An important place will be given to international organisations and associations from the whole world committed to the promotion of the culture of non-violence and peace.


There will be a Quaker stand among many others. Friends from all countries are encouraged not only to visit the Salon but also to bring documents to the Quaker stand, and to help keep the stand if they feel inspired to do so.

Contact: Centre quaker international de Paris. 01 45 48 74 23 email: quaker.paris@tiscali.fr

New York Internships

The Quaker United Nations Office – New York invites applications for their 2008-09 internship program. The internship provides an opportunity for candidates with an interest in international affairs, and a commitment to Friends’ principles, to work at the UN. Further information and applications are available online (www.quno.org).

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 periodically when the representatives of the affiliated yearly meetings gather for a meeting which is organized by an International Planning Committee and the World Office in London, UK. FWCC policies and programmes are decided by that meeting 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) 22nd Triennial Talks - (donation basis)
(3) & (4) World Gathering of Young Friends Study Books
   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)
(8) Cheerfully over the World, a handbook for isolated Friends (£5/$8)

Contributions / 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 of payment.

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:
Total Literature £/$ . . . . . . .
Donation to FWCC general work £/$ . . . . . . .
Donation for particular area of our work, including FWCC Sections . . . . . . . . . . . . £/$ . . . . . . .
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Change of Address
World Conference 2012

At the 22nd Triennial, held in Dublin in August, Friends agreed a proposal to hold a World Conference in 2012, twenty-one years after the last one. To reflect the worldwide demographics of Friends, and to make it accessible to those from the global South, the conference in will take place in East Africa, probably in Nairobi. To conserve human and financial resources, Friends agreed a return to the earlier model of 1,000 people gathering on one site, rather than having multiple sites on different continents, and to hold the World Conference in the area of greatest concentration of Friends.

The technology available at this time to meet together by advanced means of communications does not suit the purpose of the conference to bring Friends together face-to-face. Friends acknowledged the environmental impact of flying people around the world, no matter how worthy the cause. However, a balance in these considerations can be found by creating a five-year gap between international conferences and by locating the conference in an area where many of the participants will travel overland.

Insofar as finances will allow, attendance should reflect the demographics of the Quaker world. Friends also agreed that instead of a triennial in 2010, representatives would meet before the world conference in 2012. It is hoped a 50:50 gender balance of participants will be achieved, and that priority will be given to younger Friends and those who have not previously attended an FWCC world conference or triennial.

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The Central Executive Committee is empowered to go ahead with plans for the conference, and has already appointed members of a World Conference Planning Committee.