

ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2019

MEETING SCHEDULE

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m. on First Days
- First Day School for children: 11 a.m. (joining Meeting for Worship from 11:45 a.m. to noon)
- Nursery care for our youngest: 11 a.m.
- Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business: 1st First Day of month at 9 a.m.
- Adult religious education: As noted in the Meeting Calendar below and in Other Scheduled Items and Items of Note
- Early meeting for worship (weather permitting outdoors) at 8 a.m. on 2nd, 4th, and 5th First Days
- North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m., at 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is end of day the Monday after Meeting for Business. Please include the word "Newsletter" in your subject line. (All committees and their reps, and all F/friends with leadings are welcome to submit items for inclusion).

MEETING CALENDAR

FEB 1: 1-3pm Circle Meeting

FEB 3: 9-10:45am Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:15-1:30pm Potluck; 6:30-8:30pm Wm Penn House Potluck

FEB 4: Newsletter Items Due by 5pm

FEB 5: 7-9pm Green Team

FEB 8: 1-9pm One America Meeting

FEB 8: **BYM Camping** registration is open. Financial assistance is available through AFM

FEB 10: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Meeting for Learning: Our Life is Love (Pt. 2 of 4); 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship

FEB 11: 7-9pm MAJR Front Door Working Group

FEB 12: 8am-12pm Library Committee Work Morning

FEB 14: 2:30-4pm Spiritual Friendship; 7-9pm CSGA Business Meeting

FEB 17: 9:15-10:45am Most Committees Meet; 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-1:30pm Committees: CREC; 12:30-2pm Pastoral Care Committee Meeting

FEB 21: 7-9pm Climate Stewards: What Is Clean Energy?

FEB 24: 8-9am Early Worship; 9:15-10:45am Meeting for Learning: Our Live is Love (Pt. 3 of 4); 11am-12pm Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2pm Friends Writing Together

MAR 9: 1:00pm A Memorial Meeting to celebrate the life of Ted Hawkins will be held in the Collington Chapel, 10450 Lottsford Road, Mitchellville, MD All are welcome.

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Ministry and Worship Committee (Note: Peter T is assisting with mid-week check-in and reporting of any discrepancies found; Thank you Peter!)

QUERIES FOR THE SECOND MONTH: *Personal Way of Life*

Do you live in accordance with your spiritual convictions? Do you seek employment consistent with your beliefs and in service to society? Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress and manner of living, avoiding wasteful consumption? Are you watchful that your possessions do not rule you? Do you strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths?

Do you strive to develop your physical, emotional and mental capacities toward reaching your Divinely given potential? Do you cultivate healthful and moderate habits, avoiding the hazards of drugs, intoxicants, and over-indulgence generally? Do you try to direct such emotions as anger and fear in creative ways?

SUPPORT FROM PASTORAL CARE: Conflict Transformation in Community

If you have experienced what you feel is an inappropriate behavior, we encourage you to speak to a member of *Pastoral Care.

*Patty R., Minette, Nancy Jo, Kit, Minette

OTHER SCHEDULED ITEMS AND REPORTS (Expanded in paragraphs following; all events at AFM unless otherwise noted)

[Meetings for Learning](#)

[Meeting for Worship](#)

[Meeting of Committee Clerks](#)

[Thinking About Race](#)

[Demographic Survey](#)

[Meeting for Business Minutes February 2019](#)

[Meeting for Business Attachments](#)

[Guidelines for Submission to this Newsletter](#)

Meetings for Learning:

Generally 2nd and 4th First-Days 9:15-10:45am

2/10 Sunday 9:15am: Patience Schenck: Our Life Is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey

Part Two of Four- An exploration of steps 4, 5 and 6 of ten steps of the spiritual journey as experienced by early Friends and as experienced by modern Friends.

Openings
The Refiners Fire
Community

2/24 Sunday 9:15am: Patience Schenck: Our Life Is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey

Part Three of Four: Steps 7 and 8

Leadings
The Cross

3/10 Sunday 9:15am: Patience Schenck and Tom Wolfe: Our Life Is Love: The Quaker Spiritual Journey

Part Four of Four- An exploration of the final two of ten steps of the spiritual journey as experienced by early Friends and as experienced by modern Friends.

Abiding
Perfection

3/24 Sacred Chant and Dance Sylvia Oliva

Upcoming Meetings for Learning (Dates TBA)

2019 Quakerism 101 Series

_____ Ann Riggs and Dot Walizer: Quakerism 101

Other Upcoming Meetings for Learning

_____ Tim Mulady: Boy Scouts and the Quakers as an InterFaith Learning

With Rizwan Jaka from All Dulles Area Muslim Society

_____ Sylvia Oliva wants confirmation of date for Creation Spirituality MfL

_____ Lee Lougee contacted M&W about Friends House MfL

Susan Wolfe on the Culture of the Early Christians

Tom Wolfe: Beloved Heretic: A three act musical on the Life of Lucretia Mott

Lisa Sarro: Maryland Legal Aid: spoke at GAIN... legal aid available to lower income citizens in AACO

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Meeting for Worship

On Feb 17, during the 11 am Meeting for Worship Ministry and Worship will be asking for reflections on the Spiritual State of the Meeting. All are encouraged to attend or provide individual reflections directly to Ministry and Worship. BYM offered the following queries for us to reflect upon:

- With fierce winds of political discord and violent expressions of hate swirling in the world around us, what does your community do to strengthen our attention to the Spirit in Meeting for Worship?
- What do you do to strengthen the Quaker "roots" of your community?
- There seem to be dueling forces among Friends. We recognize we can be a shining light and healing presence in troubled times, while on the other hand, we value our individual Meeting Community so much we can be unwelcoming to change or discordant voices. What is your meeting's experience of this? Do you sense a tendency to avoid tension by not discussing differing points of view?
- Is your Meeting a diverse community: racially, philosophically/politically, theologically? How is that expressed? In what ways?

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Meeting of Committee Clerks

On February 24 after the rise of 11 am worship, there will be a gathering of committee clerks from approximately 1-3 pm. A lite lunch (e.g., soup, salad) will be available. This is an opportunity for us to share ideas and coordinate concerns that involve multiple committees. **If you have suggestions for our agenda, please be in touch with Martha.** It is hoped that all committee clerks can attend (or if unavailable, invite another committee member to attend). Although the focus is on committees, **all who are interested from the AFM community are welcome to attend.**

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Thinking About Race

Thinking About Race (February 2019) – Ruth King

This is from the 2018 book **Mindful of Race: Transforming Racism from the Inside Out** by Ruth King:

"After several days of teaching in Washington, DC, I was able to score tickets to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. My partner and I took a taxi to the museum. After clarifying our destination, the driver, a middle-aged white male and acknowledged Trump supporter, shared that he had never visited the museum and was disturbed because the building's design stood out like a "sore thumb" on the Museum Mall. He stated with puzzlement, 'Why couldn't they make the building fit in with the other museums on the Mall? What does it have to look so different? I think it's the ugliest building I've ever seen. It simply does not fit in.' My partner and I, two elder black women sitting in the back seat of his car, looked at each other with

clear eyes. I replied, 'That is the story of our lives in this country as black Americans. We don't fit in and don't want to fit in. And why should we? The museum is about us defining ourselves and sharing our history. Of course it would look different from any other museum on the Mall.' To which he replied, 'Hmm, I never thought about it that way.' To which I replied, 'I hope you have a chance to visit the Museum. It will likely give you more to think about.' "

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each local Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Locations vary to allow access to more Friends. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, david.etheridge@verizon.net.

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Demographic Survey

The annual Annapolis Friends Meeting Community Statistics Survey was launched on February 1 and will remain open until March 7. The goal of this voluntary and confidential demographic survey is to gather information that will help us learn more about our community and ensure that our actions encourage and sustain all members and attenders. We will also use the survey data to satisfy Baltimore Yearly Meeting's annual request of meetings for demographic information. This is an annual survey, so please complete it again even if you had done so in previous years. Thank you for your participation!

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Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM) Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB) Second Month, Third Day, 2019 (02/03/2019)

Present were: Martha B. (clerk), Ellen M. (recording clerk), Tom B., Mark M, Karen C., Lynada J., Bill K., Mary B., Dot W., Peter M., Jennifer D-L, Nan & Sky E., Kit H., Susan D., Tom W., Francis W., Sheryl G., Sue P., Patty R., Wes J., Ruth S., Cairn K., Kim F., Margaret H., Cecile T., Martha L., Jean C., and Phyllis S.

Out of the silence, our clerk, Martha B. welcomed Friends to MfB and Happy February. From the January MfB, there were comments and suggestions that the clerk found to be helpful. In addition, Martha expressed gratitude for all the committees and that she was getting to know each by visiting their meetings. It was evident, she expressed, just how busy each committee is and that she is very grateful for all the committee work completed on behalf of the Meeting.

Our Clerk provided a quote from BYM Faith and Practice to help us center in silence prior to addressing the agenda items.

On behalf of Stewardship and Finance Committee (S&F), Sue P. provided a final calculation of our 2018 income, expenses, and surplus. The final surplus is \$9,059. Subtracting the \$4,100 previously approved by Meeting for Business to raise the annual contribution to the Building Fund to its usual \$10,000, the balance for other purposes is \$4,959 (see attachment: AFMTreasurersReportFinal 2018)

S&F discussed the various suggestions from Friends for this remaining surplus. These included: "top off" restricted funds and put the remainder in Committee Contingency; donate to Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR); and further increase the Capital Improvement Fund, as requested by Meetinghouse and Land during the 2019 budget process. S&F noted that the donation and specific building improvement suggestions have not yet gone through our Committees' process, but if and when they do, committees could request additional funds from the Committee Contingency Fund if needed.

Therefore, S&F agreed to recommend that AFM should top off the Capital Improvement Fund, raising it by \$330 to an even \$25,000 and that AFM should place the \$4,629 balance into the Committee Contingency Fund for later discernment during the year. Placing the funds into the Committee Contingency Fund allows for the money to be available for whatever needs come up for consideration. Friends were in unity and approved the recommendations from the S&F Committee.

In addition, it was noted that the Trustees approved the 2019 budget and the slate of officers (see attachment: AFM 2019 Budget FINAL).

On behalf of Ministry and Worship Committee (M&W), Tom W. shared the Annual Spiritual State of the Meeting (SSOM) process. The M&W Committee was in unity to use the Baltimore Yearly Meeting (BYM) queries that were sent out in an email from Tom W. on January 20, 2019. The proposed process for developing the SSOM Report and getting it to BYM by April 15, 2019 was presented. The proposed process included holding a Worship Sharing on 02/17/2019. The plan is to begin the Worship Sharing after about 15-minutes of Waiting Silence. Peter M, who joined M&W Committee recently, offered to be the liaison between M&W Committee and communicate with the 8:00 am Worship Meeting regarding the Annual Spiritual State of the Meeting process. At the 11:00 Worship Meeting, two M&W Committee members volunteered to be scribes and write down what is shared. It was agreed that the information gathered would be shared in both an email through the AFM Announce List and at two readings. The first reading of the SSOM was proposed for the March 3rd MfB and at the April 7th MfB, prior to being sent to BYM on April 15, 2019.

Including the children and the First Day School into the SSOM process was suggested. A Friend recommended that a discussion with the children be conducted on 02/10/2019 and to explain the SSOM, as well as to ask the children to participate on 02/17/2019 at the 11:00 am Worship Meeting. The suggestions to inform the children and to include them in the Worship Sharing were accepted by those who help with First Day School.

Another Friend reminded all present that the SSOM is intended to be an "I" expression where individuals are encouraged to speak about how they feel personally with regards to the queries and is not intended to be a sharing of messages provided by the Divine.

With regards to the Spiritual State of the Committees (SSOC), a Friend asked if that would be part of the proposed process. After some discussion, it was agreed that all Committees would be encouraged to conduct a SSOC session at their next meeting with a query asking if each Committee was completing the work of Meeting.

There was unity about the proposed SSOM process and the additional suggestions (i.e., First Day School and Committee input). The SSOM schedule summary is as follows:

- The SSOM Queries will be resent using the Announce List
- 02/10/2019, involve the children in the SSOM process and help them understand the process during First Day School
- 02/17/2019, the 11:00 am Worship Meeting will include a SSOM Worship Sharing, including the children when they join and if they choose to join in the sharing.
- 03/03/2019, the first reading of the SSOM report will be held at the MfB
- 04/07/2019, the second reading of the SSOM report will be held at the MfB
- 04/15/2019, the SSOM report will be sent to BYM.

It was further agreed that at anytime during this process that individuals voice significant concerns about the SSOM report or discomfort with how the report captures the expressions gathered during the Worship Sharing the M&W Committee and the Pastoral Care (PC) Committee will have a shared responsibility to tenderly listen and attend to those who voice concerns. The schedule may be adjusted by M&W or PC, if needed.

M&W Committee plans to start next year's SSOM process earlier in the year to allow time for three readings.

The SSOM Queries are listed below:

- With fierce winds of political discord and violent expressions of hate swirling in the world around us, what does your community do to strengthen our attention to the Spirit in

Meeting for Worship?

- What do you do to strengthen the Quaker “roots” of your community?
- There seem to be dueling forces among Friends. We recognize we can be a shining light and healing presence in troubled times, while on the other hand, we value our individual Meeting Community so much we can be unwelcoming to change or discordant voices. What is your meeting’s experience of this? Do you sense a tendency to avoid tension by not discussing differing points of view?
- Is your Meeting a diverse community: racially, philosophically/politically, theologically? How is that expressed? In what ways?

On behalf of Meeting House and Lands (MHL), Kim F. expressed gratitude and appreciation for all those who participated in caretaking of the Meetinghouse with special thanks to Peter T. who takes care of the meetinghouse in midweek. MHL started sending weekly reminders to committees and will include the list of tasks required to complete the Care of the Meeting (COM). A request was made to send any feedback by email to meetinghouse@annapolisfriends.org, especially when supplies are needed or issues arise.

The Meeting was notified that storage spaces are being cleaned out and MHL made a request to all Committees to let them know they needed additional storage space for any of the Committee storage needs.

Kim F. also provided a report on the status of the 2019 rentals, including current rentals and rental requests under consideration. At this time, it was reported that there is a robust rental program and signed contracts for over \$12,000 for 2019. Applying for rentals online has worked out well and those requesting rentals have expressed appreciation for the online process. Referrals are also coming in. Most of the use of the building by the AFM community is on weekends and some weeknights. Recently, a Day Camp organizer contacted the Building Use Coordinator (BUC) to gain information on renting the building during the day for an 8-week period this summer. Since it is a low use time period for the building, having a Day Camp in the building appears to be a good use for the building.

It was noted that AFM would not be able to rent to others during summer weekdays if the Day Camp rents the building, but the previous requests to rent have not requested those times and AFM does not typically use the building at those time. It was noted that the Day Camp organizer did not appear to be firm on using AFM at this time and discussions with the BUC/MHL will continue.

A Friend requested clarification as to what “use of the meetinghouse” meant. A friend provided clarification and that “use” meant that the multipurpose/meeting room, classrooms, kitchen, patio and property are for potential use by renters. AFM would have use of the library. A contingency plan would be included for Pastoral care needs.

Kim F. provided additional information about the Shona stone sculpture that Carol B. donated to AFM. See attachment (MHL Stone Sculpture Info Sheet) for additional information. It is made of very hard Serpentine Stone and was mined in Zimbabwe. Carol purchased the sculpture in Oregon. The Shona people are an ethnic group native to Zimbabwe and neighboring countries. Kim also presented a book titled “Spirits in Stone: The New Face of African Art, 1st Edition” by Anthony Ponter (Author), Laura Ponter (Author), Robert Holmes et al. (Photographer), which is described as a book about the Shona sculptures from Zimbabwe and the spirit of Zimbabwe.

The book was purchased for AFM and is available for all to read. Friends shared their love for Carol B, the sculpture, gratitude that the sculpture is at AFM and a desire to protect the sculpture, yet a desire to ensure that it readily available for viewing and remembrance. Kim F. took note of the comments, concerns and suggestions that were shared and will bring them back to the MHL committee for further consideration as to where the sculpture will reside and how it will remain available to see, yet be protected.

On behalf of all committees, Martha B. announced that there would be a Committee Clerks meeting scheduled for February 24th between 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm. The meeting is intended to be an opportunity to share ideas and coordinate concerns that involve multiple committees. If anyone has suggestions for the agenda, please share them with Martha. It is hoped that all committee clerks can attend (or if unavailable, invite another committee member to attend). Although the focus is on committees, all who are interested from the AFM community are welcome to attend.

On behalf of the Pastoral Care Committee, Patty R. shared that a Memorial Service was held at AFM on Sunday, January 13, 2019, for Friend Iris I. A Minute for Iris was read and approved by MfB. (see attachment: Memorial Minute for Ruth Iris Clark Ingram).

Additionally, an announcement was presented about a Memorial Meeting to celebrate the life of Ted H. that will be held on March 9, 2019 at 1 pm in the Collington Chapel, 10450 Lottsford Rd., Mitchellville, MD. All are welcome. There is a Minute that was written by the Collington Chapel which will be read at a future AFM MfB.

On behalf of the Library Committee, Dot W. provided information as to what is available in the library and encouraged all to take advantage of the offerings. Dot explained that space in the library is being made available to host resources on a number of requested topics. To make room, old copies of Friends Journal, Quaker Life and other materials are being removed and need a good home. Anyone interested is welcome to take them from the foyer.

The meeting was closed with a moment of silence.

Our Clerk thanked everyone for their participation with agreement that our Clerk and the Recording Co-Clerk would finalize the minutes.

-These minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen McBride, Recording Clerk ATTACHMENTS

- AFMTreasurersReportFinal 2018
- AFM 2019 Budget FINAL
- Memorial Minute for Ruth Iris Clark Ingram
- MHL Stone Sculpture Info Sheet

2/5/19

Annapolis Friends Meeting 2018 End of Year Final

<u>Operating Budget</u>				<u>AFM Fund Balances</u>			
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Changes</u>	<u>Total</u>
Income							
Contributions	47,350	56,411	-9,061	Social Justice			
Interest/Dividends/Distribution	2,500	-5,034	7,534	Emergent Social Concerns	663	935	1,598
Rentals	16,000	20,885	-4,885	Peace & Justice Center	3,279	-351	2,928
Other Income				Meetinghouse and Lands			
Approved mid-year budget increase- from CC				Building Fund	168,861	5,857	174,718
Total Income	65,850	72,261	-6,411	Capital Improvement	20,199	4,471	24,670
				Capital Replacement	26,295	3,000	29,295
Expenses				Memorial Garden	1,603	748	2,351
Committee activities				Individuals			
CREC	120	62	58	Adult Scholarship	2,000	-500	1,500
Library	400	267	133	Camping	625	-125	500
Market	200	200	0	Embraced Ministry	1,185	815	2,000
Meetinghouse and Lands	25,730	23,233	2,497	Suffering / Individual Emergency Fund	5,000	0	5,000
Ministry and Worship	550	888	-338	Young Friend's Opportunity Fund	3,000	-1,190	1,810
Outreach	845	436	409	Other			
Pastoral Care	600	653	-53	Committee Contingency	15,933	-8,569	7,364
Peace and Social Concerns	950	1,000	-50	Founders Fund	10,338	134	10,472
Stewardship and Finance	400	408	-8	Total Restricted Funds	258,979	5,226	264,206
Restricted Funds	17,591	17,591	0	Other Off-Budget Activities	Income	Expenses	Balance
Quaker Causes	4,340	4,340	0	Quaker Market	17,455	16725	730
Apportionment	14,124	14,124	0	CREC	250		250
Total Expenses	65,850	63,202	2,648				

Net 0 9,059 -9,059

Bank account balances 31
3,606 minus restricted funds 26
4,206
minus other off-budget activities 980

Bank Account Balances

BB&T Checking 49,250
Capital One Savings (old ING) 168,062
Friends Fiduciary Corp as of 12/31/2018 85,823
Sandy Springs Savings Bank CD 10,472

Total 313,606

Annapolis Friends Meeting
Stewardship and Finance Committee
2019 FINAL BUDGET - January 20, 2019

	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>	AFM Fund Balances	2018 Year End Balance	2019 Approved Increase	2019 Starting Balance
Income					Restricted Funds			
Contributions	55,980	56,411	47,350	53,338	Social Justice			
Interest/Dividends/Distribution	3,770	-5,034	2,500		Emergent Social Concerns	1,598	1,120	2,718
Rentals	16,435	20,885	16,000	19,000	Peace & Justice Center	2,928		2,928
Other					Meetinghouse and Lands			0
Approved mid-year budget increase					Building Fund	174,718	10,000	184,718
Total Income	77,710	72,261	65,850	72,338	Capital Improvement	24,670	3,330	28,000
					Capital Replacement	29,295	2,105	31,400
Expenses					Memorial Garden	2,351	1,034	3,385
Committee activities					Individuals			0
CREC	0	62	120	300	Adult Scholarship	1,500	500	2,000
Library	48	267	400	400	Camping	500	1,500	2,000
Market	478	200	200	450	Embraced Ministry	2,000		2,000
Meetinghouse and Lands	22,749	23,233	25,730	29,000	Suffering & Individual Emerg. Fund	5,000		5,000
Ministry and Worship	598	888	550	600	Young Friend's Opportunity Fund	1,810	1,195	3,005
Outreach	570	436	845	1,200	Other			0
Pastoral Care	259	653	600	500	Committee Contingency	7,364	4,629	11,993
Peace and Social Concerns	500	1,000	950	3,650	Founders Fund	10,472		10,472
Stewardship and Finance	398	408	400	830				
Restricted Funds	23,048	17,591	17,591	16,354	Total Restricted Funds	264,206	25,413	289,619
Quaker Causes (**10% of 2016 contrib., less 20% to ESC)	5,192	4,340	4,340	4,478	Additional surplus		<u>9,059</u>	
Apportionment	<u>12,820</u>	<u>14,124</u>	<u>14,124</u>	<u>14,576</u>	Restricted Funds Budget Amount			16,354
Total Expenses	66,661	63,202	65,850	72,338				
Net								

P&SC includes \$2000 for lighthouse and \$1,350 to split ACT voting membership with NAACP
Outreach includes \$100 GAIN dues
Ministry and Worship includes \$250 for Quaker Burial Ground
MHL includes \$1500 for interim meeting
MHL includes \$100 for recycling

2019 Approved Increase includes \$9059 from 2018 surplus: (330 for capital improvement, 4,100 to building funds, and 4,629 to committee contingency fund)
*note that this approved increase needs final confirmation at February Meeting for Business

Memorial Minute for Ruth Iris Clark Ingram

Ruth Iris Clark Ingram was born on November 1, 1914 in Halifax, Nova Scotia and died on January 11, 2019 at 104 years of age. To the last days of her life, Iris recalled memories in vivid detail. Iris was a dear woman. She was funny, kind and warm; as well as a great role model; adventurous, generous, and wise; and very spiritual. With one foot planted firmly on earth, she could still see beyond the material.

Iris Ingram lived in Annapolis before moving to Casey Key, Florida in the 1980's. She visited Annapolis often while living in Florida and returned to live in Annapolis in 2014.

Iris was a joyful and loving presence at Annapolis. She loved Quaker Meeting and said, "The Friends all sit together with our own belief system and loving and honoring each other". Her first Quaker Meeting was on the Gettysburg College Campus. Iris became a Quaker in 1975 and with her husband, Robert, joined the Sarasota Friends Meetings in the 1980's.

Ruth Iris Ingram graduated from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia and earned degrees from the University of North Carolina to practice her career in psychiatric social work. Iris was afflicted with chemical sensitivity and became an early advocate for its medical recognition and treatment. Iris had a lifelong wanderlust that began as a child wherein she traveled to Brighton, England to attend the Roedean Boarding School. As a 14 year old, she traversed the English Channel in a biplane. For the next 80 years, she literally traveled the world. Iris was preceded in death by three husbands; Cedric Yeo; Earnest Padgett, and Robert Ingram. She leaves behind her daughters, Helen Ebersole, Janet Johansen and her son, John Yeo; stepchildren John and Paul Ingram; and ten Grandchildren.

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This Memorial Minute was approved by AFM on 02/03/2019 at the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

**Stewardship of Gift from Carol Brantley
MHL Request for Advice and Input for Discernment
February 3, 2018 Meeting for Business**

Background: Friend Carol Brantley offered the gift of a stone Shona sculpture to Annapolis Friends, which we joyfully accepted at our Meeting for Business on October 7, 2018. We were in unity that there would be further discernment by the Meeting regarding stewardship, where and how to display the sculpture, and appropriate interpretation.

The sculpture is entitled "Three Pouring Grain" by Albert Gonzo (1958 -) a contemporary sculptor working in Harare, Zimbabwe, and depicts three individuals pouring grain from a basket they are holding overhead. It is an authenticated stone Shona sculpture from Zimbabwe, carved from a single piece of serpentine, a dense, fine grained, hard sedimentary rock.

The Shona tribe is Zimbabwe's largest indigenous group; their tribal language is also called Shona. They are found in Zimbabwe, Botswana and southern Mozambique in Southern Africa and bordering South Africa and number about 9 million people. Shona artists are well known for their stone sculptures, called "Shona" sculptures. Stone carving has been part of the Zimbabwean culture since 1200 AD when Great Zimbabwe, an archeological masterpiece and UNESCO World Heritage Site was built. The re-emergence of this stone carving tradition in the 1950s began with a workshop established by the National Gallery of Rhodesia. Shona sculpture is widely accepted as the most important art movement to emerge from Africa in the twentieth century.

Shona sculptures are produced from a variety of stones. Serpentine stone, with its considerable range of colors and hardness, is the material most commonly used by the sculptors. Most serpentine stone used was formed over 2.6 billion years ago. Serpentine stone exists in a diversity of colors including black (the hardest and least common), browns, mauves, greens, and yellows.

Carol bought the sculpture from the Red Eagle Gallery in Portland, Oregon in 2000 (Note: no longer in business) while visiting the city with her good friend, Pauline Miller. Pauline says that Carol saw Shona sculptures in the shop window while they were out walking, but the shop was only open by appointment. Carol was enamored and called immediately. She considered buying several of the sculptures, but finally selected one.

The statue was a welcoming feature of Carol's home, either inside or outside the front door, since it was purchased, except for two years when it was in storage. Carol said that when she saw the sculpture she imagined the Quaker community nurturing and feeding the world spiritually.

Carol offered several thoughts about where the sculpture could be placed: in the memorial garden, on the front porch by the door, where it would be visible from the meeting room and the terrace – the locations she mentioned were outside - and could be incorporated inside in a future expansion of the meeting house, but has left that decision to the Meeting.

Submitted by Kim Finch, Co-clerk for Meetinghouse and Lands Committee

REFLECTIONS ON THE STEWARDSHIP OF SCULPTURE

AFM was in unity in accepting Carol's thoughtful gift. Meetinghouse and Lands is seeking advisement from the AFM community to inform discernment of the best course forward to provide stewardship.

The sculpture provides a lasting physical connection to Carol. It also provides an emotional connection to our memories of Carol through the spirituality it evokes, and the meaning she saw in it. We desire to share it within our community and others. We desire to protect it/keep it safe; but not to hide it away. We want to proceed in the spirit-filled and centered way that Carol would have hoped for. Within our unity, many of us have strong opinions and feelings about what the "right" answer is to proceed. Our quest may not take us to a perfect answer. We may need to make choices or set priorities to get to the best answer.

MHL is seeking additional input, concerns or questions for consideration in our discernment, and helping us to outline next steps. What we want to do today is settle into silence and listen. To put our thoughts gently aside and listen deeply and open-heartedly to our Spirit within and at the same time make space to listen to others as they share their truth.

For the next ten minutes, please share what is in your heart--about Carol, the meaning of the sculpture, and its physical placement in our community. We do not need or plan to reach unity today about a recommendation. This is an opportunity for MH&L to hear what's in our hearts as they continue to discern the best for the sculpture and our community.

As is our custom, please leave some silence between each sharing so that we may take them in fully and address your comments to the center of the room.

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by end of day the Monday after Meeting for Business.
- Susan W is the editor of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to her at annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com. Please include the word "Newsletter" in the subject heading of your email
- Friends also are asked to watch your email for announcements of meetings and to listen for announcements at the rise of meeting.
- Event and activity organizers, please also post your announcements on the bulletin board for those who do not use electronic mail!
- The Announce and Discuss Email Lists have been replaced with AFMAnnounce at GoogleGroups. Please email announcements to afm-announce@googlegroups.com. If you need to be added to the GoogleGroup, please email Doug at afmeeting34@gmail.com or send a request to join by visiting <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/afm-announce>

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