

**Gainesville Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business  
11 Ninth Month 2011**

ATTENDING: Dick Beardsley, Gene Beardsley, Jen Cotter, Shawna Doran, Jean Larson, Bill Mitchell, Jim Morrison, Betty Odum, Connie Ray, Tim Ray, Don Smith, Laura Winefordner, Cheryl Demers-Holton, Acting Clerk, Gary Arthur, Recorder

Meeting began with a period of open worship, during which Don Smith read the queries for ninth month.

Minutes for 8th Month were not read

**TREASURER'S REPORT by Bill Mitchell:**

General Fund Balance: \$5785.36

Contingency Fund Balance: \$20,000.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2011.9.31:** Meeting approves use of the building on Friday, Oct 7, 2011 from 5 to 10 PM for a presentation by veteran anti-nuclear activist, Howie Hawkins, of Syracuse, NY.

Cosponsored by the Gainesville Chapter of Veterans for Peace, the focus of this Southeast Regional NO NUKES Speak Out Tour will be on the nuclear industry and the threats we face from it here in Florida. There will be an update on the recent Fukushima, Japan disaster and a discussion about the growing anti-nuclear movement in the US.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee will be asked to cosponsor, and Shawna Doran will coordinate the event.

**2011.9.32:** Meeting approves a \$25 sponsorship of Gainesville UN Day Program to be held at the Women's Club on Thursday, Oct 20, from 9 - 1 PM.

Shawna Doran will represent the Meeting and attend to the table.

A request was made for the Meeting to consider subscribing to an internet service for the meetinghouse. Library Committee will seek information on the installation and monthly fees, and the feasibility of the innovation.

**2011.9.33:** This weekend our Meeting hosted the Pro Nica Board of Directors Meeting, which was followed by a potluck dinner, a short presentation about the work of the organization and entertainment by a group of local Nicaraguan musicians. Approximately 75 people attended, most of them from the wider Gainesville community. Meeting expresses gratitude to Tim Fogarty for his work in organizing the event, to Shawna Doran for coordinating meetinghouse hospitality, and to all others who helped create this joyful and memorable occasion.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The Business Meeting Ad Hoc Committee met in August and will meet again in Oct.
2. The Meetinghouse Committee met to review protocol for use of the Meetinghouse, and affirms following the procedure outlined in this minute:  
06-11-36: Gainesville Friends Meeting approves the requirement that all groups and individuals requesting use of the Meeting House complete a "Request for Use of Meeting House" form, to be reviewed by the Meeting House Committee and approved by meeting for Business prior to use of the Meeting House.

Jean Larson will act as contact person for scheduling.

Jean has developed a Meeting Calendar to be posted on the bulletin board, as well.

### **MINISTRY AND NURTURE COMMITTEE REPORT by Connie Ray:**

Our Meeting was represented at an outreach table staffed by Sandy Lyon at the Susan B. Anthony Day Luncheon on Aug 27, 2011. Plans are to have a table at other upcoming outreach events at Santa Fe College and at the Gainesville Pride Festival, as well.

Regarding last month's request by Jonathan Jordan, Winter Park Meeting, to schedule a workshop here on "Healing Body Mind and Spirit: The Mysticism of Mindful Quaker Contemplation", Jonathan has been invited to present it on the afternoon of Saturday, Nov 19. He describes it as a 3-hour workshop based on the Buddhist concept of "mindfulness", where he focuses on the mystical experience of Friends.

A memorial minute for Scott Minor was read and accepted. It is included at the end.

Finally, came the news of our new member, Tim Ray:

**2011.9.34:** Accepting the recommendations of the Membership Clearness Committee and Ministry and Nurture Committee, Gainesville Friends Meeting joyfully welcomes Timothy Ray into membership in the Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

### **PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS REPORT submitted by Jim Morrison**

No discussion took place. The complete report is added at the end.

### **NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT Given by Jen Cotter:**

Our Meeting Website has been renovated, and a link from the old site is being developed. The address has been shared with Friends Journal and will be shared with SEYM, FGC and QuakerFinder.Org, as well.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT Given by Cheryl Demers-Holton:**  
**2011.9.35:** Meeting approves the naming of Jean Larson to the position of Forum Coordinator.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Arthur, Recording Clerk

**ADDENDUMS:**

**GFM SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**8/28/11.**

Don Smith told us about the upcoming interfaith events at the Beltran Peace Center: International Day of Prayer on W Sept 21, and an information meeting about the work of the BPC and the FOR on September 25 at 2 pm. He also reminded us of the ongoing interfaith discussions at the BPC on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. We agreed to work to encourage our members to attend.

Shawna reported on her participation in the Susan B. Anthony event, and recommended that we press for more table space at next year's event—and try to find someone who could talk about SBA from the perspective of her Quaker roots.

Shawna also talked about our participation in the October UN Day event and invited us to participate in the Gay Pride Fest on Saturday, October 22. (Sandy Lyon has volunteered to preside at our table on the downtown Plaza.)

On Sunday, September 4, Tim Fogarty presented a forum on ProNica and Solidarity as a prelude to the ProNica Board Meeting on Saturday, September 10, and the evening potluck supper and ProNica program.

On Saturday, September 10 the ProNica Board met in Gainesville, followed by a pot-luck dinner, sales of Nicaraguan crafts, and presentations about the work of ProNica featuring talks by former and current ProNica activists and a video about the work of ProNica in Nicaragua. Then the evening closed with 2 very lively hours of spirited music by four musicians playing and singing Nicaraguan music. The event was a huge success with over 75 people in attendance and \$1200 raised to support the work of ProNica.

Because of projector problems we did not have a film night in July or August, but on Friday, September 16, we will show "Of Gods and Men," about the dilemma faced by a group of 8 Cistercian Monks in Algeria—to stay and serve their local community and risk death, or to flee and receive the protection of the army. For our October 21 night we will show "Why We Fight."

On Sunday, September 18, at 1 pm we will view the DVD “Brother Outsider“ as a Friendly Reading Group introduction to the life of Bayard Rustin—and as a prelude to the October 16 Reading Group discussion of some of his writings.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, September 25, at 9:40 in the Meeting House Library.

### **A Memorial Minute for Scott Minor**

Frank “Scott” Minor became a member of the Gainesville Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in September of 1995, but he had been familiar with Friends from childhood. He was born in Pennsylvania and attended Newtown Friends School and Newtown Friends Meeting as a child.

Scott served in the military during the Vietnam War. When he was inducted, he wrote “Quaker” on the line requesting religion. The man behind the desk smiled and asked, “Don’t you know Quakers are pacifists?” Scott didn’t know that. He earned several military decorations while in service.

When he returned from the war, like many other Vietnam veterans, he was left with a residue of anger about the war and a sense of exclusion from the mainstream culture. He bought a motorcycle and had two crashes, which injured him physically more than the war had.

Scott loved popular music and amassed a collection of long playing vinyl records which he hoped would increase in value over the years. He also liked to play music for his own pleasure and in performing groups. He enjoyed the role of disc jockey. He tried his hand at writing lyrics and succeeded in writing a popular song called, “My Baby She Wrote Me a Letter.”

He worshipped with the Quakers who meet in Ocala. He first came to the group when it met at George Newkirk’s house in Ocala. A bond grew between George and Scott. The meeting itself was a point of stability in Scott’s life through the many difficulties he had. He called the Quaker Meeting his family.

Scott helped the meeting as much as he could. He would ride a tractor style mower over the large area around George’s house. He drove George to Half-yearly Meeting where he helped George set up the crafts activities for the children, when George could no longer do that by himself. Many people fondly remember the painting and decorating of the pine cones George had collected as one of these activities with which Scott helped him. For a joint outing of Gainesville and Ocala Friends at Wayside Park, he borrowed a friend’s boat and took us all on rides along the streams of Silver Springs.

Late in his life Scott suffered injuries and illnesses which required multiple hospitalizations and surgeries. A brutal home invasion left him with only one kidney. An aortic aneurism was almost fatal. The scar tissue left from the motorcycle crashes made

surgery impossible for any heart attack he might suffer. He tenaciously held on to life in spite of his weakened body. He kept rebuilding his strength and resuming his active life after each bout of illness. His final illness was sudden and his death, on February 27, 2009 was unexpected.

Scott loved dogs and cooking and he had a knack for making us laugh. He knew the meaning of friendship. He was willing to give of what he had and accepted the hand of another when it was offered.