

## **Report of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting to New York Quarterly Meeting, Fourth Month, 17th, 2011**

At Brooklyn Meeting, during this past quarter we held Meeting for Worship every First Day morning at 11am and every Third Day evening at 6:30pm. Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business was held on First Days, Second Month, 6th, Third Month, 6th and Fourth Month 3rd. First Day Meetings are very well attended these days as we welcome more young people than ever each week. We are deeply pleased that, through the Internet among other means, young families and individuals are joining us at what seems to be an increasing rate, not just in larger numbers than, say, a year ago.

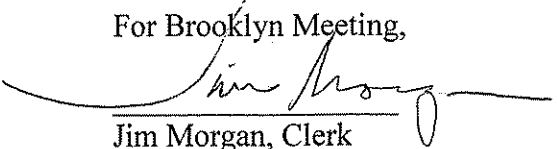
Our membership is also growing: during this quarter we received Christiana and Alvin Mack, Jr., their children, Angelina and Miles, as well as Joyce Ketterer, as new members; and two, Barbara Curd and Angel Ramos, as transfers from Rochester Meeting. One member, Martha Davis, has transferred to Cambridge (MA) Meeting. Our recorders report that, at the end of 2010, our membership stood at 224 Friends; by now, unofficially, it is approaching 230.

These impressive numbers, however, lead us to ponder more intently how best to strengthen and enrich the quality of worship, understanding and service amongst us. We particularly concern ourselves with how best to acquaint these young visitors with Friends' history and beliefs. To our delight, Young Adult Friends not only continue their monthly potlucks but now gather for worship sharing every first First Day morning as well as after Mid-week Meeting on the second Third Day of each month. We are reorganizing our Adult Education program to offer more opportunities for focused worship-sharing around both religious texts and NYYM's Quaker Faith & Practice. This past quarter, Bible study was offered on third First Day of each month.

On Second Month 27th, our Peace & Social Action Committee sponsored a discussion by AFSC staff members on the current situation in Haiti. That same weekend, we organized a meeting house sleep-over for some of our teens. On Third Month 20th, P&SA presented "Hummus for Human Rights," an event combining awareness of the Israel-Palestine conflict with the appeal of home-made hummus; as part of it, Naomi Allen of Brooklyn for Peace spoke on the Boycott-Divestment-Sanction movement. The following First Day, the 27th, four members of the Quaker United Nations Office governing board comprehensively described their organization's work, both here and in Geneva. That same First Day, cards holding four Japanese meetings in the Light were signed by many of us and sent to them.

Community Dinner continues to be our primary outreach activity, offered as it has been for almost twenty-five years now on each last First Day of the month. We welcome at least eighty community members each time, seat and serve them their meal and then offer additional food to take home. The servers are often children and others drawn from outside our meeting who find this a rewarding opportunity to share with those less fortunate.

For Brooklyn Meeting,

  
Jim Morgan, Clerk