

CANADIAN FRIENDS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

Uxbridge-Scott Museum & Archives, Uxbridge, Saturday, 18 September 2004, 10:30am

Present: Jane Zavitz-Bond (chairperson), Kathleen Hertzberg (past chairperson), Peter Bikaunieks, Nancy Bikaunieks, Sherita Clark, Carol Cooper, Harold Doan, Marie Doan, Sandra Fuller (secretary), Ron Gould, Philippa Hajdu, Kenn Harper, David Holden, Joyce Holden, [Barbara Horvath], Norman Jolly (treasurer), Dorothy Jolly, Ruth Jeffery-MacLean (membership), Bill Lamb, Allan MacGillivray, Keith Maddock, Marianne McQuillan, Wilf Rogers, Betty Rogers, Bert Ross, Shirley Simpson, Stuart Starr, Gordon Thompson.

The meeting opened with silent worship.

Regrets: Christopher Densmore (past chairperson), Albert Schrauwens (publications), Jim Adamson, Peter & Rose Mae Harkness, Beverly Jackson, Rosemarie McMechan, Elizabeth Moger, Arnold Ranneris.

Welcome:

Jane Zavitz-Bond welcomed the group assembled for this AGM, and expressed appreciation for the work done by the staff of Uxbridge-Scott Museum & Archives who welcomed us to a place where we can learn about Quaker History. Friends began to arrive in Uxbridge Township in 1805. Soon after the community settled, an Indulged Meeting was allowed in 1806 by the recently-established Yonge St Monthly Meeting. Uxbridge Preparative Meeting was established in 1817, and it is heartening to know that the Friends Meeting House, built in 1820, continues to be cared for. The topic for investigation at this annual meeting is "Quakers in Uxbridge". Her comments were brief because current information is available in the Newsletter, and time can be used for the information exchange at the end of the meeting.

Agenda Review:

- 1 **Minutes:** Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2003, held at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area, Kingston, were circulated in the Newsletter with the mailing of the Journal, in winter 2004. The meeting approved the minutes as circulated.

REPORTS

2 **Membership Report:**

The membership report was given as follows: General memberships - 107 members; Institutional memberships - 25 members, 19 of them Friends Meetings. The total number of life memberships stands at 24 life memberships - two of them institutions and the others, individual memberships. There is one institutional exchange with London, England. Memberships include faithful, ongoing, members plus cyclical memberships.

General membership \$15., Institutional membership \$15., and Life membership \$200.

Both individuals and meetings are encouraged to become members. A list of meetings which have memberships is available.

3 **Treasurer's Report:**

N. Jolly provided a financial report which informed that the bank balance as of 31 August 2004, was \$7,350, including the bank account and the GIC investment. The increased balance results from life memberships and sale of publications. The meeting approved a contribution of \$500, to the Canadian Yearly Meeting Archives. It was agreed that a donation would be made to the Uxbridge-Scott Museum & Archives, the amount to be determined by the CFHA executive committee.

4 **CFHA Publications - Newsletter:**

S.Fuller gave a brief overview of publications. There were 2 Newsletters mailed out in 2004 - one in Winter accompanying the Journal 2003, and one in Summer accompanying the notice of Annual General Meeting 2004. The Newsletter keeps us connected with members during the year. Members are encouraged to send materials of interest, including book reviews, and creative art for future publications.

5 **CFHA Publications - Canadian Quaker History Journal:**

The theme for the Journal 2004 will be "Quakers in Uxbridge". Having a theme increases interest and focus, but additional articles may be included. It is a satisfaction to build each issue. CFHA has received appreciative comments from readers on the new format of the expanded Journal. We are encouraged by the positive responses on the part of institutions whose memberships reflect the interest and value placed by schools and libraries upon our publications and the ideas and information which CFHA generates and provides.

6 **CFHA Publications - Occasional Papers:**

K.Hertzberg hoped that CFHA would take the initiative in doing a special publication for the special anniversaries in 2005 - Canadian Yearly Meeting reunited 1955-2005, and The Canadian Friend 1905-2005. These topics will be included in the Journal. A special publication could be prepared on applications of the Peace Testimony if sufficient volunteer time is forthcoming. The Journal of Timothy Rogers has sold well, but there are still almost 200 copies available for sale. Publication costs have been recovered. We are still working on the full publication of our genealogical name index which started with Yonge Street and will add the other pioneer meetings' families in Canada.

7 **Directory of Canadian Quaker Sites:**

J. Zavitz-Bond reported that progress is being made. Both current and historic sites will be included. Each Meeting has been asked to prepare and forward information about its history, location, time of meeting, and picture. CFHA will do research on Meetings which have been laid down. New York Yearly Meeting Directory provides a good model.

8 **CFHA Website:**

Bruce Dienes, webmaster for the Canadian Yearly Meeting website, is making a link with CFHA. CFHA will continue to improve the website's accessibility and content. The costs involved in setting up and maintaining a separate website as a joint venture with Canadian Quaker Archives are beyond the financial resources of both CFHA and CQA. There is also a link with Rootsweb for exchange of genealogical information under "Canadian-Ontario-Quakers" which is maintained by webmaster, Harold Doan.

9 **CFHA Brochure:**

Work is being done on revising information (such as email addresses) on the brochure.

Chairperson's report:

The year has flown since we met in Kingston a year ago. The world has been facing challenging times and many are suffering, even as we meet in peace and comfort on this beautiful fall day to welcome F/friends and undertake our business. It is a privilege to work and serve with the executive as we forward the work of CFHA.

We must find other members free and willing to serve on future executives. After over thirty years we have a new generation of members, and look forward to this new energy, ideas, and approaches. I hope there will be a new chairperson in the near future. I will continue to support the organization, but we all do better if we recycle our roles to avoid burn-out! Related tasks call me, and there are only so many hours in any day, or days in any year. Presently a year has become shorter!

This year was easier in several ways: the plans for this meeting were set in Kingston and we proceeded from there; we held executive committee meetings in Toronto, at Friends House, and at Pickering College, Newmarket, with nearly all members present; the internet allows emails to keep us in touch between committee meetings. This is an advantage indeed, but to have time to discuss over dinner, as well as meeting allows ideas to generate, and fellowship to grow. When everyone is so busy these days the time given is a generous gift. I thank all those serving warmly; their service allows CFHA to be.

The interconnections are often amazing. Several of these are recorded in the Summer Newsletter and I will not repeat them, but hope you do read about them, for we want time this morning to hear your stories of discoveries and research, or travels in pursuit of your part in Quaker history. However, I will mention Jim Hamilton and his extensive work of the colonial period with native and British officials, and the early settlers. He is sorry he can not write the promised article. I will share Jim Hamilton's immediate research in a shortened piece in the coming Journal.

The email also seems to work against new membership growth, for emails request information and to expedite the work are answered without the opportunity to send brochures, or meet so many inquirers in person who then meet the richness of the Canadian Quaker Archives. At this point, we extend to Pickering College our continued appreciation for hospitality and support for the Archives and CFHA as our center, our home base and address (which we hope you have all noted in the Newsletters and will use).

The work with other Archives and Libraries (which really means the people who staff them!) is also part of the pleasures of CFHA involvement. My travels to serve on other Quaker bodies is a further enrichment, and I take CFHA publications and displays to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), to Canadian Yearly Meeting, this year in Windsor NS, to the regional and local meetings in our Yearly Meeting during the year, even to the Quaker United Nations Office Committee, where the history of Friends testimonies for Peace and Human Rights can be more effective with the memory of the past experiences as we face the present. This is, I believe, a major reason for our historical association. We do serve an array of persons and interests, so can never be bored. We seek ways to respond you all effectively.

The Conference of Quaker Historians & Archivists was held at George Fox University, Newberg, Oregon, USA on 25-27 June 2004. The trip was a time for sharing of our interests and work.

Sandra Fuller, Robynne Rogers Healey, and I were there from CFHA. There, too, the organization reflects the 'changing of the guard', as former faces are missing. Christopher Densmore, our former chairperson, is active on the program committee. For the first time in several conferences, I was not on the program committee and free to enjoy without responsibilities! Perhaps that is why this time has gone so well - one can be too involved.

Today has been supported so well by Allan MacGillivray, his family, and staff at the Uxbridge Scott Museum, that I am also enjoying today and anticipating that which is to come.

Thank you all for your support during the year and for attending today. We look forward to the

year to come and your continued participation. The executive will look ahead at the coming year with several themes to pursue, Peace, the 50th Anniversary of the re-combined Canadian Yearly Meeting, and the 100th anniversary of *The Canadian Friend*. We thank each of you and ask for your continued ideas and support. May we enter the coming year with renewed energy and vision. We give thanks.

Jane Zavitz-Bond, Chairperson

11 **Deaths:**

We remember, with appreciation, the following members of CFHA who have died during the past year: Edith Adamson, formerly Ottawa MM, and later Victoria MM, BC; Elsie Cutler, Coldstream MM, ON, Deborah Haight of Norwich and member of Ottawa MM; and William Thurlow of Prince Edward Island and recently Hamilton MM. All of these Friends contributed to the work of the Canadian Quaker Archives and to CFHA.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

12 **Peace Symposium:**

The Peace Symposium which was scheduled to take place at Sharon Temple Museum in early October 2004 has been unavoidably delayed. Plans might proceed for CFHA's participation in such an event. CFHA could sponsor a Friend as one of the speakers at Sharon Temple Museum. A Peace Symposium might be planned in conjunction with a CFHA annual meeting. CFHA might act as co-ordinator, in conjunction with other Friends groups, to organize a series of meetings with Friends speakers in Ottawa, Toronto, and London. Other groups and members of the public who respond to the peace message should be encouraged to participate in this event. Comments and ideas are requested and will be appreciated.

An understanding of the Historic Peace Testimony of Friends is fundamental to show how the past leads to the present. A special issue of the Journal might be prepared concerning the witness for Peace by Friends in Canada.

13 **Canadian Quaker Archives:**

J. Zavitz-Bond reported that her time as archivist is still divided because of her parents' needs, but that is also an amazing gift. Others meet researchers when she is not able to commute to Newmarket. The staff at Pickering College is also supportive. The emails and phonecalls also get to Sparta!

Canadian Yearly Meeting Records Committee is looking into the internet possibilities for access to the Canadian Quaker Records and Dorland Reference Library Collection. They find that technology is advancing so quickly that some choices are outmoded before they can be acquired. Yet, the internet is a tool which we must learn to use to advantage. It allows accessibility for users anywhere, allowing CYMA to meet the needs of researchers with minimal staff. We will pursue this with care. At the present time, microfilm continues to be a safer and less expensive medium than digital imaging. Canadian Quaker Archives has access to several links with websites: the CYM website, the Pickering College website, and the Archeion website maintained by the Archives Association of Ontario for the use of its member archives.

Other Friends' libraries and archives are already networking and we would like to share with them in serving Friends and researchers. Several American Quaker institutions, BrynMawr, Haverford, Swarthmore, have banded together to form TRIPOD. Earlham College has a website. An upcoming Newsletter will provide information about these websites.

The chairperson of the CYM Records Committee has sent a letter of appreciation for CFHA's contribution of \$500. to the Canadian Yearly Meeting Archives (CYMA). At the time that

CFHA was established in 1972, CYM was not actively involved with the care of its records. CFHA projects assist and support CQA, and a good relationship is being developed for co-operative work.

I have been enriched by the people with whom I work, and by those who come, or write- by post or email, or phone. Jim Hamilton wrote that he wished he had discovered CQA's store house of materials sooner. He has given his extensive research collection to Fort Malden Archives as illness does not permit him to continue. Someone will use his treasure trove. He and his family have our care and our prayers. Even brief visits can be very special. We may put life in that category - it, too, is brief, and can enrich all in the encounters of all its days. This is a gift to us in our ever widening circles.

14. **Nominating Committee:**

Harold Doan presented the report of the Nominating Committee (Harold Doan, Ruth Jeffery-MacLean, Gordon Thompson). Honorary Chairperson - Peter Brock, Chairperson - Jane Zavitz-Bond, Past Chairpersons - Christopher Densmore / Kathleen Hertzberg, Vice-Chairperson - Gordon Thompson, Secretary - Sandra Fuller, Treasurer - Norman Jolly, Membership Secretary - Harold Doan, Publications - Albert Schrauwers, Jane Zavitz-Bond, Members-at-Large - Ruth Jeffery-MacLean, Dan Nelson. Gordon Thompson agreed to act as auditor. Corresponding members for maritimes, prairies, and west, need to be contacted. The report was approved with gratitude. Members who are interested in serving on the executive are encouraged to contact CFHA. It is important to share responsibility and have input.

NEW BUSINESS

15. **Historical Plaque:**

As part of the restoration process being undertaken at the former Grey County Meeting House, now the Community Centre at Heathcote, Ontario, there is interest in erecting a historical plaque on the site. Peter Von Bitter, member of the Worship Group at Owen Sound, has requested assistance with this project. In view of the heavy costs involved in erecting a provincial plaque, it was suggested that a plaque might be mounted inside the building.

If work on the project proceeds, CFHA can provide a letter of support, and approved both assistance in providing accurate wording and some financial assistance for the plaque. Friends were significant in the settlement of Grey County.

16. **Annual General Meeting 2005:**

The year 2005 presents an opportunity to mark the 50th anniversary of the re-unification of Canadian Yearly Meeting 1955-2005, and the 100th anniversary of the commencement of the publication, *The Canadian Friend*. Since both of these events happened in Newmarket, the AGM in 2005 should be held there. CFHA executive will explore the possibility of hosting a Peace Symposium in conjunction with this meeting. CFHA will contact Pickering College to see if it might be convenient to hold a meeting there. The suggested date is the 3rd weekend in September - Saturday, September 17, 2005.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- Allan MacGillivray drew attention to some interesting artefacts at the Museum. He blew a long tin horn which settlers used as a signal if lost in the dense woods; pointed out the organ from Uxbridge MH which is now in the church at the Museum; and showed the Bible which belonged to Alma Gould Dale, Quaker minister.

- Ron Gould, chairman of the Uxbridge Meeting House Committee, reported on his involvement with this continuing work. He is a descendant of Jesse Gould, Ravenna [near Collingwood] ON.
- Joyce Holden, member of the board of trustees for the historic Methodist Church at Hay Bay, reported that Gurney & Elizabeth Binford who had served as Quaker missionaries in Japan from 1892 to 1943 opened a drop-in centre in Los Angeles after WWII for Japanese returning from relocation centres. Her Quaker bonnets and Japanese kimonos were donated to the Archives at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana. Canadian Yearly Meeting supported the work of Gurney & Elizabeth Binford in Japan.
- Dorothy Jolly recounted stories about two Doan family members from Alberta with achievements in the world of skating - Catriona LeMay Doan (wife of Bart Doan), and Shane Doan, Catriona LeMay Doan won gold medals for Canada in speed-skating at the Winter Olympics at Nagano 1998 and Salt Lake City 2002. She was recognized as Canada's Female Athlete of the Year 2002. Shane Doan, a small-town hockey player from central Alberta, sparked cheers from one end of Canada to the other when he scored the winning goal in World Cup play, beating Finland 3-2 for the championship in September 2004.
- Bill Lamb, and Joyce Holden, members of the board of trustees for the historic Methodist Church at Hay Bay, reported that they have prepared a one-page history of Adolphustown Meeting for tourists. They also mentioned a 1781 sampler which was valued at \$5,000.-\$8,000. (US).
- Kenn Harper, descendant of the Penrose family of Yonge Street, attended this meeting in conjunction with a trip to Southern Ontario. He is a writer whose area of interest is Arctic history, and is the author of *Give Me Back My Father's Bones*.
- Stuart Starr wondered about descendants of ancestors who moved to Whitby.
- Shirley Simpson is looking for Starr descendants while working on her family tree.

COMING EVENTS

- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) representing the Lower Great Lakes Region will hold its annual meeting at Detroit Friends School, Michigan, USA 8-10 October 2004.
- Pelham Half-Yearly Meeting will be held at Norwich Museum (formerly Norwich Meeting House) on Sunday, 24th October 2004.

Yonge Street Half-Yearly Mtg. will meet at Simcoe-Muskoka Meetinghouse, Orillia, on Saturday, 30th October 2004.
- The Biennial Conference of Quaker Historians & Archivists will be held at Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina, in June 2006. All interested in Quaker history are welcome.

The meeting closed with silent worship.

Look for fuller accounts of the afternoon's events in the *Canadian Quaker History Journal* 2004.