



# THE MEETINGHOUSE

**Meeting in Print**

Volume: 2012 –1

**3rd Month 2012**

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**Andrew Cresswell: CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

*"And lay down and offer up your lives for one another...[for] here is the love of the brethren manifest."* – George Fox, Epistle 93, 1655

While we do not suffer, as early Friends did, for our faith, Fox calls upon us to give of ourselves in ways rather than words. This form of giving is love, "manifest" in deeds.

Since the last edition of *The Meetinghouse*, much has been done to make this love of Quaker history and heritage known. We have a number of ad hoc committees exploring new ways for us to reach out into the wider world, new and returning members have provided generous financial contributions to our work, and the members of the Executive Committee have been laboring diligently to plan for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association. We are further buoyed by the emails and letters of inquiry and support we received from across the country.

As anyone who has worked with me on the Executive Committee will recall, one of my favorite remarks is that we will never get bored as a members of CFHA, as there is always something to do. As the Association grows and evolves, it never ceases to amaze me how new, and unforeseen opportunities seem to arise. Since the last edition of *The Meetinghouse* we have been involved in efforts to document and preserve a historic home, to increase the number of affiliate memberships with partner organizations, and to develop materials to help inform the wider public about Friends in Canada.

This edition of *The Meetinghouse* has once again a variety of interesting and informative articles from our members. From Quaker ministers and the Underground Railroad, to the Ottawa Meeting retreat and the Quaker Register, "*here is the love*".

Blessings, Andrew Cresswell

**Yonge Street Meeting House Bicentennial 1812-2012**



A day to commemorate the Architectural, Historical and Spiritual importance of the Yonge Street Meeting House of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

[www.yongestreet.quaker.ca](http://www.yongestreet.quaker.ca)

**Watch the website for details**

## Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists

June 22—24, 2012

**The 19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists is coming to Pickering College , Newmarket Ontario from June 22 to 24, 2012!**



Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario

Hosted by the Records Committee of Canadian Yearly Meeting, this Conference will have something of interest to all members of CFHA. Come and hear Quaker historians and archivists from around North America share their latest research. Be part of the discussions in formal sessions as well as during informal mealtime conversations. This is an opportunity to interact with those who spend their time working with Quaker documents on a daily basis.

Though details are still being confirmed, the Saturday evening session at Sharon Temple promises to be very special. On Sunday morning, Friends at Yonge Street Meeting are pleased to welcome everyone to Meeting for Worship.

Information on registration will be available at the website by 1 March 2012 (<http://libguides.guilford.edu/cqha>). Pickering College will be providing lodging and meals at a very reasonable cost for those who live at a distance; conference rates for locals who only require meals will also be available. This promises to be a stimulating weekend.

Canadian Friends Historical Association was founded in 1972 with the aim of preserving and making known the religious, cultural, social and pioneer heritage of Quakers from their first settlement in Canada until today.

CFHA is open to all who share an interest in Canadian Quaker history. Membership fees support the activities of CFHA and help maintain CFHA's website.

### Draft CQHA Conference Schedule

#### Friday

1:00 -- 5:00 Registration and check-in  
 1:00 -- 5:00 Optional Local Tours  
 5:30 -- 7:00 Dinner  
 7:30 -- 9:00 Welcome and Session I: Jerviss and Healey

#### Saturday

7:30 -- 9:00 Breakfast  
 9:00 -- 10:30 Session II: Cazden, Smith, and Gottlieb  
 10:30 -- 11:00 Break  
 11:00 -- 12:15 Concurrent Sessions  
 Session III: Fuller and Crauderueff  
 Session IV: Martin and Akins  
 12:15 -- 1:30 Lunch  
 1:30 -- 3:00 Session V: Wilson, Fager, and Garfinkel  
 3:00 -- 3:30 Break  
 3:30 -- 5:00 Session VI: Arnold/Horne (1 hr.) and Woods (30 min.)  
 5:30 -- 7:00 Dinner  
 7:30 -- 9:00 Session VII (at Sharon Temple)

#### Sunday

7:30 -- 9:00 Breakfast  
 8:00 -- 9:00 Check-out for those leaving prior to noon  
 9:00 -- 10:15 CQHA Business Meeting  
 10:30 -- 12:00 Worship opportunities at local meetings  
 12:00 -- 1:30 Lunch  
 1:00 -- 5:00 Optional Local Tours



### Sharon Temple, Sharon, Ontario

Photo credit: Sharon Temple National Historic Site & Museum

## THE QUAKER REGISTER - Built Heritage. By Ian Woods.

After well over a year of re-formulating THE QUAKER REGISTER, the whole framework is now finalized.

The QUAKER REGISTER will cover the whole of Canada, coast to coast. From research to date, there are an estimated 19,800 Quaker sites in the country, with an estimated 16,700 in Ontario alone. All will be methodically found and recorded by Province, County, Township and location. The earliest sites appear to be in Newfoundland circa 1680.

Information is requested from all sources; My special e-mail is: [ianwoods-quakerregister@bell.net](mailto:ianwoods-quakerregister@bell.net)

The framework for the QUAKER REGISTER has the following headings and divisions:

MAIN NAME: The QUAKER REGISTER: BUILT HERITAGE:

Meeting Houses, Burying Grounds and Principal Locales.

DIVISIONS: The QUAKER REGISTER: BUILT HERITAGE : DIRECTORY:

All other locations, not in the Main Register

DIVISIONS: The QUAKER REGISTER: BUILT HERITAGE:

Townships : Quaker Townships

Cities : Quaker Cities

Towns : Quaker Towns

Villages/Hamlets : Quaker Villages/Hamlets

Education : Colleges, Schools and Academia

Businesses : Quaker companies and their built heritage

Industries : Different categories. Their built heritage

Trades : Many different Quaker Trades and Skills

Geography : Quaker Trails, Pioneer Routes and the Underground Railroad

Historical Events :

Notable Quakers : Relating to built heritage

Artifacts : Artifacts and documents obtained and catalogued. To include articles from past buildings, components, drawings and tangible items. Eventually for our future National Archives Home

### 40th Anniversary of Canadian Friends Historical Association

submitted by Andrew Cresswell

In the fall of 1972, concerned Friends and those interested in Quaker history in Canada gathered at Pickering College, in Newmarket, Ontario to collaborate in the creation of the Canadian Friends Historical Association. Under the Chairmanship of Kathleen Hertzberg, this small group believed that the creation of the Association was a *"new step in the life of Quakerism in Canada...that it will provide more complete records of the history of the past and of history in the making and thus supply source material and inspiration for further study of Quakerism in Canada."*

Congratulating the founders on the creation of the Association, Arthur Dorland, the author of *The Quakers in Canada: A History*, who was named honorary chairman, wrote *"The idea is an excellent one. You will have my moral support."*

Now forty years later, we commemorate not only the vision of the founders, but also the contribution of hundreds of individuals, many beyond the nation's boundaries, who have worked on committees, wrote articles, attended annual general meetings, recruited new members, and made financial contributions.

To commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the Canadian

Friends Historical Association, the Executive Committee discerned four key projects that would begin this year:

1. Create the Founders' Fund to provide resources to support individuals and groups in achieving the Mission of the Association.
2. Gather and archive material relating to the history of the Association.
3. Produce an anniversary publication.
4. Create a social media presence to encourage greater public awareness.

These initiatives will join the Quaker Register, a previous anniversary project. While appreciating feedback, the Executive Committee also acknowledged the desire for greater member input and involvement, and hopes that these various projects will resonate with members and the wider public, including youth.

The Executive Committee is in the process of planning for the Annual General Meeting, an event that will kick-off our fortieth anniversary year. Look for more information about the Annual General Meeting, the various fortieth anniversary projects and their status in upcoming editions of *The Meetinghouse* or online at [www.cfha.info](http://www.cfha.info).

## Re: Quakers Tour Quaker House by Maida Follini

(Refer to article in The Meetinghouse, Volume 2011—3, 12th Month 2011)

Update provided by Andrew Cresswell

Tim Crellin from the Dartmouth Heritage Museum provides some additional information regarding the Quaker Whaling House and the local Quaker community.

Due to the American Revolution, tough times hit the Quaker whalers on Nantucket Island. The governor of Nova Scotia invited them to come up to this region with the incentives of not having to join the military, not being heavily taxed on their whale oil (as was happening on account of the trade relations and import duty between America and Britain), and being given land on which to start their community. In 1785-86, forty families (164 people, and 150 whalers) and the whaling station on Nantucket Island relocated to Dartmouth. They quickly built homes, barns and the wharves on the waterfront. Within one season the land was converted into a thriving seaport.

The first meeting house was on the northeast corner of Queen and King Streets. There is a Canada Post office on that location that has a plaque commemorating the meeting house.

By 1790, Dartmouth was rapidly building up due mainly to the demand for goods and services related to the whaling industry. Property prices were increasing, and farming was being replaced by a host of skilled and semi-skilled trades.

In 1792, the British government had fears of what had just occurred with the American Revolution happening to the British colony of Nova Scotia. Although the whaling industry was generating massive profits for the region and the Quakers were far more self-sufficient than most communities at that time, the government in London, England was wary of their motives. Because of this fear, the government strongly requested the Quakers and the whaling industry be moved again, from Dartmouth to Milford Haven, Wales. The government offered 50 pounds sterling to each family of five or more who moved, as well as 2,000 pounds to be shared by all families for losses incurred. There was mixed reaction, with a distrust of the British government, among the 25 families asked to go to Wales. Understandably, when the community found out that two 'leaders' (Timothy

Folger and William Starbuck) were getting paid more than the rest of the Quakers, they were quite put off by this lack of equity amongst them. This of course would have made those two gentlemen "not in good standing" with the Quaker community. The reality of the situation resulted in the Folger, Starbuck, and the ship captain's families being the only families that eventually did depart for Milford Haven.

Many Quakers went back to Nantucket, and by the early 1800's the whaling industry in Dartmouth was on its way out.

The original owner of the Quaker Whaling House was William Ray, a Quaker who had come with the move from Nantucket Island. It is said that Ray was kidnapped during the American Revolution (which was a known practice on both sides). Since they were known for their masterful sailing, the kidnapped Quaker whalers were given the option of either joining the navy as a captain or going to jail. Ray chose the navy and for this, it is believed, he was cast out of the Quaker religion for a brief amount of time due to his involvement in the war. This might have been the reason that Ray and his first wife, Elizabeth Coffin, separated. Oddly enough, Ray remarried a different Elizabeth Coffin! He had six children with his first wife.



The Quaker Whaling House, Dartmouth, N.S.

Photo credit: Andrew Cresswell

## "Living our history" Ottawa Meeting Weekend Retreat January 2012

Outline provided by Caroline Balderston Parry

**Purpose:** To explore Quaker history, personalities and critical turning points over the years, including the Meetings's own history, compiled by participants.

Ottawa Meeting planned its History Retreat over a weekend, with Jane Zavitz-Bond (JZB) as the resource person. The following outline of workshop activities could be adapted by other Meetings over a series of evenings or full days:

### Session 1: introductions and "sharing our stories" framed around the history theme

- Individuals introduce themselves, with a brief history of how each came to be a Friend.
- Include a good memory of engagement with some aspect of history, not necessarily Q history, to connect with the timeline (developed in later sessions)

### Session 2: Workshop framed around the concept, "You Are History"

- Individually note five names or moments/events that were of the greatest spiritual import on our life journeys
- Share memories in small groups, and then, each individual shares one memory with the big group
- Resource person reflects on the importance of personal connections and the value of keeping a journal.

### Session 3: Workshop framed around World Quaker history, beginning in England.

- Presentation of outline of Quaker history
- Share ideas around two queries:
  1. What piece of Quaker history have you felt or found to be most significant to you?
  2. What piece/idea/practice from the past can we use today, and in the future?

*Create timeline—see sidebar, above*

### Session 4: Workshop framed around history of Canadian Yearly Meeting

- Presentation of the development of Quakerism in Canada, including the importance of personal connections and travelling in the ministry.
- Expand on key dates on the Canadian Quakerism timeline.

### Session 5: Workshop framed around history of the local meeting

- Presentation about the early history of the local meeting, and its relationship to CYM,
- Option to have people add their own dates to Ottawa Meeting time line



After session three, write dates onto four timelines (World history; Quaker history; Canadian Quaker/Local Meeting history; and personal histories). Post the timelines in the main meeting room, in a location that is visible and accessible for making additions

Creating Ottawa Meeting's timelines Photo credit: Carol Dixon

**NOTE:** At the Ottawa Retreat, there was opportunity at different points to look at many spare old issues of the Canadian Friend, some from 1930s, which helped identify dates for the timeline.

### Other sessions which were scheduled through the weekend included:

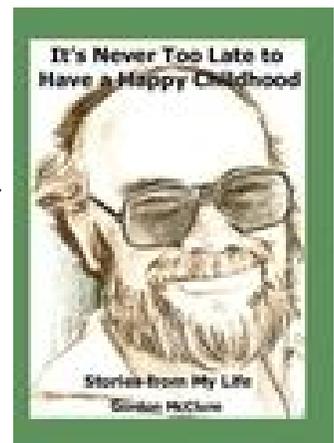
- Worship sharing about the process of the Retreat/ what was learned, etc.
- Program/performance MUSIC AND DRAMA. Could use a Quaker history skit from Build It!
- Informal singing
- And of course – **Meeting for Worship**

### Personal History:

**It's Never too Late to Have a Happy Childhood: Stories from My Life**, newly published by Gordon McClure (Member of Toronto Meeting)

Available to order on-line

<http://mobile-api.blurb.com/bookstore>



**A Page of History, Canadian Friend, April 1960** by Mary C. Needler, editor,  
From material given by Margaret Pennington (copy provided by Kyle Jolliffe)

Newer members and attenders may not know of our special link with Clarence and Lilly Pickett, who are to be guests at Canadian Yearly Meeting.

Toronto Meeting in the early days had a minister. The first was William R. Moore (father of Marjorie Keffer, whom we all know as clerk of Newmarket Meeting..) The second was Dr. JJ Mills. Then Willard and Caroline Trueblood saw the meeting through the move from Carlton to Maitland Street and were the first to live in the house next door to the Meeting House.

In 1912 Clarence Pickett, just out of college and just married, succeeded Willard Trueblood. Not wishing to call himself minister, he was appointed as "executive secretary" of the meeting. Like the Truebloods, the Picketts opened their home to young Friends a great deal; from this and their participation in Yearly Meeting, they have many warm friends among us, in addition to those who,

like myself, came to attendance and membership through an interest in work of the American Friends Service Committee and the Wider Quaker Fellowship.

To complete the story of Toronto's "ministers" Conran and Grace Hay lived in the house next door for about 3 years, were followed by Elam and Elda Henderson, then, after a gap, by Raymond and Gracia Booth. Long before I thought of attending meeting, I knew Raymond Booth through a column he wrote under the caption, "A Quaker Preacher Speaks Out" - and wish his mantle might fall on us as we try to "pinpoint" the spots at which our testimonies apply to public affairs and to daily life among ourselves and our neighbours.

Through the war years and after, the meeting had to get along without a minister; by the time we moved to Lower Avenue, many new members like myself, and others from overseas, took this for granted.

### Who was Clarence Picket (1884—1965)?

From the Clarence and Lilly Pickett Endowment for Quaker Leadership <http://pickettendowment.quaker.org/about.php>

On the night of April 29, 1962, the White House was the scene of a glittering gathering, described by the press as possibly establishing a new high in concentrated American brainpower. The President and Mrs. Kennedy received all past Nobel Prizewinners from the United States and Canada. That morning a group of Quakers had walked silently before the White House to draw the President's attention to the urgency of ending the nuclear arms race. Among the marchers was a frail seventy-seven-year-old man, Clarence E. Pickett. The same evening, in white tie and tails, he and his wife, Lilly, appeared at the White House gate as invited guests representing the American Friends Service Committee (which shared the 1947 Nobel Peace Prize with Friends Service Council). The President enjoyed both the humour and the wider significance of having the White House "Picketted" from the outside and from within on the same day. ....

He never traveled in government circles by choice. He was there only in the interest of his clients, the little people of the world. In high places and low he represented the oppressed, the persecuted, the disadvantaged, the underdog of every color, race, religion, and nation. His concern for humanity came naturally. His pious Quaker mother had to purge herself of some initial resentment at his arrival as her ninth child when she was forty-three. She took consolation in the hope that he might become "a devoted, useful member of the Kingdom of

Heaven on earth." Thousands influenced by him testify to the ample realization of a mother's dream. Educated at Penn College, Iowa, Hartford Theological Seminary, and Harvard, he served as a Quaker minister in Toronto and Oskaloosa, as national secretary of Young Friends' activities, and as professor of biblical literature at Earlham College. From 1929 until partial retirement in 1950, he was executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee.



**Clarence and Lilly Pickett**

Photo: <http://pickettendowment.quaker.org/about.php>

**The William Still Story** source: <http://canadashistory.ca/Magazine.aspx>

February and Black History Month have passed, but it is still worth looking at the website for the material related to the film, [\*Underground Railroad: The William Still Story\*](#), which aired on Feb. 6 (WNED). The film tells the story of abolitionist and civil rights activist William Still (c. 1821–1902), who helped enslaved Africans find freedom in Canada via the Underground Railroad.



Perhaps even more important, were the diligent records he kept of the people he helped along the way. In 1872, Still compiled the biographical details, personal narratives, and letters of over 600 fugitive slaves and published *The Underground Railroad Records*. This work became both a powerful anti-slavery testament and an invaluable historical document. In telling about the struggles and achievements of America's fugitive slaves, *Underground Railroad* remembers the important role that Canada played in helping them find freedom.

(Read or download William Still's book [\*The Underground Railroad: A Record of Facts\*](#) through The Project Gutenberg)

**Editor's note:** What is the connection between William Still and Canadian Quakers? The links to Quakers, living and dead, are intriguing.

For example, *Canada's History* received this comment from Kathleen in Vermont: "I was very pleased to have notice of this program ... My own family lore has it family members were deeply involved in Somerset, NY (Barker) in the UGRR. We have nothing written although my great-grandmother told my mother's cousin during the 1920s or '30s that her father-in-law, supposedly dead from pneumonia after harvesting winter wheat, had actually died from exposure on Lake Ontario because he was so involved with transporting escaped slaves by boat. The winter wheat story was made up. His name was Stephen Haight. His daughter-in-law told Mom's cousin she must never speak of this because the family could lose everything if this information became public. Would appreciate anything you might have in your records about Stephen Haight and his wife, Celia Humphrey Haight. They were Quakers.

**Jane Z-B comments:** The records of Stephen Haight and his wife, Celia Humphrey, will be under New York at Swarthmore's Friends Historical Library. Any activity related to the Underground Railroad was NEVER in the Minutes of any meeting. This was prior to 1867 when all the Canadian Meetings were still under New York Yearly Meeting. They were very careful not to say what they were doing to anyone; you need not lie about what you do not know! They were truthful!

The Barker in the story may well be a relative of Deborah Haight's great grandfather Barker who brought the remnants of the Wilberforce Settlement (NW of London near Lucan, ON) to the Otterville area. Also note that Lake Ontario hits Prince Edward County and West Lake Meetings and St Catherine's, on west end, all active in the Underground Railroad. The Quaker family ties made travel between areas natural for setting up routes on the Underground Railroad!

### A Rare Gift for the Quaker Archives and Library of Canada

submitted by Jane Zavitz-Bond

**Bill and Rosemarie McMechan** have made a significant donation of books to the Quaker Archives and Library of Canada including a treasure published in 1675: *Seeking Redress from the Taking of Oaths*. Written by Friends, including Wm Penn and Wm. Mead, it addresses the King and Parliament with all the stated evidence from pre-Christian times to the 1670s for not swearing an oath to support Truth. They requested redress from current punishments to Friends who had suffered imprisonment where many died, for further refusing to pay fines inferring they were guilty. No copies of this book are listed on the World Catalogue for libraries in North America.

Today we may affirm and not consider how dear a cost was paid in the past by faithful followers of Truth. 1675 was in the early days of Quakerism when it had not yet gained its honoured reputation. (May we live up to our faith in the present testimonies)

### Expanded Harrison Family and Friends Reunion, June 29 – July 1, 2012, London, ON

for descendants of Thomas Harrison and Isabella Benton Harrison, plus interested F/friends.

Shmaya/Brenda Harrison writes: History and family stories, have taught about the horrors of slavery. Unfortunately, not enough thought has been given to the people who took the unpopular position to help abolish slavery and assist their escape North on the underground railroad to Canada. It took some research to learn the name "Quaker" was not their official and/or their name of preference. It is Friends or Society of Friends.

Many people still think of Quakers riding horses and/or wearing strange looking cloths that were the fashion and style of most people during the 1700 and 1800's. Today, Friends look very much as you and I. When I went to my first Society of Friends meeting house, in Toronto, I was overwhelmed with feelings of belonging.

Members of the Society of Friends have been invited and will participate in The Extended Harrison Family & Friends Reunion in London Ontario. June 29-30 and July 1, Canada Day. I hope you enjoy learning a little more about our *Friends*. Perhaps, you may be motivated to attend a meeting in your area. I look forward to meeting many *friends*. Shmaya/ Brenda Harrison ([BrendaSHarrison@aol.com](mailto:BrendaSHarrison@aol.com)) (For those interested in attending the Harrison Reunion, a block of rooms are on hold at the London Hilton. Contact Shmaya for information about booking.)

**Note from Jane Z-B:** JZB's Bullock ancestors were close cousins of the "owners" of the Harrison brothers. Black Lou Bullock's "crew" came to shoot David Rice Bullock, as they had threatened any man who voted for Lincoln. No secret ballot in those days. He had taught his slaves to be self supporting and freed them several years earlier. He was a Wesley Methodist and strong abolitionist.

### Dates to Note:

#### March 31 The Experience of Conscientious Objection in Upper Canada during the War of 1812

At Friends' Meeting House, 60 Lowther Ave, Toronto.

A presentation at 3:30 by historian Jonathan Seiling to follow *Conscience Canada's* 2 PM Annual General Meeting.

#### June 22-24 Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists (see page 2)

**July 17, 2012:** dedication of the Christian Zavitz Millstone Monument at Port Colborne Maritime Museum, as part of 1812-14 War celebration. Built in 1780s by the earliest settlers, it was the first mill in Niagara region and the site of the last battle in eastern Lake Erie.

### CFHA Storefront

Publication	Cost
<i>Canadian Quaker History Journal (Past Editions)</i>	\$5.00
<i>The Journal of Timothy Rogers (Print)</i>	\$15.00
<i>A Community of Friends: The Quakers at Borden</i> by Betty Ward	\$15.00
<i>Union is Strength: W.L. McKenzie, The Children of Peace and the Emergence of Joint Stock Democracy in Upper Canada</i> by Albert Schrauwers	\$70.00
<i>From Quaker to Upper Canadian: Faith and Community among Yonge Street Friends, 1801-1850</i> By Robynne Rogers Healey	\$95.00
<i>E-Journal 1998-2007 CD</i>	\$10.00
<i>Faith, Friends and Fragmentation CD</i>	\$10.00
<i>The Journal of Timothy Rogers CD</i>	\$10.00

100% of all sales support the mission of the Canadian Friends Historical Association (tax receipts will be issued for purchases over \$20 not including shipping). Prices do not include shipping. To purchase any CFHA publications, contact Ruth Jeffery-MacLean at 905-898-8119 or via email at [secretary@cfha.info](mailto:secretary@cfha.info)

### Deadlines for The Meetinghouse:

Please send us your articles, photos, notices

May 15 for June 1st issue

Nov 15 for Dec 1st issue

February 15 for March 1st issue

Email to: [newsletter@cfha.info](mailto:newsletter@cfha.info)

Mail to: CFHA, PO Box 21527, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4Z0

**CFHA Website:** Additional back-issues of the Canadian Quaker History Journal have been posted to the CFHA website. Go to: [www.cfha.info](http://www.cfha.info)

**July, date TBA Conscientious Commemoration of the War of 1812** Cycling tour of the historical markers which commemorate the experience of these early Canadian pioneers of peace and conscientious objection in the Niagara Region (Stevensville, Vineland, Port Dalhousie)