

New York Yearly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

InfoShare

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Number 1

Editor, Paul Busby, paul@nyym.org

Memorial for Cecile Thompson Vickrey

A memorial meeting for worship for Cecile Thompson Vickrey, a member of Scarsdale Meeting, will be held at the Scarsdale Friends meetinghouse, 133 Popham Rd., Scarsdale, N.Y., on February 21, 2009, at 3:00 P.M. All are welcome. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be sent to Cornell University, the Fellowship for Reconciliation, Friends Committee on National Legislation—Education Fund, NYYM Sharing Fund, Pendle Hill Quaker Retreat Center, or Scarsdale Friends Meeting.

Calling all Youth Workers in NYYM

First Day school teachers, monthly meeting and regional youth workers, youth committee workers, those involved with Powell House Youth programs, JYM, other Quaker youth groups, etc., are invited to NYYM First Day School and Youth Committee meetings at Oakwood Friends School March 7, 2009.

Schedule:

All friends are invited to attend one or both sessions!

10:00–12:30: NYYM **First Day School Committee** convened by Mark La Riviere (15th Street) will gather to plan how we can work together across our Yearly Meeting to improve our First Day school programs within our monthly meetings and better serve our youth.

12:30–1:30: Light lunch will be provided.

1:30–4:00: **Youth Committee** convened by Kathie Scanlon (Bulls Head-Oswego) and Margaret Lew (15th Street) and clerked by Roseann Press (Housatonic) will gather those currently involved in NYYM youth work, including at least one representative from each committee involved in youth work, so that together we can envision how this new umbrella committee can coordinate its work and support youth work at the regional, quarterly, and monthly meeting levels.

Accommodations are available at Oakwood Friends School at a nominal cost or with local Friends. For further information contact:

First Day School Meeting: Mark La Riviere mlariviere@earthlink.net
Youth Committee: Margaret Lew mlew1022@aol.com 917-539-6338
Accommodations: Kathie Scanlon kaths22@verizon.net
Childcare: Carol Rice at crdk@highlands.com *no later than February 28.*

One of the strongest desires the Task Group heard in conversations with Friends over three years was for a multigenerational community, not divided by age but present together under the Spirit at this place and time. You are warmly encouraged to bring your gifts to this new effort.

Spring Sessions
April 3–5, 2009
Friends Academy, Locust Valley, N.Y.

At Spring and Fall Sessions, NYYM Friends conduct the Yearly Meeting's business, dealing with items that arise after Summer Sessions. This year's Spring Sessions will take place April 3–5, 2009, at Friends Academy in Locust Valley, N.Y.

Full information will be in March *Spark* and on the NYYM Web site, www.nyyym.org.

ARCH Workshops Offered

Aging Resources, Consultation and Help (ARCH) is offering two free workshops to train volunteers to offer ARCH services in every region in NYYM. The first will be at Oakwood Friends School May 1–3, 2009, and the other will be at Rochester Meeting June 3–5. Each program will begin at 6 P.M. Friday and end between 3 and 4 Sunday afternoon. Even if you don't envision yourself going to Friends' homes or visiting nearby meetings to offer ARCH services, this training will be valuable for Ministry & Counsel and pastoral care committees and others concerned about the aging folks in our midst.

Please register with Anita Paul, anitalouisepaul@juno.com or 518-374-2166.

Friends' Residence in Bronx

Cedars, a Friends' low-income and supportive housing development in the Bronx, New York City, will be opening soon. Approximately 40 one-bedroom and studio apartments will be available for rent to income-eligible New York City residents.

For information contact the Lantern Group, 690 8th Ave., 5th Fl., New York NY 10036; 212-398-3073.

Powell House Challenge

Heather Cook, Chatham-Summit Meeting

Since the economic downturn, Powell House, our beloved yearly meeting retreat center, has been suffering from lower attendance and revenue. The staff and committee have been working hard to maintain the balance and life of this important spiritual center.

The night of February 3, the boiler in Pitt Hall split open, making the building unusable. They lost revenue from the following weekend, and need to figure out how to pay for what will no doubt be an expensive fix.

What can you do?

- Hold Powell House, its staff and committee in prayer.
- Enroll for a weekend program at powellhouse.org.
- Send a donation to Powell House.
- Talk to your meetings and committees about how they can support Powell House.
- Bring a donation jar to meeting for collecting loose change.

Powell House has played an important part in the spiritual formation of Friends for generations—let's be part of keeping it going for future generations!

Breaking News: PoHo Is Open Again! But...

On February 18, 2009, Ann Davidson, director of Powell House, announced that PoHo is open again. Work has started on replacing the boiler and revamping the heating system. They expect the new boiler to be in place by March 6.

This is expensive, so please keep the suggestions above in mind.

Powell House is offering \$25 off if you bring another person from your meeting to come with you (e.g. instead of \$200, it's \$175 each).

Christopher Sammond's Travel Calendar February 1– March 31, 2009

February:

- 6–7 Attend Meetings for Discernment Steering Committee, Powell House, Old Chatham, NY
- 12–15 Attend FUM Board Meetings, Richmond Indiana
- 20–22 Attend Coordinating Committee Weekend, Powell House, Old Chatham, NY

March:

- 1 Visit Chappaqua Monthly Meeting, Chappaqua, NY
- 7 Attend Youth Committee Meeting, Oakwood School, Poughkeepsie, NY
- 13–14 Support and Attend Meetings for Discernment, Poughkeepsie Meetinghouse, Poughkeepsie, NY
- 28–29 Visit Peconic Bay Monthly Meeting, Wainscott, NY

Quaker Pastor Featured in Newspaper

On January 20, 2009, the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* featured an article about Farmington Friends Church in the Farmington-Scipio Region and their pastor, Ruth Kinsey. The article, with photos, can be read at <http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009901210302>.

AFSC Aid to Gaza

Based on information from Bill Pierre, AFSC/International Programs

During the recent Israeli attacks on Gaza, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Emergency Response Team met and decided to immediately release \$50,000 from the AFSC crisis fund to allow AFSC staff on the ground in Gaza and the West Bank, in coordination with local partners and other international organizations, to identify and materially respond to critical unmet needs in Gaza. The AFSC regional humanitarian coordinator in Amman, Jordan, will advise AFSC staff in Palestine and issue regular reports over the coming days and weeks as needs are identified and the means to address them determined.

Immediate concerns were a lack of electricity, water, and medical supplies and equipment.

For more information or to contribute, visit www.afsc.org/Israel-palestine.

Program on Modern Iran: Culture, Religion, and Society

Iris Bieri, Conflict Resolution Project coordinator in AFSC's New York Metropolitan Region, has developed a slideshow presentation about her recent trip to Iran. This past December she traveled as a civilian diplomat with the Fellowship of Reconciliation's eighth interfaith delegation throughout the country including Tehran, Esfahan, Qom, Persepolis, and Shiraz. She discusses Iranian culture, religion, and society as well as U.S./Iran relations and the need for diplomacy without preconditions.

To learn about inviting Iris to make a presentation to your regional meeting or community group please contact ibieri@afsc.org.

Deadline Approaching for Quaker Youth Book Project

Angelina Conti, project coordinator

Submissions of nonfiction writing and visual art for the Quaker Youth Book Project (QYBP) are **due by February 28, 2009**. You can send them to quipyouthbook@gmail.com or Quaker Youth Book Project, 1216 Arch St. #2B, Philadelphia PA 19070.

All pieces should be accompanied by the artist/author's name, postal address, e-mail, telephone number, age, Friends affiliation, and a two-sentence biography. Friends are invited to submit a maximum of five pieces of writing and/or art. See www.quakeryouth.org/quipbook for the full Call for Submissions, which includes suggested topics and queries.

Extended Worship at Rahway-Plainfield

Is your spirit in need of a little nurturing? Would you like to spend more time with God in worship with others? Do you crave silence in the bustle of our day-to-day lives? Are you looking for God's direction in this time of economic turmoil?

Join us for Extended Meeting for Worship on **Saturday, February 28, 2009**, at Rahway-Plainfield Meeting. Stay for the day or as you are led.

9:00 A.M. Coffee/tea and light breakfast snacks (feel free to bring something to share).

9:30–12:30 Extended Worship

12:30–1:30 P.M. Lunch (bring your own)

At lunch we will discern what the afternoon will look like—possibilities: worship sharing, worship, discussion...wherever spirit leads us.

Rahway Plainfield Meeting
225 Watchung Avenue
Corner of Watchung Ave. & E. 3rd St.
Plainfield, NJ 07060
908-757-5736

Young Friends: Let's Come Together!

NYYM Circle of Young Friends

Young Adult F/friends, come join the **Circle of Young Friends March 6–8, 2009**, at Powell House! Let's talk about our lives—where they are, where they're going, and how is Quakerism involved? Let's practice, work, and play at Powell House. We are all busy, so let's make this a time to relax and reflect together as a young adult community. As we celebrate the coming spring, let's get energized like lions and centered like lambs!

Register at Powell House's Web site, www.powellhouse.org.

Quaker United Nations Summer School

July 5–17, 2009, Geneva

For people with an active interest in international affairs: Would you like to study the UN at first hand? Do you want to meet people from all over the world? The Quaker UN Summer School aims to provide an introduction to the work of the United Nations. In previous years it has been especially attractive to people who have recently completed higher education studies.

Application packs available from www.quaker.org.uk or from Helen Bradford (QUNSS), QPSW, Friends House, Euston Rd., London NW1 2BJ, UK; helenb@quaker.org.uk. **Deadline for applications is March 16, 2009.**

FWCC Section of the Americas Annual Meeting

Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas will hold its Annual Meeting **March 19–22, 2009**, at Canby Grove Christian Camp and Conference Center, just south of Portland, Oregon.

Theme: The Vision Is for Its Appointed Time, from Habakkuk 2:2–3

Then the Lord answered me and said:
 Write the vision; make it plain on tablets
 so that a runner may read it.
 For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
 it speaks of the end and does not lie.
 If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
 it will surely come, it will not delay.

Keynote Speaker: Jan Wood

The Annual Meeting is the business meeting of Friends representing affiliated yearly meetings in the Americas and other interested Friends. It is also an opportunity for worship and fellowship with the wider Quaker world. Thus, business sessions, worship groups, regional meetings and workshops are open to all.

For more information and to register, visit www.fwccamericas.org, e-mail americas@fwccamericas.org, or call 215-241-7250.

Quaker Youth Blog

Emily Stewart, FGC Youth Ministries coordinator

In order to keep you entertained and engaged during the final winter months (and into the spring), we are beginning an exciting new blog series on Quakeryouth.org. It is inspired by and modeled after Quaker Quest, a program that offers Quakers an opportunity to articulate their faith, deepen relationships within their meeting/church, and share their spiritual stories with the larger community.

Each month from March until June, three Quakers will write two or three paragraphs on a certain topic from their personal experience as a Friend. I hope that the posts will spark a conversation that can continue online through people commenting on the blog posts. Please let me know if you are interested in writing on one of the topics.

March—Quakers and Equality
 April—Quakers and God
 May—Quakers and Pacifism
 June—Quakers and Worship

This month, Christina Repoley is introducing this Quaker Quest series by sharing a bit about her experience presenting in a model Quaker Quest

session on "Quakers and Jesus."

I also want to let you know about awesome summer opportunities in Mexico, China, D.C., Africa, and more. Don't forget to check out upcoming gatherings on the calendar at www.fgcquaker.org/qy.

Bilingual Peace Gathering

Judith Inskip, Purchase Meeting

A bilingual (Spanish and English) gathering on the theme "Peace within Us, Peace with God, Peace with Our Neighbor," will be held in the Philadelphia area May 15–17, 2009, sponsored jointly by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Friends and Philadelphia's two Hispanic Evangelical Friends Churches (members of Evangelical Friends Church Eastern Region). The annual gathering of the Northeast Region of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Section of the Americas) will feature speakers Mary Lord (Baltimore YM) and César Nufio (National Friends Church of Guatemala) and will reflect the diversity of the hosting groups' traditions. Both programmed and silent worship will be part of the program, as well as fellowship while preparing meals, conversing informally during rest times, and enjoying a campfire. All Friends and friends of Friends are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The place will be Deer Park Camp, a wooded setting with simple accommodations near New Hope, PA. Transportation from the Trenton train station can be arranged, as well as child care. The cost is \$140 per adult, with some limited scholarship help available (but monthly, quarterly, and yearly meetings should be approached for assistance as well). Come and share in this adventure of bilingual and worship diversity! Keynote talks and small-group sessions will be sequentially interpreted into the other language. Hispanic Friends in the U.S. often speak English for informal conversation. We will sing too! If you have questions, please e-mail or call me: inskeeps4peace@verizon.net; 215-283-7255.

Registration information will be posted at www.fwccamericas.org.

Earlham Seeks Library Director/Information Coordinator

Earlham College seeks applicants for the position of library director & coordinator of information services (LDCIS). The College is looking for an individual with progressive academic and administrative experience and responsibilities, deep and broad intellectual interests, enthusiasm for

involvement with professional activities, and the capacity for stimulating the creation and implementation of information services and technology.

As **library director**, the successful candidate will oversee all aspects of library management and services, including operations, collection development, personnel, budget, organization, policy, and long-range strategic planning.

As **coordinator of information services**, the successful candidate will supervise and integrate the planning and implementation of the activities of all four units responsible for information services: (1) the Libraries, (2) Computing Services, (3) Instructional Technology & Media (ITAM), and (4) Web Management & Services (WMS).

The successful candidate must have a master's degree in a relevant field; an ALA-accredited degree is preferred. Strong leadership experience, skills in decision-making, and demonstrated management and planning experience are required.

Further information is available at www.earlham.edu/jobs/library-infoservices.html.

To Apply: Confidential inquiries and questions may be directed to our consultants. Applications and nominations, accompanied by cover letters and current résumés or curriculum vitae, should be addressed to Alberto Pimentel, Storbeck/Pimentel & Assoc., 1111 Corporate Center Dr. # 106, Monterey Park CA 91754, fax: 323-260-7889.

Electronic submissions are preferred. Please submit to: APsearch@storbeckpimentel.com; reference code in Subject: EARLHAM.

ESR Essay Contest

Next year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Earlham School of Religion.

The school plans to celebrate this milestone in a multitude of ways, one of which is with an essay contest. There are two categories—one for persons under the age of 19, and a second for persons 19 and over.

Essays need to address the following question:

What message or gifts do Quakers offer today in answer to the world's greatest needs?

Contest winners will be invited to attend ESR's 50th Anniversary kick-off event on Saturday, September 26, and read their entries. Their essays will

also be printed in a commemorative booklet, and excerpts may be printed in Quaker publications.

Essays will be read and judged by a three-person panel. One essay will be chosen and given a cash prize in each of the following categories:

Under age 19—\$300 cash prize

Age 19 and over—\$700 cash prize

Guidelines:

Essays must directly answer the question: What message or gifts do Quakers offer today in answer to the world's greatest needs?

Essays for the under age 19 category cannot exceed 2,500 words, and essays for the age 19 and over category must be a minimum of 5,000 words and not exceed 7,500 words.

You must submit three copies of the essay with a cover page. Cover page needs to have the title of the essay and your name, while the actual essay should only have the title, to provide for fairness in judging.

Deadline for submissions is May 31, 2009.

Send essays to:
Earlham School of Religion
Dean's Office
228 College Ave.
Richmond IN 47374

This information can also be found at:
<http://esr.earlham.edu/events/50years/essay.html>.

New Book on "Right Relationship"

In 2005, to address Friends' concerns about the human prospect in a world of unbridled growth and increasing ecological degradation, the Quaker Institute of the Future (QIF) launched the Moral Economy Project (MEP). The central effort of MEP has been researching and drafting a book, *Right Relationship: Building a Whole Earth Economy*, on how to work toward a moral economy. The book is to be published by Berrett-Koehler Publishers in February 2009.

According to the publisher, in *Right Relationship* Peter G. Brown and Geoffrey Garver use the core Quaker principle of "right relationship"—interacting in a way that is respectful to all life and that aids the common

good—as the foundation for a new economic model. *Right Relationship* poses five basic questions: What is an economy for? How does it work? How big is too big? What’s fair? And how can it best be governed? The authors expose the antiquated, shortsighted, and downright dangerous assumptions that underlie our current answers to these questions, as well as the shortcomings of many current reform efforts.

They propose new answers that combine an acute awareness of ecological limits with a fundamental focus on fairness and a concern with the spiritual, as well as material, well-being of the human race. They describe new forms of global governance that will be needed to get and keep the economy in right relationship with the earth and the life on it.

More information is available at www.moraleconomy.org.

Pendle Hill: Young Adult Leadership Development

Pendle Hill’s Young Adult Leadership Development (YALD) program takes place for seven weeks from mid-June through the beginning of August. The program is designed for 18- to 24-year-olds serious about serving as leaders in their communities, developing the tools for social transformation, and living a life grounded in God’s Spirit. The YALD program consists of three major parts: community-based service, both inside and outside Pendle Hill; spiritual formation and religious education; and diverse community living experience practicing sustainable living.

For seven weeks YALD participants will be a part of the residential community of Pendle Hill, a community dedicated to serving, learning, and growing. The program focuses on identifying and exploring what it means to be a leader, what it means to serve in a spiritual context, and what it means to live sustainably. Ultimately, the program considers the query What does it mean to live a radical life? We ask participants to explore core issues of faith, theology, ideology, and purpose—inviting all to consider how they are called to serve in the world. Each participant will be paired with a local service organization and work two days a week as a volunteer. Participants will take classes in Quakerism, creative expression, and sustainable community. Courses will engage themes of personal and spiritual formation, religious tradition, nonviolent communication, and sustainable living. The program is fully supported by Pendle Hill and all program costs, plus room-and-board expenses, are covered. A small stipend is also provided.

More information about the program, including the application form (**deadline is March 20**) is on Pendle Hill's Web site, www.pendlehill.org. For more information contact Emma M. Churchman, coordinator, YALD program, Pendle Hill, 338 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086; 610.566.4507 x 134; echurchman@pendlehill.org.

Upcoming Quakerism Programs at Pendle Hill

March 13–15, **Introducing Quaker Quest!** Pendle Hill weekend with Elaine Crauderueff and Steve Chase, cosponsored by the Advancement & Outreach Committee of Friends General Conference

Do you believe that Quakerism is "a spiritual path for our time" and want to share it? Quaker Quest is a dynamic monthly-meeting-based outreach program that has proven successful in engaging seekers in the Quaker way across England for the past six years. Learn to articulate your faith and discover how meetings can experience new vitality and build community.

March 27–29, **Are We Still a Dangerous People? Changing the World by Being a Changed People**, Pendle Hill weekend with Marge Abbott and Peggy Senger Parsons

Explore the spiritual qualities that once caused Quakers to be thrown in prison and legislated against as a danger to the government. This weekend will consider how Friends can support each other and be patterns in the world.

April 10–12, **Love Made Complete in Us**, Pendle Hill Easter Retreat with Deborah Shaw

Early Friends believed that dwelling in the Christ Spirit was the key to unity with God, possible for everyone here and now. This experiential retreat will support personal response to the gift of Christ alive in us.

April 19–23, **Our Quaker and African American Ancestors: What Can We Learn from Their Interactions?** Pendle Hill short course with *Vanessa Julye* and Donna McDaniel

Explore the often complex relationship between Quakers and African Americans. What can Friends learn about meeting attempts to "diversify" and from the integration of Quaker schools? How does the abandonment of Reconstruction help explain racism today? How does European American culture impede Quaker outreach?

April 24–26, **Advanced Clerking Clinic**, Pendle Hill weekend with Arthur Larrabee

In this practical interactive workshop, PYM general secretary Arthur Larrabee will focus on the experiences, issues, and questions raised in advance by participants in their applications. This weekend is designed for those with extensive clerking experience or those who have taken a basic clerking workshop and have some clerking experience.

May 3–7, **Mixed Blessings: The Legacy of William Penn**, Pendle Hill short course with Paul Buckley

This course is an opportunity to get to know the man who saved Friends from persecution, established a new Quaker homeland in North America, and forever changed the Religious Society of Friends.

May 15–17, **Black Fire: Black Quakers on Spirituality and Human Rights**, Pendle Hill weekend with Hal Weaver and Stephen W. Angell
Discover the rich legacy of such eminent Black Friends (and friends of Friends) as Paul Cuffe, who led a Back-to-Africa movement for free African Americans in the 18th century; Harlem Renaissance writer Jean Toomer; sociologist Ira Reid; spiritual leader Howard Thurman; lawyer-activist Mahala Ashley Dickerson; slave-narratives scholar Charles Nichols; and civil rights activist Bayard Rustin.

Register online or via phone at (800) 742-3150, ext. 3 (US only) or (610) 566-4507, ext. 3 (worldwide). Matching scholarships are available.

For information on Pendle Hill and the other programs we offer, visit our Web site at www.pendlehill.org or call 800-742-3150, ext. 3 (U.S. only) or 610-566-4507, ext. 3 (worldwide).

News from William Penn House

Byron, Patricia, Brad, Greg, Faith, Ben, Kelli, and Lynette, William Penn House

A NEW CONVERSATION ABOUT GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND IDENTITY.

This event will be the afternoon lead-in to our April Potluck, **April 5, 2009**. From 3:00 to 6:00 P.M., we will have an a workshop that combines reflection, sharing, and group conversations about what needs to be reconciled to bring healing to our community and society around sexual diversity. Among the participants will be people from the GLBT community from different faith and nonfaith traditions.

After dinner, our regular potluck will feature a return of performance artist Peterson Toscano. Peterson will be performing *Transfigurations*, his

interpretation of transgendered figures in the Bible. (To offset the costs of these events, we will be accepting free-will donations.)

APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY—Monday, May 11, to Wednesday, May 13. A training for people interested in learning how AI can be an effective framework for community and organizational change. AI has been widely used to bring peace to school environments and to build bridges for change in society. The core practice of AI is “Inquiry”—to ask—and AI can be a very useful tool for staying open to seeking when answers start to box us in. Marge Schiller, founder and president of the Positive Change Core, and fellow member Joyce Lemke will be leading this exciting and energizing workshop. Cost: \$175/person.

We hope you can join us for any of these workshops. We also welcome any suggestions you have for future workshops.

Summer Planning

In the midst of winter, we invite you to consider joining us this summer for one of the following workcamps:

- Family Eco-Workcamp, June 28 to July 5. For individuals and families. Teens are welcome and encouraged to join us in this week of environmental education, fun, and service, including the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and fireworks. \$300/person.
- Convergent Young Friends Workcamp, July 5 to July 11. For high school Friends, a week of service and community while exploring the common bonds of Quakerism. \$250/person.

Please contact us for questions or more information: William Penn House, 515 E. Capitol St. SE, Washington DC 20003; 202-543-5560; info@williampennhouse.org.

Torture Is a Moral Issue

Linda Gustitus, president, Rev. Richard Killmer, executive director, NRCAT

From the National Religious Campaign against Torture: We hope you’ve heard the good news that President Obama signed the executive order we have been seeking—an executive order that ends the CIA abuse of detainees, closes U.S. secret prisons, and provides the International Committee of the Red Cross with access to U.S.-held detainees. We have stopped our “count-up” clock—the clock marking the hours that had passed until an executive order halting U.S.-sponsored torture was signed.

This is a moment for celebration and thanksgiving. We have all prayed and labored faithfully for this significant step toward ending U.S.-sponsored torture.

Thank you for all your efforts to help reach this goal.

Is there more to do? Yes!

Along with these sweeping changes in policy, the executive order created a Special Task Force charged with reviewing the *Army Field Manuals* interrogation guidelines to determine whether "different or additional guidance" is necessary for the CIA. The Task Force has 180 days to report. We need to make sure that any new interrogation technique that the Special Task Force recommends abides by the "Golden Rule" (in other words, each new technique must be both legal and moral if used upon a captured American).

In the coming months we will focus on a legislative agenda to make permanent the elements of this executive order by codifying them into law. We will also continue working to secure a nonpartisan investigation that will provide the critical information necessary to create effective safeguards against the future use of torture and allow the nation to decide whether to pursue criminal prosecutions of those involved in authorizing or implementing policies that led to the use of torture.

Together, we can build on today's victory and ensure that our grandchildren will be able to say, "Our nation once engaged in torture, but we don't do that anymore." May it be so.

EDITOR'S NOTE: NRCAT requests that people e-mail President Obama to thank him for signing this executive order. They provide a link for this at www.nrcat.org.

Video of NYYM's Minute on Torture Is Online

On July 25, 2008, NYYM approved a Minute against Torture, which can be read at www.nyyym.org/witness/torture. A video presentation of this minute is available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMbeDd_W9AM and on Google at <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=166063683352793953&hl=en>.

As of February 19, 2009, the YouTube video had been viewed 685 times by people in the United States, Lebanon, Canada, Costa Rica, Australia, United Kingdom, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, Austria, and Switzerland, and

featured in quakerquaker.org and speakingtruth.org.

NYYM Records at the New York Public Library

Nancy B. Black, Brooklyn Meeting

Friends might like to know that NYYM historical documents, originally held at the Haviland Records Room at 15 Rutherford Place in Manhattan and later conveyed to the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College, are now available on microfilm at the New York Public Library, 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City. Friends wishing to consult the microfilms will need to obtain an access card on the third floor of the library (South Reading Room—take along photo ID). You may apply for the card in advance from the library's Web site, but you will still need to go to the third floor to have your picture taken and to receive the card. Once you have the card, go to the Microfilm Reading Room on the first floor (southwest corner, Room 100). The microfilms are stored under call number *ZAN-13987: Reels 10–326. However, in order to determine which reel contains the information you seek, you will need to consult a printed guide that they keep behind the librarian's desk in the microfilm room (*ZAN-13987+). The guide will provide you with a list of the contents of each reel, organized by monthly meeting. For example, the minutes of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting from 1975–1990 will be found on reel 28. The on-line catalogue entry of the New York Public Library (CATNYP) lists "New York Yearly Meeting records" as the title of these documents, and the description indicates that "Certain reels may be consulted only with the permission of New York Yearly Meeting."