

Quakers of Orlando

Quaker Commons

Volume 2010, Issue 3

December/Twelfth Month



Clerk: Bill Carlie

Committees/Groups and Contacts:

Ministry and Clearness
Stephanie Preston

Peace and Social Concerns
Nelson Betancourt

First Day School
Judy Schmalstig

Finance
Dean Engstrom

Property
Dean Engstrom

Hospitality
Vicki Carlie

Calendar for the Month

December 5, 12, 19, 26
Meeting for Worship

December 11
Meeting for Healing

December 12
Meeting for Business

Remember: Lunch Bunch gets together after each Meeting

Submit information to
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Contributors to This Issue

Dean Engstrom
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Thank You!

Harvest Festival: Tradition of the Season by Liz Jenkins

The first Winter Park Harvest Festival was held on November 20, 2010. This sunny day-long event brought together area farmers, gardeners, artists, chefs, musicians, entrepreneurs, churches, non-profit organizations, and community members to celebrate and learn more about locally and organically produced food.

Regular Orlando Monthly Meeting attendee, Karie Brown, announced the festival after Meeting for Worship, one week earlier, and participated in the event as a local artist. The announcement stirred me to walk to Winter Park from my home near the Meeting House and enjoy both the journeying and the destination. When I was growing up in an English village the Harvest Festival was a fragrant, gorgeous, joyful time; the altar of our church overflowed with fruits and vegetables from everyone's farms, gardens, and allotments, and there was always a huge centerpiece of loaves and fishes made of golden baked bread. There was more than enough to take to the older folks in the village and hospitals and alms houses in town.

While the festival under the pines and

palms of Central Park was quite a different occasion, it was equally colorful and full of wonderful aromas. There were over one hundred grow boxes with thriving beets, lettuce, and so forth, cultivated by children with their teachers, local church groups, and families. There was a wealth of information on everything from worm bins to solar LED lights. Copies of the new "Edible Orlando" magazine were available at many tables and, in the main tent, a series of speakers shared information on topics ranging from the recent Terra Madre slow food festival in Italy to Farm Aid.

Quakers have long valued simplicity, peace, integrity, community, and equality. Increasingly we hear sustainability added to this list. The Winter Park Harvest Festival was a sign of hope that these values are shared by more and more friends and neighbors in our Central Florida community.

Links:

Winter Park Harvest Festival <http://winterparkharvestfestival.com>

Edible Orlando" magazine <http://www.ediblecommunities.com/orlando>

Meeting Quote Board Words of the Wise by Dean Engstrom

The Meeting is inaugurating a Quote Board as a place for meaningful quotations. The purpose is to stimulate cogitation, conversation and community. Anyone may suggest a quotation by submitting it in the special box on the east

end wall cabinet near the thermostat, or contacting one of the Quote Board committee members: Joe Franz, Lisa Miller, Michael Luke or Dean Engstrom. This Quote Board committee will review and make the monthly selection.

Meeting For Business Minutes

September 12 2010

Approval of membership for Michael Luke.

Approval of financial assistance to Annie Schmalstig to defray the costs of attending the FCNL Conference in Washington D.C. in November. She will represent OMM at the conference.

Approval of placement of a Quote Board (see page 1) to be placed at the back of the Orlando meeting house.

October 10, 2010

Approval of "Wild Hat Day" on October 24, 2010 (see below).

Approval of an OMM Potluck Luncheon on November 14, 2010.

Approval for the Ministry and Clearness Committee to appoint a representative from Quakers of Orlando to attend the SEYM and SAYMO joint meeting in Tampa.

Friends Mary Ellen Meagher and Chris Laning shared an overview of their travels to Quaker sites in England.

Michener Lecture 2011

The Annual Winter Interim Business Meeting and the Michener lecture are coming up at Orlando Monthly Meeting the weekend of January 14 - 16, 2011. The lecture speaker is Lloyd Lee Wilson and the title is "Evolving Quakerism".

Lloyd Lee Wilson is a member of Rich Square Monthly Meeting, North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative) and author of multiple works on Quakerism.

Intergenerational Fun and Wild Hat Day

