

MEETING NEWS

May 2007

People so often talk of someone “getting over” a death. How could you ever fully get over a deep loss? Life has been changed profoundly and irrevocably. You don’t get over sorrow; you work your way right to the centre of it.

Diana Lampen, 1979

Meeting for Worship and First-Day School

Middletown Preparative Meeting, 10:30 A.M. meeting for worship on Sunday and Thursday

	Media Meeting	Providence Meeting
Singing	9:30 A.M.*	At Media Meeting
First-Day School for Adults	9:50 A.M.*	At Media Meeting
First-Day School for Children (up to age 12)	9:50 A.M.*	11:20 A.M.**
First-Day School for Teens (ages 13-19)	9:50 A.M. and see “Note” below***	See “Note” below.***
Meeting for Worship (childcare provided)	11:00 A.M.	11:00 A.M.

*Except for May 6 and June 3, the first Sunday of the month when business meeting is held. On those two dates at **Media Meeting**, there will be no singing and **First-Day school** will begin at 11:00 A.M., held during meeting for worship. **Please note** that meeting for business is not held at either Media or Providence in July or August.

**Children and teachers will leave meeting for worship quietly to go to their classes.

***Note: Young Friends (ages 13-19) from both Media and Providence Meetings have a joint meeting monthly, often on Saturday afternoons, to plan group activities. Info: Joyce Malamut, 610.891.1294 or joyceandrick18@msn.com

Friends are invited to join **Media-Providence Friends School** (MPFS) students at meeting for worship at 8:40 A.M. on Mondays during the school year.

We Remember Friends

George Mutsuyasu Oye died on March 28. He was born in 1915 in Florin, California, the second of seven children, to parents who had migrated from Japan. His elementary school teacher had difficulty pronouncing his given name and called him George, the name he used for the rest of his life.

Under the 1913 Alien Land Act, Asian immigrants had been barred from owning land in California. A 1920 ballot initiative barred the American-born children of Asian immigrants from land ownership. In 1922, George’s father sold the small vineyard he had purchased in George’s name and moved the family back to Japan. George restarted school there and did well. To attend a better high school, he moved to Osaka and lived with an uncle, returning to his home village of Heta to work in the rice paddies each summer. Excelling at kyudo archery as well as academics, George won the nickname “Robin Hood Oye.” He graduated in 1932, a time of intense Japanese militarism.

Congressman Joe Sestak to Speak



June 1-2, 2007

Everyone is welcome at Providence Meeting as the Peace and Social Action Committee organizes its **spring PeaceWay event**. The event kicks off with a talk by Congressman Joe Sestak at 6:30 P.M. on Friday, June 1. Other

highlights will include a **Cost of War/Price of Peace** exhibit, the PA **Eyes Wide Open** exhibit, a concert by Tom Mullian and a labyrinth. For more info visit www.peaceway.net or call Robin Harper, 610.565.6332 or robinmharper@verizon.net

As a U.S. citizen, George could return to America despite the 1924 Immigration Act. At age 17, he sailed alone for America. He was detained at Angel Island until he could prove citizenship with a birth certificate, report cards and old photographs from Florin. Upon his release, George lived with a family friend and picked grapes at 19 cents an hour. His older sister, Kikue, returned to the U.S. later, after George had approved of her marriage to Fuju Sasaki, a rising community leader with a rare U.S. college degree, then employed as a farm worker.

George attended Elk Grove High School to improve his English and worked full time in the fields and packing plants. He developed tuberculosis and was moved to Weimar Sanitarium for rest and isolation. He remained there for nearly five years, using his time studying business and English, and passing the California Civil Service Exam. When cleared to leave in 1941, George started to work at the California Agriculture Department.

World War II changed his life. The government imposed travel restrictions on Japanese Americans and George had to leave his job. When brother-in-law, Fuju, was arrested and held in a North Dakota prison camp, George moved in with his sister—then pregnant with her fifth child—to help with the children and a tofu business. In February 1942, Executive Order 9066 mandated evacuation of Japanese Americans from the west coast. The family liquidated their possessions and reported to the Fresno Fairgrounds Assembly Center. They were interned in war relocation camps in Jerome, Arkansas and Gila, Arizona.

Quakers were among the few assisting internees and monitoring conditions. Herbert Nicholson shuttled between California and Gila with supplies, and the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) provided baby clothing for Kikue's newborn. At Gila, George arranged housing for visitors. He was surprised when Esther Rhoads asked to live under the same austere conditions as the detainees. George decided to live his life by Quaker values, quietly helping others as his own family had been helped in their time of need.

George left Gila to teach Japanese at the University of Pennsylvania, instructing Army officers who were preparing for the occupation. George lived in Wallingford with Homer and Edna Morris, who introduced him to Quaker worship at

Providence Meeting. He met Kazue Yasumoto in Seabrook, NJ, where Fuju and Kikue settled on their release. George and Kazue married at the Morris home in 1946, under the oversight of Clarence Pickett, AFSC Executive Director.

Earlier the same year George had been hired as a bookkeeper by the AFSC, where he spent the remainder of his career. From 1958-1980 he served as Director of the Material Aids Program, supporting AFSC field teams at home and abroad. He arranged donations of medicine and prosthetics, clothing, blankets, school supplies and sewing machines. He shipped relief supplies to refugees in many nations, including Angola, Hungary, Nigeria, Algeria, Sudan and Vietnam. Although he retired from the AFSC in 1980, he returned as a board member and volunteer. He managed the credit union until 1989.

While in the Jerome and Gila camps, George studied Japanese poetry and continued to write for fifty years. Many of his poems were printed in Japanese and American journals.

George and Kazue were active members of Providence Meeting, the Media Fellowship House and the Japanese American Citizens League. They moved to Medford Leas in 1993, where they served on several committees and maintained their enthusiasm for gardening.

George is survived by Kazue, his wife of 60 years; sons Kenneth (Willa Michener) of Massachusetts, Robert (Leah) of California, and Daniel (Ira) of Arizona; and grandchildren, Mari, Andrew and Brian. Contributions may be sent to AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 or Media Fellowship House, 302 S. Jackson St., Media, PA 19063.

Nameless to nameless
The gentle hand of mercy
Reaches those in need.

—George Oye



Friends of all ages gathered at Providence Meeting on April 24 to celebrate the lives of our members who are over 85. George Oye was with us in spirit. His wife, Kazue, was also honored, shown here with Kenneth Oye, Tobias Gabel and Jane Shaw. See page 3 for more photos.

As this newsletter went to press, we were saddened to hear of the death of longtime member, mother, and grandmother, **Jean Dole**. A more complete celebration of Jean's life will be included in the next newsletter. A memorial service for Jean will be held on Saturday, June 16 at 11:00 A.M. at Providence Meeting.

Celebrating our Senior Friends: The Birthday Bash, April 15, 2007



Ken (son), Marjorie, and Fred Crumrine (son)



Lisa Davis



John Sennott, Zoe Gabel, and Velma



Carol Koellish



Pat Coiner



Allen Bonnell



Guest, Kyle Woodland, Christopher Betts, and Martha Burke

Business Meeting Highlights

Media Meeting April 2007

The Meeting approved a minute of appreciation for the work of CASA, which is being laid down, and especially for the diligent efforts of Althea Whyte.

Bobbi Kelly's request to transfer her membership to Lancaster, PA Meeting was approved. Faith Josephs' application for full membership in Media Meeting was approved. Candace Davis, Janet Nicholson and Nancy DeMis were named to a welcoming committee.

The Oversight Committee continues to struggle with a list of inactive Meeting members, i.e., people who do not respond to letters or support the Meeting. The Oversight Committee will bring about four names to each business meeting for approval, then send letters to these people to let them know that they are being released from membership in Media Meeting.

The joint Property Committees of the School and Meeting agreed on the need to replace the old oil heating system with a very efficient gas system. MPFS is willing to share in the cost of the new heating system. The job can be done this summer.

There will be a pizza and non-competitive games night at MPFS on April 20 from 5:45-8:00 P.M.

Worship and Ministry reported that PYM has requested each monthly meeting to respond to the issue of same-gender marriage. Our response is that "we are not of one mind" on this issue. Questions were raised as to how the committee decided this issue as it has not come before the Meeting. The Worship & Ministry committee was asked to bring a proposal to the Meeting as to how we can go forward with such a discussion.

The clerk announced the death of George Oye, and the upcoming memorial service (which was held April 7 at Providence Meeting).

Several individuals gave reports on YM sessions held in late March. Karen Reichardt mentioned a report by Mary Lord who spoke on the Friends Peace Testimony and the importance of peace activism before war breaks out and during post-war talks. Dorothy Reichardt mentioned a report by Kathy Bergen about the plight of Friends and others in Ramallah on the West Bank. Dorothy noted the budget discussions which have been going on for months and suggestions made to deal with the budget crisis. Janet Nicholson mentioned the closing meeting for worship which was attended by many young Friends. Ellie White commented on the budget matters. She noted that nothing was decided but that decisions will be made at residential YM this summer.

The Nominating Committee asked Friends to consider the needs of our Meeting committees and the interests and gifts of our members. Please contact Rich McEntee or anyone on the

committee if you are interested in serving on a committee.

The clerk reminded us that the business meeting starts at 9:00 A.M. It is helpful and less disruptive if people can arrive on time.

Providence Meeting April 2007

The clerk expressed gratitude for the clerking of Ken Park at the March business meeting. The clerk also thanked those who came to clean up Sandy Bank Graveyard and the group who cleaned the kitchen. The new PYM general secretary, Arthur Larrabee, will come to worship with us some time this spring.

The Finance Committee report noted that the fiscal year, July 2006-June 2007, is 75% complete. Member and attender contributions have reached 61% of the expected total needed to balance our budget. The endowment income (1/5 of total income) is matching the forecast. Spending has reached 70% of the total. We have sent the second of three annual payments of our \$5,000 pledge to MPFS' Capital Campaign. Our support of PYM is significant in their budget. The Providence Meeting Working Group on our support of the PYM budget gathered information on the PYM budgeting and financial management and mission priorities while attending the Yearly Meeting sessions in March. Future dialogue with PYM's Financial Stewardship Committee Clerk will be arranged. We reiterated our concern that our level of financial support of PYM will depend on the connection between the PYM goals and programs and our own Meeting's goals. We will have a discussion of our Providence Monthly Meeting's goals, and our support of PYM prior to the meeting with PYM representatives.

The Media First-Day school continues with 10-14 adults and four to five children who attend regularly. Some Media Meeting members have encouraged Meg Barney to reunite the First-Day school programs. Many members of Providence Meeting have expressed the fact that this trial parallel First-Day school program has worked well for us. In March our attendance numbers were lower than in February but still remained higher than prior to the start of the trial. The teen sleep-over in March included 13 students. This was a combination of members/attenders and friends. The egg-decorating event went on at Media. There will be a joint meeting of the Media and Providence Religious Education Committees to discuss and evaluate the parallel First-Day school experience. This will be an open meeting, taking place on April 23 at Media Meeting. The recommendations that result will be brought forth to Monthly Meeting.

In support of the Peace & Social Action PeaceWay event,

the Worship & Ministry Committee will set up a labyrinth and manage labyrinth walks. The Committee members discussed the change in timing when the children come to Meeting and encouraged regular attenders to arrive on time if possible or wait to enter until the children leave. A sign will be placed on the door to explain this. The Committee expressed its support of the Religious Education Committee program and is willing to conduct an occasional morning series and some evening sessions.

Sam Caldwell discussed a series of action steps for our planned giving program. The program's goal is to build the Meeting's endowment which is critical to the Meeting's future. Sam is willing to help anyone in the Meeting create a bequest and has included some language in the brochure for this purpose. The action plan includes ways to notify members about the planned giving program, simple methods to donate to the Meeting in general and access to the brochure to explain the program. Extensive use of our website and e-mail is included in the plan. In addition, one informational presentation each year on tax-wise ways to give should be provided by the Meeting. We should establish a bequest society as well. Friends discussed the action plan and with minor modifications in frequency of contact to once a quarter APPROVED the action plan. In addition the Meeting empowered Sam to work with the Finance Committee to move forward on this action plan.

The Nominating Committee reported that the Committee Fair will take place on April 22 at the rise of Meeting. This will help to make the committee process transparent and inform members and attenders about their work. A simple lunch will be included. The Leadership Development Workshop will take place on June 23. This is designed for those who are new to the committee process and for those interested in clerking. Media Friends are invited to attend as well. Meg Barney pointed out that at least half of our membership is active on committees.

At the last Quarterly Meeting our idea of a Saturday session was approved. Quarterly Meeting asked if we would host on July 21st. We APPROVED the date and the idea of asking Program & Outreach to manage the event with support from Gray Goodman, our representative to the Quarter, and others who are interested.

The Peace and Social Action report was given by Robin Harper. The second Peace Way event will be held the weekend of June 1-2.

Judy Fowler presented a Green Energy Update as a follow-up to her report in March about the possibility of purchasing clean energy through the Smart Power Program. As a result of her review of the plan with Bill Belanger and John Shaw, she brought forward the recommendation that the Meeting purchase the Wind Energy program. Friends APPROVED

signing up for 100% wind energy use with an annual review of the program. An energy audit of the Meeting, conducted by Bill Belanger, included a heat-loss calculation for every window, door and wall. Considerable savings can be made by installing weather strips on all the doors and using blown-in cellulose insulation in various rooms. The Meeting APPROVED a minute of gratitude to Bill for a comprehensive audit. The Meeting APPROVED asking Bill to develop a specific proposal of costs, energy savings and recommendations to be presented at a future business meeting.

The Landscape Committee would like to have guidance on its mission regarding the overlapping role of their duties with the Graveyard and Property Committees. This concern will be discussed at the All-Clerk's meeting and then that group will bring forward a proposal on this matter. Friends APPROVED. John Wenderoth reviewed the progress on the landscape plan and the issues to be addressed by the plan. The landscape plan and our current progress will be posted on the bulletin board.

The Sandy Bank Graveyard clean-up was led by the Rotary Club under the leadership of Jeff Cadorette. Thirty to 40 people helped, including members of the prison work-release program, members of the Media Rotary Club and our own members. Bill Belanger thanked those who helped and will work with the clerk to send a letter to the Rotary Club with thanks for their support. The future of the care of the Sandy Bank Graveyard and its maintenance will be addressed by the All-Clerks Meeting.

Due to time constraints, Lynne Oberfield agreed to postpone her full report on MPFS until next month. The school is conducting an energy audit of their building. Lynne took a minute to inform us about the PYM Committee on Education survey on the connection between Friends Schools and Meeting growth. Out of this survey a group of school trustees and meeting clerks was arranged; more will be included in her report next month.

Cleanup of the Sandy Bank Cemetery



Just a few years ago we discovered that the Sandy Bank Cemetery was under the care of Providence Meeting. After years of neglect, the Media Rotary Club offered to help us clean up and restore the cemetery. Stan Cherim, above and Robin Harper, at right, chip wood as part of the cleanup effort.



Amy Betts and Mary Gabel at the Senior Friends Birthday Bash.

Media-Providence Friends School (MPFS)

The Lower School students are rehearsing for their spring concert and preparing for their art work display. The Middle School students will display their art work May 21-25. The eighth-grade students are looking forward to graduation on June 6.

You can still sign up for the World Explorers summer camp for children ages 3-9. It runs from June 25 to August 17 under the direction of Teacher Earl Sissell. The focus will be on the cultures of Asia and Latin America, with fun, learning and field trips. For info. or to register: 610-565-1960.

Please bring your Acme cash register receipts and General Mills Box Tops for Education to school and place them in the marked boxes in the front hall. MPFS will also recycle empty ink jet cartridges. Not only will you be helping to raise money for the school, you'll also be helping the environment.

Notices

- **May 12, 2007: Delaware County Peace Festival.** Info: www.delcopeacefestival.org
- **May 20, 2007: Young Friends Bake Sale.** Help them raise money for their trip to NYC in June.
- **May 20, 2007: Joint Meeting for Worship at Providence Meeting at 11:00 A.M.**
- **June 1-2, 2007:** Everyone is welcome at Providence Meeting as the Peace and Social Action Committee organizes its **spring PeaceWay event. The event kicks off with a talk by Congressman Joe Sestak at 6:30 P.M. on Friday, June 1.** Other highlights will include a **Cost of War/Price of Peace** exhibit, the **PA Eyes Wide Open** exhibit, a concert by Tom Mullian and a labyrinth. Info: www.peaceway.net or Robin Harper, 610.565.6332, robinmharper@verizon.net
- **June 16, 2007: Memorial Service for Jean Dole,** 11:00 A.M. at Providence Meeting.
- **June 23, 2007: Quaker Leadership Workshop** at Providence Meeting from 9:00 A.M. through lunch. All Media and Providence members and attenders who would like to learn more about leadership and clerking are encouraged to attend. Info: Tom Martin, 610.566.2760 or mediamartins4@aol.com
- **July 21, 2007: Quarterly Meeting at Providence.**
- **July 26-20, 2007: Yearly Meeting Residential Sessions at Rowan University** (Glassboro, NJ). Info: www.pym.org

Personals

A picture and article on Alfred and Eleanor Hurd's vision of forming a Delaware County Performing Arts complex appeared in the April 15 edition of the Delaware County Daily Times. For years, the Hurds have looked at possible locations, located groups interested in being a part of this venture, made contacts with people who could move this project forward, and raised funds. The Hurds have found at least 20 performing groups that are looking for a permanent place to rehearse and in which to perform. The Hurds are life-members of the Rose Valley Chorus and Orchestra; they have been active for many years as performers and as former presidents of the Chorus.

Directory Updates

James & Susanne Forsythe: 100 Greenway Drive, Brenham, TX 77833-5139 [Please note that the Forsythes did not move. Rather, the local post office changed their address.]

Media-Providence Friends Meetings

125 West Third Street
Media, PA 19063-2498



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter Submissions Due the 11th

Our next news deadline is May 11.

Media News:

Marge Kerr (610.566.6097) rjkerrav@comcast.net

Providence News:

Leslie Friedman (610.565.4542) leslie_a_friedman@yahoo.com

Check the complete Online Calendars at

Media Meeting: www.mediafriendsmeeting.org

Providence Meeting: www.providencemeeting.org/calendar

PYM's calendar of events: www.pym.org/pm/cal.php

Also check out the PeaceWay Website

Providence Meeting's PeaceWay: www.peaceway.net

Media Monthly Meeting

125 West Third Street
Media, PA 19063-2468
610.566.5657
www.mediafriendsmeeting.org

Middletown Preparative Meeting

c/o Jared Darlington
643 Darlington Road
Media, PA 19063-5605
610.558.4348

Providence Monthly Meeting

105 North Providence Road
Media, PA 19063-3595
610.566.1308
www.providencemeeting.org



The annual joint-meeting wax egg decorating was held at Media Meeting and was enjoyed by all.

Media & Providence Friends Meetings • Middletown Preparative Meeting Calendar of Events

May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Key: MM Media Meeting PM Providence Meeting MPM Middletown Preparative Meeting MPFS Media-Providence Friends School PYM Philadelphia Yearly Meeting</p>				<p>3 10:30 a MPM meeting for worship 7 p MM Clerks' Meeting</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Media to provide food for the homeless¹</p>
<p>6 See page one of newsletter for First-Day school schedule 9 MM & PM meeting for business 10:30 MPM meeting for worship 11 MM & PM meeting for worship</p>		<p>8 7:30 p MPFS Board Meeting</p>		<p>10 10:30 a MPM meeting for worship 7 p MM Prayer Shawl Ministry. Call 610.874.4356 for info</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Mother's Day See page one of newsletter for First-Day school schedule 9:30 PM "Greening of Friends Center" 10:30 MPM meeting for worship 11 MM & PM meeting for worship</p>		<p>15 7:15 p MM Worship & Ministry</p>		<p>17 9:30 a MM Oversight Committee 10:30 a MPM meeting for worship</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 See page one of newsletter for First-Day school schedule 10:30 MPM meeting for worship 11 MM & PM meeting for worship 12:30 PM Members & Attenders Care Committee</p>				<p>24 10:30 a MPM meeting for worship 6-9 p PYM Interim Meeting, Arch St. Meeting House. Dinner at 5 p.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 3:30 p PM to provide food for the homeless. Info: Annette Hearing at 610.565.4573</p>
<p>27 See page one of newsletter for First-Day school schedule 10 PM Worship & Ministry Cmte. 10:30 MPM meeting for worship 11 MM & PM meeting for worship</p>			<p>30 4:30 p MM Property Committee</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>NOTES: ¹ Media to provide food for the homeless at 63rd St. Call Eldon and Kathleen Lindley, 610.566.1136 or Althea Whyte, 610.565.4377 for info or to help Pendle Hill: Each First Day, 8-9 p Pendle Hill meeting for prayer and healing Each Wednesday, 7:30-9 p, Chorus in the Barn. Info: Robyn Josephs at 610.565.4058 For a complete listing of Pendle Hill events visit www.pendlehill.org or for information call 610.455.4507 ext. 3</p>	

Media & Providence Friends Meetings • Middletown Preparative Meeting Calendar of Events

June 2007

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