

# Green Country Friends News

August 2002

Newsletter of the Tulsa area  
Monthly Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends (Quakers).  
Associated with South Central  
Yearly Meeting of Friends  
General Conference.

Green Country Friends  
P.O. Box 521174  
Tulsa, OK 74152  
(918) 743-6827 (recording)  
[www.scym.org/greencountry/](http://www.scym.org/greencountry/)

We meet each First Day (Sunday)  
Restoration Unitarian Church  
1314 North Greenwood  
3:00pm Meeting for Worship  
4:00pm Forum

Childcare provided on second and  
fourth First Days of each month.

Co-clerks:  
Ruth Wiens [rwiens@aaahawk.com](mailto:rwiens@aaahawk.com)  
Deborah Hunter  
(918) 259-0190

Newsletter:  
Rick Brooks  
[Rick.Brooks@prodigy.net](mailto:Rick.Brooks@prodigy.net)

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## New GCF Meeting Website

The Meeting has a new website. It can be found on the South Central YM site at [www.scym.org/greencountry/](http://www.scym.org/greencountry/)

The website features a brief description of our meeting, worship times and locations. It also includes our welcome statement for visitors. Electronic versions of our newsletter are available on the website in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format.

To obtain a free version of the Acrobat reader, go to [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). A link is available on the website for you to easily obtain a copy.

Our thanks go to South Central Yearly Meeting and their webmaster, Shelly Angel, for hosting the site and for their assistance.

*Thank You!*

## Letter of Thanks

Rick and Lynette Brooks and family would like to express their sincere thanks to Green Country Friends for their prayers and thoughts and their gift of \$300 during Rick's time of unemployment. The gift paid for Rick's books for the summer semester at OSU-Tulsa. Rick has started an MS Teaching, Learning, and Leadership degree program in Special Education. In July, Rick took a programming job at Dollar Rent-A-Car, ending 11 months of un- and under-employment.

## From the Editor:

Hi! I've been given the opportunity this year to take care of the newsletter. I apologize that it has taken this long to get our first newsletter out this year. I did not intend to make this semi-annual!

My chaotic life has more of a steady rhythm to it now, so in the future, I hope we can produce a newsletter on at least a quarterly basis. Please bear with me as I get up to speed on everything involved.

Faith & Hope,

Rick Brooks

## E-Mail Lists

E-Mail is becoming a great way to keep everyone informed of upcoming events. We try to keep everyone's address as up to date as possible. If you are not on our list and want to be informed of events, please e-mail Rick at [rick.brooks@prodigy.net](mailto:rick.brooks@prodigy.net). Also, if you were on our list and have had an e-mail address change, let him know. Rick keeps two lists – one for upcoming special events only and one for those who wish reminders of our bi-monthly lunches. Please let him know what level of "e-service" you wish.

## Quaker GOP?

No, it's not a group of Friendly Republicans. Nor is the Guerilla Outreach Project a Quaker mission to communist insurgents. The group's web site states, "It is a strictly **unofficial** effort to promote vigorous, even assertive efforts to make known the presence and message of Quakerism, particularly the liberal unprogrammed variety. This page was posted by Chuck Fager; but the hope is that it will soon become a networking tool for like-minded Friends in many places." The site, which is at <http://kimopress.com/Quaker-gop.htm>, is a funny, sometimes tongue-in-cheek look at ways to get "the word out" about what this brand of Quakerism has to offer. It even has funny "Quaker bumper stickers" you can order!

## Green Country Friends State of the Meeting – March 2002

### *Worship and Meeting Community*

Last year the meeting remained small and there were several changes. Jenny and Sandy Leeds were attending regularly but moved to Texas last fall. They opted to request membership at our Meeting before they moved since this was the first meeting they had attended together. They continue to keep in touch. Dianne Bostic requested to transfer her membership from Ames, Iowa to our Meeting. The meeting happily accepted Dianne's transfer. New people filled the positions for business meeting this year. Ruth Wiens and Deborah Hunter are co-clerking the meeting. Dianne is recording clerk. Julie Nierenberg remains the treasurer. Rick Brooks constructed and maintains our website and plans to incorporate the meetings newsletter. Rick also checks the meeting's answering machine and sends out a reminder about the Thursday lunches. Friends continue to get together for a luncheon twice monthly at the Delta Café.

A new meeting location was chosen during the past year. We are meeting in a building that belongs to the Church of the Restoration Unitarian Universalist. We have held a potluck in which we invited the Unitarian to church to attend. They have kept us updated on their activities as well. Church of the Restoration has agreed to allow us to put up a sign outside. Don Satterthwaite is in the process of obtaining a sign for the Meeting.

### *Religious Education*

A Friend, Jennifer Caron, from CalTech stayed in Oklahoma briefly while she was studying the Tar Creek superfund site. She was sponsored by Pacific Yearly Meeting. She gave a presentation and our Meeting and Restoration Unitarian Church was invited to attend.

A video and discussion is planned on the conscientious objector status in World War II in which the Restoration Church is also invited.

We are holding forum after the worship. The forums have been structured so that the second Sunday is reserved for Business Meeting. The first and third Sundays are spent reading from a book by a Holocaust Survivor that is a personal friend of Dianne's. The topic for the fourth Sunday is violence.

Beverly Reddick, Associate Regional Director from Des Moines, Iowa, and Josefina Castillo, program Coordinator for TAO came to Tulsa for an AFSC presentation in March. Friends gathered at the home of Sandy & Jenny Leeds and enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Jenny.

The meeting has arranged for child care two times per month.

### *Testimonies*

AVP is growing in Tulsa thanks to the persistent efforts of Millie Blair. Wilton Cuevas, counselor at Street School, has been a fantastic source of energy and community resources in spite of continued circulatory health problems. Through Wilton's connections to the school system, several workshops have been present in both the regular and alternative school systems. Another new area opened up with AVP workshops being used by Soulforce in Oklahoma as part of their non-violence training (see below).

Don continues his work in the death penalty, A.I.D.S. work and Soulforce. Ruth attends Tulsa Metropolitan Ministry's delegate meetings. Armin Saeger bought and provided copies of Yes magazine to everyone in Meeting and Restoration. It will be used as a basis for discussion when the video on the conscientious objector status is shown.

GCFs wrote a letter requesting that the death penalty not be used in the case of a borderline mentally retarded individual. Public Defender Paula Alfred was successful in her plea against the death penalty in this case and requested permission to use the letter again concerning the criminal justice system and the mentally ill.

Meeting wrote Soulforce a letter of support in their efforts to "stop spiritual violence against gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered people."

Soulforce in Oklahoma also incorporated a Basic AVP workshop and an Advanced AVP workshop into their training. Millie Blair, Don Satterthwaite & Eric Reitan were the facilitators.

The meeting has been in contact with Mark Kharas and ready to support him as needed in his efforts to start a Gay/Straight Alliance type student group at Holland Hall which is a private school and therefore had no legal requirements to allow the group.

### *Intervisitation and Outreach*

We have enjoyed the opportunity to become more aware of the activities of the Unitarian Churches in town because of our Meeting location. As stated above we have included the Restoration Church and been included by them in several activities.

GCF put up a website which is hosted with SCYM's site. Rick Brooks brought our hopes for a website to fruit and is planning to incorporate our newsletter in the future.

### *Membership Changes*

Dianne Bostic transferred her membership from the meeting in Ames, Iowa. Sandy and Jenny Leeds became members.

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## Oklahoma/Arkansas Quarterly Meeting Announcement

This year Fall Quarterly Meeting will again be held at our usual spot, **Group Camp #1** at Robbers Cave State Park near Wilburton, OK on the weekend of September 27-29. This is an important gathering since our Quarter is responsible for the adult program and speaker for Yearly Meeting in 2003. Initial consideration and prayerful gathering at Spring Quarterly 2001 engendered a strong sense of Leading and exciting initial plans. We must finalize plans now to present them for Representatives Meeting in November. This is a very good time to be together.

We are asking each group to consider leading a workshop, and to be responsible for childcare once during Worship or workshops. Also, each family and meeting is asked to bring one or two well-identified toys or activities per child.

In order to simplify bookkeeping for the Meeting, the cost will be \$25.00 per adult (children 16 and under are free). Please **do not** send money in advance - we will collect it at camp.

We are asking the following meetings to plan meals and childcare:

	MEAL	CHILD CARE
Stillwater	Sat. Breakfast	Sat. 3:00-5:00
Oklahoma City	Sat. Lunch	Sat. 9:00-10:15
Caddo Area	Sat. Dinner	-none-
Green Country	Sun. Breakfast	-none-
Little Rock	-none-	Sun. 9:00-11:00
Fayetteville/Sunrise	-none-	Sat. 10:15-11:30

(Please bring receipts - in order to be reimbursed for food costs, all receipts must be turned in to Jan Michael by 5:00 pm on Saturday.) Stillwater will provide coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, salt, pepper, paper goods, dish detergent and help with meal preparation and child care for meetings who are short on attenders.

CHECK-IN TIME: Beginning at 6:00 pm, Friday, September 27

ACCOMMODATIONS: Cabins with electricity, (but no heat) bunk beds with mattresses, separate washrooms with hot water showers. There are also motels in Wilburton, only a few minutes away if you prefer. I have no recommendations, but the following are available:

Antone Hotel  
126 W Main St  
Wilburton, OK (918) 465-2393

A-OK Motel  
509 W Main St  
Wilburton, OK (918) 465-2377

Travelers Inn  
904 Hwy 2 N  
Wilburton, OK (918) 465-5601

WHAT TO BRING: Sleeping gear (bags or blankets), pillow, musical instruments, songbooks, walking shoes, flashlights, towels. Please return registration form by September 16th. Hope to see you there!

### REGISTRATION FORM

.....

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Age(s) of Child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

(Food allergies etc. - we always have vegetarian options - we will make reasonable efforts to accommodate others)

Mail registration to: Jan Michael

1422 S. Western  
Stillwater, OK 74074

(or call (405) 533-2757 wk. (405) 624-0778 home E-mail address: [jdmichael@aol.com](mailto:jdmichael@aol.com))

## **Business Meeting Minutes – January 2002**

Sunday, Jan 13, 2002

CoClerks: Deborah Hunter & Ruth Wiens  
Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic

Present: Ruth Wiens, Deborah Hunter, Rick Brooks, Armin Sager, Don Satterthwaite, Julie Nierenberg, and Dianne Bostic

The Meeting was opened with a moment of silence by Ruth.

1. The Meeting received a letter of transfer of membership for Dianne Bostic. Dianne was invited to consider having a Clearness Committee. She will respond by the next business meeting.

2. New officers are as follows:

Co clerks: Deborah Hunter & Ruth Wiens  
Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic  
Newsletter, website, & communication: Rick Brooks  
Treasurer: Julie Nierenberg

3. Forum Schedule:

First and third Sundays: reading Ruth David's biography  
Second Sunday: Business Meeting  
Fourth Sunday: Quakers & Violence  
Fifth Sunday: Visit other Meetings

4. M&O meeting will be at Ruth's on the Thursday prior to Business Meeting beginning at 5:50 p.m.

5. Treasurers Report: Since Oct 1, 2001, Income to date is \$2200. Donations currently exceed projected income by \$884.

6. Guest book will begin being used by the meeting gathering contact information from visitors.

7. Written notes will be sent to guests expressing our appreciation for their interest in the Meeting. We may consider having public informational meetings in the future.

8. Meeting supports Don exploring the purchase of a new banner to be used in parades, etc.

9. The Meeting will participate in the MLK 2002 parade on January 21.

10. The Meeting will hire child care/instruction two weeks each month. One week will be the second Sunday of the month and the other is yet to be determined.

11. Queries will be presented at the end of each business meeting as people are inspired and volunteer to do so.

12. Meeting will gather to hear of Julies trip to the Middle East on Feb 16, 2001 at Deborah's home at 5:30 p.m. Address is 1532 South Norfolk

13. Web site proposal was approved to be posted. The Meeting thanked Rick for his efforts.

14. The Meeting will be presenting the Quaker tradition to the Boston Ave Methodist church on April 3, 2002 by Don and Deborah.

Meeting adjourned with a moment of silence.

## Business Meeting Minutes – February 2002

Sunday, February 9, 2002

CoClerk: Deborah Hunter  
Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic

**Present:** Ruth Wiens, Deborah Hunter, Armin Sager, Julie Nierenberg, and Dianne Bostic

**Meeting was opened** with a moment of silence by Deborah Hunter. **Query** was provided by Armin.

**Diane Bostic's transfer:** Dianne's letter of transfer from her previous Meeting was received. Rather than having a Clearness Committee, she would prefer an opportunity to share her faith journey after a potluck meal that could include a white elephant gift exchange. The next potluck will be at Dianne's for this purpose on March 23, 2002. People are invited to bring a white elephant gift for exchange.

**Banner/Sign:** Restoration Church agreed to a Friends Meeting sign outside the church. Don will check into banners and a sign.

**Phone Tree:** Armin Saeger updated phone tree.

**Minute on same-gender marriage approved by Meeting:** The Green Country Friends Meeting, along with the South Central Yearly Meeting, endorses the marriages of individuals under the care of the Monthly Meeting without regard to gender.

**Nutshell Budget Report, Feb. 15, 2002:** We have received \$2720 in donations since 10/01/01, the beginning of our fiscal year. In this time period, we would need \$1645 to meet our projected annual budget. We are ahead by \$1075 in donations.

**Child care** An individual is now available to provide child care on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. She began in January.

**Guest Book** A title plaque for the guest book was obtained by Julie and the Meeting has begun to use the book.

**Social Projects:** Suggestions for the Meeting included providing meals for the homeless people, joining the Unitarian churches with their efforts, providing "kits" as needed by AFSC, and collecting trash. Further discussion at the next bus. meeting.

**Newsletter** How often should the Meeting send out a newsletter? This discussion was tabled until next business Meeting.

**Query:** Ruth will provide the March Meeting Query.

**Video Tape - *The Good War and Those Who Refused to Fight It*** The Meeting is inviting the Restoration Unitarian Church to join us for a potluck supper and the viewing of this video on a Saturday night in April at the church. Date to be announced.

**AVP:** An advanced workshop for AVP will be held on Saturdays of the last weekend of February and first weekend of March. Advanced workshop for Soulforce being held this weekend.

**Soulforce:** The second direct action was held at the Village Baptist Church in OK City.

**Care team:** Don reported that the progress is stagnate. The main concern now is financial issues.

**TMM:** Ruth has been serving on the Committee for Religious Understanding. She responded to questions regarding Quakers position on GLBT issues.

**South Central Yearly Meeting:** Yearly meeting will be held in March this year. Register online.

**Unitarian Church:** Check newsletter for updates upcoming Unitarian projects.

**Social agenda:** Potluck to be held at Deborah Hunter's home on Saturday, February 15. Julie will talk about her trip to Israel. Meeting adjourned with a moment of silence.

## **Business Meeting Minutes – April 2002**

Sunday, April 14, 2002

CoClerk: Deborah Hunter  
Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic

Present: Deborah Hunter, Rick Brooks, Julie Nierenberg, Don Satterthwaite, and Dianne Bostic.

Meeting was opened with a moment of silence by Deborah.

Annually, the Meeting will send a copy of the state of the Meeting report, a copy of the budget, and a simple letter to non-attending members. Don will bring a list of people to the next Meeting and Ruth will bring a sample letter with words similar to "so you can see how our donations are being utilized".

Rick will be organizing the Meeting minutes in order to post them on the web page.

The CO video and potluck with Restoration Church will be on Saturday 4-20-02 at 6 p.m. Ruth will be bring postcards for people to use and send to their legislators.

The Quaker women movie night will be Friday, May 3, 02. AVP planning meeting is May 11 at 10 a.m. at Street School.

Soulforce-Vigil was held last Sunday in OKC. Mel White will attend in May and Jimmy Creech in June. The Southern Baptist Convention will be held in St. Louis in June. Careteam-house found and caregiver is in place.

Gay Pride Parade is June 8 weekend. Volunteers are needed to carry the banner. The Parade fee is \$50-\$75. A separate fund is being created for Diversity Celebration 2002.

Budget Report: \$2940 donations to date. We are \$637 ahead of projected income.

The Meeting was closed with a moment of silence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dianne Bostic

## **Business Meeting Minutes – May 2002**

Sunday, May 12, 2002

CoClerks: Deborah Hunter & Ruth Wiens

Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic

Present: Ruth Wiens, Deborah Hunter, Armin Sager, Don Satterthwaite, and Dianne Bostic

The Meeting was opened with a moment of silence by Deborah.

Query provided by Ruth.

**Membership-contact for non-attending members-** A letter with a state of the Meeting report and the current budget will be sent annually to all non-attending members.

**The Good War, video, presentation for All Souls** was approved and several of us will support Armin in facilitating the event.

**Committal Services for Race Riot Victims** will have Quaker presence by Ruth.

**Nuclear Weapons/war concerns** were expressed by Ruth and information was disseminated for individual use as each person comes to know what action they may wish to take.

**Quaker Women Movie Night** – June 1, during the early evening. Dianne will select the movie and initiate the telephone tree.

**Quaker Potluck for our membership** will be at Armin's on Sat May 25 at 6 p.m.

**Quaker and Restoration potluck** – Proposed date is June 22 or 29<sup>th</sup>. Discussion will RE exploring non-violent response to the war, e.g. prayer vigil

**Sunday May 26 Forum** - Soulforce video and discussion.

**Interfaith Service of Gay pride week** will be attended by and participated in by Ruth & Deborah.

Meeting adjourned with a moment of silence.

## Business Meeting Minutes – July 2002

Sunday, July 14, 2002

CoClerks: Deborah Hunter & Ruth Wiens

Recording Clerk: Dianne Bostic

Present: Deborah Hunter, Rick Brooks, Armin Sager, Don Satterthwaite, Julie Nierenberg, and Dianne Bostic

The Meeting was opened with a moment of silence by Deborah.

Query - Deborah

Budget report - none

Status of child care – Lila is willing to continue as needed. Parents, Julie and Rick, need to call her prior to Sunday and ask her to come as the need arises.

Status of letters to non-attendees – Rick and Armin need to send their letters.

Award for heroes – The Meeting is open to creating and presenting to an individual and or a group an award for peace making efforts. Friends Peace Prize, Oklahoma Friends Peace Prize were some of the names suggested. Gathering information on awards currently being conducted for peace and justice efforts needs to take place.

Pins / ribbons for peace – Dianne is willing to call a manufacture in Inola to explore some \_expression one could wear to symbolize peace. Needed: What currently exists now and could we use that symbol rather than re-invent the wheel. Words that could be used are Peace is the Way, Peace be with you or the peace sign, a dove, a dove with an olive branch.

Potluck with Ruth's video - Sept 14 or 21 the Friends Meeting will host a potluck for Tulsa area people who are interested in peace efforts.

Don asked for a clearness committee. It is scheduled for July 21, 2002 during the forum hour.

Meeting adjourned with a moment of silence.

**2001-2002 Green Country Friends Budget**

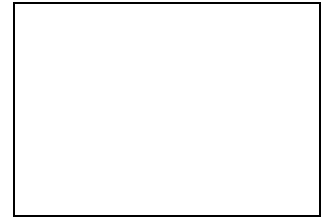
<u>Expense</u>	<u>2001-'02 Amount Budgeted</u>		<u>2001-'02 Amount Spent</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
				3-Jun-02	
Newsletter	\$175.00		\$0	\$175.00	
Telephone	\$600.00		\$414.27	\$185.73	
Listings	\$50.00		\$0	\$50.00	
Friends Journal					
Subscriptions	\$58.00		\$0	\$58	
AVP (Alternatives to Violence Project)	\$50		\$0	\$50.00	
First Day School	\$600.00	*	\$150.00	\$450.00	*
Supplies	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
Other Miscellaneous					
Expenses	\$75.00	**	\$55.00	\$20.00	**
Social Concerns	\$125.00		\$300.00	(\$175.00)	
SCYM	\$350.00		\$0	\$350.00	
TAO	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
FGC	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
AFSC	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
FWCC	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
FCNL	\$25.00		\$0	\$25.00	
Church of the Restor. (Meeting Rental)	\$1,920.00		\$1,440.00	\$480.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,068.00</b>		<b>\$2,359.27</b>	<b>\$1,708.73</b>	
Donations to General Funds, Fiscal Year '01-'02			\$3,010.00		
Earmarked Funds					
Food Bank	\$19.72				
Meetinghouse	\$3,280.00				
AVP, Scholarship	(\$279.75)				
AVP, Expense	\$2,489.61				
SCYM & Qtrly	\$105.00				
New Sign Fund	\$25.00				
<b>Account Balance on June 3, 2002, less all designated or earmarked funds</b>				<b>\$2,242.68</b>	
* Includes \$50/mo. for childcare					
** Includes P.O. Box rental					

August 2002

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Green Country Friends (Quaker) Meeting  
P.O. Box 521174  
Tulsa, OK 74152-1174



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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