

# **Tampa Friends Meeting**

## **Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

### **Minutes**

**11 Third Month 2007**

#### *OPENING SILENCE*

#### QUERY 3 – HARMONY WITHIN THE MEETING COMMUNITY

Are love and unity maintained among us?

When differences arise, do we settle them in a spirit of love and humility?

Am I careful not to hold an idea too firmly, knowing that another may bring me closer to the truth?

Am I patient and considerate towards those I find difficult to understand or like?

Do I demonstrate a forgiving spirit?

Do I have concern and respect for the reputation of others?

When people are hurt, do we take care to hold them up with a tender heart?

#### *RECORDING CLERK*

Cynde Mercer recording clerk.

#### *ATTENDEES*

John Arnaldi, MJ Arnaldi, Tom Blackburn, Francis Drake, Cynde Mercer, Rod O'Shea, Karen Putney, Lou Putney, Frank Triscritti, Nancy Triscritti, Andrea Walsh, Bill Ward, Eleanor Ward, Nil Wilkins, Cecilia Yocum, Barbara Wolfe

#### *BUSINESS*

Minutes of 11 Second Month were read and approved with corrections.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Tom Blackburn and accepted as presented.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ministry and Worship – MJ Arnaldi reported that they had met and were continuing to ensure that First Day School is covered.

Property – Lou Putney reported that the committee purchased three unfinished wood bookcases and that Chris Hugues is finishing them. When finished, they will be attached to the wall in the library. The committee is moving ahead on plans for a First Day School building based on a \$12,000-14,000 budget.

Peace and Social Concerns – John Arnaldi reported that the Washington trip was successful. They spoke with staff to try and press for release of Sami Al Arian. Representative John Conyers is writing a letter to the U.S. Attorney General. The fourth anniversary of the start of the Iraq war is coming and it is a good time to be writing letters to congress about the war.

First Day School – Cecilia Yocum reported that the First Day School can always use help.

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### **Minute 1 Third Month 2007**

The Tampa Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses its appreciation for the life and service of long time member J. William "Bill" Greenleaf, who passed away January 15, 2007. Bill's leadership, wisdom, integrity, friendship and sense of humor and loving presence will be missed."

J. William Greenleaf passed away at 90 years of age, January 15, 2007, at John Knox Village in Tampa, Fla. He was born in St. Paul, Minn. on May 21, 1916, four years after his older brother Richard. Four years later his father died of scarlet fever. His mother then moved with her two sons to New York to be near her family. Bill attended Erasmus Hall High School, Brooklyn N.Y., where he discovered his gift for creative writing, and graduated in the class of 1933. During this same time he began his love of sailing, "learning the ropes" on Sheepshead Bay.

After graduation Bill moved with his mother to Orlando, Florida. In order to support his mother during the Depression, Bill joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and was assigned to the Ocala National Forest with company 1420 CCC whose job it was to build access roads and fire lanes in the Forest. Later Bill worked in various places in Tampa, including union work in the cigar factories there.

Bill and Virginia (Sue) Allen met in Tampa. They were married in Winter Park, Fla. in 1940. From 1936 until 1983 Bill worked in restaurant sales and design in Jacksonville. He felt it was his duty to join the military effort in World War II (he once said, "Sue was the Quaker, I wasn't then") and served in both the European and Asian theaters, 1943-1946. He was discharged in time to be home for the birth of his twin daughters, Carol and Joan.

Bill joined the Religious Society of Friends in 1948. He and Sue were members of Jacksonville Monthly Meeting, and entertained traveling Friends who were visiting Florida. They joined with other Friends living in Florida to create what is now Southeastern Yearly Meeting. Bill served as clerk of the initial conference in the 1950s and 1960s, and then as clerk of the Yearly Meeting in the 1970s and as recently as 1981.

The Peace Testimony of Friends became a concern of Bill's. He undertook to advise and counsel members of the military who developed conscientious objections to waging and preparing for war. He also refrained from doing any restaurant equipment business with the military bases in Jacksonville.

In 1983 Bill and Sue moved from Jacksonville to John Knox Village in Tampa to be near Sue's brother and sister-in-law, John and Grace Allen. (John Allen was the first president of the University of South Florida, 1957-1970.) At John Knox Village, Bill developed a current events program which he conducted for many years. He enjoyed the challenge of presenting world and national events in an even-handed way. His contributions to the "Lite and Lively" column in the Village News brought a chuckle to many who read them, and were fondly remembered by residents who spoke at his memorial service.

Bill had an abiding love for family and good friends. He especially enjoyed being with children, and focused on First Day School activities and storytelling at meetings for worship and in First Day School sessions, first in Jacksonville and then in Tampa.

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**Bill's heart was broken when Sue died from the effects of an automobile accident in 1995, and again when his daughter, Joan, died from cancer in 1998. These unexpected deaths caused him to really examine his own life and to draw from deep within himself the energy to carry on. He enjoyed regular visits with Carol and her husband Peter Letson, his two grandchildren, Ann and Fred Letson, and his niece Kay Greenleaf.**

**Throughout his life Bill thought deeply about the best way to live his life following his own principles and faith. His beliefs shaped his relationship with all that touched his life. His thoughtful comments would help others to think about an issue or a challenge in a new way. He would often be able to open up a different perspective for others with a few well chosen words.**

**(More information on Bill's service in the early years of Southeastern Yearly Meeting may be found in "Quakers Discover the Southeast," written by Sue Greenleaf and Caroline Nicholson Jacob, printed in 1981.)**

### **Minute 2 Third Month 2007**

**The Tampa Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses our appreciation to Karen Putney for her tireless service and guidance for the past three years.**

### **Minute 3 Third Month 2007**

**The Tampa Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves a request for reimbursement from the meeting's travel fund for travel to Southeastern Yearly Meeting in the amount of \$270 and an amount of \$96 for travel to represent meeting in Washington D.C. Meeting also approves allowing Clerk of Meeting to discern needs for reimbursement for others before the Fourth Month Meeting for Worship with an Concern for Business.**

Dustin Lemke and Bill Ward will represent the meeting at Southeastern Yearly Meeting's committee to discern SEYM's affiliation with Friends United Meeting.

### **CALENDAR**

18 Third Month	Potluck lunch
19 Third Month	SHARE distribution
24 Third Month	Friendly Folk Dancing and Potluck
25 Third Month	No adult First Day School; FUM discernment discussion following Meeting for Worship
1 Fourth Month	Meeting for Joining
4-8 Fourth Month	Southeastern Yearly Meeting
8 Fourth Month	No adult First Day School
15 Fourth Month	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

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22 Fourth Month      Potluck  
28 Fourth Month      Friendly Dinner

*CLOSING SILENCE*