

FRIENDS IN SAN ANTONIO

7052 North Vandiver at Eisenhower

August 2017

Quaker Service

We have AFSC, QUNO, QVS, RSWR, FPT, and FCNL, that is, American Friends Service Committee, Quaker United Nations Office, Quaker Voluntary Service, Right Sharing of World Resources, Friends Peace Teams, and Friends Committee on National Legislation.. AFSC is the mother of these organizations, formed during WWI to provide opportunities for conscientious objectors to act positively rather than merely insist on sitting the war out. It has promoted nonviolent solutions as an alternative to violence and war. It has done this through peace caravans, publicizing the cost of war in deaths, pain, broken families, and community disruption. And it has tried to reshape public opinion on military options for current problems.

During WWI, AFSC provided relief and opened centers in capitals across Europe where people could come and discuss problems and solutions in nonpartisan settings. International and interracial groups of young people traveled through this country advocating peaceful solutions. After WWII AFSC advocated the abolition of nuclear weapons. Jointly with Quaker organizations from other countries, it received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1947, stressing the spirit in which it worked. It organized workcamps in needful areas, exposing young people to unfamiliar conditions. It strove to link speakers from all sides during the Cold War.

QUNO is an offshoot of AFSC, with offices in New York and Geneva. QUNO represents Friends through working with governments, UN Agencies and NGOs. QUNO works on a number of issues connected to reducing violence including peace building, disarmament and the prevention of conflict. They also have a particular focus on facilitating dialogue. In 2010 they conducted “quiet diplomacy” in Burundi to encourage civil society participation in the peace building process. They encourage private and confidential meetings between UN delegates to defuse tensions.

Quaker Voluntary Service is a recent organization which tries to make possible voluntary work for young adults, with social concerns and hopes, to do voluntary work in these concerns, “passionately engaged in service and social justice – both helping change the world and being transformed together through the experience. Practicing radical hospitality and inclusiveness – with one another and in the community, following the

Calendar

- 6. Sunday
Potluck lunch at 11.30 a.m..
- 10, Thursday
Soup 6:15, Midweek Meeting, 7.00 pm, Meetingroom.
- 13. Sunday
Forum –Quaker Testimonies: Why do we think SPICES matter? 11:30.
- 20. Sunday.....
Meeting for Business, 11.30.
- 27, Sunday
Forum – What do we do when we sit in Worship? A Conversation among Friends 11:30.
- 30. Wednesday
Midweek Meeting, 7.00, Gary’s home.
- Sept 1-3 Cielo Grande Quarterly Meeting: Speaker Sat. Pamela Boyce Sims: Rekindling the Fire of Fox
Sep 10, Sun, Forum, Living Peace.
Sept 20 Wednesday. Concert for Peace ~ Soloists, Choruses, Instrumentals, 6:30 - 8.00 pm.
- Sept 24, Sun, Forum Stewardship of our resources.

ministry and message of Jesus.”.

Right Sharing of World Resources is a Quaker micro-credit organization that supports grassroots income-generating projects in developing countries, led by women, many of whom are making less than a dollar a day. But, “just think about it – if you were given a sum of money to start a small business, would you know what to do? Where would you buy your stock? How would you market your products? How would you know what government licenses and permits were needed? To compound this, imagine that you are illiterate and have never learned basic mathematics. Would your business succeed?” So funds go to training as well as to funding micro-businesses.

Friends Peace Teams is a Spirit-led organization working around the world to develop long-term relationships with communities in conflict to create programs for peacebuilding, healing and reconciliation. FPT’s programs build on extensive Quaker experience combining practical and spiritual aspects of conflict resolution. After Alternatives to Violence (AVP) workshops in El Salvador, this is what Fazilee said: “How could I not go through an experience like this one and come out changed? I am, even though I do not yet have the words to fully articulate it. I can only feel the strength of the spirit inside me that is moving me, shaping me, and speaking to me in a louder and louder voice . . . I know that it is telling me what matters: That the root of nonviolence is in the brotherhood and the sisterhood of humanity, and that it can emerge only when we are present enough and patient enough to make space for it within ourselves.”

Friends Committee on National Legislation works in Washington with Members of Congress. “FCNL gets to the root of problems by changing the systems and policies that drive them. We believe that Congress has immense power to effect positive change. It’s our job to make sure they use it. We talk with public officials, urging them to change government policies that perpetuate all forms of injustice — from the violation of human rights, to war, to degradation of our earth, to the unbalanced priorities of our federal budget. . . . We seek a world free of war and the threat of war; We seek a society with equity and justice for all; We seek a community where every person’s potential may be fulfilled; We seek an earth restored.” FCNL has an internship program.

Other committees may be set up from time to time, acting as long as seems desirable or possible. Then there is William Penn House in Washington, grounded in Quaker testimonies, which provides hospitality for visitors there. “In addition, we work to engage people from all walks of life with issues of peace, social justice, and environmental awareness, through inward reflection, service, education, and community building.” Friends visiting their congressperson with FCNL find a welcome there.



Personal News

Several of us went to FGC’s Gathering this year – Gretchen, Joni and James, attended and have described it (see below.) Peggy and Stephen’s nephew was rendered “unresponsive” in Barcelona, cause unknown. A CT scan showed nothing but he’ll need an MRI when he gets home. We’re waiting and holding him in the light. David B and Janet have recovered nicely from their surgeries. Janet saw her surgeon on the 14th and learned she must stay in therapy for three more weeks before she can place weight on her ankle. Several people went and met in meeting for worship with her.

Laura’s mother is well but her uncle, of whom she was fond, has died. Her husband, Bill, will retire in a few weeks.

Not knowing she was trans, governor Abbott allowed Ashley to take a photo of herself with

him. It went viral with the knowledge that she's trans. She opposes his advocacy of a bill deciding which public bathroom she should use, saying it's "none of his business."

July Business Meeting

Meeting for Business commenced with an advice of Rainer Maria Rilke:

Live the unresolved questions now. Perhaps then gradually, without noticing it, live -- along some distant day -- into the answer.

The Treasurer reported that contributions to Meeting funds were not deposited in June and are therefore not included in this report. The half-yearly income from Friends Fiduciary is included. Income matched budget to date.

Meeting contributed \$2,750 to the RAICES Bond Fund. No other unusual items are recorded. At a called meeting for business, Meeting approved joining the Interfaith Welcome Coalition in advocating that the city become a Sanctuary City. At this meeting, Meeting also approved holding a concert on September 20, International Peace Day, from 6.30-8pm, to avoid clashing with Rosh Hashanah.

Meeting closed in silence.

Ciela Grande Quarterly Meeting: "Rekindling the Fire of Fox"

On Labor Day weekend, F/friends will gather to hear Pamela Boyce Simms challenge us to look at how we arrived at this climate crisis and the spiritual way forward. She was the keynote speaker at Friends General Conference Gathering this year. As part of Quaker Earthcare Witness, Friend Simms is Convener, Mid-Atlantic Regional Transition Hub (MATH) and Facilitating "The Great Transition."

Currently Quaker in Residence at Pendle Hill, she developed her analysis of our crisis and the steps we can, and must take, to build solutions based on Quaker spiritual connections. A Friend with Buddhist roots, she has done the spade work that we can use in our daily lives. Friends may come for an informal conversation from 4:00 on Friday, or just for her talk, Saturday morning, and not stay for the business of Q.M.

FMSA is responsible for the program as well as the logistics of Quarterly Meeting from Friday evening through Sunday pot luck, Sept 1-3. This may entail hospitality for distant Friends, and will definitely entail meals. We will have more details later. Keep tuned in.

International Peace Day

Concert, Wed. Sept 20

International Peace Day was established by the United Nations in 1981 and Meeting is considering holding a free concert in commemoration. Celebration Circle has expressed interest in participating, as has the Islamic Center and Unitarian Universalist Church. We can reach out to other peace churches, such as University Presbyterian and Mennonite.

Since Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, begins at sunset, 7:33 that day, we could hold the concert in the courtyard from 4 to 6 p.m. or 5 to 7 p.m. Light refreshments and water/drink could be available. The details will be explored and reported back to Meeting in August, if appropriate. [Later, the time has been set at 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.]

FGC – the Gathering

The annual Friends General Conference Gathering was held July 2-8 this year at Niagara University near Buffalo NY and Niagara Falls. FMSA Co-Clerk Gretchen Haynes attended along with James and Joni Mize. As first time attenders James and Joni report the following:

Trying to describe the Gathering is difficult. More than 1000 Friends came together as a Spirit

led temporary community in an idyllic setting. There were Quakers representing all walks of life from North America, Japan and Scotland. They were scholarly, bohemian, multigenerational, LGBTQ, musical, serious, light-hearted, ice cream loving, caring people with a common denominator I am still learning about.

More than 40 different weeklong workshops were available to choose from in addition to all the daily events, which included Meetings for Worship, in a variety of forms, Plenaries, demonstrations, field trips, spontaneous acts of kindness everywhere, a Book Store, an Art Center and something called Psycho-Calisthenics. It is hard to do justice to the range of activities and experiences offered.

The Meetings for Worship were profound at times; I've never been in mindful silence with such a large crowd. The plenaries were deeply moving because the guest speakers were so powerful. I left the Gathering feeling refreshed and now miss the friends we made. I also came away with the knowledge that we are a force, which gives me hope... Joni

Gathering Highlights

Among the activities were some joint AFSC FGC events:

Building the Movement for Racial Justice Among Friends

Quaker Social Change Ministry – embracing Spirit-led Activism While Accompanying those Impacted by Social Injustice.

Sanctuary Everywhere –Interrupting Injustice, Building Alternatives

Gaza Unlocked – learn about a New Campaign to End the Israeli Blockade

Bystander Intervention Training.

The Amazing Adventures of the Afterbirth of Jesus. (Just suppose!)

Working for Justice in Palestine through BDS and Economic Activism with the Quaker Palestine Israel Network

Conscientious Objection: aHistory.

White Fragility; What it is, How it operates to Obstruct Racial Justice.

Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions? A Quaker Zionist Rethinks Palestinian Rights.

Visit Border Maquiladoras

The next visit to the border will be on October 13-15.. Delegations offer a view of maquiladora laborers' communities and their working and living reality without the window dressing. Workers speak for themselves as visitors sit in their homes and stand in their communities or the colonias.

"What touched me most was that this city of sweatshops lies closer to my house in Austin, Texas than does the city of Dallas. The border is a part of who we are as Texans, and as US citizens." --S. Taylor, delegate to Ciudad Acuña in January 2007.

Sign up TODAY!

To request an application form or for more information, contact Cristina Gonzalez at cristina@atcf.org or call (512) 474-2399.

ATCF is a Quaker-supported organization.

Miscellany

John Woolman deeply believed seeking the presence of God daily was central to one's faith. He writes at one point about this in his journal:

Attend with singleness of heart to this heavenly Instructor, which so opens and enlarges the mind as to cause men to love their neighbors as themselves.

In the course of his work, while drawing up a will for a person in which an enslaved person was to be passed from owner to heir, he felt the presence of God within prick his conscience and pierce his soul about the evil of this institution. He He labored throughout his life with Friends

to set at liberty those they held in captivity. As early as 1762, he refused to purchase goods produced by slave labor.

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Now in its fifth year, Peace Direct's Tomorrow's Peacebuilders awards offer global recognition for grassroots peace activists in conflict affected countries all over the world.

These are the only global awards for local peacebuilders – inspiring individuals who are building a better tomorrow in the world's most fragile places.

963 organisations from 91 countries entered in the first four years. Previous winners have demonstrated the range of innovative local approaches to peace – former fighters coming together for peace in Israel-Palestine, overcoming prejudice in the Philippines, showing co-existence is possible in Colombia, and much more.

Three grassroots organisations will win a prize of \$10,000 and online promotion of their work. The categories this year are:

- women-led peacebuilding
- youth peacebuilding
- inter-religious peacebuilding

[www.peacedirect.org/](http://www.peacedirect.org/).

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Andrew Russell and Lee Vinsel have written a NYT article “Lets’ Get Excited About Maintenance.” In it, they point out how exciting technological innovation is and how exalted the innovators become. But, on the other hand, maintenance is dull grungy, and maintenancemen are pretty low status. Yet the innovative period is just the start. Maintenance is the main technological achievement. But, they point out, we are finding that politicians are not eager to pay for it and we are paying another price.

“Unlike innovation, which has a cottage industry devoted to its study and cultivation, maintenance is not something we spend a lot of time trying to understand better,” they say. We, too, have to pay for maintenance of building and grounds. Let us exalt their committee!

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More tension in, or about, Jerusalem. Palestinians protesting Israeli gates and searches to enter Haram Al Sharif, aka Temple Mount, a sacred place for both. And American Jews upset about the power of Haredi, ultra-religious Jews of Israel, to determine who is rightfully a Jew and to control access to the holiest of places. Israeli tension with Jordan over an assassination there. And elsewhere “ancient cities that survived many an invader now lay in ruins in Syria, Iraq, Libya, and Yemen.” (Hisham Melhem.)

How fortunate (providential?) That Christians are now not involved in battles over their sacred places. And that Friends have none, except for the spirit within. Early Friends had to defend that. But they did it without violence, indeed with love.

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Val has circulated a copy of the Rivard Report on the Meeting and Friends in general. The Report is a local online news source available at no cost. The report, by Edward Speed, covers Quakers’ silent meetings, (“practical mysticism,”) lack of hierarchy, Friends’ early opposition to slavery, our testimonies, our members’ work for immigrants, and our meetginhouse. It’s a good coverage of our activities for anyone wanting information..

The Rivard Report claims it is San Antonio’s leading local online news source, nonprofit and nonpartisan, without fear or favor, or any obligation to outside. It covers San Antonio’s personalities, neighborhoods, businesses, culture, cuisine, arts and entertainment, along with the city’s problems and challenges,, and innovative solutions, many to be found in other cities competing for the next generation of talented workers and their families.

<https://therivardreport.com/about-us/>

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We are an aging society. Will this continue? It should, but what effects will global warming have? Aging, we require more medical care. Will we have insurance? If there is governmental insurance, it must be paid for by a decreasing number of workers in a shrinking economy. An economy which must adapt to a warmer climate, which is a problem for farmers, who may have to cultivate new and unfamiliar crops.. We are facing unfamiliar problems. Are we politically prepared?

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The organization MoveOn is preparing a large movement to block any march to war and curtailing of civil liberties by the Trump government over the recent N. Korean ballistic missile. War is not necessary!

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On July 18 AFSC supported and organized a day of popular support for, and identification with, the people of Gaza under the Israeli blockade of the territory. AFSC is “demanding” an end to the blockade.

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But the history of Israeli/Palestinian Jews and Arabs is such a complex web of occupations and evictions How are we to act now to correct for or compensate those who lost their homes, families, and places of work where they could support themselves? Neither side is completely innocent, but Israel is now the strongest nation in the Middle East..

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Jason Higgins is a PhD student in history at University of Massachusetts Amherst. “I am an oral historian, researching the experiences of incarcerated veterans from the Vietnam War era to the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. History has customarily overlooked the experiences of veterans after war, but I am going to change that. I am writing a book on the problems of reintegration of combat veterans, focusing on trauma, disability, and other issues that gave rise to mass incarceration since the end of the Vietnam War. Follow me on Twitter: @jasonahiggins.”

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Every Town for Gun Safety tells us that “gun industry lobbyists are descending on Congress trying to force through their latest tactic to weaken commonsense gun laws and push their “guns everywhere” mentality on the whole country. The gun lobby's new top priority is “Concealed Carry Reciprocity,” which would force ALL states to recognize other states' gun laws.”

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*Insight on Conflict* Monthly Newsletter: July 2017 is a monthly selection of the best new research and resources on local peacebuilding worldwide. This month's edition features articles on conflict sensitivity in transitional justice, the impact of conflict on livelihoods, and more.

(1) Youth and religious leaders are still being excluded from peace and security initiatives as well as decision-making forums. When trying to include the other, both religious leaders and youth leaders should turn to allies within the other group, including young religious leaders.

(2) [T]he assumption in conflict-affected areas that conflict is the main driver of poor livelihood outcomes is not necessarily true, and neither is the assumption that livelihood recovery naturally follows the end of conflict.

(3) Local organisations are growing in strength and impact, becoming more organized, informed, and engaged. Yet, the majority of discussions ... are taking place at the international level, with limited engagement from local actors.

(4) Indigenous peoples in Colombia want a state that values indigenous knowledge and includes indigenous women and men, not as beneficiaries but as decision makers.

(5) Transitional justice processes, increasingly seen as contributing to peacebuilding, are inherently political. Support should be acknowledged as having the potential to produce perverse effects.

(6) Local organisations in Zimbabwe are ensuring communities receive their fair share of food. They are running successful savings and loans schemes, and generating business growth despite a stagnant national economy. They are engaging at appropriate levels with community leaders, and building trust across political dividing lines; communities receive their fair share of food. They are running successful savings and loans schemes, and generating business growth despite a stagnant national economy.

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We have allies in Friends' work for human rights. Human Rights Watch claims it has been able to influence the following:

The UN created a new team to help investigate serious crimes in Syria over the past six years .

Ghana has freed all people held in chains, some for years, including girls under 15 years of age.

The government of Japan revised its national bullying prevention policy for LGBT students.

New York Governor Cuomo signed a bill abolishing marriage for 14- to year-olds.

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Googling FGC Gathering we got a web page which, after a survey, advertised skincare, fat-burning, teeth whitening, brain and, testosterone booster, and "natural male enhancement." That we suppose, is the price of using Google, a commercial site. And, we also suppose, it's all part of life, though not of Friends' testimonies . . . . .

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William Tobey, in *Foreign Policy*, says that North Korea will not attack with its nuclear weapons. It has been deterred from other attacks for decades due to the fear of annihilation, and this is likely to continue. Its "squalor" compares with the wellbeing of the South. How long until it will be forced to change? "Time was on North Korea's side as it worked toward nuclear weapons, but paradoxically, now that Pyongyang has them, it no longer is."

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The US Empire has been called an empire of bases. It seems as if once the US moves into a country with military bases those bases do not leave. The US has more bases around the world than any country in world history — estimates range to more than 1,100 military bases and outposts.

KZ, reported by WorldBeyondWar.org

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Pendle Hill's latest Pamphlet in its series is *Coming to Light*, exploring the practice and process of the clearness committee, a means of spiritual discernment used by Quakers that has also proved helpful to many others. The author shares her personal experience of clearness committees, first as a member of the Religious Society of Friends and then as a retreat leader for the Center for Courage & Renewal, which uses the clearness committee as the center of its practice. The pamphlet includes a sample format of a clearness committee and material that may be used as handouts.

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Several of us went to the annual Gathering of Friends General Conference, some for the first time and some as seasoned attenders. (Friends don't have "attendees" unless someone has been attended to.)

A key tenet for most of our faith traditions has always centered on welcoming the stranger, caring for people in need and allying ourselves in solidarity with the marginalized among us.

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## **Nuclear Prohibition**

We'll soon observe the 72nd anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Last year, marked the first time a sitting U.S. president made a visit to the memorial sites.

This year the United Nation's voted to ban nuclear weapons. There must be a strong, international movement to rid the world of nuclear weapons. But how do N. Korea and Iran fit into this? Some countries already have them. How will they act?

## **It Breaks My Heart**

Kate Pruitt in the June Friends Journal, says that, in North Carolina, her heart is broken by the "fractured nature of the Quaker community.. . If we truly believe that Christ is our teacher and guide why are we not listening to that inner voice? Why are we not living the testimonies that we claim?

Watching a QuakerSpeak video by the general secretary of Friends United Meeting she was struck again by the wonderful explanation of the Friends' belief that Christ dwells within each of us and is our spiritual teacher and guide if we allow it. But in her pastoral Meeting she saw people become more judgmental, critical, angry, and fearful. They laughed at jokes made from the pulpit at the expense of those not exactly like "us."

She saw "the two versions of Quakerism appear to be irreconcilable, both sides digging in with intractable positions."

Are we guilty? Is our position "intractable?" What would it mean? Presumably that we could not easily share a pastoral Meeting's worship as she found it. And that they could not stand our Meeting's prolonged silence nor the kind of ministry we share. Suppose that a Friend from that pastoral meeting came to ours and ministered in the way with which he or she was accustomed, devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ as told in God's holy word, the Bible. Would we find it disruptive?

## **Volunteers did it Together.**

Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities would like to thank the facilitators and the hundreds of participants who have imbued this program with their spirit of hope and possibility. the original group of facilitators from Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda. Laura Shipler Chico and NSHIMIYIMANA Chrisos to me worked with Théoneste to develop the Advanced Healing Companions workshop. So, a combination of African and American volunteers did it together.

HROC would like to thank the facilitators and the hundreds of participants who have imbued this program with their spirit of hope and possibility. Communities International Gathering: David Zarembka tells us that HROC workshops are currently being conducted in Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) (South Kivu, North Kivu, and Orientale provinces), Central African Republic, Kenya, northern Nigeria, South Sudan, Uganda, and the United States. Except for South Sudan, all the other HROC programs were represented by the 19 delegates.

HROC was developed by the African Great Lakes Initiative of the Friends Peace Teams, developed in 2003 by a team of facilitators: NIYONGABO Adrien, BIZIMA NA Théoneste, and MANIRAGUHA Solange. Caroline Keys worked with Adrien to train new participants.



## Death in Kenya

“Robert was a peace agent in the region. [He and two others were murdered in Chepkurkur center] He was a motorbike driver who assisted us many times during our peace programs in Mt Elgon. With his help we entered the Kubura area with HROC programs [The Quaker HROC programs]. This led to a community celebration that brought together the Soy and the Ndorobo elders [the two opposing sides in the conflict] to cut a cake, share and talk about the end of clashes and killings between the two groups.

“When he moved to Chepkurkur, where he met with his death, he housed our facilitators during the trainings with the SLDF (Sabot Land Defense Force) militia men that happened close to the forest. He became a friend and a lover, not a hater. We conducted several trainings at Chepkurkur and Cheptais and he stood by us because he believed there is that of God in every man. His house where he hosted the facilitators was a two roomed house. And it is in this house he met his death.

“Robert, being truthful and a man of justice, always corrected people who had an evil mind. He could easily interact with all groups of people and always felt warm.

“It is reported that Robert, after hearing of a scheme to kill the area chief, mediated between the area chief and some young men who are known for evil acts. They keenly heard him and succeeded, then, in a peaceful resolution.”

David Zarembka, quoting Getry Agizah

## The Social Media Ads Outreach Experiment

Social media represents an unprecedented platform for witness and ministry. Many people under the age of forty use social media as their exclusive source of information and communications.

Six monthly meetings in New York Yearly Meeting participated in an 50-day experiment using social media ads as Quaker outreach.

Between May 12 and July 1 of 2017, these ads reached over 90,000 young adults.

At the end of this experiment, we now have proven examples of effective social media ads as well as a stronger understanding of the medium generally. Among other things, we have learned that Facebook (for now) is the ideal social media platform on which to focus Quaker resources.

The next steps involve working directly with meetings to coordinate ads with a consistent, meaningful Facebook presence and developing monthly meetings' independent capacity to engage effectively with social media.

Download the full report (including how your monthly meeting or church can try this!) at the Social Media Ad Outreach Experiment Report:  
<https://quakeremily.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/social-media-ad-outreach-experiment-report.pdf>

## Essential Nonviolence

“Mindfulness must be engaged,” Nhat Hanh writes in his new book *At Home in the World*. “Once we see that something needs to be done, we must take action. Seeing and action go together. Otherwise, what is the point in seeing?”

“Nonviolence is not a set of techniques that you can learn with your intellect,” he goes on to say. “Nonviolent action arises from the compassion, lucidity and understanding you have within.”

Drawing from his own experience in seeking an end to the Vietnam War, Nhat Hanh writes that activists must learn to look after themselves if they are to be effective: If we don't

maintain a balance between our work and the nourishment we need, we won't be very successful. The practice of walking meditation, mindful breathing, allowing our body and mind to rest, and getting in touch with the refreshing and healing elements inside and around us is crucial for our survival.

Brother Phap Dung, a monk at Plum Village . . . is equally clear that while anger can bring about change, it can ultimately lead only to more conflict. He points out that this is equally true in our personal lives as in the fate of a nation.

## **Euphemism**

An innocuous substitute for  
a dangerous term:

i.e., shock and awe

to camouflage carpet bombing that  
imitates the destruction of Dresden.

Or friendly fire, to disguise the fact  
we just slaughtered our own.

Or Defense Department instead of  
War Department, proving you can  
fool some of the people some of the time.

Or collateral damage, concealing the mangled bodies  
of women, men, and children, done not on purpose.

Or, worst of all, PTSD, shell shock –  
good speak to hide walking destruction,  
the pulverized minds of men and women  
maimed in our name.

Enough! Enough of Euphemisms!

Name the horrors, the results of horrors,  
so that we may own them.

Take them to heart.

Perhaps then we may come to a real word:

Peace.

Gretchen

## August Query

What am I doing with my talents, time, money, and possessions?  
Am I sharing them according to the Light I am given?

There will be no newsletter in September.

Meeting for Worship is held on Sunday at 10 a.m., followed by refreshments and a Forum discussion at 11.30, usually lasting until about 12.45. Children are invited to join worship for the first fifteen minutes, after which they may go to join with the Young Friends program. Child care is available during Forum.

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