

CANADIAN  
FRIENDS  
HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION

# THE MEETINGHOUSE

Meeting in Print

Volume: 2011—3

12th Month 2011

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## Andrew Cresswell: CHAIRMAN's MESSAGE

*"[C]onsider that you are but sojourners here...you may be a hindrance unto one another if you do not travel in the Life of the universal Truth. So I desire you to be valiant for it upon the earth, that you may give a good account unto God at the last with joy. So, I desire that all Friends in the ministry may see this."*

- George Fox, *To Friends of the Ministry in Pennsylvania and New Jersey*

A longtime CFHA member and outspoken supporter of the Association recently emailed me commenting that he continues "to value the work and *ministry* of CFHA." I know that my work with, and for the members of the Association ministers to me, yet I was reminded that our work also has the capacity to minister to others.

When reflecting on the email I was reminded of Friends' use of the term "yoke" when referring to ministry. Isaac Pennington used the term to refer to the idea that as followers of Christ, Friends are called to carry a heavy burden that at first glance promises little reward. In fact, it will be hard coming under the yoke, and as Pennington writes, "hard abiding under it." D. Elton Trueblood further refined the image, arguing that as Friends, we are called to become "yoke-mates" with Christ and our fellow believers. It is by taking up the "yoke" that we will know God's love for us.

As we embark on another year, I would like to introduce you to my "yoke-mates":

### Executive Committee

Chairman  
Vice-Chair - Publications  
Vice-Chair - Built Heritage  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Past Chairman

Andrew Cresswell  
Robynne Rogers-Healey  
Ian Woods  
Ruth Jeffery-MacLean  
Gladys Castonguay  
Gordon Thompson

### Advisory Committee

*Journal* Production  
*Meetinghouse* Production  
CYM Records Committee Liaison

Albert Schrauwers  
Barbara Horvath  
Jane Zavitz-Bond

Thank you for your continued support of the Canadian Friends Historical Association; we are glad you have joined us on this "sojourn". As fellow travelers, keep in touch and enjoy *The Meetinghouse*.

The Meetinghouse Editor:  
Barbara Horvath

Blessings, Andrew Cresswell

## CFHA AGM 2011: Time Well Spent

submitted by Gordon Thompson

At one time or another we have all attended a friendly social event centered on a specific theme. We gather with friends old and new, learn more about a topic which we care about, and are made to feel at home and appreciated by welcoming hosts in a venue which informs and inspires us.

'Friends old and new' at the AGM in ninth month were comprised of the 20 CFHA members and guests, plus our hosts, Fred Martin and Laureen Harder-Gissing of Conrad Grebel University College, and Maurice Martin, President of the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, Rick Cober-Bauman, Executive Director of the Mennonite Central Committee (Ontario), Don Alexander, Treasurer of The Canadian Friends Service Committee, and Don Woodside of Hamilton MM.

The sense of being 'made to feel at home' commenced with refreshments as we gathered in the Great Hall of Conrad Grebel University College. This is a well-lit hall graced with natural light provided by large windows. We had an opportunity to review displays and book tables staffed by the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, as well as the CFHA display and table. Everyone also received an information package which included the 'hot off the press' 2011 issue of the Canadian Quaker History Journal.

After a period of opening silence Andrew Cresswell introduced Fred Martin, Conrad Grebel University College Director of Development, who extended the official greeting and welcome to the facility. The rest of the day made up the 'we learn more about a topic we care about' aspect of the event.

The purpose of the AGM is to inform CFHA members of the activities of the past year, and to conduct the necessary items of business. All members present worked very effectively together throughout the business session. The Chairman's Report of the past year's activity, the Membership Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report were presented. Items of business arising from the 2010 minutes dealt with the next steps to be taken with regard to the Founders Trust (members present discerned this initiative should be re-named the Founders Project Fund), the Registry of Canadian Quaker

Canadian Friends Historical Association was founded in 1972 with the aim of preserving and making known the religious, cultural, social and pioneer heritage of Quakers from their first settlement in Canada until today.

CFHA is open to all who share an interest in Canadian Quaker history. Membership fees support the activities of CFHA and help maintain CFHA's website.

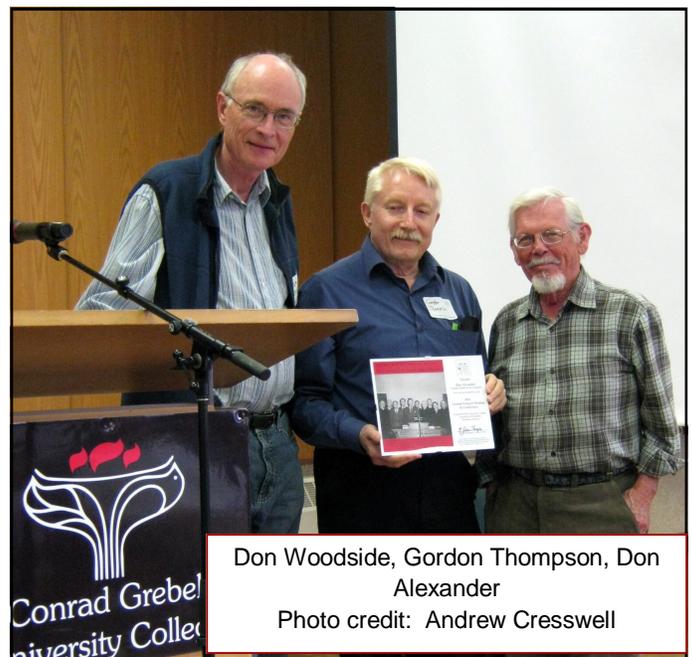
Descendants (members united in support of creating a committee to report next AGM) and the Canadian Quaker Built Heritage project. The business meeting concluded with approval of the proposed 2011/2012 Budget and acceptance of the Nominating Committee report as submitted.

We concluded the business session with a collective sense of satisfaction in the work performed together and the shared experience of 'Time Well Spent'.

The afternoon provided an opportunity to learn more about Canadian Quaker History and the work of CFHA, "a topic we care about," by opening a unique window into the work and experience of a closely related organization, The Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario, and the joint work that Mennonites, Brethren In Christ and Quakers performed under the auspices of the Conference of Historic Peace Churches. This Conference met periodically from 1940 to the early 1960s.

Following lunch the conference portion of the AGM included an interesting series of presentations related to the conference theme: "Neither shall they learn war any more" *The Conference of Historic Peace Churches*.

Maurice Martin, President of the Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario (MHSO) traced the origins of the MHSO from humble beginnings: a single box of documents originally sent to the Archives of Ontario but later repatriated to what would become the Conrad Grebel Collection. Maurice also spoke of the close relationship between the Mennonite Central Committee and the MHSO and how the MHSO had published the official



Don Woodside, Gordon Thompson, Don Alexander

Photo credit: Andrew Cresswell

history of the Mennonite community in Canada in a number of volumes.

Cober-Bauman, Executive Director of the Mennonite Central Committee (Ontario) next described how the present-day Canadian Mennonite community came to include groups as diverse as German-speaking 'Russian' Mennonites, Old Order Mennonites and others. The story of Canadian Mennonite experience was made accessible through a well-received stage play first presented in St. Catharines, Ontario. The Mennonite community attaches considerable importance to the record of its experience.

Don Alexander of the Canadian Friends Service Committee (CFSC) was the next speaker. Don pointed to the long record of humanitarian activity which the CFSC has performed both at home and abroad. Don outlined the origins of the CFSC, and spoke of the mission work undertaken in India and the well-known work of Ed Abbott, Francis Starr and other members of the Friends Ambulance Unit (FAU) in China during and after the Second World War.

Next, Don Woodside, of Hamilton Monthly Meeting, spoke of Hamilton Monthly Meeting's work in promotion of Peace and the continuing work of the Religious Society of Friends on matters related to conscientious objection. This includes the active support of the War Resisters Support Campaign and advocacy for a federal Ministry of Peace.

The last presentation of the afternoon was provided by Laureen Harder-Gissing, Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada Historian and Archivist-Librarian of the Mennonite Archives of Ontario and the Conrad Grebel University College Library.. Laureen spoke of the importance Mennonites have attached to individual and collective knowledge of the history of the faith from its earliest days to the present. Documentation of the early persecution of Mennonites is dramatically illustrated in the 16<sup>th</sup> century collection of plates and accounts, *The Martyrs' Mirror*. Mennonites' appreciation for their historic record has led to the creation and continued support of the Mennonite Archives of Ontario, one of a number of significant Mennonite collections in Canada.

Laureen escorted us on a tour of the library, including the large and well-populated archive in a climate-controlled vault. Our tour concluded with an opportunity to review archival items of particular interest which Laureen had selected and laid out on a library table. These items included two boxes containing the completed 'Conscientious Objector Status Forms' developed in the 1940's by The Conference of Historic Peace Churches and formally recognized by the Canadian Military. We were very excited to find the form completed by Quaker Francis Starr. (see next page)

Following dinner at the College, we went out into the peaceful countryside once largely settled by Mennonite pioneers. With sunset hard upon us we arrived at the historic stone-built Detweiler Mennonite Meetinghouse and



Detweiler Meeting House  
photo credit: Andrew Cresswell

burying ground, the venue of our concluding key-note address. To Quaker sensibilities there is an immediate familiarity in the form and content of this simple place of worship. The construction is solid but unadorned. The benches are mounted on low platforms so all may see and be seen. Broad wooden planks make up the floor. There are separate benches for men and women, but no dividing partition as in early Quaker meetinghouses. In place of the facing benches found in early meetinghouses such as Yonge Street Meetinghouse there is a long table and single facing bench to be occupied by the volunteer Mennonite pastors. The building is lovingly maintained by Will Stoltz, the Detweiler Meetinghouse custodian.

The venue was ideal for Laureen Harder-Gissing's key-note presentation. Members of the Mennonite Historical Society joined us to hear about the process by which representatives of Mennonites, Church of the Brethren, and Quakers were led during the 1940s to unite in the Conference of Historic Peace Churches. The purpose of establishing the Conference included its efforts to represent collectively the rights and concerns of conscientious objectors during and after the Second World War. Laureen's well-researched presentation included some archival footage of the travels and work of Historic Peace Church Conference members. We came away from this presentation with a new understanding of this ecumenical work, and a deeper appreciation of the personal contribution made on behalf of Friends by Fred Haslam, the Quaker member of the Conference. Look for the complete publication of the presentation in the 2012 volume of the Canadian Quaker History Journal, and as a podcast on the CFHA website.

A period of questions and discussion followed our key-note address, and we adjourned to hot apple cider and wonderful tea biscuits to conclude our day. The 2011 CFHA AGM was completed. It has been time well spent.



### Quakers Tour Quaker House

During Canadian Yearly Meeting in August, fifteen members of the Religious Society of Friends from across Canada visited Quaker House, for a guided tour of the 18th century Quaker residence in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Four costumed guides from the Dartmouth Heritage Museum took small groups through the home of William Ray, Jr., one of the Quaker Whaler community who came from Nantucket, Massachusetts in 1785 to establish a base for their whaling industry. The house, built in 1786, is the oldest still-standing house in Halifax.

Friends were shown the furnishings and domestic arts of 18th century life, the whale-hunting equipment, and the type of clothing worn by the early Quakers. After the house tour, the group visited the old Quaker Burial Ground (now part of the Anglican Cemetery), the site of the Quaker Meeting House (which stood where the Post Office is currently located) and the International Peace Pavilion on the Dartmouth waterfront.

Members of the group expressed appreciation for the historical background provided by the Dartmouth Heritage Museum guides, and were most interested in this site of early Quaker settlement in Canada.

### Ontario Historical Society Launches Online Heritage Directory

Originally appeared in *OHS Bulletin* Summer 2011 (No. 179)

The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) is excited to announce a new online service: [The Ontario Heritage Directory Online](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca), a free database resource that will connect Ontario's heritage community, tourists and researchers at [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca).

The Ontario Heritage Directory Online features a database of over 1,600 heritage organizations, heritage sites, museums, archives, First Nations Councils and Municipal Heritage Committees in Ontario. The Society encourages you to explore your local heritage sites to learn more!

In preparation for the bicentennial of the War of 1812-14, any organizations, historic sites and museums celebrating bicentennial-related events, exhibits or publications will be highlighted with a War of 1812 icon.

The online Ontario Heritage Directory features an updating tool that allows organizations to keep their contact information current. Users of the directory can select the "Keep this record up to date" feature and submit any change of address, email address, etc.

The Society would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of The Ontario Heritage Connection Society (OHC), its Board of Directors and of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture through the Museum and Technology. The OHC excelled in fulfilling its mandate and in March 2011, signed a mutual agreement transferring the assets of the OHC to The Ontario Historical Society.

**The Ontario Historical Society**, 34 Parkview Ave.  
Willowdale, ON M2N 3Y2 | 416.226.9011  
[www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

**Canadian War Museum:  
Peace: The Exhibition  
Postponed to May 13, 2013—Jan. 5, 2014**

### The Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists: Call for Papers The deadline for proposals is December 12, 2011.

CQHA will hold its nineteenth biennial conference at Pickering College in Newmarket, Ontario, Canada, **June 22 – 24, 2012**. The conference invites proposals for papers on any aspect of Quaker history.  
Details: <http://libguides.guilford.edu/cqha>

Send a one-page abstract with proposed paper title and one-page vita electronically (PDF or MS Word attachment) along with a separate cover letter detailing anticipated funding sources if accepted to: [John Anderies](mailto:John.Anderies).

\*February 2012: Program details confirmed and posted

\*Spring 2012: Deadline for registrations

\*June 22 - 24, 2012: Conference held at Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario.

WRITE CLEARLY

CONFERENCE OF HISTORIC PEACE CHURCHES—REGISTRATION

CARD FOR MEN

Date of Registration 9 18 1940 Electoral District No. 158 West York Polling Division No. 8 Whitehead Card No.         

Month Day Year Name, if any

1. Surname FRANCIS Given Names STARR

2. Permanent Postal Address (if away from usual residence when filling in card give name of usual residence)  
R.R. 3 Street and Number           
         Town or City          Province         

3. Age last birthday 24 Date of birth 1916 June 27  
 Year Month Day

4. Conjugal conditions: Single  Married  Widowed  Divorced

5. Of what dependents (if any) are you the sole support:—  
 (a) Father..... (b) Mother..... (c) Wife..... (d) Number of children under 16 years..... (e) Number of other dependents..... (f) Do you contribute partial support to any one.....

6. Education: (a) Primary only.....  (b) Primary and Secondary.....  
 (c) Vocational Training (Business College, Technical High School).....  
 (d) College or University Degree?.....

7. Is your general health (a) good?..... (b) fair?  (c) bad?.....

8. Occupation or Craft: Years of experience in  
 (a) Present occupation? Farming (a) 12  
 (b) What is your regular occupation?..... (b)           
 (c) What other work can you do well? Chaffeur (c) 3

(d) If an employee, who is your present employer? Name.....  
 Address..... Nature of business where employed?  
 (state precisely).....

(e) If experienced in a skilled industrial occupation or profession, describe specifically the type or types of work in which you are specially equipped by training or experience .....

9. (a1) Were you brought up on a farm? yes (a2) Until what age? 24  
 (b1) Have you worked on a farm? yes (b2) How long? 12 (b3) In what province or country Ont. (c1) Can you handle horses? yes (c2) Drive a tractor? yes (c3) Use farm machinery? yes (c4) Can you milk? yes (c5) Are you able to do other farm work? yes

10. Is there any particular occupation in which you would like to be specially trained?  
Undertaking

11. What Denomination or Society are you associated with?  
Society of Friends  
 As a (a) Member Member How long 24  
 (b) Adherent..... How long.....

12. Do you intend to appeal for exemption from military training because of your conscientious objection to war? yes

13. If so, are you willing to offer your services for civilian work under civilian control for a period (of possibly sixty days) without pay but with board and lodging provided?  
yes

I affirm that I have verified the above answers and that they are true.

Elmer Starr Signature of Pastor or Clerk  
Francis Starr Signature of Registrant

Registration of Francis Starr with the Conference of Historic Peace Churches, stating his intent to appeal for exemption from military training because of his conscientious objection to war. This form was with the archival materials in the Mennonite Archives of Ontario, which Archivist, Laureen Harder-Gissing, shared with CFHA members in September at the AGM at Conrad Grebel University College.

**Uxbridge Heritage Days – 27<sup>th</sup> eighth, 2011**

Submitted by Ruth Jeffery-MacLean

On a fine Saturday at the end of August, Andrew Cresswell and Ruth Jeffery-MacLean spent the day at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Days sponsored by the Uxbridge-Scott Historical Society.

Canadian Friends Historical Association has had a long and loyal history with the Uxbridge Museum and it was our pleasure to be associated with this day by taking our display and written materials to set up alongside their very fine display of artefacts in the Scott Hall on the Museum site.



Photo: Andrew Cresswell

The day was complete with horse and wagon rides, a fur trader, wheat winnowing,

Bee Man, and all the farm machinery you'd ever want to know about. The Print Shop was fully functional; the Lodge Hall boasted a newly revamped Vintage Toy display and the Carmody House has been updated to include access to the second level – all examples of a very hard working and active historical society.

Given all the outdoor activities available Andrew and I found that people's interests did not trend to the scholarly aspects of artefacts and so our display tucked away in the Scott Hall proved less busy than we had hoped. In addition to child-friendly outside attractions, the crowds were lower than usual, we thought in part attributable to the draw of Jack Layton's Memorial Service in Toronto on the same day.

Nevertheless, we were glad to have been a part of the Uxbridge celebrations and to have had personal introductions to the world famous Town Crier, who not only "calls out" but happily sings the blues!

## Harwich—In the Footsteps of George Fox

submitted by Daphne Davey, Prince Edward Island,  
New Brunswick Monthly Meeting

In August 2011, I was in England visiting family and friends, during which my sister and I took a side-trip to Suffolk and Essex, the region where my maternal ancestors originated. Part of our “memory lane” tour took us to the town of Harwich (Essex), a historic port which received its town charter in 1238.

In 1611 Harwich gave birth to the *Mayflower* in her ship-yards. From the same century when Christopher Jones, Captain of the *Mayflower*, sailed from Harwich to Plymouth, comes a direct Quaker connection with George Fox. In my Everyman copy of his Journal is a passage in the appendix quoted from the Ellwood Text:

“It was upon me from the Lord to go to Holland, to visit Friends and to preach the gospel there, and in some parts of Germany. . . Thence next day we passed to Harwich. . . . The packet-boat in which we were to go not being ready, we went to the meeting in the town, and a precious opportunity we had together; for the Lord, according to His wonted goodness, by His overcoming, refreshing, power, opened many mouths to declare His ever-lasting truth, and to praise and glorify Him.” Among Fox’s fellow travelers on this 1677 visit to the Continent were William Penn and Robert Barclay.



Photo credit: Daphne Davey

Fox makes one more reference to Harwich: “Finding our spirits clear of the service which the Lord had given us to do in Holland, we took leave of Friends in Rotterdam. . . . We arrived at Harwich on the 23rd [after a horribly rough crossing], at night, having been two nights and almost three days at sea. I had a meeting at Harwich; and there being no Colchester coach there, and the postmaster’s wife being unreasonable in her demands for a coach and deceiving us of it also after we had hired it, we went to a Friend’s house about a mile and a half in the country, and hired his waggon which we bedded well with straw, and rode in it to Colchester.”

Our history book of Harwich adds an extra bit of information about George Fox, that he was jailed while visiting the town. It would be interesting to know why. Perhaps he found time to visit a “steeple house” and was inspired to speak truth to power, thereby putting himself at cross-purposes with the law!

Walking through the streets of today’s Harwich is somewhat like walking onto the theatre set of a historical play. The script you can read in the guide literature and the plaques on the walls of buildings. You can also explore the huge, restored Redoubt (fort), whose battlements offer a 360° view of sea, estuary and town, or you can stroll along by the docks where smaller vessels (lifeboats, lightships, pilot boats, cross-estuary ferry boats) clutter the water, and squealing kids and seagulls fish for crabs. You can “read” the town’s history through all of this.

But a play needs actors. Knowing the Quaker connection as we walked through the historic old town, I had an eerie feeling that I might well be treading the same ground as George Fox had three centuries ago. Take out the cars, tourists and other obvious signs of modern life and it took no great effort of imagination to see him coming out of a house such as Christopher Jones inhabited and setting off through the mud and wheel tracks to a meeting of Friends.

### Ontario Places of Worship Inventory

The Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) launched *Ontario’s Places of Worship Inventory* in September 2009. This online, province-wide inventory of religious properties is housed on the Trust’s website at [www.heritagetrust.on.ca/placesofworship](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/placesofworship).

Sites listed in the inventory are purpose-built religious structures designed for worship, located in Ontario and more than 25 years old. These include buildings that are no longer in religious use, as well as places of worship that have been converted to use by a faith other than the one that built it. *Ontario’s Places of Worship Inventory* is the only comprehensive listing of religious heritage properties with over 5,500 individual records and approximately 20,000 images.

The Trust has spent the past three years assembling information from across the province to document as many places of worship as possible, and develop this searchable database. Please visit the website and look for places of worship in your community. Where information is missing such as the date of construction, the architect, or photographs, you can click on the Feedback tab within the record and contact the OHT researcher, Erin Semande. (416) 314-5966 or [erin.semande@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:erin.semande@heritagetrust.on.ca). (Article reprinted from the Ontario Historical Society Bulletin)

## Faith and Practice of Canadian Yearly Meeting

Submitted by Arnold Ranneris,  
Victoria Friends Meeting, Member of CYM Faith &  
Practice Development Committee

In 2000 at Canadian Yearly Meeting in session, I was asked to serve as a member of the newly formed “Faith and Practice Development Committee.” The appointment was “for the duration” which turned out to be 11 years. Six of us worked to gather excerpts from a variety of Friends’ publications and create a book for final approval by CYM in 2010. We were assisted by other Friends with expertise in book design and production, indexing and printing. This work was well supported financially and in other ways by the CYM Trustees and various levels of the Yearly Meeting. During the process the Committee was very enriched by the ministry of these writings and each other’s comments; we had a sense of being Spirit-led throughout.

The actual printing took place in Spring 2011, and the new book was distributed first at Yearly Meeting 2011. The book is the first Discipline to be completed for CYM since the Discipline of Canada Yearly Meeting (1922). Since 1960 CYM has used the Christian Faith & Practice of London Yearly Meeting and the Britain Yearly Meeting Advices and Queries.

From the beginning of the process in 2000 we were clear that we were to be coordinators of the process and not writers of text, apart from introductory statements. An early decision was to be inclusive of writings of Friends worldwide, rather than focusing just on Canadian excerpts, though writings by Canadian Friends were given primary consideration. Some Faith & Practices, such as those of the recent New Zealand and Australia Yearly Meetings, have used only writings from their own countries.

A tentative outline was prepared to guide our task. We solicited excerpts, via announcements in *The Canadian Friend* and letters to Meetings. Friends were informed what chapter we were working on, although excerpts for any chapter could be submitted at any time. Each year, at our November meeting we produced a draft copy of a chapter with the excerpts we selected from those submitted. The draft was circulated for comment, and in the Spring these were reviewed and a second draft was produced.

The Chapter titles in the final edition are: (1) Experiencing the Spirit: Our Faith, (2) Faithful Lives, (3) The Meeting Community, (4) Testimony: Faith in Action, (5) The Lifelong Journey, (6) Advices and Queries of Britain Yearly Meeting, in both English and French. The committee wrote an introduction to the book and to each chapter. Appendices include sources, indexes and acknowledgments.

A Faith and Practice of a Yearly Meeting is a witness to the Truth and discoveries of Friends. The first ones, such as the

Letter from the Elders Gathered at Balby (1656) tended to be prescriptive (this letter is included as Appendix A in our book). Beginning in 1921, London Yearly Meeting adopted the now-familiar anthology approach. The anthological approach lends itself to Friends’ belief in continuous revelation and honours the belief that all persons are given a measure of the Truth. Our Introduction notes that a Faith and Practice can be used for readings about our history, our testimonies and traditions, the principles by which our Society is regulated, and devotional reading. Our new Faith and Practice is then, a historical record as well as a testimony of our faith. It will join the collection of Disciplines of the Rendell Rhodes Collection in the Dorland Room of the CYM Archives, and, we hope, be included in the libraries of Meetings and individual Friends.

A summary statement might be the prayer that one committee member wrote in his article in Oct. 2011 issue of *The Canadian Friend*: “May this book enrich our lives both as individual disciples and as a corporate family.”



Faith and Practice Development Committee: Arnold Ranneris, Betty Polster, Peter Stevenson, Dana Mullen, Anne-Marie Zilliacas . Missing: Molly Walsh, who took the photo.

*Faith and Practice of Canadian Yearly Meeting* ,  
250 pp. Available in hard-cover (\$31) and soft-  
cover (\$22.95), plus postage.

Order from the CYM Quaker Book Service,  
Box 4652, Stn. E, Ottawa, ON K1S 5H8.

## Update: 1812 Bicentennial Peace Committee

In June, Yonge St Half Yearly Meeting minuted its support for the work of the 1812 Peace Committee, and for the Quaker plaque which will be planted in a walkway in a peace garden in Rennie Park, St Catharines. A second one will be placed at the Archives museum in Port Colbourne. Mennonite and Brethren in Christ plaques will be placed on the Bertie church (Brethren) in Stephenville near Ft Erie, and the First Mennonite Church in Vineland.

There are plans for a combined unveiling of all three plaques next spring, and a public bicycle tour to all three sites probably in July. We have begun talking about how we could interact with the military re-enactments to remind citizens of the deep history of conscientious objection in Canada. There are plans unfolding for a website, which will be hosted by the Mennonite Central Committee Ontario website; for a booklet detailing histories of individual COs and their families and congregations; and for outreach to schools in the Niagara region. We have been meeting with people who were engaged in the former Arts for Peace festival in St Catharines looking for a cultural/ artistic vehicle for community engagement around this issue

**Don Woodside, Hamilton Meeting**

## Expanded Harrison Family and Friends Reunion, June 29 – July 1, 2012, London, ON

Shmaya/Brenda Harrison is organizing this event for descendants of Thomas Harrison and Isabella Benton Harrison, plus interested friends.

Thomas Harrison was a slave of the Bullock family of Kentucky. He ran away in about 1851 after seeing two of his brothers sold. He fled through Cincinnati, where the Levi Coffin group of abolitionists fished him from the Ohio River and sent him via the underground railroad to Toledo, Detroit, Windsor, and finally to London, Ontario. Jane Zavitz-Bond's family are members of the Bullocks of Kentucky. It is our hope to document this history and perhaps, locate descendants of his two brothers.

Isabella Benton, was a member of the Chouteau family of St. Louis. She came to London, Ontario, via the underground railroad from East St. Louis, through Springfield, Chicago and Detroit. Family stories have it she was the daughter of the slave master and he sent her to Canada...or she was carrying his child and didn't want it to be a slave. Whatever story is accurate, we are working on learning the truth.

In June, we want to celebrate the history of the underground railroad, the people who helped and the shared history of Canada and U.S. Without the commitment and

CFHA Storefront	
Publication	Cost
<i>Canadian Quaker History Journal (Past Editions)</i>	\$5.00
<i>The Journal of Timothy Rogers (Print)</i>	\$15.00
<i>A Community of Friends: The Quakers at Borden</i> by Betty Ward	\$15.00
<i>Union is Strength: W.L. McKenzie, The Children of Peace and the Emergence of Joint Stock Democracy in Upper Canada</i> by Albert Schrauwers	\$70.00
<i>From Quaker to Upper Canadian: Faith and Community among Yonge Street Friends, 1801-1850</i> By Robynne Rogers Healey	\$95.00
<i>E-Journal 1998-2007 CD</i>	\$10.00
<i>Faith, Friends and Fragmentation CD</i>	\$10.00
<i>The Journal of Timothy Rogers CD</i>	\$10.00
<b>100% of all sales support the mission of the Canadian Friends Historical Association (tax receipts will be issued for purchases over \$20 not including shipping). Prices do not include shipping. To purchase any CFHA publications, contact Ruth Jeffery-MacLean at 905-898-8119 or via email at <a href="mailto:secretary@cfha.info">secretary@cfha.info</a></b>	

### Deadlines for The Meetinghouse: Please send us your articles, photos, notices

**February 15** for March 1st issue  
**May 15** for June 1st issue  
**Nov 15** for Dec 1st issue

**Email to:** [newsletter@cfha.info](mailto:newsletter@cfha.info)  
**Mail to:** CFHA, PO Box 21527,  
 Newmarket, ON L3Y 4Z0

**CFHA Website:** Additional back-issues of the Canadian Quaker History Journal have been posted to the CFHA website. Go to: [www.cfha.info](http://www.cfha.info)

help of Quakers & abolitionists, we would not be celebrating our family reunion in London. I look forward to meeting many *friends*.

Shmaya/ Brenda Harrison ([BrendaSHarrison@aol.com](mailto:BrendaSHarrison@aol.com))