



***A quarterly newsletter published by the Canadian Friends Historical Association  
for members and Friends***

***Summer 2015***



***Yarmouth Monthly Meeting in Sparta, Ontario will host  
the Canadian Friends Historical Association (CFHA) 2015  
Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference at the  
Yarmouth Meetinghouse, and the nearby Sparta Church  
Museum for lunch and the Harvest Dinner, on Saturday,  
September 19.***





**P.O. Box 21527  
17600 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, Ontario  
L3Y 4Z0**

The Mission of the Canadian Friends Historical Association is the preservation and communication of the ongoing history and faith of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Canada and their contribution to the Canadian Experience.

The Canadian Friends Historical Association is an Ontario Corporation and a Canadian Registered charity.

## *The Meetinghouse*

The Meetinghouse is the newsletter of the Canadian Friends Historical Association; it is published four times a year, Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Reprinting of articles must be accom-

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The Meetinghouse Fall issue deadline, distribution

ISSUE	COPY DUE	DISTRIBUTION DATE
<i>Fall</i>	<i>September 25</i>	<i>October 5</i>

## CFHA Executive 2014-2017

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**Vice-Chair Built Heritage -  
Ian Woods**

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Robynne Rogers Healey**

**Journal Production -  
Albert Schrauwers**

**The Meetinghouse Editor -  
Pat Moauro**

**CYM Records Committee  
Liaison - Jane Zavitz-Bond**

## Chairman's Message

... Gordon Thompson, Chairman

### CFHA receives "very generous bequest" from late Frank V. Miles

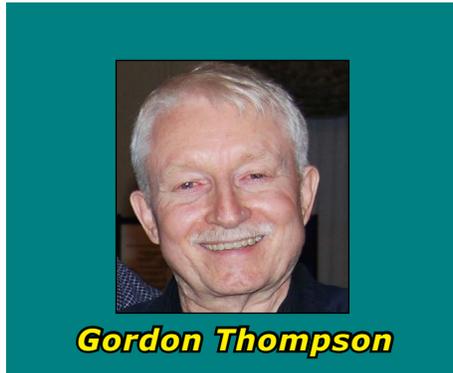
Welcome to summer! I hope you are relaxing and enjoying beach weather, the company of family and friends, inspiring special events and experiences and opportunities for reflection and personal enrichment.

We all have had the experience of walking a shoreline coast and discovering some beautiful sea shell or other reminder of some once living creature. That is very much the nature and pleasure of encounters and experience of history.

Although the characters and events of history may be long past, the actual experience of history is like the discovery of that seashell: it is a personal and a present moment experience. Whether our experience of history is in the enjoyment of classical music or works of art or architecture, all such encounters have the potential to provide joy, inspiration and personal enrichment.

I am very honoured and pleased to inform members that the **Canadian Friends Historical Association (CFHA)** has received a very generous bequest from our late member **Frank V. Miles**. This bequest, and others like it, moves us to experience those same feelings of joy and inspiration as does the classical music, the uplifting art, or the chance encounter of a beautiful seashell.

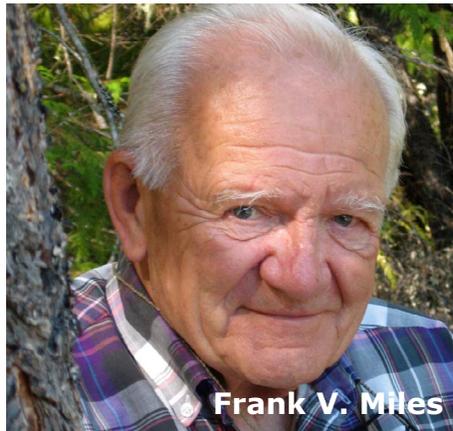
A bequest, however, is a special form of legacy. Unlike a chance encounter, a bequest gives expression to a personal, specific and very meaningful relationship between the donor and the recipient. As a result it moves us to experience not only



Gordon Thompson

joy and thankfulness but also a deep sense of having been honoured and entrusted with the stewardship of this wonderful gift.

In accepting this gift we also make a commitment to honour the faith and trust that has been placed in us by **Frank Miles**.



Frank V. Miles

**CFHA** has also been honoured to receive a new first-time meeting membership from **Winnipeg Monthly Meeting**. The Quaker experience in western Canada in general and in Manitoba in particular is extensive and meaningful, yet tends to be under-represented in our knowledge and appreciation.

The membership of **Winnipeg Monthly Meeting** is a welcome addition to the list of meetings currently in membership.

Plans for the Annual Gen-

eral Meeting (AGM) are nearing completion, and additional details are provided in this issue. I encourage all members to attend every AGM for a number of reasons. First, this is a means for you to provide support and guidance to the Executive. Participation in the AGM represents support that is different from, but as necessary as support in the form of member dues and your most welcome and appreciated donations.

Another primary reason: because it is not really second in any way—is that every AGM is a truly engaging, informative and enjoyable gathering of our members, accompanied by wonderful local hospitality, delicious food, a bus tour and a very well prepared keynote presentation.

This year's AGM will be no exception, and we would be disappointed if you were among those who tell us that they are sorry they missed it.

Finally, we have some watershed items of business to deal with, including recommendations for new membership categories and annual dues.

Please use the enclosed or linked registration form to let us know if you plan to attend any part of the day. If you plan to participate in the activities which follow the morning business session please register early to take advantage of the early registration fee.

On behalf of the Executive please accept our best wishes for a joyful and bountiful summer!

Sincerely,  
**Gordon Thompson**

*A letter from Catherine Miles Grant, Executrix of the Frank V. Miles Estate, in connection with a generous bequest to CFHA is reproduced below:*

99 Boynton Avenue St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819

February 28, 2015

Gordon Thompson, chair  
Canadian Friends Historical Association  
17600 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 4Z0 CANADA

Dear Gordon Thompson,

I am humbled and inspired to know that my father, Frank Miles, designated the Canadian Friends Historical Association in his will. This is a testament to his recognition of the important work your organization does in chronicling the history of Canadian Friends and to his respect for the Spirit, people and processes that make it possible. This gift also reflects my father's long history with Friends, and his years as General Secretary/Treasurer for Canadian Yearly Meeting, from 1983 to 1989.

Yours in the Light, and with profound gratitude for our beloved Frank Miles,



Catherine Miles Grant  
Executrix, Frank Miles Estate

## Author to reveal response of Quakers, others, to War of 1812

Please plan to attend our AGM at the Yarmouth Monthly Meeting in Sparta, Ontario, Ninth Month 19, 2015.

The business meeting will be followed by a period fare lunch, afternoon program, and the evening banquet of locally grown produce prepared to 1820s-1830s cuisine.

**Donald Anger**, author, his-

torian and keynote speaker at the **CFHA** 2015 AGM, has extensively researched the experience and response of the Quakers and other pacifists who were a large portion of "Sugarloaf" (present day Port Colborne) as they became engulfed in the savagery of war.

After the banquet **Donald Anger** will reveal how the Sug-

arloaf settlement Quakers responded during and after the War of 1812 as illustrated by the lives of **Jonathan Doan** and **Daniel Abell**.

You will not want to miss this AGM. Please see the additional details and registration information below and use the enclosed insert to register for this important meeting.

## Sparta, Ontario will be site of CFHA's 2015 AGM

*Canadian Friends Historical Association 2015 Annual General Meeting*

**Date: Ninth Month 19, 2015 (Saturday, September 19, 2015)**

**Location: The Meetinghouse of Yarmouth Monthly Meeting, Sparta, Ontario**

### *ADVANCE PROGRAM*

**Light refreshments, Registration, Morning Annual General Meeting Business Session.**

**All members are encouraged to attend the Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM).**

**No charge to attend the AGM morning Business Session.**

**Lunch will feature Period Fare appropriate to the 1820s to 1830s. Menu items will depend on the success of the local harvest.**

### *AFTERNOON PROGRAM AND LOCAL TOUR*

**Dinner at the Sparta Heritage Church Museum. Menu based and prepared using recipes from the 1820s to 1830s, using locally grown produce.**

**Keynote speaker Donald Anger will present: JONATHAN DOAN and DANIEL ABELL  
The Genesis of the Yarmouth and Malahide Settlements  
During the War of 1812 at the Sugarloaf**

**Please note: pre-registration and payment is required for the Period Fare Lunch, Afternoon Program, Dinner and Keynote Presentation. Registration fee is \$50.00 per individual until the end of Eighth Month (August 31, 2015) and includes lunch, afternoon program, and dinner and keynote presentation. Registration after this date is \$60.00 per individual. Registration for the dinner and keynote presentation only is \$30.00. To register: please complete the enclosed CFHA AGM Registration Form, or download it from the CFHA website [www.cfha.info](http://www.cfha.info) and send it with a cheque payable to CFHA. Please mail the registration form and payment to:**

**Canadian Friends Historical Association**

**Attention: June Pollard**

**PO Box 21527**

**17600 Yonge Street**

**Newmarket, Ontario**

**L3Y 4Z0**

**For additional information or other enquiries please contact June Pollard at 647-995-5459**

## SITE OF CFHA LUNCH, HARVEST DINNER

At right is the Church Museum - a former United Church - at the northwest corner of Quaker Road and Church Street in the Village of Sparta. This will be the site of the **CFHA** lunch and Harvest Dinner, followed by speaker **Donald Anger**. The AGM will be held at the nearby Yarmouth Meetinghouse.



## Yarmouth Friends will host CFHA's 2015 AGM

By **Jane Zavitz-Bond**

Yarmouth Meeting is happy to welcome the **Canadian Friends Historical Association (CFHA)** for its Annual Meeting on September 19.

It will be a full day!

Members and guests will be greeted at the Meetinghouse in Sparta with muffins and coffee before the annual business meeting.

Lunch will be served at the Church Museum in the village, followed by a two-hour bus tour of sites related to 200 years of local Quaker history. After some free time, perhaps to follow the Sparta walking tour, dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

A local 1830s Harvest Meal will be catered by **Emily Glover** from the Church Museum kitchen. Delicious.

After dinner, historian and author **Donald Anger** will cap the day with an illustrated talk about a Quaker cabinet-maker, **Daniel Abell**. Donald may also look at **Christian Zavitz**, who built a saw mill

on Beaver Creek to cut timber needed by carpenters. For those who can stay overnight, all are invited to Meeting for Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday, September 20 (First Day, IXth month, 20th, as Quaker practice numbered dates. Now computers have caught up).

Friends have celebrated for more than 200 years since **Jonathan Doan** first came to look over the land and spend the winter. He left to find settlers and returned when the War of 1812-14 ended and permitted border crossings.

Quakers were the majority in the early settlement and their influence remains. They brought their faith and values with them, laying down the warp of this community.

Today the social fabric is supra-embroidered with many other settlers and immigrants from many lands; however, the Quaker foundation remains.

Our awareness and sharing will strengthen that support. A landmark representing this

support is the Yarmouth Meetinghouse, built in 1865 and the third structure to house and serve the meeting.

When the settlement began the first, a log structure, was quickly built on the south edge of **Jonathan Doan's** property.

By 1821 it was replaced by a frame meetinghouse built on land deeded from Doan. The Friends Burying Ground remained when the present Meetinghouse was built on the west side of Quaker Road, just north of Sparta Village.

This classic meetinghouse, bordered by a shaded grove, has the proportions of a Greek temple, simple and beautiful.

You are all cordially invited to come and meet in this historic, 150-year-old building that continues to serve to the present.

We in Yarmouth Meeting look forward to being with you on September 19 for **CFHA's** Annual General Meeting and Conference.



**Anne Weir and Cameron Knight** express a sense of the happiness of the day during the special celebration for the CYM Archives at Pickering College April 23. Cameron is the History Librarian at Richmond Hill Public Library.



At left, **Alan MacGillvray** chats with Canadian Quaker Archivist **Jane Zavitz-Bond** during the special celebration for the CYM Archives earlier this year. Alan contributed many years of service as Curator and Manager of the Uxbridge History Centre and has been supportive of Canadian Quaker history. In centre, **Joyce Holwerda** (clerk of Records Committee) talks with **Lesley Anderson** of Ancestry; at right, **Bev Jackson**, CYM Records Committee and life member of **CFHA**.

- Photos by Ruth Jeffery-MacLean

## Pickering College hosts special celebration for CYM Archives

On April 23 this year Pickering College hosted a special celebration for the CYM Archives, housed at the College, and Ancestry's mid-February posting of early Canadian Quaker Records.

Guests were welcomed to mid-morning "tea", featuring English scones, fruit and yogurt, with tea, coffee or juice, in the Reading Room of the college Library.

Old and new greeted one another and examined the exhibits of early minute books and other primary documents, including *Timothy Rogers' Journal*.

**Lesley Anderson** flew from Ancestry in Ottawa to discuss its scope and to demonstrate how to research its data base. This included some prominent Canadian Quakers from our re-

ords: **Mazo de la Roche**, the **Jalna** author; and **William Allen**, the former slave and Friends minister in Newmarket. This resource is free to members

**Jane Zavitz-Bond** said the Ancestry technology is "a major accomplishment that will carry **CFHA** forward as members benefit from the resource."



At left and above are some of those who attended an inaugural meeting of people interested in Quaker family history. - Photos by Ruth Jeffery-MacLean

## Group interested in Quaker family history holds meeting

An inaugural meeting of **CFHA** members and others interested in Quaker family history was held at Friends House in Toronto on April 8, 2015.

A total of 15 participants attended and regrets were received from four others.

The following is a list of those who attended and the personal family history connections and respective areas of research or interest of the group.

Do you know any of these individuals or the family surnames they are seeking information on? Do you have your own areas of family history research you would like to share with the group and other **CFHA** members?

Even if you are unable to participate in person your information and enquiries are appreciated. Please contact [gordthompson@eaton.com](mailto:gordthompson@eaton.com) or call 905-793-9593 (residence number). More meetings are planned.

At the inaugural meeting were:

**Donald Anger**, Abell, Cohoe, Clothier, Doan, author

and researcher, and **CFHA** AGM 2015 speaker.

**Virginia Anger**, Curator of Port Colborne Marine Museum, retired.

**Steve Clendenan**, Boone, Clendenan, Mullet, Rogers, Rorke, Waring, chair of **OGS**.

**Diane Clendenan**, **OGS** Cemeteries Committee chair.

**Sandra Fuller**, James, Harvey, Researcher and contributor to the *Canadian Quaker History Journal*.

**Susan Henderson Dyer Fothergill** (7th great granddaughter of **Mary Dyer**, Toronto branch **OGS**)

**Heather Ioannou**, genealogical researcher, Toronto branch **OGS**, researching Orvis family and UGR connections to Quaker family in Whitby, Ontario.

**Ruth Jeffery-MacLean**, **CFHA** Executive, researching **Catharine Sutton**, Aboriginal woman dispossessed of her land near Owen Sound, Ontario, and who secured an audience with **Queen Victoria**.

**Kyle Jolliffe**, Lossing, Southwick, Treffry. Researcher

and author of book on Rorke family. Research assistance offered for these families, fonds ("Trinket box") related to Lossing family donated to Norwich Regional Museum and Archives. Contributor to the *Canadian Quaker History Journal*.

**Judy Pocock**, entered in Woodbrooke Quaker study program, considering possible study/workshop on early Friends.

**June Pollard**, Armitage, Henderson, Pollard, Wells, Zavit; and **CFHA** Executive.

**Heather Sommers Hilborn**.

**Gord Thompson**, Chair, **CFHA**.

**Ginny Walsh Gould**.

The following were unable to attend the meeting in person:

**Bob Moore**, member of **CFHA** Executive.

**Jane Hamilton Robinson**, member of Toronto branch of **OGS**.

**Greg Marlatt**, Chair of Toronto Branch of **OGS**, and

**Randy Saylor**, Saylor, Hubbs, Clapp, and **CFHA** webmaster.



Re-enactments, including the wedding of **Captain James Fitzgibbon** (at right), the landing of the Loyalist bateaux, and the re-dedication of the United Empire Loyalist monument (at left) were held on the May 23 and 24 weekend at Adolphustown on the Bay of Quinte.

- Photos by Jane Lovell of the Adolphustown Friends Historical Society

## Phillip Dorland - 'sometime Quaker' and Adolphustown pioneer

An article in the forthcoming issue of the *Canadian Quaker History Journal* will shed new light and information on the "prodigal son" aspect of the life of sometime Quaker and Adolphustown pioneer **Phillip Dorland**.

In the 1780s much of the shoreline of the upper Saint Lawrence River and the north shore of Lake Ontario remained unbroken wilderness. In the summer and fall of 1783, however, events taking place hundreds of kilometers away in New York City were to bring dramatic change to this landscape.

The Treaty of Paris had

brought the American Revolutionary War to a conclusion, and the remaining British administration was organizing as orderly a withdrawal of thousands of Loyalists as could be achieved.

Among these refugees were many members of Quaker meetings who had relinquished their pacifist principles and actively supported the British cause. Others retained Quaker membership but no longer felt safe or even inclined to remain in the new republic.

Appreciation for the colonial British legacy remains strong among the descendants of the

Quaker and non-Quaker pioneers who settled in the wilderness and helped establish the communities of Adolphustown and others on both sides of the Bay of Quinte.

On the May 23-24, 2015 weekend colonial pomp and circumstance was on colourful display. The UEL (United Empire Loyalists) Heritage Center and Park at Adolphustown hosted a full weekend of re-enactments, including the wedding of **Captain James Fitzgibbon**, the landing of the Loyalist bateaux, and the re-dedication of the UEL monument.



*United Empire Loyalist monument marking the founding of Adolphustown.*

*- Photo by Jane Lovell*

## **CFHA seeks new Editor for The Meetinghouse newsletter**

A new Editor for the **CFHA** newsletter *The Meetinghouse* will be required, starting with the Winter, 2016 issue (January/February/March). For more information, contact **Gord Thompson** at:  
GordThompson@eaton.com  
or call: 905-793-9593  
(residence number)



*The historic Wooler Meetinghouse*

## **Wooler Monthly Meeting to mark Bicentennial**

On First Day the 4th of Tenth Month, (October 4, 2015), **Wooler Monthly Meeting**, northwest of Trenton, Ontario, will be hosting a special Open House gathering to commemorate the establishment of **Cold Creek Indulged meeting** 200 years ago. The day will start with Meeting for Worship from 11 a.m. until noon, followed by the Open House with light refreshments from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

### **Bring photos, memorabilia, memories**

**Wooler Monthly Meeting** extends a hearty invitation to the local community and to descendants and all those who have an interest in or connection to the meeting and burying ground. Local meeting members will bring photographs and the recently framed original deed to the meetinghouse and burying ground property. Those attending are also encouraged to bring photographs, memorabilia and their memories and recollections and visit us at the **CFHA** table.

**Adolphustown Preparative Meeting** was the first recognized Quaker meeting in Upper Canada, being established under the care of **Nine Partners Monthly Meeting** in New York State in 1798. In 1801 **Adolphustown Preparative Meeting** received Monthly Meeting status, giving it the ability to establish local subsidiary meetings.

In 1815 **Cold Creek Indulged Meeting**, now known as **Wooler Monthly Meeting**, was the fourth such meeting to be taken under the care of **Adolphustown Monthly Meeting**. In the years following The Great Separation of 1827-28 as many as 12 different monthly and preparative meetings had come into existence in the area west and north from Kingston to Cobourg and in Prince Edward County.

Of these 12 meetings only **Wooler Monthly Meeting** is active today.

For additional information, or if you have any questions, please contact the meeting clerk **Elizabeth Rolston** at 613-968-3063 or by e-mail at [elizabeth.rick@sympatico.ca](mailto:elizabeth.rick@sympatico.ca).



This **CFHA** booth display at this year's OGS Conference featured covers and articles from the **CFHA's** newsletter, *The Meetinghouse*, and *The Canadian Quaker History Journal*. - **Photo by Donna Moore**

## CHFA booth at OGS Conference gets many enquiries

The annual Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) Conference and AGM was held at Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario during the May/June, 2015 weekend. More than 400 registered for this well-attended conference.

Once again this year, **CFHA** had a booth at this event. As anticipated, the recent addition of Canadian Quaker minute books to Ancestry.ca resulted in an increased number of enquiries at the booth. These included a number of visitors who recently found evidence of their Quaker ancestors via Ancestry.ca.

As a table prize we pro-

vided a **CFHA** membership for the balance of the current year and the 2015/2016 year. Congratulations to **Nancy Alin**, whose ticket was drawn.

We also extended a warm welcome to new members **Christina Sills**, **Ruth Chambers** and **Art Harvey**. Special thanks to **David** and **Sandra Hannaford** who provided a detailed dossier on Sandra's Quaker and UEL (United Empire Loyalist) ancestor **Mahlon Knight**.

As well as the new memberships, about 30 booth visitors asked to be added to our mailing list, so they could receive additional information.

We also had the pleasure of personally introducing new member **Christina Sills** and her sister **Darcy** to a member of her extended **Mullet** family descendants, **CFHA** member **Steve Clendenan**.

**Donna Moore**, **Ian Woods** and **Gord Thompson** served as booth staff. We had new booth display material which made good use of laminated front pages and other excerpts from back issues of our very colourful and lively *The Meetinghouse* newsletters.

All in all, the entire event was an unqualified success.

- **Gord Thompson**

# Pickering student impressed by Quakers' record

On May 22, 2015 **Kim Bilous** of Pickering College, wrote: "I wanted to share with you a response to the Quaker Day for our Grade 10s - after every Global Leadership Program learning segment, the kids put together a 'Reflection'. This one is particularly well-written."

## By Sydney Stevenson

Today our Grade 10 class set out to explore Quakers, and Quakerism in our community. It was an incredible experience, and a very eye-opening one.

It was not what I had expected. At the beginning of the day we did a workshop learning about false stereotypes of Quakers, and the truth about all of the incredible things they have done throughout history to this day.

They are not only silent in their meetings, but they are silent leaders in history and in our communities. They do so much good, yet ask for nothing in return.

Quakers have a very strong value system, they believe in truth and simplicity, and most of all they believe that a "light" or god lives in everyone. I think this is an incredible belief.

## Quaker Meeting House visit

Our first stop was the Quaker Meeting House. We walked in, and I could see everyone noticing the simplicity of the place. There were simple wooden benches around the room with small cushions, and all of the walls were painted a pale pink. There was nothing else in the building other



**Sydney Stevenson**  
Pickering student

than a couple books in the far corner. This showcased the value of simplicity in Quakers lives. Quakers don't believe in needing all of the lavish decorations, like in most churches, to call upon God.

**Marilyn Church** and **Philip Smith** were the husband-and-wife that showed us their meeting room and explained Quakerism to us. During Quaker meetings they sit in complete silence for at least an hour. They believe in calling on that inner spark or "light" within themselves. That little voice that speaks to you from within. Something that represents more than yourself.

If you feel deeply that you need to share a thought, you stand up and speak and then sit back down in silence once again. In Morning Meeting at Pickering College we do a variation of this. We have a moment of silence after meeting, and then important announcements are said by the person just standing up and speaking.

I really felt inspired by the idea of calling upon that little "light" inside of myself, and

having so much time to reflect. It seems very pure and calming.

Quakers call themselves the Society of Friends. In the past, Quakers wore simple clothes, but they were recognizable, such as a women in a long black dress and bonnet. Now Quakers still wear simple clothes, but they are not a symbol of their religion.

Quakers do not normally publicly share their religion. Instead, to introduce yourself to a fellow Quaker you say "Hello Friend." All Quakers address each other as friends and equals. This showcases two other Quaker values of community and equality.

## Quaker first to treat women as equals

Another incredible thing that we discovered about Quakerism was that they were the first group to support and treat women as equals. Women were allowed to run a meeting, and talk just like any man. Children were treated equally too, and in school girls and boys were educated the exact same way. There was no difference for gender.

Especially in this time period so far back in history this was such a forward thinking idea.

The idea that women and children could be equal to men, and not just their property. This affected me a lot because the Quakers silently paved a path to me having the rights I do today.

*Continued on page 13*

## Pickering student impressed by Quakers' record...from page 12

Throughout history Quakers have always been peace keepers. When Canada experienced the War of 1812, Canadians called Quakers to the fight but they refused. During the first World War, Quakers were conscientious objectors, and did not agree with this war or what they were fighting about.

Instead they became nurses, or ran the ambulance services to help people quietly behind the scenes. They also wore white poppies as a symbol of long-term peace. I really have respect for this view because the long-term peace and agreement is what would count later on, and the Quakers were one of the only ones to realize the bigger picture and realize how much damage this war was doing at the time.

Later on when slavery was a big issue in the United States Quakers helped smuggle slaves across the border to Canada. They did this because, again, they believed in equality and the fact that you do not have the right to own a person. They hid their code messages in plain sight, and were able to get many people to safety.

During the build-up to the second World War Quakers were involved in the kinder-transport initiative, and they got many children out of Germany before the war started. They got more children out all together than the Allies did after the war.

Throughout history Quakers have saved so many lives, and this silent leadership and courage is still present in

today's society. Many Quakers are still putting their time into current issues here and abroad. They have so much integrity, and always believe in and fight for peace no matter what. I was very inspired by this.

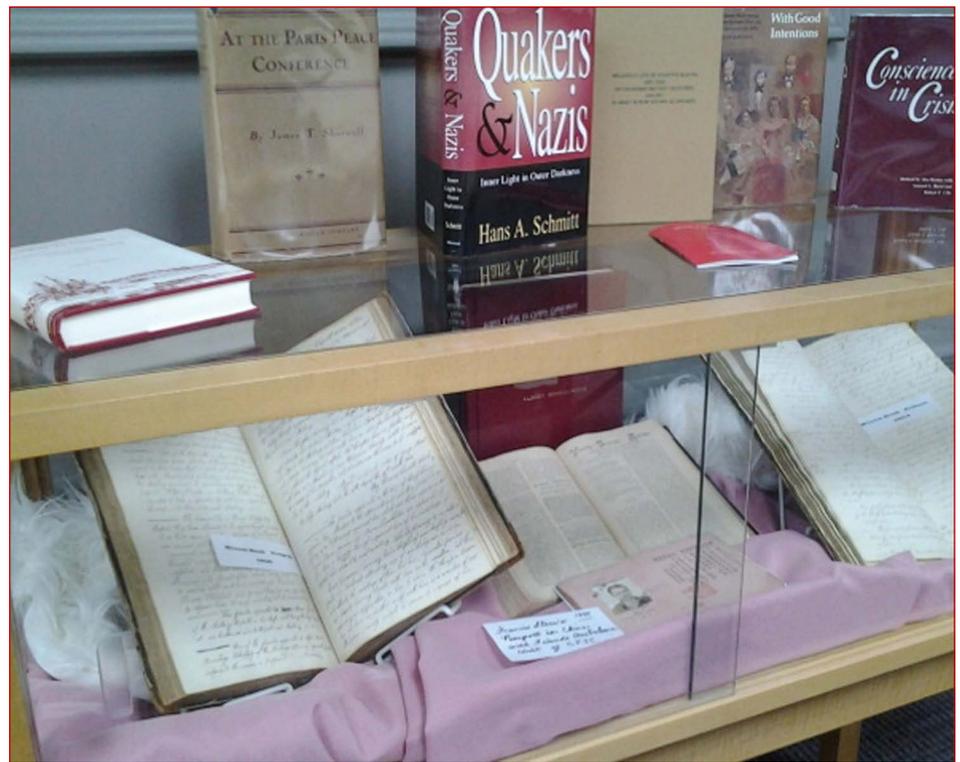
We got to visit the Quaker cemetery later on, and see the resting place of all of these people who made such a silent impact on history. Through each of these people's own simple ways, they followed Quaker values and fought for peace, equality, and so many other things. All of these people were leaders.

### Canada's largest collection of Quaker records

Later on we got to visit the Quaker archives in our school. I had passed by this room many times, yet never understood the significance

of it. It is Canada's largest collection of Quaker records. There were journals written by old Quakers, books written in the 1700s, and books written by people who used this reference collection as one of their sources. It was incredible to see so much of this history right in my own school. It really hit home for me. It made me realize how proud I am to go to a school that was Quaker founded, and how lucky I am that I still get to experience Quaker tradition and values.

I have been really touched by learning about this subject, and hope to always follow the values of a Quaker throughout the rest of my life. I also hope to keep learning to affect people with silent leadership, because that, in my opinion, is the best kind.



Quaker archives at Pickering College, founded by Quakers in Pickering, Ontario.

YONGE STREET  
MONTHLY MEETING

*Street Address: 17030  
Yonge Street, Newmarket,  
ON  
L3Y 7A9*

*MEETING FOR WOR-  
SHIP: Sundays at 10:30  
a.m.  
All are welcome.*

*First Day School is avail-  
able on request during  
Meeting for Worship every  
Sunday.*

*Tuesday Daytime Worship  
Sharing, 1:00 PM New par-  
ticipants are invited. For  
information about the book  
being discussed, or other  
details, contact Marie*

*Mid-week Meeting for Wor-  
ship has been laid down.  
There will no longer be a  
Meeting for Worship on  
Wednesday evenings.*

## **Yonge Street Monthly Meeting starts fund-raising campaign to improve meetinghouse accessibility**

Lack of accessibility to the downstairs washrooms and kitchen area of the Yonge Street meetinghouse has become a growing concern to the meeting and to both Quaker and non-Quaker groups that use the building.

"There are those who do not come to our meetinghouse because it is not accessible," a statement from the meeting said.

After careful discernment, *Yonge Street Monthly Meeting* has decided to construct a new entrance, install a lift, and an accessible washroom in the basement. The meeting is working with an architect. The project is estimated to cost \$215,000.

The meeting is launching a fund-raising campaign and hoping that construction can proceed within the year. The meeting so far has raised \$48,000, and the *Samuel Rogers Memorial Trust* has given \$50,000 towards the project.

The meeting is applying for a federal government grant of \$50,000.

"We are calling on Friends and friends of Yonge Street Monthly Meeting as stewards of the meetinghouse, to donate to enable this project to become a reality!," a statement from the meeting said.

Please send donations to:  
**Yonge Street Monthly Meeting**  
17030 Yonge Street  
Newmarket ON L3Y 7A9  
Attention: **Evelyn Schmitz-Hertzberg**,  
treasurer. Re: accessibility



## Book Review: *From a Quaker Perspective*

### Novel chronicles travail of Quaker woman

#### **A Measure of Light: A Novel**

BETH POWNING

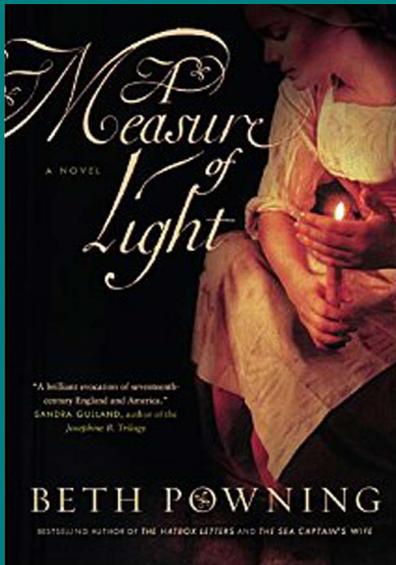
Historical fiction

338 pages

Published by Alfred A Knopf Canada

Available from Amazon.ca in hard copy and Kindle editions

*Reviewed by Bob Moore*



“*A brilliant evocation of seventeenth century England and America.*”

- *Sandra Gulland, author of the Josephine B. trilogy*

This historical fiction by **Beth Powning** begins in England in the 1630s. The religious-political climate is oppressive against the Puritans and some of them are planning to escape to the New World. The perspective for this story belongs to **Mary Dyer**, and her family makes the long journey across the ocean to Massachusetts. Unfortunately, they are not there long before the oppressed (Puritans) become the oppressors.

We can wonder how the oppressed turned into oppressors within a matter of years, and I think the author does a good job of exploring that irony. While in England, the oppressors may have been bullies picking on a minority but in the New Jerusalem, the oppressive Puritans were basing their actions on their understanding of Old Testament theology.

From time to time during the Exodus, the children of Israel are warned by God not to tolerate sin in the camp. If there was any sin in the camp, God would surely curse the whole camp; conversely, if the camp remained pure, they could expect great blessings.

The Puritans transferred this concept to their whole colony. They continually tried to purge their colony of unrighteous action, so that the colony could enjoy divine blessings. For example, non-attendance at Lord's Day meetings was harshly punished because it signalled the breaking of the fourth commandment, and aroused fear of divine punishment.

Unfortunately, this teaching led to a lot of outward conformity but did little for spiritual regeneration. But sometimes, circumstances outside a person's control, e.g. the fertility of the womb, became the measuring stick of a woman's spiritual condition. If she were upright, God would grant her the favour of childbearing. If she were barren, it was obviously God's punishment.

**Mary Dyer** could not flourish in such a setting. To add to the external pressure, Mary suffered a miscarriage at least twice.

*Continued on page 16*

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*Back in England, Mary finds that the Puritans are in power and are persecuting religious minorities like the Quakers. But Mary is attracted to the message of George Fox. It offers an antidote to all that is wrong in the colony. The focus is on the inner light, not the outward conformity. Women are treated with respect; they are not just baby machines. She is ready to give up everything to promote the good news.*”

## Novel chronicles travail of Quaker woman...*from page 15*

Another sign of God's judgment was evident when one of the miscarriages has severe microcephaly. Mary was branded as the mother of the devil. Even when the pregnancies were normal, Mary suffered from post-partum depression. Even though she had the support of the leading woman preacher of the colony, **Ann Hutchinson**, Mary was losing all hope for spiritual freedom and social justice. Thoughts of suicide intruded, but fear of damnation kept them under control. Mary convinces her successful businessman husband that she needs to go back to the old country to sort things out.

### **Puritans persecute Quakers**

Back in England, Mary finds that the Puritans are in power and are persecuting religious minorities like the Quakers. But Mary is attracted to the message of **George Fox**. It offers an antidote to all that is wrong in the colony. The focus is on the inner light, not the outward conformity. Women are treated with respect; they are not just baby machines. She is ready to give up everything to promote the good news.

After five years, Mary returns home to a family that hardly knows her, and spends herself in the service of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Sadly, depression continues to haunt her, and at one time she walks out into the surf tempting it to take her under and drown her, but she recovers at the last minute.

The laws against the Friends become increasingly harsh. Death is the penalty for upsetting the peaceful doyens of Boston. Mary is arrested and sentenced to hang but an appeal from her son gets her off with a warning that if she is found in Boston again, she will surely die. In spite of these dire warnings, when Mary hears of Friends being imprisoned in Boston, she feels led to go and support them. She herself is captured and executed in June 1660.

This book is somewhat dark, but those were dark days. The author creates a sense of the oppression and depression extant at the time.

She also hints at a moral dilemma. Did **Mary Dyer** die honourably, or did she provoke the authorities to take her life? If she had taken her own life, it would have meant damnation, but what God could damn a woman who died defending His disciples?

Was **Mary Dyer** the first known case of death-by-cop? Each reader will have decide for herself and himself.



*This building, erected in 1792 by settlers, including United Empire Loyalists, in Adolphustown is the oldest surviving Methodist building in Canada.*

*- Photo courtesy of Old Bay Church website: [www.oldbaychurch.ca](http://www.oldbaychurch.ca)*

## Old Hay Bay Church oldest surviving Methodist building in Canada

Old Hay Bay Church is the oldest surviving Methodist building in Canada. It was erected in 1792 by settlers, including United Empire Loyalists, who had recently arrived and established the community of Adolphustown.

Here, one can imagine, travelling saddlebag preachers thundered forth in their sermons. Here local residents gathered for worship and fellowship at Canada's first Methodist camp meeting in 1805.

The building was enlarged in 1835, used as a farmer's barn when the congregation built a new church in Adolphustown, circa 1860, and reacquired for church use in the early 20th century by the Methodists, (continuing, after union in

1925, as The United Church of Canada). The church, land, and its nearby cemetery were designated as a National Historic Site of Canada in 2001. Likewise, the church has been officially recognized as an Ontario Historic Site.

The Old Hay Bay Church is seeking any descendants from those who were original donors for the construction of the church.

We are also seeking descendants of the 1819 drowning victims. Please contact Kathy Staples at: [kathystaples0@gmail.com](mailto:kathystaples0@gmail.com)

An annual worship service is held in the church on the fourth Sunday afternoon every August. - *From Old Bay Church website [www.oldbaychurch.ca](http://www.oldbaychurch.ca)*

### *Annual Service*

The Annual Pilgrimage Service for 2015 will be held on Sunday, August 23rd, 2015 at 3 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to come and worship!

## CFHA seeks new Editor for The Meetinghouse newsletter

A new Editor for the **CFHA** newsletter *The Meetinghouse* will be required, starting with the Winter, 2016 issue (January/February/March). For more information, contact **Gord Thompson** at: [GordThompson@eaton.com](mailto:GordThompson@eaton.com) or call: 905-793-9593 (residence number)

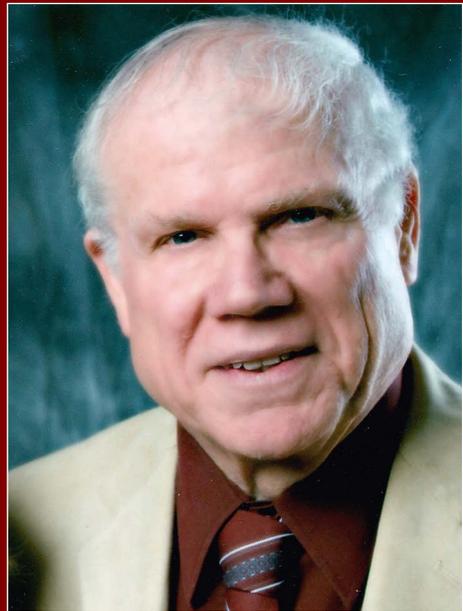
## Old Hay Bay Church lists members on original subscription lists

### Original Subscription List

Conrad Vandusen  
Elizabeth Roblin  
Paul Huff  
William Ruttan  
William Casey  
Joseph Allison  
Joseph Clapp  
Peter Frederick  
Peter Ruttan  
Henry Davis  
John Green  
Arra Ferguson  
Solomon Huff  
Stephen German  
Caspar Vandusen  
Daniel Dafoe  
Andrew Embury  
William Ketcheson  
William Green  
John Bininger

### Aug. 29, 1819 - Drowning Victims

John & Jane German  
Mary & Jane Detlor  
Mathilda Roblin  
Elizabeth (Betsy) Clark  
Mary Cole  
Hulda Madden  
Elizabeth McKay  
Peter Bogart



**Donald G. Anger**

*Author, historian to address CFHA annual meeting*

Retired educator, historian and author **Donald G. Anger** will deliver the keynote address at the Canadian Friends Historical Society's Annual General Meeting and conference on September 19 in Sparta, Ontario.

**Donald Anger**, B.A., M.ED, of Toronto, is a retired Principal and history teacher, and author of nine historical and genealogical books. After retirement from the Niagara South Board of Education, he spent several years as a volunteer historical researcher and writer at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum where his wife Virginia was Director/Curator.

