

**MINUTES, BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2002**

1. The Meeting with a concern for business started with silent prayer at 2:30 pm. The following were present: Mariellen Gilpin (clerking), Dawn Amos, Lisa Zee, Caroline Zee, Briana Zee, Bob Wixom, Pat Wixom, Karen Shippen, Jeff Brotemarkle, Carolyn Treadway, Allen Treadway, Bobbi Trist, Ellen Baranowski, Liz Oldham, Margaret Katranides, Harry Desroches, Dawn Rubbert, Nancy Jordan, and Scott Searles (recording).
2. The clerk read a tentative agenda and asked if there were any additional items, two then being proposed and added. The Minutes of last fall's meeting were read by Scott Searles. After clarification of "water plant" in #7, and a correction in the second sentence #8, the Minutes were approved.
3. The Treasurer's Report, which had been compiled by Grayce Mesner, was presented by Bobbi Trist in Grayce's absence. This showed a current balance of \$3119.43, which is about \$300 less than last March.
3. State of the Meeting Reports from all the Monthly Meeting represented were presented orally and discussed. These included progress towards a new meeting house at Urbana-Champaign, the stimulus of new members and attenders at Columbia, expansion of First Day School at Southern Illinois to encompass two age groups, and the problem of the small group remaining in Decatur..
4. A proposal made by David Wixom at the Spring 2002 Blue River Quarterly Meeting, that Columbia's Summer Family Float Trip be made a regular function of Blue River Quarterly, was discussed. This has been organized for the past 29 years by Bob Wixom, but he cannot continue to do so. It has been discussed at St Louis and Urbana-Champaign Meetings and there is general feeling in favor of seeing it continued. But for it to be a Blue River Quarterly-sponsored event, we want to see a committed person volunteer to continue to organize it. Bob Wixom spoke of his experience in doing so, pointing out that if one knows what to do, it does not take much time to organize it, and that it draws in people from different meetings. No action was taken at this time.
5. Bobbi Trist reported on her visit to Project Lakota this summer, showing many photographs she had taken of work projects which were in progress. Clerk will request Candy Boyd to prepare a written report for Spring 2003 Blue River Quarterly Meeting, including how the funds for materials and the work by the residents are integrated.
6. The above items were each approved by the meeting. There was not time to consider the function and future of Blue River Quarterly, which will be taken up at the Carry-over Meeting on Sunday morning. The meeting closed with silent prayer at 3:45 pm.

Submitted by Scott Searles, recording clerk.

**MINUTES OF THE CARRY-OVER MEETING FOR BUSINESS,
Sunday Morning, September 29, 2002**

1. The meeting started with silent prayer at 9:00 am. Present were Mariellen Gilpin (clerking), Allen Treadway, Carolyn Treadway, Bob Wixom, Pat Wixom, Jeff Brotemarkle, Bobbi Trist, Ellen Baranowski, Dawn Amos, Lisa Zee, Caroline Zee and Scott Searles (recording).

2 Clerk proposed that we first have a brain-storming session about the future and the function of Blue River Quarterly, and this was agreed on. We are concerned that attendance was less than usual this fall. This may be due, at least in part, to the concern and exhaustion generally felt by Quakers about the apparent commitment by our government to start a new war. But attendance at recent meetings has been less than previously, anyway.

The historic function of quarterly and yearly functions was reviewed: they provide bonding and hold us together. There is an advantage to getting to know others from different meetings. But in modern life, there is often a shortage of time for religion. We need to steal our time back.

Quarterly meetings have a historic role in setting and laying down monthly meetings. They also provide a means by which monthly meetings can support causes together, as well as support each other.

Possible ways to encourage attendance at Quarterlies was considered. The possibility of including AVP workshops was considered, but there wouldn't be time enough for a full workshop.

Inviting resource people can attract attendance. We could also make more effort to invite others in our monthly meetings to come. We could use e-mail more to get to know others at different meetings. Southern Illinois has been using List Servers from SIU to help with keeping in touch.

Should Blue River Quarterly be held at different times and in different towns, as it used to be? The fall date seems to be locked by other IYM and FGC meetings scheduled. The discussion left us with food for further thought, but no action was taken on the matter.

3. Returning to the business format, the meeting approved of sending \$250 each to AFSC and FCNL, to help with their leadership role in trying avert starting a war with Iraq.

4. Meeting closed with silent prayer at about 10:20 am, and adjournment for meeting for Worship. Approval of the Minutes for the Carry-over Session will be taken up at the Spring, 2003, Meeting for Business.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Searles