

## **Secretary's Report to EC 10/02/2009 to be held at Sarasota Meeting House**

**This report** describes activities that have taken place since EC Meeting, 06/13/2009.

### **General office activities during the summer:**

Routine office work done accomplished daily or weekly: mail, email, trips to post office, bank, trips to warehouse for book ordering, shipping, etc., bookkeeping, website updating, address corrections, etc. I applied for and was awarded the Volunteer Coordinator position for the FGC Gathering. Had a great time, roomed with ProNica Stateside Coordinator, met and talked with myriad interesting people, and I believe I was a good ambassador for SEYM. Following FGC Gathering, the pall that settled on the Gathering following the death of one attendee and brain injury of another, followed me home. Perhaps the sorrow was compounded by reports of illness by several SEYMers and pending surgeries. Perhaps this explains the unduly slow committee work with the exception of the Gathering Committee clerk and Worship and Ministry who are hard at work, and consult with the office regularly.

### **Financial/Bookkeeping:**

The office has all the routine financial bookkeeping up to date with the exception of not yet receiving the apportionment contribution data from the Finance Committee and confirmation from Treasurer that bookkeeping data entry is accurate for FY Annual Report 2008-2009. The Trustees are encouraged with the value of the FFC Funds holding better than might be expected and are appreciative of Friends' and Meetings' donations.

### **Website:**

The SEYM website <[www.seym.org](http://www.seym.org)> content is accurate to date with the exception of images on home page. The Peace and Social Concerns web pages are updated monthly by Michael Shell who continues to do an outstanding job.

### **Publications (Print and Electronic):**

What has fallen through the cracks for postponement has been the newsletter. Originally scheduled to go to press prior to FGC Gathering, there was insufficient material; photographs and graphics had not yet been received. An adequate number of submissions have now been received and filed.

Reviewing a draft of *SEYM Directory 2009-2010* caused a flurry of submissions for corrections. One volunteer, bless her heart, has now corrected the Quaker organization data in section-ii and emailed that to membership clerk. Unfortunately, due to the foibles of email, we are never sure if submissions have been received or not. It has been office procedure to forward all updates as they arrive, thinking a weekly update of mailing addresses ensures correct mailing labels throughout the year. This decision needs to be revisited.

Regarding the pamphlets, a question, however, has arisen, as I listen to the lecture tapes. As a member of the Quaker Universalist Fellowship Steering Committee, I have been privileged to be part of the discussion of the wisdom of print vs. online pdf downloads—presumably downloaded for free. It seems at first flush, in those cases where the lectures are of an extreme personal nature or provided time-critical information, it may be unwise to invest \$250-\$350 in pamphlets that may not be robust sellers. Several older pamphlets from past decades come to mind that simply are not selling, and in some cases can't be given away, or are not taken when labeled "FREE" at IBMs or YBMs! In the name of simplicity, I request permission to recycle a small selection of these.

Since we, in fact, do nearly have sufficient monies set aside for printing *Faith and Practice* c. 2010, I would like permission to seek input from the publications discernment appointees. Originally their appointments were for consideration of submitted manuscripts by individuals rather than for the lectures. Please advise.

**Endnote:**

I had planned to take a week off following each surgery, but unfortunately, due to daily demands, ended up working 1/4-, 1/2-time during convalescence. This has simply prolonged healing time. *I greatly appreciate those who have assisted during this time.*

Respectfully submitted by Lyn Cope