

# Carolina Woman

March/April/May 2016

A publication of North Carolina United Society of Friends Women

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Brenda McKinney*

Spring is hopefully right around the corner and that means it's time once again for our spring banquet! We will gather at Quaker Lake the last Saturday in April instead of our usual first Saturday in May, which this year is Mother's Day weekend. Your Executive Committee is planning an exciting program using a skit about USFW past, present, and future. We want to encourage all our ladies to attend, but we want to especially include our younger ladies. We are planning a children's program, as well as childcare. Please indicate on your registration the ages of the children you are bringing so we can have the appropriate caregivers. We would also encourage our well-established circles to consider paying the registration for younger members to attend and learn more about us. We want to be very much focused on the future of USFW.

The board is also very encouraged by the number of circles who continue to support NC USFW even though their meetings may have withdrawn from the Yearly Meeting. Indeed, of the meetings that have withdrawn, all those with USFW groups have paid their dues except two. We are considering changes to our constitution addressing this matter. We have discussed affiliate membership for those circles who are not part of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, but continue to pay their dues and support our projects financially. This would entitle them to participate in all activities of NC USFW except holding a position on the Executive Committee. A woman who is interested in the goals and work of USFWI but is not a member of a local society may be a member-at-large. The cost is \$25 annually and includes the Blueprints and The Advocate subscription. We would like to continue as a UNITED Society of Friends Women and we want everyone's involvement.

Our family has a habit of asking the grandchildren to return thanks when we are gathered together. Our 8 year old started around age 3 and was very meticulous about thanking God for each person present, as well as those who were absent, and the food AND the drinks. The 6 year old, who is usually hungry, gets right to the point and sometimes just thanks God for everything. The four-year-old now volunteers and thanks God for his family, his food, his house and the less fortunate. I know he's heard his parents pray about concerns for the less fortunate, but thanking God for them? Now that I think about it, he has the right idea. Think about when we are happiest, when we feel most blessed. It's often when we have reached out to another in need, whether it be emotional, spiritual, or financial. That's how God programmed us, to love our neighbor. That's what USFW means to me, the opportunities for serving the less fortunate and how blessed we are to be able to help others. Our purpose is "to stimulate spiritual development of the spirit of mission to the meetings, including children and youth." I am grateful for the women who started this outreach and I pray we will continue to be the mission they envisioned.

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Re: Amendment of NC USFW Constitution  
For consideration at Annual Gathering September 17, 2016

Ladies:

Since NCYM annual sessions are being held in August this year and our USFW annual gathering has been scheduled in September, we need to change our constitution to comply with this change.

Our current constitution, Article XIV, states:

Section 1. A conference of all Societies composing North Carolina United Society of Friends Women shall be held in April or May of each year, and shall be known as the Spring Conference.

Section 2. The North Carolina United Society of Friends Women shall meet for an Annual Gathering in August of each year. New officers and departmental secretaries will be installed at this session.

The Executive Committee proposes the following revision:

Section 2. The North Carolina United Society of Friends Women shall meet for an Annual Gathering in August or September of each year. New officers and departmental secretaries will be installed at this session.

This notice is provided pursuant to the provisions for revision of the Constitution and will be presented for your approval at the Annual Gathering to be held at Deep Creek Friends Meeting on September 17, 2016.

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### A NOTE FROM JAN

*"I'm late; I'm late, for a very important date. No time to say Hello, Goodbye. I'm late, I'm late, I'm late!" The White Rabbit from Alice In Wonderland*

I feel very much like the White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland. Running behind and not able to catch up. Even the extra day in February didn't help. I apologize if this issue of the Carolina Woman reaches you a little late but I know you will enjoy all the articles written by our officers.

Our weather has teased us with the wonderful warmth of spring, reminding us that our Spring Conference is right around the corner!!! Make plans now to gather at Quaker Lake with friends to learn more about where God is leading us and to purchase books from the new reading list. We have made arrangements for childcare, so bring the little ones with you! The registration form for Spring Conference can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Mark your calendars and bring a friend. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

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### A REMINDER FROM OUR RECORDING AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

At our Spring Conference we will have a memorial for our USFW members that have passed away since May 2, 2015. Thank you for all the names that have been sent in and please send any additional names to Janet Robbins at [dogdoctor@embarqmail.com](mailto:dogdoctor@embarqmail.com). Formal written memorials are not needed.

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## LITERATURE

*Sherry Hylton*

*"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." Mark 11:25*

I have been thinking a lot lately about information I wanted to include in this article so I thought I would just forego beginning with a bible verse since most of the information would be more business. But as I sat down this morning I was led to look at some of the daily bible verses for today. The one above was the one that I continued to see. I have my ideas of why, but I will let each of you decide whether or not it is fitting in your life.

First of all, I cannot believe that I am beginning my last year of Literature Secretary. I will have to admit that in the beginning it was a daunting task, but I will also admit that it has been an experience that I wouldn't trade for anything. I have definitely come to understand the real purposes and the importance of USFW. I have met so many women that have taught me so much about how to live as a dedicated Christian woman. My walk with God has grown closer because of these experiences I have had. So I say "thank you" for letting me be a part of you these last few years.

Now I want to say that I am very excited that I should be getting our new 2016-2017 Reading List soon. It is always so much fun for me to see what new books have been included. However, I am personally saddened that the list will no longer include Children's Books. This was the decision of USFW-I. So I would like to make a suggestion. If the children of your Meeting have been participating in this program, perhaps someone there would take the responsibility of choosing your own books and continuing a program somewhat like this. I am planning to do this at Marlboro. It is very important to me that our children have quality Christian literature that may have a positive influence on their lives someday. With the craziness in our world today we don't know how much longer Christian literature will be available in other places!

Finally, I will have the NEW books at our Spring Conference on April 30th at Quaker Lake. If you want to have a good selection you need to come to this meeting. The committee also has some new ideas for this meeting and we would like to have a great turnout to participate. I am hoping that by the time you read this that the Groundhog will have predicted correctly and we are in sight of an early "Spring"! May God's blessings find you as we celebrate this season of our Risen Savior!

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## SCHOLARSHIP

*Lee Van Hughes*

Scholarship applications for the Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship grants are due **March 15, 2016**.

To receive consideration, all applications must be filled out completely and on time. Please remember that all candidates shall be a participating member of NCYM.

**ALL** forms can be found online at <http://ncym-fum.org/cooperating.html>. They may be folded and can be sent by regular mail. New applicants should include an application form, a personal letter, and 3 references forms. Students who are reapplying only need the one page application form and a college transcript. Completed forms are to be mailed to:

Mrs. Lee Van Hughes  
1470 Pinefield Drive  
Sophia, NC 27350

## PEACE AND CHRISTIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS

*Esther Creed*

My husband and I have just celebrated our 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary and have just found out that we are going to be Great-Grandparents! Life is Good!

We are already in the third month of a new year and time seems to be flying by. I read this the other day and thought I would share it with you. It is something to think about all year long.

### Fling It Out!

When someone does a kindness that brightens up your day,  
When a good friend helps you smile although your heart's chock full of pain...  
When a gift comes unexpectedly to make your spirits rise,  
When a little word is said to put a twinkle in your eye.  
Don't forget to fling that kindness right back out to someone else.  
For joy that's shared is a boomerang, each kindness that you do,  
Each smile you share, each heart you lift, flings joy right back to you.

## ADULT MISSIONARY EDUCATION

*Anna Ruth Spaulding*

Have you ever endured a power outage? Several years ago an ice storm left us in the dark for 8 l-o-n-g days. We certainly welcomed the light, water, and warmth when the power returned. We were grateful! Folks in Kenya experience outages regularly. Their unreliable electricity comes and goes nearly every day. Sometimes it is off for days! Did I mention that this service is very expensive?

For these reasons, Jim Hoeksema, will take a sabbatical in the spring and summer of 2016 to go to Friends Theological College (FTC) in Kaimosi, Kenya. Jim is a Professor of Industrial Technology at William Penn University in Grinnell, Iowa. He will lead the **Solar Power Project**. Each panel will cost \$150. This will enable Pastors, Youth Workers and Missionaries to have regular use of computers as they study. This in turn will reduce operating expenses and cut costs of tuition for students struggling to pay. It will also allow FTC to pay salaries on a more regular basis.

Let's get behind this worthy project in prayers and giving.

### BIRTHDAYS OF WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

March	April	May
None	24 Ziad Khalaf 25 John Muhanji	None

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE

*Becké Jones*

*“I believe in the sun even when it doesn’t shine. I believe in love when it isn’t shown and I believe in God even when (He, She) doesn’t speak.”  
Scratched on a wall in a Concentration camp prison*

Does everything you believe have to be visible or have some kind of proof to support your belief? Do you have beliefs that you find difficulty explaining to others? Are you comfortable with your beliefs? Do you have beliefs that have changed? What do you believe?

The above quote came across in a book I was reading and the queries above came to me as I felt the beauty of words some long years ago someone wrote while in awful conditions.

I believe in USFW women! Our circles support with their donations projects approved by USFWI and most of our ladies do so without ever seeing, hearing, or reading about the end result. They believe in our USFWI.

I believe in USFW women! Many circles support with their donations (money, time, food, service, encouragement) community needs. So very often this support goes unrecognized because recognition is not their purpose. Their purpose is to serve as we are instructed to do.

I believe in USFW women! They reach beyond their small groups by preparing food, collecting food, helping the sick or bereaved, volunteering in special projects or organizations that serve those with needs, etc. Their outreach extends from their own meetings to people they will never personally meet.

I believe in USFW women! They smile, they speak, they make welcome, they appreciate, and they share their love. Do you believe in your USFW women remembering we are all imperfect? I hope so.

I believe in NCUSFW women because I see what they do to support FEMAP (Friends Emergency Material Assistance Program). I see kits, items for kits (hygiene, infant, school and farm workers), quilts, afghans, knitted sweaters, hats, scarves, sewn infant sacque and gowns, bears, receiving blankets and of course, checks. Our North Carolina USFW circles support this all volunteer Friends organization without ever seeing how much their support touches the needs of others.

I believe in NCUSFW women! Believing helps us see and feel the unseen.

### Upcoming 2016 Greensheet Projects

#### **March \*Four Funds USFWI 2016**

- 1- Love Fund: Ramallah – Joyce Ajlouny
- 2- Faith Fund: Kenya – Robert Wafula
- 3- Hope Fund: Kenya – Turkana/Samburu Pastors
- 4- Joy Fund: Native American Center Workers

#### **April \*Christian Service USFWI 2016**

- 1- Belize: Student Services
- 2- Ramallah: Eli & Sybil Jones’ Scholarships (k-12)
- 3- Kenya: Lugula Hospital Adopt-a-Bed

#### **May \*\*Friends Homes Assistance Fund**

- \*\*Spring Conference Offering – Quaker Lake

*\*USFWI Projects*

*\*\*NC USFWI Projects*

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## STEWARDSHIP

*Pat Thames*

I have been reading about stewardship lately and this article stood out from all the others. It is just too good not to share. It is written and published as a devotional and includes the permission to use it to share with others.

*“You have been faithful with a few things;  
I will put you in charge of many things.”*

*Matthew 25:13*

When a biographer researched the life of the Duke of Wellington a few years ago, he had no difficulty tracing the major events of his life. As he tried to push beyond public knowledge to an understanding of the private side of the duke he encountered difficulty. When this researcher came across a box of the Duke's financial records, he learned what the Duke had done with his money. He finally discovered the Duke's deepest values and most important priorities.

If someone were to come across our financial records a hundred years from now what would our check registers or our credit card files say about us? Would we be embarrassed by our use of money? Would our financial records give any sign that we sought to live as faithful stewards of the treasures God had entrusted to us?

We don't use the word “steward” very much in our culture. But in biblical times stewards were among the most important people in society. A steward had command over the resources of another.

In a world without fax machines, cell phones, or pagers, a wealthy man had no choice but to entrust his holdings to his steward while he was away from his estate.

In the parable from Matthew, Jesus teaches that all of us are stewards entrusted by God with vast wealth. Even the steward who received just one talent was given a fortune worth the equivalent of thirty-five years of daily wages.

But exercising our stewardship is often intimidating. Whenever we use our gifts we risk what we think might be failure. It's tempting to think that if God is really so powerful, God hardly needs our meager efforts to multiply his wealth!

Each of us faces the temptation of compromising our calling. Is it really so evil to do nothing with the resources God has left in our keeping? Jesus' parable answers this question with a resounding yes! As the master illustrates, God treats us severely when we offer excuses to justify our reluctance to be good stewards.

It's good to know that another option is open to us. We can seize our role as stewards with the eagerness of the first two stewards in the parable. Both of these faithful stewards multiply the master's resources. And both receive the same reward at their master's return: “Well done, good and faithful servant!” (Matt. 25:21)

At the end of time, will we hear those same words from our Lord?

\*Source: “The Joy of Generosity” devotional series developed by Barnabas Foundation and used by permission.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**North Carolina United Society of Friends Women**  
*Jean Christy*

**2015 Greensheet Projects: funds Received and Disbursed from January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015**

<b>January</b>	Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship Scholarship Fund	2,197.75
	Interest Earned Millie Cooper Fund CD (Jan-Dec)	82.01
	Interest Earned EAC Fellowship Scholarship Fund	2.79
	International Students Scholarship Fund	1,327.75
	Interest Earned International Account	\$2.78
<b>February</b>	Peace and Social Concerns USFWI 2015	
	1-Cuba: Quaker Institute of Peace	728.98
	2-Right Sharing of World Resources: Samson Ababu Support	853.97
	3-East Africa: Friends Church Peace Team	1,029.55
	FEMAP -Friends Emergency Materials Assistance Program	1,882.50
<b>March</b>	Four Funds USFWI 2015	
	1-Love: Ramallah - Joyce Ajlouny	1,631.09
	2-Faith: Kenya – Robert Wafula	1,531.09
	3- Hope: Kenya – Turkana/Samburu Pastors	1,681.09
	4-Joy – Native American Center Workers	1,711.73
<b>April</b>	Christian Service USFWI 2015	
	1-Kenya: Turkana/Samburu Mission Support	1,558.05
	2-Ramallah: Eli & Sybil Jones' Scholarships	1,684.73
	3-Kenya: Lugulu Hospital Adopt a Bed	2,039.72
<b>May</b>	Friends Homes Assistance Fund	1,608.00
	Spring Conference - Quaker Lake	4,205.50
<b>June</b>	NC USFW Projects	2,219.50
<b>July</b>	Jamaica Building Fund	1,292.50
	Children/Youth USFWI 2015	
	1- Ramallah - Amari Play Center	987.40
	2-ACFIA Children and Youth Programs	1,040.30
	3-Kenya - Turkana/Samburu Girl's Education	1,012.40
	4-Belize - Belize School Feeding Program	862.40
<b>August</b>	Annual Gathering Offering	
	1-Friends Center Guilford College Campus Ministry	1,831.50
	2-Friends Campus Ministry NCYM	2,621.50
<b>September</b>	80% Membership Apportionment to USFWI	1,682.00
	20% Membership Apportionment to Scholarship Fund	420.50
	Yearly Meeting offering-Eliza Armstrong Cox Scholarship	2,172.50
<b>October</b>	Keys to the Kingdom USFWI 2015	
	1-Kenya: Kaimosi Hospital and Adopt a Nurse	1,363.38
	2-Triennial Travel Assistance	1,488.37
	3- <i>The Advocate</i> Subsidy	746.13
	4-East Africa: Leadership Development	1,488.37

<b>November</b>	United Thank Offering USFWI 2015	
	1-Jamaica: Leadership Training Project	1,407.00
	2-Belize: Friends School Scholarship Fund	1,482.00
	3-Kenya: FTC Library/Technology	1,536.00
<b>December</b>	MOWA Choctaw	2,562.50
	Friends Disaster Service	2,912.50

**Other Contributions**

Adopt a Nurse	450.00
Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship (50% USFWI, 50% Scholarship)	325.00
Friends Theological College	540.00
Robert Wafula	240.00
Dale Graves - Belize	300.00
Church Women United	25.00
Mexico Missions	75.00
FUM Teachers	100.00
<b>Total Funds Received 2015</b>	<b>\$58,942.83</b>

Thank you for your giving this year. We were able to contribute much to those in need.

Jean Christy, Treasurer  
 2549 Cottage Place  
 Greensboro, NC 27455

**THE ADVOCATE SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

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 Belvidere, NC 27919-9666



# NC USFW Spring Conference at Quaker Lake – April 30, 2016

## “Gratitude for the Decades”

*“If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it”. Abraham Lincoln*

Our Executive Board has come up with an exciting program to show the beginnings of our USFW and where we are today. Come join us to show gratitude for the women who have traveled before us and those who are leading us today.

Mark your calendars now for the Spring Conference at Quaker Lake!

**WHAT???? You have to care for your children?** BRING them with you. We will provide childcare and lunch for them at no charge. I mean, what kid wouldn't want to spend the morning at Quaker Lake?

**9:00 - 10:00 - Registration and Book Store with light morning refreshments.**

**10:00 - 12:00 - Welcome, Music, Business and Program**

**12:00 - Luncheon**

If you have questions, please contact Jan Dough (336-629-1689) or Brenda McKinney (336-374-4472)

If you would like to stay overnight at Quaker Lake, please call or include this on the registration.

**Deadline is April 15, 2016** (Preregistration is requested due to the catering of the meal)  
The cost of the meal is \$12.00

### Spring Conference Registration at Quaker Lake

**Please clip and send by April 15, 2016**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Lunches \$12.00 each \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Childcare Needed**

Name of child and age \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail with check (written to NCUSFW) to:**

**Jean Christy  
2549 Cottage Place  
Greensboro, NC 27455**