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# FORT MYERS MONTHLY MEETING

## OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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Newsletter, Ninth Month, 2005

4272 Scott Ave.  
Fort Myers, Florida 33905

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<b>Clerk:</b>	Larry Butler	(239) 337-3743
<b>Recording Clerk:</b>	Nancy Fennell	(863) 699-1276
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<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.quakers-swfl.org">www.quakers-swfl.org</a>	

- Potluck luncheons are once a month, the first First Day of the month. All are welcome.
- Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is Ninth Month 14, 2005
- If you want to save postage and get your newsletter by email, please email: [ericalynne@earthlink.net](mailto:ericalynne@earthlink.net)

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<p>Richard Squires October 21, 1909 – August 13, 2005 Memorial Service October 8, 2005 2:00 pm Iona House</p>
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### **Military Recruitment and Conscientious Objection Workshop**

Oskar Castro

Director of Youth and Militarism, American Friends Service Committee

September 10, 2005 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

September 11, 2005 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Iona House

*See Pages 4 and 5 for More Information*

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### **QUERIES FOR THE EIGHTH MONTH**

*How do Friends meet their responsibilities outside the Meeting?*

#### **Extending Our Message**

- Do you try to share in the religious life and fellowship of the whole community?
- Do you cooperate as fully as possible in its work, availing yourself of opportunities for worship and service with other local religious groups?
- Is your distinctive Quaker witness characterized by humility and a willingness to learn from others?

**Richard Squires**  
**October 21, 1909 – August 13, 2005**

Richard Squires died August 13, 2005 due to heart failure and complications from Leukemia. He was 95 years old.

Richard (Dick) was born October 21, 1909 in Zanesville Ohio, the second of 5 children. His father Walter Squires had an oil well business, while his mother Edith Lombard Squires raised and taught the children. From her, Dick gained his love of music and the arts, which was a lifelong passion. From his father he inherited a practical and engineering outlook as well as his sense of compassion and honesty.

Dick's family moved to Richmond Indiana, where he graduated from high school. Education was an important family value, and Dick graduated with engineering degrees from Purdue and Yale. He married Janet Harris October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1932. Their three children were brought up in the Philadelphia area. Dick was a member of Radnor Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), and later the Ames Iowa Friends Meeting, the Stuart Florida Friends Worship Group, and the Fort Myers Florida Friends Meeting.

Dick's world travels started when he took a three-year teaching position with the College of Engineering in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 1956. The family returned to Ames IA where Dick joined the faculty of Iowa State University and taught engineering until 1976, which included a year teaching at Prairie View A&M. He most enjoyed his two summers working for the Northern Pacific Railway as a consultant. He was later active taping books for the Iowa Department for the Blind, and served on the Board for Story County Housing. His world travels continued with trips to China, taking the trans-Siberian railway, visiting Australia, the Galapagos Islands, and many other places.

He is survived by his three children, Dr. E. C. Squires of Laconia, NH, Sarah Beane of Garwin, IA, and Barbara French, with whom he lived for the last 3 years in Fort Myers, FL. He is also survived by his older brother Lombard Squires of Naples FL. He was pre-deceased by his wife, two brothers, and one sister. There are eleven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Dick was active and enthusiastic until his death, and had a lively sense of curiosity about almost everything. He enjoyed reading many different things, including the Harry Potter series, Civil War books, UFOs, Sherlock Holmes mysteries, and biographies of Lincoln and other people who are associated with human liberties. He wrote several books compiling his life's activities and adventures, and reviewing the lives of people he admired. He loved opera and symphony music, and was disappointed if he missed Lawrence Welk on Saturday evening. He maintained correspondence with many people, and delighted in the activities and accomplishments of his grandchildren. Although he missed many friends when he moved from Iowa to Florida, he was greatly relieved to not face the Iowa winters, and wore a sweater even in the Florida

## **Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends** Eighth Month 14, 2005

The Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, attended by 14, opened from the silence. Friends considered the Eighth Query on civic responsibilities. We spoke of our upcoming meeting, Ninth Month 10 and 11, regarding pre-draft counseling training. Various members of our meeting are involved in peace activities. As part of our civic responsibility, we vote and serve jury duty. We briefly discussed one person's view of the separation of church and state. A Friend expressed concern that we are too silent on community issues, such as fair housing and education. He asked, "If not us, then who?" Another Friend asked us to be sensitive to the fact that using phrases such as "to tell the truth" and "honestly" betrays our commitment to integrity of speech.

Tom Fennell, reporting for Ministry and Counsel Committee, announced that Richard Squires' memorial meeting will be held Saturday, Tenth month 8, at 2 p.m.

**14MM04.** The Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends wishes to minute the passing of our dear friend, Richard Squires. On Eighth month 13, 2005, Richard's life was brought to a close. Born Tenth month 21, 1909, he was given the gift of 95 years. As a long-time Friend, member of this meeting, husband, brother, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and patriarch of a large extended family, he leaves a legacy of love and gentleness for all of us. Richard's exceptional generosity and tenderheartedness will be long remembered. We will miss him.

The Clerk, Larry Butler, read a letter of request for membership from Alan Hicks Ruppert and Maryanne Ruppert. The request was forwarded to Ministry and Counsel where clearness committees will be formed.

The treasurer's report was given and approved.

Dave French, reporting for the Finance Committee, stated that good progress is being made on our 501c3 application. We are also advised that if we do not increase the rate of our financial giving we will not meet our budgeted expenses this year.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee, reported by Nancy Howell, advised us that FCNL is asking meetings to support their STEPS program. We will be getting informational materials for our consideration. A potluck meeting with Interfaith Alliance is being set up. Letters inviting people from other religious organization to join us in our pre-draft counseling training sessions have been sent.

**15MM05.** Friends approved advanced publicity for the pre-draft counseling training, under the care of Peace and Social Concerns.

**16MM05.** Friends approved sending Nancy Howell as meeting representative to the Coalition for Peace and Justice.

Dave French, speaking for the Properties Committee, reported that we are substantially ahead of the volunteer hours needed to pay our rent on Iona House. We are grateful to all those who contribute so generously in this manner.

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Fennell, Recording Clerk

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**Upcoming Potluck:** October 15, 12:00 PM. Brigitte Gynther, staff of Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida will discuss the role of Interfaith Action in fostering faith community support of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers. Location TBA.

## ***AFSC Draft Counseling Workshop:***

### **AN IDEA WHO'S TIME HAS COME...**

As the war in Iraq drags on and casualties increase, concerns about the inability of the military to recruit sufficient troops to continue the war, the exposure of some deceptive practices in recruiting, concern over the presence of military in high schools and even middle schools, and concerns about the possibility of the return of the draft if the military cannot recruit enough volunteers have become widespread. Our local newspaper had a front page story about it a couple of weeks ago. Demonstrations at schools and in public spaces organized by other groups are being seen in our region.

In this environment, our Meeting has committed money and energy to preparing ourselves to raise spiritual questions about this war in our local area, and to help young people who want to make a claim of conscientious objection in case the draft is reinstated. The Peace and Social Concerns committee has invited Oskar Castro, the head of the Youth and Militarism program of the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia, to come to Fort Myers to lead a workshop on Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11, at Iona house. Oskar Castro is well informed of what peace groups around the country have been doing to raise local awareness of issues around recruitment and conscientious objection. He will share AFSC literature and ideas with us, and help us plan an effective program of action around Fort Myers.

Participants in the workshop will include all members and attenders of our meeting who wish to take part. Please contact Nancy Howell (239-652-9901 or [howell@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:howell@chass.utoronto.ca)) if you have not already signed up on the list, or if you are not sure if your name is there. In addition representatives of ten local churches and peace groups have been invited to send a representative, as a way of sharing our experience and reaching out to others in the community. Participants will receive a more detailed schedule of topics and events early in September, along with a map.

The workshop will start at 10 am on Saturday, September 10, and may go as late as 6 pm. Lunch and snacks will be provided throughout both days. On Sunday, the workshop will begin at noon with lunch after worship, and will continue throughout the afternoon, again finishing by 6 pm. There is no charge for the workshop. The literature we need will be provided by AFSC. Put this event on your calendar, and add your name to the list of attendees.

***By Nancy Howell***

Tentative Schedule  
(Subject to Change)

## **Military Recruitment and Conscientious Objection Workshop**

Organized by:  
Oskar Castro, head of Youth and Militarism Program  
American Friends Service Committee

### **Tentative Schedule of Activities**

#### **Saturday, September 10, 2005 (Iona House)**

10:00 – 10:30 am: Welcome and Introductions  
10:30 am – 12:00pm: Youth and Militarism in the U.S.  
12:00 – 1:00 pm: Lunch  
1:00 – 4:00 pm: Today's military – Who serves and what does it cost them? Regional, racial and social disparities in enlistment rates. Spiritual issues for today's military. Learning to kill and the chances of being killed (or injured). The costs to families. Counter-recruiting for high schools and young people who may not have full information about the military.  
5:00 – 6:00 pm: Discussion of the prospects for the return of the draft.

#### **Sunday, September 11, 2005 (Iona House)**

10:30 to 11:30 am: Worship, in the Quaker silent tradition  
12:00 – 12:30 pm: Lunch for participants in the workshop  
12:30 – 2:00 pm: Conscientious objection to war. How members of the peace churches can help conscientious objectors, and others who have questions about their duties and responsibilities to the military.  
2:00 – 6:00 pm: Planning outreach in the Fort Myers area: counter-recruiting in schools, speakers to youth groups and community groups, and counseling and documenting the files of conscientious objectors.

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<b>9/4/05</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship Potluck – All Are Welcome!</b>	<b>10:30 am After rise of Meeting</b>
<b>9/10/05</b>	<b>Draft Counseling Workshop</b>	<b>10:00 am – 6:00 pm</b>
<b>9/11/05</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship Draft Counseling Workshop</b>	<b>10:30 am 12:30 pm – 6:00 pm</b>
<b>9/18/05</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship Meeting for Business Last Chance Book Club</b>	<b>10:30 am At Rise of Meeting</b>
<b>9/25/05</b>	<b>Peace and Social Concerns Meeting for Worship</b>	<b>9:15 am 10:30 am</b>

*Committees wanting their meetings to be listed in the calendar should provide their schedules to the editor.*

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**Friends Meeting of Fort Myers  
Religious Society of Friends  
c/o Erica Lynne, Editor  
676 110<sup>th</sup> Ave. N  
Naples, FL 34108**

Address Correction Requested

Ninth Month 2005