

Penn Notes

William Penn House

Spring 2004

Creating a Culture of Peace: A Systems Approach to Understanding Peacemaking

One of William Penn House's favorite speakers is Ambassador John McDonald. He has been coming to WPH for years to speak to various groups, including the annual University of Washington seminar on US Foreign Policy.

Ambassador McDonald, a life-long diplomat who has worked with several administrations, has co-authored with Dr. Louise Diamond a book on "Multi-Track Diplomacy". Most of us, when we think about peacemaking, think of three "tracks": government, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and activists. McDonald and Diamond have broadened this approach by identifying six additional tracks.

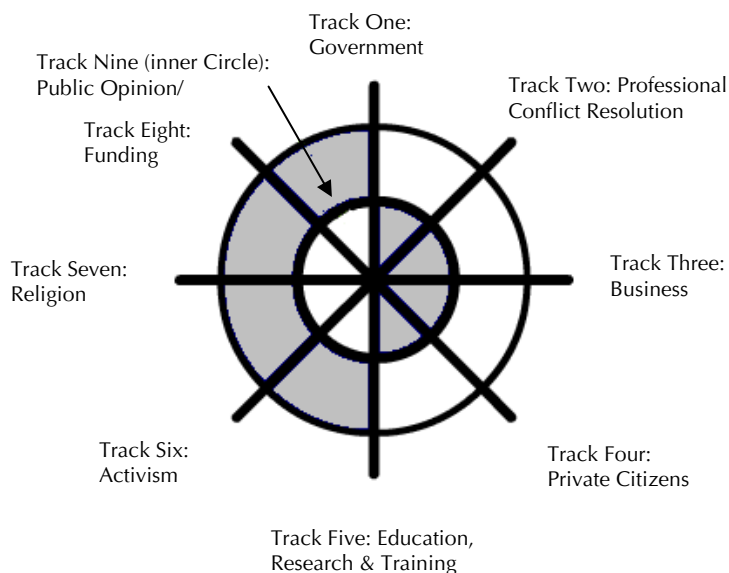
When WPH staff recently began exploring ways to address an expressed need for peace studies training for educators, they kept being drawn back to the McDonald-Diamond multi-track format. Multi-Track Diplomacy uniquely showcases so many of the resources available in Washington. In addition, this new program could draw from tried and true elements that have been part of programs WPH has designed for school and university groups over the years. Being able to have Ambassador McDonald drop in on a training session to regale his audience with stories of his adventures with all of these tracks would be "icing on the cake."

The curriculum for this workshop is in the early creation stage, but we have had the wonderful opportunity to visit with a lot of our Quaker and non-Quaker peace activist colleagues as we focus on what the course will include.

Our objective for the course will be to train educators—high-school, college and middle school—so that they can introduce peace studies to their students. We hope, however, that those same educators might bring some of their students here for immersion courses. These courses would be experiential learning events that could incorporate elements of a FCNL lobby training.

We are looking for a small group of educators to test the course in September or October. We offer a stipend to offset travel expenses. Please contact William Penn House if you are interested. ■

Multi-Track Diplomacy



William Penn House Welcomes Washington Quaker Workcamps

In September, William Penn House established a new partnership with Washington Quaker Workcamps, a Quaker workcamping program that has served the Washington area since 1986.

A workcamp is a worshipful gathering for the purpose of completing a work project, a radical response to Jesus' call to love our neighbors, inspired by the understanding that 'work is love made visible'. Workcamp groups live together in simplicity, share meals, and worship together. In the spirit of the Equality testimony, we work alongside members of the community being served, and this community directs the work themselves.

Workcamping has its roots in the Quaker experience of the past century. The practice of workcamping developed out of Quaker relief efforts in Europe following the destruction of World War I. Soon, the American Friends Service Committee was organized to coordinate these workcamp efforts. Since that time, workcamps have played a leading role in Quaker response to critical needs around the world, from rural Africa to American inner cities.

In 1986, several Friends in the Washington area recognized a need for local workcamping opportunities. Washington Quaker Workcamps was created to meet this need, and for the past 18

years, has coordinated 8 to 10 weekend workcamps each year, and several extended workcamps. Workcampers have helped low-income families build homes, renovate homeless shelters and community centers, and have distributed food and clothing to homeless people, and many other projects. In response to a wave of arson fires in southern churches in 1996, WQW helped organize the Interfaith Rebuilding Partnership. Workcampers helped several congregations to rebuild their damaged churches.

After many years of volunteer leadership, the Board of WQW has hired Andrei Israel as its Director. In addition, relocation of WQW from the Baltimore Yearly Meeting offices to William Penn House has enhanced a natural partnership between WPH & WQW. Andrei works part-time for William Penn House. WQW is able to utilize WPH accommodations and take advantage of the central location. ■

Andrei Israel is a graduate of St. John's College in Annapolis, Sidwell Friends School in Washington D.C. and the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Summer Camping programs. He has a passion for hands on experiential education and service learning (and ultimate Frisbee).



"Work is Love
Made Visible"

WQW Spring & Summer Workcamp Schedule		
Date	Partner	Activity
February 27-28	Capitol Area Food Bank Bread for the City	Food and clothing distribution
March 12-13	Washington Parks & People	Renovation of an historic building
April 23-25	Friends Wilderness Center	Trail building
May 1-2	Behrend's Builders	Housing rehabilitation
May 21-22	Habitat for Humanity	Housing construction
June 13-19	Big Creek People in Action, Caretta, West Virginia	Housing rehabilitation

The schedule is subject to change.

To register or to schedule a workcamp for your group Andrei can be reached at 202.543.5560.

Email: webmaster@wqw.quaker.org

Web site: <http://wqw.quaker.org>

Young Adult Lobby Weekend

By Jennifer Chapin Harris FCNL

With lots of smiles and promises to keep in touch, the participants in FCNL's Young Adult Spring Lobby Weekend 2004 left the William Penn House to return to their homes across the country. Twenty-one people, most of them students, came to Washington, DC, the weekend of March 6-8 to learn how to lobby Congress and put their skills to good use Monday morning.

"I felt very prepared to lobby on Monday and walked out knowing much more," one participant wrote. On the Saturday of the lobby weekend, participants gathered in the William Penn House to learn from FCNL lobbyists and interns about Iraq, civil liberties in the United States, nuclear disarmament, and Native American rights."

FCNL nuclear disarmament lobbyist David Culp taught the participants lobbying skills and techniques with a role-play in which he acted the part of a member of Congress.

In addition, Adrien Niyongabo of the Alternatives to Violence Project in the African Great Lakes region, spoke to the group about his peace work in Africa. Martha Ross, bureau chief of the Office on Hawaiian Affairs, talked about the Native Hawaiian people's efforts to secure federal recognition.

"The training was good, the people smart and passionate and kind, the food was great and the activities were fun."

—Young Adult Lobby Weekend Participant

The weekend included attending Meeting for Worship at Friends Meeting of Washington on Florida Avenue. The "novice lobbyists" visited the Gandhi statue near the meeting house and spent an evening out at a local coffee shop.

"I met lots of wonderful Quakers and had conversations that deepened me spiritually and also increased my knowledge of current events," said yet another new lobbyist.

This was FCNL's fifth annual Spring Lobby Weekend for 18- to 35-year olds. Participants can be of any religion and need not be students.



Your donations to the William Penn House help to cover the cost to host the participants. For more information on the program, please contact FCNL Young Adult Program Coordinator Jennifer Chapin Harris at youngadult@fcn.org or 202.547.6000. ■

Yes, there is a lobby training for adults. It is called "Witness in Washington" and is scheduled for April 28th and 29th.

Visit our web site www.WmPennHouse.org for more information.

A representative list of recent guests:

School Groups:

College of St. Rose
Gettysburg College
Wake Forest University Divinity School
Whittier College
State College Friends School
Buckingham Friends School

Organizations:

American Lands Alliance
National Coalition for Dignity
and Amnesty for Immigrants
Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows
FCNL Policy Committee
National Interfaith Committee for
Worker Justice
General Board of Global Missions—UMC
Amnesty International
Partners in Progress

Individuals:

Colin Archer—Secretary General
International Peace Bureau—Switzerland
Jonathan B. Hook—EPA Office of
Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

I want to support the mission of William Penn House to make visible the Quaker Testimonies of Peace, Simplicity, Equality, Truth and Community.

Please make gifts payable to William Penn House and send to: 515 E. Capitol St. SE,
Washington, DC 20003

Enclosed is my gift of \$50 \$100 \$500 Other

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William Penn House is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In addition to direct contributions from individuals monthly, quarterly and yearly meetings, donations may be made through the Combined Federal Campaign or through the United Fund with the agency fund number of #7803.

Spring & Summer Schedule of Events

April 28th & 29th — **Witness in Washington**
A Lobby Training and Engagement for Adult Friends

June 11th-14th — **Young Friends Summer Seminar**
Topic: Peace in a Time of Unrest

Washington Quaker Workcamps
See Schedule Inside

July 18 through 24 — **Family Week**
See the website for more information.

Families of 4 or more can stay at the
William Penn House for \$25 per person, year round.

Potlucks

In February 2002 William Penn House started a Quaker dialogue and potluck series that meets on the evening of the first Sunday of each month.

All of our speakers have been either Quakers or people who work for Quakers. Programs are about the individual's Quaker leadings or interest. The eclectic programs have included Quaker history, important Quaker women and men, Quaker service and theology.

Our April program will be on Elizabeth Fry, May will focus on a Quaker's interest in immigration issues and June will discuss William Penn's Holy Experiment.

Address Service Requested

A Quaker Center
located on Capitol Hill

515 East Capitol Street, SE
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