

Jacksonville Friends Meeting  
February 20, 1994  
State of the Meeting Report

Greetings to all! As we share our thoughts about the past year, it seems that Jacksonville Friends' sense of family extends far beyond the walls of the Meeting Room. Our now regular monthly newsletter and correspondence with Friends at a distance draws us closer as a Meeting. We hear from Friends - especially those whose life's direction has taken them to places where there is no Meeting - that this outreach is welcome and enriching. It certainly helps to keep our widespread local members and attenders in touch with one another. We hope to see the newsletter grow in content and quality in the coming months.

As always, visitors bring Light from many sources. We've welcomed many this year and have appreciated their participation in our worship. We're glad that some who were new to Friends are now becoming familiar faces among us.

Friends' travels have been a source of growth to the Meeting as a whole. Mary Peel's participation in the School of the Spirit strengthens us with new ideas for spiritual growth and nurturing. Henriette Groot's travels in Europe over the summer brought us insight into the wider Quaker fellowship and the work of the Society in the world.

We feel the importance of our Meeting as a centering place for Friends who come and go. We also sense a growing need to nurture our "core." We are about to begin a new program of adult study every First Day before Meeting for Worship, and look forward to this as a way to enhance our personal and corporate spiritual growth. We know that we need to follow through on plans to share in the spiritual nurture of our children. We hope to complete the computerization of our personal libraries to make reading resources more available among us. We plan to look at new ways of sharing the "housekeeping" work of the Meeting. We continue to support individuals in our Meeting in their work for peace and justice in our local community, the nation, and the world. We try as a Meeting to share Friends' vision when we can.

We wish to share with all of you our joy in Julia Geiger's ongoing recovery following surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy. The love and support of the Yearly Meeting during her illness is a treasure that we cherish.

We hold all of you in the Light and look forward to increasing connections over the coming year.

*Deborah Rasmussen*  
Clerk