

had been met in full. What an overwhelming testimony from churches, individuals, organizations, work camps, charitable grants donors and the volunteer labor of so many that made this project a reality. All praise, honor and glory be given to our Lord as the master builder.

Thomas C. Jones, Certified Public Accountant rendered on July 15, 2003 an accountant's report indicating that a financial review had been conducted by his firm of Meeting Ground books as of December 31, 2002. Quoting from his report: "Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting." /s/ Thomas C. Jones. The books of this organization, likewise are being reviewed for the year 2003. The full review is available upon request for examination at the office of Meeting Ground.

At our March meeting it was agreed that the old farmhouse be demolished as soon as possible. It was the feeling that it would be too costly to remodel or to repair the building for future use. In addition it would require a special acceptance from the local government to keep the building.

Fund raising has been given high priority in our plans with committees being established to explore ways and means to build the support base of Meeting Ground. It has been suggested that professional help could be helpful in putting together a plan that could be implemented to strengthen our fund raising plans. Contacts have been made for this purpose. Also an annual dinner combining a social period, food and a silent auction be organized in the near future. Carl Mazza is taking an active part in the planning and execution of these fund raising activities.

We owe much thanks to the staff, the volunteers and to all who have contributed with donations, their time and their talents. The work camps, volunteers, residents and interns have been great and extremely vital to our program.

- Nelson Stubbs, Secretary

Report of the Interim Director of Operations

In November last year I started my work as an Interim Director of Operations. After supervising the construction of the new dormitory as a volunteer for eight months I was already somehow familiar with the operation of Meeting Ground. Nevertheless it was a big challenge to fill this new position. The position includes the responsibility for all financial and personal related issues and the oversight of the maintenance of the three facilities.

The first months I used to finish the new dormitory and to get familiar with the ongoing operation of Meeting Ground. This included to get a financial overview and to get to know the day to day work at the three facilities. The staff and Carl in particular gave me a lot of support. Meeting Ground is very blessed by the high motivation that all of the staff members bring to their work. Since the last annual meeting two of our staff members have left. Barb Dugan our farm coordinator left last summer after years of work with Meeting Ground. Her loss left a big gap at the Farm and were glad that Betty and Ray Cross pitched in to give Bobby Gordon a hand by keeping the Farm running. Waleska Vasquez our Wayfarer's House Coordinator left us in November last year. Marika Rein did an internship at Wayfarer's House and Clairvaux Farm. In May we hired her as an Assistant Coordinator to support Marsha and Bobby in their work.

We are very fortunate to have a big support through volunteers in many

Buffet Supper is always a highlight of the Annual Meeting



areas. It would not be possible to survive without the many hands that help to monitor, provide transportation and lead resident support groups, to mention only a few. Every summer literally hundreds of work camp volunteers come and help us to maintain all our facilities. The building of the new dormitory is only one example of what they accomplish. Last year we had Lisa Clark as our summer intern to lead the workgroups. This year we hired Ramsey Bronyah to do the same work. We are very thankful that Citigroup supported us in the last years with a grant so that we could hire a summer intern.

Other parts of my position included the review of all the job descriptions and the financial investment. The maintenance of all of our buildings is an ongoing task. We are blessed to have Erik Schaumann to work every Tuesday at Wayfarer's House. Alex, a Resident, is continuing to improve George Porter House. Both are wonderful workers.

For the near future we have planned to demolish the old farm house and to replace the donation barn with a new storage building at Clairvaux Farm. Wayfarer's House needs new siding and new windows and we hope to get the funds this year to replace them. All in all it was a busy year and with God's help we managed to serve again so many people to find a new start and real home, even it was only for a short time.

- Udo Sommerhoff

Report of the Program Director

It has been a busy and eventful year! We have enjoyed our beautiful new kitchen at **Wayfarer's House** that has spawned many extravagant meal preparations. It seems that one meal is better than the next, and the women are sharing their favorite recipes. Our fire escape has been rebuilt and new carpeting covers the floors. It is much easier to keep clean! Our front porch continues to receive donations of clothing and household items that we sort, organize, and make available to whomever may be in need. We also distribute food boxes.

Our new director, Udo Sommerhoff, is a hard worker. Marika Rein is the Assistant Coordinator at Wayfarer's House. She was hired in January after serving as an intern. As always, a strong source of energy and focus comes from the volunteers. What a wonderful group of people! Erik Schaumann has come each Tuesday to repair what we have broken over the week. He has completed a multitude of projects that help keep this place running. Renee Steele continues to volunteer, buying the groceries, picking up food bank orders, driving folks to appointments, and whatever else needs doing. Renee suffered a heart attack this year and won't be doing such strenuous activities, but she still helps out. This month Renee received an award from Business Women of America in Kent County called "A Woman Helping Women." We are very proud of her! May Yokayama comes on Wednesdays and teaches a Tai Chi Class. She has helped us decorate and her Mall-Walker Group has donated funds for these purposes. Lynn Rodden continues to head up the Herb Project as well as grocery shopping, driving, menu planning and various other tasks. (Congratulations to she and her husband, Darden, who are celebrating 50 years of marriage!) Raven Keane drives the bookmobile, bringing books to the children at Meeting Ground, both while they live here and after they move into their own apartments. She also facilitates a support group for women, and she teaches Parenting Classes for the women at Clairvaux Farm and Wayfarer's House. Glenna Andrews is a new volunteer this year and has taught us to make quiche and rice pudding, so far. (Yummm!) Dr. Gloria Simonsen volunteers her professional care

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