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FMW Newsletter - October 2020

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MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP ~ ALL ARE WELCOME

- **Sundays: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
- **Tuesdays: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**
- **Fridays: 12:00 noon**
- **Monthly Meeting for Business: Sunday, October 11, 12:15 p.m. (2nd Sundays)**

All meetings for worship are being held via Zoom due to the pandemic.

For more information go to www.QuakersDC.org or email admin@QuakersDC.org.

10th Query: The Peace Testimony

Do you endeavor to live "in virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars"? Do you work to make your peace testimony a reality in your life and in your world? Do you weigh your day-to-day activities for their effect on peace-keeping, conflict resolution and the elimination of violence? Are you working toward eliminating aggression at all levels, from the personal to the international?

(See: Peace and Non-violence) Source: BYM Faith & Practice, Part II The Queries

Events

"Presbyterian Rev. Francis Grimké and his Quaker Half-Sisters Speak Out on Faith, Race and Civil Rights.", **Sunday, Oct. 11, 3 - 4:30 via Zoom.** Sarah and Angelina Grimke, from a southern, slave-owning family, became leading thinkers and Quaker voices in the movements to end slavery and for women's right to vote. Go to FreedomForum.org/events or contact: Blair Forlaw, email: blair.forlaw@gmail.com.

FMW Community Zinner, Thursday, October 15, 7:00 p.m.

Join by Zoom here. By phone dial: (929) 436-2866. Enter Meeting ID 82579539796# on prompt. For more information contact: RebeccaLeeNelson99@gmail.com

Upcoming Election & Defending Democracy: plans to resist an illegitimate power grab, Sat, Oct 17, 10 a.m. For more information contact Debby Churchman, DChurchm@yahool.com

Reading Early Quakers Together. Oct. 18, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. You are welcome to join us in discussing epistles written by Anne Whitehead, Mary Elson and Katharine Whitton, pages 489-512 in *Hidden in Plain Sight: Quaker Women's Writings 1650-1700* (Pendle Hill). **Join by Zoom HERE.** By phone dial: (301) 715-8592. On prompt enter meeting ID: ,89473006099# contact: Sabrina.McCarthy@verizon.net, cell: 240-778-5234.

Fostering Community at FMW. Oct. 25, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. You are welcome to join us as we work on a visual image to describe the values, practices and manifestations of our mission. **Join by Zoom HERE.** By phone dial: **(301) 715-8592.** Enter Meeting ID: **83583983737#** on prompt. Contact: Sabrina McCarthy, sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net, cell 240-778-5234

FCNL Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute to focus on Anti-Racism, Nov 14-17 (via Zoom) In concert with the upswell of protests and calls for justice across the country this year, antiracism will be a major focus of FCNL's Annual Meeting and lobbying effort this November. Quakers will gather (virtually) to conduct worshipful business and lobby for the Justice in Policing Act (H.R. 7120/S.3912). **Learn more and register** here for **FCNL's Annual Meeting (Nov. 14-17)** to act in faith and feel Spirit weave us together as Friends uniting for the world we seek.

Peace & Social Concerns Climate Webinar: Speeding DC Transition Off Gas-- Quakers & Faith Community have an important role to play. Sunday, Oct 25, 12:30 p.m.

Via Zoom. Join by phone: **(301) 715-8592**. Enter meeting ID: **979505413#** on prompt. Details to come. For more information contact Barbara Briggs, BarbaraHBriggs@gmail.com

More Events Below in Meeting for Business Minutes

Action!

Help Get Out The Vote!

Last Call on Postcards / Can you make Phonecalls?

Through Reclaim Our Vote, we are calling and sending postcards to *minority voters in eight states with long histories of voter suppression, to encourage voter registration and turnout--to fight systemic racism.*

*** The Deadline for sending postcards has been extended to October 11.** We have sent out over 3,000, and have just gotten another 1,000 names--from the deep South--Cobb County, Georgia.

* People are also needed to **make phone calls, now and right up to election day.** Some Friends are dedicating an hour each day to making calls... Every single hour is needed!

Reclaim Our Vote is a non-partisan, 501(c)(3) organization supported by NAACP.

Learn more here. Watch [Suppressed: The Fight To Vote](#). To join, contact BarbaraHBriggs@gmail.com, or **register directly here**. You can pick up all needed materials at FMW.

Cash Bail

Thinking About Race (October 2020)

From "Criminal Conditions," by Jan A. Fernandez, **ACLU Magazine**, Summer 2020, pp. 24-29. <https://www.aclu.org/aclu-magazine/aclu-magazine-summer-2020>

"The United States has many distinguishing traits, but its most damaging distinction is that it imprisons the most people on Earth: 2.3 million, or nearly 35 percent of the world's incarcerated population. Environmental, judicial, and institutional factors feed this unconscionable bloat, filling jails and prisons with people who can't afford fines or bail while disproportionately punishing Black and Brown communities.

"Driving this national tragedy is an exploitative cash bail system that funnels hundreds of thousands of people into local jails. More than 70 percent of those incarcerated—about half a million people—are pretrial detainees who have not been convicted of any crime, and many are only there because they could not afford bail. It's a profitable, prejudiced machine that targets poor people and people of color, who are jailed at higher rates and charged higher bail amounts.

"... Black and Latino men are on average assigned substantively higher amounts than white men for similar crimes—and those who cannot afford either land in jail. Trapped there, they are subject to a system that perpetuates negative outcomes: Defendants are four times more likely to be sentenced to prison if they spend their pretrial time in jail; they are more likely to take guilty plea deals for lesser charges to obtain release, *even if they are innocent*; they suffer the psychological trauma of being cut off from family and friends for weeks, months, or even years;

they are exposed to violence, abuse, and poor health conditions; and they risk losing homes, jobs, and custody of their children.” [emphasis added]

“To support your state’s efforts toward rapid decarceration and an end to cash bail practices... visit www.aclu.org/smartjustice.”

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each local Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the *first* Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, currently via Zoom. If you would like to attend, contact clerk David Etheridge, david.etheridge@verizon.net.

Meeting for Business Minutes & Attachments

Friends Meeting of Washington

Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2020

Monthly Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

FMW Anti-Racist Queries

1. How will we provide opportunities for those most likely to be directly affected by the choices we are contemplating to influence the decision making process?
2. How could the choices we are contemplating affect those who have been harmed by systemic, institutional, interpersonal and/or internal racism?
3. To what degree have privilege, class, stereotypes, assumptions, and our ability to include other perspectives affected this decision making process?
4. How will the choices we are contemplating promote equity, diversity, and inclusiveness? Will they enable us to be more friendly and whole, engaging across racial divisions?
5. How do the choices we are contemplating support the declaration of our Yearly Meeting that we aspire to be an anti-racist faith community?

Query for Worship Sharing:

What role is faith playing for you, going into this new life?

A Friend shared that the new normal is not normal, it is just new.

Clerk’s Report, September 2020

Upcoming Events

- **FMW Zinner**, by Zoom, September 14, 7:00 to 8:00 pm.
- **“Grace-filled to the End” Workshop by BYM’s End of Life Working Group, September 19, 10:00 a.m.** The first in a series of online workshops sponsored by Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s End of Life Working Group, “Grace-filled to the End” will be held on Saturday, September 19, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Subsequent programs on issues of living and dying well as Friends will be held approximately every 2 months. Topics will include advanced planning, advanced medical directives and what happens if there is no planning; the special challenges of dementia care; burial practices, funerals and memorial services; support committees in our Meetings; the role of caregivers; grief work; spiritual journeys in illness and decline; and special considerations in the time of the pandemic. If you are interested in the Working Group and/or wish to participate in these programs,

please email the End of Life Working Group at: endoflife@bym-rsf.org. (The End of Life Working Group is under the care of BYM's Peace and Social Concerns Committee)

- **FMW Social Justice Fund Deadline is September 19!** FMW's Social Justice Fund provides small grants for social justice projects in which our members and attendees are involved. [Learn more and apply here](#), or contact Elaine Wilson, ElaineSWils@gmail.com or Barbara Briggs, BarbaraHBriggs@gmail.com
- **BYM Spiritual Formation Retreat, September 18-19 via Zoom** Join with Friends across Baltimore Yearly Meeting for a weekend retreat that offers time for reflection and renewal, quiet and spiritual friendship, chanting and celebration. We'll gather via Zoom for times of whole group listening, small group sharing, and encountering wisdom in and with one another. [Click here for more information and to register](#).
- **Reading Early Quakers Together. September 20, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.** Please join us discussing epistles written by Anne Whitehead, Mary Elson and Katharine Whitton, pages 489-512 in *Hidden in Plain Sight: Quaker Women's Writings 1650-1700* (Pendle Hill). Contact: Sabrina.Mccarthy@verizon.net, cell 240.778.5234
- **Friendly Bible Study, 12:00 p.m., September 20 & every 2 weeks. Join by Zoom.** By phone: (646) 876-9923. On prompt enter meeting ID: 2025778431#
Password: 254224
- For more information, contact David Etheridge, david.etheridge@verizon.net
- **George Lakey, Choose Democracy/Defend the Elections trainings, September 23 and 30, 7:30 ET** Long-time Friend and activist George Lakey of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and Training for Change is helping to lead "Choose Democracy"--organizing and training to defend democratic elections, including preparation for nonviolent resistance if that is necessary in November. [Click Here to learn more, sign the Choose Democracy Pledge and register for the trainings.](#)
- **Fostering Community at FMW. September 27, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.** Please join us as we refine our mission and vision statements and begin work on a visual image to describe the values, practices and manifestations of our mission. Contact: Sabrina McCarthy, sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net, cell 240.778.5234
- **Spiritual Friendships. September 27, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.** Please join us for check-in on how we are all doing. Contact: Sabrina McCarthy, sabrina.mccarthy@verizon.net, cell 240.778.5234
- **FCNL Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute to focus on Anti-Racism, Nov 14-17** (via Zoom) In concert with the upswell of protests and calls for justice across the country this year, antiracism will be a major focus of FCNL's Annual Meeting and lobbying effort this November. Quakers will gather (virtually) to conduct worshipful business and lobby for the *Justice in Policing Act* (H.R. 7120/S.3912). **Learn more and register** here for **FCNL's Annual Meeting (Nov. 14-17)** to act in faith and feel Spirit weave us together as Friends uniting for the world we seek.

FMW Community Highlights & Kudos

- **Report on our new combo On-site and On-Zoom meetings on Sundays**
The Clerks thanked Gene Throwe for connecting the Zoom Meeting for Worship and in-person Garden Meeting for Worship. Gene shared that garden Meeting attendees appreciated the combination. Gene suggested adding or updating the sandwich board outdoors to show where the correct entrance is.

- **S.O.M.E.** - Tim Schleicher is retiring from leading the effort at So Others Might Eat. Who would like to step up to take his place? Every first Saturday of the month we need four or five volunteers to prepare a pancake and sausage breakfast for about 300 homeless people. We're in the kitchen of S.O.M.E. at 71 O Street NW from 6AM to usually around 9AM. It's a lot of fun. Responsibilities include ordering the food and recruiting volunteers. We have not been active during the pandemic.
- **Tom Libbert and Joe Izzo** would like to record their gratitude for Justin Kwong and Jason Terry, who brought them groceries and ran errands for them when Joe had Covid-19.

Major Business

In Memoriam

- Memorial Minute, John Scales - Dan DozieR
- Memorial Minute, Alex Mathews - Mary Campbell

The Memorial Minutes were read aloud, and Friends shared memories of John and Alex. Friends approved the memorial minutes.

Young Adult Friends Handbook Addition - Joe D'Antonio

The changes to the Handbook were suggested in order to create additional information for co-conveners and YAFs, and also to create a structure for resolving issues. Co-conveners will now serve for two years in staggered terms. The changes also include a number of statements of affirmations on gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and culture. YAFs worked together on these revisions over the course of a few months.

A Friend thanked YAFs for the thoughtful process to update the handbook. Another Friend asked if items 11.6.3 - 11.6.8 would be best kept in an appendix to the handbook. A Friend shared gratitude for the strong Young Adult Community in our Meeting. A Friend shared the concern to spell out LGBTQ+ as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans*, and Queer+ to increase visibility. Another Friend shared that spelling out LGBTQ+ may feel limiting and referenced an older minute only mentioning welcoming Lesbian and Gay Friends.

Friends approved this handbook addition to be sent to the Library and Handbook Committee, with the notes above.

Quarterly Report, F&S - Dan Dozier

The Finance and Stewardship Committee shared that the Meeting's savings may cover expenses during the pandemic, and they are hesitant to ask for mortgage relief options from the bank at this time. Donations have increased from \$200,000/year to \$250,000/year. With the donation increase and the possibility of mildly increased event revenues, we may be able to make it through the pandemic in reasonable financial shape. F&S will be able to give a more complete report after the first quarter is completely closed.

Over the past few years, there have been issues with bookkeeping. The issues are being addressed by engaging a small minority-owned CPA firm. Financial record keeping has switched to Quickbooks online, and bills are being paid through bill.com to approve and track payments.

A Friend asked if it was appropriate for the Meeting to affirmatively decide whether to use savings to cover deficits. The decision had been delegated by the Meeting as a whole to the Finance &

Stewardship Committee. A Friend shared that this was our rainy day fund, and it's raining. The Meeting has no investments in gold. A Friend asked about refinancing the mortgage, and Finance & Stewardship said this option has a cost. They will examine if the savings to refinance justifies the cost. There is also a financial penalty for refinancing the mortgage. A Friend shared that increased donations may be caused by Friends donating their future planned donations early. It is possible that donations may decrease in the future.

Friends accepted the report.

Creation of Fundraising Taskforce - Meg Greene

A taskforce is being created to fundraise both for the Capital Campaign Fund/ mortgage and General Fund/other meeting expenses. Strategy will be determined in September and October. This will be a one year effort, with a possibility of renewal.

A Friend shared that the Capital Campaign Fund covers the Meeting's renovation expenses. Another Friend expressed that the Capital Campaign Fund and General Fund should co-exist. Frank Garvey shared that this taskforce will follow up the work of the Capital Campaign Fund, which still has some outstanding pledges. A Friend asked about restricted and unrestricted contributions, and to carefully review the status of outstanding pledges.

Friends asked that the taskforce last for longer than one year. In the taskforce proposal, there is an option to continue at the end of one year. Taskforce members have committed to a one year term. A Friend also shared that this taskforce would help with the unique needs of fundraising during the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Friend asked if this taskforce was under Finance & Stewardship, and if not, shared opposition. Finance & Stewardship was very involved in the creation of this task force. Bill Strein, a member of F&S, shared that this work would be important to the Finance and Stewardship Committee, which has limited fundraising efforts. A Friend shared that they hope the taskforce looks at new and creative ways to fundraise. A Friend thanked Meg, Frank and Susan for taking on this work.

Friends approved this taskforce.

Membership - Gray Handley

- Second presentation of Allison Rasko

Gray Handley made the second presentation for Allison Rasko. Friends approved her membership.

Nominating Committee - Martha Solt

- Bill Parker to AFSC --Friends approved this nomination.
- Jim Bell to FCNL --Friends approved this nomination.
- Sabrina McCarthy to Friends United Meeting --Friends approved this nomination.
- Sabrina McCarthy as Co-Clerk for Ministry & Worship Committee --This will lay over for one month, as is our custom.

Martha Solt expressed her gratitude for Friends' willingness to help in these roles.

Request to lay down Mary Walcott/Lucy Foster Scholarship Program and donate the remaining funds to a member of the Meeting whose child is

in a Quaker school and has requested these funds.

The current balance in the W-F scholarship fund is \$135.33. The last award was done 12/1/2013. Since then (in 2013 and 2014) there were some sales of holly boughs that went into the fund - for a total of \$54 over the two years. Nothing has happened in the fund since 12/16/2014 when the last \$25 was deposited into it.

According to our Handbook, the fund was begun in 1955 in memory of the two people most instrumental in founding the Friends Meeting of Washington (see p. 5-8), this Committee makes awards to children of members and active attenders of four Washington area Friends Meetings (Adelphi, Bethesda, Langley Hill, and Washington) for study at Quaker elementary and secondary schools. The Committee has prepared guidelines for the operation of the fund.

According to Bruce Kellogg, the last clerk of this committee, none of the other Meetings is currently involved with this fund and haven't been for some time.

A Friend shared appreciation for the information provided and was in favor of moving forward with the steps above. Friends approved laying down this fund.

Other Business

Peace & Social Concerns update:

Work with Reclaim Our Vote on voter registration and turnout in 8 states with high levels of voter suppression. So far, FMW folk have sent hand-written postcards to over 2,000 people of color, providing encouragement and vital information about how to get registered, how and where to vote.

Meeting for Worship with Concern for Business closed at 1:55pm, to reopen as way leads on 10/11/2020.

ADDENDA: ATTACHED COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Kent Scales

October 19, 1937 – April 14, 2020

John Kent Scales was born in Swarthmore, PA to Constance (Kent) and Richard D. Scales on October 19, 1937. As the oldest of three children living in Park Ridge, Illinois, his early life was dramatically shaped as a young boy by the untimely death of his father and grandmother in a car accident.

After graduating from Williams College and Cornell Law School and being admitted to the Washington D.C. and Massachusetts Bars, John began his career as an associate in Sullivan & Worcester Esqs. corporate practice in Boston, Massachusetts.

John then moved to Washington D.C. to work as Counsel to Republican members of the U.S. Senate Labor Subcommittees on Employment, Poverty, Children and Youth. In that role, he worked closely with Senator Jacob Javits of New York. John was instrumental in gaining enactment of laws that provided comprehensive employment, training, early childhood education, volunteer, and anti-poverty programs. He was particularly proud to be a staff member in President Lyndon Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders—known as the Kerner Commission.

After his work for the U.S. Congress, John served for seven years as General Counsel for the Peace Corps, where he managed legal matters for its operations in the U.S. and 86 countries. He managed all litigation and complex issues related to legal, compliance, diplomatic, operational, Congressional and media activities. At times he served as Acting Director of the Peace Corps.

Subsequently, John worked for seven years at USAID, initially as legal advisor to the regional bureaus for Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe and Eurasia and later in Central Asia. A great joy of his life was working as Regional Legal Advisor and Director of Democratic Transition for Central Asia, based in Almaty, Kazakhstan. In that role, he supervised democratic and level development in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Tajikistan. His final role with the agency was as attorney in its Office of General Counsel in Washington D.C.

John became a member of the Friends Meeting of Washington on June 19, 1977 and was welcomed into membership by Rodney Pelton and Allen Kellum. Since that date John was an active and loving member of FMW for the rest of his life, having served on numerous committees including Religious Education where, for instance, he led RE Study Groups that focused on various Pendle Hill Pamphlets.

John served FMW in numerous ways, having served on the board of directors of the Friends Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Meeting Liaison to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and as Meeting Trustee, among other services for the Meeting. John lived his life according to his understanding of and beliefs in Quaker principles including service to others and working for social justice.

John passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 after a valiant, two-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Even during his treatments, he maintained a strong joy of life and enjoyed spending time with his many Friends and family. He had a love of international travel, adventure, and public service, spending most of his career in key positions in the U.S. Congress, Peace Corps and USAID.

John will always be remembered as a storyteller and lover of a good joke. He never outgrew his enjoyment of magic tricks and practical jokes. He was fond of his many summer trips to his home on Martha's Vineyard where he enjoyed sailing and swimming, and skiing in Aspen in the winter. He was always a warm and lively attendee at social events and with friends at Nationals baseball games while at home in Alexandria Virginia and with family and friends in New England. He grew up with a love of art and musical theatre and continued to enjoy both. Near the end of his life he often visited the Phillips Collection where he met friends for lunch and tours of museum exhibits as often as his strength and treatment schedule allowed.

John was pre-deceased by the love of his life, his wife Mada McGill, who also served in senior positions at the Peace Corps. He is survived by his two sisters: Constance Jean (Scales) Lind and her husband Eric, and Carol Ann (Scales) Teel and her husband Chip. He was fond of his nephews and nieces, who always looked forward to reconnecting at holiday events. He asked that the Meeting hold a memorial service to remember him when the pandemic allowed for in-person gatherings.

MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR ALEX MATHEWS

Alex Mathews was born June 24, 1941 in Manhattan, New York to Santos and Carmela Mathews. His father was Puerto Rican and his mother Italian. Alex dropped out of high school and earned his GED after enlisting in the Air Force in 1964. He served two tours in Turkey separated by a tour in Germany. While in Turkey he met a Turkish woman—Tulin—who married him in 1966 on the condition that he make use of his fine mind by attending college. Alex took courses through the military's program with University of Maryland University College. When he was discharged from the Air Force in 1968, he and Tulin moved to College Park, Maryland where Alex entered the Honors Program at the University of Maryland. He and Tulin realized that marriage was not the right relationship for them, as Alex was gay. They separated in 1971, but their relationship continued for the rest of Alex's life. He remained part of her family and was a loving and beloved uncle to Tulin's children from her subsequent marriage to Stephen Levitas--with whom Alex shared a passion for opera.

Alex graduated from the University of Maryland in 1974 with an Honors Degree in history. He worked for the Library of Congress in the personnel office for almost two decades and then worked for Catholic University in the School of Library and Information Science.

Alex bought a house on Monroe Street in Brookland and cultivated a large garden and many friendships. He partnered with Arnold Belfontaine in 1972 for several years, and the two remained close even after Arnie moved to California. Alex's subsequent long-term partner, Teddy Knecht, died of AIDS in the early 1990s.

Alex, who had been raised Pentecostal, began attending Friends Meeting of Washington in the 1990s. He was a faithful attender and became a member in May of 2004. He served for many years on the board of School for Friends and brought many friends to their fund-raising auctions. Alex also clerked the Hospitality Committee for six years and instigated interesting conversations in the kitchen most Sundays. He brought his wondrous French bread to many meeting events.

In 2001, a friend from meeting told Alex about her work as a DC tour guide. He thought it sounded like a fascinating job, and he turned out to be a fascinating tour guide. Alex especially loved boarding a bus full of high school students and introducing them to his historic city. He got certification as a New York City tour guide so he could stay with groups that were touring both cities.

Alex was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2013. He survived extensive surgery and got back to guiding tours. Throughout his life he shared his many gifts—enlivening history, gardening, and baking French bread—with his many friends. Friendship was the largest of his gifts. Alex died October 30, 2019.

FMW Event and Office Rental Report, July 2020

Prepared by Brian Lutenegger, Event and Rental Manager
eventspace@quakersdc.org or 202-483-3310 / 734-255-6829 while FMW is closed

Financials –FY21 Bookings

Here is a breakdown of where we are in terms of bookings for recent past and future fiscal years as of July 31, 2020.

FMW Event Space Bookings

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Before FY Start	\$25,511	\$24,648	\$11,098	\$15,964	\$19,646		\$1,000
July	\$5,791	\$9,592	\$3,302	\$4,405	\$2,500		
August	\$5,833	\$14,764	\$3,623	\$16,228			
September	\$8,095	\$8,528	\$2,543	\$23,296			
October	\$13,826	\$9,582	\$3,686	\$20,319			
November	\$7,160	\$4,281	\$3,394	\$6,147			

December	\$5,635	\$7,621	\$5,363	\$6,649
January	\$29,877	\$9,714	(\$50)	\$15,098
February	\$10,166	\$8,764	\$4,376	\$8,147
March	\$9,288	\$10,305	\$967	(\$10,345)
April	\$3,881	\$3,434	\$3,647	(\$1,012)
May	\$3,867	\$3,537	\$2,681	(\$1,756)
June	\$1,848	\$830	(\$2,881)	(\$5)
YTD Total	\$130,777	\$115,600	\$41,749	\$103,134
	\$22,146	\$0	\$1,000	
Year End Total	\$130,777	\$115,600	\$41,749	\$103,134

Not reflected above is the cancellation (during the first week of August) of all events organized by one of our major conference clients throughout all of FY21, so actual booked events are significantly lower. Deposits for those conferences will be retained by FMW and applied in full to future dates.

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to the following June 30th.
We are in the same boat as the rest of the events industry all around the world.

Financials – FY21 Earned - No data to share yet for FY21.

Nonprofit versus market rates

Of the \$22,146 booked so far this fiscal year, \$3,885 worth of rentals has been at our full market rates (approximately 17.5 percent). The remainder of the booked events have received some type of discount:

1. A discounted nonprofit or tenant rate
2. A lower rate due to construction
3. Memorial service and weddings under the care of the meeting where we do not charge for space for the service itself – only for the cost of the event host
4. Some other factor

Our standard nonprofit discount is 20 percent off our market rates.

Thus far, we have been able to accommodate all requests for Meeting- and Quaker-related activities at FMW around outside space rentals. We are making every effort to accommodate Sunday afternoon and evening rentals, while ensuring that all of our internal activities on Sunday mornings are unimpeded by outside events.

What I am Working On

My position has always been a combination of sales, marketing, and customer service with a healthy dose of web design and other miscellaneous tasks thrown in. The slowdown in future bookings and events taking place has reduced the sales and customer services components of my work – and allowed me to focus more on the marketing aspects of this work that I was struggling to get to on a daily basis.

In July, I:

- Fielded several inquiries for weddings to be scheduled later in 2020, 2021, or beyond. During July, event inquiries significantly increased over previous months since COVID-19 began in March.
- Continued to tweak the design of our website to keep the content and layout fresh and useful. Not everything I have done will be apparent by simply looking at the site. In July, we had 455 visitors to the event rental site, including 437 new visitors.
- Worked with our wedding planner to refine elopement / micro wedding packages for couples that will take place at FMW, including plans for a micro wedding day on October 4th where we hope at least two couples will rent our spaces for their wedding
- Continued networking with other event and wedding professionals in the DC area to let them know about our venue. Brought several wedding planners and photographers through our spaces.
- Published to our social media accounts multiple times per week on a variety of topics. This includes a post automatically scheduled for Sunday mornings that generally includes a quote related to Quakerism or individuals currently in the news (i.e. two John Lewis quotes after his death). This has also included at least one post about happenings within our community that might be of wider interest.
 - We've increased our followers on Instagram to 105 and Facebook to 53. The social media posts incorporate hashtags that circulate our posts well beyond the existing followers.
 - We're also running limited advertising on Facebook
- Watched lots of online webinars on handling COVID-19 as an event venue and attended virtual happy hours with industry professionals
- Marketed our office spaces (more below)

- Secured coverage for us in online media:
 - <https://www.washingtonian.com/2020/04/30/micro-weddings/> (this actually happened earlier than July, but I did not share the link in previous reports)
 - <https://jingtravel.com/capital-restart-the-future-of-d-c-s-business-travel-industry/> (Due to our membership in Destination DC, their reporter reached out directly to me for an email interview.)
- Marketed FMW to a wedding planner as the venue for her Christmas themed style shoot in late October. We are one of two final venues she is considering. This would be an opportunity for us to get some more marketable photography and to continue showing off our spaces to new wedding professionals
- With other wedding partners, began planning for FMW's next wedding open house, likely in September by appointment only and following all applicable COVID guidelines
- Attended an introductory Zoom call with Henok Tedla, FMW's new bookkeeper starting in August
- Began exploring the listing of our spaces on Peerspace, an Airbnb like website for meeting and event space
- Worked on COVID liability language for event space users and office tenants

Office Space Rentals

At present, we have the following tenants:

- AsylumWorks (formerly Asylum Seeker Assistance Project)
<https://www.asylumprojectdc.org/>
- DesignCase Architects (<https://www.designcasellc.com/>)
- Dupont Circle Village (<https://www.dupontcirclevillage.net/>)
- Barbara Sobol, Art Therapist
- Sondra Geller, Art Therapist (<http://sondrageller.com/>)
- National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund (<http://peacetaxfund.org/>)
- Women's Ordination Conference (<https://www.womensordination.org/>)

There have been two office spaces available for rent, as we experienced turn over as the COVID-19 pandemic was arriving in DC. These include the Carriage Room, which may potentially become office space again plus suite 163 (formerly occupied by psychotherapist Elizabeth Handy).

We have a new tenant identified for Suite 163 in Quaker House (formerly psychotherapist Elizabeth Handy's office) – another psychotherapist. He will sign a license agreement in August and move in later in the month. I'll provide more information on him in a future report once he moves in.

This leaves the Carriage Room as the last remaining office space to rent. We are fortunate that, despite COVID-19, we are able to find new tenants relatively easily, even if event space rentals are more of a challenge for us.

Office Tenant Profile

I also would like to briefly highlight one of our office tenants each month in this report, particularly the nonprofits. This will allow Friends a sense of who occupies our spaces throughout the week.

Per their website, the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund “advocates for U.S. federal legislation that would enable conscientious objectors to war to have their federal income taxes directed to a separate fund which would be used for non-military purposes alone. This fund would be called the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund, and the bill we seek to pass is called the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act, called H.R. 4169 in the current Congressional term.”

For many years, this organization had a larger footprint on our campus, but now only rents a closet for storage.

How you can help me and FMW's budget

If you know of (or work for) an organization that may need office space in the coming months – perhaps a larger organization or a smaller one interested in sharing with someone else – feel free to connect me so that we can fill the last remaining space. Or if you know of places where we might market our available office spaces, please let me know that as well.

The same is true of our event spaces. Please think about whether your employer, an organization whose board you sit on – or even yourself for a special event – might be able to make use of our spaces.

If you have ideas for content that we can post on Facebook and Instagram that might be of interest to a wide (not necessarily Quaker) audience, I am happy to consider. I have posted photos of most of the banners we have had on our fence over the past few months. And, as noted above, I generally post a Quaker quote on Sunday mornings with wide appeal – or that directly relates to the current political climate. These have been well received.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fmw.event.venue/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/friendsmeetingofwashington/>

Creation of a One-Year FMW Fundraising Task Force

Background

Like many institutions, Friends Meeting of Washington has been hard hit by COVID-19, with its impact on gathering, hosting in-person events that build our community, and rental of our spaces for meetings, weddings and other events.

FMW leadership, including the Finance & Stewardship Committee, the clerks of the Capital Campaign Committee and Finance & Stewardship have agreed on the wisdom of getting behind a

single fundraising effort for the Meeting. This requires coordination between members of the two committees involved in fundraising (F&S and Capital Campaign Committee) and other individuals who could bring skills to this effort, whether their contributions last for the duration of the TaskForce or are ad hoc.

Forming a Task Force

To respond to this challenge, Friends suggest creating a Fundraising Task Force to exist for one year, or the duration of the pandemic, when it can be re-evaluated. The group will be permeable, with the major task of developing a fundraising plan. It will work to raise funds for the Capital Campaign and the General Fund.

The Task Force will bring people in for specific activities as they are led, but would emphasize a number of specific ongoing tasks:

- Consider a variety of fundraising methods, including email, mail, texting and personal phone calls
- Curate the FMW directory on Breeze and identify individuals who should be contacted using these different methods
- Develop language for a fundraising outreach to each group
- Organize opportunities around which to issue requests for support. (E.g., dedications of items in the Meeting, like toilets, when you are “feeling flush”)
- Identify individuals who can implement each form of outreach
- Oversee outreach
- Monitor the resulting donations, and ensure that each donor's information is properly recorded and they are thanked

Meg Greene and Frank Garvey will serve as co-clerks and Susan Griffin will work as Taskforce Coordinator. We will be reaching out to as many people as we can in our community. This will be a community-wide effort.

Friends Meeting of Washington Young Adult Friends Handbook Addition

Old FMW Handbook YAF Section:

11.6 Young Adult Friends (Friends Meeting of Washington Handbook, Page 41)

This group is for Friends and attenders aged 18 to approximately 40. The Young Adult Friends group sponsors worship sharing gatherings, speakers and discussions on issues of interest to young adults, as well as social activities, such as hiking and dancing, and volunteer opportunities. It maintains communication through a listserv.

Proposed addition to the FMW Handbook

11.6 Young Adult Friends

11.6.1 Overview: This group is for Friends and attenders aged 18 to approximately 40. The Young Adult Friends (YAF) group sponsors worship sharing gatherings, speakers and discussions on issues of interest to young adults, as well as social activities, such as hiking and dancing, and volunteer opportunities. It maintains communication through a listserv.

11.6.2 Co-conveners: This group is overseen by two co-conveners for staggered terms of two years beginning on January 1. Co-coordinators are able to serve as many terms as they wish either consecutively or with breaks between terms. Co-coordinators are responsible for the planning and execution of YAF events and programs as they see fit. The co-coordinators are also responsible for keeping and maintaining the YAF listserv and using it to promote events. It is also encouraged for the co-coordinators to find other methods of communications with YAF participants.

11.6.3 Age guidelines: The age requirements to participate in the activities of YAF are suggested and not firmly enforced, particularly around the topic of YAF participants “aging out” of YAF activities. If you feel young, you are young. Alcohol is not served at events where those younger than 21 will be present.

11.6.4 Statement of LGBTQ+ Affirmation: YAF affirms the gender and sexual identities of all and stands with our LGBTQ+ friends and neighbors as they work for equality. Those who participate in YAF functions are expected to refer to other participants by their name and pronouns and are expected to work tirelessly to create a welcoming space for all members of the LGBTQ+ community.

11.6.5 Statement of Racial Affirmation: YAF affirms the racial and ethnic identities of all. The planning of all YAF functions takes into mind Baltimore Yearly Meeting’s *Anti-Racism Queries*. Those who participate in YAF events are expected to create a welcoming space for people regardless of their racial or ethnic background. YAF commits itself to working tirelessly to be an anti-racist community.

11.6.6 Statement on Sexual Misconduct: The YAF community does not tolerate sexual misconduct of any kind. This includes, but is not limited to, sexual assault, sexual harassment, lewd comments, or any action that makes YAF participants feel unsafe or unwelcome in the YAF space. This policy extends to behavior of participants outside of YAF events. Should a community member’s pattern of behavior lead to an unwelcoming space within the YAF community, YAF affirms the need to elder them and when necessary, for the safety of the community, exclude them from YAF events and spaces.

11.6.7 Statement on Culture: The YAF community acknowledges and affirms that no single document can create a culture of acceptance and safety. These statements must be backed by the actions of the YAF co-coordinators and participants. The work of creating a YAF culture of acceptance, equality, community, and safety is constant and is the responsibility of all who participate in YAF. Any action or inaction on the part of YAF participants or co-coordinators that does harm to the YAF community should be brought up and addressed, even if not explicitly outlined in the YAF section of the Handbook.

11.6.8 Reporting of Issues: If an issue should arise involving misconduct of a YAF participant the following steps will be taken:

1. A YAF participant should bring their concern to one or both of the YAF co-conveners if the participant feels comfortable. Though it is preferred that any concerns be raised in writing, YAF fully understands that this is not always possible or would be burdensome to a harmed participant and so does not require written complaints. When a concern is raised, the YAF co-coordinators should clarify with the harmed participant what actions they feel comfortable with YAF taking and with which members of the community they feel comfortable having their concern shared.

2. The notified YAF co-coordinator will confidentially inform the Clerk(s) of Friends Meeting of Washington about the raised concern and seek guidance on how best to address the raised concern.
3. Remedies should always focus on restoring a sense of safety and shared community to YAF spaces. Possible remedies include, but are not limited to, Eldering from the YAF co-coordinator to the offending participant, Eldering from a member of Ministry and Worship to the offending participant, Eldering from the Clerk of the Meeting to the offending participant, a suspension from YAF events for a period of time, and/or a permanent banning of an offending participant from all YAF events.
4. If a concern is with a YAF co-coordinator or arises in some way that a YAF participant would not feel comfortable raising a concern with the YAF co-coordinators, the YAF participant is advised to raise their concern directly with the Clerk(s) of the Meeting.

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Report of the Finance & Stewardship Committee to FMW Meeting for Business, September 13, 2020

Accompanying this Report is a spreadsheet showing the Meeting's P&L (not including depreciation) for Budget and Actual FY20 plus columns showing different scenarios of potential Meeting losses for FY21 based on three separate scenarios:

1. Assuming approximately the same revenue and expenses as in FY20
2. Assumed Best Case scenario; and
3. Assumed Worst Case scenario.

Also, this Report is accompanied by a copy of the FY21 Budget as approved by Meeting for Business in June.

The Actual P&L for FY20 (including depreciation) the Meeting loss was approximately -\$153,000. The FY20 budget had assumed a net loss from operations of about \$143,000. So we came reasonably close to the budgeted loss. This gives us some confidence that our budgets are realistic, as budgets are all based on reasonable assumptions.

The first scenario is based on the same revenue and expenses as in FY20. This would result in Meeting losses of about-\$360,000. This is because FY20 losses were spread over 12 months, as if the COVID situation was in effect for the whole of FY21 and FY20 revenues and expenses were significantly impacted for about half of the fiscal year.

The Worst-Case scenario is also based on arbitrary assumptions about Meeting revenue and expenses and would result in Meeting losses of \$486,000.

The Best-Case scenario is based on arbitrary assumptions for increases in revenue and would result in Meeting losses of approximately \$72,000.

These spreadsheet scenarios for FY21 are based on guesses and assumptions. **The Budget agreed to by the Meeting in June for FY21 assumes a deficit of about \$331,000.** This number is still, based on careful F&S analysis, the most likely result for FY21.

Another way to look at our financial status is to look at our cash and investments available to spend. During FY 2020, our total cash and investment balances declined by \$313,177.

	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-20	9-Sep-20
Checking	128,566	133,544	110,371
Money Market	19,273	19,282	19,282
Investments	1,885,918	1,567,754	1,553,003
Total	2,033,757	1,720,580	1,682,656
Change		-313,177	-37,924

We were spending significantly on the last stage of the renovation and then on our new mortgage payments during this period, and our anticipated rental revenue was much reduced, first by the renovation and then by the COVID pandemic.

In the current fiscal year so far (10 weeks) we have further reduced cash and investments by \$37,924.

Of the remaining \$1,682,656, almost half is restricted in some way, so that only between **\$800 thousand and \$900 thousand is available to finance this ongoing deficit**. That should be more than sufficient to see us through several years, even if the COVID pandemic lasts that long.

We have recently converted \$610,000 of our investments to more stable fixed-income shares to guard against the possibility of a sudden market decline during the next year or two.

In the meantime, we continue to pay the bills and the mortgage, keep the lights on, issue paychecks to staff, and worry about the grass.

Event space inquiries and bookings are showing some signs of life. COVID vaccine, medicines, and improved tests appear to be in the works. Our long-term financial prospects continue to be good.

In other F&S news, the Committee has accomplished a great deal since our last report to Meeting for Business in June. While we still are very concerned with the budget, as described above, we now at least, have confidence in the overall accuracy of the information in our accounting system.

As many of you know, the Committee had been seeking a new accounting contractor in June. We accomplished this task and as of August 1, 2020, the Committee engaged a small firm, Access Accounting Services (Access), with Managing Partner Henok Tedla, CPA initially as our bookkeeper. As of September 1, once the Committee and our consultant Ms. Laurie Wilner were confident that Mr. Tedla understood our system, we revised the contract with Access so that as of September 1, 2020 Mr. Tedla began serving as our comptroller and his associate, Tigist Seifu is serving as our bookkeeper. The time and materials contract will cost the Meeting about

\$2,250.00 per month, much less than the \$3,400/month cost of our contract with the previous accounting firm.

The Committee carefully reviewed the background and experience and draft contracts before engaging Mr. Tedla and his firm. We asked Laurie Wilner to review Mr. Tedla's performance. She reported to us that Mr. Tedla very quickly understood our bookkeeping system and was performing his bookkeeper role very well. Mr. Tedla has been engaged for four (4) hours weekly in the "controller" function, billed at \$50 per hour, while Ms. Seifu is providing us with ten (10) hours weekly at \$32 per hour.

The Committee also approved moving immediately to QuickBooks as our accounting software and integrate with Bill.com for paying invoices. The Committee also approved moving to an online storage system for our records. Mr. Tedla and Laurie Wilner both advised the Committee to transition to QuickBooks Online.

The Committee is still considering our anticipated deficit for FY21. Options under consideration include:

- seeking forbearance on our mortgage payments
- increasing donations to the Meeting; and
- cuts in staff working days or hours.

Based on a joint decision by Trustees and F&S, the Meeting has rebalanced our holdings in Friends Fiduciary by moving \$610,000 from riskier market-based investments such as equities to safer fixed rate investments.

	FY 18	FY20	FY 20	FY21	FY 19	FY21	FY 21	FY21
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Based on Best FY20	Case	Worst Case
Revenue								
Donations	203,203	192,105	250,903	167,350	175,461	250,000	250,000	200,000
Building Revenue	247,564	414,090	227,162	170,500	163,157	225,000	300,000	200,000
Restr & Designated Support	47,387	130,000	108,628	166,000	38,883	9,000	100,000	5,000
Other Income	77,479	71,240	68,570	47,240	70,771	60,000	75,000	50,000

Total Revenue	575,633	807,435	655,263	551,090	448,272	544,000	725,000	455,000
Expense								
Personnel Costs	151,117	233,407	180,349	196,733	168,907	181,000	180,000	185,000
Consultants	37,856	60,500	74,188	75,300	35,697	75,000	40,000	75,000
Outreach & Program Expenses	81,145	83,600	98,362	80,024	83,531	98,000	85,000	98,000
Site Costs	133,412	257,967	221,627	200,150	154,237	221,000	200,000	250,000
Property Rental costs	9,334	27,625	25,814	25,125	18,081	25,000	25,000	25,000
Office & General	6,913	9,650	8,293	8,750	9,110	8,200	8,000	9,800
Financing Costs		201,000	120,378	221,472	-41,388	219,000	219,000	219,000
Other Expenses	71,856	76,940	79,741	74,600	70,757	80,000	40,000	80,000
Total Expense	491,633	950,689	808,752	882,154	498,932	907,200	797,000	941,800
Net from Operations	84,000	-143,254	-153,489	-331,064	-50,660	-363,200	-72,000	-486,800

Friends Meeting of Washington
 FY 2021 Budget Summary
 June 14, 2020

	FY 18 Final	FY19 Final	FY20 YTD April 30	FY 19 Budget	FY 20 Budget	FY 21 Budget	
Summary							
Revenue							
Donations	203,203	175,461	193,928	196,105	192,105	167,350	1
Monthly Rental	130,604	121,693	86,099	110,340	132,090	110,500	2
Event Rental	116,242	34,178	104,020	108,000	275,000	50,000	3
Solar Revenue	718	7,287	7,760	12,000	7,000	10,000	4
Building Revenue	247,564	163,158	197,879	230,340	414,090	170,500	5
Committee & Program Support	24,203	29,214	70,362	29,000	29,000	29,000	6
Shoebox Revenue	21,935			22,000	22,000	22,000	7
Capital Campaign Support	1,249	9,670	32,202	37,160	79,000	115,000	8
Investment Income	75,262	69,112	28,122	80,000	70,000	45,000	9
Literature & Sales	272	95		240	240	240	10
Miscellaneous Income	1,445	874	3,862	1,000	1,000		11
Memorial Income	500	690	5,600			2,000	12
Total Revenue	575,633	448,274	531,955	595,845	807,435	551,090	13
Expense							
Payroll Costs	88,441	96,575	91,096	117,731	142,107	115,940	15
Staff Benefits	11,028	11,750	13,923	8,440	13,200	17,443	16
Training & Development	602	279		2,000	1,050	350	17
Personnel Costs	100,071	108,604	105,019	128,171	156,357	133,733	18
Bookkeeping	34,456	31,897	28,905	40,000	50,000	55,000	19
Audit & Legal Costs	3,000	3,500	23,200	4,500	7,000	18,500	20
Other Consultants	400	300		3,200	3,500	1,800	21
Consultants	37,856	35,697	52,105	47,700	60,500	75,300	22
Project Supplies	2,861	4,754	22,800	6,175	6,425	5,300	23
Food Costs	6,246	1,820	1,251	5,800	1,300	1,300	24
Outreach Expenses		2,158	203				25
Other Project Costs	1,038	7,914	3,252	500	500	2,505	26
Literature		102	48				27
Committee Expenses	10,145	16,748	27,554	12,475	8,225	9,105	28
Scholarships	26,478	30,230	40,370	30,250	30,250	27,750	29
Shoebox Expense	21,935	21,988		22,000	22,000	22,000	30
Donations to Others	22,587	14,565	10,600	22,625	23,125	21,169	31
Telephone	1,140	1,802	2,005	1,300	1,300	2,500	32
Internet	1,794	1,884	2,771	2,700	12,100	4,200	33
Gas	1,978	1,445	1,235	1,600	2,500	1,000	34
Electric	13,763	13,962	15,907	13,500	15,000	10,000	35
Water & Sewer Expense	5,828	5,072	8,469	5,500	7,500	7,500	36
Total Utilities	24,503	24,165	30,387	24,600	38,400	25,200	37
							38

Friends Meeting of Washington
 FY 2021 Budget Summary
 June 14, 2020

	FY 18 Final	FY19 Final	FY20 YTD April 30	FY 19 Budget	FY 20 Budget	FY 21 Budget	
Building Maintenance & Repairs	24,968	57,696	58,522	48,010	30,000	32,000	39
Ground Maintenance	18,035	11,214	9,200	10,010	40,000	40,000	40
Trash & Recycle	4,277	4,174	4,278	5,305	7,900	3,250	41
Custodial Service	38,880	35,377	46,412	42,995	72,667	65,000	42
Event Custodial	134			210	6,000	500	43
Custodial Supplies	2,070	1,786	3,865	4,010	6,000	3,000	44
Total Janitorial & Trash Services	45,361	41,337	54,555	52,520	92,567	71,750	45
Insurance	13,553	19,261	49,143	26,000	32,000	26,200	46
Furnishings	6,644	52	10,858	21,000	25,000	5,000	47
Other Site Costs	348	778	416				48
Total Site Costs	133,412	154,503	213,081	182,140	257,967	200,150	49
Event Staff	51,046	60,302	59,570	108,950	77,050	63,000	50
Marketing & Advertising	1,082	9,731	16,011	7,000	10,000	7,500	51
Total Consultants & Commissions	42		60	1,740	1,500	1,500	52
Property Taxes	8,210	8,350	8,738	11,500	8,625	8,625	53
Total Property Rental costs	60,380	78,383	84,379	129,190	97,175	80,625	54
Postage & Printing & Supplies	2,545	3,622	3,521	3,800	3,800	4,850	55
Computer Expense	2,884	5,350	2,228	4,900	4,900	2,200	56
Equipment Costs	825	99	194	700	700	1,550	57
Books, Dues & Subscriptions	659	40	1,405	250	250	150	58
Total Office & General	6,913	9,111	7,348	9,650	9,650	8,750	59
Mortgage Interest Expense			96,029	50,000	122,000	143,727	60
Mortgage Principal Payments					64,000	77,745	61
Extra Mortgage Principal Payments					15,000		62
UBIT Expense				7,500	7,500	7,500	63
Total Financing Costs		-41,388	96,029	57,500	208,500	228,972	64
Yearly Meeting Apportionment	64,339	65,439	33,500	64,985	67,000	67,000	65
Credit Card Processing & Bank Expense	5,417	2,975	7,765	6,100	7,400	4,400	66
Payroll Processing	1,908	2,343	2,663	2,300	2,300	3,000	67
Miscellaneous Expenses	192		3,544	240	240	200	68
Total Expense	491,633	499,198	683,957	715,326	950,689	882,154	69
							70
Net from Operations	84,000	-50,924	-152,002	-119,481	-143,254	-331,064	71
							72
Other Costs & Revenue							73
Gains/Losses	31,996	13,412	6,018				74
Depreciation	-44,047	-42,406					75
Total Other Costs & Revenue	-12,051	-28,994	6,018				76
							77
Total Income/Loss	71,949	-79,918	-145,984	-119,481	-143,254	-331,064	78