

Dear IYM Friends,

I am serving my sixth and final year as a member of the Board of Directors for the American Friends Service Committee. Also, it has been my privilege to serve as a representative of IYM on the AFSC Corporation. This too, is my last year of serving in this role.

The AFSC celebrated its 90th birthday last year and is moving into its future with a strong sense of mission. In the six years I have served on the AFSC Board we have seen many changes. AFSC had modernized its internal financial system, reorganized the institutional structure of the international programs, revitalized the administration of the Quaker UN Office and facility, developed and operated with a long term Strategic Plan and successfully brought to millions of people the impact of war through the Eyes Wide Open exhibit. The Eyes Wide Open has been one of the most successful public awareness campaigns in the history of AFSC.

This year, AFSC has brought Kristen Richardson on staff. Kristen is seeking to invigorate a stronger bond between Friends and the AFSC. Kristen will be at our Annual Session this year. Please make her feel welcome as only Illinois Friends can do. I know she is open to ideas you may have when looking into building a stronger sense of engagement of Friends with AFSC. I, too, welcome any ideas you may have for building a stronger connect. Please help us find ways that Friends have the experience of AFSC operating as the outward expression of Friend's values.

Carol Bartles
AFSC Board member