

PEACE TALK!
MAY, 2023

For many Americans, Memorial Day is a time to celebrate the beginning of summer. Many families have barbeques, some community swimming pools open, and we spend more time outdoors.

But did you know that the holiday used to be known as Decoration Day? It started after the Civil War and became a time to remember people who served their country during times of war. People would visit cemeteries, clean the winter debris off the graves and decorate them with flowers. The name of the holiday was changed in 1971 to Memorial Day and is celebrated on the last Monday in May. This brings up the idea of how to save your memories.

Have you noticed the cemetery behind Gwynedd Meeting House and School? People who belonged to the Meeting are buried here. The oldest gravestone dates all the way back to 1714. It is lovely to remember that these people also lived with families, worked hard, enjoyed nature and were of service to others. They tried to follow the testimony of stewardship, sharing their time, treasure and talents. Perhaps you could walk through the cemetery and see if you can read any of the names on the stones and remember that they used to live and worship here too.

Meeting Burial Ground, from the Southwest



On this Memorial Day, think about someone you may be missing, because he/she/they died or may no longer live near you. Some people find that creating a memory book is very healing. This book can be shared with family and friends – it keeps the love alive and serves as a remembrance of all the good times that were shared.

Another idea is to think of a memory that you have of someone who has done something special with you or has helped you in some way. Draw a picture to give to this person to let them know that you have wonderful memories of your time together.

Enjoy an exciting and safe summer!

Peace and Social Action Committee

