Memorial Minute—Harriet Ermentrout

Harriett Curtin Ermentrout, a long time and cherished member of this Meeting, passed from this life on November 15, 2014, at the age of 98. She was preceded in death by her husband Charles Ermentrout some six years ago. She is survived by her son Carl Ermentrout and her daughter, Sandy Rotenberg, her husband Sam and three grandchildren - Tanya, Ben and Love SánchezSuárez, their spouses and children.

At a memorial meeting for worship held at Pennswood Village on December 4, 2014, ample affirmation was provided attesting to Harriett’s generosity, patience, tolerance, her love for family and friends and her love of her art. It was said of her that her life was a work of art because art was her life’s work. She was an accomplished watercolorist, having begun her studies at the Moore Institute of Art. She also studied with such luminaries of the watercolor genre as Ray Nuse, Ed Whitney, John Pike, Ranulph Bye and Howard Watson.

It was Harriett’s practice that whenever travelling, she took with her a painting kit, a sketch book and a rectangular piece of cardboard with a rectangle cut out of it with which she would "frame" whatever she had decided to sketch. She filled a great many of these sketchbooks and from them created final works that were displayed in numerous museums and for which she received many awards.

Newtown Meeting is grateful for the life of Harriett Ermentrout. Just as Edward Hicks was inspired to bring to the canvas the vision of the Peaceable Kingdom as described by Isaiah, so Harriett served as a reminder that the creative arts are still another way to celebrate the creative power of God.

This Minute is presented to Newtown Meeting at a regular Meeting for Worship with a Focus on Business for its consideration and approbation, and, upon approval it is recommended that the same be spread upon the Minutes of the Meeting and copies thereof sent to Harriett’s family.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Kester, Scrivener