

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING



SEPTEMBER 2001

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- Saturday & Sunday, Sept 8 & 9 Northwest Quarterly Meeting.
At Farm & Wilderness Camps, Plymouth, VT.
A time for business and fun.
- Sunday, September 9, 8:30 AM Ministry & Counsel Meeting.
- Monday, September 10, 7 PM Men's Group Meeting.
At Ted Colwell's house (388-3632). Note change
in usual date due to Labor Day holiday.
- Sunday, September 16, 11:20 AM Monthly Meeting for Business.
- Sunday, September 16, 7:30 PM Area wide Meeting to discuss "The Earth Charter."
Kirk Alumni Center, Middlebury College
- Sunday, September 23, 9 AM First Adult Discussion: Topic "The Earth Charter"
– Should MFM endorse the Charter?

“However fashionable despair about the world and about people may be at present, and however powerful despair may become in the future, not everybody, or even most people, thinks and lives fashionably; virtue and honor will not be banished from the world, however many popular moralists and panicky journalists say so. Sacrifice will not cease to be because psychiatrists have popularized the idea that there is often some concealed self-serving element in it; theologians always knew that. Nor do I think love as a high condition of honor will be lost; it is a pattern in the spirit, and people long to make the pattern a reality in their own lives, whatever means they take to do so.”

- Robertson Davies

Sunday, October 7, 12:30 PM

CROP Walk Registration begins. Walk starts at 1. Everyone is encouraged to join this fundraiser to help end hunger throughout the world! The 6-mile walk begins at the Congregational Church, downtown Middlebury.

December, 2001

Middlebury and Bennington Meetings co-host Quarterly Meeting, to be held in Middlebury.

MINUTES, MEETING FOR BUSINESS

JULY 29, 2001

Co-clerk: Priscilla Baker

Acting Recording Clerk: Ted Colwell

The meeting began at 11:20 AM with silence, out of which the Clerk read an excerpt from "Voluntary Simplicity" by Daune Elgin. Present were: Priscilla Baker (Clerk), Ruth Barenbaum, Jerry McBride, Grace McGrath, Marshall Hoagland, Fran and Spence Putnam, Faith Lowell, and Olive and Ted Colwell (Acting Recording Clerk).

1. The Minutes of the June 19, 2001 Meeting for Business were approved.
2. Olive Colwell distributed the June 30, 2001 financial statement and read the following report:

TREASURER'S REPORT JULY 29, 2001

In June contributions totaled \$476.00. and the expenses amounted to \$98.00. Included in expenses were payments for of \$68.00 for postage and \$30.00 for Child Care. For the twelve months of our fiscal year we received \$7,550.00 from contributions, and our expenditures were \$7,621.56. Our cash balance as of May 31, 2001 was \$1,871.98.

In July so far we have received gifts of \$165.00 and had expenses of \$1,235.75. These included funds for ChildCare, the rent to the Parent/Child Center, printing the newsletter, cost of deposit slips, and our advertisement in *Friends Journal*. Also, we paid \$500.00 to New England Yearly Meeting and \$200.00 to Northwest Quarterly Meeting. The present cash balance is \$801.23.

3. Grace McGrath read the following report of the Ministry & Counsel Meeting of July 8, 2001:

A. Meg Langworthy was welcomed to the committee.

B. Jerry McBride reported on the committee discussing issues concerning funneling funds through the Meeting and Released Friends. While the committee is close to a recommendation for a policy on special funds, it does not have consensus on the issue of released friends. Since both issues are the charge of this committee, we agreed that the committee should not be laid down until both issues have recommendations. The committee has done research at Yearly Meeting on the issue of released friends and it is clear there is no consensus on this topic there.

C. There was a long discussion of personal concerns, including a report from Jerry on a discussion at the last Quarterly Meeting about people in meetings who

need long term care. We have several such people in our meeting, and we will discuss ways to meet this need.

D. In the light of the many personal concerns expressed, we are considering implementing a “caregivers” group again.

E. We will redistribute the list of M & C members and the people in the Meeting who are their particular concern. Jann Grace Seale will print and distribute it to M & C members.

F. The Greeting and Hospitality lists have been put together.

G. Meg Langworthy will read the Query on July 29, 2001.

4. Jerry McBride reported that the Special Committee on Special Funds and Released Friends would be meeting on July 30, 2001.

5. Ruth Barenbaum reported on planning for the next group of Volunteers For Peace which will be coming to Middlebury from August 20 to August 31, staying at St. Stephen’s Church, and working under the guidance of ACCAG. About fifteen volunteers may be in the group. We agreed to host a Potluck Dinner at the home of Ruth Barenbaum on August 22nd, beginning at 6 PM. A number of suggestions were made for possible projects for the Volunteers such as working at Habitat for Humanity, Project Independence, and the Parent/Child Center. Spence has agreed to pass along these ideas to Peter Grant of ACCAG.

6. Fran Putnam reported on the discussions of a committee of the Parent/Child Center regarding the construction of additional space that is needed by the Center. The committee is currently in very preliminary discussion of a new one-story building that would contain a larger meeting room, space for the Dad’s Detailing operation, and a new classroom. This committee is interested in getting input from the Meeting about ideas we may have for the meeting room’s size, facilities and storage space. Jerry McBride expressed his sense that we should tell them that they should build as large a building as the Center is comfortable with. His experience is that such projects are always scaled back and that the new space gets quickly filled with equipment, etc. Fran is our representative on this committee of the Center.

7. Ruth Barenbaum asked for approval to prepare a brochure on the Quaker Grove, a group of trees to be planted, with agreement by the Parent/Child Center, in an appropriate location. Families that wish to create a memorial for departed loved ones will be encouraged to purchase a tree for the grove. Approval was given for this brochure.

8. We approved dates for the coming months.

The meeting ended at 12:21 PM with another time of silence.

GRANTS AVAILABLE FROM NEYM

The New England Yearly Meeting's Committee on Prejudice and Poverty is open to receiving applications for small grants up to \$500.00 for organizations whose goals include confronting prejudice, alleviating poverty, and promoting diversity and multiculturalism. The organizations do not need to be Quaker groups.

Priscilla Baker (388-8024) has the necessary application blanks. The notification of awards will be made by mid-October.

If any MFM participants have ideas, this may be a fine opportunity to gain support for a worthy project or program.



It has been a dry and sunny summer. On July 20 there was a wonderful Potluck Picnic at the gazebo of SAS CAREY, at which the nine members of the Volunteers for Peace delegation were our guests. They brought a real taste of the international flavor. We owe special thanks to RUTH BARENBAUM, FRAN PUTNAM and ANN TAYLOR for their hard work in entertaining these young people. It was a great party, and all attending got a positive impression of the Volunteers. In addition, those present gave Sas a warm send-off as she went off to Mongolia for a month. Sas returned just before Labor Day, with terrific excitement about all that she had learned and experienced. JEAN BURFOOT would like to thank Ministry and Council for arranging a Meeting for Worship at her home in August. It is difficult for Jean to attend Meeting and she greatly appreciates the generosity of those who made this "precious occasion" possible. We recently had a phone call from Cottonwood, AZ, and SHERRIE AND CLIFFORD KENNEDY-CAMERON sent their love to MFM Friends. They are enjoying the life in the Southwest, Clifford finds his work challenging and rewarding. And they are both well. In early June we had a visit from two of the founders of this meeting: JAN AND KIRK ROBERTS who have been away from Middlebury for many years. They are still interested in the meeting, read the newsletter regularly, and manage to get back to Middlebury every few years. It was great to see them and have them see how MFM is doing. CHAS and MARTHA MOSELEY are making another move from Durham, NH to Washington, DC where Chas has a new job with the Federal Government. We wish them all the best in their new location. A new address will be forthcoming shortly. JOHN ELDER has been named Chairman of the English Department at Middlebury College. He and RITA are back after a long sabbatical in Italy. PATTY HEATHERLEA reports that her mother-in-law, JANE LEA, is not well. Jane was a faithful part of the meeting for many years, and we will be holding her in the Light. The home at 10 Elm Street in Middlebury of BECKY HOLMES and "JAKE" JACOBS has a For Sale

sign out front, as they prepare to move into their new home in the country in Salisbury. JERRY McBRIDE has been immersed for some weeks in helping his son, IAN, install a new stereo in Ian's car. The father/son team is slowly learning the complexities of electronics and automotive alterations. Following the debut of his wife, JOY PILE, as a book reviewer for "Friends Journal," GREG PAHL has just had two reviews published in the latest issue of the same magazine. Greg did a fine job discussing two important new books on the environment. JEAN and DAVID ROSENBERG have had wonderful vacations, canoeing in the Adirondacks as well as sea kayaking in the Bay of Fundy with ELIZABETH and ELI . WIN and JOANNA COLWELL have returned from a trip that took them to California and Maine. They supported dear friends at their wedding as well as having visits with family on both coasts. And note that Joanna has a feature artical in the September/October issue of *Yoga Journal* on the subject of breast health for women. Finally, attender Tim Andrews is currently directing a play off-broadway at the St. Mark's Theater. It is called *Shifts of Focus* and has gotten many good notices!

We have two new e-mail addresses:

Jann Grace Seale: lunazul@bluemoo.net

Priscilla Baker: prbaker@sover.net

-Ted Colwell

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Co-Clerks

Priscilla Baker (388-8024)

Jean Rosenberg (388-6453)

Ministry and Counsel Committee

Donna Belcher

Meg Langworthy

Jerry McBride

Grace McGrath

Jann Grace Seale

David Tier

Treasurer

Olive Colwell (388-3632)

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Recording Clerk

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Ruth Barenbaum

Olive Colwell

Ted Colwell

Newsletter Editor Winslow Colwell (388-1961, winslow@well.com)

MIDDLEBURY 
FRIENDS MEETING

278 Washington St.
Middlebury, VT 05753

Meeting for Worship
10:00 AM every First Day
Parent/Child Center, 11 Monroe Street, Middlebury
www.middlebury.edu/~jmcbride/mfm.htm

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above
or to winslow@well.com

cover: Photo by Winslow Colwell