

# MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING



JULY 2003

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## FRIENDS CALENDAR

- Sunday, June 29      4 PM      Potluck picnic at Button Bay to celebrate summer and Jean Rosenberg's 60<sup>th</sup>. Birthday.
- Sunday, July 6      8:30 AM      Ministry & Counsel  
                                  10 AM      Meeting for Worship at Havurah
- Monday, July 7      7 PM      Men's Group at Ted Colwell's (388-6453)
- Friday, July 18      6 PM      Potluck in the Gazebo at Sas Carey's
- Sunday, July 27      11:20 AM      Summer Monthly Meeting for Business (combined July & August Monthly Meetings)
- Sunday, August 3      8:30 AM      Ministry & Counsel
- Monday, August 4      7 PM      Men's Group. Location TBA.
- Sunday, August 17      6 PM      Pot luck at Brennan Michaels and John Beattie's home, Shard Villa Rd., West Salisbury. (352-4416)
- Sat/Sun, Sept. 6 & 7      NW Quarterly Meeteing at Farm & Wilderness. Middlebury Friends Meeting and Bennington Monthly Meeteing co-host.

*“Human beings have been able to comprehend everything in the world except for their uniqueness. Perhaps it is just as well. If ever we begin to contemplate our own composite wonder, we will lose ourselves in celebration and have time for nothing else.”*

— NORMAN COUSINS

# MINUTES, MEETING FOR BUSINESS

June 15, 2003

Co-Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Meeting began with a reading by Rufus Jones (“A Call to What is Vital”) found in *Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice*. Present were Jean Rosenberg, Priscilla Baker, Olive Colwell, Ted Colwell, Grace McGrath, Spence Putnam, Sas Carey, Becky Stratton, John Benson, Meg Langworthy, Shelley Gustafson, and Bill and Kaylee Schoonover.

**03.06.01 Minutes from 5/18/03** were accepted as published in the newsletter with the correction that the line “Meeting began at noon following a trial Meeting for Worship at Havurah House” should be omitted.

**03.06.02 June Quarterly Meeting** was attended by Meg Langworthy and Mary. Meg reported that despite the rain it was a positive experience. She attended QM Ministry & Counsel session where the focus was on quality of vocal ministry, eldering, membership, and other topics. The evening program was a presentation by recent visitors to Ramallah, on the West Bank. This was followed by a lively contradance. On Sunday, there was QM Business Meeting at which Cheryl Mitchell agreed to be QM clerk for the coming year.

MFM co-hosts September 6 & 7 Quarterly Meeting with Bennington Monthly Meeting at Farm and Wilderness. Jean Rosenberg and Meg Langworthy volunteered to be an organizing committee and hope 1 or 2 others will join them. There is one more MFM Monthly Meeting before QM, at which final plans will be set in place.

**03.06.03 Ministry & Counsel report** (for June 1, 2003) as given by Grace McGrath (and abbreviated):

- The four members of the Space Committee (Spence, Jean, Priscilla & Becky H.) will be the greeters for the first four weeks of July at the new meeting space at the Havurah House. It was reminded that those providing hospitality should keep in mind foods inappropriate for the kitchen at Havurah.
- An information sheet entitled “The Essence of Meeting Worship” prepared by the Bennington Friends Meeting was distributed. The sheet contains some basic expectations of worship, including a chart entitled “Deciding to Speak in Open Worship” (It was decided, today, to have M & C rework and shorten the chart about vocal ministry to present to MM for consideration.)
- Summer potluck: John Beattie and Brennan Michaels have offered to host a potluck.
- There was a Friends Forum on June 8. There will be a break until Fall when new Friends Forums will be planned.

03.06.04 Treasurer, Becky Stratton, gave the following report: “During May, 2003, contributions totaled \$750. Our expenses were \$153.99 which included \$79.99 for the Newsletter and the new Directory, and \$74 for postage. For the first 11 months of the fiscal year we have received \$6,641 and our expenses were \$7,461.41. Our cash balance as of May 31, 2003 was \$1,485.77.

“So far, in June, 2003, we have received contributions of \$250. Our only expenses so far in June was \$16.78 from Miscellaneous. Our cash balance today is \$1,718.99.”

We reviewed the Proposed Budget as it appeared in the newsletter. It was pointed out that the new line item of a contribution to the Parent Child Center should have shown as \$200 under the “change” column. However, all totals are correct. After some discussion, the budget was approved as presented, with the awareness that we may need to increase the amount for child care, later in the year, to cover additional care for infants and toddlers during First Day School.

All were pleased to learn that Terra Nicholson will provide child care this summer and will be paid weekly for this service.

03.06.05 **Nominating Committee:** John Benson gave the following roster of persons who have agreed to serve MFM in the coming fiscal year:

Co-clerks	Spence Putnam (2004) Sas Carey (2005)
Ministry & Counsel	Meg Langworthy (2004) Grace McGrath (2004) Carrie Reed (2005) Chris Stackhouse (2005) John Beattie (2006) <i>To be filled</i> (2006)
Recording Clerk	Priscilla Baker
Treasurer	Becky Stratton
Recorder	Anne Corrigan
Clergy Group Rep.	Win Colwell
Newsletter Editor	Win Colwell
Librarian	Becky Holmes
Spirit in Nature Liaison	David Tier
First Day School Coordinator	Donna Belcher
Peace & Social Concerns Coordinator	<i>to be filled</i>
Webmaster	Kurt Suchomel

It was approved to add the position of Webmaster.

Discussion occurred about whether to suspend the Peace & Social Concerns Committee since there is now an active Addison County Peace Coalition. It was agreed that we should still have a MFM Peace and Social Concern Coordinator to act as contact person for peace issues and to be ready to call meetings as necessary. Ted will send John Benson the job description for this position which was created several years ago.

We were reminded that Vermont Ecumenical representatives are approved by Quarterly Meeting. Two representatives come from MFM: Cheryl Mitchell to the VEC Board of Trustees and Ruth Barenbaum to the VEC Peace & Justice Committee.

We were reminded that First Day School teachers do not need to be approved by MM. These positions are filled by the First Day School coordinator.

The roster was approved, as presented, with the understanding that two positions will be filled: (1) a 6<sup>th</sup> Ministry & Counsel member and (2) a Peace and Social Concerns Coordinator. Co-clerks, Spence Putnam and Sas Carey were urged to appoint a new Nominating Committee without delay.

Many thanks were expressed to those retiring from office, to the Nominating Committee (John Benson, Cheryl Mitchell, Sas Carey), and to those who have agreed to serve MFM during the year ahead.

**03.06.06 NEYM Faith & Practice revision discussion** took place at a Friends Forum on 6/8/03. Priscilla Baker gave a report of that discussion. Several points were clarified and further discussed. It was decided to send several documents from MFM which we have developed over the last several years and which might be helpful to the YM Revision Committee. The report was approved as a document reflecting MFM thoughts about Faith & Practice.

It was agreed to order more copies of NEYM Faith & Practice. Friends will continue to be offered the option to borrow a copy from our library or to purchase a copy.

**03.06.07 Havurah House move** will occur in a couple weeks. Librarian Becky Holmes is making plans for boxing up books and moving supplies to Havurah in the coming week. The Space Committee reported on 2 items: (1) Our library cabinet will be tried out in a location in the back of the kitchen. (2) Our rent will be payable quarterly in advance. The first \$450 will be due at the time the Letter of Agreement is signed.

It was pointed out that we will miss the floor cushions at PCC, a preferred seating option for a number of people. These cushions are owned by PCC and are not ours to take to Havurah House – although the smaller, corduroy chair cushions belong to MFM. For now, it is suggested that Friends wishing to sit on the floor bring their own floor cushion. The Space Committee will discuss this issue further.

The Space Committee will meet, it is hoped, on Wed. 7/2/03, at Havurah House with their liaison person to discuss details.

Meeting for Business ended with a moment of silence.

# ANNA LEA'S SALUTORIAN ADDRESS DELIVERED JUNE 7, 2003 MT. ABRAHAM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

I would like to dedicate this speech to my grandmother, Jane Geotz Lea who graduated Salutarian of her high school class in 1928, from Cleveland, Ohio, 75 years ago. In the beginning of this school year, on October 14, 2002, Jane passed away. She lived one month less than 92 years.

Throughout her lifetime she was a very sophisticated woman. Beautiful and talented in many ways. After high school she went to an institute to study music and piano, and graduated in 1932, in the depth of the depression. She was a determined woman who worked hard and saved her money to travel and study abroad.

By 23, she had studied piano in Lausanne around Lake Geneva and hiked in the Alps in Switzerland. In 1934, she worked in the Henry Street Settlement house in NYC and taught piano. In the summer of 1939 she returned to Switzerland, and encountered the beginning of World War Two. She got on the last Paris bound train through Switzerland, when country borders were shutting down. With a steam ship ticket in hand, she was prepared to return to the United States in the time of crisis, but instead gave her ticket up to a woman with a four year old son and baby on the way.

Jane stayed in France one and a half more months, until finally returning to the United States in November of 1939, with only \$20 in her pocket. What a daring adventure to help others.

Later that year she bought a model A two door Roadster for only \$25. She drove it from N.Y.C. to Ohio where her younger brothers painted it bright green, colored the hubcaps orange, and hung curtains in place of the windows. Jane drove the car through Canada back to N.Y.C. where she in turn sold it for \$75!

Two years later, Jane married and bore two children, a daughter, and a son, John, my father. She raised her children, teaching them music and good manners, until they, too, were ready to leave and find their place in life; to find their future for adventures and adulthood; to start families of their own.

And my dad has taught me music and song as well; he has taught me manners; he has taught me how to be polite, and courteous; taught me to get my work done.

And when I was younger, everyday before school, my dad would put his hands on my head and give me my fathers blessing, and that it is what I have to say to you, class of 2003:

Work hard,  
Play hard,  
have fun today,  
and remember the golden rule (treat others how you want to be treated)

...cont.

And I would like to close this with an inspirational speech written by Nelson Mandela in 1993:

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves: Who am I to be brilliant, (gorgeous, talented, fabulous?) Actually, who are you NOT to be? You are the child of the Universe. Your playing small does not serve the World. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of the Universe that is within us. It is not just in some of us: it is in everyone. As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

So, please, class of 2003, be yourselves. Find what empowers you to let your light shine. Find your outlet. Help others help themselves. Find your place in life and in your future.

Thank you, class, for becoming a part of my life.



There is more graduation news. HOLLY BURFOOT-ROCHFORD, daughter of JEAN BURFOOT and BURKE ROCHFORD, was awarded a degree from Northeastern University in Boston on June 14th. Holly majored in sociology and minored in education. While not a graduation per se RYAN McBRIDE participated with another senior from MUHS in a Senior Music Recital on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Playing percussion, Ryan performed both as a soloist and a key player in several combos. A happy touch was a duet played with his father, JERRY McBRIDE, who played clarinet in a rendition of Pas De Deux. It was a full evening of music the leaned heavily on the rock side. We have yet another new baby in the meeting family! SIMON WALKER BREWER was born on May 14<sup>th</sup> and arrived soon thereafter into the home of DR. ANNE KNOTT and ROB BREWER. Simon joins his two stepsisters Emma and Sophie on the North Branch Road in East Middlebury. Our harpist and frequent organizer of calendar event celebrations, ANN TAYLOR, is off to Sweden to celebrate the Summer Solstice in the Land of the Midnight Sun. We hope she will bring back some of her fantastic photographs. One of her landscapes was given to Jerry McBride as a farewell present from the meeting during a well-attended Potluck Supper at the home of the Rosenbergs on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. ELI ROSENBERG has contracted to purchase a house on State Street in Montpelier. Just in time for the start of the summer sailing season, DAVID ANDREWS got his sailboat into the waters of Lake Champlain. Now working at The Counseling Service, he was

pleased to move into a new office in their new building on Exchange Street. It was good to see WENDELL (JAKE) JACOBS back at meeting after an operation on his knee that laid him up for several weeks. His wife, BECKY HOLMES, was one of twenty-five Addison County educators to receive the STAR Award given to those who have gone above and beyond what is expected and made special contributions during the school year to the education of students in the Addison Central Supervisory Union. The citation ended: "She's amazing." Becky teaches English as a Second Language at the high school. CHERYL MITCHELL has taken on two new jobs. She has been elected as the Clerk of Northwest Quarterly Meeting, succeeding Kate Kerman. This is a big job, but one that Cheryl will no doubt handle with aplomb. In addition, she has been named a Trustee of the Vermont Ecumenical Society & Bible Association. The meeting will have a big hole to fill since JERRY McBRIDE is leaving his position as the Music Librarian at Middlebury College to take up a similar role at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Jerry has been one of the principal stalwarts of this meeting for many years, serving several terms on Ministry & Counsel. He has been the one we often turned to when there was a special problem that required a wise solution. He brought a gentle manner to the meeting, was a dedicated worker, and was always willing to take on responsibilities and challenges. We will miss him greatly, and wish him well in his new work. Fortunately he has promised to return to Middlebury frequently.

- Ted Colwell

## MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

### Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

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#### Co-Clerks

Jean Rosenberg (388-6453)  
Spence Putnam (388-1644)

#### Ministry and Counsel Committee

Meg Langworthy (877-3217)  
Grace McGrath (388-388-6576)  
Carrie Reed (388-0436)  
Chris Stackhouse (388-9224)  
David Tier (388-6666)

#### Treasurer

Becky Stratton (388-2486)  
177 Rogers Road  
Middlebury, VT 05753

#### Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker

#### Newsletter Mailing

Ruth Barenbaum  
Olive Colwell  
Ted Colwell

**Newsletter Editor** Winslow Colwell (388-1961, [winslow@winddesign.net](mailto:winslow@winddesign.net))

MIDDLEBURY  
FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 203  
Ripton, VT 05766

Meeting for Worship  
10:00 AM every First Day  
Havarah, 56 North Pleasant St (Rt. 7), Middlebury  
[www.middleburyfriends.net](http://www.middleburyfriends.net)

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above  
or to [winslow@winddesign.net](mailto:winslow@winddesign.net)

*on the cover: Swishy Swashy Swishy Swashy by Winslow Colwell*