

Middlebury Friends Meeting

June
2008



JUNE 2008

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 ●	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 ○	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Every Saturday 10:30 AM Vigil for Peace on the Triangle Green, downtown Middlebury. Until 11 AM.
- Sat/Sun, June 7 & 8 Quarterly Meeting at Farm & Wilderness
- Sun, June 8 9:00 AM Fellowship Committee
- Wed, June 11 7:00 PM Women's Group at Jean Rosenberg's, 388-6453
- Fri, June 13 5:00 PM MFM hosts a simple, vegetarian Community Supper at Middlebury Congregational Church. To help volunteer please call Karen Nahn-Fahey at 989-3081.
- Sun, June 15 11:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business
- Tues, June 17 7:30 PM Outreach & Social Concerns Committee at Karen Nawn-Fahey's, 989-3081
- Wed, June 18 7:00 PM Men's Group at Colwell's, 388-1961
- Fri, June 20 6:00 PM Potluck at Rosenberg's with Solstice bonfire and a presentation by Glenn & Wendy Goodwin on Cuba
- Sun, July 27 11:30 AM summer Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, June 15 11:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business.

Such is the load of unnecessary expense laid in many places on that which is called Divine service, and so much are the minds of many people employed in outward forms and ceremonies, that the opening of an inward silent worship in this nation, to me, has appeared to be a precious opening.

—JOHN WOOLMAN

Middlebury Friends Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business

18 May, 2008

Clerk: Carrie Reed

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermiliy, Joanna Colwell, Olive Colwell, Ted Colwell, Win Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Sam Fogel, Mary Kay Glazer, Glenn Goodwin, Wendy Goodwin, Stewart Kirkaldy, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Spence Putnam, Jean Rosenberg, and Becky Stratton.

04.05.01 Minutes from 20 April 2008 were accepted as printed in the newsletter with one correction noted: the date at the beginning of the minutes should read 20 April 2008 (not 16 March 2008).

04.05.02 Community Supper coordinator, Karen Nawn-Fahey, presented a proposal for hosting a simple vegetarian meal on June 13. Friends agreed to commit to this date (as well as a yet-to-be-determined date at the end of summer) and to move forward on the plan as presented by Karen. All those who are able to help in any way (cooking, set-up, serving, clean-up) should contact Karen by phone, 989-3081 or email, knawnfahey@comcast.net. It was agreed to use up to \$200 from the Frankie Kirkaldy Memorial Fund to cover expenses for the June supper.

04.05.03 Fellowship Committee report (presented by Wendy Goodwin): Wendy is working with Aaron Coburn to update the Women's Group email list so it can be monitored locally. Glenn and Wendy will make a presentation on their recent trip to Cuba at a potluck to be held at the Rosenbergs' on June 20.

cont.

04.05.04 Query reading on monthly meeting Sunday: There was discussion about this long established practice in MFM and ways to improve it. Priscilla Baker will write a description of Advices and Queries to appear in the next newsletter to help Friends understand their purpose. Friends are asked to consider signing up, on the Greeter List, to read a query on a future monthly meeting Sunday. It was further decided to include, in each newsletter, the query or advice that was read that month. To help the newsletter editor with this, the reader will email Win Colwell the exact wording of the query or advice that was read. A future undertaking may be to rewrite the introduction we have used for the past several years.

04.05.05 Outreach and Social Action Committee (presented by Becky Stratton): To follow up on last month's approval of the purchase of a post office box, Becky presented the recommendation to rent the smallest box at the annual fee of \$72 which is included in the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

04.05.06 Facilities Ad Hoc Committee (presented by Tom Dickinson): The latest draft of a questionnaire was circulated and discussed. Suggestions were made to clarify the item about willingness to increase the amount of money we spend for our space. It was decided to add a specific question about the desirability to own property. When ready, the questionnaire will be circulated among Friends via the listserv.

04.05.07 Treasurer's Report (prepared by Becky Stratton and included in its entirety): "During the month of April, 2008 we received contributions of \$140. We paid out \$500 for rent, \$500 to New England Yearly Meeting, \$125 to Northwest Quarterly Meeting, \$21.20 for printing, \$6.90 for postage, and \$60 for childcare. We ended the month with a balance of \$1,863.54.

"So far in the month of May we have received contributions of \$324 We paid out \$23.20 for printing, \$60 for childcare, \$300 for the childrens' project to help the local food shelf (\$200 was from the community supper benevolence item, and \$100 from the Frankie Kirkaldy memorial fund). We also sent \$100 to the Summer Lunch and Recreation program. Our current balance is \$1,704.34.

"The Finance Committee met to prepare a budget proposal for 2008-9. We continue to be quite concerned that the pace and amount of donations are lagging behind this year, with several persons providing most of the support of the Meeting, and others not contributing financially at all. We discussed how this might affect planning for next year, and agreed that we would recommend that we work to increase giving rather than cut back on our expenses."

04.05.08 Finance Committee Proposed Budget (presented by Spence Putnam and Becky Stratton): The proposed budget for fiscal year 2008-09, comes to a total of \$10,400, which is an increase of only \$365.00 over the current year's budget. The proposed budget will appear in the newsletter for all to examine in preparation for final

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discussion and approval at next monthly meeting. The Finance Committee will continue to address the decrease in donations thus far this fiscal year (see item #6 above). It was decided that the Finance Committee will send out an email inviting Friends to contribute before the end of this fiscal year. This also will be included in the newsletter. It was suggested to include the exact number of Friends who contribute and thereby support our budget.

Friends expressed gratitude to the finance committee for their thoughtfulness in drafting a budget for our next fiscal year.

Monthly Meeting closed with a moment of silence.

ADVICES AND QUERIES

Friends have long used *Advices and Queries* as tools in our desire to grow in the Light and as a spiritual community. They are meant as beacons to enlighten and inspire, not as dogma. *The Advices* are simple statements that capture common Quaker beliefs about such aspects of our spiritual journeys and daily lives as the Meeting Community, Outreach, Personal Conduct, Care of Children, Vocations, Peace & Reconciliation and others. *The Queries* are short sets of questions about specific topics, intended to help individuals and Quaker groups in their exploration of the same topics covered by the *Advices*. *Advices and Queries* can be used separately, for meditation and corporate consideration, or they can be paired, by topic, for a more comprehensive coverage of each topic. There are 12 sets of each so that individuals and meetings might focus on one area each month. Since its earliest years, Middlebury Friends Meeting has followed the practice of reading an *Advice* and/or *Query* at the beginning of worship on Monthly Meeting for Business First Day. Each month a different Friend makes a selection to read from the New England Yearly Meeting *Faith & Practice Advices and Queries*, or from another Yearly Meeting *Faith & Practice*. Beginning this month, we also will publish each month's reading in the newsletter.

From New England Yearly Meeting *Faith and Practice* (1985): "*The Advices* have served Friends for many generations in their search for a life centered in the Spirit. . . the *Advices* are illustrations of how they seek to carry their faith into all aspects of life. Friends find their essential unity in their profound and exhilarating belief in the pervasive presence of God and in the continuing responsibility of each person and worshipping group to seek the leading of the Spirit in all things. Obedience to the leading of that Spirit rather than to any written statement of belief or conduct is the obligation of their faith." (pg. 205)

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“Friends have developed *the Queries* to assist us to consider prayerfully the true source of spiritual strength and the extent to which the conduct of our lives gives witness to our faith. To these ends, *the Queries* should be read frequently in private devotions and regularly in monthly and quarterly meetings.” (p. 211)

QUERY FROM MAY 18, 2009

ON SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
FROM NEYM *FAITH AND PRACTICE*

Do you respect the worth of every human being as a child of God? Do you uphold the right of all persons to justice and human dignity? Do you endeavor to create political, social and economic institutions which will sustain and enrich the life of all? Do you fulfill all civic obligations which are not contrary to divine leadings? Do you give spiritual and material support to those who suffer for conscience sake?



FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) is the international body for Quakers, founded in 1937 to promote fellowship and communication among all the branches and regions of Quakers around the world. Yearly Meetings and Friends groups in 75 nations participate in four regional groupings, the Sections for Africa, for the Americas, for Asia and the West Pacific, and for Europe and the Middle East. FWCC organizes regular regional and world gatherings of Friends. It supports and maintains the two Quaker United Nations Offices, in NYC and Geneva. It promotes communication and consultation among Friends through conferences, intervisitation, correspondence, and publications. It does ecumenical and interfaith work on behalf of Friends. This is the organization that connects us with Friends in Cuba, Kenya, Japan, Australia, and everywhere else. Check out its website, where you will find updates on what is happening among Friends in Kenya, who are living the peace testimony in the midst of their post-election violence. FWCC depends on contributions from meetings around the world and especially in developed countries.

PROPOSED BUDGET 2008-9

Income

	Budgeted '07-08	YTD	Proposed	Difference
	10035		5501.46	10382
	+347			

Expenditures

	Budgeted '07-08	YTD	Proposed	Difference
Rent	2000	2000	2000	
NEYM	2000	2000	2000	
NWQM	500	500	500	
Middlebury Clergy				
Assoc. Dues	25	25	25	
Library	200	0	200	
Newsletter	400	275.20	300	-100
Postage	325	185.50	200	-125
Children's	950	920	1200	+250
Peace	100	0	100	
Gifts YF	0	0	0	
Misc	100	0	100	
Journal Ad	40	0	40	
Web page	20	0	20	
Mail Box	0	0	72	+72
Sub-total	6660	5880.20	6757	+97

Benevolences

	Budgeted 07-08	YTD	Proposed	Difference
AFSC National	300	300	300	
AFSC VT	200	200	200	
Comm.Action	400	400	400	
ClergyRentFund	200	200	200	
FCNL	100	100	100	
Q. UN office	100	100	100	
FGC	75	75	75	
Camps etc.	250	0	250	
Habitat	150	150	150	

cont.

Benevolences (continued)

	Budgeted 07-08	YTD	Proposed	Difference
Contingencies	650	220	650	
Parent/Child	200	200	200	
CSAC	100	100	100	
Open Door	100	100	100	
Comm.supper	200	200	200	
QuakerEarh W	50	50	50	
Spirit in Nature	100	100	100	
Kakamega	50	50	50	
RightSharing	50	50	50	
Nomadicare	100	100	100	
Interfaith Power and Light	0	0	100	+100
Friends World Committee	0	0	50	+50
Summer Lunch	0	0	100	+100
Benevolence Total	3375		3625	+250
Grand Total Expenses	10035		10382	+347
Special funds:	Memorial fund: we still have \$300			
	Songbooks were \$502.88 gift			
	Carry over contingency fund: \$700			

News of Quakerly Interest

joanna@ottercreekyoga.com

"If you don't like the news, go out and make some of your own!" — Scoop Nisker

DON AND CHERYL MITCHELL are just back from Japan where they spent seven amazing weeks. They had a chance to worship with the members of Tokyo Monthly Meeting the week they were engaged in planning the International Peace Forum and to visit their community house which was the only building in a huge area to withstand the WWII bombing that leveled that section of Tokyo. In other

Mitchell family news, ANAIS will be giving the Tuesday Evening keynote talk/concert at NEYM this year.

SAS CAREY reports from Mongolia, that she spent eight days in the Gobi interviewing the same women she interviewed seven years ago. She still feels a strong heart connection, as she has since she was first led to do this work in Mongolia, many years ago. These women in the Gobi live very difficult lives. Spring is so windy that Sas felt like she would be blown over and her teeth were constantly crunchy and gritty from blown sand.

Sas then began to plan the trip to the Dukha Reindeer Herders and discovered that the cost of gas, drivers and horses has doubled, and the cost of vitamins tripled. One of her American friends here suggested that she ask the Rubin Foundation to help since they support her for the work and she just got the additional funds! They wanted to know why the horses' price doubled. The reason is the world food crisis. The herders live on flour (wheat) and reindeer milk, so with the wheat crisis, they need much more money to live on! How things all connect!

Here is some news from MARK BOUTWELL, who was part of Middlebury Friends Meeting for many years: "In November of 2006 I was remarried in Hartland, VT to SUSAN RAND in a lovely community ceremony. Susan was widowed several years ago and works as a senior reporter for the local newspaper. She has a daughter, ELLEN who just graduated from Gettysburg College and a son, WILLIE who attends Norwich University.

My sons, JONATHAN and NICHOLAS have split their time for the past eleven years largely equally between their mother, BETSY BURGHARDT and me. Jonathan is graduating from high school in June with plans to attend Warren Wilson College in North Carolina. Nicholas is finishing his freshman year at Woodstock Union High School. I have worked for the local community mental health agency for twelve years now, currently functioning as the Clinical Coordinator for the Developmental Services division.

We just recently all moved in together in a lovely log home overlooking Hartland and Mt. Ascutney. The current phase of renovations to accommodate all the offspring is winding down (are they ever really done?) We are discovering lovely perennial flower beds as well as the ubiquitous rhubarb and asparagus. And, enjoying the neighbor's horse grazing in the pasture in front of the house.

We would welcome any visitors passing through the area. Our address is 36 Center of Town Rd., Hartland, VT 05048. Phone: 802/436-1128."

Last, but most certainly not least, DAVID AND JEAN ROSENBERG share the exciting

news that ELIZABETH ROSENBERG is engaged to JONATHAN KATZ, her sweetie of almost 2 years. Jonathan is a congressional staffer. They hope to be married in Vermont in Summer of 2009. Needless to say, everyone is delighted with this happy news! Congratulations to you all...

Joanna Colwell

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Co-Clerks

Sas Carey (388-7684)
Carrie Reed (388 0436)

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker

Treasurer

Becky Stratton
177 Rogers Road
Middlebury, VT 05753
388-2487

Newsletter Mailing

Ruth Barenbaum
Olive Colwell
Ted Colwell

Pastoral Care Committee

Caring for one another in a loving community is an important part of our life as a Meeting. Call any member of Pastoral Care to share a concern or need.

Ruth Barenbaum (388-2651)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Sas Carey (388-7684)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

Meg Langworthy (877-3217)

Newsletter Editor Winslow Colwell (388-1961, win@wcolwell.com)

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 203
Ripton, VT 05766

Meeting for Worship

10 AM every First Day

Havarah House, 56 N. Pleasant St. (Rt.7), Middlebury

www.middleburyquakers.org

Please send newsletter submissions to
the address above or to win@wcolwell.com