

Middlebury Friends Meeting

October
2008



OCTOBER 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	31	

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Every Saturday 10:30 AM Vigil for Peace on the Triangle Green, downtown Middlebury. Until 11 AM.
- Wed. Oct. 1 7:00 PM Women's Group at Cheryl Mitchell's (545-2278)
- Sun. Oct. 5 11:30 AM Annual Crop Walk in Middlebury
- Mon. Oct. 6 7-8 PM First of 5 Monday Low Carbon Diet classes at Addison County Regional Planning Commission office at Seminary 14 Street; taught by Laura Asirmily (388-9478)
- Sun. Oct. 12 11:30 AM Last day to submit your Spiritual Survey. You're welcome to join other procrastinators after Meeting to write and enjoy some coffee and snacks at Havarah!
- Wed. Oct. 15 7:00 PM Men's Group at David Andrews' (388-4894)
- Sun. Oct. 19 11:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business
- Tues. Oct. 21 7:00 PM Outreach and Social Action Committee meeting at Karen Nawn-Fahey's (989-3081)
- Fri. Oct. 24 6:00 PM Potluck at Margie Bekoff & Jim Morse (545-2793) Sas Carey will talk about recent trip to Mongolia
- Sun. Oct. 28 8:30 AM Worship and Study Committe Meeting, Havurah
- Sun. Nov. 2 10:00 AM Intergenerational Meeting at Havurah
- Wed. Nov. 5 7:00 PM Women's Group at Fran Putnam's (388-1644)

on the cover: Expressionist Produce *Squash* by Singing Cedars Farm Stead,
photo by Winslow Colwell

*“Once there is seeing, there must be acting.
Otherwise, what is the use of seeing?”*

–THICH NHAT HAHN

Middlebury Friends Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business

21 September, 2008

Clerk: Carrie Reed

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Sam Fogle, Brud Leedom, and Fran Putnam.

08.09.01 Minutes from 17 July 2008 were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

08.09.02 Treasurer’s Monthly Report and Finance Committee Report (from Spence Putnam, reported by Laura Asermily) “During the months of July and August, the first two months of the fiscal year, we had income of \$1,076.60 and expenses totaling \$1,547.00 (\$500 rent, \$500 New England Yearly Meeting, \$125 NW Qtr, \$48 Newsletter, \$300 children’s program, and \$74 for the annual rental of a mail box). As directed at the July Business Meeting, the \$3.60 remaining in the Memorial Fund for Frankie Kirkaldy was transferred to the general funds of the Meeting and is included in the income for the period. The \$200 check for the Eldering Workshop was returned uncashed and so does not show up as an expense. The checking account balance at the end of August was \$3,532.76. This includes \$700.00 in the Carry-over contingency fund.

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“So far in the month of September we have had income of \$225 and no expenditures, leaving us with a bank balance of \$3,757.76.”

Laura noted that distributions are becoming more spread out from month to month which is helpful for regular disbursement.

08.09.03 Worship and Study Committee (reported by Tom Baskett) has not met since last MM. Their next meeting is 28 September when they will discuss, among other things, the status of after-meeting singing.

Friends are reminded to fill out their Spiritual Life Surveys and return by October 12. They will send the survey by email again. Paper copies are on the Greeter Table.

08.09.04 Pastoral Care Committee (from Carrie Reed) continues to provide support to many Friends in our community. They are in regular contact by email and will meet again on 28 September.

08.09.05 Fellowship Committee (from Fran Putnam) welcomed new member, Margie Bekoff, at their quarterly meeting in August, when the committee

- Reviewed the Friendly 8s program and decided to let participants choose their own groups when we reconfigure groups in October. Wendy will pass around a sign-up sheet at Meeting for the next few Sundays with the day of the week on each sheet. We will ask one person from each sheet to convene the groups.
- Planned a potluck for October 24, with Sas presenting her impressions from her latest trip to Mongolia, at Margie Bekoff and Jim Morse's.
- Discussed starting a regular Book Group to discuss books of interest to Friends. She will discuss this idea with Becky Holmes and we will bring this idea to Meeting for Business.
- Set next Fellowship Committee meeting for Sunday, November 23.

Fran also said that the committee is aware there are fewer Friends' homes that are large enough for hosting a potluck. They welcome suggestions of ways to address this dilemma and ask that Friends speak to any of the members (Fran Putnam, Wendy Goodwin or Margie Bekoff) with your thoughts about this.

08.09.06 Outreach and Social Action Committee (sent after MM by Karen Nawn-Fahey, edited by Recording Clerk for these Minutes)

- *Post Office Box:* Friends are reminded to redirect all publications and mail meant for MFM to Post Office Box #1026, Middlebury, VT 05753. Laura Asermily and Stewart Kirkaldy have keys to ensure timely pick up of mail.
- *Listerv:* In an effort to establish guidelines for the MFM Listserv, we remind Friends that the primary reason for the listserv is for pastoral care and to facilitate

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the sharing of opportunities for learning and spiritual growth around general Quaker concerns, e.g., peace, social justice, etc.

- “*Threshing session*” on nuclear power: While a forum could help us to learn more about the issues, we feel there is a scarcity of available expertise without bias; thus this might prove to be a frustrating exercise. A “threshing session” could result in achieving mutual understanding, but the likelihood of reaching unity is slim. Therefore, we urge members of the meeting to remain open and become knowledgeable about the ethical and scientific issues surrounding all energy sources. In addition, we encourage members to pay particular attention to the upcoming Vermont legislation for the relicensing of the Vermont Yankee plant.

08.09.07 Community Supper will be hosted by MFM on Friday, 26 September. Co-organizers are Wendy Goodwin and Joanna Colwell. They have circulated a signup sheet for the many different tasks. Everything is in place for another delicious and enjoyable community supper.

08.09.08 Former MFM Friend, **Shirlee Arnold**, died on 15 August 2008. Those who remembered Shirlee reflected on her years with MFM, in the 1980’s. In 1983 after her husband, Maurice “Red” Arnold, died, she finished his term in the Vermont State Legislature and went on to serve until 1987. During her tenure she was instrumental in writing a Patient’s Bill of Rights which the Legislature passed.

08.09.09 Healing Hand Balm sales (sent after MM by Joanna Colwell). The children of MFM have spent 4 days making hand balm over the last 6 months. To date, 178 tins of balm have been sold, at \$5 per tin. \$890 has already been donated to the HOPE food shelf, in several installments. There is plenty more balm to be sold, and we look forward to an article in the *Addison Independent*, to spread the word about our project. The article will let let the community know that they can purchase the balm from members of Meeting, or at the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op, Foot Street Farm Stand, or Otter Creek Yoga. We hope to do a brisk business over the holidays—could there be a better stocking stuffer?

08.09.10 A lovely **thank you note** has been received by a camper who benefited from the MFM Quaker camp and conference fund. She wrote, in July, while at camp: “Thank you very much for helping to send me to Friends Camp! Your donation was very generous, and very appreciated. I’m currently at camp sitting on my bunk. I have made wonderful friends, met awesome people who probably WILL become my friends, and had a great time playing games and doing crafts.”

Monthly Meeting ended with a few moments of silence.

News of Quakerly Interest

joanna@ottercreekyoga.com

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

FRIENDS IN THE ARTS: SUSIE SMOLEN is singing in the People's Chorus for the White River Valley Players production of "Woody Guthrie's American Songbook." It's a musical about the life and times of Woody Guthrie, in his own words and songs, conceived and adapted by Peter Glazer, and directed by Dick and Dorothy Robson, at the Rochester High School Auditorium on Rte. 100 in Rochester.

Performances are Saturday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 pm; Sunday, Oct. 19 at 2 pm; and Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Oct. 25, 25 and 27 at 7:30 pm. For ticket reservations call the Judy Jensen Clay Studio at 767-3271. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Cost of tickets: \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door & \$10 for Students/Seniors.

CHERYL MITCHELL reports that ANAIS MITCHELL is doing a six week tour of concerts in Europe, opening for her friend and labelmate Ani Difrancio.

B. AMORE has a wonderful show at the Gallery in the Field in Brandon. The exhibit opens on Saturday Oct. 4 and runs through Oct. 28. The gallery is open on weekends and during the week by appointment: 247-0125.

FRIENDS AT WORK: I had a wonderful opportunity to see CHERYL MITCHELL in action, facilitating a meeting to coordinate services for helping those who will need assistance heating their homes this Winter. And to help those who will need food. The situation is dire across the state, so it was great that several women from our Meeting attended a talk at the Ilsley meeting room coordinated by FRAN PUTNAM! Fran, along with Claire Ayer, invited us all to hear Gaye Symington speak. Gaye is running for Governor against incumbent Jim Douglas, who has presided over the worsening gap between rich and poor in VT, which has so many social service providers feeling panicked. Several of us who attended this meeting hope to follow up with more action to shift our state politics in the right direction. And speaking of politics, an enormous thank you to the many Friends who donated to my 'Yoga for Obama' event last weekend. We ended up raising over \$3,000! If you made a pledge and would like to pay online, you can go to:

<http://my.barackobama.com/page/outreach/view/main/yoga>

SAS CAREY is on a speaking tour! She writes that after eighteen presentations on Mongolia in Indiana and Ohio and Vermont, she should be warmed up for the talk with all of us on October 24th— save the date!

GREG DENNIS has a new address, in Quaker Acres: 158 Washington St. Ext., Middlebury, VT 05753. His phone number has also changed to 388-0390.

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And from MARY KAY GLAZER: I just got back on Thursday from a 36 mile back-packing trip from Long Lake to Lake Placid along the Northville-Placid Trail. I went with 3 other Quaker women, so the company was great, and the weather was outstanding. A few blisters on my toes, but otherwise I'm ready for more!

And MARTIN, who plays trombone, has been chosen for All-County Band. He is pretty excited.

RICHARD TRAVERS writes: WOODROW TRAVERS is completing a film internship in LA with director Ron Howard before returning for his last semester at Vassar. The film he's working on is Angels and Demons by the DaVinci Code author Dan Brown. JAKE is back at school at Northeastern in Boston; he has just transferred to the School of Criminal Justice. TRAV's energy-saving refrigeration business is benefiting from growing green consciousness and I'm very busy with home health, The Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, and our local health center. We miss our Meeting friends.

Joanna Colwell

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Co-Clerks

Becky Stratton (388-2487)

Carrie Reed (388 0436)

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker

Treasurer

Laura Asermily

266 Washington St. Ext.

Middlebury, VT 05753

388-9478

Co-Treasurer

Spence Putnam

575 Morgan Horse Farm Rd

Weybridge, VT 05753

388-1644

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)

John Beattie (352-4416)

Sas Carey (388-7684)

Meg Langworthy (877-3217)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

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

Newsletter Mailing Ted & Olive Colwell, Ruth Barenbaum

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 1026

Middlebury, VT 05753

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