

Middlebury Friends Meeting



February
2015

FEBRUARY 2015

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

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, Feb 8	8:30am	Earthcare Committee at Havurah House
Sunday, Feb 8	8:30am	W & S Committee at Havurah House
Sunday, Feb 8	10:00am	Everybody Lesson
Tuesday, Feb 10	4:00pm	COSA, Dickinson's
Sunday, Feb 15	8:30am	Monthly Meeting for Business
Sunday, Feb 15	4:00pm	Spirit in Nature annual meeting & Eco-Spirit Award at Ilsley Library
Sunday, Feb 22	11:30am	Friendly Forum: Spiritual Perspectives of Earth Care
Saturday/Sunday Feb 28 and March 1	eve + following day	Quarterly Meeting at Middlebury. Held at Counseling Service of Addison Co. Community meeting room
Saturday, April 11		Addison County Sustainable Living Expo at MUHS
Friday, April 24		Community Supper at Middlebury Congregational Church.

“Be humble for you are made of Earth.
Be noble for you are made of stars.”

— SERBIAN PROVERB

Middlebury Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business

18 January, 2015

Clerk: Cheryl Mitchell

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Assermily, Ted Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Leigh Harder, Steward Kirkaldy, Grace McGrath, Don Peabody, Fran Putnam, Spence Putnam, and Peter Schenck.

15.01.01 The clerk opened with a reading from F & P, after which she expressed appreciation for Friends serving on the ad hoc committee on committee structure

15.01.02 **Treasurer’s Report** (prepared by Treasurer, Karen Nawn-Fahey, presented by Finance Committee member, Spence Putnam)

All statements in this report are as of December 31, 2014. During November the Meeting had member donations of \$1110.

During November, Meeting expenditures totaled \$1539. This includes \$160 for Childcare and First Day School Coordination, \$150 to Paige Keren for childcare, \$30 to Wren Colwell

cont.

for childcare, \$49 for roll of stamps, and \$150 for gas cards per discussion last Meeting for Business. These cards are available in the tin box that sits atop the small table as one enters the Meeting space.

In November, benevolences totaling \$3925 were paid.

During December, the Meeting had member donations of \$4210.

During December, Meeting expenditures totaled \$477. This includes \$160 for Childcare and First Day School Coordination, \$90 to Paige Keren for childcare, and \$221 to Rebecca Holmes for library purchases.

An additional \$100 was donated for the Warming Shelter, bringing our total contribution to \$1875.

When these checks clear, the bank balance will be \$7008.57.”

2015 budget: After discussion of a couple questions about the location of specific items in the budget, the proposed budget of \$15,306.00 was approved.

Additional budget related items emerged after approval of the budget:

- 1) Earthcare Committee requests money to purchase materials for upcoming Friendly Forums. Friends approved this, to be covered by the W & S budget for 2015.
- 2) A request for additional money for communications, particularly to print out more newsletters and directories, will be discussed at next monthly meeting.

Spence and Karen are preparing for an annual internal audit.

15.01.03 Earthcare Committee (Fran Putnam, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk)

1. The Committee awaits more information from the group planning the upcoming Quarterly Meeting program.
2. Fran presented the final draft of the Earthcare Committee description that will be included in the document describing all MFM committees.
3. Fran and Spence Putnam met with representatives of the Weybridge Congregational Church and the Middlebury Congregational Church on the topic of what our faith communities are doing to address climate change. There was an exchange of information about what different churches are doing and a brainstorming session about ways we could coordinate efforts. The next meeting will be on January 21 at 4:00 pm at the Weybridge Congregational Church, open to all.
4. The Climate Change Minute, approved by MFM on Nov. 16, was presented to the Quarterly Meeting on December 7, 2014, and was approved. It will now go on to the New England Yearly Meeting Permanent Committee.

5. In cooperation with W & S, a series of three Friendly Forums is planned for February, March, and April, with such topics as “Climate Change: a Spiritual Perspective,” “Peace on Earth,” and “Traveling Gently on the Earth,” topics for which we have brochures from Quaker Earthcare Witness.
6. In order to make information available to the Meeting on Earthcare topics during this year of our earth care theme, our committee will request a budget be available for up to \$150 to purchase materials.
7. Laura and Fran recommended having the February potluck be the Spirit in Nature annual meeting, where Betsy Hardy of Vermont Interfaith Power and Light will be speaking and receiving an award. The next potluck will be in April, possibly with a film on a topic of Laura’s choice.

FOLLOW UP: Worship and Study budget will be used to purchase items for FFs

15.01.04 COSA (Don Peabody and Tom Dickinson)

1. Quarterly Meeting planning: The ad hoc committee consisting of MFM and South Starksboro Friends, has sent the invitation to March Quarterly Meeting to The Nor’wester.
2. A couple lost advocacy writings have been recovered, including an anti-war piece, and another about a substantial bequest to a Neo-Nazi organization in Canada. We will consider and work on these at the next meeting.
3. We reviewed the COSA “description” included in the report of the Ad Hoc Structure Review Committee.
4. MFM Liaisons with AFSC and FCNL presented their “portfolios,” with an intention to make recommendations to COSA as to how to best promote these two Quaker organizations, their activities and positions within MFM and the wider community.
5. A COSA representative will go through MFM Archives with an eye for past MFM Minutes and other actions of interest to COSA.

FOLLOW UP: March QM planning update: Cheryl Mitchell will lead the Saturday evening program, *Following the Light*, focused on the spiritual basis for our work in the world. She will include an appreciation for 19th century Quaker activist, Lucretia Mott. Two current projects will be considered: The Friends New Underground RR in Uganda and Quaker Earthcare Witness. Also in the works is a poster session during which individual Friends will bring posters and handouts about the work they are doing.

It is strongly suggested for future QMs in Middlebury, that we begin planning 6 months in advance

15.01.05 **Worship and Study Committee** (Leigh Harder, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk)

1. Friendly Forums; The W & S discussed the request by the Earthcare Committee to take the next 3 Friendly Forums to address the following themes:

February – peace on Earth

March- climate change

April – traveling gently on the Earth

The May Friendly Forum will be held on the last Sunday of May (5/31) possibly about Quaker wealth and privilege and a fall session about benevolences and simplicity.

2. State of the Meeting meeting: This will be held at The Dickenson's house on Sunday, January 25, from 3-5 p.m. with a potluck following the meeting. Mark Moss will facilitate; Leigh Harder will record and prepare a draft report to be finalized by W & S. We suggest 2 child care helpers during the 3-5 meeting.
3. Quarterly Meeting theme: *Spirit in Action*. The Saturday evening program, on February 28, will be led by Cherly on Following the Light. She will include the story of Lucretia Mott.

15.01.06 **Fellowship Committee** (Laura Asermily)

1. An afternoon gathering at Peter Schenck's on January 4 was well attended and enjoyable.
2. Upcoming gatherings: February SPiN annual meeting on February 15; Northwest QM potluck, February 28; March potluck TBA. The Fellowship Committee is regrouping, and seeks support from monthly meeting for its task of oversight of communications.

15.01.07 **Stewart Kirkaldy introduced information about a Neo-Nazi Canadian** who left money in his will to support a white supremacy group in Louisiana. A Canadian court ruled this as hate speech, but action needs to be taken in the US. Stewart has drafted a letter which will be reviewed by COSA and presented to MFM Friends for consideration and signatures.

Monthly meeting closed after a period of silence.

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Mary Kay Glazer
mkglazer@me.com



KAI ARMSTRONG, LUCY MCKEON and BRAD ARMSTRONG's daughter, has finished her first semester at Fairfield University in Connecticut and is enjoying school and all the shopping, restaurants, etc. in the New York City area. By the time you read this, she will be starting semester two. CLAIRE, a high school junior, had a great soccer season, making the Lake Region first team and the Vermont Coaches Division II All Star Team. We haven't had her around on Sunday mornings as she is either helping out at the animal shelter or teaching skiing at the Snow Bowl.

MARTIN GLAZER, son of MARK MOSS and MARY KAY GLAZER, is starting his second semester at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. He and his friend SARAH have a radio program on Friday and Saturday nights at 7 PM. You can listen online at: <http://radio.naz.edu/>

TOM BASKETT and his wife DI just returned from Jerusalem (Israel) where Di was elected president at the annual board meeting of Kids4Peace International and Tom taught an introduction to mindfulness practice at a two day retreat that followed the board meeting. They also lunched with Middlebury College grad and Quaker OLIVIA GRUGAN who is teaching at the Friends School in Ramallah, West Bank in the Armenian Quarter in the old city. Olivia sends her love to everyone.

ETHAN MITCHELL (CHERYL & DON's son) has created amazing games all of his life. He just came up with an even greater plan for helping them reach a larger audience. It is based on the CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) model. You can pre-buy a year's worth of awesome and innovative games. You'll be in the front row and having a blast! Try it, you may get hooked. Here's the info: <http://www.zemita.net/madsheepgames.htm>

ELENA PEABODY, DON's eldest daughter, recently left her position at Pathways to Housing's national office in E. Harlem to join City Harvest — "the world's first food rescue organization" — as Marketing Manager. Ms. Peabody lives, and paints, in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Editor: Win Colwell

Co-Clerks

Cheryl Mitchell 545-2278

Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker

388-8024

Treasurer

Karen Nawn-Fahey

PO Box 1026

Middlebury, VT 05753

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.

Sas Carey (388-1301)

Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)

Norm Tjossem (388-0338)

Brud Leedom (623-7533)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

We welcome your submissions! — winslow.colwell@gmail.com

News of Quakerly Interest — mkgazer@me.com

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