

# Middlebury Friends Meeting



July  
2014

# JULY 2014

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <sup>o</sup>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 <sup>●</sup>
27	28	29	30	31		

## QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sun. July 6      8:30 AM      Friendly Forum: Deepening Spirituality Through Poetry with Leigh Harder
- Sun. July 13      8:30 AM      Worship & Study Committee at Havurah House
- Sun. July 13      8:45 AM      Earth Care Committee at Havurah House
- Sat. July 26      9:30-3:00      Experiment with Light retreat at Cheryl Mitchell's
- Sun. July 27      8:30 AM      Monthly Meeting
- Aug. 2-7                      New England Yearly Meeting  
Castleton State College, Castleton, VT
- Sun. Aug. 10      9:00 AM      Fellowship Committee at Havurah House
- Sun. Aug. 17      11:30 AM      Summer gathering at Branbury State Beach, Lake Dunmore (rain date: 8/24)
- Sat/Sun Sept. 6 & 7      QM at Putney, VT
- Fri. Sept. 26                      Community Supper

“When I am working on a problem,  
I never think about beauty.  
But when I have finished,  
if the solution is not beautiful,  
I know it is wrong.”

— R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER

## Middlebury Friends Meeting

### Monthly Meeting for Business

22 June, 2014

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Tom Dickinson, Cheryl Mitchell, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Fran Putnam, and Spence Putnam.

14.06.01 **Treasurer’s Report** (Karen Nawn-Fahey, amended for these minutes by the recording clerk):

Through May, 2014, the Meeting had member donations of \$595.

Meeting expenditures through May 31, 2014 totaled \$450. This includes \$120 for childcare, \$160 for First Day School Coordination, and \$70 for Friends Journal ad.

A \$100 donation was made for the care and maintenance of the gazebo and grounds at Quaker Acres. A check for this amount has been sent to Sas Carey.

When these checks clear, the bank balance will be \$5,650.87.

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So far in June, payments have been sent for our \$100 benevolence to the Summer Lunch Program, \$100 to NEYM to support a Cuban Friend at NEYM and \$96 PO Box Rental for the year.

It was noted that the First Day School coordinator is not paid during July and August. The \$100 to support a Cuban Friends attendance at NEYM will come out of MFM Contingency. Another \$50 was approved and will be sent to Putney Meeting to help with the cost of sending a child to Farm and Wilderness this summer.

In preparation for this year's NEYM gathering in August, YM has decided to change its policy regarding payment of fees to attend. Rather than a set fee, those who register will be asked to pay as they feel led. It is hoped that this will encourage more Friends to attend regardless of their financial situation. MFM has already budgeted \$400, and will add an additional \$100 from our Camps and Conference fund, to send to the YM Equalization Fund. This will benefit Middlebury Friends as well as other New England Friends.

#### **14.06.02 Worship and Study Committee (Tom Basket):**

Recent topics of discussion include All Ages Religious Education to begin in the Fall, queries to be shared with Earth Care Committee for the upcoming year of the meeting-wide focus on this issue, upcoming Friendly Forums (July 6, none in August) and items from the State of the Meeting discussion last January.

After many years of faithful service and prayerful consideration, Mary Kay Glazer and Mark Moss have decided to lay down the Ticonderoga Worship Group. They have notified Friends who have attended their worship meetings. On behalf of MFM, Worship and Study expresses our appreciation to Mark and Mary Kay for their years of dedicated service to create and assure the presence of this worship experience in their home town of Ticonderoga, NY.

#### **14.06.03 Earth Care Committee (Fran Putnam, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk).**

When the idea of developing queries related to earth care was presented to business meeting in April it was so warmly received that it was agreed to make earth care a theme for the Meeting for an entire year beginning September, 2014. Attempts will be made to incorporate earth care as a theme in the children's program, Friendly Forums, potlucks, and any other Meeting activities. These events will be run by the same committees currently responsible for them, not by the Earth Care Committee. We will act as a resource and inspiration for the other committees. We will develop lists of books, videos, programs, speakers, etc. and share them with the Meeting.

Priscilla Baker and Jean Rosenberg will draft an abridged version of the initial combination of traditional queries with new earth care queries. Jean also will identify Pendle Hill pamphlets that relate to the earth care query topics.

Readers for the combined queries will come from the Worship and Study and Earth Care committees. The query for each month will be sent out on the Listserv at the beginning of the month so people are exposed to it before hearing it read during Monthly Meeting Sunday (third week).

**14.06.04 Pastoral Care Committee** has set up an account at MealTrain for Friends who wish to provide a meal for a Friend undergoing medical treatments. Contact Grace McGrath to have your name added to the list.

**14.06.05 Fellowship Committee** (Laura Asermily)

The summer's gathering will be a picnic at Lake Dunmore on August 17. Because of hosting the Community Supper on September 26, there will not be a potluck in September. On October 3, Fran and Spence Putnam will host a potluck, beginning with a solar tour of their home at 5:00 for those who wish to come early.

Fellowship Committee will change its meeting time to a Sunday morning, beginning August 10, 9:00 AM.

Concern was raised about Friendly 8's which have been suspended for a couple years. It has been difficult to organize new groups. Fellowship Committee will discuss this further.

**14.06.06 Nominating Committee**

The final report was presented and approved. Friends expressed their appreciation for the hard work the committee put into completing the newest roster of Meeting positions.

**14.06.07 New Storage Cabinet**

There was discussion about dimensions, placement and how to proceed with our newly approved space for additional shelving. It was suggested we explore an existing cabinet or shelving before purchasing new materials. Jean Rosenberg will send out dimensions and ask if any Friends have a cabinet that they would donate. Librarian, Becky Holmes, has requested additional space for our ever expanding library holdings.

**14.06.08 Committee Structure**

Several questions were raised concerning our current committee structure: Should we dispense with terms of office? Is it desirable for Friends to continue to do the same thing for many years? How is the structure of committees affected by the overlap of two or more committees? Cheryl Mitchell will draft questions and comments to circulate on our Listserv in preparation for further discussion at next monthly meeting.

Monthly meeting closed after a period of silence.

## REMEMBERING ISABELLE (BARBARA) CALHOUN

Isabelle (Barbara) Hall Fiske Calhoun  
1919-2014, Rochester

Isabelle (Barbara) Fiske Calhoun, 94, painter, cartoonist, and cocreator of Quarry Hill Creative Center (Community), died April 28, 2014, at Brookside Nursing Home in White River Junction.

She was born in Tucson, Arizona, on September 9, 1919, daughter of an old Southern family, patriots during the Revolutionary War. A great-uncle, Charles S. Venable, was Robert E Lee's aide during the Civil War.

Her mother, Belle Jones, and uncle, A.V. Jones, came west from North Carolina in around 1912, seeking a cure for his tuberculosis. They homesteaded a ranch, the Double J. Belle rode horseback to town and back, nine miles each way, to her work as a newspaper reporter. There she met her future husband, John Hall Jr., an editor from Mobile, Alabama. A.V. died in 1915, and Belle, who no longer had anyone to care for, married John on March 20, 1918. When Barbara (then called 'Babs') was 6 months old, John died of Spanish influenza.



Photo by James Drougas



Photo by Isabella Fiske McFarlin

Her mother, who never remarried, was eventually elected clerk of Pima County Superior Court, a position she held till her death in 1951.

Barbara was educated in Tucson schools. Possessed of a vivid talent for drawing and painting, she later attended art school in Los Angeles, then moved to New York in around 1940.

She met Irving Fiske, playwright and freelance writer, in Greenwich Village, around 1943. They at once fell in love. During WWII she was drawing "Girl Commandoes" and other strips for Harvey Comics. She had to draw under the name "B. Hall" as car-

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tooning was “a man’s profession” at the time. However, all the male cartoonists were in the Armed Forces.

She also painted in egg tempera and pastel. She was a figurative painter, who loved landscapes and the human form, in opposition to the abstract expressionists such as Jackson Pollock (master of the splatter painting) who were also painting in the Village at that time.

On January 8, 1946, she and Irving Fiske married and on April 10, 1946, bought a farm near Rochester. They opened it as an artists’ and writers’ retreat for anyone with an open mind and a freethinking attitude. There were (and are) few rules for life at Quarry Hill. No spanking, neglect or verbal abuse of children is permitted and no hunting, fishing or harming of animals is allowed, though no one is compelled to be a vegetarian.

For years Barbara taught art to children from town. Many have fond memories of these lessons. In 1950 she had a daughter, Isabella, and in 1954, a son, William, who died in 2008. They never attended any school (until college) but were taught by Irving, who was a graduate of Cornell University, and by reading the things that interested them the most. Barbara taught them about art and its history.

She wanted a gallery of her own, and in 1964, with her last \$75, Barbara opened a storefront, the Gallery Gwen, in New Yorks’ East Village. There she exhibited her paintings and those of friends. Irving began to give talks on philosophy, psychology and religion there, and, as a result, many who came to the talks came to visit Quarry Hill. During the hip era of the 60s, Quarry Hill became a mecca for the young and hip, many with artistic aspirations.

Many Quarry Hill People had children in the 1970s and ‘80s. Quarry Hill created its own school, the North Hollow School. Several of its students eventually became valedictorians at Rochester High School. By the 1990s, Quarry Hill had a population of approximately 90 people. The present population is about 25-30, but it is still visited each year by many people from all over the world, who consider it their second home.

In the 1970s, Barbara divorced Irving Fiske and created Lyman Hall Incorporated (named for a distant ancestor who signed the Declaration of Independence). The corporation now owns and runs Quarry Hill. Barbara left Quarry Hill for a time and opened a gallery in Randolph. In the 1980s, she attended Vermont College in Montpelier, where she obtained an MFA in art history. One of her mentors was Dr. Donald W. Calhoun, a Quaker sociology professor at the University of Miami. Barbara also became a Quaker, and they were married at the Miami, Florida, Society of Friends on April 9, 1989.

The two remained happily married till his death in 2009, living at Quarry Hill in the summer and in Florida in the winter. Don eventually had to go into a nursing home in

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Berlin, Vt., as he was hemiplegic from an accident some years before. Irving Fiske and the Calhouns became friendly.

Barbara spent the last years of her life at Quarry Hill, looked after by a group of caring helpers and her daughter, Isabella, and son-in-law, Brion McFarlin. She was an inspiration to all who knew her in energy and artistic ability. Her cartoon work appears in *The Great Women Cartoonists* by Trina Robbins (Watson-Guptill, 2001), and she has a place in the online cartoonists' museum Lambiek Comiconpedia, based in the Netherlands. Her paintings appeared in many shows over the years. Most of her paintings are in the Fiske Family Archives at Quarry Hill.

Barbara is survived by Isabella and Brion McFarlin. She also leaves four grandchildren and one grandson-in-law, two daughters-in-law, and two great-grandchildren. Her passing is a loss to her many friends and admirers of her art.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Friends Service Committee, 1501 Cherry St. Philadelphia, PA 19102, to any food shelf, or to any no-kill animal shelter in the state of Vermont, or to the Rochester Public Library, Rochester, VT 05767, would be gratefully received.

— Isabella Fiske McFarlin

## NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Mary Kay Glazer  
mkgglazer@me.com



Carrie Reed writes: "I am absolutely delighted to announce that I married the love of my life, Roland Wiebe, on June 10. We decided to do a private justice of the peace ceremony. I'm spending the summer with him in California. We will continue to live separately and visit as often as possible, until one of us is able to retire, and we can spend all or most of our time together. Somewhat out of the box!!" Their California mailing address is: 2603 South Edison, Graton, CA 95444. And, a photo of the happy couple.



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Martin Glazer did his senior project on global warming, which includes a rock opera. He did the CD artwork and wrote the music and lyrics and sings the songs. You can hear it here: [https://soundcloud.com/glaze\\_man/sets/the-crisis-at-hand?utm\\_source=soundcloud&utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=facebook](https://soundcloud.com/glaze_man/sets/the-crisis-at-hand?utm_source=soundcloud&utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=facebook).

David Andrews has a new granddaughter, Olive Groenfeldt Fries, born June 7 to his son Tim and his wife Kyra. Tim was part of Middlebury Friends Meeting as a high school student. He, Kyra and Olive live in Roslindale, MA.

Chris Putnam-Pouliot, daughter of Fran and Spence Putnam, has just been hired as the middle school librarian at the Richmond School in Hanover, New Hampshire. Chris has held a similar position at the Middle School in Hartford, Vermont, for the past 6 years, and she was the librarian at a K-12 school in Elizabethtown, New York, for three years prior to that. Chris lives in Wilder, Vermont, with her husband, Matt, and son, Rico.

## 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](mailto:winslow.colwell@gmail.com)  
News of Quakerly Interest — [mkgazer@me.com](mailto: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](http://www.middleburyquakers.org)