

Middlebury Friends Meeting



October
2014

OCTOBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 ^o	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

- Sun. Sept. 28 8:30 AM Friendly Forum: beginning MFM year of concern for Earth Care, facilitated by the Earth Care Committee
- Fri. Oct. 3 5:00 PM Solar Tour of Putnam's house
6:00 PM potluck at Putnam's
- Sun. Oct. 5 11:30 AM Fellowship Committee at Havurah House
- Sun. Oct. 5 1:00 PM CROP Hunger Walk, begins on Midd. Town Green
- Sun. Oct. 12 8:30 AM Worship & Study Committee at Havurah House
- Sun. Oct. 12 8:45 AM Earth Care Committee at Havurah House
- Sun. Oct. 12 10:00 AM All Ages Religious Education at beginning of Meeting for worship
- Sun. Oct. 12 11:30 AM Ad Hoc committee to review & assess MFM committee structure
- Tues. Oct. 14 TBA Committee on Outreach and Social Action
- Fri. Oct. 17 3:15 PM Pastoral Committee at Norm Tjossem's in Ripton
- Sun. Oct. 19 8:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business
- Mon. Oct. 20 7:30 PM Men's Group, location TBA
- Dec. 6 & 7 Northwest Quarterly Meeting at Hanover, NH

“There is a tendency at every important
but difficult crossroad to pretend
that it’s not really there.”

— BILL MCKIBBEN, *The End of Nature*

Middlebury Friends Meeting

Monthly Meeting for Business

21 September, 2014

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Tom Baskett, Sas Carey, Ted Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Jake Jacobs, Stewart Kirkaldy, Brud Leedham, Mark Moss, Grace McGrath, Cheryl Mitchell, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Don Peabody, Peter Schenck, and Lianna Tennal.

14.09.01 **Treasurer’s Report** (Karen Nawn-Fahey): *All statements in this report are as of September 19, 2014.*

Between July 24 and September 19 the Meeting had member donations of \$1278.

Meeting expenditures from July 24 to September 19, 2014 totaled \$546. This includes \$211 for Spring Community Supper expenses, \$285 to Paige for childcare for July and August, \$25 to reimburse Tom Baskett for Martin Glazer’s gift, and \$25 to reimburse Peter Schenck for deposit for Branbury picnic.

cont.

When these checks clear, the bank balance will be \$5742.57.

FOLLOW UP: (1) The treasurer noted that about ½ of our projected income has been received and almost ½ of our expenses have been paid. During the last quarter of the year, Friends will be asked to remember to contribute to MFM in order to meet our budget by December 31.

(2) The Middlebury Community Care Coalition is seeking increased financial support for the emergency warming shelter for people needing a warm place to sleep on very cold nights this winter. The federal funding used to support this program last winter is not available this year. All together, \$45,000 is needed for this program which hosted 1,200 bed nights last year.

After heart felt discussion, Friends readily agreed to commit \$1,000. \$100 will come from our remaining Contingency Fund. Friends are invited to make an earmarked donation to MFM specifically for this program, to be sent to Treasurer, Karen Nawn-Fahey, 71 North Pleasant Street, Middlebury, VT 05753. It was agreed if we fall short of this amount, the remaining amount will come from our reserve funds. If we exceed \$900 in earmarked donations we will send the additional funds to the Coalition.

14.09.02 Committee on Outreach and Social Action (COSA) (Don Peabody, edited by the recording clerk)

1. An important focus of the committee, at this time, is COSA's future: It was noted the committee now consists of "four old men," has no convener and needs some new energy. We regret failure of COSA to pro-actively mount actions on current issues—including peace, racial justice, earth care and the Friends New Underground Railroad. However we recognize energy has gone into the community garden, community meals, etc. and the efforts of individual Friends working in the areas of civil rights, Habitat for Humanity, farm workers, and other projects. We feel the committee needs a "new voice" and/or someone to "drive it forward." The option of laying down the Committee for a time was raised. The possibility of lodging community supper and Quarterly Meeting responsibilities with ad hoc committees, along with involvement by Fellowship, was suggested.

2. Other items and actions were discussed:

—Ted Colwell will draft a statement on the "run-up to war"

—Stewart Kirkaldy presented a Canadian court decision which he found hopeful and will draft something expressive of that hope

—Don Peabody will check in with Brud Leedom re: past MFM minutes related to social action.

—After consulting with others on Nominating Committee Don will take initiative to contact Friends about serving on COSA.

FOLLOW UP: It was agreed that MFM wants to increase our social action. There are a number of issues needing attention as reflected in a steady flow of communications from Quarterly Meeting, Yearly Meeting, Friends Committee on National Legislation, American Friends Service Committee, and other local, national and international groups. We will work with COSA to explore solutions to the current need for an infusion of new energy.

14.09.03 Earthcare Committee (Fran Putnam, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk) At our August 10 meeting we approved the Introduction to the Queries with concern for the Earth with one edit. Several members of the committee attended the workshop at NEYM on the topic of climate change. Our workshop was joined with one by Mt. Toby Meeting and was well received by the more than 25 attendees.

We discussed the upcoming Friendly Forum to take place on Sunday, September 28, at 8:30 AM, "Making Plans for a Year of Honoring the Earth." Laura Asermily and Fran Putnam will co-lead.

Five members of the committee, Laura Asermily, Win Colwell, Fran and Spence Putnam, and Claudia Stoscheck will be attending the People's Climate March in New York City on September 21.

14.09.04 Pastoral Care Committee (Grace McGrath) The committee continues to be involved lending support to several Middlebury Friends.

14.09.05 Fellowship Committee (Peter Schenck, edited by the recording clerk)

We note the following changes to Responsibilities of the Committee

Add – *Plan and execute logistics for Circle of Life*

Add – *Handle logistics and communications for Celebration of Life & Holiday Meeting*

Pot Lucks: October 5 at the Putnams; November 21, details TBA. Middlebury College students are particularly welcomed.

We discussed Friendly 8's and agreed that we will not arrange these. Instead, Friends are encouraged to sustain or form their own new groups as they desire and encouraged to invite newcomers. Fellowship Committee will focus on offering regular potlucks as a way to connect people. These would be offered on the third Friday of most months and be at someone's home. No themes are planned, except as the host may wish. We will recruit hosts. We will not organize potlucks at Friends' homes for May, July/Aug, Sept, and Dec when other major MFM events are planned.

We will provide an at-a-glance calendar of events from Sept 2014-Dec 2015.

Future meetings of the committee will move to the first Sunday of each month after the rise of meeting.

14.09.06 Worship and Study Committee (W & S) (notes from Leigh Harder, reported by Tom Baskett, edited by the recording clerk,)

1. AARE: After lengthy conversation about All Ages Religious Education (AARE) we reached consensus about holding an attitude of this being “an experiment” and that it will need some time to get established. We agreed to keep the start date of 10/12, followed by 11/9 and 12/21 (Intergenerational Holiday Meeting). The Intergenerational Meeting on Oct. 12 will coincide with the first AARE session. We will review how things are going during our January meeting. Leigh Harder will create a list of book titles and authors to help with future AARE story sessions.
2. Earth Care year of concern: We discussed the Earth Care Queries and our long standing tradition of reading queries aloud at the start of a worship on the third Sunday of each month. The first query, on Stewardship, will be read on Sept. 21. The first fall Friendly Forum will be dedicated to launching our year of concern for the earth.
3. Friendly Forums: These will now be held on the fourth Sundays of many months, to accommodate AARE and First Day School.
4. Priscilla Baker will serve as W & S member on the ad hoc Committee to Review Committee Structures and Processes.
5. Vocal Ministry: We reviewed several ideas for how to enhance worshipers understanding of discerning when to give vocal ministry. Jean will draft a visual aid to be made available on Sunday mornings.

14.09.07 Quarterly Meeting Report (Mark Moss) It was reported that QM has a reserve of \$7,000. The desired reserve is considered to be \$2,000. Individual Friends and monthly meetings are invited to think about how this surplus might be used and share their input with QM, via Mark Moss. It was suggested that our committees reflect on this from their committee perspectives.

14.09.08 Committee Structure Review Committee:

The first of two sessions will be held at the rise of Meeting on October 12. Ad hoc committee members are:

Fellowship: Peter Schenck

COSA: Ted Colwell

Finance: David Andrews

Nominating: Don Peabody

EarthCare: Fran Putnam

Worship & Study: Priscilla Baker

Pastoral Care: Wendy Goodwin

at-large: Brud Leedom, Cheryl Mitchell, Jean Rosenburg

Monthly meeting closed after a period of silence.

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Mary Kay Glazer
mkglazer@me.com



Don and Cheryl Mitchell just returned from a very cool adventure: walking the Cotswold Way in England! They completed the 102 mile walk in 10 days, staying at beautiful bed and breakfast locations along the way. They saw thousands of sheep and an agricultural landscape that has been in use for thousands of years. They were inspired by the book *Walking Distance* that was written by a couple from Burlington, VT. <http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/cotswold-way> and <http://extraordinaryhikes.com/about-the-book/>



Several members of Middlebury Friends Meeting were among the 400,000+ people who attended the People's Climate March in NYC on Sunday, September 21. **Greg Dennis, Laura Asermily, Win, Joanna, and Wren Colwell, Claudia Stoscheck, Chris and Jill Stackhouse, and Fran and Spence Putnam** joined around a thousand other Vermonters in hopes of making an impression on the world leaders who gathered at the United Nations in the week following the rally. Reports are that it was the largest demonstration in history in support of Mother Earth. Win writes "It was incredible to be in such a large gathering of peaceful, hopeful, yet forceful marchers. We walked with the young and old, and people from all over the world. Thanks for the support of everyone!" http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/21/peoples-climate-march_n_5857902.html

Sas Carey is working on two new movies. One is called *Ceremony*, about a shaman teaching an apprentice. The other, with a tentative title of *Migration*, shows the reindeer herder families' migration this summer. All the Nomadicare movies are for the purpose of documenting nomadic life, which is endangered. Sas hopes the movies will be finished by the end of the year. For more information about Nomadicare: <http://nomadicare.org>.

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 — mkgglazer@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