

Middlebury Friends Meeting

April
2009



APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 ^o	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.
- Wed. Apr. 1 7:00 PM Women's group at Grace McGrath's, 388-6576
- Sun. Apr. 5 8:30 AM Worship & Study Committee at Havurah House
- Tues. Apr. 7 11:00 AM Fellowship Committee at Carol's Hungry Mind
- Wed. Apr. 8 7:00 PM Men's Group at Colwell's, 388-3632 or 388-1961
- Fri. Apr. 17 3:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee at Priscilla Baker's, 388-8024
- Sun. Apr. 19 11:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun. Apr. 26 12:00 noon Potluck at Mitchell's, 545-2278. We'll be joined by International students and migrant workers.
- Sun. May 10 10:00 AM Celebration of Life at 'Quaker Acres,' Washington St, Middlebury. Intergenerational worship, potluck, May pole, and more. Please come and help us celebrate this joyous day of new life, community, and good food!

*“There can be no vulnerability without risk;
there can be no community without vulnerability;
there can be no peace, and ultimately no life,
without community.”*

—M. SCOTT PECK

Middlebury Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business

15 March, 2009

Clerk: Becky Stratton

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Tom Baskett, Ted Colwell, Win Colwell, Stewart Kirkaldy, Faith Lowell, Fran Putnam, and Spence Putnam.

09.03.01 Minutes from 15 February 2009 were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

09.03.02 Quarterly Meeting Report: 18 guests joined MFM Friends for worship on Sunday morning and participated in QM meeting for business after lunch. Six out of town Friends stayed overnight in local homes. Two committees met Saturday evening and were lightly attended. No out of town young Friends attended, but 3 MFM young Friends spent Saturday evening together with Win Colwell and very much enjoyed this time to hang out together. About 20 Friends attended the Business session after lunch. It was a thoughtful and meaningful meeting. All together, those who organized and attended felt the day went successfully. A few challenges were noted such as not having a clear sense of how many people to be fed and the need to more successfully encourage Friends to bring their own plates and service for meals so that there is no mixing of plates and utensils from Havurah House.

Gratitude was expressed for all those who helped to make our hosting of QM a success.

09.03.03 Wellesley Monthly Meeting Minute on Peace, which Yearly Meeting encourages all monthly meetings to consider, is referred to Worship and Study Committee with a suggestion to plan a Friendly Forum.

09.03.04 Introductions after Sunday morning worship: Upon the request by a Friend to ease the transition from worship to announcements, it was agreed to try, for two months, a modification of our custom to introduce and share announcements after meeting. We will first go around the circle and introduce ourselves. After this, clip boards will be introduced and started around the circle followed by all other announcements, a report from First Day School and celebrating birthdays.

09.03.05 Treasurer's Report (from Spence Putnam): "During the month of February, we had income of \$764.00 and expenses totaling \$258.15: \$18.15 for checks, \$20.00 for the newsletter, \$120.00 for children's program, and \$100.00 for the honorarium for the session on eldering, which was taken out of the Contingency Fund. The checking account balance at the end of February was \$3372.66, which includes \$700.00 in the carry-over contingency fund. The bank balance as of March 12th was \$3527.66."

FOLLOWUP: Discussion about special appeals resulted in agreement to consider only appeals from local sources. It was felt that there are many larger organizations that ask for extra support from a broad base, but local needs have fewer resources on which to draw. If there is money left at the end of the fiscal year, Outreach and Social Action might be asked to make recommendations for sharing this surplus with our benevolences and/or other projects or community needs.

09.03.06 Worship and Study Committee (WSC) (report from Becky Holmes edited for these minutes by the recording clerk)

Action taken by MM is shown in italics.

- 1) New member: Chris Stackhouse is welcomed as the newest member of WSC.
- 2) Intergenerational meetings: It is recommended that two of our intergenerational meetings, in May (Celebration of Life) and December (holiday meeting) have themes to guide worship sharing, while the other two, in the spring and fall, be unprogrammed.
- 3) Quaker Quest was discussed. WSC may be interested in implementing the program in cooperation with the Outreach Committee. It was decided to give the idea some time to "ripen" over the summer and perhaps run a pilot in the fall. MFM librarian, Becky Holmes, will order the series for the library. It is felt that the idea needs a couple of "shepherds" to move it along.

It was decided to follow through with the suggestion to plan during the summer and start a pilot in the fall.

- 4) WSC budget line: It was decided to ask the Finance Committee to consider adding to the budget \$250 for the WSC to finance speakers and other expenses it incurs.
- 5) First Day School for 3-6 year olds: The committee will present the idea of starting a monthly program for children aged 3-6 years old.

It was decided to explore this for the fall. Friends felt it might be a good way to include new young parents interested in Quakerism. Fran Putnam and Joanna Colwell will pursue.

- 6) Attendance at First Day School was noted to be inconsistent and often very low. There was consideration of combining our program with the Unitarian youth program.

Discussion about the pros and cons of joining with the UU Sunday School program concluded with the suggestion to ask if the UUs have a youth group that meets at a time other than Sunday morning and if they have a Sunday School program during the summer. It was noted that some of our young people have expressed interest in pursuing this possibility.

09.03.07 Pastoral Care Committee (from Priscilla Baker) In addition to considering several matters involving individual Friends, the PC Committee hopes to finish their amendments and additions to the 2009 Directory and have it ready for printing within a month.

09.03.08 Fellowship Committee (FC) (from Fran Putnam)

- 1) A lovely potluck was held at the Colwell's on March 13, with the usual delicious meal, followed by an excellent presentation by AFSC-VT field representative, Joseph Gainza.
- 2) The next potluck will be on Sunday, April 26, following worship, at Cheryl and Don Mitchell's. In addition to visiting the newborn lambs, there will be an international flavor to the gathering with a special invitation extended to international students who currently are hosted by MFM families and migrant workers living and working on Addison County farms.
- 3) Refreshments and other details for Olive Colwell's memorial service on March 22 are in place. It is anticipated that there may be over 60 people in attendance.

09.03.9 Outreach and Social Action Committee (OSAC) There is no current report as the committee will meet on March 24.

09.03.10 The 2008 State of the Meeting Report was approved as published in the last newsletter.

09.03.11 Plates, utensils and shared meals: There was discussion about how to encourage Friends to bring their own plates, utensils, cloth napkins and serving platters/bowls to all potlucks and shared meals. It was agreed we will continue to remind Friends that they must now bring their own. This will be reinforced by not providing these things by hosts or using any of Havurah House's plates and utensils. It was suggested that until all Friends become accustomed to always bringing their own service, Friends who do remember might bring at least one extra set to share with someone who forgot - or with guests.

Monthly meeting closed after a moment of silence.

cont.

News of Quakerly Interest

joanna@ottercreekyoga.com

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

HEALING: LAUREL COBURN would like Friends to know that BJORN is recovering well from his arsenic poisoning and that they expect a 3-month recovery period. They made a visit to Children's Hospital in Boston, where testing concluded that Bjorn does NOT have lead poisoning, as they had previously feared. Laurel and AARON warmly and enthusiastically thank Friends for their support, and for holding Bjorn in the Light.

WORK and SERVICE: DAVID ANDREWS has been elected to the Ilsley Library Board of Trustees.

ANAIS MITCHELL will be doing a benefit concert on April 10 at the Middlebury Town Hall Theatre for the Willowell Foundation which sponsors the Walden Project where ETHAN MITCHELL teaches. Tickets on sale now, at Town Hall Theater!

PAUL DAVIS reports that he has been house sitting for WENDY and GLEN GOODWIN in E. Middlebury. He has had a good time visiting friends, playing with Wendy and Glenn's cats, and playing music. He's preparing for a concert with the Middlebury Wind Ensemble which will be performing Sunday April 5th at 3 pm at the college. He'll also be playing clarinet in *Oliver* in Rochester next month, *The King and I* at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph this summer and *The Music Man* in Middlebury later this year. He is busy applying for teaching jobs in the Middlebury area and will be moving back here in August. "I'm very excited about coming back here and getting involved with the community and MFM." He says that he has spent a lot of time with his mother recently as she copes with taking care of his father who is 87 and struggling with Parkinson's Disease. She manages their Gainesville, FL household by herself and has been feeling pretty exhausted. "I've managed to be supportive in some important ways and it has helped her to feel better. I've been very happy about this."

TRAVEL: JI MIN PARK, the student Fran and Spence Putnam have hosted, spent a morning in Seoul orienting CHERYL MITCHELL to social change projects there. She is hopeful that she will be able to return to Middlebury College this fall.

In August, ELI, ASA, and KARA ROSENBERG will be moving to Tbilisi, Georgia for two years to teach at the QSI International School of Tbilisi. Kara will be teaching English and PE. Eli will be teaching 5th/6th grade and working with technology in the school. Asa will be learning Georgian and Russian! We're looking forward to checking out the Tbilisi Friends Worship Group!

JILL STACKHOUSE shares that her oldest son DUSTY is graduating from UNC Charlotte in May with a bachelors in Engineering Technology. She and CHRIS will

be visiting with him there for 4 days and then from there they are heading to Guatemala for 2 weeks.

When Chris was in his early twenties he was sent to Guatemala by Richmond Friends to help rebuild houses after a devastating earthquake. He drove his little pickup truck with a trailer full of tools all the way from Indiana (Oh, to be young and fearless!) and was received by a 18 year old man named HOSEA ALFREDO. Hosea was very ambitious and very special and Chris knew that he would be going places in his life given half a chance. Unbeknownst to Chris, the Richmond Friends sent Hosea and his sister to college. Hosea is now a Congressman! He is one of very few of direct Mayan decent. Chris and Jill are very excited to be going to visit him after no communication for 30 years.

RUTH BARENBAUM will travel to Nashville, TN in April to accompany her grandson, JAKE MILLER, to the National Chess Tournament. Jake takes chess very seriously, and has been playing since he was eight years old. He has to defend his high ranking by playing three games a day for three days in Nashville!

PASSAGES: We hold SAS CAREY in the Light, recognizing the passing of her father, HAROLD FRANCIS CAREY, 91, lover of nature and all things beautiful. The COLWELL FAMILY would like to thank all of our dear Friends who helped us so beautifully to celebrate the life of OLIVE COLWELL.

FOOD SHELF: There was a lovely photo in the paper of CELESTE and MELODY BERENBAUM, donating food to the H.O.P.E. food shelf. Celeste asked for donations of food instead of birthday presents! What a generous way to celebrate turning 7!

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.

Priscilla Baker (388-8024)

Ruth Barenbaum (388-2651)

John Beattie (352-4416)

Sas Carey (388-7684)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

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

Newsletter Mailing Ted 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