

Middlebury Friends Meeting



April
2012

APRIL 2012

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					

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Every Saturday 10:30 AM Vigil for Peace on the Triangle Green, downtown Middlebury. Until 11 AM.
- Sun. Apr. 1 8:30 AM Friendly Forum: A Quakerly look at the Beatitudes
- Mon. Apr. 2 6:30 PM Men's group at Doug Bicklin's, hosted by Chris Stackhouse, 388-9224
- Mon. Apr. 2 7:00 PM Women's group at Fran Putnam's, 3881644
- Sun. Apr. 8 8:30 AM Worship & Study Comm. at Havurah House
- Mon. Apr. 9 4:00 PM Committee on Outreach & Social Action at Tom Dickinson's, 388-2594
- Sun. Apr. 15 8:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business at Havurah House
- Fri. Apr. 18 3:00 PM Pastoral Care Committee
- Sun. Apr. 22 12-4 PM Earth Day at Middlebury Natural Foods Coop
- Fri. Apr. 27 2-7:30 PM Community Supper preparation, hosting & cleanup
- Fri. May 11 6:00 PM Potluck hosted by Middlebury College worship group
Location TBA
- Sun. May 13 10:00 AM Celebration of Life
- July 1-7 Friends General Conference, Kingston, RI

“Idealists are foolish enough to throw caution
to the winds. They have advanced mankind
and have enriched the world.”

— EMMA GOLDMAN

Middlebury Friends Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business

18 March, 2012

Clerks: Cheryl Mitchell

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present: David Andrews, Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Win Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Stewart Kirkaldy, Brud Leedom, Grace McGrath, Don Peabody, Fran Putnam, Spence Putnam, Chris Stackhouse, Lianna Tennial

12.3.01 Minutes for 19 February 2012: Accepted as printed in the newsletter.

12.3.02 Treasurer’s Report (Laura Asermily and David Andrews): “During the month of February 2012 the Meeting had donations of \$510. The member income for the comparable period last year was \$750.

“Expenditures during January totaled \$356. The Meeting reimbursed \$16 for library materials, \$10 for greeter materials, and paid \$330 in childcare expenses. This included Meeting for Worship childcare (\$170) and First Day Curriculum Coordination (\$160).

“The bank balance at the end of February was \$5,135.41. Of this, \$3,035.41 is for Meeting and the balance of \$2,100 will be carried over each month until a new financial agent is found for the Farm Worker Coalition.”

FOLLOW-UP: The Finance Committee will meet in April to prepare a half year budget to cover July – December 2012. This will be presented at May monthly meeting.

12.3.03 Worship and Study Committee (W & S) (reported by Tom Baskett)

1. Friends are sought to facilitate Friendly Forums. If you are so led, please talk with any member of W & S.

cont.

2. After Words: Friends who wish to engage in continued conversation following worship will be encouraged to meet in a circle in a corner of the meeting room. This will be introduced and facilitated by a W & S member at the rise of each meeting for worship.
3. Safety measures: A proposal was considered to purchase an intercom system (such as baby monitors) for emergency communication between the upstairs and downstairs. It was decided that this was not necessary because there are enough systems in place in case of an emergency, e.g., a fire escape upstairs.

12.3.04 Nominating Committee will be in touch with committees to discuss their needs for the coming year, including the size of their committee. Then they will begin the annual process of speaking with committee members and others who service MFM as well as Friends who will be invited to serve in some capacity.

12.3.05 Outreach and Social Action Committee (COSA) (notes from Tom Dickinson, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk):

1. Our next Community Supper will be Friday April 27 (one month earlier than previously published). Our traditional spring menu of vegetable lasagna, salad, and garlic bread will be served. We will try to do as much community sourcing as possible, but most will probably be purchased. We will solicit volunteers, desserts, and supplies by mid-April.
2. The Friends Committee on National Legislation has requested input from Monthly Meetings on priorities for lobbying and other actions for the 113th Congress. COSA has compiled a list of 10 issues drawn from the current lobbying priorities and input from our own community. We will circulate a survey via listserv and at Meeting so we can select our top five priorities to submit to FCNL. FOLLOW-UP: It is suggested that we publicize our list of priorities to the wider community by way of a press release to local papers.
3. A member of the MFM community has decided on a course of war tax resistance and asked COSA to bring this before our Meeting for support and engagement in the issue. FOLLOW UP: The subject was welcomed and we will ask this Friend to write a short article for our newsletter describing how she decided on this course and the resources she found helpful. It was also suggested that a file of resource materials be prepared for our library.

FOLLOW-UP:

4. A number of mailings arrive in our post office box from various organizations announcing local, regional and national events. It was clarified that these mailing should go to the co-clerks who will decide what items should be passed on to committees, announced after worship on Sunday morning, posted on listserv or any another action to be taken.

5. Quaker Earthcare Witness seeks applications for matching mini-grants, up to \$350, for environmental projects. The deadline is May 2, 2012. Laura Asermily and Christ Stackhouse will explore with Glenn Goodwin, our liaison with Havurah House, about proposing an energy audit for the building,

2.3.06 **State of the Meeting report** was approved as published in the last newsletter. Co-clerk, Cheryl Mitchell, will send electronic copies to New England Yearly Meeting and Northwest Quarterly Meeting and will post via Listserv.

12.3.07 **Gutamala Project:** This summer Fran and Spence Putnam will spend two weeks in Guatemala where they will be engaged in a service project. It was agreed to revive Pennies for Peace so we can provide financial support to Dodos Juntos for their work in child care centers, medical services, environmental programs and a stove improvement project. Friends are encouraged to bring their pennies and other small change to meeting on Sundays.

Monthly meeting closed after a moment of silence.

ILLUMINATING LIVES #38



Aaron Coburn

Aaron originally came to us from Sandpoint, Idaho, where he grew up in an extended Lutheran family, including a grandfather and uncle who were ministers, and where Church was a big part of his life. His father is a pharmacist and his mother an early education teacher. Aaron, himself, was interested in Languages and International Studies and so came to Middlebury College, where he majored in German, as well as International Politics and Economics. He met Laurel here. Bjorn was born to them in 2005.

After some time of exploring Colorado, he returned to Middlebury where he worked as a computer programmer for the Center for Educational Technology. Aaron was particularly fond of his work on a search engine project—the “skunk works” of the organization, where he and others built software to discover patterns in large quantities of information. Eventually, Aaron and one other member of the project formed their own company as an offshoot of the project.

For the last two years, Aaron has been working for Amherst College in the teaching and research group of Information Technology. He works on many projects, including helping librarians discern how to manage digital collections and helping Chemistry professors analyze protein sequences.

After graduating from college, Aaron and Laurel spent some time looking for a spiritual community, and found themselves in conversation with Ann Taylor during intermission at a concert. Ann invited them to our Meeting, where Aaron is now part of Men,Ås Group and both are active in First Day school. Laurel and Aaron bought their beautiful house in Cornwall in 2003, and are now engaged actively in home-schooling Bjorn, as structures of their home life continue to evolve. They have most recently relocated to Ripton, where they enjoy better snow and a profound sense of peace.

In June of 2010 Aaron, Laurel, and Bjorn celebrated the tenth anniversary of their marriage in a Quaker gathering under the care of Middlebury Friends Meeting.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Editor: Winslow Colwell

Newsletter Mailing: Ted Colwell & Ruth Barenbaum

Co-Clerks

Cheryl Mitchell (545-2278)

Jean Rosenberg (388-6453)

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker

Treasurer

Laura Asermily

266 Washington St. Ext.

Middlebury, VT 05753

388-9478

Co-Treasurer

David Andrews

281 Washington St. Ext

Middlebury, VT 05753

388-4894

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)

Sas Carey (388-1301)

Brud Leedom (623-7533)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

We welcome your submissions! — win@wcolwell.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

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to

win@wcolwell.com