

Middlebury Friends Meeting



July
2013

JULY 2013

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	31			

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mon. June 24 7:30 PM Men's Group at David Rosenburg's
- Tues. July 2 4 PM Fellowship Committee at Middlebury Food Coop
- Sat. July 6 9:30 AM-12 Worship & Study Retreat at Ann Barker's in Ripton
- Sun. July 7 8:30 AM Friendly Forum: Joys and Challenges of being part of a Faith Group, with Cheryl Mitchell
- Fri. July 26 3:15 PM Pastoral Care Comm. at Grace McGrath's
- Mon. July 29 TBA Men's group
- Tues. Aug. 6 4 PM COSA, if needed
- Sun. Aug. 11 8:30 AM Summer monthly meeting (combined July & August)
- Sun. Aug. 11 or 18 Summer picnic, after meeting for worship
Tentatively at Branbury State Park

“To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you.”

— LOUIS B. SMEDES

Middlebury Friends Meeting
Monthly Meeting for Business

16 June, 2013

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were David Andrews, Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Mary Kay Glazer, Stewart Kirkaldy, Brud Leedom, Grace McGrath, Cheryl Mitchell, Mark Moss, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Spence Putnam, Peter Schenck, and Lianna Tennial.

13.06.01 Minutes for 19 May 2013: Accepted as printed in the newsletter.

13.06.02 Treasurer's Report (David Andrews & Laura Asermily):

During the month of May, the Meeting had member donations of \$710, plus \$52.86 from Pennies for Peace. The member income for the comparable period last year was \$2,345.

Meeting expenditures during April totaled \$311.05. We paid \$90 for childcare expense and \$120 for First Day School coordination. (this represented an underpayment of \$40 which will be paid to Lianna in June). We also had \$72.89 in library expenses, and paid \$28.16 for a graduation gift for Taran Hopkins.

In addition, as a result of the audit, the check register was adjusted upward by \$30 to agree with the bank statement. The source of the discrepancy was identified by the auditors.

The bank balance at the end of May was \$5,066.61. Of this, \$3,646.61 is for Meeting expenses and the balance of \$1,420 belongs to the Farm Workers Coalition.

FOLLOWUP:

1. During the past year, \$52.86 has been collected in pennies, a continuation of pennies collected during the past several years by the children in the meeting. Last summer the money collected was used to support Spence and Fran Putnam's

service project in Guatemala. This latest collection will be sent to the original Pennies for Peace program. There may be future collections of pennies for Pennies for Peace or for other purpose/projects.

2. It is noted that our income for the first half of 2013 is comparatively lower than recent years at this time. While not seriously low, it is noted that we will “shake the tree” for contributions, perhaps in the fall, if needed.
3. MFM approves support for Lianna Tennial, Don Peabody and their children to attend New England Yearly Meeting. NEYM will provide a generous subsidy, in addition to backing from MFM. This is part of a concerted effort by NEYM to attract Friends from far away meetings.
4. Middlebury Friends welcome and approve Karen Nawn-Fahey as the new treasurer, to begin immediately. She will submit a MFM minute of approval to the National Bank of Middlebury, with documentation to assign her as a signatory, along with Laura Asermily who will continue as backup signatory.

13.06.03 Worship and Study Committee (Tom Baskett, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk). The committee discussed how many members are needed. When Priscilla Baker joins us in July, there will be 6 members which is adequate. However, we will review our committee membership when Jean leaves in January for 6 months.

The 2013 Celebration of Life was assessed. We believe that despite the cold it went well and was better organized than last year, with less strain on our hosts. Photos sent out via email were appreciated. We suggested an electronic archive of photos be developed and maintained to accept future contributions.

It was agreed that a travel minute for Mary Kay Glazer should be completed and presented to the business meeting.

FOLLOWUP: Mary Kay has finished her Masters program in spiritual formation and leadership and now has time and a leading to serve Friends as a retreat leader. She presented an outline of retreats she is prepared to offer to Quaker meetings and groups, including titles such as “Living a Life of Prayer, Spiritual Disciplines: Habits of the Soul, and Holy Resistance, Sacred Surrender. MFM enthusiastically endorses Mary Kay’s leading, approves a Travel Minute prepared by the Worship and Study Committee, and will continue to support her as she moves forward. Mary Kay has had a clearness/accountability committee from MFM for the past several years and this group will continue to meet with her.

Upcoming programs:

- * Experiment with Light, led by Jean Rosenberg: This month it will be on Sunday, June 23, before worship, and Monday evening.
- * Religious Education options were discussed, including a guest speaker from

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NEYM on “Practicum on All Ages Religious Education,” a book club covering topics related to Quakerism, and Quaker Quest.

- * A Friendly Forum, led by Cheryl Mitchell, will take place on July 7 on the joys and challenges of being part of a faith community. After a summer break, Friendly Forums will resume in the Autumn.
- * We propose to explore how we might view Jesus the person and contributions outside of doctrine.

FOLLOWUP: MFM encourages Worship and Study to move forward in making arrangements for Beth Collea to come speak about intergenerational religious education.

Lianna will continue to find Friends to read Queries on the third Sunday of each month. We want to find out if whether NEYM has completed their work of reviewing and revising the Queries and when they will be available.

13.06.04 Outreach and Social Action Committee (COSA) (Tom Dickinson, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk)

1. We discussed the process by which our Meeting takes up public issues on which we would like to make a public statement or take other action. This follows the discussion at May Meeting for Business where it was agreed that we should examine the process, perhaps in a threshing session.

FOLLOWUP: It was agreed the co-clerks will initiate the formation of an ad hoc committee, with representatives from COSA, Worship and Study and the Climate Committee, to plan a threshing session for Friends to discuss the larger issue of how we as a Friends Meeting discern our leadings to take action.

2. Our gun violence statement was discussed at NWQM in June. It has been well received including a report that at least one other Meeting is using the text as a model response to the issue. The combination of discussion via email listserv and a Called Meeting was of interest, since there has been a push to incorporate electronic communication into Quakerly discussions to widen accessibility and reduce the need to travel. The clerk of Quarter will forward our minute on gun violence to the Permanent Committee of NEYM, although it was noted that it is too late for this to be considered at sessions this year. The minute will also be sent to all the Meetings in our Quarter.
3. The farm to table project which supplies food to Middlebury community lunches and suppers is well underway, with much better planning and coordination between the cooks in the kitchens and the gardeners. Volunteers are needed to work in the gardens at Nash Farm and at Charter House as well as help processing the harvest. Contact Tom Dickinson.
4. If COSA needs to meet during the summer the next meeting will be August 6, the

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Tuesday before Meeting for Business. If we meet, the meeting will be announced.

13.06.05 The Wake Robin worship group, we have learned, has been laid down.

13.06.06 Re: FUM Policy excluding LGBT & nonmarried Friends: The latest issue of The New England Friend, May 2013, includes a brief report outlining how FUM is moving forward in its consideration of this policy that many have called into question. To read this report, visit: <http://newenglandfriend.neym.org/FUM.html>

Monthly meeting closed after a period of silence.

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
PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753
388-9478

Co-Treasurer

David Andrews
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)

Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)
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