

# Middlebury Friends Meeting

April  
2013



# APRIL 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				

## QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Every Saturday 10:30 AM Vigil for Peace on the Triangle Green, downtown Middlebury. Until 11 AM.
- Sun, Apr. 7 8:30 AM Friendly Forum, "Walking Cheerfully Over the Earth Leaving a Low Carbon Footprint"
- Fri. Apr. 12 3:15 PM Pastoral Care Committee, at Priscilla Baker's
- Fri. Apr. 12 6:00 PM Potluck at Cheryl Mitchell's, with Chris McCandless who talk about wider Quaker groups and work
- Sun. Apr. 14 8:30 AM Worship & Study Committee at Havurah House
- Mon. Apr. 15 7:30 PM Men's Group, location TBA
- Tue. Apr. 16 4:00 PM COSA at Lucy McKeon's
- Sat. Apr. 20 12-3 PM International Earth Day celebration At Middlebury Natural Foods Coop
- Sun. Apr. 21 8:30 AM Monthly Meeting for Business at Havurah House
- Fri. Apr. 26 2-7:00 PM Community Supper hosted by MFM
- Sun. May 5 8:30 AM Friendly Forum
- Sun. May 12 10:00 AM Celebration of Life at Quaker Acres
- Sat/Sun June 1 & 2 Northwest Quarterly Meeting at S. Starksboro
- Sun. Jun 2 8:30 AM Friendly Forum: Joys and Challenges of being part of a Faith Group

“The foundation of everything in my life is wonder.”

— ALICE WALKER

FROM THE COSA COMMITTEE

Do you want to see lambs and sheep in the spring? Do you want to hear about wider Quaker horizons? Do you want to eat fantastic food prepared by adventurous cooks? All of these will be yours when you attend the next MFM potluck at the Mitchell's farm. Save the date, Friday April 12 potluck from 6 - 8 PM Chris McCandless, a member of Burlington Meeting and a permanent board member of the New England Yearly Meeting will be talking to us about what's happening in Quaker life outside of Middlebury. Come with food and questions (or questions and food) and enjoy spring and the farm.

Directions will be sent out soon. We hope to see you there!

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Those who attended the HomeShare Vermont afternoon potluck enjoyed a meeting rich in both interest and dessert. We all learned something about HomeShare and were pleased to discover two people wanting to use their expertise to volunteer for the program. Watch for sign up sheets for the Community Supper which will be Friday, April 26.

Middlebury Friends Meeting  
Monthly Meeting for Business

17 March, 2013

Clerk: Cheryl Mitchell

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Ted Colwell, Win Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Stewart Kirkaldy, Fran Putnam, Spence Putnam, Peter

Schenck, Lianna Tennel and Clifford Ham, a visitor from Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in Berkeley, CA.

**13.03.01 Minutes for 17 February 2013:** Accepted as printed in the newsletter. Further, the report from our 2012 January State of the Meeting was accepted as a reflection of the health of MFM monthly meeting as discussed at the January gathering. It was agreed to send our report to New England Yearly Meeting.

**13.03.02 Treasurer's Report** (David Andrews & Laura Asermily): During the month of February, the Meeting had member donations of \$710. The member income for the comparable period last year was \$510.

Meeting expenditures during February totaled \$550. We paid \$90 for childcare expense and \$160 for First Day School coordination. We also spent \$175 on advertising in the Addison Independent, and \$125 for a member of the Meeting to attend a Quaker conference.

The bank balance at the end of January was \$4,984.30. Of this, \$3,564.30 is for Meeting expenses and the balance of \$1,420 belongs to the Farm Workers Coalition.

**13.03.03 Worship and Study Committee (W & S)** (Tom Baskett) It was noted that some members have left the committee and new members are needed. Nominating Committee is working on this. Topics under discussion are future Friendly Forums, creation of a Quaker 101 class and how to be more involved/supportive of the 3 worship groups under the care of MFM (Ticonderoga, NY, Wake Robin in Shelburne and on MC campus)

**13.03.04 Fellowship Committee** (Manya Dickinson) It was reported that the potluck for sharing information about VT Home Share was small in number but successful in stimulating interest among those who came in becoming involved in this organization. Upcoming potlucks are April 12 (with Chris McCandless) and May 12 (annual Celebration of Life). The future of Friendly 8's will be handed over to the newly configured Fellowship Committee which begins this summer.

**13.03.05 Outreach and Social Action Committee (COSA)** (Tom Dickinson)  
**Concern about gun violence:** Manya and Tom Dickinson attended the QM Peace and Social Concerns committee meeting at March Quarter. They shared our letter on gun violence, published in local papers, and our process of utilizing both online discussion via our Listserv and a called meeting from which the final letter emerged. QM Peace and Social Concerns Committee encourages MFM to submit our letter as a Minute to QM with a description of the process. This prompted us to minute our approval of the letter as a reflection of our concern about gun violence. It will be sent to QM with a letter of explanation which Tom Dickinson will write.

**Listserv:** It was reiterated that MFM Friends are invited to use our Listserv for a variety of purposes including as a forum to raise topics which warrant Quakerly interactive

*cont.*

discussion. It is noted that QM is discussing how to use more advanced technology and media opportunities to enlarge our Quaker process.

**Community Supper and Farm to Table:** COSA will soon set into motion our well-honed time line and process for planning, preparing and serving our Spring community supper on April 26. COSA will continue its involvement with the community Farm to Table project which strives to provide fresh produce for community meals. The organizers of this program are assessing its effectiveness and how to improve it for the future.

**13.03.06 Quarterly Meeting:** Lianna Tennel reported that she and Don Peabody attended the March QM meeting for business where, among other things, restructuring QM is underway. A proposal will be sent to monthly meeting clerks. Lianna and Don will help organize the September QM gathering at Bethany Birches.

**13.03.07 Nominating Committee (Cheryl)** Nominating Committee members are talking with Friends about ongoing assignments. They ask Friends to consider how they might serve MFM and talk with any of them about possible committee assignments and other tasks. Each committee is asked to assess their support to individuals under their purview. A report of new assignments will be presented at May monthly meeting. Changes of personnel begins in July.

**Committee Structure:** It was agreed that MFM should begin to evaluate the committee structure put into place in 2008. At April monthly meeting we will consider adjustments and changes that will make the system work more smoothly and accomplish the purpose of spreading out our many Meeting duties among many Friends. Win will send out the committee descriptions via Listserv for Friends to refresh our memories of who is responsible for what aspects of MFM functioning.

Havurah House is considering leasing their space to a school during the week. It is not clear how this might impact on us. Concern was raised that this might affect our storage.

**13.03.09 Climate Change action:** Fran Putnam reported on her efforts to organize her town of Weybridge toward action to reduce its carbon footprint and to increase awareness of climate change issues. She has visited the Weybridge Congregational Church and learned that they are actively engaged in exploring actions they can take as individuals and as a corporate body. It was suggested that we start with a Friendly Forum to begin to explore how MFM can address climate change.

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](mailto: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](http://www.middleburyquakers.org)

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to

[win@wcolwell.com](mailto:win@wcolwell.com)