

# Middlebury Friends Meeting



October  
2009

# OCTOBER 2009

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

Every Saturday	10:30 AM	Vigil for Peace on the Triangle Green, downtown Middlebury. Until 11 AM. (Every Saturday again!)
Sun. Oct. 4	8:30 AM	Friendly Forum: Quakers and God
Sun. Oct. 4	12:45 PM	Addison County Crop Walk
Wed. Oct. 7	7:00 PM	Women's Group, location TBA
Sun. Oct. 11	8:30 AM	Worship & Study Committee at Havurah House
Mon.. Oct. 12	4:5:30 PM	Outreach & Social Action Committee at Karen Nawn-Fahey's, 989-3081
Tues. Oct. 13	10:00 AM	Fellowship Committee at Carol's Hungry Mind
Wed. Oct. 14	7:00 PM	Men's Group, location TBA
Fri. Oct. 16	3:00 PM	Pastoral Care Committee at Priscilla Baker's, 388-8024
Fri. Oct. 16	6:00 PM	Potluck at Cheryl & Don Mitchell's, 545-2278
Sun. Oct. 18	11:30 AM	Monthly Meeting for Business at Havurah House
Sun. Nov. 1	3:5:00 PM	Quaker Quest, <i>probably</i> at Ilsley Library Community Room. Call Jean Rosenberg for info (388-6453)
Sun. Nov. 8	11:30-1:30	Passage with Care: finger foods potluck followed by opportunity to discuss and fill out Personal Wishes form for after-death care, and Advance Directives
Mon. Nov. 9	4:5:30 PM	Outreach & Social Action Committee, location TBA

cont.

*“Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek,  
but a means by which we arrive at that goal.”*

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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|--------------|-----------|---|
| Sun. Nov. 15 | 11:30 AM  | Monthly Meeting for Business  |
| Sun. Nov. 15 | 3:5:00 PM | Quaker Quest, <i>probably</i> at Ilsley Library Community Room. Call Jean Rosenberg for info (388-6453)   |
| Mon. Nov. 16 | 6:00 PM   | Potluck at Rosenberg’s followed by presentation below:  |
|              | 7:00 PM   | Donna McDaniel (New England YM) and Vanessa Julye (Philadelphia YM) co-authors of <i>Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship, Quakers, African-Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice</i> , (an examination of the history of Friends and African Americans) |

## Middlebury Friends Meeting Monthly Meeting for Business

20 September, 2009

Clerk: Stewart Kirkaldy

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Ted Colwell, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Grace McGrath, Lucy McKeon, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Jean Rosenberg, and Becky Stratton.

**09.09.01 Minutes from 19 August 2009** were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

**09.09.02 Treasurer’s Report:** (from co-treasurers, Laura Asermily & Spence Putnam) “During the months of July and August we had income of \$771.00. As this is the beginning of our fiscal year, \$771.00 is also the total income for the fiscal year so far. The income for the comparable period last year was \$1,076.60. Expenditures during July and August totaled \$1,552.54: \$500.00 for rent, \$500.00 to New England Yearly Meeting, \$125.00 Northwest Quarterly Meeting, \$240.00 for the children’s program, \$14.00 for The Friends Journal ad, \$31.50 for postage, and \$142.04 as a reimbursement to the Community Supper Program. The checking account balance at the end of August was \$4,115.33, which includes \$700.00 in the carry-over surplus fund. The bank balance as of September 17th was \$4,467.33.”

FOLLOW-UP: It was suggested we make our payments to benevolences now, rather than wait until the end of the calendar year, as we have done in the past. It was noted that nonprofits are struggling, financially, and are in need of support. It was decided that checks be sent to local groups as well as National AFSC and Regional AFSC (located in Cambridge, MA). It was decided to redirect our VT AFSC allocation to the Regional AFSC office.

**09.09.03 Worship & Study Committee** (from Becky Holmes, edited for these minutes by the recording clerk):

1. *Guest Presentation:* Donna McDaniel (New England YM) and Vanessa Julye (Philadelphia YM) are co-authors of *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice*, published recently by FGC Books. They examine the history of Friends and African Americans. They will be in Vermont in mid-November and are available to come to Middlebury on November 16. Jean and David Rosenberg have offered to host a potluck to be followed by a workshop. We will present this to Business Meeting and suggest a travel reimbursement/honorarium.
2. *Intergenerational Meeting:* The next unprogrammed Intergenerational Meeting will be on 9/27. Win will put a reminder on the listserv and remind Friends to bring quiet toys. Art supplies are available upstairs. Mimi will provide hospitality and Win will request additional, child-friendly refreshments. Win will introduce the Meeting.
3. *First Day School:* Joanna has suggested that the 1st Sunday of each month be used to organize older children to teach the younger ones on the 2nd Sunday. Teachers will be needed for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays from 10/11 until June. Joanna has asked WSC to help find teachers; a sign-up sheet will be circulated after worship.
4. *Quaker Quest:* WSC members made QQ-like presentations on the theme of Quakers and God in preparation for our presentation to MM on Sept. 20 and Friendly Forum on Oct. 4. WSC will seek approval to proceed with preliminary plans for 2 QQ public presentations in November.

FOLLOW-UP: Item #1: It was agreed to move forward with the Nov. 16 potluck and presentation on the relationship between Friends and African Americans. We agreed on an honorarium/travel reimbursement of \$150. From the book cover: "Donna McDaniel and Vanessa Julye document three centuries of Quakers who were committed to ending racial injustices yet, with few exceptions, hesitated to invite African Americans into their Society. Addressing the insidious and complex racism among Quakers of yesterday and today, the authors believe, is the path toward a racially inclusive community."

Item #4: It was agreed to encourage the Quaker Quest Working Group to pursue its plan for two public presentations, possibly at the Ilsley Library Community Room, if available. The dates chosen are Nov. 1 and 15, from 3:00-5:00 PM. It is hoped that many Friends, in addition to the QQ committee, will participate.

**09.09.04 Pastoral Care Committee:** (from Grace McGrath & Priscilla Baker) The updated Passage With Care documents are ready for printing and dissemination. The committee requests money to pay for photocopying and folders. They also suggest an opportunity for Friends to meet together to fill out these forms.

**FOLLOW UP:** Friends approved \$60, from Miscellaneous, to pay for printing costs. The Fellowship Committee had already proposed a date for an After-Meeting-After-Death simple potluck and community form-filling-out, Sunday, Nov. 8, at the rise of meeting.

**09.09.05 Outreach and Social Action Committee** (from Karen Nawn-Fahey)

1. *Quaker Quest:* A training session will take place Sept. 30 at Win Colwell's, for the QQ working committee and all interested Friends. The first Quaker Quest will be held as a Friendly Forum, October 4 at 8:30. Based on response and feedback, the committee hopes to expand the program and open it to the Middlebury community.
2. *At Community Supper* on July 10 MFM served over 110 meals. Expenses were about \$150.00. It was decided to donate the money in the contribution basket to the Community Supper program. Men's Group will head up the supper on Friday, September 25. Sign up sheets have been circulated at Meeting the past few Sundays.
3. *Community Lunch Program:* Tom Dickinson reported that this summer the lunch program served over 40 meals a week from the Charter House in addition to 20 bag lunches sent to HOPE twice weekly and between 8-10 lunches per week sent to the John Graham Shelter in Vergennes. The program plans to run through September serving lunch Mondays at St. Stephen's and Tuesday through Thursday at the Charter House. Funds, donations, and volunteers are always welcome. In particular, community members are encouraged to attend lunch to visit with the guests.
4. *Habitat for Humanity:* The Committee would like to encourage Friends to support Habitat for Humanity during a work day on October 10. We wondered if the availability of childcare for part of the day would enable families with young children to participate.
5. *Wellesley Peace Minute* has been accepted by Yearly Meeting.
6. *The Peace Tax Fund Minute* from Plainfield Meeting supports HR 1921, a bill that would establish a way for taxpayers to pay taxes into a fund that would not be used for war. According to FCNL this bill is not currently active. Once we determine the status of this bill, the committee will make the content of the bill available to the Meeting via listserv.
7. *The Monadnock Meeting Minute*, asking to withhold funding for FUM due to personnel policies, is a complex matter. Dena Chase, from New England Yearly Meeting reported to Stewart that NEYM will probably allow directed giving for this year. However, withholding support for FUM would have a serious impact on important FUM projects, such as the Ramallah School.
8. In light of the *closing of the Vermont AFSC office*, we want to consider how we, as a

*cont.*

Meeting, want to witness as Quakers in this time of two wars, and important health care and financial reforms. Are there ways to connect and coordinate with the Peace Witness on the green? With events at the College and in the community?

**FOLLOW-UP:** Item #1: The committee will seek permission from Friends Journal to post their article about Quaker Quest on our website. Outreach & Social Action will seek ways to bring QQ to Middlebury College.

Item #4: Habitat has notified us that college students are eager to help, especially early in the semester. Friends who can volunteer on October 10 are encouraged to do so in support of college students who will work that day.

**09.09.06 Fellowship Committee** (written report submitted by Fran Putnam; edited for these Minutes by the recording clerk):

1. *Friendly 8's*: These groups will be reorganized in October, with the new groups meeting for the first time in November. Wendy Goodwin will solicit preferences both by email and passing out slips of paper at Meeting. We especially encourage people who are new to Meeting to join a group and enjoy a potluck meal with a small group of Middlebury Friends in an informal setting.
2. *Potluck Schedule*: October 16, 6 PM, at Cheryl and Don Mitchell's home; November 8 at the rise of Meeting, Passage with Care, finger foods for lunch; January, outdoor winter activities at the Putnams on a date to be decided; February, storytelling at a place and date to be decided. December Holiday potluck is under the coordination of the Worship and Study Committee.

**09.09.08 Request for Membership:** A letter requesting membership has been received from Don Peabody and Lianna Tennel and was read. A membership clearness committee consisting of Win Colwell, Grace McGrath and Lucy McKeon will make arrangements to visit with them.

Meeting for Business closed with several minutes of silence.

## News of Quakerly Interest

joanna@ottercreekyoga.com

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

**NEW LIFE:** Middlebury Friends Meeting warmly welcomes WILLARD KEITH TENNAN PEABODY to this world. LIANNA gave birth to this beautiful baby boy on September 11th.

**And...** CHRIS BEATTIE, the son of BRENNAN MICHAELS and JOHN BEATTIE, and his wife, JULIA NOGUCHI, are the parents of a son, COLE REI BEATTIE, born in Providence on August 24th. Congratulations, dear Friends!

**A LIFE TOGETHER:** On July 31st DON PEABODY's daughter ELENA SUZANNE PEABODY married ERIC HERTENSTEIN in New York City - many happy wishes!

NEW WORK: AKI ITO has a new job with Bloomberg News- congratulations, Aki!!

TERRA NICHOLSON has a full time job at the Burlington Children's Space where she worked part-time last year. She is half time special ed aid for a four year old boy with Downes Syndrome. Terra says: "I can make him laugh really easily!" The other half day is with pre-school four year olds.

LAUREL COBURN took part in a 90 mile canoe race in the Adirondacks, along with 500 other paddlers! AARON and BJORN provided support and camped out each night. Bjorn also offered extra moral support by shouting "Go Mommy" into a megaphone at the start of day 2's race.

LAURA ASERMILY has been busy helping organize the International Day of Climate Action, which is taking place on Sat. Oct. 24, on the Middlebury village green. The event will include Middlebury's hugest potluck ever (350 items), as well as music, celebration, and planning our post carbon future. GREG DENNIS, CHERYL MITCHELL, JOANNA COLWELL and other members of the Otter Creek Yoga community will perform a total of 350 sun salutations. Want to join in? Give Laura or Joanna a call and we'll help plug you in to this exciting event!

TANYA LEHMAN has been thoroughly enjoying her role as Ethel Toffelmier, the player-piano player in *The Music Man*. Performed by the Middlebury Community Players and directed by Doug Anderson, the show runs during the weekends before and after Thanksgiving. Tickets can be purchased at [TownHallTheater.org](http://TownHallTheater.org). They expect to sell out, so Tanya encourages you to get your tickets early if you're interested!

— Joanna Colwell

## MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

### Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

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#### Co-Clerks

Stewart Kirkaldy (388-3388)

Becky Stratton (388-2487)

#### 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)

Sas Carey (388-1301)

Brud Leedom (623-7533)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

Carrie Reed (388-0436)

Newsletter Editor Winslow Colwell (388-1961, [win@wcolwell.com](mailto: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](http://www.middleburyquakers.org)

Please send newsletter submissions to  
the address above or to [win@wcolwell.com](mailto:win@wcolwell.com)