

Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714 Damariscotta,
ME 04543

Co-Clerks:
Suzy Hallett, 563-6084 &
David Cadbury, 230-0436

Recording Clerk:
Jim Matlack, 236-0903

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February

Saturday	Feb. 4	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	*Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, Acadia Friends, Northeast Harbor
Sunday	Feb. 5	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Sunday	Feb. 19	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business

March

Sunday	March 4	Rise of Meeting	Priority-Sorting Session—Issues for FCNL, followed by Potluck Lunch
Sunday	March 18	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Saturday	March 31	8:30 a.m.-8 p.m.	*NEYM Mid-Year Gathering Wellesley, MA

For New, Revised, and Updated Calendar Items, please see our online calendar at:
<http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org/calendar.htm>

*Look inside for more information regarding these items.

~Calendar events are held at the meetinghouse, unless otherwise noted.~

Sunday Meeting for Worship is held at the meetinghouse,
77 Belvedere Rd., Damariscotta, 10:00 a.m.
Meetinghouse phone: 207-563-3757.

Directions: Take US Route 1 to Damariscotta and turn onto Belvedere Rd. (left if coming from the south, right if coming from the north—Miles Home Health Care building on the corner). The meetinghouse is the second building on the right, .2 mile from the corner.

Moving? Changing your e-mail address? *Don't forget to let us know. Please remember that when you receive the newsletter by e-mail, you save the Meeting money and you lighten our workload. To receive the newsletter by e-mail, kindly send Diane Kirkman at diane_kirkman@hotmail.com a request. Thanks!*

For newsletters, important links, & a current calendar, visit our website:
www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org

Minutes (Draft)--Monthly Meeting for Business--January 15, 2011

The meeting opened with fifteen Friends present after a period of silent worship. The minutes of the December 18 Meeting for Business were approved.

Clerk David Cadbury announced that **Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting** on February 4 will be hosted by Acadia Meeting on Mount Desert Island. [*Ed. note: Please see item on page 3.*] Friends have been invited to come for the weekend. Carmen Lavertu will be going, and others are encouraged to do so.

Gifts & Leadings: A list of officers and committee members for 2012 has been circulated, but some corrections to that list are required. An amended text will be handed out at the February Meeting for Business.

Hospitality Committee: Karen Cadbury proposed that in place of “Friendly Eights,” two or three “Home Dinners” be held by volunteers to which all members would be invited (up to an agreed limit of participants) along with one or two breakfasts at the meetinghouse. She also suggested that the regular monthly potluck meals have a presentation afterward by a volunteer from the Meeting. The committee will prepare written guidelines for kitchen clean-up each Sunday.

First-Day School: When Coastal Kids Day Care moved out in December, they may have taken books and other materials belonging to the meetinghouse. These items should be found or replaced, especially the Quaker-themed books. Discussion turned to financial matters between the meeting and Coastal Kids; e.g., their December rent was not paid (yet) but neither has the Meeting refunded their initial security deposit. Deb Haviland and George Waldman will speak with day-care staff to clarify both finances and the status of the missing items. Funds are available in Meeting accounts to pay for new books or toys as may be required.

Finances: Bill Spock noted that a proposed special gathering to discuss setting up an endowment fund for the Meeting was not held due to lack of interest. Such a session may be re-scheduled. Martin Imm reported that overall Meeting finances are in good shape. Letters will soon go out to members to document contributions during 2011. Some \$163 raised at a Christmas event in 2010 has been given to the local Food Pantry, which faces ever-increasing demand this year. It was suggested that a donation basket for the Food Pantry be put out at our common meals. Friends were encouraged to support this local effort to meet the needs of our neighbors. Donations can be sent to: Ecumenical Food Pantry, P.O. Box 45, Newcastle, ME 04553.

It was agreed that prior to the potluck meal on March 4, Jim Matlack will lead a Priority-Sorting Session on issues before the U.S. Congress so that the results can be sent to the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

The meeting adjourned following a period of silent worship.

David Cadbury, Clerk; Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

The **next monthly meeting** will be held on Sunday, February 19, at the rise of meeting for worship. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. These pending minutes are also available at www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org and on the meetinghouse bulletin board.

QUERIES

Social Responsibility— Do you respect the worth of every human being as a child of God? Do you uphold the right of all persons to justice and human dignity? Do you endeavor to create political, social, and economic institutions which will sustain and enrich the life of all? Do you fulfill all civic obligations which are not contrary to divine leadings? Do you give spiritual and material support to those who suffer for conscience's sake?

Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting

Hosted by Acadia Friends Monthly Meeting Neighborhood House, Northeast Harbor
February 4, 2012, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

How does a “Group of Concern” become a successful, sustaining effort? What does it take? After ten years of commitment to the Kakamega Care Center in Kenya, the organizers and participants will describe the spark at the beginning and key decisions and actions that helped the organization to grow. Join the discussion with Suki Rice, Sharon Salmon, Molly Duplisea-Palmer, Judith Bradshaw Brown and others.

- 8:30 a.m. Warm up with drinks/muffins.
- 9-10 a.m. Worship.
- 10 a.m.-noon Kakamega at 10 Years: A “Group of Concern” Matures.
- Noon Potluck Lunch. Soup and bread provided. Please bring raw vegetables, fruit, and desserts.
- 1:00 p.m. Music and Games for all ages from Kakamega.
- 1:30 p.m. Meeting for Worship for Conduct of Business with meetings of “Groups of Concern” as the major agenda.
1. “Sybil and Eli Jones Ramallah Scholarship” Group.
 2. “Group of Concern for the Missing Generation (Friends in their 20s and 30s) including our participation in Occupation Wall Street being led by the missing generation.”
 3. Others? Kakamega organizers will be invited to join and offer encouragement, and ideas to these new “Groups of Concern.”
- 3:30 p.m. Reports from “Groups of Concern.”
- 4:00 p.m. Join hands in a circle of gratefulness and good-byes.

Join Acadia Friends overnight on Friday and/or Saturday nights to enjoy Acadia National Park and all it has to offer. Worship on Sunday is at 9 am at Neighborhood House. Winter driving conditions can vary greatly from the mountains to the coast. Cancellation will be announced by email by 1pm Friday. Please decide if driving is safe for you.

Accommodations: Carole Beal, carolebeal@gmail.com, 288-8211, cell 266-0664.
Clerk of Acadia Friends, Steve Perrin, onmymynd@gmail.com, 288-8240.
Neighborhood House Phone: 207-276-5039.

NOTE: Carmen Lavertu is planning to attend with an overnight stay, either Friday or Saturday, and would appreciate hearing from anyone who would like to come along. Contact Carmen at clavertu@gmail.com or 354-9556.

Upon this basic truth all the principles and actions of the Society of Friends are founded. Each person is seen as having intrinsic value, and Christ is equally concerned for the other as for me. We all become part of the divine family, and as such we are all responsible for one another, carrying our share of the shame when wrong is done and of the burden of suffering.

--Margaret Backhouse

AN UPDATE ON ERNIE FOUST FROM HIS SON MATT



Ernie has his good days and not-so-good days now but retains his good nature and humor. He loves to joke during visits. He also loves having visitors and getting mail, though he has difficulty understanding/remembering who is visiting/sending mail to him.

Some old Friends from Reading Monthly Meeting have been to see him a few times and plan to visit him once a month or so. My brother and or sister-in-law visits him two or three times a week. Ernie seems to be content in his new community now after a rough start when he moved in this past July. He has a couple of especially good friends he often "hangs out" with there. Dad can still read out loud, but the meaning of the words he speaks doesn't seem to resonate with his brain. He used to read a lot but seldom does now.

Ernie has gotten repeated offers from my brother and a number of the rest of our family to take a trip outside the walls of Whitehall Manor, but he always declines.

In short, he is content on most days, but is more and more often confused about the realities of his life now. Scatterings of memories appear and disappear. And in that respect, each visit is very different from the last, but when it comes to visiting, he is very much "in the moment" and is gregarious and warm as always. He very seldom has any memories any more of his time in Maine, but we all understand this is the condition of his life now in this stage of his existence.

His physical health appears to be excellent, and his appetite is hearty! I visited him last over New Year's, and earlier my whole family visited over Thanksgiving, at which time he was thinking very clearly and recognized us all—a nice gift for our family.

Best wishes to all at Midcoast Meeting!

Matt

[Ed. note: Of this recent photo, above, of Ernie with oldest son, Bill. Matt said, "It is a mystery why he wanted to be fully shaved (I think it is at least 30 years had a full beard), but I think he looks pretty good! Justin, the head nurse where he lives now tells him he thinks he looks like Harry Potter!"]

Remember that you can write to Ernie at Whitehall Manor, 1177 6th Street, Whitehall, PA 18052-5212. As Matt says, Ernie would love to hear from you!]

Vacation Suggestion from Friends Camp: Rent a Cottage on China Lake

Do you and your family like to swim, canoe, kayak, sail, and motor boat? Our pleasant five-room cottage on China Lake is available for weekly rental. This one level cottage is in excellent condition. It has a nice sun deck located only few feet from the shoreline. The cottage has two bedrooms, a full bathroom, washer / dryer, a kitchen, a living room and a dining room/game room. The cottage has one double bed, one queen, two full size sofa beds and three single beds. It is a three-season cottage with electric heat and a wood stove. The deck and the living room and dining room windows face west into a setting sun across China Lake. From South China, you can easily take day trips to the Maine coast and to the mountains of western Maine. For more details, including costs and reservation details, visit:

http://www.friendscamp.org/cottage_rental.html.

2012 NEYM Mid-Year Gathering

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 8:30AM-8PM
HELD AT ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WELLESLEY, MA

**Organized by Sessions Committee &
the Young Adult Friends Climate Change Working Group**

The realities of climate change, deepening social and economic injustice and a spiritually bereft culture challenge New England Friends to find new relevance, listening to the Living Spirit in worship, action and witness. Join us for a Mid-Year Gathering on Saturday, March 31 to explore what we may be called to do.

An *Awakening the Dreamer* session, led by Steve Chase (Putney MM) and other New England Quakers, and structured small group discussions will help build an important bridge between our 2011 and 2012 Sessions. A children's program will be available on-site.

Check neym.org/mid-year for online registration information Feb. 1. There will be a \$25 charge per adult. No charge for children. Overnight hospitality with area Friends will be available upon request.

Contact Jeff Hipp at the NEYM Office (508-754-6760/neym@neym.org) for further information.

For more information on *Awakening the Dreamer*, visit www.awakeningthedreamer.org.



ADVICES

Social Responsibility—Friends are called, as followers of Christ, to help establish the Kingdom of God on earth. Let us strengthen a sense of kinship with everyone. Let that sense of kinship inspire us in our efforts to build a social order free of violence and oppression, in which no person's development is thwarted by poverty and the lack of health care, education, or freedom. Friends are advised to minister to those in need but also to seek to know the facts and the causes of social and economic ills and to work for the removal of those ills. Let us cherish every human being and encourage efforts to overcome all forms of prejudice.

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