

# Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



## MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714 Damariscotta,  
ME 04543

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Newsletter—May 2011

Vol. 23, No. 5

Published every month but  
August.

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## April

Saturday	April 30	9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	All-Maine Gathering, Friends Camp, South China [ <i>see April newsletter, p.3</i> ]
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## May

Sunday	May 1	Rise of Meeting 2:00 p.m.	Potluck Lunch—followed by grounds work Peace Center Program
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Sunday	May 15	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
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Sunday	May 22	11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	*Quakerism Reading Group
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## June

Sunday	June 5	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch—followed by grounds work
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Sunday	June 19	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
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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](mailto:diane_kirkman@hotmail.com) a request. Thanks!*

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**For newsletters, important links, & a current calendar, visit our website:**  
[www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org](http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org)

## Minutes (Pending)--Monthly Meeting for Business--April 17, 2011

The Business Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Minutes from the March 20, 2011, Business Meeting were approved.

**New Business** --Renewal of the advertisement for Midcoast Meeting in the *Friends Journal* was reviewed, and minor changes in wording were made. Nancy Booth will continue as a contact person, and Suzy Hallett will be asked have her name included as a contact.

**Old Business**--Statistical reports on the Meeting prepared by Diane Kirkman were distributed. Discussion of the statistical reports will be on the agenda of the next Meeting for Business.

**Coastal Kids**--The Meeting is pleased to have Coastal Kids as tenants in the meetinghouse. Coastal Kids has orally requested an extension of their rental contract with the Meeting until the end of December 2011. The present contract runs until the end of June. Some members expressed concerns about conflicting space use by Coastal Kids, the First Day School, and the library. Another concern expressed was the need for a firm deadline for the contract. This issue of a firm contract deadline has become more important since alternate uses for the space have been proposed. It is not clear about the status of Coastal Kids' plans for building a new structure to house the school permanently. Is December 2011 a realistic deadline?

We may want to contract for the "Summer Camp" program in July and August, independently of a contract through December. To contract for the summer program, we need further information on what the program entails. The Meeting felt that we needed further information from Coastal Kids to plan for the use of the rental space. The Ad Hoc Committee, which originally arranged for the contract with Coastal Kids, will meet promptly with them so that both the Meeting and Coastal Kids can proceed with clarity. The Ad-Hoc Committee will report on their discussions at the next Business Meeting

### Committee Reports

Finance presented a year-to-date budget. Discussions of next year's budget included: members' contributions, contributions to New England Yearly Meeting, upcoming capital expenditures, a request for a \$50 budget for the Gifts & Leadings Committee, an increase in conference funds, and a \$2,000 emergency fund as part of the budget.

Ad-Hoc Handbook--Each committee of the Meeting has produced a description of its functions. Submitted descriptions have been compiled into a draft handbook by the Ad-Hoc Committee and will be given to committee heads for final review and corrections. The Ad-Hoc committee would like to finish by the end of June.

Ministry and Counsel--Deborah Humphries, who had hoped to visit Midcoast Monthly Meeting as part of her traveling ministry in Vasselboro Quarter, will not be able to join us because of scheduling conflicts.

Meetinghouse & Grounds--Members of the committee have been removing the branches which fell from the white pine tree adjacent to the play area. A problem has been resolved connecting the on-demand hot-water system with the main boiler. The solar collectors are generating power on a regular basis. If needed, a manual for the operation of the meeting room thermostat is in a red binder by the telephone. Research on the issue of correcting water drainage in the parking lot continues.

The meeting closed with a period of silent worship

The next Monthly Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 15, 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](http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org) and on the meetinghouse bulletin board.

### QUERIES

**Meeting Business**-- Are meetings for business held in a spirit of worship and prayerful search for the way of Truth? Are all members encouraged to use their talents in the service of the meeting? Do you undertake your proper share of the work and financial support of the meeting?

## Barbara Kingston Foust--1924-2011



Barbara Kingston Foust died on April 20, 2011. She was born on November 16, 1924, to William Frank Kingston and Louise Anne Schucholz Kingston in Melrose, Massachusetts. She graduated from Russell Sage College in Albany, New York, with a degree in nursing. She and her husband, Earnest Foust, bought a 73-acre farm in Pennsylvania in 1956 and set about raising children, sheep, horses, dogs, cats, quail and the occasional orphaned raccoon.



Her interest in herb gardening led to a chapter she wrote for the book *The Rodale Herb Book* for Rodale Press. Referred to sometimes as "the woman who dyes at the festival," she presented for many years at the Kutztown Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Festival, demonstrating how to work with vegetable dyes and spinning wool. She worked with wool in a variety of forms such as dyeing, knitting, and weaving. For many years she imported spinning wheels from Scotland and sold dyeing, weaving and spinning supplies. Her interest in healing led to her becoming a Reiki Master and a dowser. She supported and trained many people in the healing arts.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Earnie Foust; four children--Virginia Louise Mutti and husband Larry, William Foust and wife Linda, Jonathan Foust and wife Tara Brach, and Matthew Foust and wife Karen; grandchildren Laurel Mutti Patwardhan, Johanna Mutti, Matthew Foust, Jason Foust, David Foust, Sarah Foust, Hannah Foust, and Allison Foust; and great-grandchildren Molly Foust and Ryan Foust.



She liked to tell a story about a time when she was a little girl in elementary school. A solemn old man came one day and all the children lined up to shake his hand. He explained that he, as a Civil War veteran, had once shaken hands with a veteran from the Revolutionary War, and they now, as children were only one handshake away from the birth of the nation. If you've been touched by Barbara, you were probably touched not only by her kindness, but by a sense of timelessness.

[continued next page]





Earnie is well and living in Pittston, Maine with Matthew, Karen, Sarah, Hannah, Alison, Reuben the dog, Ellie the cat, and their goldfish, who has gone through a number of name-changes and who's name is currently up for debate.

Earnie's contact information is:

Earnie Foust, 580 Wiscasset Road, Apt 1, Pittston, ME 04345-5312  
ph. 207-582-8615

*--Submitted by Jonathan Foust*

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### **Four Directions Development Corporation**

The Meeting has received a letter from the Four Directions Development Corporation thanking us for our investment in Wabanaki people. Sometime after 2003, Midcoast Meeting agreed to make a loan of \$10,000 to the Four Directions Development Corporation based in Orono, Maine. The mission of the FDDC is to improve the social and economic conditions of the tribal members of the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot communities by investing in affordable housing, tribal business ventures, and small and medium-size businesses. The FDDC reports that it received an unqualified audit in September 2010 and that, despite challenging economic times, their net assets have continued to grow and their loan portfolios are performing. Our loan and the other Giving Winds loans have helped make this happen. You may be interested in visiting Four Directions' new website at [www.fourdirectionsmaine.org](http://www.fourdirectionsmaine.org), where you can learn more about their work.

### **A Reminder from Meetinghouse & Grounds**

We welcome all volunteers on our upcoming work days--immediately after potluck, beginning the first Sunday in May. (There will be about an hour and a half before the start of the Peace Center program in May, so you'll have plenty of time to work the soil and clean up the grounds before attending the program!) Be sure to wear rough clothing and come help us with preparing gardens and planting.

An added note: Friends are also welcome to come to the meetinghouse at any time and work on the gardens, quietly, peacefully.



## NEWS FROM



**Volunteer Work Weekend, May 20-22, 2011.** We are inviting you and your friends and family to a weekend of fellowship, working, singing and great food. On Friday night between 6 and 9 p.m., we will have a dinner buffet. Saturday morning will be the time for painting, cleaning, raking and stacking wood. After dinner we'll have vespers and a sing-along. On Sunday morning we will finish up the work projects and clean the cabins and buildings. Please call 207-873-3499 or e-mail [director@friendscamp.org](mailto:director@friendscamp.org) if you are able to attend any part of this weekend.

**Open House, Sunday, May 22, noon-4 p.m.** We will have an Open House for families who wish know more about Friends Camp. There will be light refreshments and tours of the camp.

For additional details, visit <http://www.friendscamp.org>.

## **UPDATE: Quakerism Study Group**

The next Quakerism Study Group will take place on Sunday, May 22, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be reflecting on Pendle Hill Pamphlet 403, "Integrity, Ecology, and Community: The Motion of Love" by Jennie M. Ratcliffe. There is a review of this pamphlet on page 35 of the June/July 2010 issue of *Friends Journal*. We will make a group order for the pamphlets by **May 1** and expect them to cost around \$6.50. Please contact Linda Cote-Small at 563-6712 or [chezcote@roadrunner.com](mailto:chezcote@roadrunner.com) if you want to order a booklet.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

*New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) Annual Sessions 2011 will meet on the campus of Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island, Saturday, August 6, to Thursday, August 11, 2011.*

### ***From the Working Groups on Racism of Framingham Friends Meeting & New England Yearly Meeting***

**YWCA's sponsor "Stand Against Racism."** See <http://www.standagainstracism.org> for information about dozens of events around the country. Learn how to participate where you live and see available materials.

**Quaker abolitionist Abby Kelley Foster of Worcester (Mass.) is being inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame** on October 1 in Seneca Falls, New York, the "birthplace" of women's suffrage. The Worcester Women's History Project is sponsoring a bus trip to the ceremonies. Check their website: <http://www.wwhp.org>. This organization has excellent programs and is worth the \$35 annual membership fee. (The first National Women's Rights Convention was held in Worcester in 1850.)

**The Campaign to End Jim Crow:** A new civil-rights movement against massive incarceration of African-American men and the vast Jim Crow prison complex. Worth a trip to New York City on May 21 to hear Michelle Alexander, civil-rights attorney and author of *The New Jim Crow*, and a panel discussion for a half-day conference. Sponsors include New York Friends. For full information and registration (free), go to <http://newjimcrow.org>. Reading the book: highly recommended!

Look for a **May PBS special about the Freedom Riders.**

To comment or report items of interest: contact: [music1@charter.net](mailto:music1@charter.net).

*ADVICES*

**Meeting Business**--In meetings for business, and in all duties connected with them, seek again the leadings of the Light; let our utterances be brief and without repetition. Let us keep from obstinacy and from harshness of tone or manner and admit the possibility of being in error. In all the affairs of the meeting community, let us proceed in a peaceable spirit, with forbearance and warm affection for each other.

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OF FRIENDS  
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