

Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714
Damariscotta, ME 04543

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David Cadbury, 230-0436

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Newsletter—June 2013
Vol. 25, No. 6
Published every month but
August.

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June

Sunday	June 2	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Friday	June 14	7:00 p.m.	*Peace Action Maine Annual Gathering The Woodfords Club, Portland
Sunday	June 16	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Friday	June 21	5:30 to 9 p.m.	*Film: <i>The Great Story</i>
Sunday	June 23	11:30 a.m.	*Ministry & Counsel Discussion Group

July

Sunday	July 7	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Sunday	July 21	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business

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 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—MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS—May 19, 2013

Co-clerks David Cadbury and Suzy Hallett began the meeting with a period of silent worship. Thirteen Friends were present. Additions to the Agenda were offered. Friends congratulated **Nancy Booth on her 90th birthday**. Linda Murray explained that she would like to move her **Sierra Club activity—a monthly light supper and a movie—to the meetinghouse**. She would handle the advertising, use of the building, and AV equipment. The Meeting approved. Linda also reported that she has arranged for **a donation of 3 fruit trees and would like to start a collection for an additional 3 trees**. Linda volunteered to care for the trees herself. She will meet with the Meetinghouse & Grounds Committee to decide on locations for planting the trees.

Carmen Lavertu reported on the recent **Quarterly Meeting at Vassalboro**. **The Peace & Justice Committee will have a table at MOFGA** and volunteers interested in staffing the table can contact Mark Raines (vassalboroqm@neym.org) or Carmen (clavertu@gmail.com). Carmen asked if Ministry & Counsel might wish to show our copy of the film on Rufus Jones. George Chappell stated that he will be submitting **a report on our series of Rufus Jones talks to the alumni newsletter of the Moses Brown School**. Carmen recounted that Quarterly Meeting's Ministry & Council Committee wondered if the Quarter might gain some vitality through inter-visitation. The Midcoast Meeting newsletter will contain a query asking for individual feedback on this question. Discussion of an **excess of funds collected for the Ramallah School Scholarship** resulted in the following Minute:

It is our suggestion that excess funds collected for the scholarship be sent to the school as soon as possible for the school's use, rather than having any excess funds kept toward their next annual donation.

Carmen reported for the **Pastoral Care Committee**, relating that **Peter Haviland** is in good spirits, although he is quite weak, and **Claire Darrow** has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. It was agreed that the Meeting has benefited greatly from the vitality of active members such as Pete, Claire, and Ernie Foust.

Martin Imm presented the **Finance Committee** report, including a draft of the annual budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget remains preliminary as some committees have yet to give feedback and because we don't have final figures for exterior painting and carpentry repairs. Martin will bring the 4 Directions Corporation's annual report to the next business meeting. Martin will set up a Special Project line item for earmarked contributions for fruit trees. **The Finance Committee encourages those still waiting to contribute to note that checks should be made out before the end of May because our fiscal year ends this month.**

Two estimates were presented by the Meetinghouse & Grounds Committee for **exterior scraping, painting, and repair of rotted wood**. There was discussion of the need to schedule contractors before they are committed to other jobs for the summer. The Finance Committee needs time to determine how to fund this expense. It was agreed that the Meetinghouse & Grounds Committee will go ahead with getting firm bids and booking a contractor. The Finance Committee will meet to discuss how to pay for the repairs, with consideration given to Bruce's suggestion to have a set-aside amount included in the budget to pay for future major expenses. Friends are **grateful that our solar panels are keeping other building expenses down**.

There was no report from the **Hospitality Committee**. The **Outreach Committee** hopes to have a report by next month. Suzy reported that the **NEYM representatives will be visiting us for the June potluck**, prepared to answer questions and discuss finances. Carmen suggested that be sent **a condolence note to Lee Rushmore's sister on behalf of the Meeting**. The Clerks will follow up on this suggestion.

The Meeting for Business ended with a period of silent worship.

The Next Business Meeting will be June 16. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. All past minutes are available at www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org and the meetinghouse bulletin board.

—David Cadbury, Clerk; Susan Rockwood, Recording

QUERIES

Meeting for Worship—Are meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance? Are you faithful and punctual in attendance? Do you come in a spirit of openness with heart and mind prepared for communion with God? Do both silent and vocal ministry arise in response to the leading of the Holy Spirit? Do all other activities of your meeting find their inspiration in worship, and do they, in turn, help to uphold the worshipping group?

The Earth Walked into a Bar—A Great Story and a Great Work

On Friday, June 21, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the meetinghouse, Andy Burt, environmental justice consultant, and Rev. Kitsy Winthrop, former minister at the Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, will lead an evening program that begins with the moving documentary film *The Great Story* featuring deep ecologist and theological scholar Thomas Berry. Following the film there will be opportunities for reflection and small-group discussion.

Bring a brown bag supper and Andy and Kitsy will provide beverages and dessert. Supper from 5:30 to 6 p.m. with film starting at 6 p.m.

Come and find out the punch line!

Questions? Please call Andy at 380-5387 or e-mail her at annedburt145@gmail.com.

MINISTRY & COUNSEL DISCUSSION GROUP

The Ministry & Counsel Committee is group discussions honoring Rufus Jones's 150th birthday. The third discussion, at 11:30 a.m., June 23, will be on Elizabeth Grey Vining's biography of Jones. The discussion will be facilitated by Jean Crawford.

The writings can be accessed by going to <http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org/forum.htm>. There you will find the information to be discussed.

Everyone is invited whether they have read the material or not!



Caroline Fox, a 19th-century Friend, wrote in her journal at the age of 21 of “the struggle through which a spark of true faith was lighted in my soul”:

“The first gleam of light, ‘the first cold light of morning’ which gave promise of day with its noontide glories, dawned on me one day at meeting, when I had been meditating on my state in

great depression. I seemed to hear the words articulated in my spirit:

“Live up to the light thou hast, and more will be granted thee.

“Then I believed that God speaks to man by His Spirit. I strove to lead a more Christian life, in unison with what I knew to be right, and looked for brighter days, not forgetting the blessings that are granted to prayer.”

The words of this young Friend were the inspiration for this year's Sessions. See program details on the page 5.



Peace Action Maine's Annual Peace Gathering: "The End of the American Century"
June 14th, 7:00 p.m., The Woodfords Club, Portland

We are delighted to announce that the speaker for our annual meeting will be Professor Andrew Bacevich. An outspoken critic of U.S. foreign policy, Professor Bacevich served in Vietnam, lost a son to the war in Iraq, and has continually warned about the misuse of military power. He is the author of *Washington Rules: America's Path to Permanent War*, *The Limits of Power*, and other important books on American history and foreign policy. He will be speaking to us on "The End of the American Century." We suspect that we will need to consider how our action for peace should be directed once American is no longer the world's dominant power.

Annual Meeting and Peace Gathering Schedule:

- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Annual Meeting with PAM Board elections
- 6:00-6:30 p.m. Break
- 6:30-7:00 p.m. Peace Worker Awards
- 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. "The End of the American Century"--Andrew Bacevich
- 8:00 p.m. Potluck Dessert and Appetizer Reception (Please bring a dessert or simple appetizer to share!)

Suggested Donation \$10 for non-PAM members/free to current PAM Members.

RSVP: peaceactionme@peaceactionme.org.

Please contact Carmen Lavertu about carpooling to this event: clavertu@gmail.com.

Other Summer Quaker Gatherings

6/21–26: Quaker Spring at Woolman Hill
QuakerSpring.org

6/30–7/6: FGC Gathering in Greeley, Colorado
FGCQuaker.org

8/30–9/2: NE Christ-Centered Friends Gathering at Powell House
email NortheastFriendsInChrist@gmail.com

**NEW ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING
2013 Annual Sessions**



Saturday, Aug. 3 – Thursday, Aug. 8 | Bryant University, Smithfield, RI

*Live Up to the Light Thou Hast
and More Will Be Granted Thee*

[New England Yearly Meeting \(NEYM\) Annual Sessions 2013](#) meets on the campus of [Bryant University](#) in Smithfield, Rhode Island, **Saturday, August 3, to Thursday, August 8, 2013. Online Registration begins June 1.**

We are blessed once again with the opportunity to gather together at the Annual Sessions of New England Yearly Meeting. Friends from all over New England and beyond will share in worship, fellowship, learning, discernment and celebration.

Our theme this year provides an unusual opportunity to hold up both our personal gifts and organizational possibilities and to explore our capacity for growth and change in each. It offers both a challenge and a promise for our individual and corporate lives. To help us consider both components of our theme, there will be two [Community Plenaries](#). Sunday afternoon's presentation will be led by **Bill Harley** of Providence Meeting, widely known for his music, storytelling and workshops. He will talk with us about the power of discovering and sharing our personal stories with each other, and offer us some tools for both the telling and the listening. On Monday afternoon, **Shan Cretin**, general secretary of the [American Friends Service Committee](#) will talk about how an organization rooted in Quakerism tries to live into a corporate response to this theme and its call to faithfulness.

We will move directly from these talks into [Anchor Groups](#): small groups that will meet daily to provide a consistent "home base" for adult attenders to share reflection, discussion and worship.

Our time together will also be enriched by many other parts of the Sessions program. [Meetings for Worship for Business](#) will be held each day Sunday through Thursday. Days will begin with [Bible Half Hours](#) led by **Michael Birkel**, author and religion professor at [Earlham College](#). There will continue to be other worship opportunities throughout the days, including evening Vespers each day after supper.

[Workshops](#) on a wide range of topics will be offered. [Susan Stark](#), Quaker singer and songwriter, will offer an intergenerational performance Tuesday evening, highlighted by her song "Live up to the Light Thou Hast." Our [Youth Programs](#) will provide a full schedule of educational, recreational, and spiritual community activities. The [Family Neighborhood](#) will be set up in the townhouse area, providing additional support and community for families with younger children.

Sunday, we will celebrate **Kevin Lee's** many years of work with our youth. The "Coffee House" open mic performances, comfortable rocking chairs and a great selection of books, crafts and curriculum at our Bookstore will round out the rich offerings of a busy week. Given all this activity, remember to set aside the "pockets of free time" needed for personal and family rest and renewal.

Join us for a rich, spiritually fulfilling week with our Yearly Meeting community!

—Jean McCandless, Clerk, Sessions Committee

ADVICES

Meeting for Worship—Consider with care how God reaches us in meeting for worship. To every Friend is given a share of responsibility for the meeting. Friends are advised, therefore, to be diligent in attendance at meetings and in inward preparation for them. Let us be concerned to enter reverently into communion with God and with one another, to yield ourselves to the influence of the divine presence. Then what is evil in us may be weakened and the good raised up. God calls each one to the service of the meeting; let us be obedient and faithful, whether by word, by song, or by silent waiting, and let us receive the messages of others in a tender spirit.

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