

Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEET- ING 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

Newsletter—July/August 2014
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Center:
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July

Sunday	July 6	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Monday	July 7	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication
Sunday	July 20	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Monday	July 21	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication

August

Sat.-Thurs.	Aug. 2-7		*NEYM Annual Sessions
Sunday	August 3	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Monday	August 4	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication
Monday	August 18	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication

September

Fri.-Sun.	Sept. 5-7		*VQM Fall Gathering
Sunday	Sept. 7	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Monday	Sept. 8	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication
Sunday	Sept. 21	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Monday	Sept. 22	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication

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

Midcoast Monthly Meeting for Business—June 15, 2014

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Nineteen Friends were in attendance. Clerk David Cadbury reviewed the agenda. The Minutes of the May 18th Meeting for Business were approved.

PASTORAL CARE Jean Crawford reported that two new members had joined the committee. Jean and Willow Rowntree will serve as co-clerks. The committee proposed that **Friendly Eights** be renewed in order for members of Midcoast Meeting to become better acquainted with each other. After discussion it was agreed to move forward on this proposal. Judith Imm will prepare a sign-up sheet as a first step. There was further discussion about arranging for a **“Quaker presence” or “Friendly Ear”**—i.e., a volunteer who could receive inquiries or hold confidential conversations with seekers or Friends in need of sympathetic listening. No clarity emerged as to how best to set up such a scheme—e.g., in the meetinghouse or at home? by appointment or with regular hours posted? Pastoral Care was asked to give this idea further seasoning and to return with a specific proposal.

Bill Spock spoke briefly about the current **insurance policy** and the proposed text for the **annual appeal letter** to Meeting members.

MIDCOAST OUTREACH AND PEACE CENTER Jim Matlack circulated a written report on a Program Committee session in which a proposal by Rachel McGinness to initiate a **program for seniors and shut-ins** in the local area was enthusiastically approved. With little further discussion the Meeting heartily endorsed the project. It was noted that current insurance coverage was probably adequate and that the coating on the porch ramp should be renewed to assure traction in bad weather.

Rowen Rowntree received an offer for **free mowing of the meetinghouse grounds**. He will consult with Bill Hallett (for Buildings & Grounds) to see whether the offer should be accepted.

Carmen Lavertu plans to attend **New England Yearly Meeting** (as does Deb Haviland). The sessions will be in Vermont this year. A discussion followed regarding Carmen’s expenses. In the end she was encouraged to seek financial assistance from NEYM but a potential outlay from Meeting funds up to a limit of \$400 was approved to assist Carmen.

Rachel McGinness proposed the purchase of an **additional piece of play equipment** to be added to the swing set and the sand box. An expense up to \$250 from currently designated Meeting funds was approved.

The session closed with brief worship in order to reconvene for the Annual Meeting of the Corporation of Midcoast Friends Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cadbury, Clerk

Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

The next monthly meeting for business will be Sunday, July 20. All are invited. Please bring a bag lunch. All past minutes are available at www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org and the meetinghouse bulletin board.

QUERIES

Spiritual Life—Do you live in thankful awareness of God's constant presence in your life? Are you sensitive and obedient to leadings of the Holy Spirit? Do you seek to follow Jesus, who shows us the way? Do you nurture your spiritual life with prayer and silent waiting and with regular study of the Bible and other devotional literature?



NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING
— OF FRIENDS —
QUAKERS

Vassalboro Quarter Fall Gathering

Friday, September 5, 2014 (All day) to Sunday, September 7, 2014 (All day)
Friends Camp, 729 Lakeview Dr., South China, Maine

Contact Information

VASSALBORO CO-CLERK

Janet Hough

Email:

Contact person by email

Phone:

207-370-1436

Home Meeting:

Cobscook Monthly Meeting

For further details and directions, visit <http://www.neym.org/events/5701>.

NEYM Annual Sessions

Saturday, August 2 through Thursday, August 7, 2014

For the first time in our 354 years, New England Yearly Meeting of Friends will gather for our Annual Sessions in Vermont! We hope you'll join us on the beautiful campus of Castleton State College in Castleton, VT.

THEME: "YOU ARE MY WITNESSES"

Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one. Isaiah 44:8 NRSV

For further details and to register, visit: <https://neym.org/sessions>.

E. Earnest (Earnie) Foust, died on June 4th, 2014, in Whitehall, Pennsylvania, at the age of 89.

He was a professor of English at Kutztown University and active in a variety of initiatives to create a more peaceful world.

Earnie Foust was born on February 4th, 1925 to Earl and Arlie Foust in Montoursville, PA.

He served in World War II and as a member of a rifle company, was wounded twice, once on the Anzio Beachhead in Italy, site of some of the fiercest fighting of the war and again, when his assault boat was

sunk crossing the Rhine in the invasion of Germany. At the end of the war he was stationed in Dachau just after the liberation of the concentration camp. Of the 20 men with whom he joined his company, at the end of the war he was the sole survivor.

His experience in the European theater dramatically altered his life by allowing him to pursue higher education and inspiring him as an activist for progressive causes and as a proponent of peace.

Through the GI Bill he earned his BA in English at Lock Haven State College in Pennsylvania and his Masters at the University of Iowa.

He met his wife Barbara while in college and they settled on a 73-acre farm while he taught at Kutztown University. As a professor of English for 31 years he also served for many years as ombudsman. He developed a course called "The Literature of Peace" which is still being taught.

Earnie and Barbara joined the Reading Friends Meeting (Quakers). He was active in the Meeting and when they retired to Maine, they were among the founders of the Quaker Meeting in Damariscotta.

Renowned for his kind nature and sparkling wit, he will be missed by many.

He is survived by his four children: Virginia Louise Mutti and husband Larry, William Foust and wife Linda, Jonathan Foust and wife, Tara Brach, Matthew Foust and wife, Karen, grandchildren Laurel Mutti and her husband Kaustubh Patwardhan, Johanna Mutti and her partner Curtis Rockwell, grandchildren Matthew Foust and wife Lori, Jason Foust and fiancé Jackie Einfeldt, David Foust, Sarah Foust, Hannah Foust, Allison Foust and great-grandchildren Molly Foust, Ryan Foust and Sailor Rose Foust.

A memorial service will be held in the fall.



Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful, praising God until we ourselves are a constant act of praise.

—Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Updates from Andy Burt

July 6, Noon to 1 p.m: Vigil on the Damariscotta-Newcastle bridge to commemorate the oil-train explosion in Lac-Megantic, Quebec, one year ago that devastated the town and killed 47 residents of all ages. Similar vigils and memorial ceremonies are taking place across the state as climate activists warn of the dangers of oil train traffic on Maine's unsafe rails and the planetary requirement that we move away from fossil fuels and towards a renewable energy future. The local vigil is being organized by Andy Burt.

August 2, 10 a.m. To 3 p.m.: On the Brunswick Green, PeaceWorks will hold its 10th Annual Peace Fair. The theme is "Children Ask the World of Us." Social/economic/environmental justice, local foods, and peace organizations will have displays, information, interactive games and activities for children and adults. Inspiring stories from the field will leave attendees with hope for a brighter future.

August 31 Time TBD (but late afternoon to evening): "Fish Day at Popham Chapel" The Phippsburg United Church of Christ, together with other local congregations and Andy Burt, is organizing a "Fish Day" of education and action on ocean health and working waterfronts at the Popham Chapel at Popham Beach. A panel, including State Rep. Mick Devin, a shellfish researcher and supporter of successful legislation on ocean acidification as it impacts Maine, and a local fisherman, will present up-to-date information on the state of Maine's marine waters and fisheries and public policy and community solutions underway to address the problems. The educational program will be followed by a simple supper featuring local seafood.

SAVE SEPTEMBER 21 for the Climate March to the UN in New York City. Religious leaders are calling on people of faith to join this largest demonstration for climate justice the world has known. Buses are being organized from Maine. Activists in Maine are discussing an activity at the Common Ground Fair that will be happening that same weekend.

For further information on any or all of these activities, please contact:

Anne D. (Andy) Burt
Environmental Justice Consultant/Activist
207-380-5387

The Return of Friendly Eights!

Dear Friends, because of popular demand we are offering "Friendly Eights" once more. There was a deeply felt request from members that the "Friendly Eights" was missed. We will gather in groups of eight at various houses of our members for a time of socializing and enjoying a fine meal.

For people new to our community this had been a very popular social gathering to get to know each other beyond the brief time after Meeting. If you are single you may come by yourself or bring a companion if you choose. The hosts count as a couple and there will be two more couples to round out the eight. We expect there will be several parties. For people who dislike driving after dark we are offering a daytime meeting or two.

It has been our experience that these opportunities produce a warm atmosphere that is very much enjoyed and carried forward to the Meeting. Please be assured you are welcome.

Sign up on this paper with name and phone or email contact and which days of the week are preferred by you. Please note any diet restrictions. Do you wish to visit someone close to you or are you able to visit someone who lives farther away?

There will be a sign-up sheet at the meetinghouse, or if you'd rather, mail the answers to the following to P.O. Box 714, Damariscotta, ME 04543:

Name
Phone or Email contact
Diet restrictions
Which days work best
Prefer nearby party
I am game for a distant party
Prefer lunch event
Prefer dinner event

We will complete the parties as quickly as possible to keep everyone informed in this busy season.

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to seeing you.

Judith Imm

HELP MIDCOAST OUTREACH & PEACE CENTER BLOSSOM!

Dear Friends,

The Midcoast Outreach and Peace Center [MOPC] has been well launched under the capable leadership of Sue Rockwood as Coordinator. A number of activities are either planned or under way at the meetinghouse.

As Clerk of the Program Committee for MOPC, I invite members of the Meeting to send me/us your suggestions for possible speakers and/or programs that might be staged under the auspices of MOPC. Several programs to provide services to local residents (e.g., children, families, elderly) are already under consideration. What would be most helpful is to receive suggestions for speakers or issue programs that might be held at the meetinghouse in coming months. You may know of someone suitable who will be in the area this summer or a local person who has recently had direct experience in relation to current issues of concern.



Photo by Sue Rockwood

Please send me your ideas and suggestions so that we can consider them in timely fashion and begin to build up our issue/program outreach.

Thank you,

Jim Matlack (207) 236-0903
jmatlack@roadrunner.com
P.O. Box 130, Rockport, ME 04856-0130



It's not too late to make FRIENDS CAMP part of someone's summer!

QUICK LINKS:

[2014 Registration](#) [2014 Schedule](#) [FAQs](#) [2014 Reference List](#) [Ready for Camp Quiz](#)

ADVICES & QUERIES

Every month you see a "Query" and a matching "Advice." As you may know, these Advices & Queries come from New England Yearly Meeting's *Faith & Practice*. Here is what is what they are about:

"The Advices have served Friends for many generations in their search for a life centered in the Spirit. Arising from the experience and aspirations of successive generations of Friends, the Advices are illustrations of how they seek to carry their faith into all aspects of life. Advices first appeared in the form of epistles sent among Friends to encourage and strengthen each other in their faith. The earliest surviving collection of Advices was issued from Balby in England in 1656. Its concluding statement begins, "Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by. Friends find their essential unity in their profound and exhilarating belief in the pervasive presence of God and in the continuing responsibility of each person and worshipping group to seek the leading of the Spirit in all things. Obedience to the leading of that Spirit rather than to any written statement of belief or conduct is the obligation of their faith. Yet the Advices should have a quickening influence in shaping our daily lives. Their reading is intended to remind us that all aspects of our lives are under divine guidance and to heighten our awareness that in all our relationships we act in the sight of God."

"Friends have developed the Queries to assist us to consider prayerfully the true source of spiritual strength and the extent to which the conduct of our lives gives witness to our Christian faith. To these ends, the Queries should be read frequently in private devotions and regularly in monthly and quarterly meetings. In using these Queries, meetings should be aware that our standards of conduct do not derive from an outward set of rules but rather from the life and teachings of Jesus as recorded in the New Testament, from the examples offered by the spiritual experiences and lives of those who have preceded us, and from our own encounters with that inward revelation through which "the way, the truth, and the life" seek expression today."

Source: <http://neym.org/faith-practice/part-3>.

ADVICES

Spiritual Life—Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts, which are the leadings of the Holy Spirit. It is God's redemptive love that draws us, a love shown forth by Jesus in all his life, on the cross, and in his abiding presence.

Friends are advised to make a quiet place in their daily lives for prayer and communion with God and to be constant in the reading of the Bible and other devotional literature.

Let us cherish the seed of God in ourselves and in others, that we may be open to new revelations of truth. Let us look to our meetings to guide and stimulate our spiritual growth.

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OF FRIENDS
P.O. Box 714
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