

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

Newsletter—September 2013
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September

Sunday	Sept. 1	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Tuesday	Sept. 3	8:30-11 a.m.	*Midcoast Food Pantry, Congregational Church, Newcastle
Fri.-Sun.	Sept. 6-8		*Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, Friends Camp, China, Maine
Tuesday	Sept. 10	8:30-11 a.m.	*Midcoast Food Pantry, Congregational Church, Newcastle
Sunday	Sept. 15	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Tuesday	Sept. 17	8:30-11 a.m.	*Midcoast Food Pantry, Congregational Church, Newcastle
Tuesday	Sept. 24	8:30-11 a.m.	*Midcoast Food Pantry, Congregational Church, Newcastle

October

Sunday	October 6	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Sunday	October 20	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—July 21, 2013

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Clerk David Cadbury welcomed seventeen Friends in attendance. The agenda was reviewed and the Minutes for the June 16th Meeting for Business were approved.

FINANCE & BUDGET—Martin Imm presented the proposed budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Due to an expectation of fewer members/contributors, anticipated meeting expenditures were reduced from \$16,500 to \$15,500. Some \$2,000 will be drawn from the investment account. There will still likely be a shortfall to make up. A major capital expense is recommended to paint and repair the exterior of the meeting house at a proposed cost of \$6,100. These funds are to be advanced from reserves and will be repaid at a rate of \$650 per year for ten years. Operating expenses will be roughly the same as the previous year. Reductions are proposed in contributions to AFSC, FCNL, and CHIP. In the discussion it was agreed to arrange for special collections for additional funds to donate to these recipients as well as to the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Further discussion focused upon the count of actual Meeting members (active and non-resident) as well as the amount to be contributed to New England Yearly Meeting. This aspect of the Budget will be clarified at the September Meeting for Business. Friends expressed appreciation to Martin Imm for his work on the budget presentation.

HOSPITALITY—Karen Cadbury noted that the current Hospitality Committee, with only three members, is stretched thin and needs assistance in handling their tasks. More volunteers will be crucial to ongoing coverage in the months ahead. After discussion it was agreed that whoever is “greeter” on a given Sunday morning will arrive early to open up and will bring fresh cream and start the coffeemaker. She or he will also be sure to run the dishwasher at the end of Social Hour. A sign-up sheet will be posted in expectation of wider participation in these roles. Karen will also draw up a list of tasks to be carried out each Sunday so as to instruct volunteers. The list will be posted in the Social Room and in the newsletter [*Ed. note: This will be in the next issue of the newsletter*].

MINISTRY & COUNSEL—Brewster Grace shared the Minutes of the most recent meeting and noted the Memorial Meeting for John and Alice Lacy to be held on August 18. Brewster asked for guidance from Friends on how two tasks should be accomplished: the selection of Meeting officers and the filling out of committee membership lists. Was a separate Nominating Committee required? After discussion, it was decided that no additional committee would be created. Voluntary sign-ups for committee service would be carried out. Selection of Meeting officers would be undertaken by Ministry & Counsel augmented by the Clerks and other ad-hoc members as needed. This plan was approved. Descriptions of committee roles and responsibilities should be posted on the website and otherwise made widely available.

OUTREACH—Karen Cadbury handed out a well-prepared one-page preliminary job description for an Outreach Coordinator position. Friends welcomed this document and the proposed endeavors to reach out in the local community, especially to young families. A proposed budget for a ten-month pilot stage will require at least \$3,000 in raised funds as well as a contribution of \$1,500 from the Meeting. Among possible projects to be undertaken is the re-location of the Food Pantry to the meetinghouse. Friends strongly encouraged work to go forward on this Outreach proposal. Further developments, including fund-raising strategies, creation of a permanent committee for oversight, and clarification of the role of Finance Committee in directed support from the Meeting, will be taken up at the September Meeting for Business.

Andy Burt is setting out on a personal project focused upon environmental concerns and young people in a story-telling format. She already has one small grant to support this work. In order to seek funds from Quaker sources, Andy asked for a letter of support from the Meeting. The request that the Clerk draft such a letter endorsing Andy’s project was quickly and heartily approved.

No further business coming before the Meeting, it was adjourned following moments of silence. The next Business Meeting will be September 15 (no August business meeting). All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. All past minutes are available at www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org and the meetinghouse bulletin board.

Respectfully submitted,

—David Cadbury, Clerk; Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

QUERIES

The Meeting Community—Do you love one another as becomes the followers of Christ? Do you share each other's joys and burdens? When conflicts arise, do you seek in mutual forgiveness and tenderness to resolve them speedily? Are you careful of the reputation of others? Do you seek beyond all differences of opinion and circumstance for unity in the divine life?



FOOD PANTRY

September is Quaker month at the Food Pantry. We meet at the Congregational Church in Newcastle on Tuesday mornings, 8:30-11:30. Please ask Rachel McGinnis (rachel@tidewater.net) or 563-6412) or Wendell Stephenson (563-8681) for directions.

NEWS NOTES by Deb Haviland

Betty Zisk sent a message to friends with her pledge last month. "Please thank the Meeting for holding me in the Light. I will write a formal note when I feel better. I am now at home." For those who would like to be in touch, her address is 11 Hilltop Drive, Burlington, MA 01803.

Kate Nordstrom, a recent regular attender for a number of years, sends greetings to Friends. She is focusing on her painting these days and has been in a number of successful shows. Her work is currently represented at Side Street Gallery in Gloucester, Massachusetts, and in a gallery near her home in Alna.

Her new email address is knpaintings@gmail.com and her blog address is www.knpaintings.blogspot.com. Go online and see the beautiful work she is doing.

We are participants in a vast communion of being, and if we open ourselves to its guidance, we can learn anew how to live in this great and gracious community of truth.

—Parker Palmer

Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting—Fall Gathering 2013 September 6-8—Friends Camp, China, Maine
EXPLORING THE UNWRITTEN “RULES” OF MEETING FOR WORSHIP

A Woolman Hill workshop that has gone on the road to Maine

Presenters: Debbie Humphries and Honor Woodrow

How do these “rules” affect our experience of worship? Our community? What about your own self-imposed rules? Have you secretly wished someone else in your meeting operated more in line with those same rules? Have you ever wondered who decreed that disco balls should not be hung in the meeting room? Who is setting the norms? Are they God-given or are they human?

In this weekend workshop we will explore (sometimes playfully) our use of language, assumptions, and the “hidden rules” of our experience and culture of worship. We hope that, through this exploration of worship in our home meetings, we will all be encouraged and prepared to further strengthen and deepen our own spiritual practices, and to contribute more fully to the corporate worship experience.

Debbie Humphries, a member of Hartford (CT) Meeting, is a public health nutritionist and teacher with a calling to travel in the ministry. She has been traveling among Friends in New England Yearly Meeting for the last eight years and has led workshops at the Friends General Conference gathering, NEYM Sessions, and Woolman Hill. Honor Woodrow, a member at Cambridge meeting, is a preschool teacher at MIT.

Friday, Sept. 7

4:30-6 pm Ministry & Counsel
5:30-8 pm Registration
6-8 pm Supper (can eat and attend program in Big Bird)
7-9 pm Program led by Debbie Humphries and Honor Woodrow (Although the program starts on Friday evening, you will get something out of it even if you can't come until Saturday morning.)

Saturday, Sept. 8

7-8 am Breakfast
7:45-8:30 am Registration
8:30-11:45 Program
11:45-12:15 Registration
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:15 pm-2:15 Program
2:30-3:45 pm Business meeting
4:00-5:15 pm Groups of Concern/free time/swimming (life guard available from 1-5:30pm)
5:30-6:30 pm Supper
6:45 pm-7:15 Vespers
7:30 pm Quakers Got Talent/open mike/hymn sing

Sunday, Sept. 9

7:30-8:30 am Breakfast
8:45-9:45 Program Wrap-up
10-11 am Meeting for Worship
11:15-11:45 Worship Sharing: What has risen up in you from this weekend?
11:45-12 Registration and evaluations
11:45 am Pack up and clean up
12-1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm Clean up bathrooms, main buildings; goodbyes

REGISTER at: <http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org/documents/2013%20VQM%20FG%20registration%20form.pdf>



American Friends Service Committee



The American Friends Service Committee was represented at Saturday's March on Washington. This photo, of me and my daughter, shows a small part of our contingent.

In 1956 AFSC began working with Martin Luther King, Jr. to help promote peace and justice. We sponsored and funded his trip to India in 1959 and were the first to publish his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" in 1963. Key 1963 march organizer Bayard Rustin received early activist training from AFSC. Marching for AFSC this week made me both proud and more resolved than ever to ensure that our work today is as brave and transformative as it was in supporting that resounding call for justice 50 years ago.

Today, of course, "the dream" is not yet fully realized. Much work remains for our generation to ensure a just and peaceful world for future ones. Marching with my children along the same path where my parents and grandfather marched 50 years ago reminded me how far we have yet to go. That's why I am so grateful for your partnership in AFSC's efforts to create lasting peace and justice.

Half a century has passed since Dr. King reminded us:

"Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows."

True then. True now. It takes committed, caring people like you to carve out peaceful tomorrows. We'll be with you every step of the march toward that brighter future.

With gratitude,

R. Aura Kanegis
Director, Office of Public Policy and Advocacy



Learn more about the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) at <http://www.afsc.org>.

ADVICES

The Meeting Community—Let us live in love as members of a Christian community. Let us be ready to give and receive help, to rejoice together in the blessings of life and to sympathize with each other in its trials.

Let us maintain unity: let us avoid tale-bearing and detraction, acknowledge differences and seek to settle conflicts promptly in a manner free from resentment and all forms of inward violence; let us visit one another, making sure that those who are alone are drawn into the wider family of Friends. Thus, we may know one another as fellow workers in the things that endure.

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