

# Midcoast Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



## MIDCOAST MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

P.O. Box 714  
Damariscotta, ME 04543

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### November

Saturday	November 2	8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	*Quarterly Meeting Farmington
Sunday	November 3	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Wed.	November 6	9:30-11:30 a.m.	The Challenge of Change [ <i>See October newsletter for details.</i> ]
Sunday	November 17	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Wed.	November 20	9:30-11:30 a.m.	The Challenge of Change

### December

Sunday	December 1	Rise of Meeting	Potluck Lunch
Wed.	December 4	9:30-11:30 a.m.	The Challenge of Change
Sunday	December 8	Rise of Meeting	*White Elephant Sale
Sunday	December 15	Rise of Meeting	Meeting for Business
Wed.	December 18	9:30-11:30 a.m.	The Challenge of Change (may possibly be canceled)

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](mailto:diane_kirkman@hotmail.com) a request. Thanks!

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

## MINUTES—MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS—October 20, 2013

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Clerk David Cadbury welcomed 17 Friends in attendance. The agenda was reviewed and Minutes for the September 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting for Business were approved.

**DIRECTORY** Pat Spock reported that the revised Meeting Directory will be printed this week.

**MINISTRY & COUNSEL** Mallory Waldman reported that a Clearness Committee has been appointed to interview Petra Doan and Liz Kamphausen in order to assess their readiness to be married under the care of the Meeting. Sue Rockwood, Brewster Grace, and Jim Matlack will serve on this committee. The Memorial Minute for Alice Lacy has been forwarded to New England Yearly Meeting. The slate of current meeting officers will serve for the coming year.

**FINANCE** Martin Imm handed out a table showing Meeting income and expenses. Funds have been drawn from reserves to cover costs for meetinghouse maintenance projects. Although repayment is planned over several years, Martin noted that recent positive returns on our investments nearly cover the amount withdrawn. Further pledges are due and expected during the balance of the financial year.

**MEETINGHOUSE & GROUNDS** Guy Marsden reported on a number of repairs and improvements that he has made around the meetinghouse as in-kind contributions: back stairs fixed; replace broken clock in the social room and add new one above the meeting room doors per Suzy's suggestion; road sign cleaned; new solar lights on the walkway and 2 flood lights replaced. Guy reminded Friends that a timer switch near the front door will turn on the parking area lights for up to 6 hours before turning itself off. Friends expressed appreciation for Guy's skillful service.

**VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING** Carmen Lavertu noted that Quarterly Meeting will be held in November 2 in Farmington. The session will focus on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission set up to document the abuse of Native American children who were forcibly removed from their families in earlier decades. Carmen seeks others to travel with her to the gathering. Carmen also requests volunteers to join in planning for the Quarterly Meeting sessions to be held at Midcoast Meeting next February.

**PASTORAL CARE** Carmen reported that Pete Haviland was in the Knox Center in Rockland while Deb is away in Alaska to take part in a daughter's wedding.

**OUTREACH** Karen Cadbury indicated that the Meeting's Outreach Program has a goal of \$11,695 in total funds to be raised. Roughly \$4,000 is now in hand. Several possible grants will be pursued. Karen raised a possible merger of the Outreach Program Committee and the Peace Center Board. Consolidation might lead to clarity and better focus. Concerns were expressed over liaison with local groups and churches as well as retention of the Peace Center title. Several potential fund-raising schemes were mentioned. One proposed change was an increase in the rental rate for new users of meetinghouse space. A revised draft job description for the Coordinator position will be forthcoming.

Friends were reminded that a **White Elephant Sale** will be held at the rise of meeting on Sunday, December 8. Friends should bring usable items (including books) for sale that day.

No further business coming before the Meeting, it was adjourned following moments of silence. The next Business Meeting will be November 17. All are welcome. Please bring a bag lunch. All past minutes are available at [www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org](http://www.midcoastfriendsmeeting.org) and the meetinghouse bulletin board.

Respectfully submitted, David Cadbury, Clerk; Jim Matlack, Recording Clerk

### **QUERIES**

**Personal Conduct**—Do you live with simplicity, moderation, and integrity? Are you punctual in keeping promises, careful in speech, just and compassionate in all your dealings with others? Do you take care that your spiritual growth is not sacrificed to busyness but instead integrates your life's activities? Are your recreations consistent with Quaker values; do they refresh your spirit and renew your body and mind?



## WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

On Sunday, December 8, there will be a White Elephant Sale after meeting for worship. The proceeds will help fund the Outreach Program. Please donate as many useful, beautiful, and/or fun items as you can. We also ask the the donor put a price on each item. For more information, contact Suzy Hallett at [coasters@tidewater.net](mailto:coasters@tidewater.net).

### There is still time to sign up for COMMITTEES.

It is lovely to see the enthusiastic beginning of this sign-up period! Every committee has Friends signed up so join in with your friends and enjoy a time to serve AND visit. If there are still officers who wish to continue serving but have not contacted anyone on Ministry & Counsel, please contact Mallory Waldman, 233-1482 or [mallorw@aol.com](mailto:mallorw@aol.com). Thank you!

Carmen Lavertu recommend to Friends **the poem “i thank You God for most this amazing” by e. e. cummings**, which she heard October 26 on “The Writer's Almanac.” For copyright reasons, we are not publishing it here, but we invite you to visit the program's archive and read it for yourself at: <http://writersalmanac.publicradio.org/archive.php>.

### Ideas for Countering Racism From the Framingham Friends Meeting Working Group on Racism

**Crime and Punishment:** The March 2012 issue of *Friends Journal* includes articles on prison visitation, restorative justice, prison ministry, and advocating for the children of prisoners, generally shown little, if any, concern by public officials. Example: Wondering how many children have imprisoned parents, the authors concluded: “No one knows. No...authorities consider it their responsibility” to collect that information.

**DON'T MISS *THE HOUSE I LIVE IN*:** What takes 40 years, 45 million arrests, and one trillion dollars? This must-see film reveals the searing truth behind the fabled “War on Drugs”--America's longest, most tragic and costliest war. This film shows the perspective of the dealers, the jailers, the grieving mothers, and journalists like David Simon (creator of *The Wire*). Look up the title on the web, see a trailer and rent/purchase on YouTube: \$4.00.

**What White People Can Do About Racism** will be offered at Albany (NY) Friends Meeting Sat. Nov. 2: 9 am to 3:30 pm by the Center for the Study of White American Culture. Designed for white people who want to do something about racism and to develop a greater sense of direction and skill to accompany their efforts, the workshop is also open to people of color who want to support white people working against racism. Details: [www.euroamerican.org](http://www.euroamerican.org).

**VASSALBORO QUARTERLY MEETING – Saturday, November 2, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm**  
**Hosted by Farmington MM at Trinity United Methodist Church, 612 Farmington Falls Rd,**  
**Farmington**

*Refreshments will be available upon arrival Saturday morning. Farmington Meeting will provide salad, soup and beverages for lunch, visitors are asked to contribute bread and dessert.*

**8:30 am: Welcome, refreshments**

**9:00 - 10:15: VQM Ministry and Counsel** A time for Friends from all the meetings and worship groups in Vassalboro Quarter to share joys & concerns. All Friends are invited.

**10:15 - 10:30: Break**

**10:30 - 11:30: Meeting for Worship**

**11:30 am-12:00 VQM Meeting for Worship with attention to Business** Please note: *If you need to bring an item for VQM approval or acceptance please contact Susan Davies ([spdbh@gwi.net](mailto:spdbh@gwi.net)) or Janet Hough ([janet.hough5@gmail.com](mailto:janet.hough5@gmail.com)) so it can be added to the VQM Meeting for Business agenda.*

**Agenda for VQM Meeting for Worship with attention to Business**

Treasurer's notes

Carole Beal for finance committee

Discernment of February 2014 Meeting for Business needs

**12:00-1:15 pm: Lunch**

**1:30 – 3:30: Our Relationship with our Wabanaki Sisters and Brothers: Stories of Reconciliation.**

The Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) is an historic attempt at understanding the impact of Maine's child welfare policies on Wabanaki children and families through stories from the survivors themselves, with the aim to promote healing and to forever change the system for the better. We will hear from four representatives of this effort: Juanita Grant and Arla Patch, staff of Maine-Wabanaki REACH. (REACH stands for Reconciliation, Engagement, Advocacy, Change, Healing.) Wabanaki REACH is a cross-cultural collaborative that conceptualized and established the TRC process and that works to ensure communities are ready for and supported throughout the truth telling. They will be joined by gkisedtanamoogk, one of the five Commissioners who in February of this year were seated and officially began their 27-33 month process to fulfill their mandate, and by Denise Altwater, AFSC's Wabanaki Program Coordinator in Maine. Denise has directed the Wabanaki Program for 20 years and has been central in the development of the TRC.

In the second hour, gkisedtanamoogk and Shirley Hager, of Farmington Friends Meeting, will share their story of a series of Gatherings held between Wabanaki and non-Native individuals in the 1980s and '90s. While initially held for the purpose of non-Natives learning more about indigenous issues and concerns, the Gatherings became much more – a safe place where all participants could share deeply about their lives and feel understood and accepted.

**3:30 pm-4pm Adjourn with gratitude and help clean up**

**Directions to Trinity United Methodist Church, 612 Farmington Falls Road, Farmington**

The church is approximately 5 miles beyond where Route 27 joins Route 2 in New Sharon, on the right when headed toward Farmington. Look for the roadside sign, at 612 Farmington Falls Road (US Rte 2 / Rte 27).

**TO REACH ATTENDEES IN EMERGENCY DURING VQM: call Diane Dicranian 861-2330 (cell)**

## Robert Henry Forman Snyder Jr., 1936 – 2013

Robert Henry Forman Snyder, Jr., known as "Snyder," died suddenly and peacefully of heart failure on August 20th in the cabin he had built in North Whitefield, ME. Born in NYC in 1936, Snyder graduated from the Groton School, and left Cornell University almost immediately after enrolling. He edited copy for The New York Mirror, took an apartment above his favorite Greenwich Village bar, finished his degree at NYU, and fell in love with Kristina Skema, a dark-eyed Lithuanian immigrant. Snyder edited reference works, including the pioneering Dictionary of American Slang, and after being drafted, repaired Nike radar missiles in West Germany. The boy from Park Avenue and the bookish girl who took the train in from Brooklyn were married in 1963. Time transformed Snyder and Kristina from West Village beatniks into archetypes of 1970s liberal family life. Their Cambridge, MA home filled with two daughters, a dog named Donovan, whole-grain breads and homemade yogurt. Snyder adopted overalls, a beard, and pipe. He built a 12-by-12 foot cabin in the Maine woods, far from electricity and running water. He sailed Muscongus Bay in a series of increasingly sea-worthy Class A Friendship sloops. In Maine and in Cambridge, for a night or for a year, for dozens of people, Snyder always offered a bed and artful home cooking. Snyder worked steadily as an editor, but found his calling after becoming a fundraiser for the American Friends Service Committee.

Snyder could talk to anyone, leaving physicists and lobstermen alike thinking, 'Now there goes a man who understood all my jokes.' That pleasure in building and maintaining relationships led Snyder to spectacular success raising funds for the causes he believed in. Snyder joined the meeting, and he remained an active member of two meetings, in Cambridge and in Damariscotta, Maine.

Snyder is survived by his wife Kristina, daughters Corinna and Abigail, their husbands Douglas McMullen and Gabriel Feldberg, four grandchildren, and more dear friends than can be counted. A memorial service will be held at the Friends Meeting House in Cambridge on October 26th at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Friends Service Committee, the Friends Meeting of Cambridge or Food for Free.

Published on NYTimes.com from Sept. 30 to Oct. 1, 2013. *[As noted in last month's newsletter, Robert was a regular summer attender at Midcoast.]*

### ADVICES

**Personal Conduct**—Let us bring the whole of our daily lives under the ordering of the Spirit. Let our faith free us from crippling fears so that we may live adventurously. In relations with others, let us exercise imagination, understanding, and sympathy. Let us live and work in the plainness and simplicity of true followers of Christ.

In view of the evils arising from the use of tobacco and intoxicating drinks and from the abuse of drugs, Friends are advised to consider whether they should refrain from using them, from offering them to others, and from having any share in their manufacture or sale. We should not let the claims of good fellowship or the fear of seeming peculiar influence our decision.

Let us maintain integrity in word and deed. Holding to the simplicity of truth, let us keep free of oaths. Remember how widespread and diverse are the temptations to grow rich at the expense of others, and how apparently harmless indulgence often leads by degrees to wrong-doing. Let us avoid and discourage every kind of betting and gambling and commercial speculations of a gambling character.

Friends have always held that the sacred nature of a sexual relationship is affirmed only in marriage. In recent times, however, some Friends have found such affirmation in other contexts. Let us be certain, in any case, that we hold up to the Light any sexual relationship we may be considering and reject any relationship that may violate the integrity or spiritual welfare of either of the partners or of others. No relationship can be a right one which makes use of another person through selfish desire.



It is necessary that we find God, and he cannot be found in noise and unpeace. See how nature—trees, flowers, and grass—grows in stillness; how stars, moon, and sun run their course in silence. The more we receive through quiet prayer, the more we can give in the activity of our daily lives. In essence, it is not what we say, but what God says to us and through us.

—Mother Teresa

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