

Morningside Matters

DECEMBER 2010

Helen Garay Toppins on-line editor (HGTpeace@optonline.net)

MMM Event Calendar

New Year's Day – Open House at the Wells – details in Newsletter

January 7–9 – Young Adult Friends Retreat at Swarthmore PA – details in Newsletter

JANUARY 9 – MEETING FOR BUSINESS 1PM

January 22 – Global change cluster retreat at Purchase Meeting – details in Newsletter

January 29 – End of Life as an Act of Love Workshop at 15th Street Meeting – details in Newsletter

January 29 – Extended Meeting for Worship at Rahway-Plainfield Meeting – details in Newsletter

January 30 – Meeting for Worship & reunion potluck– details in Newsletter

February 26 – NYYM Meeting for Discernment at Plainfield Meeting – details will be in January Newsletter

March 9-11 – ARCH Visitor training near Newark NJ – details will be in January Newsletter

The ache of years has left its mark,
and I have traveled in the deep dark,
down winding roads from near to far,
guided always by one bright star.

~~Sandra Winter

Please Help Carry On the Work of Our Meeting

Pamela Wood

Contributions to the work of the Meeting are welcome. This year we are behind in our financial goals. Please give checks to Bart Dominus, Pamela Wood or Charlene Ray at Meeting or mail your contribution to Pamela Wood. Checks should be made out to Morningside Monthly Meeting. Contributions are tax deductible.

“I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious.”

Albert Einstein to Carl Seelig on March 11, 1952

Sent to us by Lucille Adinolf

New Year's Day Annual Open House
Susan Wells & John Slater susan.wells235@gmail.com

Come and share New Year's Day with us. We are inviting all our friends, their kids, partners, etc. to an open house on January 1st starting at 2pm at our home. The address is 670 West End Avenue, Apt 2C, telephone 212 - 724 - 0415. Entrance is on 93rd Street between Broadway and West End Avenue. Something to share would be very welcome. Most importantly bring yourself.

Morningside Hosts Reunion

Joyce Richardson

At Meeting for Worship on January 30, 2011 Morningside will host a reunion for formerly incarcerated men. Please bring contributions for the potluck following Meeting for Worship.

Mending the World: A Broken Covenant?
Purchase Meeting

On Saturday, January 22 at Purchase Meetinghouse, Friends are invited to participate in a special day-long cluster retreat based on the queries:

- What do we, as a worldwide faith community, have to say to ourselves and to the world?
- How do we articulate the spiritual basis for our response to global change?
- How can Friends, as a worldwide faith community, craft a response that grows out of the abundance of God's love, rather than from the fear engendered by scarcity and change?

Clusters will take place worldwide, and the results will be recorded to form the basis for a World Consultation in late 2011 entitled "Mending the World: A Broken Covenant?"

The Purchase cluster on January 22nd will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast. A provided lunch will include salad and hearty vegan soup. The retreat will end at 4:00 p.m. To register, send your name and contact information to sweisfeld@juno.com or call 914-779-8354. (Suggested donation: \$10; more if you can, less if you can't.)

Exploring Leadings and Vocation in Community Young Adult Retreat

Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, PYM YAF

The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Young Adult Friends (YAF) group will hold a retreat January 7–9, 2011. The retreat will be at Swarthmore Meeting in Swarthmore, PA, which is accessible by highway and public transit. We are inviting NYYM YAFs! You're just a little north of us, and we want to be in community with you!

The retreat will focus on the theme “Exploring Leadings and Vocation in Community” and will include worship, fun, fellowship, cooking, workshops, and more. Anyone who wants to lead a workshop should let us know.

There is also a Facebook event, [PYM January Conference](#). The retreat is open to all YAFs (age 18–35ish). Questions? Contact Sadie Forsythe: sadief@pym.org 215-241-7075. To register visit www.pym.org/event/young-adult-friends-weekend-retreat

Preparing for the End of Life as an Act of Love

Nancy Black

New York Quarterly Meeting Ministry and Counsel Committee is offering the New York Yearly Meeting's ARCH (Aging Resources Consultation Help) Program workshop to help individuals and families prepare practically, emotionally, and spiritually for aging and death. Anita Paul and Barbara Spring, are the ARCH coordinators and will facilitate the workshop. The workshop is open to all members and attenders of New York Quarterly Meeting. It will be held January 29, 2011 at Fifteenth Street Meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (including potluck lunch). Participants need to pre-register by January 5, 2011. Registration will be limited to 35 participants. To register, please contact: Nancy Black, NBB@WESTNET.com or call 718-941-8037.

New Web Site for Quaker Aging Resources

Quaker Aging Resources (QAR) has a new Web site, www.quakeragingresources.org. The project was designed to assist meetings and individuals in responding to the needs of aging Friends including age related changes, chronic illness or disability. The resources are intended to uphold a culture of care for the individual's body, mind, spirit, and community, consistent with our Quaker faith, and address the following needs: emotional /behavioral care; meaningful retirement; death and

dying; physical health; housing/aging in place; spiritual/pastoral support; financial matters. Friends are invited to visit the Web site for further information.

"Courage is more exhilarating than fear and in the long run easier. We do not have to become heroes overnight, just a step at a time, meeting each thing as it comes up, seeing it is not as dreadful as it appears, discovering we have the strength to stare it down." - Eleanor Roosevelt
Sent to us by Sally Campbell

Quakers & Sexuality & Spirituality

March Spark

No, this isn't the "plain brown wrapper" issue of *Spark*, but hopefully a spirit-filled and honest look at the intersection of spirituality and sexuality in Friends' lives. How does sexuality inform your experience of spirit? How does spirituality inform your experience of sex? How have Friends' attitudes toward sex and intimate relationships changed over the years? Are you willing to talk about it? Articles should be 750–1,200 words in length. Deadline for submission is January 20, 2011. Please submit to paul@nyym.org and vonn.new@gamil.com

Meeting to Deepen the Spirit

Mary Harpster clerk, Ministry and Counsel, Rahway-Plainfield Meeting

On Saturday, January 29, 2011, Rahway-Plainfield Meeting will host a Meeting to Deepen the Spirit (known by some as an extended worship session). The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and move into meeting for worship around 10:00 a.m. We will break for a brown-bag lunch around noon. During lunch, those attending will decide how they wish to use the afternoon time. The day will end in the midafternoon, whenever the group is ready.

Rahway-Plainfield would like to invite all F/friends to join us for the day—as much or as little of it as works for individuals' schedules. Directions to our meetinghouse may be found at www.plainfieldquakers.org. We are also directly across the street from the Plainfield NJ Transit train station. It would be helpful, if anyone planning to attend could RSVP to mlharpster@optonline.net so we have an idea of the number of people to expect.

Fellowship for Study in Haverford College Quaker Collection

Each year Haverford College Special Collections offers three one-month, \$2,000 fellowships to researchers who are interested in using the unique resources of the Quaker Collection. We invite applications from researchers at various stages in their

careers and from any discipline. The most competitive applications creatively explore concerns to which Friends have turned their attention, including literature, mysticism, women's issues, family history, race relations, and American Indian affairs, as well as religious doctrine and controversies. The next deadline for applications is February 1, 2011. Please feel free to contact John Anderies with your questions: janderie@haverford.edu; 610-896-2948. Application requirements, deadlines, and a complete list of past fellows and their topics are available at www.haverford.edu/library/special/gest_fellowship/.

Invitation to Join NYYM Earthcare Google Group

Angela Manno for the NYYM Earthcare Working Group

The NYYM Earthcare Working Group invites all those within NYYM to join the NYYM Earthcare Google group. The Google group is a way for people within NYYM to communicate about upcoming events, action alerts, inspirations, and what is being done in meetings or individually concerning earthcare. So far, we have used it to discuss Friends' concerns regarding hydrofracking in upstate New York, the Global Work Party on 10/10/10, and sharing Earthcare minutes from meetings in other parts of the country. Please join the conversation and strengthen our witness for the Earth, our beloved dwelling place, the source of our life and nourishment. To join, please e-mail Patricia Chernoff, patriciachernoff@verizon.net.

POWELL HOUSE EVENTS

Silent Retreat—Dwelling Deep: An Extended Meeting for Worship, January 14–17, 2011

Feeding the Fire: Trusting in the Slow Work of God, January 21–23, 2011

Creativity and Spirituality, February 4–6, 2011

Me, My Partner, and the Divine, February 11–13, 2011

Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence, February 18–20, 2011

For further information: www.powellhouse.org; Powell House, 524 Pitt Hall Rd., Old Chatham NY 12136; 518-794-8811

Huge Losses this Fall Season

Jack Patterson eplovejoy1@gmail.com

Jack sends us this poem from the New Yorker magazine by Richard Wilbur to acknowledge that our meeting and members of it, have borne huge losses this Fall Season – Many dark nights are a little darker sometimes, and the cold wind a little chillier. Still...

Ecclesiastes II:I

***We must cast our bread
upon the waters, as the
Ancient preacher said,***

**Trusting that it may
Amplly be restored to us
After many a day.**

**That old metaphor,
Drawn from rice farming on the
River's flooded shore,**

**Helps us to believe
That it's no great sin to give,
Hoping to receive.**

**Therefore I shall throw
Broken Bread, this sullen day,
Out across the snow,**

**Betting crust and crumb
That birds will gather, and that
One more spring will come.**

Morning Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

December 5, 2010

Note – all attachments are available on the Morningside Meeting website.

Meeting opens at 2:15pm with a period of waiting worship. The clerk reads a quotation by Elizabeth Watson from Daily Readings from Quaker Writing Ancient and Modern p.222.

The only real security in the end is the love we have given and the love we have received. All else can be taken away from us. So pour out your love and friendship and do not hoard it...And don't delay or hesitate in standing up to be counted with the oppressed. Finally, cultivate a light touch. Develop a sense of humor. Learn to light up a room with joy when you enter. Accept the challenge of our chaotic and dangerous world with a sense of adventure, of gratitude that our time is now.

2010.12.01 The agenda is reviewed and approved.

2010.12.02 Due to the holidays, January Meeting Business will take place on 2nd First Day, January 9th. Friends approve.

2010.12.03 Purchase Meeting has asked us to host a reunion of those who attended prison worship groups on Jan 30 (5th First Day). Friends approve.

2010.12.04 Pam Wood reports for Ministry and Counsel. Friends accept the report. (See attached.)

- Sarah Leuze's memorial will take place on Saturday, December 11, at 3 PM at the Fifteenth Street Meeting House. Kathy Wood (Convener), Duncan Foley and Ed Elder will be on the Oversight Committee. Ed Elder will be coordinating the food.
- After Meeting discussions have been planned for December 19, "What is the state of our Meeting?" and for February 20th on varieties of Quaker theology in our meeting. Please forward any suggestions for topics to Ministry and Counsel.

- The newcomer packets are ready for attenders.

2010.12.05 Lee Rada's request for membership is brought forward for the second reading. Friends approve.

2010.12.06 Pam Wood (convener), Ernie Buscemi and Joyce Richardson volunteer to serve on Lee's welcoming committee. Friends approve.

2010.12.07 Joyce Richardson agrees to facilitate our after meeting discussion on the State of the Meeting. Dave Britton offers to write the report. Pam Wood and Sally Campbell volunteer to serve as recorders. Friends approve.

2010.12.08 Charlene Ray presents the treasurer's report. We are approximately \$18,000 short of meeting our budget when we include our committed outlay of \$5,000 for Peace & Social Concerns outreach. Pam Wood has agreed to send out an email appeal. Friends are urged to consider if they are able to contribute more. Friends accept the report.

2010.12.09 Joyce Richardson reports for nominating. Friends accept the report. She presents the second reading of the roster of nominations for 2011. Friends approve the roster as amended.

2010.12.10 Sandra Winter reports for the Communications Committee. Friends accept the report as amended. (See attached.)

2010.12.11 Mason Jenkins reports for Peace & Social Concerns. Friends accept the report as attached.

2010.12.12 Meeting closes at 2:07pm with silent worship.

Please forward committee reports to Sally Campbell, Clerk, Dave Britton, Recording Clerk and Sandra Winter, who formats and posts the minutes to website. Please also discuss agenda items with the clerk or present them to her in writing as far in advance as possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Wood
Recording Clerk

Attendance: Dave Britton, Nancy Britton, Ernie Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Charlotte Ehrman, Tom Goodridge, Mason Jenkins, Buddha Pettiford, Lee Rada, Charlene Ray, Jerry Reisig, Joyce Richardson, Liz Stone, Sandra Winter, Kathy Wood, Pamela Wood