



PRISM

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

*Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly*

MAY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm San Pedro Meeting @ Buffam's	2	3 Birthday: Charlotte Jane Mumma	4 10am King Ferry Food
5 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth Bradley 11am Membership Informational Meeting 12pm Lakefront Cleanup	6 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	7 7:30pm Peace & Social Action Committee Birthday: Elizabeth (Amy) Brice	8	9 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	10 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	11 9:30am Spring Cleaning at the Meetinghouse
12 Mother's Day 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth 11am Coffee Hour	13	14 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel - Bradley/Weld's	15	16 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	17	18 9am Genoa Food Pantry @ Genoa, NY
19 10am Meeting for Worship - Christopher 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business Birthday: Armando Zumaya	20 Birthday: Jennifer Hebben	21 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Claire's	22 Deadline for PRISM submissions	23 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	24 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	25
26 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed) Birthday: Eve Moora	27 Memorial Day Birthday: Laurel Hanson	28 Birthdays: Brendan & Jesse Chandler	29 Birthday: Miles David Weiss	30 Birthdays: Carmen Reynolds, Jessie Otis	31 Birthday: Jackson Otis	

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact pr.prism@gmail.com

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR MARCH 21, 2013

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 12:15 p.m.

Attending:

Ruth Anne Bradley, Ann Birch, Larry Buffam, David Connelly, Anne Dalton, Claire Howard, Dee Nance, Howard Nelson, Suzanne O'Hara, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Hannah Richter, Andrew Simkin, Jane Simkin, Paul Simkin, and Charlie Weld.

We received notification that the New York Yearly Meeting Advancement Committee approved \$1,695 from the Martin Leach Fund to support Rebecca Schillenback's coursework at Colgate-Rochester-Crozier Divinity School in Fall 2013, and it approved in advance another \$1,695 for further study the next spring.

A representative of the Ministry & Council Committee, Larry Buffam, and the Outreach Committee, Anne Dalton, will prepare a monthly Prism item titled "The Gathered Meeting," which will begin in the June Prism.

The meeting approved appointing an assistant clerk, whose duties will be as delegated by the clerk and will attend as a member of Ministry and Counsel. During the discussion, it was suggested it may be a way to apprentice clerks. An assistant clerk is recommended in New York Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice whose duties are as delegated. It would be helpful when the clerk is absent. His or her duties would be to be watchful at business meeting, conscious that one may be transitioning into that role and fill in when needed; and preparing the Business Meeting agenda. There was a concern that a formal transition could commit a person to an obligation longer than they wish, but the obligation could be on the basis of an expectation less formal and more flexible. The assistant clerk's appointment is from year to year.

The meeting approved Ruth's request to use the meetinghouse for a wedding between May 20 and May 27.

The Nominating Committee Report was received and was approved with some alterations. The Monthly Meeting made those appointments, which are attached to these minutes. Additionally, it appointed Paul Simkin as a new member of the Nominating Committee and Anne Dalton as assistant clerk. To save paper, the Monthly Meeting approved of attaching Monthly Meeting webpage links to the annual committee reports as well as assembling a hard-copy packet of all the reports to be available at the meeting-house for anyone who wishes to review them.

The following reports were read: Building Committee, Historical Materials Committee, Librarian, Ministry and Counsel Committee, Music Committee, Outreach Committee, Peace and Social Action Committee, Prism Committee, Prison Oversight Committee, Social Committee, Statistician, Telephone Tree/Directory Committee (oral report); Wider Parish Representatives, and New York Monthly Meeting Representatives.

Sally gave a brief Telephone Tree Committee oral report, saying that the Telephone Tree is used less and less, because of the Internet, but it needs to be updated. Monthly Meeting considered whether it is time again to sift through the names on the Meeting's membership rolls to be sure everyone on it wishes to be there.

We closed after a period of silence at about 2:40 p.m.



MEETING DIRECTORY

A sheet of corrections, changes and additions to the directory that have come to my attention since the November 2011 printing will be available at the back of the meetinghouse. I would suggest that you either attach this sheet to the back of your directory or write in the changes you do not already have. (There have been at least 2 earlier versions of this sheet)

Since I do not feel we are quite ready to prepare and have printed a whole new edition, I am also printing about 10 complete directories for people that never received a directory. They include most of the above corrections.

Please contact me at simkinjp@baldcom.net with any further corrections, changes, or additions.
Jane Simkin



NEWS FROM NYYM

The [minutes of our Spring Sessions](#) are now available online.

The 2013 [operating budget](#) is still facing a deficit. Friends are working on the problem and will report at Summer Sessions. Friends may not be aware, but the YM expenditures [have not increased](#) since 2007. In fact, allowing for inflation, expenditures have decreased by 10% over that time. The current budget continues this trend and YM still face a deficit.

Read more at <http://www.nyym.org/>.

INFORMAL SESSION ON MEMBERSHIP

Curious about Membership?

May 5, 2013 after the rise of service.
In the library at the Meeting Hour
The program shall last about one hour.
Childcare provided. Juice and snacks will be provided

Information presented shall include:

- Quaker literature
- The Quaker Organization
- Three speakers shall tell their story as to why they chose to join the Poplar Ridge Meeting
- The process of becoming a member
- There shall be time for questions and answers.

All interested people are welcome

GREEN HYMN BOOK SHORTAGE

There seems to be an increase in the number of pews that are short on green hymnals ([Worship in Song, A Friends Hymnal](#)). Please check to see if you have a hymnal at home and return it to the back pews of the meetinghouse unless you are a regular musician.

It is easy to forget that in the past you may have borrowed a hymnal for a good reason and then forgotten that you have it. If you would like to have your own copy, you may order from Quaker books at the Friends General Conference address in the directory or online at http://www.quakerbooks.org/worship_in_song_clothbound.php.

SPRING CLEANING

Spring Cleaning at the Meetinghouse will be on Saturday, May 11 at 9:30. Bring mops, rakes, buckets, wheelbarrows--whatever you plan to use. This event is always a lot of fun for people who participate. More hands will make lighter work for all. Consider joining us for a Saturday with friends.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE ASKS PEOPLE TO REGISTER INTEREST IN BROADBAND SERVICE

Tompkins County's Special Committee on Broadband is asking people to contact the County's partner in extending high-speed Internet service, Clarity Connect, to indicate their interest in receiving broadband service.

The Committee notes that the best way to register interest in receiving broadband service, or improved service, through this project is to visit the Clarity Connect web site at www.clarityconnect.com and complete an online inquiry form. Click on the blue box labeled "Contact Me About Wireless Internet Connection." Anyone unable to complete the online form may contact Clarity Connect by phone at [607-257-8268](tel:607-257-8268). Neighborhoods that register high levels of interest are most likely to see service arrive the soonest.

Contact: Patricia Pryor, Chair, Special Committee on Broadband, 319-0507; or David McKenna, Vice Chair, 564-7243.



FAQ FROM NYYM

Why do we have two names, Quakers and Friends?

Our official name is the Religious Society of Friends (see John 15:15). We are also known as Quakers. When we first started, over 350 years ago, our newfound spiritual power sometimes caused us to tremble with fervor, and we were called Quakers as a form of ridicule. The name stuck and we carry it with pride.

Why do we call the building a "Meetinghouse"?

The church is the gathered people, not the building. The building is the place where our spiritual community meets.

How do Meetings conduct their business?

The business meeting is facilitated by the Clerk. The process is based on the belief that God can guide us in our business affairs, as in other parts of our lives. Decisions are not made by majority rule because the truth is not necessarily held by the majority. Rather, decisions are made by listening for the "sense of the Meeting". If agreement is not reached, the matter is reconsidered at a later date.

The actual work is done through standing committees. Concerns are first brought to the attention of the appropriate committee, which handles the matter if possible. If a meeting-wide decision is required, the matter is brought to Monthly Business Meeting, together with the committee's recommendation.

To bring a matter to the attention of a committee, contact the clerk of that committee.

What is a "monthly meeting" – don't you worship every Sunday?

Meeting for Worship is indeed held weekly by almost all local meetings. In addition to Meeting for Worship, a business meeting (Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business) is held once a month; hence the name, Monthly Meeting. The Monthly Meeting is the primary organization of the Religious Society of Friends. The Monthly Meeting organizes activities to foster community, spiritual growth, and spiritual inspired social action. The Monthly Meeting also has responsibilities such as acceptance of new members and oversight of marriages. Each Monthly Meeting manages its own finances and property.

Is my local meeting part of a bigger organization?

Neighboring Monthly Meetings meet together for business, fellowship, and fun. These gatherings may be called Quarterly, Regional or Half-Yearly meetings. Monthly meetings are also members of New York Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting provides guidance in Quaker faith and practice by working with local meetings to publish and maintain a handbook, and publish the newsletter, Spark. It supports Powell House retreat center near Albany, New York. New York

Yearly Meeting maintains contacts with Quaker service organizations such as American Friends Service Committee, Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns, and the Friends Committee on National Legislation. New York Yearly Meeting in turn participates in Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, and Friends World Committee for Consultation. There are many other Quaker organizations for those who have special interests.

What holidays do Friends celebrate?

Friends hold to the belief that each day is sacred. No holidays are particularly special, but we do generally celebrate Christmas, Easter, and other holidays with the rest of the wider society. Our testimony of simplicity lead most Friends to refrain from making too much of any one day, but there are no prohibitions to enjoying holidays.

How do social concerns grow from Friends' beliefs?

Most Friends believe that faith must find expression in action in the world around us. The Religious Society of Friends is not a political organization. Our belief that there is that of God in every person has led some Quakers to be in the forefront on many social reform and peace movements.

Questions and answers extracted from <http://www.nyym.org/?q=faq>.



2013 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The annual committee reports are available at <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/2013Committees.html> in PDF format as they are completed. There is also a paper copy of the original reports in the meetinghouse library. Please contact the PRISM if you would like to receive a printed copy of the reports. The reports that are currently online are Building Committee, Ministry & Counsel, NYYM Reps, Outreach Social Committee and Wider Parish.

EMBRACE THE LAKE

The Youth Committee is sponsoring an Embrace The Lake event on Sunday, May 5. The event is a part of a larger effort to keep trash from flowing into our local Cayuga Lake. We will clear out trash from along Little Creek just north of Poplar Ridge Road near Aurora. (Paines Creek is south of the road.) It's always interesting to see what has floated downstream!



We will gather at noon at the parking lot at the corner of Route 90 and Poplar Ridge Road opposite the Wells College softball field. Bring a picnic lunch and rubber boots. Trash bags and gloves are provided by the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network, which sponsors this event. Check out their Facebook page, "Embrace the Lake 2013."

2013 COMMITTEE

ASSIGNMENTS

Clerk – Larry Buffam
Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Asst. Clerk – Anne Dalton
Treasurer – Jeff Layton
Pastor – Ruth Bradley
Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney

* indicates convener or clerk

Building

Claire Howard*
Scott Heinekamp
Dill Otis
Paul Simkin
Jay Ardai
Kathleen Connelly
Bill Tyler
Dave Eckhardt
Peter Dalton
Brian Gregory

Finance

Jeff Layton
Paul Simkin
Andy Simkin
Suzanne O'Hara
Chris Babcock

Funds-clerks of

Ministry & Counsel
Peace & Social Action
Finance
Religious Ed./Youth

Historical Materials

Jane Simkin
Anne Dalton

Librarian

Stephanie Nelson

Ministry & Counsel

Howard Nelson* (14)
Hannah Richter (15)
Sally Otis (16)
Karen Brennan (17)
Bess Simkin (18)
Larry Buffam (ex officio as MM Clerk)
Anne Dalton (ex officio as MM Asst. Clerk)
Ruth Bradley (ex officio as pastor)

Music

Cathy Mullarney*
Claire Howard
Jeff Layton
Barry Kahn
Rebecca Damiani
Stephanie Nelson
Ruth Bradley (ex officio as pastor)

Nominating

Jack Charles (14)
Anne Dalton (15)
Paul Simkin (16)

Outreach

Anne Dalton*
Ruth Bradley
David Connelly
Paul Simkin
Hannah Richter
Julie Lockhart
Christopher Sammond
Suzanne O'Hara
Bess Simkin

Peace & Social Action

Trudy Buxenbaum*
Larry Buffam
Dill Otis
Jane Simkin
Suzanne O'Hara
Shirley Way
Andy Simkin
Brian Gregory
A.T. Miller
Bill Tyler

Prison Oversight

Jim Frisch (Auburn CF)
Dill Otis (Cayuga CF)

Religious Oversight

Eric Devin
Kathleen Connelly
Charlie Weld
Sally Otis
Scott Lockhart
Rebecca Damiani
Rebecca Schillenback
Ruth Bradley (ex officio as pastor)

Social

Hannah Richter*
Laura Buffam
Trudy Buxenbaum
Janet Shea
Linda Simkin
Jim Frisch
Ann Burch
Kathleen Connelly
Suzanne O'Hara
Jay Ardai
Maria Bachich
Craig Kukuk

Statisticians

Mary Lou Charles
David Connelly
Sally Otis
Jane Simkin

Wider Parish Reps

Ruth Bradley
Sally Otis

Yearly Meeting Reps

Ruth Bradley
Rebecca Schillenback



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Larry Buffam

Assistant Clerk – Anne Dalton

Treasurer – Jeff Layton

Musicians - Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney

Pastor - Ruth Bradley

Recording Clerk – David Connelly

Ministry & Counsel Clerk - Howard Nelson

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday is a youth centered service. There is Nursery during meeting. The meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY 13139.

See <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/> for more information, updated calendar information or copies of previous newsletters. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Mary Lou Charles at 364-7391 or Scott Heinekamp at 364-7676. You can request PRISM electronically and save the Meeting the expense of postage by emailing pr.prism@gmail.com.

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at pr.prism@gmail.com or
Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting: Attn PRISM
PO Box 146, Aurora, New York 13026

Poplar Ridge Information Sharing Monthly
Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Poplar Ridge, NY 13139