



PRISM

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

*Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly*

APRIL 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30pm Peace & Social Action @ Simkin Cabin	2 7:15pm Hazard Library Book Club	3	4 NYYM Spring Sessions Start 7:30pm Movie Night - Solar Mamas	5 10am King Ferry Food
6 NYYM Spring Sessions End 10am Meeting for Worship - Elizabeth Cady Stanton 11am Coffee Hour 11:15am San Pedro Community meeting 5pm SCW Parish 2014 Lenten Series	7 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	8 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel - Bradley-Weld's	9	10 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	11 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	12
13 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth Bradley 11:15am Soup and Sharing	14 7:30pm Hazard Library Annual Meeting	15 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Claire's	16	17	18	19 9am Genoa Food Pantry 7pm Merrifield Concert
20 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth Bradley 11:15am Easter Egg Hunt	21	22 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	23 Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:30pm Outreach	24 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas's	25 Nightingales Start 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	26 6pm Family Night Supper - It Takes a Village, Bev and Bob Miller
27 Nightingales End 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed) 11:15am Annual Business Meeting	28	29	30			

Birthdays: 1st Samuel Simkin; 2nd Elena Katherine Gomez; 4th Sally Otis; 5th Evan Foulke; 10th Evelyn Kahn; 12th Ryan Latham, Justin Walter; 13th David Moora; 14th Gretchen Rice, Laura Buffam; 21st Jim Shea; 23rd Howard Nelson; 26th Birthday: Eddie Richter; 30th Micheal Foulke

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

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS FOR MARCH 16, 2014

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship at 11:54 a.m. and the minutes from the February meeting were read and corrected.

Attending: Ruth Anne Bradley, Larry Buffam, David Connelly, Anne Dalton, Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney, Howard Nelson, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Hannah Richter, Jane Simkin, Paul Simkin, and Bill Tyler

The Poplar Ridge friends originally interested in attending the FCNL weekend have dropped out, so funding will not be necessary this year.

State of the Society report and the Priorities Working Group reports have been respectively forwarded.

Another person responded to the associate membership letter: Llewellyn Foulke asks to become a full member. He asked that his five children be listed as associate members. Ministry and council recommends we list them as associate members if his wife Colleen, who does not request membership, agrees. Monthly Meeting approves their membership as associate members pending her agreement.

Building committee asks for a date for Spring Cleanup. We set aside two dates for the cleanup, May 3 and May 24.

Monthly Meeting reminds committees to prepare reports to present at the annual meeting April 27.

Monthly Meeting discussed whether a four-year clerking rotation as FCNL does it — two years as the clerk and the first and fourth years serving as assistant clerk — would be a way to promote a seamless transition from clerk to clerk. Specifically, whether next year our present clerk, Larry Buffam, now nominated to be assistant clerk to the nominated clerk, Anne Dalton. Some Friends feel strongly that such a rotation is not appropriate for our meeting. There was a suggestion that the assistant clerk position not be filled at the coming annual meeting. We decided to postpone decisions about the rotation but to present the Nominating Committee's

proposal as it is now for decision at the annual meeting.

Minutes were approved and the meeting closed in silence at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by David Connelly

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER

On April 26, Bob and Bev Miller will present "*It Takes a Village: The Agnes Saga.*"



This presentation will tell the story of a young Ugandan woman who has managed to successfully move from a rural village to a university degree. In 2012, she graduated from Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda with a degree in accounting. Bob and Bev Miller were there as her proud sponsors.

While in Uganda, the Millers visited with members of Agnes' family, who live in single room rentals in crowded Kampala neighborhoods. They also visited the hut in an outlying village where Agnes was raised, and met her grandmother and other family members.

Beverly says, "*It was a life-changing experience. We were completely immersed in the culture. We felt very honored that they brought us into their homes. We helped educate Agnes, but we received much more of an education than we gave her.*"

The Millers are still in weekly email contact with Agnes and will share the story of their trip to Africa and what has happened in the lives of Agnes and her family since then.

There will be a dish to pass meal at 6pm followed by the presentation around 7pm. All are welcome.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

About Simplicity?

One man's idea:

There is no fixed standard of simplicity. What is very simple for one person often seems very complex and extravagant for another person. There is no calculus of simplicity.

Rufus Jones, 1940-2014

MOVIE NIGHT – "SOLAR MAMAS"

The Peace and Social Action committee is sponsoring the viewing of the movie "Solar Mamas". Please join us in the Meetinghouse at 7:30pm for the movie, snacks and discussion. All are welcome.

"The Barefoot College in India was founded by Bunker Roy to provide knowledge and training to the rural poor to empower them to make their communities self-reliant and sustainable. The solar course at Barefoot College has women from Kenya, Burkina Faso, Columbia, and Guatemala.

And now Rafea from Jordan. She is the first Jordanian woman ever to attend such a program, and she dreams of returning to bring much-needed income and talents to support her family and village.

In her journey away from home, back, and then away once more, Rafea goes through a profound transformation, returning as an educated woman with the skills to earn an income and achieve for her community what others could not."

<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/solar-mamas/>

MEN'S SPIRITUAL NURTURE GROUP

The Men's Spiritual Nurture Group has been meeting for several years now. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. We share about our lives and our spiritual journeys. Sometimes we choose readings for discussion and reflection. If anyone is interested in joining, the group is open to new members. Any questions, contact Howard Nelson, Charlie Weld or pr.prism@gmail.com.

QUAKER QUOTES

"So here every person comes to find a particular satisfaction and quietness in his or her own mind and those who are weary can relax in Christ...If their minds are guided towards God and if their minds and spirits are calmed in silent waiting on God, then they find mercy from God. In one half hour they gain more peace and satisfaction than they have known from all the other teachers of the world the whole of their lifetime."

George Fox

--Translated into modern English by Rex Ambler Truth of the Heart -an anthology of George Fox, selected and annotated by Rex Ambler, Quaker Books, 2001

"Worship is more than an hour a week spent together. For me, the effect of Quaker worship is cumulative: stillness is expanding into the rest of my life; the habit of listening, clearing a space for the Spirit, grows. By turning our attention to God in all that we do, worship can become a way of life."

--Twelve Quakers and Worship; published by Quaker Quest, 2004



NIGHTINGALES

Nightingales will be gathering at the Richter's for a weekend of singing, April 25-27. Friday, singing starts about 7:30 pm. Saturday, times of singing start at 10:00 am, 3:00 pm, and 7:30 pm. Sunday, at the meetinghouse, we gather to sing at 9:00 am. There will be potluck meals Saturday breakfast through lunch. Contact Christopher Sammond (sammondc@gmail.com) or Hannah Richter (ahrichter@baldcom.net) for more information. ALL are welcome!

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

The King Ferry Food Pantry is participating in this year's [Feinstein \\$1 million challenge](#)! Since 1991, over 1800 agencies nationwide have used the Feinstein Challenge to raise over \$2 billion, making it the most successful grassroots campaign to fight hunger in the U.S.

This is how it works: Make a donation (cash, check or food item) to the King Ferry Food Pantry from March 1 – April 30th. Donations received during that time will get Feinstein money added to it. The more raised, the more of the Feinstein money they will get. At the end of the challenge, the Feinstein foundation will divide \$1 million proportionately among all participating agencies.

A community food pantry offers a way for everyone to help his or her neighbors in need. A donation from you would help a struggling neighbor to receive the nutritious food they need to be healthy. Food donations may be left inside Our Lady of the Lake Church in King Ferry anytime, and financial contributions may be mailed to "GSCC – King Ferry Food Pantry", PO Box 296, Aurora, NY, 13026.

Contact Debbie Patrick, Food Pantry Coordinator at 315-497-2049 for more information.

LENTEN SERIES

The Southern Cayuga Wider Parish Lenten series "*The Path of Spiritual Transformation*" will conclude on April 6th 5-7pm. The topic will be:

My Will to Thy Will

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mark Lawson, Pastor of Bayberry UCC, Liverpool &

Adjunct Professor at LeMoyne College

Place: Trinity UCC, 163 South Cayuga St., Union Springs

Contact: Pastor Shelley Pantoliano, 315-889-7302 or 889-3508

Please bring a sandwich and a mug or bowl; soup and beverages will be provided. This event is free and open to the entire community. A free-will offering to aid Health Tapestry ministry is welcome.



NYYM APOLOGY TO AFRO-DESCENDANTS

In following up to the Apology to Afro-Descendants approved by New York Yearly Meeting at Fall Sessions 2013, MCC proposed that a series of statements and queries related to next steps toward racial healing be sent to Friends to help us focus our attention on possible next steps. One statement and query will be sent each week until Spring Sessions. Friends are encouraged to share these queries with other Friends in your meeting.

1. The Apology to Afro-Descendants states that we will "*strive with Divine assistance to discern what we as Quakers are called to do to bring about justice and reconciliation in our beloved community.*" What does "*justice and reconciliation mean to you*"?
2. What steps do we need to take to be open to racial healing?
3. The Apology to Afro-Descendants states that our work will include "*challenging existing racist assumptions.*" - How do we crack this seed?
4. Some Friends of Color have said that they are not really seen in our Yearly Meeting. What can we do to understand this feeling of invisibility and its impact on our community?

From Irma Guthrie, Clerk
NYYM Ministry Coordinating Committee

EASTER EGG HUNT

Children of all ages are invited to join the youth of Poplar Ridge Friends in hunting down chocolate eggs after rise of meeting on Easter Sunday. Somehow a large invisible bunny manages to deposit enough eggs around the meetinghouse (indoors or out, depending on the weather) for everyone to have at least one sweet experience with an egg. Join us in the fun!

OP-ED: EASTER—DIFFERENCES OF BELIEF YET HONORING THE MAN KNOWN AS JESUS

Watching the signs of life at sunrise, one feels moved by the day, a time some Christians celebrate Easter while others consider the value of life itself as they would any other time. So what are the differences of belief and practices about Easter?

Quakers are among Christian groups that do not, for the most part, celebrate Easter in the manner of most Christians. There are somewhat differing views among Friends, since there are schisms in the Quaker community, as there are among other Christian denominations, so individual Quakers make their own choices about what to do on Easter. But for traditional, conservative Quakers it is a time for quiet reflection and prayer, in a manner most believe should take place every day.

George Fox, the founder of the Quaker Church, or as it is sometimes called the Society of Friends, said when asked how he celebrated Christmas, “When the time called Christmas came, while others were feasting and sporting themselves I looked out poor widows from house to house, and gave them some money.” These words are documented in his writings called *The Journal of George Fox*. This statement is [used for guidance](#) of many Quakers on how to behave toward their fellow man in honor of the man called Jesus.

By [Carol Forsloff](#)
Apr 24, 2011 in [Religion](#)
(<http://digitaljournal.com/article/305940#ixzz2xCMlna3j>)

SOUTHERN CAYUGA COMMUNITY READ 2014

Join the Aurora Free Library and Hazard Library for a discussion on the book *In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer* by Irene Gut Opdyke on May 7th at 7pm at the Emily Howland Elementary School Library. (<http://www.hazardlibrary.org/communityread2014/>) Contact Hazard Library for more information.

HAZARD LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The community is invited to join the Hazard Library Board for a social hour after a brief meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 7 pm in the Poplar Ridge Friends Meetinghouse. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. Contact Hazard Library for more information. (www.hazardlibrary.org, 315-364-7975)



MERRIFIELD CONCERT

On Saturday, April 19th at 7pm, Merrifield Concerts will host Kelly McRae (<http://kelleymcrae.com/music/>), a wonderfully inventive and warm Canadian singer/songwriter of infectious talent and spirit. This will be a fun Easter-eve event for friends and family. There will be a return to popular pricing at \$10 per person to support the artist. Contact A.T. Miller (atmiller@cornell.edu) for directions or more information.



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. Nursery is available 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 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
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Poplar Ridge, NY 13139