

# PRISM

*The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge*

*Poplar  
Ridge  
Information  
Sharing  
Monthly*

## JULY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:30pm Peace & Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	2	3	4 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship  Independence Day	5 9am King Ferry Food Pantry
6 10am Meeting for Worship - Song &	7	8 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	9	10 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	11	12
13 10am Meeting for Worship - Andy Simkin	14	15 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	16	17	18 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	19 9am Genoa Food Pantry  7pm Merrifield Concert - Shari Kane and David Steele
20 10am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Schillenback  11:30am Monthly Meeting for  1pm Drum Circle at Merrifield	21	22 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	23 Deadline for PRISM submissions	24 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	25	26
27 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)  11:30am Meeting for Discernment	28	29	30	31		

**Birthdays :** 6<sup>th</sup> Jay Ardai; 8<sup>th</sup> Stacey Rejman, 12<sup>th</sup> Carl McCaffery; 13<sup>th</sup> Eveleyn Clarkson Zumaya; 14<sup>th</sup> Sigrud Mortensen; 18<sup>th</sup> Brenda Rose Simkin; 19<sup>th</sup> Zachary Nelson; 23<sup>rd</sup> Bill Fairhurst, Erika Richter; 28<sup>th</sup> Dilwyn Otis; 29<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Brice; 31<sup>st</sup> Charles Weld

**Anniversaries:** 8th Dillwyn & Sally Otis

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com)

**We are pleased that our pastor Ruth Bradley will be enjoying a sabbatical during the months of June, July, and August. If you have need of pastoral care during this time, please contact Anne Dalton (315-364-8676).**

**POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES JUNE 15, 2014**

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:45a.m. and approved of the minutes from the February meeting.

Attending: Ann Birch, Larry Buffam, David Connelly, Anne Dalton, Jim Frisch, Craig Kukuk, Jeff Layton, Julie Lockhart, Scott Lockhart, A.T. Miller, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Rebecca Schillenback, Jane Simkin, Linda Simkin, Paul Simkin.

We discussed when, where and schematically how to consider at a meeting for discernment on the direction of our Meeting, deciding we will do it Sunday July 27 at the rise of Meeting for Worship. Ruth's retirement at the first of next year is prompting this. Childcare will be provided. Anne will assemble queries and invites query suggestions.

To be considered for discussion:

- What the discernment process is: a meeting for worship with idea where do we want our meeting to grow.
- A worship sharing format.
- "Invisioning" what our meeting might be like, with or without
- The history of the Meeting's path to date; how the process of selecting a pastor worked for instance 15 years ago.
- Job description: the skills, interests and talents needed for

Sally reported for Ministry and Council that the revised Meeting Directory is almost finished and ready for previewing. Monthly Meeting agreed that asterisks will designate members or associate members. We ask everyone to review

the Directory to be sure the information is correct.

Also, "We are holding Ruth's retirement in the Light and awaiting Monthly Meeting's direction how to proceed."

Dill reported for the Building Committee on the re-roofing project. The two contractors reviewed their bids, \$26,318 and \$31,500. The committee will meet next week to evaluate the considerable difference in the amounts. The difference may be the one group is self-insured for Workers Comp. The larger bidder is willing to take half paying the first year and half the next. There is \$20,150 in the roof fund to date. Monthly Meeting has already approved for the Building Committee to make a decision which contractor to use, but Dill express discomfort with his committee making that decision because of the price difference, but Monthly Meeting asked the committee to proceed.

Jeff raised the question about our building's insurance for its replacement in case of fire. It seems low to him. He will begin a conversation with our agent.

Scott reporting for the Youth Committee that the committee feels the Meetinghouse should have an infant changing table. He presented literature for a \$170 folding changing table. The Monthly Meeting approved the money from the General Fund.

Dill reports that the Cayuga Correctional Facility worship has not been suspended, as reported it would be last month. A Quaker prisoner leader has been transferred back, strengthening the meeting there.

Hannah raised a question about the Monthly Meeting paying for members leading worship during Ruth's sabbatical this summer. The Monthly Meeting referred the concern for clearness to Ministry and Council and the Finance Committee and to be reconsidered at next Monthly Meeting.

We approved of the Hazard Library using the Meetinghouse for its Summer Reading Program for the community June 26, July 10, 17,

The meeting closed about 1:20 p.m.  
— Submitted by David Connelly

**MEETING FOR  
DISCERNMENT CONCERNING  
THE FUTURE OF OUR  
MEETING ON JULY 27, 2014**

This is an important moment and we cherish your presence. All attenders and members are invited.

Lunch will be provided directly after worship. After lunch we will reconvene in the sanctuary at 12 noon with an extended Centering silence. Please feel free to join us as you are able.

We hope that you will make time for this Meeting.



**BOOK RECOMMENDATION**

Jim Kerrigan, an attender of our Meeting, recommends [The Invention of Wings](#), by Sue Monk Kidd, published in January 2014.

Jim says *“I just put down the Invention of Wings, Kidd, 2014, which is an historical novel treatment of the Grimke sisters, born in Charleston NC to a slave holding family and is the story of their growth, becoming Quakers, being distained for their joining the friends, and becoming suffagerists. A good read, which may be of interest to others in the community. Very well written and provides some historical context at least for a new comer.”*

This book was also reviewed on [NPR](#) and is a [Oprah book club selection](#). [The book is available through the Finger Lakes Library System in many formats.](#)

**DID YOU EVER WONDER?**

*What is a Meeting for Discernment?*

Meetings for Discernment are a time when members and attenders gather for extended worship without the weight of an agenda for business. Because Meetings for Discernment offer an occasion for the community to hear what is rising up among us, we are not asked to bring prepared messages, but rather to speak to the queries (or questions) as moved in the moment by Spirit, by God, by the Inner Christ. By meeting this way in the fullness of our community, we hear that which might not be heard in the midst of committees and attending to business. We strive for deep worship and grounded messages. (information from Patricia Loring, Spiritual Discernment, Pendle Hill Pamphlet 305 and NYYM website <http://www.nyyym.org>)

“We have learned that God may speak through any of God’s people; but also that only in gathered worship are we able to discern what the Spirit is saying to our community and how to act on this voice.” (Spiritual Discernment, Quakers in Britain, <http://www.quaker.org.uk/>)

A Meeting for Discernment could focus on a particular query (question) or queries. As preparation, we invite Friends to consider the queries in light of the life of our Monthly Meeting. Quaker discernment is experiential and mystical and at its core is our commitment to follow the leadings of the Spirit in practice as well as in theory. We have learned that God may speak through any of God’s people; but also that only in gathered worship are we able to discern what the Spirit is saying to our community and how to act on this voice. (Information from NYYM, <http://www.nyyym.org>)

There are no handy lists of tests of discernment. However, the presence or absence of the fruits of the spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control may indicate alignment with the Spirit. (Ideas from Patricia Loring, *ibid.* and Arthur Larabee, Workshop on Clerking)

## **PASTORS IN POPLAR RIDGE**

Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting has had pastors since before the meetinghouse was moved to its present location in 1897. The minutes recorded at that time give more attention to plans for construction of the parsonage next door than to the actual moving of the meetinghouse across the fields from its original location where Ridgeway Cemetery is now located.

Wilbur Camp was the last full time pastor *In 1959 or 1960* when Orlo Stewart was asked to move to Poplar Ridge to become the pastor he agreed to do so on the condition that it be a part time position. Orlo and Ruth Stewart moved from the parsonage to their own home in the Octagon house North of the four corners. The parsonage was at first rented, then in 1978 it was sold. During the time that Orlo was pastor the meeting began having unprogramed worship on the last Sunday of the month and the period of silence was increased.

When Orlo retired in about 1978, there was very little delay in asking George Clarkson to regularly bring the messages. George had substituted for Orlo in the pulpit during a period of time when Orlo had asked to be released to work full time on remodeling the Octagon house. George advised the meeting to sell the parsonage, explaining that he would continue to live in his home in Danby and that it was unlikely that we would again have a pastor who would choose to live in a parsonage. At the time that George began to bring the messages on a regular bases he was paid for each time that he preached. He had a full time job in the religion department at Ithaca College and was not expected to perform other pastoral services.

Over the time that George Clarkson served the Poplar Ridge Meeting his circumstances changed and his role with the meeting gradually changed. He was eventually designated as pastor, received a regular salary and reimbursement for some of his travel. He did some home visiting and some pastoral counseling with people who requested it. Other services he performed for the meeting were not catalogued. He also did some carpentry work at the meetinghouse.

When George retired, a search committee was named and some advertising was done among Friends. Bill Fairhurst, had joined the meeting after he retired from a position as pastor in Weedsport. Since recruitment efforts from outside the meeting were unsuccessful, Bill was asked to become our pastor, which he did for about one year. When Bill left for health reasons there was another search process. Of the people with whom the possibility of coming to Poplar Ridge was discussed, it seemed that one factor was that no one was willing to relocate to our area for a part time job.

It was at this point in a where do we go from here session at our monthly meeting for business that things began to fall in place for Ruth Bradley to become our pastor.

In a few cases it has been easy to check dates and verify details. In other instances this relies on the memory of Paul and Jane Simkin



## **HELP WANTED**

After “the tumult and the shouting dies” (died) I was left with a package and no card to match it. It is a lovely square of knit cotton and could be used as a dishcloth, a wash cloth or a mat for my plate (which I favor). Please let me know who you are so I can properly thank you.

-- Ann Burch

## **YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS GATHERINGS IN NYYM**

Hello Friends!

I am Gabi, the Young Adult Field Secretary for NYYM. We have some exciting opportunities coming up for Young Adults in the next few months. I am eager to spread the word. I can only do so much, however, so I am looking for help. Please send this email to as many Young Adults as you can think of. Please read at your Meetings Announcements, include in your newsletters, make phone calls to those who might be interested. I really appreciate all the support you give this work.

There are 3 planned Young Adult Mini Retreats coming up this summer. These are designed to be a short time commitment, one day, low cost, \$15-20 suggested donation, and provide childcare if requested. I am intending to hold mini retreats in each area of NYYM so that no one has to travel too far. The mini retreats will focus on a topic, and will provide opportunities for fellowship, food, worship, discernment, worship sharing and getting to know other YAF. We have held one so far, and it was wonderful.

Here is a link to the flyer which can be printed out and handed out, or emailed.  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1WWEAwpzVQr-5t2SDPSVth8orrjc3y3xvD4gUPk-4ok/edit#slide=id.p>

The 2 summer dates are:  
June 28- Poughkeepsie MM  
July 19 Old Chatham MM  
August 30 Saratoga MM

June 28- Poughkeepsie is easy to get to by train from NYC. Here is the registration link for the Poughkeepsie mini retreat.  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1\\_OJCYgTRgrALhwaffi3GB6kWL8XgiYFbUZD\\_c1yAo0Y/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_OJCYgTRgrALhwaffi3GB6kWL8XgiYFbUZD_c1yAo0Y/viewform)

July 19- Old Chatham MM. This is being held the day before Summer Sessions. It is a good stopping point for those traveling to Sessions from places farther away. Camping and sojourning will be available at nearby Powell House if people want a place to stay. This is not only for those attending Sessions, but also for

those who can't make the whole week, but want a retreat for renewal and connection. Please spread the word!!

Here is the link for the Old Chatham mini retreat:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XwaICNxctK2L0MQikVzkOIP6\\_RA2J6NiBUEgVqipYgU/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XwaICNxctK2L0MQikVzkOIP6_RA2J6NiBUEgVqipYgU/viewform?usp=send_form)

August 30 Saratoga MM- This is a great way to end the summer, catch up with old friends, get some spiritual renewal heading into fall. There will be camping available the night before and after, for those who are interested. Please join us! Spread the word!!

This is the link for registration for Saratoga MM mini retreat:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vINQKFW-QZt6UJOsXJ6R4CWMzGtrwsJhEILRQ9mmN-Q/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vINQKFW-QZt6UJOsXJ6R4CWMzGtrwsJhEILRQ9mmN-Q/viewform?usp=send_form)

### **LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE...**

We are settling on a date for a mini retreat at Brooklyn in the fall as well.

Are you interested in having your Meeting host a mini retreat? Let me know!  
[nyym.yafs@gmail.com](mailto:nyym.yafs@gmail.com)

ALSO, please let Friends know that registration is open for Summer Sessions at Silver Bay. go to [www.nyym.org](http://www.nyym.org) for more information. We are currently looking for people to help plan and suggest Young Adult Activities. Young Adult Concerns Committee would love to hear from you if you have ideas, or want to help, contact co-clerks Audrey Jaynes [aajaynes@gmail.com](mailto:aajaynes@gmail.com) and Alanna Badgely [alanna.badgely@gmail.com](mailto:alanna.badgely@gmail.com) if you want to be involved. It is a great way to meet other Young Adults and Families from around the Yearly Meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, joys, concerns or suggestions! [nyym.yafs@gmail.com](mailto:nyym.yafs@gmail.com)

THANK YOU for your help in spreading the word!

Peace,  
Gabi

## SUMMER EVENTS AT HAZARD LIBRARY

Family Summer Programs are Thursday mornings at 10:30 am in our Meetinghouse. These programs are made possible, in part, with public funds from NYSCA's Decentralization Program, administered locally by Finger Lakes Community Arts Grants (FLCAG).

Sign up for FIZZ BOOM READ, the Summer Reading Program.

- June 26th Summer Kick Off! Bubblemania Pop Art with Doug Rougeux Science in the Air!
- July 10 Giraffes Can Not Dance with Topher Holt Storytelling, dancing and drumming!
- July 17 Nate and Kate Kids Show Children's songs and juggling routines to cello music!
- July 24 Music with Mark Rust A favorite musician returns to Poplar Ridge!!

Special Tuesday morning programs, Summer on the Porch, during July and August at 10 am on the Library Porch. Activities include science experiments as well as reading to service dog Daisy! Watch for the complete list of activities.

Annual Hazard Library Book Sale is August 2<sup>nd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> at the Poplar Ridge Fire House on Rte. 34B.

Meet & Greet Carolyn Mackler, a popular teen author, on Thursday, August 14 from 3-4pm at the Library. We will be giving away a signed copy of her latest book Tangled.

All the activities are FREE to attend. All are invited to join the summer fun!!!

Of course, the Library will be open regular hours for patrons to borrow books and DVDs as well as use the high speed internet and WiFi.

Questions? Call Hazard Library at 315-364-7975



## EVENTS AT MERRIFIELD

On Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> Shari Kane and David Steele will be performing at Merrifield. The concert will begin at 7pm. Admission collected at the door.

*“As an acoustic blues duo, Shari and Dave throw a four handed guitar party of original and time-honored blues, gospel, swing and ragtime. Steeped in Dave’s smoky vocals, percussive rhythm and innovative lead lines, Shari’s crisp picking style, rootsy leads, and stinging slidework, their music has been described as “street swing and stomp blues,” - like a testament to sounds once heard on the streets of Harlem, the juke joints of Mississippi, or from the jug bands of Memphis. They have been characterized as an authentic visit to the 1920s and 30s.”*

-- [sharianddaveblues.com](http://sharianddaveblues.com)

Contact Craig ([craigkukuk@gmail.com](mailto:craigkukuk@gmail.com)) in order to participate in a guitar workshop with Shari for a small fee on Sunday afternoon.

July’s drum circle will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. All are welcome.

Merrifield is located at 2345 Center Rd, Scipio, NY, 13147. For more information or directions, contact Craig Kukuk ([craigkukuk@gmail.com](mailto:craigkukuk@gmail.com)).

## HOWLAND STONE STORE MUSEUM SUNDAY SOCIALS

All programs and socials will take place at the museum *except* the September 21 Fund-raiser Workshop. Admission to the Howland Stone Store Museum and its programs is free, although donations are gratefully accepted.

### May 18, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "Harriet Tubman and Emily Howland's Hope"

Hear how these two women desired to start a School for Girls at the Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn. Presenter **Dr. Douglas Armstrong**, Professor of Anthropology at the Maxwell School, Syracuse University, has done extensive archeological research at the Tubman House, combining that exploration with his interest in social reform in our region. *A brief annual meeting of HSSM will be conducted prior to the program.*

### June 22, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "Big Dreams and Little Business"

Hear the story of Merrifield: the end of the line for the New York and Oswego Midland RR. What did it take to extend the tracks past Merrifield and where did they go? How did the "shortline" fit into the picture? Presenter **Bruce Tracy** is a local railroad historian.

### July 13, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "The Antislavery Movement and the Tactics of Gerrit Smith"

Smith was criticized for the tactics he used in that fight, but in the long run, they were successful. Smith operated a very active underground railroad (UGRR) station in Peterboro and managed a land sales business that allowed him to be philanthropic, so he became the most powerful abolitionist in the country. Presenter **Dr. Norman Dann** is a retired professor from Morrisville State College, active member of historic organizations in Peterboro, and published author on topics including slavery, Gerrit Smith, and the UGRR.

### August 17, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "Abraham Lincoln and his connection to Old Homer Village, New York"

This talk will highlight three early Homer residents whose professional lives were intertwined with President Lincoln and his administration. Presenter **Len Cohen**, Homer resident, is a retired History Bibliographer at the State University at Cortland's Memorial Library. Of late, his interest has been piqued by the work of Homer's town historian Martin Sweeney. Sweeney's book, *Lincoln's Gift From Homer, New York* was recognized by the Lincoln Forum as part of the celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

### September 7, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "Eagles of Cayuga Lake"

An informative photo program about the comeback of the American Bald Eagle along Cayuga Lake. Presenter **Glenn Gaston** is a local photographer; he will also be presenting the photo workshop on Sept. 21.

### October 19, 2014 7:00 p.m.

#### "How to Search Your Family Tree"

An introduction to genealogical research highlighting how to weed out fact from family legend. Presenter **Dawn Roe** will share techniques and stories from her over 20 years of research. Dawn is the former Port Byron Historian and an associate member of the Association of Public Historians of NYS.

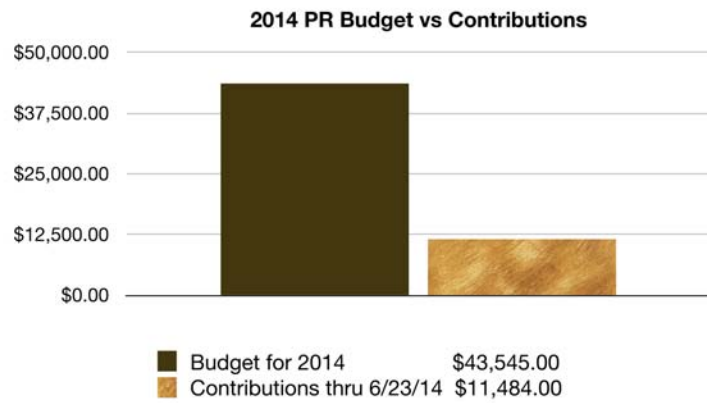
### November 16, 2014 4:00 pm

#### Why Sherwood?

Why/when/how did the Howlands and so many other Quaker families migrate to Southern Cayuga County . . . and how involved was Miss Emily in the Underground Railroad right here in Sherwood? Presenter **Judy Furness** is Town of Ledyard NY historian.

*Though donations are always gratefully accepted, entrance to the Stone Store Museum and its programs are free unless otherwise indicated. See <http://www.howlandstonestore.org/> for more information.*

Budget for 2014	\$43,545.00	
Contributions YTD	\$11,484.00	26.37%



### **POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING**

Clerk – Anne Dalton	Pastor - Ruth Bradley
Assistant Clerk – Larry Buffam	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Jeff Layton	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Sally Otis
Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney	

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](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com).

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto: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