



PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

APRIL 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 April Fool's Day	2	3 Good Friday	4 9am King Ferry Food Pantry
5 Easter 10am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller	6 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	7 7:30pm Peace & Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	8 10am Spring Fling @ Southern Cayuga Ambulance	9 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	10 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	11
12 10am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback 11am Coffee Hour	13	14 7pm Sandra Steingraber Talk @ Wells College 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	15	16	17	18 9am Genoa Food Pantry 7pm Merrifield Concert - Danielle Miraglia
19 10am Meeting for Worship - Melinda Grube 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	20	21 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	22 Earth Day Deadline for PRISM submissions	23 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	24 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	25 6pm Family Night - Nightingales @ Merrifield
26 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)	27	28 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	29	30		

Birthdays: 2nd Elizabeth (Leigh) McGonagle, Eleanor Joy Simkin Mumma; 6th Jill Charles Gomez, Trey Anthony Otis, Luther Hallett; 9th Maryl Mendillo; 10th Emily Parker; 12th Ed Maassen, Mia Boynton, Carter Robert Otis; 16th Linda Simkin; 18th Henry Brice; 19th Bill Tyler, Richard Loosemore; 21st Susan Weisend; 23rd Phyllis Bunker, Linda McGonagle; 26th Meghan Charles; 28th Heidi Richter; 29th Mary Fairhurst; 30th Kylee McCleary

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

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR MARCH 15TH, 2015

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:55 a.m. and approved of the minutes from the January meeting. (Rare inclement weather prohibited us from worship in February).

Attending: Larry Buffam, David Connelly, Anne Dalton, Jim Frisch, Melinda Grube, Howard Nelson, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Andrew Simkin, Bess Simkin, Jane Simkin, and Paul Simkin.

Sally reported for Ministry and Counsel Committee:

- Craig Kukuk asks to be a member of the meeting and ministry and Counsel has appointed Bess Simkin, Jim Frisch and Jane Simkin to meet with him as a Clearness Committee.
- The next Soup and Sharing is May 3. The subject is Quaker worship.
- Yearly Meeting is encouraging Friends to visit other meetings and want to know when another meeting is visited. There are several Monthly Meetings within easy driving distance from our meeting.
- A clearness committee for Kevin Johnson meets this coming Friday. He is an attender in the Cayuga Correctional Facility Worship Group and has applied for membership. Dill, Bill Tyler, Anne Dalton and Jeff Layton will meet with him. Christopher and Ruth are applying to meet with him as visitors to the prison.

We discussed whether to extend our six-month trial of ministry and pastoral care after June. Our speakers have been AT and Rebecca, and Craig is doing pastoral care. We approved the extension for six more months, pending a conversations with them. Anne Dalton will contact them.

Larry Buffam reported that two high school students want to visit our sister community San Pedro, El Salvador, during our annual eight-day visit, which is July 7 through 14 this year. Monthly Meeting approved funding plane fare for the two youths. It is estimated to be about \$650 each.

Reporting for Outreach Committee, Anne Dalton passed out drafts of a Meeting welcome brochure and information cards for newcomers to be printed and placed in the pew racks. We will make a final decision about it after Monthly Meeting members

have had time to review them. The welcome brochure will also be on the website for review.

Anne passed out copies of our final State of the Meeting report, which was discussed at the January meeting and suggested changes incorporated. It was due March 1 and has been sent to Yearly Meeting.

Farmington Friends Meeting hosts a one-day workshop on clerking on April 18. Arthur Larrabee will lead it. It is free to participants and includes breakfast and lunch. The Farmington requests a donation to defray the \$1,800 costs of the worship. We agreed to send \$150.

Next month will be the annual Monthly Meeting. Annual reports will be presented, and nominations for various positions will be presented and appointments made. Conveners are requested to bring their annual reports and email copies to the Recording Clerk (davidwconnelly@gmail.com).

We discussed whether there should be limitations of members of a household holding Monthly Meeting positions. We were clear that the Nomination Committee need not be concerned unless a clear conflict of interest arises.

We ended with a period of silence about 1:20 p.m.

David Connelly
Recording Clerk



RETURN FROM SAN SALVADOR

Cathy and I just returned to San Salvador, Wednesday March 25, from our conference with 32 participants: 24 Salvadorans and 8 internationals. We had a great experience. The conference was very well organized and facilitated by the Fundahmer staff. We experienced lots of communications from the Salvadoran community members, particularly, and come back full of many ideas and much energy. One very exciting aspect was that there were several youth involved and they added a lot. We hope and intend to share details when we are back home again.

-- Larry Buffam



SPRING FLING

The Hazard Library & Southern Cayuga Instant Aid invite you to the SPRING FLING on Wednesday, April 8th, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Southern Cayuga Ambulance Building, 2530 Route 34B, Poplar Ridge, NY.

Celebrate Spring with play, music, crafts & snacks. Meet members of the Ambulance crew and get a tour of the building! Dance an Irish Jig with Jesse Haselton (Crane School of Dance) at 11am.

All activities are free. Bring the whole family. Questions? Call 364-7975

FAMILY NIGHT

Join the Nightingales for Family Night Supper on April 25th. The evening will start with a potluck supper at 6:00 at the home of Craig and A.T. followed by an evening of singing together. The dream of singing around a campfire is hoped for, although it is obviously weather dependent especially considering our lingering winter weather!

Please feel free to join the Nightingale singing group at other times during the weekend or for the entire weekend. You don't have to come for the whole weekend to participate. There will be opportunities to sing Friday evening, Saturday morning, Saturday late afternoon, and Saturday after dinner. Those that stay overnight Saturday will warm up the Poplar Ridge meetinghouse with song before worship on Sunday.

Contact Craig (craigkukuk@gmail.com), A.T. (atmiller@cornell.edu) or call 734-717-7719 for more information.

MAY SOUP AND SHARING

Ministry and Counsel will host a Soup and Sharing after the rise of meeting on May 3rd. They are working out the details but the subject will be on Quaker Worship. Plan to join attend.

A PRAYER IN SPRING

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

-- Robert Frost 1915

SPRING GATHERING

"Only a Verb Will DO: Peace, Love, and Justice as Action"

Featured Speaker: Nick Rozard, Alfred MM

Save the date for FSRM Spring Gathering 2015
May 15th – 17th at Watson Homestead, Painted Post, NY.

F-SRM is committed to welcoming all Friends to Spring Gathering 2015. This year we are experimenting by doing away with a set-fee manner of meeting our expenses, and toward a model of making it possible for all to attend no matter what their financial circumstances. To that end, in place of charging a set-fee based on room selection and number of meals, we are asking people to donate what they are able to support our regional community in meeting the expenses of the weekend.

The Registration Form for Farmington Scipio Spring Gathering 2015 is attached. All registration forms must be received by April 13. Any registration forms received after this date may not be accommodated. Please register online at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1C-Rh15IRNfCfyb47cqbggUH72onsMcdumWGjAnuW478/viewform?usp=send_form or contact Kathy Slattery (716-397-1016) to request a printed copy. Make checks payable to Farmington Scipio Regional Meeting

APPROACHES TO GOD

"Prayer is not just a matter of the feelings, but of the will. When we least feel like praying and when prayer seems pointless because there appears to be no-one to accept it – when God indeed seems absent, then is the time to call our will into action and refuse to give up. There will be occasions when our desert will seem only dry and barren. But refreshment is not far away, and we must persevere, holding on to the promise that the parched ground shall become a pool and the thirsty land springs of water."

--Jack Dobbs, 1984

Quote from [Quaker faith & practice](#) Fifth edition
The book of Christian discipline of the Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain, quaker.org.uk

SANDRA STEINGRABER TALK

On Tuesday, April 14, 2015, Wells College will host Sandra Steingraber for a talk titled "The Whole Fracking Enchilada." This special event will take place at 7:00PM in the Phipps Auditorium in Macmillan Hall on the Wells College campus in Aurora NY.

Ecologist, activist, and acclaimed author of "Living Downstream", Dr. Sandra Steingraber explores the links between human rights and the environment, with a focus on chemical contamination, climate change, and shale gas extraction via fracking. Hailed as "the new Rachel Carson," she takes a personal and scientific look at these issues, offering insights into how we can protect our environment and our communities.

This event is free and open to the public, but due to limited seating, this is an advance ticketed event. Please request tickets in advance by contacting the Center for Sustainability and the Environment at [315-364-3304](tel:315-364-3304) or by emailing mbrown@wells.edu.



EVENTS AT MERRIFIELD

The Merrifield concert for April 18th is Danielle Miraglia (www.daniellem.com) A strong steady thumb on an old Gibson guitar is the driving force behind Danielle Miraglia's delta blues influenced guitar style. Add a raw, powerful, whiskey tinged voice and one might be tempted to label her a blues artist. But while Miraglia's style pays homage to these blues traditions, her classic rock verve, catchy melodies and eclectic array of song subjects that range from deeply personal to socially relevant give it an original twist that is all her own. A fresh sound along with a sharp wit and a captivating stage presence is something we think all will enjoy. Think Janis Joplin, Bonnie Raitt,

harmonica, heart-felt, inspiring! 7pm at 2345 Center Road, Scipio Center, NY. \$15 at the door.

Contact Craig (craigkukuk@gmail.com), A.T. (atmiller@cornell.edu) or call 734-717-7719 for information or directions.



MULTIGENERATIONAL THOUGHTS FROM JANE

Two back-to-back events on our meeting calendar started me trying to formulate my perspective on multigenerational experiences.

My multigenerational experience began when I was born and my grandmother came to help my mother. When my father died suddenly she never left. When I was 4 my great grandmother joined our household for the last two years of her life--four generations of females in a basically 2 bedroom house. In those days children were supposed to respect their elders, although I also have some lovely memories of my great grandmother as a playmate.

More recently and more relevant, when we brought our infant daughter to the Poplar Ridge Meeting it had been a very long time since a baby had been in meeting even though there was an active Sunday School for older children whose parents did not attend. Fortunately it was not long before a few other families with young children joined us in getting older members used to young children. In those days there was no nursery and Sunday School was not during Meeting for Worship so we parents either kept the children quiet enough to stay in Meeting or left with them. It didn't take long for the children to learn to be quiet if not worshipful.

Family Night at the meetinghouse was a significant community event. Perhaps the bar for programs to which children could be expected to pay attention was not quite so high then, since there was only TV and not all the screen time with computers and other devices to which children are now accustomed. Our children attended sitting on laps if necessary. There was a time when a regular feature between the meal and the program was some kind of ball game outside, even in snow, usually organized by one of the kids--Greg Otis.

Some of us who have grown older in the meeting were once young adults in this meeting with young children and taking responsibility for some of the meeting activities. My children have gone on to feel comfortable about participating as parents of young children in the meetings where they live.

This is a part of the background for the discomfort I felt on this month's meeting calendar. On Saturday we have a family night scheduled, but these days families rarely come to Family Night even when the social committee has planned something that should be especially child friendly. We old folks will prepare a dish to pass and go to family night. Should it now be called old folks night? The program is being brought by Friends who do not qualify as either old folks or young adults. Then the next morning we have a Multigenerational Service and then a "Multigenerational Brunch" for which we are again supposed to prepare food to share.

Perhaps our meeting as a whole, or the participating committees, or representatives of the different generations may need to take another look at what we mean by multigenerational and how we get there.

--Jane Simkin



Happy Easter

POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Anne Dalton

Assistant Clerk – Larry Buffam

Treasurer – Jeff Layton

Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney

Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk

Recording Clerk – David Connelly

Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Sally Otis

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 246-7151. 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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of the Religious Society of Friends
Poplar Ridge, NY 13139