



PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day	2 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
3 9:30am Round Singing 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback 11:30am Soup and Sharing - Christopher Sammond	4 7:00pm San Pedro Sister Community @ Buxenbaum's 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	5 7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting @ Lockhart's	6	7	8 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	9
10 9:30am Round Singing 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller 11:00am Coffee Hour	11	12 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	13	14 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	15 7:30am Movie Night - Rising from the Ashes @ Meetinghouse	16 9:00am Genoa Food Pantry 6:00pm Family Night - Erica Richter - The Camino de Santiago
17 9:30am Round Singing 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Melinda Grube 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	18 Martin Luther King Day 7:30pm Peace & Social Action @ Buxenbaum's	19 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	20 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	21	22 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	23
24 9:30am Round Singing 10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)	25	26 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture	27 Deadline for PRISM submission	28 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	29	30
31 9:30am Round Singing 10:00am Meeting for Worship – multigenerational 11:30am luncheon						

Birthdays: 4th Jackie Dickinson; 7th David Connelly; 8th Mark Temelko; 9th Evan McGonagle; 10th Sarah Nelson Weiss; 12th Suzanne O'Hara; 13th Trudy Buxenbaum; 14th Kate Parker; 16th Garrett Hanson; 25th Kristin Trapane Otis; 28th Gregory Otis

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

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 13, 2015

The Meeting for Worship with a concern for business started with a moment of silence about 11:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015. Present were Anne Dalton, Clerk, and Charlie Weld, Ruth Ann Bradley, Paul Simkin, Jane Simkin, Andy Simkin, Hannah Richter, Barry Kahn and Kathleen Connelly.

The agenda was distributed. Reading of minutes was postponed until after the consideration of a concern by Barry Kahn. He brought a concern to have the PRMM supportive of the concept of the Harriet Tubman National Park. He would like to form a subcommittee of the Peace and Social Action Committee and will contact Eric Devin to start the process. He encouraged Friends to read recent accounts in local newspapers about the project.

The Clerk read the November 15, 2015 minutes. Ministry and Council: Charlie read aloud the lovingly crafted Memorial Minute for Andreas Richter. It was accepted with one minor amendment. *(The minute is included independently in this PRISM. - editor)*

Finance Committee Report: Andy Simkin presented the 2016 proposed Operating Budget, which was prepared by Jeff Layton, Treasurer, and approved by the Finance Committee. The proposed budget will be published in PRISM for review and input. The budget will be up for approval at the January 2016 Monthly Meeting. Points that were highlighted included cost of furnace repairs, amount of honorariums, the possible breakout of some line items for better understanding of monetary commitments, Pendle Hill pamphlets, and Yearly Meeting contributions. It was agreed that the Treasurer could proceed with disbursements based on this budget, pending final approval.

Pendle Hill Pamphlets: It was noted that we have not renewed our subscription with Pendle Hill pamphlets. It was suggested that we get a three-year subscription for best pricing and have the pamphlets sent to Andy. Andy stated that when new pamphlets arrive he will announce it to the Meeting.

Housekeeping: Prompted by a letter from Larry Buffam, there was discussion of how to keep the Meeting House tidied up on a regular basis. Using paid cleaners would be complex and require complicated bookkeeping. The consensus was that volunteer help is more in line with the spirit of the Meeting. It was suggested that we create and maintain a calendar of tasks and volunteers. Jane Simkin agreed to oversee the calendar and is looking for input on what tasks people believe are important. Larry Buffam has volunteered for January 2016. Anne will write a note for PRISM explaining our new approach to housekeeping. The story will include a request for volunteers.

Furnace Inspection: After a recent visit from E&V Energy we were advised to install a carbon monoxide detector in the Meeting Room. Paul Simkin will purchase and install the CO detector. Because of the age of the furnace (60+ years) Monthly Meeting requests from the Building Committee an evaluation of the furnace and a proposal should replacement be recommended.

The meeting closed with silence at 1:05 p.m.

--Submitted by Kathleen Connelly, stand-in Recording Clerk



NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS

We need help to keep our Meetinghouse tidy. We could use one person or family each month to help with housekeeping. Sign up with Jane Simkin 315-364-8422



FAMILY NIGHT

January Family Night on the 16th at 6:00

Erika Richter will be sharing about her experience walking the 500+ mile pilgrimage across Spain; The Camino de Santiago. She is eager to share her adventures with everyone! Feel free to come for the program only, starting around 7:00, if you can't make the potluck.

Bring a dish to pass and your own place setting. Enjoy an evening of fun and good food.

Please note that the date for family night is in the middle of the month so mark your calendars now!

HOSTS NEEDED FOR FRIENDLY SUPPERS

The social committee is looking for Host families for the February Friendly Suppers. The committee will provide hosts with a list of names to be invited for potluck supper at their home on the night of their choosing. Please contact Hannah Richter if you would like to be a host family this year. (315-364-3531, hannahrichter79@gmail.com)



SOUP AND SHARING

Ministry and Counsel is sponsoring a Soup and Sharing on January 3, 2016 after the rise of meeting. Christopher Sammond will be the presenting "Why is a Yearly Meeting, and Christopher's work with ours?" Please come join us, enjoy the soup and fellowship as we get to know Christopher better.

NEW FAITH AND PRACTICE

New York Yearly Meeting has adopted a new Faith and Practice. The meeting has some copies for sale at \$7.00 per book. See Sally Otis to purchase this new edition. Faith and Practice is the Book of Discipline of the New York Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. As the title states it explains our faith and the practices of membership, marriage, etc. It is a good reference for all Friends to own.

MULTIGENERATIONAL MEETING FOR WORSHIP AND LUNCHEON

January 31st Meeting for Worship will have a multigenerational focus. Children of all ages are encouraged to stay in the meeting during worship. Worship related activities will encourage children to be involved with the message.

A child friendly food luncheon will be served after the rise of meeting. All are welcome. The Outreach and Youth committees will provide the meal.

LOCAL RETREATS AND WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE

Friends are invited to learn more about NYYM's *Tending the Garden*--a series of retreats and workshops that travel to you and your meeting. Workshops can be intergenerational or adult-only and are adaptable for any length of time from two hours to a full weekend.

Available titles include:

- Sacred Journeys
- Opening to Deeper Worship
- Vocal Ministry
- Experiential Quakerism
- Discernment
- Pastoral Care
- Spiritual Support and Accountability
- Quaker Toolbox
- Forgiveness
- A Deliberate Faith (Quaker Verbs)
- Sense of the Meeting

For details: contact Anne Pomeroy (apomeroy10@gmail.com) or Lu Harper (luharper@gmail.com), or find full descriptions on the website at <http://www.nyym.org/?q=SpiritualNurturePrograms>

MOVIE NIGHT

The Peace and Social Action Committee is presenting [Rising From the Ashes](#) on January 15th, 7:30pm in the Meetinghouse. All are welcome to participate in the viewing and discussing this movie.

Synopsis

“Rising from Ashes” is a feature length documentary about two worlds colliding when cycling legend Jock Boyer moves to Rwanda, Africa to help a group of struggling genocide survivors pursue their dream of a national team. As they set out against impossible odds both Jock and the team find new purpose as they rise from the ashes of their past.”

- <http://risingfromashesthemovie.com/about-film>



BOOK DISCUSSION FOR MARCH SOUP AND SHARING

The soup and sharing for March 6th will be a book club style discussion of [The 6th Extinction](#) written by Pulitzer Prize author Elizabeth Kolbert.

“Over the last half a billion years, there have been five mass extinctions, when the diversity of life on earth suddenly and dramatically contracted. Scientists around the world are currently monitoring the sixth extinction, predicted to be the most devastating extinction event since the asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs. This time around, the cataclysm is us.”

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17910054-the-sixth-extinction>

We encourage you to read this book before the event. It is available through the public library system.

Pastoral needs or questions:
Call Craig Kukuk at 734-717-7719.

NYYM SEEKS YOUTH FIELD SECRETARY

Dear Friends

New York Yearly Meeting seeks a gifted and energetic Friend to serve in our new Children and Youth Field Secretary position.

The Children and Youth Field Secretary's major responsibilities are to work with families with children (ages 0-18), their meetings and Religious Education Committees, serving as a locus and a catalyst for networking and community building; doing mentoring, coordinating, outreach, and helping meetings to develop and sustain First Day School programs or other programs that nurture the spiritual life of children. This work will necessitate considerable travel, meeting face to face with young families where they live and worship. This is a .7 FTE position including many weekend commitments.

The Children and Youth Field Secretary shall be a member of the Religions Society of Friends (or a committed and active participant in a Friends Meeting) with a strong understanding of Quaker testimonies and practice. This Friend must have strong verbal and written communication skills, including public speaking. He/she should also be skilled at supporting and investing the gifts and energies of others, be personable, and have a firm grasp of current electronic communication technologies and social media.

The full job description can be found [here](#). Application deadline is February 5th, 2016. Resumes, and cover letters can be sent to Menzelbarbara014@gmail.com. For more information, contact NYYM General Secretary Christopher Sammond at nnyym.gensec@gmail.com.



HOW TO HELP THE REFUGEES – ONE ANSWER!

In response to the Syrian refugee crisis, the Greater Canandaigua Midweek Meeting is making health kits for refugees through the International Orthodox Christian Charities. It is an easy but meaningful project. Friends have been assembling similar kits for years through AFSC. They would appreciate donations of any of the items below or money for postage. The assembled kits will be sent the Brethren Service Center to be shipped to refugees. Rebecca Shillenback's family has placed a box at the back of our meetinghouse and will be assembling kits. Contact her for more information (wildandpreciouslife@gmail.com).

Get Involved

Assemble a Health Kit to Help Victims of Disaster. Any of these items below and money to cover postage can be given to Greater Canandaigua Midweek Meeting c/o McLellan Tornows, 2025 County Rd. 4 Stanley NY For more information contact: mclellan@frontiernet.net, 585.526.5202

Please be sure to send your IOCC kits to the following address:

**IOCC/Church World Service
Brethren Service Center Annex
601 Main St., P.O. Box 188
New Windsor, MD 21776-0188**

Put together a small assistance package and make a big difference. Basic materials such as soap, band-aids, paper, pencils, and diapers seem small, but make a huge difference in an ongoing development program or when disaster strikes.

Please carefully follow the instructions below:

1. Buy a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure and fill it with the following items:
 - One hand towel
 - One washcloth
 - One comb
 - One metal nail file or nail clipper
 - One wrapped bar of soap (bath size)
 - One packaged toothbrush (NO TOOTHPASTE)
 - Six Band-Aids
2. Secure the bag and pack it in a box. Secure the box with packing tape.
3. Clearly mark the outside of the box with the **type of kit ("Health Kit-IOCC")** and **number of kits** that are enclosed. Apply the correct amount of postage and mail the box to the following address:



*IOCC / Church World Service
Brethren Service Center Annex
601 Main St.
P.O. Box 188
New Windsor, Md. 21776-0188*

Be sure to include the name of the parish, group or individual sending the kits on the box.

Integrating Children into the Spiritual Life of the Meeting: Creating One Spiritual Community



*A Retreat for All Ages**

Saturday, March 12, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brooklyn Monthly Meeting -- 110 Schermerhorn Street

How can our meetings better integrate our children into the spiritual life of our Meeting? How can we give them a voice in their experience of Quakerism and an awareness of Quaker process? Participants will leave with new energy, new ideas, and new tools to implement these ideas.

Sessions will explore both the worship and the community aspects of Quakerism, including:

- *Children in the circle of meeting life: joys and challenges*
- *Supporting children's spiritual development*
- *Hands-on approach to teaching children Quaker process*

*Some parts of the day will be multigenerational and childcare will also be provided.

Who should attend? Religious Education Committee members, Ministry & Counsel Committee members, Parents, Families, and anyone with a concern for the spiritual life of our children. ***It is recommended that Meetings send two, or more, participants to the session. There is no cost to attend.***

Facilitators:

Mary Harpster has served on Ministry & Counsel and Religious Education Committees; as a First Day School teacher she develops programming that gives the students input into Meeting life.

Melinda Wenner Bradley leads religious education workshops for yearly meetings, FGC, Pendle Hill and Friends schools. She serves on the NYYM Youth Committee, and is the former clerk of the Children's Spiritual Life Committee of Philadelphia YM.

MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR ANDREAS RAPHAEL RICHTER, JUNE 12, 1954 – JUNE 01, 2015

Andreas Richter, DVM, of Genoa, NY died peacefully at his home on June 01, 2015 with loved ones around him. Andreas faced eight years of cancer with his characteristic determination, courage, pragmatism and dignity. In his last weeks, family members and friends had the opportunity to share their love, respect, and gratitude for the person of gentle strength who had touched their lives.

Andreas was born in Nürnberg, Germany on June 12, 1954, the second of five children born to Max and Susanne Richter. His family also included two older half siblings whose father had been killed in WWII. At the age of five, Andreas' family moved to Englewood, NJ. During his childhood, Andreas immersed himself in the worlds of music, nature, Waldorf education, and working with his hands. As a teen, Andreas discovered contra-dancing, a joy that would continue throughout his life. Andreas' four years at Earlham College in Richmond, IN had a profound influence on the shaping of his life because there he met Hannah Cope who would become his wife. At Earlham, Andreas also pursued his love of the natural world, immersing himself in the dynamic community of the biology department. His work as part of a team conducting field research on the Indiana Bat eventually led to his career as a veterinarian. After Andreas and Hannah married in 1979, they moved to Gainesville, Florida where Andreas obtained a Master's degree in Wildlife Management, and a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Florida. It was there that Andreas and Hannah started their family. Large animal veterinary work took the Richters to Pennsylvania, and then to Canajoharie, New York before a final move with their three children to Genoa, New York in 1996. There the Richters set down roots in the Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting, a community that became central in their life.

At Poplar Ridge Friends, Andreas was a steady presence at Meeting for Worship. His strong and skillful bass voice added richness to the congregation's hymn-singing. He served for years on the Building Committee, setting up his extensive, commercial scaffolding to support the volunteer paint crew, acting as foreman during several paintings of the meetinghouse, and providing guidance during selection of roofing applications. In that work, as well as in the simpler tasks of arranging and clearing tables for Family Night Suppers, and helping with set-up and clean-up for monthly coffee hours, Andreas strove to do jobs well and completely. His contributions, including supporting youth in trips to the YSOP in Manhattan, were much appreciated by the Youth Committee. He and his truck helped move tables and chairs for the Children's Day picnic, and props for the annual Halloween UNICEF fundraiser. As mentioned often at his memorial service, he brought his native German respect for craftsmanship to the smallest and largest of tasks. As was also mentioned, he was a man of tremendous enthusiasm, boy-like humor, and a deep sense of fair play.

Andreas had a steadfast love for and devotion to his wife and family. Together they shared that abundant love with many in the Poplar Ridge community and beyond. Their autumn hosting of The Nightingales, a loosely-knit group of singers that gathers for weekends once or twice a year, was especially memorable for those who attended. On one moonlit night, Andreas kept the bon-fire burning while a large circle of Friends around the fire kept hearts warm with singing and coyotes accompanied from the surrounding fields and woods. Andreas' passion for life and doing things well were reflected in other parts of his life. Farmers respected his knowledge, integrity, and skilled care of their cows. He worked meticulously to restore aging parts of the family's large historic barn and farmhouse. His voice added strength and spirit to the Horizon Community chorus, and to his role as Joseph in the annual "Shepherds' Play" which he directed for many years. Andreas' lightness of foot and well-paced guidance as a caller brought many into the community of contra dancing. He shared his love of nature with his family on annual camping and hiking trips in the Adirondacks. He loved those mountains and as they drew him in, he set for himself the goal of climbing all 46 Adirondack peaks over 4,000 feet in height. He climbed many with family and friends; 23 of them he climbed solo. In September 2013, with strength diminished by cancer, he stood on his last peak, and became a proud member of the Adirondack 46er's club.

Andreas is survived by his wife Hannah, his daughters Erika and Heidi and son Eddie with his wife Carly; his siblings Martin, Christiane, Almut, Astrid, Johannes and Lucia, as well as many nieces and nephews. A memorial celebration of Andreas' life was held on June 20, 2015 at the Friends Meeting House, 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY.



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Anne Dalton

Assistant Clerk – Andy Simkin

Treasurer – Jeff Layton

Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney

Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk ([734-717-7719](tel:734-717-7719))

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 or 1st day messages. 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

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