

PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

OCTOBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
2 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller 11:30am Soup and Sharing - Democratic Presidential Convention	3 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	4 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ sammond's 7:00pm Youth Commitee Meeting @ Lockhart's	5	6	7	8
9 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback 11:00am Coffee Hour	10 Columbus Day	11 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	12	13	14 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	15 9:00am Genoa Food Pantry
16 10:00am Meeting for Worship – Unprogrammed 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	17	18 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	19 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	20	21	22
23 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback	24	25 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas's 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	26 Deadline for PRISM 7:00pm Outreach Meeting @ Dalton's	27	28 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	29 4:30pm Halloween Carnival 7:00pm Merrifield Concert - Frechette/Thomsen
30 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Songs and Silence	31 Halloween					

Birthdays: 3rd Jennifer Parker; 4th Kathy Tyler; 5th Lydia Benton Simkin; 9th Soren Mortensen; 10th Chris Babcock; 13th Riley Dickinson Maassen , Laura Bradley Sullivan and Perry Gorgen; 14th Claire Howard; 17th Karen Simkin; 18th Helen Hebben; 22nd Gabe Myers Hayes; 23rd Jane Simkin; 26th Stephanie Nelson; 27th Melinda Grube

Anniversaries: 11th Eddie and Carly Richter, Jesse and Kara Otis

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

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:30 a.m.; the minutes from the August 21 meeting were read.

Attending were David Connelly, Kathleen Connelly, Anne Dalton, Suzanne O'Hara, Dill Otis, Sally Otis, Christopher Sammond, Andrew Simkin, Jane Simkin, and Paul Simkin.

We decided we will host the spring's New York Yearly Meeting's meeting for discernment in late February or early March, as the Yearly Meeting has asked us. Christopher Sammond said Friends gather from around Yearly Meeting for the twice-annual event. The Friday evening before, elders will serve the body in prayer and need to be hosted for the night. He said participating numbers vary 60 to 100, usually 60 to 75 range in recent years, depending on location and hospitality. Ithaca has hosted in recent years, when about 25 host homes were needed.

There will be two discernment sessions of extended worships needing bagels, tea, coffee, and such for breakfast, and a potluck lunch. The usual \$10 a person is used for food and childcare. Meetings who have hosted the events "find it a blessing," Christopher said.

Next step for Monthly Meeting is to appoint someone a housing coordinator, the largest job. We will discuss more details next month.

Sally and Kathleen reporting for the Youth Committee that the committee has discussed a New York Yearly Meeting "Monthly Meeting Partners Project" to help meetings be vital multigenerational communities. It's a one-, two-, or three-year commitment. The committee is concerned that there are few children around to join us.

Christopher said the Yearly Meeting contains many rural meetings that face similar issues. How can the Monthly Meeting be more welcoming to youth? It's a question whether the Monthly Meetings participation have the energy to do it. The entire meeting needs to be behind it, he said.

Ann will bring the topic up to the Outreach Committee. We will pass up the Oct. 15 deadline to participate in the three-year commitment and invite Melinda Wenner Bradley, the Yearly Meeting Children and Youth Field Secretary, to facilitate one of our multigenerational worship meetings and to discuss the initiative with our Meeting. Included here is a Web link to the details (<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePozrIW3T2gAzN4DGNW4aTIqeMWcULhtT4yhgvEwEXsIJEbQ/viewform>), and Kathleen Connelly (315.253.3370) has hard copies for anyone who asks.

Representing the Youth Committee, Sally asked for Meeting approval of \$200 to purchase additions to the youth room. The committee wants bins for storage, a rug, some balls, and something to replace old cardboard blocks. The Monthly Meeting approved.

The Ministry and Counsel Committee reports clearness about Suzanne O'Hara's application for Meeting membership. She was accepted as a member.

Ministry and Counsel also notes that Heidi Richter and Drew Schlichtmann were married at 2 p.m. yesterday (September 17).

Ministry and Counsel reminds Monthly Meeting that it is time to revisit our current pastoral arrangement. We will discuss it next month.

October's worship schedule, which varies from the usual order, will be published in our monthly calendar.

Ministry and Counsel also reminded us that it welcomes suggestions for additional speakers.

Jane Simkin raised the question of our arrangements to clean the Meetinghouse; we have not had enough people to do it on a volunteer basis. We discussed the possibility of using a cleaning service. We will discuss proposals at the next Monthly Meeting.

We closed with silence at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by David Connelly, Recording Clerk.



POPLAR RIDGE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL FOR UNICEF

Mark your calendars for the annual Poplar Ridge Friends Halloween Carnival, coming to you Saturday, October 29 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Our meetinghouse will be transformed into a spooky, fun, and yummy place for area children, and raise money for UNICEF. The carnival aims towards younger children from toddlers to mid elementary age, but can be a great way for older kid and teen helpers to support their communities. Teens can even count their volunteer hours towards school-required community service.

The carnival is the most successful outreach to families and children in the community that we do as a Meeting. So, the Youth Committee could really use your help! Teens are great, but we love adult helpers too. We need volunteers to help set up the space (starting at 2pm) and cleanup until about 8pm. We need volunteers to run noisy games – the ever-popular balloon pop and can knock-down will return. There are also quiet games like match car racing and pumpkin painting! We need volunteers to guide little ones through the haunted house, tell spooky stories, get visitors ready for a session with the fortune teller, help kids buy pizza and treats, and trade in game credits for prizes. We need help keeping track of the game tickets and the money earned for UNICEF. We need volunteer bakers!

We would love enough volunteer help to schedule two shifts to share the fun. The more hands we have, the lighter the work for all. And, it really is a fun evening for everyone. If you can help, please contact Julie Lockhart at gem6183@gmail.com, or (585) 755-7028. Thanks!

MEETINGHOUSE CLEANING

We need volunteers for cleaning the meetinghouse. Contact Jane Simkin 315-364-8422 for information or to volunteer.

SOUP AND SHARING

Soup and Sharing on Sunday October 2, will be Craig Kukuk, A.T. Miller and Maryl Mendillo sharing their experiences at the recent Democratic Presidential Convention in Philadelphia. Each one has a different aspect to share, A.T. as a delegate, Maryl as an outside protester, and Craig as an observer of people outside the convention hall. They will explain the delegate selection process and inner workings of a convention.

Contact Trudy (rbuxenbaum@gmail.com) for more information.

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

FRIENDS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

This fall, the Friends Historical Association's Annual Meeting will take place in conjunction with the three-day conference, "Quakers, First Nations and American Indians from the 1650s to the 21st century," which will be held Thursday, November 10 through Saturday, November 12 at the University of Pennsylvania (Nov. 10), Bryn Mawr College (Nov. 11), and Haverford College (Nov. 12). The conference program and other information are available at

<http://www.mceas.org/quakersandamericanindians>.

Registration for the conference is free, and FHA members are encouraged and welcome to participate.



HALLOWEEN, QUAKER STYLE

October is a month in which Quaker culture and popular culture collide. Controversy swirls about the celebration of Halloween. Quaker educators are called upon to make Solomon-like decisions regarding student costumes and their regulation in light of Quaker testimonies.

The first tenet—hereafter referred to as "rule number one"—of any school's Halloween policy must be that all children and children-at-heart (i.e. parents, faculty, and staff) have a rip-roaring good time—parade, sing, laugh, and perform for one another.

The second tenet is that we continue to assert the Quaker values we hold dear when choosing our costumes. To that end we will reflect upon the following ideas.

Superheroes are a bugaboo. Here's why: Armed with conventional weapons or webs, superheroes generally solve their problems with violence. We expend a lot of time and energy in lower school learning to "use our words" to resolve disputes. We work hard to appreciate that a deed that seems intended to hurt us is likely to be an action born of thoughtlessness or one whose motives are poorly understood. While Quaker school students are expected to use communication to resolve disputes, it is hard to imagine Batman sitting down with the Joker to discuss their differences over the governance of Gotham City.

Please note that one important argument in favor of superheroes is that we do not want to exclude all of the "easy" costumes. We want families who spend a lot of time and energy creating costumes and those who pick one up at the Quickie Mart the night before to enjoy the holiday—see rule number one above. To ensure that all families can participate comfortably, including a list of acceptable costumes with particular emphasis on ready-made and easy homemade possibilities is recommended.

Our interpretation of the Friends Peace Testimony precludes the celebration of warriors of any kind. No soldiers, no knights, no ninjas (reptilian or otherwise). No weapons.

In keeping with Quaker devotion to tolerance, one might consider asking children not to wear

costumes that stereotype other groups. A school might state that it is not acceptable to wear the national dress of another culture, if that culture is not the student's own. In other words, no Native American costumes unless the person wearing the costume is a Native American and the costume is an expression of that heritage. Also, one might rule out "the bum" as a costume, because the homeless people we encounter are in a dire situation, and we do not want to poke fun at fellow human beings in such straits.

Whatever your costume policy, it should be clearly articulated. It is reasonable to trust parents to use good judgment in the gray areas, but make it clear that you are doing so.

Where is the gray? How about vampires? I was asked if vampires pass muster. I gave the green light to vampires with the proviso that blood and gore not be a part of the costume. The debate went like this:

"What could be more violent than killing people by biting them on the neck and sucking their blood?"
"This is not violence in the banned-from-Halloween sense because the vampire sucks blood to survive. This is natural violence of the lion-taking-down-a-gazelle variety."

"But can we call it 'survival-violence' if vampires are not 'living'? They are, after all, the 'undead.' In fact, what do we make of the murder they commit if the victim is not actually killed, but made undead?"

As you can see, the debate can get both technical and pretty silly. By the way, let me be clear: vampires, monsters, mummies, ghosts, goblins, and the like are permitted as costumes, provided blood and gore are not a part of the costume.

Perhaps the most important outcome of recognizing Halloween as one manifestation of conflict between popular and Quaker cultures is the reflection that grows out of addressing the issue. One last caveat: it is important to use good judgment in the enforcement of Halloween policy to uphold both the Quaker values invoked above and the spirit of the holiday—see *rule number one*.

[MichaelZimmerman](http://www.friendsjournal.org/2010085/) October 1, 2010
(<http://www.friendsjournal.org/2010085/>)

MERRIFIELD CONCERT

Late this month, on October 29th, A.T. and Craig will be hosting the fantastic duo of Dan Frechette and Laurel Thomsen, featuring acoustic guitar and violin like you've never heard them played, along with beautifully blended voices, and every once in a while, the harmonica. They are prolific and inventive songwriters and very popular on the festival circuit. Listen to their wonderful music at danandlaurel.ca, which gives you the hint that they are extra-popular in Canada, from whence Dan hails. With broad influences ranging from Folk, Classical, Old Time and Celtic, to Gospel, Jazz, Vintage Country, Rock N' Roll, Blues, and Bluegrass, Dan and Laurel flow seamlessly through genres, tempos, stories, and moods, embodying each style with virtuosic command and keeping music fans on the edge of their seats. Enjoyment is palpable.

The concert begins at 7pm in the intimate setting of Craig and A.T.'s home. Just the thing on an autumn evening, to spend time with new and long term friends! Bring as many folks as you'd like, or just yourself, and join us for the concert, a long intermission of mingling with others and the artists over coffee and tea, and then another short round of music before we call it a night. We're at 2345 Center Road, Scipio 13147, on the corner with Black Street, along which there is plenty of space to park. We collect \$15 at the door to support the artists.

Contact Craig and A.T. with any questions at [607-279-7515](tel:607-279-7515) or atmiller80@gmail.com.



10" X 10" = ART 35TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER

Thursday, October 6, 5-9pm

The Schweinfurth Art Center is asking artists, designers, students, Art Center members, youth and all others with an interest in supporting the arts to donate up to four pieces of artwork to the Schweinfurth. The items will be sold via silent auction on October 6, and proceeds will be used to support the Schweinfurth's exhibits, classes and other community programs.

Don't miss October 6! We have received more than 100 wonderful donations from members, teachers, artists and students. Don't miss this chance to purchase artwork by Chris Baker, Barbara Delmonico, Hetty Easter, Nicora Gangi, Sewell Oertling, Katie Waugh, Stephen Achimore, among many others. We thank our generous supporters! Tickets: \$35 member / \$40 non-members. Donating artists may purchase 2 tickets for the price of one (please call the Art Center for discounted tickets for donating artists, or purchase when dropping off donation).

ADVANCE TICKET PRICE: \$25 member / \$30 non-member. Must be purchased by midnight on October 5. Donating artists may purchase 2 tickets for \$25 in advance.

Enjoy food, beverages, and live music. Open to ages 21 and up.

Silent auction of all items with opening bid of \$35. Artwork will be exhibited anonymously.

Artist names will be revealed to the buyer

To purchase tickets, call us at 315.255.1553 or purchase online at

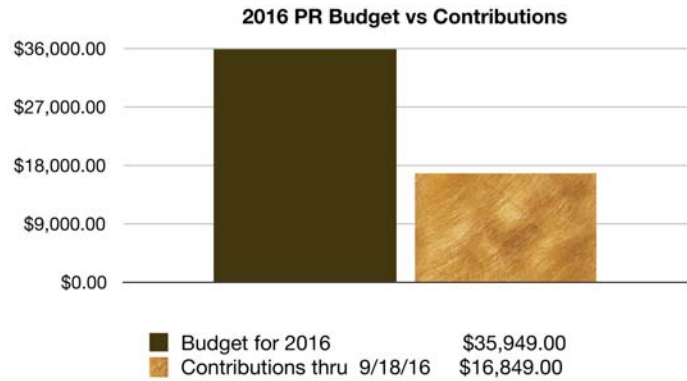
http://www.schweinfurthartcenter.org/programs_specialevents.cfm.

Contact Barry Kahn (SCL42carry.com) for help with transportation.

HAZARD LIBRARY STORY HOUR

Join Miss Lisa every Tuesday at 9:30am, when SCCS is in session, for story hour at Hazard Library, 2487 Rte 34B, Poplar Ridge, NY. All are welcome! Call 364-7975 for more information.

Budget for 2016	\$35,949.00	
Contributions for 2016	\$16,849.00	46.87%
Budget Deficit for 2016	\$19,100.00	



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Andy Simkin	Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk (734-717-7719)
Assistant Clerk – Anne Dalton	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Jeff Layton	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Dill 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 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
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 Poplar Ridge, NY 13139