

# Portland Friends Meeting Newsletter

Fourth Month, 2017

**Meeting for Worship:** Sundays 10:30a

**Adult Education:** 8:45am, 2nd & 4th Sundays

**First Day School:** 10:45am following 15 minutes in Meeting  
for Worship, 2nd & 4th Sundays



1837 Forest Ave Portland, ME 04103  
portlandfriendsmeeting.org  
207-200-6544

## Connections

### Co-Clerks

Jennifer Frick 939-1312

Lea Sutton 642-2327

### Treasurer, Contributions

Sue Nelson 391-6116

60 Shadagee Road, #2

Saco, ME 04072

### Treasurer, Operating Account

Kathy Beach 741-2940

14 Drew Road

South Portland 04106

### Treasurer, Special Funds

Sara Jane Elliot 749-9706

### Special Needs Funds

Chris Beach 741-2940

Elizabeth Szatkowski 772-1774

### Ministry and Counsel

Jane Mullen, 215-421-5257

[jmmaine@aol.com](mailto:jmmaine@aol.com)

Mary Tracy, 207-749-8712

[marytracy126@gmail.com](mailto:marytracy126@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Care Coordinators

Christina Davis 518-0784

### Religious Education

Adults: Sandi Jensen 207-839-2372

Judith Spross 617-872-8817

Youth: Luke Hankins 207-200-6042

Youth Religious Education Coordinator:

Anne Payson 781-2501

### Use of the Meetinghouse

Lise Wagner 232-1778

[lise.r.wagner@gmail.com](mailto:lise.r.wagner@gmail.com)

### e-group Coordinator

Patricia Pyle

[moderator\\_pfm@yahoo.com](mailto:moderator_pfm@yahoo.com)

208-7331

### Newsletter

submissions

Heather Denkmire

[pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net](mailto:pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net)

address change details

Dennis Redfield

[dennis.lee.redfield@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.lee.redfield@gmail.com)

*“The Meeting Community: Do you love one another as becomes the followers of Christ? Do you share each other's joys and burdens? When conflicts arise, do you seek in mutual forgiveness and tenderness to resolve them speedily? Are you careful of the reputation of others? Do you seek beyond all differences of opinion and circumstance for unity in the divine life?”*

*New England Yearly Meeting, 1985 Faith & Practice, III: Advices and Queries*

## Calendar

- April 8:** 10a-1p Friends School of Portland auction at FSP
- April 16:** 9am Easter breakfast at PFM
- April 23:** Rise of Meeting, Greater Portland Family Promise information session
- April 28:** Junior High Yearly Meeting retreat, PFM
- April 29:** Maine Climate March, Augusta (details inside)
- May 6:** All Maine Gathering of Friends, China, ME (details inside)

## Monthly

- Every Sunday:** 10:30a Meeting for Worship
- First Sunday:** 9a Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business (open for all)
- 2nd-5th Sundays:** 10-10:20a Intergenerational singing
- 1st Thursday:** 4-7p Preble Street Soup Kitchen  
Aaiyn Foster 766-9762
- 2nd Saturday:** 5-8p Youngish adults potluck  
Bart Czyz, [btczyz@gmail.com](mailto:btczyz@gmail.com), 207 899 5937
- 2nd & 4th Sundays:** 8:45a Adult Religious Education  
10:30a Children in Meeting for Worship  
10:45a First Day School

## Join us for the Annual Easter Breakfast! Sunday, April 16 at 9am

Please join the First Day School community for a delicious breakfast to celebrate Easter. Donations collected will support Bradley at Kakamega Orphan Care Center in Kenya (a Quaker facility), the Telling Room, and the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project.

The children are also collecting new socks or used socks in good condition for Preble Street (adult sizes), and goods for an animal shelter (cat and dog food and toys). Boxes will be put out in the front entry. Please contribute!



Portland Friends Meeting  
Meeting for Business  
April 2, 2017

We began in silent worship at 9:00 a.m. with 15 members and attenders present, during which co-clerk Lea Sutton read Query No. 4 from the 1985 Faith and Practice of New England Yearly Meeting, which begins "Do you love one another as becomes the followers of Christ?"

1. Minutes We accepted the March minutes with no corrections.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kathy Beach reported that the Meeting is doing well, with many people contributing on a monthly basis. Here are the monthly and year-to-date figures:

For March income was \$4841 and expenses were \$4342 (including our annual \$1500 donation to the Friends School of Portland), leaving a positive balance of \$499.

Year to date income was \$15,302 and year to date expenses were \$16,026, leaving a balance of negative \$724.

Friends accepted the Treasurer's report.

Lise Wagner shared good news—the Meeting will receive rental income this summer from a 4-week summer camp.

**Quick Summary of Income and Expenses  
3 months — 25% of 2017**

Year-to-date Income	\$15,302
Percent of Budget	22%
Year-to-date Expenses	\$16,026
Percent of Budget	23%
Balance	(\$724)

3. Ministry and Counsel. Mary Tracy reported for the Committee and presented the draft State of Society Report for its second reading and approval. One change from the first draft is suggested, an insertion in the paragraph under "A Place of Love and Joy", as follows: The Meeting is alive with ideas. Adult Religious Education's use of queries and other interactive projects has resulted in increased attendance at their offerings and enhanced spiritual growth.

We approved the State of Society Report with this additional language. It will be signed and dated and then forwarded to Quarterly Meeting.

4. Communications Review Committee Dorothy Grannell and Dennis Redfield reported on the work of the committee to date.

General The Committee is working on the multiple (2-3) e-groups, newsletter calendar, and directory. There will be a threshing session on April 30 following worship. The committee members will bring potential policies and changes about the e-group for presentation and discussion. This will provide an in-depth view of the proposed changes for review before the May Business meeting. The e-group suggestion will involve an annual cost of just under \$400.

The committee wants today especially to thank Mary Beth Walsh, Jock Carter and Patricia Pyle for their work in posting items on our meeting e-group site. Keeping us all alert to what is happening in the meeting is a major community building effort. We appreciate their dedication to the task and their patience with us. Roger Roy is taking on the task of moderating the e-group and Sarah Cushman continues as his backup. The committee also wishes to thank the webmaster (Rich Nagle) and people who do the Sunday announcements, and Heather Denkmire, who produces the newsletter.

Directory Dennis Redfield is still sorting out a data base of approximately 700 people before the directory can be published in print. He has a 17-page "Friends list" of people with name, phone number and e-mail which he could put on the e-group, but he seeks guidance from us whether he should. We advised he should not. Eventually the directory will include street addresses as well. It was suggested that membership also be indicated on both documents.

Dennis had also prepared a "committee contact document" (the nominating committee report) which with further editing will be published on the e-group. All documents will be worked on (including at the April 30 threshing session) and presented again at Meeting for Business in May or June.

Website postings The Committee requests committee clerks and convenors to do the following with respect to website postings to provide clarity for Rich Nagle, who oversees the website.

(cont-)

4. (cont-) Please label the proposed post as follows:

"Report of \_\_\_\_\_ Committee, Date." These are reports of general interest to the committee or the meeting and do not call for action beyond the committee. OR

"Report of \_\_\_\_\_ Committee, Date, For discernment by Portland Friends Meeting. Not for distribution beyond the meeting." These are reports that include actions that must be approved by the meeting before they are widely publicized. If the report becomes a policy of the meeting it would be moved to the meeting policy section of the website with no limit on distribution.

Newsletter calendar The calendar on the front page of the newsletter is reserved for dates and events specifically related to the life of the meeting in the next month. Wider Quaker world and community interest events may appear in the body of the newsletter if someone sends them to the editor in article form ready to print. Our editor, Heather Denkmire, would like to work with a person who is willing to collect items about the wider Quaker world and to place them into a column/calendar internal to the newsletter. The suggested title for the column is Wider Quaker World Event Listings. The volunteer posting title would be WQW Events editor.

Committees or individuals wanting to post a meeting event in the newsletter are asked to do two things:

— Contact Lise Wagner to clear event date and get it on the web calendar for building use.

— E-mail Heather Denkmire with the information saying that the discussion/event is being sponsored by such and such a committee. This way she will know if the event is life of our meeting, or wider Quaker world, and place it on the appropriate calendar in the newsletter.

We discussed the report and are grateful for the work of the committee. We look forward to the threshing session of April 30 and further consideration at a future Meeting for Business of final proposals by the Committee.

5. Statistical Report of Recorder Lise Wagner presented her annual report, which helps inform New England Yearly Meeting who we are. The numbers are as follows:

Membership at the end of 2015: 121

Membership at the end of 2016: 114

How we got there:

--2 new members by application

--1 transfer to another meeting

--3 deaths

--5 discontinuances

Average attendance at meeting for worship: 56

Average attendance at meeting for business: 22

Number of active attenders: 42

The suggestion was made that we have a process for making sure junior members are informed of how to become adult members. Friends accepted the report.

6. Falmouth Quarterly Meeting will be held at South China Community Church on May 6, 2017. The program will be presented by Susan Davies and Julie de Sherbinin, entitled "An Open-Hearted Inquiry into Racial Identity." Child care will be provided if requested.

There will be a Falmouth Quarter Business Session as part of the day. The memorial minutes of Al Norton and Bea Wehmeyer will be read and approved at that time. The discussion of if or how Falmouth Quarter should proceed, given the lack of leadership and interest, will begin at this meeting. The visitation team of Jessica Eller and Sarah Cushman will report on their work this year. Suggestions from the six member meetings of the quarter will be received and a discussion begun. At this point in time we have suggestions with which to begin:

(cont-)

6. (cont) Request that NEYM lay the quarter down and each member meeting join a nearby quarter of its own choosing.

Meet semi - annually. In the spring as Ministry & Counsel to consider memorial minutes and State of Society Reports. Select a convener whose role it would be to call the meeting. The clerk of the host meeting to clerk the business. The Fall meeting to be the formal business meeting including the selection of the officers. There could be a program – or not.

Return to meeting on Sundays, worshipping with the host meeting, fellowship with a potluck followed by business but no program. Number of times to meet to be determined.

Other options offered by Friends

Those interested in attending will be asked to share rides. A note will be posted in the newsletter.

7. Friends World Committee for Consultation

Dorothy Grannell reported on the March 23, 2017 Section of the Americas meeting at Stony Point Center, Stony Point, NY.

127 Friends from 8 countries in the Western Hemisphere and 37 Yearly Meetings and associations gathered for worship and business. The theme was "Vivir la Paz/Living Peace" John 16:33. Each morning a person from a different Friends tradition spoke to the theme. Carl Magruder of Pacific Yearly Meeting, Kirenia Criado of Cuba Yearly Meeting and Jonathan Vogel Borne of New England Yearly Meeting. Benigno Sanchez-Eppler, clerk of the Section led, worship for the business sessions. The time together was a rich mixture of traditions in terms of worship and practice with deep listening and joyous praise, all in Spanish and English. This was a younger group of Friends than at previous Section meetings with much of the leadership coming from Latin American Young Adult Friends. As Dorothy put it, this was the meeting "with the most equality in it."

Dorothy expressed her gratitude to Portland Friends for their support of her leading to work with FWCC over the past 8 years. She completed her term as recording clerk of the Section with this meeting as well as her term as a representative and a member of the Executive Committee. The motto "Connecting Friends, Crossing Cultures, Changing Lives" has been fulfilled in her life. She hopes to be able to offer an evening program this spring for those who are interested to learn more about FWCC and this Section Meeting. The speakers' messages will be posted online later this spring in English and Spanish.

We asked that the recording clerk send a note to the FWCC thanking them for their loving care of our member Dorothy.

Announcements Co-Clerk Lea Sutton reported that she and Jennifer Frick have found a document concerning how to bring matters to Meeting for Business and how to identify the request being made. It will be published in the next newsletter.

Tuesday April 4 at 11:59 is the deadline for the April newsletter.

We closed at 10:14 a.m., with 22 members and attenders present, purposing to meet again at 9:00 on May 7, 2017, God willing.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Ballou  
Co-Recording Clerk

### **Committee Profile: Ministry and Counsel**

The Ministry and Counsel Committee is asked "to oversee and nurture the religious life of the meeting, to foster the spiritual growth of the entire membership, and to enhance the community life of the membership." (1985 NEYM Faith and Practice). Among its major areas of responsibility are membership, memorials, marriage, clearness committees, and the deepening of meeting for worship as well as the logistics of meetings for worship. Please feel free to contact the co-clerks or any members of M&C with questions or concerns in these areas.

### **Intergenerational "Odd Sundays"**

The Youth Religious Education Committee is seeking volunteers to be available to spend time with our younger members and attenders, those older than nursery age, on Sundays when First Day School isn't in session. Greet the kiddos, show them the shelf of crafts and games, and help keep the volume low as appropriate. Interested? sign up in the parlor or talk to Anne Payson [annepayson10@gmail.com](mailto:annepayson10@gmail.com) 781-2501

## Report from Adult Religious Education Committee

**Members of Adult Religious Education Committee:** Judy Spross (jaspross@gmail.com, 207-775-2570) and Sandi Jensen (sandiJensen60@gmail.com), co-clerks; Arthur Fink (arthur@arthurfink.com) and Muriel Allen (murielpfm@gmail.com). Please contact any one of us if you have ideas, suggestions or feedback on our programs.

### Report on March 2016 Classes

#### Contemplative Writing

On March 12 we had our second *Contemplative Writing* class on the theme of Light, facilitated by Theresa Oleksiw. While this experience was done in a group with optional group sharing, those who could not attend are encouraged to explore this type of writing. For that purpose we reproduce here the writing prompts Theresa offered us in this second class.

*Prompt 1:* Close your eyes and recall a childhood memory in which you were engaged in an activity with total joy and were oblivious to the rest of the world. (When the writing feels complete, consider reading it aloud to yourself or another. What emerges as "light" for you--what lights you or your soul up? Is there evidence of your inner light or illumination from the light within?)

*Prompt 2:* Consider what you wrote about regarding a joyful childhood memory. How would you incorporate parts or all of that memory into your present life? Write about this. (When the writing feels complete, consider reading it aloud to yourself or another. What emerges as "light" for you--what lights you or your soul up? Is there evidence of your inner light or illumination from the light within? Is there something you will do to bring that childhood joy into your adult life?)

#### Quakers in the Workplace

On March 26, Arthur Fink facilitated a discussion of Quaker values in the workplace whether as an employee, manager, entrepreneur or a consumer. Arthur's invitation to us: Some of us own or manage businesses (perhaps a one-person art studio or consultancy — perhaps much larger). Some of us work for other businesses, perhaps managing other employees as part of that work. All of us choose which businesses to patronize for our food, health care, entertainment, clothes, etc. How do our Quaker values inform our choices, our decisions, our actions? Are there contradictions between what we profess on Sunday and how we act the rest of the time? Do we need more clarity? And how can we support each other in living a Spirit filled life, even as we interact with the world in so many ways.

Arthur reported having found an extensive set of queries on this very topic from the Quakers and Business Group of Britain Yearly Meeting (<https://qandb.org/>). Under the broad heading of Ethics at Work, the Quakers and Business group identified numerous topics with associated queries. A sampling of topics under Ethics at Work include: Quaker Testimonies, Conduct of Business, Ethical Trade, Obligation to Shareholders and Investors, Environmental Responsibility, Advertising, and Trade Unions. Arthur invited us to choose one of these queries that spoke to our condition, then, in small groups, share how that query affected us. Class participants also identified queries of their own in relation to Quaker values and work, for example, mediating prosperity and simplicity and also discussed consumer purchases, even consumer loyalty, based on the alignment of a business's values with Quaker values.

Arthur offered some historical perspective on Quaker values and work. We learned that Cadbury (yes, of chocolate fame) was a Quaker and that, historically, some practices that were in alignment with Quaker values at the time (e.g., employment--or not--of women) seem dated given societal changes and contemporary expression of our Quaker values.

#### April Classes

The theme of our classes for April is Befriending Creation, facilitated by Sandi Jensen and Judy Spross.

**April 9, 2017 8:45 to 9:55 AM** Befriending Creation: Reflections on our experiences of spiritual nurture in the natural world

If you are coming to this class, please bring a personally small, meaningful symbol of your experience of being spiritually influenced/nurtured by the natural world/Mother Earth (examples include a feather, a rock, sea glass, a picture, photo or drawing, a poem, or other artifact).

**April 26, 2017, 8:45 to 9:55 AM:** Befriending creation: part 2 (more details to come in announcements!)

## Report from Adult Religious Education Committee (cont-)

### ADVANCED NOTICE: **May Classes**

The theme for the two May classes will be on Preparing for Worship. We encourage participants to read the Pendle Hill Pamphlet 306, *Four Doors to Meeting for Worship* by William Taber. There are eleven copies in the library and, of course, the pamphlet can be purchased by calling Pendle Hill at 215-566-4514.

### **Update on Spiritual Journeys**

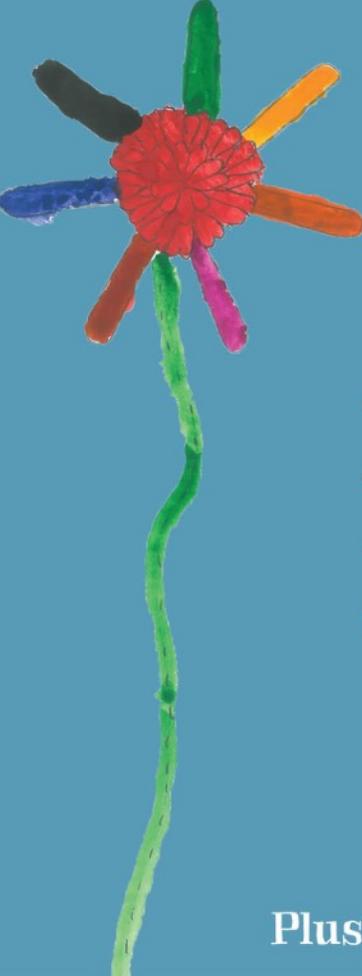
You may recall that in the fall we solicited submissions for a Spiritual Journey series that would be presented on a weekday evening. We will be offering at least two Spiritual Journey presentations in the Fall--Ann Dodd-Collins will talk about her trip to Cuba and Arthur Fink will use photographs he took at Auschwitz in his talk, *Encountering the Holocaust*.

### **Greater Portland Family Promise — Information Session Sunday, April 23 at Rise of Meeting**

Come learn about Greater Portland Family Promise, and how Portland Friends Meeting might be involved in this new hospitality program. In the Family Promise model, host congregations furnish clean, safe, overnight lodging and nutritious meals for one week, typically on a quarterly basis. Host congregations are supported by other faith communities who provide additional volunteers—making healthy breakfast and suppers, playing with children or helping them study and talking with parents after a long day. For more info, check out <https://greaterportlandfamilypromise.org/about/>.

### **Climate March in Augusta – Saturday April 29**

Join the PFM presence at the Maine Climate March. The march will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., behind the Maine State House, 111 Sewall Street. PFM folks who would like to carpool will gather at the Back Cove parking lot on Preble Street, across from Hannaford, at 8:30 a.m. As we did with the Women's March, we'll arrange carpools organically as people show up. And spread the word – bring a friend, a family member, a frenemy, a co-worker, or three! For more info about the event, visit [http://www.350maine.org/pcm\\_augusta](http://www.350maine.org/pcm_augusta).



# Auction & Celebration

- Delicious Food by Fireworks Pizza and SLAB
- Live Music by the Can Kickers
- Family Nature Walks and Activities
- LIVE AUCTION

Saturday, April 8th  
10am-1pm

Plus, bid in our online auction March 31-April 7



**All Maine Gathering of Friends**  
**Hosted by Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting**  
**Saturday, May 6, 2017**

**South China Community Church 246 Village St, South China, ME 04358**

**Schedule for the day**

8:30 am Muffins and Coffee/Tea

9:00-10:00 Meeting for Worship 10:00-10:15 Welcome & Introductions

10:30-12:00 Meeting for Worship for Business (Falmouth QM & Vassalboro QM will meet separately)

**Suggested Agenda for Falmouth Quarter**

Reading Memorial Minutes for Al Norton and Bee Wehmeyer

Meeting Visitation Report

Discernment of Future of Falmouth Quarter

Sharing of State of Society Reports of our meetings.

12:15-1:15 Lunch: VQM Friends will provide soup and bread.

1:30-3:00 Program: An Open-Hearted Inquiry into Racial Identity

Have you ever felt unsettled or uncertain in conversations about racial identity? Racial justice and racial healing are on many minds today, yet within the cultural setting of the United States, and within the Religious Society of Friends, we do not always find welcoming entry points into the conversation. Come join Julie de Sherbinin and Susan Davies and discover that what can seem like a dreary and charged topic is truly filled with opportunities for liberation and joy. Julie and Susan co-lead a 2015 racial identity series for Vassalboro Friends Meeting.

3:00-3:30 Clean-up & Adjourn

Questions? Contact Janet Hough (VQM Co-Clerk) janet.hough5@gmail.com (207) 271-3211 For child care, please contact Janet Hough by 8 PM on Sunday, April 23.

**Registration form for All Maine Gathering of Friends, May 2, 2015 – 8:30 – 4:30**

South China Community Church, 246 Village St. South China, ME 04358

Name (s) of those attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Overnight Hospitality needed? **Yes or No** Friday? **Yes or No** Saturday? **Yes or No** # of people \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST REGISTER NO LATER THAN MONDAY APRIL 27 in order to have overnight hospitality provided**

Is child care needed? **Yes or No**. If yes, list names and ages of children \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST REGISTER NO LATER THAN MONDAY APRIL 27 for child care** (donations toward cost of care appreciated)

I/We have materials to display **Yes or No** Topic or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

*Lunch will include gluten free and vegetarian choices*

Other food or allergy issues that hosts need to prepare for. \_\_\_\_\_

*Falmouth Quarterly Meeting participants only:* I will bring a : Salad \_\_\_\_\_, Dessert or Fruit \_\_\_\_\_

Baked item for morning \_\_\_\_\_ (a serving for 6 people please)

**RETURN FORM TO: Janet Hough 401 South Edmunds Road., Edmunds Township, ME 04628 or janet.hough5@gmail.com**

**Report from the 2017 Section Meeting of Friends World  
Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas  
Stony Point Center, Stony Point, NY.**



Friends World Committee  
for Consultation  
SECTION OF THE AMERICAS  
Comité Mundial de Consulta  
de los Amigos  
SECCIÓN DE LAS AMÉRICAS

FWCC gathered for worship and business on March 23rd, with 127 Friends from 8 countries in the Western Hemisphere and 37 Yearly Meetings and associations. The theme was "Vivir la Paz/ Living Peace" John 16:33.

Each morning a person from a different Friends tradition spoke to the theme. Carl Magruder of Pacific Yearly Meeting, Kirenia Criado of Cuba YM and Jonathan Vogel Borne of New England YM. The speakers' messages will be posted online later this spring in English and Spanish.

Benigno Sanchez-Eppler, clerk of the Section led our worship for the business sessions. On the first we blessed the seven Friends selected as the first of the Traveling Ministry Corps. These Friends may be invited to come and share their leadings with any meeting. They come from New England, New York Northwest, and 3 from Bolivia. (See photo)

A second day those representing Yearly Meetings that were suffering through or recovering from a division in their yearly meeting to come into the circle and be held in the Light. The third day, clerks of the committees and program groups were held. Our time together was a rich mixture of traditions of worship and practice with deep listening and joyous praise in Spanish and English.

This was a younger group of Friends than at previous Sections meetings with much of the leadership coming from Latin American Young Adult Friends. Our conference bags were designed and made by Guatemalan Friends as a gift to the Section.

It is difficult to measure how blessed I feel to have been released by Portland Friends to do this work within the wider world of Friends and to share it with the meeting. Meeting support of my leading to work with FWCC over the past 8 years has changed me. I completed my term as recording clerk of the Section as well as my representative term and of the Executive Committee. The motto "Connecting Friends, Crossing Cultures, Changing Lives" has been fulfilled in my life. Look for a Tuesday evening program to learn more about FWCC and this Section Meeting.



Dorothy Grannell and Kenya Casanova complete work as recording and assistant recording clerks. Diagram is of the structure of the Section.



Friends from Mexico, Guatemala, INELA Bolivia, New York, New England, North Carolina FUM and Conservative, Northern Yearly Meetings. Includes Gideon Guaraldi with mom Rachel.



Friends World Committee  
for Consultation  
SECTION OF THE AMERICAS  
Comité Mundial de Consulta  
de los Amigos  
SECCIÓN DE LAS AMÉRICAS



Kirenia Criado and translator on last day.



Traveling Ministry Corps Leaders: Debbie Humphries (New England YM), Emily Provance (New York YM), Chuck Schobert (Northern YM), Julie Peyton (Northwest YM), Agustina Callejas, (INELA Bolivia), Estefany Vargas (INELA Bolivia), Hector Castro (INELA Bolivia).



Blessing the Traveling Ministry Corps.

## Conversation with Monique V. Crochet

— written by Andy Grannell —

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 — To spend a relaxed mid-winter afternoon with Monique in her brilliantly sunny and well-appointed home learning about her spiritual journey is too soon wish that you could have known her mother. Soon, however, you come to a deeper realization. Monique is much more than a devoted daughter, she is very much the spiritual embodiment of that same freedom loving, all-embracing, and passionately committed spirit.

Though born and raised in Paris with a father who was a survivor of years spent in the WWI trenches and educated in Roman Catholic schools, in her heart she identified much more with her fiercely independent, Protestant, and Swiss-born and bred mother. There was another connection. They both had a gift for languages which proved to be more than a source of steady income, but also a source of satisfaction.

Drawing strength from her mother's example, Monique was a practicing feminist decades before that was a term that had wide currency. When it mattered, she was willing to provide needed support. Chafing against the strictures of the class bound society which was Paris, she would choose to 'dance with whom she pleased' and risk the rejection of those who still very much mattered in her life.

Physical challenges proved to be both empowering and enlightening. Over time Monique learned that she could handle difficult climbs and weather extremes. Perhaps what became most clear to her was her wholehearted rejection of the pervasive and ruinous culture that celebrated male privilege.

The first journey out of this confining, post-WWII world came with an assignment during the Algerian War of Independence, 19 54-1962. Monique received an assignment to serve at a French post in the extreme south of Algeria. Here on the margin of the Sahara, the dangers of being killed or wounded were real, and Monique experienced the loss of colleagues and friends. Despite this Monique reveled in the freedoms offered.

Returning from this assignment to Paris proved to offer now a different kind of challenge. Quite literally, the return stirred up deep feelings that amounted to being 'choked.' Now the earlier reports from her mother's two-year stay in New York City took on new meaning and fueled her dreams of going to America.

The connection that turned this dream into reality came with a developing friendship with a young student from Orono, Maine by the name of Anne Kimball. Upon her return to the States, Anne acted as a scout, a position to teach in the Amesbury, Massachusetts school was offered. Soon Monique was boarding a plane operated by Luxembourg for series of hops across the North Atlantic taking her from Paris to Reykjavik to Gander (Newfoundland) and then to New York.

Following her years in Amesbury, Monique got her first big break. She was hired by Wellesley College and succeeded against the odds for such hires to stay for five full years. This gave her the time and opportunity to write and defend her doctoral dissertation entitled, *The Myths in the Works of Albert Camus* (828 page) which was later published in 1969. This completed all requirements for the Ph.D. from the University of Paris, Sorbonne.

Following Wellesley, there was a brief time spent teaching in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Then came her second big break. Ann Kimball called to tell Monique that there was an opening at the University of Southern Maine. Immediately, Monique drove practically nonstop from Bridgeport to Portland. The interview went well and in part once again because of Monique's connections with the Kimball family.

From that point until the present day, Maine has been her special home. Beginning in 1970, and for the next 26 years, Monique worked to spark a passion for literature for generations of Maine students. Beginning in 1970, Monique determined to climb every mountain of note in her new and beloved State of Maine, and these included Bigelow and Katahdin.

A mystic at heart, Monique feels those indissoluble links with all of the creation. Counted on to stand for peace, Monique has been a principled and ardent advocate for peace. Responding to a clear call, Monique has worked to practice that damnably difficult practice of unconditional love. Most of all, she is grateful for the grace offered to her to live her life with unrelenting integrity.

### QUNO releases briefing paper for Friends.

The Quaker United Nations Office ("QUNO") is releasing a new briefing paper to help Friends better understand migrant and refugee issues. The paper is titled 'Protecting refugees and migrants under the New York Declaration: challenges and opportunities at the UN level,' and you can download it as a PDF here:

QUNO\_Briefing\_for\_Friends\_Refugees\_and\_Migrants\_FINAL.pdf

About this paper, they write, "On September 19th 2016, the UN set a new agenda under the 'New York Declaration' for responding to large movements of people crossing borders. Our briefing aims to inform Friends about the Declaration and the developments it initiates for improving global governance on refugees and migrants. It also describes how QUNO is engaging in these opportunities, as well as ways that Quakers around the world can link up with, and benefit from, UN level initiatives."

QUNO presented this paper at the Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network conference on February 5th at Woodbrooke Study Centre in Birmingham, UK. Click over to our news site to read more about that: <http://www.friendsunitedmeeting.org/news/2017/03/17/quno-releases-briefing-paper-for-friends/>

### For Rent

Available Mid May 2017

1st floor 2 bedroom Apartment; In a Quaker friendly building "Friends" on 2nd and 3rd floors

120 Pleasant Avenue , Portland A great apartment in Deering Center Neighborhood.

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Off street parking for 2 cars in the winter. In the summer off-street parking for one car; Water is included in the rent as is use of washer and dryer for tenants only.

For more information contact Jennifer Frick @ [jfrick47@gmail.com](mailto:jfrick47@gmail.com), 939 1312 (cell)

Peter Raszmann @ Praszmann@myfairpoint.net  
329 8117(cell)(I have Pictures I can forward)  
Or 207 775 5141

### Seeking "WQW" Editor!

The Wider Quaker World Editor, or "WQW Editor" position has just been created and may be just the place for you to contribute to our meeting!

Heather Denkmire handles our newsletter layout and would appreciate the assistance of a person who will collect announcements of events and special announcements of different Quaker organizations. Meeting attenders, committee clerks, and meeting clerks will forward or send articles to the WQW editor each month. WQW editor may also choose to look across the various WQW websites to collect articles (and associated event listing information) as appropriate. WQW editor will create a monthly listing for the meeting newsletter showing the name of the event, name of the organization, date, place, and time of the event and finally, a contact website or person and its electronic address.

Qualifications: Have an e-mail address and capability of receiving and sending an e-mail with the information, once a month, to PFM newsletter. There are no age qualifications or restrictions.

Sample WQW Listings:

#### WQW Events, April, 2017

April 8, 9am – 4 pm NEYM Living Faith Gathering  
Moses Brown School, Providence RI, [www.neym.org/events](http://www.neym.org/events)

April 8, 10a-1p Friends School of Portland Auction  
Friends School of Portland, [brooke@friendsschoolofportland.org](mailto:brooke@friendsschoolofportland.org)

April 28, Celebrating the Ministries of Women Retreat  
Woolman Hill, Deerfield, MA, Ann Armstrong 508-330-2598

*The Seed, or Grace of God, is small in its first Appearance, even as the Morning Light; but as it is given Heed to, and obeyed, it will increase in Brightness, till it shine in the Soul, like the Sun in the Firmament at its Noon-day Height.*  
— Elizabeth Bathurst, 1655-1685

## **Making Presentations at the Meeting for Business**

*Adapted by PFM clerks in 2017 from material prepared by Beacon Hill Friends M&C, 1994*

Presenting a committee report at a monthly meeting for business can be an intimidating task for new Friends and old. The following thoughts may serve to make the process more understandable and less stressful.

*In meeting for business, Friends are seeking to discover and to implement the will of God. Aware that they meet in the presence of God, Friends try to conduct their business reverently in the wisdom and peaceable spirit of Jesus. Insofar as a divine-human meeting takes place, there is order, unity, and power (p. 114, Faith and Practice of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends)*

### **Why do committees make presentations at meetings for business?**

Presentations to the meeting for business usually follow one of three different formats. The first is a review by the committee of work they have done. In this case, the committee is not looking for any approvals, but is merely giving the meeting a summary of their activities. Even though approval of the report is not being sought, it is important that the Clerks and Recording Clerks receive a written copy of the report, so they are not distracted from the meeting for business by a need to take notes on the committee's presentation.

Another type of presentation occurs when a committee has a concern that they wish to bring to the attention of the meeting for business. The committee may not know how best to deal with the concern, but hopes that more Light may be brought to it by presenting it to the meeting for business. The Clerks should be consulted before the decision to bring the matter to the business meeting is made. A presentation of this type would include the work already undertaken by the committee.

A third type of presentation is the offering of a proposed minute for approval by the meeting. The committee should come with their proposed minute written out, although discussion during business meeting may result in changes to the minute. The committee must be in unity with the proposed minute before it is presented to the meeting for business.

### **Requesting time in the meeting for business agenda**

When a committee seeks to make a presentation at a meeting for business, a representative should inform the Clerks of this fact well before the date of the meeting for business. The Clerks spend much time creating an orderly flow of items for the meeting for business. Last-minute additions to the schedule can result in a disjointed agenda.

The Clerks will want to know if the presentation is a simple report, a concern, or a proposed minute being offered for approval. If a proposed minute will be offered, the Clerks will ascertain that the committee is in unity with the proposed minute, and that the committee has spent sufficient time seasoning the issue. The person chosen by the committee to present a proposed minute, a concern, or a report should submit a copy of it to the Clerks, preferably some days before the meeting for business, but in all cases before the committee's presentation.

### **Making the presentation**

Any member of a committee can make a presentation to the meeting for business. It is often helpful for committees to have a training session for meeting for business presentations so that all members of the committee can feel comfortable with the process. When a committee is bringing a proposed minute or a concern to the meeting for business, it is very important that most, if not all, of the committee be present to provide support for the presenter and to provide background information for the matter at hand.

Once the prepared part of the presentation has been made, the presenter should either sit down and settle back into worship or, at the direction of the Clerks, remain standing to answer questions about the presentation. In the case where discussion follows a committee presentation, and where it seems appropriate to minute the sense of the meeting,

### **Making the presentation** (cont-)

it is the responsibility of the Clerk and Recording Clerk, rather than the committee presenter, to formulate that minute. Once a matter has been presented to the business meeting, it no longer “belongs” to the presenter or to the committee, but is to be considered by the business meeting as a whole.

### **Responding to a presentation**

Those Friends who wish to respond to a presentation should raise their hands, or say, “Clerk, please?” to alert the Clerk that they wish to make a contribution. Friends should refrain from speaking without recognition by the Clerk, except to make short statements like “that Friends speaks my mind”. The Clerk will recognize each person in turn, according to their sense of the meeting.

Once recognized, Friends should speak directly to the Clerk, rather than to the presenter, the previous speaker, or the entire meeting. Dialogue between individuals is never appropriate and tends to destroy the worshipful spirit and deliberate pace that are so important to the well-functioning meeting for business. Friends waiting to be recognized by the Clerk should lower their hands while someone else is speaking, and should listen with an open heart to the ministry of other Friends. There are times when the Clerk may ask if those still wishing to respond could put aside their remarks in the interest of moving forward.

Remarks made from the floor of the meeting for business should be made in a spirit of worship. It is often more helpful to reflect upon the broader issues, rather than the subtle nuances of the committee’s presentation. Prolonged discussions on minutiae are rarely helpful. It is often a wise course for the meeting for business to write a minute describing the sense of the meeting, and allow a committee to implement the minute. The committee can then come back to the meeting for business later with a report on their implementation.

### **Approval of items**

If an item of business needs the approval of the meeting, and the Clerks sense unity on the matter, they will read a proposed minute and ask for approval. It is the tradition of Friends to note their approval by saying “Approve” or “I approve”.

Friends who do not feel led to approve a proposed minute should alert the Clerk immediately, and when recognized, express their uneasiness with the minute. The Clerks may then suggest an alternative minute around which the meeting might find unity, return the item to a committee for more seasoning, or postpone further consideration of the matter until a future meeting for business.

### **SUMMARY**

#### **For presenters:**

- Provide the Clerks in advance with a copy of any presentation
- request time on the agenda as far in advance as possible
- present an item with all, or most, of the committee present
- sit down and return to worship after you have finished the prepared presentation

#### **For others:**

- wait to be recognized by the Clerks and speak to the Clerks
- listen with an open heart
- be willing to put aside remarks in the interest of moving forward
- speak promptly if you are not led to approve a proposed minute
- trust the committee and Clerks to take care of the minutiae.

Portland Friends Meeting  
1837 Forest Ave  
Portland, ME 04103

Address Service Requested

**Next newsletter deadline:**  
Tuesday, May 9th, 11:59pm

submissions: [pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net](mailto:pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net)

