

Portland Friends Meeting Newsletter

Sixth Month, 2016

Meeting for Worship:

Sundays, 5pm (summer schedule)



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

Connections

Co-Clerks

Lea Sutton 642-2327
Liz Maier 883-5420

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

Kirk Read
207 782 3524
kirkread@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Coordinators

Christina Davis 518-0784

Religious Education

Adults: Arthur Fink
arthur@arthurfink.com
207 615 5722
Youth: Sarah Peterson, 504-0974
Youth Religious Education Coordinator:
Anne Payson 781-2501

Use of the Meetinghouse

Dorothy Grannell 878-8698
dorothygrannell@maine.rr.com

e-group Coordinator

Mary Beth Walsh 797-8414
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Newsletter

submissions
Heather Denkmire
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Dennis Redfield
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“Ask yourself: Am I down in the flaming center of God? Have I come into the deeps, where the soul meets with God and knows His Love and power? Have I discovered God as a living Immediacy, a sweet Presence and a stirring, life-renovating Power within me? Do I walk by His guidance, feeding every day, like knights of the Grail, on the body and blood of Christ, knowing every day and every act to be a sacrament?”

Thomas Kelly: The eternal promise, 1966, p. 48

Calendar

- June 19:** summer worship schedule begins
- June 25:** 9:30a-4:30p Falmouth Quarter Summer (fun and frolic!) Meeting (details inside)
- July 31:** 7p (after Meeting for Worship and supper) summer Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business
- Sept 11:** 10:30a return to regular Meeting for Worship schedule

Monthly

- Every Sunday:** 9a Meeting for Worship (summers only)
5p Meeting for Worship (summer schedule)
6p potluck dinner
- 1st Thursday:** 4-7p Preble Street Soup Kitchen
Aaiyn Foster 766-9762
- 2nd Saturday:** 5-8p Youngish adults potluck
Bart Czyz, btczyk@gmail.com, 207 899 5937



“The Middles” of First Day School say hello!

(also pictured: art inspired by our ongoing question “what is “being Quaker?”)

Portland Friends Meeting for Business
June 5th, 2016

1. Portland Friends Meeting for Business began with 16 members and attenders present, when co-clerk Lea Sutton read a Query from Thomas Kelly. "Ask yourself: Am I down in the flaming center of God? Have I discovered God as a living immediacy, a sweet Presence, and a stirring, life-renovating Power within me? Do I walk by His guidance ... knowing every day and every act to be a sacrament." We spent a while in silent and expectant worship.
2. The **minutes** of May 3rd 2016 Meeting for Business were accepted with two corrections. One was to correct the spelling of Luke's last name to Hankins and the other was that Colin and Rania were married in a civil ceremony in Philadelphia, not North Carolina.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Kathy Beach reported that May was a good month, with many Friends donating both financially and physically to the life of the Meeting. She commented that she never gets a bill for trash bags or toilet paper, yet those things are magically there for all of us each week. Many thanks to the Building and Grounds committee and to all those who contribute behind the scenes so that all runs smoothly whenever the Meetinghouse is used. We finished the month of May with a positive balance, but we're still in the red overall, though we are in a better financial situation than we were at this time last year.

Quick Summary of Income and Expenses
Five months — 42% of 2016

Year-to-date Income	\$18,847
Percent of Budget	28%
Year-to-date Expenses	\$24,326
Percent of Budget	36%
Balance	(\$5,479)

Our income was \$4,230, and expenses \$3,657, leaving us with a balance of \$573.

Our contributions to other Quaker organizations were \$1083 to NEYM, \$400 to FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation), and \$200 to Falmouth Quarterly Meeting.

We continue to experience problems getting hold of renters who actually want to pay. Some have commented that they need premises with wi-fi.

4. **Ministry and Counsel** report. Jennifer Frick reported that Ministry and Counsel found Jane Mullen and Bill Jose clear for marriage and an oversight committee was appointed. The marriage was enthusiastically approved by the meeting.

Marriages under the care of the meeting will be:

Colin Bussiere-Nichols/Rania Campbell-Cobb (July 24, 2016 at 3pm at Broadturn Farm, Scarborough, Maine):

Oversight clerk: Lise Wagner. Committee members - Jasa Porciello and Kathy Beach

Wedding clerk: Lise Wagner

Karin Wagner/Bernard Mohr (August 13, 2016 at 2pm at Steuben, Maine)

Oversight clerk: Jennifer Frick, members Christine Fletcher and Lise Wagner

Wedding clerk: Jennifer Frick

Jane Mullen/Bill Jose (August 20, 2016 at 1pm at the meeting house.)

Oversight clerk: Liz and Jim Maier, members Ann Harwood and Kiya Smith.

Wedding clerk: Liz Maier

Friends approved called meetings for worship for the conduct of marriage for each of these couples.

June 12th (next Sunday!) is the First Day School Celebration at rise of meeting. All are encouraged to participate.

June 19th begins the summer program for worship at 5 potluck at 6. Summer business meeting is July 31st after worship and supper. The first morning meeting for worship is September 11th, preceded by business meeting. September 18th is the proposed date for the double meeting for worship at the meeting house and Friends School. Worship at the meeting house will start at 10:30 and at the school at 11.m.. Lea Sutton will arrange child care.

The report was accepted and approved.

(cont-)

(continued from page 2)

5. (cont-) Mid-week meeting for worship. These have been sparsely attended and the clerks felt there was not enough commitment to advertise them to the outside world, so they have been removed from the website. In terms of building use, we rarely get a request for 5:30 p.m., but we do need to know for insurance and security reasons if there is someone in the building. If we keep it in the calendar then we know someone may be here. The meeting decided to discuss this again in September.

Dennis Redfield, Muriel Allen and Lise Wagner offered to open the meeting house at 9 a.m. for morning worship on Sundays through the summer. These will be advertised in the newsletter and on the website. Dorothy Grannell commented that other meetings in our quarter offer Sunday morning meetings, and encouraged Friends to visit those to get to know other people in the quarter.

Ad Hoc Communications update. Dorothy Grannell reported that the committee is exploring ways, based on the surveys done this spring, that communications can be integrated with our revised website. They would like to have two email lists - one official and one "community". There are no specific technical recommendations just yet. No changes will be made without meeting approval.

Dennis Redfield wants to join the Ad Hoc Communications group and to work on the technical issues surrounding the e-groups and the web site upgrades. This was approved by the meeting.

Tony Scilipoti has asked to be relieved of his tasks related to the directory and Dennis has stepped forward to take that on as of July 1. Dennis and Jean Fine created the first directory program about 12 years ago so the task would be going back to one of the originators. Friends approved this, and expressed gratitude to Tony Scilipoti for his work.

Those currently working with the different aspects of our communications vehicles are in communication about the ideas and with those who have been faithfully caring for the different electronic communications. Rich Nagle and Tony Scilipoti have been especially helpful working with Dennis and thanks go to them for their work. Dennis has begun working on these projects and wants to dedicate a large portion of his time in July and August. One eventual goal is that individuals would be able to update their own information to keep the directory up to date.

6. The **Cemetery Committee** expressed thanks to Ed Robinson for making the cemetery look splendid for Memorial Day.

7. **Announcements and Calendar:**

The deadline for the newsletter is Thursday June 9th at 9 a.m.

There will be training opportunities this summer for people who wish to know more about the Alternatives to Violence Project. Please contact Tracy Booth on tdbooth@earthlink.net for details, which will also be in the newsletter.

Announcements for Yearly Meeting sessions have gone out and Friends are encouraged to review them and participate if possible.

June 12th First Day School celebration at rise of meeting. All are encouraged to attend.

June 19 - summer MFW schedule begins (worship at 5 pm, potluck supper at 6 pm)

June 25th 9 a.m. Falmouth Quarter meets for fun and frolic - details in the newsletter

July 31 - Summer Meeting for Business at 7:00 pm (after worship and supper)

Sept 11 - 10:30 MFW begins.

Sept 18 - Proposed date for double MFWs, 10:30 at Meetinghouse, 11:00 at Friends School of Portland. Lea Sutton will arrange child care to be provided at both locations.

We finished at 10:20 a.m. in silent worship.

Respectfully submitted

Jenny Doughty, Co-recording clerk



Friends, Frolic and Fellowship Saturday, June 25, 2016 9:30 am – 4:00pm ish



Falmouth Quarterly Meeting Summer Meeting Family Home of Betsy Muench 710 Baypoint Rd Georgetown, ME

Bring a picnic, Frisbee, kayak, sand toys, bathing suit, or walking sticks. Let's get to know our Quaker neighbors better on the lovely coast of Maine. All ages invited **and** bring a lawn chair or blanket for the sand.

We will start with some quiet time for worship (around 10 am) and introductions. - then let the frolic begin. In case of rain there will be crafts and board games (bring your favorite). Stay as long as you are able – clean up starts around 4.

Directions:

Directions to the Holt-Muench property at 710 Bay Point Road in Georgetown:

Take Rt. 127 south from where it crosses Rt. 1 in Woolwich (just across the river from Bath, Maine) and follow it 8.8 miles to Georgetown center. On the right, after you pass the Georgetown Pottery, post office, Country Store and firehouse, Bay Point Road will turn off on the right just as you start down the hill. After about 3 miles Bay Point Road will cross a marsh and make a fairly sharp bend to the left. Start watching on the left for a large bare rock ledge with a white feldspar driveway and a telephone pole just before it. Our mail box may or may not be out on the right. After you turn into the driveway a sign about 5 ft up a tree to the left of the gate says 710/Holt. Follow the driveway down to the end and park on the feldspar circle by the house. Total distance is about 12 miles from Rt. 1. Phone: 371-2237.

Summer Programs at Friends School of Portland

Chickadee Camp for ages 4-6, and **Fox Camp for ages 7-9**, are all about summertime fun. Outdoor play & games, nature studies, a wide range of art activities, and stories & songs will fill the days. There are six one-week sessions beginning June 20 and ending July 29. The day begins at 8:30am and ends at 3:00pm, with optional aftercare until 5:00pm. Camp cost is \$280/week (with an additional fee of \$90/week for aftercare). Led by FSP Art Teacher Laura Glendening. For more details and to register, please visit friendsschoolofportland.org/2016-summer-programs.

Summer Craft Workshops for Adults & Teens at FSP

The Handmade Effect is a community art program--led by FSP Art Teacher Laura Glendening--that explores the stories, processes, and traditions of making objects with human hands. This summer season we are offering seven workshops. From woodworking to textiles and basketmaking, we offer workshops for adults and teens to learn techniques and ideas useful in making beautiful and sometimes useful items. All workshops will take place at Friends School of Portland. Please friendsschoolofportland.org/sites/default/files/2page_handmade_effect.pdf to view the brochure.



THE BULLETIN BOARD

(items here mostly correspond with notices on the Meetinghouse bulletin board)

Peace, Beauty, Privacy. World Class view of Mt. Washington and the Presidential Range. Extraordinary custom built home in the mountains of Western Maine. Price reduced to \$289,900. Arla Patch.

<http://www.berkshirehathawayhs.com/kelly-pitman-real-estate-agent/homes-for-sale/151-Cushman-Hill-Rd-Woodstock-ME-4219-171123319>

Need a Babysitter? House Sitter? Pet or Plant Sitter? – Call Grace Grace Uwinana is a Quaker from Rwanda who is living in Wellesley Estates across from the Meetinghouse. She is a recent graduate of Deering High School who worships with us when she is able. As an asylum seeker she has limited with work options and needs to raise funds for her transportation, books and expenses for when she states college in Madison WI in September. Her social security number and work permit has been applied for but not arrived so she can't apply for a regular summer job. Grace would love to be a help to you. Call her at (325) 201-5361 or e-mail at mutimagraces@gmail.com or look for her when we begin our summer evening worship.



You're invited! Celebrate the marriage of Rania and Colin under the care of Portland Friends Meeting.

*July 24, 3pm at Broadturn Farm
388 Broadturn Rd. in Scarborough, ME*

*Potluck reception immediately following
Like picnicking? Bring a blanket!
If you are able, please bring a dish and utensils*

*RSVP online at www.theknot.com/us/colin-and-rania
Or by phone by calling 215-303-5010*



**NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING**
— OF FRIENDS —
QUAKERS

Online Registration for NEYM Sessions 2016 is open!

We look forward to welcoming you to the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends' 356th Annual Sessions in Castleton, VT, August 6-11, 2016. Our theme this year is: Being the Hands of God: A Call to Radical Faithfulness

For more information, visit neym.org/sessions.

A Message from Sarah, Rob, and Cedar!

Hi friends and family:

We're across the Mississippi! We hit St. Louis a couple days ago. Cedar is now going to take a break to be with her grandparents, while Sarah and I take on the Great Plains.

For photos and stories, please check out our most recent online journal posts, including our progress across southwest Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, in which we get chased by wild dogs, almost get arrested by the local police in Ohio (slight exaggeration), get treated like royalty by the local police in Indiana (no exaggeration), and learn to love (or at least live with) the heat. And lots and lots of ice cream along the way, of course.

You'll also see that the trip has been hard on Cedar lately, so we're shaking things up a bit by having her take a break in June instead of when we originally planned in July. See our recent Big Decisions post for more details on some of our struggles.

All this and more on our blog at: <http://crazyguyonabike.com/doc/sixmonthssixwheels> Thanks so much for accompanying us along the way and we send big hugs and our best to you!

Yours on six wheels,

Sarah, Rob & Cedar

Dear Friends, I want to give you some news about **AVP Maine** and encourage your interest in joining us this summer. Alternatives to Violence Project was begun 35 years ago with Friends and prisoners in Sing Sing NYC to offer skills in communicating non violently, affirmation of self and others and community building. The program has expanded to 40 states, 20+ countries and has become adapted for trauma healing, elderly, and areas of conflict. The Maine AVP has been offering workshops in Windham, Maine State Prison and Cumberland County Jail over a 20 year period. Presently we have workshops scheduled for Windham through this summer and fall which could train a new volunteer in all three levels of our workshops.



The weekend workshops are experiential; meaning that the exercises are designed to open the lines of communication through brainstorming, discussion, problem solving, personal story telling and humor. This is a hallowed ground of opportunity for inmates and facilitators to grow into self awareness and trust. I have learned something about myself during each workshop which has been valuable to me personally. Each workshop is an expression of Quaker values in action with a faith at work integration which moves me spiritually. Participants have reported: " I now see emotions for what they are...not to be feared"; "I see a choice for more peaceful actions"; "I see my demons and my challenges"; " I saw no good in anybody, now I see a chance for caring to exist".

We are in real need for new recruits to AVP this summer to add to our seasoned facilitators. If you have ever thought about AVP or wanted to experience its power I invite your questions and interest this month. We can train new volunteers this season and integrate directly into the prison setting which will give you a direct experience of what the work can do. **Please call Tracy Booth 846-5173 tbooth@earthlink.net <http://avpusa.org/>**

Portland Friends Meeting
1837 Forest Ave
Portland, ME 04103

Address Service Requested

Next newsletter deadline:
Thursday, August 4th, 9am
(no July issue)

submissions: pfmnewsletter@grantwinners.net

