

Worcester Friends Meeting

Religious Society of Friends (Quaker)

901 Pleasant Street
Worcester, MA 01602
Tel. (508) 754-3887

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www.WorcesterFriendsMeeting.org



April - May 2011

QUERIES

Do you revere all life and the splendor of God's continuing creation? Do you try to protect the natural environment and its creatures against abuse and harmful exploitation? Do you regard your possessions as given to you in trust, and do you part with them freely to meet the needs of others? Are you frugal in your personal life and committed to the just distribution of the world's resources?

Clerk's Corner

by Clarence Burley

"It's Always Something."

I wrote these words, which happen to be the title of the autobiography of the late, great Gilda Radner, as an email comment on the need for continual maintenance of our meeting house. In the early hours of the following morning-when I do my best philosophizing-it struck me that these words sum up all I can say about metaphysics. These words are the best answer I can give to the basic question, "Why is there something rather than nothing?"

The material "Something" only exists in an "Always" of time. Conversely time only occurs when there is "some thing" to measure it. The revolution of the earth around the sun measures time for me. The vibration of cesium atoms most accurately measures time for science. Stephen Hawking and other cosmologists tell me there is a quantum vibration in a vacuum, the vacuum before the big bang. They say that this energy gives rise to matter-and its companion time-through Einstein's $m=e/c^2$. They see no need of a god to create the universe-they even posit parallel universes creating themselves infinitely, eternally. That stretches my imagination: a vibration of nothing, no thing, causing something.

But, wait, don't the theologians tell us that God is "no thing"-that God is completely "other" than we can imagine? As Gilda Radner's character, Roseanna Rosannadanna, often said on Saturday Night Live, "It's always something-if it ain't one thing, it's an other."

Putter Day

Saturday, April 2 was a fantastically-fun putter day for those Friends who attended. They joyfully demolished the very old swing set in the lower back yard, using axes and a power saw. They broke up the old wooden shutters by energetically jumping on them. And they filled a dumpster with stuff from the meetinghouse basement.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the Amazing job that Brian Poynton has done in carrying stuff from the attic to the basement! Wow! What a guy! We are blessed.

The puttering Friends sorted and bagged more stuff that was in the cellar, and plan on filling up another dumpster very soon. It will not take very long, but may be just as much fun as April 2nd was .



Mary Chenaille, Darron Barnard, Brian Poynton and Paul Gallagher enjoy filling the dumpster on Putter Day.

Bible Study

Bible Study with **Geoff Knowlton** will meet at 9:30 AM on Third Sunday, April 17.

"Sunday's Bible Study was the most informing time I've ever spent on the Old Testament, perhaps because our teacher loves the passages and elicits so much richness from it--anthropologically, sociologically, as well as religiously. He is a superb teacher, who engages all of us by way of participation." - Mike True

"I was very inspired by Geoff Knowlton's interpretations of the creation story. It made me look at the story in a new way that is alive for me. Before I had rejected it." - Betty Poynton

"I enjoyed it and will keep going as long as Geoff does. I learned quite a bit." - Clarence Burley

On March 20 an enthusiastic group met for our first monthly Bible Study. The study will continue to meet

on the third Sunday (First Day) of every month at 9:30 AM in the Meeting House. Each gathering will be a stand alone study that does not require attending a previous meeting or any former Bible study. In April we will meet on Palm Sunday the 17th. In the spirit of that day and the following week, we will participate in the traditional study topic of the "Last Seven Words of Christ." These "words", phrases actually, offer a powerful insight into Jesus' message and hope for humanity. We will close the study with a look at John's telling of the resurrection which is found in John 20. It promises to be a meaningful 90 minutes. All Friends are welcome to attend. The study is facilitated by Geoff Knowlton. Geoff is a psychotherapist working with children and adults. He is also an ordained minister in the Congregational tradition but was raised a Quaker in the Hanover, NH Meeting.

Quaker Chuckle

Timothy Nicholson, "Master Quaker" to Hoosier Friends, of Richmond, was noted for his persistent and effective hostility to the liquor business. At a meeting of saloon men in a distant city, he was the subject of conversation.

One of the saloon keepers asked, "What kind of a man is that Timothy Nicholson on your town Richmond?"

"O, he is not such a bad sort if he would let liquor alone," was the reply.

HA!

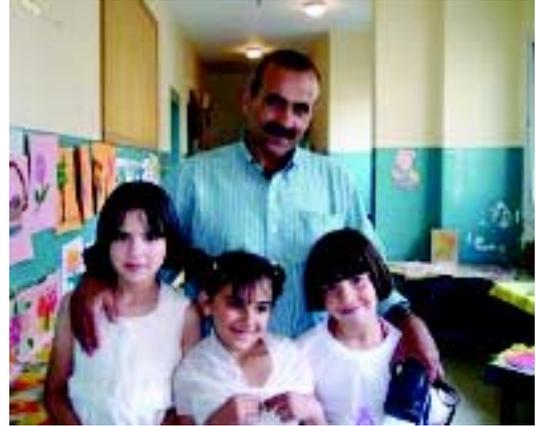


HA!

Worcester Friends will remember Mohammed Salwaha, our guest in 2009. He and his son joined us for an afternoon and spoke about the Palestinian House of Friendship. He is the founder of this project and a professor of Linguistics at An Najah University in Nablus.

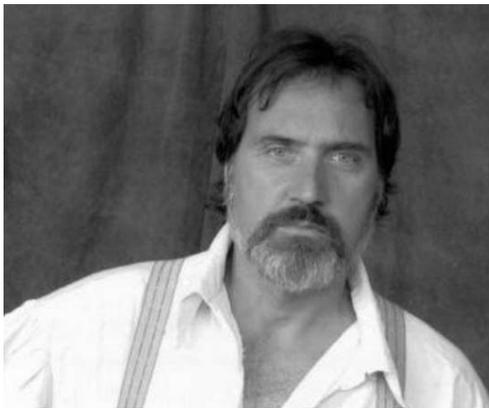
On Wednesday, June 7, we will be pleased to host Mohammed Salwaha for a fund raising event for the Palestinian House of Friendship. Mohammed Salwaha will speak at 7 PM, about the PHF and the current situation in the West Bank. Join us for pot luck at 6:15 PM.

This event is co-sponsored by our tenants, The Center for Non-violent Solutions. If you are unable to attend, please visit the web site to learn more about the PHF and make a contribution. <http://www.the-icsee.org/projects/>



Spoken Word Event

Spoken Word Events continues to be a popular happening. April 9th we were graced with the appearance of storyteller Valerie Tutson from Providence, R.I. Valerie's program, *Daughter of Liberty: Stories of African American Women during the Colonial and Revolutionary Times*, delighted



and educated all of us who were there. Her story of Mabet, a woman who was determined to be free, was inspiring and the story of the first First Family's relationship with a slave was eye-opening.

Steven Collins will return to our Spoken Word

Series on Saturday, May 14 at 7:30 PM. He captivated the audience last year with his portrayal of Walt Whitman on the evening of his 70th birthday. This year, Steven will recite some of Robert Frost's poetry and lead a discussion at *An Evening of Frost*.

Testing the strength of branches

by Sandra Kocher

White-breasted nuthatches

climb down trees

headfirst

I go down slowly...

feet first

carefully testing

the strength of branches

wishing

I, too, might dive

headfirst

into life

swiftly

assuredly as a bird.



Spring Market Day

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 4 for our Spring Market Day. This is a great time to get together and help raise funds for our Meeting. Donations of books, all sorts of baked goods, and plants are needed.



Come help bake rhubarb pies on Friday evening, June 3rd from 5-8. Lots of help is needed on Saturday for set-up, selling our goods, and clean-up afterwards. Check the sign-up sheet at Meeting to let us know how you can help out.

Quarterly Meeting 04-17

by Clarence Burley

Worcester Friends hosted the Rhode Island-Smithfield Quarterly Meeting post pot-luck on Sunday.

Nancy and David Haines described their role as co-clerks of the committee planning for the 2012 Friends General Conference Gathering which will be held at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, July 1-7, 2012. The inclusive theme will be "All God's Critters Got A Place In The Choir" to combine diversity with community. Planning for the Gathering is underway. Providence Meeting is helping with a lot of the local arrangement details. The clerks extended a cordial invitation to join them in envisioning a challenging, inspirational and fruitful week. Several suggestions for programming were made from the floor and noted by the clerks. These self-appointed committee persons and Friends with ideas for programs for adults, high schoolers and juniors are urged to contact Nancy and David at haines2012@gmail.com or 508-435-9660. The next Gathering planning meeting will be held at Wellesley Friends Meeting House on April 29-30, 2011. Meetings will follow in September and be finalized in December.

Meeting for business then gathered with silent worship followed by approval of the minutes of the Octo-

ber meeting and the treasurer's report of some \$5000 in the Quarter's general funds and over \$47,000 in the Aldrich Fund for personal emergency needs. Memorial minutes for Hermann Patt, Charles Perry, of Westerly Meeting, and Grace Blaber were read. Friends approved forwarding them to Yearly Meeting with a recommendation to publish the first two.

State of Society Reports were read by representatives of Providence, Worcester and Westerly Meetings. They will be forwarded to Yearly Meeting. Smithfield Meeting members presented an unofficial oral report on the serious financial situation they are in. Key-their word-members have been lost by moving, aging, and personal tragedy. The retirement of the pastor-due in part to the financial picture-leaves them with an empty dwelling in need of a Resident Friend to care for their properties. They do find comfort by Friends volunteering to fill the pastoral role for First Day worship. The Smithfield Meeting was urged to make their State of Society report in writing as a basis for asking assistance from Quarterly and Yearly Meetings.

A period of silent worship closed the meeting, purposing to meet in Providence on July 17, 2011.

First Day School's Pennies For Peace Project Concluded



Finnigan, Zika and Lucy count pennies at the coin counting machine.



Our First Day school children had a field trip on Sunday, March 27th when they traveled to the TD bank with Katherine Barnard and Katie Green. TD bank has a coin counting machine that is free to their customers. The kids were excited to learn that their efforts raised enough money to pay for school costs

for six children in Pakistan to go to school for a whole year.

The children raised \$127.21 during their Pennies for Peace campaign that took place in November and December. A check for that amount has been mailed to Greg Mortenson's organization. (Yes, you will notice that there is a three month delay between the end of the Pennies for Peace campaign and the mailing of the check. Part of that is because of "Quaker time", but the real reason - excuse - is that we unsuccessfully tried to roll the pennies. Wow! That really takes a lot of time. And then Katie Green wanted to have most of the children present for the "field trip."

Pennies for Peace™ is a program of Central Asia Institute. Our donation is a restricted donation, where 100% of the money will be used for overseas program support.

* * *

Nicholas D. Kristof, a columnist for the New York Times since 2001, is a two-time Pulitzer Prize. He writes:

The furor over Greg's work breaks my heart. And the greatest loss will be felt not by those of us whose hero is discredited, nor even by Greg himself, but by countless children in Afghanistan who now won't get an education after all. But let's not forget that even if all the allegations turn out to be true, Greg has still built more schools and transformed more children's lives than you or I ever will.

As we sift the truth of these allegations, let's not allow this uproar to obscure that larger message of the possibility of change. Greg's books may or may not have been fictionalized, but there's nothing imaginary about the way some of his American donors and Afghan villagers were able to put aside their differences and prejudices and cooperate to build schools and a better world.

* * *

I remember hearing an odd news report last year. It told me that Greg Mortenson's work in Afghanistan and Pakistan was a cause of the problems that the U.S. was having in these countries. It is true that he has been amazingly successful in bringing an awareness of the area to adults and children. Was Mortenson too successful? I cannot help but wonder if he might be "targeted", as other political activists have been. - ktg



Malcom gets more pennies for the counting machine.

Betty Poynton's mother, Mildred Patt, passed away at home in West Brookfield on March 14th. She was surrounded by loving family members. Mildred's memorial service was held at the Congregational Church in West Brookfield.

A Gift From The Alternatives To Violence Program

by Katie Green

In 2008 I attended a workshop at NEYM Sessions about the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) given by Nancy Shippen and a young man from Rwanda. He had participated in AVP programs for healing wounds and rebuilding after the genocide. I was totally impressed, and wanted more information about AVP.

The Alternatives to Violence Project is a network of volunteers who run workshops for anyone who wants to find ways of resolving conflict without resorting to violence. AVP began in 1975 as a project between a New York prison and Quakers. Today AVP workshops are given in prisons and in communities around the world. More information is available at <http://www.avpinternational.org>. Nancy Shippen is the Chair of AVP Massachusetts. She is also the NEYM representative to Friends Peace Team. <http://friendspeaceteams.org>

In March, I had the opportunity to attend the Basic AVP training workshop at Shirley Massachusetts Correctional Institute. While most of the activities and exercises were familiar to me from years of teaching Creative Conflict Solutions in the Classroom at Fitch-



burg State College, and I had led workshops at national conferences dedicated to conflict resolution participating in these exercises with prison inmates was a new experience.

The Basic AVP training took place over a weekend - Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. There were 5 AVP trainers present for the 20+ inmates and myself. Three of the trainers were inmates who had completed AVP Basic, Advanced, and Training-for-Trainers. It was an enriching and informative experience. I look forward to spending another weekend in prison in May, so I can complete the AVP Advanced training.

The gift from AVP? Oh, yes: Seeing that of God in every person. I came away from my weekend in Shirley MCI with a new appreciation for people who work in unskilled jobs. Rashad is an AVP trainer, has been in prison for 22 years. He can tell you how many days that is; how many hours have been "wasted," as he puts it. He told me that this time he was determined to stay out of jail. He would not go back to his "old ways," but rather, he would "take off the McDonald's jacket, and immediately put on the Burger King jacket" if necessary to hold two jobs and make enough money.

Immigration Workshop

by Clarence Burley

Worcester town was recently (03-11-11) the site of a workshop of the Mass. Council of Churches titled Immigration, the Church and the Bible. The presenter, M. Daniel Carroll R., Prof. of Old Testament at Denver Seminary, glories in his maternal Hispanic heritage and had our rapt attention for two, two-hour well-attended sessions covering:

- (1) The Challenge, To think biblically and christianly about immigration;
- (2) The Importance, The centrality of the immigration metaphor for faith; and
- (3) Reading the Bible, A minority culture view-An Immigrant Appreciation.

Prof. Carroll noted the biblical injunctions to care for strangers because the Israelites were, and we as their heirs are, only sojourners, "strangers in a strange

land." He emphasized the work ethic of the immigrants in those lines of work most of us find unattractive.

The host committee then had sign-ups for those (mostly clergy) who wanted to go further into holding local workshops on the topic, sermons, resources, etc.

Katie Green and I attended and I hope departed with a greater appreciation of the importance of the issue. Other Friends attending were Linda Jenkins, Judy Goldberger, a Friend (name forgotten) from Hartford who is actively working on the immigrant issue, and, of course, Martha Yeager of the Providence AFSC and our own Center for Non-violent Solutions, who is right on top of it in a major way.

Prof. Carroll's list of further readings and resources is in the library for Friends who wish to delve further.

I attended the Worcester Interfaith meeting on March 31st. Worcester Interfaith has officially been renamed Central Mass Interfaith. Rev. Kevin Beam, of All Saint's Episcopal Church, moved that the Interfaith organization expand to include all of Worcester County. Because of the way legislative districts are drawn including all of the county increases the number of representatives in the legislatures and will increase the amount of money we are able to apply for and receive. After discussion, the 12 member faith communities present voted in the affirmative.

Central Interfaith is at the point of increasing involvement of member faith communities and forming a draft of a platform of issues important to all. Frank Kartheiser plans a 100 member gathering at All Saint's of member communities currently involved with Interfaith. Those assembled will be giving form to a platform of issues important to their community. Tentatively suggested issues include: education, youth, jobs, health care.

Each Church, Synagogue, Meeting is asked to send representation to the next meeting of the Central Mass Interfaith to be held May 17 at 7 pm. The meeting is currently scheduled for All Saint's. Each person at the last meeting offered up the number of members it felt capable of bringing to the meeting. Anyone who knows Franks will understand my enthusiastic response: 5-7 representatives from Worcester Friend's Meeting. I think we can gather 7 Friends to attend this important gathering meeting. Each attendee will be able to spend time with a another member to form friendships. A platform of issues will be formulated and plans for the future undertaken.

We were a member of Worcester Interfaith in 2010 and are continuing in 2011 with Central Mass Interfaith. Our level of financial commitment is open. Consider e-mailing or catching me on Sunday for more information and to sign up for this faith based social advocacy force. Frank and Kevin Beam are quite accessible and can better answer many particular questions.

Woolman Hill Retreats

Woolman Hill Quaker Retreat Center 107 Keets Road Deerfield MA 01342 413-774-3431
<http://www.woolmanhill.org> info@woolmanhill.org

Annual Spring Renewal Retreat

Journey Toward An Undivided Life

An Introductory Circle of Trust® and Mindfulness Retreat

Valerie Brown & Richard Brady, May 20-22, 2011

This retreat will develop contemplative tools, including mindfulness practices, and use them to explore the intersection of our personal and professional lives. We will reflect, share stories and gain insights from poetry, journaling, mindfulness meditation, music, and movement. Clearness committees will be offered to support discernment around difficult life or vocational issues.



Annual Summer Solstice Retreat

Many Paths, One Light: Quaker, Buddhist and Sufi Practices

Rahima Wade, Andy Grant and others TBA, June 16-19, 2011

In the summer abundance of the hill, come explore practices from three faith traditions that will deepen your own spiritual life, connect you with other seekers, and provide time to glory in the simple joys of nature, breath, light, and wonder. Meditate, worship, sing, dance, be...

Dismas Family Farm



You, too, can help the guys at Dismas! Several Worcester Friends share supper with the fellows at Dismas House on the second Wednesday of each month. We find the experience meaningful and enriching. Here is another way that Friends can support the guys :

Please vote for Dismas! On April 15, voting begins for the 2011 Communities Take Root program. Edy's Fruit Bars will launch a nation-wide public relations and media campaign, encouraging people across the United States to visit <http://www.CommunitiesTakeRoot.com> to cast their vote for deserving organizations such as **The Dismas Family Farm**. Last year, tens of thousands of people voted for their favorite farm.

The winner receives a brand new orchard! In the case of the Dismas Family Farm, we would like to plant an entire blueberry field. This would assist the farm in generating income, which would support the mission of reconciliation between the former prisoners who live there and society.

YOU CAN VOTE ONCE A DAY!

Please log onto <http://www.CommunitiesTakeRoot.com> and vote for Dismas! To learn more about the Dismas Farm, please visit <http://www.dismashouse.org/news-dismas-family-farm.php>

It is necessary to create an account on the Edy's Fruit Bar website. Once that is done, add the website to your list of "Favorites" and cast a vote for Dismas every day!!!

Our Clerk, Clarence Burley, writes:

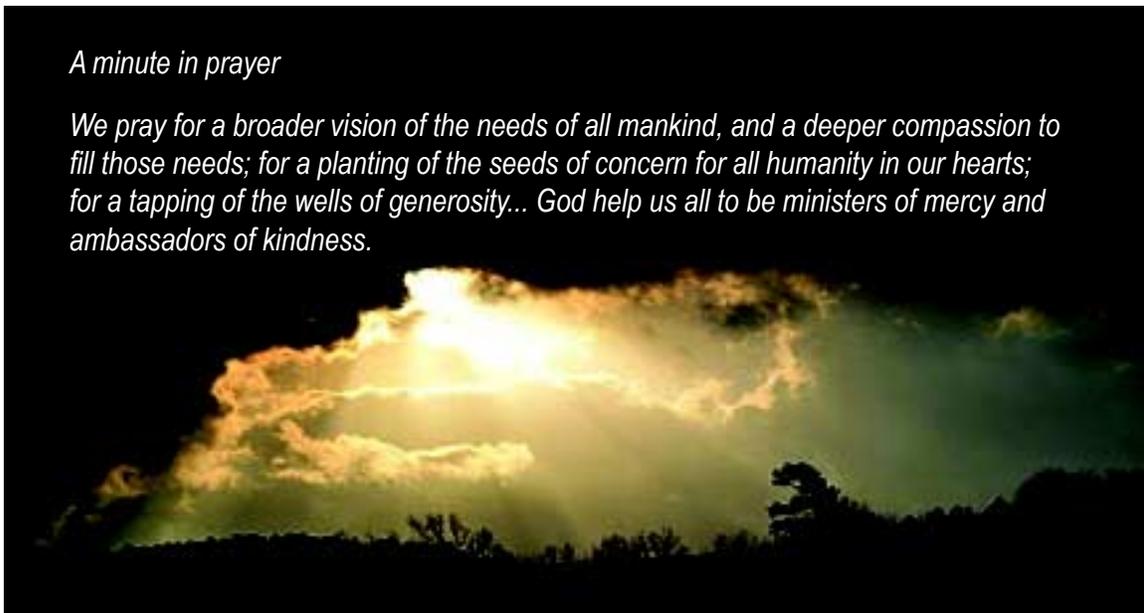
"Dear Members and Attenders,

Several Worcester Friends support Dismas House in their work of reintegrating former inmates of penal institutions into the community. All of us comfortably at our computer keyboards can try to help their Dismas Family Farm housing project in Oakham win a blueberry orchard by going to the link in the subject line, registering once, and then voting every day for this worthy charity in the contest screen under Massachusetts, Worcester."

For more information about Dismas House and the Dismas Family Farm in Oakham, contact Friend Paul Gallagher or Colleen Hilferty/Dave McMahon. Colleen is the Executive Director, and can be reached at (508) 799-9389 or cmdismashouse@aol.com

A minute in prayer

We pray for a broader vision of the needs of all mankind, and a deeper compassion to fill those needs; for a planting of the seeds of concern for all humanity in our hearts; for a tapping of the wells of generosity... God help us all to be ministers of mercy and ambassadors of kindness.



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Nancy and David Haines described their role as co-clerks of the committee planning for the 2012 Friends General Conference Gathering which will be held at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, July 1-7, 2012. The inclusive theme will be "All God's Critters Got A Place In The Choir" to combine diversity with community. Planning for the Gathering is underway. Providence Meeting is helping with a lot of the local arrangement details. The clerks extended a cordial invitation to join them in envisioning a challenging, inspirational and fruitful week. Several suggestions for programming were made from the floor and noted by the clerks. These self-appointed committee persons and Friends with ideas for programs for adults, high schoolers and juniors are urged to contact Nancy and David at haines2012@gmail.com or 508-435-9660. The next Gathering planning meeting will be held at Wellesley Friends Meeting House on April 29-30, 2011. Meetings will follow in September and be finalized in December.

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A period of silent worship closed the meeting, purposing to meet in Providence on July 17, 2011.

After I finished up the tidying from Easter with the grandchildren and was putting this newsletter "to bed," I ran across these sentences in my computer. I don't know if I wrote them. I was reminded that our Quaker process is a reflection of our lives and the way we experience our interactions with others - our families, our peers, ourselves (even the Minute of Going Forth), so I thought I'd share them. -ktg

Each Quaker Monthly Meeting is defined by its members. Quakers have a history of speaking their truth. It is no surprise that these are not always the same truths. The Worcester Friends Meeting has its own experiences of division and uniting.

We have many opportunities to seek that of God in each person as we listen to each other and maintain that not one person or one group of people holds all of the Truth. We are interdependent on each other. We must be able to stay open to listen to each other and to hear different opinions.

Worcester Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

March 13, 2011

Present: Betty Jones, Katie Green, Phil Stone, Daron Barnard, Mark Sullivan, Michael True, Barbara Sullivan, Clarence Burley, clerk.

01-03-13-2011 Meeting began with a period of silence and a reading from Isaiah 68:6-10.

02-03-13-2011 Trustees reported on several ongoing Building and Grounds projects. Work continues on the letter to members regarding membership status.

03-04-13-2011 Peace & Social Concerns notes that 22 people attended the Spoken Word event last night. Everyone enjoyed it and costs were met by donations.

Trustees joined the meeting with Frank Kartheiser from Worcester Interfaith who appealed for input from Friends as to what concerns were seen as important for the community. The group is asking all involved faith groups for similar input.

They note there is a rally for Discernment and Peace in Boston on Easter weekend, and hope that Friends will take part.

Peace Vigils continue weekly on Tuesdays at Lincoln Square.

The Center for Nonviolent Solutions is sponsoring a talk by David Adams, former head of UNESCO task force for the Culture of Peace, at the Worcester Public Library this Saturday.

There is interest in starting a worship group at MCI Shirley. There will be an orientation for interested participants Monday, March 25 at the prison.

Katie Green and Clarence Burley attended a workshop on Immigration, the Church and the Bible at the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

There is a community interest in a training for peacekeepers due to the expected increase in public demonstrations.

03-03-13-2011 Building & Grounds is continuing to work on painting the meeting room and refinish the floors as well as completing the electrical work.

A dumpster will be ordered, and a putter day is scheduled April 2 to remove the trash, clean and do minor repairs.

04-03-13-2011 There was no report from Ministry & Counsel.

05-03-13-2011 The treasurer's report notes no major changes.

06-03-13-2011 Opportunity having been given for questions and concerns, meeting ended with a period of silence purposing to meet again Fourth month, tenth, or at the call of the clerk.

Submitted in the Light,

Barbara Sullivan, recording clerk

Worcester Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

April 10, 2011

Present: Betty Jones, Betty Poynton, Brian Poynton, Karen Sargent, Phil Stone, Matthew Shorten, Mark Sullivan, Michael True, Barbara Sullivan, Virginia Swain, Clarence Burley, clerk.

01-04-10-2011 Meeting began with a period of silence and a reading from On Living with a Concern for Gospel Ministry, by Brian Drayton.

02-04-10-2011 Ministry & Counsel presented the State of Society report for Friends consideration. Friends approved the report with minor revisions. It will be forwarded to Smithfield Quarterly Meeting.

03-04-10-2011 Matt Shorten was approved by the committee as the new clerk of the committee.

04-04-10-2011 Bible study began, led by Jeff Knowlton; the next will be April 17 at 9:30 AM.

05-04-10-2011 Overlook worship group has had good attendance in their new meeting place.

06-04-10-2011 Friends ask that the committee continue to stay in touch with Friends who have not been able to attend, or have been absent.

07-04-10-2011 Peace and Social Concerns reports good success with the Spoken Word Series. There was very good attendance with last night's program. Next month's program will be on the poetry of Robert Frost.

08-04-2011 The committee helped sponsor "Life Leadership Award Ceremony" at Briarwood, which was well attended.

09-04-10-2011 Mohammed Salwaha, the Founder of the Palestine House of Friendship, will be in town the first week of June, and the meeting has been asked if we would co-sponsor a speaking event with the Catholic Worker House for him that week. Friends ask the committee to proceed with this project.

10-04-10-2011 Trustees are preparing a letter is being drafted to members/attenders regarding continuing membership, and also the request from NEYM for data on members.

10-04-10-2011 The trustees ask if Friends would agree to changing payments to NEYM from annually to quarterly at their request, to help cash flow. Friends approve.

10-04-10-2011 Putter day filled a dumpster last week. More trash is to be thrown out this week.

11-04-10-2011 An inspection of the house's rear foundation revealed a need for general pointing and some replacement of crumbling bricks. Building & Grounds is asked to contact a mason for an estimate.

12-04-10-2011 There was a discussion of the meeting's involvement with Worcester Interfaith, Inc. Those Friends who are involved with the group are encouraged to continue, and report back to the meeting. The meeting agrees to continue our financial support this year.

13-04-10-2011 The treasurer's report notes that due to no unexpected expenses, there is a positive balance.

14-04-10-2011 Building and Grounds has a handyman coming in to do several small jobs. They met with a painter who suggested replacing the canvas ceiling with sheetrock, the alternative being finding someone who can replace or repair it. Friends ask that the committee look for a painter familiar with this type of ceiling and ask them for recommendations.

15-04-10-2011 The committee found the architects plans for the land. They would like direction as to whether we should discuss paving plans with Reiner. This matter is laid over till the May meeting for business.

16-04-10-2011 Quarterly Meeting will be held at this meeting next Sunday with meeting afterwards to discuss plans for FGC Gathering 2012 in Rhode Island. Friends are reminded additional food for pot luck will be needed.

17-04-10-2011 Market Day is scheduled for Saturday June 4th. Friends are asked to contribute plants, books, and baked goods. Piemaking will be the Friday before.

18-04-10-2011 Opportunity having been given for questions and concerns, meeting closed with a period of silence, purposing to meet again, fifth month, eighth, or at the call of the clerk.

Submitted in the Light,

Barbara Sullivan, recording clerk

Scheduled Meetings

First Sunday 9:30 am	Trustees, Peace/Social Concerns
Second Sunday 9:00 am	Meeting for Business
Third Sunday 9:30 am	Bible Study with Geoff Knowlton
Fourth Sunday 9:30 am	Ministry and Counsel
Worship Groups:	1st Wednesday, 3:30 PM at Overlook in Charlton and 4th Monday, 12:30 PM, at the Highlands in Fitchburg

Worcester Friends Meeting is known as "the Meeting for eating."

Set up for pot luck is voluntary. If you are unable to set-up on your scheduled day, Please contact Paul - 508-981-7285

4/17/11	Shorten, Matthew	978-355-6840	mattshorten@yahoo.com
4/24/11	Stone, Ida	508-799-6698	
5/1/11	Stone Philip	978-464-5146	pstonelaw@rcn.com
5/8/11	Sullivan, Barbara	508-835-4718	barbarasullivan900@msn.com
5/15/11	Sullivan, Mark	508-835-4718	marksullivan432@msn.com
5/22/11	Swain, Virginia	508-245-6843	swain@global-leader.org
5/29/11	True, Michael	508-757-8228	true@eve.assumption.edu
6/5/11	Bennett, Mary	508-885-0717	marybennett@earthlink.net
6/12/11	Barnard, Daron	508-854-4792	daronbarnard@yahoo.cm
6/19/11	Barnard, Katherine	508-854-4792	kc_barnard@yahoo.com

Newsletter editor for April/May: Katie Green. Future newsletter editors: Betty and Brian Poynton. Next deadline, May 31. Please send contributions to ejp4@fastmail.fm or poyntonbrian@gmail.com

Clerk: Clarence Burley 508-735-4353