

Call to Yearly Meeting Sessions 2006

Photo: Courtesy Peterson Toscano



Peterson Toscano, a theatrical performance activist, member of Hartford Friends Meeting and a resource person for NEYM Young Friends, will be our Tuesday night speaker. Peterson travels throughout North America, Europe and West Africa presenting original one-person comedies that address social justice issues. A gay Christ-centered Quaker, he uses a non-violent approach to expose injustice and oppression. Some of his works include, *How the Indians Discovered Columbus*, *Queer 101* and *Doin' Time in the Homo No Mo Halfway House*. For more information go to petersontoscano.com

Dearly Beloved Friends...

Christopher McCandless, New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) Presiding Clerk

EACH YEAR, FOR ALMOST THREE AND A HALF CENTURIES, Quakers in New England have gathered in corporate worship to be renewed, to lift one another up, and to discern the prophetic call to the work that God would have us do. In the words of William Penn, I invite us to come together to “sit down in True Silence, resting from your own Will and Workings, and waiting upon the Lord fixed with you minds in the Light where-with Christ has enlightened you, refreshes you, and prepares you and your spirits and souls to make you fit for...service, that you may offer unto [God] a pure and spiritual sacrifice.”

I pray that our days together in August will be filled with times of True Silence, and that we will be able to help one another put aside our own Wills and Workings, to embrace the Holy Obedience of listening and responding to the Source. I pray that our spoken ministry, when it arises, is brief but rich, in tune with the music of our silence. I pray that we will on occasion be blessed with the power of song, as an affirmation of the presence

of a just and loving God, and an invitation to be in that Presence.

As we take up the sometimes difficult challenges presented in our items of business, let us not be afraid to continue the waiting in True Silence. Out of it, we know the Spirit will lead us to be patient and forgiving with one another. But let us also pray that it will lead us to be bold in our undertakings, to risk much for our faith, to make our True Witness in a world of suffering and war. Then we may “spare no place, spare not tongue nor pen, but be obedient to the Lord God and go through the world and be valiant for the Truth upon earth... [to] be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations wherever you come; that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them. Then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.” —From George Fox’s letter to ministers, sent in 1656 when he was imprisoned in Launceston, Cornwall.

Photo: Courtesy Earlham College



Trayce N. Peterson, Director of Campus and Quaker Ministries at Earlham College, will be giving the Bible Half Hours. As Friends United Meeting’s first Quaker volunteer to Belize, Central America, she taught in a girls high school and helped develop a literacy program with the Sisters of Charity in Belize City. She served as the presiding clerk of the Chicago Fellowship of Friends Meeting and on the board of various national peace and justice organizations, such as *New Call to Peacemaking*, *Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT)* and *Pendle Hill*. She served as a member of a CPT delegation to Palestine and Israel and has led Bible study at *Friends General Conference annual gathering*, *Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns Mid-winter gathering*, *Baltimore* and *New York Yearly Meetings Annual Sessions*.

to Witness” in our corporate and individual lives, we can draw from the richness of so many seasoned Friends. Bring a friend, your grandchildren, your spouse, your partner. NEYM Sessions is the place to be.

After you have marked those dates clearly on your calendar, consider the ways that are available to help you to pay for the housing and registration fees. For example, you have an opportunity to apply for assistance through the Equalization Fund. If

Holy Obedience: From Worship to Witness

Carol Letson, Sessions Committee Clerk

YOU ARE INVITED TO BE A PART of the large body of New England Quakers gathered together in August at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI. Accept the challenge of sitting down with your calendar and setting aside these six days, August 5th to 10th. You can take part in the energizing experience of being among so many acquaintances, who will soon become dear friends. As we consider the theme of “Holy Obedience: From Worship

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to Witness” in our corporate and individual lives, we can draw from the richness of so many seasoned Friends. Bring a friend, your grandchildren, your spouse, your partner. NEYM Sessions is the place to be.

Members of the Committee on Ministry and Counsel are hold-



Lloyd Lee Wilson, our Key-note speaker, is a recorded minister of the gospel in Rich Square Monthly Meeting, Woodland, NC (North Carolina Yearly Meeting—Conservative), where he and his family are members. He serves Chowan University as Registrar and Assistant Professor of Religion.

continued next page

Call to Yearly Meeting Sessions 2006: "Holy Obedience: From Worship to Witness" (continued)

ing the quality of worship at Sessions under their care. There are many opportunities to talk with members of the committee during the week, to attend worship sharing groups and early morning worship. A challenge is for us to make space for worship when we fill our days and nights with attending interesting meetings and social events. Be mindful, keep a balance in your day. Exhaustion on Thursday is not the goal we seek. Keep space in your schedule for personal reflection or rest.

Many volunteer coordinators are on hand to make sure your experiences are enjoyable and fulfilling. Please check off one or more of the volunteer opportunities on the registration form because when you volunteer, you are immediately "part of the action" in making this a great experience for those who are attending.

I grew up in a very small Florida meeting and during my school years we traveled to other meetings in the state. This was my only experience with other Quakers who worked for civil rights and believed in peaceful civil actions. In my school and my neighborhood I knew of no others who worked for a better world in the same way. Now that I live in Massachusetts, I marvel at the richness of this yearly meeting—rich in history and character. NEYM Sessions is the place that draws me to explore the beliefs and experiences of others from near and far.

We come together to worship and to do worshipful business. The opportunity to prayerfully carry on our business together takes time and patience. We will continue to explore Holy Obedience and its role in our worship, in our work and play. Do join us in August.

Sessions Announcements

Please come to Sessions scent free

Please remember to come to Sessions scent free so that others may enjoy the time we have together. There are scents in a number of personal care products from shampoos, hair gels, after shave to laundry detergent and dryer sheets. Look for the unscented options in your grocery and health food stores. The chemicals in felt pens and markers including the dry erase markers in the classroom are making a number of people sick, so please only use non-toxic markers and pens. There will be non-toxic markers and pens at the information desk if you need them. Thank you from the Accessibility Committee. Contact Jean Barger (Lawrence), 413/259-1964 • sanerosewater@yahoo.com

Bookstore sales & consignment items

Anyone wishing to sell items in the Bookstore at NEYM Sessions should make arrangements by early July. A variety of items are sold, including Quaker books, Friendly crafts, and items from Quaker organizations. You will receive a number with which to mark your items. Contact Sandy Moyer 978/582-3300 • sjmoyer@juno.com

Equalization Fund, call for support

The Equalization Fund provides scholarships of up to 75% of the cost of attending NEYM Sessions for any member or attender of an NEYM meeting. The Fund's goal is for no one to miss Sessions due to finances. As a recipient of the Equalization Fund for years, I can tell you that I could not have attended, grown spiritually, and made contributions to NEYM over the past years as a Friend of color without this Fund.

Please check whether or not your Meeting has made a donation to the Equalization Fund this year. If they have not, please ask your Meeting to consider doing so as soon as possible. I can report that there are some Meetings whose members and attenders are helped by the Equalization Fund but do not as a Meeting make a donation to the Fund. My hope is that this will change.

Individuals also have an opportunity to contribute to the Equalization Fund when you register for NEYM Sessions. All contributions from \$5 to \$500 dollars are gratefully accepted and much needed.

I wish to update you at this time about the Equalization Committee. We are at present a small committee. Permanent Board has recommended that the functions of the Equalization Committee become part of the Sessions Committee. We want to ensure that the Equalization Fund is available in the future for those who cannot attend NEYM without our help. The future of the Equalization Committee will be decided at NEYM Sessions this August. Thank you for helping with the Equalization Fund, and please hold us in the light.

—James Varner, Clerk EQ Committee

Money Money Money

Let me be direct and clear, this is intended to get you to donate some money to the Equalization Fund for Sessions. The Equalization Fund exists because we—as individuals and meetings—support it each year to ensure that Sessions is financially

Photo: Courtesy Bryant University



Bryant University campus

accessible to all of us. Without it, we'd be failing on the equality and community testimonies and could not conduct our business sessions in good order.

I did a little loose math, and if everyone in the Yearly Meeting, who did not use the Equalization Fund, contributed \$4.20—all requests could be funded. Now, we can't expect the toddlers to donate and some folks are putting kids through college, caring for parents, in between jobs, etc. Even if you never attend Sessions yourself, a small contribution goes a long way towards supporting the health and vitality of our Yearly Meeting. I know many of you already give to and through your monthly meetings or directly to the Yearly Meeting, supporting the administrative and ministerial work of NEYM (including my salary, thank you!). What is different about this is that Sessions is the one time each year when we gather as a body in worship to discern how best to be a Spirit-led Yearly Meeting. Equalization is about supporting our corporate spiritual life and witness. So, I invite you to really think about and act on what you can contribute to the Equalization Fund. Thanks!

—Lisa Graustein for Sessions Committee

2006 ANNUAL SESSIONS ADVANCE INFORMATION

Saturday, August 5 – Thursday, August 10, 2006 • Bryant University, Smithfield, RI

NEW! Online Registration
at neym.org

ADVANCE PLANNING AND REGISTRATION

Deadline for advance planning is June 30, 2006.

AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT, VCRs, DVD players, video projectors, computers, are available in most classrooms.

EQUALIZATION/FINANCIAL AID is available through the NEYM Equalization Fund. Applications for grants are on the registration form. Please complete all calculations and **GET YOUR MONTHLY MEETING CLERK'S SIGNATURE**, before sending your completed registration form to the NEYM Registrar postmarked on or before 6/30/06. Do not mail after July 22nd. Contact Laurel Swan, NEYM Registrar.

NO PETS PERMITTED on the Bryant College campus.

SALE AND CONSIGNMENT ITEMS will be located in the Bookstore. To sell items at the Bookstore, contact, Sandy Moyer, NEYM Bookstore Manager, 978/582-3300 • sjmoyer@juno.com.

SPACE FOR EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS AND ARTWORK must be requested by 6/30/06. Contact the NEYM Office, 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908 • neym@neym.org.

SPECIAL MEETING ROOM ASSIGNMENTS are scheduled by the NEYM Office, 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908 • neym@neym.org.

PLEASE BE FRAGRANCE FREE at NEYM Sessions. Chemical sensitivities make some Friends very ill when they are exposed to scented products. Please refrain from using personal care products such as scented lotions, hair gel or spray, scents, spray deodorants and dryer sheets.

Youth Programs Information

Each participant in all Sessions youth programs **must submit a Health Form to complete their registration**. All forms and registration information are available from the NEYM website, neym.org. Click on "Annual Sessions 2006," or contact the Registrar.

CHILDCARE for ages 4 & under is available in the mornings until 11:45 AM and afternoons until 5:00 PM. Drop-in orientation on Saturday is between 3:00 & 4:15 PM. Coordinator: Kimberly Burnworth Walker, 617/983-0096 • kbwalker@alumni.brown.edu.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING (entering grades K–6) is a structured program of learning, fun, & friendships. Parents should not bring or send children unless they are prepared to participate in the program. Parents are responsible for their children during unscheduled periods. Parents & children orientation Saturday, 3:00 PM. Coordinator: Betty Ann Lee, 508/994-1638 • welees@comcast.net.

JUNIORHIGHERS (entering grades 7–9) program is similar to Junior Yearly Meeting, with additional activities. Parents & children orientation Saturday, 3:45 PM. Coordinators: Jerry Carson, 617/489-9535 • gerald.carson@abbott.com & Amy Lee-Vieira, 774/202-5447 • amyleevee@yahoo.com

YOUNG FRIENDS (entering grade 10 through 2006 high school graduates) have their own dorm & program, with some activities shared with the regular Sessions program. The Young Friends program requires adherence to rules, some mandatory participation, a signed parental permission slip, & an adult sponsor. Sponsor & Young Friend orientation Saturday, 3:00 PM. Coordinator: Lisa Graustein 617/922-7095 • yfcoord@neym.org.

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS (YAFS) (ages 18–35) have daily worship-sharing and business meetings, with some evening interest groups or programming. If you are looking for a place to spend your free time or just want to check out the YAF scene, stop by the YAF lounge. Clerks: Honor Woodrow, 802/864-0778 • honor.woodrow@uvm.edu and William Jennings, 978/495-1153 • will.jennings@gmail.com.

YEARLY MEETING OFFICE moves to Bryant University on Tuesday, 8/1/2006. Sessions NEYM Office phone at Bryant is 401/719-8860. For emergencies (24 hrs.) call Public Safety: 401/232-6001.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

➤ **MAIL THE REGISTRATION FORM & ALL FEES**, checks payable to NEYM [minimum to register, **\$100 per form**—or, if less, your total fees] to: Laurel Swan, NEYM Registrar, 29 Woods Rd, Bloomfield, CT 06002 • registrar@neym.org. **A LATE FEE OF \$20 PER HOUSEHOLD** will be charged for registrations postmarked **AFTER 6/30/06** (does not apply to commuters). **SEND NO MAIL AFTER JULY 22nd**.

➤ **CHECK-IN**
8/5 **Saturday** (Hall 16 Lobby)10:00 AM — 5:00 PM
9:00 PM — 10:00 PM

8/6–9 **Sunday to Wednesday**.....10:30 AM — 12:00 PM
(Hall 16, Room 308) 4:00 PM — 5:30 PM

➤ **CHECK-OUT** (return room keys)
8/6–9 **Sunday to Wednesday**.....10:30 AM — 12:00 PM
(Hall 16, Room 308) 4:00 PM — 5:30 PM

8/10 **Thursday** (Hall 16 Lobby)8:00 AM — 2:00 PM

➤ **ONLINE REGISTRATION:** Friends are encouraged to register online.

REGISTRATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS (see insert on colored paper)

*ALL resident Sessions attenders **must bring all bedding**—blankets, pillows, sheets, and towels. Also bring reading lamps, napkins, & mugs.*

Attenders: Complete all information requested for each attender.

Accessibility Needs: If you have any specific needs that we need to know about, please be certain to tell us in the space provided (*see list of "Accessibility Needs" on the second side of the registration form*).

Volunteer Choices: We urge each person to donate several hours in service to Sessions (*see list of "Volunteer Choices" on the second side of the registration form*).

Worship Sharing & Workshop Choices: Choose from among the listings found in this issue of *The New England Friend*.

Day of Arrival & Departure: In the columns provided, for each person enter the abbreviated (Fri, Sat, Sun, etc.) day of the week you plan to arrive and the day of the week you plan to leave.

LIMITED Camping This Year: Due to construction, Bryant University has marked only 7 on-campus sites for our use. These sites will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Bathrooms and showers will be available in an adjacent dormitory.

Part-time Commuter Meals: Meals may be purchased as you enter the dining hall.

CALCULATING FEES:

Line G: Subtotal, add amounts on lines A–F

Line H: Members of Permanent Board, Ministry & Counsel, Sessions staff, and their families may arrive between 8–10pm Friday night. Saturday breakfast & lunch included in price. Only members of Young Friends (YF) Ministry & Counsel may stay in the YF Dorm Friday night.

Line I: For a single room add \$35 per person for full-time participants or \$7/day for part-time.

Line J: Subtotal, add fees on lines G through I

Line K: Tax deductible contributions to the Equalization Fund are needed and gratefully accepted.

Line L: Enter a credit amount if you are receiving a room and board stipend for working as Sessions staff.

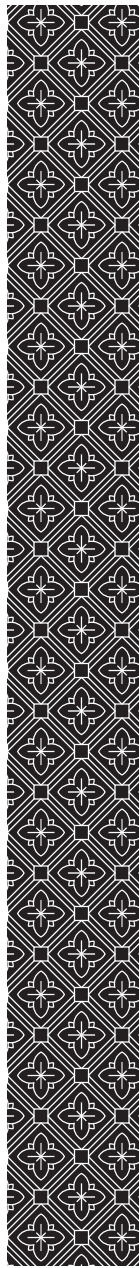
Line M: Grand total, add and/or subtract lines J through L. After 6/30/06, add late fee of \$20 per form (does not apply to commuters).

Line N: \$100 (or, if less, your total fees) is the minimum amount to enclose or pay by credit card with this form and is not refundable.

Balance Due: Calculate the amount of money due upon arrival.

ONLINE REGISTRATION, INFORMATION AND FORMS are available at neym.org, or contact the NEYM Registrar, registrar@neym.org

2006 New England Yearly Meeting Sessions Schedule

Saturday, August 5	Sunday, August 6	Monday, August 7	Tuesday, August 8	Wednesday, August 9	Thursday, August 10
<p>9:30 Permanent Board (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>9:30 Ministry & Counsel (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>10:00 Registration begins (Hall 16 Lobby)</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch (Salmanson Dining Hall, Unistructure)</p> <p>1:00 – 2:45 Committee meetings (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for locations)</p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 Meeting for Worship (Rotunda)</p> <p>3:00 – 4:15 Parent/Sponsor & Youth Orientations for all youth programs and childcare (See Saturday's YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for locations)</p> <p>4:30 – 5:00 Orientation for first-time attenders (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner (Salmanson Dining Hall, Unistructure)</p> <p>5:00 Registration closes</p> <p>6:45 Opening Session (all ages) (Bello Center)</p> <p>7:30 (approx.) Children & youth staff leave</p> <p>7:45 Keynote Address Lloyd Lee Wilson</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Registration continues (Hall 16 Lobby)</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 Meeting for Worship (Bello Center)</p> <p>Worship & Singing (all ages) Young Friends Junior YM leaves (9:45)</p> <p>Unprogrammed Worship Trayce Peterson</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 – 4:00 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>4:15 USFW (United Society of Friends Women) Program (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Open meeting to hear concerns sponsored by Ministry & Counsel (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>6:15 Orientation for first-time attenders (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>7:00 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for topics and locations)</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 Bible Half-Hour (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>9:30 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 1:30 Free Time</p> <p>1:30 – 2:30 Worship Sharing Groups</p> <p>2:45 – 4:15 Workshops</p> <p>2:45 – 5:30 Committee Meetings</p> <p>4:30 – 5:30 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>4:30 – 5:30 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 Tuesday Night Speaker Peterson Toscano</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups</p> <p>Contra dance</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 Bible Half-Hour</p> <p>9:30 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 1:30 Free Time</p> <p>1:30 – 2:30 Worship Sharing Groups</p> <p>2:45 – 4:15 Workshops</p> <p>4:30 – 5:30 Committee Meetings</p> <p>4:30 – 5:30 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups</p> <p>Coffee house</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:00 Check-out begins (Hall 16 Lobby)</p> <p>8:30 Bible Half-Hour</p> <p>9:30 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:00 Closing worship (all ages) Epistles of all NEYM groups (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>12:00 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 Permanent Board (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>2:00 Check-out ends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business agenda is available upon arrival. For advance information, go to neym.org or call the NEYM office 508/754-6760. Additions to the schedule during Sessions announced in the YEARLY MEETING NEWS. 	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:00 Check-out begins (Hall 16 Lobby)</p> <p>8:30 Bible Half-Hour</p> <p>9:30 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:00 Closing worship (all ages) Epistles of all NEYM groups (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>12:00 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 Permanent Board (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>2:00 Check-out ends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business agenda is available upon arrival. For advance information, go to neym.org or call the NEYM office 508/754-6760. Additions to the schedule during Sessions announced in the YEARLY MEETING NEWS.
					
<p>Youth Program Schedules</p> <p>Childcare Su: 8:30-11:45 AM, & 1:15-5:00 PM M-W: 8:15-11:45 AM, & 1:15-5:00 PM Th: 8:15-11:45 AM</p> <p>Young Friends day & evening program the YEARLY MEETING NEWS)</p> <p>Junior YM & Juniors meet Sa: 7:30-9 PM; Su: 9:45-11:45 AM, & 7-9 PM M-W: 8:30-11:45 AM, & 7-9 PM Th: 8:30-11:45 AM</p> <p>Jr. YM only, Su-W: 1:30-4:30 PM &, by special arrangement, Su-W: 4:30-5:45 PM</p>					

2006 Annual Sessions Registration & Housing Form

Saturday, August 5 – Thursday, August 10, 2006, Bryant University, Smithfield, RI

Form #: _____

Household Information		Program					Housing & Meals					Fees						
(Use codes on reverse & below — worship sharing & workshop listings in The NE Friend)																		
Please complete both sides of this form. Please indicate by ↖ next to the names below, choice of roommates for a double room. For roommates not listed below, indicate under "Special Housing Needs" choice code "g" on the backside of form.		Date of Birth	Gender (M or F)	Child's grade, Fall 2006	1 st time at NEYM?	Accessibility Needs Code(s)	Volunteer Choice Code(s)	Worship Sharing #	Monday Workshop #	Tuesday Workshop #	Wednesday Workshop #	Day of Arrival (e.g., Sat, Sun)	Day of Departure (Wed, Thu)	Rm./Brd./Fees Choice Code	Camper (Limited to 7 sites)	Commuter	Special Housing Needs Code	Enter the total dollar figure for your Rm./Brd./Fees Choice
Last Name	First/Preferred Name																\$ + A	
																	\$ + B	
																	\$ + C	
																	\$ + D	
																	\$ + E	
																	\$ + F	
Subtotal (add lines A – F)																	\$ + G	
Fri. night & break./lunch: \$45/adult – \$30/child																	\$ + H	
Name(s):																	\$ + I	
Add \$35/full-time or \$7/day part-time for each single room requested above																	\$ + J	
Subtotal (add lines G – I)																	\$ + K	
Equalization Fund Contribution (help others attend NEYM Sessions)																	\$ + L	
Less Sessions Staff/Speakers Credit(s)																	\$ - L	
Position(s):																	\$ + M	
Grand Total (after 6/30/06 add \$20) (add and/or subtract lines J – L)																	\$ - N	
Amount check enclosed or by credit card (minimum \$100, or, if less, total fees)																	\$	
Balance Due Upon Arrival check payable to NEYM																	\$	

Registrant's Household Information (one form per group)

Family Last Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Local Meeting(s): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

indicate family member

I will download advance documents (posted 7/25/06) from the NEYM website, neym.org

Payment by Credit Card: MasterCard Visa (circle one)

CC#: _____ / _____ / _____ Exp: _____

Name as it appears on card _____ Amount: \$ _____

Room, Board, & Program Fees (enter on lines A – F above) **Bring ALL bedding** — pillow, blanket, sheets, towels. Also fan, lamp, mug, cloth napkin.

Residents in Dormitories

Choice code	Dollar Amount
1 Adult full-time	\$390
2 Adult part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch) per night	\$85
3 Young Adult Friend Dorm full-time	\$390
4 Young Adult Friend Dorm part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$85
5 Young Friend (entering grade 10 – graduating seniors) full-time	\$390
6 Young Friend part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$85
7 Child with bed (age 3 – entering grade 9) full-time	\$200
8 Child on floor (age 3 – entering grade 9) full-time	\$110
9 Child part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch—no on floor option)	\$45

Commuters & Campers

(Limited to only 7 campsites. Part-time commuters purchase meals at dining hall)

Choice code	Dollar Amount
10 Adult (Young Friend & older) camper/commuter full-time all meals	\$295
11 Adult commuter full-time (no meals)	\$150
12 Adult, camper part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$65
13 Adult commuter part-time per day (no meals)	\$20
14 Child (age 3 – entering grade 9) camper/commuter full-time all meals	\$145
15 Child commuter full-time (no meals)	\$50
16 Child, camper part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$35
17 Child commuter part-time per day (no meals)	\$10
18 Toddler (birth through age 2)	no charge

A late fee of \$20 per household will be charged for registrations postmarked **after June 30th** (does not apply to commuters) — **register online** at neym.org

Accessibility Needs

On reverse side note all that apply

Code

- a I need a campus handicapped parking permit
- b I have trouble with stairs
- c I have trouble walking distances
- d I use a wheelchair
- e I am hearing impaired
- f Child/teen in family with disability (please specify). A committee member will call to discuss ways to make Sessions work better for you.

g I have chemical sensitivity (please specify)

h I have dietary restrictions (e.g., vegetarian, please specify)

i Other needs (please specify)

Volunteer Choices at NEYM

Please choose one or more as you are able.

Sessions staff will contact you for specific assignments.

Choice code

- a Registration check-in
- b Junior Yearly Meeting (K–6th grade) Afternoon Program
- c Childcare infants & toddlers (morning & afternoon)
- d Bookstore
- e Office help
- f Information desk
- g Shuttle driver for Friends with ambulatory problems
- h Carry trays in the dining hall

Special Housing Needs

Code

- a I need housing near a bathroom
- b I need a ground floor room
- c I want to be near other “Solo” parents for cooperative childcare
- d I would like a single room (\$35/full-time or \$7/day part-time)
- e I would like a non air-conditioned room
- f I would like to live in the fragrance/chemical free townhouse
- g Roommate or ‘housed near’ preference(s)

Name

With name

Mail this form, Youth Health Forms, and check or credit card info
—\$100 (or if less, your total fees) is the minimum amount due with this form—
payable to New England Yearly Meeting to:

Laurel Swan, NEYM Registrar, 29 Woods Road,
 Bloomfield, CT 06002 • registrar@neym.org

Do not mail after July 22nd go to neym.org or contact the Registrar

Online registration and copies of all forms at neym.org

A late fee of \$20 per household will be charged for registrations postmarked **after June 30th** (does not apply to commuters) — **register online** at neym.org

2006 NEYM Annual Sessions Equalization Fund Request Form for Financial Aid

	A	=	B	+	C	+	D
Monthly Meeting Full Name(s) <i>(Fill this form out COMPLETELY)</i>	List total costs for each individual to attend Yearly Meeting (from reverse side of form)	I can afford to pay this amount to attend NEYM (please send with registration form)	Amount your Meeting/Quarter will contribute towards your costs (please ask)				Equalization Fund request—to a maximum 75% of your total costs. (50% maximum after June 30 th)
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

The Equalization Fund provides scholarships of up to 75% of the cost of attending NEYM Sessions. The Fund’s goal is for no one to miss Sessions due to finances.

Please request the financial assistance necessary for you to attend Sessions. Funds are limited, however, so request the minimum amount you need. Every additional dollar that you contribute toward your own costs helps the Equalization Fund support other Friends.

1. Check with your Meeting/Quarter for financial assistance. Write that amount in column C (at right).
2. Fill in and complete ALL calculations on the Equalization request form (right).
3. **Have your Meeting’s Clerk sign the form.**
4. For applications postmarked after June 30, 2006, support from the Equalization Fund may be limited to 50% of your costs, if funds are still available. **Final deadline is July 22nd.** After that, contact the Registrar.

Questions? Contact Laurel Swan, NEYM Registrar, registrar@neym.org

Clerk’s phone: _____

e-mail _____

Monthly Meeting Clerk’s signature (required)

Clerk: Please verify the funding the applicant will receive from your Meeting or Quarter that is entered on column C above

Youth Program Health Form

2006 New England Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions

One child per form — photocopy this as needed or download copies from neym.org

*This completed form is required for your child to participate in any Youth Program (including YFs who are 18 years old). **Submit this form to the Registrar.** No family or Young Friend with a sponsor will be registered for Sessions until the Registrar receives a completed Health Form for each child. Do not mail after July 22nd. Contact the appropriate Coordinator with any questions or concerns:*

- Childcare** (Birth–pre-K): Kimberly Burnworth Walker, 617/983-0096 • kbwalker@alumni.brown.edu
Junior Yearly Meeting (Grades K–6): Betty Ann Lee, 508/994-1638 • welees@comcast.net
Jr. High Yearly Meeting(Grades 6–8): Jerry Carson, 617/489-9535 • gerald.carson@abbott.com & Amy Lee-Vieira, 774/202-5447 • amyleevee@yahoo.com
Young Friends (Grades 9–12): Lisa Graustein, 617/922-7095 • yfcoord@neym.org

Child's name: _____ **Birth date:** _____ **Grade Fall 2006:** _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Primary Parent(s) Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Medical Insurance Co.: _____

Plan/Policy #: _____ **In whose name:** _____

Family Doctor Name _____ **Phone #:** _____

Adult sponsor at Sessions: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Additional Emergency Contacts:

1) Name: _____ 2) Name: _____

Relation to child: _____ Relation to child: _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

.....

The Jr. High program and the Young Friends program may take kids swimming. What is your child's swimming ability?

Please answer the following questions as completely as possible so that we will be able to best serve your child or teen. This information confidential will be kept confidential and will only be shared with program staff and consultants as necessary planning and to support your child or teen.

1) Please describe any allergies.

2) Please list all medications currently being taken and why they are being taken (i.e., inhaler for asthma).

continued on reverse side

Please complete both sides of this form—Submit 2006 Youth Program Health Form to Registrar—Do not mail after July 22nd

3) Please describe your plan for administration of your child's medication. *(Please note: This plan is required for program participation. Staff can not be responsible for storing or dispensing any medication.)*

4) Please describe any physical, behavioral, emotional or learning difficulties that NEYM staff need to know about to help your child or teen during Sessions.

5) Is there anything else that we should know about your child (e.g. new sibling, recent death in the family, etc.)? Please describe.

Permission Form

I hereby give my permission for my son/daughter, _____, *[fill in child's name]* to participate in the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends Annual Sessions Youth Program under the supervision of the volunteer staff. I am aware that participation in this activity involves certain risks and dangers. I understand that while at the Annual Sessions Youth Program, participants are expected to follow the rules and standards contained in the *NEYM Sessions Policy on Addressing At-Risk or Disruptive Behavior*. In addition, participants are expected to follow all instructions of volunteer staff that are charged with their care. I hereby release and waive all claims against New England Yearly Meeting of Friends arising out of my son's or daughter's failure to remain under the supervision and comply with the rules, standards, and instructions of New England Yearly Meeting of Friends.

The undersigned parent or guardian of _____, *[fill in child's name]* for his/her child, him/herself, his/her heirs, executors, administrators or assigns agrees that in the event any claim for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death shall be prosecuted against New England Yearly Meeting of Friends or its officers, agents, servants or employees, the undersigned parent or guardian will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless New England Yearly Meeting of Friends and its officers, agents, servants or employees from any and all claims or causes of action by my child or by any other person or entity, by whomever or wherever made or presented, and under no circumstances will the undersigned parent or guardian of my child or my child present any claim against New England Yearly Meeting of Friends and said persons for personal injuries, property damage, wrongful death or otherwise, caused by any act of negligence by New England Yearly Meeting of Friends and said persons.

The authority granted herein also includes the authority to consent to any emergency transportation, medical and/or dental treatment, and hospital care for my child, under the general supervision and/or upon the advice of, a licensed physician and/or surgeon, or by a licensed dentist. In a life threatening situation, every attempt will be made to contact both the child's parents and primary care physician as soon as possible.

I give my full permission for the release and exchange of any Health Form information about my child or teen with program staff and consultants.

I have read and agree to the above conditions.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2006

(Parent's/Legal Guardian's signature)

(Parent's/Legal Guardian's signature)

Afternoon worship sharing & workshops

Please enter the number for worship sharing and workshop choices on the NEYM Registration Form (enclosed)

Worship Sharing Groups — Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 1:30 – 2:30pm

1. Randomly Assigned
2. Spanish Speaking (with translation)
3. Women's
4. Men's
5. Young Adult Friends
6. Friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
7. In Jesus Christ
8. Worshipful Singing

WORSHIP SHARING offers time set aside from a busy schedule for spiritual sharing with an intimate group over a period of three days. For some Friends, this represents an opportunity to bridge gaps such as differences in culture, gender and theological orientation. Other Friends find they can share more fully in a group whose members have more in common. Still others welcome the chance for worship sharing through an activity such as singing. NEYM reaches out to visiting Cuban [& Spanish speaking] Friends through a Spanish language worship sharing group. Friends are encouraged to choose the level of comfort or challenge which will offer the deepest worship. —NEYM Ministry & Counsel

Three-day Workshops — Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 2:45 – 4:15pm

9. **Art as a Spiritual Practice—Renewal for Friendly Creatives** Arthur Fink **M Tu W** [Ministry & Counsel (M&C)]

A chance for Friendly artists to share about our process of spiritual seeking and expression through artwork. Bring some of your most personally important pieces or projects to share—even if you believe they are incomplete or flawed. (Adults & Youth, Full time)

10. **Getting Perspective on Faith and Practice** Jan Hoffman **M Tu W** (Faith and Practice Revision)

Day 1: Faith & Practices (F&Ps) Around the World. From the Americas, Europe & Australia. (some in Spanish) *Day 2:* NEYM F&Ps back to 1809. For these two days, some context will be offered; then we'll explore F&Ps and share what we've learned. *Day 3:* NEYM F&P: the current revision. (Adults & Youth, Limit 25)

11. **Earthcare Ministry: From Worship to Witness** Scott Neilson, Ruah Swennerfelt & Louis Cox **M Tu W** (Earthcare Ministries)

Day 1: The spiritual foundation of living our simplicity testimony—experience and practice, Scott Neilson. *Day 2:* Witnessing locally for an ecologically just community, Ruah Swennerfelt. *Day 3:* What do we do after the cheap oil “party?” Acting on our beliefs, Louis Cox. (Adults & Youth, Full time encouraged)

12. **Facing White Privilege/Racism** Melody Brazo **M Tu W** [Racial Social & Economic Justice (RS&EJ)]

Friends who identify as white will examine and begin to dismantle barriers that keep us from hearing the fullness and depth of the Holy Spirit in others. Through deep listening our goal will be to hear about the pain that racism inflicts on all people, but also the gifts available to those who work to heal the damage. (Adults & Youth, Full time, Limit 20)

13. **Knitting as a Spiritual Journey** Sue Reilly, Alison Hersey **M Tu W** (M&C)

Share spiritual journeys around knitting (or other hand work) and explore how knitting is part of holy obedience for you and how it may fit into your prayer life while working on projects. Patterns for chemo caps and comfort shawls provided. (Adults & Youth, Full time)

14. **Gathered and Made Whole: Experiences from the World Gathering of Young Friends (WGYF)** Holly Baldwin and others **M Tu W** (Young Adult Friends)

The experience of sharing worship and life with Friends from many traditions at the WGYF has changed many NEYM Friends' lives. Share bits of the WGYF experience. *Day 1:* Testimonies: sharing stories from the WGYF *Day 2:*

Worship and Song: an exploration of practices in other Friends traditions. *Day 3:* Queries and worship sharing on what we can learn from these experiences. (Adults & Youth)

15. **Beyond the best intentions: how do we stop hurting each other?** Sara Sue Pennell, Alysia Parkes **M Tu W** (Permanent Board)

What work must we do to become more open to all the strains of diversity we want to include? How can we recognize our own blind spots? How can we make our community more welcoming? (Adults & Youth, Limit 25)

16. **Introduction to Gospels: Can We Understand the Historic Jesus' Expectation of Holy Obedience?** Richard M. Kelly **M Tu W** (M&C)

What can we “know” of the historical Jesus, looking at recent scholarship on the four canonical Gospels, the Gospels of Thomas and of Mary Magdalene and recent efforts by the “Jesus Seminar” to identify the actual words of Jesus? Particular emphasis will be on learning to read the Gospels for what they say, not our preconceived notions of their content. (Adults & Youth, Full time, Limit 16)

17. **Gandhi in Quaker Gray?** John Humphries **M Tu W** (M&C)

Gandhi's approach to social change can be expressed in 3 dimensions: Personal Transformation, Constructive Program and Political Practice. What can Friends draw from this framework in seeking to build a more visible and powerful Quaker witness today? (Adults & Youth, Full time encouraged, Limit 25)

18. **Listening to the Divine Fountain** Debbie Humphries, Peter Crysedale **M Tu W** (M&C)

A prayerful working meeting on strengthening worship in our Meetings, considering silent waiting worship as the centerpiece of the Quaker experience. What does listening to the Divine Fountain mean today? We bring a variety of experiences of Spirit to our worship. How do we listen behind the words? How do we know when we are moved to speak? (Adults & Youth, Full time, Limit 16)

19. **Holy Obedience: Remaining Anchored to the Divine in Worship or Witness** Alison Randall **M Tu W** (M&C)

Individual daily spiritual practice, its varieties and blessings. Nurturing our meetings, our spiritual lives, our lives “in the world,” through daily “retirement.” (Adults)

20. **Peace Studies: A Meaningful Introduction** Michael True **M Tu W** [Peace & Social Concerns (P&SC)]

We can ‘wage peace’ with evidence that non-violent approaches are effective means to

resolve international disagreements. Based on scholarship of the past 40 years demonstrating that nonviolence is a strategically sound approach. Before the workshop, read Gene Sharp's “There Are Realistic Alternatives,” from aeinstein.org or at the Sessions bookstore. (Adults & Youth)

21. **The Power of Empathy** Jon Kent **M Tu W** (P&SC)

Empower your gifts of empathy and compassion and increase your ability to connect and sustain a productive, harmonious relationship. We will use Marshall Rosenberg's model of Nonviolent Communication. (Adults & Youth)

22. **Seeking a Common Vision: The Quaker peace testimony and our relationship to FUM** Will Taber, Ann Dodd Collins, Deana Chase, **M Tu W** [NEYM Friends United Meeting (FUM) Committee]

Are we using the peace testimony when we deal with differences among Friends? What is our common vision with the rest of FUM? (Adults & Youth, Full time encouraged)

23. **Wholeness & Authenticity** Donna McDaniel **M Tu W** (M&C Working Party on Racism)

“Why should Friends care whether our Society is racially and culturally integrated?” Alison Oldham's question in 1984 still goes to the heart of our beliefs about Quakerism. Seeking the Spirit of Truth, as Friends do, we can go beyond ‘Sunday’ Quakerism into an experience of its authentic religious strength, bringing us into rejuvenating communion with all sorts of folk. (Adults & Youth, Limit 25)

24. **Toward a Quaker Testimony on Inter-generationalism** Christina Repoley, Zachary Moon **M Tu W** (Friends General Conference)

Where do we now and historically engage in active intergenerational community? What from our personal and corporate experience can activate a new paradigm? What from our tradition supports us in this work? Workshop leaders are with the FGC Youth Ministries Committee. (Adults & Youth, Full time encouraged)

25. **The Spirit and the Cosmos, Queries for Quakers** Hugh Barbour, Brian Drayton **M Tu W** (M&C)

We learn from each others' experiences of the Spirit. We will think together about what we can say of God, Jesus and the Spirit, in face of new scientific understandings of the cosmos and human nature based on Quaker, Hebrew and Christian traditions. Photocopied outlines and documents available on Saturday. Bring your own papers to talk from Wednesday. (Adults, Full time, Limit 20)

Two-day workshop — Monday/Tuesday

26. **The Holy Land?** Skip Schiel **M Tu** (RS&EJ)
A pictorial and verbal account of a journey to Israel & Palestine from March through May 2006, listening and looking at realities and

perspectives, with primary emphasis on the occupation, nonviolent resistance, holy sites and water—with special reference to Friends activities in the region, encouraging deep

study and, if possible, visitation on the parts of workshop participants. (Adults & Youth, Limit 20)

One-day workshops (See also two- and three-day workshops that offer one-day sessions)

Monday

27. **A Quaker Ministry to End Torture** John Calvi **M** (P&SC)
History of the Quaker Initiative to End Torture (QUIT), overviews of the history of torture and of American laws & practice concerning it; and suggestions for and discussion of possible actions. (Adults & Youth)
28. **Sing Out!** Young Friends **M** (Young Friends)
Make a joyful noise! Come and sing with Young Friends—all ages and abilities welcome. Learn some new songs, share your favorites, have fun. (Adults & Youth)
29. **Friends Work in Peace, Poverty Reduction and HIV/AIDS in East Africa** James & Eden Grace **M** (FUM)
Eden and James Grace, New England Friends who live and work in Kenya, will share the ways that African Quakers are expressing the Friends Testimonies in dealing with these critical issues. (Adults & Youth)
30. **Quakers & the Internet** Shearman Taber **M** [Publications & Communication (PubCom)]
How to get connected. How to put your meeting on the Web. What does it all mean? A beginners/intermediate explanation and how-to guide. Send pubcom@neym.org your questions so we can target the workshop to your needs. (Adults & Youth, Limit 20)
31. **Teaching Worship Skills to Children at Home and First Day School** Jean McCandless **M** [Christian Education (CE)]
Worship skills covered include prayer, meditation, centering, listening, and participating in group and community worship. For Children's Religious Education Committee members, teachers, parents, and others concerned about how we can help our children learn to understand and use worship in their daily lives. (Adults)
32. **Meeting Finances: The Missing Manual** Nancy Isaacs, Eileen Cummings, Allison Hersey **M** (Finance Committee)
We'll discuss concerns of treasurers, finance committee members and anyone interested in monthly meeting money matters including fund raising, the relationship between the Treasurer and the Finance Committee, accounting packages, "pass-through" and restricted funds. You will receive a "Treasurer's Handbook" for your Meeting. (Adults)

Tuesday

33. **Starting points: Resources for Discussing Sexuality** Betsy Muench, Sarah Spencer, Kristna Evans **Tu** (M&C Working Party on Spirituality & Sexuality)
Answering a felt need we perceived in the "Sex, the Bible and Quakers" workshop last

year, we offer an opportunity to examine and evaluate resource materials that parents and meetings can use in the discussion of sexuality. (Adults & Youth)

34. **Energy Work** John Calvi **Tu** (M&C)
Deep relaxation, release of pain, a clearer mind, and better sleep for all who want to be "in the world but not of the world," especially for caregivers and activists, with hands-on time. Restful, calm, and restoring. (Adults)
35. **Reparations** James Varner **Tu** (RS&EJ)
What Reparations means. How it relates to the legacy of slavery in America. How and why Quakers should speak truth to power about reparations for descendants of African American slaves. Including an update on last year's workshop. (Adults & Youth)
36. **Discernment About Our Giving** Carolyn Hilles-Pilant **Tu** (Development Committee)
We all make decisions about how to divide our giving: Meeting? Yearly Meeting? Other worthy causes? How much and to whom? Regardless of our means, we need to develop a philosophical and practical approach to this decision-making. We will use short exercises, share out of our own experience, and 'test drive' different models No one will be asked to divulge specific financial information. (Adults, Limit 15)
37. **Working to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse in Your Meeting** Bill How, Carolyn Stone, Kate Potter, Patricia Shotwell **Tu** [CE and Youth Program Committee (YPC)]
Can your Meeting address this issue while preserving community? We will hear how two Meetings became concerned about preventing child abuse, their process and stumbling blocks. Bill How will share his considerable knowledge about realities of risk and the legal responsibilities of Meeting members to prevent child sexual abuse.
38. **Our Lifestyles & Wealth: The Building Blocks for Peace?** Frances Crowe **Tu** (P&SC)
We will explore through our eco footprint and the global resources available for all of us the question: Does our lifestyle demand war? (Adults & Youth)

Wednesday

39. **Staying Strong, Avoiding Burnout** John Calvi **W** M&C
Spiritual disciplines to stay at our best while witnessing pain, injustice, and confusion is the focus. Come prepared to lie down, relax, and listen to ideas. (Adults & Youth)
40. **None of us lives forever: Final Directives** Richard Frechette **W** (Aging)

After a presentation, we will complete an end-of-life document, "Five Wishes." It covers: 1) Who you want to make health care decisions for you. 2) What medical treatment you want or don't want. 3) How comfortable you want to be. 4) How you want people to treat you. 5) What you want your loved ones to know. (Adults & Youth)

41. **Sustaining Witness: Establishing and Maintaining a Peace Presence in Our Communities** Jeremiah Dickenson **W** (M&C, CE)

This will be a workshop for all Sessions attendees interested in exploring the role of peace witness through vigiling as a vehicle for teaching peace to our children, as a force for Peace in the wider community and as a means of supporting and enhancing our Spiritual lives as Quakers. (Adults)

42. **Managing Quaker Money** Roberta Chicos **W** (Board of Managers of the Pooled Funds)

Do you seek to manage your Meeting's funds by investing in companies whose practices are consistent with Quaker values? For members of Meetings currently participating and Meetings or Quaker organizations considering joining. (Adults & Youth)

43. **Heart to Heart and Face to Face** Nancy Irving, General Secretary, Friends World Committee for Consultation **W** (FWCC)

An exploration of how FWCC brings Friends together "Heart to heart and face to face..." to know one another, to experience and be enriched by each other's differing perceptions of the Light and to work together on common Quaker concerns. New England FWCC reps will also share. (Adults & Youth)

44. **What If? Dealing With Challenges to Community** Karen Sanchez Eppler, Carolyn Stone **W** (YPC)

Use role play to consider how your Meeting might respond to various challenges to its community. Serious conflict between members? Between children? Difficult behavior in First Day School that needs to be redirected or transformed? A suspicion that a child has been sexually abused? We'll offer dilemmas and guidelines where they exist. And we'll enter into creative problem solving. (Adults)

45. **Quaker Communications in a Changing World** Shearman Taber **W** (PubCom)

Print and electronic media: How do we present ourselves? How should we use old and new technologies? What should we be putting on the web? How do our choices reflect and support simplicity, integrity and community. A committee is asking for guidance. (Adults & Youth)

Around the Yearly Meeting

Compiled from monthly meeting newsletters and correspondence by Jonathan Vogel-Borne

• **Windham (ME) Monthly Meeting (MM)** grieves the death of Christine Wozich, a member of the NEYM Permanent Board, former clerk of the Meeting and wife of one of the Meeting's pastors, Michael Wozich.

• Several other Meetings are mourning the loss of dear Friends who were also active in NEYM. Friends who have died since the last *New England Friend* include Margaret Douglas, **West Falmouth (MA) Preparative Meeting**, Mayme Noda, **Hanover (NH) MM**, and David McAllester, **South Berkshire (MA) MM**.

• **New Bedford (MA) MM** is holding a memorial meeting for Tom and Kitty Stern 7/1/06 at 2pm. Tom and Kitty were active in Sandwich Quarterly Meeting and NEYM. They passed last summer.

• **Putney (VT) FM** united on a minute to no longer sign Vermont State Marriage Licenses or Civil Union Licenses. Their minute

states "at weddings held under the care of Putney Friends Meeting (FM), one of our roles is to be witness to the spiritual union of couples within our community. It is not our proper role to document these relationships for the benefit of the state."

• **Northampton (MA) FM** and **Wellesley (MA) FM** both united on separate minutes opposing torture. The Northampton minute "calls for an end to all torture of any person anywhere for any reason," and the Wellesley minute "express[es] our deep disapproval and opposition to the actions and policies of our government regarding torture and the denial of basic human rights to prisoners."

• **Wellesley (MA) FM** 5/11/06 minute on child safety says in part, "Friends are clear in their commitment to assure the safety of all members of our community. With God's help we seek a community where no child

is at risk for emotional, physical or sexual abuse and where no adult is at risk for false accusation. We understand that these are troubling issues to contemplate. We seek also a community where difficult issues can be discussed and where our loving concern for one another is strengthened, not diminished by these discussions." The minute then lists several practices implemented by the meeting to ensure safety. It concludes by acknowledging, "We affirm this minute as a step in this process, expecting further steps as way opens."



Wellesley (MA) Meetinghouse

Line drawing: Bill Kriebel

In other Quaker news

Friends Camp news

Come to the Lucretia Mott Family Camp, 8/20–8/26/06. Join other families for a week of friendship, recreation, and spiritual renewal! Each day we will have worship, workshops, games, chores, recreation, rest time, waterfront activities, vespers and an enjoyable evening program. Our cook, Twila Greene, will serve us excellent and healthy meals for vegetarians and non-vegetarians.

Consider sending your younger child to Friends Camp for one week. This summer's schedule is designed so that families can go to Yearly Meeting (8/5–8/10/06) and then send their young child (7 to 11 years old) to Friends Camp from 8/13–8/19/06. Young Friends who are ages 14 to 18 can now take advantage of the new Leadership and Service Camp. This new camp for older teens will also happen after Yearly Meeting during the week of 8/13–8/19/06. Contact Nat Shed, 207/873-3499 • friendscamp.org

Brian Drayton's new book available

Quaker Press of Friends General Conference has published Brian Drayton's [Weare (NH) MM] new book, *On Living with a Concern for Gospel Ministry*. "Here is a book full of

wisdom and advice on how to cherish, live with, and grow into the gift of ministry." (Marty Grundy) The Publications and Communications Committee will provide a free copy for any Meeting in NEYM. Individuals or Meetings can get additional copies at \$15 each (a \$5 discount). Contact the NEYM Office or pubcom@neym.org

Two Queries from Cttee on Aging

1) Are there elderly persons in your Friends community who may need assistance in making selections or processing medication purchases under Medicare, Part D? 2) *Oral History Project*: Does your Meeting have audio recordings or transcripts of interviews of elderly Friends? If so, the Committee on Aging would like to be informed of such. Please send the following information: Name of person interviewed, interviewer, date or approximate date interviewed, type of medium(s) (audio tape, CD, mp3 file, hard copy transcript), comments. Contact Richard Frechette aging@neym.org

Faith & Practice revision info on web

Helpful information on the background and process for the current revision, plus texts

in process are available (paper copies upon request). Link from neym.org

Quaker Peacebuilder Camp

As an educational program of The Meeting School, the Quaker Peacebuilder Camp is preparing for its third summer session (6/29–7/9/06). A few spots are still available. The Camp is also preparing to offer adult-focused and intergenerational workshops in the coming year. Friends yearn for a more visible Quaker witness in this time of war, and the Camp seeks to help Friends develop the skills, understanding and relationships to become better organizers of non-violent action, and to more deeply ground our witness in our spiritual lives. Please support the Camp with your prayers, with invitations to offer programs in your area, and with money. Contact John Humphries, 860/236-5175 • jhumphries@igc.org

GiveMonthly to NEYM

Please support NEYM and its many programs of faith and action. Send one-time gifts or sign up for automatic monthly contributions. Contact the NEYM Treasurer, at the NEYM Office • treasurer@neym.org

Presiding Clerk, Christopher McCandless, jmccandl@together.net ■ **Treasurer**, Nancy Isaacs, treasurer@neym.org ■ **NEYM OFFICE**: 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908 • 508/754-6760 • FAX: 508/754-9401 • neym@neym.org • www.neym.org • OFFICE HOURS: Tu–Fri, 9am–5pm ■ **Accounts Manager**, Alison Hersey, accountsmanager@neym.org ■ **Administrative Secretary**, Katharine Clark, adminsec@neym.org ■ **Christian Education Coordinator**, Beth Collea, cecoord@neym.org ■ **Field Secretary**, Jonathan Vogel-Borne, fieldsec@neym.org ■ **Young Friends Coordinator**, Lisa Graustein, yfcoord@neym.org ■ **The New England Friend**: Editor, Jonathan Vogel-Borne; ■ **Archivist**, Marnie Miller-Gutsell, 121 Hope St., Providence, RI 02906 • neym@rihs.org ■ **FRIENDS CAMP**, Nat Shed, Director, 25 Burleigh St., Waterville, ME 04901 • 207/873-3499 • director@friendscamp.org ■ **MOSES BROWN SCHOOL**, Joanne Hoffman, Head, 250 Lloyd Ave., Providence, RI 02906 • 401/831-7359 • jhoffman@mosesbrown.org ■ **NEW ENGLAND FRIENDS HOME-THAYER HOUSE**, Gretchen Condon, Administrator, 86 Turkey Hill Lane, Hingham, MA 02043 • 781/749-3556 • nefh@att.net ■ **YOUTH RETREATS**: Grades 2-5, jymretreats.org: Kevin Lee 508/994-1638; Grades 6-8: Gretchen Baker-Smith 508/997-0940 • gretchen@jymretreats.org; Grades 9-12: Lisa Graustein 617/922-7095 • yfcoord@neym.org.

New England Yearly Meeting of Friends
901 Pleasant Street
Worcester, MA 01602-1908



Please send **ALL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** to the
 Yearly Meeting to the NEYM Office,
 901 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602-1908

Please let the NEYM Office know of any address
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THE NEW ENGLAND FRIEND

YEARLY MEETING CALENDAR

June 2006

- 3-4 Northwest QM—Farm & Wilderness (VT)
- 10 Committee Day—Worcester, MA
- 25-7/8 Mary Dyer Camp (Ages 11 to 13)—Friends Camp

July 2006

- 1-7 Friends General Conference Gathering—Tacoma WA
- 9-22 George Fox Camp (Ages 13 to 17)—Friends Camp
- 15 RI-Smithfield QM—Westerly MM (RI)
- 22 Falmouth QM—Durham FM (ME)
- 22 Sandwich QM—Mattapoisett FM (MA)
- 23-8/5 Margaret Fell Camp (Ages 13 to 17)—Friends Camp
- 30 Dover QM—Location, TBA

August 2006

- 5-10 YM Sessions—Bryant University, Smithfield RI
- 6-19 Rufus Jones Camp (Ages 7 to 11)—Friends Camp
- 6-19 Drama Camp (Ages 13 to 17)—Friends Camp
- 13-19 Leadership & Service Camp (Ages 14 to 18)—Friends Camp
- 20-26 Lucretia Mott Family Camp—Friends Camp

September 2006

- 8-10 Vassalboro QM retreat —Friends Camp, S. China, ME
- 9-10 Northwest QM—Farm & Wilderness (VT)
- 15-17 Elementary Retreat—Westport, MA

- 16 Ministry & Counsel—Location, TBA
- 22-24 Jr. High retreat—Woolman Hill (MA)
- 23 Sessions Committee—Location, TBA
- 30 Committee Day—Dover FM (NH)

October 2006

- 7-8 CT Valley QM—Woolman Hill (MA)
- 21-22 RI-Smithfield QM retreat—Camp Clara Barton, N. Oxford (MA)
- 22 Salem QM—Beacon Hill MM (MA)
- 28 Falmouth QM—Windham FM (ME)
- 28 Sandwich QM—Nantucket WG (MA)
- 29 Dover QM—Location, TBA

November 2006

- 3-5 Elementary Retreat—Hartford FM (CT)
- 4 Vassalboro QM—Farmington MM (ME)
- 10-12 Ministry & Counsel—Woolman Hill, Deerfield, MA
- 17-19 Jr. High retreat—Westport FM (MA)
- 18 Permanent Board—Location TBA

December 2006

- 2 Northwest QM—Keene FM (NH)

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 Note: The Faith & Practice Revision Committee generally meets on the first or last Saturday of each month.