

Call to Yearly Meeting 2000

Anne Kriebel, NEYM Presiding Clerk

“DO NOT CONFORM ANY LONGER to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2). That’s the theme of our 2000 Yearly Meeting: may it be in a spirit of renewal and seeking God’s will for us as Friends as we gather for our annual sessions.

This year we have a rare and special opportunity. We will be welcoming six overseas visitors, Friends who will have been in New England for the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Triennial at Geneva Point, NH, who will stay on and attend our sessions. We also anticipate four visitors from our sister Yearly Meeting in Cuba, as our ongoing relationship continues to deepen and grow. As in the past several years, the keynote address will be on Sunday morning following family worship. The Bible Half-hours will be given in the evenings. The memorial minute for Penelope Turton, held over from last year, will be read during opening worship at the Sunday afternoon business session. Tuesday evening has been set aside for a memorial meeting, following the Bible Half-hour. The full text of memorial minutes which Permanent Board has forwarded to sessions

will be available in printed form at registration. Only excerpts from them will be read aloud during the memorial meeting, so that we can have more time to reflect together on the lives of these much loved Friends who served the Yearly Meeting in many, many ways.

What about meeting for worship for the conduct of business? In addition to considering the usual items that are needed to keep the Yearly Meeting running smoothly, such as the 2001 budget, appointments to committees, staff reports and appointments, and actions proposed by committees or quarterly meetings, we will hear from the Long Range Planning Committee and the New Ministries Committee. This is also the year when we review and update the purposes and procedures for Yearly Meeting committees. There is much to do. Please come with minds and hearts prepared for our time together.

Photo: Courtesy Becky Phipps



Becky Phipps, a member of North Shore (MA) Monthly Meeting, will give the Bible Half Hours on the Yearly Meeting theme from Romans 12:2 “Be not conformed to this world.”

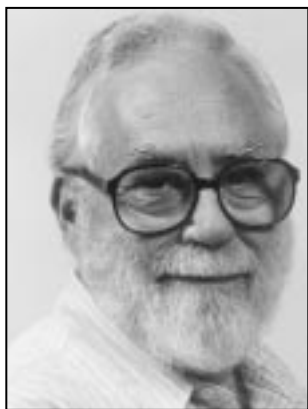


Photo: Courtesy Earlham College

Paul Lacey of Clear Creek (IN) Monthly Meeting, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, will give the keynote address, based on Romans 12:2, “The worship offered by mind and heart.” Paul is Professor of English and Chair in Multidisciplinary Studies at Earlham College. Among his several publications, many on education, are three Pendle Hill pamphlets: *Quakers and the Use of Power, Leading and Being Led, Education and the Inward Teacher; and Nourishing the Spiritual Life, Quaker Home Service, 1995.*

David Bogartz, Sessions Committee Clerk

DURING MY FIRST YEAR AS CLERK of Sessions Committee, I have learned what a great array of gifts and talents so many Friends have as they work year-round to make our Sessions possible. Each year three experienced staff persons and a large number of volunteers labor joyfully to plan our time together.

Sessions Committee began in September by reading evaluations. Your comments confirmed our sense of what a great success the trip to the Great Meetinghouse was, bringing us in contact with our deep historical roots. We were also reminded that the worship at last year’s sessions was unusually rich, particularly the inter-generational worship on Sunday morning. In addition, at our September meeting we considered whether to begin a search for a new location for sessions or to stay at Bryant College through 2001, and decided to stay,

based on the strong positive evaluations Bryant continues to receive. Each September we will return to the question of whether to move.

Once again, a reminder: please do not let money stand in the way of your attendance at Yearly Meeting Sessions. Our Equalization Fund can pay up to two-thirds of the total fees if you apply by the deadline of 7/7/2000. Please consider contributing to the Equalization Fund if you are able to do so, and help spread the word that the funds are available. In addition, there are a number of volunteer positions in which Sessions costs are defrayed; in particular this year we are looking for a registrar and an audio/visual coordinator, and as always we need staff for the youth programs. Please contact the Yearly Meeting office if you are interested.

Our theme this year from Romans 12:2 emerged out of a process of worship sharing in which many spoke to the need to hold on to Quaker values and testimonies in a culture that attempts to co-opt us every day and separate from us the qualities that make us “a peculiar people.” One translation, from *The Message* by Eugene H. Peterson, reads: “Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out.” I am praying that our time together will be a place for change, growth, and renewal, with God’s love to guide us.

NEYM's experiment with the Internet

From the Ad Hoc Web Committee

OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS the New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) has had steadily increasing communication by e-mail. More recently NEYM has developed a web site. Within this time, it has become apparent that electronic communication is mushrooming among NEYM Friends. As this has occurred some Friends have been reflecting on how God wants us to communicate electronically and through the Internet.

It is important for Friends to remember that there are many potential difficulties and concerns associated with the Internet. Dialogue in our group and among Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting is affected by variable understanding of the Internet and the language that describes it. Some of us speak with clear understanding. For some of us, the Internet meanings of words like "search engine," "link," "hypertext," and "domain" have no more meaning than Latin does for many Friends.

Variable access to the Internet is also a major concern. It is very tempting for individuals, committees, and groups to utilize e-mail because of its instantaneous potential to communicate to other computer owners across large distances. However, there is also the increasing opportunity for the communication of words only. What happens when we interact without sound, sight, and physical presence? What happens when

we do this with potential anonymity and instantaneous speed? Would Jesus have communicated through e-mail? Would Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech sparked us through the Internet?

People without computers can be cut off from access, information, and communication. Should we be communicating by means that are not universally understood or universally available? Or by using electronic means, are we making our communication more universally available?

The Internet will change the way that we communicate. It will change how we do our work. It will probably change how work manifests itself. Do we have the staff, equipment, training and expertise that we need to negotiate such changes as a community in unity with God? Is this a way of communication that can be done in unity with God?

There are tremendous opportunities associated with the Internet and the NEYM web-site. We could list committee purposes and procedures. We could have a way for Friends to volunteer on the web. Short articles and resource ideas could be published at the website. People who are unable to travel could communicate and receive information. The opportunity to communicate with people around the world could open up spiritual and ecumenical opportunities. How can we stay close to God while we travel this path?

Ad hoc web work

The NEYM staff has become aware of increasing amounts of computer-generated communication among Friends within the last four years. The Yearly Meeting got an e-mail address in 1995, and an NEYM web-site was developed in 1997. Since then, the Administrative Secretary Katharine Clark, and the web-servant David Baxter have sought guidance and oversight in regards to the web site. Ministry & Counsel and Permanent Board were asked to identify Friends to meet with Katharine and David. Since 1998 the Ad Hoc Web Committee has met approximately every 2-4 months. It is comprised of Katharine Clark, David Baxter, Bill How, Jim Grace, Doug Armstrong, and Alana Parkes.

First and foremost, the Ad Hoc web work is approached as an ongoing experiment to increase consciousness and discernment about electronic communication. For instance, four purposes have been proposed for the NEYM web site: (1) To help stimulate and vitalize involvement among New England Friends; (2) To provide parallel information already available on paper for those interested in looking it up on the Internet; (3) To publish papers and materials that might not otherwise be published; (4) To create another connection or inter-connection to the wider world of Friends.

Other suggestions and concerns have been considered and shared with Katharine Clark, Dave Baxter, and where appropriate other NEYM staff and committees. The Ad Hoc Web Committee welcomes input and ideas. Please come to our workshop at Yearly Meeting sessions

Other Yearly Meeting 2000 announcements

Women's Center at sessions

This year, as in many years past, we will be creating a special place for women F(f)riends at Yearly Meeting Sessions. The Women's Center is a sacred space where Quaker women gather, throughout the Yearly Meeting sessions, to encourage, share, and connect with other women. Supported by the Spirit, we talk, laugh, and share our lives with one another. We share our spiritual journeys, our own and other women's poetry, literature, song, resources and ideas. The Women's Center is a place of comfort, excitement, and discussion, celebrating the female

spirit. It's a great place to: —get to know some incredible Quaker women of all ages, from various backgrounds; —seek answers; —receive some respite from the hustle and bustle of sessions, —meditate alone or with others, —make a F(f)riend, be a F(f)riend.

The Women's Center is also a wonderful place for first time attenders to meet others in a smaller, more intimate group.

This is your center. What are your needs? What would you like to see in the Women's Center? Any ideas to share? All women are invited. Many Blessings,

—Janet O'Donnell, Janseas@aol.com

Ushers & Hushers needed at sessions

Volunteers are needed to usher before each meeting for worship during the week of Yearly Meeting. The usher greets attenders quietly, keeps the door closed during silent worship, and directs late comers to available seats. Hushers are also requested to remind members to talk quietly or be silent as they approach the doors of the meeting room. A centered volunteer in this role may contribute greatly to the depth of worship. Sign up sheets will be available at the registration desk.

—Jean Stine for Ministry & Counsel

2000 YEARLY MEETING ADVANCE INFORMATION

August 5 – 10, 2000 • Bryant College, Smithfield, Rhode Island

ADVANCE PLANNING AND REGISTRATION

Deadline for reserving artwork, exhibit/display space, and audio-visual equipment is July 7, 2000.

AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT (VCRs, tape recorders, & slide-tape units) will be provided on a limited basis. Please bring your own where possible.

CAMPING is available on the Bryant College campus. Bathrooms and showers will be available in adjacent, empty dormitories. Register early! Sites will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis with preference for full-time participants.

CHILDCARE for ages 4 & under is available after breakfast until lunch & after free time until dinner. Plan to attend the Orientation Open House on Saturday, at 3:00 – 4:15 PM, to meet caregivers & other parents. Coordinator: Laura Ethier (978) 425-9389.

EQUALIZATION/FINANCIAL AID is available through the NEYM Equalization Fund. This year applications for grants are included on the registration form. Send applications, SIGNED BY YOUR MONTHLY MEETING CLERK, to the NEYM Registrar with your registration form by July 7, 2000. For more information, contact David Baxter, Clerk of the NEYM Equalization Committee (978) 635-0135.

PETS – NOT PERMITTED on the Bryant College campus. Please leave your pet at home.

SALE & CONSIGNMENT ITEMS will be located in the Bookstore. Contact the coordinator, Marian Dalton (207) 725-8216.

SPACE FOR EXHIBITS/DISPLAYS AND ARTWORK will be provided. Send requests for space by July 7, 2000 to the NEYM Office, 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908.

SPECIAL-REQUEST MEETING ROOM ASSIGNMENTS will be coordinated on campus by the Registrar. Send all advance requests to the NEYM Office, 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING (grades K-6) is a structured program of learning, fun, & friendships, including participation in parts of the regular NEYM program. Parents should not bring or send their children to NEYM unless the children are prepared to participate in the program. Parents are responsible for their children during unscheduled periods. Parents & children orientation is on Saturday at 3:00 PM. Coordinator: Betty Ann Lee (508) 994-1638.

JUNIORHIGHERS (entering grades 7-9) program has a similar description to JYM, with additional activities to be announced. Parents & children orientation at 3:45 PM Saturday. Contact: Amy Lee (508) 994-1638.

YOUNG FRIENDS (entering grade 10 through 2000 high school graduates) have their own dorm & program, with some activities shared with the regular NEYM program. Participation in this program requires adherence to rules, some mandatory participation in events, a signed parental permission slip, & an adult sponsor. Sponsor & Young Friend orientation Saturday at 3:00 PM. Coordinator: Chris Jorgenson (617) 625-4494.

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS (YAF) (between the ages of 18 and 35ish) have a daily worship-sharing group and a program in the evenings, in addition to business meetings. 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—YAFs are always psyched to meet new F(f)riends. Coordinator: Lucy Marsh (617) 522-0227.

YEARLY MEETING OFFICE will move to Bryant College, Tues. 8/1/2000. NEYM Office Phone at Bryant College is (401) 232-4040. For emergencies (24 hrs.) call Public Safety: (401) 232-6001.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

- MAIL THE YEARLY MEETING REGISTRATION FORM & ALL FEES**, including registration, room, board, & campus fees [NEYM Registration Fee (non-refundable) is the minimum payment] **POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2000** to: Deana Chase, NEYM Registrar, 901 Pleasant St., Worcester, MA 01602-1908; Telephone (508) 754-6760. Make checks payable to New England Yearly Meeting.
- CHECK-IN:**
8/5 **Saturday:** 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM, and 9:00 to 10:00 PM – Hall 16 Lobby
8/6-9 **Sunday – Wednesday:** 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, and 4:30 to 6:00 PM – Rotunda, Unistructure
- CHECK-OUT:** (return room keys to Bryant College staff)
8/6-9 **Sunday – Wednesday:** 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, and 4:30 to 6:00 PM – Rotunda, Unistructure
8/10 **Thursday:** 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM – Hall 16 Lobby

NEYM REGISTRATION FEES: Registration Fees cover program costs and are not refundable.

Adult Registration Fees (persons entering grade 10 or older)

Resident, two or more nights.....	\$75
Resident, one night	\$55
Commuters & Campers, per-day (up to \$75 maximum)	\$13

Discount Fees, registrations received on or before July 7

Resident, two or more nights.....	\$55
Resident, one night	\$40
Commuters & Campers, per-day (up to \$55 maximum)	\$10

Child Registration Fees (persons age 3 to entering grade 9)

Resident, two or more nights.....	\$15
Resident, one night	\$11
Commuters & Campers, per-day (up to \$15 maximum)	\$3

Discount Fees, registrations received on or before July 7

Resident, two or more nights.....	\$5
Resident, one night	\$1
Commuters & Campers, per-day (up to \$5 maximum)	\$1

ROOM, BOARD, & FACILITIES FEES: ALL resident NEYM attendees **must bring** sheets, pillow cases, & towels. Blankets & pillows are provided for each bed. No charges for children, age 2 & younger.

Full-Time Resident (Saturday - Thursday)

Adult (entering grade 10 & older)	\$250
Child (age 3 to entering grade 9) in a bed	\$165
Child (age 3 to entering grade 9) on floor	\$85

Part-Time Resident (Plan B) (Per-day, beginning with supper, overnight, breakfast, & lunch—in that order)

Adult (entering grade 10 & older)	\$55/day
Child (age 3 to entering grade 9) in a bed	\$55/day

No option for child on floor

COMMUTER & CAMPER FEES: Full & part-time meals include Facilities Use Fees

Full meal plan:	Adult: \$170	Child: \$120
Part-time meals:	Adult: \$34/day	Child: \$24/day

Individual Meals (Facilities Use Fees not included):

Adult: Breakfast: \$7.00	Lunch: \$8.00	Dinner: \$11.00
Child: Breakfast: \$4.50	Lunch: \$5.25	Dinner: \$7.25

Facilities Use Fee.....\$8/day

2000 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>10:00 Registration begins (Hall 16 Lobby)</p> <p>10:30 Permanent Board (Janikies Auditorium, Unistructure)</p> <p>(Bring your own lunch or eat off campus. The Dining Hall is NOT AVAILABLE for NEYM)</p> <p>1:00 – 2:45 Committee meetings (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for location)</p> <p>3:00 – 4:15 Parent/Sponsor & Youth Orientations for all youth programs and childcare (See YEARLY MEETING NEWS* for locations)</p> <p>4:30 – 5:00 Orientalion for first-time attenders (Janikies Auditorium, Unistructure)</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner (Salmanson Dining Hall, Unistructure)</p> <p>5:30 Registration closes</p> <p>6:45 Opening Session (all ages) (Gymnasium)</p> <p>7:30 (approx.) Children & youth staff leave</p> <p>8:15 Bible Half-Hour Becky Phipps, Paul's Letter to the Quakers: Romans 12:2, "Be not conformed"</p> <p>9:00 Opening party Sponsored by Young Adult Friends (Salmanson Dining Hall)</p> <p>9:00-10:00 Registration continues</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:45 Meeting for Worship (Gymnasium)</p> <p>Worship & Singing (all ages)</p> <p>Junior YM leaves (9:45)</p> <p>Keynote Address: Paul Lacey, "The worship offered by mind and heart" (10:00)</p> <p>Open (unprogrammed) Worship</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 Free Time</p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 Meeting for Worship Business (Janikies Auditorium, Unistructure)</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 Bible Half-Hour Religious Imagination: Romans 1:25, "The Truth About God" (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>7:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business (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 – 9:30 Worship-Sharing Groups (Groups and locations to be posted)</p> <p>9:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 Free Time</p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 Workshops</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 FWCC (Friends World Committee for Consultation) Report from the 20th Triennial</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 Bible Half-Hour Lives Centered in God: Romans 8:5, "Life According to the Spirit"</p> <p>7:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups</p> <p>Contra dance (Salmanson Dining Hall)</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30 Worship-Sharing Groups</p> <p>9:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 Free Time</p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 Workshops</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Committee Meetings</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 Bible Half-Hour A Word of Life: Romans 10:4, "For Everyone Who Believes"</p> <p>7:45 – 8:45 Memorial Meeting for Worship</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30 Worship-Sharing Groups</p> <p>9:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>11:30 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 Free Time</p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 Workshops</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Committee Meetings</p> <p>4:15 – 5:15 Open meeting to hear concerns</p> <p>5:00 – 6:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 Bible Half-Hour Renewing Our Minds: Romans 14:7, "We Do Not Live to Ourselves"</p> <p>7:45 – 8:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business</p> <p>9:00 Interest groups</p> <p>Coffee house (Salmanson Dining Hall)</p>	<p>6:30 Early Worship**</p> <p>7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast</p> <p>7:00 Check-out begins (Hall 16 Lobby)</p> <p>8:30 – 9:30 Worship-Sharing Groups</p> <p>9:45 Meeting for Worship to Conduct Business (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>11:00 Closing worship (all ages): Epistles of all NEYM groups</p> <p>12:00 – 1:00 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 Permanent Board (Janikies Auditorium)</p> <p>2:00 Check-out ends</p>



* **YEARLY MEETING NEWS** is published Sat., Mon., Tues., & Wed. mornings.

** **Early Worship:** programmed, healing, unprogrammed, unity with nature, worship-sharing group leaders. (For locations see the YEARLY MEETING NEWS)

• The **business agenda** is available upon arrival. For advance information, call the NEYM Office 508/754-6760.

• **Additions** to the schedule during Yearly Meeting Sessions will be announced in the YEARLY MEETING NEWS.

Junior YM & JuniorHighers meet Sat: 7:30-9 PM
Sun: 9:45-11:45 AM, & 7-9 PM
Mon. – Wed.: 8:30-11:45 AM, & 7-9 PM
Thurs: 8:30-11:45 AM
Junior YM only, Sun.– Wed: 2-5:15 PM

Afternoon workshops

Please sign up on side 1 of the Yearly Meeting Registration Form (enclosed with this mailing)

Three-day Workshops — Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

- 1. Toward Models of Economic Justice.** Arnie Alpert, Mike Prokosh, Keith Harvey. **M Tu W** [Peace & Social Concerns (P&SC)] Adults & Youth.
A short review of “globalization” as the context of our economic situation, including a presentation of the “debt skit” dramatizing the plight of many poor developing countries. We’ll examine 2 or 3 model projects—local and global. We’ll explore how Friends can participate as individuals, Meetings, home communities or other institutional connections.
- 2. Exploring Labyrinths—Historically, Culturally, Spiritually.** Penelope Wright. **M Tu W** [Friends General Conference (FGC)] Adults & Youth
We will review the many examples of labyrinths found over time and across cultures and spiritual applications. Participants will assist in the creation of our own labyrinth and have several opportunities for experiencing it. Bring journaling material in which to record your experience of the labyrinth. (Limit 10)
- 3. Providing Loving Support to Aging Parents: The Practical and the Spiritual.** Jean Stine. **M Tu W** [Aging] Adults
This workshop is designed to provide both support and information to families of aging parents. The focus will be on recognizing the dynamics of the changing relationships. We will consider the needs of the care giver as well as the needs of the aging parent. We will address loss. The workshop is intended for Friends who are adult care givers of aging parents whether terminally ill or needing more help. The sharing of needs and solutions, the underlying spiritual nature of the changing relationships, and the gifts that come from these changes will be the primary focal point of the group. There will also be some fundamental “how to” information available. (Limit 20)
- 4. Moved to Move.** Rebecca Leuchak. **M Tu W** [Ministry & Counsel (M&C)] Adults & Youth
We speak through our bodies as well as our words. Do we move through our lives from a centered place? In this workshop we will explore the connection between the inner light and gesture, movement and dance. Includes elements of modern dance, yoga and movement philosophy of Barbara Mettler. No previous dance training needed. All ages welcome. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. (Limit 25. Attendance all three days required.)
- 5. What Kind of God is This?** Jay Marshall (Dean, Earlham School of Religion). **M Tu W** [Christian Education & M&C] Adults & Youth
We will consider attributes assigned to God in the Old Testament and ask, “How do we understand these attributes? Is there value in their continued use in the 21st Century?”
- 6. Quaker Practice and Mindfulness.** Tim McCosker. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adults & Youth
In what ways do we center ourselves in our daily lives so that we can be more open to the “still small voice” within us? Using the practices of mindfulness, which come from the Buddhist scholar Thich Nhat Hanh, as well as other religious and secular traditions, we will review and experience ways to center and be more available to the spirit moving through our lives. Each participant should bring a pad to lie on. (Limit 16)
- 7. Scripture Resources for Prayer.** Doug Baker. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adults & Youth
We will look at psalms, prayers and other scriptures that can be used for focusing for prayer and meditation. Bring any bible and a concordance if possible.
- 8. Writing Out of the Silence.** Patricia Wild. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adults and Youth
Quaker novelist Daisy Newman used to say that while writing her novels, she would bring her fictitious characters to meeting for worship and then, during the silence, would listen to what these characters had to say. Using a worship-sharing format, participants in this workshop will write out of the silence, sometimes guided by a suggested theme or quotation. Each day will begin with a lively thought provoking writing exercise and conclude with each participant writing in his or her own journal. Discussion topics will include: writing process, writing about the inexplicable, “the oceans of darkness and light” as a/THE creative source. Participants should bring their own journals and favorite writing implements. (Limit 15. Attendance all three days required)
- 9. Barclay’s Apology: Blueprint for Transformation.** Will Taber. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult & Youth
Robert Barclay presents a challenge to the attitudes and assumptions of modern Friends. Barclay’s Apology is not just a work of theology, it also describes the process whereby Friends can be “transformed by the renewal of their minds”. In the first two sessions we will examine this process. In the final session, we will examine the implications of this for our worship and ministry. In all sessions we will look at the ways Barclay challenges us, both as individuals and as a Religious Society.
- 10. Conforming to the Spirit: Aspects of Early Quaker Spirituality.** Brian Drayton. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult & Youth
In this workshop, we will encounter the ideas of Nayler, Fox, and Penington on the process of transformation of life through encounter with the Spirit. Encounter with texts from each of these Friends will serve as the basis for exploration of aspects of our own walk in the Light, as individuals and as a gathered people. Bibles useful, photocopies of texts will be made available. (Limit 15)
- 11. Weighty Friends: On Sacred Ground.** Nancy S. Dubler. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult
As Quakers we are asked to understand the seamless connections between the everyday and the sacred. Come see how fun the sacred can be, as we tap that playful wisdom so necessary for true spiritual maturity. Our focus will be on the pragmatic intersections of faith development, psycho-social development, and personality type. Using exercises, experiences, and discussion, we will ask 1) how our personality types affect our faith, 2) how might life experiences (including body size/image) influence personality and religious perspectives, and 3) how our faith interacts with other elements of our being. We will creatively map our adult faith journeys. The “map” may not be the “territory,” but it sure can be useful... Size is not a prerequisite—substance you already have. (May attend any or all days)
- 12. Ministry with the Dying and Bereaved.** Alice Hildebrand. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult
This workshop seeks to enhance the participants’ self-awareness and level of “comfort” with death, dying, and bereavement. Our work will draw upon our own experiences and feelings; our goal will be to give them useful space. We will also reflect on and discuss specific metaphors and practices relating to this ministry. (Limit 12. Attendance all three days required.)
- 13. Clerking and Recording Clerking.** Richard Ristow. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult & Youth
One of the most satisfying of Friends experiences is to share in a Meeting for Worship for Business finding unity in the Light. This workshop is both discussion and practice of the techniques and spiritual disciplines for presiding, recording, or participating in a meeting seeking its unity. (Limit 30)
- 14. But I’ve Never Had “Enough” Before.** Penny Yunuba. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adult & Youth (Youth Monday only)
The goal of this workshop is to jump start a larger dialogue about “enoughness” and personal giving. Workshop participants will be encouraged to ask a few simple questions of f/Friends and family in advance. Each workshop time will be a mix of small group sharing, short exercises, and goal-setting opportunities. Closet Tithers—please feel especially welcome! We will talk about: Do you already have “enough”? Are you able to really feel that? In what areas of you life do you feel as secure and enriched as you might wish? Are there any nagging gaps? What creative giving plans have you heard about? Who gives what where? How much delight is there in you giving? (Limit 30)
- 15. Listening Spirituality.** Charlotte Fardelmann & Sirkka Barbour. **M Tu W** [M&C] Adults
In this experiential workshop we will explore and practice listening spirituality. We intend to focus on a variety of journaling exercises and different forms of prayer. Recommended reading: *Listening Spirituality, Volume 1*, by Patricia Loring, published by Openings Press, Washington, D.C. 20015. (Limit 14. Attendance all three days required.)

Two-day workshops — Monday & Tuesday, or Tuesday & Wednesday

Monday & Tuesday

16. **Membership: the Nature of Our Corporate Commitment.** Christopher & Jean McCandless. **M Tu** [M&C] Adults
Does your meeting have long-time active attenders who should be encouraged to consider membership? Young people who have grown up as junior members, but have not requested full membership? Membership rolls full of inactive “dead wood” and a reluctance to prune it? A clear understanding of its mission and presence in the larger community that might attract new members? This is a workshop for monthly meeting clerks, members of Ministry and Counsel and others who are concerned about these questions.
17. **Quaker Authority: Reflections on the Basis for Personal and Corporate Authority.** Tom Ewell. **M Tu** [M&C] Adults & Youth
We will compare Friends with other denominations and work to discover the uniqueness of Friends. We will use John Punshon’s book, *Testimony and Tradition* as a resource. Please read the book before the workshop if possible. (Limit 25. Attendance both days strongly encouraged.)
18. **Same Gender Marriage.** Polly Attwood, Wendy Sanford, Debby Colgan, Chuck Woodbury. **M Tu** [M&C] Adults
We will reflect on the experience of getting married under the care of Friends Meeting at Cambridge(FMC) on 5/1/99, highlighting the ways that the clearness and oversight process helped us. We will outline FMC’s useful legal

guidelines for the protection of couples who are not being married by the state. Members of our clearness and oversight committees will share their experiences, and the four of us will be open to questions and sharings from workshop participants.

19. **Conversations with Women: The Spirit at Work.** Marigold Best (Britain YM). **M Tu** [Friends World Committee for Consultation]
The workshop rises out of Marigold Best’s book, *Life Out of Death: The Feminine Spirit in El Salvador* and her next book on conversations with English women.

Tuesday & Wednesday

20. **Friends Led to Work in Troubled Places Abroad.** Sibylle Barlow. **Tu W** [P&SC] Adults & Youth
Ray Boucher of Hartford Meeting recently returned from Uganda, and George Cappacio, of Cambridge Meeting, a member of “Voices in the Wilderness” working against sanctions in Iraq, will tell us of their spiritual journeys and their experiences.
21. **On Listening—What Do You Hear.** Michael Wadja. **Tu W** [FGC] Adults
At the core of our Quaker faith and practice is a posture of deep listening. We have to cultivate this deep listening in order to hear the nudging of the Spirit within and the movements of the Spirit through others. This workshop will provide us an opportunity to further discern and share what we hear. Through indi-

vidual and small group exercises, we will consider what we hear in our devotional lives, in our monthly meetings, and in the broader Religious Society of Friends. What is God calling us to do individually and corporately? Come to listen and to share.

22. **Simplicity and Beyond: Nurturing Our Connection to the Earth.** Gwendolyn Noyes. **Tu W** [New England Friends in Unity with Nature] Adults & Youth
Participants will explore the Quaker Testimonies of Peace and Simplicity and dialogue on how their experiences (as part of nature) inform a testimony on sustainability. Ways to support individuals and Meetings working with sustainability will also be considered using a draft workbook as well as other tools and inspirations.
23. **Adversity in Community.** Peggy Dunn & Chris Beach. **Tu W** [M&C] Adults
What do meetings do when conflict erupts? What happens to meetings when relationships change within the community? This workshop will explore some dynamics of difficult situations that arise in meetings, using guidelines developed by Portland Monthly Meeting, and drawing on other resources. One or two simulated conflict situations will be presented as time allows. For reasons of confidentiality or difficulty, it may be determined that specific conflicts are not appropriate for full group discussion in this setting. (Limit 15. Attendance both days strongly encouraged.)

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

Monday

24. **Among Friends.** Doug Bennett (President, Earlham College). **M** [Christian Education & M&C] Adults & Youth
Discussion of Earlham School of Religion’s National survey/consultation, whose findings are published in the book *Among Friends*.
25. **Energy Work.** John Calvi. **M** [M&C] Adults
An introduction to simple hands-on energy work for deep relaxation, better sleep, less pain. There will be a demonstration followed by practice in pairs. Come ready to relax.
26. **Quaker Reading Resources for Meetings.** Bill Kriebel & Mary Mangelsdorf. **M** [Mosher Book & Tract] Adults
A symposium of meeting librarians, outreach committee persons, and any others interested in what has proven good reading for adults interested in learning more about Quakerism. (Limit 15)
27. **Housing Decisions for Elders.** Mary Eavenson. **W** [NE Friends Home] Adults
We will provide resources and information to help families and elders make decisions about housing.
28. **Historical Field Trip to Smithfield and Uxbridge Meetinghouses.** David Haines. **M** [Archives]
These meetings have been centers of Quaker activity in New England for many years. In fact, the present meetinghouse in Uxbridge was built in 1770, and is of the classic two door and partitioned Quaker design. We will travel to these meetinghouses and discuss their historical role

in NEYM. We will also examine the meeting community’s involvement in the Quaker movements of the late 18th and early 19th century, including the ministry of Job Scott, a member of Uxbridge meeting, and the intense abolitionist activity in the area. These meetings are a short distance from Bryant College. Participants will provide transportation. (Limit 30)

Tuesday

29. **Managing Quaker Money.** Dan Isaacs. **Tu** [Board of Managers of Investments] Adults
This workshop will be the annual meeting of the Board of Managers open to all attending NEYM sessions. We will discuss current economic trends and investment recommendations. We will review the portfolio of the funds presently invested by the Board and discuss any recommended changes. We will discuss the Board’s standards for socially and religiously responsible investments and entertain questions about the Board’s policies and procedures and suggestions concerning them.
30. **Meeting for Healing.** John Calvi. **Tu** [M&C] Adults
A meeting for worship where all present will hold the circle in the light and Friends may come forward for John’s touch.

Wednesday

31. **NEYM and the Web.** Bill How & Jim Grace. **W** [Ad Hoc Web] Adults & Youth
We already have a web site. This is a forum

for Friends to discuss what “the Web” can be/should be for NEYM, pros and cons—we know there are both. What should we say about ourselves in this medium? Should minutes, epistles and other documents be distributed via e-mail? Should the internet be used for electronic meetings? Can there be such a thing as a decision over cyberspace?

32. **Teaching Quaker Testimonies to Children.** Jean McCandless. **W** [Christian Education] Adults
Our job as Christian Education Committees is to help educate our children about Quaker history and traditions, so that they can make sound religious decisions for themselves as they grow older. Quaker testimonies play an essential role in our heritage and daily lives. However, aside from a Friends United Meeting (FUM) adult curriculum and pieces of existing children’s material, there is no satisfactory and complete curriculum to help us teach testimonies to our children. This workshop will review the principles of curriculum development and give participants a chance to develop a basic lesson plan themselves.
33. **Spiritual Disciplines to Avoid Burnout.** John Calvi. **W** [M&C] Adults
Doing good works can be delightful and exhausting. Come learn ideas to restore your core energies, make compassion pragmatic, and avoid exhaustion and despair.

Around the Yearly Meeting

Compiled from monthly meeting newsletters and correspondence by the Editors, William Kriebel and Jonathan Vogel-Borne

• A number of meetings continue to be concerned about the effects of the non-military sanctions on Iraq. Some have minutely willing to join the Campaign of Conscience for the Iraqi People sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee and the Fellowship of Reconciliation, to send civilian relief supplies to Iraq even if they fail to get a license to do so. Those meetings participating (at the time of this report) are: **Providence (RI)**, **Mt. Toby (MA)**, **South Berkshire** and **Northampton (MA)**. **Wellesley (MA)** offers moral and spiritual support to individuals who sign, and other meetings are apparently considering this. A meeting for all New England Friends on this concern was held on 5/6 at Framingham Meetinghouse.

• Participants felt that the **NEYM Women's Retreat**, held on the first weekend in April in Center Harbor, NH, was very successful. The camaraderie of Quaker women was appreciated, as was the deep and centered worship of "a truly gathered community." One felt a burden had been lifted; another felt the silent time outdoors "provided a spring to be drawn from." Many felt

nurtured, renewed, grounded, and free to share feelings during worship sharing.

• **North Shore (MA) MM** reports planning a Mothers' Day Peace Vigil and Commemoration for 5/13 in Beverly, MA, focusing on the land mine issue and Julia Ward Howe's peace efforts following the Civil War, with readings from her *Call to Women*. The meeting invited other church congregations to participate.

• **Vassalboro (ME) MM** members reported on the filming of a documentary on Rufus Jones, a project begun by New England Friends, with a production team from Philadelphia. The visitors experienced snowy and windy Maine weather as they filmed Jones locations in South China, ME. They were assisted by members of Vassalboro Meeting, particularly Irma Simon and Margaret Cates, who was interviewed, and other Cateses. More filming will be done in July.

• **Bennington (VT) MM** has been holding discussion meetings for outreach into the community, one on the need to abolish nuclear weapons, and another on the mission of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL).

• **Burlington (VT) MM** approved a minute on our relationship with nature: environmental imbalance and threats globally and locally are interconnected with human behavior. They call upon all Friends to join them in acting on this concern as one of critical importance; looking into our daily habits and challenging ourselves to make changes; and working to assist natural processes in returning to health those ecosystems damaged by human activities.

• **Falmouth Quarterly Meeting (ME)** began a visitation program, with a monthly rotating schedule, whereby meetings in the Quarter are invited to send visitors to the particular meeting in its given month.

• **Cobscook (ME) MM** is discussing the history of their meeting house benches. There are stories or legends which "seem probable," such as that different Purchase (NY) Meeting farmers built them at different times. "Some say they were dragged from burning meeting houses twice but I seem to remember that they were left in the 1918 building during the 1972 fire when the roof burned and dropped slates onto them which produced the scars we now see."

In other Quaker news

Restorative Justice survey

The NEYM Friends for Restorative Justice Committee is producing a compendium of restorative justice practices and activities throughout New England. A survey has circulated to the monthly and quarterly meetings and will also appear in the fall *New England Friend*. If you are involved with or aware of restorative justice activities taking place in your community, please contact, Alan Taplow, 884 John Fowler Rd., Plainfield, VT 05667 • fax: 802/454-4675 • Ataplow@bigfoot.com

Young Adult Friends Coordinator

Young Adult Friends has created a part-time position within NEYM to help support the group, which gives young adults a place in Quakerism to connect with peers, to gain leadership skills, to continue exploring their spirituality and to share their experiences of being a Young Adult Friend. Some of the responsibilities included in the coordinator

position are doing outreach, assisting and implementing communication systems (e-mail, listserves, etc.), publishing newsletters, as well as planning and coordinating retreats. For information contact Lucy Marsh, 49 Paul Gore St. #3, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 • 617/522-0227 • luchem@juno.com

Carl Williams new FWCC Assoc. Sec.

Carl Williams, of Plainfield (VT) MM has accepted a one-year position as Associate Secretary of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Section of the Americas, based in Philadelphia, PA.

Allen's Neck seeks pastor

Allen's Neck Friends Meeting, in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, is seeking a part-time pastor. Duties will include: leading worship, pastoral care, community outreach and involvement in our Meeting's activities. A parsonage is provided. Please send resume with references to: Pastor Search Committee,

Sharon Wypych, Clerk, 175 Division Rd., Westport, MA 02790 • slwyp619@aol.com

Curriculum writer sought

Friends Meeting at Cambridge's First Day School will appreciate help in identifying (1) candidates for a paid consultancy to write/assemble the 2nd and 3rd years of our curriculum across all grades; and (2) existing curricula for all grades appropriate for our School. Contact Chris Connaire, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge MA 02138 • 617/492-5177 • connaire@world.std.com

BHFH has summer and fall openings

Beacon Hill Friends House (BHFH), a Quaker-sponsored community of 19, has openings available for 6/1 and 9/1. Students and working people of all ages, religious and ethnic backgrounds are welcome. There is an application process of several weeks. Apply to BHFH, 6 Chestnut St., Boston, MA 02108 • 617/227-9118. See www.bhfh.org

Presiding Clerk, Anne Kriebel ■ **Treasurer**, Diana White ■ **NEYM OFFICE**: 901 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602-1908 • 508/754-6760 • FAX: 508/754-9401 • neym@ma.ultranet.com • www.ultranet.com/~neym • OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday–Friday, 9AM–5PM ■ **Administrative Secretary**, Katharine Clark ■ **Youth and Education Secretary**, Christel Jorgenson ■ **Field Secretary**, Jonathan Vogel-Borne ■ **THE NEW ENGLAND FRIEND: Editor**, Jonathan Vogel-Borne; **Editorial & Production Volunteer**, William Kriebel ■ **FRIENDS CAMP**, Susan Morris, Director, P.O. Box 84, E. Vassalboro, ME 04935 ■ **MOSES BROWN SCHOOL**, Joanne Hoffman, Head, 250 Lloyd Ave., Providence, RI 02906 ■ **NEW ENGLAND FRIENDS HOME–THAYER HOUSE**, Gretchen Condon, Administrator, Turkey Hill La., Hingham, MA 02043 ■ **YOUTH RETREATS**: Grades 2-5: Kevin Lee 508/994-1638; Grades 6-8: Cynthia Rankin 508/540-6570 & Nort Salz 508/263-0862; Grades 9-12: Christel Jorgenson 617/625-4494.

The New England Friend
901 Pleasant Street
Worcester, MA 01602-1908



Please send **ALL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** to the Yearly Meeting **DIRECTLY** to the Treasurer, Diana White, P.O. Box 856, Farmington, ME 04938

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THE NEW ENGLAND FRIEND

YEARLY MEETING CALENDAR

June 2000

- 3-4 Northwest QM – Farm & Wilderness, Plymouth, VT
- 10 Committee Day – Cambridge Friends School
- 16-18 Friends United Mtg General Board – Richmond, IN
- 23-24 Stillness Retreat – Charlotte Fardelmann’s home in Portsmouth, NH [for info 603/436-7652]

July 2000

- 1-8 Friends General Conference Gathering – Rochester, NY
- 16 RI-Smithfield QM – Providence, RI
- 22 Falmouth QM – Brunswick, ME
- 22 Sandwich QM – Mattapoisett, MA
- 28-29 Stillness Retreat – Monadnock, NH [for info, Denise Ginzler, 603/878-3702]

August 2000

- 5-10 NEYM Sessions – Bryant College, Smithfield, RI
Theme: “Be not conformed to this world,” Romans 12:2
Keynote Speaker: Paul Lacey
Bible Half Hour Speaker: Becky Phipps
- 27-28 Stillness Retreat – East Sebago, ME [for info, Peggy Dunn 207/897-1371]

September 2000

- 8-10 Vassalboro QM – Friends China Camp
- 9-10 Northwest QM – Farm & Wilderness, Plymouth, VT
- 15 *New England Friend* deadline
- 16 Ministry & Counsel – Location TBA

- 23 Sessions Committee – Location TBA
- 24-25 Stillness Retreat – Charlotte Fardelmann’s home in Portsmouth, NH [for info 603/436-7652]
- 29-1 Oct Jr. High Retreat – Westport, MA
- 30 Committee Day – Location TBA

October 2000

- 1 CT Valley QM – New Haven, CT
- 13-16 Friends United Mtg General Board – Richmond, IN
- 13-15 RI-Smithfield QM retreat – Camp Aldersgate, RI
- 13-14 Stillness Retreat – East Sebago, ME [for info, Peggy Dunn 207/897-1371]
- 13-15 Stillness Retreat – Block Island, RI [for info, Karen Sprague 401/934-3105]
- 21 Practice of Clerking Workshop – Northeast Harbor, ME
- 22 Salem QM – Wellesley, MA
- 28 Falmouth QM – Windham, ME
- 28 Sandwich QM – Nantucket, MA
- 29 Dover QM – North Sandwich, NH

November 2000

- 2-5 FGC Central Committee Mtg. – New Windsor, MD
- 3-4 Stillness Retreat – Monadnock Meeting, NH [for info, Denise Ginzler, 603/878-3702]
- 4 Vassalboro QM – Acadia, ME
- 10-12 Jr. High Retreat – Hartford, CT
- 10-12 Ministry & Counsel retreat – Woolman Hill, MA
- 18 Permanent Board – Location TBA