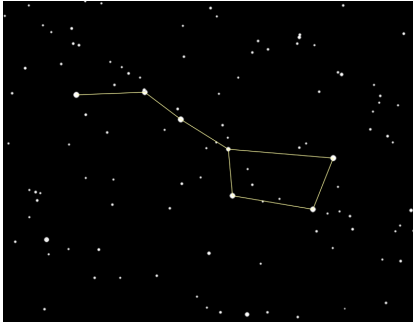


The Provident FRIEND

January 2010

Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



Running and Sitting (expectantly)

By Bob Elliott

Q&A from Ministry & Counsel:
A response to Ed McCarthy's question:
"How do you center down?"

Running

It's a slushy winter day. I've too many things on my list and on my mind. I head down the trail trying to delay the inevitable slush in the shoes and avoid the slip and fall. I cross tracks, cat, dog, deer, turkey and a bunch I don't know. Ten minutes later I come to a road shoulder and good visibility. Now my breathing and steps are locked together, two steps inhale, two steps exhale. I check my form, tending these days to what I used to think of as "the old man shuffle", but now thanks to the book and web site, I call "Chi Running". Whatever you call it, the stride is shorter, there is almost no heel strike, there's more forward lean and slower forward progress. I'm transitioning now into a cruise control state where my feet find the right places to land, my arms, legs, breathing, and heart are all coordinated and need no conscious direction. I'm happy to be alive. I feel less connected to my body and more connected to all those track laying critters whose paths I crossed as I put down some of my own. I might employ my running mantra, the refrain of the hymn "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart."

Each step is a beat, four steps are a breath cycle, two in and two out, and every sixteen steps is one refrain. After another 20 or 40 minutes, I approach home. I reengage my mind and kick it in, tapping the mailbox to officially conclude the run, take my pulse for 6 seconds, walk and then jog up the driveway. My shoes are slushed. The list is one item shorter (run) but much lighter and I've got exactly the right number of things on my mind.

Sitting

It's a slushy winter day. I've too many things on my mind and on my list. I leave my shoes in the entry and take a seat at my usual spot in the meeting room. I look around to find familiar faces and a few I haven't seen before. I hear the sounds of the city, traffic mostly, and the meeting. I take note of my breathing. Sometimes I cross my legs and watch my foot give a tiny kick with each heartbeat. Usually I close my eyes. What I see now is the meeting room but only as long as my imagination keeps it there. When someone speaks I usually recognize the voice and if their message is compelling I will go down its

fully illustrated path. If no one speaks there is another well-worn and inviting path leading to sleep, which I've taken many times.

But I'm not here to sleep. I'm here to listen, to that which is deep within me and deep within others in this room. So I listen. I listen for that which is always there, just as the stars and planets are always there, but are too often obscured by clouds of worry or the bright light of immediate demands. The meeting room in a sense is an observatory, but here we look and listen inward. As each message is shared, I often feel a resonance or a closure to thoughts I have been having. Occasionally I feel compelled to rise and speak. It's not a pleasant feeling, but if it persists, and I don't act on it, I feel worse. This very notion of individual messages being like stars coming out at night and our collective meeting efforts leading to some sort of spiritual constellation, as guiding as is the North Star and Big Dipper, I remember distinctly, as it was the first time I rose to speak. While doubtless this is small potatoes in the world of epiphanies, and probably not original, it was big enough for me.

Calendar:

Jan. 15-17:
Family Weekend Retreat
at Woolman Hill

Jan. 16: 10am-noon
Saylesville Book Swap

Jan. 17:
10:30am - Conanicut Mtg.
at Norman Bird Sanctuary

After coffee - Peace &
Social Concerns Mtg.

Jan. 18:
Family and First Day
School Practicum at
Woolman Hill

Jan 22-24: JYM Retreat,
"With these Hands" at
Wellesley Friends Mtg.

Jan. 24:
9am - Religious Education
Mtg.
11:30 - Worship Sharing
Rufus Jones Study Group
6pm - AFSC-SENE Annual
Dinner

Jan. 30: 10:30am New
England Antiwar
Conference

Jan. 31:
Rufus Jones Study Group

3pm - 103rd Annual
Service of Prayer for
Christian Unity, Gloria Dei
Lutheran Church

Feb. 5: Game Night

Feb. 7: First Day School:
Conscientious Objectors

Feb. 10: 8-9am
Moses Brown School
Quaker Conservations
"Peace Testimony at a
Friends School"
Providence Meetinghouse

Feb. 14: 12:15pm
Meeting for Business,
Providence Meetinghouse

Minutes of Monthly Meeting for Business - First Month 10th

Providence Monthly Meeting
First Month (January) 10,
2010
Minutes of monthly meeting
for business

1. Friends gathered at the Providence meeting house at 12:15 p.m.

2. In the opening silent worship, the clerk read the following queries on community, from the Proposed Queries of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, 2008: What helps our Meeting build trust of one another? How do we get to know one another in community? How do we make time in our lives for our faith community? How do our conflicts have the potential to enrich the life of our community?

3. Announcements:

A worship-sharing session for the State of Society report for calendar 2009 will be held on 24 First Month from 11:30 a.m. at the Providence meeting house.

Friends are invited to the Rhode Island Council of Churches' annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity, to be held on January 31st, 2010 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Providence. The speaker, M. Daniel Carroll Rodas, is the author of a book Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible.

4. Recorder Anne DiMase reported that three additional over-age junior members and their families have been consulted about their membership. (See minute 6, 12th mo. 2009.) The following junior members are clear to have their membership discontinued: Peter English, Randall Gomes, and Claire Morenon. We approve discontinuing their memberships due to age and inactivity. Each of them

is of course warmly welcome to attend our meetings when able.

5. For Ministry and Counsel, Dan Lederer reported that Paul Virgadamo and Wendy Virgadamo have requested membership for themselves and junior membership for their daughter Sophia Virgadamo. Ministry and Counsel warmly recommends accepting them as members, and we approve. Ann DiMase, Elsie Morse, and Judy Shaw agreed to organize an appropriate welcome for the family.

6. According to our process, the Presiding Clerk recommended the following people to constitute a Nominating Committee for 2010: Elsie Morse (convener), Pamela Dahlberg, Bruce Downing, Michael McGuigan, and Betsy Zimmerman. We approve.

7. Jeanne Whitaker brought a suggestion from the Rhode Island Council of Churches that all churches join in a Lenten Study program on immigration, especially in Rhode Island, using the book Christians at the Border. This is an issue that AFSC is also concerned with. Several members of the Adult Religious Education committee are willing to organize a study circle. RISCC is providing a training session which at least one Friend can attend. We approve this program, and authorize use of funds from the Adult Education committee budget to purchase copies of the book for those interested in participating.

8. For Saylesville Preparative Meeting, Joanne Griffin presented an extensive report on the progress of renovations completed to date to the east wall of the Saylesville meeting house. The wall

was stripped down to its skeletal structure so that the posts and beams could be repaired as needed, rather like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. The tie-beam was stabilized with a steel flitch plate. Part of the foundation was relaid and remortared. The guideline used by Heritage was that the repairs are intended to last 150 to 200 years. A total of 352 volunteer hours were contributed, including six people who normally attend meeting in Providence, three who normally attend in Saylesville, and three people from the neighborhood. Because of this labor, Heritage was able to proceed further than originally contemplated, which will reduce the need to backtrack when work is resumed. Meeting for worship has been held in the kitchen to conserve heat, except for the Christmas Eve candlelight service.

A total of \$35,500 has been spent so far, all of which was already in the long-term renovation fund for Saylesville meeting house. (See minute 6, 7th mo. 2009.) Of this, \$3,000 came as a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which was paid directly to Heritage. Joanne reported that the Champlin Foundation did not approve the meeting's grant request. The Obadiah Brown Fund will meet next in mid-February, and has asked whether the meeting's pending request could be deferred until June.

During the renovation work, the Property Committee authorized one \$2,500 change order for work on window frames and tar paper that was included in "Stage 2" rather than in the "Stage 1" work authorized by the meeting for business

in 7th month. Property Committee felt this would reduce the overall cost of the project, and remained within the funds available.

For the Property Committee, Lee Jaspers then reported on its deliberations on further work to be done. The committee has done an informal assessment of the overall condition of the building. They determined that in general the building is in quite good condition, including the boiler and the water heater. They have under discussion additional questions, including adding electrical conduits and/or sprinkler or fire suppression systems while the east wall is open. They are also concerned about some indications of additional water damage on an adjacent wall.

Bob Elliot added that the next activity would be finishing sealing the exterior wall by installing new clapboards, which may be able to be completed using volunteer labor. It may be possible to utilize clapboards recycled from another site, which appear to be in good condition and appropriate for the job.

We commend the Property Committee and the many activities of Saylesville Friends to support the renovations. We look forward to further reports and recommendations from the Property Committee concerning this project.

8. Treasurer and Finance Committee report: Bruce Carlsten reported for the Treasurer that individual contributions year to date have come in about \$1,000 ahead of last year, but are behind what is needed to meet this year's budget.

Minutes continued on
Page 3 ...

Minutes (continued from Page2)

The Finance Committee was charged with developing guidelines for the process for submitting grant applications and executing contracts on behalf of the meeting. The committee will put its proposed guidelines in the

newsletter, and encourages Friends to read and consider them before they come for decision at our next meeting for business.

11. We closed with silent gratitude at 1:40 p.m., intending if God permits to

meet next at the Providence meetinghouse on the 14th of 2nd month 2010, at 12:15 p.m.

Mark Conley, Presiding Clerk
Elizabeth Cazden,
Recording Clerk

Correction: The Eleventh Month (November) 8th Minutes 2009 were incorrectly labeled Tenth Month.

Woolman Hill Family Weekend, January 15-17

The NEYM Christian Education Committee is hosting its 3rd Annual Woolman Hill Family Weekend on January 15-17, 2010-- entitled "Birds, Bees, and Quakerism, Please." This is an important discussion, even if you have fairly young children and these are extraordinary gatherings that have the tone and warmth of a family reunion. They are a mix of both deep

thought and sharing on the one hand and fun, fun, fun indoors and out, on the other! The cozy farmhouse and meetinghouse at Woolman Hill set the stage perfectly for our time together. There's scholarship assistance, if that makes the difference, please put it to good use.

Join us in a rare opportunity to come together with other Quaker parents to

learn more about how to gracefully address [many] aspects of development and relationships, and to talk openly about values and safety in a way that is not fear-based. We will spend some time together with our children engaging in connecting games and activities, and some time with our parenting peers, in deep discussion and discernment about these important topics. Children

will have their own separate program of indoor art and outdoor projects, and we will all join together for some family fun.

For information: Woolman Hill Quaker Retreat Center, Deerfield, MA
(413) 774-3431
www.woolmanhill.org

Exploring Centering, Prayer, and Worship with Our Children: A Family and First Day School Practicum By Beth Collea

Monday, January 18
9am-3:30pm
Woolman Hill

Join me for a day of hands-on, hearts-on practical exercises you can use to set the stage for your children's own inner experience of the divine. These are things you can do at home or as part of a First Day School class. After we begin our day with some worship, we'll try finger labyrinths, flower meditations, mindfulness exercises,

centering practices, mandala coloring, praying in color, family spiritual disciplines, and more. I'll present one of the new Faith and Play stories developed by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting called "Listening For God." I'll bring my favorite storybooks about God and prayer and other resources to browse and borrow. I'll have suggestions about trying Family Worship at your meeting. Each

participant will receive a materials packet.

The cost is \$10.00. Bring a bag lunch and your favorite books and ideas on Children and Worship. We're all going to learn from each other and I hope come away invigorated to weave prayer and worship more intentionally into our homes and First Day Schools.

Contact Margaret Cooley at margaret@woolmanhill.org to register. This is a brand

new idea and you won't find this listed on the Woolman Hill website. You will find directions to Woolman Hill there. Feel free to send particular questions my way. I hope to see you there. (If anyone wants to attend both the Family Weekend and the Practicum, Margaret will have to help us work that out.)

Countering White Privilege and Racism

From the working parties against racism, Framingham Friends Meeting and NEYM

Quotation in this month of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birth:

"Violence is immoral because it seeks to humiliate the opponent

rather than win his understanding; it seeks to annihilate rather than convert. Violence ends up defeating itself. It creates bitterness in the survivors

and brutality in the destroyers."

Many organizations honor King this month at events from prayer breakfasts to concerts. Search "MLK Day

Events" for your state's listings. Create opportunities to meet people in your community.

Around the Meeting

Finance Committee:

December 2009

The Providence Monthly Meeting Finance Committee was asked to develop a set of guidelines to be used when writing grant applications and contracts on behalf of Providence Monthly Meeting. The overriding objective was simplicity and transparency but at the same time to address some of the potential legal issues which may arise from writing such documents.

The following guidelines are being proposed.

GRANTS

1) All grant applications shall come through a standing committee and be presented to Business Meeting for its consideration.

2) Approved grant applications shall be signed by the Providence Monthly Meeting's clerk or designee and will be submitted to the recording clerk of the Monthly Business Meeting to be filed and included in the Minutes.

CONTRACTS

1) All contracts shall come through a standing committee.

2) Contracts whose expenses are covered by the initiating committee's existing budget line but which subject the Meeting to potential liability, must be signed by the clerk or designee of the Providence Monthly Meeting and will be submitted to the recording clerk of the Monthly Business Meeting for filing.

3) Routine maintenance service contracts shall be signed by the clerk of the appropriate committee.

These guidelines will be presented at the February Providence Monthly Meeting for Business.

Peace & Social Concerns Committee:

The Committee joins NRCAT and other organizations in urging Congress and the Obama Administration to move quickly in closing the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, a prominent symbol of our nation's use of torture. January 11 is the 8th anniversary of the opening of Guantanamo. January 22 is the anniversary of the executive order call for Guantanamo's closure. Torture is a moral issue.

Adult Education Committee:

The RI Council of Churches invites us to join in the 103rd annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity on Jan. 31st at 3pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 15 Haynes St., Providence (across from the Mall parking lot).

They also propose a Lenten study series of The Rev. Dr. M. Daniel Carroll Rodas' book, Christians at the Border. The Adult Education Committee intends to sponsor such a study series, meeting regularly for six weeks during Lent, late February to Easter.

Rev. Carroll's background is bi-cultural as well as Christian. he grew up dividing his school year between his parent's native Guatemala and Houston, where he was born. His book considers the problems of immigrants to the US from Spanish speaking countries in the light of the many passages in the Bible which show us "God's people as foreigners". We will order the book for the Meeting when we see how many participants to expect. The situation of immigrants in RI is an issue on which AFSC-

SENE has done work which we want to support.

Pastoral Care Committee:

1. We announce with joy the birth of Catherine Noel Hazlett 12/8/09. Congratulations to Erin, David and brother Grady

2. Pastoral Care is considering organizing workshops. Topics under consideration are a parenting workshop &/or a workshop on recognizing your gifts and recognizing gifts in others. We would love some feedback on whether there is interest. Please contact a member of Pastoral Care (Thia Lord, Judy Shaw, Abigail Mansfield Marcaccio, Dieter Gomes) or a member of Ministry and Counsel.

Religious Education Committee:

Feb. 7th, First Day School Meeting will be focusing on conscientious objectors. This is a very important day and upper school students are welcome to attend.

Worship Sharing By Mark Conley

Each year, New England Yearly Meeting asks each constituent Monthly Meeting to submit a State of Society Report to them in time for Annual Sessions over the Summer. The process begins with a Worship Sharing this month, on the 24th beginning at 11:30. Though Friends from Saylesville and Conanicut may not be able to attend from the very beginning of that time, the hope is that

members and attenders from those two worship groups will join us as time allows after the rise of those meetings.

Guiding our time together will be the consideration of these queries:

Our Monthly Meeting includes worship communities in Providence, Saylesville and Conanicut. What is the state of our

society at each place of worship? What is the state of our society in our relationship with one another, within and across our Meetings for Worship? How have we found connection with the national and worldwide Community of Friends? What witnesses of our faith have we brought to the wider community and to ourselves?

Quaker Education Courses and Retreats

Quaker Studies - adult religious education in New England, Beacon Hill Friends House, Salem Quarterly Meeting.
Coordinator: Sarah Spencer
Contact: 617-965-7042 or qsp@bhfh.org

Techniques & Technology
teaching on-line with Moodle with Sarah Spencer
10-week Course
Jan. 12-Mar. 22
Tuition: \$25

Is online teaching new to you? Don't know where to start? We'll begin with the simplest interactive course: a "welcome to the class" section with a reading and one forum. We'll talk about technology.

Confronting Martin Luther King's Triple Threat: Racism, Materialism, and Militarism in the 21st Century
With Keynote Brian Corr
Suggested donation: \$5
Jan. 18th, 7-9pm
Beacon Hill Friends House

Introduction to Historical Jesus Studies
with Andrew Wright
A five-week On-line course:
Weeks 1-3: Jan. 31-Feb. 27
Break Week: Feb. 21-27
Weeks 4-5: Feb. 28-Mar. 13
Tuition: \$30

Expect to have the discipline of the historical study of Jesus of Nazareth opened to you in this course. The class will consider various methods that are applied to this endeavor as well as the various historical sources that are available. Participants will be exposed to the full spectrum of conclusions of different scholars.

Sabbath/Jubilee: Liberating Us All
led by Viv Hawkins
Program cost: \$200
"Hybrid" course - starting with a retreat at Woolman Hill - Jan. 29-31 and continuing on-line with Quaker Studies through March 27.

In this learning community we will respond to Spirit's call today in a world with a growing divide between rich and poor. We will support each other in making lifestyle changes to more fully practice jubilee living and manifest God's Kingdom on Earth.

Standing in the Need of Prayer
with Allison Randall
Feb. 27, 9:30-3:30
Beacon Hill Friends House
Tuition: \$30

What needs can prayer fill in our spiritual life as Quakers? How does it fit into a "listening" faith? Together we will explore prayer as making connection with the Divine, enriching and enlivening our spiritual practice. This workshop is for those of us who find our current definition of prayer too narrow and want to explore a more expansive understanding of it, as well as those of us who want to refresh, ignite or deepen our prayer life.

Note: Tuition aid is always available, but you must contact the coordinator before the date of the workshop or first meeting of the course.

Powell House Retreats
Powell House,
524 Pitt Hall Road
Old Chatham, NY 12136
(518) 794-8811
www.powellhouse.org

Quilting, Weaving, Knitting & Poetry (Creativity and Spirituality)
Feb. 5-7 (Register by Jan. 15th)

If art leads you to a deeper spiritual journey or your spiritual journey leads you to be more creative or if you just want to explore the relationship between

creativity and spirituality, this retreat is for you.

Family Fun, Quaker Parenting & Children's Activities
Feb. 12-14 in Anna Curtis Center (Register by Jan. 25)

Come join Harriet Heath and Katherine Wood for a family weekend. It is a time of family fun, a chance for Quaker children to play and learn together, and an opportunity for parent to share their concerns with other Quaker parents.

Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy & Confidence
with Arthur Larrabee
Feb. 26-28

This will be an opportunity for new, experienced and potential clerks of Friends' meetings and committees to meet and think together about the role of presiding clerk. It is expected that each person will leave the weekend with new energy and enthusiasm for being a clerk, feeling well grounded in both the theoretical and the practical.

First Day School's Heifer International Project

First Day School Meeting is pleased to announce that the Meeting raised \$356 for Heifer International during the Christmas season.

At their Meeting for Business on January 10th, First Day School reached consensus on which animals to purchase:

1 share of a Heifer - \$50

1 share of a Water Buffalo - \$25
1 share of a Llama - \$20
2 shares of a Goat - \$20
2 shares of a Sheep - \$20
1 share of a Pig - \$10
1 trio of Rabbits - \$60
1 gift of Honeybees - \$30
2 flocks of Chicks - \$40
1 flock of Ducks/Geese - \$20
1 gift of Tree Seedlings - \$60
Where needed most: \$1

First Day School Meeting would also like to announce that the \$245 that it raised selling emergency kits last year will go to Camp Street Ministries for their Food Pantry.

First Day School Meeting would like to thank everyone in the Meeting for their help in these projects.

New England Antiwar Conference

Saturday, Jan. 30th,
10:30am-6pm
MIT Bldg. 34-101
50 Vassar Street
Cambridge, MA
www.newenglandunited.org

Registration: \$15 general;
\$10 students/unemployed;
scholarships available.

Panel 1: The Drive Towards
Empire and Endless War

Panel 2: Debunking the War
on Terror

Concurrent Workshops:

Domestic Costs of War

International Struggle for
World Free of Nuclear
Weapons

Global Warming and War

Student Organizing

Veterans & Building a
Movement around
Afghanistan

Covert Operations and 911

Defending Palestine

War in Latin America

Plenary:

Organize regional
campaigns to build the
March 20 antiwar march on
DC and the campaign to
end the siege of Gaza

Social:

To be held at a fine Central
Square establishment in
Cambridge

Registration forms:

www.newenglandunited.org/register

For more information,
contact Bruce Carlsten.

From the farm ...



Ledge Ends Produce Continues to Grow!

As Rhode Islanders deal with snow and the cold of the winter the farmers at Ledge Ends Produce are preparing for spring. The farmers will soon sow those seeds that produce the luscious leafy greens that everyone craves.

The historic Briggs-Boesch Farm, owned and managed by the East Greenwich Land Trust, is the home of Ledge Ends Produce. Ledge Ends Produce is run and managed by Erik Eacker, a local farmer with over a decade worth of agricultural experience under his belt. The farm is an eighty-four acre farm with over fourteen acres under intensive organic vegetable and fruit production. And with the recent addition three hundred apple trees and an acre of berries Ledge Ends Produce is working hard to become a

very diversified farm operation.

The 2010 growing season will be the sixth year of their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. CSA is a program that offers community members an opportunity to receive weekly produce starting in June and running through late October, giving you twenty two weeks of healthy, fresh organic produce. After a great season in 2009 the farm has now reached a point where they are able to offer the same fabulous CSA membership without an increase in costs. The CSA is available to both Providence and West Bay costumers. This program will help preserve the farm, not only as a piece of history, but also as a productive, living example of Kent County's agricultural heritage.

With the New Year come new changes on the farm. A new farm manager has been hired to work side by side with owner Erik Eacker. Danielle Martin, a recent college graduate of Warren Wilson College, is going to

help Erik provide 240 CSA members and the community with safe, wholesome, organic produce. She has recently moved to Rhode Island from North Carolina and is very excited to spend the 2010 growing season with Ledge Ends Produce. Not only will she be a grower but she will also be putting forth an effort to involve residents with the farm. She will be offering a series of educational workshops on natural and agricultural topics that cater to both children and adults. The farm will also be host a series of culinary workshops led by a professional chef. These events will take place throughout the summer months and will provide people with new ideas on how to cook and prepare locally grown produce.

Memberships to the CSA are available NOW. In exchange for an annual membership fee of \$600.00 members will receive a weekly share of fresh vegetables, grown organically without pesticides or herbicides, for twenty two weeks. Members will also receive a weekly newsletter with

farm stories, pictures and recipes. A share is equivalent to a week's supply of vegetables for a family of four or a family of two adult vegetarians. **Produce can be picked up at the farm in East Greenwich or in Providence at the Friends Meeting House.**

Membership in the Community Supported Agriculture program is an excellent way for people in the community to support the preservation of open space and historic sites in East Greenwich.

Remember this produce will also be available to you at anyone of our multiple farmers markets. Currently we are participating in two winter markets located at the Lafayette Mill in North Kingstown and another in Pawtucket. For more information please call Ledge Ends Produce at, 401-884-5118 or check out our website, www.LedgeEndsProduce.com.

The Briggs-Boesch Farm is located at 830 South Road, East Greenwich, RI.

Clerk's Corner By Mark Conley

For all the blessings life has brought, / For all its sorrowing hours have taught,
For all we mourn, for all we keep, / The hands we clasp, the loved that sleep.

- Oliver Wendell Holmes

Happy New Year! One of my favorite traditions of the new year is our consideration of the past calendar year within our Monthly Meeting. This consideration includes everything from our spiritual life together to the lives we may have welcomed or said goodbye to, from the fellowship and meetings we have had to the roofs we have built or maintained to meet under. Everything that occurs in our blessed community after all is *of* a piece and *for* the peace that passeth all understanding.

This year, our Ministry and Counsel Committee has framed a set of queries, hoping our worship sharing session might devote some time to examining our relationships to one another. The work we have done together to improve our worship spaces in Providence and Saylesville have led us to consider those who worship there and what those spaces mean to those worshippers, which in turn has led to concern for our third constituent meeting, Conanicut Indulged Meeting, hoping that we all are mindful of the needs of all three of our special communities.

The hope is that we can have as many members and attenders from each constituent worship community come together at this month's worship

sharing to ponder what this past year at Meeting has meant to each of us and as a community as a whole. This reflective exercise may well help to guide us in what we might want to do in this new year. Won't you consider lending your spirit and voice to this important exercise?

And as always, thank you for all you do in the Life of our Meeting.

Providence Monthly Meeting - Contacts

Providence Meeting (401) 331-4218 <http://providencefriends.org>
99 Morris Avenue, Providence, RI 02906

Presiding Clerk: Mark Conley clerk@providencefriends.org
Assistant Presiding Clerk: Betsy Zimmerman assistclerk@providencefriends.org
Recording Clerk: Betsy Cazden recordingclerk@providencefriends.org
Treasurer: Peter Swazek treasurer@providencefriends.org
Ministry & Counsel: Dan Lederer ministryandcounsel@providencefriends.org
Pastoral Care Committee: Thia Lord pastoralcare@providencefriends.org
Finance: Bruce Carlsten finance@providencefriends.org
Peace & Social Concerns: Dede Carlsten peaceandsocial@providencefriends.org
Social & Hospitality: John Lord socialandhospitality@providencefriends.org
Religious Education: Rebecca Smith & Elsie Morse religioused@providencefriends.org
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Listserv Moderator: Dan Lederer list@providencefriends.org
Website: Dave McNab webclerk@providencefriends.org
Moses Brown School Liaison: Thia Lord liaison@providencefriends.org
Young Adult Friends: Stephen Higa yaf@providencefriends.org
To schedule the Meetinghouse: Bruce Shaw scheduling@providencefriends.org
AFSC SENE: Martha Yager (508) 399-6699 or myager@afsc.org or www.afsc.org/sene



Elizabeth Bonner Zimmerman

Newsletter of
Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of
Friends

Meeting for Worship each Sunday

Providence: 10:00 am Saylesville: 10:30 am
Jamestown: 10:30 am

First Day School, Providence - Sunday. Children join Meeting for Worship from 10:00-10:15 am and then proceed to First Day School from 10:15-11:00 am.

Worship Sharing

Every third Sunday after Rise of Meeting in Providence

Other Meetings for Worship (All welcome):

Monday - 12:30 pm - Moses Brown Upper School
Wednesday - 8:25 am - Moses Brown Lower School
Wednesday - 9:40 am - Moses Brown Middle School
(all three in Providence Meetinghouse)
Thursday - Noon-12:45 pm in J. Walter Wilson room 411

Potluck, Providence - each first Sunday

Meeting for Business

Providence: Second Sunday each month at 12:15pm
Saylesville: Last Sunday of each month

AFSC SENE Support Committee - Second Tuesday, 6:30-9:00 pm
Volunteers needed and welcome. Call (508) 399-6699

AFSC-SENE Annual Dinner

By Bruce Carlsten

Human Faces of an Endless War: Images and Analysis

The AFSC-SENE annual dinner will be held on Sunday, January 24th at 6pm at the Community Church on the corner of Lloyd and Wayland in Providence.

This year, Peter Lems (AFSC National staff on the Middle East) and Joe Gerson (AFSC-NE region Direction of Peace & Economic Security) will speak about the human faces

in the unrelenting "war on terror."

All are encouraged to join us at this annual event. To encourage attendance, the suggested donation has been kept low. Of course, additional donations to help support AFSC-SENE's activities would be greatly appreciated.

Suggested donation: \$10/person and \$25 maximum per family.

MB Quaker Conversations

Moses Brown School invites you to Quaker Conversations on Feb. 10th, 8am-9am at the meetinghouse. The topic is "The Peace Testimony at a Friends School." We will hear the personal account of a Quaker who has served in the military. Have you considered conscientious objector status for yourself

or your child? We will explain what families need to do to begin this process. We will take a frank look at how College Counseling supports families who are interested in military colleges, while not allowing military academies to recruit at MB. Middle and Upper School students are encouraged to attend!

The Provident FRIEND

Newsletter of
Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
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