

# The Provident FRIEND

June 2011

Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## Day of Mindfulness – Saturday June 25, 9am-2:30pm

Designed to nourish and strengthen the roots of peace and joy, the “Day of Mindfulness” involves a children’s dharma talk, an adult talk and games and mindful activities for children. All will practice walking meditation, deep relaxation and eat lunch together mindfully. It takes place at (cont. on page 6)

## New England Yearly Meeting’s 350<sup>th</sup> birthday opens Aug. 5, 1pm, in Newport, Aug. 6-11 in Smithfield

The [NEYM Annual Sessions](#) open Aug 1 at 1 pm with events at the Great Meeting House in Newport, and continue at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI August 6–11. Several special events, including a musical performance, are planned. Contact Rebecca Leuchak to register. More on page 5.



## Honoring Jeanne Whitaker



The May 21<sup>st</sup> farewell dinner party was a lovely way to say goodbye to Jeanne Whitaker, who is, sadly for us, soon leaving for Kendall at Longwood in Pennsylvania. The celebration at the Meeting House included a fine potluck feast, some lively music, and histories and thoughts shared by friends, relatives, and Jeanne herself. Her presence will be greatly missed, and fondly remembered. Please think to write a note to be entered in her thoughts and memories notebook. On a table in (cont. p 6)

## World-Wide Vigil of Prayer for the Victims of Torture

Saturday June 25, 7pm – 8pm Our Lady of Consolation Church, Pawtucket

Sponsored by Providence Friends and the Holy Family Parish, this year’s Vigil is part of the June 26 International Day of Support for Victims of Torture. The world-wide Vigil of Prayer for the Victims of Torture is (cont. pg 4)

### Calendar:

**June 25 Sat:** 9am-2:30pm (p1) Day Of Mindfulness event, Providence Meeting House.

**June 25 Sat:** 7-8pm (p1): Night Vigil for Victims of Torture, Our Lady of Consolation Church, Pawtucket.

**June 26 Sun (+July 24, Aug. 28):** 3-6pm (p4) Sacred Harp Singing, Providence Meeting House.

**July 3 Sun:** Garage sale meeting, Providence Meeting House.

**July 3 Sun:** 5-8:30pm (p4): Walk in Westerly with Eugenia Marks. Meet at Providence Meeting House

**July 24 Sun:** 3-6pm (p4) Sacred Harp Singing, Providence Meeting House.

**Aug. 5-11:** (p1,5): NEYM Annual Sessions in Newport RI and Bryant U. in Smithfield RI

**Aug. 28 Sun:** 3-6pm (p4) Sacred Harp Singing, Providence Meeting House.

**September 21 Wed:** (p3) Providence Chapter of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts.

**September 30 Fri:** (p3) Silent auction with music.

**October 1 Sat:** (p3) Garage sale.

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## Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes- Sixth Month 12th

Providence Monthly Meeting 12 Sixth Month 2011

1. We gathered at the Saylesville meetinghouse at 12:18 p.m., with thirteen friends present. In the opening worship the clerk read an advice on mindfulness from the Proposed Advices of New England Yearly Meeting (2009):

Be aware of the Spirit at work in the ordinary activities and experience of your daily life. There is inspiration to be found all around us, in the natural world, in the sciences and arts, in our work and friendships, in our sorrows as well as in our joys.

### 2. Announcements

The deadline for registration for Sessions for New England Yearly Meeting (6 – 11 Eighth Month) is the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. Friends are also reminded that a fund is available to assist those who wish to attend but find the cost an obstacle. Information is in this month's edition of *The New England Friend*. Copies are available in the entryway of the Providence meetinghouse.

The meeting yard sale is planned for 1<sup>st</sup> of 10<sup>th</sup> month, with a silent auction the evening before. The ad hoc committee is actively looking for volunteers for many tasks, as well as items for both the silent auction and the sale the next day. Friends are encouraged to sign up on the chart at Providence meetinghouse.

3. The ad hoc yard sale committee would like flexibility in allocating the proceeds. The current proposal is to give half to the Institute for the Study and Practice of Non-Violence and half to be allocated later. This is a slight change from what was announced in 2d month, because given the number of natural disasters, the committee would like flexibility to respond to new needs that may arise. In the past the proceeds have been divided between the meeting and AFSC or other causes. Friends approved the proposed allocation, noting that Providence Meeting might be included among the organizations to be considered for the second 50%.

4. Meeting representatives to AFSC-SENE: Bruce Carlsten and Sarah Morenon are both willing to continue serving as the meeting's representatives to the AFSC-SENE support committee. Friends approved. Bruce noted that the committee would welcome other volunteers from within the meeting community.

5. Membership matters: Recorder Anne DiMase reported that Jessie Kerr, a non-resident member, has asked to resign her membership. We accept this resignation. Lydia Maier has requested a transfer of her membership to Portland (ME) Friends Meeting, where she is now attending. We refer this request to Ministry & Counsel for action.

6. NEYM Sessions: Rebecca Leuchak reported on plans for NEYM Sessions that may affect our monthly meeting. The day before the meeting begins, Friday, August 5, there will be a celebration at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport, which includes a service opportunity at the Martin Luther King community center. The planning committee hopes that local Friends will sit on the facing bench and may volunteer to help coordinate the service project. An ad hoc committee is putting together a history display to honor the 350<sup>th</sup> birthday of NEYM. There are opportunities for local Friends to provide beverages and perhaps desserts. Participants are being asked to provide their own picnic suppers; it may be useful to have some food available. The evening program will include an excerpt from the musical production, "The Fire and the Hammer," which will be performed in full on the Tuesday evening of NEYM Sessions. Singers will be rehearsing at Providence meetinghouse earlier in the week and may need hospitality among us.

The clerk reported that he had followed up on the request from the "Fire and the Hammer" group to use the meeting's piano. The piano is not needed at Bryant University. We believe that our insurance would cover the piano in Newport but not in transit. The NEYM office might be willing to assist in the unlikely event of damage. With this further information, Friends approved having the piano transported to Newport for this purpose.

**Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes (cont. from p2)**

7. Finance Committee: For the Finance Committee, Bill Monroe brought the following recommendation for treatment of large gifts or bequests:

Any single contribution of \$5,000 or more that is clearly not part of a regular annual contribution from a member or attender, nor otherwise restricted, should constitute a special case, and the Finance Committee would make a recommendation to the Meeting for its distribution.

The committee noted that the \$5,000 amount is about 6.5% of the proposed budget for next year, and should be subject to change in future years as the size of the budget changes, but that a round dollar figure will be easier to keep in mind than a figure based on percentage of the budget. The policy was approved.

8. Ministry and Counsel: Bruce Shaw brought a proposal from Ministry and Counsel for use of the meetinghouse for events such as weddings or memorial meetings by individuals connected with Moses Brown School, as follows:

The meetinghouse is the place of worship for the Moses Brown community, and as a result many alumni, faculty, and staff have found a spiritual connection to the meetinghouse. In recognition of the unique relationship between Moses Brown School and Providence Monthly Meeting, the meetinghouse can be made available for the use of Moses Brown community members for events such as memorial services or weddings. The Director of Friends Education at Moses Brown School will be the contact person for the school, working with the meetinghouse scheduler to ensure that the expectations for care of the meetinghouse are met, including but not limited to maintenance of the facility for these events.

Ministry and Counsel brought this proposal in order to expand on Meeting's existing guidelines for use of the building by Moses Brown to include weddings and funerals. Meeting's existing guidelines include a range of suggested contributions for this type of use. Friends approved this proposal.

9. Saylesville: Joanne Griffin reported that Property Committee and Saylesville Preparative meeting have been discussing further work needed for completion of the east wall of the meetinghouse. The "Stage II" work authorized by the meeting should be completed this summer. The business meeting will then need to approve Stage III, which is the interior finish work, before seeking outside funding. The previous estimate for Stage III was \$27,000, which was a contractor's estimate and our experience is that we are doing the work more economically. However, the working group has a list of other items it would like to add to this list, which should be done while the walls are open. The funds already available in the Saylesville maintenance reserve are about \$16,000, minus what remains to be spent for Stage II work. In accordance with the meeting's policy on grants, the preparative meeting is asking for authorization to apply for grant funding for the remaining work.

We are committed to finishing the planned work on the east wall, including what was originally designated as "Stage III," estimated to cost no more than \$35,000. We approve applications for grant funding for this purpose, using the existing Saylesville maintenance fund as matching funds if needed. Use of any meeting funds beyond the maintenance reserve would require additional business meeting approval.

10. Treasurer's Report: Peter Swaszek presented a report on the fiscal year ending 5<sup>th</sup> mo. 31, 2011. We ended the year with an operating deficit of \$112.33, which the Finance Committee feels is an excellent result. The Treasurer noted that there is still more than \$4,000 remaining in the David Smith fund; the projection equipment that was approved has not yet been purchased. He also noted that there is almost \$128,000 in a fund restricted by donors for an addition to the Providence meetinghouse, with no current plan to spend it. We accept this report with thanks to our Treasurer.

(cont. pg 5)

## Around the Meeting

### Sacred Harp Singing Continues In Summer on 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Shape Note Singing happens on June 26, July 24, and August 28, at the Providence Meetinghouse from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Join us and make a joyful noise: See Bob Elliott for details.

### Walk on July 3

A narrow arm of sand

and rock stretches west from Westerly and offers a wondrous view of sea at sunset.

Depending on the availability of participants, this will occur July 3. Leave Meeting House at 5 p.m., bring something to eat en route, a poem to read on the shore, and walk Napatree Point for approximately one hour, returning to

Providence by 8:30 p.m. Contemplate and companion with the still small voice.

Contact Eugenia Marks for details.

### School Gardening

The children in First Day School recently harvested peapods, lettuce, and spinach from the Moses Brown gardens,

and are hoping this will be a continuing First Day School project.

### In Memoriam

I am sad to report that Grace Lamb passed away on June 12 in RI Hospital. I don't have any further information at this time, but as soon as I know more I will pass it along.

- Bruce Shaw

## Day of Mindfulness (cont. from p 1)

the Providence Meeting House, and is presented by Rhode Island Community of Mindfulness:

Joyfully Together - A Day of Mindfulness for Families - in the Tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh

Led by Dharma Teacher Joanne Friday: she received the authority to teach from Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh in 2003, and is an Associate Chaplain at the University of Rhode Island. Suggested donation per family is \$10; please feel free to pay what you can. Individuals are welcome as well as families of all kinds and children of all ages. To register, or for more information, Email [Janice@janicekissinger.com](mailto:Janice@janicekissinger.com) or call 401-569-7761. Once registered, you will receive a general schedule and information about what to bring.

Jeanne Whitaker, May 21, 2011



## Quakers in the Arts Meeting – from Jules Burrowes

The Providence Chapter of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts had our inaugural meeting in May. All ten artists present had an opportunity to speak about themselves and their art. We also shared ideas about what it means to be a Quaker Artist, and ways that we might reach out to Quaker Artists throughout NE to join with us in sharing our different creative endeavors.

We scheduled our next meeting for Wednesday September 21st 2011, and all artists are welcome. We will have a pot luck starting at 6:00 PM, and a show and tell meeting to follow. Please bring one or two pieces of art to share with the group and bring along a friend to join in the group.

To find out more about the FQA group please contact Jules Burrowes by email at [heron\\_pond\\_studio@yahoo.com](mailto:heron_pond_studio@yahoo.com) or by phone at 617 633 8249.

## Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes (cont. from p3)

11. Property Committee: Betsy Zimmerman reported on the progress of negotiations with Moses Brown School concerning the landscaping connected with the head of school's house, which has involved several knowledgeable members of the meeting. The drainage for the house will be on the school's property, as we had requested. Most of the trees in the affected area are chokecherries, which propagate easily but are short-lived. An arborist has suggested thinning out the chokecherries as well as some of the larger trees with dying sections, to encourage better growth of preferred varieties. Moses Brown's crew will be doing this work within the next few weeks. We may want to plant some additional trees and shrubs, and do some additional thinning, over the next few years. Friends would like to retain the wood for sale or use, if possible.

There has also been consensus that the de facto pathway contributes to water runoff and should be eliminated if possible. The planned sidewalk and curbing should help reduce water runoff in this area.

We appreciate those who have put considerable time into this matter.

12. We closed at 2:27, purposing to meet again in the fall or at the call of the clerk.

Mark Conley, clerk

Betsy Cazden, recording clerk

## [NEYM Annual Sessions](#) and events at the Great Meeting House

NEYM Annual Sessions website is now posted at <http://sessions.neym.org/>

Quakers from across New England will gather at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI for our 2011 Annual Sessions, August 6–11. Additionally, there will be a celebration of NEYM's 350th birthday on Friday afternoon, August 5 at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport, RI, the home to early New England Friends' Yearly Meeting Sessions. The theme of this year's Sessions is [350 Years of New England Friends: Called to Heal a Broken Earth](#).

### Friday's Events

On Friday August 5, starting 1pm, join Friends/friends from all over New England when the Great Meeting House in Newport will open its doors once again during New England Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions. The Great Friends Meeting House was built in 1699, is the oldest surviving house of worship in Rhode Island, served as host to New England Friends Yearly Meeting until 1905 and was, upon its construction, the largest structure of any kind in the colonies between Boston and New York.

The afternoon will begin with a service project at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, adjacent to the Great Meeting House, which has served the neighborhood surrounding the Meeting House for the past fifty years. A brief witness of peace in silent vigil will follow. Then, in late afternoon, we will share a light picnic supper before entering the Meeting House to settle into open worship followed by active worship of song and story. The early-evening program will include a dramatic choral presentation, led by John Sheldon of Warwick Meeting in England, on the life of George Fox and the history of Friends, entitled "The Fire and the Hammer."

The afternoon is planned to be joyful and meaningful for children and adults, Friends and friends alike. This is a come-one-come-all, bring-yourself-the family-the picnic blanket-and-your-camera, event! Rebecca Leuchak, is one of the planners for this event. Contact her at: [releuchak@rwu.edu](mailto:releuchak@rwu.edu) with questions and/or to register for the day's events.

## World-Wide Vigil of Prayer for the Victims of Torture (cont. from p 1)

sponsored by ACAT (Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture). Whereas torture is a process of dehumanization, "Every man has infinite value in God's eyes", "Our Tortured Brothers are beloved by God", and our prayers are our expression of our love and respect for them. There is more on the ACAT Night Vigil 2011 web site: <http://www.nuitdesveilleurs.fr/en/1/Watch-over-them> There, a click on "Watch over them" (upper left-hand corner) will show you a list of those for whom ACAT has intervened, and asks us to hold in our prayers. - Contact Jeanne Whitaker or Anne DiMase for more information.

### Jeanne Whitaker (cont from p 1)

the basement of the Providence Meeting House is a stack of special marbled paper placed for this purpose. She already has the notebook, but notes written can be left there, and will be given to her.



## Friend's Summer Camp – Campers and Workers Sought

**Campers** - We have room for some more campers in our Jones, Dyer, and Fell camps and in each of the three Drama Camps! To sign up for two-weeks or for a month of Friends Camp please use this link:

[http://www.friendscamp.org/camper\\_registration.html](http://www.friendscamp.org/camper_registration.html)

**Summer Employment** - We are planning on hiring two or three more counselors for this summer. We now have openings for a Nurse, a Counselor with Advanced First Aid, a Counselor with Lifeguard Training and a Drama Counselor. Friends Camp will pay for the Lifeguard and First Aid trainings. Please visit this link for information about working at Friends Camp –

[http://www.friendscamp.org/summer\\_employment.html](http://www.friendscamp.org/summer_employment.html)

Nat Shed [director@friendscamp.org](mailto:director@friendscamp.org) 207-873-3499 Camp # 207-445-2361 Cell # 207-458-1306

NEYM's Friends Camp is located in South China, Maine.

## Silent Auction / Garage Sale – Help and Items Needed (cont. from p 8)

**Auction Items** - This is a call to all members, attenders, and others to consider creating an item or raiding your closets, attics, or basements for special items (antique china, silver, etc.) suitable for sale at the silent auction on September 30th. Meeting receipts are available for goods received. We need donations from artists and crafts people: I [Dede] will commit to doing a painting - would someone or many of you join me? Joanne Griffin has already knit a special scarf for the sale. Cards can be placed next to items as a quiet point of information. Please ask your friends to participate.

**Garage Sale Items** - Your children, future children, nieces, or nephews do not want to clean out your homes, and they may not necessarily want your treasures. This is a way for items to get recycled to a good home, and you will reduce the amount of possessions that are encumbering you. Clear out your garages and attics this summer and donate your extras to the Providence Monthly Meeting garage sale. Phebe Howland's garage is ready to receive your donations after June 27th. We will gratefully accept clean and complete items that are in working order. Meeting receipts are available for goods received.

## CSA Farmers from New England Yearly Meeting

Hello to all our Community Supported Agriculture Members! - The season is here at last! We have been busy for months getting all our crops seeded, planted and tended and are now seeing some early results! We wanted to remind you of the dates, times and locations for this season.

Barrington: Tuesdays 3:00-6:00, in front of ACE Hardware, on County Rd. 6/14 - 10/25

Providence:

Wednesdays\*\* 3:00 - 6:00, at Lippitt Park, where Hope St. and Blackstone Blvd. merge 6/8 - 10/26

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00, at Friends Meeting House, corner of Onley St. & Morris Ave. 6/16 - 10/27

Saturdays 9:30 - 12:30, at Lippitt Park, 6/4 - 10/29

Little Compton: Tuesdays 2:00 - 6:00, at our farm on 25 Shaw Rd. 6/14 - 10/25

Saturdays 10:00 - 4:00 6/18 - 10/29

\*\*please note that the Wednesday Market will have all our fresh produce, but the rules do not allow us to bring any of the extras that we have at the other markets.

Again, we thank you for your trust and participation!! We plan to email out news letters this year, with photos of the activities here at the farm. Cheers to a plentiful bounty this season! See you soon! Liz & Skip

PS – you do not have to be a member of the CSA to purchase produce – come by even if you aren't a member to meet us and learn more.

More information is at <http://www.wishingstonefarm.com/> This notice was sent them.

### 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](mailto:clerk@providencefriends.org)

Assistant Presiding Clerk: Debbie Block [assistclerk@providencefriends.org](mailto:assistclerk@providencefriends.org)

Recording Clerk: Betsy Cazden [recordingclerk@providencefriends.org](mailto:recordingclerk@providencefriends.org)

Treasurer: Peter Swazek [treasurer@providencefriends.org](mailto:treasurer@providencefriends.org)

Ministry & Counsel: Dan Lederer [ministryandcounsel@providencefriends.org](mailto:ministryandcounsel@providencefriends.org)

Pastoral Care Committee: Dieter Gomes [pastoralcare@providencefriends.org](mailto:pastoralcare@providencefriends.org)

Finance: Bruce Carlsten [finance@providencefriends.org](mailto:finance@providencefriends.org)

Peace & Social Concerns: Dede Carlsten [peaceandsocial@providencefriends.org](mailto:peaceandsocial@providencefriends.org)

Social & Hospitality: [socialandhospitality@providencefriends.org](mailto:socialandhospitality@providencefriends.org)

Religious Education: Kathi Lyons [religioused@providencefriends.org](mailto:religioused@providencefriends.org)

Communications: Dan Lederer [communications@providencefriends.org](mailto:communications@providencefriends.org)

Program Committee: Sarah Baily [program@providencefriends.org](mailto:program@providencefriends.org)

Marriage Clearness: Erin Hazlett [marriage@providencefriends.org](mailto:marriage@providencefriends.org)

Library: Sarah Morenon [library@providencefriends.org](mailto:library@providencefriends.org)

Archive: [archivist@providencefriends.org](mailto:archivist@providencefriends.org)

Property: Bob Elliott and Lee Jaspers [property@providencefriends.org](mailto:property@providencefriends.org)

Funeral & Burial: Matt Hackman [funeralandburial@providencefriends.org](mailto:funeralandburial@providencefriends.org)

Newsletter: Steve Schwartz [providentfriend@providencefriends.org](mailto:providentfriend@providencefriends.org)

Email list moderator: Dan Lederer [list@providencefriends.org](mailto:list@providencefriends.org)

Website: Dave McNab [webclerk@providencefriends.org](mailto:webclerk@providencefriends.org)

Moses Brown School Liaison: Thia Lord [liaison@providencefriends.org](mailto:liaison@providencefriends.org)

Young Adult Friends: Stephen Higa [yaf@providencefriends.org](mailto:yaf@providencefriends.org)

To schedule the Meetinghouse: Bruce Shaw [scheduling@providencefriends.org](mailto:scheduling@providencefriends.org)

AFSC SENE: Martha Yager (508) 399-6699 or [myager@afsc.org](mailto:myager@afsc.org) or

[www.afsc.org/sene](http://www.afsc.org/sene)

Adult Education: Dave McNab [adult\\_ed@providencefriends.org](mailto:adult_ed@providencefriends.org)



Elizabeth Bonner Zimmerman

Newsletter of  
Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of  
Friends  
(401) 331-4218 or <http://providencefriends.org>

### 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.

### Other Meetings for Worship (All welcome):

**Monday** - 12:30pm - Moses Brown Upper School

**Tuesday** - 7pm - Young Adult Friends at  
116 Waterman St. ([yaf@providencefriends.org](mailto:yaf@providencefriends.org))

**Wednesday** - 8:25am - Moses Brown Lower School

**Wednesday** - 9:40am - Moses Brown Middle School

**Thursday** - Noon-12:45 pm Brown University 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

## Silent Auction (with music) September 30th --- and Garage Sale October 1st From Dede Carlsten

**Needed: Volunteers – Crafts and Other Special Auction Items – Garage Sale Items (Phebe's garage for deposits) – July 3 Meeting**

**Volunteers:** We are looking for volunteers to help Zona Douthit work on Publicity before **September 1st**. There is a chart with jobs to sign up down stairs in the Meeting House. We need coordinators for the Silent Auction, the Saturday Garage Sale, each day of set up, and the sale, each day from Tuesday Sept. 27 through Saturday. Please check the chart this summer, make suggestions about things that may have been forgotten, and most importantly **SIGN UP!** There will be a JULY 3 meeting.

Sally Freestone and Dede Carlsten will be meeting after Meeting September 11th, 18th, and 25th to mark items for the Silent Auction and the Garage Sale. Everyone is welcome to join us. (cont. pg 6)

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Newsletter of  
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99 Morris Avenue  
Providence, RI 02906