The Provident FRIEND

Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Joyous Event - October 8 Wedding

Friends are reminded of a joyous event in the life of our community – the marriage of Willis Monroe and Hayley Lacis under our care on October 8 at 4 p.m. at the Newport Great Meetinghouse.

Worship will begin at 4 p.m., with a string trio playing one half hour before and again at rise of Meeting. We all as a community oversee the marriage and serve as its witnesses. Your presence at the wedding is invited and welcome as an act of worship and affirmation of faith in the new relationship, witnesses that are very meaningful to the new couple as they begin their lives together. For questions or directions, Contact Willis or Bill Monroe or Rebecca Leuchak.



Providence Monthly Meeting Silent Auction and Garage Sale September 30th - 7-9:00 pm and October 1st 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Our garage sale is happening and we need you! We need items for the auction, appetizers for the auction, willing hosts and hostesses and your presence. Our own trio will be playing and we hope to have a festive event. Come dressed in your fantasy of festive fun. We need more items for the Saturday sale, sorters and pricers during the previous week, helpers on Saturday, bakers for the First Day School bake sale and again, your presence. We will have another group of musicians and plan again to have a great time. Check the poster downstairs for times that help is needed or check with Phebe Howland or Dede Carlsten (254-0833).

Thank you,

Dede Carlsten

Friends General Conference planning gathering—Oct. 7 - 10

Our Meeting will soon be blessed to receive visitors from across this country and from Canada for a planning meeting for the next Friends General Conference gathering. The Gathering itself will be in Rhode Island at URI in July of 2012.

To plan the gathering, these Friends will be here over the Columbus Day long weekend (October 7-10). We will be hosting them, which means providing some meals (whether cooked or provided from take-out) and coordinating housing for those not comfortable with staying on our floor for three nights. Some of the younger Friends will be staying at the meetinghouse.

We are looking for a Friend or Friends who might be willing to take on the opportunities to coordinate meals and/or housing for our guests, and also seek individual offers for hospitality. Please contact Mark Conley.

Sept 2011

Calendar:

Sept 18 Sun: (p4) Walk with Eugenia Marks, when ready, Providence Meeting House.

Sept 20 Tues: 4pm (see p 4) Providence Public Transit Rally

Sept 21 Wed: (var -p4)
UN Int. Day Of Peace events.

Sept 21 Wed: 6pm (p5) Providence Chapter, Quakers in the Arts, with pot-luck.

Sept 24, 25, 30 (see p 4) Various Peace and Environmental events.

Sept 24 Sat: 6:30pm (p) Silent Walking Meditation at Waterfire.

Sept 25 Sun: 3-6pm (p4) Sacred Harp Singing, Providence Meeting House.

Sept 30 Fri: 7-9pm (p1) Silent auction with music.

Oct 1 Sat: 9am-3pm (p1) Garage sale.

Oct 2 Sun: (p4) Walk with Eugenia Marks, when ready, Providence Meeting House.

Oct 7-10 Fri-Mon: (p1) Friends General Conference Gathering Planning Committee, Providence Meeting House.

Oct 8 Sat: (p1) Wedding.

Oct 13 Thurs: (p2) 6pm potluck, 7pm Meeting For Business, Saylesville.

Oct 21-23: (p4) Young Friends Retreat, Leverett, MA

Oct 22 Sat: 10am-noon (p6) Clerking Workshop, Providence Meeting House.

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Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes- Seventh Month 31st and Ninth Month 11th

---- Providence Monthly Meeting 31 Seventh Month 2011 ----

- 1. We gathered for a specially called meeting at the Providence meetinghouse at about 12:25 p.m., with sixteen friends present. The meeting had been announced several times following meeting for worship as well as on the electronic listserve.
- 2. Announcement The "Fire and Hammer" chorus will be rehearsing at the Providence meetinghouse during the coming week. Overnight hospitality and food donations may be needed, and the clerk will contact those who have volunteered to let them know what is needed.
- 3. On behalf of the Meeting Recorder, the clerk reported that our member Elizabeth Sheehan has requested a transfer of her membership to Portland (Maine) Monthly Meeting, where she has been attending. Friends approved this transfer.
- 4. For the Marriage Committee, Erin Hazlett reported on the marriage request from our member M. Willis Monroe and Hayley Lacis. Willis and Hayley were unable to be present at this meeting as they are traveling in Turkey. In accordance with our practice, a clearness committee met with them and finds them clear for marriage under the care of the meeting. We approve taking this marriage under our care, and appoint a meeting for worship for this purpose to be held on 7th day, the 8th of 10th month 2011, at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport, Rhode Island. We ask the Marriage Committee to serve as an interim Oversight Committee until our next meeting for business.
- 5. We closed with worship, intending to meet again in 9th month or at the call of the clerk.

Mark Conley, clerk Betsy Cazden, recording clerk

---- Providence Monthly Meeting 11th of 9th month 2011 ----

1. We gathered at about 12:20 p.m. at the Saylesville meetinghouse, with thirteen present. In our opening worship, the clerk read an advice on mutual care from the newly-approved *Faith and Practice* (2011) of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative):

Friends try to be aware of those who require special attention within the meeting community. We believe friendly interaction benefits both adults and children. It is the responsibility of adults to recognize and give voice to the needs of children in the meeting. Inactive and absent members require the care of the meeting; those who do not currently attend meeting may be contacted by mail or by personal visit. We need also to minister with sensitivity to those in transition and to support caregivers and those requiring care within the meeting community. It is important to be responsive to the needs and gifts of newcomers and seekers who may attend our meetings for a short time.

2. Announcements:

The wedding of Willis Monroe and Hayley Lacis, under the care of our meeting, will take place on the 8th of 10th month at 4 p.m. at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport. All are invited.

The meeting's yard sale will be at the end of this month, with a silent auction on the evening of 30th of 9th month and the yard sale on 1st of 10th month. A sign up sheet for the many tasks is available at the Providence meetinghouse.

The Friends General Conference Gathering Planning Committee will be meeting at the Providence meetinghouse the weekend of 7th - 10th of 10th month. Offers to assist with hospitality and housing will be gratefully received.

Friends are reminded that our next meeting for business will be the 13th of 10th month, a midweek meeting, as our last meeting of the year at Saylesville, with a potluck supper at 6 pm and meeting at 7.

- 3. Membership: We were informed that Nano Rush has written to resign her membership in this meeting. We accept this resignation.
- 4. Oversight committee: We heard a recommendation of Pierre and Sarah Morenon and Bob and Suzanne Elliott as the oversight committee for the Monroe-Lacis wedding. Friends approved.

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

- 5. FGC Gathering Planning Committee: The clerk elaborated on the needs for housing and food for the upcoming meeting (which fortuitously is the same weekend as the wedding). It would be helpful to have someone coordinating the food who is not a member of the planning committee. There may also be a need for local transportation. Mark Conley is collecting names of people who are willing to help.
- 6. Treasurer's Report: Before his main report, the Treasurer and clerk noted that Westerly Meetinghouse had substantial damage from a falling tree during the recent tropical storm. Their property insurer (who also insures our meetinghouses) has been very helpful in enabling them to rebuild promptly.

The Treasurer reported on the meeting's condition for the first three months of the fiscal year. The numbers look reasonable for this time of year. The only budget line that concerns him is that the Hospitality Committee is spending at a greater rate than anticipated. He reminded us that the David Smith Fund still has somewhat over \$4,000 in it, which he encouraged us to expend.

- 7. Finance committee: For the committee, Bill Monroe reported that the committee is in conversation with the Hospitality Committee about whether their budget should be increased. He noted that the Finance Committee is in process of working with Property Committee on a final accounting for the costs of the kitchen and related renovations. It also recommends that it would be appropriate to get a report from the ad hoc committee formed some years ago to consider an addition to the Providence meetinghouse concerning the current vision for that project, as a substantial restricted fund has been donated for that purpose. We look forward to receiving both reports.
- 8. Property committee: Betsy Zimmerman reported on the progress of the landscaping project undertaken jointly by the meeting and Moses Brown School. The City has indicated an intention to widen Morris Avenue, so that the sidewalk had to be located somewhat away from the current curb line, and granite curbing could not be installed as planned. The school's contractor has cut down the trees that we designated, and reseeded grass in that area. We continue to look for ways to discourage foot traffic across the area. In thinking about planting some new trees, the Perry family has responded with enthusiasm to the suggestion of planting a copper beech in Katherine Perry's memory.
- 9. Religious education: Betsy Zimmerman reported that in order to provide more support and programming for the teens, the Religious Education committee met with families of teenagers. It is a large group right now. With the approval of Ministry and Counsel, the committee has formed a job description for a part-time paid Youth Coordinator for the meeting, as follows:
 - Work with teens in the Meeting community to nurture their growth as young Friends.
 - Foster the growth of their individual spiritual discernment and sense of place.
 - Encourage their engagement in the wider Quaker community, particularly with NEYM Young Friends.

The job is part time. One weekend day each month for service or other recreational activity that establishes a relationship for teens as identifying members of the Quaker community. One Sunday morning each month during Meeting for Worship to engage them in a discussion, or spiritual sharing that addresses issues relevant to their age. This time may also lead to greater participation in worship with the adult community.

The commitment will begin in late September, early October, and continue through May.

Reimbursement will be on a monthly basis for one Saturday and one Sunday per month. Total monthly expenses (salary and program costs) will not exceed \$500.

The Youth Coordinator will meet with the Religious Education Committee or a representative of the Committee every month.

Around the Meeting

Youth Coordinator position offered - PFM is looking for a Youth Coordinator to work with teens in the meeting on a part time basis. The job description is outlined in the minutes from business meeting this month. Please contact Betsy Zimmerman by Sept. 20 if you are interested in applying.

Walks Sept 18, Oct 2 -September 18 and October 2, weather permitting, walks for extended friendship, family togetherness and worship are offered after other commitments at meeting. Contact Eugenia Marks for details.

Sacred Harp Singing Sept.

25 – Every 4th Sunday (Providence Meetinghouse) from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, join us and make a joyful noise. See Bob Elliott for details.

Meeting Directory -Communications Committee is continuing with a Meeting Directory, to include only information as you permit. We repeat our request, hoping for a better response. If not sure you submitted, please do so again. Your help is appreciated. Contact Dan Lederer for forms or help.

In Memoriam -

We are saddened to report that Ruth Virgadamo passed away on June 28. A memorial service was held on July 8 at the Providence Meeting House, and a scrapbook compiled from notes written by community members.

Friendly Eights -

Program Committee is considering resuming Friendly Eights, and considering new formats (e.g., the same group meeting repeatedly). Is there interest in the meeting? Please contact Sarah Baily.

Month of Peace in Providence - September 2011

The Month of Peace in Providence is our expansion of the United Nations International Day of Peace events, and organized by Ginny Fox of the Peace Flag Project (PFP). Her PFP has been the primary organizer of the UN Peace Days in Providence. They are special peace events or events occurring during September that reflect a peaceful world. A tentative schedule of events is below. Please check our website and organizational websites for further details.

All events are free and open to the public. - Please check for updates and additional info: www.thepeaceflagproject.org info@thepeaceflagproject.org

September 21 - UN International Day of Peace

Youth Speak Out: Voices for Peace, RI for Community and Justice, Paff Auditorium, URI Feinstein Campus, Providence, 7pm Peace Day Celebration, University of RI, Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies, Kingston, RI. Noon to 3pm

September 24, 12 noon to 6:00 pm - Heritage Day Festival, Roger Williams Memorial Park, North Main Street, Providence. www.preservation.ri.gov

September 24, Silent Walking Meditation at WaterFire, Assemble at 6:30 pm; Walk at 7:30 pm at WaterPlace Park Basin. More details to come. Walkers can carry Candle Luminaria as they walk slowly and in silence. www.thepeaceflagproject.org and www.waterfire.org

September 30. Spoken-Word, Poetry and Music for Peace, location tba.

RI Interfaith Power & Light Events - Moving the Planet: September Events on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability sponsored by RI IPL and RI IPL Member Congregations (Contact Liz Marsis 401-261-3426)

- Tuesday, September 20 · 4:00pm Don't X Out Public Transit Providence Rally
- Saturday, September 24, 2011 a 350.org 3 pm gathering at St. Mary's Abbey (wind turbine) and 5 PM Pot Luck at New Dawn Center. (Optional walk from New Dawn to St. Mary's at 1:30 PM)
- Sunday, September 25, 2011 a 1 pm screening of Carbon Nation
- Friday, September 30th 7 PM- An Evening of Song for The Common Good Featuring Holly Near (\$ 401-941-2212)

Voluntown Peace Trust with Westerly Friends "Move the Planet" events (960-376-9970) www.voluntownpeacetrust.org

- SEPTEMBER 24: Bikers and walkers and others, come anytime and enjoy the woods, meadows, and historic context. Call VPT to reserve a bed or a camping spot and join us around the campfire Saturday night. Bring something to share or help prepare something from the garden. There could be special people, films, or projects.
- SEPTEMBER 25: 10AM Sunday morning try a silent meeting with Westerly Quakers and/or help with the garden or the set-up for the Fair...all outdoors, weather permitting. 12–5PM Annual Friends Fun(d)-raising Fair with more music, playing, eating, and dancing. Rain or Shine.

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

At least one member of our community has expressed an interest in this position. The Treasurer has suggested that the meeting's Quaker Education Fund has an expansive enough definition to cover this activity. The scholarship committee has approved taking up to \$4,000 out of the fund to cover compensation and program costs, as a one-year trial. The Treasurer requested that all disbursement requests come through the Religious Education Committee.

We approve and authorize the Religious Education Committee to proceed with this matter as outlined and as led.

10. Saylesville: Joanne Griffin reported that they have met with a member of the Property Committee about the progress on the east wall. Stage II has not yet been completed, and needs to be done before winter including full corner boards. Bob Elliott is committed to finishing this work. The peeling first-floor ceiling (which also presents a lead hazard) will also be done, making the building safer for all, especially young children. The meeting continues to explore possible grant funding for the next stage of work.

The meeting has received requests from the surrounding community to use the meetinghouse for gatherings such as a bilingual knitting group, especially because the Central Falls community center has closed. The meeting is considering this request. The meeting is also working regularly with the docent at the Arnold House, which seems to be a productive partnership

The meeting has noticed that more families are coming to the book swap, creating a shortage of books for children and young adults. Joanne requested donations of books for children and young adults, to promote this outreach.

We closed with worship at about 1:35 pm, intending to meet next, God willing, the 13th of 10th month at 7 pm at Saylesville.

Mark Conley, Clerk Elizabeth Cazden, Recording Clerk

From Ministry and Counsel: Staffing Our Nursery

As part of our responsibility to support our Meeting families, there is a continuing need to staff our nursery during Meeting for Worship, with staffing ideally provided during each session by an adult and a teenager from our Meeting community. The staff person has to arrive at the nursery by 9:50 AM on First Days and stay until all the children are picked up, which is shortly after the end of Meeting for Worship at 11:00 AM. It should be possible to work out a coverage schedule so that several adults and teenagers could share these duties. The pay is \$20 per session for the adult and \$15 per session for the teenager. If you are interested, please contact Dan Lederer via email (dlederer1@verizon.net) or at home (401-831-0243).

The Providence Chapter of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts has a meeting Wednesday September 21st 2011. All artists are welcome to the pot luck (starting at 6:00 PM) and show and tell meeting that follows. 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 or by phone at 617 633 8249.

Young Friends and Young Adult Friends NEYM Coordinator Nia Thomas (formerly Koch) is available to the teens, young adults and their families in your meeting for pastoral care or Quaker networking. Please feel free to contact her at nia@neym.org or at (617) 945-0373. Her job includes upkeep for the NEYM database, so please get any new or changing information for Friends between 14-35 years old. This enables her to keep them informed of events and opportunities, such as this list of retreats:

2011-2012 Young Friends (grades 9-12) Retreats

Oct. 21-23 Community Building & Involvement Mt. Toby Meeting, Leverett, MA
Nov. 18-20 Creativity Portland Meeting, ME
Dec. 27-30 Quakerism & World Religions Friendly Crossways, Littleton, MA
Feb. 10-12 Diversity Wellesley Meeting, MA
Mar. 30-Apr. 1 Sexuality & Relationships Westport, MA
May 4-6 Rest & Relaxation Hartford, CT

AFSC -SENE News from Martha Yager

This September has brought a media deluge of commentary and reflection on the 10th anniversary of September 11th. Amidst some superficial coverage and "patriotic" (often militaristic) coverage, there is some very thoughtful reflection on the 10 years of war, and the vast expenditures on the military and the "security industrial complex".

One interesting event involving AFSC-SENE is a display of the Eyes Wide Open boots/civilian shoes at the US Coast Guard Academy in New London, a story still being written. Not unexpectedly, the faculty member who arranged the display as part of a "week of mourning and reflection" is getting a lot of flak. SENE's role is to provide support to her, including hosting a discussion with cadets and faculty on Friday September 9th. It seems to be a particularly important place to be deepening the conversation about what makes a country safe.

Saturday September 24 The Peace Flag Project will lead a Buddhist walking meditation for peace at WaterFire (AFSC is a cosponsor). Please join us at the Basin at 6:30pm. You can purchase a luminaria, which will be part of the procession if you want, but that is not necessary. What is wanted is your presence. Please join the interfaith walking meditation as a prayer for peace – between individuals, in our community, in our world.

Fund Our Communities-Not War is a statewide coalition in Massachusetts that is working long term to shift federal budget priorities. In the short term, since one of the members of the SuperCommittee charged with solving budget problems is John Kerry, we are collecting signatures on a petition in preparation for a meeting with him. Those of us who live in nearby states are also using the petition, both as an organizing tool to have conversations with people about federal budget priorities and to lend support to the folks in Massachusetts. You can download copies of the petition at www.afsc.org/sene. Thanks!

From Ministry and Counsel: Clerking Workshop October 22

On Saturday, October 22, from 10AM to noon, Ministry and Counsel will be sponsoring a workshop for committee clerks, as well as anyone else interested, on topics related to clerking. Mark Conley, Betsy Zimmerman, and Dan Lederer will lead a discussion exploring the following questions: What are a committee clerk's responsibilities? What does it mean to conduct a meeting in the context of worship? What is the clerk's role during discussion of various issues? In what ways is documentation of meetings important, and how can this be accomplished most efficiently? How can committee clerks support the Presiding Clerk? And how can the Presiding Clerk support the work of committees? Coffee will be available during the workshop, and lunch provided afterwards, compliments of Ministry and Counsel. We will need a head count, so please let us know you're coming by contacting Dan Lederer via email (dlederer1@verizon.net) or at home (401-831-0243).

Saylesville Bookswap Report

Our monthly Book Swap (third Saturday 10 to noon monthly) has seen more and more families coming. Each month, our supply of children's and young adult's books is decimated. Although we see this as a great indication of our success, reaching into the community, we are asking the meeting at large to donate to our thirsty young readers. Books may be left at Saylesville or Providence.

Volunteers from the Veteran's Hospital came last month and took over 100 books for the hospital library. We keep track, and count between 30 and 60 attendees each month. Our cookbook section has seen a flurry of activity from all ages, young and younger.

Our resident retired librarian, Hans Dieter Gomes, organizes new donations, which gives him joy and makes it also much easier for visitors looking for specific topics. Rosanne Cedroni has been the coordinator of this ministry since its inception, lovingly nursing it to its present point. There are many times that she stays after meeting for worship to organize or meet someone who could not make the normal date.

Though our east wall remains unfinished, we look forward to the inside's completion, and see further possibilities to make our gem a vital part of the community. The adventure continues, three hundred years and counting.

Clerk's Corner by Mark Conley

As an elementary and high school student, I was always grateful that I never had a teacher who required a "What I Did This Summer" report. How strange it is that I find myself eager to write such a report now!

I appreciated the opportunity to attend the Friends General Conference Annual Gathering, held this year in Grinnell, Iowa. I was asked to assist and learn about what local arrangements entails, as I will serve as clerk of that committee for the FGC Gathering this coming Summer at the University of Rhode Island. Mostly I took away what a rich spiritual experience the Gathering was! I also enjoyed meeting Friends from across the country and around the world, and learned more about east-central Iowa than I ever thought I would.

Another rich spiritual experience was getting to know so many Friends from our own Yearly Meeting as Providence Monthly Meeting hosted rehearsals for the performance of "The Fire and the Hammer," presented at Yearly Sessions and in abbreviated form at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport. So many Friends from our Meeting were involved, as performers, providing housing or food (or both), and assisting in logistics or attending a performance. The entire experience served to deepen the ties between our Monthly and our Yearly Meeting. I can highly recommend involvement in Yearly Sessions; I think it safe to say there is something for everyone.

My family's Summer ended with a return from dropping off Cavan in Florida for another year at school. Giulia, Norma and I returned to the results of Irene. Our neighborhood was particularly hard-hit, with what neighbors say was a small tornado coming within a hundred feet of our home. Thankfully, all in our neighborhood emerged with homes intact, though there were some close calls, including ours. With no power for a week and without internet or land-line phones for nine days, we found ourselves very grateful indeed for the foresight our First Day School had a few years ago in offering us disaster relief kits. Ours came in very handy!

I look forward to hearing about your Summer in the coming weeks. I hope yours was also a time of spiritual enrichment and a reminder of all that truly matters in life.

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: Debbie Block <u>assistclerk@providencefriends.org</u> Recording Clerk: Betsy Cazden recordingclerk@providencefriends.org

Treasurer: Peter Swaszek treasurer@providencefriends.org

Ministry & Counsel: Dan Lederer ministryandcounsel@providencefriends.org Pastoral Care Committee: Dieter Gomes pastoralcare@providencefriends.org

Finance: Bruce Carlsten finance@providencefriends.org

Peace & Social Concerns: Dede Carlsten peaceandsocial@providencefriends.org

Social & Hospitality: socialandhospitality@providencefriends.org
Religious Education: Kathi Lyons religioused@providencefriends.org
Communications: Dan Lederer communications@providencefriends.org
Program Committee: Sarah Baily program@providencefriends.org

Marriage Clearness: Erin Hazlett marriage@providencefriends.org

Library: Sarah Morenon library@providencefriends.org

Archive: archivist@providencefriends.org

Property: Bob Elliott and Lee Jaspers property@providencefriends.org
Funeral & Burial: Matt Hackman funeralandburial@providencefriends.org

Newsletter: Steve Schwartz <u>providentfriend@providencefriends.org</u> Email list moderator: Dan Lederer <u>list@providencefriends.org</u>

Website: Dave McNab webclerk@providencefriends.org

Moses Brown School Liaison: Willis Monroe 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

Adult Education: Dave McNab 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)

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

MB garden 2011 -- a great success!

Lindsay Meehan is the Director of RISE Camp, which tends the gardens at MB that FDS helped with this summer. She reports that we are proud to announce the MB Friends Garden produced 375 pounds of fresh produce this summer, all of which was donated to Camp Street Ministries. Many hands were involved in the process, from planting seeds to handing out bags of food to our neighbors. A big thanks goes out to all the students, teachers, staff, campers, counselors and Friends who contributed to this beautiful effort. We hope that everyone in the community feels a connection to this project and that you and your classes will continue to find ways to contribute, develop and enjoy the garden.

The garden was tended by RISE's "organic gardening" course (campers ages 5-14), headed by Kasia Kelley. Our focus was not only to tend the garden, but to teach and inspire. Campers enjoyed lessons in science, sustainability, cooking, nutrition and art, taught through hands-on activities, games, stories and projects.

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