

# The Provident FRIEND

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Oct 2011

Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## FCWW Potluck and Presentation

Friends World Committee for Consultation Event

On Tuesday evening, November 1, Providence Meeting will be hosting a potluck supper at 6pm and presentation at 7pm by two Friends from Australia, Valerie Joy and Abel Sibonio. Valerie is Executive Secretary of the Asia-West Pacific Section of Friends World Committee, and Abel is a Friends' pastor from Burundi who resettled in Australia following the genocide in Burundi in the 1990s. They are traveling as part of a series of "[Salt and Light](#)" events around the world, sponsored by Friends World Committee for Consultation in preparation for the upcoming [World Conference](#) in April 2012 in Nakuru, Kenya, on the theme "Being Salt and Light – Friends living the Kingdom of God in a broken world." Our member Betsy Cazden will be attending the World Conference. There is a suggested donation of \$10 to help cover the speakers' costs.

### About the event

**Time:** 6:00 pm for supper. Program begins at 7:00 pm.

**Cost:** Free will contributions to support this program and FWCC in general are appreciated.

Donations will be accepted at the event and can also be [made online](#).

**To register:** Registering in advance helps us prepare. Sign up at [www.fwccamericas.org](http://www.fwccamericas.org), or, contact Betsy Cazden (401-274-2742, [bczden@verizon.net](mailto:bczden@verizon.net)) (see related article p 5)

## PANCAKE POTLUCK November 6

Bring your favorite topping to share. If you would like to donate bacon or breakfast sausages, please put them in the freezer anytime before Nov. 6

The youth group and Hospitality Committee will make pancakes.



### Calendar:

**Oct 22 Sat:** 10am-noon (p5)  
Clerking Workshop,  
Providence Meeting House.

**Oct 23:** 1:30-4pm (p8) Moses  
Brown School Open House.

**Oct 23 Sun:** 3-6pm (p4)  
Sacred Harp Singing,  
Providence Meeting House.

**Oct 30 Sun:** (p4) Walk with  
Eugenia Marks, when ready,  
Providence Meeting House.

**Nov 1 Tues:** 6pm, 7pm (p1)  
FCWW Potluck (6pm) and  
Presentation (7pm),  
Providence Meeting House

**Nov 6 Sun:** Rise of Meeting  
(p1) Pancake Potluck,  
Providence Meeting House.

**Nov 19 Sat:** 10am-noon  
Bookswap, Saylesville  
Friends Meetinghouse

**Nov 18-20:** (p5) Creativity  
Workshop, Portland Meeting,  
MERise of Meeting (p1)  
Pancake Potluck,

## Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes- 13 Tenth Month 2011

1. Friends gathered at the Saylesville meetinghouse at 7:03 p.m. following a potluck supper, with eight present. In the opening worship the clerk read an Advice on Spiritual Life from the *Faith and Practice* of New England Yearly Meeting (1985):

Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts, which are the leadings of the Holy Spirit. It is God's redemptive love that draws us, a love shown forth by Jesus in all his life, on the cross, and in his abiding presence.

Friends are advised to make a quiet place in their daily lives for prayer and communion with God and to be constant in the reading of the Bible and other devotional literature.

Let us cherish the seed of God in ourselves and in others, that we may be open to new revelations of truth. Let us look to our meetings to guide and stimulate our spiritual growth.

2. Announcements:

Rhode Island–Smithfield Quarter will be this weekend, the 16<sup>th</sup> at Smithfield meetinghouse.

On the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> Eleventh Month, we will be hosting a potluck and presentation by two Friends from Australia Yearly Meeting, one originally from Burundi Yearly Meeting. This is one of a series of "Salt and Light" events sponsored by FWCC in preparation for the April 2012 World Conference.

The Program Committee invites members, attenders, and newcomers to join the fall gathering of Friendly Eights on 5<sup>th</sup> Eleventh Month. Dinner begins at 6:30 and the gathering ends by 9:30.

3. We have been informed that our Junior member Elizabeth Johnson is involved in other religious activities and wishes to be released from membership with us. Friends approved.

4. FGC Gathering: The clerk thanked all the Providence Friends who assisted with the planning committee meeting this past weekend, as well as those who are serving on the Gathering Planning Committee. Four Adult Young Friends stayed in the meetinghouse. There will be a number of opportunities for local Friends to serve the Gathering (July 1-7, 2012), such as assisting with the youth programs, greeting people upon arrival at the airport and the train station, and welcoming people to the URI campus. More details will be provided as plans develop.

5. Ministry and Counsel is looking for an appropriate date for a memorial service for our member Grace Lamb and will keep the meeting advised.

6. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer presented an interim report for the first four months of the fiscal year, ending 30<sup>th</sup> of 9<sup>th</sup> mo. 2011. Contributions are somewhat less than the same period last year, although some of that is a matter of the timing of bank deposits. Expenses are running as expected for this time of year. The Finance Committee has reviewed the details of expenditures. The property insurance for the year increased somewhat more than anticipated, which Finance Committee has approved.

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

7. Saylesville: Joanne Griffin reported that Bob Elliott has completed work on the clapboards; the cornerboards and mudboards still need to be finished before winter. There was a break-in during the past month in which copper piping was stolen. Bruce Downing has repaired the plumbing. The First Day School will be worshipping at Saylesville next weekend to experience the original meetinghouse for Providence Meeting, and to rehouse the bats who were displaced by the construction. Several of the FGC visitors worshiped at Saylesville, which was much appreciated. The meeting had a visit recently from descendants of the Arnold family.

8. No further business appearing, the meeting closed at 7:40 pm, intending to meet again, God willing, at the Providence meetinghouse, the 13<sup>th</sup> of 11<sup>th</sup> month, 2011, at 12:15 pm.

Mark Conley, clerk

Elizabeth Cazden, recording clerk

### Wishingstone Farm Winter Food Share Offered For November - March

This winter Wishing Stone Farm is offering a Winter Share program in three locations in Rhode Island. They will be in Barrington, Providence and Little Compton. The program will start in November and go to the end of March with pickups occurring every other week. Along with our fresh organic produce, there will be a Bread Share, a Meat Share and a Babbettes Feast Specialties Share.

We have been growing greens year round for the last three years in preparation for attempting a "deep winter CSA program". We have also been training our attention on specific vegetable varieties to grow to get the most out of our storage crops; a key component of winter CSA food distribution. For example, we are growing Napoli and Bolero Carrots not only for their sweetness but for their ability to store well and keep their freshness. We are also growing specialty carrots to overwinter in the ground so they can be harvested in the first winter thaw and served to our members in mid March. Cabbages, Brussel sprouts, Leeks are already growing beautifully and promising a tasty meal when delivered to our members. In our four winter greenhouses, we will be planting winter tested cultivars that will meet the riggers of low light and low temperature winter growing. To meet this challenge, we have already seeded different types of spinach, miners lettuce, winter lettuces, BokChoi, Swiss Chard, Mache, Mizunna, Red Giant Mustard, Komatsuna and others too esoteric to mention. We are only five days into our potato harvest and yet we already have over 4 tons of potatoes and, we are storing them in a specialize winter cooler. This attention to detail will pay back dividends when you sit down to enjoy fresh potatoes that taste like they were just picked even though it is the middle of February.

Please join us! Visit the website for more details and to sign up. <http://www.wishingstonefarm.com/winter.php>

We will let you know if we get enough members to make it happen! Thank you!!

If you have questions please call us. 401-592-0285

Skip Paul, Liz Peckham and Silas Peckham-Paul and our whole farm crew.



## Around the Meeting

### Sing Before Meeting For Business (Nov 13)

- There will be singing before every Meeting For Business. We gather at the piano at approximately 11:30 for 30-40 minutes. All are welcome, including instrumentalists.

**Walk Oct 30** - Forest Friends walk October 30, Mays Refuge,

Coventry. Noon – 4 p.m. Moderate exercise, strenuous awareness. Questions? Eugenia.

**Sacred Harp Singing Oct. 23** – Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Providence Meetinghouse) from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, join us and make a joyful noise. See Bob Elliott for details.

**Friendly Eights** - Program Committee invites members and attenders to participate in Friendly Eights on Saturday November 5. Friendly Eights are a casual, fun way for small groups, usually 5 - 8 people, to get together in someone's home for a potluck meal and to discuss a given query. These gatherings

provide us with the opportunity to get to know each other better and to nurture each other spiritually. If you are interested in participating on Nov 5th, please contact Thia Lord.

### What is this man doing with this small person?

Here is Bob Elliot teaching First Day School attenders how to (1) build a house for bats, and (2) how to hang upside down inside of such a house, presumably in order to show any interested new tenants the features and advantages of the construction of the dwelling, an important service to provide in this difficult real estate market.



## The Wider Quaker World: Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

*(first in a series by Betsy Cazden describing Quaker organizations)*

On Tuesday evening, November 1, Providence Meeting will be hosting a potluck supper at 6 and presentation at 7 by two Friends from Australia, including Valerie Joy, secretary of the Asia-West Pacific Section of Friends World Committee (see article pg nn).

[Friends World Committee for Consultation](#) was founded in 1937, growing out of a concern to bring together Friends from across the theological spectrum and across geographic boundaries. (Providence Meeting is a result of that same impulse, when two separate meetings of Rhode Island Friends from two separate yearly meetings renewed their relationship at the first World Conference held in England in 1920.) Initially dominated by Friends from London Yearly Meeting and the two Philadelphia Yearly Meetings, as well as Rufus Jones of New England, it has grown to encompass most yearly meetings around the world. At least three-quarters of those Friends are now located in the southern hemisphere, with a first language other than English. FWCC is organized into four Sections: Africa, Asia-West Pacific, Europe and Middle East, and Section of the Americas. Providence hosted the annual meeting of the Section of the Americas in 2007. FWCC's goal is to bring Friends together and help them find common ground across geographical, theological, and language differences. It also provides mentoring for isolated Friends and isolated worship groups, through its International Membership committee. The world office is in London, and the Section of the Americas office is in Philadelphia. Robin Mohr, the new Executive Secretary of the Philadelphia office, attended New England Yearly Meeting last summer. The current clerk of FWCC is Duduzile Mtchazo of South Africa, who spoke at NEYM several years ago.

FWCC London office: [www.fwccworld.org](http://www.fwccworld.org)

The 2012 World Conference: [www.saltandlight2012.org](http://www.saltandlight2012.org)

FWCC Section of Americas office: [www.fwccamericas.org](http://www.fwccamericas.org)

### **Calendar Notes** (Contact and other information about ongoing calendar events described in previous issues)

- Oct 22, 10am-noon Ministry and Counsel Clerking Workshop. Contact Dan Lederer ([dlederer1@verizon.net](mailto:dlederer1@verizon.net)) or (401-831-0243).
- Nov. 18-20 Creativity Portland Meeting, ME (2011-2012 Young Friends (grades 9-12) Retreats). Contact NEYM Coordinator Nia Thomas her at [nia@neym.org](mailto:nia@neym.org) or at (617) 945-0373.

## Providence Monthly Meeting Silent Auction and Garage Sale

The Garage Sale was a success. Friday night was a wonderful party with a terrific trio playing for us and great food. Saturday had many worker bees, musicians, and buyers. Thank you all from Dede and Phebe.



### Moses Brown Liason change

Willis Monroe has taken over the position of liason with the Moses Brown School, so keep in mind that we have that channel of communication as needed. An email address is listed on page 7. Thanks to Thia Lord for her efforts at this as the previous liason.

## August 28 Hurricane Attendance

Some members were surprised to hear that the Meeting For Worship was attended in both body and spirit by four souls. Bill Monroe and Steve Schwartz came in spite of the weather. Hoy Loper and Emma Gross came BECAUSE of the weather, as the gathering at the First Unitarian Church on Benefit Street (where they help run the children's program) cancelled all activities. The photos below were taken about 1pm, after coffee was offered and served at Bill's house a few blocks away.



### 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 Swaszek [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)  
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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: Willis Monroe [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

**Moses Brown Open House**

**October 23 1:30-4:00**

Hugh Madden, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at Moses Brown School, invites all to attend an Open House. Tours of the campus and classrooms begin at 1:30. Teachers, students and parents will be available to talk more with you about a Moses Brown education.

Any questions please contact Hugh at  
[hmadden@mosesbrown.org](mailto:hmadden@mosesbrown.org)

"The 'peculiar mission' of a Friends school is to empower its members - faculty, staff and students- to live more fully in Truth. For Friends, to 'empower' is to enable a person to be his or her own minister in seeking that Truth. 'To live more fully' is to witness in all one's acts that measure of the Truth one has experienced." Douglas H. Heath

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