

The Provident FRIEND

Sept 2012

Providence Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Calendar

John Kellam Memorial

September 29, 2:00 PM Providence Meeting House

John R. Kellam passed away very calmly and quietly, at home with family as he wished, on Wednesday July 25 just at dawn, due to lung cancer which was not treatable. His last trip out of the house was to come to Meeting for Worship as he has done regularly at the Providence Friends Meeting since 1950. Recent conversations with Meeting members were kindly and supportive, and the extra care and time shared was a comfort at the end of his life. John's obituary can be read on the Monahan Drabble Sherman Funeral Home website (mkds.com), and on the Providence Friends Website.

There will be a Memorial Meeting for Worship on Sept 29 at 2pm in the Providence Meeting House. The family will be bringing dishes and refreshments for sharing downstairs following the Meeting. Musical instruments are welcome, with an opportunity to join John's good friend Joyce Katzberg to help celebrate John's life in the singing and playing of the old peace and justice songs that John loved.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to:
Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island
1085 North Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02904

Sept 21 Fri: 7pm (p1)
Peace talk, Bristol RI.

Sept 23 Sun: 3-6pm (p4)
Sacred Harp Sing at Providence Meeting House

Sept 26 Wed: 10am (p4)
Mid-week Worship sharing, Saylesville Meeting House (twice each month).

Sept 29 Sat: 2-3pm (p1)
John Kellam memorial service, Providence Meeting House

Oct 10 Wed: 6pm (p)
Potluck (6-7) and Meeting for Business (7-9), **Saylesville** Meeting House.

Oct 20: 10am-12pm
Saylesville Bookswap

Oct 28 Sat: 3-6pm (p4)
Sacred Harp Sing at Providence Meeting House

MESSAGE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (AND THEIR FAMILIES)

from Betsy Zimmerman

This year the First Day School is preparing a separate class just for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. During the next few weeks teacher Mike McGuigan would like your input about the things that are of interest to you. A hike to Mt Monadnock is on the schedule with the older teens, and we want to build other ways for you to be part of the meeting community. Please join us for this new grouping that is just for you.

"Why World Peace Is Possible: A Soldier's Perspective"

Paul K. Chappell, West Point graduate, Iraq War veteran, peace activist
7pm Friday, September 21st, 2012 in Bristol, RI

"Captain Paul K. Chappell has given us a critical look at war and peace from the unique perspective of a soldier, and his new ideas show us why world peace is both necessary and possible in the 21st century." --Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Paul K. Chappell is also an author. He will be speaking at the Bristol Statehouse, 240 High St., Bristol, RI. The event, free and open to the public; is sponsored by East Bay Citizens for Peace and is co-sponsored by Rhode Island Progressive Democrats of America and American Friends Service Committee/ South East New England.

For more information contact: 401- 247-9738, or www.eastbaycitizens4peace.org

Providence Monthly Meeting for Business Minutes – 9 Ninth Month 2012

1. We convened at Saylesville at 12:55 pm with twelve Friends present. In the opening silence, the clerk read queries from the 2011 *Faith and Practice* of Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association:

Do all aspects of your life bear the same witness? Do you center your life in the awareness of the presence of God so that all things take their rightful place?

2. Announcements: Next month's meeting for worship with a concern for business will be the last at Saylesville meetinghouse for this year. In accordance with our practice, it will be held on the evening of Wednesday, October 10, with potluck at 6 pm and worship at 7.

Another craft sale will be held at Saylesville Meetinghouse on the 22nd of this month from 9 to 4, with demonstrations and food.

The memorial meeting for John Kellam will be held on the 29th of this month at 2 pm at the Providence meetinghouse.

3. On behalf of Ministry and Counsel, Joanne Griffin brought a recommendation that Cindy Fanning be accepted into membership in the meeting. She has attended meeting at both Saylesville and Providence. We approve. Joanne Griffin, Bruce Downing, and Dieter Gomes will plan a welcoming event to which all will be invited.

4. Recorder Anne DiMase reported on correspondence received over the summer from non-resident members Jill Bradfute Leggio, Debby (Browne) (Carpilio) Colbeth, and Priscilla (White) Ohler. We agreed that these letters should be kept with each person's membership records, and asked the recorder to return a note to each one with our greetings and love. We thank the recorder for her diligence in making contact with members long absent.

The recorder also reported on a conversation with our member William Mize, who is now attending Live Oak Meeting in Houston, Texas, and attended Providence Meeting in July when he was in the area for the FGC Gathering. We note that he had previously requested a transfer to a different meeting but has since moved again. We are not clear whether he is requesting a transfer to Live Oak, and ask the recorder to follow up with him to clarify.

5. Treasurer's report: Treasurer Peter Swaszek presented a report for the first three months of the fiscal year. Contributions are noticeably higher than for the same period last year. He also noted that he has corrected some errors in the year-end report that affected allocation among funds but not the total. We note a significant amount in the "fund-raising" income line, consisting of money from the Saylesville craft fair and from the Providence May breakfast.

6. Saylesville Preparative Meeting: Joanne Griffin reported that during the summer the meeting worked with the Arnold House on a family treasure hunt, with questions that would be instructive as well as entertaining. She circulated the texts for our information. She also noted that on September 29th, the Great Road Historic District will be having an Open House for properties within the District. The theme is commemorating the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. The meeting has been asked to present the Quaker perspective, and several members are researching this.

We are pleased to notice the light coming in the reglazed windows in the east wall of this meetinghouse, done by Bob Elliott and a friend.

7. The clerk noted that during the FGC Gathering in 7th month, three afternoon excursions visited Conanicut meetinghouse, Saylesville meetinghouse, and Providence meetinghouse. Other excursions went to Westerly meetinghouse, the Great Meetinghouse in Newport, and the Voluntown Peace Farm.

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

8. On behalf of Ministry and Counsel, Bruce Downing brought a recommendation that Dan Lederer serve as Clerk of this meeting, effective immediately. Mark Conley is willing to serve for one year as Assistant Clerk to help with the transition. We approve. We thank Mark for his faithful service to this meeting.

9. We closed at 1:40 following a period of grateful worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Conley, clerk
Elizabeth Cazden, recording clerk

Cynthia Giles at Work – from Libby Edgerly

While doing research on Caterpillar for my work as environmental, social, and governance research analyst, I came across this quotation from Cindy Giles in a press release last year on the epa.gov website, and I thought the Meeting might like to see it.

"The enforcement of vehicle emissions standards, labeling and reporting requirements is critical to protect the air we breathe and ensuring that companies play by the rules. Today's settlement will protect public health and create a level playing field for companies that meet their environmental obligations." -Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance and Assurance

(Washington, DC - July 28, 2011) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) today announced a settlement with Caterpillar Inc. to resolve alleged Clean Air Act violations for shipping more than 590,000 highway and non-road diesel engines without the correct emissions controls. Caterpillar also allegedly failed to comply with emission control reporting and engine-labeling requirements. Caterpillar will pay a \$2.55 million penalty, continue a recall of noncompliant engines and reduce excess emissions.

[Ed: This and more from <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/cases/civil/caa/caterpillarinc11.html>]

And Bob Elliott.....



..... also at work.... (at one of this summer's Hope Street Farmer's Markets)

Around the Meeting

Sacred Harp Singing, Sept 23, Oct 28— Every 4th Sunday (Providence Meetinghouse) from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, join us and make a joyful noise. See Bob Elliott for details.

Mid-week Saylesville Worship Sharing continues – new (temporary) contact – Sept 26, Oct 10 & 24 - The mid-week, small worship sharings at the Saylesville Meeting House in Lincoln will continue on the second

and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 10:00 AM. The group meets for approximately 1 and 1/2 hours. All are welcome.

During Kathy's recovery, please contact Hans-Dieter Gomes at (401) 728-4184 for more

information.

Camp Street Thanks and Needs – Camp Street Ministries sent another thanks. We note the need continues. Please place donations in boxes on the bench in the foyer.

Calendar Notes: (no long term calendar events have yet arrived)

LETTER TO OUR MEETING FROM BEN BROWN

(Ben was a Med School student who attended our Meeting, and moved this summer)

Dear Friends,

I wanted to send you a quick note to thank you for creating such a wonderful spiritual home for me for these last few years. Worship with you kept me grounded through some intense experiences and helped me grow in many ways. I'm sorry I didn't get a chance to say a real goodbye to the meeting before heading out to Chicago (my sister's graduation and my own conspired to keep me busy the last couple Sundays I was in town). In any case, I have really enjoyed worshipping with you and will look forward to seeing you all when I'm back in Providence! In the mean time, please be in touch if you're visiting Chicago. You can always reach me by email and hopefully you'll be able to find me many Sundays at the 57th Street Meeting in Hyde Park.

In the Light,
Ben Brown (July 1, 2012)

NEW (even newer) STAFF FOR MEETING NURSERY

Ministry and Counsel wants to let everyone know that a new regular babysitter in the nursery started Sunday, September 2. Her name is Sara Moore. She's a graduate of Cranston High School East and is entering her junior year at RI College, majoring in biology. She comes to us with outstanding references, has a lot of childcare experience, and has already had a chance to spend some time in our nursery. So when you get the chance please join me us welcoming her to Providence Friends Meeting.

PASTORAL CARE REQUESTS ASSISTANCE FOR KATHY BOGER WADLAND

Kathy Boger Wadland's recovery from surgery this summer has been longer and more complicated than anticipated. Pastoral Care is looking for volunteers to provide food for the family and rides home for Justin. See Judy Shaw (or email her at jgibbsshaw@aol.com).

RECYCLING COATS – (with First Day School)

A chance to recycle out-grown or no-longer-used coats from your family occurs on the Friday after Thanksgiving, but now is the time to look in your closet. The annual Coat Exchange takes place in Providence on Friday, November 23. First Day School may help in our Providence Friends collection of winter wear. Eugenia Marks will transport donated coats to organizers. Thanks for your discernment to the needs of others.

Finding Treasure in Saylesville

from Joanne Griffin

"Rhody Ramble: Treasure Hunt at World's End - Visit Historic New England's 1693 Arnold House and the 1703 Saylesville Meeting House and discover clues that will lead you to your treasure, a free children's book of your choice! Explore 300 year old buildings and learn the story of World's End. This event is part of the Rhody Ramble: a family adventure around Rhode Island."

World's End is what the area around the Saylesville Meetinghouse was called when Eleazer Arnold inherited his acreage in his father's will. This was the wilderness end of Providence, hence, the name "World's End".

Arnold House and the Saylesville Meetinghouse co-sponsored 'Finding Treasure' events during the summer, on June 16th, July 21st and Aug18th. Preserve RI received a grant to publicize family activities from May 30th through Labor Day. We were able to join with another member (Heritage New England, owner of Arnold House) even though we are not members of either organization. This is our education at Partners for Sacred Spaces in action. We were able to schedule these to be on the same the day as our monthly bookswap, in order to preserve our limited time and resources. Dieter Gomes, Bruce Downing and I worked on our half of the clues that were used. Our intent was to make this educational and fun for all. I would love to tell you all about it, but we are considering we might invite First Day families to partake in this activity sometime this year, so I wouldn't want to spoil the fun. For our mark at all the clue stations, we used the original Quaker Oats symbol [ed: see this page], which has evolved from that into its present day design.

Rosanne Cedroni made mini cakes and boxes of mini doughnuts as prizes for the children and all were welcome to take some books home too. We had just as much fun putting this together as the families did deciphering the clues and following the trail. After all, we still enjoy playing games too.



This (the first) 'Quaker Man' image may have been the first registered trademark for a breakfast cereal. The company has no formal ties with the Religious Society of Friends

A PUBLIC BANK FOR RHODE ISLAND from Bruce Carlsten

(several responses prompted this repeat, re: people returning from summer travels)

The State of Rhode Island presently gives all its banking business to a major commercial bank such as the Bank of America. The profit that this bank gains from RI money such as your income tax deposits, bond issues, etc. then is used for the bank's business ventures elsewhere in the U.S. and internationally.

North Dakota (and I believe some other states) have a better idea. They have established a public bank which handles all their banking business. The independently run bank, being a member of their community, acts as such. The money stays in the state and it provides loans (small business, personal, mortgage, etc.) to its citizens/neighbors. Private citizens can also deposit their money in this bank knowing that the profits will be used to benefit them.

North Dakota has had a public bank for many years and it has proven very successful and a model for other states. Tom Sgouros, who has testified on several occasions at the RI State House, has often touted this as an action that would be good for Rhode Island.

I would like to know if, sometime in the near future, individuals would be willing to listen to a short 30 minute power point presentation on public banking followed by a question and answer session.

Please contact Bruce Carlsten if this interests you.

CLERK'S CORNER by Mark Conley

- *Cultivate an inner life. Listen deeply—inwardly, to others, to events in the world.*
 - *Spend time in silence and solitude. Spend time in nature, living into the deep rhythms of life.*
 - *Take time for holy leisure. Cultivate a sense of humor. Laugh uproariously.*
 - *Have the courage to sit with uncertainty.*
 - *Know when your work is done. Let go into the Mystery.*
- Linda Chidsey, excerpts from "Lessons from Clerking"

A little over five years ago, I began my period of service as Presiding Clerk of our Monthly Meeting. How mindful I have been of those who preceded me at the facing bench, those I know and those I never had the opportunity to meet. This past year, I found my thoughts turning more and more to those who will sit on that bench in the future, as well. It seems clear now that this has been one of many signs that it is time to make way for others to have an opportunity for this deep and spiritually rewarding experience. I am happy that the Meeting has approved Dan Lederer to serve, and it will be good for me to return to the role of Assistant Clerk for this year.

Although we Friends like to joke about the rather glacial pace of our decision-making process (and not without reason), five years in the Life of the Meeting has brought quite a bit of change. We have welcomed several babies into our midst, as well as new adult members, junior members and attenders who have become such a part of our community that it always surprises us when we realize they haven't always been there! There have been joyous weddings that always give us all hope for new beginnings. We have also been sad to see Friends move away, though we still hold them in the Light. And we have had Memorial Meetings that remind us to be grateful for the lives that have borne witness to all that binds us together as a community, in spirit and in time.

Five years ago, Providence meetinghouse was under renovation – the downstairs was in full demolition mode. We had not begun to discuss Saylesville meetinghouse at all (little knowing what we were about to discover during a structural inspection!). In fact, one of the joys of the past half decade has been the joy we have felt in reconnecting with one another while doing the hard work of discerning what God's will has been for us and our properties. Though Conanicut, Saylesville and Providence have always been wonderful communities, the threshing work we have done has gone a long way in changing our perceptions to being ONE Monthly Meeting with three houses of worship. Our collaboration this Summer welcoming Friends General Conference to Rhode Island bore witness to this more unified sense of ourselves.

Each Clerk brings unique abilities and perspectives to the position. I have tried to be a careful listener (learning some lessons on this early in my time) and have worked very hard at staying out of the way of Friends whose countless gifts keep our Meeting functioning at all levels – spiritual, physical and financial – while providing any assistance that might be requested. Absolute trust in divine corporate guidance has helped me immeasurably, especially at those times when I was not sure I was properly discerning that guidance.

And in that trust, I ask you to hold our new Clerk in the Light, that he may feel as buoyed by your tender care on the infinite Ocean of Light and Love as have I.

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

Mark Conley, Assistant Clerk
Providence Monthly Meeting

Passing of Roy Zimmerman

Betsy Zimmerman shared the news that her husband Roy passed away on Aug 12 after several years of a struggle with cancer. She expressed her thanks to meeting members, who have sustained them during this long illness. "The Light, love, and prayers have been a cushion throughout Roy's illness."

Meeting Directory Update – from Communications Committee

Communications Committee is in the process of preparing an updated Meeting Directory for publication in October.

It is important in the life of the Meeting for us to be able to contact each other, and our Meeting Directory can be helpful for this purpose, but it's only as good as the information in it. Because of privacy concerns, Communications Committee decided about a year ago to "start from scratch" with a new version that included only information that Friends felt comfortable having published. As a result, we completed a new directory in March and distributed it via an email list, but we know that it's missing contact information for some of you, and some of the details are already obsolete. We emailed a recent draft that was prepared from the March edition with the addition of some entries recently received. If you received it, please look it over and contact us with any needed corrections, additions, or deletions. If you're not represented in it but want to be, please send the exact information you would like to see included. If you did not receive it, please contact us.

To send information, or if questions, etc., please contact Dan Lederer via email (dlederer1@verizon.net) or telephone (401-831-0243).

Providence Monthly Meeting - Contacts

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

Presiding Clerk: Dan Lederer clerk@providencefriends.org
Assistant Presiding Clerk: Mark Conley assistclerk@providencefriends.org
Recording Clerk: Betsy Cazden recordingclerk@providencefriends.org
Treasurer: Peter Swaszek treasurer@providencefriends.org
Ministry & Counsel: (To Be Named) ministryandcounsel@providencefriends.org
Pastoral Care Committee: Judy Shaw pastoralcare@providencefriends.org
Finance: Bill Monroe finance@providencefriends.org
Peace & Social Concerns: Dede Carlsten peaceandsocial@providencefriends.org
Social & Hospitality: Zona Douthit 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 providentfriend@providencefriends.org
Email list moderator: Dan Lederer list@providencefriends.org
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

Wednesday – 10-11:30am 2nd & 4th Wed's - Saylesville

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.

Potluck and Meeting For Business – Wed. Oct. 10 (6 and 7 pm) at Saylesville Meetinghouse

The next Meeting for Business will be held Wednesday evening, October 10, at the Saylesville Meetinghouse. There will be a potluck at 6:00 PM followed by the meeting at 7:00 PM. We hold the meeting at this time to encourage participation by Friends who might have difficulty attending on Sunday afternoons, and it is a way of marking the transition from holding our business meetings at Saylesville to having them at Providence.

The Provident FRIEND

Newsletter of
Providence Monthly Meeting of the
Religious Society of Friends
99 Morris Avenue
Providence, RI 02906