

Sessions Registration
& Information, Enclosed



Friends Return to the Great
Meeting House for a 350th
Birthday Celebration, p. 2



Getting to
Sessions
Sustainably,
p. 5



SINCE 1661

The New England Friend

VOLUME 66, ISSUE IV

Sessions 2011: a Broken People, Healing a Broken Planet

Linda Jenkins
NEYM Presiding Clerk
North Sandwich (NH) Friends Meeting

350: A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER. It is the number of years this Yearly Meeting has met. 350 is the number of parts of carbon dioxide per million of air that is sustainable for life as we *used* to know it on this planet.

350 is also significant in the teachings that bind the Bible together and guided our Sessions last year, as we began to observe *Jubilee*. Jubilee, described in Leviticus 25, takes place after seven cycles of seven Sabbath years, or every 50 years. 350 is seven cycles of seven Jubilee years. I invite you to review last year's Minute Book for our reflections on how Jubilee seeks a right order, consistent with divine will. Then, reflect on how that teaching relates to this year's theme:

how a broken people might be called to heal a broken planet.

Perhaps we are awakening to the joy and hope that is always available by resting in divine, loving grace. Such resting is necessarily active and creative, paradoxical as that may seem. Welcoming the Spirit into our midst, we must be channels of divine wisdom, from which spring the miracles of the right action that we celebrate in our Quaker forbearers, who fed the children of our "enemies" after the first and second world wars, who anonymously helped create the underground railroad and who have resisted participation in war in so many eras.



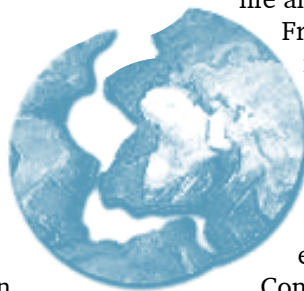
Continued on page 3»

350 Years of New England Friends: Called to heal a broken earth

Jean McCandless
NEYM Sessions Committee clerk,
Burlington (VT) Friends Meeting

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US for a joyful celebration of 350 consecutive years of New England Yearly Meeting, while at the same time exploring what Friends are called to do to address global climate change.

350 Years of New England Friends: On Friday, August 5, before Sessions begins, we will have the opportunity to participate in celebratory events at the Great Meetinghouse in Newport, RI where Friends gathered for Yearly Meeting for more than 200 years. There will be afternoon and evening activities, including a work project at the neighboring Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, a peace vigil, music, and supper. At Bryant University on Sunday



afternoon, we will have birthday cake (and local fruit!).

On Tuesday evening, there will be a choral presentation by NEYM Friends, *The Fire and the Hammer*, based on the life and writings of George Fox. Throughout the week, Friends can help create giant birthday cards, and be in large group photographs.

Called to heal a broken earth. To help us consider our theme, we will have two community plenaries, as we did last year. Sunday's presentation will be by Steve Chase (Putney MM) who facilitated the NEYM April 22nd Awakening the Dreamer Program. The Peace and Social Concerns and Racial, Social and Economic Justice Committees will share the Monday plenary. We will move directly from these presentations into Anchor Groups, which were so successful last year. These groups will again meet every day, to provide a "home base" for shared community, discussion and worship.

Continued on page 3»

Meet This Year's Plenary & Bible Half Hour facilitators

STEVEN CHASE of Putney (VT) Friends Meeting will offer Sessions' Sunday afternoon plenary: *Blessed Are The Organized: How Quakers Can Help Their Local Communities Transition From Oil Dependency To A Simpler, Just, and More Resilient Way of Life.*

Steve will share with Friends how our Quaker testimonies of simplicity, community, peace, justice, integrity, and ecological stewardship will become hugely important to faithful living in the coming age of peak oil, climate change, and a dysfunctional global economy. How can we Quakers draw on the deepest parts of our faith, resist the pulls of empire and consumerism, and unleash our creativity by working with neighbors to help foster a transition to a promising, livable, relocalized, and more fulfilling post-oil world? How can we respond to the challenges of our time with a positive,



visionary, and inspiring form of community organizing that moves all of us beyond both denial or despair and into the inward space of blessed unrest and outward engagement in creative faith-based activism at the local level?

Steve is a frequent writer for *Friends Journal* and serves on the national Quaker Quest Traveling Team of Friends General Conference. Besides his work as the educational

director of Antioch University New England's Environmental Studies master's program concentration in Advocacy in Social Justice and Sustainability, Steven is one of the co-founders of the Transition Keene Task Force--the 56th Transition Initiative in the United States and the first in New Hampshire. Steve's ministry among Friends is under the oversight of a support committee recently set up by Putney Friends Meeting. ❖

MAGGIE EDMONDSON joined an unprogrammed Friends meeting in 1984 and has been the pastor of Winthrop Center Friends Church in Maine since 1996. She has given Bible talks at Friends General Conference Gathering, FWCC Triennials, and Quaker Earthcare witness.



She has worked as a church musician, instrumental teacher and performer, and has lived in community homes with mentally challenged adults. Her passions are her work, family, gardening, and a variety of artistic pursuits.

She is not a Bible scholar—just an ordinary person who has struggled to determine what the Bible is and isn't, and to find and accept the gifts that the Bible has to offer. Her personal spiritual evolution has led her to a particular interest in what the scriptures have to say about the Earth community and right relationship within it. ❖

Coming 'Round Right: Returning to the Great Meetinghouse for Our 350th Birthday



PHOTO: REBECCA LEUCHAK

THE GREAT MEETINGHOUSE in Newport, RI will open its doors once again to NEYM Annual Sessions! Join in celebration of 350 years of Friends in New England by spending the Friday afternoon before Sessions at the Great Meetinghouse. Starting at 2 pm, the day will include community service; a peace witness; worship and song featuring excerpts from *The Fire and Hammer*

(see announcement, right); food; and intergenerational fellowship.

The day is planned to be joyful and meaningful for children and adults. This is a come-one-come-all, bring-yourself-the-family-the-picnic-blanket-and-your-camera, event!

The Great Friends Meetinghouse was built in 1699. It is the oldest surviving house of worship in Rhode Island and was once the largest structure in the colonies between Boston and New York. It hosted the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends until 1905.

Friends may wish to get to Bryant on Friday morning and then travel to Newport with others to lessen their carbon footprint. More details on the schedule of events and travel logistics will be posted at sessions.neym.org. Note that there will be a separate fee for overnight lodging Friday at Bryant and some additional meal charges. Contact Rebecca Leuchak at: rlauchak@rwu.edu. ❖

The Fire & The Hammer: Fox's Life Sung in Chorus

TUESDAY EVENING, New England Friends, led by British Quaker and choral leader John Sheldon, will perform the extraordinary choral piece *The Fire & the Hammer*. It chronicles George Fox's own personal spiritual journey from seeker to a central figure in the nascent Religious Society of Friends. John is an active member of the Leavers, the British Quaker arts fellowship that created and originally performed the work.

On the occasion of our 350th anniversary this performance will also provide us with the opportunity as a YM community to share a vivid glimpse into the experience of first generation Friends, the same generation that founded New England Yearly Meeting in 1661. Several songs from *the Fire & the Hammer* will also be performed at the Great Meetinghouse celebration the Friday before Sessions. To learn more or take part, contact Peter Blood-Patterson, peter@quakersong.org/413-256-8596. ❖

» *350 Years of NE Friends, from p.1*

Our work together will be supported and strengthened by many parts of the Sessions program. Strong feedback on last year's evaluations resulted in the restoration of the 8:30 am Bible Half Hour. Maggie Edmondson, Pastor of Winthrop Center (ME) Friends Church, will be our speaker. Committee Fairs will occur over two days to ensure more space and time for committees to share their work with all of us. There will be a posted schedule for our new Media Room where Friends can view a variety of theme-related and other issue-oriented materials.

Our Youth Programs will as always provide a rich schedule of activities and learning. This year's Children's Sessions Peacemaker is Nancy Shippen, Fresh Pond (MA) MM, the NEYM representative to Friends Peace Team Projects, and deeply involved in Alternatives to Violence programs. Evening vespers, rocking chairs, intergenerational games in the Rotunda, and the Bookstore's rich selection of books, crafts and curriculum, will round out the offerings of a full, Spirit-led week. ❖

Why we give to NEYM...



Willis Monroe, Bill Monroe, Rebecca Leuchak, Hannah Monroe

WE GIVE TO NEYM because we cherish this community and what it has meant in our lives. We appreciate the heritage handed down to us over 350 years by committed Friends who shaped the Yearly Meeting in ways that are still vibrant today. We feel real joy in the opportunity to join with Friends in the work of building this community. We welcome the

responsibility to continue this legacy and this important witness in the world, so that many more families will be nourished by the great spirit that is so present in all that NEYM does. We give because we are grateful for what Friends in New England have done and because we look forward to what NEYM will do in the future.

—REBECCA LEUCHAK & BILL MONROE

» *A Broken People..., from p.1*

To continue last year's efforts to re-ground and re-order our corporate life, to be the "miracle-workers" needed now, we will again use the Unity Agenda for some items of business. We will also focus our attention on other business items, framing them using the priorities we discerned last year in the Minute of Sending Forth. All items of business, whether we address them via the Unity Agenda or otherwise, need our prayerful attention long before we gather in Smithfield. Please start praying now, if you haven't begun already.

Through the Unity Agenda, we will again create the open space for periods of extended, silent worship, which we last year called "Meetings to Hear God's Call." This year, in these Meetings to Hear God's Call we will give special attention to the quality of our worship. How do we conduct ourselves in worship? How do we understand silent and vocal ministry and communicate these understandings to each other? Deepening our shared

understanding of groundedness in worship will, with God's help, provide a firmer foundation for relying on divine guidance as we consider the business before us.

Here are some of those items before us: we will consider the spiritual state of our religious society, especially in light of last year's Minute of Sending Forth, Minute 2010-30. We will review reports from our staff, our committees, and the three institutions that are part of our New England Yearly Meeting community: Friends Camp, Moses Brown School and New England Friends Home. We will review the Purposes and Procedures of 29 standing committees and boards. We will consider and approve a budget for our next fiscal year and review our financial condition. We will review our relationships with the Quaker "umbrella organizations": Friends World Committee for Consultation, Friends General Conference, and with special attention—again—to Friends United Meeting, in an item of

business carried forward from Minute 2009-54. We will consider and perhaps give preliminary approval to three revised chapters of our book of *Faith and Practice*.

We will hear approximately 10–12 Memorial Minutes, and we will welcome the new Friends recently born into our community.

Much of the background material for these and other matters is already on sessions.neym.org or will be there soon. Please check this site frequently and, again, pray about what you see there. If you are not an Internet person, contact the Yearly Meeting office at 508-754-6750 to request paper copies of this material.

As a people who believe that every moment is sacred and every task, the opportunity for prayer and connection with the divine, some might say that our business meetings in worship are a sacrament. I invite you to the table in August at Bryant University to share this "sacrament"—in joyful, loving communion. ❖

Additional Sessions Announcements

Getting to Sessions, Sustainably

FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS, the Earthcare Ministries Committee has encouraged Friends to pursue The Fourfold Path of alternatives to driving a partially-full car when considering their travel plans to NEYM Sessions—ride sharing, bicycling, walking, and public transportation. While the committee is not formally organizing bicycling and walking groups this year, it is offering resource people for carpool coordination and public transportation pickup.

Ride sharing: coordinate rides, including picking up people on the way to Providence. Contact Marcia Winters, 603-352-2051/marcia.winters@yahoo.com (subject line “NEYM rideshare”).

Public transportation: arranging transportation between the train sta-

tion or bus station in Providence and Bryant College. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Betty Poynton. 508-434-2739/ejp4@fastmail.fm (subject line “NEYM pickup”). Public transportation choices to Providence include:

1) Commuter trains from South Station, Boston, on the Providence/Stoughton line. Seven trains run on Saturday, more on weekdays:

www.mbta.com

2) Amtrak Acela (Boston to Washington, DC) or NE Regional (Boston to Newport News, VA) lines. Click on Stations, www.amtrak.com, enter PVD as station code, and click on “go!”

3) Bus into Providence via Greyhound (www.greyhound.com) or Peter Pan (www.peterpanbus.com). ❁



Selling Your Items in the Sessions Bookstore

Anyone who would like to sell items in the Sessions Bookstore should contact Sandy Moyer by the end of July. A variety of items are sold, including Quaker books, Friendly crafts, and items from Quaker organizations. You will receive a number with which to mark your items. Phone 978-582-3300 or email sandymoyer@verizon.net.

Friends are reminded that all sales at Sessions must go through the bookstore. The bookstore retains 15% of gross sales to cover the expenses of running the bookstore, including charge card fees, shrinkage, supplies, & staffing expenses.

Seeking Staff to Work with Special Needs Session Attenders

Sessions Committee is looking for a Special Needs Staff person to work with several children and older teen/young adults during Sessions. We need someone who is energetic and cheerful, and who has either personal and/or work experience with people with disabilities. There will be an established schedule of work assignments and times during the week. This person has their full Sessions fees paid and will have time to participate in some regular Yearly Meeting activities.

Financial Aid Available for Sessions Attenders

Financial Aid for attending YM Sessions is available through the Equalization Fund. Applications for grants are on the registration form. Please complete all calculations and determine if your meeting offers financial aid, as well, before sending your completed registration form to the NEYM Registrar postmarked on or before June 30. Do not mail after July 31. Call 508-754-6760 with questions.

The Equalization fund is made possible through the contributions of Friends. If you are able, please contribute to it on line K of your registration.

Also, for the past number of years the Equalization Fund has supported a full scholarship for any member or attendee of a local meeting that has not sent anyone to the annual Sessions for two years or more. Several meetings have taken up this opportunity, encouraging people in their meeting to attend the annual Sessions for the first time.

Family Neighborhood

Once again, we'll stir up some magic and try to help the gifts of community to emerge even in our short stay together. We'll be located in the Townhouses. We'll let you know who lives where, offer Early Bird Coffee and Tea, afternoon lemonade and cookies, mellow play in the evenings, and books for children and adults for bedtime reading.^o

Families with children are especially invited and we'll sprinkle in some interested adults without children to mix it up and serve as NEYM “hosts” who can answer questions. To join us, choose the Family Neighborhood as your housing choice. Contact Beth Collea, CE Coordinator, with questions, ccecoord@neym.org. Come as you are. Live into all that can be!



A parade of Friendly animals at NEYM Sessions.

PHOTO: SKIP SCHIEL

2011 Annual Sessions Registration & Information

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 – THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2011 • BRYANT UNIVERSITY, SMITHFIELD, RI

Preparing to be at Sessions

Space for exhibits, displays, & artwork must be requested by June 30. Contact exhibits@neym.org.

Interest Groups: sign up Saturday at YM Sessions. If you are coming after Saturday, email interests@neym.org.

No Pets Permitted on the Bryant University Campus

Special meeting room assignments: rooms@neym.org.

Audio-visual Equipment: VCRs, DVD players, video projectors, and computers are available. Contact AV@neym.org.

The Yearly Meeting Office moves to Bryant University on Tuesday, August 2. YM Office phone at Bryant is 401-319-8860.

Please be fragrance free at YM Sessions. Chemical sensitivities make some Friends very ill when they are exposed to scented products (e.g. lotions, hair gel, spray deodorants, etc).

ALL resident Sessions attenders must bring all bedding: blankets, pillows, sheets, and towels.

Bryant Univ. Public Safety Emergency Line: 401-232-6001.

Items for the Bookstore: A variety of items are sold, including Quaker books, Friendly crafts, and items from Quaker organizations — all sales at Sessions must go through the bookstore. Contact Sandy Moyer, Bookstore Manager, by the end of July, 978-582-3300 • sandymoyer@verizon.net

Youth & YAF Program Info

Youth programs participants must submit a **health form** to finalize registration. Health forms are at sessions.neym.org. Parents should not bring or send children unless they are prepared to participate in the program. Parents are responsible for their children during unscheduled periods. Orientation is Saturday between 3 & 4:15 pm. See the schedule and the YM News for program-specific orientation details/times.

Childcare (ages 4 & under) is available in the mornings and afternoons. Coordinator: Kimberly Walker-Gonçalves, 413-773-9081 • kbwalker@alumni.brown.edu.

Junior Yearly Meeting (entering grades K–6) is a structured program of learning, fun, & friendships. Coordinator: Betty Ann Lee, 508-994-1638 • welees@comcast.net.

Junior High (entering grades 7–9) program is similar to Junior Yearly Meeting. Coordinator: Gretchen Baker-Smith, 508-997-0940 • hellogretchen@gmail.com

Young Friends (entering grade 10 through 2011 high school graduates) have their own dorm & program, with some activities shared with the regular Sessions program. The YF program requires adherence to rules, some mandatory participation, and an adult sponsor. Coordinator: Nia Koch, 617-945-0373, yf.yafcoord@neym.org.

Young Adult Friends (ages 18–35) have business meetings, daily worship-sharing, and some evening interest groups or programming. Stop by the YAF lounge. Clerk: Ben Guaraldi, 617-869-8457 • ben@bluesock.org.

Registration Instructions

We encourage Friends to register ONLINE, available at sessions.neym.org after June 1

Complete **all** information requested for **each** attender.

Accessibility Needs: If you have specific needs, please tell us in the space provided (see list of “Accessibility Needs” on the second side of the registration form).

Volunteer Choices: We urge each person to donate several hours in service to Sessions (see list of “Volunteer Choices” on the second side of the registration form).

Day of Arrival & Departure: In the columns provided, for each person enter the abbreviated (Fri, Sat, Sun, etc.) day of the week you plan to arrive and the day of the week you plan to leave.

Limited Camping: Campsites will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Bathrooms and showers will be available in an adjacent dormitory.

Part-time Commuter Meals: May be purchased as you enter the dining hall.

Residential Registration Late fees assessed after June 30.

CALCULATING FEES

Financial aid is available. See article on Page 4 of the *New England Friend*.

Line G: Subtotal amounts on lines A–F

Line H: Members of Permanent Board and Ministry & Counsel, Sessions staff, and people attending the Friday, August 5 Great Meetinghouse event in Newport, RI, may arrive Friday night between 8–10pm. Saturday breakfast & lunch included. Only members of Young Friends (YF) Ministry & Counsel may stay in the Young Friends Dorm Friday night.

Line I: For a single room add \$50 per person for full-time participants or \$10/day for part-time.

Line J: Subtotal amounts on lines G–I

Line K: Tax deductible contributions to the Equalization Fund — are needed and gratefully accepted. (See article on page 4 of the *New England Friend*.)

Line L: Enter a credit amount if you are receiving a room and board stipend for working as Sessions staff.

Line M: Total lines J–L. After June 30, add late fee of \$10 per individual up to a maximum of \$20 per form (does not apply to commuters).

Line N: \$100 (or, if less, your total fees) is the minimum nonrefundable amount to enclose with this form.

Balance Due: Payment due upon arrival.

2011 Annual Sessions Registration & Housing Form

Saturday, August 6 – Thursday, August 11, 2011, Bryant University, Smithfield, RI, **plus** Friday afternoon, August 5, at the Newport Great Meetinghouse

Household Information										Housing & Meals					Fees	
(Use codes on reverse side of this form & below)																
<p>Please complete both sides of this form. Please indicate by 1 next to the names below, choice of roommates for a double room. For roommates not listed below, indicate under "Special Housing Needs" choice code "g" on the backside of form.</p>																
First/Preferred Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Gender (M or F)	Child's grade, Fall 2011	Young Adult Friend (18-35)?	1 st time at NEYM?	Attend Friday Newport Event?	Accessibility Needs Code(s)	Volunteer Choice Code(s)	Day of Arrival (e.g., Fri, Sun)	Day of Departure (Wed, Thu)	Rm./Brd./Fees Choice Code	Camper (Limited # of sites)	Commuter	Special Housing Needs Code	Enter the total dollar figure for your Rm./Brd./Fees Choice
																\$ A
																+\$ B
Health Form required for child, age 0-18 DOWNLOAD at sessions.neym.org															+\$ C	
Health Form required for child, age 0-18 DOWNLOAD at sessions.neym.org															+\$ D	
Health Form required for child, age 0-18 DOWNLOAD at sessions.neym.org															+\$ E	
Health Form required for child, age 0-18 DOWNLOAD at sessions.neym.org															+\$ F	
															\$ G	
															\$ H	
															+\$ I	
															\$ J	
															+\$ K	
															-\$ L	
															+\$ M	
															-\$ N	
															\$	

Registrant's Household Information (one form per group)

Family Last Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Local Meeting(s): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

indicate family member

I will download advance documents (posted 8/1/2011) from sessions.neym.org

Payment by Credit Card: MasterCard Visa (circle one)

CC#: _____ / _____ / _____ Exp: _____

Name as it appears on card _____ Amount: \$ _____

Room, Board, & Program Fees (enter on lines A – F above) **Bring ALL bedding** — pillow, blanket, sheets, towels. Also fan, lamp, mug, cloth napkin.

Choice code	Dollar Amount
1 Adult full-time	\$450
2 Adult part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch) per night	\$110
3 Young Adult Friend Dorm full-time	\$450
4 Young Adult Friend Dorm part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$110
5 Young Friend (entering grade 10 – graduating seniors) full-time	\$450
6 Young Friend part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$110
7 Child with bed (age 3 – entering grade 9) full-time	\$240
8 Child on floor (age 3 – entering grade 9) full-time	\$140
9 Child part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch—no on floor option)	\$60

Choice code	Dollar Amount
10 Adult (Young Friend & older) camper/commuter full-time all meals	\$355
11 Adult commuter full-time (no meals)	\$120
12 Adult, camper part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$90
13 Adult commuter part-time per day (no meals)	\$20
14 Child (age 3 – entering grade 9) camper/commuter full-time (all meals)	\$225
15 Child commuter full-time (no meals)	\$60
16 Child, camper part-time (dinner, overnight, breakfast, lunch)	\$50
17 Child commuter part-time per day (no meals)	\$10
18 Toddler (birth through age 2)	no charge

A late fee of \$10 per individual up to a maximum of \$20 per form will be charged for registrations postmarked after June 30th (does not apply to commuters)

Accessibility Needs

On reverse side note all that apply

Code

- a I need a campus handicapped parking permit
- b I have trouble with stairs
- c I have trouble walking distances
- d I use a wheelchair
- e I am hearing impaired
- f Child/teen/adult in family with disability (please specify). A committee member will call to discuss ways to make Sessions work well for you.

g I have chemical sensitivity (please specify)

h I have dietary restrictions (e.g., vegetarian, please specify)

i Other needs (please specify)

Volunteer Choices at NEYM

Please choose one or more as you are able.

Sessions staff will contact you for specific assignments.

Choice code

- a Registration check-in on Fri. night, Sat., or Sun. afternoon
- b Junior Yearly Meeting (K-6th grade) Afternoon Program
- c Childcare infants & toddlers (morning & afternoon)
- d Bookstore
- e Office help
- f Information desk
- g Shuttle driver for Friends with ambulatory problems
- h Carry trays in the dining hall

Special Housing Needs

Code

- a I need housing near a bathroom
- b I need a ground floor room
- c I want to be near other families in the "family neighborhood"
- d I would like a single room (\$50/full-time or \$10/day part-time)
- e I would like a non air-conditioned room
- f I would like to live in the fragrance/chemical-free townhouse
- g Roommate or 'housed near' preference(s)

Name

With name

Register online or mail this form with check or credit card information

—\$100 (or if less, your total fees) is the **minimum**, non-refundable deposit—payable to "New England Yearly Meeting" to:

Laurel Swan, NEYM Registrar, 29 Woods Road,
Bloomfield, CT 06002 • registrar@neym.org

Do not mail after July 31st go to neym.org or contact the Registrar

Online registration and copies of all forms at neym.org

A late fee of \$10 per individual up to a maximum of \$20 per form will be charged for registrations postmarked after June 30th (does not apply to commuters)

2011 NEYM Annual Sessions Equalization Fund Request Form for Financial Aid

	A	=	B	+	C	+	D
	List total costs for each individual to attend Yearly Meeting (from reverse side of form)		I can afford to pay this amount to attend NEYM (please send with registration form)		Amount your Meeting/Quarter will contribute towards your costs (please ask)		Equalization Fund request—to a maximum 75% of your total costs. (50% maximum after June 30 th)
Monthly Meeting							
Full Name(s)							
	\$		\$		\$		\$
	\$		\$		\$		\$
	\$		\$		\$		\$
	\$		\$		\$		\$
	\$		\$		\$		\$
	\$		\$		\$		\$

The **Equalization Fund** provides scholarship assistance for members and attenders of NEYM local meetings up to 75% of all costs of attending NEYM Sessions. The Fund's goal is for no one to miss Sessions due to finances.

Please request the financial assistance necessary for you to attend Sessions. Funds are limited, however, so request the minimum amount you need. Every additional dollar that you contribute toward your own costs helps the Equalization Fund support other Friends.

1. If your Meeting or Quarterly Meeting has funds for scholarship assistance, please ask. Write that amount in column C (at right).

2. Fill in and **complete all calculations** on the Equalization request form (at right).

3. For applications postmarked after June 30th, support from the Equalization Fund may be limited to 50% of your costs, if funds are still available. **Final deadline is July 31st.** After that, contact the Registrar.

Questions? Contact James Varner, Equalization Fund Representative, 207/827-4493, or the NEYM Office.

Clerk's phone:

e-mail:

Monthly Meeting Clerk's signature (optional)

2011 New England Yearly Meeting Sessions Schedule

	Saturday, August 6	Sunday, August 7	Monday, August 8	Tuesday, August 9	Wednesday, August 10	Thursday, August 11
6:30-7:00		6:30-7:00 Early Morning Worship — sponsored by the Earthcare Ministry Committee (<i>outside Bryant Center</i>)				
7:00-8:15	7:30 Breakfast for those staying Friday night		7:00-8:15 Breakfast (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall, Unistructure</i>)			
8:30-9:00	9:30 Permanent Board (<i>See YM NEWS* for location</i>)		8:30-9:00 Bible Half Hour with Maggie Edmondson, Winthrop Center (ME) Friends Church (<i>Jamikes Auditorium</i>)			
9:00-NOON	9:30 Ministry & Counsel (<i>See YM NEWS* for location</i>) 10:00 Registration begins (<i>Hall 16 Lobby</i>)	9:00 Meeting for Worship (<i>Bello Center</i>) Worship (all ages) Young Adult Friends Junior YM leaves (9:45) Unprogrammed Worship	9:15 Meeting for Worship for the Conduct of Business (<i>Jamikes Auditorium</i>)			9:15 Meeting for Worship for Business 11:00 Concluding worship (all ages)
11:30-1:00		11:30-1:00 Lunch (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall, Unistructure</i>)				
1:00-5:30	1:00-2:45 Committee meetings (<i>See YM NEWS* for locations</i>) 2:00 Meeting for Worship (<i>Rotunda</i>) 3:00-4:15 Parent/ Sponsor & Youth Orientations (<i>See YM NEWS* for locations</i>) 4:30-5:00 Orientation for first-time attendees (<i>Bello Center</i>) 5:00 Registration closes	1:30-4:00 Community Plenary (<i>Bello Center</i>): Theme presentation by Steve Chase, Putney (VT) Friends Meeting, followed by small group sharing in 2:30-4:00 Anchor Groups (<i>Location on front of nametag</i>) 4:15 NEYM's 350th Birthday Celebration (<i>Rotunda</i>)	1:30-3:00 Anchor Groups 3:15 Committee Fair, Day 1 (<i>Rotunda</i>)	1:30-3:00 Anchor Groups 3:15 Committee Fair, Day 2 (<i>Rotunda</i>)	1:30 Permanent Board (<i>See YM NEWS* for location</i>) 2:00 Check-out ends Drop keys in box (<i>Info Desk at Rotunda or Hall 16 lobby</i>)	
5:00-6:30		5:00-6:30 Dinner (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall, Unistructure</i>)				
6:00-9:00	6:45 Opening Celebration (all ages) (<i>Bello Center</i>) 7:30 Children & youth staff leave 7:45 Welcoming & Anchor Groups	6:15 Vespers : Singing for all ages (<i>outside Rotunda</i>) 6:15 Orientation for first-time attendees (<i>See YM NEWS* for locations</i>) 7:00 Meeting for Worship for Business (<i>Bello Center</i>) 9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	6:15 Vespers : Singing for all ages (<i>outside Rotunda</i>) 7:00 "The Fire and the Hammer" (all ages) NEYM singers perform a choral work based on the life of George Fox (<i>TB4</i>) 8:30 Contra Dance (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall</i>) 9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	6:15 Vespers : Singing for all ages (<i>outside Rotunda</i>) 7:00 "The Fire and the Hammer" (all ages) NEYM singers perform a choral work based on the life of George Fox (<i>TB4</i>) 8:30 Coffee House (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall</i>) 9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	6:15 Vespers : Singing for all ages (<i>outside Rotunda</i>) 7:00 Meeting for Worship for Business 8:30 Coffee House (<i>Salmonson Dining Hall</i>) 9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	Youth Programs Childcare : Su-W: 9-11:45am, & 1:15-4:15pm; Th: 9-11:00am Junior Yearly Meeting & Junior Highers : Sa: 7:30-9pm; Su: 9:45-11:45am, & 7-9pm; M-W: 8:15-11:45am, & 7-9pm; Th: 9-11:00am Junior YM only : Su-M: 1:15-4:15pm; Tu-W: 1:15-3:15pm Young Friends : Day & evening program
9:00-11:00	9:00-10:00 Registration continues (<i>Hall 16 Lobby</i>)	9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	9:00 Interest Groups (<i>See YM NEWS* for topics and locations</i>)	
	<p>* YEARLY MEETING NEWS is published Saturday through Wednesday mornings at breakfast and on the web at sessions.neym.org, with information about events at Sessions. Deadlines for submissions: Sunday at noon; Monday and Tuesday at 1:30pm. Drop off materials at the Info Desk, located in the Rotunda in the Unistructure. Announcements, notices, and flyers not specifically related to Sessions will not be included in the YM news. Please check with the Info Desk for where to post these items.</p>					
	<p>REGISTRATION HOURS: 8/6 Saturday (Hall 16 Lobby): 10:00am - 5:00pm; 9:00pm - 10:00pm 8/7 Sunday (Hall 16, Room 308): 8:00am - 9:00am; 1:00pm - 2:00pm; 7:00pm - 8:00pm 8/8 Monday - 8/10 Wednesday (Hall 16, Room 308): 9:30am - 10:30am; 4:15pm - 5:15pm</p>					

Monthly Meeting News

Wilderness (VT) FM and Mt Toby (MA) MM each united on statements in support of Muslims. Wilderness FM: “Quakers are widely and rightly known as standing for peace. Peace is one of our principle testimonies. Islam is one of the world’s great religions, having perhaps a billion and a half adherents. Muslims worship the same God of Abraham that Christians and Jews worship. The vast majority of Muslims also believe in peace, though a militant minority do not. Muslims in America are currently subject to much hostility, discrimination, intimidation, untrue charges, and other forms of abuse. This abuse causes pain and anger both in the United States and around the world among Muslims who have done us no harm and with whom all Americans should be living in peace and harmony. We of the Wilderness Friends Meeting ... declare that we stand in solidarity with all peace-loving Muslims around the world.”

Storrs (CT) Friends Meeting (FM) invited Beth Collea, NEYM Christian Education Coordinator, to help the meeting discern direction for its First Day School. Beth sees that the traditional Sunday school model is not working well in

many meetings. She asked the meeting to “think about what we want in the end. When our kids leave, what should be in their spiritual toolbox?” The cycle of doing—being—believing is important. When we act, it starts the cycle... Acting like a Quaker, we become Quaker.”

Cambridge (MA) MM Ministry & Counsel united with a response earlier this year to the Yearly Meeting Minute of Sending Forth. An incomplete earlier version of this statement was mistakenly published in the online version of the Spring *New England Friend*. It lacked the following sentence: “To reassure all of our community, we request that at Sessions this summer we prayerfully consider a Minute of Affirmation in order to make clear that all those who are open to the unnameable, experiential mystery of Meeting for Worship—those who use Christian language and those who use other language—are fully welcome as members of New England Yearly Meeting.” The full statement may be read at newenglandfriend.neym.org/MeetingResponses.html

Vassalboro (ME) Quarterly Meeting, responding to the fall visit of Joyce Ajlouny, Director of the Ramallah

Friends Schools, has initiated fundraising for a scholarship to support one student for the entire 13 years of her or his primary and secondary education at the Schools. The QM plans to raise \$2800/year for the Sybil and Eli Jones Scholarship Fund. The Jones’, founders of the schools in 1869, were members of Vassalboro (ME) MM.

Hartford (CT) MM in a called meeting for worship for business united on a project to upgrade accessibility to their meetinghouse by installing a lift between the buildings two floors. The meeting was presented with two options, a less expensive solution at the rear of the building and a more expensive option at the front of the building. Out of a gathered period of worship, the meeting chose the more expensive option, affirming the “desire and commitment to welcome all Friends both in words and in the unwritten message [by] providing a central, safe entrance for the lift.” ❖



Hartford Friends Meeting

In Other Quaker News

QUAKER HOUSE PEACE WITNESS SEEKS DIRECTOR

Quaker House, an active peace witness near Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC, seeks a director to begin summer/fall 2012.



Qualifications: Alignment with Quakerism and its peace testimony; proven leadership, fundraising, writing, management skills; comfortable in a military-oriented environment.

More info at www.quakerhouse.org. Inquiries to: betsybrinson@yahoo.com. Closing date August 1, 2011.

GATHERING OF NORTHEAST CHRIST-CENTERED FRIENDS

“A Closer Walk with Thee,” is the third annual Northeastern Christ-Centered Friends Gathering, “for both the committed and the curious.” The event will be held at Powell House in Old Chatham, New York from Sept. 2–5.

The gathering is organized by a group of Friends with a concern to help Quakers from the northeastern U.S. have fellowship and join together in waiting worship. Their 2009 epistle reads, “Knowing that language and doctrinal notions have caused unnecessary divisions among people of faith, we have no desire to add to these, but simply to stand with Jesus Christ at an open door, where He offers His light and love.”

For more information contact Herb Lape, lapeherb@gmail.com. To register, go to www.powellhouse.org.

THE MEETING SCHOOL DISCERNs ITS FUTURE

In April, the trustees of the Meeting School gathered at its Rindge, NH, campus to take part in a visioning conference.



From that process emerged three ideas recommended to the Board of Trustees: 1) Position the Meeting School as a two-year educational program for juniors and seniors, also open to students interested in a “gap year” between high school and college; 2) Re-create the four-year educational program around the strengths of the setting and Quaker values as opposed to the “Carnegie units” of conventional high school curriculum; and 3) Develop the Meeting School as an educational center with a range of programs for people of various ages. The Board is actively researching these different options, and anticipates a decision by summer.

NEYM Annual Sessions Registration Enclosed

NEW ENGLAND YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
901 Pleasant Street
Worcester, MA 01602-1908
Address correction requested

Intervisitation News

Brian Drayton,
Clerk, Traveling Ministries & Intervisitation
Subcommittee of Ministry & Counsel
Weare (NH) Monthly Meeting

INTERVISITATION IS A NECESSARY INGREDIENT in the health of our Society. Meetings and individuals are nourished when Friends visit outside their own meeting, just out of interest and love for their spiritual community. It's encouraging to know that already many Friends are visiting each other, and Traveling Ministries & Intervisitation Subcommittee will report from time to time on the visits we have heard about, so we can all be aware of this essential part of our spiritual practice. Since the last *New England Friend*, these are some meetings

that have been visited (visitors in parentheses): Vassalboro QM and Winthrop Center meetings (Jeremiah Dickinson and Beth Collea, Wellesley); Acton (Kathleen Wooten, Lawrence); Dover (Kathleen Wooten, Lawrence; Brian Drayton, Weare); Concord, E. Sandwich, Hanover (QM), Storrs, Portland (Beth Gorton); Fresh Pond (Brian Drayton); North Shore (Will Taber, with minute); Debbie Humphries (Monadnock, with minute). Smithfield, Portsmouth (EFI), Bennington (Jonathan Vogel-Borne, Cambridge); Keene (Jonathan Vogel-Borne and Holly Baldwin, Fresh Pond).

This is certainly an incomplete list. Please send us news of meetings you've visited, contact us about suggestions for meetings to visit, or ways to visit! Most importantly, go visiting with your Friends. Contact: brian_drayton@terc.edu ☒

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