

CORVALLIS FRIENDS

THIRD MONTH 2010

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING, 3311 NW POLK AVE., CORVALLIS, OREGON 97330
(541) 752-3569 (PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE)

SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10:00 A.M.
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP, 7:00–7:45 P.M.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Clerk
Esther Schiedel

Recording Clerk
Laurie Childers

Treasurer
Wendy Robinson

Ministry & Oversight
Committee
Jay Thatcher, clerk

Adult Religious Education
Committee
Nancy Ewald, clerk

Communications
Jenny Dauer

Groundskeeping
Brigid Bonner

House & Hospitality
Mark Forbes

Major House Maintenance
Peter Ewald

Representation
Jim Flory



Corvallis Meeting:
www.quaker.org/corvallis

Willamette Quarterly Meeting:
www.willamettequarterly.org

North Pacific Yearly Meeting:
www.nypm.org

Corvallis Meeting Calendar

- 3/5 ♦ Friday, 2:20–3:30 p.m. Discussion of John Woolman's journal, Chapter 6. Everyone is welcome to attend even if you have not done the reading.
- 3/7 ♦ 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship
♦ Refreshments
♦ 11:30 Nina Joy Lawrence: "My Spiritual Journey"
♦ 12:30 p.m. Light Group: Light Group meets to share a guided meditation, followed by an opportunity to share the experience.
- 3/11 ♦ 5–7 p.m.: Stone Soup, at St. Mary's Catholic Church (You'll need to be on coordinator Susan's notification list; e-mail her at mike.aronson@comcast.net.)
- 3/14 ♦ 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship
♦ Refreshments
♦ 11:30 Meeting for Business
☀ Daylight Savings Time begins. Friends need to set their clocks forward an hour so they don't arrive late to Meeting!
- 3/19 ♦ Friday, 2:20–3:30 p.m. Discussion of John Woolman's journal, Chapter 7.
- 3/21 ♦ 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship
♦ Refreshments
♦ 11:30 Dana Visalli: "Afghanistan—War and Peace in the Heartland," a presentation on Dana's recent trip to Afghanistan. For a description of this program, please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter.
♦ 12:30 p.m. Light Group
- 3/28 ♦ 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship
♦ 11:30 Potluck lunch
- 4/2 ♦ Friday, 2:20–3:30 p.m. Discussion of John Woolman's journal, Chapter 8.

This newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of the month, or by e-mail a few days earlier. Please submit newsletter material and requests for e-mail delivery to Eileen Flory, editor: eflory@charter.net, 13711 NW Pali St., Seal Rock, OR 97376. Next deadline: noon, 3/27.

Program on March 21

The Second Hour program on March 21 will feature Dana Visalli speaking on "Afghanistan—War and Peace in the Heartland," about Dana's recent trip to Afghanistan. In Dana's words, "This program will offer a brief outline of Afghan history, and will share the information that we gathered while in that country. It will include the stories and faces of the Afghan people that we met, the condition of Afghan women and children, current perspectives on the war there, and the state of the natural environment. I also raise the question of whether modern warfare is diminishing our capacity to make the transition to a 'sustainable society,' one that lives within the carrying capacity of the ecosystems that support us."

Corvallis Meeting Digest: Testing a Streamlined E-mail Message System

Eileen Flory, keeper of the Meeting directory and therefore the one who has the most up-to-date e-mail list, has been forwarding messages from individuals who have announcements to make between newsletters—usually within a day or two of receiving the message to be forwarded.

In an effort to increase readership and decrease inbox clutter, we're testing a new way of getting e-mail notices out to Corvallis Friends. On Wednesdays, we'll have a weekly collection, or digest, of any messages that Friends submit to Eileen. The digest will contain items that can't wait for the next newsletter and will be divided into two sections: first will come items directly related to Corvallis Meeting, and then items indirectly related to CFM but of potential interest to Corvallis Friends.

Eileen can lightly edit submissions, but requests that contributors send the exact wording they want to go out—these will not simply be forwarded messages as before.

Contributions will need to be received by Tuesday at sundown to make it into the

Wednesday digest. Urgent messages directly related to Corvallis Meeting can go out separately, but Friends are encouraged to think ahead with the Tuesday deadline in mind.

As we proceed with this test, your feedback will be appreciated. Please send your thoughts to Eileen Flory at eflory@charter.net.

Sustainability Events March 2010 Calendar

Events for people who want to learn about and get involved with efforts to make Corvallis and Benton County sustainable communities

- Sunday, Mar. 7: Cooped Up in Corvallis: Annual self-guided chicken and duck coop tour
- Tuesday, Mar. 9: The Real Story on Homelessness in Benton County: Panel discussion on services for the homeless
- Friday–Sunday, Mar. 12–14: Da Vinci Film Festival
- Friday, Mar. 19: Federal Health Care Legislation vs. Improved and Expanded Medicare for All: Presentation by Margaret Flowers, MD, Physicians for a National Health Program
- Saturday, Mar. 20: The Hour Traders annual Spring Celebration & Plant/Seed Exchange
- Sunday, Mar. 21: Naturalist Adventure, Avery Park Rose Garden
- Wednesdays, starting Mar. 31: Choices for Sustainable Living: Exploring how to create a life with a lower footprint and deeper satisfaction

For further details and to learn more about the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition and its activities, visit www.sustainablecorvallis.org.



Rufous Hummingbird feeding on
an early salmonberry flower

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

There are many ideas about the origins of this song. Pete Seeger reports it to have been an old Quaker hymn from North Carolina and it has been traced by a Young Friend to Indiana perhaps arriving there with the migrations during the early 1800's. That it reflects the early struggles of Friends is plain to see, but its joyous optimism makes the celebration of life a real happening.

Instrument suggestion: Dulcimer
With a firm steady swing

- 1. My life flows on in end - less song A - bove earth's la - men - ta - tion;—
- 2. What though the tem - pest loud - ly roars, I hear the truth, it liv - eth;—
- 3. When ty - rants trem - ble when they hear The bells of free - dom ring - ing;—

I hear the real though far - off song That hails a new cre - a - tion.—
 What though the dark - ness round me close, Songs in the night it giv - eth.—
 When friends re - joice both far and near— How can I keep from sing - ing?—

Through all the tu - mult and the strife I hear that mu - sic ring - ing;—
 No storm can shake my in - most calm While to that rock I'm cling - ing, —
 In pris - on cell and dun - geon vile Our thoughts to them are wing - ing, —

It sounds an ech - o in my soul, How can I keep from sing - ing?—
 Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, How can I keep from sing - ing?—
 When friends by shame are un - de - filed, How can I keep from sing - ing?—

Minutes for Meeting for Business of Corvallis Monthly Meeting February 14, 2010

Clerk: Esther Schiedel; Recording Clerk:
Laurie Childers

Present: Wendy Robinson, Bob Burton, Jay
Thatcher, Virginia Tyler, Nancy Ewald, Roger
Weaver, Mary Jane Gray, Brigid Bonner,
Barbara Boggs, Ruth McNeill, Susan Easton,
John Selker, David Meade

**The minutes from Jan (1st month) were
approved.**

Volunteer Coordinators/Working Groups

Major Meetinghouse Maintenance

With mortgage paid off, we are in a position to
complete the renovations of the old part of our
meetinghouse.

Brainstorming session, gathering input for the
renovation on Thursday March 18: 6 p.m.
potluck, presentation at 7 p.m. We will likely
meet in one of the children's rooms. A group
has rented the main room at 7 p.m.; we will
need to be respectful.

Children's intergenerational program

The proposal is to try something for the first
half hour of silent meeting. The intent is to
welcome children as they are (rather noisy)
into the Meeting Room, so they can begin to
have a positive experience of the room and the
gathering. Children are 8, 6, 6, and 4 and have
short attention spans. We could read a story,
create a collage together, make a banner, or
sing songs. Brigid would appreciate more ideas
for how we might do this.

Responses: What happens in silent meeting is
something for kids to experience, however long
they can do this, either here or in their room.
Our kids program has been moribund, why not
let them share what they have, even if it's a bit
inconvenient for adults. We can help children
develop the skill of sitting quietly to prepare for
this special Meeting for Worship. It should be
tried once. Quaker elementary school has a
silent period of about 10 minutes, during which
they can say things important to them.

When? April 4th, Easter Sunday 10 a.m. is
proposed. Often there is a sunrise early silent
meeting anyway. Brigid will check with the
parents of the kids to make sure they will be
here that Sunday. [This day will not work for all
the families]

Treasurer's report was distributed. The
treasurer has requested a committee to help
develop a budget, specifically related to the
Meeting's donations to other organizations and
the amount we wish to save. An open meeting
was proposed. Esther will contact Wendy
about a time that will work for her. [Sunday
February 28 at 9 a.m. at the Meeting House]

Committee reports

Ministry and Oversight

No substantive report; they continue to meet.

Peace, Justice, and the Environment:

Oregonians for Alternatives to the Death
Penalty: More information had been requested,
and receiving that, the committee recommends
that we donate the one-time request of \$60.
Approved.

Community of Welcoming Congregations:
Roger called to inquire as to why two invoices
had been sent, and what the money went
toward. We can choose what kind of
membership. The committee recommends that
we stay with the one-time contribution to be put
on the list of Welcoming Congregations, which
we have already done. Advantages to
membership: placement on the list, someone
can come give a program to our adult meeting;
they work with Basic Rights Oregon; do
outreach to GLBT community. Tara Wilkins,
the Executive Director, was ordained as a
minister in the United Church of Christ.

Homelessness: HELP project: \$120 was
donated by CFM members during January.
The Family and Friends of the Homeless
ecumenical committee will meet a few more
times.

Carbon footprint project: Is anyone starting to
chart their home energy use, to see how it will
be lowered over the coming years? Some are

uncertain as to whether the commitment to cut individual energy use by 50% is something that we were still to discuss or if it had already been made.

This comes out of a NPYM minute, generated largely from this meeting. Yearly meeting asked for accountability in adopting this minute. Improvements in CFM building toward energy efficiency (insulation, double-glazed windows) have been made toward that goal. The 50% number was used to indicate a substantial change. We could calculate those numbers for people if we could meet with Internet access—people bring their energy bills and fill in the charts. Often we are comfortable with, for example, taxing energy use that will affect poor commuters in large cities more than it will ourselves.

One individual and one family have plotted their carbon footprint. It is intended that this information be anonymous and non-threatening. Several people requested a paper form that could be filled out without having Internet access themselves. The committee will try to create this form. The internet Web site we are asked to use (for consistency) is: <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>.

Pre-nominating committee:

Susan Easton is recommended to serve the next three years on the Nominating Committee. Approved. She will serve with Jim Flory and Bob Burton.

Adult Religious Education:

Feb 21: Farewell potluck for Barbara Boggs

Feb 28: Brief NPYM visitation and outreach presentation

March 7: Nina Joy's spiritual journey

March 14: Meeting for Business

Retreat Feb 20: At least 9 people are planning to come, with 4 presenters. Planners were seeking clarity on whether to proceed or postpone it as they had expected more attenders. It will be held as planned.

New Business

The Brownie Scouts that meet here have reported finding the meeting room cold and with an abundance of ants. House and Hospitality will be asked to work on the ant

problem and the Meetinghouse scheduler asked to remind renters to clean up and make sure doors and windows are closed. All F/friends are encouraged to be mindful of cleaning up and reminded that the meeting room takes a long time to regain heat when heat has been lost due to open doors and windows.

North Pacific Yearly Meeting news

Visitation and Outreach meeting in Corvallis

Sat. Feb. 27. Others are invited to attend.

There will be a brief presentation after worship on Feb 28.

An application form to be a Yearly Meeting Visitor from NPYM to Northwest Yearly Meeting (Evangelical Friends) is available from the clerk.

Call for leaders for interest groups for annual session for NPYM

Friends are asked to help test the online registration for NPYM annual session at http://www.npym.org/NPYM_Registration/.

A reminder that financial aid to attend NPYM annual session (July 14-18 in Missoula, MT) is available. Corvallis F/friends should contact Ministry and Oversight (Jay Thatcher, Clerk).

Announcements

John Woolman discussion group meets Friday, Feb. 19, 2:30.

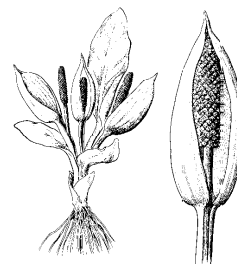
Retreat Sat. Feb. 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Light group meets Sun. 21, 12:30.

Next Meeting for Business will be 3/14/2010.

Laurie needs an acting recording clerk for March and April.

Closing worship



Skunk cabbage

Color my leaves dark green and my spathes (the parts that look like flowers) bright yellow

Advices and Queries on Witness

We are glad to tell in words as well as deeds the faith that is in us. We seek fellowship with others of our own faith and with all people, realizing the oneness of humanity under God. Our witness is characterized by humility and a willingness to learn from others so that differences can be transcended. In discussion, we must not allow the strength of our convictions to betray us into making misleading or contentious statements. The experiences of others, especially those in circumstances different from our own, help us to discover what is true for us and may help us sense real kinship.

We are constantly reminded that Truth is greater than the knowledge any of us has of it. God did not put all the fruit on one branch.

- How do our lives testify to our convictions as Friends? What are we doing to share our faith? How do we practice listening to the Truth which may be revealed by others?
- What ways do we find to cooperate with persons and groups with whom we share beliefs and concerns? Do we reach out with love and respect to those with whom we disagree?
- What are we doing to make the larger community aware of our Friends Meeting?

North Pacific Yearly Meeting, *Faith and Practice*, p. 46

Corvallis Friends Meeting
3311 NW Polk Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Inside:

Lots of great sustainability events
A song