



PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 7:30p Movie Night - The Power of Community - How Cuba Survived Peak Oil	4 9am King Ferry Food Pantry
5 10am Meeting for Worship - Tony Gaenslen	6 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's 7:30pm San Pedro committee @ Buffam's	7 7:30pm Peace & Social Action @ Devin's	8	9 7pm Mid- week Worship @ Sammond's	10 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	11
12 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth Bradley 11am Coffee Hour	13 Columbus Day	14 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	15	16	17	18 Merrifield Concert - Jesse Terry 9am Genoa Food Pantry
19 10am Meeting for Worship - Ruth Bradley 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	20	21 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	22 Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:30pm Outreach Meeting	23 7pm Mid- week Worship @ Berggren- Thomas'	24 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	25 4:30pm Family Night - UNICEF Halloween Carnival
26 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed) 11:30am Session on Membership	27	28 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	29	30	31 Halloween	

Birthdays: 3rd Jennifer Parker ;4th Kathy Tyler; 5th Lydia Benton Simkin, 9th Soren Mortensen, 10th Chris Babcock; 13th Riley Dickinson Maassen , Laura Bradley Sullivan and Perry Gorgen; 14th Claire Howard; 17th Karen Simkin; 18th Helen Hebben; 22nd Gabe Myers Hayes; 23rd Jane Simkin; 26th Stephanie Nelson; 27th Melinda Grube

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact pr.prism@gmail.com

POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR THE SEPT. 21, 2014

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of silent worship about 11:40 a.m. and read the minutes from the August meeting. Attending: Larry Buffam, David Connelly, Jeff Layton, Howard Nelson, Stephanie Nelson, Suzanne O'Hara, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Hannah Richter, Andrew Simkin, Jane Simkin, Paul Simkin, Bill Tyler, and Charlie Weld.

For Ministry and Council, Sally Otis read a letter from Jim Kerrigan about our search for a pastor after Ruth retires. Ministry and Council felt the wording and thoughts of the letter should be shared. It was felt we should encourage others with afterthoughts from the Meeting for Discernment or about our transition to send Ministry and Council their thoughts.

Ministry and Council has broken pastoral services into various duties and is considering each, Sally reported. First they are considering how to lead First-Day meeting worship, beginning in January. As an interim arrangement, Ministry and Council suggests that A.T. Miller and Rebecca Schillenback each lead us once each month; someone else will lead us once a month. This arrangement would continue for six months, giving us time for reflection. As before, one meeting will be unprogrammed, and fifth Sundays will continue as family worship. Monthly Meeting approved of the interim arrangement.

Ministry and Council next begins planning for the Meeting's pastoral care and continues to welcome input.

Monthly Meeting approved an honorarium of \$150 should be offered to anyone who leads our service.

Hannah Richter reported for the Social Committee: it plans a celebration honoring Ruth, a contra dance, Saturday Jan. 31, 2015, a special Family Night Supper.

Dill Otis read a draft letter to New York Yearly Meeting requesting financial aid for our new roof. It is completed but its \$31,000 cost now has

\$7,300 remaining to be funded. The letter was modified slightly and approved.

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Jeff Layton said that Monthly Meeting is about 75 percent into its fiscal year and short more than \$25,000. Giving to date is about 41 percent of contributions needed for the Operating Fund.

The Finance Committee will evaluate a request from New York Yearly Meeting to increase our contribution 3.75 percent for the next fiscal year, a \$225 increase.

Sally Otis relayed the Wider Parish's report from Health Tapestry, by Deb Herst-Hill, a parish nurse who assists individuals with health and other family needs within our wider parish community. Deb wrote that the community's most pressing needs are transportation, emotional support and financial problems for impoverished people. She is serving more than 50 households.

For the Wider Parish annual Lenten Series for 2015 the program will involved talks on Judaism, Islam as well as Christianity, and seeks appropriate speakers.

We closed with silence at 1:20 p.m.

Submitted by David Connelly, Recording Clerk.

FAMILY NIGHT – UNICEF HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

The October family Night will be the annual UNICEF Halloween Carnival on Saturday October 25, 2014 4:30-7 PM at the Meeting House. Come for fun games, storytelling, a fortune teller, lots of yummy food and prizes for the young and old.

Come in costume.

Have a good scare in the spook house.

All are welcome so please let friends, family and children you know of the date and time.

All Proceeds go to benefit UNICEF!

Contact anyone from Youth Committee with questions or offers of help or food!!

Rebecca Damiani (rd359@cornell.edu)

Sally Otis (sotis3067@gmail.com)

Charlie Weld (ccameronweld@gmail.com)

Scott Lockhart (rslockhart@juno.com)

EL SALVADOR 2014 DELEGATION REFLECTIONS

Cathy Mullarney

This was my fourth trip to El Salvador, and true to form as time passes, certain things rise to the top. While my Spanish slowly improves, my emotional connection to people in San Pedro far surpasses my ability to communicate, and that is a frustration. Even so, I made the attempt to have more one-on-one conversations with women I am coming to know, even without the help of our interpreter Amelia. They usually ended with warm laughter and shrugged shoulders.

Our trip took a new turn with our overnight in Perquín at the Perquín Lenca Hotel and our supper visit with its owner Ron Brenneman. We have all now read his book *Perquín Musings* and we also toured the school he has founded, Amun Shea. Ron began his life in El Salvador in 1983 as a Mennonite volunteer in the Salvadoran refugee camps in Honduras during El Salvador's brutal civil war. He stayed, making it his life's work to employ as many people as possible in the Perquín area, in the mountainous Morazán department of El Salvador. The Amun Shea school was impressive for its attempt to educate students more creatively and rigorously than the public schools are able to do. Having seen both schools in action, if briefly, I can see why Ron and the people he has found to run the school are so proud and hopeful about the promise education holds for growth in this country.



Nellie and Henry, sister and brother

Finally, it was exciting to hear about the incredible Campesino School organized by Fundahmer volunteer Laurel Marshall and two others. Nine young people from some of the poorest communities in Morazán studied sustainable organic agricultural techniques, as well as music, history, and current events. They learned from experiments and projects like making organic fertilizer, bee keeping, using artisanal recipes for insecticide, and so on. They will be monitored as they follow through with the plans they made for use in their home communities. We saw Daniel of San Pedro overcome his shyness with an excitement he couldn't hide as he presented what he had learned to San Pedro community. It will be interesting to see what becomes of this excitement as these young people put what they learned into action in their home communities.



So many babies this year! Gabriel, Dee, Dolores

I hope many more of you here in our community can take a trip to these welcoming communities of Fundahmer and San Pedro in the beautiful country of El Salvador. It is SO worth the adventure.

Larry Buffam

This year's trip to San Pedro was another moving, interesting and exciting journey. We had new experiences such as the morning with many community members at a new local water park! We visited with many people and heard (and observed) some things about the current condition of their lives.

A couple of experiences stand out. We had an exciting time with the ten scholarship students.

We meet with the students every year but it has mostly seemed pretty formal. This year was quite different. Four of the students seemed very communicative, comfortable, willing and able to interact with us about their current situations and future plans. More of the students seem quite comfortable with the idea of going further in school than has been the norm in San Pedro. Several have dreams of going on to university..... one, Fredy, is already in his third year at the national university on his way to a degree in agronomy ; another, Mario, is finishing a nursing degree this fall and has his mind set on going on to a medical degree in pediatrics; a third, Neri, is in high school, with a clear goal that she wants to go to university to study law; a fourth, Jose Fredy, in a high school student with a goal of a computer degree from university. All together a very impressive group.



Scholarship students (minus Mario and Fredis)

I wonder if something has changed? Or is it just the specific kids? I think that Fredy must be a good role model for the younger students. He is very positive about his education, comes home regularly and attends sessions with them. Also, our partners at Fundahmer have hired a graduate student in social work from the national university, Angela, to supervise the students and conduct monthly workshops. Angela seems active and enthusiastic, very dynamic. Finally, on the fringes of the crowd when we meet with the students each year there are more parents with the proudest looks on their faces! Their support is essential as they are giving up substantial help at home while the students are in school as well as putting up a financial investment.

The second impression I return with is a sense of an impending crisis in food supply for the

community from this summer's drought. People in San Pedro are still subsistence farmers for the most part. The first harvest, in August, was very minimal. They have replanted but it remains to be seen what the second crop in November will be. We will be hearing more in the coming months.

DID YOU EVER WONDER?

Did you ever wonder what it means to be a Quaker?

By becoming members of the Religious Society of Friends, we commit ourselves to a distinctive way of life. This distinctiveness is reflected in what Friends refer to as Quaker practice. A guiding premise of Quakerism is that our actions are as important as our basic beliefs, and ought to reflect those beliefs.

The personal disciplines that we adopt on becoming committed Friends may be difficult to maintain. But the Light and the Spirit help guide us in their pursuit and help us to grow spiritually.

Although we may differ in our theological understanding and manner of worship, it is the use of Quaker practice that distinguishes us as Friends. This is one of the great contributions that Friends have made and continue to make to the world at large.

CONCERTS AT MERRIFIELD

The October Merrifield Concert is on the 18th featuring Jesse Terry, who is a folk/Americana singer-songwriter. His style is in the tradition of Jackson Browne, Paul Simon, or James Taylor and he has that sweet voiced storytelling manner to his shows and his songs. You can take a listen at www.jesseterrymusic.com to find out more and then bring friends and family to 2345 Center Road at 7pm on the 18th. We collect \$15 at the door to support the artists, and take a long intermission for socializing and getting to know the artist a bit better one on one. For more information or directions contact A.T. or Craig (atmiller@cornell.edu, 315-364-8532).

MARYANN AND NILS NOBBEN CELEBRATE 20 YEARS

Dear loved ones,

A good marriage is a bond, not just between two people who love one another, but also the bond that weaves a web of all the family and friends who support it with their love. For all that and more, we thank you all, each and every one of you!



20 years ago ... we said yes to the challenge love gave us to conquer the differences in age, language, culture, countries and backgrounds. So far, so good - no regrets and looking forward to as many more years as love and life will grant us!



Thinking of you all as we celebrate, with love,
MaryAnn and Nils

MOVIE NIGHT

The Peace and Social Action Committee will be showing the movie [The Power of Community](#) -

[How Cuba Survived Peak Oil](#) at the Meetinghouse on October 3rd at 7:30pm. A discussion of the movie will follow. All are welcome. *"It's difficult to imagine life after oil, but from the example of one society that has drastically reduced its oil consumption, we can be hopeful that the future is not necessarily a bleak one. ... The Power of Community is about people facing hard times, trialling new approaches, and discovering through their actions, a more engaged relationship with their local community."*

POWELL HOUSE WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

Here are the workshops for December through Spring 2015. Flyers with more information will be posted on the bulletin board at the Meeting House.

- **Holding the Meeting, Grounding the Ministry** with Anne Pomeroy and Kathy Slattery October 31-November 2, 2014
- **AA/Alanon/ACoA** with Susan B. and Derek P. December 5-7, 2014
- **PoHo's Annual New Year Celebration** hosted by PoHo staff December 30, 2014-January 1, 2015
- **Dwelling Deep, a Contemplative Retreat** with Linda Chidsey and Carolyn Moon January 16-19, 2015
- **Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence** With Arthur M. Larrabee February 13-15, 2015
- **Annual Winter Wonderland** unprogrammed weekend. February 20-22, 2015
- **Doing Pastoral Care, It's not Just for Pastors** with Ruth Ann Bradley, Rachel V. Ruth and Ann Davidson March 13-15, 2015
- **Creativity & Spirituality** a weekend of creativity and worship, Quilting, weaving, sculpture, watercoloring, knitting, crochet, upholstery, music making and baking. February 27-March 1, 2015
- **Work/Messiah Sing & Celebration** to prepare for Spring! April 4-6, 2015 Sing and Play Handel's *Messiah*, work on Powell House

CURIOUS ABOUT QUAKER MEMBERSHIP?

There will be an informal session on Membership on October 26, 2014 after the rise of service in the library at the Meeting House.

The program shall last about one hour
Childcare is available. Juice and snacks will be provided.

Information presented shall include:

- Quaker literature
- The Quaker Organization
- Three speakers shall tell their story as to why they chose to join the Poplar Ridge Meeting
- The process of becoming a member
- There shall be time for questions and answers.

All interested people are welcome

CAYUGA COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

This fall Cayuga County's Household Hazardous Waste Day provides all City of Auburn and Cayuga County residents the opportunity to dispose of household hazardous waste in a safe manner. Proper disposal protects human health, our community and the environment.

Date, Time and Registration:

Saturday, October 25, 2014.

This event is **FREE!** But everyone **Must Register** with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County. Please call 315-255-1183 or <http://blogs.cornell.edu/cccecayuga/household-hazardous-waste> to register or for information.

WAR TAX WITNESS WORKSHOP

A workshop for both for people to explore war tax witness/resistance and to share participants' experiences with tax witness will be held on Friday, October 24, 2014, 7-9:30pm Saturday, October 25, 2014, 10am-6pm (with dinner and socializing Saturday evening) at Gandhi House, 929 South Plymouth Avenue, Rochester, NY. The workshop will include large group, small group and paired exercises and, after introductions, will cover:

- Sharing your particular interest in the gathering.
- Sharing information, including history of war tax resistance.

- Reviewing different ways to resist paying for war.
- Sharing stories by long-timers and newcomers.
- Addressing the fears of withholding war taxes.
- Sharing letters to the IRS and statements of conscience.

We strongly encouraged people to attend the full gathering. We suggest free-will offering of \$20-\$50 to attend (lunch will be provided Saturday). No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Please come and explore this approach to noncooperation with war making. This workshop is sponsored by the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence and the Farmington-Scipio Conscience And War Committee, a western/central New York Regional Quaker committee. Benn and Ed Hedemann from the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC) will facilitate. Ruth Benn coordinated NWTRCC for the past eight years. She spends much of her time in communication with war tax resisters across the country and the world and at regional meetings of people exploring these crucial issues. Ed Hedemann is a long-time war tax resister who knows all or most of the "ins and outs" of this witness against war.

Please register by October 15, or preferably as soon as possible, so we know the needs for meals, childcare and hospitality, and the number copies to make of resource materials.

To register and to request overnight housing in Rochester, child care during sessions, directions to the Gandhi House or further information, please contact Tom Joyce at 607-277-7426 or tomjoyce51@aim.com.



El Salvador Solidarity Tour

Come join the San Pedro Sister Community for a conversation

with

Jose Gomez

discussing his work in...

- Organizing impoverished Salvadorans for growth and sustainability
- Maintaining community strength in the face of poverty, gangs, drought and earthquakes
- Working with international partners



Jose Gomez is dir. of programs at FUNDAHMER, a Salvadoran NGO that serves the Christian Base Communities. He has a lifetime of experience in popular organizing in rural and urban El Salvador. He lives in Soyapango, a city deeply affected by poverty and gang violence, with his family.

A Conversation with Jose

Sunday, October 26 ~ 3:00 p.m.

Wells College Chapel, Main Bldg.

FREE EVENT - Refreshments / desserts served

Donations accepted to Fundahmer. Funds to support expenses of this tour. Refreshments and desserts provided by Chef Rupert Robbins.

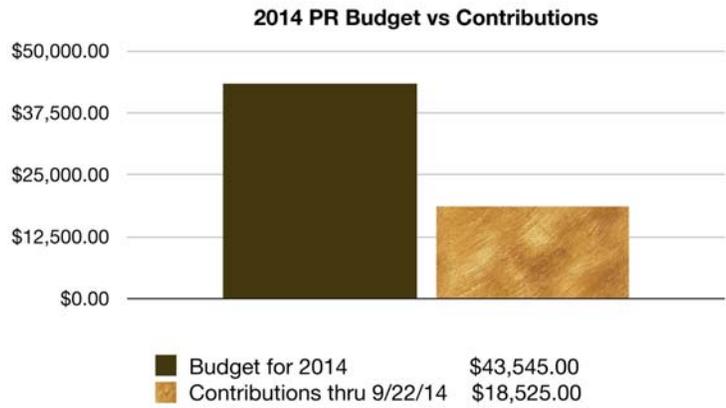


Laurel Marshall will accompany Jose on this tour, sharing her experiences as a volunteer with Fundahmer since 2011, and as organizer of the Campesino School, training young people in sustainable agriculture and leadership.



For more information visit: www.fundahmer.org or www.faithinactiones.wordpress.com

Budget for 2014	\$43,545.00	
Contributions YTD	\$18,525.00	42.54%
Budget Deficit for 2014	\$25,020.00	



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Anne Dalton	Pastor - Ruth Bradley
Assistant Clerk – Larry Buffam	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Jeff Layton	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Sally Otis
Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney	

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday is a youth centered service. Nursery is available during meeting. The meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY 13139.

See <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/> for more information, updated calendar or copies of previous newsletters. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Mary Lou Charles at 364-7391 or Scott Heinekamp at 246-7151. You can request PRISM electronically and save the Meeting the expense of postage by emailing pr.prism@gmail.com.

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at pr.prism@gmail.com or
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 of the Religious Society of Friends
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