



Newsletter of the
Ithaca Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

February 2012

IMM CONTACTS

Meetinghouse:

120 Third Street • Ithaca NY 14850
607-229-9500

Clerk:

Steve Mohlke
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607-216-8411
clerk@ithacamonthlymeeting.org

Treasurer:

Mike Simkin
3137 Jacksonville Rd • T-burg, NY 14886
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Childcare Requests:

Kathy Beissner • beissner@ithaca.edu

Burt House:

Mary Balfour, Friend in Residence
227 N. Willard Way, Ithaca, NY 14850
607-273-5421

Listserv:

To join our email list for solely for meeting-related announcements, send an email message addressed to:

IMMRSF-L-request@cornell.edu

with body of the message as simply:

join

Scheduling:

To set up or schedule a program or presentation for the meeting and/or to reserve a room at the meetinghouse, please see the instructions on the web-site.

Website: ithacamonthlymeeting.org

The Property We Keep

"Sometimes what I think about the Burt House is that God is throwing thousands of gallons of water over a cliff for our edification and mostly we don't notice."

At our November Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, several friends spoke passionately about the care required to maintain three separate properties—Hector Meetinghouse, the Burt House on Willard Way, and the new Third Street Meeting Meetinghouse. They asked, What is the role each of our buildings plays in the life of Ithaca Monthly Meeting?

Worldly decision-makers might ask about assets, budgets, and upkeep. But we are a spiritual community. Those at November's Business Meeting were clear that these questions are not the right ones.

After conversations with some of those who spoke at the Meeting, Ministry and Worship proposes to hold three meetings, one at each of our properties. Each meeting will open with a period of silent worship.

The Paul Schreurs Dinner Hosted at the Meetinghouse

In 1981, Eugene Lang, who had grown up in Harlem and later became a self-made millionaire, returned to his elementary school to deliver the commencement address to the sixth-grade class. During his speech, he decided to offer every child in the class the chance to go to college by paying their tuition. Over the next six years he took person interest in their lives, encouraging their aspirations and arranging tutoring and guidance for them. The school district had a 50% dropout rate. That year 98% of the class went to college.

Many people at the Ithaca Youth Bureau were inspired by this story. A volunteer in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program—Paul

The queries we will consider as we share worship at each of the three buildings are:

- What has this building meant in the history of our Meeting? What does it mean to those who are here today? What presence do we sense as we sit in worship here?
- Where has our meeting come from? What were its earlier days like? What is our legacy?
- Where are we headed? What is our ministry? What is the work we are meant to be doing?
- What part does this building play in our Meeting? How does it contribute to who we are? How does it contribute to our ministry?

Comments about the queries and about possible times for meetings may be directed to Tonia Saxon.

Schreurs—was so moved that he committed himself to paying his youth friend's college tuition. Unfortunately, Paul died in a tragic accident. Wanting to keep his dream alive, Paul's family contacted the Youth Bureau and arranged to set up a fund to provide educational opportunities for youth who, without assistance might be unable to pursue their education beyond high school.

The Paul Schreurs Memorial Program (PSMP) began at the Youth Bureau in 1987 with 12 sixth-graders who were considered at-risk of dropping out of school. All 12 graduated high school or got their GED diploma. Half went on to college and all who asked for financial assistance got it.

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This legacy of success has continued over the past 25 years under the diligent guidance of Eloise Barrett, Program Coordinator. The program has served over 200 youth and to many, the program has made all the difference in their lives. The key to success is that the program staff (Eloise along with Jhakeem Haltom and Amanda Melendez) and program volunteers work with youth over many years to develop deep relationships with the teens and their families. Over the past three year, 100% of the high school seniors graduated and most have gone on to college.

Ramish McBride moved to Ithaca after having lived in multiple foster homes on Long Island. Life has not been easy, but “a big turning point for me was when I met Jhakeem Haltom with the Paul Schreurs Memorial Program. He’s like an open, helping hand to me. Anytime I need help, I can call him.” Ramish graduated from Ithaca High School in 2010 and is now working at Greenstar Coop, a job he is proud of. Greenstar as well as Paul Schreurs Memorial program are working with Ramish to build the financial require-

Fellowship in the Kitchen

Do you enjoy fellowship in the kitchen? Would you like to spend 2 hours supporting the students currently enrolled in the Paul Schreurs Memorial Program? (See the article on page 1.)

On February 16, Friends will prepare and serve dinner at the meeting-house to students enrolled in the Paul Schreurs Memorial Program. These family dinners are held after school report cards come out so that students who performed well may receive recognition. Cookies are also needed. If you would like to help contact Nancy Gabriel ntg2@cornell.edu or Carolyn Kenyon clkenyon09@gmail.com

ments for him to return to TC3 in the fall of 2012. Ramish remains focused on college and making a success of his life.

Amanda Melendez started out as a student in the program. After graduating from SUNY Delhi in 2007 and working for five summers for the program, Amanda was hired as a full-time Program Assistant with

the Program. “I know the kids pretty well and I just wanted to give back to them as much as they gave to me”, said Amanda. She was promoted to a Youth Program Leader last year and continues to make a difference in the lives of the teens.

The Paul Schreurs students, their families and program staff are very grateful for the welcome they received from Friends at the Third Street Meetinghouse. “We were so deeply touched that our youth, who can be quite loud in their social element, were immediately brought to a quiet and meditative space upon entering the Friends Meetinghouse. It was as if they felt the good nature of this space. Further, we were given a presentation on the purpose of the Friends, which was so directly related to our own program goals that we all sat on the edges of our seat listening intently. We so look forward to building with the Friends in the future”, said Jhakeem Haltom after the first PSMP dinner at the Third Street Meeting House.

For more information about how to volunteer with the program, contact any of the PSMP staff at the Ithaca Youth Bureau, 273-8364.

Just the FAQs

Beginning in February, the Program Committee will offer Frequently Asked Question (or “FAQ”) sessions immediately following Meeting for Worship on the first Sunday of each month. If this is your first (or second or third) meeting, or even if you’ve been attending for awhile now but are just beginning to explore what it means to be a Quaker, you are welcome to attend! A FAQ handout will be provided, which addresses the most common questions about Friends, and each session will be hosted by a member or longtime attendee of our Meeting who can offer their own perspective to interested new comers. If you find yourself drawn to Friends, but aren’t quite sure what we’re about, please join us at a FAQ session and start the conversation!

Burt House seeks a Resident

The Burt House Committee seeks a resident for the Burt House Friends Center. Residents at the House have private rooms and share in use of the kitchen and eating areas as well as in upkeep of shared spaces. We seek residents who desire cooperative living in a Quaker setting. Residents sign a rental agreement pertaining to the above. No lease is required. For further information, contact Mary Balfour, Burt House Friend-in-Residence, at 273-5421; cell phone 342-6657; e-mail mbalfour123@gmail.com. There is an application process; the initial application can be sent and returned by email.

One Earth Choir

Tuesday, February 21st (not Sunday the 12th, as previously announced) is the day of the “One Earth Choir.” The aim is to have people all over the earth singing together at the same time! Our time here in Ithaca is 6am. I plan to be at the Meetinghouse to sing at 6 in the morning, and I’m thinking of going out for breakfast afterward. If anyone wants to join me, that would be great.

You can find out more at <http://www.inin2012.net/>

— Susan Wolf

Gratitude

Thank you to everyone who stepped forward & assisted me and my family during my father’s (John Kimball’s) recent illness and passing. I felt an incredible sense of love and support in an indescribable way. Thank you for being there for me and my family.

— Erica Weiss

Hosting Meeting for Discernment: March 3

We will be hosting the New York Yearly Meeting for Discernment on Saturday, March 3. We will be providing a small supper on Friday and Saturday evenings, bagels and coffee on Saturday morning, and lunch for the full group on Saturday.

If you would be willing to provide hospitality for out of town Friends, or to set up or clean up for one of the meals, please contact Bronwyn Mohlke (277-4183 / bjm9@cornell.edu) or Nancy Gabriel (277-8930 / ntg2@cornell.edu) There will likely be more than fifty Friends gathering for this event.

Meetings for Discernment are a time when Friends from all parts of the Yearly Meeting come together for extended worship to discern the presence and movement of God, Spirit, Light—in our hearts, in the lives of our meetings, and in the life of the Yearly Meeting as a whole. To encourage a broad presence from throughout the Yearly Meeting, local meetings and worship groups name appointees from their meetings to attend, but Meetings for Discernment are open to all. Worship is held during morning and afternoon periods, with a break for lunch.

Meetings for Discernment offer Friends a time for deep reflection and spiritual connection and serve as a means for the Yearly Meeting to discern what is rising up among us that may not be apparent though our usual process of committees and attending to business.

Spring Gathering: April 20-22

Friends on Fire: Spring Gathering of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting

Our regional Meeting, called Farmington-Scipio, gets together three times a year, winter, spring, and fall. The Winter and Fall Gatherings are just one day events, but Spring Gathering is a full weekend. It is wonderful time to get together with Friends from around the region (Syracuse down to Elmira, and west). This year's theme is "Friends on Fire", and will focus on Friends in our region. It will take place April 20-22 at Long Point Camp, just over an hour from Ithaca.

The Monthly Meetings in the region share the responsibilities of Spring Gathering on a rotating basis. This year is Ithaca Monthly Meeting's turn to plan and provide programming for youth from infants through high school. It will involve many Ithaca Friends to do this!

Please listen for announcements on the initial planning meeting for Spring Gathering to take place in February. You are also welcome and encouraged to get in touch with Bronwyn Mohlke (277-4183 / bjm9@cornell.edu) to express interest in taking part.

Winter Contra Dance, Perry City Meeting: Feb 11

The Winter Contra Dance at a neighboring meeting in Perry City (just a few miles past our Hector Meetinghouse) will be held on Saturday, February 11. The event begins at 6:30 with family games and dances. Contra dancing starts at 7:15. Music will be provided by Miller's Wheel. Suggested donations: \$5 per person, \$9 per couple, \$12 family with children 14 and under.

There will be beverages and treats for sale, with an All Chocolate Bake Sale. Take home something sweet for your Valentine!

For more information, contact quakers@perrycityfriends.org.

YFIR Youth Retreat: March 9-11

Doubt, Belief, Spirituality and Religion

Middle and high school-aged Friends are invited to join Kody and Margaret for a weekend of art projects, games, awesome food, time to catch up with your YFIR friends and thought-provoking discussions. Bring your questions, toothbrush, confusion, artistic talent, sense of humor, sleeping bag, change of clothes, faith, ipod and spirituality/religious practices for a totally epic weekend! We are going to play games, sing songs, consider (and create) religious artwork, nosh on delicious food (provided by Anna Obermayer!), enjoy group discussions, create an interfaith worship experience, and watch an awesome and fun movie on Saturday night! We promise that this weekend will be the perfect blend of serious and silly.

Kody Hersh lives in Philadelphia with two kids, their parents, a dog, a hermit crab, a rotating cast of visitors, and a lot of books. He volunteers regularly with Philadelphia-area Quaker youth programs, has attended two previous YFIR retreats, and co-clerks the young adult Quaker group in his home yearly meeting, Southeastern. At various times in his life, Kody has identified himself as agnostic, pagan, Christian, Quaker, universalist, or some combination of the above. He is generally more interested in the process, the questions, the edges and tensions of belief than in fixed answers, labels, or endpoints.

Margaret Webb holds her membership in a Quaker meeting in NY but is currently working as an intern pastor at a church in Trenton, NJ. She is in her second year of a three year masters program at Princeton Theological Seminary. While attending Earlham College she facilitated interfaith dialogue groups on campus and was part of the leadership team for the weekly college meeting for worship (an ecumenical service). Margaret loves feminist theology, bubble tea, medieval female mystics, and Doctor Who. She lives with her husband in Princeton, NJ and they are expecting their first child in June 2012. Margaret plans on being a Quaker pastor once she is finished with school, but if that doesn't work out she is thinking of being a punk rocker or a professional jellybean taste-tester.

All YFIR youth retreats run from Friday at 6pm to Sunday at 1:00. The retreats are held at Perry City Meeting House 6324 Route 227 (Mecklenberg Road) Trumansburg. Retreats are free but donations help us keep the program running! Please contact Amy Willauer-Obermayer at aoberm2073@gmail.com for more information!

Save the Dates: Friday, March 16 (evening) and Saturday, March 17 The Heart of Worship: A Retreat for Ithaca Monthly Meeting with Christopher Sammond

Enlightenment is an accident. Practice makes us accident prone.
— Zen proverb

Spirit-filled worship is something we can't plan for or make happen; it is a gift. But just as in the quote above, there are things we can do which will make us more likely to find this gift, and more able to open to it when it begins to arrive. This retreat will focus on practices which can make us more "accident prone" to receive the blessed gift of powerful, nurturing worship. We will look at how we prepare for worship, how we center down, how to open more to each other and to God during worship, and how to practice discerning between vocal ministry and an impetus to speak that comes from within ourselves alone.

Worship is at the heart of all we do as Friends. If our worship is grounded and nourishing, our meetings flourish. If it is shallow or tangled, our meeting life will suffer. And we mostly leave each other to find our own way in this crucial part of our lives. Come join others in learning ways to enrich our common worship, the lifeblood of our communal faith and practice. The day will be experiential and immediate, and will seek to draw Friends into deeper experiences and understandings of our rich practice as Friends.

As preparation for this retreat, Friends are invited and encouraged to engage with the following queries over the next weeks.

Whether or not you feel led to work with these queries, please do come. All are very welcome.

1. What do you do to nurture your spirit? How regular are you in this practice?
2. If you are attending the retreat, please practice a spiritually nurturing activity for 20 minutes or more each day. If you do not find the time to do so, without judging yourself, notice what was a greater priority. How does the week's spiritual practice correlate with your experience of worship each Sunday?
3. How do you prepare for worship on Sunday morning?

Who is Christopher Sammond?

Christopher Sammond is a graduate of United Theological Seminary and currently serves New York Yearly Meeting as its General Secretary. He has led workshops and brought messages in a wide variety of Friends' contexts.

Christopher is trained in spiritual direction, and in supporting the spiritual formation of whole congregations. Christopher carries a concern for faithfulness, and has traveled extensively in the ministry. In his work as general secretary, Christopher understands the core of his work to be helping others to release their gifts in ministry. He is a member of Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting.

Advices & Queries from NYM Faith & Practice

Advice 1. From the beginnings of our Society, we have considered it necessary to assemble frequently for the purpose of public worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance, thereby manifesting our belief in and dependence upon our creator. Meeting for worship is fundamental for us, and we should be diligent and punctual in our attendance. We seek, through communion with God, the strengthening influence of the Holy Spirit to enable us to discharge with fidelity the services we owe to God, to each other, and to all people.

Query 2. Do we make opportunity in our daily lives for communion with God and the opening of our hearts to an awareness of the Christ Within? Are we thankful for each day as an opportunity for a new adventure of life with God?

Query 3. Are we careful that our ministry is under the leading of the Holy Spirit? Are we concerned to take time for the study of Scripture and other writings of spiritual value? Are we concerned for the spiritual growth of one another?

February in Ithaca Monthly Meeting History

Compiled by Meeting Historian, Tom Brown.

20 Years Ago (Feb. 10, 1992)

IMM approved sending a letter to Friends United Meeting (FUM) explaining that our distress of their policy of not employing gays and lesbians kept us from participating in the FUM Chain of Prayer. [FUM had asked all monthly meetings to pray for the corporate concerns of FUM.]

30 Years Ago (Feb. 12 1962)

Excerpts from IMM's State of the Society Report:

Meeting, held at 10:00AM in the library of Anabel Taylor Hall, has average attendance of 50 to 60. College students account for a substantial part of the Meeting, sometimes as high as 40 to 50 percent. ...We have been trying a new worship plan on the first Sunday of the month in which the children have their own worship service, to which adults attend for the first 15-20 minutes; then the adults leave and open their own Meeting. This gives added emphasis to the role of the children and also assures the adults of one uninterrupted Meeting each month. ...First Day School may be one of Meeting's chief challenges, with a very large group of young children and an inadequate number of older children to justify adequate classes. ...The social and religious causes to which IMM has dedicated itself range from Africa and Asia to local housing and segregation. Individual Friends are extremely active in peace, civil liberties, Negro, and International affairs on both a local and national scale. A considerable number of members continue to serve on the national boards of AFSC, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and related organizations. Some Friends give largely of their time in speaking on national issues, writing books and articles, etc. One member has taken a leave from his job to set up a Peace Center where literature is available and help can be given in programming.

60 Years Ago (Feb. 12, 1952)

Meeting decided that it should take advantage of the availability of local radio time [WHCU] on "Church of the Air" to make the views of Friends more widely known. A committee of Ned Burtt, Grace Mekeel, Ruth Freeman, and Sam Lindley was appointed to follow up on this opportunity.

65 Years (Feb. 10, 1947)

Two letters were received and read, detailing how funds had been used that IMM had sent for the support of a French child through Save the Children Federation. Meeting decided to continue support for the child for the coming year. During the previous year IMM had also supported a French school.

What Are You Reading?

I just finished Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan's "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors", a science book for the lay person written in a very engaging style that communicates the wonder of it all. It starts with the beginning of the universe and ends with the evolution of our species, and explains how our society's ideas and attitudes about creation have changed over time. It is interspersed with some amazing examples and wonderful quotes. The book concludes on a cautionary but hopeful note for the continuation of our civilization.

An illustrative excerpt:

"Evolution suggests that if God exists, God is fond of secondary causes and factotum processes: getting the universe going, establishing the laws of Nature, and then retiring from the scene. A hands-on Executive seems to be absent; power has been delegated. Evolution suggests we're on our own- that if there is a God, that God must be very far away. This is enough to explain much of the emotional anguish and alienation that evolution has worked. We long to believe that there's someone at the helm." (p.67)

I borrowed it from our local library.

— *Claudia Stoscheck*

Have you read a book lately that fostered your spiritual growth and that you would like to share with us? The IMM newsletter would welcome a description and short excerpt from the book and information about where it can be obtained. Please send submissions to Lynn at thetruames@gmail.com.

Meetinghouse Sign Plans

The Third Street Meetinghouse Committee has been actively designing two signs for our meetinghouse: a small hanging sign (shown below) on Third Street directing people to the main entrance and a larger sign by the main entrance that will look much like the current banner but will be made of a more permanent material. We are also contemplating an enclosed bulletin board by the main entrance showing events and contact information. We plan to present our ideas at the next business meeting—let us know what you think.

— *Larry Clarkberg*



Maker

Golden rays of sun
light our world.
So powerful!
We will never
be so strong.

But...

Did the mighty hands that kindled
the everlasting flame also spin the
quiet white threads of moonlight?
Or swell the dandelion with silken seeds?
Or cut each snowflake from icy sheets?
Or perfume the blushing rose?

Did...

those hands make me...
and you?

—Thea Clarkberg



Drumming Group

Afro-Cuban Drumming Group at Ecovillage is open to new members. Experienced and beginning drummers are welcome. This is a structured workshop where we learn/play parts to traditional Afro-Cuban rhythms. No fee, and no prior experience needed, but you must commit to practice if needed. It's helpful if you can bring or borrow a drum [conga or ashiko, not djembe], but not necessary. The drumming workshop is fragrance free to maintain accessibility for members with chemical sensitivities. Limited size of the group. Call Dennis Anello at 277-0612 if you are interested.

Managing Giving to IMM through Electronic Transfers

Meeting Treasurer Mike Simkin has set up a way for you to make donations to Meeting easily and regularly using electronic funds transfer from your bank to the Meeting's. If you have any question feel free to e-mail or call Mike Simkin at mes13@cornell.edu or 607-387-5174.



A convenient, consistent way to help our Meeting grow

Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving

Our Meeting offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. If you are currently writing checks, you may especially appreciate electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our Meeting.

How to get started

To set up electronic donations, simply complete the authorization form below and return it to the Treasurer: Mike Simkin, 3137 Jacksonville Rd, Trumansburg, NY 14886. Donations can be debited automatically from either a checking or savings account.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Inc.

Your name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Email address:

I would like to make the following contribution(s):

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Operating Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Cupboard _____ | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | \$ _____ |

Total

Date of first contribution: ___/___/___

Frequency of contribution (check one):

- Weekly – Mondays
 Bi-Weekly (every other week)
 Semi-monthly – 1st and 15th
 Monthly on the 1st
 Monthly on the 15th

CHECKING / SAVINGS

Complete this section if using your checking or savings account

Please debit my (check one):

- Checking account—attach voided check Savings account—attach voided deposit slip

Routing #:

Account #:

Valid routing # must start with 0,1,2 or 3

I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to the above account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.

Authorized signature: _____ Date: / /

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, January 8, 2012

Clerk: Steve Mohlke
Assistant Clerk: Antonia Saxon
Recording Clerks: Nancy Gabriel and Marilyn Ray

(The @ signifies that the minute has been read and approved during Meeting. Please note that copies of all annual reports provided during this Meeting are on file with and available from the Clerk or Recording Clerk.)

201201.1 Gathering

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society Friends met in Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and for the Annual Meeting of IMMRSF Inc., on January 8, 2012. At 12:15 PM, 39 Friends gathered and settled into silence. Clerk reviewed the agenda of the day's business, and extended our appreciation to Ellie Rosenberg and Helen Schantz, who were holding today's Meeting in the Light. Friends expressed happiness at the sounds of hospitality that surround us as we gather for our first Annual Meeting in this meetinghouse. Copies of annual reports were distributed.

201201.A 2011 Annual Meeting of Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc.

Present: Marjorie Baines, Katherine Beissner, Bruce Berggren-Thomas, Melissa Blake, Tom Brown, Fell Cadwallader, Larry Clarkberg, Marin Clarkberg, Richard Crepeau, Marion DaGrossa, Esther Darlington, Christopher Dunham, Marcie Finlay, Steven Friesmutter, Janet Frieswyk, Nancy Gabriel, Ginny Gartlein, Nancy Hillegas, Melody Johnson, Carolyn Kenyon, Margaret McCasland, Ginny Miller, Bronwyn Mohlke, Steve Mohlke, Liam Murphy, Marilyn Ray, Elspeth Rhodin, Ellie Rosenberg, Heather Ruff, Susan Ruff, Antonia Saxon, Lenora Schneller, Mike Simkin, Joanne Sturgeon, Melissa Travis Dunham, Anneliese Truame, Lynn Truame, Erica Weiss, and Susan Wolf.

- 1) Marilyn Ray, Clerk of Trustees and President of the Corporation, opened the Annual Meeting of IMMRSF, Inc., and gave the Trustees' annual report for 2011.
- 2) Tom Brown, Recording Clerk of Trustees and Secretary of the Corporation, read the Secretary's report.
- 3) Mike Simkin, Treasurer of the Meeting and of the Corporation, read the annual Treasurer's report and answered questions as they arose. Meeting received the reports.

This ended the Annual meeting of the Corporation. @

201201B.1 Nominating Committee

Tom Brown distributed the complete roster of Friends serving in offices and committees of the Meeting in 2012. Two nominations were proposed in addition to the list which had been approved in December. Meeting APPROVED adding Kathy Beissner and Melissa Travis Dunham to the Pastoral Care Committee. @

201201B.2 Annual reports

Friends presented the annual reports for the following committees: Ad Hoc Working Group for Immigrant Support, Burt House, Children and the Life of the Meeting (CALM), Earthcare, Finance, Hector Meeting House, Hospitality, Library, Ministry and Worship, Nominating, Pastoral Care, Peace Witness, Program, Social Justice, Third Street Meetinghouse, and Young Friends. In addition to these, a written report was received from the Newsletter Committee. Clerk expressed appreciation for the work that is represented in these condensed reports, and suggested that each committee be inspired by them to take time to think and share creatively about their hopes and goals for 2012.

Friends received the annual reports. @

201201B.3 Other concerns.

- 1) A Friend reminded us of how much it is appreciated when those of us who have attended Meeting for Worship or business meeting connect with those who have not been able to attend.
- 2) Reflections on the Nominating Committee roster brought forth a reminder that we offer opportunities for service to the youth of our Meeting, and the suggestion that we explore connections between community requests for the use of the meetinghouse and IMM committees such as Program or other committees related to the community activity.

Thirty-one Friends settled into worship at 1:55 PM before adjourning. Our next regular Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be held at the rise of Meeting on February 12, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Gabriel, Co-Recording Clerk

February 2012 Calendar of Ithaca Monthly Meeting

Movie Night: Gasland Friday, February 3, 7p

Please join us for the Earthcare Committee's inaugural movie night event: *Gasland*, a movie about fracking (see <http://www.gaslandthemovie.com/>). There will be popcorn to share. Pajamas optional.

GRIST Feedback & Planning Discussion Sunday, February 5, 9-10a

The first round of GRIST (GRowing In the Spirit Together) groups took place last Spring and the second round groups are reaching the intended completion time. With this wealth of experience we'd like to gather together anyone interested to discuss how this would continue. What have been the valuable aspects of it? What could change? What about the group size, timing, guidelines etc? We'll gather to answer and hear answers to these questions. If you are interested, please join Steve Mohlke, Tonia Saxon, and Carolyn Kenyon for this discussion. Note that this is not yet the time to indicate interest in participating in the next round or to ask what GRIST is. That opportunity will come once we know what the next round looks like.

Floating Meeting with Attention to Football Sunday, February 5th, 6pm

The annual Quaker Superbowl party at the home of Chris Dunham and Melissa Travis Dunham (105 Dunmore Place, Ithaca). Come on over to watch the "Big Game" with F/friends, or ignore the game altogether and gather for non-sporting related fellowship, or engage in a conversation about the status and impact of professional sports in our society. We'll make pizza; feel free to bring other food or drinks to share. An RSVP by Friday Feb 3 is helpful, but not required.

Quaker Women's Clothing Swap Saturday, February 11th, 2pm

Anyone who wears womens clothing (or teen girls clothing) is invited to clean out your closets and bring the stuff you don't want. Then you "shop" through everyone else's unwanted clothing to find some new treasures. This event will be at 2pm at Kris Altucher's house, 708 Mitchell Street. Feel free to bring snacks. For more information contact Kris Altucher or Melissa Travis Dunham (277-9599, mtravis823@yahoo.com).

Every Sunday

- 9:30a **Coffee and fellowship** in the library of the Third Street Meetinghouse
- 10:30a **Meeting for Worship** for all ages at the Third Street Meetinghouse
- 10:45a Friends participating in **First Day School** exit the meetingroom. Please be mindful of footfalls while upstairs, and consider removing your shoes.

Soup Sunday Sunday, February 12, Rise of Meeting

Between Meeting for Worship and our monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, the Power Quakers will serve a delectable borscht. Think red for Valentine's Day!

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Sunday, February 12, Rise of Meeting

Please provide agenda items to Steve Mohlke (see contact information on page 1 sidebar) by the preceding Wednesday).

Women's Fellowship Friday, February 17, 7p

Because the Ithaca Bakery on Meadow Street closes early these long nights of winter, we're going to try to second floor of the Wegman's eating area this month! Enjoy coffee, tea, dinner, and/or dessert.

Newsletter submissions due Thursday, February 23rd, 5p

Please provide your newsletter contributions to Marin Clarkberg: 150 Giles St., Ithaca NY 14850, 607-279-4722, clarkberg@cornell.edu.

Dish-to-Pass Brunch Sunday, February 26, Rise of Meeting

Our monthly, fourth Sunday dish-to-pass lunch. Friends are invited to bring a dish to share, but are welcome to join in the eating in any case.

Friends Bike Clinic Sunday, February 26, 1p

Even if you aren't biking this season, there is still much to learn about biking and bicycle maintenance.

Other Weekly IMM Events

- Wed 7:30p **Midweek meeting** for worship at the Burt House
- Thurs 5-5:30p **Peace Vigil** at the bottom of East State Street near the Community School for Music and Arts
- Thurs 5:30-6:30p **Meeting for worship** at the Third Street Meetinghouse