



Newsletter of the

# Ithaca Monthly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

April 2009

## CONTENTS

Meeting Announcements: 3  
Meeting Friends: 4  
IMM Events: 5  
In Our Region and Community: 6  
IMM Minutes: 7  
Calendar of Events: 8

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Send email to [lyris@cornell.edu](mailto:lyris@cornell.edu). Leave the subject line blank and include:  
join IMMRSF-L "Your Name"  
(include the quotes) in the first line of the body of the message.

**Website:** [ithacamonthlymeeting.org](http://ithacamonthlymeeting.org)

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

### Due April 23rd

Materials for May's newsletter may be submitted by the method of your choice to:

Rini Clarkberg  
150 Giles St., Ithaca, NY 14850  
277-9364 • [mec30@cornell.edu](mailto:mec30@cornell.edu)

## Complex and High Stakes Decision-Making

— Steve Mohlke

The Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) of our meeting acknowledges that we have not really talked about a meetinghouse as a meeting in a couple of years and that the longing for a meetinghouse remains a significant theme in our meeting. We also acknowledge that high stakes/complex decisions bring out tensions and poor behavior that challenge our decision-making abilities. Sometimes making decisions gets too difficult to continue. Though this has been a time of rest from those difficulties, we believe that they would soon return if we began again right now without any further forethought. Now may be a time to reflect on how we make these kinds of decisions and prepare ourselves to handle it better. Tension is a natural and important part of group decision making and we want to be ready to handle those tensions in a loving and effective manner.

M&O will be holding two or three discussions to look at steps we can take to prepare ourselves for complex/high stakes issues that will arise. We'll be considering things like Behavioral Covenants such as are used in AVP, the use of Elders as frequently practiced at the Yearly Meeting level, Gradients of Agreement, Spiritual Types, the Onion Model of Discernment and possibly more. People interested in participating in these discussions should contact me ([smohlke@lightlink.com](mailto:smohlke@lightlink.com), 277-4183) and we'll do our best to schedule these meetings to include those who want to attend. We expect to bring the results of these discussions to Meeting for Business for consideration.

## YFIR: Quaker Weekends for Middle Schoolers

— compiled and edited by Bronwyn Mohlke

Many in our Meeting have heard about the wonderful youth weekends at Powell House, but not all have had the opportunity to go and experience it first hand. The youth program at Powell House has been a forty-year experiment in creating accepting and nurturing spaces for young people to encounter the authentic in themselves and in one another. Regrettably, the youth program at Powell House is often over-subscribed, and many youth who live in distant parts of the Yearly Meeting find it too difficult and expensive to attend. A number of young friends who have graduated from the Powell House youth program and similar programs long for a meaningful way in which to connect with the wider Quaker community. Additionally, they have expressed a desire to live within a spiritual community and share their spiritual journeys with others.

From these concerns was born the idea of the Young Friends in Residence program, known as YFIR. The YFIR program will enable four young adult Friends, ages 18 to 25, to serve as interns while living in intentional spiritual community. Part of their work will be to provide a program for 6th- to 9th-grade area youth. These young adult Friends will also become involved in the life of their host meeting as well as the regional meeting and New York Yearly Meeting.

Perry City Meeting Friends have felt led to host the YFIR program, with youth weekends starting in the fall of 2009. The plan is to host four weekend conferences for 6th to 7th graders, interspersed with four weekend conferences for 8th to 9th graders, to be held

*YFIR, continued on page 2*

during the academic year 2009-2010. The program will then continue the following year.

The conferences will be held at the Perry City Meeting House and will run Friday evening through Sunday lunch. Interns will take turns planning and facilitating the conferences. These gatherings are full of opportunities to connect with one another in very real ways, including extensive exploration of topics on the hearts and minds of young people. Through affirmation circles, small group discussions, games and energy work, participants engage in fun-

damental Quaker practices: seeing that of God in themselves and each other; holding each other in the Light; and corporate worship. With grounded, open, and creative facilitators, participants are able to experience a rooting and uplifting presence.

In addition to the youth program work, interns will have the opportunity to be a Quaker presence at the region's traditional annual activities and participate in military recruiting awareness in the local high schools. They may work in activities focusing on conscientious objection. Within Perry City Monthly Meeting, interns

will help develop the First Day School and childcare programs and will assist in visitation to elderly and infirm Friends among other ways that they find to serve the meeting, the region and the local community.

To support interns in their work, each intern will have an elder to serve as a sounding board and spiritual friend. Elders will be part of an anchor, or care, committee that interns can turn to for clearness, guidance, naming of their gifts and basic nuts and bolts assistance with housing, facilities, and other issues that arise. Perry City will host an elder training to prepare willing adults for this commitment. Interns will also receive room and board, health insurance and a small monthly stipend.

New York Yearly Meeting will act as YFIR's sponsoring organization. A Young Friends in Residence Committee has been created under the care of the Nurture Section of the Yearly Meeting. Mike Clark and Chris DeRoller, Powell House Youth Staff, will be involved with the planning of the program, as well as members of Perry City Meeting. The YFIR program will provide a stepping stone for our Quaker faith into the future. Interns will benefit by their participation in a spiritual community which recognizes and supports their gifts and helps them follow their individual leadings. The cross-generational design of this program will create and strengthen bonds among Friends of diverse ages, helping to knit our whole society more closely together. Elders and mentors will find their own spiritual lives deepening. New York Yearly Meeting and the Religious Society of Friends will benefit from providing substantive opportunities for developing the leadership gifts of their young adult friends. Young teens and pre-teens will be nurtured with a stable and loving place where their deep need to belong is met and where they can explore spiritual and life issues with their peers and mentors.

## Talent Night

"The DeCastro Boys" (top) wow the crowd (bottom) at the One World Room in Anabel Taylor Hall.



# Meeting Announcements

## Timely Thoughts

We have many issues that concern our shared worship space at Anabel Taylor. The sizes and numbers of rooms we are allotted, noise levels, and parking proximity present us with conditions that affect us all. Another issue has come to light: the use of the clock. The Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) felt that it was important to seriously consider our process for discerning what to do about the clock without letting it take up an undue amount of attention.

The clock that was painted by Ann Rhodin usually hangs upon the wall during Meeting for Worship. While on one side of the room a fan in the duct work has bothered some, the ticking noise of the clock has bothered others. On one First Day, M&O solicited opinions to get a preliminary idea of how people felt about the clock. We are encouraging practicing Quaker process. Below are the general thoughts and feelings that have been expressed so far. If you have thoughts that need to be expressed but are not expressed below, please contact a member of M&O. (Tom Brown, Marion DaGrossa, Barbara Ganzel, Carolyn Kenyon, Bronwyn Mohlke, Steve Mohlke, Sue Ruff)

Generally the thoughts center around the artwork on the clock, the noise it makes and the existence of a public time piece in the room. After collecting any further thoughts, M&O plans to present this for corporate discernment at a Meeting for Business.

Reasons given for having a clock:

“Our worship depends on time. The kids leave the room at 11:15, and the hand shaking occurs around noon. A community clock makes the experience of time more community oriented. E.g. If my watch says 11:15, but the wall clock says 11:10, I can expect that the rest of the room has a shared understanding that it is 11:10.”

“I like seeing Ann’s artwork. The clock is joyful. I like the clock and its happy face.”

“I don’t always wear a watch, so it’s convenient to have a clock.”

“I like having a timepiece in the room. If I have something to say, I can gauge how much time is left in worship.”

“I like having a time piece to help monitor settling into worship.”

Reasons given for not having a clock:

“We don’t need a clock because the clock tower bells signal the end of worship.”

“When we meet at the Hector Meetinghouse we don’t have a clock.”

“I don’t like having a time piece in the room because it draws my attention to it and away from worship.”

“I don’t like the ticking noise it makes. I find it very loud.”

“I find it inconducive to the spirit of worship.”

## Burt House Room Vacancies

The Burt House Committee anticipates that 3 resident rooms will become available in May. Residents of the Burt House live in a community setting, sharing with each other in both fellowship and upkeep of areas shared by the residents. No lease is involved but prospective residents are asked to complete an application form. Preference is given to applicants who either have a Quaker background or are comfortable with a Quaker living environment, and who are committed to living and sharing in a community setting. For further information, contact the Burt House caretaker, Mary Balfour, mbalfour123@gmail.com, phone 273-5421.

## Volunteer Cooks Needed for Spring Gathering

This year’s Spring Gathering of our Regional Meeting will be held May 15-18 at Long Point Camp, on the west side of Seneca Lake. It is a wonderful time to get together with Friends of our region. **This year our Meeting has responsibility of coordinating food for the weekend.**

We are very fortunate to have Jean Kron cooking, and we will be her support team. Five Friends will be needed to prepare each of the six meals throughout the weekend. Rini Clarkberg, Bronwyn Mohlke, and Marilyn Ray are organizing our participation. We would love to hear from those of you who are willing to help.

More information about Spring Gathering appears on page 6.

## Helping Hungry Neighbors

Friends are especially encouraged to support the Ithaca Kitchen Cupboard and other food pantries and meals plans at this time of the year. All donations count a little more in March and April due to The Feinstein Million Dollar Challenge. Each group receives a minimum amount plus some additional money in proportion to the value of items and dollars donated during this two month period. Every food item counts as \$1 each, even Jello boxes and other small items. Be sure your donations are undented and safe to eat!

Everyone should be aware that many cupboards are being strained in these economic hard times. Many families have lost jobs or money and quite a few individuals are coping with health and other issues that affect their financial stability and therefore what is available to feed them this year. Every member of the Food Network reports record use and difficulty keeping up with demand.

One exciting new program is food coming from campus leftover meals at Ithaca College. Students have organized boxing up meals to go out to local families in Danby and Freeville, with hopes of adding an additional area soon. They have been attending the Food Distribution Network meetings and keeping us informed of their progress. We are very proud of the work of these young people in giving back to local residents in the communities around their school.

If you have questions, please contact Ginny Gartlein at 272-3471. Volunteers for Kitchen Cupboard are always welcome. (See *April Events*, page 8.)

## An Unfortunate Anniversary

—Wilma Brown and Elizabeth Schneider

Thursday, March 19, 2009 marked the 6th anniversary of the war in Iraq. It also marked the 6th anniversary of the weekly peace vigil. Over these years many questions have arisen and been discussed, as we stood on the corners at the bottom of East State Street in Ithaca, NY, USA trying to understand the effects of this long war being fought far from our own community.

- What has it been like for an Iraqi mother or father going to market when they don't know if they will return home safely?
- What is it like to be a child unable to go outside and play freely with friends?
- What is it like to be a child growing up in fear?
- When your house has been blown up, where do you live?
- How is daily home life managed with intermittent electrical power?
- How is life managed when your family and your neighborhood community have been devastated by war?
- How do you maintain hope?

For those we have sent to fight in this war, other questions have arisen:

- What happens to those people who brought positive energy to their assignments, and then have to live with acts they may regret?
- What is it like for the families of soldiers who have died?
- Will those who were seriously maimed in the war, either physically or psychologically, be remembered and cared for appropriately in the years ahead by the government which sent them to Iraq?

These are but a few of the questions pondered and discussed at the weekly peace vigil over these past years. The vigil has been an ongoing effort to remind ourselves and our community that while we have been living our daily lives (attending school, working, shopping, caring for our families...), a war has been waged in our name. Elspeth often said that the goal of the vigil was to get people to think: to keep in front of their minds that a war is taking place as we stand there, that lives are being upturned and changed forever, and that we must make our views known to our own government and our community.

Our signs have many messages: Thou Shalt Not Kill; Wage Peace; Peace—Opposites Reconciled; Peace—Give & Take; and Peace—Listening to Understand. But the overall theme was supplied by Friends Committee on National Legislation: War is not the answer.

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*A flowing stream, a blooming flower, a new start.*

*Fresh smells, cooling wind, a green world.*

— Thea Clarkberg

## Peace Witness Supports Peace in Gaza

We in the Peace Witness Committee have been watching the situation in Gaza over the past months with great concern: the conflict between the Israeli government and Hamas has disrupted the lives of Palestinians and Israelis, killing over a thousand Palestinians and about a dozen Israelis. Moreover, the situation has led to a humanitarian crisis for Gaza's 1.5 million residents. We have donated \$100 of Peace Witness's discretionary funds to the AFSC's ongoing relief, recovery, and peace-building work in Gaza. Peace Witness encourages F/friends who are moved to donate to AFSC's efforts in Gaza on [www.afsc.org/israel-palestine/](http://www.afsc.org/israel-palestine/), or to any organization providing support there.

## Meeting Friends



*Rose Metro first chose to attend Quaker meeting when she lived in Philadelphia around the year 2000. At that time, she was drawn in by the beauty of the old meetinghouses. Rose came to Ithaca in 2002 and visited our meeting on occasion. After leaving Ithaca for a period, Rose became a regular attendee of our meeting in 2007.*

*Rose is a high school teacher and is getting her PhD at Cornell. She did her student teaching at Lehman Alternative Community School and noted there that the Quaker kids seemed to be "competent and caring"—notable qualities among high school students.*

*Rose will be leaving our meeting soon, to join her husband in Columbia, Missouri.*

*Living in the Burt House over this year has been a very important part of Rose's growing affinity with Quakerism.*

### **Faith and Practice Discussions Continue Sunday, April 5th, 9:30a**

Please join us on first Sundays now through May 3 at 9:30 am in room 314 of Anabel Taylor Hall. Each month, our subject varies, and depends on where we have left off the month before. Contact Toni Murdough for more information, and please join us for some enlightening discussions.

### **Easter Egg Hunt & Floating Meeting Sunday, April 5th, 12:30p**

Looking forward to Spring? Would you like to see Friends after the cold winter months? Want to experience the joy of Easter through the eyes of a kid? Liam and Sue will host their annual Easter Egg hunt and “Meeting for Eating” after the rise of Meeting on April 5. Please bring a dozen eggs per participating child (or grown-up) to Meeting at 11:00, or drop them off at the Murphy/Hess household any time/day beforehand, so that the eggs will be hidden before the kids arrive. Bring along baskets for collecting the eggs.

The egg hunt will be held snow, rain or shine as soon as the majority of kids arrive—and no later than 1pm! Dress kids in boots and weather gear there can lots of mud, and it can be chilly on the hillside. It'll only be held indoors if it's much too rainy, windy, and cold. We will have a “more difficult” area for older kids and an egg-hunting spot for the smallest fry, so toddlers welcome! The Murphy/Hess household is at 78 Genung Circle off Genung Road near Snyder Hill Road. Call if you need directions (272-4526).

We understand that this will conflict with the changed date for April Meeting for Business. Feel free to divide the family so you can send a representative to both (and maybe even stop by after to make sure we have no leftovers!).

### **Friendly Round Singers Thursday, April 9th, 7-9p**

Welcome Spring at our Round Sing at 112 Mt. Pleasant. We sing old standards and are learning many new rounds. It's a great way to work on harmonizing and singing parts. All are welcome, young & old, those who sing a lot and those who don't.

Come join us, and bring a F/friend. For directions or more information, call Melody, 272-8755.

### **Sunrise Meeting for Worship Sunday, April 12th, 6a**

Join Friends for a special, one-hour Meeting for Worship at Hector Meeting House.

### **Easter Breakfast with Nancy and Marion Sunday, April 12th, 7:30a**

Nancy Gabriel and Marion DaGrossa invite you to breakfast at their home, 109 Sears Street, for those who have gathered for the sunrise meeting for worship, those on their way to the regular meeting for worship at Anabel Taylor, and those who'd just like to stop by between 7:-30 – 11 am. Please bring a brunch dish-to-pass if you wish. Plenty of parking next to the house.

### **Peace Witness Committee Tuesday, April 14th, 7:30p**

Peace Witness is an open committee that welcomes the participation of everyone. Our main goals are to provide a focus in our Meeting for peace witness and to encourage and support the leadings of Meeting members and attenders working for peace.

### **Leading a Quaker Life: Dealing with Conflict Friday, April 24th, 6p**

The continuing Leading a Quaker Life series will focus on Dealing with Conflict. Alexa Yesukevich will host as we gather for a dish-to-pass at the Burt House at 6 pm followed by discussion at 6:45. Friends are invited to share their ideas and experiences.

### **It's Tea Time! Saturday, April 25th, 3-6p**

Chris Dunham and Melissa Travis Dunham invite you to join them for their annual Springtime Tea Party on at 105 Dunmore Place, Ithaca.

Friends are encouraged to stop by for a snack, cup of tea, or just conversation. No need to bring anything! (No really, we mean it!)

Directions: From downtown, take State St./Rt 79/MLK up the hill toward Cornell; turn left onto Mitchell St/Rt 366; take the first right onto Brandon Place (opposite College Ave.); the house is a butterscotch-colored stucco Colonial with blue shutters at the end of Brandon, on the corner with Dunmore Place. Parking is available along Brandon and Dunmore Places or on Valley Road behind the house. Call Chris or Melissa with questions or for detailed directions at 277-9599.

### **Meeting for Healing Tuesday, April 28th, 7:15p**

A Meeting for Healing is held at 7:15 on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Melody Johnson and Dick Crepeau's house (112 Mount Pleasant Road). If you have a concern but cannot attend, let Melody know and you will be held in the Light. For directions or more information, call Melody, 272-8755.

## Quakers in Our Region

### Spring Gathering: How Do Our Lives Speak?

Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting Spring Gathering will be held May 15-17, 2009 (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon) at Long Point Camp near Penn Yan. Registration is due April 15, 2009

All Friends from the Farmington-Scipio Region of New York Yearly Meeting are invited to Spring Gathering, a joyful weekend of learning, reflection and community on the shores of beautiful Seneca Lake. This year the Spring Gathering program provides a panel of Friends who have found fruitful ways to combine their spiritual leading with their daily activities.

In the afternoon there will be workshops on ways to let your life speak, and general interest workshops. There will be activities for all ages: worship, singing, and time for eating and relaxing with Friends. The youth program will be integrated and combined with the Gathering main theme "How Do Our Lives Speak?". There will be plenty of opportunities for mutual sharing and learning.

**Saturday Morning:** Presentations and discussion by a panel describing their work and the path that led them to their living testimony, followed by questions and discussion. Nadine Hoover: Friends Peace Teams, Indonesia Suzanne Blackburn: Peaceful Parenting Phil Harnden: GardenShare, Right Sharing Ray Barnes: Prisoner Re-Entry, AVP Joanna Hoyt: St. Francis Farm

**Saturday Afternoon:** There will be two workshop periods with workshops on activities/programs that provide opportunities for living Quaker witness. And free time!

Responsibilities for Spring Gathering rotate through the monthly meetings of the region. This year Ithaca Monthly Meeting is responsible for the food. We would love to hear from those of you who are willing to help. See page 3 for more about our responsibilities with respect to food.

## In Our Community

### From the Cancer Resource Center

The two classes below will meet for six weeks at Island Health and Fitness. The classes are free to anyone with a cancer diagnosis, but registration is required. Contact Ann Carter to register at 277-0960 or ann@crclf.net

- **Water exercise:** Saturday mornings 9:45 to 10:45 starting March 14th. Regi Carpenter currently teaches water exercise at Island Health and Fitness. Water offers gentle resistance and can be relaxing and fun. This class will be held in the warm water pool.
- **Yoga:** March 19th Thursday mornings 10:15 - 11:15 starting March 19. Nick Boyar, who has extensive experience teaching yoga to people with cancer, offers gentle and appropriate body movements and stretches, guided deep relaxation, meditation, and other stress-reduction practices which have been used successfully in wellness programs for people with cancer. No previous yoga experience needed.

### Words to Consider

from Meeting for Healing

*To pray when you are grieving, you don't have to be religious or believe in God. You just need the intention to commune with something larger than your ego. The only requirement is the need to receive help.*

*In prayer, I don't mean reciting words by rote. Prayer is an utterance straight from the heart into the universe. Even if you are not a theist, you can pray so long as you can let yourself open your heart and invite the spirits in. The spirits don't have to be literal entities that you believe in; this can be a metaphor for opening yourself to the universe, to what is, to being alive. Prayer helps you do this. When you pray, you get out of your own way and let something larger guide you.*

*Start with asking for help. Every grieving person needs help. No one can do this alone. The purpose of grief is to teach you this wisdom: that we are all interconnected, and in our interconnectedness is our hope and our solace. You may want help from friends, family, spouses. Sometimes these people may be there for you. And invariably they will disappoint you as well, because the need for help and solace at this time is inordinate. There is no one person who can fill this need. This is one reason prayer is so important. Pray for help, and then open your heart to receive the help you've asked for. Open your ears to hear the response.*

*Thank you seems like an impossible prayer when your heart is shattered and broken. And yet, now is a good time to remember what you are thankful for. Think of how grateful you are for those who are still alive and who help hold you up at this time. Think of your life: Are you grateful for it? Or are you in too much pain to feel gratitude? Only pray thank you for what you're authentically thankful for. Even if it's only a small, minute thing. Example: I'm thankful for this bed in which I can sleep.*

*I surrender is another prayer hard to speak at this time. "In Thy Will be my peace" is not a prayer that comes easily. Try saying: "I accept what is now and what is to come" and see what happens in your heart. Then just accept the response, whatever it is. Be mindful of your constrictions, your expansions. Give yourself permission for all of it.*

— Miriam Greenspan  
Plenary Speaker for Friends  
Conference on Religion & Psychology, May 22-25,  
register at: [fcrp.quaker.org](http://fcrp.quaker.org) or talk to Melody Johnson,  
Dick Crepeau, or Peg Walbridge

### Ithaca Farmer's Market Opens April 4th

Meet your pent up need to visit Farmer's Market. Lots of freebies, sales, and new things to see!

Minutes of the March 2009  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business of the  
Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

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Tom Brown, Clerk  
Steve Mohlke, Assistant Clerk  
Nancy Gabriel, Recording Clerk  
Steve Mohlke, Treasurer

@ Indicates the reading of the minute was approved.

(Please note that copies of all reports provided during this Meeting are on file with and available from the Recording Clerk.)

#### 200903.1 Gathering

The Ithaca Monthly Meeting (IMM) of the Religious Society of Friends met on March 8, 2009, in the Cafe, Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell University, for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. At 12:35 p.m., 18 F/friends settled into worship. Clerk read from the NYYM Advices and Queries for March (available in the IMM newsletter). The Minutes were read from the February Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Clerk reviewed the agenda for today's meeting. @

#### 200903.2 Ministry and Oversight

Marion DaGrossa reported for Ministry and Oversight, bringing the concern for offering financial support to provide sign language interpreters for meetings for worship and business when needed. Meeting APPROVED using money currently available in the Special Needs Fund while M&O and Finance Committee work out a longer-term arrangement. M&O also reported on their plan to begin holding discussions on steps IMM might take to prepare ourselves for complex and high-stakes decisions that we can foresee. Appreciation was expressed for this initiative, and it was requested that M&O put information in the Newsletter about it. @

#### 200904.3 Nominating Committee

Wendy Wolfe presented the proposed nomination of Mac Larsen to Publicity Committee. APPROVED. Openings remain on Burt House and Program Committees. @

#### 200903.4. Publicity Committee.

Mac Larsen brought the report, which began with a recapitulation of the committee's activities in 2008. Publicity Committee is proposing a new Charge, which contains changes from past practice. Friends present made some suggestions; all are asked to consider the new Charge and to send comments to Mac or Margaret McCasland. After providing copies on our list and at Meeting for Worship, Publicity will bring their proposed Charge to April business meeting for approval. @

#### 200905.6 Trustees

Clerk reported for Trustees that application was made to the Tompkins County Department of Assessment for a tax exemption on the Route 79 property, which has been approved. @

#### 200905.7 Treasurer

Steve Mohlke gave the Treasurer's report for February. Steve and Mike Simkin have taken early steps in the transition process. Nearly \$2,500 was received in memory of Bonnie Tyler, and has been distributed between the Refugee Fund and the Burt House In-Kind Fund, as agreed by IMM and the Tyler family. Friends received the report. @

#### 200905.8 Witness concerns from Mac Larsen

Mac proposed that Meeting approve a Minute similar to one from last year:

"The Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) recognizes the deep human tragedy that currently causes the death of more than a million children under the age of five, every year, due to water-borne diseases. We also recognize that this presents a correctable condition, and that UNICEF has established a strong record and a proven approach to providing clean water to replace polluted water. We therefore support the fundraising effort of UNICEF known as the TAP project, and encourage members and attenders of our Meeting and others to contribute to this project." APPROVED.

A second Minute was proposed, discussed, and APPROVED:

"The Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) agrees to co-sponsor, along with the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, an open meeting at the Burt House on Friday March 20, 2009, featuring Ruben Hilari, an Indigenous Bolivian who is a Quaker. Ruben has been teaching at Oakwood Friends' School in Poughkeepsie, NY, for the past semester. He will be accompanied by Newton Garver, founder of BQEF."

Clerk noted that any proposal for sponsorship by IMM which might involve funding requests is reviewed by the Finance Committee before coming to business meeting for approval. @

At 1:40 p.m., 17 F/friends gathered in silent worship before adjourning. We will meet again for Worship with Attention to Business on April 5, 2009.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Nancy Gabriel, Co-Recording Clerk*

*March 2009*

## Advices

From the postscript to the Balby Advices – “given forth at a General Meeting of Friends at Balby in Yorkshire, in the ninth month 1656, from The Spirit of Truth to the Children of Light”:

*Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by, but that all, with the measure of light which is pure and holy, may be guided: and so in the light walking and abiding, these may be fulfilled in the Spirit, not from the letter, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life.*

*Advice 4. Friends are advised to observe our Christian testimony for a faithful ministry of the gospel under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Members are reminded that all have a responsibility in ministry.*

*Advice 5. Remembering the tenderness of Jesus for children, we recommend that parents and those who have the important charge of educating youth exercise a loving and watchful care over them. Meetings are urged to help parents and children share religious experiences at home and in the meeting for worship and to give them an understanding of the principles and practices of Friends.*

## March 2009 Calendar

### Every Sunday

*Note: Melody is no longer leading singing before Meeting*

11:00a **Meeting for Worship** for all ages

11:15a Children leave Edwards Room for **First Day School**.

### Other Weekly IMM Events

Tues 9-9:20p **Worship** in your own home.

Wed 7:30p **Midweek meeting** for worship at the Burtt House.

Thurs 5-5:30p **Peace Vigil** at the bottom of East State Street near the Community School for Music and Arts.

### Monthly Events of Ithaca Monthly Meeting

#### April 5th (note special date)

Rise of Mtg **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.**  
Agenda items should be provided to Tom Brown, Clerk, by April 1st.

#### April 26th

Rise of Mtg **Dish-to-pass brunch** in the cafe at Anabel Taylor Hall.  
Please bring finger foods to share.

### April Events (\*For more information about asterisked items, see inside.)

#### April 1, Wednesday

1:15-3p Volunteers needed at **Kitchen Cupboard**. Call Ginny Gartlein for information (272-2471). Kitchen Cupboard regularly needs brown paper bags.\*

#### April 2, Thursday

5:30-8p **Program Committee** at the Burtt House.

#### April 5, Sunday

9:30a **Faith and Practice discussion**, 314 Anabel Taylor.\*

11:15-12n **Power Quakers** gather outside Edwards Room

Rise of Mtg **Business Meeting** in the cafe..

**Easter Egg Hunt**, 78 Genung Circle.\*

#### April 9, Thursday

7-9p **Friendly Round Singers**, 112 Mt. Pleasant.\*

#### April 12, Sunday

6-7a **Sunrise Meeting for Worship**, Hector Meetinghouse.\*

7:30-11a **Easter Breakfast**, 109 Sears Street.\*

#### April 14, Tuesday

7:30p **Peace Witness** Committee at the Burtt House.\*

#### April 19, Sunday

11:15-12n **Power Quakers** gather outside Edwards Room.

#### April 24, Friday

6p **Leading a Quaker Life** at the Burtt House.\*

#### April 25th, Saturday

3-6p **Springtime Tea Party**, 105 Dunmore Place.\*

#### April 28, Tuesday

7:15p **Meeting for Healing**, 112 Mt. Pleasant Road.\*

### Note: Change in dates for Business Meetings

Friends, Meeting for worship with attention to business is usually held on the second first day of the month after the rise of Meeting.

A change in that schedule will occur in April and May, so as not to coincide with Easter and Mother's Day. In both of those month it will be held on the *first first day* of the month, April 5 and May 3.