



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

July 2009

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join IMMRSF-L "Your Name"
(include the quotes) in the first line of the body of the message.

Website: ithacamonthlymeeting.org

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
Due July 23rd**

Materials for August's newsletter may be submitted by the method of your choice to:
Rini Clarkberg
150 Giles St., Ithaca, NY 14850
279-4722 • mec30@cornell.edu



Over forty Friends participated in the progressive dinner Floating Meeting on June 21st, thanks to the incredible hospitality of the Guinea Pig Quaker 8s (including the Altucher-Podhaski family, Connie and Garry Thomas, Melissa and Chris Dunham, and the Varichio-Sewell family).

IMM Events

**Fireworks with Friends
Thursday, July 2, 5p**

Friends are invited to join Kris Altucher, her family, and other f/Friends to watch the fireworks on July 2 from the field behind the Belle Sherman Annex. Bring a blanket to sit on, and glowsticks and sparklers if you like. The fireworks begin after dusk, weather permitting.

**Come Float at Floating Meeting
Saturday, July 18, 4p**

All are invited to come and float at Floating Meeting, at Melody and Dick's 112 Mt Pleasant Rd. 272-8755. At 4pm we will go hiking on some great trails in the woods across from us, and return by 5pm to enjoy the garden, swim and have a dish to pass. Come for all or any of it!

IMM events, continued on page 2

Save the Date: Alexa Yesukevich and Emily Williams will marry at Hector Meetinghouse on Sunday, September 6th.

Summer Retreat Planning Meeting Monday, July 6, 6p

We will discuss retreat activities and how we might build on our theme of “We gather together” at the Clarkberg’s house, 150 Giles Street. We will eat pizza, salad and whatever else shows up. For more information, Rini can be reached at 279-4722 or mec30@cornell.edu.

Peace Witness Committee Tuesday, July 14th, 7:30p

Meeting at the Burt House, 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.

Women’s Fellowship Friday, June 31st, 7p

Meet at the Smart Monkey Cafe to talk about whatever we darn well feel like talking about while enjoying a dessert, a great burger, coffee and/or a cold beer.

Meeting for Healing Tuesday, September 8, 7:15p

Please note that there will be no Meeting for Healing in July or August. The next Meeting for Healing will be in September. If you have a concern, let Melody know and you will be held in the Light. For more information, call Melody, 272-8755.

Words to Consider from Meeting for Healing

Six hundred years before the birth of Christ, the Chinese wise man Lao Tau counseled: In times of adversity, make energetic progress in the good. This is still the real work at hand: for each one of us to meet the bad in the world with the good in our own hearts. To energetically rouse ourselves out of tired habits and worn-out loyalties and replace them with bigger and broader circles of inclusion. It was time for me to let as many into the circle of family and tribe as I could: the president; the poverty-stricken people of the world hardened by years of war; the shortsighted corporate crusaders, gobbling up the resources of the world; the intolerant religious fanatics, clinging to simplistic answers in a mysterious universe. In widening the circle, I could still hold to my convictions. What I needed to surrender was anger and judgment. What I needed to adopt was vision and humility.

— Elizabeth Lesser

IMM Announcements

What is Our Spiritual Condition?

New York Yearly Meeting sessions at Silver Bay are July 19-25.

Tuesday of that week is devoted to a full day of worship with concern for discerning the spiritual condition of NYYM and each constituent Monthly Meeting. Ithaca Meeting appointed Nancy Gabriel in 2008 to receive from us any reflections we might want her to carry to the larger gathering. Nancy will report back to you anything heard there that might connect to Ithaca’s own joys and concerns.

NYYM has sent queries to guide our preparation for the day of discernment: “The queries are addressed both to the individual and to the body, and ask for consideration in relation to our connection with the Divine, our families, meetings, communities, regions, and Yearly Meeting.”

- What is required of you to be faithful?
- How is God already at work within us?
- How do we support, encourage, and hold each other accountable in the work God has entrusted to us?

Please contact Nancy Gabriel, Steve Mohlke or Melanie-Claire Mallison, with any reflections you may have on this.

Rose Metro

Rose Metro’s new contact information is: 203 South Garth Avenue; Columbia, MO 65203; 607-342-8241, rose.metro@gmail.com.

Quakers in our Region

Silver Bay: New York Yearly Meeting’s Summer Sessions July 19-25

For more information about Summer Sessions at Lake George—including the rules for borrowing kayaks, canoes and sailboats—visit < <http://www.nyym.org/silverbay09/> >

Meeting for Worship at Genesee Country Village Sunday, July 12, 11a

Quaker Worship at the Historic meeting house in the Genesee Country Village will be Sunday, July 12 from 11 am to noon.

Friends are asked to meet at 10:30 at the front gate. Potluck lunch will follow meeting for worship so please bring a dish to pass. Many Friends pre-registered for this event, but you are welcome to show up without pre-registering if you pay your own admission to Genesee Country Village.

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

Tom Brown, Clerk
Steve Mohlke, Assistant Clerk
Marilyn Ray and Nancy Gabriel, Co-Recording Clerks
Steve Mohlke, Treasurer

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

200906.1 Gathering

The Ithaca Monthly Meeting (IMM) of the Religious Society of Friends met on June 14, 2009, at Hector Meetinghouse for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. At 12:15 p.m., nine F/friends settled into worship. Clerk read from *Encounter with Silence: Reflections from the Quaker Tradition* by John Punshon. The Minutes were read from the May Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Clerk reviewed the agenda for the day's meeting. @

200906.2 Charge to the Publicity Committee

Mac Larsen presented the proposed charge for the Committee. APPROVED @

200906.3 Report from the ad hoc Working Group for Immigrant Support

Garry Thomas reported that at the time of the Working Group's last report in November 2008, members included: Mac Larsen, Margaret McCasland, Garry Thomas, and Bonnie Tyler. Since Bonnie Tyler's death, Barbara Barry, Marjorie Baines, and Marion DaGrossa have joined the Committee and Joanne Sturgeon and Connie Thomas have supported its work. Friends received the report. @

The Committee proposed two minutes for MM's consideration.

- A. That the third Sunday collection for the Refugee Fund be continued for another five months, at which time the Working Group will report back to the Meeting (at the November business meeting). APPROVED @
- B. That the Meeting's Publicity Committee contact Meetings in the Farmington-Scipio Region, informing them of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group for Immigrant Support with a goal of encouraging communities in their region to begin immigration support programs and offering the opportunity to contribute to IMM's Refugee Fund. APPROVED @

200906.4 Report from Ministry and Oversight

Susan Ruff reported for the Committee Susan Wolf has requested transfer of her membership from Staten Island Monthly Meeting to Ithaca Monthly Meeting. M&O recommended that IMM should accept and record Susan Wolf as a member. APPROVED @

200906.5 Treasurer's report

Steve Mohlke reported on his activities during May stating that his work primarily consisted of completing the tasks approved during the May MM. After these activities were completed the new Building Fund held \$80,500. He also made contributions for six line items in the budget for 2009 and made the payment on the insurance premiums. Friends received the report. @

At 1:30 p.m., 10 F/friends gathered in silent worship before adjourning. We will meet again for Worship with Attention to Business on July 12, 2009 at Hector Meetinghouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Ray, Co-Recording Clerk

Women Swimming: a Community Event to Support Hospicare

Women Swimmin' is a community swim (not a race!) across Cayuga Lake for women ages 18 and over. Together we raise funds which will go directly to support patient and family services here in Tompkins County. The event—in which hundreds of women of all ages and sizes swim 1.2 miles across Cayuga Lake near the Ithaca Yacht Club—will be August 8, 2009.

Friends are invited to support Hospicare with donations at any time of year, but this special event is wonderful opportunity to be reminded. Hospicare hopes to raise \$237,000 through this event!

I will make the swim for the sixth time, and I invite your sponsorship. You may pass along checks (addressed to "Hospicare") to me, or sponsor me on-line: <<https://secure.pageplanet.com/womenswimmin/donate.mgi>>

For more information about the event and about the wonderful services of Hospicare, visit: <www.womenswimmin.org>

— Rini Clarkberg

Advices & Queries

from *NYYM Faith & Practice*

Advice 7. Friends are advised to work toward removing the causes of misery and suffering. They are urged to support efforts to overcome racial, social, economic, and educational discrimination; to bear testimony against all forms of oppression; to exert influence for such treatment of prisoners as may help reconstruct their lives; and to work for the abolition of the death penalty.

Query 7. Do our vocations provide constructive and beneficial service? Do we observe integrity in our business transactions? Do we avoid involving ourselves beyond our ability to manage? Are we careful to conduct our affairs punctually, justly, and honorably? Do we avoid participation in lotteries, betting, and gambling?

July 2009 Calendar

Every Sunday

10:30a **Meeting for Worship** for all ages
10:45a Children are welcome to go outside

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

July 12th

Rise of Mtg **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.**
Agenda items should be provided to Tom Brown, Clerk, by June 9th.

July 26th

Rise of Mtg **Dish-to-pass brunch** behind Hector Meetinghouse.
Please bring finger foods to share.

July Events (*For more information about asterisked items, see inside.)

July 2, Thursday

Dusk **Fireworks with Friends** behind Belle Sherman annex."

July 6, Monday

6p Summer **Retreat Planning** at the Clarkberg home.*

July 14, Tuesday

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

July 18, Saturday

4p **Floating Meeting** at Melody and Dick's 112 Mt. Pleasant Road.*

July 31, Friday

7p **Women's Fellowship**, Smart Monkey Cafe.*