

THE GAZETTE

" a news-sheet, a periodical publication giving an account of current events"



West Falmouth Religious Society of Friends **FEB-MARCH 2017**

Larry Jordan, Clerk (508-420-1738; cell 202-253-7175; larrymjordan@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

Quaker Birthdays

FEBRUARY

Fran Lightsom, 3
Anita Thacker, 12
Deborah Bradley, 12
Clyde Tyndale, 24

MARCH

Cynthia Rankin, 20
Martha Mangelsdorf, 23

*(If your birthday was not listed,
please contact Alta Mae)*

REGULAR Events

Adult Discussion Group,

1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays
9AM (February 5, 19, 26, March
5, 19, 26)

Light Group,

2nd Sunday 9 AM (February 12,
March 12)

Peace and Social Order,

2nd Sunday at 12 (February 12,
March 12) Fran Lightsom,
Clerk (508-548-9186)

Adult Education, 3rd Sunday

at 12:00 (Annual Listening
Session will be held in place of
Adult Education in February;
March 19)

Ministry and Counsel, 3rd

Monday evening (February 20,
March 20) at Sunny Davidson's,
Deborah Bradley, convenor,
(508-564-4744)

Sandwich Monthly Meeting

Sunday, February 5th, Sandwich Monthly Meeting for Business, East
Sandwich

West Falmouth

Thursday, February 16th, Quaker Women, 5:30 potluck, 7:00 discussion, at
Quaker House. Topic: Rituals and Ceremonies

Sunday, February 19th, Annual Listening Session, following hospitality, to
prepare for the State of the Society Report.

Saturday, February 25, at Quaker House, A Retreat to Prayerfully Consider
How We Are Called to Concrete Action In Response to Climate Change.
Time 10am-3pm.

Other Events at the Meetinghouse

Saturday, February 11th, Sacred Harp Singers' (Shape Note) annual
gathering, 10-3, Meetinghouse.

Monday evenings, 7pm, Zen Meditation. Contact Fran Lightsom.

The Meetinghouse is used for yoga by Emerson House on Mondays from
2:30-3:30 (contact is Molly Cornell); and by Narcotics Anonymous at 7pm on
Friday evenings (contact is Sally Fritz)

Taize is cancelled for first Sunday in February. Contact Bobbi Bailin

THE BOOK NOOK, Nan Garret-Logan

The book this month is one that some of us have found interesting and helpful to start
conversations in our pre-meeting meeting! There will be someone at the Meeting House
every Sunday at 9:00 to consider some aspect of A Language for Inward Landscape - Spiritual
wisdom from the Quaker movement by Brian Drayton and William P. Taber, Jr.

All are welcome to join once or every week as your schedule and interests lead you.

Empathy Practice (NVC)

Usually 1st Sat. 9:30-11:30)

(February 4, March 4) at 24 Althea Rd. N. Falmouth) Brenda Nolan, convenor (508-274-2701)

Semi-Simulated

Restorative Circle Practice,

3rd Sun 2-4pm (Sundays

February 19, March 19) at the Meetinghouse, Brenda Nolan, convenor (508-274-2701)

West Falmouth Business Meeting,

4th SUN (February 26, March 26)

Clerk – Larry Jordan
(508-420-1738)

Recording Clerk Sally Fritz

Treasurer L. Kreidermacher

Auditor Nancy Holland

Directory/e-mail List

Brenda Nolan

Ministry & Counsel

Deborah Bradley

Building & Grounds

Jonathan Joyal

Quaker House Trustees

Molly Cornell

Meetinghouse Committee

Larisa Davidson

Cemetery Overseers

Sally Fritz

Library Committee

Nan Garrett-Logan

Peace and Social Order

Fran Lightsom

Archives

Carolyn Jordan

Religious Education (Youth)

508-540-7652)

Deborah Bradley



New England Yearly Meeting

online Newsletter:

<https://neym.org/newsletters>

FROM NAN GARRETT-LOGAN

Dear Friends

Please consider joining the email list described here and if you are willing to join it please respond to me, Nan, at loganwoho@comcast.net

Meeting for Business has asked Brenda to email West Falmouth Friends to find out who would like to be on a West Falmouth Meeting email list to help with efforts to mitigate gun violence.

Here's what it would mean:

- You would occasionally receive an email encouraging you to call or email elected officials or others to express support or concern for a specific issue. For example, it might be a bill pending in the Massachusetts legislature, or our Attorney General's efforts to demand that gun manufacturers release their data on accidents cause by defects in their product.
- Issues will be identified by the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence. Nan Logan will serve as the link between West Falmouth Friends and the Coalition.

Such calls have already successfully countered the National Rifle Association's efforts to block an important nominee to the state Superior court.

If you would like more information please contact Nan loganwoho@comcast.net or 508-566-6793 "I look forward to the opportunity to make some steps to improve our relationship with guns".



THE ENVIRONMENT—An editorial by Alta Mae Stevens

We were all thrilled by the enormity of last Saturday's response by women all over the globe to the current challenges to women's rights, to, among other things, control of their own bodies. We look forward to a similar turnout for the forthcoming climate change march and then, so I hear, to a march by scientists deeply concerned about the fate of the world.

For those interested in the scope of the current challenge to an already overburdened environment, I refer you to the NY Times 1/27/2017. There a few terse paragraphs - some items already written into law - lay out the administration's stance on and actions already taken regarding the environment.

1. Revive dying coal mining, especially on federal property. Cancel limits on mountaintop mining, on methane emissions. Remove vehicle gas economy standards.
2. Rewrite regulations on climate change, eliminating reasons for their existence.
3. Eliminate the Clean Water Act of 1972.
And the bottom line: get rid of the EPA.

The Gazette does not ordinarily venture beyond Quaker interests, especially those of West Falmouth Quakers. But this is no ordinary time.

Rachel Carson, all by herself, in two bestselling books and hundreds of speeches all over the U.S. challenged the deadly impact of industry on life on earth. She was spectacularly successful in her campaign.

We hope, united in their deep belief that there is that of God in every living being, that Quakers may help achieve the same result.

STATE OF SOCIETY 2016

Dear Friends,

Each year local Ministry and Council is charged by New England Yearly Meeting with preparing a State of Society Report, to be submitted after approval by West Falmouth and Sandwich.

We will hold a “listening session” open to all members and attenders following hospitality on Sunday, February 19. [This gathering will be in lieu of Adult Ed in February.]

At our January meeting, M&C articulated five questions for Friends to consider in preparation for participating in the listening session.

We encourage you to join us on February 19. Attenders are especially encourage to be part of this discussion to help us hear and respond to your needs and ideas.

1. Do you find that the silence and vocal ministry during meeting are in harmony? What value do you draw from each?
2. What are we doing to meet the needs of our fellow human beings, both within the community of the meeting and in the world beyond? What should we be doing? How can we do more?
3. How can we better allow ourselves to be guided by the belief of "that of God in each of us" as we interact with each other within the Meeting? How do we nurture each other's spiritual growth?
4. How successful has our Adult Education survey of Quaker history been? Has it met the needs of those new to Quakerism as well as longtime Quakers? Do you have suggestions (proposals) for future Adult Ed sessions?
5. How can we attract more and younger people the West Falmouth Meeting - especially families with children? What should we be offering in the way of Sunday School to enrich the lives of the children in the Meeting and attract others?

Deborah Bradley

Engage Falmouth Volunteer Fair

Engage Falmouth was formed by several adults in their twenties and thirties after the 2016 election, to raise awareness of current political issues and actions for protecting the environment, women's rights, racial justice, civil liberties, and rights of immigrants, minority and LGBTQ communities, religious freedom, refugee support, economic justice including access to quality healthcare, and fair living wages for all.

The Engage Falmouth Volunteer Fair at St. Barnabas on Sunday, January 29th, was attended by a few hundred people. For awhile, there was a line outside the door. Nan Garret-Logan represented Grandmothers Against Gun Violence. Brenda and Bernie Nolan handed out more than one hundred tri-folds about restorative justice. No Place for Hate, The League of Women Voters, Big Brothers-Big Sisters, the Falmouth Service Center, and Neighborhood Falmouth were among many social, economic and environmental justice organizations creating awareness of their work and soliciting volunteers. Following the fair, a candlelight vigil was held on the Village Green in support of immigrants and refugees. More about Engage Falmouth can be found on their Facebook page.

Retreat About Our Quaker Response to Climate Change

Fran Lightsom

West Falmouth Friends will hold a retreat about our Quaker response to climate change on Saturday Feb. 25 at the West Falmouth Quaker House. The retreat will run from 10 AM to 3 PM and will include a potluck lunch. During the retreat, the Peace & Social Order Committee will lead Friends in worship sharing with queries about how our concern for climate change is founded in our Quaker faith and can be expressed in our lives. Friends in East Sandwich and Yarmouth Meetings have been invited to join us.

West Falmouth Preparative Meeting for Business: January 29, 2017

Friends gathered for worship with attention to business following morning worship and hospitality. Attending: Larry Jordan (clerk),Carolyn Jordan, Steve Gates, Sunny Davidson, Martin Fido, Len Kreidermacher, Bernie Nolan, Fran Lightsom, Erica Adams, Sally Fritz

Opening reflection and silence

"In worship we have our neighbors to right and left, before and behind, yet the Eternal Presence is over all and beneath all. Worship does not consist in achieving a mental state of concentrated isolation from ones fellows. But in the depth of common worship it is as if we found our separate lives were all one life, within whom we live and move and have our being.

Thomas Kelly 1991, from Chapter 2: Worship, Faith and Practice 2015 Interim Edition, p 46

Clerk's Business:

Meetinghouse Calendar. Coming events were marked on the foyer calendar:

Taize Singing: 6:00 pm on first Sundays. Bobbi Bailin, contact person
Restorative Circle Practice: 2-4pm on third Sundays. Brenda Nolan, contact
Emerson House Yoga: 2:30-3:30 pm Mondays. Molly Cornell, contact
Zen Meditation: 7:00 pm Mondays. Fran Lightsom, contact
Narcotics Anonymous: 7:00 pm Fridays. Sally Fritz, contact
Shape Note Singing: 10:00-3:00 Feb. 11th. Chuck Micciche, Yarmouth Meeting
Quaker Women: 5:30 Thursday, Feb 16th. Quaker House

Representatives to Monthly Meeting: Len Kreidermacher, Sunny Davidson, Feb 2nd, Sandwich

NEYM online Newsletter: A link will be included in *The Gazette*

Treasurer's Report: these balances were reported as of Jan. 29, 2017:

MH checking account = \$27,597.81 NEYM Pooled Fund = \$85,138.71

QH Checking account = \$6,293.48

At an informal meeting on Jan. 11, 2017 Friends considered whether to continue investing in the NEYM Pooled Fund annually, when able, or to give money to a special source that would promote social justice, helping local homeless people, for example, or international refugees, indigenous people without bail bond, etc. **Friends agreed to form an ad-hoc committee to propose policies for such annual giving of our excess funds** and to bring suggestions to the Meeting. Molly Cornell will act as convener.

Peace & Social order was asked to discern possible uses for the gift of \$1,000 from a generous Friend who is concerned that certain people are likely to be marginalized or mistreated in the current national political climate.

Ministry and Counsel invited Friends to a listening session after hospitality on Feb. 19th to prepare the 2016 State of Society report on the spiritual health of the Meeting.

After some clarification of language, **Friends approved a letter of support for Erica Adam's application to the NEYM Legacy Fund** for the money to develop educational materials to accompany the Chiapas (Mexico) Photography Project travelling exhibit.

Peace and Social Order will offer a retreat on Saturday, Feb 25th from 10:00 to 3:00 pm on the subject of climate change. Sandwich and Yarmouth Meetings have been invited.

The Nominating Committee has completed its work. The new slate will be posted in the foyer.

Archives Committee is beginning to assemble a chronology of our history since the 1986 historical booklet was printed, and is grateful to a Friend for photographing the crumbling paper copies of special events and people. Members of Meeting may continue to submit biographical material.

Meeting ended with silence, proposing to meet again on February 26th after hospitality.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Fritz, recording clerk