



THE GAZETTE

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

West Falmouth Religious Society of Friends **AUGUST-SEPT 2017**

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

Quaker Birthdays

AUGUST

Jonathan Joyal, 1
Larisa Davidson, 2
Karen Hunter, 8
Nancy Holland, 27
Marilee Wheeler, 31

SEPTEMBER

Nan Garrett-Logan, 5
Len Kreidermacher, 25

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

REGULAR Events

Adult Discussion Group,

Sundays at 9AM (August 6, 13, 20, 27; September 3, 10, 17, 24)

Peace and Social Order, 2nd

Sunday at 12 (August 13; September 10) **Fran Lightsom, Clerk (508-548-9186)**

Adult Education, 3rd Sunday at

12:00 (None planned for August. Contact Sunny Davidson if you are interested in leading an on-going discussion of sections of NEYM *Faith and Practice (1985 version) starting with Chapter 4*)

Ministry and Counsel, 3rd

Monday evening (August 21, September 18) **Deborah Bradley, convenor, (508-564-4744)**

**Sunny Davidson
Carolyn Jordan
Louise Luckenbill
Marilyn Brice
Martin Fido**

Upcoming Events

Events in the Quarter

Saturday, August 12, New England Clambake with chowder at Smith Neck Friends Meeting

Saturday, September 9, Rummage Sale at Smith Neck

Sandwich Monthly Meeting

NOTE: Change of meeting date for SMM.

Sandwich Monthly Meeting has been re-scheduled to meet on August 13th in East Sandwich.

West Falmouth

Tuesday, August 15th, Quaker Women at the home of Sunny Davidson.

Sunday, August 27th, West Falmouth Meeting for Business is scheduled to meet at the home of Len Kreidermacher and Sunny Davidson following a potluck supper at 5:30 pm. If you'd like to swim, come earlier.

Other Events at the 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, monthly, usually on a Sunday or Monday. Contact: Bobbi Bailin

Hiroshima Day—from Joyce Johnson

Olive Beverly, now 99 years old, is organizing plans for a Remembrance on The Falmouth Village Green on Sunday, August 6th at 5 PM. Olive has been involved in this for a long time.

Empathy Practice (NVC)

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

(August cancelled; Sept. 9th) at 24 Althea Rd. N. Falmouth) Brenda Nolan, convener (508-274-2701)

Semi-Simulated Restorative Circle Practice,

Ad Hoc for July thru Sept

(Brenda Nolan, convener (508-274-2701)

West Falmouth Business Meeting,

4th SUN (Aug. 27, Sept. 24)

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

Carolyne Jordan

Religious Education (Youth)

508-540-7652)

Deborah Bradley



New England Yearly Meeting
online Newsletter:

<https://neym.org/newsletters>

357th Annual NEYM Sessions,
August 5-10, Castleton
University, Castleton,
Vermont

THE BOOK NOOK—Nan Garrett-Logan

This month we're highlighting a series of interest: the Pendle Hill Pamphlets. These are brief essays which express Quaker perspectives on themes of contemporary importance each around 36 pages long – a good length to read at one seating. We have quite a collection of them from the 1950s and on to today. They are in baskets on the bookshelves in chronological order. Peruse the titles and sign one out. Or consider submitting an essay of a topic of interest to you. You don't need to be a polished author to submit a manuscript. What's most important is that you have something compelling to say from a Quaker perspective that can best be said in about 9000 words. You can find "Pendle Hill Pamphlets: an Interview with Shirley Dodson here: <https://pendlehill.org/pendle-hill-pamphlets-interview-shirley-dodson>.



2017 Summer Talks on the Middle East

Sundays from 5 to 6pm

- Aug 6 **Church of the Messiah 22 Church Street, Woods Hole**
"The Syrian Conflict and Refugee Crisis:
Causes, Consequences and Responses"
Emily Cury
PhD. Research Fellow, Middle East Center, Northeastern University
- Aug 13 **"The United States and the Gulf"**
Susan Ziadeh
Former U.S. Ambassador to Qatar
Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Near Eastern Affairs

A Series of free talks, intended to expand our community's knowledge and understanding of events and cultures in the Middle East, has been organized each summer since 2002 by the **Committee for Peace & Justice in the Middle East**, originally convened by **Frances Moore**. We are grateful to the Church of the Messiah for providing an air-conditioned, handicap-accessible venue for these talks. Donations to support the speakers and the venue are greatly appreciated.

For further information call Mary Swope: [508-548-0625](tel:508-548-0625)



Editor's pick:

For fun, check out:

Dance with a Saquaro - Celebration of Diversity

<https://www.facebook.com/CenterforBioDiv/videos/10155400426210460/>

Saquaros are preserved in a national park. They grow very slowly and are harvested by poachers.

Alta Mae Stevens

A Visit With Memphis Friends

David and Carol Ciscel of Memphis Friends Meeting, along with their granddaughter Elsa Ciscel of Hartford stopped in for a visit at the home of Carolyn and Larry Jordan on July 20 during a vacation trip to the Cape. This was an opportunity for the two couples to reminisce over the transformations in the world around us since they first met nearly twenty years ago.

David, a retired economics professor, is a prolific author of pamphlets for QEW, the Quaker Institute on the Future and in Friends Journal on the topic of the Earth's growing worldwide economic crisis. He has also become a perennial treasurer – first of Memphis Friends Meeting, then for Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association, and now for Quaker Earthcare Witness.

The Jordans were members of the Memphis meeting where Larry served two terms as clerk, before transferring to Sandwich Monthly Meeting in 2007.

The Environment...

Week-Long Climate Pilgrimage Between New Hampshire Coal Plants Ends With Worship and Civil Disobedience at Bow Plant

Bow, NH - After a week of walking, a group of New England Quakers and fellow travelers concluded a sixty mile pilgrimage between New Hampshire's two coal-burning power plants Saturday, carrying their concern about potentially catastrophic climate change. The plant in Bow is the last such all-coal facility in New England that doesn't yet have a shutdown date.

After an hour-long worship gathering of 50 people near the gates of the plant, a smaller group walked the tracks and set up an encampment on Eversource property blockading rail deliveries of coal to the station. The group has erected tents and a scaffolding structure and is planning to stay.

Honor Woodrow, a Quaker and preschool teacher from Arlington, Massachusetts, joined the walk on July 9th in Dover. Speaking after the hour long worship service today she said, "This is a journey of pilgrimage, which means it is a journey of introspection and deep listening for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. All of us struggle with the question of what to do in the face of climate change"

The group sent a letter to plant officials last week inviting them to join them for worship.

While participants came from across New England, the worship at the plant was sponsored by Concord Friends Meeting. "We built our new Meetinghouse to be green, we have worked for alternative power and reducing environmental damage from fossil fuels," said J.J. Smith, a member of the Concord Meeting and resident of Pembroke. "But there is a limit to what we as individuals can do. We need to change human hearts and minds in the face of climate change, and it is far past time we shut this plant down," she said.

Eversource is in the state mandated process of selling the Merrimack station, along with several other facilities in New Hampshire. Final bid submissions are due in August.

That sentiment was echoed by John Humphries of Hartford Connecticut. He joined 20 others occupying the rail spur leading to the power plant's towering coal pile. "This is the perfect time for Eversource officials to retire this facility and dismantle it, rather than sell it. And it's the responsibility of the company and the government to protect the workers and the Town of Bow so that this necessary change is borne by all of us, not just a few," said Humphries. "In the absence of government preserving our life, liberty and happiness - it is up to citizens ourselves to put our bodies where our mouths are and to act as if the truth about climate change is actually true."

Katherine Fisher co-owns Great Sky Solar in Cambridge, MA and joined the pilgrims for worship Saturday morning. “Climate change is the defining issue of our time. Just this past week an iceberg the size of Delaware broke off of Antarctica. How can it be legal to keep burning coal, and illegal to get in the way of it being burned, when poor people and communities of color around the world are suffering from climate catastrophe now, when our planet is headed for unlivable conditions, and the President won’t even abide by the insufficient measures of the Paris climate accord? And how am I supposed to live and repent in this economic system that keeps us complicit?” she said.

While blockaders are painting a large banner to be hung from the 12 foot scaffolding erected on the tracks, another banner waves in the wind that reads, “our witness is rooted in reverence.”

Woodrow said, “What’s happening today is witness - witnessing to the power of God to transform ourselves and transform the world. The Quaker tradition tells us that when things feel baffling, when we feel weak, vulnerable, unworthy, and confused - that that is the moment when we might receive wisdom - and if our actions spring from this place, wonderful things might be revealed.”

Interviews with blockaders and photos available on request. Follow @QuakerClimate on Twitter and <https://www.facebook.com/quakerpipelinepilgrimage>

What Can Friends Do to Reduce Their Carbon Footprints?

This is the fourth of a series of occasional articles by Steve Gates about actions you might wish to consider taking to reduce your carbon footprint.

I recently encountered one of those books that approaches an old subject in an interesting new way: *Energy-Wise Landscape Design: A New Approach for Your Garden* (New Society Publishers, 2010) by Sue Reed, who is a landscape architect in Western Massachusetts. Her book is in the Falmouth library.

Ms. Reed’s book contains more than 75 different actions you can take to reduce your carbon footprint by altering the design of your landscape or house. Many of these can be thought of as adaptations of what was learned from building passive solar houses (a topic not often mentioned these days).

Passive solar house, 1984



So, for example, we all know that we can reduce our energy consumption by turning the thermostat up a few degrees in the summer, so that the air-conditioning doesn’t kick in quite as soon on a hot day. But few of us have thought through all the different ways that altering our landscaping can help cool our houses on hot summer days, reducing the need for air-conditioning in the first place. She provides similarly useful ideas for helping homes absorb and retain heat during the winter.

Her book focuses on key issues, such as reducing the heat absorbed on our property (so it is not radiated back to our houses), and provides detailed suggestions for ways to avoid summer sun but encourage winter sun. She prefers deciduous plants over evergreens, overhangs such as arbors over tall trees on the south of a house, new sun-reflecting materials for driveways, low or no-lawn landscaping, and careful attention to the direction from which the sun is shining at each time of the day. Her book gives clear explanations of the underlying principles, and practical hints for implementing solutions.

After reading Ms. Reed's book, I've been wondering: how many other ways are there to reduce our consumption of fossil fuels that haven't yet occurred to us? The list of ideas I've gathered now numbers over 250, thanks in part to this book.....and I suspect that there are hundreds more ideas yet to be discovered. Do you have one? If so, please let me know.

More ideas for actions you can take to reduce your carbon footprint are on this website:

<http://capecodclimatechangecollaborative.org/app/Calculators/CCCC-Actions.html>. This list contains 53 ideas for which I have quantitative data; in the next version (available in the Fall), I'll show the entire list of 250+ ideas. So check back then.



Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business: July 30, 2017

Friends gathered for business following morning worship and hospitality in the meetinghouse. Attending: Larry Jordan (clerk), Rod Zwirner, Eric Edwards, Steve Gates, Len Kreidermacher, Marilee Wheeler, Fran Lightsom, Joyce Johnson, Louise Luckenbill and Molly Cornell.

Opening reflection and silence

[In 1979 Paul Mangelsdorf was one of only three Quakers among the US delegation to a World Council of Churches conference held at MIT on the theme "Faith, Science, and the Future – the contributions of faith, science, and technology in the struggle for a just, participatory, and sustainable society".]

"I came to MIT with the naive assumption that we scientists were there in our capacity as scientists and technologists to supply technical opinions relating to technical questions. Slowly it dawned on me that what we were dealing with was not science as an information source but rather science and technology as the dominant social and cultural force in today's world.

"It was a totally new experience for me to try to stand outside science and view it as a potent social force, not always welcomed. I had always assumed that science was just like literacy, the more of it the better.

[Conferees divided themselves into groups charged with producing working papers on issue subtopics. Two of the most popular were the working sections on "The Nature of Science and the Nature of Faith" and "Humanity, Nature, and God."]

"I was not especially tempted by either of these, nor do I think most Friends would be, since the conflict between science and religion has not troubled Friends very much. Much more troubling to me is the conflict between the Old Testament considerations of prudence and stewardship (as embodied by such considerations as "sustainability") and the New Testament injunctions to respond unreservedly to immediate human misery. Indeed, I avoided this conflict as much as possible by choosing a working section on "Planning the Industrial and Urban Environment of the Future," which seemed to me an optimistic and upbeat topic. ... Also, the concept of sustainability received no other discussion. Partly, this was because we had few economists among us, but mainly because it was humanly impossible to discuss the question [of restrained development] face-to-face with people from countries worried about immediate survival."

excerpted from: Paul Mangelsdorf "Faith, Science, and the Future,"
Friends Journal, November 1979, p. 14-18

Clerk's business

- (1) There are no changes in the meetinghouse calendar from last month. We will re-consider the current use by the Emerson House yoga group before the heating season resumes in the Fall.
- (2) The Quaker Women's group plans to meet on August 15th at the home of Sunny Davidson.
- (3) 357th Annual NEYM Sessions, August 5-10, 2017 at Castleton University, Castleton, Vermont
- (4) Sandwich Monthly Meeting has been re-scheduled to meet on August 13th in East Sandwich. The SMM clerk will advise the preparative meetings of this change of date.

Treasurer's report– Len Kreidermacher reported the following balances, as of 30 July 2017:

Meetinghouse Account = \$20,296.28 Quaker House Acct = \$13,298.63

NEYM Pooled Fund = \$90,321.30

Notes: The only remaining budget payments are insurance and the balance due to NEYM General Fund. In addition, we can expect to pay the Town of Falmouth \$400 in lieu of taxes in October. With everything in order, the report was accepted with gratitude.

Ministry and Counsel– Louise and Larry reported that the committee's current attention was towards health issues among WF Friends. M&C communicated a call for support by sending a "Concerns and Caring" email to everyone on our email list.

Adult Education – There is no adult education planned for August. Friends are encouraged to contact Sunny Davidson about leading an on-going discussion of sections of NEYM *Faith and Practice* (1985 version) starting with Chapter 4.

Peace and social order– Fran Lightsom reported that the committee discussed the use of Rachel Carey Harper's \$1,000 gift to the Meeting. The committee recommends donating the gift to *Belonging To Each Other*. This organization, newly incorporated, deals with housing Falmouth's homeless population. Following the recommendation, a Friend introduced information regarding the reason behind the distribution of the gift in the first place, which left us unsettled on how to proceed. After heartfelt discussion of a variety of alternative actions, meeting approved going ahead with the donation to *Belonging To Each Other* and referred the matter of the original gift to Ministry and Counsel for seasoning.

Library committee – Nan Logan is in the process of culling the shelves of duplicate or seldom-used books. Friends are invited to peruse the discards and take them home, or distribute them elsewhere, before they are given to a library book sale in the near future.

New business The clerk will pass Paul Mangeldorf's obituary, retrieved from *Friends Journal*, to M&C for seasoning as a minute to be submitted to NEYM.

A review of NEYM Sessions by those who attend this year will be held on Sunday, August 20th at the home of Molly Cornell following a 5:30 potluck supper. All are invited to attend to hear about hot-off-the-press issues within our Yearly Meeting.

With all business attended to, we closed with a period of quiet. The next meeting for business is scheduled for the evening of August 27th at the home of Len Kreidermacher and Sunny Davidson. Potluck 5:30 PM and if you'd like to swim, come earlier.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Cornell, acting recording clerk



The Gazette is published by West Falmouth Quaker Meeting's Peace and Social Order Committee

Editor is Alta Mae Stevens; Brenda Nolan, format and transmitter. Questions, corrections go to altamaestevens@gmail.com