

THE GAZETTE

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

West Falmouth Religious Society of Friends **NOV – DEC 2018**

Frances Lightsom, Clerk (508-548-9186; fran.lightsom@gmail.com)

Upcoming Events

Quaker Birthdays

NOVEMBER

Kim Allsup, 13
Martin Fido, 18
Louise Luckenbill, 19
Rebecca Edwards, 30

DECEMBER

Steve Gates, 4
Alta Mae Stevens, 10
Ruth Zwirner, 15

Regular Events

Adult Discussion Group

Sundays at 9AM (November 4, 11, 18, 25; December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30)

Peace and Social Order

2nd Sunday at 12 (November 11; December 9)
Larry Jordan, Clerk (508-420-1738)

Adult Education, 3rd Sunday at

12:00 (November 18: Quakers in Early Falmouth with Thomas Sbarra; December 16 TBD).

Ministry and Counsel

7:00pm (No November meeting; December 5 at the Jordan's)
Deborah Bradley, convener, (508-564-4744)
Marilyn Brice
Martin Fido
Carolyne Jordan
Jonathan Joyal
Louise Luckenbill

Empathy Practice (NVC)

Usually 1st Sat. 9:30-11:45
(November 3, December 1) at 24 Althea Rd. N. Falmouth, Brenda Nolan, convener (508-274-2701)

New England Yearly Meeting

NEYM Ministry and Counsel Retreat, Saturday, November 10, Woolman Hill.

Sandwich Monthly Meeting

Monthly Meeting for Business, Sunday, December 2 in Yarmouth.

Events in the Quarter

Quarterly Meeting for Business, Saturday, November 3 in West Falmouth. Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. with arrival and greeting over coffee, tea and small snacks. See attached flyer for full schedule. Contributions for morning coffee and snacks and noon lunch are welcome. MfB agenda will include three memorial minutes from West Falmouth: Paul Mangelsdorf, Amelie Scheltema, and Alan Douglas. (Memorial minutes appear later in this issue.) Afternoon programs at West Falmouth Public Library from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. include a presentation/exhibit on Quaker history led by Abigail Young and hands-on training on carbon footprint calculation and reduction goals led by Steve Gates (please bring utility bills).



West Falmouth



The **Adult Discussion Group** gathers at the meetinghouse **Sundays at 9:00 a.m.** barring schedule conflicts. In November we will finish a pamphlet by Thomas Gates, *Reclaiming the Transcendent*. We will then turn to two draft chapters of the revised *Faith and Practice*, one on pastoral care and the other on dying, death, and bereavement. We plan to use the discussion questions provided by the revision

committee and send our thoughts to the committee. A single pdf file of NEYM *Interim Faith and Practice 2014*, including a Study Guide, can be downloaded free of charge at neym.org/fandp/interim. New discussion group members are always welcome!

Quaker Women Potluck and discussion **Wednesday, November 14**. We are experimenting this month with a **luncheon meeting**. We will gather at Quaker House at 11:30 a.m. and share a potluck lunch at 12:00 noon. The discussion topic is “A Powerful Woman.”

Semi-Simulated Restorative Circle Practice,

Usually 1st Saturday 12:45-2:45 pm
(November 3, December 1) at 24 Althea Rd., North Falmouth, Brenda Nolan, convener (508-274-2701)

West Falmouth Business Meeting

4th Sunday (Note Holiday Schedule: next MfB on December 9; then on January 6)

Clerk – Frances Lightsom
(508-548-9186)

Recording Clerk Molly Cornell

Treasurer Stephen Gates

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

Larry Jordan

Archives

Carolyne Jordan

Religious Education (Adult)

Sunny Davidson

Religious Education (Youth)

Deborah Bradley

**New England Yearly Meeting
online Newsletter:**

<https://neym.org/newsletters>



Grocery Gift Cards for Wampanoag Food Pantry

In this season, Sandwich Monthly Meeting donates to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's food pantry. This year the pantry would like \$100 grocery store gift cards for distribution to needy elders. Len Kreidermacher will be collecting our donations **Sundays in November (4, 11, 18 and 25)**. Friends may give any amount in cash or by check made out to the Dennis-Yarmouth Ecumenical Council (for the Prevention of Homelessness) or DYECH.



Other Events at the Meetinghouse

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

Friday evenings, 7 pm, Narcotics Anonymous. Contact Sally Fritz



Climate Change Forum, Sunday, November 4, 2 - 4 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Sandwich, 159 Main Street, Sandwich, MA 02563. The event is entitled "**Tackling the Climate Crisis NOW: Faith and Science in a Call to Action.**" For further information see climate section later in this issue.



Alternative Gift Market, Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11, at St. Barnabas Church in Falmouth, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Choose creative holiday gifts that help support our planet, our local community and at-risk communities around the world. <http://uuffm.org/justice/upper-cape-alternative-gift-market/>

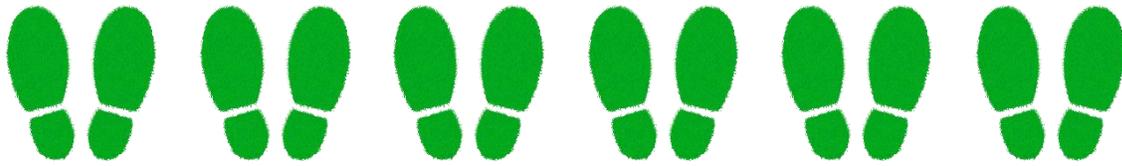


The annual **Wampanoag/Quaker Walk** to the Indian Memorial in South Yarmouth has been scheduled for **November 11** at Yarmouth Friends Meeting at the rise of Meeting for Worship.



Saturday, November 17, "Understanding Quakers," a panel consisting of Molly Cornell, Eric Edwards and Larry Jordan. West Falmouth Public Library, 10:30 a.m., as part of a Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners grant to the library. See attached flyer.





Climate Calculator Goes Live!

Steve Gates

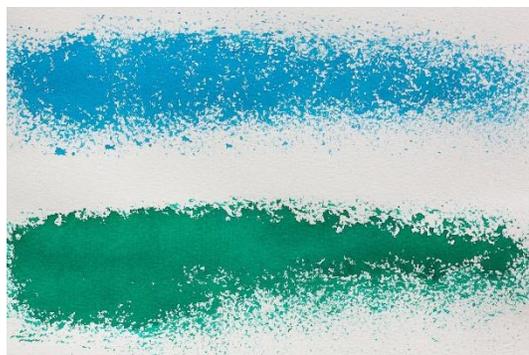
Friends who are interested in exploring ways to meet the New England Yearly Meeting's proposed 10% reduction in their carbon footprints during the coming year may wish to try out the new version of the Climate Calculator that the NEYM has suggested using. This calculator can be found at <http://climatecalculator.org/ClimateCalculator.html>. This calculator not only helps you estimate your existing carbon footprint, but also gives you 475 different ways to reduce that carbon footprint, many of which actually save you money. New in this version, released earlier this week, is the ability to come back at any time and see your previous results, as well as results at the yearly and individual meeting levels. And a year from now, you'll be able to see how much you've reduced your footprint.

Upcoming Climate Forum on Faith, Science and Action

As many of you know, at October Meeting for Business, Friends minuted approval for joining the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative, which includes the Faith Community Environmental Network of approximately 20 Cape Cod houses of worship. One of our first opportunities to see the FCEN in action is a public forum **Sunday, November 4, 2 - 4 p.m.** at St. John's Episcopal Church in Sandwich, 159 Main Street, Sandwich, MA 02563. The event is entitled **"Tackling the Climate Crisis NOW: Faith and Science in a Call to Action."**



You can click [here](#) for more details on the event, which is co-sponsored by Woods Hole Research Center, FCEN and St. John's. Click on the green "Register" bar to register.



Meeting for Worship for Marriage

On October 6, a beautiful fall day, Friends gathered for Meeting for Worship for the Marriage of **Meg Klepak and Jay O'Hara**. These photos and many others can be seen at <https://dropevent.com/gallery/megandjay>



Custom Cakes!

Memorial Minutes

Alan Douglas

Alan Douglas, a member of Sandwich Monthly Meeting, West Falmouth Preparative Meeting, passed away peacefully at the age of 72 sometime over the weekend of the 14-15th of November, 2016 at his home in Pocasset, Massachusetts. He was discovered by a concerned neighbor, who found him in his favorite armchair, newspaper in his lap with the television still on to NPR.

Alan's parents had been the mainstays of the Meeting for many years and spent much time in Quaker works, but we knew their son mostly as a quiet Friend who frequently found ingenious ways to fix things around the Meeting House.



Alan graduated in engineering from Swarthmore College and had considerable skill and affinity for things electrical and mechanical. Alan worked as an engineer for a local company that made oceanographic equipment, but his Quakerism manifested itself mostly in his quiet life's work of saving things he regarded as valuable pillars of our culture from neglect and oblivion.

His first interest was antique player keyboard instruments. He eventually gathered an amazing collection of player pianos, player reed organs and even a beautiful player pipe organ which he managed to salvage from a house being demolished near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He built a room in his barn in Pocasset to set it up and got it playing. He told us that only five of these were made and that he had been in touch with the owners of all the others. The group commissioned cutting more rolls for these five instruments to enhance the repertoire available. Alan enjoyed demonstrating this impressive instrument to friends. It was an awe-inspiring experience to see one whole wall of louvers open to reveal the pipes in the 9x12 adjoining room and hear their sound fill the building. Members of West Falmouth Meeting were treated to his demonstrations of these curious and wonderful instruments at an annual gathering at the Douglas home.

The prize of the music collection, however, was the "reproducer piano" which encoded touch as well as timing and notes on the paper reel and which could make a recording in real time by an artist. Alan had a roll cut by George Gershwin, which he would play for a group of Friends gathered for the occasion every few years. It was amazing to sit in the circle around the piano and hear a true concert performance played by a ghost.

However, it was in the world of radio that Alan quietly achieved international acclaim. On top of all the keyboard instruments in his barn sat a world class collection of antique radios, all lovingly restored. These were the early radios, from the first homemade ones up to the 1930's when production models proliferated. He also collected a wealth of period literature and components, soon becoming known in radio circles as a serious collector and historian of the field. He spent hours answering letters and emails from around the world, addressing questions for restorers of old electronic equipment. At one point a publisher approached Alan to see whether he could put together a compendium of all the radios manufactured before 1930. Alan had so much to offer that what was first envisioned as a list of the various models evolved into a two-volume tome that has become the bible for collectors and has a solid international reputation.

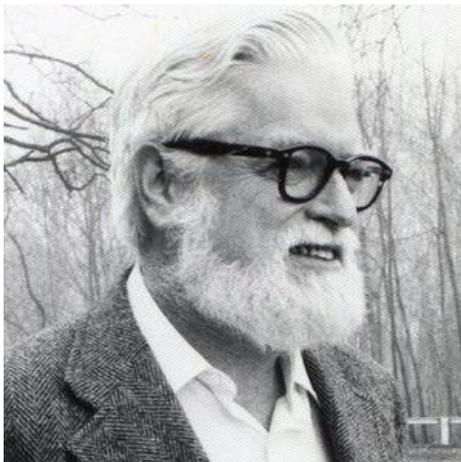
Alan also delved further into local history, tracing old property lines and particularly old stone walls now fallen into disrepair. He became an expert at rebuilding dry-stone walls and spent much of his last years focused on this new task. But then, when a neighbor had to demolish a shed for a new septic system, Alan realized that the shed had been topped with an old salvaged deck house from one of the local fishing schooners. Their hulls had rotted long ago, and this was the last extant deck house. It was in decent condition under years of paint, so Alan had it moved to his driveway where he had been patiently scraping down to wood and restoring it to its original condition. It is now destined to be an attraction in a local museum.

Alan was caretaker of the family homestead after the decease of his parents. He continued their tradition of farming the sizeable plot, organically growing a variety of vegetable and berry produce which he generously shared with members of the Meeting, neighbors and charities. Alan was rarely vocal in his Quakerism, but his life was a model of human compassion and environmental stewardship.

Alan died much too soon. The word of his passing traveled rapidly and widely through the antique radio community which is still mourning his loss. In his quiet way, he was a great man. His family and friends are working to find ways to pass his legacy on to the future.



Paul Christof Mangelsdorf Jr.



Born on January 31, 1925, Paul Mangelsdorf joined the Religious Society of Friends in Chicago in the 1950's at the same time as his wife. His early life was in a scientific non-religious household, but he felt that Quakerism was a religion that did not conflict with his own life as a scientist. He graduated from Swarthmore College, where he met his future wife, May Burnside, and received his doctorate from Harvard. He returned to Swarthmore to teach physics for 29 years, concurrently working as a research associate at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where he worked summers, vacations and sabbaticals. At Woods Hole he studied the chemical composition of oceans and their sediments. His research took him around the world, and even up the Amazon river.

Living in both Swarthmore, Pennsylvania and Falmouth, Massachusetts gave Paul a perspective on Friends that few will ever experience. He and Mary were part of the small group of Friends who, in 1965,

restarted the West Falmouth Preparative Meeting of Sandwich Monthly Meeting as an unprogrammed meeting, bringing it back to its 1685 roots. Previously the meeting had been open only in the summer for many years, and had before that been a pastoral meeting during the Gurneyite separation. Paul's devotion and affection for the meeting continued until his death. His engagement with the Society of Friends both in Swarthmore and West Falmouth led him to be a confident explicator of Quaker practice both to youth growing up in a meeting and to adults experiencing Friends' ways for the first time. Most summers from the sixties on, Paul and Mary attended New England Yearly Meeting Sessions with their children. He and Mary ran the Yearly meeting bookstore and built it up into the large resource it is today. Paul participated in Yearly meeting in other ways, serving on the Permanent Board, and acting early on as advisor to the then newly hired General Secretary of Yearly meeting, Jonathan Vogel-Borne, but most publicly and perhaps most joyously playing trumpet in the "coffee house" Dixieland band that marks the last night of Sessions. He had learned to play trumpet as a child, and hardly missed an opportunity to play with Friends, as well as more than twenty years with the Falmouth Town Band.

Paul's Quaker life was active also in Swarthmore meeting, where he would serve a simple breakfast to students coming to worship and often was called upon to explain Friends' ways at weddings and memorial meetings. His activities for Friends General Conference included serving as a representative to the World Council of Churches, and as a committee member that produced the Friends General Conference Hymnal *Worship in Song* (Published in 1996). In its inclusion of African-American hymns and spirituals, songs from the Civil Rights Movement and anti-war protests of the 60's and 70's, as well as newly composed songs celebrating famous Quakers, the new hymnal reflects the rich spiritual diversity of 20th century Quakerism as well as an historic perspective. The historical notes included in the hymnal are mostly Paul's scholarly work. Paul also was a founding member of Friends Association for Higher Education, served on the board at Pendle Hill retreat center, and in retirement volunteered at the FGC office.

Paul was a witty, aphoristic, and carefully gentle speaker, easy to like, brilliant in insight. He felt the world was endlessly fascinating and worth learning about, from the most local details of the Quaker cemetery surrounding the West Falmouth meeting house to abstruse science, the arts, and the sometimes recondite matters of history. He died on March 6, 2015 in Newtown Square, PA.

Paul is survived by his wife of 69 years, Mary Burnside Mangelsdorf; four children, Helen Mangelsdorf (Roman Tybinko), Sarah Mangelsdorf (Karl Rosengren), Paul Christof Mangelsdorf III (Laurice), and Mary Mangelsdorf (Roy Peabody); five grandchildren; a brother, Clark Mangelsdorf (Peggy); and nine nieces and nephews.

Two memorial services celebrating Paul Mangelsdorf's life were held in 2015, one in the spring at Swarthmore meeting and the second at West Falmouth Preparative meeting in the summer. His ashes are buried in the West Falmouth meeting's graveyard.



Amelie Hains Scheltema

Amelie (Ami) Scheltema was born in 1928 into a second-generation Naval Academy officer's well-to-do family that she would later describe as "Victorian." Before she was forty, she came to the Religious Society of Friends, where she would actively participate, lead, and inspire until her death in 2015, while walking to the ocean with her husband and older son, near their residence in Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Ami graduated from Bryn Mawr with a degree in geology. She found it difficult to get a job at the U.S. Geological Survey, even though she had previously worked there during the summer. Eventually the Survey would hire her, but meanwhile she spent her time working for the Ponds Extract Company, capping lipstick and putting lids on jars of cold cream. When it was discovered she could type, she was put in charge of sending out overdue payment notices. At the USGS in Washington, D.C., where she worked with a military secret clearance, it was soon clear to her she would need an advanced degree if she wanted to have any chance for a professional career. Accepted at Radcliffe in Geology, Ami discovered that her presence in the department was unwelcome, for the simple fact of her being a woman. At that time there was only one other woman in the department, a crystallographer. She began to be attracted to Biology while working a night job at the Museum of Comparative Zoology. She met Rudolph Scheltema at the Museum, a young man back from the War (WWII) studying ocean mollusks and gastropods. They were married in less than a year, in 1955.



The Scheltemas summered several years in Woods Hole. When Rudolph established his laboratory at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), they settled permanently in Falmouth (Sippewissett). Although she was no longer in school, Ami was encouraged by her husband to work with him in his lab and pursue her own interests in biological research as well. Initially she co-authored publications with Rudolph, but by the late 1960's she began publishing papers on her own. She held no position, took no salary, held no advanced degree, and worked part-time, with two children at home. With the encouragement of the ecologist Howard Sanders at WHOI, she began her life's special work on a deep-sea mollusk, Aplacophora, and by 1972 had written her first solo paper on this group of animals. She would become a world expert on them. In 1990 she was designated a Guest Investigator at WHOI, in 1992 she received a Doctorate from the University of Oslo in Norway, and in 1999 she was designated an Institution Visiting Scholar at WHOI for life. Her work resulted in 79 papers, research cruises, hosting students and visiting researchers from around the globe, as well as having a genus (*Scheltemaia*) named to honor her.

Ami's path ultimately led her to the Society of Friends in the mid 1960's. Her own self-described feelings of abandonment and lack of affectionate parenting as a young child, and her inability to disregard the suffering of others, made her sensitive to the forgotten and down-trodden of the world. She was devastated learning about the Holocaust. Other significant influences included the national unrest during the Korean conflict, and the white paint someone had applied to a photograph of a black face in a Southern textbook she was editing at an early job. By the early sixties, the Vietnam war had moved her firmly into a non-violence philosophy. At first, she became involved with the Unitarian Universalists, helping them organize in Falmouth, and providing a place for her young sons to learn a way not offered to her younger self. She met Mary

Mangelsdorf, a Friend who warmly and enthusiastically suggested she try the West Falmouth Friends preparative meeting of Sandwich Monthly meeting. She became a convinced Friend, along with her husband, and joined the Society of Friends. Ami and Rudi's mutual commitment to pacifism as an intelligent and loving response to the world's violence remained a central testimony for the rest of her life.

The testimony of her life became one work, the science a joyful exploration of the Cosmos given to us, and her Quaker activism an example and witness to others of what Love might do as a constructive part of that Cosmos. Quakers are advised to speak about God and the universe from their own experience rather than from received ideas, no matter how appealing abstract principles might seem. Ami followed this restraint. As a result, her vocal ministry came from her experience. What she came to know, she put into practice in every conceivable encouraging and nurturing way, teaching children as eagerly as adults. She enjoyed every sort of person, was respected and adored in return. She worked and/or clerked at the preparative, monthly, quarterly and yearly level. From her travels in science she came to know Friends from all over the world and their practices.

Amelie was a vigorous activist. During the Contra war she began demonstrating, once spending a night in prison because of her civil disobedience. Ami introduced the Alternatives to Violence project to the Bridgewater jail. She led the effort to get Falmouth declared a nuclear-free zone, did draft counseling, helped organize the Center for Peace and Justice, developed "Sea, Peace, and Earth," a curriculum dedicated to helping students disenchanted with traditional schooling, and led the Meeting in its considerations on the Sanctuary Movement, immigration, and gender equality. She became a member of Falmouth's Affirmative Action Committee. She introduced the concept of Restorative Justice to West Falmouth Friends Meeting, and to the Falmouth community at large. Together with her husband, Rudolph, she was active in Veterans for Peace. They helped create an annual poetry reading of submitted poems about peace.

Ami never experienced a conflict between her religious faith and contemporary science. "In the lab I work closely with God's creation. I love to discover it, and to use the scientific method." And as for her life among Friends, she said; "The Quakers taught me where to stand. You oppose evil without rancor, hatred or fear. You simply say, 'that's not to be done.'"

She leaves her husband Rudolf Scheltema, her two sons, Charles T. Scheltema and his partner Anne Marie Tupper, of Falmouth and Konrad E. Scheltema and his wife Nicole M. Petrin, of Guilford, Vermont, three grandsons, Evan S., Oliver A., and Teodoor (Teo) L. Scheltema, and a foster daughter, Zada Clarke, of Martha's Vineyard.

A memorial service was held for Amelie in the manner of Friends on 3 October (tenth month), 2015.



Nicholas Upsall, Bringing the Light to Cape Cod

David Young

We are accustomed to credit Christopher Holder and John Copeland, Quaker missionaries from England, with bringing Quakerism to Sandwich. They came there to preach in 1657, and the first Quaker Meeting in Sandwich took place in 1657 (just ten years after George Fox first preached publicly!).

However, that first meeting took place in April, 1657, and Christopher Holder and John Copeland did not arrive until August, 1657. These two certainly deserve the credit for building up the Sandwich Meeting (that first meeting encompassed only five people) and with teaching the full precepts of Quakerism, but let us not forget Nicholas Upsall, the pioneer.

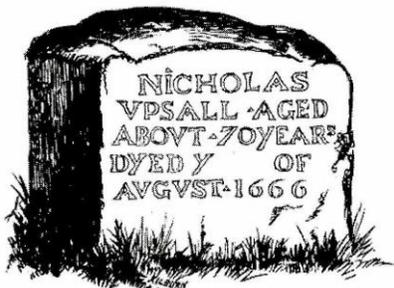
Upsall was a passenger on the *Mary and John*, which sailed in 1630 to Dorchester, at the same time as John Winthrop's fleet. As the Massachusetts Bay Colony organized itself, he was one of the 108 men in the first group recognized as freemen, and he was one of the founders of the church in Dorchester. He later moved to Boston.

But when Mary Fisher and Ann Austin, the first Quaker missionaries in Boston, were publicly whipped and jailed with neither food nor contact with others—and their books and papers burned—Upsall bribed the guard to allow him to bring them food during their five weeks' imprisonment, after which they were sent back to Barbados, whence they had sailed to Boston. We don't know how much conversation Upsall was able to have with the missionaries, but he became convinced.

Given that the women did not starve over five weeks, the authorities must have had some idea what was up. On October 14, 1656, a law was passed forbidding any citizen from aiding Quakers. When the law was publicly read in front of Upsall's inn (like Isaac Robinson, he was an innkeeper), he protested, for which he was fined 20 pounds and banished.

Upsall moved to Sandwich, perhaps knowing that the town was religiously disaffected. The governor of the Plymouth Colony demanded that he be brought to justice, but the townspeople sheltered him through the winter, and he travelled to the safety of Newport, Rhode Island, in the spring of 1657. But not before holding the first Friends Meeting on the Cape.

It is commonly speculated that while in Newport, he met Holder and Copeland while they were staying at Mary Dyer's house there, and that he recommended that they go to Sandwich. In fact, they first tried their original plan of converting the natives on Martha's Vineyard, but since that was the pet project of the brother of the proprietor there, they were banished to the Plymouth Colony, where they indeed made their way to Sandwich.



After three years' residence in Newport, Upsall returned to Boston. He was again imprisoned for two years, but finally released on condition that he cause no further disturbance nor teach Quakerism. About 65 years old, he relented and lived out his last years quietly.

Image from Dorchester Atheneum, New England Historic Genealogical Society



Readers Write

Volunteering with Remote Area Medical

Nan Garrett-Logan

Remote Area Medical, the group that provides free medical, dental and vision care in pop-up clinics throughout the country, tempted me away from Cape Cod twice this past summer: first to Brownsville, TX, at the end of July, then to the Rosebud Lakota Reservation early in August. These are destinations you might not consider for a vacation getaway but certainly provide a world apart and a way to connect that allows you to leave the comfort you're used to and share someone else's world.

Brownsville is smack on the border with Mexico and has historically had a substantial Mexican population. Most of the patients were Hispanic, many impressively bilingual. As in other clinics, there was a long line of people waiting before the doors opened. By 7:30 the large high school cafeteria was full of people who hoped to make the day's list for eyeglass, dental or medical services. There are always more than RAM can accommodate. RAM has come to Brownsville for several years in association with the Texas Guard; it was interesting to work with military providers, a new experience for me.

Rosebud is just north of the Nebraska border and down the road from the better-known Pine Ridge reservation. This time my husband came with me. Because we have volunteered with RAM a number of times now we are considered "core" and offered housing across the road from the clinic, which we accepted. Otherwise, it would be 45 minutes to the nearest motel. We shared the "doublewide" with 11 other volunteers. Phil had the opportunity to learn to use RAM's mobile eye glass lab to prepare lenses for patients, while I had graduated to running the sterilization work of the dental support.



I came away with two impressions of life on the "Rez." The first is that there is a solid, resurgent pride in Lakota culture represented with sweat lodge, archery, and language. The sweat lodge was led by a Vietnam Vet whose son, daughter and their families lent their voices to the ethereal chanting that emerged from the total darkness. The other impression is the damage that alcohol and meth continue to do to the community. The sign on the road to the next town -- "It's Your Choice: Life or Meth" -- expressed it pretty well. I enjoyed the natives I had a chance to talk with and hope to make this an annual event.

Ask me about RAM! Take a look at their web site-- ramusa.org -- and pick one of their clinics to volunteer.



Giving Thanks

Maggie Saab

Twenty years ago this past August I went to the West Falmouth Market to get romaine lettuce, to make Greek salad for lunch. While leaving their parking lot, I saw a huge truck coming so fast that I panicked and stopped. The truck driver got confused, went on the sidewalk, and overturned on my car. The truck was loaded with gravel and sand. My car was wedged under the truck, and there was no way for me to get out. The weight of the sand and gravel collapsed the car roof which rested on my shoulder. The car had no power, doors and windows would not open, and the temperature was 100° F.

Since it was lunch time, I was surrounded by what seemed like hundreds of people. EMT employees took turns holding my hand through the window that they broke, my head was covered with towels, an infusion started on my arm, oxygen through my nose, they all thought I had died! Meanwhile, what I was doing was talking to my Lord, my father, my God. I was in a trance, no fear, no phobias, no anxiety, as if someone were lifting me and holding me with feathers. "My dear God, I know I am coming out of this car. I need to go home, do laundry, and cook for my family. Please help me as soon as possible."

The EMT guys were telling jokes, trying to talk to me, and asking questions to judge my mental condition—"Maggie, what is the date today?" and "What is happening in our country?" I said, "It is August 18th, and Bill Clinton said, 'I did not touch Monica Lewinsky.'" They said, "Guys, don't worry about her, she will be fine."

At one point, the hot dog vendor was holding my hand through the broken glass of the car. He tried to call my husband, Ali, but, for some reason, Ali thought the hot dog vendor was trying to sell him a vacuum cleaner and so he hung up. The hot dog vendor tried again screaming, "Don't hang up! Your wife has had an accident!"

Then a huge 8-wheeler was brought to lift the truck from my car. The roof of my car was torn off, the doors all broken off, and I came out walking. They put me on a stretcher, then on a helicopter and flew me to Boston Medical Center. I returned home that evening, without spilling a drop of blood. I had a broken clavicle, and had a cast on my arm.

The next morning, I was sitting on my screened porch, having coffee and watching the beautiful trees in our backyard. "I could have died yesterday, dear Lord. Why did you spare me? I am so happy to be alive, to be with my wonderful family. I cannot explain how elated I feel to watch the trees, hear the birds, enjoy the breeze on my face. Life is so precious and sweet and I will use every moment to thank you, dear Lord. But, I ask you again, what do you want me to do? Anything you guide me to, I am your instrument, just guide me."

I am still seeking for answers, but my faith never fades. It only becomes stronger. Oh, yes. My Buick was totaled but the romaine lettuce was in perfect condition.



Birding in Brazil

Molly Cornell

Early in October I traveled with three birding friends to the southwestern region of Brazil. We saw many astonishing birds --- pure white woodpeckers with yellow "goggles" around their eyes, giant blue and yellow macaws, tiny kingfishers in brilliant green and red plumage, many eagles and hawks just to mention a few. One of my favorite sightings was an osprey flying with a flock of noisy parrots. Might she by chance have migrated from West Falmouth harbor to the Pantanal in Brazil? Next time I see an osprey in our northern hemisphere I will be reminded that birds know no boundaries. I wasn't expecting to have such great looks at the mammals in the region: maned wolf, tapir, giant anteater, wild peccary, jaguar and ocelot. We traveled over and through hundreds of thousands of acres of land cleared for agriculture and cattle grazing. Precious little of the native Cerrado remains intact. We experience much of the same phenomenon in our own Midwest, where the prairie has all but vanished. News, when we heard it, was all abuzz with the upcoming national election. People we spoke with were dissatisfied with the choice of candidates, and wondered whether or not to vote at all. I am grateful to have had a chance to experience a different part of our world. One earth, diverse, connected.



Nan Garrett-Logan reports that we'll be ordering the DVD *Two Rivers*. An award-winning, 60-minute documentary, "*Two Rivers* tells two parallel, interrelated stories. At its base is the historical tale of the American North West, a land once revered by its Native inhabitants, and eventually taken over by European American settlers. Layered over this history is the present-day story of a group of ordinary Native and European American individuals who come together by chance, and end up examining, grappling with, and healing centuries-old wounds, forming lifelong friendships in the process." See http://www.tworiversfilm.com/2riv_film_02.htm for further information and to view trailer.

Friends may also wish to visit the website of the United American Indians of New England to learn about the upcoming 49th National Day of Mourning and associated activities. To be held at Plymouth on November 22, this is "... a day of remembrance and spiritual connection as well as a protest of the racism and oppression which Native Americans continue to experience." See <http://www.uaine.org/>

Greetings from Myanmar



John Davidson in front of the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon. Shwedagon Pagoda, the largest in Myanmar, is over 200 years old.

Building & Grounds: Jonathan Joyal reported from the committee. Due to our aging membership, Meeting approved putting the snow shoveling task out to hire (approximate cost of \$1,200). Cold water pipes, which run under the building to the kitchen and bath, need to be re-routed to the interior to avoid freezing. Meeting approved the expense (approx \$1,100). The committee is working on a 2019 budget.

Treasurer's report: Steve Gates reported balances as of 10/31/18:
Meeting Checking Acct = \$ 26,307 NEYM Pooled Fund = \$ 97,425

Notes: funds included in total Checking Account:
Operating = \$ - 655 Cemetery = \$ 4,448 Repair Reserves = \$ 4,477
Clerk's Fund = \$ 1,000.00 General Sufferings Fund = \$1,000.00 Quaker House = \$ 15,398

Meeting will be about \$6,500 over budget at year end due to unanticipated repairs and the Quaker shed. First consideration of the 2019 budget will be at the November meeting for business.

New Business: Meeting approved becoming an organizing sponsor for the Alternative Gift Market. As such we pledge to publicize the event within our faith community (November 10 & 11 at St. Barnabas Church, Falmouth) and donate \$50 to one of the projects. We chose to support the *Wampanaak Language Reclamation Project*.

SQM West Falmouth is hosting Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, November 3rd. A sign-up for food and hospitality was circulated.

Meeting closed with quiet, purposing to hold the November business meeting on December 9th, and the December business meeting on January 6th, as way opens.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Cornell, recording clerk

Calendar:

November 3: Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, West Falmouth hosting
November 11: possible Yarmouth Indian Memorial Walk
November 17: *Understanding Quakers* program at the WF Library, 10:30 am

December 2: Sandwich Monthly Meeting at Yarmouth
December 5: Ministry & Counsel Committee meeting