



Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting

February 2011

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Meeting Events

First Day School news

The year of New Testament study continues: both the elementary and middle school age groups are now learning about Jesus' life and teachings.

The middle school group went on a field trip to the Haverford College library on January 23 to visit the special collections exhibit [Confronting Slavery within the Society of Friends, 1676-1776](#), which featured the original 1688 Germantown Petition Against Slavery, among many other interesting historical pieces.

On Saturday, January 15, about 10 middle and high schoolers gathered, along with a handful of adults from the meeting, to prepare a tasty pasta dinner and watch a genuine reel-to-reel movie together in the social room. Many thanks to the Kimmell family – Todd, Kristen, Thor, and Ellis – for organizing this great event. [Read about the next movie night »](#)

Hannah Mazzaccaro

Christine Olinger Appreciation Day Dance Party!

Christine's annual belated birthday observance took place in her memory on Saturday, 22 January, at the VFW hall in Willow Grove. Friends danced as Betsy Robertson DJ'd, and had their picture take as "the largest group of pacifists ever collected in a VFW hall."

Proceeds of this fund-raiser went to support the outstanding work of the ALS Association. Another event is planned for (or close to) the summer solstice; watch for details.

New Building Information Sessions

February 5 (Saturday) and February 8 (Tuesday evening) members of our design team will present the results of their work. Where there are choices among different options, they will explain the options and the consequences of each, but we will not make decisions at these meetings. The information presented at the two sessions will be the same, so you need not attend both to be fully informed. See the calendar for precise times. [Read more »](#)

Design development will come to Meeting for Business on 20 February for approval.

Two W&M retreats in March

Here's early notice of two retreats sponsored by Worship & Ministry Committee in March.

Silent Retreat: Mindfulness Meditation, Centering Prayer and Worship

Saturday, March 5, 2011, at Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting from 9 am to 4 pm. Bring a bag lunch, and a pillow or cushion to sit on, if desired. Facilitators are Irene McHenry, Executive Director Friends Council on Education and Mindfulness meditation instructor; and Marcelle Martin, former Quaker Studies teacher at Pendle Hill Conference Center. [Register early by email](#), as space is limited. Donations to Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting are welcome.

Being open to leadings of the Spirit

Please join us Saturday, March 26, from 9:00am to 3:00pm for a one day retreat at CHFM with Marcelle Martin. The focus for the day is on practices each of us can do to be open to the leadings of the Spirit – both as individuals and as a meeting community – and nurturing our faithfulness to follow those leadings. All are encouraged to participate. Childcare and a simple lunch will be provided. The day is sponsored by Worship & Ministry committee.

What kind of energy to buy

As Friends may know, consumers of electric power must choose their supplier at the beginning of this year. Property Committee recently asked Hollister Knowlton for a recommendation for the Meeting's use. Here is part of her reply; [read the rest »](#).

“What I recommended to property committee is to switch to PA Energy Coop's 100% renewable. Their 100% renewable (also lower cost than PECO) limits its purchases to PA, so it is encouraging in-state clean energy. The down side of PA Energy Coop is that the majority of their mix is small hydropower, with wind and solar, but on balance I was more comfortable supporting them. “I switched to PA energy Coop back in 1996 when deregulation first passed and have liked them very much. This new price of 9.3 cents is much less than I had been paying (it had been about 15 cents), so I was delighted to stay with them when the prices changed.”

February Calendar

See the [printable February calendar](#), which shows other groups' uses of the building as well as our own.

Links in the list below jump to more information about the event.

- **Mon., 31 Jan.** – Coordinating Committee meeting – 7:30pm to 9:00pm
- **Sat., 5 Feb.** – Trip to Flushing Meeting and PS1, NYC – departing 11:00am from parking lot
- **Sat., 5 Feb.** – New Meetinghouse Design Presentation – 1:30pm to 3:00pm
- **Sun., 6 Feb.** – Outreach Committee meeting – 9:00am to 10:30am in Middle School room
- **Tue., 8 Feb.** – New Meetinghouse Design Presentation – 7:00pm to 8:30pm
- **Sat., 12 Feb.** – Trip to Flushing Meeting and PS1, NYC – departing 11:00am from parking lot
- **Mon., 14 Feb.** – Care & Counsel meeting – 7:30pm at Mickey's home
- **Tues., 15 Feb.** Men's Spiritual Group – 7:30pm at meetinghouse in middle school room
- **Sun., 20 Feb.** Meeting for Business – 12:30pm, after lunch
- **Tues., 22 Feb.** – Peace & Social Concerns meeting – 7:30pm at meetinghouse
- **Wed., 23 Feb.** – March newsletter deadline – noon, by [e-mail](#)
- **Thurs., 24 Feb.** – Campaign Committee meeting – 6:00pm to 8:00pm at meetinghouse
- **Sun., 27 Feb.** – [Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting at CHFM](#) – after lunch following meeting for worship
- **Every Sunday**
 - Early Meeting for Worship – 9 - 10am in meetingroom
 - Hymn-singing, in Social Room by piano – 9:45 am to 10:15 am
 - Meeting for Worship ([see note](#)) (childcare available) – 10:30 - 11:30 am
 - First Day School – 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Our Growing Community

All hands on deck!

Our Meeting is facing a deadline in 60 days to meet an exciting challenge: by March 31, 2011, if we raise an additional \$300,000 within the Meeting, an anonymous meeting member will contribute \$100,000 more to the campaign. So far we are almost halfway there, and need to raise another \$135,000 in the next 60 days. If we raise the \$300,000 by March 31 and thus earn the \$100,000 gift, we will have raised a total of \$1.2 million within our meeting – an important signal, when we are asking for donations from the outside world, that we strongly supported the new meetinghouse ourselves with a solid base of funds.

To put this in perspective, our new meetinghouse fundraising is almost halfway to its overall \$3 million goal. That leaves 2011 to complete the majority of our remaining fundraising so we can break ground in 2012! [Read more »](#)

In the meantime, support for and enthusiasm about our new meetinghouse is building among people and groups in Chestnut Hill and Mt. Airy as they hear about our project. From Friends of the Wissahickon to the Cresheim East effort, people are encouraging us to join them in making our corner of Chestnut Hill accessible, attractive, and full of life. More to come on this community outreach in the months to come.

Many ways to help

There are many different tasks needed to help with the campaign, from researching and writing to phoning, from driving to cooking or to carrying a projector. You can [follow this link](#) to see who is doing what and how you might help. [Read the rest of this article »](#)

We need all hands on deck to complete the fundraising and continue the planning so we can build the new meetinghouse and develop its grounds for our Quaker faith and practice. Please [contact Jon Landau](#) to help on the fundraising or one of the support committees.

Jean Warrington

Have you visited a Skyspace?



If you have not yet been to NYC to sit under the Turrell Skyspace at PS 1, the Queens branch of the Museum of Modern Art, we hope you will do so. Phil Jones, Susan Edens, her friend Ed, Miriam Schaefer, John and Nell Kahil and Jean Warrington visited PS 1 on January 22. (See [Phil's reflection on the experience](#).) We came away convinced of what a significant gift our Skyspace would be to our city. [Click to download a flyer](#) with information about the next two trips. [E-mail Ann Jones](#) to join one of the next trip to PS1.

Outside the Meeting

Fair Hill Burial Ground: Robert Purvis Day

Friends are invited to the annual Black History essay contest on Saturday, February 19 at 1:00pm, where local school children will read their essays. This year's guest speaker is Jamar Nicholas, illustrator of [Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun: a Personal History of Violence](#) by Geoffrey Canada, founder of the Harlem Children's Zone. The event will be at the Evelyn Sanders Community Room at Percy and Indiana, opposite the north gate of Fair Hill Burial Ground. For a ride, call Jean Warrington 215-242-6974.

CARE Conference



From Mary Day Kent: This year the [CARE national conference](#) is March 8-10th, and will include a celebration of International Women's Day, as well as the intense learning and amazing day on the Hill with several hundred participants visiting their representatives on behalf of global development and ending poverty by empowering and improving the lives of women. [Read the rest of this article »](#)

Poem

Dark of Winter

This poem sung as a hymn is a favorite of the group that sings hymns from 9:45am to 10:15am every Sunday morning.

Dark of winter, soft and still,
your quiet calm surrounds me.
Let my thoughts go where they will,
ease my mind profoundly.
And then my soul will sing a song,
a blessed song of love eternal.
Gentle darkness soft and still,
bring your quiet to me.

[Click to read the second verse »](#)

Shirley Jackson Denham, in *Hymns of the Spirit*

CHFM Census

Membership Statistics for 2010 – Welcome to the following new members in 2010: Diane Dunning, John Florence, Cyane Gresham, Ann Jones, Liz Williams and Dennis Wint. Three Friends died in 2010: Jim Cox, Elizabeth Naghski and Christine Olinger. Marthajane Robinson and Melissa Elliott transferred their memberships to other meetings. On December 31, 2010, we had a total of 205 members.

Roberta Foss, Recorder

We welcome Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting

Friends are all invited to stay for lunch, a short consent agenda and presentations from the Peace and Concerns committees of all seven of our Philadelphia Friends meetings. Tom Hardy, Green Street MM, the new clerk of our Quarter, visited Chestnut Hill in January, and welcomes suggestions for the newly constituted Quarter he hopes will better connect and support the seven meetings.

Annual Art Show

Chestnut Hill Meeting Annual Art Show will be on display Sunday, March 13, through Sunday, March 20. Your creations may be dropped off at the meeting house between 10:00am and 2:00pm Saturday March 12. We hope to have some things made by First Day School as well as items from adults. If you need to arrange another time for drop-off, have questions or would like to help, please [contact Roberta Foss](#).

Warren Witte's photography exhibit at Foulkeways



From Warren Witte: "Hello, friends, in the vicinity of [Foulkeways](#). I thought you might be interested in knowing that I will be having a one-person show at Foulkeways during the month of February, with the opening on the evening of Monday, January 31. Pat and I plan on being there that evening, so we'd love to see you if you can make it."

Les Francophones

Est-ce que vous voulez pratiquer parler francais avec une group si gentile? The prochaine soiree sera Samedi, Fevrier 26, a 5:30pm, chez Diane Dunning. Questions? [Ecrivez Sarah Whitman](#).

The Little Prince, directed by Scott Hitz

Puppeteer Scott Hitz (dad of Addie and Orson, husband of Michelle) is directing a production of this classic story at Bristol Riverside Theater. [Read more »](#).

Conference on White Privilege

Vanessa Julye (CPMM and a staff member at FGC), sends word of [this conference in Bloomington, MN](#). [Read more »](#)

FGC is organizing a group to attend; with sufficient numbers of people, the cost per individual goes down significantly. Download [the FAQ](#) and [a flyer](#) giving details of the event. FGC is sponsoring a group to attend; the event is organized by many organizations.

Help wanted at Friends Fiduciary

Friends Fiduciary Corporation is seeking an Executive Director to succeed Connie Brookes, who plans to retire this coming summer. Announcements of Connie's retirement and of the qualifications sought in her successor are posed on the home page of [FFC's website](#). If you know of someone who should be considered, or if you personally are interested, FFC would welcome applications [by email](#).

Meeting for Worship

Children are welcome in meeting for worship from 10:30 to 10:45, when they leave to attend First Day School.

Newsletter Feedback

The newsletter is compiled by Phil Jones with the help of many others. Please send your comments, suggestions and questions about the newsletter by [e-mail](#). Your feedback is important!

Link to the Meeting's web sites

[Meeting Web Site](#)

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