

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
September 2011

Meeting Events

What's happening in First Day School

The Religious Education Committee is excited to announce that the First Day School year will begin on September 11, with a focus on Quaker History. FDS classes are held during meeting for worship. Children are encouraged to attend the first fifteen minutes of worship with their families, after which time the teacher will rise and lead children to the FDS room for lessons.

Mark your Calendars! After the rise of meeting (noon-1 PM) on Sunday, September 25, families are encouraged to attend a "Back to First Day School" program to meet teachers, learn about the Quaker History curriculum, and talk about the upcoming year.

Questions? Email the RE committee - recom@chestnuthillquakers.org : Lisa Griffin, Hannah Mazzaccaro, John Roberts, Betsy Robertson, Jean Warrington, and Carla White.

With One Voice video at CHFM

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting will be showing the award-winning documentary, *With One Voice*, on Sunday evening, September 11, 2011 at 7:00 pm, in commemoration of the ten-year anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Viewing the 78-minute interfaith film will be followed by discussion and an interfaith prayer/meditation for peace in the world. All are welcome. There is no charge.

Come join our community work days

While we do pay someone to clean the inside of our meetinghouse weekly, we all get to join in on the larger and longer term projects that keep our physical plant usable and safe. Property Committee's workdays are scheduled for Saturday mornings, making them family-friendly events. The committee plans each event carefully, so that needed tools and fuels (i.e., coffee, cider, donuts) are available to keep workers productive. As always, dress appropriately and bring work gloves. Poison ivy and ticks are common on the site.

Fall for the Arts Festival: SAVE 2 DATES!

If you've lived in the Chestnut Hill vicinity for a few years, you probably remember one or more of the annual Fall for the Arts Festivals that take place in the early Fall (Sunday, October 9 this year; that's the second date to save). This year the theme of our booth is directly art-related, as we highlight the place of the James Turrell Skyspace in our new meetinghouse. While we will happily welcome visitors who are looking for a religious community, we also are committed to welcoming those who come to see this unique art form. They will want to know why they find it in a Quaker meeting, and we'll be prepared to tell them about Turrell's Quaker roots, and how we see this work fitting into our Meeting and into the larger Chestnut Hill community.

A small committee is working on the design of the booth, and we will also need volunteers to help staff the booth over the 6 or 7 hours of the Festival. Nobody is expected to stay for that whole time; any one person's time won't exceed two hours. The important thing is that people who are there need to be ready to answer questions about the project. We're working on materials that the booth staffers can hand out, but they also need to be prepared to answer questions directly.

September Calendar

Sat., 3 Sept. -- Memorial service for Pat Witte - Pennswood Village, 10:00am
Sun., 11 Sept. -- Outreach Committee Meeting -- MS room, 9-10:15am
Mon., 12 Sept. -- Care & Counsel Meeting -- Mickey's home
Fri., 16 Sept. -- Clerks' meeting -- 6:00 - 8:00pm in Social Room
Sat., 17 Sept. -- Workday 9:00 - noon
Sat., 17 Sept. -- Sarah Whitman's bike ride - 9:00 am near Phoenixville
Sat., 17 Sept. -- Sale of Trude's belongings - Social Room, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Sun., 18 Sept. -- Meeting for Business -- 12:30pm in meeting room
Tue., 20 Sept. -- Men's Group -- 7:30 pm in Middle School room
Wed., 21 Sept. -- Property Committee meeting -- 7:00 pm in Social Room
Thu., 22 Sept. -- Campaign Committee meeting -- 6:00 - 8:00pm at meetinghouse
Sat., 24 Sept. -- Memorial service for Deborah Oberholtzer - 10:30 am
Sat., 24 Sept. -- Fall for Arts booth rehearsal - 1:00 - 3:00 pm on building site
Sun., 25 Sept. -- Meeting for worship on building site -- 9:00 am
Wed., 28 September -- October newsletter deadline -- midnight, via email

Every Sunday

Early Meeting for Worship -- 9:00 - 10:00 am in meeting room; also on lower lot on 4th Sundays
Hymn-singing, in Social Room by piano -- 9:45 am to 10:15 am
Meeting for Worship (childcare available) -- 10:30 - 11:30 am
First Day School -- 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Forum: Working with friends and families of murder victims

On Sunday, September 11, Victoria Green will talk about her work with the families and friends of murder victims. She has created a non-profit, E.M.I.R. (Every Murder Is Real - <http://everymurderisreal.org/>;

Victoria Greene's son Emir was murdered) that offers support to the family and friends of murder victims. Survivors of a violent death have to contend with a totally different set of circumstances than someone who has experienced a "natural" death. In the process they have helping many young people contend with and organize against the violence in their neighborhood. She will share about what the young people are doing and the peace group they created with the goal of growing old.

Meditation Retreat in October

Mark your calendar now for Mindfulness Meditation and Centering Prayer, offered by Marcelle Martin and Irene McHenry on October 15. Call the meeting office (215-247-3553) to reserve your place.

Our Growing Community

Campaign progress

Thanks to an extremely productive summer, the Campaign Committee is pleased to report that we are over the 80% mark of our \$3 million dollar campaign! While we continue to have a lot of hard work to do, the Campaign Committee now feels confident that we can reach our \$3 million dollar goal. In the next few months you will see the beginning of the final, public phase of the campaign, and there will be many ways for members of the meeting community to become involved in helping that final effort.

We are told that in fund-raising, 80% of the campaign's goal either pledged or in hand is a rule-of-thumb measure that the actual building process can begin in earnest. And so ...

Client Committee news

In part because the work of the campaign committee is going so well, the Client Committee is beginning a process of pre-qualifying

contractors to bid on construction of the new Meetinghouse. The contractors will be asked to submit information about the ownership, size and organization of their company; the experience they have building projects similar to ours in size and quality; and the experience they have building LEED Certified buildings.

Outside the Meeting

Signe's show at Moore

Signe Wilkinson invites Friends and their friends to stop by Moore College of Art - <http://www.moore.edu/> to see her show entitled "Keeping the World in Line", open until October 25 and charging every Quaker's favorite price: FREE! The small collection includes samples of her political cartoons, gardening cartoons and comic strip, "Family Tree."

Other September 11 observances

In addition to the screening of the film at Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting, Friends two additional activities of interest.

Sent by God: Inward and Outward Transformation in Times of Change

This is a nine-week course, 9 Wednesdays, 7:15-9:15 pm, September 21 - November 16, 2011, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia taught by Marcelle Martin. This course explores the passionate beginnings of Quakerism, including stories of a network of valiant souls supporting each other in bringing a transforming message and creating new ways of living in the world. Examining their 17th century experience will lead us into experiential explorations of our own. We'll try a variety of practices together, seeking for the deeper purpose of our lives and our connection to the Divine. Through study, discussion, exploration, and sharing, we will help each other sense more clearly and courageously what God is sending us to do in our own time of rapid and sometimes startling change.

The text is a manuscript written by Marcelle Martin. For more information or to reserve a space in the class, email Marcelle - FriendMarcelle@aol.com.

Sarah's bike ride

Sarah Whitman writes: It's time for the 4th Annual Philly Bike-Walk-Run-Roll for Pain Relief and I'm inviting the CHMM community to participate. The event will be on Saturday, September 17, starting at 9am at the Fitzwater Station Restaurant (in Port Providence near Phoenixville). Money raised will go to RSDSA, a pain organization working to end Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy - <http://www.rsdsa.org/index2.html>.

RSD (also called CRPS) is a neurologic pain condition that I've personally been affected by.

Poem Drugstore

Don't be ashamed that your parents
Didn't happen to meet at an art exhibit
Or at a protest against a foreign policy
Based on fear of negotiation,
But in an aisle of a discount drugstore,
Near the antihistamine section,
Seeking relief from the common cold.

Memorial services

Pat Witte's memorial service will be held at Pennswood Village on Saturday, September 3, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. At Pennswood, signs will direct you to Penn Hall for the service. For carpooling from the Chestnut Hill area contact Meg Mitchell - mitchellmarg@verizon.net . Pat wanted any memorial gifts to go to the Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (NPIHN), 7047 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119.

The memorial service for Trude Fuchs, who died on May 29, has been scheduled for Saturday, October 1, at 2:30 pm. Jon Landau will hold a sale of the last few of Trude's possessions, with half the proceeds going to Trude's one heir, a nephew in Germany, and the other half to the new meetinghouse. Come to the meetinghouse on Saturday, September 17, between 1 and 4 in the afternoon for that sale.

Deborah Oberholtzer was a member of our Meeting for many years. Even after she moved to a retirement community in Wyndmoor, she continued to attend meeting when she could get a ride and her health permitted. Most recently she had moved to a facility closer to where her daughter, Jenny Lingelbach, lives in Silver Spring, MD. Debbie's memorial service will be held at the meetinghouse on Saturday, September 24 at 10:30 am.

Quaker Quest internship

Quaker Quest, a program of FGC, is looking for a new intern to work with us for one year. It is a paid position and comes with full benefits. You can find the job description here - <http://www.fgcquaker.org/about-us/employment-internships> .

Notecards

The Campaign Committee is offering notecards for sale with the drawing of the new meetinghouse on them. You will find the cards in zip-up plastic bags in a basket in the gathering room. There are 10 cards and envelopes in each bag. Please deposit \$10 for each bag of 10 cards in the brown envelope in the same basket. All proceeds benefit the new meetinghouse project.

Anti-fracking rally, 9/7

Join The Shalom Center, NIM and others to Bless the Waters & Stop Fracking, 9/7, 2011, Penn Treaty Park, Philadelphia - <http://www.theshalomcenter.org/content/join-us-97-bless-waters-stop-fracking> , 5:30PM.

Video presentation at WHY, 9/14

A film by Abigail E. Disney and Gini Reticker, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, chronicles the remarkable story of the courageous Liberian women who came together, armed only with white T-shirts, to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country. Inspiring, uplifting, and most of all motivating, it is a compelling testimony of how grassroots activism can alter the history of nations.

Fair Hill Endowment Fund-raiser, 9/18

The annual fundraiser for the Fair Hill Endowment Fund is Sunday, September 18, 5-8pm at the University Barge Club. Guest speaker is Mike McGrath, of You Bet Your Garden. For reservation and details, Gerry Fisher, 610-664-8408.

CHFM on Facebook!

There is a Facebook page for Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. If you're already a Facebooker, go to this page - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chestnut-Hill-Friends-Meeting/115719455173670?ref=ts> ,

click the Like link and you'll be alerted to new posts on that page. Look at the photo and tag yourself in the 1994 picture from the 75th anniversary, if you were around for that event.

Community Lunch

Community Lunches occur on the first First Day (Sunday) of the month from 12:00 - 1:00pm and are provided by the Hospitality Committee. All are welcome.

Allergy Reminder

Friends are reminded that a member of our community has a severe allergy to strawberries, and has to leave the building if they are present. So please don't bring strawberries in any form to any meeting social function or meal.

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!