

Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting
March 2012

Meeting Events

Annual Art Show

On Saturday afternoon, 10 March, Roberta Foss and some helpers will be at the meetinghouse to receive our works of art to be displayed for the following two Sundays in the Gathering Room and entry foyer.

Looking for willing hands

The Nominating Committee plans to bring its slate of committee appointments and the one remaining officer appointment (recording clerk) to the March business meeting for approval. If your name is in the directory and you live near enough to attend meeting for worship frequently, someone will contact you - or already has - by phone or email to discuss your participation in the life of the Meeting. If your name isn't yet in the directory but you'd like to volunteer for a committee, send a message to the Nominating Committee and they'll contact you.

Please consider volunteering for the job of recording clerk, who attends business meeting and makes a record of the matters discussed and decisions reached every third Sunday. Some recording clerks work in longhand, polishing a version later in a word processor. Others choose to take notes on a laptop for later production of the minutes; either is acceptable. Amey Hutchins, our outgoing recording clerk, has offered her guidance to her successor, and to help out by being a proofreader of the draft minutes.

Adult RE Classes

Discussion of John Gallery's book, Living in the Kingdom of God, continues on Sunday, 4 March. Come at 6:00pm for soup and stay for the discussion at 6:30.

Beginning Sunday, 11 March at 9:00am, we'll have six sessions of Quakerism 101, led by Ben Lloyd. The cost is \$30 per student.

March Calendar

Sun., 4 Mar., 9:00am to 10:15am - Outreach Committee meeting - Middle School room
Sun., 4 Mar., at rise of meeting - Community Lunch - Social Room
Sun., 4 Mar., 12:30pm - Worship & Ministry Committee meeting - Middle School room
Sat., 10 Mar., 10:00am - 2:00 pm - Junior Interim Meeting - see article for location
Mon., 12 Mar. - Care & Counsel Committee meeting - Mickey's home
Tue., 13 Mar., 7:00pm - Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting - Lynne Shivers' apt
Tue., 13 Mar., 7:30 pm - Men's Spiritual Support Group - Middle School-Room
Wed., 14 Mar., 7:00pm - Finance Committee meeting - Worship Room
Sun., 18 Mar., at 12:30pm - Meeting for Business - Worship Room
Fri., 23 Mar., from 6pm to 8pm - Family Games Night and potluck
Sat., 24 Mar. Historic Fair Hill Women's History Essay Contest 1:00pm at Burial Ground
Sun., 25 Mar., 11 AM - 3 PM WW Recycling Event at Germantown Jewish Centre
Sat., 31 Mar., 7:00pm - Wm Penn Lecture w/Signe Wilkinson on Outreach, 4th & Arch
Wed., 28 Mar. - April newsletter deadline - midnight, via email

Every Sunday

Early Meeting for Worship - 9 - 10am in meeting room
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

Peace and Social Concerns news

We will be considering FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation) priorities for the 2013-2014 Congress. A copy of of the current priorities can be viewed here - fcnl.org/about/govern/priorities/ . One of the things we are thinking about in relation to priorities are the issues raised by the PYM Growth Dilemma Project - <http://www.pym.org/committee/growth-dilemma-project-gdp-pym> . The committee welcomes your thoughts and comments. We encourage you to look at them and either join us for discussion on March 13th, and/or send your thoughts and comments to Kathy Miller - kathy.miller127@gmail.com .

First Day School News

Last Friday, families gathered for a supper and game night at the meetinghouse. Kids had a great time playing together while the adults enjoyed conversation and Bananagrams. Good times and great brownies were had by all. Everyone is invited to the next Family Night and potluck supper on Friday, March 23, 6-8 PM.

First Day School continues to study Quaker History with lots of fun activities such as cooking gingerbread (as Lucretia Mott did for soldiers at Camp William Penn), sewing (as early Quakers sewed simple wool clothing), and acting out scenes from the underground railroad and Obadiah stories.

New Meetinghouse News

William Penn Foundation grant

The William Penn Foundation has approved a 24-month grant to Chestnut Hill Friends Meetinghouse Project in the amount of \$200,000 toward construction of the East Coast's only year-round, publicly accessible example of a "Skyspace" installation by contemporary artist James Turrell on a site directly adjacent to Fairmount Park and the proposed Cresheim Valley Trail.

Sharpen your shovels!

At meeting for worship with attention to business on February 19, the Meeting agreed to accept the recommendation of the client committee to engage E. Allen Reeves, Inc., as general contractor for construction of the new meetinghouse. Friends discussed the bids from five contractors (two non-union and three union), all of which were for more than we had thought we would need from earlier estimates. Reeves, the recommended firm and the low bidder, has built buildings for several monthly meetings and Friends schools, and has a reputation for high quality workmanship and diversity in its workforce. But the fact that Reeves is a non-union contractor was a strong concern for some Friends. The issue of whether to use a union or non-union contractor had been discussed at two listening sessions prior to the business meeting, and ultimately the sense of that meeting was that we approve Reeves as the contractor.

News of Friends

Jennifer Hoopes isn't exactly a familiar name to many at Chestnut Hill Meeting, but if you've visited the Campaign's website - <http://www.chfmnewmeetinghouse.org> or seen any of the printed campaign materials, you've seen her work: she's the graphic designer who helped us create the "look" for the campaign. She and her husband and their son Owen moved last fall to North Carolina, but Jennifer continued to work for us from her new home. She'll be stopping for a while, though, because she just had a baby girl, Sarah Elizabeth, on February 23.

Another face behind the campaign that we're not likely to see often is that of Nikla Lancksweert, who was our campaign project coordinator for over a year. Just after the end of her contract last October, her husband was offered a job in Brussels, Belgium (where

his parents live), so they moved rather quickly at the end of last year. Their happy news is that their Chestnut Hill house (on Evergreen Street) has been sold. Nikla reports that they are adapting to their new life, though her older daughter has noticed differences between children in her new school and those at Plymouth Meeting Friends School: they don't play as nicely in Belgium. "But it is okay, Mummy, because I can teach them what I learnt about being a friend and soon they'll play like kids at Plymouth Meeting too."

Cyane Gresham and Alan Bayersdorfer were in Houston, Texas for several days in late February. They were able to visit the Rothko Chapel as well as Live Oak Friends Meeting. The James Turrell Skyspace was open for early meeting that Sunday morning, so they were able to experience it and meet several people from the meeting. They were impressed with how both the Rothko Chapel and Live Oak Meeting create beautiful spaces for worship and also enhance the whole community. See pictures on their blog - <http://alancyane.blogspot.com/> .

Outside the Meeting

Radical Hospitality for Annual Sessions

From PYM: The 2012 Annual Sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting will be held in Philadelphia, mostly at Arch Street Meetinghouse, from Wednesday, 25 July, through Sunday, 29 July. We are inviting members of Monthly Meetings located within a 15 mile radius of 4th & Arch to offer hospitality to those who plan to attend but who will come from a greater distance. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in identifying those members of your Meeting who are willing to participate in this "Radical Hospitality" effort.

"Radical Hospitality" lets Friends from the Philadelphia area establish a more personal relationship with Friends from outside that area. And, it's a chance to make the prospect of Annual Sessions in the city of Philadelphia as welcoming and comfortable as possible to those less familiar with navigating this city.

Host families are asked to provide a light breakfast for their guests in addition to the sleeping accommodations. In return for their assistance in providing hospitality, host families will receive free meals during Annual Sessions.

Right Sharing Projects in India

On Friday evening, 16 March, 7:30 to 9:00 PM, Bruce Birchard and Demie Kurz will present a program about their recent trip to India at Friends Center, 1501 Cherry Street in Philadelphia.

March Forum: Occupy Philly

On Sunday, 11 March, the Forum Committee will host a presentation on the Occupy Philly movement by Amy Kietzman, a member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting and an active participant in Occupy Philly. She will educate us on what Occupy Philly is doing now and what its plans are for the future. The presentation will begin at noon. Snacks and childcare are provided.

Junior Interim Meeting

Junior Interim Meeting has been working with SHARE this year as the service portion of the Childrens' Priority. Everyone can support this ministry of helping hungry people by offering their service on Saturday, March 10, 2012. We will meet at the SHARE Food Program, 2901 West Hunting Park Ave, Philadelphia on Saturday, 10 March from 10:00 - 2:00.

Another Weavers Way Recycling Event

When: Sunday, March 25, from 11 AM - 3 PM at Germantown Jewish Centre, 400 W Ellet Street (at Lincoln Drive). Donation: \$5 - \$20.

Types of material accepted: computers, monitors, fax machines, telephones, calculators, batteries, wires, cables, cds, copiers, servers, cell phones, handheld devices, cfls and just about anything else that has a plug!

How are electronics recycled? All equipment is dismantled and recycled by a licensed and permitted metro Philadelphia area electronic recycling company (the data in your media will be destroyed). No equipment will be landfilled or exported. Certificates of Recycling will be issued upon disposal.

RecycleBank point-sharing

A suggestion for using your RecycleBank points: If you have registered with RecycleBank you have probably been accumulating points and not paying too much attention to them. You can donate them to an organization that is trying to collect points for good projects. There are a number of schools wanting to do environmental projects like community gardens, land beatification, environmental education if they can get enough points. You can find local schools here - <http://www.recyclebank.com/about-us/give-back>.

Address corrections

Jeff Perkins' phone number is 215-539-7700. Sarah Sharp's phone number is 215-242-3429.

Remember that a new directory will be published soon; now is the time for you to correct any errors in your current listing, or tell us what your listing should say if you aren't in the current book.

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 (i.e., it's not a potluck). All are welcome. (We do have a potluck lunch on the fifth Sunday of the month, when there is one.)

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.

Poem

Nothing

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime;
therefore, we must be saved by hope.

Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in
any immediate context of history;
therefore, we must be saved by faith.

Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore
we are saved by love.

Reinhold Niebuhr, in The Irony of American History