

Albany Friends Meeting Newsletter

October

2011

Calendar And Calendar Notes

Unless specified, events are held at the Meeting House

Every First Day:

11:00 am Meeting for Worship & First Day School
(Childcare available; First Day School will be offered every Sunday.)

12:00 pm Announcements, Refreshments, and Visiting

Sun., Oct. 2, 10:00 am Faith and Practice-Topic: Simplicity"
(Coffee at 9:45; childcare provided)

Sun., Oct. 2, 12:45 pm Earthcare Witness Committee

Sun., Oct. 9, 12:45 pm Meeting for Worship With
A Concern For Business

Sat., Oct. 15 Work Day at the Meetinghouse

Sun., Oct. 16, 12:45 pm Rise of Meeting Luncheon

Sun., Oct. 23, 10:00 am Hymn Sing

Sun., Oct. 23, 6:00 pm Open Circle Folksing

Sun., Oct. 30, 11:00 pm Meeting for Worship

Join the Listserve!

Are you missing out on important announcements and information about special events at the Meetinghouse and in the community because you aren't on the listserv? The system is set up so that only an individual can request that they be added to the listserv, but it's easy to do!

Here's how: All you have to do is click on the link below and enter in your name and e-mail.

<http://albanyquakers.org/calendar.html>



Northeastern Regional Meeting (NERM)

Sunday, October 23

10:30—2:30

Pitt Hall at Powell House

Hosted by Old Chatham Meeting

Quaker Quest



Mark your calendars for the following dates and come to as many as you can. They are part of our "inreach" preparation for offering the Quaker Quest Program, plus the dates of the program itself.

What's left of 2011

Sat., Dec. 3 -- afternoon workshop with Kathy Slattery to prepare for Quaker Quest presentations

2012

Sat., Jan. 7 -- workshop with Greta Mickey, NYYM Peace Concerns Coordinator, focus on AFM's unique Quaker voice in peace work.

Sun. afternoons, January 29, February 5, and 12-- first set of Quaker Quest programs.

Want to do some exploring!

Join Barbara Sinacore and others to explore the Pendle Hill pamphlet *Leading and Being Led*, by Paul A. Lacey, Wed., Oct. 26 and Nov. 2; 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Contact Barbara to find out if it will be at the Albany Friends Meeting House, or if it will be at another location.

In the first session, we'll do worship sharing in response to queries related to the pamphlet. During the second session, we'll share personal glimpses of the Divine and our reflections seasoned during the week following the first session.

Phone Barbara at 453-9565 for more information.



Friends Committee on National Legislation

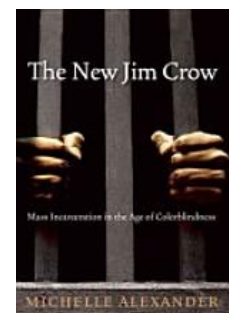
Statement of Legislative Policy

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." We believe that humankind must respect the ecological integrity and the sacredness of the natural world. People must choose activities, create institutions, and establish policies and laws that are beneficial to the earth and will help protect and regenerate its ecosystems." See FCNL's entire statement beginning on Page 4 and 5.

Slavery ended;
then segregation.
Now both replaced
by incarceration.

Read:

The New Jim Crow
by Michelle Alexander



Get your “**War is Not the Answer**” sign for your lawn or window and stickers for your car.



Future Dates to Remember in 2012 At Powell House

Feb. 24-26—Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence *with Arthur Larrabee (Register by Feb. 10)*

March 23-25—Nontheism Among Friends *with Robin Alpern (Register by March 7)*

Register at powellhouse.org or info@powellhouse.org or call 518-794-8811.

Whom to call with questions

Clerk:	Betsy Voss	273-1840
Assistant Clerk:	David Easter	475-9532
Trustees:	Judith Fetterley	475-1773
Ministry & Counsel:	Joeseeph Levinger	861-6908
Nurture & Oversight: <i>Co-clerks:</i>	Julia Richards	439-7068
	Barbara Spring	772-2290
First Day School: <i>Convener:</i>	Dot Richards	478-2220
Building Use By Outside Group:	Q Diamond	
	caretaker@albanyquakers.org	
Meeting Treasurer:	Maggy Wiard	235-8102
Peace & Service/Alternatives to Violence Project:	Pat Beetle	477-4004
	Becky Raymond	674-0344
Newsletter:	Julia Richards	439-7068
Send news to:	juliagrace@aol.com	
Website:	www.albanyquakers.org	

Community Activity and Events

Fri., Oct. 7 Church Women United Fall Forum at Morning Star Baptist Church, 163 Quail St. Albany. Speaker Rev. Dr. Roxanne Booth. Register at 11:30 a.m. Bring a bag lunch. Bake sale.

Thurs., Oct. 13 “Taking Liberties”, Susan Herman ACLU President- Human and Social costs of War on Terror 10 years after Patriot Act. 7 – 9 PM; Sanctuary of Independent Media 3361 6th Ave. Troy

Sat., Oct., 15 12 noon to 2 PM March and Rally in Townsend Park, 10th Anniversary of the War in Afghanistan. (Grannies for Peace will gather on Henry Johnson Blvd. at 11:30 with coffin and at 11:45 will march around Townsend Park – then join the rally) WEAR BLACK

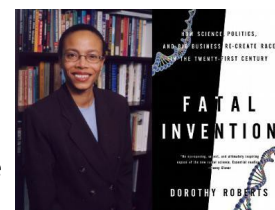
Sun., Oct. 16 at 6:00PM at the Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave., Albany Film “Cointelpro 101” with filmmaker Claude Marks – In the 1960s-1970s, the FBI ran a secret program of repression, disruption, incarceration, and assassination against Black Panthers, Puerto Rican independentistas, the Chicano/a movement, the American Indian Movement, and white solidarity activists. In this remarkable documentary, the program called COINTELPRO (for Counter Intelligence Program), is unmasked by activists who survived it.

Tues., Oct. 18 at 5:30-9:00PM Vets for Peace Awards Dinner at Casa Mia Restaurant. Glenmont (385 Rt.9W) \$35 Reservations by Oct. 7 to Dan Wilcox 482-0262

Wed., Oct. 19 begins the Iran Film Series at Siena College, Roger Bacon Hall at 7:00 PM. Women Against War in collaboration with Siena College presents: “Windows and Mirrors—Reflections on the War in Afghanistan”.

- 1) Wed., Oct. 19 “Outside” – Iranian girls wanting to watch a championship game. Discussion led by Mamood Hakak, Iranian American filmmaker and Siena Professor of Theatre.
- 2) Wed., Oct. 26 “Song of Sparrows”- a broken hearing aid and wayward bird as catalysts for career change and prosperity. Discussion led by Alice Brody Photographer and activist.
- 3) Wed., Nov. 2 “Children of Heaven” Oscar nominated drama by Majid Majidi. What to do about his sister’s lost shoes? Discussion led by Leila Zand, Iran American Director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation Iran Project.

Sat., Oct. 22 at 2:00-4:00 pm at Main Albany Public Library 161 Washington Ave., Albany. Meet award-winning author and expert on the interplay of gender, race, and class in legal issues concerning reproduction, bioethics, and child welfare Dorothy Roberts and hear her present from her new book, *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century*.



Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business—September 25, 2011

Present: Dot Richards, Judith Fetterly, Maggy Wiard, Pat Beetle, Becky Raymond, Carol Barclay, Dinah Farrington, Maud Easter, Joe Levinger, Ed Cady, Sue Clark, Barbara Sinacore, Barbara Carey, Mary Lou Baum, Pierre Douyon, Ellen Flanders, Betsy Voss (Clerk), David Easter (Assistant Clerk).

The meeting began with worship.

1. The First Day School Committee met, but reported that we don't have lead teachers for First Day School yet this year. A letter summarizing problems the First Day school faces was read. We have some people who have agreed to teach. We have curriculum materials. The First Day School room has been refurbished. However, the school needs more support from the Meeting. Various ideas were shared on how to move forward.
2. The Peace and Service Committee wants to see service to the local community and service that includes all age groups. The committee hopes to focus on a few activities and wants to have efforts that are visible in the wider community. The committee plans to bring 10 service opportunities (to help the Meeting, the community, and global society) to a business meeting sometime this fall asking the meeting to select a few efforts to advance.
3. The ad hoc committee on charitable contributions has met and reviewed responses received on the survey. The committee hopes to bring recommendations to the next Business Meeting.
4. Pierre Douyon reported on the work of the Yearly Committees he serves on: Powell House Committee, Witness Coordinating Committee, and Black Concerns Committee. Many Yearly Meeting Committees have been meeting in our Meeting House. Being involved in Yearly Meeting Committees is a wonderful way to learn about Quakerism. He also reported that Luc Douyon serves on the Young Adult Affairs Committee.
5. Jun-san wrote a very nice thank you letter to the Meeting for the Meeting contribution to the Peace Pagoda in memory of Liz Pearson.
6. The Meeting agreed with regret to release Lew Buckman and Claudia Anderson from membership in the Meeting, as they requested. We appreciate their many contributions to the Meeting over the years. Judith Fetterly and Carol Barclay have offered to meet with them and we will confer with the Nurture and Oversight Committee.
7. The Treasurer reported a balance of unrestricted cash on hand of \$412.84. We discussed transferring the Donn Fichter fund to the Capital Campaign or the Margallen Fichter Restricted Fund and will decide later.
8. The Fund for Suffering, about \$1,800, to be given to people who apply and who are financially burdened by taking a stand for conscience, has been in an account at Citizens Bank and has not been used for some time. We decided to close the account and put it in the Memorial Fund as a restricted amount to be used for the purposes of the Fund for Suffering.
9. We will ask Diane Cameron to give a talk on *Murder, Madness and the Military* November 20th after Potluck.
10. Luc Douyon has requested Membership in Meeting. His letter will be given to the Nurture and Oversight Committee for follow-up.
11. The Meeting has a new childcare worker, Samantha Wilhelmi.
12. The email address for the Meeting listserv is caretaker@albanyquakers.org.

Quaker Faith and Action

Quaker faith springs from a deeply held belief in living our lives according to our spiritual experience. Some of our spiritual insights, which we call our testimonies (SPICES*), spring from deep experience and have been part of Quaker faith for many years.

These Quaker testimonies arise out of an inner conviction and challenge our normal ways of living.

***Simplicity**

Peace

Integrity

Community

Equality

Stewardship of the Earth



NANUMYOKORANIZEKYO
 Dear Albany Friends Meeting people
 and Maggy-san
 I got your letter and 425 \$
 offering in memory of Liz Pearson
 I am prizing you n people
 offering to Grafton Peace
 Pagoda
 Liz-san is my peace maker
 I miss her after she gone
 everyday. I pray to Liz's
 picture
 This picture, Liz clean'd
 Back Yard by
 she clean up world
 from darknes
 to shinin g

I send peace walk thier
 we walk with Liz's spirit
 all over the world

Thank you so much

Bow 3 time to you

JUN
 JUNE 25 - 2011

Thanks from
 Jun-san from the
 Grafton
 Peace Pagoda





FCNL Corner Friends Committee on National Legislation

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (www.fcnl.org), the oldest registered religious lobby in Washington, is a non-partisan Quaker lobby in the public interest. FCNL works with a nationwide network of tens of thousands of people from every state in the United States to advocate for social and economic justice, peace, and good government.

FCNL's Statement of Legislative Policy: We Seek an Earth Restored

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." 1 We believe that humankind must respect the ecological integrity and the sacredness of the natural world. People must choose activities, create institutions, and establish policies and laws that are beneficial to the earth and will help protect and regenerate its ecosystems.

We recognize that issues regarding the use and protection of the earth's resources are global and require mutual respect and cooperation with every community on earth. Environmental degradation and resource scarcity are among the underlying causes of violence and war. We believe that Friends' testimonies on peace and simplicity have deep relevance to the global environmental crisis.

Humanity must commit to curbing excessive and destructive consumption and pollution. We believe that these responsibilities are urgent and must be acted upon globally, nationally, locally, and individually.

Section 1. Caring for the Earth

The health of the earth's ecosystems and their ability to support life has been and is being seriously impaired by human activities. We deplore the pollution of the earth's land, water, and atmosphere; the decline in biodiversity and nonrenewable resources; and the increase in deforestation and desertification. The world is in the midst of a mass extinction of species, primarily human in cause.

We urge that national legislation promote ecologically sound and safe agricultural, extractive, industrial, and commercial enterprises. Ways must be found to meet the needs of human beings without doing violence to the rest of creation. Specifically we advocate that the U.S. government develop policies that encourage regional and international cooperation for solutions to environmental problems, including environmental standards in trade agreements that assure nations and local governments of their right to establish more stringent environmental protections and standards.

We call for adequate funding of the UN Environmental Program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Regional and international cooperation is also required to conserve and allocate diminishing water resources and natural ecosystems. We support efforts to protect open spaces, wilderness areas, and productive farmlands from urban sprawl and development. The military and all government agencies must comply with the same environmental laws and regulations as the private sector.

The federal government must support the expansion of research, development, and implementation of appropriate technologies and strategies to minimize waste and prevent pollution, including a comprehensive recycling program and economic incentives that encourage both the use of recycled materials and the creation of markets for the use of recycled products.

We advocate the development and enforcement of regulations to safeguard biological diversity and international cooperation to abate the loss of biodiversity worldwide.

We advocate the prohibition of brutal and inhumane treatment of animals in food production and animal testing. We support the careful evaluation, regulation, monitoring, and product labeling of synthetic chemicals and genetically modified organisms and products.

Section 2. Population and Consumption

We believe it is impossible to improve the lives of all the peoples of the earth if the population continues to grow. The failure to confront the problems of population growth and over-consumption will endanger the finite home planet that all people share. We support government policies to promote the education of children and adults on the impact of global population growth and over-consumption.

We support access to, and adequate financial and institutional support for, effective, universally available, safe, and noncoercive family planning in the United States and throughout the world.



Continued from Page 4—

Although most population growth is occurring in the developing world, the average person in the United States consumes and pollutes many times more than does the average person in these developing nations. Massive corporate advertising and many federal policies promote unhealthy levels of consumption. This over-consumption not only threatens the global environment, but also sows the seeds of war and reduces the resources available to meet the world's needs. We urge the federal government to develop economic policies which will sustain general prosperity without high levels of consumption and the associated exploitation and pollution of the environment.

We urge the promotion of life cycle cost analysis, environmental cost analysis, or a similar process to bring the environmental impact of raw materials, production, packaging, use, and final product disposal to the forefront of manufacturing and purchasing decisions for companies and consumers.

Section 3. Global Climate Change and Energy Policy

We believe that the right use and sharing of the world's resources for energy are crucial to human survival and welfare. We realize that land and energy use are inextricably linked to greenhouse gas generation and climate change. We urge that energy policies be based on global humanitarian and environmental concerns rather than narrow commercial, military, or national interests, and that the price of energy reflect its full cost.

All people need equitable access to sources of energy for personal needs and the development of their communities. The great risk to the environment and to future generations posed by increased use of fossil fuels and nuclear energy requires a shift to renewable and less damaging energy sources, increased efficiency, and conservation.

We urge the U.S. government to assume leadership in addressing global warming by ratifying and implementing international agreements; developing strong, fair, and effective policies to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases; promoting energy conservation through federal standards and regulations that reduce fuel consumption and increase efficiency for stationary and mobile emission sources; and instituting taxing and pricing policies that more fully reflect and publicize the economic, environmental, and social costs of energy production and use. We support the promotion of research and development of sustainable energy technologies for domestic use and export, adopting incentives for the production and use of renewable energy, and removing regulatory barriers to renewable onsite power generation and distribution.

We urge an explicit moratorium on the construction of nuclear fission power plants and the transportation of nuclear wastes until methods for safe transportation and disposal have been demonstrated. We support policy against reprocessing spent nuclear fuels in the United States and elsewhere.

Section 4. Environmental Restoration and Regeneration

Restoration of the earth requires healing the places damaged by the release of nuclear and other toxic substances. We expect the Departments of Defense and Energy, other government agencies, and private companies to take responsibility for the damage they have caused and work to redress it. We believe the cost of cleanup should be borne by the responsible parties; however, cleanup should proceed promptly and not be delayed by litigation over who ultimately will bear the cost. The dangers of pollution and waste disposal should not fall disproportionately on the world's poor or marginalized peoples. These dangers should be fully disclosed and addressed in consultation with affected communities.

We urge that our federal government participate in this environmental restoration. The government should monitor, limit, and reduce toxic build-ups in both humans and wildlife; enforce penalties for hazardous discharges in excess of legal, risk-based limits; prohibit the export of toxic products; and work to destroy or safely dispose of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and materials stockpiled in the United States, Russia, and other countries. We also call for the strengthening and enforcement of laws and regulations to protect and clean up water resources, with sufficient funds earmarked for implementation.

We are convinced that all on this earth are interdependent, and we cherish the sacred value of the natural world as God's creation. Impelled by both the sacred and the practical, and inspired by Friends' testimonies, we seek an earth restored.

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Albany, N.Y. 12208

518-436-8812

Webb Page <http://www.albanyquakers.org>

If you have a friend who might be interested in Quakers please share this newsletter with them. If you prefer to be taken off this mailing list, send a request to juliagrace@aol.com or postcard to above address.

Weekly Peace Vigil

Every Wednesday from 12-1PM

In front of the Capitol, at State and Eagle Street. Sponsored by Albany Friends Meeting and Peace Action.

Everyone Welcome



Advice and Queries — For October

On Vocal Ministry

We all share responsibility for Meeting for Worship whether our ministry is in silence or through the spoken word. Faithfulness and sincerity in speaking, even very briefly, may open the way for others to come into a fuller ministry. When prompted to speak, Friends wait patiently to know that the leading and the time are right, but do not let a sense of our own unworthiness hold us back. Do we trust that words will be given to us? Do we avoid assuming that vocal ministry is never to be our part? Are we open to the possibility that Spirit may speak through us? Do we listen to the spoken messages of others with the inner as well as the outer ear?

Enriching Vocal Ministry — For October

In Friends' meetings also, from the fact that everyone is free to speak, one hears harmonies and correspondences between very various utterances such as are scarcely to be met elsewhere. It is sometimes as part-singing compared with unison. The free admission of the ministry of women, of course, greatly enriches this harmony. I have often wondered whether some of the motherly counsels I have listened to in our meeting would not reach some hearts that might be closed to the masculine preacher.

Caroline E Stephen, 1890