

# Newsletter of Albany Friends Meeting (Quakers)

## Albany Friends Meeting Calendar

First Day School for children starts Sept. 17 and continues every other week. When there is no First Day School, childcare will be available during worship. Childcare during Meeting events is available with at least one week's notice. Info for all of these: Chris Koster: 862-1895

### Every First Day (Sunday):

9:15–10 a.m., Worship sharing: Preparation for Worship open to all, in the library. Info Carol Barclay: 283-3903 or [Cicbarclay@gmail.com](mailto:Cicbarclay@gmail.com)

10–11 a.m., Meeting for Worship

11 a.m., Announcements and Social Hour, hosted by Trustees (pot luck 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun.)

1<sup>st</sup> Sun., Sept. 4, 11:30-1 p.m., Writing Group: Bring your work or come for inspiration. Info: Elizabeth Gordon: [walk33@gmail.com](mailto:walk33@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Wed., Sept. 7, 12:15-1 p.m., Monthly Peace Vigil in front of Capitol, State and Eagle St. Info: 595-9324

2<sup>nd</sup> Sun., Sept. 11, Easton Day (see news item)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun., Sept. 18, First Day School (and every other First Day thereafter);

Potluck, followed by Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

4<sup>th</sup> Sun., Sept. 25, 9 a.m. Hymn Sing: those who wish may leave at 9:15 Preparation for Worship;

Friendly Fourth: Invite new people any time, but perhaps especially 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. see news item

Faith and Practice sharing after social hour. Info: Dot Richards: 380-5125, [wrichard@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wrichard@nycap.rr.com)

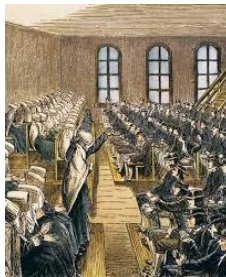
Every Wed., 7 p.m., Meeting for Worship with Margaret Smith at Eddy Heritage House Nursing Home.

Info: Steven: 542-6000

## **Albany Friends Meeting Retreat Focusing on Vocal Ministry, Sat., Oct. 1**

**9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Anna Curtis Center, Powell House, 524 Pitt Hall Road, Old Chatham**

By Judith Fetterley



QuakerQuaker.org

This year's retreat will be led by Christopher Sammond, Executive Secretary of New York Yearly Meeting. The focus of our gathering will be vocal ministry – what is it, what role does it play in our Meeting for Worship, how do we prepare for, nurture and support it; how much is enough or too much? We'll share our experiences of giving and receiving vocal ministry, and examine perspectives of Friends through time in order to reflect on our practice of vocal ministry. Coffee, tea, morning snacks, refrigeration, and utensils will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Feel free to bring a snack to share. The retreat is free, but please consider a \$20 donation. Sign up as soon as possible with Dot Richards, 380-5125, [wrichard@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wrichard@nycap.rr.com), and tell her if you can offer a ride or need one. Don't miss this unique opportunity to explore vocal ministry with Christopher Sammond and Albany Friends!

**Questions? Who to contact:**

**Co-Clerks:** Cinda Putman 426-9401 [putmancr@nycap.rr.com](mailto:putmancr@nycap.rr.com), Maggy Wiard 235-8102 [maggy.wiard@yahoo.com](mailto:maggy.wiard@yahoo.com)

**Recording Clerk:** Anne Liske 256-8230

**Treasurer:** Janet Poole 477-5443

**Trustees:** for Sept. only, Anita Stanley 441-7722. After that: David Easter 475-9532

**Building Caretakers:** Anne Liske: 256-8230 and John Cutro: 256-8422 [caretaker@albanyquakers.org](mailto:caretaker@albanyquakers.org)  
Outside groups need Trustees' approval prior to scheduling new events with caretakers. Schedule all new events (AFM and outside groups) with caretakers 2-4 weeks in advance to verify no conflicts.

**Young Adult Friends and monthly gatherings:** David Oehl 860-262-3813 [oehlida2000@yahoo.com.au](mailto:oehlida2000@yahoo.com.au)

**Outreach and Advancement, and Website Coordinator:** Judith Fetterley [JFetterley@albany.edu](mailto:JFetterley@albany.edu)

**Ministry & Nurture Committee:** Tom Costello 438-3324

**First Day School Committee, and Child Care for Meeting events:** Chris Koster 862-1895

**Peace & Earthcare Committee (open to all):** Sheree Cammer [sheree4614@gmail.com](mailto:sheree4614@gmail.com) 286-0359

**Alternatives to Violence Project:** Crystal Heshmat [Crystal.heshmat@gmail.com](mailto:Crystal.heshmat@gmail.com), 369-9675, or Pat Beetle 477-4004

**Friends for Racial Justice Committee (open to all):** Barbara Spring 441-6405

**Compost:** Janet Poole 477-5443 Take a bucket, fill with food scraps, put scraps on our compost pile.

**Newsletter Editor:** Sheree Cammer [sheree4614@gmail.com](mailto:sheree4614@gmail.com) 286-0359

**Stay in touch between newsletters!** Join the list-serve by emailing your request to [jcutro@twc.com](mailto:jcutro@twc.com)

**Friendly Fourth: a New Outreach Initiative**

from Judith Fetterley, Albany Friends Meeting Outreach and Advancement committee

At the June Inreach/Outreach Workshop, Helen Garay Toppins told us her journey to being a Quaker started because someone invited her to Meeting for Worship. Remembering this, Outreach encourages Meeting members and attenders to invite a friend to attend Meeting for Worship with them, particularly the fourth Sunday, so guests can participate in Faith and Practice and get a greater sense of what Quakerism is all about. Has anyone you know expressed interest in experiencing Meeting for Worship? Please extend an invitation any Sunday, but in particular think of the Friendly Fourth.

**World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on Thurs., Sept. 1**

From Dot Richards



[Changemaker.org.fordham.edu](http://Changemaker.org.fordham.edu)

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger will be the main speaker at an interfaith service marking the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Sept. 1 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Other participants include representatives of the Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh faiths, as well as other Christians. The event will begin at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Deacon Walter Ayres, Director of Catholic Charities' Commission on Peace and Justice at 453-6695.

**Easton Day, Sun., Sept. 11 Presentation by Noted Author/Activist Eileen Flanagan**

From Sunfire, Easton Monthly Meeting, in love and fellowship

Dear Friends,

If you watch this video of an address by Eileen Flanagan, <http://tedxtalks.ted.com/video/Quaker-Environmental-Action-Eil/>, you'll know why the Easton Meeting is thrilled to have this important crusader for climate and environmental justice as our speaker for Easton Day this year.



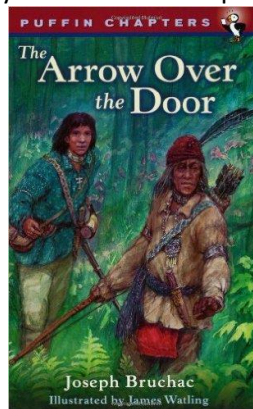
[www.quakercloud.org](http://www.quakercloud.org)

On Sun., Sept. 11, the Easton Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) will celebrate Easton Day, its annual commemoration of the 1777 Feathers of Peace incident when a party of Burgoyne's Indians set aside hostilities and joined Easton Friends in worship. This year's celebration features a talk by Eileen Flanagan, author of *Renewable: One Woman's Search for Simplicity, Faithfulness, and Hope*. She sees the Feathers of Peace story as incorporating divine guidance, coming together across differences, and the power of nonviolence: three elements of Flanagan's work for climate justice. She will share what she is learning about how people can tap into their rich history and create new stories for their own time.

All are welcome to the Easton Day events. Registration is at 10 a.m., followed at 10:30 a.m. by the Feathers of Peace story and Meeting for Worship (with a concurrent program for children up to 12 years old). Potluck at noon is followed by singing led by Charlie Lapinski and Eileen Flanagan's presentation at 1:30 p.m. Easton Day is at the Easton Friends' South Meeting House, 227 Meeting House Rd. (off State Route 40 about six miles north of Schaghticoke), in Easton, NY. For more information: 587-8932.

**Editor's Note:**

I came across this book on Easton Day by local author Joseph Bruchac:



[www.amazon.com/Joseph-Bruchac](http://www.amazon.com/Joseph-Bruchac)

**North Star Interfaith Peace Walk Sun., Sept. 25, 2-4 p.m.**

Albany Friends have been part of this interfaith walk since it began several years ago. Details are in Community Events. If you wish to join Friends in walking with our banner, you might contact Maggy Wiard: 235-8102 [maggy.wiard@yahoo.com](mailto:maggy.wiard@yahoo.com).

**Alternatives to Violence Project**

By Crystal Heshmat

Hi! :-) Yesterday I completed the Training for Facilitators at Greene Correctional Facility and I had a bit of time to think about the person who first inspired me to pay attention to AVP: George Saxton. I had heard about AVP from Ellen Flanders at Quaker 101 and Pat Beetle's post-Meeting for Worship announcements so I had a positive impression, yet George absolutely glowed when telling me that he was so happy about the good work that he did, as a benefit to both himself and the inmates.

I felt called to this work, but I kept pushing it away for nearly 18 years. I had many fears. What if I get claustrophobic inside the prison? What if someone hurts me? Etc. Then early this year I got an email: AVP at Greene might cease due to a lack of outside volunteers. Today I can tell you that I feel the glow.

Would you like to join us? Please drop me a line: [Crystal.heshmat@gmail.com](mailto:Crystal.heshmat@gmail.com) or call 369-9675. Thanks!

**Caretaker's Corner**

From Anne Liske

We've been in the building for a year and have rediscovered the joys and minor headaches of taking care of the Meetinghouse. These include getting to interact with all the interesting groups using the building, watching rabbits and squirrels frolic in the back yard and, on the down side, three bat encounters during the recent summer heat!

One gentle reminder we would like to make to members, attenders and meeting committees is to remember we ask of each other the same care and use of the building that we do of outside groups. Here are a few requests:

Everyone is really doing a good job with the refrigerator. Please remember to label with "use by" date and purpose for what you leave from one week to the next. Often unlabeled items aren't used. Precut veggies and fruits, unless well packaged, tend to dry out and are best offered to someone to take home.

After hospitality on First Day, and when meeting committees or other events happen, please try to communicate with one another about who will take responsibility for final kitchen clean-up, in particular putting all food away and wiping down the butcher block table.

When furniture is rearranged for a gathering, we ask that it be returned to the original arrangement. John and I are not always back in the building before outside groups arrive, so please be mindful of this.

We also have a need to fill – would someone be willing to replace either or both of the simple battery-operated wall clocks, one in the First Day School Room and the other in Room 2? Both have failed. Ideally these can be very plain, but best to avoid the Dollar General models as they tend not to last.

And a fixer/upper request: Would anyone be willing to prep and repaint the small white bench on the front porch? This can be a take home project! Thanks.

**Trustees**

from Anita Stanley, subbing in September for clerk David Easter

Work on the window in the piano room is continuing, I think! Everyone can look forward to their letter requesting financial support soon.

**Minutes of Albany Friends Meeting for Business June 12, 2016**

Present: Maggy Wiard and Cinda Putman, Co-clerks; Carol Barclay, David Oehl, Janet Poole, Katja Rehm, Sue Clark, David Easter, Anne Liske, Joe Levinger, Pat Beetle; Maud Easter, Assistant Clerk.

1. The meeting opened with a period of silence.
2. The full Treasurer's Report will be presented at the July Business Meeting.
3. The Nominating Committee presented the slate for Trustees for the second reading, which was approved. The full slate of nominations for next year was presented for first reading.
4. The meeting closed with a period of silence.

**Albany Friends Meeting for Business July 10, 2016**

Present: Maggy Wiard, Co-clerk; Barbara Sinacore, Carol Barclay, Sue Clark, Pat Beetle, David Easter, Betsy Voss, Barbara Spring, Chris Koster, Anne Liske, Pierre Douyon, Joe Levinger; Maud Easter, Assistant Clerk.

1. The meeting opened with a period of silence.
2. Nominating Committee presented the second reading of the slate of nominations for the coming year. The list was approved with several additions. The Nominating Committee was thanked for its work. It was agreed volunteers will be recruited to go upstairs with children who arrive at meeting on weeks there is not a First Day School program. Barbara Spring, Chris Koster, Maggy Wiard and David Easter volunteered and others will be sought.
3. Trustees reported there was good response to the recent fund letter with approximately \$2500 in the checking account, with \$800 earmarked for roof work already done. Four fund letters will be sent each year.
4. It was agreed that Meeting for Business in September will be on the 18th after potluck, to avoid a conflict with Easton Day on the second Sunday. In August there will be no business meeting and no rise of meeting lunch.
5. The meeting closed with a period of silence.

**Albany Monthly Meeting 2016**

Key: \*Open Term

+ Membership required

++ Membership required for a majority of committee members

*new appointments in italics*

+CLERK (2 consecutive terms, the 1<sup>st</sup> to be 2 years; the 2<sup>nd</sup> to be 1 year) Cinda Putman and Maggy Wiard, Co-clerks – 2017, 1<sup>st</sup> term

+RECORDING CLERK (2 year term renewable, total 4 years) *Anne Liske*

++TRUSTEES (3 year term renewable, total 6 years) Julia Richards - 2017, 1<sup>st</sup> Term; David Easter - 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> Term; Sue Clark - 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> term; Jennifer Illenberg - 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> term; *Anita Stanley -- 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> term; Janet Poole – 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> term*

+TREASURER (selected by Trustees) *Janet Poole - with Stacie Faraone support for a few months*

++MINISTRY AND NURTURE (3 year term renewable; total 6 years) Joe Levinger -- 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> term; Tom Costello – 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> term; Carol Barclay – 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> term; Dorothy Richards -- 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> term; David Oehl -- 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> term; *Barbara Sinacore -- 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> term; Maud Easter – 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> term; Katja Rehm – 2019, 1<sup>st</sup> term*

\*ARCH Visitors (Aging Resources, Consultation and Help) Amy Allman; Stacie Faraone; Barbara Sinacore; Barbara Spring; Steven Taylor-Roth

\*NEWSLETTER Sheree Cammer

\*AFM ANNUAL DIRECTORY Julia Richards

\*WEBMASTER Judith Fetterley

\*AFM LISTSERV ANNOUNCEMENTS John Cutro, Anne Liske

\*FIRST DAY SCHOOL Chris Koster, Jennifer Illenberg, Abby Kinchy

\*OUTREACH AND ADVANCEMENT Steven Taylor-Roth, Barbara Sinacore, Judith Fetterley, Maggy Wiard, Dorothy Richards, David Oehl, Melissa Bromley

\*PEACE & EARTHCARE Pat Beetle, Sue Clark, Katja Rehm, Paul Rehm, Al Brophy, Barbara Carey, Virginia Osborne, Sheree Cammer, David Barnard, *Leslie Sharkey*

\*FRIENDS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE Barbara Carey, Sue Clark, Maud Easter, Barbara Spring, Pat Beetle, Sandy Powell, Jennifer Illenberg, Janet Poole, Steven Taylor-Roth, Florence Frazier, *John Cutro, Barbara Sinacore, Elizabeth Gordon – under discernment*

\*LIBRARY Chris Koster, Betsy Voss, *Kelly Lockmer*

\*HOSPITALITY Maggy Wiard, Chase Crosley, Chris Koster, Janet Poole

+\*MEMORIAL FUND Judith Fetterley, David Easter

+NOMINATING COMMITTEE-- (overlapping 3-year terms) Katja Rehm – 2017, Maud Easter – 2018

\*FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation), Julia Richards

\*AFSC (American Friends Service Committee), David Easter

Interfaith Alliance of NYS John Amidon, Pat Beetle

Capital Area Council of Churches Anne Liske

### **Other Services to the Meeting:**

Music (4<sup>th</sup> First Day of each month) -- Carol Barclay

First Day Greeter to Meeting for Worship - Dorothy Richards

Young Adults Potlucks -- David Oehl

Writing Group (1<sup>st</sup> First Day of each month) -- Elizabeth Gordon

Prison Ministry – Steven Taylor-Roth, Janet Poole

Peace Vigil in front of the NYS capital (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month) –

Pat Beetle, Sue Clark, David Easter, Dorothy Richards, Maud Easter, Maggy Wiard, and friends

Mid-week Meeting for Worship @ Heritage House (every Wednesday @ 7 pm)

Steven Taylor-Roth, Maggy Wiard, Margaret Smith

### **Representatives to New York Yearly Meeting Committees (as listed in the 2015-16 NYM Yearbook):**

+Pierre Douyon -- NYM Committee on Conflict Resolution; NYM Ministry and Pastoral Care; NYM Sessions Committee; NYM Discernment Committee; Powell House, Inc.

+Carol Barclay -- NYM Discernment Committee

+Barbara Sinacore – NYM Mosher Fund Committee

+Steven Taylor-Roth -- New York State Council of Churches (chaplancy), NYM Sharing Fund

\*Sue Clark – European-American Quakers Working to End Racism Working Group (EAQWER)

+Barbara Spring -- NYM Friends Committee for Black Concerns

+Pat Beetle – NYM Committee on Sufferings

+Paul Rehm – National Religious Campaign against Torture; NYM Committee on World Ministries

**Revised and approved by AFM 7/10/2016**

## Community Events

Thurs., Sept. 1, 7p.m., Catholic Bishop speaking at the Cathedral on prayer and caring for all God's creation.

Mon., Sept. 5, 12-5 p.m., Solidarity Labor Day Picnic at Cook Park, Colonie. Speakers, tabling, awards. Hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, soft drinks provided. Bring salads or desserts.

Wed., Sept. 7, 7 p.m., Is NATO counterproductive to World Peace?, talk by Tom Ellis and Joe Lombardo. Delmar Library.

Sun., Sept. 11, Easton Day, Easton Meeting House. Worship at 10 a.m., pot luck lunch, speaker Eileen Flanagan, author, EQUAT steering committee clerk, a very active environmental group. See news item

Wed., Sept. 21, 5-6 p.m., International Peace Day, Grannies for Peace Vigil, Wolf Rd. and Central Ave. Theme: Violence Begets Violence

Wed., Sept. 21, 7 p.m., "Stop the Hate" program at the Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary.

Sun., Sept. 25, 2-4 p.m., North Star Peace Walk, a 1.5 mile loop walk from Emmaus Church at Morris and W. Lawrence, host of the immigrant/refugee center.

Sun., Sept. 25, 12-4 p.m., Saratoga Peace Fair and Concert Across America, calling out gun violence, Tabling, vendors and family activities, Presbyterian and Northeastern Congregational Church.

Sun., Sept. 25, 6 p.m., Open Folk Circle, Albany Friends Meetinghouse. Info: [blue.stone5@verizon.net](mailto:blue.stone5@verizon.net).

**Powell House Events** at <http://powellhouse.org> or (518) 794-8811

Sept. 9-11, Alternatives to Violence Project-NY Annual Meeting

Sept. 16-18, The Books of Harper Lee: Mockingbird, Watchman; Racism and Atticus. Open to high school age and older.

Sept. 16-18, Healing Light: A FIPSH weekend, for massage therapists, hospice nurses, nurses, Reiki or Healing touch practitioners, occupational and physical therapists, social workers, and F/friends who combine various practices of healing including prayer

Sept. 23-25, Building Facilitation Skills Authentically

Sept. 23-25, Oh Snap! 6th to 8th grade

Oct. 1, Albany Monthly Meeting Retreat. See news item

Oct. 7-9, JCT 9th to 12th grade- JC is for Junior Counselor and T is for training.

Oct. 14-16, Fall Work, Contra Dance, and Storytelling

Albany Friends Meeting (Quakers)  
727 Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208

Albany Friends Meeting is on Facebook and at [www.albanyfriendsmeeting.org](http://www.albanyfriendsmeeting.org). To start or stop the emailed newsletter: [Sheree4614@gmail.com](mailto:Sheree4614@gmail.com). To stop or change mailed newsletters: [Sheree4614@gmail.com](mailto:Sheree4614@gmail.com) or 286-0359.

**Monthly Peace Vigil:** All welcome. Every first Wed., 12:15-1 p.m. Sponsored by Albany Friends Meeting, Peace Action, and Grannies for Peace.

### **Advice and Queries September On Children and Youth**

We are called to rejoice in the presence of children and young people in our Meeting and to recognize the gifts they bring. Let us nurture in them the same fullness of being that we seek for ourselves. The Meeting as a whole shares a responsibility for the children and young people in our care. Do we seek to share our deepest beliefs with our children and young people, while still leaving them free to develop as spirit leads them? Do we invite them to share their insights with us? Do we find ways to include them our Meeting for Worship and in the spiritual life of our community? Are we ready to learn from them?

### **Enriching Vocal Ministry**

It is understood in...a Meeting that any messages that are spoken strive to be God's word for these people at this time; that is, no one will speak unless he [or she] has prayerfully considered two questions: whether the message is God's or [one's] own, and whether it should be given to these people now, or is for the individual alone.