

# Morningside Matters

FEBRUARY 2011

Helen Garay Toppins on-line editor ([HGTpeace@optonline.net](mailto:HGTpeace@optonline.net))

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## MMM Event Calendar

- February 20** – Morningside hospitality/Patricia Chernoff  
Discussion of Quaker Theologies – 1:00 PM
- February 24** – Ministry & Counsel at the home of Pamela Wood – 7:15 PM  
Attendees are welcome at the first, non confidential part of the Meeting.
- February 27** – Ministry & Counsel's welcoming breakfast, Riverside Cafeteria – 9:30 AM  
Morningside hospitality/Dave Evans
- March 6** – Morningside hospitality/Ernie Buscemi  
**MEETING FOR BUSINESS 1:00 PM**
- March 13** – Morningside hospitality/Katherine Alford
- March 15** – Deadline for March Morningside Matters

**Welcome! Emerson David Jenkins – 22 inches long, 10 pounds 2 ounces.  
Emerson, Mama Julie and Papa Mason all doing well.**

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## **“I saw a small beam of sunlight this morning” Jailed Hudson Meeting Clerk**

Nancy Smith, the jailed 78-year old clerk of Hudson Monthly Meeting, is in the Irwin County, GA, Jail, where she is serving out a six-month sentence for crossing the line at the School of the Americas. You can write to her at: Nancy H. Smith #7059, Irwin County Detention Center, 132 Cotton Dr., Ocilla, GA 31774. She **really** appreciates correspondence. More details at [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org)

## **Margaret Hope Bacon**

Margaret Hope Bacon, author of Mothers of Feminism: The Story of Quaker Women in America, is in hospice care at Crosslands. She has been responsive to visits and cards. Please hold her and her husband, Allen, in the Light. Cards may be sent c/o Allen Bacon, 263 Crosslands Drive, Kennett Square PA 19348-2022.

## **New England Friends Home Seeks Director**

The New England Friends Home, an 18-unit assisted-living facility in Hingham, MA, operated by New England Yearly Meeting is in search of a new executive director beginning April 2011. For information contact John Bach at 970-209-8346 or [nefriendshome@gmail.com](mailto:nefriendshome@gmail.com).

## **Brooklyn Meeting to Host AFSC Program on Haiti**

Brooklyn Friends will host an American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) program, "Enhancing Urban Peace in Port-au-Prince, Haiti," on Sunday, February 27, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. at the Brooklyn meetinghouse. The featured speakers will be Jorge Laffitte, the AFSC regional director for the Latin America & Caribbean International Division, and Carmen Ortiz, the AFSC country representative for Haiti. The subject will be the current AFSC efforts to build the capacity among the people living in the camps to overcome emotional trauma and to prevent violent conflict. Meeting for worship is from 11 to 12, followed by the social hour with refreshments. The AFSC program will begin at 1:00 p.m. The Brooklyn Friends meetinghouse is at 110 Schermerhorn Street. Everyone is welcome.

## **Celebrate Women's History Month With NYYM Black Concerns Committee**

Helen Garay Toppins [HGTpeace@optonline.net](mailto:HGTpeace@optonline.net)

### **HarlemQuake—Saturday, March 5, 2011**

**10:00 a.m.**—We will visit Lynette Yiadom-Boakye exhibit "Any Number of Preoccupations" at the Studio Museum in Harlem, 144 West 125th Street, New York, New York 10027. See [www.studiomuseum.org](http://www.studiomuseum.org) for directions and additional information about the museum.

**11:30 a.m.**—We will tour the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York, NY 10037. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture is one of the world's leading research facilities devoted to the preservation of materials on global African experiences. For directions and additional information see [www.nypl.org/locations/schomburg](http://www.nypl.org/locations/schomburg).

**12:30 p.m.**—Lunch in Harlem

### **2:00–4:00 p.m. — 18th-Century African American Women in the Quaker Orbit**

A conversation with Donna McDaniel and Vanessa Julye, coauthors of *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship: Quakers, African Americans and the Myth of Racial Justice*, at Countee Cullen Branch Library, 104 W 136th St., New York, NY. In keeping with Women's History Month, the authors will lift up Quaker women and those who traveled in "the Quaker orbit" as models. They believe the truth of our past will aid us in creating the diverse, inclusive community we pray for in our future.

**Sunday, March 6**—After worshipping with Manhattan and 15th Street Meetings there will be a potluck for Vanessa and Donna followed by their presentation "The

Story Continues" at 1:15 p.m. See [www.nyym.org](http://www.nyym.org) for location, directions and times of worship.

Note: Friday, March 4, Vanessa Julye will lead a Racial Healing Session for Friends of Color centering on how we use music to heal the wounds of racism and oppression. Friends of Color should contact Helen Garay Toppins for more information.

## **Preparing for the 2011 FGC Gathering**

### **Your Morningside Meeting Dollars at Work**

Vincent Buscemi

This year the Gathering will be held in Grinnell, Iowa at the Grinnell College (where our own Liberty Britton is a current student) on the week of July 3 to 9. The theme is "Meeting at the Center", our spiritual center being our experiences of the Devine, of the Mystery and that which guides us in faith and in action.

Each year some 1300 Friends gather from throughout the continent, encompassing a spectrum of age, ethnicity, and theology. There is Spirit-led programming for children, a dynamic High School program, and opportunities for Friends with common interests to meet together. Choose from a wide variety of small, weeklong workshops such as Quilting, Racism, Lobbying, Truth, Clerking, Bible, Eldership, and Dancing in the Light.

The housing options include campus dorms (with and without air conditioning), on campus camping in a central location, or nearby hotels. The fees vary, but if the price is beyond your budget, scholarships and volunteer work grants are available. Financial aid is given to first time attenders, returning attenders, and we even include some travel grants. Requests are made at the time of registration and are awarded on the basis of the submittal date. Registration by April 1 gives priority consideration for financial assistance. Details of all of this will be sent via email to our members and attenders. Also, a full booklet of the program including the description of the workshops will be sent out by the FGC.

We are all encouraged to attend, basking in the presence of so many Friends and returning to Morningside renewed and strengthened in Quakerism.

## **Please Help Carry On the Work of Our Meeting**

Pamela Wood

Contributions to the work of the Meeting are welcome. These go to pay our expenses (rent for example), our financial support of New York Yearly Meeting and our outreach to other organizations. They may be given to Bart Dominus, Pamela Wood or Charlene Ray at Meeting or you may request an envelope. Checks should be made out to Morningside Monthly Meeting. Contributions are tax deductible.

## Courage in Peace Film & Discussion Series

Upcoming films sponsored by the Arts and Peace Committees of 15 Street Meeting. (More details are at [quakerarts.blogspot.com](http://quakerarts.blogspot.com).)

**Thursday, February 24, 2011. 7pm.** Harlan County, U.S.A. Director Barbara Kopple's film about the 1973 coal miners' strike in Harlan County, KY. Highlighting the struggles of families living in shacks with no indoor plumbing and enduring hazardous working conditions, the film details the conflict between the Eastover Mining Co. and the laborers determined to join the United Mine Workers of America. Location: Penington Friends House, 215 East 15th Street.

**Friday, February 25, 2011. 7pm. Crude.** Filmmaker Joe Berlinger's provocative documentary explores the ongoing battle waged by 30,000 indigenous Ecuadorans and their lawyers against Chevron for dumping billions of gallons of toxic oil waste into the Amazon. Berlinger examines the environmental catastrophe -- dubbed the "Amazon Chernobyl." Location: Meeting Room, 15th Street Meeting House, 15 Rutherford Place.

**Friday, March 11, 2011. 7pm. Sir, No Sir!** Filmmaker and activist David Zeiger's documentary chronicles the largely forgotten antiwar activities of American GIs and other members of the military during the Vietnam era -- actions that put them in greater peril than civilian protesters. Powerful and surprising, the film weaves together the stories of veterans who participated in the opposition movement, an effort that, by the early 1970s, found widespread support from civilians and troops alike. Location: Room 1, 15th Street Meeting House, 15 Rutherford Place.

**Thursday, March 17, 2011 (Part 1) Thursday, March 24, 2011 (Part 2). 7pm. A Force More Powerful.** The film explores one of the 20th century's most important but least understood stories: how nonviolent power has overcome oppression and authoritarian rule all over the world. Location: Penington Friends House, 215 East 15th Street.

## Quaker United Nations Summer School

July 3–15, 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

Would you like to study the UN at first hand? Do you want to meet people from all over the world? The Summer School aims to provide an introduction to the work of the United Nations. In previous years it has been especially attractive to people who have recently completed higher-education studies. Application packs available from [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) or Helen Bradford (QUNSS), QPSW, Friends House, Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ, England; [helenb@quaker.org.uk](mailto:helenb@quaker.org.uk). Deadline for applications is **March 14, 2011**.

## Young Friends in Residence Internships

Young Friends in Residence (YFIR) is offering opportunities for interns, to work at the Beloved Community House in Newfield, N.Y., ten miles outside of Ithaca. Interns will live in intentional community with two or three other interns. Work includes developing youth and adult programs focused on creating a space for friends of all ages to experience, live in, and respond to Spirit. Interns are encouraged to immerse themselves in the local community and participate in the life of Perry City Monthly Meeting and the wider Quaker community. An openness to grow and deepen spiritually is required, as is experience in Quaker practices. Small monthly stipend (\$200) plus room, board, and travel expenses. For more information, including a job description and application, see the NYYM Web site, contact Chris DeRoller at 518-794-8811, or e-mail [YFIRwg@gmail.com](mailto:YFIRwg@gmail.com).

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Entrainment  
happens because  
I have first  
danced with  
bare feet to  
the rhythm  
only I can  
hear. This  
does not take  
courage; rather  
it takes the  
commitment to  
dance alone  
in sun and rain  
hail and snow,  
until at last  
my soul beats  
with Yours.

*Sandra Winter*

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## **May Spark: Envisioning the Future of Quakerism You are invited to submit articles**

Since its beginnings Quakerism has evolved and changed. Continuing revelation leaves the Quaker approach to spiritual growth open to new directions. How is Quakerism responding (or failing to respond) to the multiple ecological, economic,

technological, and social changes occurring around us? What aspects of Quakerism, its tools, and its practices have a special role in the emerging new realities? Send in your visions, leadings, thoughts, concerns, prophecies, suggestions, discernment about Quakers as a peculiar people, and/or New York Yearly Meeting specifically, in the coming years and decades.

Articles should be e-mailed to [paul@nyym.org](mailto:paul@nyym.org) and to the coordinators, Jens Braun, [sjbraun@taconic.net](mailto:sjbraun@taconic.net), and Christopher Sammond, [nyym.gensec@gmail.com](mailto:nyym.gensec@gmail.com) by April 1. Alternatively, you may mail your submissions to Paul Busby, 15 Rutherford Pl., New York NY 10003. For questions or clarifications please contact Jens Braun at 518-392-0891; [sjbraun@taconic.net](mailto:sjbraun@taconic.net).

**Visit [www.Morningsidemeeting.org](http://www.Morningsidemeeting.org)  
for February Meeting for Business minutes.**