

# **ANNAPOLIS FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2017**

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

- Meeting for worship: 11 a.m. on First Days
- First Day School for children: 11 a.m. (joining Meeting for Worship from 11:45 a.m. to noon)
- Nursery care for our youngest: 11 a.m.
- Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Business: 1st First Day of month at 9 a.m.
- Adult religious education: As noted in the Meeting Calendar below and in Other Scheduled Items and Items of Note
- Early meeting for worship (weather permitting outdoors) at 8 a.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> First Days
- North County mid-week meeting: First Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m., at 7627 Locust Grove Road, Glen Burnie. Call 410-439-2319 for more information.
- The Meditation Study Group meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the meeting room
- NOTE: The deadline for submitting newsletter items is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month Please include the word "Newsletter" in your subject line. (All committees and their reps, and all F/friends with leadings are welcome to submit items for inclusion).

## **MEETING CALENDAR**

MARCH 5: 9am Meeting for Business; 11am Meeting for Worship; 6:30-8:30pm William Penn House Potluck

MARCH 7: 7-9pm Green Team Meeting

MARCH 8: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group

MARCH 9: 2:30-4pm Spiritual Formation Group (*full*)

MARCH 10: 12-1:30pm Library Quaker Burial Ground Trustees

MARCH 11: 2-4pm CSGA Speaker: Michael Locklear on Carbon Sequestration & Food Production

MARCH 12: Quarterly Meeting at Homewood 10:30am Meeting for Worship, 1:30-3pm Program; 8am Early

Meeting for Worship; 9:15am Meeting for Learning: Sacred Dance and Chant; 11am Meeting for Worship

MARCH 14: 1-3pm "Conversational Intelligence" Book Discussion; 7-8pm North County Mid-Week Meeting in Glen Burnie

MARCH 15: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group

MARCH 16: 7-9pm Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis/Maryland Climate Coalition Speakers Series

MARCH 18: 2-4pm Working Group on Deconstructing Racism

MARCH 19: 9:15-10:45am Most Committees Meet; 10:30am Hymn Singing; 11am Meeting for Worship; 12:30-2pm Poets and Writers Gathering

MARCH 22: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group

MARCH 23: 7-9pm Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis Business Meeting

MARCH 24: 7-9pm Joint CSGA/Cafe Scientifique Movie Night: "Before the Flood"

MARCH 26: 8am Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15 Meeting for Learning: Green Team Follow-up to "After the Flood"; 11am Meeting for Worship; 12:30pm Potluck

MARCH 29: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group

APRIL 2: 9am Meeting for Business; 11am Meeting for Worship; 6:30pm William Penn House Potluck

APRIL 3: Housing for People's Climate March

APRIL 4: 7-8pm North County Mid-Week Meeting in Glen Burnie

APRIL 5: 7:30-9pm Meditation Group

APRIL 8: 9am-2pm Spring Work Day; 7:30pm Katrina Anderson and Isla! Benefit Concert

APRIL 9: 8am Early Meeting for Worship; 9:15am Meeting for Learning Cancelled; 11am Meeting for Worship; 2:30 pm Memorial Service: Careen Mayer

CARE OF THE MEETING HOUSE: Ministry and Worship Committee (Note: Peter T is assisting with mid-week check-in and reporting of any discrepancies found; Thank you Peter!)

## **QUERIES FOR THE THIRD MONTH: THE ENVIRONMENT**

Are you concerned for responsible use of natural resources and their nurture for future generations? Do you try to avoid wasteful consumption and pollution? Do you seek to preserve the beauty and balance of God's world?

**OTHER SCHEDULED ITEMS AND REPORTS (Expanded in paragraphs following; all events at AFM unless otherwise noted)**

[Lighthouse Bistro is Now Open!](#)

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[Guidelines for Submission to this Newsletter \(Changes as of March 2017!\)](#)

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**Light House Bistro is Now Open!**

"The Light House opened its Light House Bistro this week. The restaurant will provide Light House residents with transitional employment, anywhere from six months to a year, for them to find long-term work, said Kinney, president of the Light House Social Enterprise. The restaurant, at 202 West St., seats about 50 people and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner every day. It has a full-service menu, a Ceremony Coffee bar and a Grab 'n' Go. All of the restaurant's revenue will go back to the Light House. Light House Bistro hopes to train its 45 employees with basic skills so they can continue to climb the ranks in the restaurant industry, said Kinney, who's the former executive director of the shelter"

*from The Capital Gazette*

Read the full article here: <http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/annapolis/ph-ac-cn-light-house-bistro-opening-0301-20170228-story.html>

See also attached PDF flyer

**Thinking About Race**

**Thinking About Race** (March 2017) – **Muslim Girl** by Amani Al-Khatahbeh

Amani Al-Khatahbeh was nine years old on September 11, 2001, and could see the destruction of the World Trade Center towers from her home in New Jersey. After that, experiencing anti-Muslim attitudes and behavior through her school years, she found her voice and founded [www.MuslimGirl.com](http://www.MuslimGirl.com). It started as a blog in 2009 and turned into a highly popular, highly regarded website, thus giving voice to many others. Her book, *Muslim Girl, A Coming of Age*,

describes her journey.

"I feel that the horrible scapegoating we've had to endure has forced us into a corner of defensiveness, dissipating our energy in this endless game of pushing back against the misconceptions that ultimately victimize us. .... It makes me sad to think about all the resources the Muslim American community has been forced to waste for the past decade on campaigns, events, and media efforts to prove that we, too, are Americans; that we, too, are *human*, betting and pleading the public not to believe the racist rhetoric being spewed about us. I can't imagine the types of institutions, programs, and civic society we could have cultivated for our community—the type of *backbone* we could have had the opportunity to grow—had we not been forced into this position." (pp. 44-45)

This column is prepared by the BYM Working Group on Racism (WGR) and sent to the designated liaison at each Monthly and Preparative Meeting. The BYM WGR meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Locations vary to allow access to more Friends. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, [david.etheridge@verizon.net](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net).

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### **Meetings for Learning:**

*Generally 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> First-Days*

March 12<sup>th</sup> Sacred Dance and Chant  
March 26<sup>th</sup> Green Team Follow-up to "After the Flood"  
April 9<sup>th</sup> Cancelled  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> Continuing Conversation on Vocal Ministry

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### **Deconstructing Racism March 18<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Friends:  
Deconstructing Racism discussion will take place Saturday, 3/18/17, 2:00 - 4:00 at the Meetinghouse. Ann Riggs will continue to teach us about Social Action and Traditional Quaker Ways. We will open with centering silence, update each other on personal challenges related to diversity, and then consider how Friends' principles can guide our activism. We will close in silence.  
All are welcome.

In peace, Jean

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### **Careen's Memorial Service**

Careen's Memorial Service has been scheduled for First Day, April 9, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. There will be a reception following with light refreshments (fingerfood). We expect a full house to celebrate our dear Friend, so if you feel moved to assist, please contact me in the next week or so.

Thank you all,

Mary B. for Pastoral Care Committee

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## **Two Items From Our Clerk**

### Observations and Actions Resulting from the Clerks' Meeting and Meeting for Business

1) On 2/26/17 AFM Committee Clerks and interested participants met to discuss items of interest among and across committee lines of responsibility. At this meeting we agreed on several action Items that we will endeavor to resolve in the coming days. They include:

- a) After discussion of the need for current clarity regarding committee policies and responsibilities of organization and maintenance in the Hallway and Foyer, we reminded ourselves that just a few years ago an ad hoc committee was convened to settle this issue. We agreed the results of that committee resolution need to be retrieved and disseminated again. We remember KimF was the overall coordinator, but because she was unable to be at this meeting, we couldn't benefit from her recall. Consequently, the clerks assembled agreed that we need to review those decisions with an eye toward ensuring their understanding and completeness from the perspective of all (which is most) affected committees, to include (but not limited to):
  - i) posting and maintenance (and retirement) of all date sensitive items in the foyer
  - ii) hanging of all items in the hallway and responsibility for reviewing their "lifetime", to include the several permanently affixed display boards in the hallway
  - iii) policy regarding emplacing any temporary informational display boards (and especially the one constructed specifically to support Market Committee leading up to the Spring and Holiday Markets) with particular attention to the needs of AFM Rental and the needs of the BUC in satisfying needs of renters during those times
  - iv) periodic review and maintenance of items stored in the various cupboards in the foyers
  - v) encouraging all committees to ensure appropriate and up-to-date informational pamphlets for the benefit of new attenders

We recognized that good work was done to resolve many of these issues, but we need to remind ourselves of these agreements on a continuing basis (by perhaps posting a synopsis of commitments for all to see – as we do now for committee responsibilities for weekly building maintenance – or in some other way perhaps using the web site). At the Clerks' Meeting we also agreed that if a review of these commitments is in any way insufficient or in need of clarification, that we possibly consider convening a "threshing session" among committees to yield necessary resolution.

b) Committee Clerks considered the BYM request of AFM to canvass members and attenders regarding diversity information pursuant to the BYM need for such data because of a recently received Shoemaker Grant. After some discussion, Clerks were "uncomfortable" with asking for this information from among us, and requested that the AFM Recorder (who ostensibly, but not actually, maintains any AFM information like this, and who also is our representative to the BYM Diversity Committee) express our reluctance at the Interim Meeting scheduled next week.

c) We again urged a serious consideration of what it is going to take to ensure we relieve our current BUC (CarolB) of her volunteer position that she has so ably and devotedly and unselfishly provided for our benefit over a period far in excess of that which she had originally agreed she would do. No one has stepped forward to offer to do this on a volunteer basis; we do not even have an assistant to Carol. Consequently we have to consider providing this service for management of our rental "business" in a paying arrangement. We would prefer to offer this opportunity to someone at AFM, but failing that we are looking outside to find contractual services (with the certainty of additional funds required of our annual budget). Additionally, to possibly arrive at a lessened burden, it was suggested we consider limiting rentals to "regular" renters, and curtail our agreements with one-off rental requests.

d) Our Meeting Clerk asked committees to be more forthright in making it clear of a requirement for adequate time during Meeting for Business when a request is made. That way we may better allocate time and attention to ensure adequate consideration of items. This is not a science, of course, and some deftness of scheduling is required with each MfB, but anything committees can do to clarify need for time, and of course when meeting unity regarding a decision is being sought, will help the clerk to give proper attention to all our business.

e) Committees (almost exclusively MH&L, but all should take note) that employ contracted services from individuals and who pay them in excess of \$600 in a calendar year, are required to work with the AFM Treasurer to ensure they are issued a Form 1099 and any other required forms which we also provide to the IRS.

2) Also discussed at the Clerks Meeting, but also elaborated upon at Meeting for Business, was the topic of seeking

professional assistance to further exploit online resources (web, e-mail outreach and social networking tools, etc.) to better our reach among ourselves and into the larger community. In order to best approach this, we agreed to welcome participation of anyone who requests to be a part of an ad hoc committee to be formed under the auspices of the Outreach Committee. We recognize that paying for this type of support could lead to a better experience with more and timely features, but also noted that it would come at a cost. It was suggested that the ad hoc committee might avail itself of the Committee Contingency Fund for this purpose. Several already expressed an interest in participating in the formation of this ad hoc committee (Doug M, Susan W and Wes J) but others are certainly welcome. If you are interested please contact any of the three mentioned, or Mardy B and/or Lee L, Co-Clerks of Outreach Committee.

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**Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)  
Third Month, Fifth Day, 2017**

**Present** were: Wes J. (clerk), Phil C. (recording clerk), Barb T., Brennan B., Jennifer D.-L., Phyllis S., Pat S., Mary B., Tom and Susan W., Sky E., Martha B., Bob B., Pat E., Jacki P., Nan E., Jeanne W., Martha O., Phil F., Karen C., Dot W., Jean C., Margaret H., Caroline M., and Doug M.

**Opening:** We began with centering worship. With the passing of our dear friend Careen, our Clerk offered some reflections on our lives, our deaths, our love and ways we share these together. He noted that Careen was often one of the first Friends a newcomer met at Meeting and her light was a beacon for us over many years.

We also welcomed Brennan B., a new Friend who usually is away at school in Ohio; today we were fortunate to have him with us.

1. Miscellaneous. calendar items and notes (all locations are at AF Meeting House unless otherwise indicated)–

- 2nd/4th/(5th) Sun 8 am - early Meeting for Worship (MfW);
- 3/7 7pm AFM Green Team meeting;
- 3/11, 2 pm, Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis (CSGA) will offer Michael Locklear, an Eastern Shore farmer and environmentalist will speak on the use of agriculture for carbon sequestration.
- 3/12 at 9:15 a.m. AFM adult learning on sacred chants and dance
- Tues 7 pm will be on 3/14 this month Mid-Week Worship as Diane E.'s house;
- Each Weds 7:30pm Meditation Group;
- 3/16 & 23,24, 7pm, other meetings of CSGA;
- 3/18, 2pm, AFM Deconstructing Racism WG.

*NOTE: This week is the Winter Relief homeless program week that AFM shares with Magothy Methodist Church in Pasadena.*

2. Meeting House & Land (MH&L) Committee

- a) We will hold until next month some MHL items, pending return of Co-clerk Kim F.
- b) Co-clerk Bob B. did remind Friends of our June 2017 looming deadline to find a replacement for our current Building Use Coordinator (BUC) Carol B and noted, in the absence of other volunteers after a full year, we may need to make this a paid position. Bob also noted that our neighbor Unitarian church's building use coordinator may be interested in taking on this additional job for AFM; however, other Friends noted that we should be sure that no Friend would like the position since we have decided that it may need to become paid work. For MHL, Bob agreed to pursue placing a notice to Friends about this on the Announce List, in the newsletter, etc. Those interested in this position should contact Bob or Kim as MHL clerks.

3. Ministry & Worship (M&W) - For M&W, Tom reported on various items including new membership requests, a transfer of membership, meetings for learning, and state of the meeting plans.

a) Judy S. Brown has asked for a transfer of her membership in the Religious Society of Friends (RSF) from Adelphi to Annapolis, where she already regularly participates in early meeting and her poetry books are in our AFM Library. Tom noted that Judy also is a talented pianist. Friends joyfully approved and our Clerk will send a letter back to Adelphi acknowledging this transfer.

b) We delight in new membership requests received from Sheryl Gies, Carl and Kimberly Benson, Ellen McBride and her husband J. Wade Lower, and Julie Rouhi. M&W will arrange clearness committees for membership soon.

c) Sylvia O will offer an adult learning program on 3/12 at 9:15 a.m. on sacred chants and dance. Other adult learning programs will include our annual "spiritual state of the meeting" worship sharing (date TBD), another session on vocal ministry and the environmental film "Before the Flood," one on forgiveness, etc.

d) AFM now supports two travelling ministries, Francis W. who just as returned from Kenya and Brennan B. who is pursuing a weekly silent-worship group via FaceBook notices at Xavier University, a Jesuit-led Catholic University. Attendance at Brennan's meetings at Xavier has involved between 8 to 17 participants.

4. Market Committee (MC) – For MC, Margaret announced the kickoff of our May 6 Spring Market and expressed the committee's appreciation for the participation of Friends in the discernment process for selection of Market Quaker causes, saying "We were touched by the abundance, diversity and thoughtfulness of the recommendations." After careful discernment, the Market Committee united on: awarding the first \$100 to our Young Friends for their discernment; splitting the external 75 % equally among Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), BYM's Working Group on Refugees supporting the direct work of 4 other Friends meetings in assisting refugee families, and William Penn House; and awarding the internal 25% to the newly-formed environmental initiative (led so far by Martin Krafft) Survival Press Corps.

The Afghan Women's Fund leader Fahima Vorgetts again will participate with a table at the Spring Market and her fund will receive proceeds directly from purchases at her table.

MC also thanks Friend Katrine Anderson, as proceeds for Spring Market 2017 once again will be bolstered by a benefit concert she will hold at AFM on Saturday, 8 April, at 7:30 pm (doors open at 7). Friends are invited to attend the Scottish music concert with their friends, neighbors and relatives. MC soon will send email with a flyer to help spread word about the concert and desired donations of finger foods.

5. Stewardship and Finance (S&F) Committee - For S&F, Phil C. presented a written report (attached), compiling recommendations from other committees and Friends for allocation of the remaining \$9,703 from our 2016 year-end surplus. He noted that three suggestions came in after S&F met; these are included as footnotes in the written report.

One Friend commented that Careen's family asks that donations in her memory perhaps could support new Memorial Garden plantings & an additional bench. In light of this, one of our footnoted suggestions to use surplus funds for the Memorial Garden was withdrawn.

Another Friend suggested that we might use some funds to get professional assistance for AFM's announce list and our other online presence. (However, she cautioned Friends against renewed use of FGC's Quaker Cloud that soon may become defunct.) Mardy B., Clerk of Outreach noted that she definitely could use such assistance; several other Friends agreed.

Karen C., a former S&F clerk, suggested that the online concern could be a good use of our Committee Contingency Fund (rather than our surplus), but she added that AFM will need an ad hoc or a standing

committee to oversee this effort and to make decisions. Other Friends asked whether this job might be connected with the BUC responsibility and whether we should connect our concerns with our brick and mortar Meeting House and our “digital Meeting House.”

After further discussion, Friends approved the S&F surplus recommendation with the understanding that Peace and Social Concerns Committee will discern specific amounts for distribution of the \$1,500 designated for these Quaker causes and, if they chose, could add two late-requested groups. We also agreed that, as Clerk, Wes will coordinate with Outreach to convene an ad hoc to consider AFM’s digital concerns.

6. We closed Meeting for Business with silence, and transitioned to Meeting for Worship.

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### **Recommendations for the 2016 Surplus**

#### **AFM Stewardship & Finance Com. – Report and recommendations\* for 2016 year end surplus**

Original surplus \$14,423

Jan. MfB actions

Embraced Ministry Fund -\$2000

Lighthouse Bistro donation - 2500

Adult scholarship Fund - 220

**Net for MfB action in 3/17 \$9,703**

#### **Recommended further allocations**

**\*\*Winter relief-Magothy Meth.1 -400**

**Restore Embraced Min.Fund 2 -2000**

**Quaker causes (per PSC com.) 3 -1500**

● **FCNL-- Pastoral Care and by R. Slavin**

● **\*\*Winter Relief--Pastoral Care and Peter Meredith**

● **Arundel Lodge--(mental health facility)-Suzanne Goll and approved by PSC**

● **Samaritan Visit--suggested by Ann Riggs (Kenya abuse survivors)**

● **UN High Commission on Refugees-PSC**

● **Quaker United Nations Office-PSC**

**Building Fund 4 -4400**

**Capital improvement fund 5 - 1403**

Net 2016 surplus \$0

#### **NOTES:**

1AFM traditionally has partnered with Magothy Meth. for winter relief in volunteering, but this would also share their out of pocket costs.

2 The Embraced Ministry Fund is at 0 due to two disbursements for a Friend’s Kenyan mission. This restores it to prior standing amount.

3 These 6 causes (Winter Relief overlap) were brought forward by PSC after discernment. S&F suggests that MfB leave to PSC the amounts for each.

4 Standing levels of the Building Fund recently have been depleted with costs for Evan L.& engineer costs.

5 Capital improvement has the lowest balance of our building related funds. We anticipate substantial expenditures this year (\$5,000 is one estimate) for solar system upgrade.

**\*Other suggestion either not endorsed by com. or after deadline-**

**a) CentrePoint Counseling (George Casey on board), a statewide provider of counseling for all peoples. Most counselors meet with clients in space provide by churches of many denominations. We**

serve a diverse population without regard for ethnicity, religion, race, sexual orientation, or national origin. CentrePoint accepts most insurances, and provides a sliding fee scale and scholar ships for clients who do not have insurance. No one is turned away because they are unable to pay.

b) Interfaith Action for Human Rights (Jack Lahr on Md. board), a mid-Atlantic states' organization opposing solitary confinement in Md. prisons and other human rights concerns, e.g., torture, anti-Muslim bigotry, etc

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## **HOW TO SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Items in RED are new information as of March 2017**

- o Please submit items for the calendar and brief descriptions of events by **end of day the Monday after Meeting for Business**.
- o Susan W and Nicole S are the editors of the Annapolis Friends Newsletter. Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to [annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:annapolisfriendsmeeting@gmail.com). Please include the word "Newsletter" in the subject heading of your email
- o Friends also are asked to watch your email for announcements of meetings and to listen for announcements at the rise of meeting.
- o Event and activity organizers, please also post your announcements on the bulletin board for those who do not use electronic mail!
- ~~o The AFM Announce ([announce@annapolis.quaker.org](mailto:announce@annapolis.quaker.org)) and Discuss ([discuss@annapolis.quaker.org](mailto:discuss@annapolis.quaker.org)) E-Mail Lists are described on the AFM Information Web Page at <http://annapolis.quaker.org/information>~~
- o The Announce and Discuss Email Lists have been replaced with AFMAnnounce at GoogleGroups. **Please email announcements to [afm-announce@googlegroups.com](mailto:afm-announce@googlegroups.com)**. If you need to be added to the GoogleGroup, please email Doug at [afmeeting34@gmail.com](mailto:afmeeting34@gmail.com) or send a request to join by visiting <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/afm-announce>

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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