



# BROOKLYN MEETING NEWS

*A publication of the Brooklyn Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*

*brooklynmeeting.org*

June 2013

## **May Meeting for Business: Financial, Library and Childcare Reports**

### **Leigh Fund Recipients Spend Their Money**

Paul Flint reported to the Meeting that the following groups who received grants from the income of the Leigh Fund have already begun to use their funds: Powell House, Alternatives to Violence Project, Great Lakes Africa Committee, Cove-Knox Neighborhood Committee, Yearly Meeting Conflict Transformation Committee and our own Community Dinner. The Meeting First Day School is looking for a youth leader to be supported by the Fund.

### **Treasurer Reports on Meeting Finances**

Brooklyn Meeting had a total income of \$76,929.93 in the 2012-13 financial year. Committee expenditures were \$25,770. Additional moneys went into contributions to New York Yearly Meeting and Powell House as well as other expenditures. [The complete report is online as part of the April minutes.]

### **Meeting Agrees to Accept Contributions in the Form of Securities**

The Finance Committee suggested that we open an account for donations of marketable securities – stocks and bonds –in order to provide a tax advantage for contributors. The Meeting asked the Finance Committee to explore this possibility.

### **Library Committee Renews and Reorganizes the Library**

As the Meeting Library has not been used by the membership for a number of years, the Committee has been at work renewing and reorganizing it. New books have been added and will be available before long. Repair of old books and the cataloging of children’s books are planned. It is hoped that Friends will

begin taking out the Quaker related books in this collection soon.

### **Childcare Flourishes in Brooklyn Meeting**

The Childcare Committee now has two experienced teachers who alternate and cooperate with each other. They are supported by volunteers every week, often parents, who are familiar with the children and the routines. New equipment will be purchased soon, including a new play kitchen, a train table and art supplies. Childcare is provided for the 11 AM Meeting for Worship and for Meeting for Business. New children and parents are welcomed and helped to feel at home.

*-Molly Rusnak*



## Property Committee Plans Major Improvements to the Meetinghouse

This summer, the back of Meetinghouse and the windows on the first floor will be the focus of 2013's capital improvements. The bricks will be cleaned and repaired, similar to the recent work on the front of the building, and all of the windows on the first floor will be replaced with modern ones to improve heat conservation. Since the Meetinghouse is a landmark building all work has to be approved before it can begin. Friends are also looking forward to the windows that provide light to our Meeting for Worship being cleaned over the summer.

The Meetinghouse and the adjoining school building are owned and operated by the New York Quarterly Meeting, so the care and maintenance of them is founded on cooperation between the Brooklyn Property Committee and the Quarterly Meeting Trustees and General Manager, Ahmet Baydur. Scheduling in the Meetinghouse is done through the Quarterly Meeting Office at 212-777-8866.

*-Molly Rusnak*

## The Property Committee Oversees the Garden in Front of the Meetinghouse

This year the Property Committee, working with the Quarterly Meeting General Manager, is maintaining the Meeting's front garden. This garden, made up entirely of native American plants and flowers, is in keeping with the historical beauty and simplicity of the Meetinghouse. It was originally

planted by a neighborhood gardening group and our gardener, Robert Florin, is a long time resident of our Brooklyn neighborhood.

*-Molly Rusnak*

## New York Quarterly Meeting Meets at 15<sup>th</sup> Street Meetinghouse

On April 21 New York Quarterly Meeting took place after a potluck lunch in the newly renovated Meetinghouse cafeteria.

### Meetings Report

The Meetings reported on their worship, business and activities. Participating were 15 Manhattan, Brooklyn, Morningside and Staten Island Meetings.

### Committees Report

The Audit and Budget Committee presented the annual audit. Diane Keefe of the Trustees Finance Committee reported on the process of transferring small trusts directly to their recipients.

The Relief Committee reported on the donations and loans it had provided for students at New York Friends schools. Some funds remain unspent.

## Corporation Meeting Takes Place

At 2 PM the announced Corporation Meeting was clerked by the Clerk of Trustees, who gave the annual report. Items in the report included the renovation of the cafeteria in the 15 in cooperation with Friends Seminary as well as the cleaning and repair of the façade of Brooklyn Meetinghouse. Decision on the nominations for a second term on Trustees for Linda Brainard, Ben Frisch and Diane Keefe was postponed until the July Quarterly Meeting to allow Friends time for consideration.

*-Molly Rusnak*

## A Very Old Friend Returns to the Meetinghouse

Beginning in November 1974 an antique print of the Quaker heroine and prisoner advocate Elizabeth Fry hung in the Meeting Social Room, between the windows next to the playground. It was removed some years ago to make room for shelves belonging to our former tenant and has been tucked away in a corner of our library. Recently our custodian found that the glass on the picture had broken. Now rescued by Lucy Sikes, who has refinished the old frame, it is being repaired and will soon be back with us. The November 1974 issue of the Meeting Newsletter from the



Meeting Archives says the following about this picture:

“GIFT TO MEETING -- A picture of Elizabeth Fry at Newgate Prison was given to the Brooklyn Meeting by Barbara and Walter Schatzki. The print was made about 1850 by Jerry Barrett and Thomas Barlow. Walter explained that the artists' names and the title do not appear on the picture because it is a mezzotint---a proof made before the running of the final print. However both artists did sign their names in pencil in the white

margin. The picture was framed behind glass by the Schatzkis. It is now hanging in the lounge corner of the dining room. Many thanks to Barbara and Walter for their thoughtful gift.”

*-Molly Rusnak*

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## Submission Guidelines

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The Communications Committee welcomes Brooklyn Meeting News contributions from all Meeting members and attenders. Our newsletter includes a variety of content which may be of interest to our community, including but not limited to:

- Recaps of recent Meeting events
- Previews of upcoming events
- Issues pertaining to our

Quaker faith and history

The newsletter is published on the first Sunday of each month, and we request that submissions for the next issue be submitted at least two weeks in advance. General Guidelines:

- Please send an email to [newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org) so that we may briefly discuss your contribution, as regards its timeliness, appropriateness, and length.
- Contributions should

- generally be brief, between 150-450 words in length.
- Please send your newsletter submission as an attached Word document.
- Keep in mind that contributions will be copy edited, and may not appear in the newsletter in exactly the same form as how they were submitted.

Thank you for your interest - we look forward to your input!

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## Regularly Scheduled Activities

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### Meetings for Worship

9:00–9:50 AM and  
11:00 AM–NOON on Sundays,  
in the meeting room  
6:30 PM Tuesdays,  
in the meeting room

### Childcare

Sundays during 11:00 AM worship, for  
children of 3 months to 3 years, in the care  
of an early childhood teacher and dedicated  
volunteers

### First Day School

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM, Sundays, September  
to June. Three classes, roughly related to  
age: Bodies (4-6), Minds (7-9) and Spirits  
(10-12).

### Social Hour

12:00 PM Sundays,  
Ground-level dining room

### Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

1:00 PM, first Sundays, in the meeting  
room

### Hymn Singing around the Piano

10:00 AM, first Sundays, in the meeting  
room

### Readings of Spiritual Texts

10:00 AM, second Sundays, in the  
meeting room

### Worship Sharing

10:00 AM, third Sundays, on the third  
floor

### Community Dinner

1:00 PM-3:00 PM SET-UP  
3:00 PM-4:00 PM MEAL/SERVING  
4:00 PM- 5:00 PM CLEAN-UP, COME FOR  
SOME OR ALL!

Last Sunday of every month, ground-  
level dining room; volunteers appreciated  
for this monthly dinner for anyone who  
wishes a free hot meal. Children  
encouraged to volunteer.  
Contact: Andres Colapinto,  
acolabus@gmail.com

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## Upcoming Events

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*Ongoing additions to upcoming Meeting events are regularly added to the Meeting website at  
<http://www.brooklynmeeting.org/calendar>.*

*To submit an event, email [calendar@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:calendar@brooklynmeeting.org).*

*Member Kate Rapoport also maintains an  
email event announcement list; send a request to [brooklyn.kittens@gmail.com](mailto:brooklyn.kittens@gmail.com) to join.*

### June 2013

*Wednesday, June 5:*  
Benefit Concert for Kenya Non-violent  
Conflict Resolution Programs.  
7-9pm at the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Meetinghouse.

*Sunday, June 9:*  
Annual First Day School Picnic!  
Quaker Cemetery in Prospect Park.

### July 2013

*Saturday, July 21- Saturday, July 27:*  
NYYM Summer Sessions  
At Silver Bay, on the beautiful Lake George.

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*Send additions to Regularly Scheduled Activities or Upcoming Events to [calendar@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:calendar@brooklynmeeting.org).*

*Send inquiries or suggestions about the newsletter to [newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org](mailto:newsletter@brooklynmeeting.org).*

*The Monthly Meeting Newsletter is published by the Communications Committee of Brooklyn Monthly Meeting.*

*Current members: Eli Gwynn (clerk), Ben Hill, Molly Rusnak, and Anna White.*

*Drawings by Lucy Sikes*

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