

# HANOVER MONTHLY MEETING • RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

43 Lebanon St. • Hanover, N.H. 03755-2513 • (603) 643-4138

## *Meeting for Worship each Sunday at 10:00 am*

When entering meeting for worship, Friends should leave seats close to the door for late-comers and should try to find places farther into the room.

## • September 2011 •

Betsy Morse, Clerk, Craig Putnam, Ass't Clerk

Rhea McKay, Ministry & Counsel Clerk

Anne Baird, President of Incorporated Trustees

Louise Hancock, Treasurer Patricia Higgins, Recording Clerk

(New Offices Start 1 June 2011; see page 3 and 4)

## CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE

Please send all contributions to [tommonego@gmail.com](mailto:tommonego@gmail.com) if that is not convenient then to the Newsletter via U.S. Mail to Tom Monego Newsletter 138 Route 113 East Thetford, VT 050543 or Newsletter Editor, Hanover Friends, Meeting, 43 Lebanon ST, Hanover, NH 03755-2513.

Deadline for submissions NOT LATER THAN 5 PM on the Tuesday following Meeting for Business, Please BE CERTAIN to include date, place, and time of events and announcements to go into the Newsletter. It is not uncommon to receive contributions which do not contain all of this information. Obtaining it either delays its publication in the newsletter or results in publication with inadequate information.

## Newsletter Distribution and Meeting Directory

Change of Phone Number, Type of Subscription, E-Mail Address, or Postal Address: If you have changed your phone number, e-mail address, or postal address or if you wish to change the way in which you receive the newsletter, please let the maintainer of the Meeting Directory Information know the new information as soon as possible. Contact Beata Randall, Hanover Friends Meeting, 43 Lebanon Street, Hanover, NH 03755 or E-mail her at [Beata.Randall@Hitchcock.ORG](mailto:Beata.Randall@Hitchcock.ORG).

In an effort to reduce costs those receiving the newsletter electronically will NOT receive a printed copy. Anyone wishing to change their subscription from e-mail (PDF) to paper or vice-versa should notify Beata Randall at her address above.

## WORSHIP GROUPS under the care of Hanover Monthly Meeting:

Kendal at Hanover, contact Barbara Gilbert, (603) 643-2237

Lancaster, NH, contact Melissa Keenan, (603) 788-3721

**MEETING WEBSITE:** <http://www.hanoverquakers.us>

Webmaster: Sarah and Tom Monego

**MEETING YAHOOGROUP:** [hanoverfriends@yahoogroups.com](mailto:hanoverfriends@yahoogroups.com)

Site manager: Don Kreis

# CALENDAR

All Meeting Events are held at the Meetinghouse unless specified elsewhere.

## Regular Events and Times

Singing -- Adults and Children	Each Sunday	Fireplace Room	9:30 am
<b>Meeting for Worship</b>	Each Sunday	Meeting Room	10:00 am
<b>Meeting for Worship</b>	Each Thursday	Meeting Room	7:00 pm
Fellowship	Each Sunday	Large Room	~11:15 am
Ministry & Counsel	1st Sunday of each Month	Library	8:15 am
Youth Ministry & Counsel	1st Sunday of each Month	Fireplace Room	9:00 am
<b>Meeting for Business</b> <sup>a</sup>	See Note Below	Meeting Room	11:50 am
Women's Group <sup>b</sup>	2nd Monday of each Month	See note	5:30 pm
House Committee	3rd Monday of each Month	Library	7:00 pm
First Day School Committee	3rd Sunday of each Month	Library	8:30 am
Peace & Social Concerns	4th Sunday of each Month	Library	8:30 am
Pastoral Care Meeting	4th Sunday of each Month	First Day School	8:15 am

a. Members and attenders are encouraged to attend. Normally it will be the 2nd Sunday of each Month at the Meetinghouse. Check the calendar each month for exceptions. Child care will be available.

b. Contact Judith Pettingell for directions/information at (603)643-2164

## Special Meeting Events and Times

Kendal Worship Group is alive and well, everyone is invited to meeting for worship, Sundays 10-10:45 Chalmers Room. Park at the main entrance receptionist will direct you.

Adult Education: Peter Bien will present on "Christianity and Darwinism Sunday 9/25 after rise of meeting. We especially wanted to invite the folks from the group for Dartmouth College students facilitated by Judy Williams. Members of the larger community are welcome as well.

See Business Meeting Minutes, ANNOUNCEMENTS and SHARING for details on all events.

## Being a Parent with Adult Children

*a workshop with Barnes Boffey Ed.D*

**9am - 1pm Saturday November 19 at the Meetinghouse**

sponsored by the Pastoral Care Committee

Please register in advance by calling or e-mailing Barb Kline Schoder  
barb\_b\_ks@hotmail.com 603-643-1424

\$10.00 suggested donation includes lunch

## MINUTES, MEETING FOR BUSINESS

September 18, 2011

11-125. Focused Worship: We held our First Day School in the Light as they were addressing a sensitive issue during our meeting for business.

11-126. Present: Dulany Bennett, Robert Daubenspeck, Shawn Donovan, Scot Drysdale, Suzanne Elusorr, Louise Hancock, Jack Hunter, Ruth Hunter, Syd Jarvis, Bess Klassen-Landis, Procter Lippincott, Phebe McCosker, Rhea McKay, Sarah Monego, Tom Monego, Betsy Morse (Clerk), Craig Putnam, Sarah Putnam, Katie Rawson, Deborah Regen, Peter Stettenheim (Acting Recording Clerk), Grace Sullivan, Howard Taylor, Fritz Weiss, Penny Wright.

11-127. Worship Sharing – from those who attended the August 2011 session of New England Yearly Meeting: A Friend who had not previously attended YM sessions expressed gratitude to Hanover Meeting for encouraging him to attend and for providing support. He felt a palpable, powerful sense of doors of opportunities opening, and was stimulated by the idea of listening in tongues. Another Friend, who had attended YM many times, enjoyed reunions with seldom-seen friends. For him the session was chiefly a celebration of relationships. Another Friend sensed that the session was deeply grounded, thanks to inspiration from the Bible Half-hours and attention to healing the Earth. She was grateful for the sense of reconciliation and the amicable resolution of difficult issues, unlike previous sessions she had attended. A fourth Friend likewise admired the movement to support local environmental efforts, and was impressed with the group's ability to come together in settling troublesome issues.

11-128. Announcements:

– Every Thursday at 7 PM, Midweek meeting for worship, sponsored by Ministry and Counsel.

– Yesterday, September 17: Afternoon: Work on yard projects at Hanover Meeting. Evening: Training in lobbying Congress, by David Kulp (Friends Committee on National Legislation).

– Sunday, September 25, 11:45 AM, Adult Education: Peter Bien on Quakerism, Darwin, and process-relational philosophy.

– Saturday, October 1, 2-5 PM at Burlington Monthly Meeting: Brian Drayton (Northwest Quarter) will facilitate a session for those who are called to ministry.

– Saturday, October 8: Social event, to be announced.

– Sunday, October 9: Meeting for business.

– Friday, October 14 - Sunday, Oct. 16: Training for trainers in non-violence, specifically for demonstrations against the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant.

– Saturday, November 5 - Sunday, Nov. 6: Hanover Meeting will host a Friends General Conference gathering for those traveling in the ministry.

– Saturday, November 19, 9AM - 1 PM: Workshop with Barnes Boffey on Parenting Adult Children, sponsored by the Pastoral Care Committee. This will be an interactive workshop with opportunity to explore our roles as parents with adult children. Please contact Barb Kline-Schoder (barb\_b\_ks@hotmail.com [there are underscores where you see spaces] or 35 Goodfellow Road, Hanover NH 03755) to express your interest in attending. Include your name and phone number.

11-129. Havana Friends Meeting sermon: Havana Friends Meeting, the sister meeting to Hanover Meeting, has sent us a copy of its sermon delivered on September 11, 2011. Katie Rawson has offered to translate it from Spanish, and it will be published in our newsletter.

11-130. Minutes of July 24, 2011 Meeting for Business: The schedule of annual committee reports neglected to note that the Membership Committee's report is due in November. With that correction, we accepted the minutes of the July 24 Meeting for Business.

11-131. Ad hoc Subcommittee on Communication (under Ministry and Counsel): Shawn Donovan reported that our Meeting has several ways to disseminate information and to enable members and attenders to communicate with each other: regular email, a listserv, two web sites, bulletin boards, a newsletter, spoken announcements, a directory, and archives.

Nevertheless, it seems that many people are unaware of these resources or unable to use them for one reason or another. Some people, for example, do not have computers, while others have difficulty using the listserv. The Committee wishes to learn what Meeting members would like in a communication system. Discussion disclosed that we do not have an easily accessible, comprehensive, up-to-date calendar, either on paper or electronic. A Friend suggested that we see the web sites of Cambridge and Wellesley Meetings as examples of what our web site might have. We were reminded to include those Friends who live at Kendal in any effort to revise our communication system. Our goal is to improve our methods for distributing information and ideas so as to build a deeper community. Accordingly, we ask the Ad Hoc Committee on Communication to conduct a survey of our members, both electronically and by postal mail, on how we wish to communicate with each other, and to return to the Meeting with specific proposals.

11-132. Finance Committee: Louise Hancock distributed copies of the Meeting's Balance Sheet for the quarter ended July 31, 2011 and the current Statement of Income and Expenses (FY 11 Actuals and FY 12 Budget). She noted that the telephone expense had been entered incorrectly and was actually much less than shown. In response to a question about the method of dispersing grants to "other organizations," the Clerk read Minute #11-98 from the June 2011 meeting for business. We received the financial reports with their corrections and thanked Louise for her hard work. (The reports are not included with these minutes.)

11-133. Nominating Committee: Fritz Weiss explained the process by which a new member is added to this committee. He proposed, and we approved Beata Randall as a new member of the Nominating Committee.

11-134. Ministry and Counsel: Proposed statement on the meaning of marriage under the care of the meeting - Rhea McKay led us through consideration of this matter, beginning by reading the Statement as printed in the packet of materials which had been distributed to all Meeting members:

"Marriage under the care of the Meeting is a covenant that involves the couple, the

Meeting, and God. Being grounded in the spirit, this covenant, a sacred commitment, emerges through careful discernment of those involved. This spiritual discernment takes place through a rightly-ordered clearness process that is carried out under the care of the Meeting. Clearness Committees help couples discern the quality and thoroughness of their readiness for marriage.

"We understand, as did early Friends, that the joining of two people in this covenant relationship "is the work of the Lord only, and not the priests', or magistrates; for it is God's ordinance and not man's." We acknowledge that Friends today use a wide range of language to express their spiritual experiences and beliefs and may use different language than incorporated in this statement. When two people solemnize the covenant of marriage, they do so in the presence of God, family, and friends in a Meeting for Worship, and take each other as lifelong partners, promising to be faithful to each other.

"We believe that marriage depends on the prayerful inward life of the couple's deep, abiding commitment to each other and to God, not on the outward forms of ecclesiastic blessing or legal contract. Friends uphold high standards in our covenant relationships: standards of love, fidelity, sexual responsibility, honest communication, and spiritual discipline that bear witness to the presence of the spirit among us.

"Friends support clear, well-considered legal arrangements in domestic affairs. Clearness Committees for Marriage can, and should, inquire of couples as to what their legal arrangements will be. This process of clearness and discernment is valuable and necessary whether the couple is choosing to be legally married under the care of the Meeting or is choosing another legal format for their partnership. Couples should be well informed and diligent in their choices regarding their legal affairs and marriage.

"We reaffirmed that while our main focus is on marriage under the care of the Meeting, at the time of our bringing our work to the Meeting we will lift up the importance of nurturing singles in the meeting and defining this work is for another group."

We approved this Statement and thanked the Commit-

tee for its sensitivity and work in writing it.

11-135. Ministry and Counsel: Midweek meeting for worship - Rhea informed us that these Thursday evening sessions have been held regularly for about a year and asked us to consider whether they should continue. Attendance has varied. It has taken effort by M&C to find someone to take care of the meeting each week. Discussion indicated that Friends like the idea of having these meetings, yet are reluctant or unable to attend or to take care of them. We don't want to overburden M&C, yet we seem to feel that the meetings should remain under the care of that committee. It was our sense that the meetings should continue for the time being. Some Friends expressed willingness to help care for the worship. We ask M&C to consider changing the time of the meetings and publicizing them more, including outside the Hanover Meeting community. We will revisit this issue at a future business meeting.

11-136. Ministry and Counsel: NEYM Minute of Sending Forth - Rhea called our attention to this minute, published on pages 15-16 of the Minutes of the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends for 2010. The minute had been sent to all monthly meetings in the YM with the request that "we find the spirit moving among us as we continue to labor with the four priorities that emerged during [YM] sessions: 1) the call to forgiveness; 2) the call to strengthen our ability to love and build our community; 3) the call to name, cultivate, and exercise gifts of ministry, eldership, and leadership; and 4) the call to undertake clear leadings for witness."

M&C did so, and its response was published as Minute #11-118 in our July newsletter. It is repeated here:

"We entered into worship to consider the four priorities mentioned in the Minute of Sending Forth. The clerks will take our reflections and prepare a draft response for our next meeting. Upon approval it will be forwarded to the clerk of NEYM.

"1) the call to forgiveness; Our meeting has been engaged in forgiveness work, led by a Friend who has felt a call to speak and work toward helping those affected by violence to find way to forgiveness of perpetrators. We are gradually moving toward seeing forgiveness work as work for each of us in our

lives and as members of the Meeting. We are seeking ways in which to manifest this work.

"2) the call to strengthen our ability to love and build our community; Hanover FM has been a founding member of UVIP, building bridges in the wider community. We have a Friend who has strongly felt a call to work with meetings in deepening and strengthening - this has led her to offer "exploring Quakerism series, that Friends report feeling more connected with the meeting. Emphasis on strengthening the First Day School has nurtured our youth. The faithfulness of Friends who prepare and serve a monthly dinner for the community. Working with Cover, intergenerational, ecological focus. Our committee structure provides opportunities for service and getting to know each other better.

"3) the call to name, cultivate, and exercise gifts of ministry, eldership, and leadership; Supporting ministry to college students and teens of color. Embracing the movement to examine with fresh eyes the meaning of "old" traditional language. Spiritual anchor committees, spiritual accountability. Openness to using language that has been difficult to use in the past (ministry, elders). Support of clerks within meeting and using resources outside the meeting. Nominating Committee lifts up individuals' gifts and finds where they can serve.

4) the call to undertake clear leadings for witness. More and more individuals are coming forward with calls that are being supported in the meeting. Process of testing leadings and then when clarity is found, support being given by the meeting. Strong response of YES, I'll do my part from Meeting."

Since it was getting late and many Friends had left, the Clerk decided that we should defer consideration of this matter until the October meeting for business.

11-137. Ministry and Counsel: M&C Annual Report - Rhea read the report as follows:

Hanover Friends Meeting, Ministry and Counsel, Annual Report, September 2011

"Ministry and Counsel meets monthly to seek God's will in the work that is before us. We strive to be faithful to our mission, as approved by M&C in 2004-that is, Ministry & Counsel committee serves the Meeting by loving stewardship and nurture of the

religious life of the Meeting, and by fostering spiritual growth among members and attenders. Ministry & Counsel considers and responds to concerns and needs of individuals and of the Meeting community, through processes which include clearness committees.

“During the past year, we have continued to provide the Meeting members and attenders the opportunity to share issues of concern after meeting for worship with our Corner Friend. We consider this feedback each month at our meeting and have begun sharing the essence of these concerns through the newsletter. We have also been working on a Welcome to Hanover Friends Meeting and a “How do I...” brochure to familiarize newcomers and attenders with our practices and history. These will be available soon.

“Ministry and Counsel initiated and provided care for the midweek worship that has been available each Thursday for the last year. This is being evaluated and we await the Meeting’s input. We have offered and provide ongoing Spiritual Support and Anchor Committees to support Friends in their ministry; we have also provided support committees to those who are experiencing difficult issues or transitions in their lives. Ministry and Counsel has also offered and provided a spiritual presence during other Meeting committees’ meetings, if desired.

“Our many working groups have taken on a variety of concerns in an effort to take time to explore and prepare for these concerns before bringing them to M&C for consideration and then to the Meeting. Our working groups have and are considering vocal ministry, forgiveness ministry, the meaning of membership in the Society of Friends, worship groups under our care, the meaning of marriage under the care of the Meeting, parking and facility use, communication within the Meeting, and others. This year, we have made an effort to update our adult and junior membership lists and provided recommendations for the Meeting to consider for updating the membership regularly.

“We have made an effort to respond to the requests of the Yearly Meeting, although sometimes this has not been as timely as it might be. We also clarified the role of the NEYM M&C representative as appointed by M&C, including terms and our needs.

“We prepared our State of Society report, using a process that allowed us the opportunity to visit Meeting committees to learn how the Spirit is moving

within each.

To nurture our committee members and explore issues that arise during our work, such as vocal ministry and care of our worship groups, we have had several committee retreats during the year. These gatherings have provided care and support for us to be more fully present to the work asked of us.

“As a committee, we honor and try to be faithful to a process of spiritual discernment as we conduct our business. We also rely on the growing trust of one another as we work to listen more deeply to each other and the Spirit. Our agenda is always full and sometimes overwhelming. It has been helpful to recognize this and to adjust our expectations, accordingly recognizing that things will be accomplished in God’s time. Working groups have been helpful in seasoning issues that come before us for action. – Rhea McKay, clerk HFM Ministry and Counsel

We received the report without discussion, but with thanks to the Committee for its work.

11-138. Child Care Coordinators: Phebe McCosker read the Committee’s Annual Report in the absence of Kathleen Shepherd, who was ill:

Child Care Coordinating Committee, Annual Report

“The goal of the committee is to provide two consistent, skillful, engaged child care givers on Sundays during Meeting for Worship, to enable parents to participate fully in Meeting for Worship and to offer our young children the security of anticipating and enjoying consistent, familiar care givers.

“As regular attendance by care givers has been a persistent problem in the past, we are pursuing two avenues to obtain a consistent group of familiar care givers.

“1) With the RECCC we decided to try to identify a adult care giver. This effort will involve targeted advertising and a formal hiring process, and is in its initial phase.

“2) In the meantime, we have built a small “team” of high school girls, experienced baby sitters who are motivated and seem quite organized, who among themselves will be able to cover our Sundays throughout the year. These girls came from a long list recommended by Leah and Emily Eickhoff, our skilled and familiar care givers of the past 2 years. They are Kelly Gaudet, Suzanne Ketcham, and MerA-

Edith Alongi.

“This year we also have begun a process of developing a policy for our Meeting on Child Safety and Sexual Abuse Prevention. This has proceeded not from any fear that our children have ever experienced any form of abuse at HFM, but from our sense of responsibility to consider this societal problem and to provide leadership in establishing and making public our commitment to children’s safety. We aspire to a policy that honors the loving spirit in which child care is being provided, which has been our consistent experience at HFM.

“In addition to these Sunday morning care givers, the committee arranges for child care givers during Meetings for Business and for special events as requested by committees. In general, we call on our own young friends for these jobs, as it is a contribution to their engagement in the meeting, as well as a source of income. We do not call upon these young people for child care during meeting, to always keep open to them the opportunity for participation in Meetings for Worship.

Faithfully submitted,  
Kathleen Shepherd and Deb Robinson, co-clerks”

We accepted the report without discussion, but with thanks to the Committee for its work.

We closed with silent worship, intending to meet again in worship with attention to business on Sunday, October 9, 2011.

Peter Stettenheim  
Recording Clerk, pro tem

## **MARRIAGE UNDER THE CARE OF THE MEETING**

HANOVER FRIENDS MEETING 2011

Hanover Friends Meeting in a Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business accepted the “...recommendation from Ministry and Counsel for the creation of a working party to focus on the meaning of marriage under the care of the Meeting, including the relationship between the meeting and the state.” (April 2009, Minute 09-27) After studying the issues, the

working party was asked to report to M&C and bring a proposal to engage the entire meeting community in dialogue about this subject.

The working group has engaged in this study and has prepared the following statement about marriage under the care of the Meeting , information regarding history, process, oversight, and legal considerations, and queries to bring before the Meeting for discernment.

We suggest that the Meeting consider this in the following manner:

HFM historical perspective on marriage  
Statement on Marriage as proposed by the working group  
If statement is approved, consideration of other information and queries

The group considered the following as a guide for our work:

Marriage Among Friends—a brief history of marriages at HFM  
Statement about Marriage Under the Care of the Meeting  
Process for Approval  
Planning and Carrying out the Meeting for Worship for Marriage  
Legal Considerations  
Nurturing Marriages/relationships/families  
Bibliography

It has become clear to this working group that “marriage under the care of the Meeting is first a spiritual/religious covenant.”

## **Pastoral Care Committee Hanover Friend Meeting Minutes of July 24th, 2011**

Present: Barb Kline-Schoder (Clerk), Fritz Weiss, Paula Rosvall, Rhea McKay, Bob Daubenspeck, Anne Baird, Tim McCosker, Liz Meller (Recording)

The meeting began with a period of silent worship  
The minutes of June 26th were accepted with minor

corrections

The Transportation discussion will be deferred to the next meeting so that Sarah can update us about the current plans.

Parenting Adult Children Workshop will be held on November 12th from 9am – 12 followed by lunch. There will be registration with a maximum of 50 people. \$10 donation for lunch which will be provided by members of the committee. (This will be 3 different soups, brownies, bread, cheese, and drinks.

The flyer for the workshop will be prepared by Bob, Rhea, Paula and Barb. The questions for the workshop are for all ages:

How do we negotiate our role as parents?

How do we “let go” of outcomes?

How do we further develop and enrich our relationships?

How does spirituality guide us in being the parents we want to be?

Barb is the point person for the committee about the workshop. It will be announced at MFWfor B today and then included in the July thru Nov. newsletters. We are asking for an email to Barb for the name and number of each person registering for the workshop. After the August meeting, we will decide about advertising to other churches in Hanover.

There was some discussion about recording the workshop and questions about confidentiality. We decided to record Barnes's remarks and no Q&A.

The remaining time was spent holding Friends in the Light. There will be a special Meeting for Worship on Tuesday, July 26th from 3-4pm at the meeting house. Bob Daubenspeck will clerk this meeting to hold people in the light who are involved in a guardianship court proceeding in Haverhill for a member of meeting. Rhea and Barb will attend this proceeding.

The committee was adjourned after a moment of silence.

Next PCC meeting is August 28th at 8:15.

Liz Meller Recording.

## **First Day School Committee Meeting June 19, 2011**

Attending: Patty Piotrowski, Phebe McCosker, Linda Johansson, Joel Stettenheim

FDS Query: Britain Faith and Practice 19. Rejoice in the presence of children and young people in your meeting and recognize the gifts they bring. Remember that the meeting as a whole shares a responsibility for every child in its care. Seek for them as for yourself a full development of God's gifts and the abundant life Jesus tells us can be ours. How do you share your deepest beliefs with them, while leaving them free to develop as the spirit of God may lead them? Do you invite them to share their insights with you? Are you ready both to learn from them and to accept your responsibilities towards them? Patty and Phebe reported about their conversation with Rhea concerning the FDS age groupings for 2011-2012. The proposal is for Young Friends to include the middle school students in the Young Friends group. It is understood that to make this an engaging group, Young Friends will have to provide more structure to the monthly schedule and hands-on projects to meet the needs of a younger age group. The current YF group has a younger high school age range. Rhea will take this proposal to the next YF committee meeting. Our committee will be talking with middle school parents to plan for this transition and the needs of individual children in the coming year. Our committee will need to work closely with Young Friends to coordinate retreats and special events; what our meeting will offer and possibly accessing regional Quaker retreats for middle schoolers. We want to build a strong community for all of the children. Linda will continue teaching the younger children – the elementary school age group. Our FDS children have a challenging grouping of ages and we must remain open to their needs as we plan their class age groupings. FDS Query: Britain Faith and Practice 26. Do you recognize the needs and gifts of each member of your family and household, not forgetting your own? Try to make your home a place of loving friendship and enjoyment, where all who live or visit may find the peace and refreshment of God's presence. We closed with silence and gratitude for this time together.

Submitted by: Phebe McCosker and Patty Piotrowski

## Messages

### A Task for All Committees

Dear Committee Clerks,

There is much confusion in our meeting concerning the issue of benevolences--how the meeting supports Quaker and other organizations with charitable donations.

Finance committee has asked that it no longer have the responsibility for this, and many discussions of how to proceed have taken place in meetings for business since last fall. In the meantime, organizations we have long supported have not received contributions from the meeting (see budget in June 2011 newsletter, lines 67-74). Responding to earlier decisions in MfB to ask meeting committees to take responsibility for specific charities relevant to their work, Peace and Social Concerns has "taken on" several organizations (see budget, lines 45-52)). The meeting as a whole continues to support those Quaker and other organizations of which we are members (budget, lines 56-63).

At the June 2011 meeting for business, the following minute (11-98) was approved:

Friends approve that all benevolence requests for this fiscal year from any Meeting committee be given to Finance Committee by Dec. 31st. At either a called meeting or a Meeting for Business in the new year, we will discern allocations of our benevolent funds.

Please also read the background discussion of 11-97 in the minutes. These minutes appear in the June 2011 newsletter (available on our website, from our newsletter editor, Tom Monego--[tommonego@gmail.com](mailto:tommonego@gmail.com)--, or on paper in the library). Going back to earlier minutes in our newsletters from November 2010, specifically Minutes 10-138 and 10-139, will help you to understand how the meeting has been led during this transitional time. This is a work in progress.

Please look at the budget, and discuss Minute 11-98 with your committee. There are many worthy Quaker and other organizations, and our meeting cannot support them all. However, some that are currently not receiving our support have had long histories of con-

nection with individuals in our meeting and our meeting has benefited from these relationships. Meeting contributions do not replace contributions to organizations we support individually.

Please keep the December 31st deadline in mind, so we may move forward in the new year in addressing this concern.

Please feel free to call or email me if you need further clarification of this issue.

With love and peace,

Betsy

**Hanover Friends Meeting  
Religious Society of Friends  
43 Lebanon St.  
Hanover, NH 03755-2513**

**September 2011 Newsletter**