



EDUCATION & OUTREACH QUARTERLY

"Query No. 1: Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new Life."

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Upcoming Events & Activities

Youth Retreat at Camp NeeKauNis in June.

Submitted by Christina Tellez (Canadian Yearly Meeting)

Join us this summer for the Young Friends/ Young Adult Friends Gathering at Camp NeeKauNis! Friends ages 13-35 will be gathering at Camp NeeKauNis from the evening



of June 29th to the morning of July 2nd. The timing of this gathering is intentional as we hope that Young Friends may be encouraged to continue on to Friends General Conference (FGC) in Niagara, NY, which begins on July 2nd.

We're excited to bring a critical mass of Young Friends and Young Adult Friends together to energize and strengthen our community and rejoice in our time together in worship, play, and good conversation. This is a great opportunity for those who have not had the chance to visit Camp NeeKauNis before! We



Education & Outreach Mission Statement:

The Education & Outreach Committee of Canadian Yearly Meeting (CYM) seeks to support Quaker education within Friends' meetings in CYM and to promote outreach to the wider public. Through the E&O Quarterly we will strive to keep you up to date with E&O Committee programs and activities that support Quaker spiritual and educational development.

hope to rejuvenate the Canadian Young Friends community and discern our collective path forward, asking what we want to be doing and what makes sense for us.

There will be a fluid program with space for us to engage in camp activities such as swimming, drama games, community art creations, a service activity, as well as activities that lead us to share questions and experiences of our Quaker faith. Mylène DiPenta (Annapolis Valley Quaker Meeting) will join us to facilitate a special workshop, and attenders are also encouraged to bring activities they would like to lead. You are also invited to bring musical instruments so that we can share in music and song.

There is substantial financial support for those wishing to attend the gathering as well as support for those who wish to continue on to FGC

For more information please contact: canyfgathering2017@gmail.com

Registration: https://goo.gl/forms/4a3qP1jSH1b5mAas2

The event's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/events/805996552876808/

See you there!

(Poster is included on page 9)

E&O Online Course "Introduction to Quakers and Friends' Ways" Offered in May 2017.

This E&O online course provides an overview of the early history of the Religious Society of Friends from their 17th century beginnings in England, as well as the history of Friends in Canada. It also examines the experiential nature of Quaker faith, Quaker testimonies and their origins, and the role that the

Meeting plays in nurturing and supporting how Quakers live, work, worship and transact business.

The course not only serves the needs of new and recent attenders but also helps to deepen the faith of longstanding members. We welcome inquiries from anyone who wishes to learn more about Quaker ways, with a priority being given to Canadian Yearly Meeting members and attenders.

The online sessions take place weekly for six weeks, using video conferencing and/or audio conferencing technology. Don't be concerned if you are unfamiliar with these formats. The course facilitator, David Summerhays (Montreal Monthly Meeting) or a member of E&O's subcommittee for Educational Outreach will provide help and support to you.

Course reading materials are posted online before each session to provide class participants with needed background information for the discussion topics. The course includes worship, active exercises, reflections from readings, and helpful suggestions for applying course insights to your life.

If you are interested in taking this course, **please register by Friday, May 12, 2017**. You can register here: <u>E&O course</u>

<u>online registration form</u>. When you register for the course, you will be asked to provide day and time preferences. The course session will begin during the week of May 15, 2017. Registered participants will be notified of the starting date and time, as determined from the results of the registration polling.

Please note: CYM warmly welcomes any donations you are able to give. For more details, see the left side panel on page 8.

John Milton & Thomas Ellwood Sketch by James Barry, a friend of William Blake—in the collection of the British Museum.

The winter tree
Resembles me,
Whose sap
lies in its root:
The spring draws nigh;
As it, so I
Shall bud, I hope,
and shoot...

~Thomas Ellwood, 1639-1714

News & Announcements

Recent scholarship award and educational grant recipients announced.

Submitted by Leigh Turina (Toronto Monthly Meeting and E&O Grants & Loans Subcommittee)

The Education and Outreach Committee is pleased to support Canadian Friends with grants and loans for Quaker education. Our committee receives requests all year round, but we generally make grant and loan decisions at our spring meeting.

The 2017 Pendle Hill Scholarship was awarded to Linda Taffs (Vancouver Island Monthly Meeting). She plans to use her sojourn at Pendle Hill as a time for reflection and discernment.

Since Canadian Yearly Meeting will not be held this year, Ellen Helmuth (New Brunswick Monthly Meeting) requested travel funds to help her to attend Friends General Conference Gathering that will be held in July at Niagara University in Niagara Falls, N.Y. She will post a report and her impressions of the Gathering on the E&O section of our CYM web site. Ellen will supplement her E&O travel funding with an FGC Gathering work grant.

Traveling further afield, Carol Bradley (Annapolis Valley Monthly Meeting) will use an E&O Quaker study grant to attend Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM), a residential meeting, held in late July at the University of Warwick in Coventry. As a former clerk of our CYM Program Committee, she is interested in bringing back information on residential yearly meetings which are not held annually, as well as reporting on BYM residential facilities. Carol will also provide a report on the conclusion of BYM's three-year project, "Living Out Our Faith in the World." Once she has returned from her travels, Carol will present a report to E&O, but she is also prepared to offer a Special Interest Group at CYM 2018.

Ruth Pincoe is developing a workshop session for recording clerks that will be available later this year through E&O's Visitation Program!

Canadian Yearly Meeting 2015 and 2016 in Prince Edward Island and Camrose, Alberta, included a popular workshop for new recording clerks; The materials and bibliography for this Special Interest Group were developed by Ruth Pincoe (Toronto Monthly Meeting). The E&O Committee has received many requests for additional recording clerk workshops, and we have prevailed upon Ruth to consider making her workshop more widely available to Canadian Friends.

Ruth is currently updating the bibliography and adapting the workshop to a format that can be offered to meetings and worship groups through the E&O Visitation Program.

We will report on Ruth's progress and offer more details in our Summer 2017 issue.

CYM Quaker Study 2017: Palestine-Israel, Nonviolence, and F/friends

Submitted by Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta, (Vancouver Monthly Meeting)

Almost fifteen years ago, when Issa Amro was a student at Hebron University in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the occupation authorities shut it down. "They declared it a closed military zone," he explains. "They sealed the campus, and we were not allowed to get in. So I led the students to reopen the university."

"But before I led the students," Amro goes on to explain, "I studied all nonviolent revolutionaries. I read about Gandhi; I studied the tactics of Martin Luther King and [Nelson] Mandela,



The Palestine Poster Project Archives. © 2009–2013 Liberation Graphics

Artist: Granate Sosnoff, 2009



The Palestine Poster Project Archives. © 2009–2013 Liberation Graphics

Artist: Granate Sosnoff, 2009

and the Gene Sharp books. I read a lot about how to do nonviolence."

That was 2003, in the midst of the Second Intifada, and as Amro recollects, "The army [was] everywhere." Nonetheless, using nonviolent tactics, Amro and his fellow students succeeded in reopening Hebron University. He has been involved in nonviolent activism ever since and now faces possible jail time for these activities—some of which he's undertaken alongside the Christian Peacemaker Team that's been active in Hebron since 1995; some in conjunction with participation by Israeli activists; but mainly for his activities with the Palestinian activists of Youth Against Settlements (which Amro founded in 2007) and its friends. Issa Amro is a young and a relatively recent practitioner of nonviolence, but unarmed (and mostly nonviolent) Palestinian resistance to colonization goes back over a hundred years.¹

Amro is one of a couple dozen Palestinian and Israeli nonviolent activists with whom I've met on visits to Palestine and Israel since the paperback (second) edition of my interview-based book, *Refusing to be Enemies: Palestinian and Israeli Nonviolent Resistance to the Israeli Occupation*, came out in the spring of 2011. My most recent trip, in November 2016, was undertaken specifically to gather material for an update to the book² and to flesh out the "2017 Quaker Study on Palestine-Israel, Nonviolence, and Friends."

¹ The website of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) offers some excellent resources on nonviolence in the Middle East, and you can find an overview of major nonviolent campaigns in Palestine at <u>American Service Committee/Popular Resistance in Palestine</u> as well as in the older, but still relevant (and easily printable) monograph, Palestinian Nonviolent Resistance to Occupation Since 1967—which, despite its title, includes a timeline of such campaigns since the beginning of the twentieth century—<u>Faces of Hope</u> (pdf).

² The update has been postponed until at least 2019, since the publisher has unearthed 300 additional unsold copies of the 2011 paperback edition!

The 2017 Quaker Study, hosted by Ottawa Friends, will take place over the weekend of October 13-15 at the Ottawa meeting house. An introductory talk will be given on Friday evening that outlines highlights of historical and ongoing Palestinian nonviolent/popular resistance to, support for, and involvement in this struggle by Israelis, Jewish and other international organizations, including Friends.

Three "workshop" sessions will be held on Saturday and Sunday. In the Saturday morning session participants will "meet" some of the activists through film and interview excerpts, and participants will share from their personal experiences; the Saturday afternoon workshop session will look in greater detail at some recent and ongoing Palestinian popular resistance initiatives and the support/solidarity provided by Israeli and Jewish organizations; the Sunday afternoon workshop session will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about the involvement of Quaker and other International nonviolent organizations and learn more about their current campaigns; workshop participants will also explore their responses to the query, "Friend, what canst thou do?"

Specifics of the Quaker Study session details are still under development, but they will include video clips; one or more films (one possibly on Saturday evening); and guest presentations by Friends and others with direct experience involving some of the organizations being discussed.

E&O will be recording these presentations as the Quaker Study for CYM 2017, and they will be made available to all Friends on quaker.ca.

It is my hope that F/friends will come away with a heightened sense of our power—as internationals with a commitment to nonviolence—to contribute to a just resolution in Israel-Palestine through spirit-led actions in support of existing nonviolent Palestinian and Israeli initiatives.

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO CYM

Your donations enable the continuing work of Canadian Yearly Meeting! It's easy to do and your donation is tax-deductible in Canada!

DONATE ONLINE!

Please click on one of the links below to donate on-line. canadahelps.org (English) canadahelps.org (Français) cym-office@quaker.ca.

FILL OUT OUR DONATION FORM!

If you would like to make a one-time donation or if you wish to donate monthly, click on the link below to download and print the form to send in to CYM office:

Donation form (pdf)

MAKE A BEQUEST!

If you wish to leave a bequest to CYM, please download the **Bequest Policy PDF.**

CYM Outreach cards will soon be available to order.

Outreach cards are currently in the final stages of development and will soon be available to order.

The cards will be in a double-sided, business card format. The front face will display the name and contact information of individual meetings, worship groups or monthly meetings.

The reverse side of the card will feature quotes of notable Quakers that intended to pique the interest of viewers.

The cards are being designed so that they can be ordered from an online printer or taken to a local vendor for printing on site. We will be sending out a cover letter and order form that will provide detailed instructions on the online ordering process.

A Sample face and reverse are displayed below:



"The likeness we bear to Jesus is more essential than our notions of him."

~ Lucretia Mott, 1793-1880

Retreat, Relax, Reconnect

Canadian Young Friends and Young Adult Friends Gathering

Camp NeeKauNis

Thursday, June 29 - Sunday, July 2, 2017







Whether you've never been to a YF/YAF event, you go every chance you get, or you've been wishing for the moment to return to your roots, this opportunity is for you. Join the summer gathering at NeeKauNis and let a vibrant community and peaceful surroundings bring out the best in you.

It's a chance to connect to each other in community, worship, and nature.

Education and Outreach committee has generously agreed to pay all NeeKauNis fees!

Travel funding is also available!

The retreat will be followed by a group trip to Friends General Conference Gathering (Niagara, NY, July 2-8, 2017), for all those who wish to attend.

For more information, please contact canyfgathering2017@gmail.com or visit our Facebook event page at https://www.facebook.com/events/805996552876808/

For FGC information and registration (opening April 1), visit http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering

