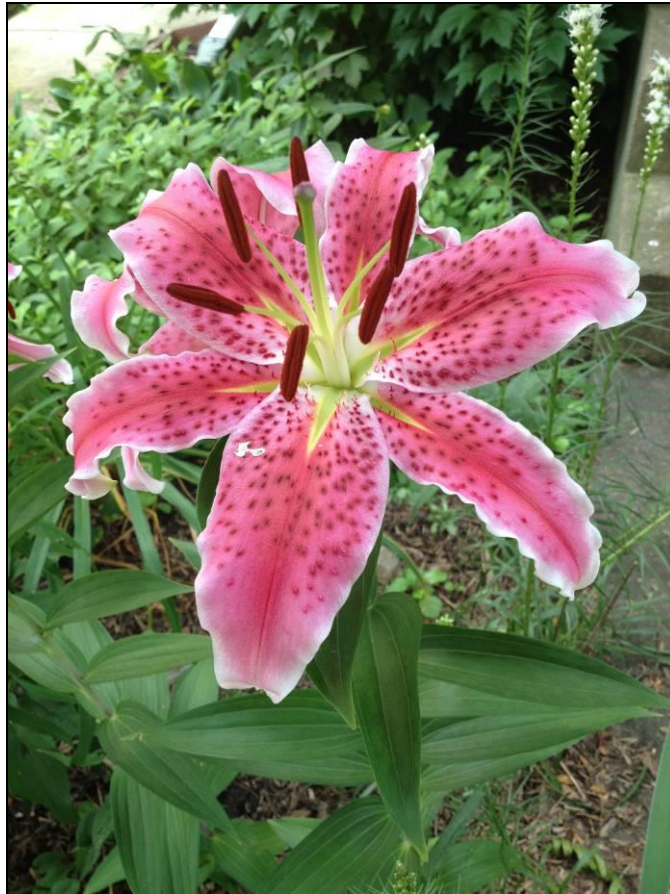


*Simplicity \* Peace \* Integrity \* Community \* Equality \* Stewardship*

**OAK PARK FRIENDS**

**NEWS**

**August 2014**



*Stargazer Lily in Front Yard, Chicago*

Oak Park Friends Meeting – Religious Society of Friends  
720 Chicago Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60303  
708-445-8201

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org)

**Meeting for Worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

Clerk – Judith Erickson

Recording Clerk – Sarah Shirk

Treasurer – Valerie Lester

Newsletter Editors – Pamela Timme and Bob Southworth

(<mailto:ptimme@hotmail.com>)

Submission deadline – 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Adrian Fisher's mother is recovering from heart surgery.

Cossy Ksander's mother is continuing with rehab in the hospital.

Judy Erickson's father-in-law John Kearney died peacefully August 10, 2014 at the Admiral surrounded by loved ones.

Please hold the Fisher, Ksander, and Erickson/Kearney families in the light.

Christina Timme is available for babysitting, cleaning projects, etc. If interested, please contact her at 708-927-4940.

Third Sunday Sing-alongs - Join Friends every third Sunday of the month at OPAL at 9:40 am for fellowship through song

The Ministry and Care Committee want you to be aware that there is a suffering fund for those that need. Contact a committee member for details.

OPFM welcomes donations for the needs of the meeting which include the meeting space, activities and charitable giving. Donations can be mailed to Oak Park Friends Meeting, PO Box 3245, Oak Park, IL 60303.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Please see the meeting website at [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org) for further information.*

### **Paz St. John's Funeral**

Paz St John's funeral is set for August 29th at 10:30 AM at Cedar Park Cemetery in Calumet Park, IL. This date is the anniversary of his passing.

Prem Glidden will be the spiritual minister. Following graveside services anyone who wants to join us at Chicago Diner on Halsted in Chicago's Boys town can do so for a lunch (everyone pays for themselves) to honor Paz and reminisce.

### **Old-Fashioned Corn Roast and Pot Luck Picnic**

August 30, 2014 3pm-9pm

9th Annual Corn Roast hosted by Upper Fox Valley Meeting

Go to ILYM website for more info: <http://www.ilym.org/drupal/node/374>

Old-Fashioned Corn Roast and Pot Luck Picnic

Where: Alice and Bill Howenstine's

Pioneer Tree Farm  
4614 Pioneer Road (3 miles north of McHenry, half mile off Rt. 31)  
McHenry, IL 60051 Tel: 815-385-8512  
(a map can be printed from the farm's web site: [www.pioneertreefarm.com](http://www.pioneertreefarm.com))

What's happening:

3:00--5:00 – hiking the lanes, feeding the chickens, hayride, talking, singing, frisbee, horseshoes, or your own favorite game

5:00 (approx.) -- pot luck supper – (roast corn, lemonade, iced tea, and decaf coffee will be provided by Upper Fox Valley)

Evening -- campfire, singing, etc.

What to bring:

-- some food to share (with marked serving utensils, and cooler, if needed); soft drinks (if desired); your own plates, cups, utensils that you can take home with you; folding chairs or blankets to sit on (there are four picnic tables and benches); musical instrument; mosquito repellent if you use it

**DRESS FOR THE WEATHER WITH OUTDOOR CLOTHING!**

RSVP:

To order enough corn we need to know how many are coming!  
815-385-8512 or [abhow@oawl.net](mailto:abhow@oawl.net)

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE - FCNL ACTION ALERTS**

The Newsletter has a new monthly feature which we hope will assist Friends in their commitment to peace and justice. The following link will take you to the website of Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), where you can find out about and participate in advocacy for peace, for environmental restoration, and for social justice.

<http://www.fcnl.org/action/alert.htm>

This item can also be found on the OPFM website, [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org).

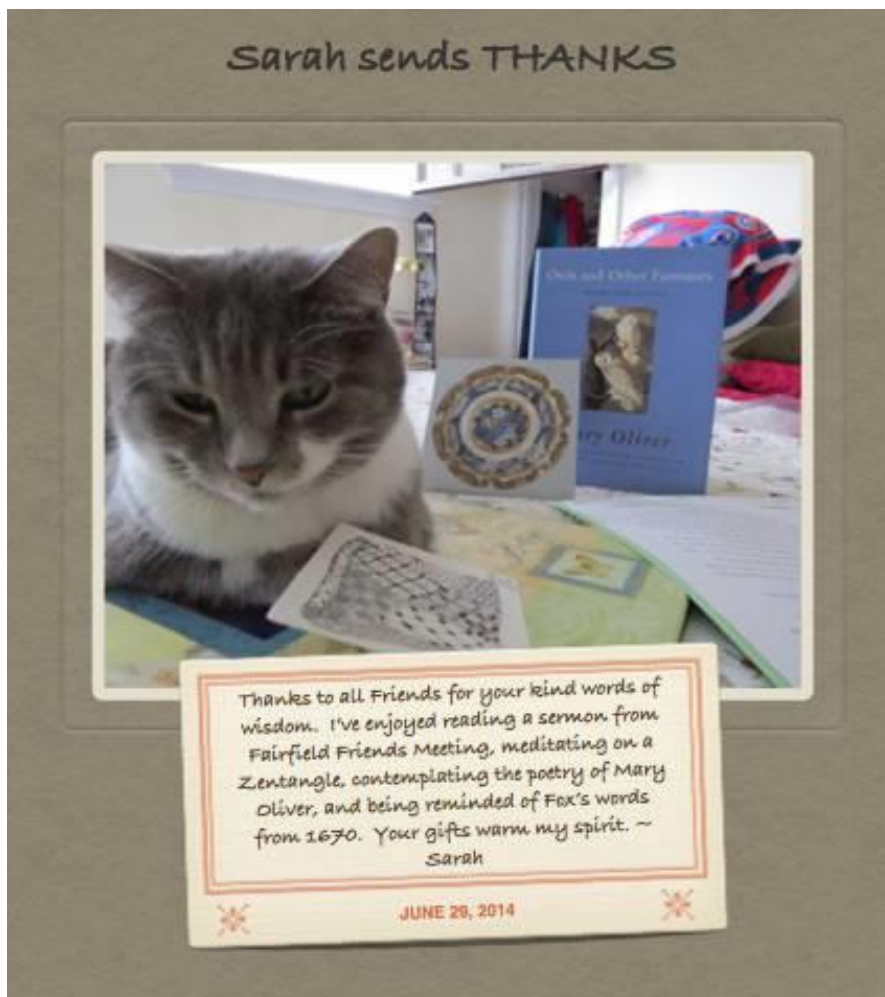
### **August's Action Alert from FCNL**

This month's action alert focuses on the growing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The violence in the area has been escalating in recent weeks as we are aware. Residents of the area are lacking basic necessities and live under the fear of death daily. FCNL urges you to reach out to your representative to call for a cease fire, and also to an end to Israel's blockade of Gaza, which Hamas has cited as a reason for their recent violence against Israel.

## SARAH SHIRK'S MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION



OPFM welcomed Sarah Shirk to membership with a potluck at Kelly Maynard and Rick Spiwak's home on June 29<sup>th</sup>. A good time was had by all. Sarah has sent a thank you, (see below,) which shows her cat, Jelly, inspecting the lovely gifts that were presented to her including the beautiful photo album, heartwarming cards, and words of wisdom.





## **KELLY & RICK'S ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

See photos below of outside and inside the lovely home of Kelly Maynard and Rick Spiwak on the occasion of their one-year wedding anniversary celebration with Friends:



## **ESSAY BY ADRIAN FISHER IN "WHAT CANST THOU SAY"**

Read Adrian Fisher's beautiful and thought-provoking essay, "Learning to Live with the Standing People," which has been published in the web addendum to this month's issue of *What Canst Thou Say* at <http://www.whatcanstthousay.org/>.

## **BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Please see the meeting website at [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org) for further information, including reports from individual committees.

There was no business meeting scheduled for July 2014

## QUERY QUOTATIONS

Rooted in the history of Friends, queries reflect the Quaker way of life, reminding Friends of the ideals we seek to attain. We approach queries as a guide, using them not as an outward set of rules, but as a framework within which we assess our convictions and examine prayerfully the direction of our lives and the life of the community. Here are a few selections from Faith and Practice, published in 1997 by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends:

### **Peace**

How does our Meeting act to advance peace, to oppose violence, and to support the constructive use of authority in our community, our nation, and the world?

What are we doing as a Meeting:

- to free our nation from militarization, so evident in our society and in its economy?
- to understand the causes of war and violence and to work for the development of the attitudes and institutions of peace?
- to recognize and correct the causes of violence within our communities, and to work toward overcoming separations and restoring wholeness?
- to increase the understanding and use of nonviolent approaches for the resolution of conflicts?

*Do I live in the power of that Life and Spirit that takes away the occasion of all wars?*

*How do I maintain Friends' testimony that military training and all participation in war and its preparation are inconsistent with the teaching and the spirit of Christ?*

*Do I work for the establishment of alternative ways of settling disputes? Am I aware that to build a world community requires that we all face our differences honestly, openly, and in trust?*

*Do I treat conflict as an opportunity for growth, and address it with careful attention? Do I seek to recognize and respect the Divine in those with whom I have a basic disagreement? Do I look for ways to reaffirm in action and attitude my love for the one with whom I am in conflict?*

## AND IN CONCLUSION...



**~ HAPPY AUGUST – ENJOY EACH SUMMER DAY! ~**