



Gunpowder Friends Meeting

Welcome to the **April Web Edition** of the Gunpowder Newsletter. Some information has been redacted. To receive the full monthly Newsletter please feel free to inquire with Gunpowder's Clerk at gunpowderclerk@gmail.com.

Members and attenders may access newsletters and monthly minutes in the log-in area of the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clerk's Announcement:

If you would like an email or a notice to go out to members and attenders of the Meeting, please send your request to GunpowderClerk@gmail.com.

Spiritual Formation "Large Group" Gathering April 18th 6:30 - 8:00

Gunpowder's Spiritual Formation group has a long and beloved tradition of reading poetry and sharing it for our April gathering.

So come for the **Poetry Slam, Gunpowder style** on April 18th, there will be dinner -- and always enough to share.

AND READ POETRY!! Its Poetry month after all, and poetry is ALWAYS good for what ails ya!

For more information contact Rebecca Richards (rebecca.richards4912@gmail.com).

Baltimore Yearly Meeting's Spring Spiritual Formation Retreat, May 3-5, at the beautiful Claggett Retreat Center (near Frederick)

These retreats are open to all. Many attenders have participated in a local program, but some are newbies. Come for the deepening experience, or for the fellowship with Friends from across the Yearly Meeting, for the singing with Ruth Fitz, or to delight in the open expanses of greening countryside.

REGISTRATION is easy from a link on the BYM website (bym-rsf.org) -- but closes **April 12th**!

APRIL FORUM -- Sunday, April 21st Quaker Questions in a Hat

FRIENDS -- Look for the Hat! 🎩

Whether you have attended meeting for years, or are a relative newcomer, you probably have questions about Quakerism... Why do we/they do that?? What does "sense of the meeting" mean? And, what is a clearness committee?

All of these questions are starting points for exploring Quaker practice and even its history. It's no secret that we do things a little differently from other religious groups. So this is a chance to get some answers.

There is, literally, a hat on a table in the entry room outside the Meeting Room and some blank cards. Write down your question and drop it in the hat. At the monthly Forum on April 21st, we will start pulling questions out of the hat and see how far we get providing answers.

Follow-up from March Forum with Letrice Grant of the Baltimore Peace Movement

Gunpowder Friends warmly welcomed Letrice Gant, one of the founding organizers of the Baltimore Peace Movement (formerly, Baltimore Ceasefire), to lead our February forum. Letrice Gant addressed the early history of the Ceasefire movement, which began holding quarterly citywide ceasefires in May 2017, and its evolution into The Baltimore Peace Movement. In the lively discussion that followed, Ms. Gant offered ideas and inspiration for Friends to engage now with this self-actualizing peace movement. She added that Baltimore has now seen a 20% drop in homicides year over year from 2023, and yet the work is not complete. For more information or to make a donation, please go to www.baltimorepeacemovement.com, or speak with Jo Brown, 717-385-5813.