

Notes from New Story Retreat in West Falmouth

The new Story annual retreat was held at the home of Gwen Noyes and Art Klipfel in West Falmouth, MA, from Friday evening through Sunday lunch, June 15-17, 2018. BJ Baatz, Mary Coelho, Patty Huff, Art Klipfel, Grady McGonagill, Gwen Noyes, Cornelia Parkes, and Jim Serdy attended.

Saturday morning we shared our stories answering the question, "How has the New Story has changed your life (or not)?" Cornelia read the contributions submitted by Ted Klein, Jane Cutting, Sev Bruyn, Peter Durigon, and Mary Kay Klein.

Saturday afternoon we brainstormed New Story activities for the coming year.

Saturday evening we watched *Symbiotic Earth: How Lynn Margulis rocked the boat and started a scientific revolution* and finished watching it on Sunday.

We closed with worship as a pod.

Proposals for New Story activities for the 2018-2019

Activities for Monday meetings

- June 25: Report from the New Story retreat; Presentation by Mary Coelho on Carlo Rovelli's "Reality is not what it seems"
- July 23: video TBD
- August 27: video TBD
 - Candidates: *Planetary* (<http://www.bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/plan.html>), and Brian Swimme, *The Powers of the Universe*, "Creativity"
- September 24: Pendle Hill Pamphlet #403 "Integrity, Ecology and Community" by Jennie Ratcliffe (28 pages)
- Ideas for future meetings
 - Share our individual practices that help deepen our commitment to New Story values
 - Investigate ways to live out the New Story
 - Envision a community in balance
 - Make small steps toward sustainability
 - Overcome privilege
 - Work for affordable housing
 - Advocate for sustainable farming
 - Raise awareness of un-ethical, and destructive factory farming
 - Create an intentional community
 - Have more Pod meditations
 - Plan outreach activities from the list below.

Share the good news of the New Story

- Events already scheduled
 - Display the Cosmic Walk at NEYM sessions in August, 2018
 - Need volunteers to help set up and maintain it.

- Need to write a flyer/one-pager introduction and explanation
 - Sponsor Whirling Dervishes-November 4, 2018, at FMC
 - Write an introduction to the performance
 - Connect the Dervishes to the New Story
- Display the Cosmic walk at FMC after meeting for worship and for First Day School.
- Visit other New Story Groups.
- Develop a 1 to 2 hour program to take to other churches
 - “What is the New Story? Why does it matter? How do you use it in your life?”
 - Include video and discussion
 - Provide selected readings
 - Speak about our personal experiences
- Present a forum on how Quaker values and the New Story speak to Walter Wink’s list of delusional values.
- Bring the New Story perspective to Cambridge Friends School—grades K through 8
 - Learn about the new story curriculum at Manzanita School in Topanga, CA
 - Learn about the Montessori new story curriculum
 - Invite Jennifer Morgan to the CFS speaker series
- Bring New Story programs to FMC First Day School
- With CMM have a New Story series showing the Brian Swimme’s “The Powers of the Universe”
- Bring presenters to FMC who can speak to complementary viewpoints.
- Show “Drawdown” again in a different venue.
 - Develop follow up activities.
- Show “*Symbiotic Earth: How **Lynn Margulis** rocked the boat and started a scientific revolution*”
- At all public events display and sell New Story material
 - Mary’s Pendle Hill pamphlet
 - “Quakers and the New Story”
 - Short, introductory, annotated bibliography
 - Create a New Story bookmark
 - Create a bumper sticker “Make the planet great again (don’t drive)”