

## Table of Contents

To go directly to a topic, click on it. If that does not work, try Ctrl+click.  
Otherwise, page down.

### Minutes of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting 50th Annual Sessions July 25-28, 2013 Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio

#### *Thursday Evening Session*

- YM13 – 01 Opening Worship, Reading of Epistle from Netherlands Yearly Meeting
- YM13 – 02 Clerks Table
- YM13 – 03 Introductions
- YM13 – 04 Roll Call
- YM13 – 05 Epistle Committee
- YM13 – 06 Adult Program
- YM13 – 07 Memorials

#### *Friday Morning Session*

- YM13 – 08 Worship and Epistle from the Friends Church in Cuba
- YM13 – 09 Introductions
- YM13 – 10 Clerk's Report and Executive Committee's Report
- YM13 – 11 Ad Hoc Service Committee
- YM13 – 12 Meeting Worker and Database Manager Reports
- YM13 – 13 Nominating Committee
- YM13 – 14 Peace Committee

#### *Friday Afternoon Session*

- YM13 – 15 Worship and Memorial Minute for Eldon Hamm
- YM13 – 16 Introductions
- YM13 – 17 Publications & Archives Committee
- YM13 – 18 American Friends Service Committee
- YM13 – 19 Treasurer
- YM13 – 20 Finance Committee
- YM13 – 21 Friends General Conference

#### *Saturday Morning Session*

- YM13 – 22 Worship and Epistle from Monteverde Meeting
- YM13 – 23 Advancement and Outreach Committee
- YM13 – 24 Ministry and Nurture Committee
- YM13 – 25 High School Teen Retreat Program
- YM13 – 26 Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns
- YM13 – 27 Indiana Yearly Meeting
- YM13 – 28 Peace Committee

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING MINUTES  
ANNUAL SESSIONS 2013

*Saturday afternoon session*

- YM13 – 29 Worship
- YM13 – 30 Naming Committee
- YM13 – 31 Friends Committee on National Legislation
- YM13 – 32 Earthcare Committee
- YM13 – 33 Children and Youth Committee
- YM13 – 34 Travel Expenses and Budget
- YM13 – 35 Friends School in Detroit
- YM13 – 36 Friends World Committee for Consultation
- YM13 – 37 Nominating Slate
- YM13 – 38 Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting

*Sunday morning session*

- YM13 – 39 Worship
- YM13 – 40 Ad Hoc Service Committee
- YM13 – 41 Nominating Committee
- YM13 – 42 Arrangements & Site
- YM13 – 43 Traveling Minute for Merry Stanford
- YM13 – 44 Yearly Meeting Epistle
- YM13 – 45 Children's Epistles
- YM13 – 46 Minute of Appreciation

# Minutes of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

## 50th Annual Sessions

### July 25-28, 2013

### Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio

#### *Thursday Evening Session*

#### **YM13 – 01 Opening Worship, Reading of Epistle from Netherlands Yearly Meeting**

Friends gathered at the appointed time and began the 50th annual sessions of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting with waiting worship. Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) read an epistle from Netherlands Yearly Meeting written at its recent sessions with the themes “And then you will walk cheerfully over this earth answering that of God in everyone” and “The History of Slavery in the Netherlands.”

#### **YM13 – 02 Clerks Table**

Clerk Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor) introduced herself and others at the clerks’ table: Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead), Assistant Clerk, and Peter Dale (Detroit), Recording Clerk.

#### **YM13 – 03 Introductions**

The Clerk invited visitors, guests, and newcomers to introduce themselves, including: Hiroko Koibuchi and Akira Koibuchi, visitors from Tsuchiura Monthly Meeting, Japan Yearly Meeting, who were introduced by Kyo Takahashi (Pine River); Brent Bill (West Newton Monthly Meeting, Western Yearly Meeting), visitor from Friends General Conference; Bill Lefler (Pittsburgh); David Culp, visitor from Friends Committee on National Legislation; Jeni Payton (Kalamazoo); and Stephanie Charlot (Red Cedar). The Clerk read traveling letters for Brent Bill from Friends General Conference and West Newton Monthly Meeting.

#### **YM13 – 04 Roll Call**

The calling of the roll of Friends from constituent meetings and groups provided the following count (corrected against registration figures):

Akron	1	Kent	0
Ann Arbor	21	Mid-Ohio Valley	0
Athens	20	North Columbus	6
Birmingham	6	Oberlin	1
Broadmead	23	Pine River	4
Cleveland	12	Pittsburgh	12
Delaware	0	Red Cedar	8
Detroit	11	Wooster	7
Grand Rapids	6		
Granville	2	Erie Worship Group	1
Holland	0	Visitors	7
Kalamazoo	9		
Total in attendance	157		

### **YM13 – 05 Epistle Committee**

The Clerk asked for two people who are led to do so to join with the Assistant Clerk to write an Epistle for the current annual sessions. Aran Reinhart (Broadmead) and Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) were moved to join Sally Weaver Sommer in forming the Epistle Committee. This was **approved**.

### **YM13 – 06 Adult Program**

Clémence Ravaçon Mershon (Erie Worship Group), Clerk of the Adult Program Committee, explained the upcoming program for the Sessions. Additional clarification and particulars of the schedule were presented from the floor.

### **YM13 – 07 Memorials**

The clerk introduced a period of worship for remembering those Friends known to the Yearly Meeting who have died in the past year. Memorial minutes or obituaries were read out of silent worship for the following individuals:

- 1) Geraldine (Gerry) S. McNabb (Birmingham & Oberlin), who just died on July 21, 2013.
- 2) Margaret S. McCoy (Pittsburgh), who died August 28, 2012.
- 3) Wallace V. Conrad (North Columbus), who died June 12, 2013.
- 4) Weaver Rose Habl (Red Cedar), who died May 8, 2013.
- 5) Richard Wirth Taylor (Kent & Oberlin), who died October 6, 2012.
- 6) Leonora Balla Cayard (Pittsburgh), who died December 14, 2012.
- 7) Rosemary Turner Lore (Granville), who died February 1, 2013.

In the ensuing worship the deaths of Franklin Miller, Jr. (Granville), who died October 12, 2012, and Warren Hohwal (Erie Worship Group), who died June 7, 2013, were also noted.

### *Friday Morning Session*

### **YM13 – 08 Worship and Epistle from the Friends Church in Cuba**

The session opened with waiting worship at the appointed time. During worship Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer read an epistle dated February 12, 2012, Gibara, Cuba, from the Friends Church in Cuba, celebrating its 85th Anniversary.

### **YM13 – 09 Introductions**

Clerk Peggy Daub asked for first-time attenders and visitors to make themselves known. Sharon and Joel Ottenbreit (Detroit), Ann Francis (Red Cedar), Joann Neuroth (Red Cedar), and Julie Poll (Birmingham) introduced themselves. They were welcomed by the Meeting.

### **YM13 – 10 Clerk's Report and Executive Committee's Report**

Peggy Daub, Clerk, reported on the state of the Meeting, relating some of the accomplishments and transitions of the Yearly Meeting during the past year. She also thanked the Meeting for the opportunity to serve as Clerk. Representative meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2014, with the location to be named later. The full report follows:

As I said in my clerk's report last year at this time, "Friends meetings in this area created a loose association of themselves as soon as there were unprogrammed meetings founded anew in this region in the 1930s. But it was in 1963 that the grouping took the name Lake Erie Association and Yearly Meeting." We have now reached that 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

This milestone reminds me that we are standing on the shoulders of those who came before us. We did not come to this point alone, nor do we stand here alone. To my way of thinking, the whole point of a yearly meeting is to serve as a way to connect Friends from a broader geographic area with each other. But this year we are also trying to connect Friends from a broader chronological area with each other, as we take some moments to reflect on what (and who) came and stood in this place before us.

You will remember that a year and a half ago we identified three areas of work that could best support our local meetings: 1) youth and children's programming, 2) providing opportunities to both youth and adults for service projects, and 3) working to improve communication between monthly meetings and between monthly meetings and the yearly meeting. To report on those topics in order:

For Youth and Children's programming: Our work to assist those who work with children and youth in our local meetings has not reached fruition yet, but it is on our hearts and in our minds to continue considering ways in which the yearly meeting might be useful here.

For service projects: Through the hard work of an ad hoc committee, we have successfully completed a one-day work camp prior to our annual sessions. (You will be hearing a fuller report on that in a moment.) We as a meeting will need to determine how we are led to proceed in this vein.

For communication: Mathilda Navias, our Meeting Worker, has made a number of improvements to the ways in which we disseminate information. She has continued to update and improve our website, and, as always, we invite committees to send additional content or anyone to send suggestions for that site. Mathilda has also created a number of listserves which make being in email contact with the Yearly Meeting's Executive Committee and with monthly meeting clerks and representatives easy and efficient. It also makes it easy for any of those on the lists to send email to everyone else on it.

It has been my profound pleasure to serve the yearly meeting as its clerk for the last three years. It has brought me much joy to see you, the people who are the yearly meeting, act in love with each other and act determinedly to help others through many different ways. Thank you for this opportunity.

The date of our Representative Meeting next spring will be Saturday, April 5. We will announce the location at a later date.

### **YM13 – 11 Ad Hoc Service Committee**

Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) and Nancy Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported for the Ad Hoc Service Committee. The committee chose to offer a service opportunity in Lima, Ohio this year, just prior to the Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions. They introduced most of the 18 participants and had them describe their experiences. Their work at the Habitat for Humanity Restore consisted of cleaning but was referred to as indirectly "building a house." The participants also worked at Our Daily Bread soup kitchen, where they served and interacted with the guests. It was a very moving and inspiring experience to be part of these events. A report will be available on the Yearly Meeting's website.

The committee must now discern whether the yearly meeting wishes to continue to offer this sort of opportunity. Nancy described a proposal from Tyler Hampton (Detroit), who could serve as coordinator to offer a work camp in Detroit. A four-day work camp in Detroit would be much more ambitious and would likely require financial support from the yearly meeting. The expense is estimated to be about \$100 per person with an additional \$1,350 to pay for the coordinator's work. The committee will survey Friends to help the discernment process and report back later in these sessions.

### **YM13 – 12 Meeting Worker and Database Manager Reports**

Mathilda Navias (Broadmead), Meeting Worker and Database Manager, briefly reported on her work for the Yearly Meeting for the past year in these two roles. She has maintained and updated the Meeting's web site, listservs, and database. She asked meetings that have not yet turned in their statistical reports to do so. She also asked anyone with copies of the first ten years of the LEYM Bulletin to make them or surrogates available to her to complete the Yearly Meeting's archive of that publication.

### **YM13 – 13 Nominating Committee**

Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported as Clerk of the Nominating Committee. He introduced the members of the committee, then presented a draft report of the committee's work so that Friends could see the roster (and the open positions) and be ready to consider it at a coming session. Friends were reminded that most committees have open meetings.

### **YM13 – 14 Peace Committee**

Nancy Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported as Clerk of the Peace Committee. The committee focused on four issues this year: immigration justice, the Israel Palestine conflict, work with the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and the elimination of torture. On behalf of the committee, Anne Remley (Ann Arbor) gave background information and read a minute on the Israel Palestine situation for consideration. The proposed minute read:

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting calls for Friends to join the boycott of products made in Israel's illegal West Bank settlements and to divest from companies that support Israel's military occupation and repression of the Palestinian people. We join with the American Friends Service Committee, Britain Yearly Meeting, Illinois Yearly Meeting, monthly meetings, and religious and civil society organizations throughout the world in taking such steps in working for peace.

Clerk Peggy Daub asked the body whether the proposed minute met with approval. It was noted that if the minute were approved it would be shared. Friends requested more time to consider and understand the minute.

Due to lack of time, the remainder of the report was postponed to a later session. (see YM13 – 27)

### *Friday Afternoon Session*

### **YM13 – 15 Worship and Memorial Minute for Eldon Hamm**

The meeting resumed with waiting worship at the appointed time. Out of the silence Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer read a memorial minute for Eldon Hamm of Ann Arbor. The minute will appear in the annual records.

### **YM13 – 16 Introductions**

Clerk Peggy Daub asked recent arrivals to make themselves known. Natalie Holbrook, Director of the Criminal Justice Program at the Ann Arbor office of the American Friends Service Committee, and Shelley Kotz (Broadmead) introduced themselves.

### **YM13 – 17 Publications & Archives Committee**

Rosemary Coffey (Pittsburgh) reported as Clerk of the Publications & Archives Committee. The full report follows:

With regard to the 2013 Annual Records, Joe Mills of Kalamazoo Meeting will be putting the booklet together again this year. Please note that any documents to be included should be sent to him by the end of August – that is, 4 weeks from the close of this meeting. Joe will work on it during the month of September and hopes to have copies in your hands shortly thereafter. He will let your Meetings know soon if he does not have your State of the Meeting reports, most of which have already been forwarded to him by the Ministry & Nurture Committee, and would also like to urge you to see that your Meetings send him obituaries or memorial minutes for members who have died, even if they were not mentioned at Thursday's memorial meeting.

Your local Meetings will also be receiving a reminder about how and when to send Meeting documents to the Swarthmore College Historical Library for archiving.

Finally, during the recent Executive Committee meeting, we were asked to consider the future of the wonderful timeline of LEYM history that has been created and is currently attached to a wall in the University dining area. Publications & Archives Committee suggests that it be kept by someone in Bluffton, as long as LEYM continues to hold its annual meetings here, so that it can be made available at future celebrations. (Now that we see how much fun they are, we might well decide to hold them every five or ten years, rather than wait for another fifty.) So, if a local Friend is willing to host the timeline in the meantime, please let the Clerk know at your earliest convenience!

Joe Mills requested that any photographs from or about this annual meeting be made available to him.

### **YM13 – 18 American Friends Service Committee**

Joann Neuroth (Red Cedar) reported as one of our representatives to the American Friends Service Committee. Joann reported for herself, John Deikis (Ann Arbor), and Seth Reichenbach (North Columbus), LEYM representatives, and in collaboration with AFSC board members Kate Nolan (Red Cedar) and Ann Francis (Red Cedar), on the American Friends Service Committee's Corporation Meeting in March 2013. She described the effort AFSC is making to re-establish its contact with meetings through Quaker liaisons. The full report follows:

Report to LEYM on AFSC 2013 Corporation Meeting (March 1-3, 2013)

As AFSC approaches its hundredth birthday (in 2017), it is working hard to re-position itself to renew the unique blend of service and prophetic witness that characterized its early years. The invitation to Quakers to rejoin hands and work in deeper partnership is explicit. We return from this year's Corporation meeting ready to recommend that Lake Erie Yearly Meeting accept this invitation in active ways. We believe a more lively partnership has potential to strengthen our own spiritual community and further our witness.

The painful downsizing and restructuring of AFSC programs that was necessitated by the 2008 economic crash has been completed, fiscal soundness is returning, and the outlines of the emerging directions are becoming clear. LEYM's Midwest Region now includes offices in Akron, Ann Arbor, Chicago, Dayton, Des Moines, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and St. Louis.

Two major prophetic themes that echo AFSC's early commitment to combine humanitarian service with courageous witness against systemic "seeds of violence" among us:

Demonstrating the power of nonviolence to transform lives and communities affected by violence, with a focus on youth.

Challenging the false narrative that war, violence and coercion are effective ways to bring peace and justice.

In a number of ways, AFSC has recognized the distance that had grown between its work and much of the Religious Society of Friends, and is actively inviting Quakers "back in" to its work. In addition to articulating the themes above, which we believe will resonate with many Friends, we notice these concrete changes so far:

Check out AFSC's lively blog, [Acting in Faith](http://www.afsc.org/friends), at <http://www.afsc.org/friends>)

A Meeting Liaison program can bring updates to monthly meeting attenders

An "Introduction to Quaker Testimonies" helps introduce non-Quakers to our ways

Opportunities for service and learning are being developed for all ages of Quakers

Young adult Friends are joining AFSC's governance and decision-making work.

We recommend that LEYM:

Use an intergenerational "consultation" workshop at this summer's Yearly Meeting to explore AFSC's invitation to deeper partnership.

Encourage 100% of LEYM Monthly Meetings to establish AFSC Meeting/Church liaisons

We appreciate the opportunity to represent LEYM and AFSC to each other.

### **YM13 – 19 Treasurer**

Mike Hinshaw (Wooster) presented his annual report and explained the various lines in the report, reminding us that the fiscal year runs July 1 through June 30. The report was accepted. The full report appears immediately following these minutes of the annual sessions.

### **YM13 – 20 Finance Committee**

Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor) reported as Clerk of the Finance Committee. He began by explaining the basis for the proposed budget for 2013-14 that had first been presented at Representatives Meeting. The committee feels that there is enough money in the General Fund (more than \$16,000) to cover one-time requests for funds if annual contributions were to be reduced from \$42 to \$40 per person. The proposed budget was laid over to be considered further at a later session.

Jeff then presented three proposed revisions of the Yearly Meeting's Financial Manual (described fully below).

Proposed text:

Approval of expenditures from the Youth Activities Fund is the responsibility of an ad hoc committee of the presiding clerk, treasurer, and clerk of the Youth & Children Committee, proceeding within the constraints of the budget approved by the Yearly Meeting. If need be, the assistant clerk, clerk of Finance Committee, and another representative of Youth & Children Committee can be consulted or act as replacements for the presiding clerk, treasurer, and clerk of the Youth & Children Committee respectively. Requests for assistance should be made to the presiding clerk by completing the application form that appears below as Appendix C.

This was **approved**.

Proposed text:

Ministry & Nurture. This line supports activities of the Ministry & Nurture Committee.

This was **approved**.

Proposed text (revised):

For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting relating to Quaker work, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee clerks, and other members of the Finance Committee may be consulted as needed.

This was sent back to committee with a request for clarification.

The full report follows:

Finance Committee Report, Annual Meeting, 2013

A. Budget for 2013-14 (See separate Excel file, 2013-14 budget)

A draft budget was presented at Representative Meeting and printed in the spring *Bulletin*. Until yesterday we received no comment on it. Since then we have considered a few questions about possible additional expenditures this year. As of this writing, our list of expenses has only one minor change: it has increased by \$100 because we realized that we had not paid the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore for archiving our records within the past year, and so should pay them twice this year. This brings expenses to \$30,340.

On the income side, we have a change we believe you will appreciate. Analysis of financial statements for the past five years shows that on average our budgets have exceeded our expenditures by over \$3300 per year, and our income has exceeded our expenditures by about half that much. This means that we are asking monthly meetings to contribute enough funds to meet our budget, while spending less than they contribute. Meanwhile, our General Fund has grown to a level higher than it need be.

In the draft budget we had suggested a per/member contribution of \$42, up from \$40. We asked ourselves what would happen if we left this at \$40. With an estimated membership of 725, this works out to \$29,000. Our expenses have never exceeded this figure, but income has exceeded it the past two years. If expenses exceed income, we can pay the balance from the surplus in the General Fund. Hence our recommended budget returns to a suggested contribution of \$40 per member.

You may well ask why we don't reduce budgeted expenses to match budgeted income. We certainly considered this. There are three principal lines where we have a pattern of budgeting for contingencies rather than for predicted spending: contract worker, clerk's fund, and travel. In each case we wish to continue this pattern so that we will not feel constrained in spending from them. In the unlikely event that actual expenses match or even exceed the budgeted amount in all these lines, we have the General Fund to fall back on.



Finally, we have kept the reimbursement rate for travel at 35 cents per mile.

- B. As reported at Representative Meeting, we have been at work on a revised version of our financial manual. This manual reflects approved policy, but there are three instances where we are suggesting new or revised policy.

1. Composition of the ad hoc committee that addresses requests for assistance from the youth activities fund:

*Background:* Over the years different policies have been minuted on the membership of this ad hoc committee: the presiding clerk and treasurer are constant, but the third person has been a) the clerk of Finance Committee; b) the clerk of Youth & Children Committee; and c) a representative from Youth & Children. When this question was put to Executive Committee, they recommended that the third person be the clerk of Youth & Children, but that the arrangement be sufficiently flexible to allow substitutes for any of these persons. Finance committee supports this suggestion.

Proposed text:

Approval of expenditures from the Youth Activities Fund is the responsibility of an ad hoc committee of the presiding clerk, treasurer, and clerk of Youth & Children Committee, proceeding within the constraints of the budget approved by Yearly Meeting. If need be, the assistant clerk, clerk of Finance Committee, and another representative of Youth & Children Committee can be consulted or act as replacements for the presiding clerk, treasurer, and clerk of Youth & Children Committee respectively. Requests for assistance should be made to the presiding clerk by completing the application form that appears below as Appendix C.

2. Redefining the purpose of the Ministry & Nurture budget line.

*Background:* The Ministry & Nurture budget line was originally established to pay for the arrangement of consultations within the Yearly Meeting (e.g., for monthly meeting clerks). Later we established a Consultation Fund for this same purpose. When Jeff asked M&N whether this budget line was still needed, they requested keeping it for a different purpose: enabling them to pay for costs associated with committee business. This is equivalent to establishing a new fund, which happens to have the same name as an existing fund.

Proposed text:

**Ministry & Nurture.** This line supports activities of the Ministry & Nurture Committee.

3. Continuing/Reviving a minute from 2002, whose original intention may have been temporary.

*Background:* YM2002-42 reads: "Friends approve that the treasurer, Finance ... Committee, and presiding clerk may use some of the surplus if there are additional expenses, especially in regard to travel funds."

There is no context for this particular minute, but the Finance Committee report in that session (YM 2002-11) referred to travel expenses of our representatives to FGC Program Committee not being covered by either LEYM or FGC. We are not certain whether his applies only to 2002-03 or indefinitely.

Experience suggests that, finances permitting, we wish to support some requests for assistance with travel costs that don't fall under the existing definition of travel or other assistance funds. Consultation among the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and at least one other representative of Finance Committee, along with others as needed provides flexibility, weighing variables including availability of funds, and ensures that requests are considered by at least three Friends..

Proposed text (original):

**For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting**, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee clerks, and other members of the Finance Committee may be consulted as needed.

Proposed text (revised):

**For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting relating to Quaker work**, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee clerks, and other members of the Finance Committee may be consulted as needed.

### **YM13 – 21 Friends General Conference**

Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) reported for herself, Paula Deming (Columbus), and Marvin Barnes (Birmingham) as LEYM representatives to the Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee. She outlined some of the work that Friends General Conference does in trying to foster a growing and vital Quaker community. Brent Bill (West Newton Monthly Meeting, Western Yearly Meeting), our visitor from FGC also reported on his work as Coordinator of the FGC New Meetings Project. The full report from our representatives follows:

FGC adopted a new vision statement at Central Committee in October 2012:

“We envision a vital and growing Religious Society of Friends – a faith that deepens spiritually, welcomes newcomers, builds supportive and inclusive community, and provides loving service and witness in the world. Through Friends General Conference, we see Quakers led by Spirit joining together in ministry to offer services that help Friends, meetings, and seekers to explore, deepen, connect, and serve within the context of our living faith.”

FGC received the largest grant in its history, \$400,000 over two years, from the Shoemaker Foundation for support of the New Meetings Project and continued support for Quaker Quest.

FGC continues to be more than the Gathering. Through dedicated staff and volunteers, FGC offers a multitude of services and programs, in addition to the well-loved annual Gathering, including:

Traveling Ministries Program, providing the assistance of seasoned Friends who come to your meeting to assist with retreats, conflicts, workshops on Quaker process, etc.

QuakerBooks (bookstore), providing books online and at Gathering and Yearly Meetings which are Quaker-themed or consistent with Quaker values.

Couple Enrichment, a program of faith-based group support for any couple, whether married or unmarried, gay or straight.

Quaker Quest, assisting Friends in doing inreach and outreach.

QuakerFinder, an online resource to help seekers and Friends find Quaker meetings.

QuakerPress publishing books and other materials of importance to Friends, such as *Black Fire*, *Conversations with Christ*, and last year's well-received *Letters from a Fellow Seeker*. QuakerBridge Media, a new venture which publishes with financial support from the author, this year published a children's book, *The Snake Fence*.

Ministry on Racism, offering support to Friends of Color, and helping meetings challenge racism.

Friends Meeting House Fund, lending money to help meetings build, buy or renovate their meeting houses.

Faith and Play, a supplement to the Montessori-based Godly Play curriculum focusing on Quaker experience.

FGC Gathering, held annually, a wonderful festival of Spirit!

FGC has developed some new services and tools, in addition to those above. You can find out more at [www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org).

**Sparkling Still** is a developmentally appropriate curriculum for preschool through age 8 using well-known and accessible children's books. Topics include sense of self, family and community, the natural world, the Bible and Quakerism, worship, celebrations, empowerment, and Quaker testimonies, as well as guidance on hard issues like grief, divorce, extreme weather, and violence.

**New Meetings Project** and the New Meetings Toolbox. Brent Bill staffs this project and, with a small work group and a team of Friends who will serve as mentors, and in communication with yearly meetings, provides practical and spiritual assistance to Friends and seekers wishing to start a new worship group.

**Quaker Cloud** has three basic components:

A website for your meeting that is easy to build and maintain. (available now)

A minute manager that allows you to archive, search and share minutes with your meeting, and if you want, with Friends and the world. (available now)

A meeting directory, where meeting members maintain their own information and where you can print a current directory in a few clicks. (Coming)

**FGC's Stewardship Services Program** offers free services to Friends in the US and Canada on how to shape your financial decisions grounded in your Quaker faith. The program offers financial planning for individual Friends as well as workshop sessions for monthly meetings on financial and retirement planning, estate planning, and stewardship investing.

All of this good work doesn't come free. FGC increased its fundraising goal by an ambitious \$100,000 this year. In addition, the Shoemaker grant requires an additional \$100,000 match. Friends are asked to consider what they can give during this fiscal year, ending September 30, to help FGC move forward in its vision of a revitalized Religious Society of Friends.

### *Saturday Morning Session*

#### **YM13 – 22 Worship and Epistle from Monteverde Meeting**

The meeting resumed with waiting worship at the appointed time. Out of the silence Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer read an epistle from Monteverde Meeting, Costa Rica, dated May 12, 2013. The epistle movingly related how the meeting's on-going journey as a community over the previous year had served to nurture its spiritual life.

#### **YM13 – 23 Advancement and Outreach Committee**

Dolores Avner (Pittsburgh) reported as clerk of the Advancement and Outreach Committee. Dolores explained that among the charges of the committee is to nurture and encourage individuals and meetings by personal visits. The committee has considered endorsing a travel minute from Red Cedar Monthly Meeting for Merry Stanford (Red Cedar), who is called to minister to individuals and meetings. After discussion, it was discerned that whereas the Yearly Meeting unites behind this calling it should instead write its own minute to best reflect Merry's relationship to the Yearly Meeting. The matter was laid over to the Advancement and Outreach Committee, for drafting of a travel minute to be brought back for consideration at a later session.

The committee requested a \$600 budget line as reimbursement for the mileage Merry expects to incur in the course of her ministry this coming year within Yearly Meeting under the auspices of this committee. Finance Committee has considered this and does not see the request as a financial problem. This was **approved**.

The committee continues to develop ideas for encouraging and developing First Day School programs as a way of developing meetings.

#### **YM13 – 24 Ministry and Nurture Committee**

Paula Deming (Columbus) reported as clerk of the Ministry and Nurture Committee. She reported on: the Ministry Scholarship Fund; the Spiritual Formation Program; State of the Meeting Reports; the Annual Query; and a potential FGC Couple Enrichment Retreat. Merry Stanford and Peter Wood approached the committee with a proposal to lead a Couple Enrichment retreat under the care of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting in spring 2014. The committee considered this request and recommends that we offer the program. This was **approved**. The financial component will be considered by the Finance committee, with the expectation that most of the expense will be recouped through registration. We reaffirmed that our yearly meeting continues to support participation in our programs by all, regardless of ability to pay. The full report follows:

The Ministry and Nurture Committee sponsors the LEYM Spiritual Formation Program, and we administer the Ministry Scholarship Fund. We also develop the LEYM Annual Query as well as collect and read the annual monthly meeting State of the Meeting reports.

#### Ministry Scholarship Fund:

For the past several years the Ministry Scholarship Fund has been used by Friends in the yearly meeting. There were not any requests for scholarships this year. This committee would encourage Friends to apply for the scholarship, which is available every year in the amount of \$1,000.

#### The Spiritual Formation Program:

This year's fall gathering will take place on September 6-8 at the Weber Retreat Center in Adrian, Michigan; the spring follow up will take place on May 3. This year's theme is "Nurturing Our Spiritual Life through the Practice of a Spiritual Discipline." The leader, Della Stanley-Green, is a recorded minister in Western Yearly Meeting. Della provides spiritual direction for individuals and groups, supervises spiritual direction interns, teaches spiritual formation, and leads retreats and workshops.

#### State of the Meeting reports:

I'd like to start with a quote from one of the State of the Meeting reports: "Recording the condition of our Meeting seems rather straightforward. The annual review serves a purpose. But to rehash the litany of housekeeping tasks and Meeting activities each year does not truly reflect our spiritual state, which is in fact the essence of any Meeting. Spiritual self-examination is analogous to a clearness committee of the whole. Introspection is not unlike waiting for clarity out of the silence. And so we look at our outward characteristics and activities to discern the spiritual base that is manifested in what we do." (Wooster Monthly Meeting)

We were delighted to receive eighteen State of the Meeting reports this year, including several from worship groups. As we read the reports, we noticed a sense of loving spirit throughout. Some meetings expressed this in their descriptions of meeting for worship, some in how they care for one another, and some in their witness to our testimonies to the world. Some remarked on the profound depth of the silence for worship and the sense of being gathered. Many wrote of their connectedness to each other and their community, and expressed both joy and gratitude for God's presence among them.

One theme that stood out in some reports was how meetings are working through conflicts between individuals or within Meeting for Business. Some meetings recognize that conflict can be a gift in itself, and that it can help them appreciate what they have as well as what they might strive for. Working through conflict in a loving manner can result in a deepening of spirit and connection to the community of Friends.

Some Meetings wrote of special activities that have deepened spirit and community. For example, at the end of meeting, Sandusky Worship group shares joys and sorrows, and holding intentions in the Light. In Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting, a Friend designated as "The Friendly Heart," is available to listen to concerns and respond to questions. Other meetings mentioned the use of LEYM resources. Several meetings mentioned the Spiritual Formation program, for example. Some meetings that do not answer the Annual LEYM Query instead use the query in crafting their State of the Meeting reports. We encourage members of LEYM to read the State of the Meeting reports, all of which will be published in the Annual Records. Meetings often mention a wish to learn from one another, and reading the reports is a useful practice for this reason, among others.

#### Annual LEYM Query:

This year's Annual Query has been designed to address some themes that our committee noticed while reading the State of the Meeting reports. We found that queries from Philadelphia's Faith and Practice were helpful in crafting our query; we plan to include them in a list of helpful quotations that accompanies the Annual Query.

How is Spirit present in building our community? What contributes to loving connections within our meeting? Is our meeting a place of safety in which Friends feel they can be heard? In what ways do we come together, opening ourselves to God's love, grace, and forgiveness? Do we pause and feel blessed by the Divine? Can we find ways to continue to faithfully engage each other, even in the midst of conflict? When connections appear to be impaired, what Quaker resources might be used to prepare us

for listening to God?

Other: FGC Couple Enrichment Retreat:

Merry Stanford and Peter Wood approached the Ministry and Nurture committee with a proposal to lead a Couple Enrichment retreat weekend in spring of 2014 under the care of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. This FGC program would be intended for 8-12 couples from throughout LEYM. The focus of the retreat is "Dialogue—Tender Listening and Authentic Speaking as a Spiritual Practice." Merry and Peter have experience in facilitating it among Monthly Meetings all over. This will be a one-time program unless there is interest to make it available again. This program would be offered under the care of Ministry & Nurture, much as Spiritual Formation is: the program would be planned and executed by others.

Financial component: Merry and Peter have asked LEYM for a budget of \$300 to reserve the facility and other expenses. Couples would be charged for room and board, as well as \$20 per couple to go back to FGC to support the Couple Enrichment program and another \$20 to return to LEYM to help recoup the amount of the line item. Merry and Peter are offering this program as an unpaid ministry to the Yearly Meeting. The Ministry and Nurture Committee feels that Friends should not be hindered from attending by financial issues. While most monthly meetings could help with financial assistance, if the cost becomes a burden to the monthly meeting, the Presiding Clerk should be informed.

### **YM13 – 25 High School Teen Retreat Program**

Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) reported as clerk of the High School Teen Retreat Program. The full report follows:

The Teen Retreat Program has held four retreats this year, beginning with the summer retreat in 2012, held here at Annual Session. Teens also met

- 1) at Red Cedar Meeting in November 2012 where they had a workshop on Meeting for Healing with Richard Lee and Merry Stanford;
- 2) at the Quake That Rocked the Midwest in Chicago in January 2013, with teens from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (OVYM) and Illinois Yearly Meeting (IYM), where they learned about the life of Bayard Rustin; and
- 3) at Earlham College in May, again with teens from OVYM, IYM, and West Richmond Friends Meeting, where the workshop was led by folks from Dances for Universal Peace.

The first retreat of the new year will be held next weekend, August 2-4, at Friends of the Light Church in Traverse City, Michigan. Summer is a lovely time in Traverse City, and the beach on Traverse Bay is an easy walk from the church. The workshop will be led by Joe Kelly, pastor of Friends of the Light. The fall retreat will be held November 15-17, 2013 at the Athens Meeting, and the Quake That Rocked the Midwest will again be held in Chicago over Martin Luther King weekend, January 17-20, 2014, with teens from IYM and OVYM.

The teen retreats are a valuable time for young Friends to develop relationships with other Quaker teens. It can be lonely, being the only or one of very few Quaker kids in your high school. The first teen retreats sponsored by this yearly meeting, with Kri Burkander as coordinator, were influential in helping our adult young Friends build lasting bonds.

There is still time to register for next weekend's retreat! Consider encouraging the teens in your meeting and/or family to attend. Registration materials are available online at [leym.org](http://leym.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Merry Stanford, Clerk  
Robb Yurisko, Coordinator

### **YM13 – 26 Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns**

Robb Yurisko (North Columbus) reported as our representative to Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns. Robb intends to work with the Peace Committee to develop a minute in support of marriage equality for future consideration. Clerk Peggy Daub added that the yearly meeting appears to have a minute already on record in support of all marriages under the care of our

monthly meetings. Robb thanked the Yearly Meeting for its support for him as representative to the group. The full report follows:

It is truly an honor to represent you to Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns. I feel a strong connection to both communities and to bridge that gap as representative seems rightly ordered. Thank you for the opportunity. Currently I am completing a commitment to that community's M&C Committee that will end after our Mid-Winter Gathering 2014. It has been such a personal blessing to be part of that committee, whose, what is now, weekly prayerful interaction is a special benefit to my spiritual life.

Since our annual sessions last year, FLGBTQC have met twice. The first was over the weekend of February 15-18, 2013 at Bryn Mawr Mountain Retreat and Conference Center in the Poconos. Extensive outreach was done beforehand and over 140 people attended that conference. Niyanu Spann facilitated a series of plenary sessions for us that were interactive and explored our theme for the weekend: "A Place at the Table." Meetings for Worship felt deep and gathered and we were favored with powerful vocal ministry. Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business are what originally impressed me most about this group. There is always an experience of deep, rich sensitivity to Spirit, Palpable Prayer and Living Ministry present during those sacred moments together. One of the largest agenda items over that weekend was that our community consider endorsing and becoming signatories for two *amicus* briefs that were filed in the United States Supreme Court regarding the two cases the court heard in March. The briefs asserted that religious liberties will not be infringed upon if the laws in question were overturned. After careful reading and discernment, FLGBTQC approved endorsing and becoming signatories for the two *amicus* briefs submitted to the Supreme Court. During that discernment process it came to my attention that FLGBTQC has a collection of minutes from Monthly Meetings and Yearly Meetings affirming same sex unions and commitments. Among them is no minute from LEYM. After prayerful consideration, I reached out to Peggy Daub and we began an email correspondence to season where this work might be best considered. Recently, Nancy Taylor and I made contact in this regard and I will be working with her and the Peace Committee over the next year to craft such a minute to bring to the body for discernment at Business Sessions next year.

Our second meeting was during and within the FGC Gathering the first week of this month in Greeley, Colorado. Our week was filled with prayer, worship, fun, nightly gatherings, private opportunities for personal visitation and business.

There are many things about the FLGBTQC community that I love and hold dear: among them, the silent and live auction/cabaret which takes place to raise money for our community. Another is where the money raised by those events goes - largely - into two funds, the first being a travel fund which helps Friends who could not otherwise afford to travel to our Gatherings the opportunity to do so and the second is a fund for sufferings which Friends from our community can use when they fall on hard times or need financial assistance.

At one point during the weekend of our Mid-Winter Gathering I heard a powerful message shared at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business which we included in our Epistle. The Ministry offered pointed to the fact that in many of our religions of origin we were taught that to acknowledge our sexuality or gender identity would sever our relationship with Spirit, yet our experience has proven otherwise. For we have found that just the opposite is true, that in accepting and expressing our true selves we serve only to strengthen our connection with the Divine.

In a minute adapted in February of 1999 FLGBTQC described their vision for the group (and I am paraphrasing here) as deeply honoring, affirming, and upholding that of God in all people through radical love and inclusion, having faith and voice to speak truth to power, and the courage to be open to new revelation. My experience of that community is living into a deep faithfulness of that vision.

I am deeply grateful to you, LEYM, for your assistance in helping me to grow in grace and live into my authenticity and this vision of FLGBTQC.

With deep love and appreciation,  
Robert Lloyd Yurisko

### **YM13 – 27 Indiana Yearly Meeting**

After hearing from Brent Bill (West Newton MM, Western YM) and Vaughn Peebles (Friends of the

Light) about the current divisions within Indiana Yearly Meeting, we took time for worship during which those involved were held in the Light.

### **YM13 – 28 Peace Committee**

Nancy Taylor, clerk of the Peace Committee resumed their report (from YM13-14). Nancy introduced Kathleen Peabody (Ann Arbor), who spoke as Ann Arbor Meeting's representative to the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT). Kathleen asked those gathered to support a Religious Call for a Just and Humane End to the Hunger Strike in California Prisons. She also asked members to support the NRCAT's efforts to close the detention center at Guantanamo Bay. More information can be found at [www.nrcat.org](http://www.nrcat.org).

The minute concerning Israel Palestine was reintroduced for reconsideration. An introductory sentence had been added to give it more context. After discussion the following minute was **approved**.

A key step towards stability and safety for both Israelis and Palestinians, and other indigenous peoples of the region, depends on a just agreement regarding the Palestinian lands that Israel has occupied, illegally, according to international law, since 1967. Therefore, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting calls for Friends to join the boycott of products made in Israel's illegal West Bank settlements and to divest from companies that support Israel's military occupation and repression of the Palestinian people. We join with the American Friends Service Committee, Britain Yearly Meeting, monthly meetings, and religious and civil society organizations throughout the world in taking such steps in working for peace.

The full report follows:

A dozen Friends gathered at our meeting with a concern for peace-making and a focus on four subjects, according to our deepest concerns and the current work of our Monthly Meetings: immigration issues on the borders of our country, peaceful resolution of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, the elimination of nuclear weapons and influencing our legislators thru work with FCNL, and elimination of torture through work with NRCAT, especially in prisons.

Mike & Carmen Kelly, Paul & Kathleen Helbling presented a workshop on the complex issues of justice for immigrants in our country and efforts to change immigration laws, and to suggest how Friends might respond to concerns about these issues. Their workshop, including a video about our southern borders, was held on Saturday at 3:30 pm.

Our concern about peace in Israel/Palestine is long-standing and we continue with a particular request this year. Anne Remley, from Ann Arbor Monthly Meeting, presented an appeal to the Yearly Meeting to think about boycott as the next step we might take in the work. A minute was agreed to:

“A key step towards stability and safety for both Israelis and Palestinians depends on a just agreement regarding the Palestinian lands that Israel has occupied, illegally, according to international law, since 1967. Therefore, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting calls for Friends everywhere to join the boycott of products made in Israel's illegal West Bank settlements and to divest from companies that support Israel's military occupation and repression of the Palestinian people. We join with American Friends Service Committee, Britain Yearly Meeting, Monthly Meetings, and religious and civil society organizations throughout the world in taking such steps in working for peace.”

This minute will be sent to all our LEYM Meetings, with a request that they distribute it widely to other organizations, our legislators and the media.

David Culp, the FCNL Legislative Representative and Nuclear Weapons Lobbyist, brought us good news about the fiscal stability and general health of FCNL, and asked us to work particularly on an effort to eliminate the B61 Nuclear Bomb.

Marcy Kaptur, Ohio Representative, is now a ranking member of Congress, working on the budget. Senator Carl Levin, as Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, needs our attention as he leans toward going

to war in Syria. It's clear that many members of Congress are tired of war – but during the next 4 years we're going to be stuck with a dysfunctional Congress. Nevertheless, Congress is going to keep making decisions and we need to continue to try and influence them. Letters to the editor and direct email messages are important ways to make our views known.

Kathleen Peabody brought information from the National Religious Campaign Against Torture.

### *Saturday afternoon session*

#### **YM13 – 29 Worship**

The session opened at the appointed time with waiting worship

#### **YM13 – 30 Naming Committee**

Nancy Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported as clerk of the Naming Committee consisting of herself and Seth Reichenbach (North Columbus). Michael Fuson (Granville) and Abbey Pratt-Harrington (Athens) were brought forward and **approved** as new members of the Nominating Committee.

#### **YM13 – 31 Friends Committee on National Legislation**

David Culp (FCNL visitor) reported on the status and recent activities of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). David reported that FCNL is in good financial shape and that it has a new Executive Secretary, Diane Randall. In spite of a dysfunctional Congress there have been significant accomplishments and there is a need to continue to work on issues. Congress is making decisions, but it is slow and requires persistence on the part of those lobbying. In his role as Legislative Representative, he encouraged people to email short, concise letters to their members of Congress. Anything more elaborate will be of no use. He encouraged people to contact Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Ohio (Senior member on the Appropriations Committee), who is a very influential member of Congress. He also encouraged members to contact Senator Carl Levin, Michigan (Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee), about Syria. Levin seems to want to go to war in Syria and we need to convince him otherwise. Finally, he reminded those present to write letters to the editor of their local newspaper about issues of concern. Letters to the editor are very effective when a member of congress is named in them.

#### **YM13 – 32 Earthcare Committee**

Valerie Groszmann (Kalamazoo) reported for the Earthcare Committee.

Valerie reported that the committee is planning an Earthcare consultation to take place in 2014-2015. The report included a summary of a recent Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) gathering in Boulder, Colorado. The full report follows:

Greetings from the Earthcare Committee! We've been meeting via skype from Earlham and Greenfire and Sylvania this year, selecting our workshop topic and planning it. After working on developing our understanding of such language as bioregions and watersheds, detouring into rural and urban gardening, and last year into fracking, we decided it was time to lay some groundwork for how we move into working together to develop communities that are transitioning into being more resilient in the face of accelerating climate change. We think we have an important and stimulating workshop being presented on grace, resilience, learning from nature's designs, and organizing cooperatives to help us toward more earth-sensitive ways to live together.

Meanwhile, we are reassessing our responsibilities to LEYM, and reviewing how we might better meet these. We are looking at other ways of sharing information and encouraging each other besides through workshops. We are excited to have Jim Crowfoot back with our committee, and are planning meetings to work on some of our ideas. Stay tuned!

In the interests of time, we are including in this report a few highlights of the QEW Steering Committee which met in Boulder Colorado June 27-30, as reported by Tom Small. Shelley Tanenbaum was named General Secretary after Anne Mitchell's term finishes in January. Many of the reports and concerns centered on visions of the future. The visions shared by Friends included "the great unraveling," a call for local



adaptation emphasizing arts, crafts, and celebrations; calls for transformation, inner intentionality and adaptation to inevitable change.

Shelley Tanenbaum cited a concern for QEW outreach to Young Friends, particularly support for annual Young Adult Friends workshops at Pendle Hill and a call for Quaker divestment from fossil fuels. Anne Mitchell shared concern for strengthening spiritual support and communication with other faiths and organizations for QEW's members, and the need for QEW to be more engaged with Canadian Friends and Canadian issues.

The Earthcare Committee urges Friends to look up the QEW web site for an impressive and heartwarming PowerPoint program reporting on projects QEW funded with minigrants in 2012, and for the "Five Principles" reaffirmed by QEW at this session.

The QEW Steering Committee also approved a statement to be submitted to the International NGO liaison office of the UN. It begins "Rather than prescribing courses of action, Quakers have found it worthwhile to ask themselves queries" and follows by listing queries based on these four queries: "Do our lives speak?" "Do we respect that of God in everything that lives?" "Do we live in the virtue of that life and power which takes away the occasion for all war?" and "Do we actively work to reduce our ecological footprints?" The next Steering Committee meeting will be in Chicago, Oct. 3-6. The theme of the meeting will be Climate Change and its relation to population.

Respectfully submitted by  
Judy Greenberg (Broadmead), Earthcare Committee Clerk and  
Al Connor (Ann Arbor), QEW Representative

### **YM13 – 33 Children and Youth Committee**

Carla Pratt-Harrington (Athens) reported for the Children and Youth Committee. Carla reported that the program is going very well this year, with 12 adults assisting and 29 enthusiastic participants. The full report follows:

We started our program with all the needed adult support. Often in the past we have needed to find more leaders or group children in larger groups to make the program work. A special thank you to all in stepping up to this challenge and we ask that adults continue to be open to the chance to be with the young people in the future as we look to next year.

Children have briefly explored the theme of Growing in Grace as they have enjoyed activities together. These activities included: hiking, tree climbing, stroller riding, videotaping, and pooh sticks. There has been a spontaneous craft store started on the first floor of Ramseyer lobby and has moved some of their interesting product to the book store area. Yes you can make purchases of this growing venture. They decided the sale was to raise funds for the youth program. This has been completely created, organized, and operated by the upper elementary and middle school children.

As often happens during yearly meeting some very special friendships are being formed. It is particularly wonderful to see some of the middle school children enjoy playing with, caring for and mentoring younger folks. As always this is in addition to renewing and deepening old friendships.

We have 29 children participating this year between the ages of 20 months and 18 years. This program is being staffed with 12 adults and extra adult volunteers to chaperone swimming and bowling in the afternoons.

Submitted by Carla Pratt-Harrington & Conleth Crotser

### **YM13 – 34 Travel Expenses and Budget**

Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor) reported as clerk of the Finance Committee. Jeff brought back two items from the previous session (YM13 – 22). The first is reworded text regarding extraordinary travel expenses. The following wording was **approved**:

For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting relating to Quaker work, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee

clerks, and other members of the Finance committee may be consulted as needed.

He also presented a revised proposed **budget**, with a contribution level set at \$40 per member. This budget was **approved**. The full budget follows the end of these minutes of annual sessions.

#### **YM13 – 35 Friends School in Detroit**

Julie Poll (Birmingham) reported on Friends School in Detroit (FSD) for herself, Joe Mills (Kalamazoo), and Mary Takahashi (Pine River), who are all currently serving as members of the school's Board. Julie reported that the school now has two people acting as co-heads. There are five significant challenges that face the school immediately. The school's supporters are working to come up with a strategic plan to keep the school open. The school's board plans to reassess the Fall opening of the school within the next two weeks. Changes in the relationship between Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting and FSD are being considered.

#### **YM13 – 36 Friends World Committee for Consultation**

Jana Norlin (Grand Rapids) reported on the representatives' meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Section of the Americas, held in Morgantown, Indiana in March. The theme of the Conference was "Let the Living Water Flow! Friends Serving God's Purposes," which was based on the 2012 World Conference held in Kenya. The next Section of the Americas meeting will take place in March, 2015 at a location to be determined. Other FWCC activities are also scheduled and people are encouraged to go to the FWCC website and see if they are eligible to participate in any of them. It was noted that many of these activities do not require that participants represent a meeting in order to participate. There is an LEYM fund to assist youth in participating in these types of activities. Jana expressed her deep thanks for the opportunity to serve on FWCC.

#### **YM13 – 37 Nominating Slate**

Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported as clerk of the **Nominating Committee**. A slate of nominees for the coming terms was presented and **approved**. Additional names may still be brought forward to fill remaining vacant slots at a later session.

#### **YM13 – 38 Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting**

Marvin Barnes (Birmingham) reported as clerk of Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting (GPQM). Marvin started by reminding the yearly meeting that GPQM is the only quarterly meeting in the yearly meeting and encouraged other meetings to consider forming a quarterly meeting. The recent Mid-Winter Gathering held in Ann Arbor was very well attended. He outlined the various challenges that face the Quarterly Meeting. Marvin gave particular attention to the situation faced by Friends School in Detroit. The school is in a difficult financial situation and its relationship to GPQM is uncertain. The school is facing decisions in the near future as to whether to sell the school building and whether to open in the Fall.

#### *Sunday morning session*

#### **YM13 – 39 Worship**

The session opened at the appointed time with waiting worship.

#### **YM13 – 40 Ad Hoc Service Committee**

Nancy Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported for the Ad Hoc Service Committee. Fifty people returned surveys on the service project questions. She summarized the results and comments, which were quite positive. The Clerk called for those interested in assisting in planning future service projects to contact Sally Weaver Sommer, the incoming Yearly Meeting Clerk. The full report follows:

Results of the Work Camp Survey, conducted at LEYM sessions, July 2013:

58 agree to some form of service; 0 disagree; 1 "not sure"

- 53 agree YM should support the work camp financially; 4 disagree; 1 “not sure”  
19 would consider participation in a 4-day work camp in Detroit  
37 would consider participation in a 1-day work camp in Lima  
7 “other”:  
a. 1-2 days separate from YM time  
b. 4-day work camp for younger Friends; 1-day for older  
c. weekend work camp at different time  
d. 1 to 2 day in Detroit  
e. I would prefer a different time than Annual Meeting

#### Location

*Comments:* “I do not know what form a work camp in Detroit might take, or what role I might play, but I do know Detroit needs help. I live nearby, and perhaps as a retired person who still has some energy, I could be of some use.”

“We should think about an on-going relationship with our partners rather than a one-shot project.”

“I’d love to see work in Detroit coupled with some info/background efforts to revive .... perhaps even some study/reading about systemic inequity. I’m finding reading about Detroit’s bankruptcy extremely enlightening. And I think it might help overcome a sense of outsiders descending to help unfortunates.”

“Friends School in Detroit workshop to help clean it up!”

“A four-day work camp in Friends School in Detroit mainly around the school and on the play area in August.”

“Probably would not travel to Detroit just for work camp – only (do it) in conjunction with Yearly Meeting.”

“Let’s repeat the Lima model as a means of building the experience base for these service days.”

#### Time & age

*Comments:* “A weekend work camp at a different time.”

“Is there some way to be part of a 4-day work camp on a partial basis?”

“4-day for younger demographic; 1-day for older demographics with limited energy and with health issues. Age is a factor. At my age and in my health, that would be the limit. And I see most in LEYM are gray-haired and aged. 4-day youth camp would work for the younger Quakers.”

“helpful to include kids – if possible”

“Children (especially teens) form bonds that are good for the long-term life of LEYM.”

“I would like to see more younger people involved, especially teens and mid-grade children.”

“1-2 days outside the scheduled yearly meeting.”

“one/two days in Detroit”

“Somehow including people of all ages is highly desirable/essential. Perhaps having co-sponsorship of at least 2 – 4 monthly meetings might help.”

“Children would be a great addition, but age appropriate only.”

“If this happens, it should not be before LEYM. Two days – possibly in DETROIT.”

“Maybe every two years. One or two days with migrant worker families.”

“2-3 day work camp or service project, separate from Annual Meeting. Too many days of LEYM or work camp is challenging time wise.”

“Sounds too long if it’s all day/every day of physical labor. There is some value in building community that way, but you arrive a little tired and dusty for Exec. or committee work. Consider a 2 day (2.5?) with some work and some learning experience. (Can you tell that my aging body fears I wouldn’t keep up?) My back appreciates a real bed – thanks for the campus accommodations. A variety of tasks to suit different abilities was a good choice.”

“I think this could be a good opportunity for youth.”

“We could also do service work in other locations in the future, like Detroit. Perhaps connect with the network that has grown around Detroit Summer.

#### Organizer

*Comments:* “Should be a volunteer organizer”

“Concern about paying a coordinator if he/she is a Quaker. Volunteer effort.”

“I would be glad to help with consulting/exploring options/ organizing. In addition, I would like to consider options for teen service.”

#### Expense

*Comments:* YM could “help defray expenses of participants who need it.”

“I would like to participate in something like this with my family, but the expense is a barrier for us. I would like to see opportunities where whole families could participate (maybe include child care for very young kids).”

“I think participants should pay their own way – scholarship for those who need (it).”

“The food cost for the one proposal was too high, exp. since workers would be preparing. Coordinator should be volunteer, not paid.”

“... reviewed annually and funding should be on a sliding scale. Some Friends have little to give except their labor.”

#### Other comments

“For those who are unable to attend a work camp, could they bring in cans – fruit without sugar or other things edible by diabetics?”

“If doing a soup kitchen, could our group be the only volunteers for the day?”

“What are other FGC annual meetings doing with work camps? What are other Quaker organizations doing presently in terms of work camps – e.g. Wm. Penn House in DC? FUM? Quaker schools, colleges? Do any of LEYM’s monthly meetings and worship groups have ongoing work/service projects, etc.; or single date(s) service projects? Can we learn from any such activities?”

“I really believe that service work is about creating community among members of LEYM. I think doing work in Lima would allow more people to be involved and have that experience.”

“It is important for Quakers to be involved in service.”

“I have valued my experiences organizing and/or participating in work camps and other service projects. Unfortunately my health currently precludes participation now. I have seen the impact that direct-service, which includes cooperative interaction with the served, has. Yes!”

“I would be willing to participate in planning/execution of either, but lack of physical stamina curtails much physical work. I believe that having a ministry together is a wonderful thing for any Meeting, whether Monthly or Yearly.”

“incorporation of worship, developing spirituality, etc., sponsorship, means for participants to finance themselves, organization/administration, etc.”

“Children would be a great addition, but age appropriate only.”

“Is there something we can do that uses **our** skills? (I don’t know what.)”

“For some of us four days of meetings plus a long work day is pretty taxing. This is another argument for quarterly meetings – more association and opportunity for a work day closer to home. (Quarterly work day in addition to, not instead of, LEYM efforts.)”

#### **YM13 – 41 Nominating Committee**

Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported as clerk of the Nominating Committee. Thomas brought forward Phil Clampitt (Birmingham) for membership on the Earthcare Committee. This was **approved**. Thomas thanked all members who have served on committees, but in particular wanted to acknowledge the

service of outgoing and long-serving Clerks: Rosemary Coffey (Pittsburgh), Publications & Archives; Clémence Ravaçon Mershon (Erie Worship Group), Adult & Family Program; Carla Pratt-Harrington (Athens), Youth Program Committee; and Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor), Yearly Meeting Clerk.

#### **YM13 – 42 Arrangements & Site**

Jon Sommer (Broadmead) reported as clerk of the Arrangements & Site Committee. Jon reported that 157 Friends attended the Annual Sessions this year, of which 27 were children. Seventeen of the children were 13 years of age or under and ten were 14 years of age and over. [Numbers have been corrected by the registrar.] The 2014 Annual Sessions will be held at Bluffton University on July 24 -27. The report was accepted.

#### **YM13 – 43 Traveling Minute for Merry Stanford**

Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer read a proposed Traveling Minute for Merry Stanford (Red Cedar). This was **approved**. The minute follows:

Dear Friends,

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting sends its love and greetings to you with this travel minute for Merry Stanford of Red Cedar Monthly Meeting (Lansing).

Red Cedar Friends Meeting has discerned that Merry has a Spirit-led call to visit monthly meetings for the purpose of worship, listening, and sharing the spiritual practice of Quaker dialogue, and has provided her with a traveling minute for that purpose. During our annual sessions in July 2013, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting united with Red Cedar Monthly Meeting in recognizing Merry Stanford's gifts of ministry and nurturing service through listening. This letter indicates our support for her leading to visit Friends in Lake Erie Yearly Meeting.

Merry has participated in Lake Erie Yearly Meeting for decades, giving of herself in faithful service in many ways, including serving as our presiding clerk from 2008 to 2010, and earlier clerking our Ministry and Nurture Committee. She has also served for a long time on the Central Committee for Friends General Conference, including serving as Clerk of its Development Committee.

We are excited by the prospect of the fruit that may come from Merry's travels this year, and look forward to hearing about her time with you.

#### **YM13 – 44 Yearly Meeting Epistle**

Aran Reinhart (Broadmead) of the Epistle Committee read the Yearly Meeting Epistle. After a few changes were accepted, the Epistle was **approved**. The full, corrected Epistle follows:

July 28, 2013

To Friends Everywhere:

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting gathered in Bluffton, Ohio, July 25-28, 2013. We celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the theme "Growing in Grace," by sharing stories of our past and beginning to envision our future. Throughout the weekend, we shared the stories of those who have gone before us. These stories of Friends' lives and faith strengthened our own as we considered how to live our faith more fully.

At our annual Memorial Meeting for Worship we held in the Light the inspiring lives of a number of Friends who died in the previous year. Their faithfulness and unique gifts helped build a yearly meeting community that continues to nourish us. We learned

sobering things about the wartime experiences of these Friends that we had wished we had known while they still lived.

We gathered in a plenary session to hear the stories of four of our members who lifted up the history of our yearly meeting from the perspectives of a young adult Friend who grew up in the yearly meeting, a Friend who has anchored the children's program for 19 years, a former clerk who helped found the yearly meeting, and a former clerk who led the Meeting through a divisive and tender issue. Each of them spoke in their own way about our blessed community, the "village of becoming" that is Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. They reminded us of some precious stories, among them:

The child who sat inside the chalk drawing of the whale, during the story of Jonah and the Whale, and replied when asked what he thought the story was about, that "Jonah didn't do what God said to do so he got put in time out."

The time, while we were still meeting at Olney Friends School, when a group of our children bounded joyously up to a silent, Conservative meeting for worship singing "This Little Light of Mine," and were met with glorious smiles.

And a Friend's reminder that "...at the end of the day we appreciate and accept each other. We try to work through our issues in a loving way. And I can't think of a more beautiful form of Grace."

Following the plenary, we had an experience with yarn that our clerk thought would help us experience our connectedness while walking in an orderly fashion to the next activity. Instead, the yarn was messy, tangled, and difficult to walk with, a metaphor for our life together. But everyone cooperated well and stuck with it, in spite of its difficulty. We were faithful to the journey. And we had fun doing it! We eventually worked our way to the dining room where we discovered an awesome and inspiring 18 foot long timeline illustrating highlights from our 50 year history. Hanging above the timeline were a dozen tee shirts made by the youth over the years, each illustrating a theme of LEYM's annual sessions or one of the youth retreats.

The celebration of our community includes identification with the communities in which we live and with communities around the world. During our annual sessions we received a report from the eighteen participants of LEYM's first work camp. The group shared their experiences working in a Habitat for Humanity Restore and a soup kitchen in Lima, Ohio, a distressed city twenty miles from Bluffton. Members of the yearly meeting expressed their desire to incorporate service experiences into the life of our yearly meeting on a regular basis.

We were led to express our concern for the suffering of Israeli, Palestinian, and other indigenous people due to the illegal Israeli occupation of lands in the West Bank. Please see the attached minute, approved in our Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

We have also been sadly aware of the challenges faced by Indiana Yearly Meeting and Friends School in Detroit. We hold all those affected in Love and Hope as they face these challenges.

Our meeting united to offer a traveling ministry to our monthly meetings and worship groups that is focused on authentic speaking and tender listening, lifting up hope,

encouraging faithfulness, and testifying to the transformative power of the gathered meeting. We look forward to stronger bonds of connection among us, and the fruits that will be harvested from this ministry.

Over the course of our time together, our hearts were lightened, our souls refreshed, and our spirits exercised. As we share this portion of the story of our “crucible of community,” we pray that your spirits will be tendered and nourished, that your stories will be remembered and will inspire, and that the Spirit of Love and Light may weave the tapestry of our religious society more closely together, drawing us into a greater unity.

On behalf of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting,

Peggy Daub, Clerk

### **YM13 – 45 Children’s Epistles**

1) The **Pre-School Epistle** was presented and accepted. Thanks were given to Ellen Barnes (Birmingham) and Charlie Burnett (Athens) for all their work with the Pre-School children. The epistle follows:

This is the ABC's of what we did:

A is for the ants we found on the sidewalk.

B is for the bridges over the brook, and all of the birds we saw, both big ones and small.

C is for the sidewalk chalk, the crafts, and the creek.

D is for drumming with sticks on the big rocks.

E is for the exploring we did.

F is for all the fun we had.

G is for the grapes we had for snacks.

H is for the hot dogs we had with the grapes.

I is for all the inside toys.

J is for jumping.

K is for the kitten in one of the books.

L is for laughing at the bubbles in the creek.

M is for the marching band that we watched.

N is for naps.

O is for the great outdoors.

P is for the pink visor that kept the sun out of our eyes.

Q is for the quilt in a book we enjoyed.

R is for the rocks that we climbed and danced on.

S is for our stroller that held two.

T is for the turkey vultures all roosting in a tree.

U is for the umbrellas that we did not need.

V is for the visors that made good hats.

W is for the water in the creek. We could watch it all day.

X is for the xylophones we heard the band students play.

Y is for the yellow raincoat that kept us dry.

Z is for the zebra in a book about the zoo.

2) The **Upper Elementary** group shared a song and reported on their activities during the sessions. Thanks were given to Peter Crowley (Cleveland) and Timothy Damon (Cleveland) for all their work with the children.

3) The **Early Elementary Group** report was presented and accepted. Thanks were given to Kate Spry (Cleveland) and Ellerie Brownfain (Birmingham) for all their work with the Early Elementary children.

4) The **Middle School Group** Epistle was presented and accepted. Thanks were given to Diane Mott

(Broadmead) and Mary Takahashi (Pine River) for all their work with the Middle School Group. The epistle follows:

To Young Friends Everywhere:

We are the LEYM Middle School Group of 2013. We are the epitome of awesomeness. We are great friends. This weekend we had an art and crafts store. We raised \$62. One-half of the money will go to Detroit Friends School, grades 5 to 8. The other half of the money will go to LEYM.

Hiroko Koibuchi was our guest. She taught us how to make origami magic carpets, candy boxes, and acrobatic horses. She donated origami flowers for us to make a 50-year poster for LEYM. We also made a poster about what LEYM means to us. Unfortunately, the poster experienced weather-related difficulties as we walked to Marbeck in the rain. Note for next year: bring waterproof poster board.

We also played soccer with the younger children and sang songs with Steve. We ate a lot of ice cream. We had fun!

Peace to the World,

Norma, Brianna, Alex, Jonah, Skylar, Samantha, Rosa, Mary & Diane

5) The **High School Group video Epistle** was presented and accepted. Thanks were given to Marvin Barnes (Birmingham) and Michael Fuson (Granville) for all their work with the High School Group.

Conleth Crotser (Cleveland) thanked Carla-Pratt Harrington (Athens) for all her work in clerking the committee this past year.

#### **YM13 – 46 Minute of Appreciation**

Assistant Clerk Sally Weaver Sommer read a minute of appreciation to Bluffton University. The following minute was **approved**:

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting appreciates the hospitality extended to us by Bluffton University. The attentive staff, the excellent facilities and the luscious green campus provide us everything we need for our spirit filled annual gatherings. We especially appreciated this year the attention to the special dietary needs of attendees. Thank you very much.

The Annual Sessions closed for the year.

Submitted by:

Peter Dale, Recording Clerk

Peggy Daub, Presiding Clerk



*Treasurer's Report*

**BALANCE SHEET**

	<b>CASH ASSETS</b>		<b>Change in value 2012-current</b>
	<b>06/30/12</b>	<b>06/30/13</b>	
<b>Balance adjusted to last day of year</b>			
<b>Lorain Bank Checking Account</b>			
End Balance	18,156.49		
Outstanding checks	1,129.32		
Outstanding deposits	-		
Actual balance (now CNB, Bluffton)	17,027.17	16,255.92	(771.25)
Urban Partnership Bank CD 686108009	6,010.60	-	(6,010.60)
Urban Partnership Bank CD 4003416	7,734.52	-	(7,734.52)
Urban Partnership Bank CD 4003424	7,574.86	-	(7,574.86)
FriendsFiduciary2acct		23,342.72	23,342.72
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>	<b>38,347.15</b>	<b>39,598.64</b>	1,251.49
<b>Allocation of Assets</b>			
<b>General Fund**</b>	12,833.97	15,797.49	2,963.52
<b>Granville Youth Fund (ex-CD 686108009 )</b>	6,010.60	6,403.91	393.31
<b>Annual Meeting Fund</b>	2,416.47	371.33	(2,045.14)
<b>Youth Activities Fund</b>	8,615.27	7,584.58	(1,030.69)
<b>High School Youth Fund</b>	2,102.98	2,982.50	879.52
<b>Spiritual Formation Fund</b>	3,084.35	2,175.32	(909.03)
<b>FWCC Travel Fund</b>	139.83	1,139.83	1,000.00
<b>Consultation Fund</b>	3,143.68	3,143.68	0.00
<b>Ministry Scholarship Fund</b>	-	-	0.00
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>38,347.15</b>	<b>39,598.64</b>	1,251.49

\*\* Unaccounted assets in bank have been added to General Fund. Balance on 2011 report was listed as \$7877.66.

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING MINUTES  
ANNUAL SESSIONS 2013

**LEYM BUDGET 2013 - 2014**

General Fund Expenses (* = transfers)	FY 2012 -2013		FY 2013-2014	
	Actual 12/13	Budget 12-13	Budget	12-13 Budget - 13-14 Budget
Travel	3,972.64	6,000.00	<b>5,000.00</b>	-1,000.00
Office	18.00	100.00	<b>50.00</b>	-50.00
Contract worker	1,313.29	2,040.00	<b>2,040.00</b>	
Finance	229.75	210.00	<b>50.00</b>	-160.00
Publications	3,371.43	3,400.00	<b>3,200.00</b>	-200.00
Advancement	0.00	100.00	<b>600.00</b>	500.00
Ministry & Nurture	0.00	100.00	<b>300.00</b>	200.00
Clerk's Fund	27.00	300.00	<b>300.00</b>	
FGC	4,500.00	4,500.00	<b>4,500.00</b>	
Records project	0.00	100.00	<b>200.00</b>	100.00
FWCC Travel*	1,000.00	1,000.00	<b>1,200.00</b>	200.00
Youth Activity Fund*	1,000.00	1,000.00	<b>1,000.00</b>	
High School Youth Fund*	4,900.00	4,900.00	<b>6,000.00</b>	1,100.00
Spiritual Formation*	100.00	100.00	<b>100.00</b>	
Friends School in Detroit	4,500.00	4,500.00	<b>4,500.00</b>	
Olney Friends School	600.00	600.00	<b>600.00</b>	
Consultation Fund*	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>	
Scholarship Fund for ministry*	1,500.00	1,500.00	<b>1,000.00</b>	-500.00
Insurance	500.00		<b>500.00</b>	500.00
Misc.	-1,212.83		<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Total Expense =</b>	<b>26,319.28</b>	<b>30,450.00</b>	<b>31,140.00</b>	<b>690.00</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>29,543.00</b>		<b>29,000.00</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>			<b>250.00</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>29,543.00</b>		<b>29,250.00</b>	
<b>Actual Income - Act Expcne</b>	<b>3,223.72</b>	<b>Budget underfunded by \$1890**</b>		
<b>Total Expense / Members</b>		<b>\$40.60</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	
<b>Members</b>		<b>750</b>	<b>725</b>	
<b>Suggested contribution/member</b>		<b>40.00</b>	<b>40.00</b>	

\*\*Balance, if needed, to come from General Fund

## LEYM Officers, Committee Members & Representatives – 27 July 2013

### Nominating Committee Report

(Terms begin and end at rise of annual YM sessions.)

		<u>Year of Service</u>	<u>End Year</u>
<b>Officers</b>			
Presiding Clerk ^	Sally Weaver Sommer, Brdmead	2	2016
Assistant Clerk ^	Peggy Daub, Ann Arbor	5	2014
Recording Clerk ^	Peter Dale, Detroit	3	2014
Treasurer ^	Mike Hinshaw, Wooster	2	2014

(^ = serves on LEYM Executive Committee.)

### **Communications**

Bulletin Editor	Thomas Burnett, Athens	2	2014
Database Manager	Mathilda Navias, Broadmead	9	2014

(Note: Mathilda Navias, Broadmead, to be Webmaster as part of paid work.)

### **Committees:**

#### **Advancement & Outreach**

# of Members: 6

Years of Term: 3

Becky Morehouse, Ann Arbor	2	2016
Erika Smith, Ann Arbor	1	
Shelley Kotz, Broadmead	1	
Dolores Avner, Pittsburgh, Clerk ^	4	2015
Mike Holaday, Grand Rapids	2	
Seth Reichenbach, N. Columbus	5	2014

#### **Earthcare**

# of Members: 6

Years of Term: 3

Others interested are welcome to attend

Jim Crowfoot, Ann Arbor	1	2016
Phil Clampitt	1	
Shannon Pratt-Harrington, Athens	2	2015
Phil Balderston, Wooster	1	
Judy Greenberg, Broadmead, Clerk ^	6	2014
Valerie Groszmann, Kalamazoo	3	

#### **Finance**

# of Members: 3

Years of Term: 3

Treasurer serves ex officio

Steve Morehouse, Ann Arbor	4	2016
Bob Orr, Detroit	2	2015
Jeff Cooper, Ann Arbor, Clerk ^	3	2014

### **High School Teen Retreat Program**

# of Members:

3 adults with 3 year terms + 2 high schoolers with 2 year terms.

David Avner, Pittsburgh	1	2016
Joyce Balderston, Wooster	5	2015
Merry Stanford, Red Cedar, Clerk ^	3	2014
HS representative to be named by group	1	2014
HS representative to be named by group	1	2015

### **Ministry & Nurture**

# of Members: 6

Years of Term: 3+ 1 Rep. from each meeting encouraged

Flo Friender, Kalamazoo	1	2016
Paula Deming, Columbus, Clerk ^	4	
Margaret Walden, Detroit	2	2015
Pam Kuhn, Wooster	2	
Ruth Carey, Ann Arbor	1	2014
Carla Pratt-Harrington, Athens	1	

(and other representatives as appointed by local meetings)

### **Nominating**

# of Members: 6 (Appointed by YM thru Naming Committee)

Years of Term: 3

Abbey Pratt-Harrington, Athens	1	2016
Michael Fuson, Granville	1	
Ann Sprague, Detroit	5	2015
Linda Mills, Kalamazoo	2	
Thomas Taylor, Ann Arbor, Clerk ^	6	2014
Mathilda Navias, Broadmead	6	

### **Peace**

# of Members: 6

Years of Term: 3+1 Rep. from each meeting encouraged

David Snyder, Oberlin	4	2016
Kathleen Helbling, Broadmead	1	
Joyce Balderston, Wooster	1	2015
Kathleen Peabody, Ann Arbor	2	
Nancy Taylor, Ann Arbor, Clerk ^	6	2014
Mike Kelly, Detroit	3	

Paul Helbling, Broadmead MM rep

**Publications & Archives**

*# of Members: 4                      Years of Term: 3*  
*Webmaster & Bulletin Editor serve ex officio*

Emma Seif, Grand Rapids	1	2016
Leslie Walden, Detroit	1	
Joe Mills, Kalamazoo, Clerk ^	4	2015
Aran Reinhart, Broadmead	3	2014

**Yearly Meeting Planning:  
Arrangements & Site**

*# of Members: 6                      Years of Term: 3*

Jon Sommer, Broadmead, Clerk ^	10	2016
John Templin, Broadmead	4	
Susan Carpenter, Broadmead	2	2015
Donna Rodriguez, Broadmead	2	
Berch Carpenter, Broadmead	6	2014
	1	

**Adult & Family Program**

*# of Members: 6                      Years of Term: 3*

Claire Cohen, Pittsburgh	1	2016
Joel Ottenbreit, Detroit	1	
Janet Dando, Akron, Co-Clerk	5	2015
Valerie Vogel, Pittsburgh	5	
Dale Pratt-Harrington, Athens, Co-Clerk	1	2014
Kate Enger, Athens	3	

**Youth & Children's Program**

*# of Members: 12                      Years of Term: 2*

Conleth Crotser, Cleveland	Clerk ^	2014
Kate Spry, Cleveland	Assistant Clerk	2015
Employed student or YM vols.	Infants & Toddlers	
Ellen Barnes, Birmingham	Pre-school	2015
Charlie Burnett, Athens	Pre-school	2014
	Early elementary leader	2015
Ellerie Brownfain, Birmingham	Early elementary asst.	2014
Peter Crowley, Cleveland	Upper elementary leader	2015
Timothy Damon, Cleveland	Upper elementary asst.	2014
Diane Mott, Broadmead	Middle school leader	2014
Mary Takahashi, Pine River	Middle school asst.	2014
	High school	2015
Marvin Barnes, Birmingham	High school	2014

Available subs: Nancy Nagler, Pine River, et al.

Conleth Crotser, Cleveland	Fall retreat clerk
Peter Crowley, Cleveland	Fall retreat assistant

**LEYM Bookstore:** Valerie Groszmann, Kalamazoo 13

**Representatives to Other Quaker Organizations**

AFSC Corp	Seth Reichenbach, N. Columbus	3	2014
AFSC	Joann Neuroth, Red Cedar *	5	2015
AFSC	John Deikis, Ann Arbor	2	

(\* indicates clerk of that group of representatives)

FCNL Gen Brd	Nancy Taylor, Ann Arbor	4	2016
FCNL	Max Heirich, Ann Arbor	4	
FCNL	Kathleen Peabody, Ann Arbor *	5	2015
FCNL	Dottie Stratton, Wooster	2	
FCNL	Peter Dale, Detroit	3	2014
FCNL	Mike Kelly, Detroit	3	

FGC Cntl Cttee	Helen Hebben, Kalamazoo	1	2016
FGC	Paula Deming, Columbus	2	2015
FGC	Merry Stanford, Red Cedar *	2	2014

*(LEYM Reps appoint rep to FGC Executive Committee)*

FWCC	Mike Kelly, Detroit	1	2016
FWCC	Mike Hinshaw, Wooster	4	
FWCC	Jerry Knutson, Pittsburgh	5	2015
FWCC	Robb Yurisko, N. Columbus *	2	

Q Earthcare Witns	Judy Greenberg, Broadmead	1	
FLGBTQC	Robb Yurisko, N. Columbus	2	
Wm Penn House	Ellerie Brownfain, Birmingham	6	2014
Olney Friends School	Greg Mott, Broadmead	6	

**Visitors to neighboring yearly meetings**

Canadian YM		
EFI Eastern Region	Abbey Pratt-Harrington, Athens	2
Ohio YM	Paula Deming, Columbus	2
Ohio Valley YM	Paula Deming, Columbus	1
Wilmington YM	Al Connor, Ann Arbor	5