



Tending the garden . . .

## Tending the Garden

**Clerk's Message** by Don Nagler, LEYM Clerk, Pine River

Kent and Akron Meetings hosted the Representative Meeting in Kent, Ohio. The sixty-five Friends who attended found a joyous welcoming atmosphere. Representatives especially appreciated the opportunity to share homes of local Friends and the noon meal and fellowship. There was deep worship and mutual Friendly relationship and humor that carried through the business, in spite of temporal restrictions and occasional bounces over gritty intellectual problems. Good preparation was laid for the business session of the annual LEYM gathering.

**Feeds Our Souls.** I would like to remind Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting of the importance of these gatherings to the Life of our Religious Society of Friends. These are times of business infused with worship, and also periods of

sharing friendship and celebration of each other, our heritage and faith. Since early in our history, they have been recognized in our discipline as germinal to our individual and group discernment and vitality. This kind of experience with each other and the group feeds our souls.

**Cross Pollinization.** Deborah Fisch, in the June, 1999 issue of *Friends Journal*, wrote an article entitled, "Time to Tend the Garden?". She compared the careful attentive process, enduring over the years, that is required to grow a flourishing redolent flower garden to that required of Friends' meetings and individuals in relationship; the NECESSITY for intervisitation between meetings and attendance at quarterly, yearly and other meetings in order to support the life of

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Individual Will, Corporate Worship, Corporate Decision-Making: Annual Meeting

This year's theme concerns itself with the relationship of the individual to the corporate body of Friends and the tensions between the two. Workshops will examine decision-making, membership, expectations, loss.

As you note from the proposal

published in this *Bulletin* the Program Committee has been struggling with time and requests for free time and the lack of time for those individuals and groups who pursue spiritual disciplines. The program committee, individually and collec-

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# Clerk's Message

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the Society.

Martin Buber said, "All real living is meeting"; a mantra for relationship to God, others and the world. Can you recall, as I can, experiences of intervisitation or other times when meetings were in some sense transformative; having a sense of newness and power. I hope for that in Bluffton this year.

Finally, give attention to the schedule outlined by the Program Committee, which allows more time for committee preparation and spiritual nurture. Also give careful thought to the Program Committee Clerk's Notes, both relative to this year's meeting and for the 2002 gathering planning.

**Info Needed.** Other yearly meetings, with more business than LEYM, have large pre-meeting packets of information and committee reports that are submitted some weeks before the annual gathering so that their business might proceed in more orderly fashion. That is not necessary for LEYM, but printed committee reports and information with multiple copies available again at our sessions this year will enhance our process, especially if they can be read before the business meeting. Please BRING copies of the *1996 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES* for use at Bluffton this year. Many were circulated at Representative Meeting and need to be used again in Bluffton.

Don Nagler, Clerk

**Clerk:** Don Nagler  
1360 Tomah Dr.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
(517) 772-2421  
[dfn@journey.com](mailto:dfn@journey.com)

**Recording Clerk:** Martha Grundy  
2602 Exeter Road  
Cleveland Hts, OH 44118  
(216) 932-2144  
[kwg@obsidian.ins.cwru.edu](mailto:kwg@obsidian.ins.cwru.edu)

**Bulletin Editor:** Eric Starbuck  
216 Myrtle Place  
Akron, OH 44303-2126  
(330) 374-0521  
[ericstarbuck@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ericstarbuck@worldnet.att.net)

**Assistant Clerk:** Janet Smith  
121 Cherry St.  
Perrysburg, OH 43551-1422  
(419) 874-6738  
[jesmith@glasscity.net](mailto:jesmith@glasscity.net)

**Treasurer:** Connie Bimber  
156 Kendal Dr.  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1907  
(440) 774-6175  
[randcbim@juno.com](mailto:randcbim@juno.com)

**Labels:** Susan Jeffers  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Bulletin Production Staff**  
Sandi Robison  
Rosalita Rowe  
Bruce Stull

## Simplicity

In your LEYM Bulletin just received is an article re War-Tax Resistance. Such tax long concerned me. I studied Friends various methods for facing this problem, and then devised my own. It has provided no backlash, and contributes to earth's sustainability. Interested?

My action has been to reduce my income to below poverty level, hence non-taxable. This has been easy because I'm a lone senior. But it does require preparation and simplification: First, and of prime importance, is to locate your home so that you can get about your community without a car. (A car costs \$6000 a year to own and use. Poverty level for one person is just above \$6000. Obviously, the car has to go.) I get about mostly on foot, daily, but sometimes (with groceries) on the bus.

Next . . . you have to own your own home outright. I planned and had built a solar-oriented, double-insulated space 14 X 16 on the outside. Walls are 8 inches thick. It has a tiny bathroom, double deep closet, and living area containing a bed-couch and kitchen cubby. This space belongs to me but reverts to my son when I die. In return he pays a small additional tax for this modest addition.

I pay my own utilities; I use very little heat (610 on thermostat, when sun isn't out), and very little electricity: my only appliances are a student-sized refrigerator, a hot plate, and a radio. "It's bigger than a tent, and warmer than a cave," I tell my guests. Here I am entirely self-sufficient and independent. I had to dispose of most of my furniture and belongings (a spade in that closet is all I have for garden work) and get my clothes second hand. My motto: "Stop buying! The more you have, the more is on your back." I walk to the grocery or food coop, with a list of basics, focus on just those, get to the check-out in 5 minutes (if I haven't met friends and chatted) and take the bus home. I give my chickens' eggs to those who give me rides to places I can't get on foot.

I need no insurance (except Medicare) because I stay healthy with all the walking. I have no investments (just a savings account) because I don't believe in using money to make money. I'm 79, get \$397 a month, some of which goes into that savings.

If poor foreigners coming here can live simply (in order to send their children to college) so can we . . . and thereby reduce our drain on earth's resources.

Marian Gyr

# Individual Will, Corporate Worship, Corporate Decision-Making Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

June 14-17 at Bluffton College

*(Continued from page 1)*

tively, has been aware of the increased pressure for business, the lack of time to season proposals, to hold disagreements in the Light. We also are aware of the positive response to many aspects of the programs that we want to keep.

We have tried to make changes that utilize all of the YM time as well as acknowledge our need for spiritual retreat during the day. Committee time has the same amount of time as last year (at the price of having to end the previous activities on time).

**Early Start.** You will probably notice some similarities to past years as well as changes. It appears that Bluffton can offer Thursday evening dinner starting at 5:30. Although this would add to the meal cost for those who wish to take advantage of it, in the past Friends who came in time for dinner would pay for dinner in the community anyway. Having dinner at the College would allow Friends more time for social interaction before the Yearly Meeting began. Business meetings have been scheduled in a way that attempts to allow consideration of issues over a period of time instead of being crammed into a day and a half. The first Business session will start 7:30 Thursday evening. Quaker and related organizations can hold sessions during the free time available on Saturday as well as reserve tables at lunch and dinner for discussion (I am bringing brightly colored card stock to YM for noticeable table top signs). The Program Committee is planning to place some sort of bulletin board in a central area so Friends can announce groups or tables of interest. If possible, with the Site Committee's help, we will identify a silent area or room for quiet meditation, reading or journaling.

In the past, Susan Jeffers has utilized the 6:30 AM time for Bible Study and it looks like she is willing to do this again. It does occur to the Program Committee that others would want to utilize the same time and I will be discussing the possibilities of having rooms available with the Site Committee.

**Committee Time.** One of the most troublesome issues our scheduling of the past two years has raised is the issue of Committee time. Many Committees have

found that the business of the Yearly Meeting needs to be done at times other than that available at the Representative and Yearly Meetings. As the schedule has become tighter and tighter the Committees have been urged to meet at other times and the Site and Program Committees have arranged places for other committees (who wish to do so) to meet the afternoon before YM begins. Also, committee meeting business may require more seasoning than can be done in one meeting prior to being brought to the floor of the Business Meeting. This means that committees may need to start such seasoning process before Yearly Meeting. This current schedule and recommendations are difficult for the Peace Committee as the committee has been meet-

ing with those who come to the Yearly and Representative Meetings and who wish to discuss issues.

**Committee Day.** One solution has been used by other YMs. This solution would have a committee day that met the day prior to YM. Another possibility would be to use another weekend in the fall to hold YM Committee meetings (hosted by a monthly meeting?). A third possibility has been utilized by LEYM Committees in the present and past - a committee can schedule a meeting at any time. This, of course, will not help those committees like the Peace Committee that depend on attenders at Representative and Yearly Meetings.

If the Yearly Meeting accepts the proposal then we would have to decide how to use the time given to us. The discussion of the proposal pointed towards a need for more committee time which could now be spread over a couple of days allowing for further seasoning of issues brought to them or referred back to them by the Presiding Clerk. Other possibilities include any of the things that have been left by the wayside as mentioned in the proposal.

My own hope is that the increased length of the Yearly Meeting session will not lead us to sacrifice spiritual nourishment and nurture to the desire to do everything.

Pat Campbell (Detroit)  
Adult and Family Program Committee

"The Program Committee has been struggling with time and requests for free time and the lack of time for those individuals and groups who pursue spiritual disciplines. "

# Individual Will, Corporate Worship, Corporate Decision-Making Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Registration

June 14-17 at Bluffton College

All Bluffton College charges except fees for linens are graduated: Adults (age 13 and older) pay full rates; children (ages 3-12) pay reduced rates for lodging and meals. Toddlers (age 2 and younger) are charged only for linens.

LODGING	Air-Cond.	No-AC	AC-Child*	No-AC Child*	Toddler
Single bed, per night, facilit.	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 6.00	Free
Linen charge, one-time	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50
Sleeping bag on the floor	\$ 19.50	\$ 14.50	\$ 10.75	\$ 5.75	Free

**LODGING:** Rooms are available in air-conditioned and handicapped accessible dormitories and in non-air-conditioned dormitories. Separate dormitory for high school boys and girls will be available.

Linen is optional. Blankets and pillows are not included. If you bring your own linen to the dorm, include towels and washcloth. We suggest that you bring coat hangers, fan, reading lamps, soap, and paper cups for your room. There is a \$1 deposit for dorm room keys. Total cost for a lost key card is \$10 so be careful.

Phone number at Marbeck Center in case of emergency: (419) 358-3216 or (419) 358-3000 after hours.

Camping is available on campus. RVs and trailers can park on the parking lot at Bren-Dell Hall but there are no hook-ups. Tenters can pitch their tents on a grassy area behind the dorm. Bathroom and showers in the dorm may be used by campers. Costs will be \$8.00 per adult per night and \$4.00 per night for children. This fee includes facility charges.

Those commuting to the meeting will be charged a \$3.00-a-day facilities fee.

**MEALS:** Meals are charged individually. See the table.

Meals start with Thursday supper and end with Sunday lunch. Vegetarian meals are available. If people have severe food allergies or diet restrictions, they probably should bring their own food and note same on their registration.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** Registration fees are \$31 for adults (18 and over) and \$6 for children (but no more than \$18 for all children in one family). Registration fee jumps to \$41 per adult if postmarked after May 22. Any donations in addition to basic registration fees are used for scholarships.

**REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN:** Registrations for the Children's Program must be postmarked no later than May 9. Any children not registered by

MEALS	Adult	Child (3-12)	Toddler
Breakfast (Fri., Sat., Sun.)	\$ 4.25	\$ 2.25	Free
Lunch (Fri. Sat., Sun.)	\$ 5.25	\$ 2.75	Free
Supper (Thurs., Fri., Sat.)	\$ 6.50	\$ 3.50	Free
One Day's Meals	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.50	Free
All Meals (9)	\$ 41.50	\$ 22.00	Free

May 9 will be the complete responsibility of their parents and will not participate in the youth and children program. See Representative Meeting Minute RM 2000-14 and Registration form in the Insert.

**Blankets and Pillows are NOT provided. Bring some!**

**ASSISTANCE:** We don't want Friends to stay away because of finances. If your own Meeting cannot help with your costs, please contact Sally Weaver Sommer, 118 S. Sprint St., Bluffton, OH 45817 (419) 358-0950, for information on financial help. The LEYM gathering has much to offer; please don't stay away! We will have ample scholarship funds available that must not grow stale for lack of use!

**BLUFFTON:** Bluffton has other things to offer: a Chinese restaurant and The Grill Restaurant are on Main Street. McDonald's, Subway, KFC, Taco Bell, and Arby's are at St. Rt. 103 and I-75. Golf and swimming are available for a fee. Don't miss the Food Store (health foods and a cafe) owned by members of the Broadmead Meeting, and the EtCetera Shop, a Mennonite self-help store with exotic wares. Bluffton College has a self-guided artist tour and a beautiful nature preserve. All athletic facilities are open to us.

Japanese Senryu  
Quaker silence:  
Its healing balm  
Soothes my soul  
Marie Cotton, Sidney Worship Group

# Individual Will, Corporate Worship, Corporate Decision-Making Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Registration

June 14-17 at Bluffton College

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(and how to fill out the insert form)

Please list family name and first names and ages of all persons, oldest first. When a person's age defines "child," please be sure to apply children's rates to charges. When age falls in the toddler range, simply enter a dash in the charge space. In the LODGING section, please put a check mark under each night that you're staying. Indicate where you "stay at" as follows:

AC—Air-Cond. Dormitory

D—Non-A/C Dormitory

C—Camping

In the MEALS section, please put an "X" under the meals that you plan to eat. Put the total cost figure where indicated; use child rate where applicable. List registration fee per adult 18 years or older. Sum the entries for room, food, and registration charges in the right-hand column marked "TOTAL." Add this column to get the Grand Total. Please indicate how much you're paying with pre-registration, and how much you'll pay at registration. Please indicate special needs. If there are none indicated, we'll assume that you are not a vegetarian. If you come as a single person, we'll assign you a roommate as close to your age as we can.

The consent form on the back of the registration form must be filled out for all children attending LEYM. Mail completed registration forms to:

Sally Weaver Sommer, 118 S. Spring St.,  
Bluffton, OH 45817 (419) 358-0950

Pre-registration (postmarked by May 22, 2001) benefits you by giving you hassle-free registration at Bluffton; all your materials are pre-collected and handed to you upon arrival. You also avoid the \$10 increase in registration fee that occurs after that date. The registration table opens at 3 PM on Thursday, June 14, at Marbeck Center.

Jon Sommer (Broadmead)  
Arrangements and Site Committee

We rail at trade, but the historian of the world will see that it was the principle of liberty; that it settled America, and destroyed feudalism, and made peace and keeps peace, and that it will abolish slavery.  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

**REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN:** Registration forms for all families, guardians or sponsors with children must be post-marked by May 9th! NO late registrations. NO phone registrations. NO on-site registrations will be accepted! NO EXCEPTIONS! (See explanation in the Youth and Children Program section on page 8 of this *Bulletin*.)

**YOUTH AND CHILDREN PROGRAM:** There will be five age groups this year. The divisions are based on the grade in school your child will be entering *this coming fall*. They are as follows: pre-school (Kindergarten & under), lower elementary (1st-3rd), upper elementary (4th-6th), middle school (7th & 8th) and high school (9th-12th). Activities will reflect the theme for LEYM as well as our Quaker Testimonies. All participants will receive a LEYM T-shirt for easy identification. (We ask that the children wear these T-shirts during Yearly Meeting to make it easy to distinguish our children from others that might be on the campus at the same time.) The size choices for these T-shirts are listed on the Parent-Guardian Consent Form found on the back of the Registration Form. This consent form must be filled out for ALL children attending LEYM. (Make copies as needed if more than one child is attending.)

Gretchen and Garrett Dixon, Co-clerks(Pittsburgh)  
Youth and Children Program

### Sixtieth Anniversary

Joe and Claire Davis will be celebrating their 60th anniversary the first day of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting: June 14, 2001. Not only have they managed to stay together for 60 years, all their wedding attendants are

### Educating About Differences

Green Circle is a program that began as an African-American Quaker woman's response to racism. They offer various materials for children, teens, and adults. At the Friends General Conference week-long Gathering this year, a workshop will be offered to give us the information we would need to begin facilitating such a program in our own meetings.

Or you may contact: Green Circle, 1300 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, 215-893-8400,  
[NTLGCP@AOL.com](mailto:NTLGCP@AOL.com)

Star Mary Castro (Athens)  
Advancement and Outreach Committee

# Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

June 14 –17 2001 at Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio

INDIVIDUAL WILL/CORPORATE WORSHIP/CORPORATE DECISIONMAKING

Thursday, 6/14

2:00-Dinner Committee meetings as requested  
3:00-10:00 Registration - Lounge above Kiva  
5:30-7:30 Dinner at the college  
7:30-9:00 Meeting for worship with attention to business  
Introductory session\*

Friday, 6/15

6:30-7:30 Various activities (Bible Study or anything else Friends want to arrange)  
7:30-8:30 Breakfast  
Parents and children meet in the cafeteria; children leave with leaders  
8:30-9:30 Worship sharing\*  
9:40-11:10 Committees\*  
11:15-12:15 Meeting for business\*  
12:30-1:45 Lunch  
1:45-2:30 Workshop panel\*  
2:45-4:15 Meeting for business\*  
4:15-5:30 Spiritual nourishment time  
5:30-6:30 Dinner  
7:30 Plenary\*

Saturday 6/16

7:30-8:30 Breakfast  
Parents and children meet in the cafeteria; children leave with leaders  
8:30-9:30 Worship sharing\*  
9:45-12:00 Business \*  
12:00-1:00 Lunch  
1:00-3:00 Workshops\*  
3:00-5:30 Free time or Interest groups  
5:30-6:30 Dinner  
7:30 Intergenerational Talent Show followed by singing

Sunday 6/17

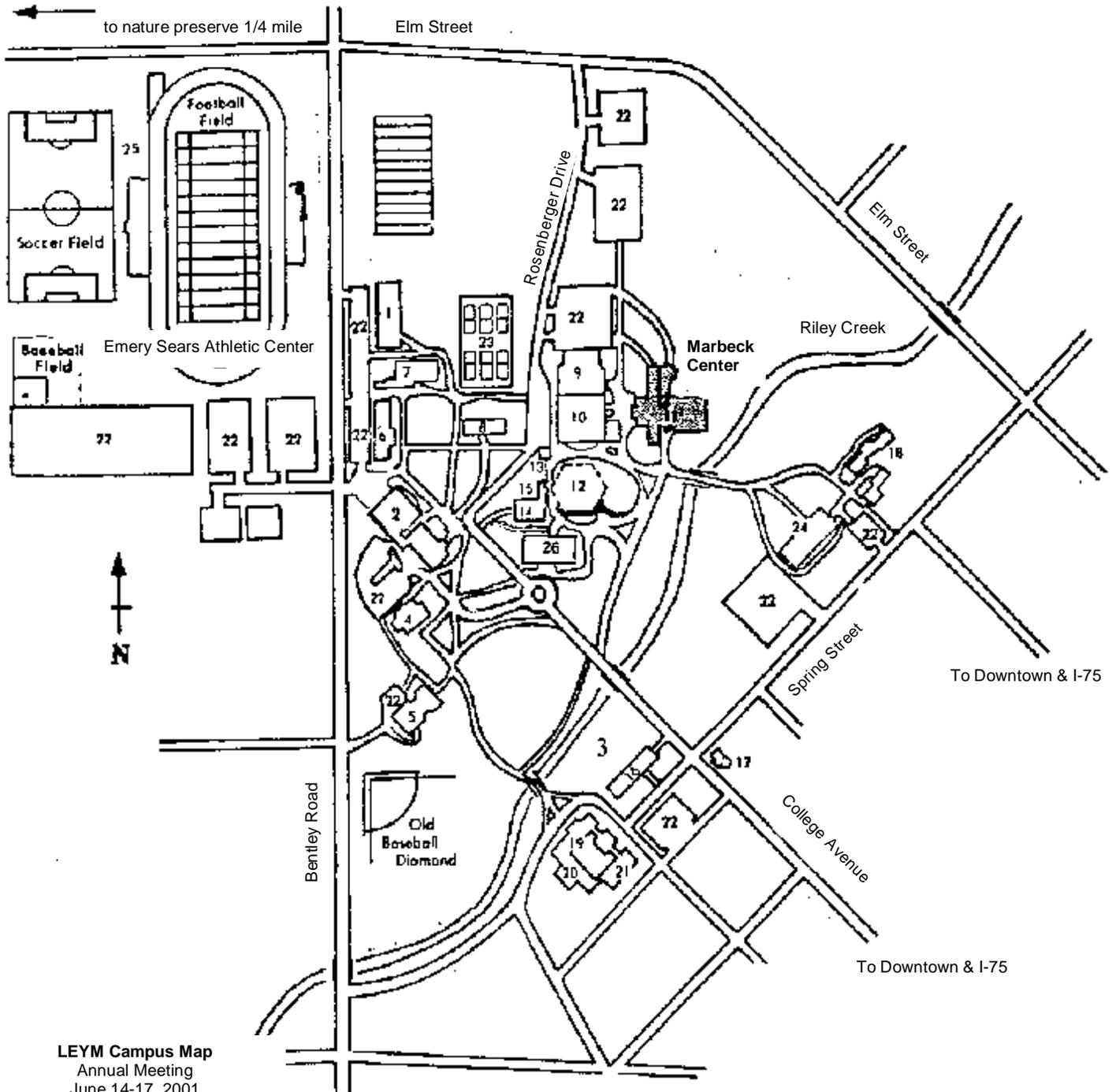
7:30-8:15 Breakfast  
8:30-9:15 Worship Sharing  
9:30-10:00 Epistles and sharing by the Children's Program\*  
10:00-10:30 Epistles\*  
10:30-11:30 Meeting for Worship\*  
12:00 Lunch

\*Children's Program offered

Times for meals are somewhat tentative and are based on last year's meal times

# LEYM Campus Map

Bluffton College



LEYM Campus Map  
Annual Meeting  
June 14-17, 2001

- |                       |                               |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Ramseyer Hall      | 8. Lincoln Hall/Micro Compute | 15. Computer Center               | 20. Ropp Addition                |
| 2. Yoder Hall         | 9. Burcky Gymn                | 16. Bren-Dell Hall                | 21. Ropp Annex                   |
| 3. Camping            | 10. Founders Hall             | 17. Mara-Alva House               | 22. Parking Areas                |
| 4. College Hall       | 11. Marbeck Center            | 18. Riley Court and Guest Housing | 23. Tennis Courts                |
| 5. Musselman Library  | 12. Shoker Science Center     | Lion & Lamb Peace Arts            | 24. Visual Arts Center           |
| 6. Herischy Hall      | 13. Miller Greenhouse         | 19. Ropp Hall                     | 25. Emery Sears Athletic Complex |
| 7. Hirschy Hall Annex | 14. Berky Hall                |                                   | 26. Centennial Hall              |

# LEYM Youth and Children Program

We have seen a significant increase in the number of children attending LEYM the past few years. This is a most welcome development but one that requires certain adjustments. In order for the Youth and Children Committee to insure that enough leaders have been secured and that these leaders have sufficient time to plan appropriate activities for their group's size; we are requiring that all families with children planning to attend LEYM must post their registrations by the May 9th deadline. We will be quite firm on this. **NO late registrations, NO phone registrations, and NO on-site registrations will be accepted!** Children brought to LEYM without pre-registration will be the responsibility of the parents. (Children will need to be with the parents at all times under these circumstances, as they will not be permitted to roam the campus unaccompanied, nor will they be permitted to participate in the youth program.) Up to a third of the children attending LEYM in past years were on-site or late registrants, making it very difficult for the leaders to plan appropriately and making it equally difficult for this committee to enlist the help of leaders for the future years. Last year we instituted this strict deadline and it worked exceedingly well. We continue to recommend that if a family is unsure about whether or not they are attending they should go ahead and register and cancel later if they determine they are not able to attend.

We endeavor to plan a rich and varied program for the youth and children attending Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. Our goal is to provide opportunities for them to share the experience of LEYM community. In order for our yearly meeting to be a positive and enjoyable experience for all, everyone involved needs to be supportive of this goal. We have experienced several problems the past few years, in addition to ones dealing with late registration. Therefore, the Youth and Children Program Committee would like both adults and children to understand a few basic things before they register.

We want parents to clearly understand that most of our leaders for the Youth and Children Program are not professionals but are volunteers working with us out of a concern for the children. We want the children to clearly understand that if they are enrolled in the youth program they are expected to participate. In addition, they are expected to show due respect for the adults in charge and the other children in their group. If a child chooses not to participate or exhibits disruptive or disrespectful behavior, that child will be returned to the care of their parent(s), guardian or spon-

sor. Children are not to be left on their own when there is no youth program. In addition, if your child has been returned to your care because of aforementioned problems, they are not to be left to roam the campus even during youth program times. We hope by stating these expectations in advance, we can avert some of the problems we have been experiencing the past few years at LEYM and set the stage for a positive experience for everyone.

## Call for Youth Leaders

The Youth and Children Program Committee is still searching for several youth leaders for the youth program this summer. One of the most important positions we need to fill is that of assistant Clerk. This individual would assist the present Co-Clerks with organizing and running the Youth and Children Program in order to prepare to fill the position of Clerk the following year. We are also in need of assistants in several age groups; we need an assistant for the pre-school group, one for the 1st-3rd grade group and one for the 4th-6th grade group. Leaders and assistants are with the youth Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 12:00 and Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30. The remainder of the afternoons, all of the evenings and all meals are free time for youth leaders. This permits them to still be a part of the adult yearly meeting activities.

Leaders, with the help of their assistants, are responsible for planning and implementing a program of activities reflecting the yearly meeting theme, as much as possible, as well as our Quaker Testimonies. The planning of the program, of course, varies with the age group involved. The pre-schoolers' time is primarily unstructured and all one needs to do is make sure there are enough books, toys and loving hands. The program for the older age groups often involves a mixture of arts and crafts activities, games and discussions. The leaders and assistants also help the children prepare their epistles. These are read Sunday morning to the entire gathering and later sent along with the adult epistle to other yearly meetings around the world.

If you feel that you or someone you know would be willing to assist in filling any of these vacant positions, please contact us as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Gretchen and Garrett Dixon, Co-clerks  
[gdixon@csonline.net](mailto:gdixon@csonline.net)  
814-432-2906 (days & evenings)  
7 Sibley Ave, Franklin, PA 16323

# Proposal for Yearly Meeting Session 2002

In the past few years the YM Program has seen an increase in the activities

- Worship Sharing every morning
- Talent Show
- Meeting For Healing
- Bible Study

We have given up the following activities:

- Interest Groups
- Monthly Meeting Sharing
- After Plenary Sharing
- Free Time
- Ample time for the Committees to meet
- Formal reports from Friends Organizations

Also the Program Committee chronically hears request for more free time.

There is no time to pursue individual spiritual disciplines during the day and people are tired at night.

The Program Committee is at the point where we have to state that we can add no more activities during the day without subtracting something. This assumes Bible Study stays at 6:30 am.

Thus we are asking the Yearly Meeting to consider extending our session time to include all or half of Thursday (assuming Bluffton can accommodate us) starting 2002.

Problems that this might mean for the members of the YM and the Committees:

- Increased costs in fees for room/board etc.
- More time off needed from work
- More time needs to be covered or offered by the Youth Program Committee

The advantages to the Yearly Meeting:

- Less intensity at Business Meetings
- More Committee Time
- More seasoning for ideas/proposals
- Allows some activities to happen during regular times, if not daily (in other words, if Bible Study is wanted, then may be offered later in the day)
- More free time (or not having to choose between valued activities and free time).

Please remember we cannot increase the number of hours in the day, so even increasing the number of days will not lead to offering everything each day.

We are asking Friends to consider the above proposal and give feedback to the committee ( you may email [patquake@aol.com](mailto:patquake@aol.com)). This proposal will most likely be discussed at Meeting for Business at Yearly Meeting this June.

Pat Campbell, clerk (Detroit)

From Wooster Friends Meeting Newsletter 2/2001

## Stop War On Drugs

*The following letter was approved by those present to send to the Daily Record and President Bush.*

The purpose of this letter is to ask for a change in this nation's policy on drugs. We are spending too much money on the housing of drug offenders in prisons, on attempting to eradicate the international transporting of drugs, and to stop the selling of drugs on our streets.

While it seems unthinkable, perhaps it is time to consider the decriminalization of the use of drugs and place the selling of drugs in "drug stores." Unfortunately, this would not stop the use of drugs, but it would bring in tax money instead of spending money to police the drug industry. We only have to look at the end of prohibition to see a parallel.

In conjunction with this, a real effort to educate citizens about the devastation that the use of drugs (including alcohol and tobacco) causes families, communities, our nation, and the warping of our international relations; honest education would be a step in a positive direction.

Regrettably, we have to accept that there are individuals who will use these substances and destroy their lives. The difference would be that the focus would no longer be on the "war" which we are not winning, but could become a creative educational effort.

If we would spend the same amount of dollars that are now spent on the drug war on improving our intercities, building appropriate educational systems and take the glamour out of the use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, we could be on a more realistic path to building a healthy nation.

# Representative Meeting Minutes

## of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Third Month 3, 2001

Martha Grundy, Recording Clerk, Cleveland

Our Representative Meeting of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, gathering on the third day of the Third Month, 2001 in the UCC Church in Kent, Ohio, began with worship.

**2001-R-1** We have heard the epistle from the Société Religieuse des Amis, Assemblée de France, held in Eighth Month 2000. We are reminded to listen to the Inner Voice that guides us in the way.

**2001-R-2** We are welcomed by Friends from Akron and Kent Meetings who have cooperated to host us. We are grateful for their work and welcome.

**2001-R-3** The following numbers of Friends responded to the roll call:

Akron.....	6
Ann Arbor .....	8
Athens .....	4
Birmingham .....	3
Broadmead.....	8
Cleveland .....	2
Delaware .....	0
Detroit.....	1
Grand Rapids .....	1
Granville .....	1
Kalamazoo .....	3
Kent.....	8
Mid-Ohio .....	2
Monongalia.....	0
North Columbus.....	2
Oberlin.....	3
Pine River.....	4
Pittsburgh .....	7
Red Cedar .....	1
Wooster.....	1

The following numbers responded from worship groups. They are counted in their overseeing monthly meeting.

Albion Worship Group.....	1
Chelsea Allowed Worship Group.....	2
Erie Worship Group .....	1
Fremont Worship Group.....	0
Holland Preparative Meeting.....	0
Indiana Preparative Meeting .....	0
Manitou Worship Group .....	0
Mansfield Area Worship Group .....	0
Sidney Worship Group.....	1

**RM2001-4** We have considered proposed changes to our LEYM Policies and Procedures Manual. We ap-

prove some minor grammatical wording and minor procedural changes which are attached. We refer the dates for Bulletin publication back to the committees.

**RM2001-5** After a recess for committee meetings and lunch we regathered for worship and further consideration of the business of Representative Meeting.

**RM2001-6** We have heard the epistle from Venne-nes Samfunn Kvekerne (Norway Yearly Meeting) held in Sixth Month 2000. We are called to listen carefully to God, learning to balance our individual and corporate hearings as we uphold our testimonies in love.

**RM2001-7** Minute RM2000-8 of last Representative meeting held in Perrysburg, Ohio, was corrected to replace the last two sentences with the following text: "A new FGC project is the \$2,000,000 Nurturing Quakerism Campaign to raise funds for the support of meetings within FGC through new programs such as the Traveling Ministries Program." With this correction Friends approved the minutes as they are printed in the Spring 2000 LEYM Bulletin.

**RM2001-8** We have received the Treasurer's report, which is attached. Five monthly meetings have not yet made their contributions to LEYM for this fiscal year. Friends are reminded that our Treasurer lives in Kendal at Oberlin, not Painesville, and checks need to be mailed to Connie Bimber, 156 Kendal Drive, Oberlin, OH 44074-1907. The address is also published in the LEYM Bulletin. Friends approve the report with gratitude.

**RM2001-9** The Finance and Budget Committee recommends increasing the amount for travel in next year's budget. Since the surplus of five years ago has been pretty well spent down, the Committee recommends the following changes: registration for yearly meeting sessions be increased by \$1 per person; the annual expected contribution be increased to \$15 per member for meetings that count children and \$17.50 for meetings that do not. There will probably be more increases in the next few years. Friends approve the increase of \$1 for this year's yearly meeting registration fee.

As of this time the Finance and Budget Committee has only been able to find "secondary insurance" for such things as youth trips and programs. The primary insurer is assumed to be that which is carried by the drivers of private vehicles. The Committee is still look-

# Representative Meeting Minutes

ing for a solution to this situation.

**RM2001-10** We have received the report of the Publications Committee, which is attached. The hope is that the Annual Record Book will be published in mid-July. Any state of the meeting or statistical reports that are received by June 1 will be included. In the section of the attached report listing future improvements of the Record Book, we are informed that there are no plans for including a directory of all the youth members and all members and attenders of every monthly meeting. Eventually these directories will be a separate publication. Green Pasture Quarterly Meeting's state of the quarter report will be included, but not its minutes. Friends expressed appreciation for the work of the Committee and are pleased with the Record Book as it is developing. We understand that it is still a work in progress.

**RM2001-11** We have heard an oral report from the History and Archives Committee. The Committee asks for feedback in regard to the number of annual record books sent to each meeting. Extra copies should be brought to yearly meeting to circulate to meetings that might need more. The Committee is now ready to turn its attention to collecting the history and records of the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and its constituent monthly meetings, and getting them safely deposited in the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College.

**RM2001-12** We have heard an oral report from the Ministry and Oversight Committee which has been working on the responses to the set of queries sent out in mid-July. Fourteen of 20 monthly meetings and one worship group responded, representing 90% of the yearly meeting's membership. The Committee has drafted a summary of the responses that will be available by our upcoming yearly meeting sessions. The Committee is looking at how various meetings use queries—or not. The Committee also looks at issues of ministry and oversight within the monthly meetings represented at its Committee meetings. Friends appreciate the ongoing work of this Committee.

**RM2001-13** We have heard an oral report from the Advancement and Outreach Committee. It suffered a diminution of its members today. There seems to be some difficulty in intervisitation. Some of the larger meetings, however, continue to reach out to smaller meetings that they have helped form. There has been a little reaching out to campus meetings, and the Committee hopes to do more.

**RM2001-14** The ad hoc committee to consider clearness around Olney School reported that the School is

now operated by Friends of Olney, a non-profit board that is separate from Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative). Enrollment is up to 45 this year. The School is engaged in a capital campaign. It is sponsoring youth retreats and other youth activities. The committee wants to know the extent of interest for support of Olney and will send a questionnaire to monthly meetings. It asks what we are doing as a yearly meeting and as monthly meetings about the education and socialization of youth in our areas.

**RM2001-15** The Adult Program Committee is trying to address the sense of time pressure in our Yearly Meeting business sessions and of over-scheduling during our annual meeting by adjusting the schedule. The theme of our upcoming yearly meeting is "individual will, corporate worship, corporate decision-making". Workshops and plenary will focus on this theme. Committees will be expected to bring their reports in writing to the yearly meeting business session. The Committee hopes to have Thursday dinner available at Bluffton College, and begin the meeting for business Thursday evening. Committees are invited to meet Thursday afternoon. Friends approve.

The Committee brings the attached proposal for 2002. Friends are asked to consider this for a possible decision at yearly meeting. The Committee invites feedback on the proposal.

A suggestion has been made to consider inviting the Bluffton Mennonites to join us for some activities. We feel this is a good suggestion that needs more seasoning by Advancement and Outreach, Ministry and Oversight, and Adult Program Committees.

**RM2001-16** We have received a report from Youth and Children Program Subcommittee, which is attached. Additional volunteers are needed from monthly meetings. Suggestions of names should be forwarded to the Nominating Committee. This year there will be sign up sheets at yearly meeting requesting volunteers with specific talents and gifts. We are grateful for the good work of this Committee.

**RM2001-17** The Site Committee reports that Lake Erie Yearly Meeting will be held June 14 to 17, 2001 at Bluffton College. We ask the Committee to see if we can use Centennial Hall, which is air conditioned and barrier-free. Friends are reminded that timely registration is very helpful.

**RM2001-18** We have heard a report from the Nominating Committee. This year the Committee is trying to touch base with all who are currently serving to

# Representative Meeting Minutes

make sure that each Friend is still willing to serve in his or her present capacity. Friends are particularly needed for this year's Youth and Children Program sessions, and for next year's Finance and Budget, History and Archives, Adult and Family Program, Site, and Youth and Children Program Committees. Friends are reminded that individual monthly meetings are asked to name a representative to Peace Committee and one to Ministry and Oversight Committee. It has been suggested that LEYM might want to facilitate Friends visiting other yearly meetings in our FWCC Lower Great Lakes Region: Eastern Region (Evangelical Friends International), Wilmington Yearly Meeting (Friends United Meeting), the east-central area of Canadian Yearly Meeting (Friends General Conference and FUM), and Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative).

**RM2001-19** We have heard the report and a number of announcements from Peace Committee, which will be attached. Our attention is directed to IRS action against conscientious objectors to war taxes; the Committee plans to draft a letter on this. The Committee raises the concern about the blurring of church-state separation by the current administration in Washington, DC. The Committee is also looking at issues around damage to the environment by mind-set and actions of some large corporations.

**RM2001-20** We turned again to the Policies and Procedures Manual. After much discussion the timing of the fall Bulletin is returned again to the Publication and History and Archives Committees. There is some uncertainty whether Representative Meeting or only our Yearly Meeting session can approve changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual. Nevertheless we approve, and ask not to have brought to yearly meeting in Sixth Month, the attached changes to the following parts: p. 3: 4. LEYM Bulletin, b, d(1); p. 5: add new 5. LEYM Annual Report, a, b, c, and d; p. 14: b. Responsibilities [of presiding clerk] (6), (7); p. 15: b. (14); p. 16: 3. Recording Clerk, b (2) delete (c); p. 21: E. Standing Committees, 2nd paragraph; p. 22: 1. Advancement and Outreach, b (5); p. 25: c. Youth and Children Program; p. 26: 5. Nominating, b (1); p. 27: 6 History and Archives, a, b(1); p. 28: add new 8 Publications; p. 29-30: all of A and B.

**RM2001-21** We have received and will attach a report from Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, that consists of all seven monthly meetings in the lower peninsula of Michigan. An additional report was printed in the winter 2001 LEYM Bulletin. We appreciate learning more about the history and programs of this body.

**RM2001-22** We have received a report about the FWCC Triennial, which is attached. It has been good to hear the personal experiences of our representative with the world-wide diversity of Friends and the underlying love and unity which can be heard when Friends stay together listening deeply to one another. We are asked to look at, for consideration at our yearly meeting session, the issues raised at the Triennial.

**RM2001-23** We have heard a brief report from Friends in Unity with Nature. We are informed about Greenfire, a project that is in the process of acquiring land near Athens, Ohio, on which to build an ecologically-based wholistic community.

There being no more time to consider business today, the meeting adjourns after a short period of worship. We plan, with divine assistance, to meet again on the first Seventh Day in Third Month, 2002.

Marty Grundy, Recording Clerk (Cleveland)

From Among Friends, Newsletter for Athens Friends Meeting, 3/2001

## Teens Are Learning About Coming of Age

Teens are currently studying Rites of Passage and Coming of Age ceremonies, secular and religious, in many different cultures: our culture, Judaism, Indonesia, and Shawnee Native American. Beth Amoriya, their teacher, had designed a ceremony for her son, Kyle, at age 13, not only to acknowledge his growth, but also to remind her to take a step back as parent. Other parents have also done something similar for their children. The Teens are now taking a look at these ideas. A major theme for thinking about this kind of ceremony is taken, in part, from I Corinthians 13: 10-12, "When I was a child, my speech, my outlook, and my thoughts were all childish. When I grew up, I had finished with childish things. Now we see only puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we shall see face to face. My knowledge now is partial; then it will be whole, like God's knowledge of me."

Saturday, March 3rd, Teens will gather at Beth's home, where they will have an opportunity to watch a coming-of-age movie.

# Reports: Publications Committee

## 1. Report on Membership and Work of Publications Committee

Members of the Publications Committee were approved for a period of one year at the 2000 Yearly Meeting. They are: Ann Brown, Leonora Cayard, Rosemary Coffey (clerk), Joseph Mills, Eric Starbuck (editor), and Ruth Taber. Most of the committee work was done by e-mail, with one in-person meeting in Akron in September.

## 2 Report on Publication of the Annual Records 2000

The inaugural issue of the Annual Records booklet was completed in October 2000 as the Fall issue of our publications. Because of the challenges of producing our first booklet, we had decided to publish this year a Summer issue of the Bulletin to make needed information available quickly. In the future, we expect to publish the Annual Record booklet in the summer, followed by three issues of the Bulletin in the fall, winter, and spring.

We had 500 copies printed at a shop near Pittsburgh. 405 of them were shipped by parcel post to each of the 20 monthly meetings and a few selected worship groups, each receiving about half as many as they have adult members (there were 869 adult members listed in the Yearly Meeting in June 2000). Each of 4 Yearly Meeting officers received one copy by first class mail. Two copies went to Friends Historical Library in Swarthmore, our official depository.

In January 2001, after a list of recipient addresses was established, a total of 31 individual copies went by First Class mail to each of 14 Quaker libraries (including all branches of the Religious Society of Friends), to FGC and the other yearly meetings in FGC, to the Section of the Americas and the World Office of FWCC, and to the Library of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain. Several letters of appreciation have come in, including two warm ones from Britain.

There are 65 copies still available for future needs.

The expenses for the booklet are the following:

Printing and coil binding .....	\$911.30
Postage .....	116.10
(book rate parcels \$72.22, 1st Class 43.88)	
Packing supplies.....	29.25
Total .....	\$1056.65

## 3. Report on Publication of the LEYM Bulletin

Two issues of the Bulletin have been published since the 2000 Yearly Meeting, the Summer issue in August and the Winter issue in February 2001. Even though the expectation was that the size of the Bulletin could be somewhat reduced, the amount of material necessitated 12 pages for the Summer issue and 16 pages for the Winter issue.

Susan Jeffers supplied the mailing labels, and Sandi Robison, Bruce Stull and Rosalita Rowe from Akron Meeting helped with folding, stapling, labeling and sorting.

1200 copies were printed of the Summer issue, and 1000 of the Winter issue. The expenses for printing and mailing of the Summer issue were about \$650.00, and for the Winter issue about \$725.00. Requesting address service from the Post Office has made possible rapid updating of the LEYM mailing list. Even though the service costs from 59 to 78 cents per name, more than 100 address changes have been made so far, which will save the cost of return postage in the long run. The total cost of publications for this year is expected to come to about \$3600.00.

The editor is currently using an extension of the bulk-mailing permit from the previous editor at the Post Office in Delaware, Ohio. To establish a permanent non-profit bulk-mailing permit in Akron, a copy of LEYM's 501(c)3 form is needed. Since at this time the form cannot be found, LEYM may have to apply for 501(c)3 status again. This will be taken care of as soon as possible.

## 4. Plans for Future Improvements of the Annual Records of LEYM

Several needed improvements are obvious and will be taken care of. These include obtaining complete information from all Yearly Meeting attenders (name, address, phone number, e-mail, and Monthly Meeting affiliation); more timely and complete returns from Monthly Meetings as to State of the Meeting reports and statistics; and information about the Web site.

Among suggested additions are the following:

- a directory of officers, committee members, representatives, and Monthly Meetings, including addresses, phone numbers and e-mail, helpful for all Yearly Meeting work;
- a youth directory to facilitate the youth work of the Yearly Meeting, perhaps even including the birth dates of each young person;

*(Continued on page 14)*

# Reports: Ministry & Oversight

## Committee Summary of Minutes of March 3, 2001 Committee Meeting

Nine Friends from six Monthly Meetings attended this hour-long meeting. Each person present identified themselves, (name and Meeting) and spoke briefly of issues current in their Meeting. These were: (No Meeting listed indicates this to be a question in several Meetings.)

1. The Queries on membership have been pertinent as there are several new, enthusiastic attenders. Ministry & Counsel is dealing with a number of inappropriate contributions during worship. We have received several new applications for membership. (Ann Arbor)
2. Choosing a new place to worship. (Oberlin)
3. The queries on membership generated a good deal of valuable discussion.
4. How can we maintain & enforce boundaries necessary to nurture the love and unity in our community while still addressing individual members' spiritual needs? (Pittsburgh)
5. Division of M&C into committees on Pastoral Care and Ministry & Worship, the latter including matters pertaining to Religious Education.
6. The need for a Meeting to elder, i.e. setting clear boundaries as opposed to wanting people to be nice and uncritical, glossing over issues that need to be dealt with.
7. Meeting is stretched out into several small Worship

*(Continued from page 13)*

- a directory of officers of the Quarterly Meeting as well as its minutes and reports;
- a complete directory of members and attenders of all Monthly Meetings and worship groups, in other words, every Friend on the Yearly Meeting mailing list.

The Publications Committee is considering these suggestions, and recommendations for their implementation will be offered at the time of Yearly Meeting.

## Report on Publications Schedule

The committee intends to continue the schedule of four print publications per year, the Annual Report in the summer, followed by a Fall, Winter, and Spring issue of the Bulletin. Deadlines for submissions will be published in the Annual Report as well as in the Calendar section of the Bulletin.

Groups which makes spiritual oversight a real challenge. (Broadmead)

8. The difficulty of dealing with attenders with special needs. This is especially acute when mental illness is part of the picture.

The Clerk presented and reviewed some salient points of a draft Summary of Meeting responses to the LEYM Queries on Membership. He also made available a notebook containing the cover letter, the Summary and all the Meetings' responses. This will be available during YM in Bluffton. The Summary will be sent to MM clerks and the LEYM Bulletin.

In our discussion, we noted that Friends hold many values and beliefs in common and agree on several areas which are important to membership. How do we develop a culture where Friends emphasize these agreements rather than our differences? One Friend put it that "We profess tolerance for others, but have a difficult time with views not our own." There was general agreement that the practice of developing queries out of current meeting concerns is a good one and should be continued. Time did not allow us to focus on the queries for 2001/2. Meetings are asked for their input so we have guidance for this decision at our meeting at Bluffton in June.

Committee also discussed the Practice of using Queries in our Meetings and Worship Groups. Ten Meetings have responded to the letter from the LEYM clerk asking for this information. Some in writing: (Ann Arbor, Cleveland, Detroit, Monongalia, Pine Rive, Red Cedar, Wooster), and some at this meeting: (Kalamazoo, Kent, Oberlin). The following variety of practices are noted:

Five Meetings use queries on a regular basis in order for Friends to consider their responsibilities as a community which may be forgotten in the press of busyness.

In five Meetings, a different query from a set of 12 is read each month of the year. Four Meetings do this during Meeting for Business, responding in worship sharing. In the other Meeting, M&C asks a Friend to read the monthly query during Meeting for Worship.

Three Meetings use the Philadelphia YM queries and two have developed and continue to revise their own sets of queries, both based originally on an earlier version of the PYM queries.

Six of our Meetings report using queries on special occasions to deal with current concerns.

Thomas Taylor, clerk (Ann Arbor)

# Reports: Youth & Children and Peace

## Youth & Children

1. Adhering to a strict registration deadline for youth registration worked very well last year, and will be followed again this year. This year's deadline will be May 9, 2001.
2. We will again send a letter to monthly meeting clerks explaining the strictness of the deadline.
3. We will again send an advance letter to parents this year. An addition to this letter will be an insert directed to parents of pre-schoolers. It will ask parents to leave their children in the leaders' care at Marbeck and not visit them during the program. Constant parent visits are disruptive to the program and confusing to the children. These constant interruptions do not demonstrate the support and respect for the leaders and their plans that the Subcommittee feels they deserve.
4. The Youth and Children Program Subcommittee has four vacant positions that need to be filled for LEYM 2001:
  - a) assistant Youth and Children Program Subcommittee clerk
  - b) assistant pre-school leader
  - c) assistant elementary leader
  - d) assistant upper elementary leader

Gretchen Dixon, co-clerk (Pittsburgh)

From Cleveland newsletter 2/2001

## Quakers and the Arts

After the joyous gathering and sharing of our gifts at Cleveland Friends Meeting this month, I thought it might be interesting to consider some Quakers' statements on the arts.

Esther Greenleaf Mürer has an excellent website entitled "Quakers and the Arts Historical Sourcebook" (<http://home.att.net/~quakart/>) which offers an intriguing array of opinions. Only a few are represented here. I have corresponded with Esther, who suggests that interested Friends may be interested in the expanded pamphlet version "*Beyond Uneasy Tolerance*" published by Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts at \$5 per copy and available through Pendle Hill or FGC Bookstore.

Linda Brandenburg

## Peace Committee

### Announcements:

1. "Is war illegal?" A thoughtful essay by Ed Pearson and Robert Randall is available on the War Tax Resisters listserv: [wtr-s@igo.topica.com](mailto:wtr-s@igo.topica.com), or ask David Bassett to forward the text ([drbasset@umich.edu](mailto:drbasset@umich.edu)).
2. Videos with highlights of the 8th International Conference on War Tax Resistance and Peace Tax Campaigns will be available after April 1, 2001, from: Peace Tax Foundation, 2121 Decatur Place, NS, Washington, DC 20003.
3. A Quaker Peace Roundtable will be held April 6-8, 2001, in State College, Pennsylvania. Among the speakers is Joe Volk of FCNL. Contact FCNL for more information (245 2nd St., NE, Washington, DC 20002, 202-547-6000, [www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org)).

### Discussion items:

1. Jim Satterwhite and Olwen Pritchard of our yearly meeting are now subject to a lien on their house by the IRS, related to their open refusal to pay war taxes (see Winter LEYM Bulletin, 2001). Other members of LEYM, David and Miyo Bassett, have been subject to IRS action for 30 years as a consequence of their witness on war taxes. With the cooperation and consent of these Friends, we will draft a letter for consideration at LEYM Annual Meeting. Is IRS prosecution of religious witnesses to conscience regarding payment of taxes for the military a form of religious persecution?
2. Faith-based initiatives. The committee discussed George W. Bush's proposals to fund social programs through faith-based organizations. Concerns include the blurring of church-state separation, privatizing governmental responsibilities, use of public funds for sectarian organization exempt from employment non-discrimination, the inherent intrusiveness of rules accompanying federal funds, and the potential for weakening the integrity of faith-based organizations. For background information, see the Feb. 8, 2001, Legislative Action Message at [www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org), or write Friends Committee on National Legislation, 245 2nd St NE, Washington, DC.
3. The committee also discussed a concern brought to us on the influence of large corporations in treating our planet, its resources, and its inhabitants as commodities to be owned and exploited. How do we relate this concern to our testimonies on the sacredness of life, and how do we begin to address such a broad concern?

Meg Hummon (Athens)

# Reports: Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting

The membership of GPQM consists of the seven Monthly Meetings and the several small Worship Groups of FC-oriented Friends in the lower Peninsula of Michigan. Since its early, informal days in the late 1940s, the Quarterly Meeting has provided opportunities for Friends from the smaller, isolated groups to get to know a wider group of Friends in the Spirit. Attendance was around 200 during the 1950s and '60s, but dwindled to around 75 in the 1970s once the QM had joined the new Lake Erie YM. Attendance at the meeting on September 15, 2000 gives a good sampling of the present level of participation:

Ann Arbor .....	12
Birmingham .....	8
Detroit .....	3
Kalamazoo .....	3
Pine River .....	3
(includes Albion Worship Group)	
Red Cedar .....	0
Holland Preparative Meeting .....	0
Albion Worship Group .....	1
(included with Pine River)	
Chelsea Worship Group .....	0
Fremont Worship Group .....	0
Manitou Worship Group .....	0
Visitors .....	1
Total Attenders and Visitors .....	32

GPQM meets for business twice a year - the third weekends of May and September. Other gatherings are called if an invitation is received. Midwinter Quarter occurs typically when a Meeting sets a date, organizes a program and invites the QM to attend. In recent years, memorable events were hosted by Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor, the last being on Youth and Violence during January, 2000. The last two summers, Friends in Western Michigan (Kalamazoo) organized a meeting for worship in Quaker Park, Battle Creek, sharing interesting information about the history of Friends in the area. (See Minute 14 below).

Friends in the QM have spawned four institutions in SE Michigan: Friends Lake Community (1961), Friends School in Detroit (1963), The Michigan Area AFSC (c1964), and Michigan Friends Center (1990). GPQM takes an important role in the governance of both the Friends School and Center and receives reports about the work of AFSC.

In recent years, there has been a resurgence in the High School Program, thanks to good leadership from Eric Engel, Kri Anderson, and a lively group of high schoolers. This has been blended with the LEYM High School group.

Besides the problem of small attendance at meetings, other problems facing the QM include the difficulty of the Nominating Committee encounters in finding Friends willing to fill leadership positions. In recent years, co-clerks served for four years rather than the two they had agreed, until another Friend could be found to take on the work.

A sampling of interests and concerns of the QM can be seen in the following excerpted from the September 15 Meeting at Friends School in Detroit. The full set of minutes is available for the asking from the QM clerk.

## GPQM - 9/00 - 1 Clerk

Tom Taylor, Assistant Clerk, announced that Barbara Frisbie had resigned as Clerk of GPQM in a letter dated 8/10/00. She said she was resigning because she was no longer active as a Friend within a Monthly Meeting. It had become clear to many Friends that a Clerk of the Quarterly Meeting needed to be participating in a constituent Monthly Meeting.

GPQM - 9/00 - 7 Friends School in Detroit Gil Leaf, Head of School. Hopefully the project regarding the Underground Railroad (discussed in the report) is the beginning of possible further and broader projects that also involve the larger community.

GPQM - 9/00 - 12 A combined semi-annual report from Michigan Friends Center was brought to the attention of the Meeting. Information regarding events at Michigan Friends Center was highlighted.

GPQM - 9/00 - 13 Future Quarterly Meeting Gatherings. The attention of the Business Meeting was directed to the opportunity for a Monthly Meeting to plan and host the next Mid-Winter gathering. Friends were asked to consider this during lunch. In the past several years, the program of these gatherings has been planned by the host meeting.

Spring Quarterly Meeting will beheld on Saturday, May 19, 2001, 9 AM - 5 PM at Michigan Friends Center, Chelsea, MI.

GPQM - 9/00 - 14 Worship in Quaker Park, in battle Creek on August 6, 2000. The Clerk and other Friends reported on this second annual event. We are grateful to Barbara Frisbie for having organized the meeting and making arrangements for Friends to gather afterward at the nearby historical museum. Friends' attention was directed to photographs of the event available on the table. Aspects of Quaker history in that area, the subject of last Spring's QM, was mentioned. The Evangelical Friends Church of Battle Creek (EFI, East-

# Reports: Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting

ern Region) had been invited to join in the worship and fellowship. GPQM feels let to worship in Quaker Park, Battle Creek, on Sunday, August 5, 2001 at 11 AM followed by a potluck.

**GPQM - 9/00 - 15** The High School Program report was given by Kri Anderson, the newly approved high school coordinator. Kri introduced herself, her background and thoughts about plans for the group. Jim Roush and Celeste Eustis described the high schoolers' trip to South Manitou Island in August. Because of the natural beauty of the area and the rich companionship, the retreat was much appreciated. There were four adults (Jim Summers, Sarah Scott, Bill Riccobono, Sol Metz) and ten high school aged people, including teens from Ohio as well as from Michigan. Kri is also networking with Ohio and LEYM youth programs.

A November retreat is scheduled at Michigan Friends Center. The High School Program style is described as "have an event, reflect, then schedule from there." Hopefully, another retreat will be held in March 2001. In May 2001, an interfaith youth retreat will be held in Ann Arbor.

The High School Program requests that the Quarterly Meeting encourage adult presences for these retreats and activities.

**GPQM - 9/00 - 19** Don Nagler rose to ask that GPQM and its activities be described to LEYM on a regular basis. He feels that it would be helpful to the Yearly Meeting to know how our Quarterly Meeting operates. We are the only quarterly meeting thus far in LEYM and might serve as a model for other meetings in LEYM who may benefit from organizing into a Quarter.

The Quarterly Meeting authorizes the Clerk to send to the Publications Committee of LEYM the QPQM Minutes and Treasurer's reports.

A discussion of GPQM and how is it perceived by smaller Michigan Meetings and other LEYM Meetings outside of Michigan ensued. Issues of meeting isolation and visitation were raised. Participation (or lack thereof) in the Quarterly Meeting was also discussed. This as well as the encouragement of intervisitation was suggested as a future Business Meeting agenda.

**GPQM - 9/00 - 20** Friends were reminded that GPQM has six days of free usage at Michigan Friends Center and that these days were mainly to help encourage youth programs. The Quarterly Meeting reminds the High School Program and other Friends youth groups

that these days may be drawn on for their needs.

Friends School in Detroit

Board of Trustees 2000-2001

Friends	
Jeff Cooper (2) .....	2001
Nancy Taylor (1).....	2001
Marvin Barnes (2).....	2002
Susan Hartman (3).....	2003
Michael McKay (3).....	2003
Robin Warner (3).....	2003
Peter Collins (2).....	2003
Geoff Brieger (1).....	2003
Non-Friends	
Lynda Krupp (3).....	2002
Kate Halladay (1).....	2002
Charlene Snow (1).....	2002
Patty Little (1).....	2003
Ruth Seymour (1).....	2003

The property, business and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Trustees which shall consist of not less than 9 nor more than 21 members, the majority of whom shall be members of The Religious Society of Friends. (FSD by-laws, Article III, Section 1.)

Tom Taylor, clerk (Ann Arbor)

From Among Friends, Newsletter for Athens Friends Meeting, 3/2001

## Seekers Sessions are Extended

The Seeker Sessions have been meeting in February using Pendle Hill Pamphlets as the basis for discussions. The first meeting, Feb. 13, led by Ted Bernard, centered on a pamphlet concerning reconciliation. Fifteen people participated. Feb. 20 the pamphlet was "*Four Doors to Meeting for Worship*," led by Bonnie Edwards. Nine people attended. The next meeting, Wednesday, February 28 at 7:00 PM at Hummon's, the pamphlet, "*Beyond Consensus, Salvaging the Sense of the Meeting*," will be the topic. Led by Suzanne Howell. The last meeting will be Thursday, March 8 at 7:00 PM at Hummon's. "*Spiritual Discernment, the context and goal of clearness committees*." Led by Bill Hummon.

# Reports: FWCC

## Friends World Committee for Consultation: 20th Triennial

I came home with tangible, totally unexpected gifts: a handmade Mexican box, a CD of peace songs written by Austrian children, a bag from Kenya, a doily from an isolated Friend in Finland. These gifts represented something more intangible, namely, spiritual community. I felt privileged to be at the 20th Triennial, along with others from LEYM: Rosemary Coffey and Zig Dermer, Richard Lee, and Clémence Ravaçon Mershon. I am still sorting through what I received and what to share. From July 22nd to 30th, 260 Friends from 40 countries and many cultures, races, languages, ways of being and worshipping gathered together at Geneva Point, New Hampshire, in sight of Lake Winnepesaukee, the Lake of the Great Spirit. I was reminded, what we seek is not outward uniformity but inward unity.

The theme was "Friends: a people called to listen, gathered to seek, sent forth to serve." As it turned out, it wasn't easy to listen. First, everything was rendered into Spanish, French and English in the plenary sessions and the Meetings for Business. In my daily worship and sharing group, moreover, which included Friends from Kenya, Bolivia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Mexico, the U.S., and El Salvador, I was one of the two participants responsible for interpreting everything that was said into and out of Spanish. I also interpreted for a healing group.

Second, listening was hard because I heard pain firsthand. This came through the concerns of those dealing with basic survival, or living in regions torn by violence, or unable to progress because of the simple need for a tractor; through the concerns of members of indigenous peoples torn from their land, of Friends devastated by seeing the dead from HIV/AIDS lying along roadsides, of caring Friends moved by horrid prison conditions, the plight of child soldiers, the threats to habitat and livelihoods by deforestation, the needs of Quaker and other refugees. It was a challenge to not reach for the pocketbook. Rather, we were all called to live lives "Centered on the Edge," cleaving to God, the immovable center, attempting to act in ways that the world considers impractical or irrational, like loving one another.

Third, it wasn't easy to hear differences between branches of the Religious Society of Friends. But I loved listening to a young Conservative Friend from North Carolina share her faith. Taking the time to listen, across barriers and differences, allowed many of us to hear "the place where words come from" as common

concerns emerged. A related highlight for me was the Plenary Address by Simon Lamb, a young Irishman, on "Friends: A People Called to Listen" (see web site <<http://homepage.eircom.net/~interfriendpublisher/simonfwccaddress.html>> for the text). There is a quiet place deep in the heart of each of us, he said, where God and humanity meet, and it is there that we search for a response to poverty in the world. Standing clearly within his evangelical framework, Simon challenged both evangelical Friends (to acknowledge the "priesthood of all believers") and liberal Friends (to beware of being so accommodating that the source of belief is lost). "If we are to learn to truly listen to God, then we must also learn to listen to each other within the Religious Society of Friends." Simon spoke non-judgmentally and prophetically; it seemed to me George Fox himself might have given a similar message.

Another highlight was listening to the joy expressed by our local hosts from New England YM; along with Friends from Cuban YM, they shared how they had developed a "Bridge of Love" to transcend differences. In 1991, a committee of New England Friends (FGC) began to foster contact with Cubans (FUM) and, since then, there have been a number of extended visits in both directions. They agreed to keep the focus on spirituality and relationship building, rather than on money. The love between them was evident. I enjoyed interpreting for Friends from Northern YM and El Salvador YM as they began a similar process.

I want to share more, about: (1) the Year of Jubilee and the efforts to cancel Third World debt payments; (2) QUNO's involvement in the UN's upcoming 3rd World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance in South Africa, Aug 29-Sept 6, 2001 (any LEYM youth interested in attending?); (3) preparations for the next World Gathering of Young Friends (LEYM youth - ages 18-35 - are invited to contact Gwen Erickson at <[erickso@guilford.edu](mailto:erickso@guilford.edu)> for details); (4) the Change Agent Peace Program (CAPP) for the Great Lakes Region in Africa, sponsored by Quaker Service Norway to strengthen local capacities for peace (and open to additional support from LEYM if Friends are interested); (5) the campaign for Quakers to plant 9000 trees between now and the 21st Triennial in New Zealand, January 2004 (to make up for the paper used by participants and the carbon dioxide damage caused by additional airplane travel). Please, Friends, ask me more about any of the above. Rosemary, Zig, and I would also be happy to visit your

*(Continued on page 19)*

# Queries on Membership: A Summary of Responses from Meetings.

Ministry & Oversight Committee, Lake Erie  
Yearly Meeting

The queries agreed by M&O at YM at Bluffton in June, 2000 were sent to all Meetings and Worship Groups in July, with a cover letter asking that responses be sent to the Committee by the end of December, 2000. Responses were received from fifteen out of our twenty Meetings and from one Worship Group. Those Meetings represent more than 90% of the LEYM membership, and so the responses give a fair representation of the range of views and perhaps a sense of the Yearly Meeting on the issue of membership. Some Meeting responses took the form of a collection of individual reflections on the queries as recorded in meetings for business or specially called meetings. Other Meetings agreed to a minute, recording a corporate response.

The exercise appears to have been timely and valuable: we were impressed with the honesty and searching quality of the responses. Several Friends have commented on the benefits of sharing with each other about the meaning of membership in our personal journeys. A number of applications for membership have been received as attenders were able to clarify the reasons to join and to learn of the process. Knowing who we are as a community is important. One Friend commented: "If we (try to be) all things to all people, then we lose a common base from which comes our practice." Other extracts which seem particularly useful or even prophetic are included in quotation marks throughout this report.

*Query #1: What are the essentials in Quakerism with which all members need to agree? Which deep elements in our tradition are crucial to remember?*

Most Meetings recorded that the following elements are essential:

- That of God in Everyone; all life is sacred. This leads to Friends' testimonies, in which we try to

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*(Continued from page 18)*

Meeting and talk with interested members in person, about both FWCC and the work Friends are doing in the world. Please let me know if you would welcome such a visit. You can reach me at <bethjoy311@netzero.net> or at 5220 Hedgewood Dr., #1024, Midland, MI 48640, (W) 517-667-6745 or (H) 517-832-5935. As David Purnell, Clerk, summarized in the final minute: We are called to become "prophets of joy."

by Beth Joy Blackbird, representative (Pine River)

put our faith into action

- Peace - "We try to live in a way that takes away the occasion for all war."
- Simplicity
- Integrity
- Equality - accepting and learning to value our differences
- Love/compassion - "Let love be the first motion."
- Searching/Seeking in both meeting for worship and daily life

Our theology is based on our experience - "This I know experimentally." (George Fox) "Truth is revealed to us continuously without intermediaries." "Leadings of the Holy Spirit are tested by collective discernment."

We have no creed and so a wide variety of beliefs were expressed. "If we agree too much, we stop seeking." At the same time, two-thirds of the Meetings included Jesus or Christianity. In most cases, the importance of our Christian roots was acknowledged and/or following the teachings of Jesus rather than the religion that grew up around his name. "The Light of Christ is within everyone, whether we know them or not, whether they know about Jesus of Nazareth or not."

**Worship.** Some Meetings or individuals wrote of our style of worship as essential to Friends' identity - sitting in silent, expectant waiting in which the Spirit may inspire anyone to give vocal ministry. Some mentioned the one God whom we worship while others preferred terms such as Inner Light, The Spirit, Love, the Seed. Our decision making process, in which the community of Friends seeks the will of God in worship, was also mentioned in five of the reports.

*Query #2: What are the responsibilities of being a Meeting member?*

Most Meetings mentioned the following:

- Attendance at Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
- Sharing of our time and talents in the work of the Meeting: committees, teaching First Day School, facilitating discussion, worship sharing, singing. "We recognize that the Society of Friends has done away with the laity and not the clergy, so we share ministerial responsibilities for the Meeting."
- Financially supporting the Meeting.  
Several Meetings mentioned:
- Commitment to keep growing - taking responsibility for spiritual growth of one's self and supporting others along the path - caring for each Light within.

# Queries on Membership: A Summary of Responses from Meetings

- Speaking when lead: "discerning when to speak and when to keep silent."  
Other notable comments:
- To "understand Quaker history, uphold Quaker traditions" and challenge Friends and the Meeting to hold to our highest principles
- "Willingness to accept corporate discernment even if it is not where we expected we would end up"
- "Take part in social action"
- "Living one's life in a manner that provides living testimony to Quaker beliefs." "The Meeting may be judged by the action of its members."
- "One is not expected to serve in all ways ... we [contribute] according to our talents and time."

*Query #3: How do we encourage and support regular attenders to consider becoming members?*

Like most FGC-oriented Quaker groups, we are very passive in this regard, many of us having been discomforted by the pressure of evangelical churches. "There is no place for spiritual coercion as we learn to trust God to teach each of us according to God's time and will."

A number of suggestions were made to encourage growth and understanding of Quakerism which may lead to applications from appropriate attenders. These include:

#### Welcome:

- Make a conscious effort to know who attenders are, befriending them, learning their names
- Use the newsletter to build community, have a mechanism to get steady attenders on the list
- Invite regular attenders to Quarterly and Yearly Meeting sessions
- Help attenders to recognize when they may be ready to apply for membership. "Sometimes potential members feel they are not worthy of membership. ... It is important for us to acknowledge to ourselves and to others to confess that we are a communion, not of saints, but of sinners. It comes back to the life of Christ."
- "We must encourage members to attend as much as we must encourage attenders to become members."
- "The idea of being useful made me want to become a member."

#### Events and information:

- More informal training and education on Quaker history and essentials
- Make Faith & Practice more available. (LEYM does

not have its own F&P. Philadelphia YM's F&P and others, such as Britain YM are valuable resources on Friends practice and history.)

- Schedule seekers meetings and follow-up events
- Make it clear what one is joining (the local Monthly Meeting and by extension, a wider body of Friends in the world).

Tom Taylor, Ministry & Oversight clerk (Ann Arbor)

## Creativity Sharing

Following worship on June 3 Grand Rapids Friends Meeting will be having a potluck and Creativity Sharing. We believe that our creativity is an expression of our spirituality so we have chosen this name for our event which others might call an arts fair. We especially want to encourage shy Friends to share their visual arts (wooden sculpture, pottery, drawings, multi-media) as well as performing arts (music, poetry reading, acting). This event is also in answer to the query: How do we recognize the varied skills and spiritual gifts of our members and attenders? How do we nurture their use and growth?

For additional information please contact Paula Brothers Fuentes at (616) 454-1664 or fuentes@iserv.net.

Paula Brothers Fuentes (Grand Rapids)

## US Gives Away Army

Gen. Colin Powell, Secretary of State, announced today that as part of the global effort for peace, the United States is giving its armed forces to the Union of South Africa. "They're the most moral nation in the world, right now," he said. "They went from having the most racial tension to majority rule in just a few years. Talk about equal opportunity!

"Besides, The US armed forces are just too costly to maintain. And there's less need for them now. Best to give them away to a nation which will use them wisely."

Army, Air Force, and Navy bases are being airlifted or shipped to South Africa, where many of the personnel will be put to work combating AIDS and other diseases, and building roads, airports, satellite links, and other infrastructure to enhance communications throughout Africa. April Fools.

# The Poor People's Campaign — June, 1968

## Friends' Witness and Civil Disobedience

An historic event occurred during Friends General Conference in June 1968. Thousands of poor people, predominantly African-American, had gathered in Washington to petition Congress for jobs, housing, schools, and health care. They established a tent city on national park grounds from which to visit members of Congress and other officials.

During this time Friends General Conference was in session at Cape May, New Jersey. When word came that the tent city of the Poor Peoples Campaign had been demolished by the police, Friends asked themselves if they should go to Washington to demonstrate their support for the goals of the Campaign.

A long and serious discussion took place in a called plenary Meeting for Business. Some Friends said they could not go back and face their local meeting if Friends demonstrated in Washington as proposed, including the possibility of civil disobedience. Others stated just as emphatically they couldn't face their Meeting if they didn't show support of victims of injustice in the nation's capital.

The clerk, Barrett Hollister handled the discussion skillfully.

"Even as we believe that in all persons there is something of the divine," he said, "so we must believe that for every problem there is a resolution consistent with God's will."

In time, an ad hoc oversight committee was set up to plan and sponsor a Friends' witness in Washington in support of the goals of the Poor Peoples Campaign. Participation in this action would be entirely by individual choice. The plan included a silent vigil line in Lafayette Park opposite the Capitol building. In addition, the oversight committee requested but did not receive a permit to gather on the Capitol steps for a Meeting for Worship after the manner of Friends.

Over one hundred and fifty Friends stood in line. Those who chose to do so left the vigil line and formed a worshipping circle on the steps, aware that this was an act of civil disobedience. About forty Friends shared spoken ministry and silence surrounded by photographers, reporters, and police.

By the time the overseers signaled close of meeting for worship, we observed that near-by on the Capitol steps, participants of the Poor Peoples Campaign who sought to petition Congress were being arrested by the Park police. We don't know what they were charged with, but we do know that none of our group had been

approached. We were not willing to accept what appeared to be discrimination. Remaining together as a group, Friends showed their support of the Campaign by joining with them as they sang while the arrests were going on. "They're with us!" the Campaigners called delightedly to each other.

After about twenty minutes, the police who had been standing in the background moved forward and surrounded the Friends, indicating we were under arrest for civil disobedience. I was among those arrested, and my record said the charge was "disorderly conduct". Twenty-one men and fourteen women were taken to jail. Most of us stayed in jail overnight, but a few were kept longer. From Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, besides myself, there were Lois Golightly, Alan Blood, and Russell Boulding.

No-one had any idea how long we might be held. (I had brought a tablecloth I was crocheting, and thought at least I would get a lot done on it. But no, the crochet hook was confiscated because it was potentially a weapon!)

Arraignment was the next day. Each of us was given an opportunity to make a statement before the court. I took the occasion to quote from a past president of the League of Women Voters: "If we were more concerned about law and justice there would be less need to be concerned about law and order".

The judge asked if I had plans for any further demonstrations and when I told him I had not, he said "Case dismissed."

That was over thirty years ago. Friends are still acutely aware of the pervasive human needs in our country - needs for jobs, housing, schools, and health care. May we be guided by God to continue our witness.

Isabel N. Bliss

## LEYM Treasurer Moves to Oberlin (For Real)

Connie Bimber, treasurer for Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, moved to Kendal at Oberlin more than a year ago. IF YOU SENT YOUR MEETING'S LEYM DUES TO CONNIE IN PAINESVILLE, they will come back to you. Please send dues by June 1 to:

Connie Bimber  
156 Kendal Drive  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1907

# Calendar

## LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

- ü **5/11-5/13** SPIRITUAL FORMATION CLOSING RETREAT, MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER AND FRIENDS CENTER AT OLNEY
- ü **6/14-6/17** LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING, BLUFFTON
- ü **6/17** DUE DATE FOR ANNUAL REPORT
- ü **6/30** DUE DATE FOR SUMMER/FALL BULLETIN
- ü **12/15** DUE DATE FOR WINTER BULLETIN

## GREEN PASTURES QUARTERLY MEETING

- ü **5/19** MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER
- ü **8/5** QUAKER PARK, BATTLE CREEK, MI
- ü **9/15** FRIENDS SCHOOL IN DETROIT

## ANN ARBOR FRIENDS MEETING

- ü **4/21-4/21** *LIVING LIGHTLY -- INFORMED SPIRIT-LED ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE*
- ü **5/11-5/12** CLERKING WORKSHOP
- ü **6/22-6/23** FAMILY CAMP

## WIDER QUAKERS

- ü **6/30-7/7** 2001 FGC GATHERING OF FRIENDS, VIRGINIA TECH, BLACKSBURG, VA, GATHERING@FGCQUAKER.ORG, 215-531-1700
- ü **10/12-10/14** QUAKERS & RACIAL JUSTICE, PENDLE HILL, NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING BLACK CONCERNS COMMITTEE

## OLNEY & FRIENDS CENTER AT OLNEY

- ü **4/27-4/29** *NURTURING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE: ELDERING*, SUSAN SMITH
- ü **6/1-6/3** *SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE FROM THE WRITINGS OF ISAAC AND MARY PENINGTON*, VIRGINIA SCHURMAN
- ü **6/10** OLNEY FRIENDS SCHOOL, COMMENCEMENT

## YEARLY MEETING DATES

SOURCE: FWCC CALENDAR OF YEARLY MEETINGS 2001

- ü **6/10-6/14** ROCKY MOUNTAIN YM (EVANGELICAL) STANLEY PERISHO, 303-363-0116, RMYM@AOL.COM
- ü **6/13-6/17** INTERMOUNTAIN YM, TED CHURCH, 505-898-5306, TED-CHURCH@WORLDNET.ATT.NET
- ü **6/22-6/23** SOUTHWEST YM (EVANGELICAL) CHARLES MYLANDER, 562-947-2883, OFFICE@FCSW.ORG
- ü **6/7-6/10** SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN YM (FGC) MARY CALHOUN, 540-628-5852, MORIAH@PREFERRED.COM

- ü **6/7-6/10** NEBRASKA YM (FUM) MARIAN DAVIS, 316-794-2033, MARIBOBD@SOUTHWIND.NET
- ü **6/7-6/10** NORTHERN YM (FGC) JEAN EDEN & LORENE LUDY, 608-251-3375, LUDYEDEN@DANENET.WICIP.ORG
- ü **7/11-7/15** NORTH CAROLINA YM (CONSERVATIVE) ROBERT GOSNEY, 252-587-2571, BBMG@COASTALNET.COM
- ü **7/17-7/22** PHILADELPHIA YM (FGC) JOAN GILL, 215-241-7000, JOANG@PYM.ORG
- ü **7/19-7/23** WILMINGTON YM (FUM) RUDY HAAG, 937-383-4319, PHACKNEY@WILMINGTON.EDU
- ü **7/21-7/27** NORTHWEST YM, EVANGELICAL, JOE GERICK, 503-538-9419, NYYM@GEORGEFOX.EDU
- ü **7/22-7/28** NEW YORK YM, FGC & FUM, HELEN GARAY TOPPINS, 212-673-5750, NYYM@COMPUSERVE.COM
- ü **7/25-7/28** MID-AMERICA YM, EVANGELICAL, HERB FRAZIER, 316-267-0391, MAYM@MAYM.ORG
- ü **7/25-7/29** ILLINOIS YM, FGC, MARY NURENBERG, 219-232-5729, JNURENBERG@XCEL.COM
- ü **7/26-7/29** ALASKA FRIENDS YM, FGC, CHARLOTTE BASHAM, 907-479-2006, FFCSB@UAF.EDU
- ü **7/28-7/30** INDIANA YM, FUM, ALAN WEINACHT, 765-284-6900, IYMINFO@IYM.ORG
- ü **7/30-8/4** PACIFIC YM, MARGARET MOSSMAN, 510-235-6245, PACIFICYM@JUNO.COM
- ü **7/30-8/5** BALTIMORE YM, FGC & FUM, FRANK MASSEY, 301-774-7663, BYMRSF@IGC.ORG
- ü **8/1-8/5** OHIO VALLEY YM, FGC, CINDI GOSLEE, 513-281-8831, CEMG@EARTHLINK.NET
- ü **8/2-8/5** NORTH PACIFIC YM, HELEN DART, 541-484-5586, NPYM@IMPARTIAL.COM
- ü **8/2-8/5** IOWA YM (FUM) DANETA LOPEZ, 641-673-9717, WPDC@WMPENN.EDU
- ü **8/3-8/12** CENTRAL YM, JONATHON EDWARDS, 765-857-2347
- ü **8/4-8/9** NEW ENGLAND YM (FGC & FUM) KATHARINE LEE CLARK, 508-754-6760, NEYM@NEYM.ORG
- ü **8/7-8/12** IOWA YM (CONSERVATIVE) DEBORAH FISCH, 515-277-1970, DEBORAHFISCH@EARTHLINK.NET
- ü **8/8-8/12** WESTERN YM (FUM) CURTIS SHAW, 317-839-2789, WESTERNYM@AOL.COM
- ü **8/11-8/18** CANADIAN YM (FGC & FUM) KERRY MAC-ADAM-RADIX, 1-613-235-8553, CYM-OFFICE@QUAKER.CA
- ü **8/15-8/19** OHIO YM (CONSERVATIVE) DOROTHY SMITH, 740-425-3168, DJSMITH99@HOTMAIL.COM
- ü **8/30-9/4** NORTH CAROLINA YM (FUM) JOHN PORTER, 336-292-6957, NCF@JUNO.COM

LEYM Change of Address	Please return to:
Name _____	Lake Erie Yearly Meeting PO Box 2624 Akron, OH 44309-2624
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City _____	Thank you!
State _____	
Zip _____	
Email _____	<b>Note:</b> This one's at the top so it will have your old ad- dress on the other side when you cut it out!
Meeting _____	

# Clerking Workshop

A Weekend with Katherine Smith

**May 11 & 12, 2001**  
**Michigan Friends Center**  
*Co-sponsored by Friends Lake Cooperative Community*  
 Katherine Smith, current Clerk of Maury River (VA) Friends Meeting, has clerked everything from her monthly meeting's House and Grounds Committee to the Baltimore Yearly Meeting. She has led numerous workshops at both monthly and yearly meeting levels as well as at Pendle Hill.

**Friday 6:30 pm—9:00 pm** A simple meal will be served, followed by both informal and structured time. These evening activities are essential to a successful weekend, as the Saturday agenda will be formulated based on input from attendees. Please plan to attend both days.

**Saturday 9:00 am—5:00 pm** The Saturday sessions will be given to specific concerns and conditions determined by attendees the prior evening, as well as the written responses to the queries submitted with regis-

tration forms. Breakfast and lunch are included. Overnight accommodations are limited to camping (flush toilet & shower in MFC building), nearby motel, or local hospitality with Friends.

**SPACE IS LIMITED TO 30.** Please return this form with your check payable to "Michigan Friends Center" by April 28, 2001, to Carolyn Holland, 7754 Clarks Lake Road, Chelsea, MI 48118. Carolyn's phone: (734) 475-1987 or MFC's phone: (734) 475-1892

This workshop is tailored to those who attend, so please include on a separate piece of paper, your personal response to the queries: *"What clerking experience have you ever had? With what groups?"*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) Please register me/us \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30 per adult or as able \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Please contact me about the following:
  - ( ) I/we are interested in carpooling with attendees from my area.
  - ( ) I/we wish to reserve a campsite at Friends Lake Community. \_\_\_\_\_ nights @ \$4 per night \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - ( ) I/we would like information about nearby motels.
  - ( ) I/we would prefer hospitality with local Friends.

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Good clerking results from a healthy mix of tradition with innovation; nuts-and-bolts with inspiration; quaker-speak with laughter; timeliness with Eternal Truth. Clerks young and old, new and seasoned are invited to explore these dimensions together.

Come prepared to share your experiences, insights and quandaries. There will be lessons, assignments, and plenty of handouts.

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LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

PO Box 2624  
Akron, OH 44309-2624  
Phone: 330/374-0521  
Email: [ericstarbuck@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ericstarbuck@worldnet.att.net)

*Quakers speak not loudly, but strongly.  
-Lady Borton*

## Spring 2001 Bulletin



## Knitting for Youth

I am interested in organizing knitters and crocheters to work with the children at LEYM during some of the time that they will not be with the youth and program committee. Anyone who knows how to knit and/or crochet is welcome. My idea is that a few people would be available to get a child started on a simple project and the others could be available throughout the weekend for the kids to come to with questions on their projects if they need help.

For this project, anyone who has any of the following that they would be willing to donate should contact me so that we can figure out a way to get it/ them to Yearly Meeting:

- simple, quick project ideas
- worsted weight yarn (formerly known as "4-ply")
- US size 7, 8, or 9 knitting needles
- US size G, H, or I crochet hooks

I am open to feedback on which ages this kind of a project would work best for. I have personally never taught a child younger than 6 and I would be interested in hearing from other people on that. Also, please let me know if you know how to teach left-handed. My contact information is listed below for interested parties:

216.791.2592, [trass@usa.net](mailto:trass@usa.net)  
2478 E. 126th St., Cleveland OH 44120-1046  
Erika T. Smith (Ann Arbor)

## This Issue

Here we are at 24 pages after agreeing to keep to eight. Yet just Representative Meeting Minutes took more.

In addition to necessary business, we have personal thoughts and reminiscences by Marian Gyr and Isabel Bliss. We have a poem by Marie Cotton.

We have articles from meeting newsletters, and a proposal for Annual Meeting by Erika Smith.

We have wise proposals for next year's Annual Meeting by Pat Campbell. We have written reports Representative Meeting.

Thanks to you all.

Eric Starbuck