



The Power of Friends to Create Clerk's Message, by Merry Stanford

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.
Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.*

When I look out from the clerks' table at the body of Friends gathered for meeting for worship with attention to business, an upwelling of love fills me to overflowing. What's interesting is that, while I feel fond affection for the many individuals of the Meeting, they are not, at that moment, the focus of the love that moves up and out of me. It is the whole Meeting which draws the energy out of me. It is as if the Meeting itself is an energy, something that is larger than the sum of its parts, something with its own personality and beingness.

The Yearly Meeting – like each of our monthly meetings – is a body. Much like a biological body, it gathers energy and expends it. It grows and matures. It has sleepy times and active times. It also has a personality and a spirit.

There is a children's book by Leo Lionni, called *Swimmy*, about a school of small fish. One day, the little fish are threatened by a larger fish, who would like to eat them for lunch. They are scared and start to scatter. Swimmy, our protagonist, has already survived previous attacks, and he has an idea! He is able to convince all the other fish to swim with a common intention. Together,

all the little fish form themselves into the image of a very, very large fish and frighten the large fish away. Together, they become one large fish with determination!

The moral of the story is that, when we move together *as a body*, we can accomplish what is impossible individually. I think this is an important story for Quaker meetings. We are reminded that we are not just a collection of individual Friends with a lot of diverse opinions and ideas, each pursuing our individual spiritual awakenings. We are a Meeting. We are a body. Quakers forsook dogma not just because dogma can't be accurate, as it doesn't change, but because it wasn't necessary. Friends don't need to have a set of beliefs that define who we are together because we create common intention together. In meetings for worship, at our best, we create the conditions that are conducive for the inbreaking of Spirit, so that we can be transformed. And in meetings for business *we develop and focus a common intention that has the power to create.*

We do not come together simply to attend to our own affairs: to educate our children, plan our programs, and write our letters. In a society that is

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Clerk's Message, *continued*

managed by the powers of domination, our meetings have the potential to wield a different kind of power for a much broader purpose. We are here, worshipping and working together, in order to help make the God crack in our social fabric a little wider. We come together – *as a body* – to focus this awesome power to create on bringing in the Light. We come together to build a society based on our testimonies: where peace predominates, all people are equal, the earth is cared for and tended for the sake of future generations, all have enough of the material things that make life possible and enjoyable, and our communications are based in truth and respect.

As it was for Swimmy and his friends, ours is not a job that can be done by individuals. Luckily, we have processes, like our meetings for business, which train us in how to move as a body. And we have the additional grace of knowing the Spirit within and among us that delights to do no evil, and which is ever ready to lead the way. We have only to ask, to discern, and then to move as a body. Spirit of the Living God, melt us, mold us, fill us, use us. May it be so.

Merry Stanford, Clerk

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Annual Meeting

Where There are Shadows, There Is also Light

July 29 - August 1 at Bluffton University

The next several pages focus on our Annual Meeting, covering the plenary address (below), Bible study and the talent show (p. 3), a new plan by which young Friends attend for free and continuing scholarships for first-time attenders (p. 4), Adult Young Friends (also p. 4), workshops (p. 5), the preliminary schedule (pp. 6-7), earth-friendly transportation and a walk through the Nature Preserve (p. 8), and the registration form (insert).

Plenary Address

Lloyd Lee Wilson

“An Epistle of Hope in a Discouraging Time”

A member of the Rich Square Monthly Meeting in rural northeastern North Carolina, part of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative), Lloyd Lee has served in many roles in various Quaker organizations, including FGC, AFSC, and FUM. As a recorded minister of the gospel for two decades, he has addressed many Friends' gatherings and yearly meetings, including, many years ago, our own. Friends have read and studied his two books, *Essays on the Quaker Vision of Gospel Order* and *Wrestling with Our Faith Tradition*, as well as numerous journal articles and pamphlets. He is currently teaching “Introduction to the Bible” and “Introduction to Christian Pacifism” at Chowan University, in Murfreesboro, North Carolina. As plenary speaker, he will offer “An Epistle of Hope in a Discouraging Time,” a beautiful interpretation of this year's theme.

LEYM Database

Mathilda Navias maintains the LEYM Database. LEYM committees and officers who want to communicate with meetings can get a mailing list or email addresses from her. Please send changes of contact information (especially for meetings and worship groups, LEYM officers, and committee members) to Mathilda at galaxy@woh.rr.com.

Invite Other Friends to Join You at LEYM Annual Meeting in 2010

Do you know that many people in your Meeting are not aware of what LEYM is all about? Are there ways you might describe the work of the Yearly Meeting and how it complements and supports your monthly meeting? How can you get the word out and encourage participation in the Annual Meeting? Here are some ideas to spark your own imagination:

- ◆ Make the *Bulletin* readily available
- ◆ Make announcements about the theme, speaker, and date (noting the change in date to later in the summer, July 29 – Aug 1)
- ◆ Hold an information session during refreshments or a potluck
- ◆ Tell Friends what you most enjoyed in past years (see back cover)
- ◆ Have children who have attended make a presentation about their time in the Children's Program – always bring a bathing suit!
- ◆ Show pictures, if you have them, or visit the LEYM website together
- ◆ Point out that first-time attenders receive a scholarship for one-third of the total cost, and this year children attend for free
- ◆ Highlight parts that fit the make-up of your Meeting:
 - ◇ Adult Young Friends meeting together from across the LEYM region
 - ◇ Children's Program led by experienced and loving staff
 - ◇ Workshops on a variety of subjects
 - ◇ Speaker, Lloyd Lee Wilson, and the title of his talk (see previous page)
 - ◇ Business sessions guided by the needs and requests of local Meetings
 - ◇ Friends' Bookstore
 - ◇ Talent show by and for attendees
 - ◇ Leisure time with family and friends
 - ◇ Comfortable, friendly campus with nearby Nature Preserve

We are eager to greet old Friends and welcome many newcomers in July.

See you in Bluffton!

See Registration Forms at
the end of this Bulletin

The Program Sub-committee

Morning

Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme

Friends are invited to Bible study on the Annual Meeting's "Shadows and Light" theme on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, 6:30 - 7:30. The leader this year is Pat DeWitt Thomas, a second-year student in the Ministry of Writing program at Earlham School of Religion. Pat is a retired camp director and has served for four years as a student, intern, and Assistant Director of Operations at Pendle Hill.

Evening

Sign Up for the LEYM Talent Show!

Have you dreamed of being a performer? Here's your chance! We had so much fun with last year's Talent Show, we just had to do it again! Start now to polish up your act for the show. The performance will take place on Saturday evening, July 31.

To sign up, please send your name, the name of your act, and a brief description of it to Janet Dando at dandojanet@yahoo.com, or call 330 666-7222. We look forward to hearing from you!

Annual Meeting *Free* for Young Friends!

Meeting families should be aware that this year the Annual Meeting (July 29 – August 1, at Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio) is FREE to young Friends, including 2010 high school graduates. For all young Friends, registration, housing, and dining costs are fully funded by the Yearly Meeting. LEYM has scheduled these sessions at the end of July, rather than, as hitherto, in mid-June, to ensure that families with school-aged children will be able to attend.

The program for young Friends is excellent. Recent high school graduates have, in fact, established a Young Adult Friends group at LEYM (see below) specifically to maintain and strengthen the connections they made while attending Annual Meeting as children and teenagers. It's a wonderful opportunity for our children to meet other Friends of their age from Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

The Advancement & Outreach Committee

Scholarships for First-time Attenders

Never attended LEYM's Annual Meeting before? A bit nervous about trying it?

The Yearly Meeting hopes all Friends will consider attending the Annual Meeting and therefore has a scholarship program for first-time attenders: LEYM will grant a scholarship for one third of the registration, room, and meal fees. These Friends are encouraged to ask their monthly meetings for a scholarship to cover another one third of the costs. Our desire is that no one stay home from the Annual Meeting because of the cost. Mark on the registration form that you are a first-time attender and deduct the amount of your scholarship on the "less scholarship" line. Contact the registrar, Vanessa Fuson (fusonv@denison.edu or 740 587-4756) for more details about this scholarship program.

Adult Young Friends Laughing, Growing, Exploring

Are you a young adult Friend who attends a meeting within LEYM? If so, we invite you to come join the Adult Young Friends (AYF) at LEYM's 2010 Annual Meeting, July 29 – August 1 at Bluffton University. We are an energetic group of Friends who come together once a year to meet new Friends, support each other, laugh together, grow together, and explore the Annual Meeting theme. You are welcome to participate in as many AYF activities as you like, as well as any activity in the adult program. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Bekah Sommer at bekahsommer@gmail.com or Erin Diffenderfer at ediffen@luc.edu.

Workshops at Yearly Meeting

In keeping with the Annual Meeting theme, “Where there are Shadows, there is also Light,” five diverse workshops will stimulate us intellectually and challenge us spiritually. These workshops will provide opportunities to examine the Light within as we struggle with personal difficulties, and will reveal hope for the global, and even galactic, challenges that face us now and in the future. They will address our need to learn, heal, or reach for the stars. The workshops take place on Saturday afternoon (July 31) from 3:30 to 5:15.

Afterwords

Led by Lloyd Lee Wilson

Lloyd Lee will offer a workshop as an opportunity for further exploration of matters raised in the course of his plenary talk and their implications for fruitful living. At the heart of his current personal studies is nonviolent narrative atonement. He will be glad to share on this subject during the workshop or at other times during the weekend.

Astronomical Things

Led by Jocelyn Bell-Burnell

Are there any LGM (Little Green Men) out there? This speaker is well known for her work in determining that radio signals too fast and regular to be quasars were actually “pulsars,” or rapidly spinning, super-dense, collapsed stars. Jocelyn’s “astronomic” educational background and career were supported by her Quaker family. After marrying, she traveled with her husband, continuing her studies in astronomy while working part-time and raising her son. Somehow, it seems fitting that this Quaker, with her eyes to the stars, is grounded in service to Friends World Committee for Consultation. Jocelyn has also given a Swarthmore Lecture in Britain Yearly Meeting on the Ministry of the Wounded.

Discovering the Story of a Home Place

A Panel Facilitated by Phil Clampitt

The Earthcare Committee hopes this workshop will prompt Friends to inquire further into the story of their own “home place.” A large satellite map of the Lower Maumee River Watershed will be presented to show interconnections between land, food, economic well-being, and water in this bioregion. Phil Clampitt, co-clerk of Earthcare Committee, will facilitate the presentation, but the real work has been and will be that of a panel from the Broadmead Friends Earthcare Interest Group that assembled this exhibit. These panelists will share their interests and discoveries.

Experiments with Light

Led by Jerry Knutson

Jerry is a released Friend from Pittsburgh Monthly Meeting and a Master of Divinity student at Earlham School of Religion. In recent Annual Meetings, he has presented workshops on discernment. In “Experiments with Light,” he looks at a technique described by Rex Ambler, a British Quaker, who explores George Fox’s writings to articulate a meditation technique of early Friends. This technique is described in Rex’s book *Light to Live By: An Exploration in Quaker Spirituality*. While this technique can be tried in meeting for worship, many Quaker “Light Groups” have formed with the purpose of practicing this technique. After a brief explanation, time will be allotted for practice.

Meeting for Worship for Healing

Led by Richard Lee

A member of Red Cedar Meeting, Richard Lee is a regular presenter at LEYM. He learned about Quaker Healing Ministry from his grandmother and has researched its history. He provided this description of the workshop:

Meeting for Worship for Healing is a ministry whereby we hold individuals in the Light for an extended period of time. I have been helping to coordinate such worship at Friends General Conference Gatherings since 1987, with a week-long workshop at the Gathering since 1995. The workshop will consist of a brief introduction of how to do it, followed by actual worship. The worship tends to be gathered with the likelihood of spiritual openings and connections. The concerns to be held [include] physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual needs.

Preliminary Schedule: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting July 29 - August 1, 2010

Where There Are Shadows, There Is also Light

* Childcare available during this meeting/event

From	To	Thursday, July 29
12:00 noon	12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM
1:00 pm	3:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
2:00 pm	3:30 pm	Field Trip to Bluffton University Natural Area Preserve
3:30 pm	5:30 pm	Committee Meetings; check board in registration area for locations. Those not on committees may sit in.
5:00 pm		Ramseyer Dorm opens
5:30 pm	6:30 pm	Dinner line open for LEYM
6:30 pm	7:30 pm	Committee Meetings as needed. Newcomer Enrichment Meeting. Singing.
7:30 pm	9:00 pm	Meeting For Worship With Attention to Business – Opening Session *
Friday, July 30		
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme with Pat DeWitt Thomas. Other groups who wish to meet, please post a description and location in registration area.
7:45 am	8:15 am	Breakfast line open for LEYM
8:45 am	9:30 am	Worship Sharing for those who have registered for it *
9:40 am	10:15 am	Newcomer Enrichment Meeting *
9:40 am	10:45 am	Committee Meetings – check location in registration area *
11:00 am	12:30 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business *
12:30 pm	1:00 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM
1:30 pm	3:00 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business *
3:15 pm	4:00 pm	Meeting for Worship *
4:15 pm	5:30 pm	Spiritual Practice – Time for study, conversation, or your own Yearly Meeting project * (Children’s Program ends 5:15) LEYM Advices and Queries Interest Group *
5:30 pm	6:00 pm	Dinner line open for LEYM
6:30 pm	7:00 pm	Spiritual Practice – Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects
7:15 pm	8:45 pm	Plenary Speaker – Lloyd Lee Wilson, <i>An Epistle of Hope in a Discouraging Time</i> *
9:00 pm	9:45 pm	Activity planned by Adult Young Friends
Saturday, July 31		
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme with Pat DeWitt Thomas. Other groups who wish to meet, please post a description and location in registration area.
7:45 am	8:15 am	Breakfast line open for LEYM
8:45 am	9:30 am	Worship Sharing *
9:45 am	11:45 am	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business *
12 noon	12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM

Preliminary Schedule: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting 2010

From	To	Saturday, July 31 <i>continued</i>
12:30 pm	12:50 pm	Singing
1:00 pm	3:00 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business *
3:30 pm	5:15 pm	<i>Workshops – check board in registration area for locations. *</i> <i>Afterwords</i> (Lloyd Lee Wilson) <i>Astronomical Things</i> (Jocelyn Bell-Burnell) <i>Discovering the Story of a Home Place</i> (Earthcare Panel led by Phil Clampitt) <i>Experiments with Light</i> (Jerry Knutson) <i>Meeting for Worship for Healing</i> (Richard Lee)
5:30 pm	6:00 pm	Dinner line open for LEYM
6:00 pm	7:00 pm	Spiritual Practice – Time for study, conversation, singing, or your own Yearly Meeting project
7:00 pm	9:00 pm	Talent Show, followed by fruit and ice cream
From To Sunday, August 1		
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on the Yearly Meeting Theme with Pat DeWitt Thomas. Others wishing to meet, please post a description and location in the registration area.
7:45 am	8:15 am	Breakfast line open for LEYM
8:45 am	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business *
9:30 am	10:30 am	Epistles and Sharing by the Children’s Program *
10:30 am	11:30 am	Meeting for Worship *
12:00 noon	12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM

* Childcare available during this meeting/event

Of Special Note:

- ◆ Anyone wishing to Worship Share on Friday and Saturday mornings should mark the “Worship Grp” column on the registration form; child care will be available for younger children.
- ◆ Teens are cordially invited to attend Worship Sharing with the adults.
- ◆ Newcomers, please attend one of the Enrichment Meetings designed to welcome you and answer any questions you may have: Thursday at 6:30 pm or Friday at 9:40 am.
- ◆ There will be 12-step program meetings during the weekend. Check in the registration area for times and locations.
- ◆ The Earthcare room will be open throughout the weekend for study and involvement.
- ◆ Self-directed hikes around campus and town will be available throughout the weekend.
- ◆ Mini-gatherings at eating times are available. There will be sessions for several Quaker organizations; schedule your own in the registration area.
- ◆ There will be singing in the fireplace room during spiritual practice times and after lunches and dinners.

Earthcare and Transportation to LEYM

Do You Need a Ride? Can You Offer a Ride?

An important function of the LEYM Earthcare Committee is to help us reflect upon our lifestyles, consider how they might be more earth-friendly, and encourage and help one another to reorder our priorities and practices as needed.

Some members and attenders of our local meetings may wish to attend Annual Meeting (or other Friends' gatherings) but need help with transportation. Others may have room for additional passengers. Given this situation, we recommend carpooling to the greatest extent possible. This encourages sociability and a spirit of community while also saving energy.

We propose the following measures to organize carpooling for 2010 Annual Meeting:

- ◆ Travel coordination will begin at the level of the local meeting. The Earthcare Committee Contact – or other designated individual – of each meeting will match, insofar as possible, those needing rides with those who can offer them.
- ◆ The Earthcare Committee Contacts will forward to Al Connor the names of individuals still needing or offering rides after these coordination efforts are completed. This information should be provided to Al by July 9.
- ◆ Those who are unable to arrange for needed transportation / additional passengers through their local meeting should contact Al directly (734 769-1592 or alconnor1019@provide.net). Any questions regarding this process can also be directed to him.

A Fun and Spiritual Activity on Thursday Afternoon!

Field Trip to the Bluffton University Natural Area Preserve

Thursday, July 29, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

This intergenerational field trip, sponsored by the Earthcare Committee for the purpose of enhancing body, mind, and spirit in community with nature during the first afternoon of Annual Meeting, will depart from the Registration area in Marbeck Center shortly after 2:00 pm. All interested Friends who have the endurance to walk a couple of miles are invited.

Earthcare Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 29, 4:00 pm

The Earthcare Committee will meet in a far corner of the dining room on Thursday at 4:00 (after the field trip to the Natural Area Preserve). The agenda includes planning Earthcare displays, the workshop (see p. 5), and other Yearly Meeting activities. All interested Friends are welcome.

See additional Earthcare-related news on p. 17.

Minutes of LEYM Representative Meeting

March 6, 2010 at Athens Friends Meeting

All written reports referenced will be appended to these minutes in Annual Records 2010 and are available on the Yearly Meeting's website, <http://leym.quaker.org>.

Morning Session

RM10 - 1 Friends gathered at the appointed time. Out of the opening worship, our assistant clerk, Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor), read the **epistle from Southeastern Yearly Meeting**, which struggles with responding to Friends United Meeting's personnel policy. While its affiliation with FUM continues to be suspended, this yearly meeting remains open to further discernment and trusts the spirit to lead to unity.

RM10 - 2 Our clerk, Merry Stanford (Red Cedar), welcomed Friends and introduced Carla Pratt-Harrington, from our host, Athens Friends Meeting. Carla thanked us for making an extra effort to hold Representative Meeting in Athens, on the fringe of the Yearly Meeting geographic area, and informed us of arrangements for the day.

Afternoon Session

RM10 - 3 The session opened with our assistant clerk reading from the **epistle from Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative)**. Iowa Friends have found Quaker seeds of faith, hope, and justice in the parable of the sewer. They are concerned for the plight of undocumented immigrants and Kenyan women who are the victims of HIV. These Friends are heartened by the rising presence of young Friends and the formation of a new monthly meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.

RM10 - 4 The roll call of Friends from constituent meetings and worship groups gave the following count:

Akron	1	Kalamazoo	3
Ann Arbor	5	Kent	1
Athens	8	Mid-Ohio Valley	0
Birmingham	1	Monongalia	0
Broadmead	5	North Columbus	3
Cleveland	1	Oberlin	0
Delaware	0	Pine River	0
Detroit	0	Pittsburgh	2
Grand Rapids	1	Red Cedar	1
Granville	2	Wooster	3
Holland	0	Worship Groups	0

Total attendance: 37

RM10 - 5 Our clerk reviewed Friends' traditional guidelines for conduct in meeting for worship with attention to business.

RM10 - 6 Executive Committee Report: Our presiding clerk submitted a written report. Friends **approved** the following proposals from the Executive Committee:

- The current surplus of the Annual Meeting fund will be used to fully fund attendance of young Friends through grade 12 at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The Yearly Meeting will reevaluate this practice after Annual Meeting.
- The Yearly Meeting program year (including terms for officers and committee members) will end with the rise of Annual Meeting. The fiscal year will remain unchanged.

RM10 - 7 Clerk's Report: Merry Stanford presented a written report. Canadian Yearly Meeting is developing a *Faith & Practice* and asks permission to include a passage from a 1992 clerk's message by Marty Grundy, published in the Yearly Meeting *Bulletin* and *Quaker Monthly*. Marty has consented to this use. We **approved** the request.

Representative Meeting for 2011 will occur on April 2; meetings are encouraged to consider hosting.

RM10 - 8 Friends General Conference Gathering: Jon and Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead), co-clerks of the Gathering's Local Arrangements Committee, announced this summer's Gathering in Bowling Green, Ohio. They encourage early registration for attendance. Sally announced a number of volunteer jobs that need to be filled, some of which will qualify as a work grant for attending. Friends interested should let Jon and Sally know.

RM10 - 9 Publications & Archives Committee: Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor) provided a written report. Friends **approved** the following revision to the Yearly Meeting's last amendment to its privacy policy:

Photos of Friends of all ages may appear on the website. Friends can request that pictures of themselves or their children *not* be posted on our website by placing a "no photo" sticker on their name tag at

2009 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

all LEYM events, including retreats. These stickers shall be made available with the name tags, and their availability shall be well publicized. For events where name tags are not worn or parental permission to attend is required, the opportunity to request that photos not be posted on the website will be offered by other means, such as registration or permission forms.

Publications & Archives Committee will produce the stickers and make them available to Arrangement & Site Sub-committee and other committees or coordinators as needed. This policy will apply for one year on a trial basis and the Publications & Archives Committee will review it thereafter.

The Committee is reviewing its structure and is discussing identifying locations of old *Bulletins* for Yearly Meeting use.

RM10 - 10 Our **treasurer**, Eric Starbuck (Pittsburgh), presented a written treasurer's report for the period 7/1/09 thru 3/1/10 [see updated report on pp. 12-13]. Some reserve funds have been transferred to CDs for better interest rates. To date general fund expenses have exceeded revenues by approximately \$5000. The report is incomplete in that the actual certificates of deposit and checking account balances do not match the totals accounted for. Eric will resolve this.

RM10 - 11 Finance Committee: Sally Weaver Sommer reported. While various funds of the Yearly Meeting have healthy balances and we expect to receive \$7000 more in monthly meeting contributions, the committee expects a lower general fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. This is because of an intentional spend-down as the fund balance is larger than needed. Given the \$6259.38 balance in the Annual Meeting fund, we will not increase registration fees for the Annual Meeting.

We do not have a line item for the meeting worker, and we will add this to next year's budget. By 6/1 the committees will call treasurers of monthly meetings that have not paid their contributions for the year.

RM10 - 12 Advancement & Outreach Committee: Mike Hinshaw (Wooster) reported and introduced committee members Carol Meyer-Niedzwiecki (Kalamazoo) and Seth Reichenbach (North Columbus). The committee's work includes:

- * Exploring Quaker Quest with the Program Sub-committee

- * Reviewing monthly meeting information on the Yearly Meeting website for consistency
- * Sending monthly meeting clerks an email on queries regarding outreach
- * Reaching out to smaller monthly meetings and worship groups

Any monthly meeting doing Quaker Quest or another outreach program is requested to keep the committee informed of such efforts.

RM10 - 13 Adult Program Sub-committee: Janet Dando (Akron) and Linda Mills (Kalamazoo) reported that the Annual Meeting theme is "Where there are Shadows, there is also Light." Our plenary speaker is Lloyd Lee Wilson. In addition to our traditional workshop themes, Jocelyn Bell-Burnell, an astrophysicist and clerk of the FWCC Executive Committee, will be giving a workshop. Susan Yamos of the Earlham School of Religion will lead Bible study again at 6:30 am; other times would not work out. [Program Sub-committee has since learned that Pat DeWitt Thomas, also from ESR, will lead Bible study this year. – Ed.] We will have our traditional activities: 12-step programs, spiritual enrichment time, worship sharing, newcomer enrichment, talent show, movies, and ice cream social.

RM10 - 14 Arrangement & Site Sub-committee: Jon Sommer reported on registration details for Annual Meeting. The dates are 7/29/ thru 8/1/2010, with a registration deadline for the children's program and early registration of 7/12. Ramseyer Hall will not be available until 5:00 pm Thursday.

RM10 - 15 Youth & Children Program Sub-committee: Diane Mott (Broadmead) reported on the youth retreat held in October. Eleven children and seven adults attended from four monthly meetings. The total cost was \$1200, with about \$600 received from families of participants. Marcia Goldstein (Athens) will be next year's clerk for this retreat. The committee will send personal postcards inviting our youth to Annual Meeting through the clerks of their monthly meetings.

RM10 - 16 The High School Youth Program Committee: Joyce Balderston (Wooster) and Jody Pratt-Harrington (Athens) submitted a written report from Cari Burke highlighting the recent retreats and events for our high schoolers. Details were shared of the spring retreat, to be held this month at Olney Friends School. We express deep

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appreciation for the renewal of the High School Youth Program.

RM10 - 17 Ad Hoc Committee on Young Friends: Peggy Daub submitted a written report (*see p. 16*). This committee is exploring the needs of young Friends beyond the High School Program and Annual Meeting.

RM10 - 18 Ad Hoc Committee on Policies and Procedures: Jeff Cooper presented a written report. The revisions will be extensive and presented as a whole at a later date. Friends approved the committee's recommendation that the work of the database manager be under the care of Publications & Archives Committee, but the manager need not be a member of that committee.

RM10 - 19 Ministry and Nurture: Ellen Barnes (Birmingham) reported that the fall Spiritual Formation Retreat was held in Adrian, Michigan, with 29 attenders from eight meetings. Michael Birkel, of Earlham College, led the session. The spring retreat will be hosted at Oberlin Monthly Meeting. Patricia Thomas will lead retreats on "companions along the way" for 2010-11.

Jerry Knutson has been granted the Ministry Scholarship for the present fiscal year for assistance with his studies at ESR.

Ellen presented an inspiring written synthesis of monthly meeting responses to the Yearly Meeting query (*see pp. 14-15*).

RM10 - 20 Nominating Committee: Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor) called our attention to a yellow sheet soliciting the service of Friends within the Yearly Meeting. The form also offers the option of suggesting the name of a Friend who might serve. The form will also be used at Annual Meeting. Needs for next year: Arrangement & Site, Finance & Budget, Ministry & Nurture, recording clerk, Peace, and especially Publications & Archives. Youth & Children Program Sub-committee needs an assistant clerk for next year and leaders this year for the infant and toddler and pre-school groups. Representatives to Friends' organizations are also needed. The committee suggests that Clémence Ravaçon-Mershon (Erie WG), who is willing to serve as the clerk of the High School Program Committee next year, be appointed to serve in that capacity immediately if she is willing. We approved this nomination.

RM10 - 21 Peace Committee: David Lore (Granville) presented a written report. Continuing concerns of the committee focus on the death penalty and conflict avoidance initiatives.

RM10 - 22 Friends Committee on National Legislation: Kathleen Peabody (Ann Arbor) submitted a written report on the November meeting of FCNL. She highlighted FCNL's present areas of concerns. A short version of her report appeared in our winter 2010 *Bulletin*.

RM10 - 23 Ad Hoc Committee on Queries: Thomas Taylor reported that the committee has explored the query practices of some of our monthly meetings and is exploring the approaches of other yearly meetings. Committee members are working on a draft to present at an interest group at Annual Meeting, with copies made available for Friends to take home and back to monthly meetings for further comment. This draft will also be made available on the website; a final product may be ready for approval in 2011.

RM10 - 24 Earthcare: Dick Hogan (Athens) presented a written report describing the numerous activities and efforts of the committee. Dick invites members of the Yearly Meeting to a retreat symposium at the Athens Meetinghouse in early May; newcomers are especially welcomed.

RM10 - 25 Naming Committee: Friends approved Carla Pratt-Harrington and Linda Mills to serve on the Naming Committee.

RM10 - 26 We approved the following minute of appreciation for Athens Monthly Meeting:

Lake Erie Representative Meeting expresses its appreciation to the Friends of Athens Monthly Meeting, notably Carla Pratt-Harrington, Clerk, and her helpers, for the many gifts they have bestowed on us this weekend: the gift of their welcoming presence and comfortable spaces in which to do our business, the gift of friendly hospitality for meals and overnight visitors, and the gift of sharing a lovely spring day and their region's magnificent natural beauty.

Merry Stanford, Clerk
Peggy Daub, Assistant Clerk
Joseph Mills, Recording Clerk
Margy Liske, Assistant Recording Clerk

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Treasurer's Report

April 1, 2010

FUNDS	Open	Income	YM Subsidy	Expense	Close
General Fund	\$7,442.02	\$20,908.34		\$27,274.39	\$1,075.97
Granville Youth Fund	\$6,010.60	\$106.06		\$106.06	\$6,010.60
Annual Meeting Fund	\$6,259.38			\$74.84	\$6,184.54
Youth Activity Fund *	\$7,181.17	\$802.33	\$2,700.00	\$1,084.65	\$9,598.85
High School Youth Fund *	\$7,211.50	\$53.03	\$1,100.00		\$8,364.53
Spiritual Formation *	\$3,677.44	\$3,400.00	\$600.00	\$3,331.60	\$4,345.84
FWCC Travel *	\$2,946.45		\$1,240.00		\$4,186.45
Consultation Fund *	\$2,268.55	\$1,190.00	\$2,700.00	\$1,675.65	\$4,482.90
Ministry Scholarship Fund *	\$ -		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$ -
Total	\$42,997.11	\$26,459.76	\$9,340.00	\$34,547.19	\$44,249.68

*These moneys are held in our checking. We do the accounting. We also subsidize them.

General Fund Income

Meeting	Contribution
Akron	-
Ann Arbor	\$4,995.00
Athens	\$2,400.00
Birmingham	\$620.00
Broadmead	\$900.00
Cleveland	-
Delaware	-
Detroit	-
Grand Rapids	\$653.25
Granville	\$850.00
Holland	-
Kalamazoo	\$1,580.00
Kent	\$622.20
Mid-Ohio Valley	\$180.00
Monongalia	-
North Columbus	\$800.00
Oberlin	\$777.00
Pine River	\$592.00
Pittsburgh	\$5,494.89
Red Cedar	-
Wooster	<u>\$444.00</u>
Totals	\$20,908.34

General Fund - Expenses

(* subsidy from General Fund)	Budget	Actual	Budget %
Travel	\$6,500.00	\$4,595.59	71%
Office	\$300.00	\$37.15	12%
Contract Worker		\$382.50	
Finance		\$35.00	
Publications	\$3,400.00	\$2,684.15	79%
Advancement	\$880.00	-	
Ministry & Nurture *	\$200.00	-	
Clerk's Fund	\$500.00	-	
FWCC Travel *	\$1,240.00	\$1,240.00	100%
Youth Activity Fund *	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	100%
High School Youth Fund *	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	100%
Spiritual Formation *	\$600.00	\$600.00	100%
Consultation Fund *	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	100%
Ministry Scholarship Fund *	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	100%
FGC	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	100%
FGC - Special Program	\$500.00	\$500.00	100%
Records Project	\$100.00	\$100.00	100%
Friends School in Detroit	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	100%
Olney Friends School	<u>\$600.00</u>	<u>\$600.00</u>	100%
Totals	\$31,320.00	\$27,274.39	87%
In-Kind (Travel)		\$374.95	
In-Kind (Office)		\$32.06	
In-Kind (Children's Retreat)		<u>\$180.00</u>	
Total		\$587.01	

	Checking	CD	Total		
Annual Meeting Fund	\$1,184.54	\$5,000	\$6,184.54	4003424	Sent 3/2/10
Youth Activity Fund	\$4,598.85	\$5,000	\$9,598.85	4003416	Sent 8/31/09

Treasurer's Report *continued*

CDs - Shorebank	Open	Income	Expense	Close	
Granville Youth 686108009	\$6,010.60	\$106.06	\$106.06	\$6,010.60	
Youth Activity 4003416		\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00	Sent 8/31/09
General Fund 4003416	\$2,470.64	\$83.92		\$2,554.56	
Annual Meeting 4003424		\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00	Sent 3/2/10
General Fund 4003424	<u>\$2,373.95</u>	<u>\$35.73</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$2,409.68</u>	
Total	\$10,855.19	\$10,225.71	\$106.06	\$20,974.84	
Funds Total:	\$44,249.68				
CD Total:	\$20,974.84				
Checking Total:	\$23,274.84				

Highlights from Committee Reports

Most of the news in committee reports to Representative Meeting is reflected in the minutes or appears in other articles in this Bulletin. A few noteworthy items, however, are not reported elsewhere, and are acknowledged below. My apologies if important news is neglected. The full reports of committees are posted on the LEYM website (leym.quaker.org). See also the reports from ad hoc committees on p. 16 – Ed.

Publications & Archives Committee seeks an editor for *Annual Records 2010*. The brunt of the work will occur in September and early October.

As the calendar changes for Yearly Meeting in 2010-11, the committee advises that publication deadlines for the three issues of the *Bulletin* be August 15, January 1, 2011, and May 1, 2011.

Ad Hoc Committee on Revising LEYM Policies and Procedures. Second drafts on specific sections are underway. We hope to present a complete draft at 2011 Representative Meeting, and request approval at the 2011 Annual Meeting. One goal is to make a booklet that is easier to consult and read.

Virtually all of the current section on membership seems to belong instead in a *Faith and Practice*. We expect to place it in an appendix, for further revision by a future ad hoc committee working on an *F&P*.

High School Youth Program Committee: Cari Burke, the new High School Youth Program Coordinator, and four LEYM teens attended *The Quake that Rocked the Midwest* at the Evanston, Illinois Meeting House in January. At a business meeting there, LEYM youth identified a general direction for the retreat program, created a process for selecting teen clerks, and provided input into planning the next retreat.

The theme of the spring retreat, at Olney Friends School in late March, is “Discovering Our Quaker Past.” The weekend will include a visit to the Olney Friends School Quaker Museum.

The High School Youth Program is intended to hold four retreats a year for Friends in high school. Much of the current work for the coordinator involves planning the retreats and rebuilding a database of teens in LEYM.

Peace Committee: Possible topics for discussion and action in July include the commitment of troops to Afghanistan, the Pentagon’s budget, Iran, ratifying the Comprehensive Nuclear Weapons Test Ban Treaty, and the death penalty. During Representative Meeting, the committee discussed prevention of future wars, the need for “peace” planning in the Pentagon, and the lack of legal aid for illegal immigrants rounded up for deportation. Kathleen Peabody noted the recent initiative in the State Department to form a “Civilian Response Corps” to work on the prevention of conflicts and the call for a new post of “chief of reconciliation and stabilization” in the Defense Department.

At two winter meetings, the **Earthcare Committee** members shared information and were “sobered by the urgency of the needs, and encouraged by the incredibly numerous groups and activities working on answers.” For Annual Meeting, a panel from Broadmead Friends Earthcare Interest Group will present a workshop on the effects of a local region’s activities, particularly agriculture, on its watershed (see p. 5). Next year we hope to encourage earthcare-interested individuals in monthly meetings to work with those in other nearby meetings.

Committee on Ministry & Nurture

Consolidated Response to Annual LEYM Query

This consolidated response to the 2009 LEYM Query was woven together from the responses of 11 monthly meetings.

The Query

What experiences have you had of wonder and awe?

What experiences have you had of the Light or the Divine?

What helps you open yourself to these experiences and what gets in the way?

What practices do you have to deepen these experiences?

How do we support each other in this awareness?

How do we support our children in their spiritual journeys?

In discussing this query, we realized how little we know of life. Daily life is full of awe-inspiring things and mystery: these are in science, in the wondrous way the world works, in the seen and the unseen, in the birth of a baby, in the miracle of life. Look at the wonder in snowflakes, the awakening of the earth in the spring and the return of the birds, the beauty in the settling into fall, followed by the snows of winter. God is with us in the woods and over the waves and by the waterfall.

Many forms of the arts also enrich our sense of awe, like participating in and appreciating music, dance, and poetry, as well as reading inspirational and scriptural writings or creating our own poetry. Journaling one's reflections and insights can give guidance for "living" into that insight and assist in appreciation of how one is growing in Spirit. Acts of compassion and sensitivity in others and in oneself make for unexpected miracles, situations, or relationships, and give one such a "faith" spiritual experience.

Busyness, hurrying, distractions, laziness, anger, grief, fear, anxieties, longing, and our egos impede our experience of the Divine. In addition, negative self-thinking, focusing on what we want, and too much attention to performance and how well we are doing at a certain job allow our ego to get in the way of both experiencing and responding to the Divine.

We have found various ways to overcome these obstacles. For some, the physical limitations that come with getting older allow for more solitude. Many others of us find being outside, connecting with nature, helps open us to the Divine. This includes a wide range of ways to be outside: in the garden working with the earth, walking in nature, riding a bicycle, living in the country surrounded by the countryside, or just sitting still with a stone, a tree, or a leaf. Many of us engage in spiritual disciplines of yoga, meditation, quiet time in the morning, journaling, or reading meaningful passages and books.

Some find coming to Meeting and meditating has moved them to feel a deeper sense of awe and wonder. From the silence of the meeting and trying to center down, they come to notice the blessings given to them: the beauty of the day, of a sunset, kind words from others, etc. They hold the quiet: they listen and wait expectantly to know what is required of them and to test what is revealed. They engage with the deepness of a gathered meeting. They learn to appreciate things easily taken for granted.

Consolidated Response to Annual LEYM Query, *continued*

For some, suffering increases awareness, while routine increases complacency. Anger, grief, or longing can sometimes bring us close to God, for in truly feeling those emotions, we can realize that God is there with open arms to receive us. Others have found that even the humdrum may offer a door to the mystery. Some need movement and routine in order to feel centered in the Spirit.

In order to deepen experiences of wonder, it's important to let go, to understand that you can't and don't need to control everything. You don't have to be "right," you don't have to be in control. Remember to take pauses from the everyday bustle of life. Live in the moment. Prayer, confession, trying to keep in touch with the Divine throughout the day all help. Sometimes our own agenda gets in the way, hindering us from listening to "what God wants." Praying for guidance, wisdom, and courage can lead to a long-term change that is hard to discern in the moment, but becomes apparent looking back over time. Living simply, journaling, reading Scriptures, and acknowledging interdependence deepen our experience. Being open helps us to follow leadings during the search to discern God's will and our efforts to align our will with it. Being involved in the Spiritual Formation program has supported and sustained a number of us.

Community nurtures and supports our spiritual journeys. We can remind each other with small gestures, such as smiling at each other or making eye contact with them. And our children often help us experience the Divine. Community encourages both openness and service, and in that openness we find the joy of kindred spirit. Real community is shared experience, mutual affirmation, and unconditional acceptance. When we are able to be open with others about our own spiritual journey and receive the messages and sharing of others in that same openness, the trust level deepens. Just being quiet together takes us to a level beyond ourselves. When we grow in getting past the "judgment" of one another and lose our fear of rejection, we discover we are loved for who we are. We support each other on an unclear path, which perhaps is intended to be a mysterious adventure.

Other people are essential to us as we face pain and the need for transformation. We want to live out our values and we need the help of others to see ourselves clearly and to inspire us to accept the transforming love available to us.

We cannot tell children how to walk on their spiritual path, but we can be examples and be emotionally present to them. Give them the opportunity to experience the joy of helping others, the beauty of nature, the wonder of learning. Children need to be comforted when hurt, loved when disappointed, and accepted when presenting themselves as individuals.

Our capacity for appreciation of mystical experiences seems to be constantly evolving into some new realization that at a deep level there is a sense of connectedness to a source of reverence and of an inner ongoing sense of letting go and receiving. There seems to be a state of mind and heart as an awareness that opens us to the Spirit within and makes us sensitive to that Spirit. One can develop a trust that the Spirit's presence within us is independent of our efforts; the presence is that place in us where the Spirit seeks to live.

The conclusion is that everyone has their own way. The issue is not how you do it, but that you do it regularly. Each individual must pay attention to what refocuses them, and then follow through with that.

Draft Set of LEYM Advices & Queries Ready for Wider Input

The **Ad Hoc Committee on Queries** has been working prayerfully since February 2009 to develop a set of Queries for Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. A draft of the queries – with some advices as a free bonus – is now ready for use and feedback during the coming year. Friends are welcome to view the draft on the LEYM website (see leym.quaker.org/News/leymnews_files/advices_draft_available.html) and download it for their own use. The little 24-page booklet contains a short history of advices and queries; information on purposes and uses of queries; sections of advices and queries on the topics of spiritual life, meeting for worship, meeting for business, the meeting community, participation in meeting, family, outreach, personal matters, simplicity, moderation, integrity, social justice, economics, civic engagement, education, peace, and earthcare; and a list of resources the Ad Hoc Committee recommends for further reading. Printed copies of the booklet will be available at Annual Meeting at Bluffton in late July. We will “present” this result of our effort at a plenary session of Yearly Meeting and will offer an interest group session for further discussion at 4:15 on Friday. (*Copies of the booklet are being sent to monthly meetings and worship groups with this issue of the LEYM Bulletin.* – Ed.)

We encourage Friends to use the draft, become familiar with its contents, and advise the Ad Hoc Committee on what works for you and how other parts of it might be improved. We were asked to develop a set of queries that arises from the needs and style of the Yearly Meeting, and so now it’s time for all of us to ask and respond to the questions and make them our own. Edits and suggestions received before 15 May 2011 will be welcome. We then plan to incorporate everyone’s input as way opens and publish a final version before the end of 2011.

LEYM Ad Hoc Committee on Queries

David Snyder (Oberlin MM)
Ellen Barnes (Birmingham MM)
Josephine Posti (Pittsburgh MM)
Raelyn Joyce (Kalamazoo MM)
Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor MM), Clerk

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Youth

In fall 2009, LEYM Clerk Merry Stanford formed an Ad Hoc Committee on Youth, whose members are Joyce Balderston (Wooster), Cari Burke (Manitou Worship Group), Peggy Daub (clerk, Ann Arbor), Jessica Fox (Athens), Michael Fuson (Granville), and Su Penn (Red Cedar). Our charge is to “explore the mission and possible goals of serving youth and children in LEYM, and to develop draft recommendations for the Yearly Meeting regarding the future of programming for young Friends.” We have met three times via telephone conference calls. First, we agreed that, to the best of our knowledge, children’s programs at the Annual Meeting are going well and do not need the close attention of this committee. Second, we agreed that we would not closely consider the High School Youth Program, as it has a structure of support dedicated to its needs. Third, we have written a message to local meetings and worship groups explaining our group’s purpose and inviting them to share with us their ideas regarding how the Yearly Meeting can nurture both the development of our young people and the adults who work with youth. This message, with three basic questions about current youth activity at the local level, ideas for supporting those local activities, and future programs at the Yearly Meeting level, has been distributed and is available at the LEYM website (leym.quaker.org). We are asking for responses by April 30. Questions? Contact Peggy Daub at peggydaub@hotmail.com.

Quaker Youth Book Project

Angelina Conti, Coordinator for the **Quaker Youth Book Project** of Quakers Uniting in Publications (QUIP), writes that the Quaker Youth Book Project, now titled *Spirit Rising: Young Quaker Voices*, went to the printer in early March, and can be pre-ordered from QuakerBooks.org. Copies will be distributed at QUIP’s Writer’s Conference, *Journals to Blogosphere*, April 21 - 25 at Quaker Hill Conference Center in Richmond, Indiana. She continues:

We’ve raised about \$1300 of the \$5000 we need to match a grant from the Obadiah Brown Benevolent Fund to support our work to translate the book, make it available to Friends in

continued on next page

Earthcare Committee Invites You to Participate in USSF2010, June 22-26, in Detroit

In its January meeting, the LEYM Earthcare Committee discussed the upcoming meeting of the U.S. Social Forum, in Detroit on June 22-26, and decided to inform the rest of LEYM about this special opportunity in our region. The prior meeting of this Forum, three years ago in Atlanta, was attended by over 10,000 people!

To inform you about this summer's opportunity, we excerpt a letter of invitation from the Faith and Spirituality Committee, part of the much larger Detroit Organizing Committee that is planning and preparing for this event. Two Friends are participating in this committee, Mike Kelly (Detroit) and Jim Crowfoot (Ann Arbor).

In Detroit, as around the nation, and the planet, for that matter, we are facing an economic, social, and ecological crisis. It ravages our city. It also happens to be a spiritual crisis.

In response, this June upwards of 20,000 social movement activists will gather in Detroit for the U.S. Social Forum, which is part festival, part convention, part action assembly, and one massive learning-from-each-other occasion. This is not a conference but a space to come up with people's solutions to these very crises. Information on this open-space forum can be reviewed online at ussf2010.org.

Why Detroit? Our city was chosen not just because we have the convention facilities (we do have Cobo Hall and Hart Plaza booked for this), but because Detroit may be in the process of becoming the first post-industrial city. It is what Sister Maureen Taylor calls "ground zero for the crisis." We've been living for decades what the rest of the economy is just falling into. We've learned some things. Resistance and alternatives have taken root. The tagline for the forum here is: Another World is Possible. Another U.S. is Necessary. Another Detroit is Happening.

Because we are convinced this is at root a spiritual crisis, we are certain that our communities of faith and spirit must be active contributors to this process. We have much to learn and much to bring.

To learn more, go to ussf2010.org, and if this calls you, hold these dates in your schedule.

To learn more about how faith groups can participate, go to the LEYM website (leym.quaker.org) and visit the Earthcare section. As the specific schedule of events – including many workshops, plenaries, service activities, and actions – becomes available later this spring, we will post some of this information and provide relevant links on the LEYM website, Earthcare section.

Quaker Youth Book Project, *continued*

Kenya and Latin America, and to organize intergenerational, conversational, and celebratory events in cities around the world. For this project to truly be successful, the book needs to be *available* and *celebrated*. To do that we need your help Please consider mailing a donation to:

Spirit Rising/Quaker Youth Book Project
1216 Arch Street #2B
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Our hope is that the publication of this book will be the *beginning* of a conversation among Friends – please help us make that happen.

Bill Bliss (1917 - 2010)

Bill Bliss died on March 29, after a recurrence of pneumonia, at age 93. A member first of Cleveland Meeting and later Ann Arbor Meeting, Bill served as Clerk of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting 1956 and remained involved in LEYM throughout his life. He and his wife, Isabel (who died in 2004), were among the founders of Friends Committee on Unity with Nature, which became Quaker Earthcare Witness.

A memorial meeting will take place at Michigan Friends Center (near Chelsea) on Saturday, May 8, at 4:30; a potluck-style supper will follow, provided mainly by Ann Arbor Friends and family. Memorial donations can be made to Friends Lake Cooperative Community (PO Box 3596, Chelsea, MI 48118) or Quaker Earthcare Witness (173 N. Prospect, Burlington, VT 05401-1607).

Friends General Conference Seeks General Secretary

FGC, with Divine guidance, nurtures the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends by providing programs and services for Friends, meetings, and seekers in the United States and Canada. The General Secretary provides Spirit-grounded servant leadership to FGC as s/he works closely with many committees and twenty staff colleagues. S/he balances her/his own personal gifts of visioning, discernment, and planning with deep listening, careful consultation, and strong support for the exercise of similar leadership gifts and skills by many others, both volunteers and staff. S/he is the chief executive officer of FGC, responsible for the effective management of all of FGC's affairs.

Candidates should:

- o Be active members of the Religious Society of Friends
- o Have mid to senior level management experience
- o Support FGC's mission and goals, including a concern to promote diversity in its many dimensions.

A complete job description is available at www.fgcquaker.org/jobs. Candidates should send a letter of application and résumé to Rich Van Dellen at fgcsearch@charter.net.

This is a full-time position with full benefits, based in the Philadelphia office of FGC, with an expected start date of summer 2011. FGC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



“The World Turned Right Side Up” is the theme of the FWCC Northeast Regional Gathering on May 21-24 at the University of New Brunswick campus in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. Specific themes to be explored include:

- Toward a moral economy
- Social and economic change
- The spiritual connection
- Guiding questions

To learn more, visit

fwccamericas.org/events/2010_NERG.shtml.

To register (by May 9) visit [https://](https://events.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg)

events.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg

FWCC's Asia West Pacific Section will next meet on March 26 to April 3, 2011, at Maryhill Retreat Center, near Paisig, Philippines. Executive Secretary Valerie Joy assures us that it will be the "dry season" and that the retreat center is on a high mountain! Asia West Pacific Friends are hoping for many visitors. Information will be linked to the Section of the Americas website when it becomes available.

2012 World Conference update: Although 2012 seems a long way off, it is not too soon to start thinking about fundraising to support those who will be attending the Sixth World Conference of Friends in Kenya. In addition to funding their own representatives, we hope that yearly and monthly meetings in the global north will raise funds to make it possible for Friends from other parts of the world to attend.

Our recent Annual Meeting approved a plan for “bringing FWCC to where Friends are” by holding a greater number of local events throughout the Section of the Americas that will seek to engage Friends in conversation on the 2012 World Conference theme of *Being Salt and Light: Friends living the kingdom in a broken world*. We plan to bring speakers on the theme from different parts of the world to locations in North, South, and Central America and the Caribbean. Out of these events we hope that study materials will grow that can be used by Friends worldwide.

Report from Friends Committee on National Legislation

G. Dorsey Green, Clerk of the FCNL General Committee, invites Friends everywhere to read FCNL's program report for 2009. This can be found on LEYM's website (leym.quaker.org): click on “LEYM News” and look for “FCNL Program Report and News,” near the top of the stories there.

LEYM Change of Address

Please return to:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____
 Zip _____
 Email _____
 Meeting _____

Jeff Cooper
 1506 Arborview Blvd
 Ann Arbor, MI 48103
 Email: cooperdaub@hotmail.com

Thank you!

**Bring a Friend to
 Annual Meeting,
 Bluffton, Ohio
 July 29 - August 1
 (See pages 2-8)**

Calendar

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

- ◆ MAY 15 DUE DATE FOR **STATISTICAL REPORTS**
- ◆ MAY 31 DUE DATE FOR **STATE OF THE MEETING REPORTS**
- ◆ JULY 12 **ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE** FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
- ◆ JULY 29 - AUGUST 1 **ANNUAL MEETING** BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY, BLUFFTON, OHIO
- ◆ AUGUST 15 DUE DATE FOR **FALL BULLETIN**
- ◆ AUGUST 29 DUE DATE FOR **ANNUAL RECORDS**
- ◆ SEPTEMBER 10-12 **SPIRITUAL FORMATION RETREAT** ADRIAN, MICHIGAN

GREEN PASTURES QUARTERLY MEETING

- ◆ MAY 15 SPRING GATHERING MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER, NEAR CHELSEA
- ◆ AUGUST 8? (TBD) SUMMER GATHERING QUAKER PARK, BATTLE CREEK
- ◆ SEPTEMBER 18 FALL GATHERING FRIENDS SCHOOL IN DETROIT

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE

- ◆ JULY 4 - 10 ANNUAL GATHERING, CAMPUS OF BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY, BOWLING GREEN, OHIO

**Fall Gathering of Friends
in/near West Virginia**

Mid-Ohio Valley Friends will host the annual fall gathering of Friends in West Virginia and southeastern Ohio. This event is tentatively scheduled on the weekend of September 25-26 at Camp Happy Valley, in Teays Valley, West Virginia, near Charleston. Friends wanting to learn more can contact Jane Hearne, Clerk of Mid-Ohio Valley Meeting, at janehearne@slabcreek.org.

Address Service Requested

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

Jeff Cooper
1506 Arborview Blvd
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Email: cooperdaub@hotmail.com

Our children are given to us for a time to cherish, to protect, to nurture, and then to salute as they go their separate ways.

Elizabeth Watson
"Parents and Children
in the Quaker Home" (1979)

Spring 2010 Bulletin

We're on the Web!
<http://leym.quaker.org>



What I Like about Annual Meeting

(Answers from last year's evaluation forms)

The theme, speaker, Bible study, and worship sharing queries all worked together.

There was a good balance of quiet time, camaraderie, nature, meetings, and fun.

Having time for spiritual practice and leisure drew me into new friendships.

Workshops were a wonderful variety but it was hard to choose just one.

Nature walks and Earthcare Committee's presentations were inspiring.

The younger children weave through our time together with giggles and smiles.

The Children's Program keeps getting stronger, and our kids love it!

Young Adult Friends were a welcome sight.

People Bingo, planned by HS and YAFs, was an excellent prod for personal interactions.

The Talent Show was a highlight for me. Funny, fast-paced, beautiful. I saw new sides of people I thought I knew.

So many wonderful books to browse and buy!

I felt that I was greatly deepened and enriched this weekend.

There is a sense of extended community.

Annual Meeting 2010

Bluffton University, a small liberal arts university affiliated with Mennonite Church USA, is located in Bluffton, Ohio, just off Interstate 75, about an hour south of Toledo and 90 minutes north of Dayton (and roughly two hours northwest of Columbus).

Directions to campus from I-75, traveling south:

Take exit 142 and turn right (west) onto State Route 103. At the first stop sign, turn left onto Main Street. At the third stop light, turn right onto College Avenue, which runs through the heart of campus.

Directions to campus from I-75, traveling north:

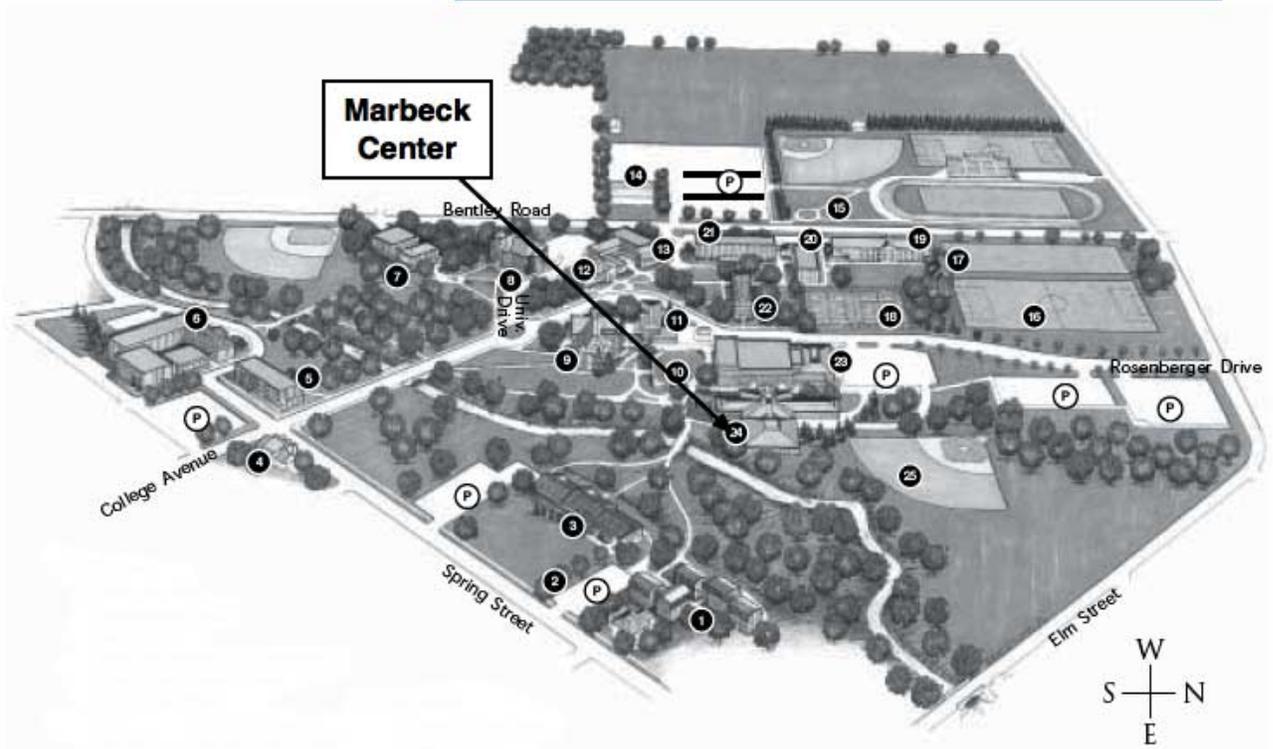
Take exit 140 and turn left (west) onto Bentley Road. At the first stop sign, turn right onto Main Street. At the first stop light, turn left onto College Avenue, which runs right into campus.

Most Annual Meeting activities take place at the **Marbeck Center** (no. 24 on the campus map, below). Go there first to register; the closest parking lot is nearby, just to the right of no. 23. Dorms are to the west, with parking off Bentley Road. (Note that on this map, west is up; College Avenue enters campus from the southeast.)

First time at Annual Meeting?

Be sure to attend one of the
Newcomer Enrichment Meetings,
Thursday at 6:30 pm or
Friday at 9:40 am (place tba).

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY



LEYM Annual Meeting 2010 – Registration Instructions

- Registration deadline** is Monday, July 12. Registration Form, Parental Consent Form, and check must be postmarked by this date for all children attending. Adults who register after this date must pay the higher \$47 registration fee. Room assignments will be made on a first come, first served basis.
- Please complete a line on the registration form for each family member attending. Although children age 0-18 attend for free this year, and adults who work fulltime with the youth do not incur charges, **it is important that every person attending be listed on the registration form** so that housing assignments can be made, meals be available, and program needs be met.
- Worship Group:** Put a check in the Worship Grp? column if you wish to participate in a worship sharing group.
- Adult Young Friend:** Put a check in the Adult Young Friend? column if age 19-25 and wishing to participate in Adult Young Friends activities.
- Lodging:** Overnight attendees may stay in Ramseyer Hall, which is air conditioned, for \$21.50/night or Hirschy Annex, which is not air conditioned, for \$16.50/night, or camp on the lawn near these dorms, for \$10.00/night. Dorm rooms have two twin beds. Often additional beds or mattresses can be moved from an empty room to accommodate children sleeping in parents' room. Campers need to bring their own tents and sleeping bags and will have key card access to dormitory restroom facilities. Put a check in the box below each night a person is staying. In the Lodging Choice column, specify Ramseyer (R), Hirschy Annex (H), or camping (C).
- Linens:** Put a check in the Linens column if linens are desired. The \$8.00/stay cost covers top and bottom sheets, pillowcase, towel, washcloth, and small bar of soap. Alternatively, sheets and towels may be brought from home. Children and adults going to the lake will need towels for swimming. The beds in the dorms are x-long twin size.
- Blankets and pillows:** Blankets and pillows are *not* included in the linens packet. Ramseyer rooms have blankets, but not pillows. Hirschy Annex rooms have neither blankets nor pillows.
- Commuters:** Attendees staying overnight off campus or commuting from home pay the commuter fee for each day attending. The cost is \$4.00/day. If attending only part of a day, the full day fee for that day should be paid. Put a check in the box below each day attending.
- Lodging/Commuter subtotal:** Enter a value for adults age 19 and up only. For lodging: multiply the number of nights staying by the cost per night of the chosen lodging and, if linens are desired, add in the linen cost, and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal column. For commuters: multiply the number of days commuting by the daily commuter fee and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal Column.
- Meals:** Put a check in the box for each meal desired. Cost per meal for adults age 19 and up: breakfast \$5.10, lunch \$6.95, supper \$7.95. Add together the cost of all meals and enter in the Meals Subtotal column.
- Registration Fee:** Adults age 19 and up pay a registration fee of \$37 if the registration form is postmarked by Monday, July 12, or \$47 if postmarked thereafter. Part-time participants must pay the full registration fee.
- First-Time Attenders:** Those attending for the first time are entitled to a discount of 1/3 off total costs. After calculating the "Total" for each adult, calculate 1/3 of Totals for all adults attending for the first time and enter the value on the "less Scholarship" line.
- CHILDREN:**
 - Registrations for children and completed Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Forms must be postmarked by Monday, July 12.
 - Children age 0-18 attend for free this year. The cost of food, lodging, linens (if desired), and registration will be paid for by LEYM.
 - Children do not have to be toilet trained.
 - A line on the registration form must be filled out for each child to assure a place in the Youth & Children's Program, lodging, and meals.
 - A parent or guardian should complete the LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form for all children age 0-18.
- Contact Information:** Please fill out your address, phone number, monthly meeting, and email address. If an email address is specified, the registrar will notify you when your registration has been received.
- Concerns/Roommates:** Please complete these sections as applicable. We will try our best to meet your requests.
- Payment:** Please make checks payable to "LEYM" and mail along with your completed registration form, and Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form if children will be attending, to the registrar: Vanessa Fuson, 103 Shepardson Ct., Granville, OH 43023.
- Financial Assistance:** Those desiring financial assistance should first contact their monthly meetings. If needs cannot be met by the monthly meeting, contact the registrar.
- Emergency Contact:** If someone needs to reach you while you are attending LEYM, during business hours a message may be left at the Marbeck Center switchboard: 419-358-3000. After hours, campus security can be called at: 419-358-3343.
- Questions?** Please contact Vanessa Fuson, registrar, at fusonv@denison.edu or 740-587-4756.

Registration Form

Last Name, First Name	Worship Grp? (chk)	Adult	Young Friend? (chk)	Lodging				Commuter				Meals					Registration	Total					
				Nights (check)	Where? Specify R, H, or C	Linens? \$8.00/stay (check)	Lodging Subtotal (enter amount)	Days - \$4/day (check)	Commuter Subtotal (enter amount)	Thurs \$14.90/day	Fri \$20.00/day	Sat \$20.00/day	Sun \$12.05/day	Meals Subtotal (enter amount)	Early Bird (Post-marked by 7/12/10, \$37)	Regular (\$47)							
Children - age 0-18																							
Last Name, First Name	Age	Th	Fr	Sa	Specify R, H, or C	Linens?	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	L	S	B	L	S	B	L	S	B	L			

Address _____

Monthly Meeting _____

Phone (H) _____

E-mail _____

First-Time Attender? (See instructions #12) _____

Concerns:

How many for vegetarian diet? _____

Trouble w/stairs? _____

Trouble w/walking? _____

Use wheelchair? _____

Teen(s) want to be with family or other teens? _____

Other? _____

Roommates:

I prefer to be alone _____

Prefer roommate _____

Will room as family- # of rooms: _____

Subtotal \$ _____

less Scholarship \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Paid in advance \$ _____

Due at check in \$ _____

Make check payable to: LEYM

Mail completed Registration Form, Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form, and check to:

Vanessa Fuson
103 Shepardson Ct.
Granville, OH 43023

- JULY 12, 2010 – Registration Deadline JULY 12, 2010 – Registration Deadline JULY 12, 2010 –
LEYM PARENT or GUARDIAN CONSENT & PERMISSION FORM

All children welcome, toilet-trained or not

Child's full name: _____
Child's age at LEYM: _____
Child's grade level next fall: _____ Youth Adult
Nickname: _____ Tee shirt size: _____
Child's full name: _____ Youth Adult
Child's age at LEYM: _____
Child's grade level next fall: _____ Youth Adult
Nickname: _____ Tee shirt size: _____
Child's full name: _____ Youth Adult
Child's age at LEYM: _____
Child's grade level next fall: _____ Youth Adult
Nickname: _____ Tee shirt size: _____
Home address: _____

Name(s) & address of children's Parent/Guardian/Adult Sponsor: _____

email address: _____

Please give a full listing of each child's medical, mental, and physical / conditions as well as any medications they are currently taking:

Medical Insurance Information.

Insurance Carrier: _____
Group number: _____
Policy holder's name: _____
Policy number: _____

I am aware that my child is attending the gathering of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting at Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH, July 29 – August 1, 2010. I authorize the adult staff to arrange for emergency medical care they deem necessary. I am aware that for my child to participate in swimming, bowling, or any other off- campus activity he/she will be riding in a private motor vehicle to and from these activities. My child will only ride in vehicles equipped with seatbelts or age appropriate child-restraining devices. [Providing your child's car seat would help.]

(Signature of parent or guardian)

Telephone number(s) where parent/guardian can be reached for permission for emergency medical treatment/admittance if they are not attending LEYM. days: _____ evenings: _____ other: _____

If parent/guardian cannot be reached, notify:

days: _____ evenings: _____ other: _____

TEE SHIRTS: tee shirts are provided to each child at no additional cost to families. Please indicate the child's approximate size.