



## Looking Forward to Annual Meeting

### Clerk's Message, by Shirley Bechill

Greetings to LEYM Friends! With the promise of spring in the air we look forward to our annual gathering of LEYM Friends, June 14 – 17, 2007 at Bluffton University. Their welcome has always been warm and accommodating to our special needs. We are especially feeling loving concern and appreciation for the Bluffton community as they recover from the tragic experience on Friday, March 2, of their baseball team's bus accident in Atlanta. That was the same day that many LEYM monthly meeting representatives, committees, and clerks were traveling to East Lansing, Michigan for our Representative Meeting. As we gathered in worship that evening, our hearts and prayers were with the Bluffton "family" and those Friends among them. The following minute was approved and forwarded to the university through Friend Sally Weaver Sommer:

*It is with great sorrow that we learned during our Representative Meeting today of the devastating accident which took the lives of four members of the Bluffton University Baseball team, their driver, and his wife, and injured 29 others. Since LEYM meets on their campus each June, we are connected with Bluffton University and have always felt welcomed by*

*the students, faculty, and staff. We hold in the light both those lost and injured and their families and loved ones. May God over time bring healing to the entire Bluffton community during these dark days of mourning.*

Our meetings continued in a sense of worship and gratitude. Our LEYM community grows closer together spiritually during our gatherings and we encourage meetings to be sure they identify members to attend to bring their concerns to the attention of the appropriate committees and participate in discerning together the leadings for LEYM.

We expressed a special appreciation to Kri Burkander for her devoted service with our high school youth, providing guidance and programs. She has resigned from the post of High School Youth Program Coordinator, but is assisting in the effort to secure her successor while she awaits the birth of her first born in late May. We give our blessings to Kri and her family's future. They continue to be part of the Ann Arbor Monthly Meeting and LEYM.

Last fall two LEYM representatives attended the Friends General Conference Traveling Ministries

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Clerk's Message, continued

Consultation exploring nurturing spiritual gifts [see report on page 17]. They remind us of our corporate responsibility in seeking out and nurturing gifts of Friends among us. All of us are encouraged to forward to Nominating Committee suggestions of Friends whose gifts would benefit LEYM committees.

We celebrate this and other Consultations as wonderful opportunities that Friends General Conference committees are providing Friends for growth and development in many areas. Later in March two LEYM representatives will attend the Friends General Conference Advancement and Outreach Consultation. We anticipate that their experience will benefit all of us at some point. And in April, as your clerk, I will be attending the FGC Ministry and Nurture Consultation for Yearly Meeting Clerks. Many LEYM Friends serve on FGC committees, and with these added events our yearly meeting relationship with Friends General Conference is strengthened.

Our relationship with one another as a yearly meeting is strengthened as well each time we gather. The Program Committee is offering us a

most exciting program for the Annual Meeting. Our theme this year is "Living Our Witness to Peace." Mary Lord, of the AFSC Peace and Conflict Resolution Program, will be our plenary speaker as well as offering a workshop. Many other stimulating workshops will be offered, on Discernment, Water, Quaker Ethics and Philanthropy, Relationship Enrichment, and Healing Prayer, which has become a very important experience for many of us. Please see the program and registration information in this *Bulletin*. Plan to join us for this wonderful opportunity to be together in worship, business, song, and dance, and to vigil as one body.

In Love & Light,  
Shirley Bechill, Clerk

*Please note that the Bechills have moved, so our clerk has a new street address: 1246 N. Masonic Drive. The remainder of the address, the phone number, and the email address all remain unchanged, and are shown in the box at the lower left.*

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### B, B, & B

Bed, Bath, & Beyond? Nope...  
Bible Study, Books, and Business—  
3 Highlights of the 2007 Annual Meeting

### LEYM Directory and Database

Mathilda Navias, clerk of Advancement & Outreach, maintains the LEYM Database. LEYM committees and officers who want to communicate with meetings can get a mailing list or e-mail 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](mailto:galaxy@woh.rr.com).

# LIVING OUR WITNESS TO PEACE,

JUNE 14-17, 2007

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY, BLUFFTON, OHIO

Get Registration Insert at [http://leym.quaker.org/library\\_assets/files/LEYM2007RegistrationInsert.pdf](http://leym.quaker.org/library_assets/files/LEYM2007RegistrationInsert.pdf)

As Friends, we aren't just anti-war – we're pro-peace. We don't have a testimony to "the absence of war" but to the presence of peace. Yes, we decry the war, and often are actively engaged in protesting it, but this Yearly Meeting offers an opportunity to be actively engaged in considering how we can promote peace. It is a time for us to gather among Friends to consider how we can, in our individual and corporate activities, "live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars. "

Among the events evolving from the theme for this year's gathering is the plenary talk by Mary Lord, entitled "Finding Peace – Healing the Brokenness," on Friday evening (see page 5). She will also give a workshop on Saturday afternoon on the Life Cycle of Conflict (see page 6). The new Adult Young Friends group is planning a vigil on the horrors and victims of war.

Conducting the business of Yearly Meeting is the reason we gather and will take much of our attention for the weekend, but be sure to note the "extras," such as:

1. Early morning Bible study on the Yearly Meeting theme with Susan Jeffers.
2. Six small group workshops on different topics on Saturday afternoon.
3. A children's program that is fun and spirit-filled for children and their adult leaders alike.
4. Information tables from various Quaker organizations.
5. Free time for your own spiritual practice or socializing with others.
6. Folk dancing for all ages on Saturday night, followed by a watermelon social!
7. Optional worship sharing on the Yearly Meeting theme in small, intergenerational groups.
8. A rich display of books of interest to Quakers. (And you can buy them!)
9. A walk through a nearby nature preserve with local guide Jon Sommer.
10. Orientation meetings for first-time attenders at LEYM to welcome you and let you ask questions.
11. Singing in many otherwise unscheduled moments.
12. A retreat from your regular routine to a few days of Quaker fellowship.

Susan Jeffers writes:

In March 2006 a number of LEYM Friends brought books and backpacks to Representative Meeting as donations to **Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya**. These donations have been gratefully received, with apologies for the long delay in their receipt and acknowledgment. Friends who are interested in supporting the school further should check out <http://ftc.quaker.org/>.

## New! Adult Young Friends Program at Yearly Meeting

## Youth Program At Yearly Meeting

Dear Adult Young Friends,

I am super excited to inform you that this summer at Yearly Meeting there is going to be an Adult Young Friends (AYF) program!! The AYF program is for young adults who have graduated from high school through age 25. This program is going to be developed and run by young Friends. My hope for this program is for young Friends to get connected to their yearly meeting and see what it has to offer and to learn about opportunities through Quaker organizations, but also to have an awesome weekend with fellow Quakers.

We are working on having a portion of a dorm and lobby or specific area where Friends can hang out. The program is also going to be extremely flexible, in that Friends are welcome to attend programmed activities and meetings of the adult program and/or attend AYF program.

The Yearly Meeting is on the campus of Bluffton University in Bluffton, Ohio, and there is plenty of room for Ultimate Frisbee and soccer. Tennis courts on the campus are also open for use. There are a couple of parks that may be used for an afternoon outing as well as a nature preserve that has a swinging bridge and a fire pit. The youth program goes to the Twin Lakes, which has a swimming area that Adult Young Friends are welcome to join. Intergenerational programs are also scheduled with the adult and youth programs.

Friends are encouraged to bring games, musical instruments, fun, laughter, excitement, themselves, and others.

Looking forward to seeing all of you there!

Bekah Sommer

\* If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at [bcsombwa@bluffton.edu](mailto:bcsombwa@bluffton.edu) through May 6 or [LaCubeta@hotmail.com](mailto:LaCubeta@hotmail.com).

The Youth & Children Committee of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting is excited about being with children during Annual Meeting; we are creating a program that will reflect our theme this year of

"Living our Witness to Peace." As always, we hope to reflect Quaker values as we spend time with these delightful children. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to share some information about our youth program during Annual Meeting. I hope that this helps clarify a little what youth leaders and parents have happening during Yearly Meeting. Please be supportive where you can.

- We welcome all children, including infants, toddlers, and children with special needs.
- Children must register on time so that we can prepare accordingly.
- Programs are during mornings, afternoons, and most evenings. A specific schedule will be available at the registration table. Parents are responsible for their children during meals and any other non-youth program time.
- Children are divided into five age groups.
- Parents are expected to pick children up on time from youth programs (usually at the cafeteria). This may mean that, occasionally, you will need to leave a meeting before it is over.
- Parents and other adults are welcome to participate in the children's program at any time. We always need volunteers for chaperones on Friday and Saturday afternoons.

All registered children are expected to participate in the youth program. If they are unwilling to participate, they will be the responsibility of the parents.

If you have questions before our June gathering, please call Joyce Callahan at 440 338-4483 or email at [jmc2mail@netscape.net](mailto:jmc2mail@netscape.net).

Joyce Callahan,  
for the Youth & Children Committee

<p><b>Emergency numbers</b> for family members who stay home during Yearly Meeting: Marbeck Center after hours: 419 358-3216      Bluffton University switchboard: 419 358-3000</p>
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# “Finding Peace – Healing the Brokenness”

## Plenary Address to be given by Mary Lord

On Friday evening, June 15, Mary Lord will address the Yearly Meeting with a talk entitled “Finding Peace – Healing the Brokenness.” Here is how Mary describes her talk:

Whether it is a family quarrel, an argument in the Meeting, or a war between nations, what happens after the cease fire? Are we on a road to real peace or merely waiting for the next battle? The answer lies in how we ground our actions and attitudes in the healing and transforming presence of God’s love.

As we work to try to end the Iraq war, we recognize the damage that the war has inflicted on the people of Iraq, on the surrounding region, on the people of the U.S., and on U.S. relationships with other countries. It is important to stop the killing, but that is only the beginning of peacemaking. Lincoln spoke of the need to bind up the wounds of the Civil War, wounds that have not yet healed today. We know of family quarrels that go on for generations, though the original cause is long forgotten. Healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation enable us to rebuild or find real peace.

*Mary Lord has served as Associate General Secretary for Peace and Conflict Resolution for the American Friends Service Committee since 2002. Prior to that she coordinated AFSC's response to September 11th and the emerging war while on loan from her normal position at Friends Committee on National Legislation. At FCNL she developed a project on peaceful prevention of armed conflict and developed and led a young adult program. She has been released by Baltimore Yearly meeting to work on Quaker volunteer service and Friends Peace Teams. Before working for Friends' organizations, Mary was the executive director of ACCESS, a non-profit publisher, information service, and comprehensive database on international affairs based in Washington, DC. She also served for six years as the Deputy Director of Physicians for Social Responsibility, and was a senior policy analyst with the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Mary will retire from AFSC at the end of April 2007 to devote herself more fully to speaking and educating on peace. She is a member of Adelphi Friends Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and is currently attending Green Street Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.*

### **Nature Walk**

Friday afternoon, during the Spiritual Practice Time (unscheduled time for Friends to recharge themselves in whatever way they deem best), you are invited to gather for a walk in Bluffton University's 130 acre nature preserve, on trails through the woods, circling the pond, and crossing the creek on a swinging bridge to the cabin at the preserve's northern edge. Walking all the trails covers less than four miles. Sun protection, long pants, and comfortable shoes are recommended. Jon Sommer, of Bluffton, will accompany the group.

# Workshops at Yearly Meeting

Six workshops will be presented on Saturday afternoon (June 16) from 3:30 to 5:15.  
This brief overview will help you choose which you want to attend.

## ***The Life Cycle of Conflict: Can We Find Our Way Out?***

*Leader: Mary Lord*

The workshop will focus on the idea that conflicts have a life cycle. Different tools of peacemaking are more effective at different stages. Some can help us keep a conflict from escalating and becoming more serious, others are useful in bringing about a ceasefire, others in the post-conflict period. Conflict is part of human life and human community. We are peacemakers when we learn how to deal constructively with the conflicts that arise. This workshop is an introduction to understanding conflict, and ways we can call on our spiritual resources to resolve conflicts. Mary Lord is Associate General Secretary for Peace and Conflict Resolution for AFSC.

## ***Quakers, Philanthropy, and Applied Ethics, or Convincement, Conversion, and the Kingdom***

*Leader: Jennie Dove-Isbell*

In this workshop we will explore our awareness of and attitude towards money, and perhaps reframe these issues against the backdrop of Quaker history and the Christian worldview of stewardship. Participants will engage in a simple survey for self-discovery, discuss personal experiences, and view a collage of ideas from Friends of different eras, all considering Christian identity defined and lived out. Jennie Dove-Isbell is Coordinator of Annual Fund and Constituent Relations for Earlham School of Religion in Richmond, Indiana.

## ***Relationship Enrichment***

*Leaders: Peter Wood and Verne Bechill*

This will be a brief informational and experiential introduction to the principles and practices of Couple Enrichment. Any relationship can benefit from the use of these practices. All are welcome, alone or as a pair. Peter Wood (Red Cedar Meeting) and Verne Bechill (Pine River Meeting) have many years of experience as presenters of Couple Enrichment workshops.

## ***Who Owns Water?***

*Leaders: LEYM Earthcare Committee*

We will show parts of the documentary *THIRST*, which addresses water issues on a global scale. The film is a piercing look at the conflict between public stewardship and private profit, illustrated by communities in Bolivia, India, and the U.S., and at the World Water Forum in Japan. Following the film, a panel will briefly address the challenges we face concerning water in the LEYM area. We will conclude with a discussion of what each of us can do to meet those challenges in the Great Lakes and Ohio River watersheds.

## ***Receiving Inner Guidance***

*Leader: Jerry Knutson*

We will start by reading the first part of a manuscript on discernment that will address “What is discernment, Whom are we discerning, When should we use discernment, Why use discernment, and How can we receive guidance?” We will then work with guided imagery to seek an answer to a question we have for the Spirit. We will conclude with Worship Sharing on the manuscript or the guided imagery. Jerry Knutson has been studying, writing about, and giving workshops on discernment since 1998. He has been released from Pittsburgh Monthly Meeting to prepare his writing on discernment for publication.

## ***Meeting for Healing***

*Leader: Richard Lee*

A quick overview of this worship tradition among Friends will be provided, along with written material on the history of Meeting for Worship for Healing and a brief “How to do it” handout. The majority of time will be spent in an actual Meeting for Worship for Healing in the manner of Friends. Friends are encouraged to carry on a dialogue with those familiar with this worship throughout the Yearly Meeting sessions. Richard Lee (Red Cedar Meeting) has been leading workshops on Meetings for Worship for Healing at Yearly meeting for many years.

# Preliminary Schedule: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting June 14-17, 2007

## Theme: Living Our Witness to Peace

\* Childcare available during this meeting

From	To	Thursday 6/14
12:30 pm	1:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm	5:30 pm	Committee Meetings; check board in registration area for locations. Suggestion for newcomers: sit in on any committee (except Nominating).
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 – Introductory Session *
From	To	Friday 6/15
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme with Susan Jeffers. Other groups who wish 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	Worship Sharing *
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 noon	Meeting for Worship With Attention to Business.*
12 noon	12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM
1:00 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.) Optional Spiritual Practice: Nature Walk Groups who wish to meet please post a notice in the registration area.
5:30 pm	6:00 pm	Dinner line open for LEYM
6:30 pm	7:00 pm	Spiritual Practice – Time for study, conversation, or your own Yearly Meeting project.
7:15 pm	8:45 pm	Plenary Speaker: Mary Lord, <i>Finding Peace – Healing the Brokenness</i> *
9:00 pm	9:45 pm	Peace Vigil

\* Childcare available during this meeting

## Preliminary Schedule: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

\* Childcare available during this meeting

From	To	Saturday 6/16
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme with Susan Jeffers. Other groups who wish 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	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
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	<u>Workshops</u> – check board in registration area for location * Mary Lord, <i>The Life Cycle of Conflict: Can We Find Our Way Out?</i> Peter Wood & Verne Bechill, <i>Relationship Enrichment</i> Richard Lee, <i>Meeting for Healing</i> LEYM Earthcare Committee, <i>Who Owns Water?</i> Jennie Dove-Isbell, <i>Quakers, Philanthropy, and Applied Ethics</i> Jerry Knutson, <i>Receiving Inner Guidance</i>
5:30 pm	6:00 pm	Dinner line open for LEYM
7:00 pm	9:00 pm	Contra- and Folk-Dancing followed by Watermelon Social
From	To	Sunday 6/17
6:30 am	7:30 am	Bible Study on Yearly Meeting Theme with Susan Jeffers. 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 noon	12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM

\* Childcare available during this meeting

### Of Special Note:

Teens are cordially invited to attend Worship Sharing on Friday and Saturday mornings with adults. Anyone planning to attend should mark this on their registration form in the “Worship Grp” column; child care will be available for younger children.

Newcomers: Please choose one of the two meetings designed to welcome you and answer any questions you may have: 6:30 pm Thursday or 9:40 am Friday.

There will be 12-Step Program Meetings daily. Check signs at registration area for time and place.



# Minutes of LEYM Representative Meeting

**March 3, 2007 Hosted by Red Cedar Friends Meeting  
at Edgewood United Church , East Lansing, Michigan**

**RM07 - 1** The meeting opened with unprogrammed worship, mindful of those still traveling to meet with us, and of the tragic bus accident in Atlanta which took the lives of six in the Bluffton University community.

The Epistle to Friends everywhere from Japan YM was read. It tells us of the need to keep up the fabric of Friends Center, Tokyo, as well as the spiritual vitality of their dwindling membership. They are considering the ways in which development of a book of *Faith & Practice* might stimulate their spiritual growth and clarify YM processes - in this, the 120<sup>th</sup> year of their life as a yearly meeting.

The Clerk, Shirley Bechill (Pine River), welcomed us and thanked Red Cedar Friends for hosting us so warmly.

Regrets have been received from Michael Fuson (Granville, Assistant Clerk), Bob Roehm (North Columbus), and Jim Crowfoot (Ann Arbor).

**RM07 - 2** The Recording Clerk, Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor), called the roll of Friends from our constituent meetings and groups. The count was as follows:

## Monthly Meetings:

Akron	0	Kalamazoo	3
Ann Arbor	5	Kent	2
Athens	0	Mid-Ohio Valley	0
Birmingham	3	Monongalia	0
Broadmead	7	North Columbus	0
Cleveland	4	Oberlin	2
Delaware	0	Pine River	4
Detroit	3	Pittsburgh	5
Grand Rapids	0	Red Cedar	6
Granville	1	Wooster	0

## Preparative Meetings and Worship Groups:

Albion, Circleville, Erie, Fremont, Gallipolis, Holland, Indiana, Manitou, and Tustin [*This list has been updated since the roll was called.*] 0

**LEYM attenders:** 45

**Other attenders:** 0

**Total attenders:** 45

**RM07 - 3** Four Friends from Broadmead have arrived, having been held up by car trouble. Sally

Weaver Sommer shared with us some of the experience at Bluffton University after the tragedy in Atlanta. The events have drawn the community together.

**RM07 - 4** We broke into committees to do YM work for the remainder of the morning.

**RM07 - 5** Back together after lunch, we heard the following minute proposed by David Lore (Granville). He had been asked to draft it during the break. Approved.

*It is with great sorrow that we learned during our Representative Meeting today of the devastating accident which took the lives of four members of the Bluffton University Baseball team, their driver and his wife and injured 29 others.*

*Since LEYM meets on their campus each June, we are connected with Bluffton University and have always felt welcomed by the students, faculty and staff.*

*We hold in the light both those lost and injured and their families and loved ones. May God over time bring healing to the entire Bluffton community during these dark days of mourning.*

**RM07 - 6 High School Youth Program.** Carolyn Lejuste (Red Cedar) read a draft of the charge to the new HSYP Committee and a draft job description of the Program Coordinator.

## High School Youth Program Committee Charge:

The HS Youth Program Committee of LEYM holds in concern the spiritual life of the youth, who are rising ninth grade through rising college age of our individual monthly meetings. In this service the Committee will:

1. Coordinate, with the Finance Committee, to contract with a private consultant to act as the High School Youth Program Coordinator.
2. Advise and support the High School Youth Program Coordinator as he/she performs his/her duties.
3. Assists the HS Coordinator in keeping an updated database of eligible youth for the HS program.

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

4. Identify and nurture Friends in monthly meetings who are interested in working with HS youth.

### **High School Program Coordinator - Job Description:**

The purpose of the High School Program Coordinator position is to nurture the spiritual life of high school youth throughout the yearly meeting.

#### **Specific Tasks:**

1. Plan and Coordinate four (4) youth retreats per year that are scattered geographically throughout the Yearly Meeting to maximize participation of youth throughout the region.
  - a. One of these four retreats has historically been "The Quake that Rocked the Midwest," held over Martin Luther King weekend at the Evanston, Ill. Meeting House in partnership with other Midwest yearly meetings.
  - b. These retreats are to be both fun and educational for the youth.
  - c. The retreats are an opportunity for youth to develop leadership skills by fully participating in the identification of themes, workshops, and workshop presenters.
  - d. With the youth, identify individuals throughout the YM who can offer Quaker-related workshops on various topics of religious education.
2. Build and maintain relationships with other youth workers within LEYM, other yearly meetings, and FGC.
3. Maintain an updated database of high school youth throughout the Yearly Meeting.
4. Send LEYM HS youth timely information about upcoming YM and national Quaker youth opportunities and events.
5. Make all information available to the LEYM webmaster.
6. Submit reports of each event to the Yearly Meeting Clerk in a timely manner.
7. Submit required paperwork, reports, and invoices to the Yearly Meeting Clerk and Finance Committee annually.

Several changes were suggested and incorporated (above). We approve these documents provisionally, and encourage the HSYF Committee to proceed to advertise for a new Coordinator. We expect to check the details of these documents before June, and to give final approval at our Annual Meeting. We

thank Kri Burkander for all the work she has done for our High School youth, and for developing this program, which has become a model for other yearly meetings.

**RM07 - 7 Program Committee.** Marty Grundy (Cleveland) reported:

### **Program Committee Report**

The Program Committee met to plan the program for Yearly Meeting 2007. The theme for the Yearly Meeting is "Living Our Witness to Peace." Our plenary speaker will be Mary Lord.

Workshops will include:

- \* Mary Lord, Living Our Witness to Peace
- \* Jerry Knutson, Discernment
- \* Richard Lee, Meeting for Healing
- \* Earthcare, Who Owns Water?
- \* Peter Wood and Verne Bechill, Relationship Enrichment
- \* Jennie Dove-Isbell, Quaker Ethics and Philanthropy

The Saturday evening schedule will be a bit different: it has been moved up half an hour, so the dance starts at 7pm, followed by a WATER-MELON social at 8:30, followed at 9:00 by a vigil. If we can afford it, we will ask for a display of AFSC's *Eyes Wide Open*. Whether it comes or not, we are asking the Young Adults to lead the vigil.

Worship Sharing will continue, but there will be a question on the registration form as to whether registrants wish to worship-share.

Bible Study will continue as in the past.

If we can, we will schedule a nature hike during Spiritual Renewal Time on Friday afternoon.

**RM07 - 8 Children & Youth Committee.** Joyce Callahan (Cleveland) reported:

### **Children and Youth Committee Report**

The Children & Youth Committee reviewed the LEYM policy regarding adult-to-child ratio and feel comfortable maintaining the two adults per group requirement.

We intend to include information in the *Spring Bulletin* regarding prompt registration, the expectation of participation by the children, and LEYM policy with a focus on keeping children safe.

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

We are very grateful for the dedicated work of the Nominating Committee, as the children's program has a full complement of group leaders for the coming YM sessions.

The Committee Clerk will write a letter to each monthly meeting inviting all children and youth to attend YM.

We look forward to working with our wonderful youth at LEYM.

### **RM07 - 9 Arrangements & Site Committee.** Jon Sommer (Broadmead) reported.

#### **Arrangements & Site Committee Report**

The Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Annual Meeting will be held June 14-17, 2007, on the campus of Bluffton University in Bluffton, Ohio.

Registrar for the Annual Meeting is Mary Igoe Meyers of Broadmead Monthly Meeting. Beyond individual registrations, the Registrar will need lists of full-time youth leaders, official invitees, plenary speaker, and others whose expenses are covered at the Annual Meeting.

Faced with an increase in the minimum wage, Bluffton University has made some adjustments in their rates for 2007 to offset their increased staffing costs. These include an increase in all dorm rates by \$1.00 per night for both adults and children. Camping rates increase to \$10.00 per night for adults and \$ 5.00 per night for children, and the commuter fee increases to \$4.00 per day per person. Other rates are:

Adult meals: Breakfast, \$4.95; lunch, \$6.25; and supper, \$7.55.

Child meals: Breakfast, \$3.40; lunch, \$4.70; and supper, \$5.45.

Child rates now include children 3- 7 years of age (formerly 3- 12 years of age). Children 2 and under are free, as before.

### **RM07 - 10 Ministry & Nurture Committee.** Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) reported.

#### **Ministry and Nurture Committee Report**

**1. Query Responses:** We considered the responses of 12 meetings to the annual queries. We have heard personally from some Friends that the queries were transformative for their relationships in their local meetings. We have heard from others that the annual queries provide one of few

opportunities that their local meetings have to gather together for worship sharing, and that the sharing is very rich. The Committee was glad to hear this, since the richness did not always show up in the meeting responses which we received.

- We noticed that our meetings focused quite a bit on discerning internal meeting matters, and that our meetings are eager and capable at helping individuals discern their leadings to serve. We also noticed that our meetings are generally not talking much about their discernment of corporate witness in the world. Although our meetings are involved in many activities focused on peace and social justice, it is not clear that discernment of divine guidance is part of this activity. We wonder if our local meetings are missing opportunities to discern together how to act and be in the world as a community of Friends.
- We considered how, as a committee, to help our meetings nurture their corporate experience of the Spirit.
- We wondered, based on the pattern of receiving responses from only half of the meetings and worship groups, whether other practices might be more useful to our local meetings. The Committee will be discerning whether to continue with the annual query.

**2. Set of LEYM Queries:** The Committee briefly considered whether to collect and/or develop a set of queries for regular use of the monthly meetings. We will continue in this discernment

**3. Consultation:** We will be sponsoring a consultation for members of Ministry and Nurture committees in the fall for the purpose of helping meetings deepen their corporate experience of the Spirit. (This is an activity that was postponed from this spring.) Registration and dates will be available at the June gathering.

**4. Traveling Friends:** We will also be sponsoring, with Advancement and Outreach Committee, two Friends from the FGC Traveling Ministries Program to visit LEYM meetings for the purpose of spiritual nurture. See the Advancement and Outreach report for details of the project.

#### **5. Spiritual Formation Program**

- Fall 2007 Retreat: The fall retreat at the Leaven Center near Lyons, Michigan on September 8-10, 2006, was led by Phil Fitz and

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

Beckey Phipps, of New England Yearly Meeting, on the theme "A Year of Living Prayerfully." 23 Friends participated, and ongoing groups continue in Pine River, Red Cedar, Birmingham, Oberlin, and Broadmead meetings. Ongoing groups continue in Pittsburgh Meeting as well, which began with a retreat sponsored by the Spiritual Formation Program in 2005.

- **Program Evaluation:** Participants reported that the fall retreat gave them time to think about their relationships with the divine, each other, and the world; helped them find new ways to center; and helped them renew and refocus on their spiritual intentions. They also reported that the exercises used by Beckey and Phil expanded and nourished their understanding of and practice of prayer. One of the exercises moved participants experientially to an understanding of the differences between individual worship and communal worship.
- **Spring 2008 Retreat:** The spring retreat is scheduled for May 4-6, 2007 at Leaven Center.
- **Save the dates:** Retreats are scheduled for September 7-9, 2007 and May 2-4, 2008 in Michigan. Registration information will be made available at the June gathering in Bluffton and on the web.

**6. Policies and Procedures:** The Committee began addressing the *Policies and Procedures of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting* as they pertain to the Ministry & Nurture Committee. We will continue this work over the next months.

**7. Committee Meetings:** The Committee has found that two meetings per year, even with frequent e-mail contacts, is not enough to accomplish the work of this committee. We will be expanding our contact to phone meetings and perhaps an additional face-to-face meeting.

**RM07 - 11 Advancement & Outreach Committee.** Mathilda Navias (Broadmead) reported.

### **Advancement & Outreach Committee**

#### **FGC Advancement & Outreach Consultation, March 30-April 1 outside Pittsburgh.**

Mathilda Navias and one of two possible Friends from Green Pastures Quarter will be attending as LEYM's representatives. (Note: it will be Laura Pickering Ford of Kalamazoo Meeting.)

**Privacy policy for publications.** Copies of a proposed policy have been distributed to each committee. Please get any suggestions to Mathilda. A&O will be sending a copy to each monthly meeting clerk with the request to bring it to their business meeting so that Friends are prepared for it to come up for decision at Yearly Meeting.

**Meeting visits.** A&O is working with Ministry & Nurture and FGC's Traveling Ministries Program to arrange for a seasoned Friend and a traveling companion to visit LEYM meetings and worship groups. This will be coordinated with the consultation for monthly meeting Ministry & Nurture committee members M&N is planning so that the same Friend will serve as a resource person for the consultation and then visit LEYM Friends.

#### **Report on FGC A&O Committee work.**

Mathilda Navias has been co-opted onto this committee.

- The pamphlet that LEYM's A&O Committee wrote on how to set up a web site for a monthly meeting will be put on FGC A&O's web site for download. The committee will also distribute printed copies for free at the upcoming A&O Consultation and the Gathering.
- The committee is working on a new pamphlet in the "Friends And ..." series on Friends & Science.

**Monthly Meeting web sites.** New since Yearly Meeting: Broadmead Meeting has gotten a web site up and running.

**RM07 - 12 The Friends School in Detroit** has asked if it might send its Newsletter to the list of Friends on our entire YM database. "Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting has chief administrative responsibility for and ownership of Friends School in Detroit" (LEYM Policies and Procedures, revised 2004) and we include the school on the list of Quaker organizations we support as a Yearly Meeting.

We agree to provide the information for a mailing one time this year. The school may request to use the database in future years, at which time we will revisit this question. Friends who wish to opt out of this or future mailings may do so by notifying the person in charge of the database, presently Mathilda Navias.

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

**RM07 - 13 Publications & Archives Committee.**  
Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor) reported:

### Publications & Archives Committee Report

1. **LEYM Directory.** This publication is undoubtedly useful, but is it used enough to warrant the laborious task of producing it? Currently, it is published every two years; might the interval be longer? Need we publish it at all? The Committee plans to survey LEYM officers and committee clerks, monthly meetings, worship groups, and readership of the *Bulletin*. Please respond to Jeff Cooper with your thoughts and suggestions.

2. **Annual Records 2007.** We are grateful that Nancy James has agreed to produce this publication again, but with the proviso that it will not be completed until early September because she has other summer commitments. *Policies and Procedures* says the *Annual Records* should be completed in July. If September publication is acceptable, we'll have the benefit of an experienced editor. If this is not acceptable, we'll need help recruiting someone willing to produce the *Annual Records* in July.

3. For this year only, we want to try setting the **Fall Bulletin** deadline at September 1 (not Sept. 15th). We hope this will enable us to publicize more autumn events in a timely manner.

4. **Structure of the P&A Committee.** Currently, we have four persons, three of whom focus individually on specific large tasks (*Annual Records*, web site, *Bulletin*). We would like to have two more Friends:

- a) One to deal with copying and distributing the *Annual Records*
- b) One to help Bill Wartens fulfill the great potential of the web site. For this, we recommend a young adult.

Regarding item 2 above, we agree that if the *Annual Records* needs to come out in September, then we ask the Nominating Committee to make its final report available to committee clerks by the end of July so that committee work can commence. We will try this arrangement for this one year and reassess.

We thank Friends who do this arduous work of *Directory*, *Annual Records*, web site, and *Bulletin* for their efforts on behalf of LEYM.

**RM07 - 14 Nominating Committee.**  
Connie Green (Cleveland) reported.

### Nominating Committee Report

1. Nominating Committee is working on more effective methods for finding and then recommending monthly meeting members for Yearly Meeting positions. We hope to survey meeting clerks in the very near future.

2. We have asked each LEYM committee to write a short job description and estimate usual number of meetings per year, useful talents, and methods by which the committee communicates during the year. We hope to have these available at LEYM sessions registration in June.

3. We hope to have a quick survey at LEYM registration of which committees attenders are currently serving on and where they might wish to serve in the future as well as recommendations of where they may believe other Friends might be rightly used.

4. We have started looking at the *Policies and Procedures* and will continue this work.

5. We are asking the Yearly Meeting to clarify the process of naming visitors to other yearly meetings. What is the responsibility of the Yearly Meeting to those named and what is the responsibility of the named visitor to the Yearly Meeting?

The question of visiting the sessions of other yearly meetings was discussed (point 5 above). Our current practice is that people who wish to visit another yearly meeting may ask the Nominating Committee to appoint them. They can go with a letter of introduction from the LEYM clerk. We have been asked to consider the practice of naming Friends as visitors to other YMs on our behalf. They would go with a traveling minute, have some financial support, and would be expected to bring back a report to our yearly meeting.

We ask clerks of Finance, Nominating, and Ministry & Nurture Committees to meet with the Clerks to consider these issues and to bring a recommendation to yearly meeting.

**RM07 - 15 Naming Committee.** The Clerk proposed that we appoint Verne Bechill and Janet Smith as a Naming Committee to name two Friends

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

to serve on the Nominating Committee. The proposal was approved. We ask these Friends to report early in our June sessions.

**RM07 - 16 Treasurer's Report.** Our Treasurer, Connie Bimber (Oberlin) distributed her report, discussed and answered questions. (See Treasurer's Report which follows these Minutes.) We accept the report.

### **RM07 - 17 Finance Committee.**

Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) reported.

During the Finance Committee's meeting it reviewed the Treasurer's report. It is satisfied that our Yearly Meeting's finances are in order for this year. Five monthly meetings have not yet made their contributions, but each is expected to do so soon.

The Finance Committee recognizes the oversight of not including the full 2006-07 budget in the *Annual Records* and will make sure that in the future the full budget is printed. The budget was printed in the Fall *Bulletin*.

The Finance Committee received a request to make a \$1000 contribution to FWCC to help Friends from low income countries attend the FWCC triennial in August. The Committee recommends that \$1000 be transferred from the High School Youth Program fund to the FWCC Triennial Travel Fund.

Requests for changes in the next fiscal year's budget have not been received. The Finance Committee is considering increasing the annual transfer to the FWCC Triennial Travel fund from \$1240.00 to \$1500.00. This change would not change the per member annual assessment of \$35.

We approve contributing \$1,000 from our High School Youth Fund to the FWCC Triennial Travel & Accommodation Fund to enable Friends from economically deprived nations to attend the FWCC Triennial Meeting, to be held in Dublin, Ireland, 11-19 August, 2007.

We are concerned about the added cost for young people attending our YM sessions and agree to ask the Finance Committee to offset this expense by up to \$400, to be taken from the Youth Activity Fund. We ask the Finance Committee to look at this question and bring a recommendation to us for how this will be handled in future years.

### **RM07 - 18 Peace Committee.**

David Lore (Granville) reported.

#### **Peace Committee Report**

Through a survey form and interviews, the Peace Committee this spring hopes to get a picture for Yearly Meeting of the peace and justice activities of its member monthly meetings and worship groups. While we expect much of this will center on the Iraqi war, it is anticipated that meetings are also active on other national issues as well as state and local concerns. By gathering this information, we hope to determine what matters most right now to LEYM Quakers and share ideas and resources.

We are also looking right now at a possible minute for Yearly Meeting in June supporting moratoriums on the death penalty in Ohio and Pennsylvania. In Ohio, at least, the election of a new Democratic governor has put the issue of the death penalty back on the Statehouse agenda.

In June 2006, Yearly Meeting approved minutes supporting increases in state and federal minimum wage standards and calling for the closure of the Guantánamo Bay detention facility in Cuba. The Committee subsequently notified each monthly meeting and worship group of these actions and urged them to follow up through minutes or letters to their area state and federal legislators as well as the news media.

### **RM07 - 19 Earthcare Committee.**

Phil Clampitt (Birmingham) reported.

The Committee met at Judy Greenberg's home in the autumn. They plan to offer a workshop on water at our Annual Meeting in June, using the video "Who Owns the Water," followed by a panel and discussion.

**RM07 - 20** Friends were encouraged to register for the FGC Gathering early even though FGC is planning to serve a greater number of Friends than last year. Online registration is recommended and is expected to be available by March 29.

We concluded in worship with a few moments of thankfulness.

Shirley Bechill, Clerk  
Thomas Taylor, Recording Clerk

# 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, *continued*

## Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Treasurer's Report February 28, 2007

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Current Balance</b>
General Fund	\$5,898.87	\$16,799.68	\$23,722.60	-\$1,024.05
Annual Meeting	19,925.48		17,128.06	2,797.42
Triennial Travel	2,786.84	1,240.00	2,350.00	1,676.84
Granville Friends Youth Fund	5,510.60	107.67	107.67	5,510.60
Youth Activity Fund	1,837.48	3,344.13	789.74	4,391.87
Spiritual Formation	2,612.33	3,990.00	2,248.52	4,353.81
High School Program	0.00	7,198.00	4,701.39	2,496.61
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$38,571.60</b>	<b>\$32,679.48</b>	<b>\$51,047.98</b>	<b>\$20,203.10</b>

<b>Account</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Debits</b>	<b>Current Balance</b>
Shorebank CD - March	\$2,118.29	42.49		\$2,160.78
Shorebank CD - September	\$2,189.46	39.19		\$2,228.65
Southshore Bank CD	\$5,510.60	217.13	217.13	\$5,510.60
Lorain National Bank - checking	<u>\$28,753.25</u>	<u>22,305.13</u>	<u>40,755.31</u>	<u>\$10,303.07</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$38,571.60</b>	<b>\$22,603.94</b>	<b>\$40,972.44</b>	<b>\$20,203.10</b>

### General Fund - Income

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Akron	\$50.00
Ann Arbor	\$4,725.00
Athens	\$3,800.00
Birmingham	0.00
Broadmead	0.00
Cleveland	0.00
Delaware	\$372.00
Detroit	\$300.00
Grand Rapids	\$391.00
Granville	\$832.00
Kalamazoo	\$1,400.00
Kent	\$612.00
Mid-Ohio Valley	\$135.00
Monongalia	\$490.00
North Columbus	\$500.00
Oberlin	\$665.00
Pine River	0.00
Pittsburgh	\$1,732.00
Red Cedar	0.00
Wooster	\$714.00
Misc., Sales & Fees	
Interest	<u>\$81.68</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$16,799.68</b>

### General Fund - Expenses

(* = transfers)	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Travel	\$5,500.00	\$3,263.30	59.33%
Office	\$300.00	25.85	8.62
Publications	\$3,400.00	2,393.45	70.40
Advancement	\$130.00	0.00	0.00
Ministry & Nurture	\$200.00	0.00	0.00
Clerk's Fund	\$500.00	0.00	0.00
FGC	\$4,500.00	4,500.00	100.00
FGC - Special Program	\$500.00	500.00	100.00
Records Project	\$100.00	0.00	0.00
FWCC Travel *	\$1,240.00	1,240.00	100.00
Youth Activity Fund *	\$2,700.00	2,700.00	100.00
High School Youth Fund *	\$5,400.00	5,400.00	100.00
Spiritual Formation *	\$600.00	600.00	100.00
Friends School in Detroit	\$2,500.00	2,500.00	100.00
Olney Friends School	\$600.00	600.00	100.00
Misc.			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$28,170.00</b>	<b>\$23,722.60</b>	<b>84.21%</b>

(Note: \$9,340.00 are transfers)

## 2007 Representative Meeting Minutes, end

### Treasurer's Report - February 28, 2007

#### Annual Meeting

<b>Balance</b>	July 1, 2006	\$19,925.48
Expenses		\$17,128.06
Income		\$0.00
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$2,797.42

#### FWCC Triennial Travel Fund

<b>Balance</b>	July 1, 2006	\$2,786.84
Expenses		\$2,350.00
Income - transfer		\$1,240.00
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$1,676.84

#### Granville Friends Youth Fund

<b>Balance</b>	July 1, 2006	\$5,510.60
Interest income		\$217.13
Transfer to Youth Activity Fund		\$217.13
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$5,510.60

#### Youth Activity Fund

<b>Balance</b>	July 1, 2006	\$1,837.48
Transfer from General Fund		\$2,700.00
Interest from Granville Fund		\$217.13
Youth Retreat		\$427.00
<b>Total Income</b>		\$5,181.61

Expenses - Grants		\$0.00
Expense - Youth Retreat		\$789.74
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$789.74
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$4,391.87

#### Spiritual Formation Group

<b>Balance</b>	July 1, 2006	\$2,612.33
Transfer from General Fund		600.00
Income from retreats		\$3,390.00
<b>Total Income</b>		\$6,602.33
Expenses		\$2,248.52
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$4,353.81

#### High School Youth Program

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>Balance</b>	\$0.00	
Transfer - General Fund	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00
Clerk's Fund		
Retreats		\$1,798.00
Grants - Youth Activities F.		
<b>Total Income</b>	\$5,400.00	\$7,198.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Expenses	\$500.00	-
Stipend	\$4,400.00	\$2,300.00
Retreats		\$2,401.39
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$4,900.00	\$4,701.39
<b>Balance</b>	Feb. 28, 2007	\$2,496.61

## News from Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Section of the Americas

The Casa de los Amigos, a Quaker Center for Peace and Understanding in Mexico City, offers varied opportunities for volunteer service. Do you enjoy nurturing community and welcoming the stranger? Are you driven by a desire for justice and a commitment to peace? The Casa is seeking volunteers to work in its hospitality, peace, and service programs. Would you like to help a small organization build its information technology capacities? They are seeking a volunteer to help revamp their web site and improve information systems. Other volunteer opportunities may be available. Let them know what skills you have that you would like to contribute to this community. For more information on any of these positions and to receive an application form, please contact [amigos@casadelosamigos.org](mailto:amigos@casadelosamigos.org) or visit their web site, [www.casadelosamigos.org](http://www.casadelosamigos.org).

In February FGC, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and Pendle Hill sponsored a Young Adult Friends conference that brought together over 100 Friends from 20 Yearly Meetings (FGC, FUM, and EFI) in the U.S. and Canada to Burlington, New Jersey. It was an amazing time for sharing experiences about being Quaker, talking about diversity in the Religious Society of Friends, and discussing whether young adult Friends have a collective witness. Tara Mulder, of LEYM (Red Cedar MM) wrote:

*"A great energy was generated by the YAFs gathered here this weekend. We found that others are struggling with the same issues we are struggling with, but collectively we are ready for change. Now the momentum is upon us to return to our homes with this collective energy and to revitalize Quakerism."*

From the *FGC Good News Bulletin*

### **FOR THE SAKE OF CONSCIENCE:**

In 1940, legislation was passed establishing an alternative to military service; and conscientious objectors to war could serve their country without violation of conscience.

**BUT** there is still no alternative for our "drafted dollars" (via taxes) going to military spending.

**NOW** there is a National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund and legislation proposed to allow conscientious objectors to pay their same share of taxes into a fund, monies of which would be allocated to any non-military appropriation within the Federal Budget.

**YOU** and YOUR LEGISLATORS need to know!!!

**NOW IS THE TIME TO VOICE SUPPORT.**

 Learn more—visit [WWW.PEACETAXFUND.ORG](http://WWW.PEACETAXFUND.ORG)



## Report on the Traveling Ministries Consultation

The weekend of November 10-12 a group of Friends came together under the guidance of the Traveling Ministries Program of FGC to reflect on "Naming and Nurturing the Gifts of Ministry." Kri Burkander and I were appointed by LEYM to attend. Valerie Groszmann was there with other FGC staff to help Deborah Fisch and Beckey Phipps conduct the Consultation.

To prepare for the weekend I met with my own Pittsburgh Monthly Meeting Ministry Committee so I could better respond to the queries:

First: *What are your yearly meeting and monthly meetings doing to discern and name emerging gifts of ministry among Friends?*

Second: *What are your yearly meeting and monthly meetings doing to nurture emerging gifts of ministry among Friends?*

I felt that having just served for three years on the Nominating Committee of LEYM, I had gleaned some insights on a perspective for the Yearly Meeting.

The group was comprised of representatives from a number of YMs and other Quaker configurations and included a number of FGC staff. Deborah Fisch and Beckey Phipps of the staff not only guided us through the spirit-led program but oversaw our physical needs at the Gilmary Diocesan Center near Pittsburgh, PA. The attendees were international (Canada), coast-to-coast (Alaska-to-Florida), and wonderfully intergenerational.

What I brought from my MM was a struggle with the idea of "naming" gifts being a difficult concept for us and perhaps having that feeling extend to YM. Do we actually use the term? I don't recall LEYM using it when I was listening. But having that Nominating Committee background reassures me that there - and therefore likely elsewhere in YM - the essence of the word is present. I think recognition of gifts comes easier in a monthly meeting where more mentoring, listening, and affirming can be done. These were some of the concrete behaviors that were brought forward in our discussions that lend themselves to responding to the queries. Spending time with one another was emphasized as the way we get to know each other in the Spirit and recognize not only gifts but emerging gifts.

What I brought from my LEYM was the perspective of having served for the past three years on its Nominating Committee, my second time on that committee in 30-plus years. And how often in the

service of the larger community does it fall to the nominating committees to do this work of naming and identifying? I needed to share how difficult this is when we spend so little time together as the LEYM community and how dependent our LEYM Nominating Committee is on everyone in the LEYM community to help it by doing the "ground work" and being "on the look out" for these gifts that are right here in our midst and cry out to be "named."

Many and varied were the gifts that were lifted up in the course of the work we did together that weekend. And some of the discussion acknowledged that the naming doesn't create the gift, and that God is the one who bestows the gift. It was also acknowledged that, being humbly human, it is o.k. if we are mistaken in naming someone's gift.

One of the pitfalls in the naming process requires us to be aware that naming a gift does not mean it is the sole identity of the person. Another is that the burden of naming a gift should not always fall on the individual who holds the gift.

Nurturing, it was pointed out, sometimes needs to happen BEFORE a gift emerges and can be named; and needs to continue when the gift is affirmed and allowed to grow.

For me, the exchange of ideas, the fellowship, and the retreat-like atmosphere created an experience in which I am grateful to have been a participant. The "Notes and Quotes" from the facilitators are being shared with the Ministry & Nurture Committee. What was given to me to share with you from the weekend is that it is incumbent upon each of us to take part in the discerning, naming, and nurturing of the gifts that surround us, and it is the responsibility of our community to provide us with the support that lets us do this work of the Spirit.

Dolores Avner

### 3M

Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing? Nope...  
Meetings, Meals, and Music—  
3 more Highlights of the  
2007 Annual Meeting

## Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting Midwinter Gathering

On Saturday, February 24, the GPQM Midwinter Gathering was hosted by Grand Rapids Friends Meeting. It was our delight and pleasure to welcome Friends from Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Red Cedar, Pine River, and Kalamazoo Friends Meetings and Holland Preparative Meeting and Fremont and Manitou Worship Groups. As Friends began arriving there was time to partake of a simple continental breakfast, to browse the Quaker Store Book table, and then to experience QI GONG with Katia Marshall. At 10:00 all 60 of us gathered together to Worship followed by a Mixer that shared the many joys and challenges we have experienced being a Quaker today. After that we broke into smaller groups for Worship Sharing on the three Queries planned for the day.

- Query I. *How do I as a Quaker express joy in my life? How am I frustrated?*
- Query II. *What challenges confront me? Am I willing to accept the limitless and surprising ways God can work in the world and in us?*
- Query III. *Am I truly open to the leading of the spirit in my life? How does this openness help me deal with the challenges in my life?*

Then the large group addressed a fourth Query:  
*How do I act as I am being led?*

At noon we had lunch and fellowship together with opportunities for going for a walk or more book browsing or visiting with each other. At 1:30 we again gathered together for a time of singing led by Cathi and Chuck Deyo. Following this there were two breakout sessions: "Songwriting," led by Cathi and Chuck, and "Dances of Universal Peace," led by Jane Sky.

We closed the Gathering with the newly written songs and then a Dance for Peace followed by the traditional holding of hands and a short time of silence to end the day.

Some of the children and a few adults went to do some sledding on the hill in front of the Dominican Center before departing.

Gloria Switzer wrote this about her experience in the Dance Session:

*The international dances were so much fun and also very spiritual. When we did the "I open my eyes to you" dance and rotated so that we had a new partner each time, I felt so moved even to tears. When I looked into other people's eyes and touched their hands and realized the uniqueness yet sameness of each partner, it was like the connecting with all humanity and touching the "Holy."*

Betty Ford  
Grand Rapids MM

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## Men of Peace Project

A group of Quakers plan to publish, in one volume, the stories of diverse men who were conscientious objectors at the time of World War II. This book will present the histories of how these men made their decisions. It will also show how their consequent experiences played important roles in social progress. Our goal is to help readers to understand and respect the man of peace whom conscience compels to take a position opposed by majority social norms.

The persons involved in this work are Steve Angell, Allan Brick, Terry Engeman, Patricia Hunt, and Mary Hopkins. The working title of the book is *Men of Peace*.

There are five World War II Conscientious Objectors currently living in Oberlin. Four of them live at Kendal at Oberlin: Dick Taylor, a member of Oberlin Friends Meeting; Ogden Hannaford, a sojourner Quaker, Ken Roose, the father of one of our members, and Milt Yinger. The fifth is Doug Johnson. We were able to interview only four of the men, as one is too ill.

For further information contact  
[cobook@verizonmail.com](mailto:cobook@verizonmail.com) or Mary Hopkins at  
610 388-0770.

Connie Bimber

## 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!

## WWW.

World Wide Web? Nope...

Worship Sharing,  
Workshops, and  
Watermelon—3 more  
Highlights of the 2007  
Annual Meeting.

# Calendar

## LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

- MAY 25 LAST DAY TO REGISTER CHILDREN FOR ANNUAL MEETING; LAST DAY TO REGISTER ADULTS AT REDUCED RATES. SEE INSERT.
- JUNE 1 DUE DATE FOR LEYM ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE REPORTS (THOSE THAT CAN BE PREPARED BEFOREHAND) AND STATE OF THE MEETING REPORTS
- JUNE 14-17 ANNUAL MEETING, BLUFFTON, OHIO
- JULY 1 DUE DATE FOR ITEMS FOR ANNUAL RECORDS
- SEPTEMBER 1 DUE DATE FOR FALL BULLETIN

## GREEN PASTURES QUARTERLY MEETING

- MAY 19 SPRING GATHERING, WITH STEPHEN ANGELL, JR. ON "ESSENTIALS OF QUAKERISM," MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER

## MICHIGAN FRIENDS CENTER WORKSHOPS

WWW.MICHIGANFRIENDSCENTER.ORG

- APRIL 28 SATURDAY, 8:30. *THE GREAT WARMING*, PRESENTED BY LEYM EARTHCARE COMMITTEE & ANN ARBOR FRIENDS ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE. \$25 INCLUDES VEGETARIAN LUNCH.
- MAY 6 SUNDAY, 2:00. *NATURAL BUILDING AND THE ECOLOGICAL HOMESCAPE: TECHNIQUES FOR INTEGRATING HOME AND GARDEN*, LED BY DANIEL LITTLE AND CECILE GREEN. \$7.

## The LEYM Directory: To Be or Not to Be?

Our practice is to publish the LEYM Directory (which lists Friends in meetings and worship groups throughout LEYM) every two years. Copies are distributed directly to the meetings and worship groups, and to officers and committee clerks of LEYM. Publications & Archives Committee wonders whether the Directory's usefulness warrants the considerable labor entailed in publishing it, especially when our *Annual Records* provides contact information not only for those actively involved in Yearly Meeting (officers, committee members, and Annual Meeting attenders), but also for officers, committee clerks, and contact persons of our monthly meetings, preparative meetings, and worship groups.

*What do you think?* Should we continue to publish the LEYM Directory:

- Every two years (next in 2008)?
- Every three (or more) years?
- Not at all?

We want to hear from you. Please direct comments to Jeff Cooper (P&A Clerk) by June 1. We'd also love to hear from Friends willing to work on a future edition of the Directory: You can make it happen.

Many thanks,

Jeff (cooperdaub@hotmail.com; 734 668-8063  
1506 Arborview Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103)

Address Service Requested

**LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING**

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

**See you at  
Annual Meeting,  
June 14-17!**

Spring 2007 Bulletin

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

**What Friends liked about the 2006 Annual Meeting**

- Meeting people
- Seeing familiar faces
- Worship and fellowship
- The welcoming and Friendly atmosphere
- Child care, excellent site arrangements, plenary speaker, workshop, chance to meet other Friends
- The peacefulness of this campus in addition to the sense of Spirit within our gatherings
- The people! Singing w/the teens was a highlight. The speaker, the workshops (too many wonderful choices!), the silence
- Music, dancing, time with f/Friends. Book shopping, but mostly lots of terrific Quaker kids
- Part of the spiritual nourishment is the “retreat” atmosphere—being away from our everyday lives in a community of Quakers

*All replies are from the 2006 evaluation forms, courtesy of the Program Committee*