

London Grove Monthly Meeting



~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

November 2015 Bulletin

Query for Eleventh Month: Stewardship of Resources

Does our Meeting serve social and economic justice in its uses of property and money?
How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the Meeting's work, its ministry, and the upkeep of its property?

How does our Meeting engage its members in the support of the quarterly and yearly meetings and other Quaker organizations?

To what extent does our Meeting rely on current members for financial support, and what role does endowment income serve? Does the Meeting consider carefully the appropriate role of invested funds?

Am I clear that I am the steward, not the owner, of property in my care?

Do I simplify my needs, making choices that balance self-sufficiency (to avoid unnecessary dependence on others) and fair sharing of resources? Do I make choices as a consumer that support the equitable distribution of income?

Do my employment and other activities allow for use of time and energy in spiritual growth and in service to the Religious Society of Friends?

Do I contribute generously within my means to the funding of the work of Friends in my Meeting, in the yearly Meeting, and in the wider world of Friends?



November 2015 Calendar

Sunday, 11/1	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
Sunday 11/8	8:30 am	Peace & Social Justice Committee
	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Opening Exercises and Adult Religious Education/Bible Study
	12 noon	Worship & Ministry Committee
	7.30 pm	Property Committee
Tuesday 11/10		
Thursday 11/12	7 pm	Care & Membership Committee
Sunday 11/15	8:15 am	Religious Education Committee
	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Opening Exercises and Coffeehouse Discussion in Social Room
Tuesday 11/17	7 pm	Kindergarten Committee
Thursday 11/19	9.30 am	Library Committee
Sunday 11/22	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	Opening Exercises and Adult Religious Education/Quaker Studies
Sunday 11/29	9.30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10.45 am	No Adult First Day School/Informal Social Time after Worship

Childcare and Flowers Volunteers

Date	First Hour	Second Hour	Flowers
11/1	Anna Myers	Tammy Brosius	Sam Cypressi
11/8	Georgia Delaney	Gail & Denis Newbold	Mina Johnson
11/15	Susanna Davison	Rebecca Mitchell; Ruth Thompson	Rebecca Mitchell
11/22	Pat Horrocks	Pat & Doug Mooberry	Don LaBranche
11/29	Mary Jo Ciganek	Lori Schnick; Pat Horrocks	Jane Brosius

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 10th MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

DOUG MYERS provided an update on London Grove's finances. We are through 75% of the year but have received only 61% of budgeted contributions YTD. In September we had \$4,700 income and \$13,000 in expenses. Our closing balance on September 30 was approximately \$82,000.

RECORDER'S REPORT: The death of Patrick K. Chase on September 28, 2015 has been recorded. (Please see page 6)

MARGARET WALTON gave two reports – a summary of the Welcoming Committee's recent meeting with our newest member, Winden Rowe (a great time was had by all), and an update report on Western Quarterly Meeting activities.

MARK MYERS, on behalf of the Property Committee, presented that committee's Annual Report. Noteworthy was the summary of usage of our building this past year: 402 events were scheduled (186 school days, 76 committee meetings, 69 community events, and 71 meetings for worship). In addition to routine maintenance and repair necessary to support this level of facility usage, the committee also oversaw installation of a hearing loop in our worship room, sealing of asphalt surfaces, and the installation of a perimeter security system for our kindergarten. On the horizon for us is the removal of three trees, ongoing repairs of the caretaker's house, improvement of our septic system, and (longer term) assessment of geothermal heating/cooling alternatives.

DAVID WATKINS offered an update on organizing efforts of the ad-hoc Helen Corson Biography Committee. Activities involve both gathering of vocal histories from members as well as investigation of external archival records from numerous sources. The committee meets the 1st Friday of each month, and all history enthusiasts are welcome.

SAM CYPRESSI read a Minute of Appreciation to our outgoing Clerk – Karen-Lee Brofee – that well summarized the collective high regard in which she is held. The Minute was heartily endorsed by all.

Robert Frye, Clerk

THANKS TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED TO BRING FLOWERS!

Baz Powell's trusty clipboard is now filled with names of those who plan to grace the facing bench table with seasonal arrangements between now and the end of next spring. Baz gladly provides the flower-bringers with cheerful telephone reminders, too.

On a beautiful October morning, the children's First Day School took a walk around the meeting burial ground. With a neighbor, Tom Herman, who is a Civil War re-enactor and musician, we located the grave of a soldier who was killed in battle in Virginia in 1861 and was later buried here. We were silent as the trumpet played the familiar notes of "Taps" and then "Tattoo," as would have been heard during the Civil War in an encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic. Graves of military veterans are marked with American flags and metal plaques indicating the wars in which they participated. We examined several older and newer gravestones. Then, in time with a jaunty air played on Tom's tin-whistle, we walked along (and atop) the cemetery wall. We learned it was rebuilt in 1931 and repointed in 1985. Sharp eyes noticed some coins that were embedded before the mortar hardened.





A five-pointed star marks the Civil War grave



ELEGY FOR PATRICK

by Donald LaBranche

Daylight has no answers but there is time yet for
Grief in the matching darkness of early morning.
Those in the house are not a puzzle to be solved

At first blush. Rather they are the edges of the blade.
Their sum total is the river that carries them.
Their speech is amplified by the rings of Saturn.

If they were a poem, it would take a Kabbalist
To untangle their letters; if a lintel bridge
Then a Down East mason to re-engineer them.

How then to re-engineer *your* life? Over there
On the wide bench is where I saw you sitting still.
You held loose in your hands a leather bound book.

It seemed that whatever touched you, touched you lightly.
It seemed even your laughter was ephemeral as
You shed equal parts of light and visibility.

Where is wisdom enough to re-engineer a life?
To touch the right energies of the right story
In the right order to bring about some better end?

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Bulletin deadline is usually the third Monday of each month. We make exceptions, though. Just ask.