



London Grove Monthly Meeting Bulletin

~ Begun 1714
~ Established 1792
~ April 2015

Query for Fourth Month: Care for the Meeting Community

Care for one another

Are love and unity maintained among us? When conflicts exist, are they faced with patience, forbearance, and openness to healing? Are avenues for exploring differences kept open? To what extent does our Meeting ignore differences in order to avoid possible conflicts?

Is the Meeting a safe, loving place? When we become aware of someone's need, do we offer assistance? Are the meetinghouse and the Meeting property physically accessible to all?

Do all adults and children in our Meeting receive our loving care and encouragement to share in the life of our Meeting, and to live as Friends? Do we truly welcome newcomers and include them in our Meeting community?

When a member's conduct or manner of living gives cause for concern, how does the Meeting respond?

How does our Meeting keep in touch with all its members?

Am I ready to offer assistance as part of my religious community serving its members?

Am I equally willing to accept graciously the help of others?

Do I recognize and face disagreements and other situations that put me in conflict with others? Do I manifest a spirit ready to give or receive forgiveness?

Do I treat adults and children alike with respect and without condescension? Is my manner with visitors and attenders to my Meeting one of welcome?

Care in my home

(This set of personal queries may be helpful for the family to consider within the family setting. Families may also wish to explore other General Queries as part of regular family worship.)

Is my home a place where all members of the family receive affection and understanding, and where visitors are welcome? Do I choose recreation and a manner of living that enriches the body, mind, and spirit; and shows a high regard for family, community, and creation?

Is our family prepared to discuss such sensitive topics as death, faith, money, even sex and drugs, in a manner that allows openness and honesty, and also direction?

How do I help to arrange life at home so that there is an opportunity for all to learn and absorb by example what it means to live a life of Spirit-led commitment?

April 2015 Calendar

- Thursday 4/2 7:30 pm Property Committee
- Sunday 4/5 Easter
9:30 am Meeting for Worship
Children's First Day School
10:30 am Easter Family Worship: Opening exercises, featuring the
Easter Choir's special music
- Thursday 4/9 7 pm Care and Membership Committee
- Sunday 4/12 8:15 am Worship & Ministry Committee
8:30 am Peace & Social Justice Committee
9:30 am Meeting for Worship
Children's First Day School
10:30 am **Meeting for Worship for Business** *
* Note: It is the second Sunday this month.
- Thursday 4/16 9:30 am Library Committee
- Saturday 4/18 7 pm Community Outreach Event – Drones See page 6.
- Sunday 4/19 8:15 am Religious Education Committee
9:30 am Meeting for Worship
10:30 am Adult Religious Education: Bible Study, Acts 1–2
The early church was in mourning.
How does this speak to our condition today?
Western Quarterly Meeting at West Grove MM
All are invited. See <http://westernquarterquakers.org/> for
details as the date approaches. Some of the event
may, as in the 1650's, involve EQAT, and taking a
step beyond our comfort zone.
- Tuesday 4/21 7 pm Kindergarten Committee
- Thursday 4/23 7 pm Spiritual Nurture Group
- Sunday 4/26 9:30 am Meeting for Worship
Children's First Day School
10:30 am Adult Religious Education Quaker Experience: The
Testimonies
6 pm Adult Supper at the Meetinghouse, hosted by Ginny Green and
Kim Myers. The evening's theme, "Remembering, Renewing
and Reweaving" will include music.
- Monday 4/27 6:30 pm Committee of Clerks

March Child Care and Flowers

Date	First Hour	Second Hour	Flowers
4/5	Marianne Whitlock	No child care	Betsy Walker
4/12	Chris Hinks	Sam Cypressi Lisa Cypressi	Anna Myers
4/19	Betsy Walker	Lori Schnick Heidi Benson	Barbara Haines
4/26	Terry Anderson	Chris Manning Sarah Manning	Patrick Chase



See page 9 for EQAT news. Photo is from EQAT.org .

London Grove Monthly Meeting

Clerk of Meeting - Karen-Lee Brofee 443-754-1051 londongroveclerk@verizon.net

Assistant Clerk - Bob Frye 484-432-6718 bobfryehome@aol.com

Care & Membership - Jill Benjamin 610-347-1754 abambenjamin@gmail.com

Worship & Ministry - Ginny Green 302-245-8203 ginnyblackie@aol.com

London Grove Meeting House - 610-268-8466 londongrovemeeting.org

Burial Grounds - Charles Brosius 610-869-9235 cbromush@aol.com

Community Outreach Committee - londongrovequakers@verizon.net

Newsletter Co-editors - Marianne Whitlock and Susanna Davison.

Send submissions for the London Grove Bulletin to their email addresses in the directory.

Western Quarterly Meeting <http://westernquarterquakers.org/>

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting www.pym.org

[London Grove Monthly Meeting](#), [Philadelphia Yearly Meeting](#), [Friends General Conference](#) and [London Grove Friends Kindergarten](#) each have Facebook pages also. Check them out!

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

Clerk's Summary of Third Month Meeting for Worship for Business

Minutes of the 2nd Month Meeting were read and approved as written.

A response to the Query for the 3rd Month was given by Susanna Davison on behalf of the Religious Education and Worship & Ministry Committees. The response clearly conveyed the message that as a body we need to begin a new chapter - from celebrating our 300th Anniversary last year to seeking new ways in our 301st year to express our spirituality and address nurture, ministry, and education needs.

Standing Reports:

Our Treasurer reported Contributions of \$16,370, Expenses of \$1,860, Net Income of \$14,751, and a Closing Balance on 2/28 of \$88,253.

Our Recorder made note of the loss of our member James Marion Brofee.

Our Keeper Of The Calendar sought and received approval for use of the meetinghouse on May 23 (Underground Railroad Symposium) and August 9 (Mason family Reunion). Rebecca Mitchell, Susanna Davison, and Robert Frye will be the Quaker Friendly presences at the Underground Railroad event.

Tom Brosius presented the Trustees Annual Report.

David Watkins reported on a leading coming out of the Peace and Social Justice Committee to facilitate the compilation of an oral history of the life of Helen Corson. The idea was met with enthusiasm, and the next step is to bring the topic to the April Committee of Clerks meeting to seek cross-committee engagement.

An update and announcements of upcoming activities from WQM was offered by Margaret Walton. Among other topics, Margaret mentioned that New Garden Monthly Meeting will be celebrating its 300th Anniversary in September, a Dinner & Movie event will be held at 6:00 pm on the 14th, and a Faith & Play program will be hosted by Centre Meeting. Margaret encouraged all to view the Western Quarter website to stay current.

Jill Benjamin of the Care & Membership Committee noted the transfer requests from Evan and Pamela Draper. Both are actively engaged in support of a new Preparative Meeting in West Philadelphia that is under the care of Green Street Monthly Meeting. Many warm stories were shared about Evan and Pamela, and the meeting reluctantly but enthusiastically approved the requests.

Preliminary Agenda for Fourth Month Meeting for Business

1. Minutes of 3rd Month's Meeting with Attention to Business
2. Standing Reports: Treasurer, Recorder, Keeper of the Calendar
3. Response to Query/Annual Reports: Care and Membership; Hospitality Committee; and Burial Committee
(continued)

4. Auditors Report
5. Approval of Finance Committee's Recommendations to Western Quarter
6. Report on Western Quarter Support Committee Meeting of 3-22-15
7. Leadership Fund Committee: Report on Developing Procedures
8. Concerns of Meeting
9. Clerk's Items

Ides of March (3/15/2015) Was Observed with Convergent First Day School!

Early on First Day morning, 3/15, Friends from London Grove and Western Quarter hid 20 brightly-covered boxes containing clues to our Testimonies around the playground path and the circumference of the cemetery.

By 9:30 am, signs and posters had led two dozen visitors (from Hockessin, Kennett, West Chester, Lancaster and West Grove monthly meetings) to the entrance of our First Day School wing.

Teens from Lancaster Monthly Meeting and their Friendly Adult companions ascended the Social Room staircase. Teens from Western Quarter welcomed the Lancaster Meeting teens. Lancaster Meeting teens presented a slide show and discussed the Washington Quaker Work Camp they had participated in last summer.

Meanwhile, groups of younger and older primary-age groups of First Day Schoolers, accompanied by London Grove organizers and other Friendly Adults, ran around until all the hidden boxes were discovered. Wiping off the worst of the mud, the children returned to the classrooms to match the symbols of Friends' Testimonies contained in the boxes with the words: Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community and the Environment (and the Penn Oak). Discussion of what the words mean to Friends followed, until it was time to enter Meeting for Worship.

Overflowing both galleries of the Facing Benches, the Convergent First Day Scholars and their Friendly Adults were welcomed, in place of our traditional Opening Exercises, by London Grove Friends--over snacks and hot drinks in the Social Room, until 11 am.

When the bell rang for Bible Study (see next page) children adjourned for music and games until noon, when Care & Membership Committee topped off the busy morning with a delicious soup lunch to which all were invited.

Our Convergent First Day School was the second in an on-going series to be continued among Western Quarter monthly meetings. It was our opportunity to welcome Robin Harper, the Quarter's newly-hired Youth Coordinator. As the children left, Robin reminded them of the opportunity to be together again at the April 19 Western Quarterly meeting!

Temptation? Devil? This Is 2015, You Know.

Jesus spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness, where he endured temptation by the devil. See Luke 3:21-22 and 4:1-13.

Donald LaBranche informed us, in his Adult Religious Education class on March 15 that:

“In 1959, the London Yearly Meeting included 14 index entries under ‘Temptation’ in their *Faith and Practice*. In our current issue of *Faith and Practice*, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting there are none.”

Having become more liberal, the words “temptation” and “devil” may make us uncomfortable. Donald allowed us to experience the discomfort and led us into some very deep thinking on this subject. He helped us by some allusions, such as from C.S.Lewis’s *Screwtape Letters* of ways the devil thinks:

“The simplest is to turn their gaze away from Him towards themselves. Keep them watching their own minds and trying to produce feelings there by the action of their own wills.”

Donald reminded us that George Fox said “Do not think, but submit” in:

“Friends, Whatever ye are addicted to, the tempter will come in that thing; and when he can trouble you, then he gets advantage over you, and then ye are gone. Stand still in that which is pure, after ye see yourselves; and then mercy comes in. After thou seest thy thoughts, and the temptations, do not think, but submit; and then power comes.”

Outreach Event on Drone Warfare and Drones for Humanitarian Aid April 18, 2015, 7:00 pm at London Grove

Speakers:

Elizabeth Beavers – FCNL staff - Legislative Associate on Militarism and Civil Liberties at the Friends Committee on National Legislation, focusing on repealing the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force.

and

Jessie Mooberry – Member of London Grove Friends Meeting and Vice Director of Uplift Aeronautics which powers the Syria Airlift Project. Jessie has spoken at military innovation conferences about utilizing nonviolent innovative technologies to erode conflict.

Questions and Answers, followed by refreshments. All are welcome. For further information contact Marianne Whitlock 610-388-2562.

From Nominating Committee Angela Benjamin, Sam Cypressi, Anna Myers, Tom Macaluso,
Baz Powell, Jane Brosius, June Yeatman, Jack Yeatman, Grace Pfeifer

The work of our meeting includes a great variety of activities that benefit all of us individually and as a community. The committees that do this work rely on your participation. To all of you who currently serve, your efforts are appreciated.

If you are not currently serving on a committee, or if you would like to join a second committee, please look over the descriptions of committees (see following page) and pick the one whose work interests you.

A commitment of at least three years is expected, with a maximum service time of nine years. Committee service begun in 2006 ends in October of this year.

The Nominating Committee will make every effort to match your skills and desires with the committee of your choice. After looking over the committee descriptions, please make your choice(s) known to Sam Cypressi: scypressi@verizon.net; 610 869 7386. You can choose more than one.

Please reply by April 20th. We will be in touch with you after reviewing all requests. Thank you.

London Grove Monthly Meeting Committee Descriptions

May 2015

Auditors

Provide independent assessment and validation that the Meeting's financial operations and reporting are correct and conducted according to proper accounting procedures.

Burial Grounds

Responsible management, care and maintenance of our two graveyards and surrounding grounds. Considers requests for gravesite deeds, makes arrangements for burials and maintains burial ground records.

Care & Membership

Offers pastoral care and counseling to the Meeting family. With discretion, confidentiality, and tact, initiates clearness for marriage, membership, and life decisions. Maintains contact with those confined to home.

Care Committee

Offers emotional, material and spiritual support to individuals and groups in our community, collects food for Kennett Cupboard, supervises UNICEF collection, plans Simple Meal, answers calls to those in need.

Community Outreach

Expands the presence and principles of Friends in the larger community. We inform and invite others who may be searching to join our spiritual community in hopes of finding something for themselves.

Finance

Prepares the Monthly Meeting budget, solicits and collects contributions and oversees payment of the Meeting's expenses in coordination with the Treasurer. Reports to the Meeting our progress in meeting the budget.

Hospitality

Organizes the provision of flowers for each First Day, refreshments for the Christmas Evening Program, lunch for Western Quarterly Meeting, pansies for Easter, and other events as requested. Ensures certification by ChesCo Health Department.

Kindergarten

Administers the London Grove Friends Kindergarten. It is comprised of nine Meeting Members willing to make a serious commitment of time and energy to the continuation of our excellent kindergarten for Meeting and community children.

Leadership Fund

Manages the Leadership Fund. Evaluates requests and awards grants for education, workshops, conferences and service projects. Encourages leadership, service and outreach through personal development.

Library

Maintains the adult and children's libraries. Members review the appropriateness of new books, catalog and maintain the collections.

Meeting Inreach

Prepares and distributes our Monthly Bulletin, Christmas Newsletter, name tags and the child care schedule.

Memorials

Provides care and oversight of memorial services, offering assistance to the family in planning details and carrying out the service.

Nominating

Is responsible for selecting members for each Committee as well as filling individual positions of leadership within the Meeting.

Peace and Social Justice

Works to advance our Peace Testimony and non-violence in settling disputes on all levels, local to international, through letter writing, draft counseling and Peace Awards. Through FCNL, helps set Friends' peace policies.

Plant Sale

Organizes the annual Plant Sale, our major annual fundraising activity for Outreach. Responsibilities include ordering, transporting, pricing, advertising, display and sales of the many plants, trees & shrubs.

Property Committee

Is responsible for the management, maintenance and care of the Meeting House, Caretaker's House, other buildings, the driveways and tending all trees on the property.

Religious Education

Organizes First Day School programs for children and adults. This includes finding teachers and helping them to make curriculum choices and acquire lesson materials. The committee also organizes Children's Day and the Christmas Evening Program. Committee members need only be interested in helping to define and organize First Day School programs.

Trustees

Is comprised of Meeting Members and is responsible for the overall legal and financial matters of the Meeting and the Education Loan Fund.

Worship and Ministry

Is concerned with the spiritual life and nurture of individual members and attenders as well as the Meeting as a community. During our meetings, we include time for worship sharing related to the spiritual life of the Meeting including concerns such as spiritual care and formation, ministry among Friends, and ways to deepen and strengthen our meetings for worship and our life as a spiritual community.

WQM Liaison

Manages our relationship with WQM. Reports on Quarter issues and activities. Suggests ways to better support and serve the needs of WQM. Encourages a broader view of our Quaker community.

PYM Liaison

Manages our relationship with PYM. Reports on issues and activities of both interim and annual sessions. Suggests ways to better support and serve the needs of PYM. Encourages a broader view of our Quaker community.

Shared by Gail Newbold: EQAT's 5-Year Campaign and Victory!

Small Quaker Group Takes Aim at Big Bank and Wins by Eileen Flanagan

Eileen writes about the Bank Like Appalachia Matters! (BLAM!) win as a "David vs Goliath" story:

"The reason PNC's policy reversal is so important--in addition to further undermining the despicable practice of mountaintop removal--is that it proves that people working together can force the hand of even the biggest institutions."

Read in full at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/eileen-flanagan/small-quaker-group-takes-aim-at-big-bank-and-wins_b_6777104.html

This and the following links were received with a range of responses (from "I can't believe it!" to "We had faith it could happen") among London Grove Friends. Gail Newbold, who inspired others among us to participate in the 5-year EQAT (pronounced "equate") campaign, summarized why this victory of faithful, peaceful, civil disobedience and persistence is important:

- A) PNC Bank is the 7th largest U.S. Bank. Their new policy was announced 3/2/2015. Based on its 2015 Corporate Responsibility Report, PNC Bank will effectively cease its investment in mountaintop removal coal mining in Appalachia.
- B) EQAT's successful *Bank Like Appalachia Matters* campaign was ALL non-violent, in the spirit of Friends, including spirit-led singing, public prayer in the manner of Friends, and communications with PNC staff from the CEO and Board members to bank branch tellers and security.
- C) There is a thank-you note to be sent to Appalachian activists for their courageous work. To sign, go to www.eqat.org or http://earthquakeractionteam.nationbuilder.com/thank_you
- D) We'll be forming our next, new and updated EQAT Campaign over the next 2-3 months: A happy opportunity!

More about our win:

The initial **press release from Earth Quaker Action** is at www.eqat.org .

New York Times article: <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/10/business/dealbook/pnc-joins-banks-not-financing-mountaintop-coal-removal.html> . One quibble about the New York Times article, rather simple: The reporter creates some competition between the EQAT strategy and divestment as a strategy. As one EQATER wrote, "Setting up one category of target (financial institutions) vs. another (universities, churches, city governments) isn't at all necessary when we take a big picture of what it takes to build a powerful movement."

Radio Show <http://whyy.org/cms/radiotimes/2015/03/11/a-successful-campaign-against-investment-in-strip-mining-then-mcdonalds-chicken-goes-anti-biotic-free/> . If somehow that does not work, go to <http://whyy.org/cms/radiotimes/> and look in the Archives, available along the top of that page. The show aired on 3/11/2015. 40-minute interview with 2 EQATers.

How a small Quaker group forced PNC Bank to stop financing mountaintop removal

by George Lakey

An inside look at some of the strategic - and controversial - decisions made along the way to victory:

"Another strategic choice was to wage a campaign called Bank Like Appalachia Matters, or BLAM! — that is, to focus on one issue with a clear demand and one target. We refused to follow the activist tendency to put energy into multiple causes and get little done."

Read in full at <http://wagingnonviolence.org/feature/small-quaker-group-forced-pnc-bank-stop-financing-mountaintop-removal/#comment-1969766>



Saturday, March 28, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Arch Street Meeting House

Throughout its history (beginning in 1916), Young Adult Friends have hosted the William Penn Lecture to bring Friends together and to strengthen our capacity for effective work in the Religious Society of Friends. A look at the news tells us something is shifting. Within two months, we had the 400,000 strong Peoples Climate March in New York City to the uprising against injustice in Ferguson. Today many people have followed that "still small voice" through the storm toward new ground.

What is possible in this moment?

This time calls for us to find the abundant resource around us every day. Taking lessons from the social movements, the arts and physics, Matthew will walk through contemporary sources of inspiration that illuminate the opportunity to reconnect reflection and action. This William Penn Lecture is an invitation to bring yourself more fully into this moment as a ripple in the tide.

Matthew is a community builder, facilitator and organizer in Philadelphia, PA. A graduate of Swarthmore College, he currently serves as Coordinator of Earth Quaker Action Team, as a trainer with Training for Change, and is among the core faculty at Pendle Hill in their new Radical Faithfulness Program.

Event Details

- Saturday, March 28, 7:00, followed by Q&A and refreshments
- Doors open at 6:30 pm
- Location: [Arch Street Meeting House](#), 4th & Arch Streets Philadelphia, PA
- See the [2015 William Penn Lecture webpage](#) for more information about:
 - Matthew's biography and lecture description
 - History and Purpose of the William Penn Lecture
 - A list of some restaurants near the Arch Street Meeting House
- Childcare provided
- Young Adult Friends (age 18-35) will gather for fellowship and discussion after the event at the Plough & the Stars.

For more information about the William Penn Lecture, please contact Elizabeth Piersol Schmidt, Young Adult Friends Coordinator, at YoungAdultFriends@pym.org or call 215-241-7075.