

London Grove Monthly Meeting



~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

July 2015 Bulletin

Seventh Month Queries about Social Responsibility and Witness

How does our Meeting work:

- to overcome social, legal, economic, and political injustices, locally and in the wider world?
- for the funding of community services that does not rely on gaming income?

Does our Meeting serve the community through action on concerns for civic improvement? What actions are we taking to assure everyone equal access to education, health care, legal services, housing, and employment as well as equal opportunities in business and in the professions?

When a member has lifted up a concern, how does our Meeting respond?

Does our Meeting encourage those seeking clearness for their convictions of conscience to hold up such convictions with prayerful openness to the Light?

Am I mindful of how my lifestyle and my investments can contribute to the improvement of the human condition, or to the exploitation of others?

Am I open to seeking clearness on matters of conscience and to assisting others in doing so? How do I respond and support one who acts out of a clear leading when I am under the weight of another?

What am I doing to work for the betterment of my community to assure the maintenance of effective public services which do not rely on funding from gaming?

Do I fulfill my civic responsibilities when they do not conflict with divine leadings?

July 2015 Calendar

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| Thursday 7/2 7:30 pm | Property Committee |
| Sunday 7/5 9:30 am
10:45 am | Meeting for Worship
Meeting for Worship for Business |
| Thursday 7/9 7 pm | Care & Membership Committee |
| Sunday 7/12 8:15 am
9:30 am | Worship & Ministry Committee
Meeting for Worship |
| Thursday 7/16 9:30 am | Library Committee |
| Saturday 7/18 10:30 am | Western Quarter at Mill Creek
(Details: westernquarterquakers.org) |
| Sunday 7/19 8:15 am | Religious Education Committee
Outdoor Meeting for Worship
(Weather permitting; rain date: 7/26) |
| Tuesday 7/21 7 pm | Kindergarten Committee |
| Sunday 7/26 9:30 am | Meeting for Worship |

Childcare and Flowers

Date	Childcare Volunteer	Second hour Childcare Volunteer	Flowers
7/5	Carolyn Muller	Carolyn Muller	Georgia Delaney
7/12	Carolyn Muller		Alexia Vaughan
7/19	Margaret Walton		Betsy Walker
7/26	Carolyn Muller		Anna Myers

Summer child care is provided as needed for infants and children. If no children appear, the volunteer will be released at 9:45 am. If the need for child care exceeds the “rule of three,” another adult will be asked to assist.

Clerk's Summary of Sixth Month Seventh Day 2015 Meeting for Business

While continuing worship on the seventh day of the sixth month, the following business was conducted with Karen-Lee Brofee serving as clerk, Bob Frye as Assistant Clerk and Gail Newbold as Recording Clerk.

MINUTES: Minutes of the fifth month business were read as recorded with minor corrections made and APPROVED with appreciation.

STANDING REPORTS: The Treasurer's Report, presented by Treasurer Doug Myers showed a closing balance of \$136,545. We are 41% of the way through the year and have received 50% of our budgeted contributions. Ordinary Income totaled \$52,483 and expenses were \$19,235. The report included the distribution of six Helen Corson Awards at \$300 each. The report was ACCEPTED as presented with appreciation. The Keeper of the Calendar, Anna Myers, came forth with beginning information for a potential LGMM outreach event in January: a concert by The Dukes of Destiny, a rhythm and blues group that worked with Turtle Dove Concerts in the past and performed at West Grove Meeting. Friends raised several questions regarding restrictions and parking issues. More information will be gathered for consideration in July. Clerk of the Plant Sale Committee, Betsy Walker, brought the good news that, while a few more bills were yet to be received and paid, the committee was confident that their profit would be similar to last year and would enable the same distribution to the organizations and work we continue to support. (See later bulletin information for that distribution.) The distribution was APPROVED as presented with great appreciation for the work of the committee.

COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS AND REQUESTS: Grace Pfeifer, Co-clerk, along with Pat Mooberry, provided the Memorial Committee annual report, noting that the year has been a very full one. The committee has aided members, attenders, and persons with connections to London Grove Monthly Meeting in their planning of memorial services held at the meetinghouse. Light refreshments and beverages following the service are offered by the committee and received thankfully. Several circumstances and preferences this past year have involved catered refreshments or meals, which the committee supports in whatever manner is needed. The report was ACCEPTED as presented with great appreciation. Jill Benjamin, Clerk of Care and Membership Committee alerted the Meeting to our receipt of a letter from Winden Rowe seeking membership at London Grove. Jill noted that a Clearness Committee would be appointed this coming Thursday and would present a report to Meeting in a timely manner. Jill introduced Winden and urged Friends to come to know her better over the next month. Susanna Davison, Clerk of Religious Education Committee, provided a preliminary report of clearances for volunteers who work with our children. The

report details various stages in which approximately 17 Friends are securing clearance. Approximately 12 more individuals have said they are willing to seek clearance but have not yet begun the process. Another 12 individuals already have copies of clearances which have been required in their places of work. While the clearance numbers look encouraging, actual availability to help with child care seems very limited for many reasons. Having two adults always present with one or more children is very difficult and not always in practice. It may be necessary to revisit the “Rule of Three” and/or consider other options.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE PROJECT: David Watkins described a project initiated by the Peace and Social Justice Committee and supported by the Committee of Clerks and the Care and Membership Committee. The Helen Corson Project involves the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee which is charged with collecting stories and remembrances about Helen Corson and putting them into a format for all—present and future—to have access. David has a clipboard for sign up and Sandy Reber has offered to be the liaison between the two committees. Members APPROVED this project and expressed supportive enthusiasm and urgency.

KINDERGARTEN SECURITY: Karen Conlan, Clerk of the Kindergarten Committee, distributed a proposal memo “School Security for London Grove Friends Kindergarten” resulting from the committee’s work over the last year with county safety teams, with other school personal, and with the Property Committee. The proposal calls for all accesses to the Kindergarten areas to be secured during school hours. Kindergarten will bear the cost of installation. The Meeting Room will remain open and unlocked as it currently is. The memo is well thought through and detailed. Following discussion, which included realizations of harm that has come to children in school settings and our moral obligation to attempt to prevent it at London Grove, discouragement that as Friends we may actually be seeding fear among the children rather than simply protecting them, and recognition that regardless of our efforts nothing is perfect or promised, Meeting APPROVED the proposal with three members asking to stand aside.

OTHER: Following announcements regarding Western Quarter, the clerk noted to Friends that the Western Quarterly News which has been mailed to individuals will now only be accessible on-line—UNLESS an individual alerts the Quarter in writing that he/she does not use email and wishes to have it mailed. With the business completed, Meeting closed in silent worship.

Summarized by,
Karen-Lee Brofee, Clerk of LGMM

PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR 7th MONTH MEETING FOR BUSINESS
Minutes of 6th Month's Meeting with a Concern for Business
Response to the Query: Social Responsibility and Witness
Standing Reports: Treasurer's Report; Recorder's Report; Keeper of the Calendar Report
Proposed Outreach Event: Dukes of Destiny Concert
Annual Report: Peace and Social Justice Committee
Minute of Appreciation
Update on Childcare Needs and Background Checks
Consideration of a Meeting Annual Report for Western Quarter
Comments on Three Year PYM Budget Framework 2016-2018
Clerk's Items

Children's Day was observed June 14. The annual celebration marked the end of the 2014-15 First Day School programming, for adults as well as children. Pictured below, a larger-than-usual contingent of Young Friends enjoyed the playground, practiced "The George Fox Song," and explored, with FDS teachers Margaret Walton and Mariah McIntosh, some of the words in the lyrics. Chris Mannng arrived with ice and salt and it was time for everyone (except the Meeting's newest baby) to take turns mixing and cranking two ice cream freezers. At rise of worship, everyone lined up to enjoy summer's initial outdoor refreshments. The ice cream was pronounced worth waiting for.





2015 Helen Corson Peace Award Selections

The \$300 Helen Corson Peace Award is given in recognition of a graduating senior who, by attitude or action, advocates or promotes the resolution of conflicts in a nonviolent way. The recipient has, through words and deeds, furthered the causes of human understanding and brotherhood. Here are the winners and their schools:

Avon Grove High School:
Kyle Pitts

Coatesville Area High School:
Noah Willett

Kennett High School:
Nathan Vaughn

Octorara High School:
Raven Reeves

Oxford High School:
Christina Rogers

Unionville High School:
Alexis "Lexi" Heckman

Remembering Helen Corson

The creation of an ad hoc committee to forward The Helen Corson Biography Project was approved at Meeting for Business on June 14, 2015. The purpose of the committee is foremost to collect stories of Helen Corson from people who knew her. The broader purpose will be to gather all sorts of information about Helen, about the causes she engaged and to understand her in the context of the Meeting and the world.

Our first step is to establish lines of communications and then to populate the committee. A sign up sheet is on the table in the library. One can choose to be a member of the committee, an occasional participant or to be connected via email. You can sign up on the library clipboard or by sending an email to David Watkins.

The first committee meeting will be held on Friday, July 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., in the social room. Come to see the project take shape. I will bring something to drink and invite others to bring snacks. A good turnout for this meeting would enable the project to get off to a fast start, to better create realistic objectives and to assess our human resources. If you can't attend, you are invited to share your perspective via email.

David Watkins

Progress Report on Volunteer Clearances

As noted above, in the Clerk's Summary of Meeting for Worship for Business held 6/7/15, Meeting was working diligently, in cooperation with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, toward achieving clearances required for those who volunteer with children as mandated by the new Child Protection Act. Since then, we have been advised that the Governor and state legislators are seeking to mitigate the expense and the extent of how the law applies to us. Accordingly, PYM has advised that we suspend the process (for which we are to be billed) until requirements are clarified at the state level. For that reason, volunteers who had begun the process will not have their information submitted to the service PYM uses for background checks. The Religious Education and InReach Committees are grateful to all who have taken the first (and, in a few cases, the second) steps toward clearances. InReach understands that Friends who had agreed to be cleared to do childcare are considered to be under a grace period until 2016. We plan to offer childcare through the summer months as usual.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions

"Open Our Eyes That We May See" is this year's theme:

July 29- August 2, 2015 Muhlenberg College Allentown, PA

Registration is open!

Please register by June 30 if (1) you require housing and (2) registration for youth programs.

Register on line at **PYM.org** or by contacting Tricia Coscia
Sessions and Volunteer Coordinator
via email: sessions@pym.org
telephone: 215-241-7238

