

London Grove Monthly Meeting



~ Begun 1714 ~
~ Established 1792 ~

February 2016 Bulletin

Second Month Queries on Meeting for Business

Is our meeting for business held in the spirit of a meeting for worship in which we seek divine guidance?

Are we careful to keep in the spirit of worship each of the concerns that emerge, whether of nurture, of Spirit, of social concerns, of property, or of finance?

Are Meeting decisions directed by prayerful consideration of all aspects of an issue and are difficult problems considered carefully with patient search for truth, unhurried by the pressures of time?

How do we respond if we notice the meeting has lost an understanding of the presence of God?

Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?

*Do I regularly attend meeting for business and in a spirit of love and unity?
If unable to attend, how do I attend to my responsibility?*

Do I consider prayerfully the many concerns that are lifted up on any issue, acknowledging that the search for truth in unity involves what God requires, being open to personal transformation as the community arrives at the sense of the meeting?



January/February 2016 Calendar

Thursday 1/28	6:30 pm	Committee of Clerks
Saturday 1/30	7:30 pm	“Dukes of Destiny” Concert at West Grove Meeting
Sunday 1/31	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship; Children’s First Day School
	10:45 am	Adult Religious Education: Communication and Support in Our Meeting - Jari Santana Wynn
	Noon	Soup Luncheon Sponsored by Care & Membership Committee
Thursday 2/4	7:30 pm	Property Committee
Sunday 2/7	8:15 am	Religious Education Committee
	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10:45 am	Meeting for Worship for Business
Thursday 2/11	7 pm	Care & Membership Committee
Sunday 2/14	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
	Noon	Worship & Ministry Committee
Thursday 2/18	9:30 am	Library Committee
	7 pm	Kindergarten Committee
Sunday 2/21	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10:45 am	Opening Exercises and Adult Religious Education TBA
Sunday 2/28	9:30 am	Meeting for Worship; Childrens First Day School
	10:45 am	Opening Exercises and Adult Religious Education: Quaker Studies

Childcare and Flowers Volunteers

Date	First Hour	Second Hour	Flowers
2/7	Doug Myers	Kim Brosnan-Myers & Linda Currie	Sam Cypressi
2/14	Alexia Vaughan	Gail & Denis Newbold	Donald LaBranche
2/21	Jill Benjamin	Grace Pfeifer & Carolyn Muller	Henry Pautner
2/28	Claire Birney	Linda Currie & Gail Newbold	Rebecca Mitchell

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 1/3/16 MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS

BETSY WALKER gave the annual Recorder's Report for 2015:

We had an overall decrease in membership with seven deaths and two membership transfers and the addition of one new member.

At year end, our membership: 308 TOTAL MEMBERS, 288 Adults and twenty Children.

The Treasurer's Report for December and year-end was made by DOUG MYERS.

Contributions exceeded budget for the month and for the year. We finished the year 2% over budget. Income generated in December was approximately \$37,500 compared to the monthly expense total of \$30,300.

DOUG MYERS also offered the second reading of the Finance Committee's 2016 proposed budget, projecting approximately \$111,000 in Income and Expenses. Meeting APPROVED the budget.

REBECCA MITCHELL responded to the First Month Query on behalf of the Worship & Ministry Committee, presented the committee's annual report, and offered an update on the pending Dukes of Destiny concert (progressing well). Regarding the W&M annual report, Rebecca gave the following as the responsibility of the committee:

"It is the charge of the Worship & Ministry Committee to be aware of and nurture the spiritual life of our meeting. We provide a coordinator and a spiritual reader for each First Day. The coordinator asks for the names of those to be held in the Light, breaks Meeting and invites guests to introduce themselves. We also arrange the outdoor Meetings for Worship during the summer."

REBECCA also mentioned:

"We invite everyone to engage in Meeting for Worship more deeply. All are welcome to sit on the facing benches...We invite everyone to be a coordinator, to break Meeting and help to welcome people. We invite everyone to share their unique messages with us when so led."

Finally, the Leadership Fund Committee's 2015 Summary Report was provided by ROBERT FRYE as past Committee Clerk: Three (3) grants totaling \$2,100 were given in our inaugural year and we received \$9,800 from a total of seven (7) bequests. (LEADERSHIP FUND'S DETAILED REPORT is found on Pages 5 and 6)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT WESTERN QUARTERLY MEETING

Part-time Youth Activities Coordinator, responsible for arranging and managing children's programs during Quarterly Meeting (4 times a year) as well as working with others in the Quarter to plan and implement other youth activities several times a year. Contact: coordinator@western.quarterquakers.org

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM KENNETT AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES

December 16, 2015

Dear Friends at London Grove Friends Meeting:

The Kennett Area Community Services (KACS) Board, Staff and Volunteers wish to thank you for sharing in our mission of *Serving People in Their Time of Need*. We believe no one should go without the basic necessities needed to live.

Once again you have come to the aid of the community. We greatly appreciate your donation of 115 pounds of pinto beans for our Christmas Basket Distribution. Our organization works to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry, and our neighbors in need are supported through unexpected challenges. We strive to keep essential nutritious food items in stock for the 420 families we serve each month. Your assistance in this mission is greatly appreciated. In addition to food assistance, we help over 1,100 individuals annually when emergencies threaten their health and safety.

As the need for our services continues to grow, your support of our organization and the community is truly appreciated. We are touched and grateful for your assistance.

It is always a challenge to meet all the needs of our neighbors. Please know that our clients are especially grateful for the gift of your concern and generosity.

Your kind decision to support our organization is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Melanie Weiler
Executive Director



Photo Credit - Amnesiac86

LONDON GROVE LEADERSHIP FUND 2015 SUMMARY OF GIVING

The Leadership Fund Committee recommended in its MISSION & SCOPE statement that a summary of current year giving activity be presented to the Meeting at year-end.

BACKGROUND: The Leadership Fund program began in 4th Month 2015 with the express purpose of providing financial grants in support of educational and community service related activities of our Members and committed Attenders. The opportunities for grant awards of up to \$1,000 are based on funding availability in any given year with the following guidelines approved by our membership:

1. Scholastic Support Materials as required by the school in which the student is enrolled.

Examples can include:

- Electronic hardware (computer, tablet, etc.) or software
- Musical instruments
- Art supplies
- Textbooks

Other supplies and fees necessary for participation in relevant courses/programs will also be considered for Leadership Grants.

Participation by an individual student is limited to \$5,000 over her/his educational career. Grants will be made based on demonstration of enrollment in any accredited Primary, Secondary, or Post Secondary institution.

The London Grove Leadership Fund is not a needs-based program. All Members and qualifying Attenders, regardless of financial circumstance, are encouraged to participate with requests for Leadership Grants.

2. Member/Active Attender participation in a conference or seminar relevant to the life of London Grove Meeting and consistent with Quaker values. Typically one grant per Member/Eligible Attender per year will be offered.
3. A specific service project or opportunity to offer Friendly witness in which the requesting Member/Eligible Attender is an active participant as the result of a direct leading. Based on funding availability, priority will be given to grant requests that serve the local geographic community. The requestor will be required to demonstrate a commitment of direct service in the program/project.
4. It is important to note: Projects may take many forms and the committee will have discretion in determining whether requests should be grant-eligible. In general, the committee will consider criteria such as:
 - Is the project in alignment with London Grove's core values and priorities?

- If under the auspices of a Service Organization, are the organization's practices consistent with the testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends?
- Will support by the Leadership Fund enrich the life of our Meeting?

The committee will not support grant requests for general program fundraising by youth organizations, sports organizations, nationally focused charities, etc. Nor will requests be considered if the requestor is not directly and actively engaged in the project.

5. Special requests as directed by Monthly Meeting

SOURCE OF FUNDING: Earnings of the Outreach Fund are the primary source of funds. As a guideline, budgets are based on a formula of 4.5% of average assets over the prior three years. However, the committee may, at its discretion, commit funds beyond the previous year's earnings estimate to support activities of the meeting. In addition, gifts by individuals to the Leadership Fund are allowed and encouraged.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: The Leadership Fund Committee is comprised of the following members:

- Assistant Clerk of London Grove Monthly Meeting
- Clerk of the Care & Membership Committee
- Clerk of Trustees
- London Grove Monthly Meeting Treasurer
- Clerk of Finance Committee

SUMMARY OF 2015 AWARDS: Three awards were given in 2015 for a total of \$2,117.

- \$1,000 reimbursement towards the cost of a Westtown High School student's laptop computer
- \$ 800 reimbursement for a music theory & skills workshop consistent with a college student's field of study
- \$ 317 awarded to our London Grove CARES Committee for local projects on behalf of London Grove Monthly Meeting

SUMMARY OF 2015 CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BEQUESTS: 7 bequests totaling \$9,765 were added to the Leadership Fund in 2015.

NEXT COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Consistent with the guidelines established, two activities are pending

- Convene during the 1st Quarter of 2016 to conduct its annual meeting
- Publish the Annual Funding Goal for 2016 by mid-April

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE, APRIL 14-17, 2016

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting invites Friends to further our awareness of the need for ways to dismantle racism and white supremacy, in our communities and beyond. One way would be to attend the White Privilege Conference, which will be held in Philadelphia, and to bring what is learned back to our monthly and quarterly meetings.

Registration for the conference opened on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 1/18/2016.. Further details about the conference will emerge during the winter...

Any member of PYM is eligible for a discount, through Friends General Conference, so that the conference fee would be only \$200. To receive the discount, follow the steps outlined below:

- Go to the FGC website www.fgcquaker.org and fill out a PRE-registration form
- Upon completion of the form, you will be sent the FGC discount code
- Next, complete the registration on the White Privilege Conference website <http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/registration.html> and provide the discount code, when prompted for payment
- Finally, forward your registration confirmation email to Zachary Dutton at zdutton@pym.org. Include the monthly meeting of which you are a member or active attender, and indicate the level of need, if any
- Funds set aside by PYM will be distributed in a way that allows the most people to receive aid while ensuring a meaningful degree of support. Exact amounts will be known when the registration process concludes
- THE DEADLINE TO RECEIVE AID FROM PYM IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15. Because funds are limited, Friends are encouraged to register as early as possible.
- All Friends, especially those who receive aid from PYM, will be asked to write, post to social media, visit or otherwise share their experience with their own meeting and other meetings

London Grove Monthly Meeting Contact Information

Clerk of Meeting - Bob Frye - bobfryehome@aol.com - 484.432.6718

Assistant Clerk - Susanna Davison - shrdavison@me.com - 610.388.2894

Care & Membership - Denis Newbold - denisnewbold@verizon.net - 610.869.3455

Worship & Ministry - Co-clerks Heather Hayes - heather763@hotmail.com

- 610.869.5732 and Lisa Cypressi - lkycypressi@verizon.net- 610.869.7386

London Grove Meeting House - londongrovemeeting.org - 610.268.8466

Burial Grounds - Charles Brosius - cbromush@aol.com - 610.869.9235

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting - www.pym.org

Western Quarterly Meeting - westernquarterquakers.org

Bulletin Editor - Susanna Davison - shrdavison@me.com

Associate Editor/Apple Expert - Jesse Davison - jessedavison@me.com

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