



Clerk's Message

By Sally Weaver Sommer

This is the time of year in which we begin to anticipate the summer and fall programming of LEYM. I want to encourage all of us who are part of a Lake Erie Yearly Meeting monthly meetings to consider participating in this varied programming.

First, consider joining the work camp in Detroit to be held July 20 through 24. Information about the work camp is found in this edition of the bulletin. During summer 2013 we held a smaller scale work camp in Lima, Ohio, where 17 of us spent an afternoon and a morning working in a Habitat restore and a soup kitchen. This summer we have expanded the opportunity for this kind of outreach and renewal experience. There are two ways you can be involved in the work camp. The first, of course, is to participate directly. I encourage you to consider how you might be able to do that. The second avenue for involvement is to make a donation to the temporary fund created to provide assistance to those who participate directly. You can do this by sending a check marked for the work

camp to our treasurer, Mike Hinshaw, at 1641 Southwood Dr., Ashland, OH 44805.



Second, consider attending the LEYM annual sessions to be held in Bluffton, Ohio, July 24 through 27. Our committees have been working hard to plan for the plenary, workshops, inter-generational activities, and youth and children programming. Information about the schedule, the programming, and how to

register for the event is found in this bulletin.

Third, consider forming a spiritual formation group in your monthly meeting and attending the LEYM spiritual formation retreats to be held September 5 through 7, 2014, and May 2, 2015. These are times when everyone involved in the program can come together for renewal and fellowship. During the fall retreat, local groups have a chance to plan for the coming year.

Fourth, consider encouraging the high schoolers in your monthly meeting to attend one or all of the

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teen retreats planned by our high school teen retreat program committee. Robb Yurisko, member of North Columbus Friends Meeting, leads four retreats per year. The next retreat will be a work camp held July 18 through 20 in conjunction with the LEYM work camp in Detroit. Your monthly meeting clerk receives Information about the high school teen retreats a couple months before each retreat.

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting is alive and well. Thanks to all those who make this programming possible.

LEYM SPONSORING WORK CAMP IN DETROIT, JULY 20-24

Following last year's successful, workday in Lima, we are once again offering the opportunity to gather in fellowship to work on a service project before our annual sessions. We have been accepted as a volunteer group by Cass Community Social Services in Detroit for a three-day, four-night work camp Sunday-Thursday, July 20-24, immediately before we meet in Bluffton.

Cass Community Social Services (CCSS), which grew out of programs of the Cass Community United Methodist Church in Detroit, now prepares and serves one million meals annually, houses 285 homeless men, women, and children, operates a weekly free medical clinic and a day program for 100 adults with developmental disabilities, and employs 70 adults in their own Green Industries.

Our group will be housed and fed by CCSS at a cost of \$20 per person per night, or \$80. We hope to offer some financial assistance to attend. The work we do will probably be different each of the three days and might be in their kitchen, gardens, or workshops, or involve rehabbing of buildings or helping clients directly. The evenings will be devoted to learning more about the city of Detroit and enjoying fellowship with each other, including worship and other activities for our group.

We hope that many in Lake Erie meetings will think about joining us on this adventure, whether you usually attend LEYM sessions or not. If you cannot join us in person, perhaps you can offer financial assistance so others can attend, or hold our work in prayer that week. (Financial donations to allow us to offer scholarships (made out to Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and marked Work Camp) may be sent to LEYM treasurer Mike Hinshaw at 1641 Southwood Dr., Ashland, OH 44805.)

Who is eligible? Anyone affiliated with a monthly meeting or worship group within Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. Children age 10 and up are welcome, but under 15 should be accompanied by a parent. The Teen Retreat Program will have its summer retreat with CCSS the preceding weekend, July 18-20. Details available from Robb Yurisko (rlyurisko@gmail.com).

Use the registration form here or on the LEYM website (leym.org). The registration deadline is July 1st. Contact Peggy Daub (peggydaub@hotmail.com) with questions.

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Registration Form for the
LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING
2014 WORKDAYS with **Cass Community Social Services**
In Detroit, Michigan – 4 pm, Sunday, July 20 until 9 am, Thursday, July 24, 2014

Quakers have a rich history of innovative and challenging service work. LEYM wishes to provide opportunities for Friends of all ages to continue this legacy of service through learning, experience and reflection. In this, our second year for this type of program, we've selected Cass Community Social Services in Detroit, Michigan as the venue for a 3-day, 4-night experience of volunteer work immediately preceding Yearly Meeting in Bluffton.

Name(s) _____

Monthly Meeting _____ Age(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Special medical considerations? _____

Please indicate preferred sleeping arrangements:

_____ bed in a "dorm" room (shared with others)

_____ air mattress on the floor of a church

_____ I will make my own sleeping arrangements

Any dietary restrictions? - _____

The cost is \$80 per person for room, board, and administrative costs, payable when you arrive in Detroit. Financial assistance is available to those who need it. Please fill in the blank below if you would like assistance.

Yes, I would appreciate financial assistance (indicate amount): _____

Send completed registration forms to Peggy Daub, 1506 Arborview Blvd., Ann Arbor MI 48103 or peggydaub@hotmail.com

Please register by Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

This is an appropriate activity for children age 10 and older. Children aged 10 to 14 must be accompanied by a parent. Teens 15-17 must be with a responsible adult.

Fuller information will be sent to all registrants about what to bring and what to expect. Questions may be addressed to Peggy Daub at 734-668-8063 or peggydaub@hotmail.com.

Finance Committee Proposals

Your responses invited

At Representative Meeting, Finance Committee presented a draft budget for 2014-15 (see below). As the Yearly Meeting has spread its wings in recent years, there have been increasing requests for funding, and three substantial new requests are reflected for next year; see notes d, e, and g. By including these, Finance Committee attempts to make feasible the wishes of Meeting committees. But it is up to LEYM Friends – *all of us* – to decide whether these and continuing expenses warrant the resulting large increase in the suggested contribution per member (up from \$40 to \$45) and the effect this would have on our monthly meeting budgets. Finance Committee invites your comments; please convey them to Jeff Cooper, clerk of Finance Committee (cooperdaub@hotmail.com or 1506 Arborview Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103). Meanwhile, the committee will seek ways to make this substantial increase smaller before proposing a budget at Annual Sessions.

As part of the budget, we expect to bring for discernment proposals to create a Travel *fund* (see note a) and to create both a new budget line and a linked fund to support future service projects (see note g).

Finally, Finance Committee has recommended moving our investments with the Friends Fiduciary Corporation from the Consolidated Fund (currently paying out at 4.5%, though this will drop to 4.0% by 2017) to a Quaker Green Fund (currently paying out at 3.5%), specifically designed for Friends meetings, churches, and organizations, which is “fossil fuel free” and includes a component dedicated to “cleantech” – investments in nine positive environmental areas. Comments on this are also welcome. You can read more about it at www.friendsfiduciary.org/quaker-green-fund/.

Draft Budget for 2014-15		Notes on Changes from 2013-14 Budget	
Travel	4000	a	a \$1000 reduction. Finance Committee will propose creation of a Travel <i>fund</i> with up to \$2000 from the growing General Fund that will serve as a cushion, enabling us to budget less in some years.
Office	50		
Contract worker	2040		
Finance	50		
Publications	3000	b	b \$200 reduction, reflecting lower costs
Advancement & Outreach	600		
Ministry & Nurture	300		
Clerk's Fund	300		
FGC contribution	4500		
Records project	100	c	c \$100 reduction, returning to previous pattern
FWCC Travel	1200		
Youth Activity Fund	1000		
High School Retreat Program	7000	d	d \$1000 increase requested to cover transportation costs of teens needing financial assistance to attend retreats
Spiritual Formation	1500	e	e \$1400 increase. Half of this ends a stretch of intentional under-budgeting to spend down the fund (too far, apparently); half is requested to help pay for bringing in outside speakers, and requires expanding the original purpose of the fund.
Friends School in Detroit	4500		
Olney Friends School	600		
Consultation Fund	0		
Ministry scholarships	500	f	f \$500 reduction because unspent budget this year leaves \$1000 in the fund, resulting in total availability of \$1500 next year
Service projects	2000	g	g New budget line (and fund) to be proposed at Annual Sessions to support future service project(s). Executive Committee recommends that this expense be paid by the Yearly Meeting rather than by individual participants, who could still make donations.
Insurance	500		
Total Expenses	\$33,740		
Contributions	32,625		
Other Income	250		
Total Income	\$32,875		
Deficit	\$865		
Suggested contribution per member	\$45	h	h \$5 per member increase

**Minutes of
REPRESENTATIVE MEETING LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING
Fourth Month 5, 2014
Red Cedar Friends Meeting,
Lansing, Michigan**

14 RM4.1 The Meeting opened with silent worship at 1:30

An Epistle from the Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Meeting, Seventh Month, 2013 was shared. This is a powerful epistle, which explored the way Quakers relate to the world and why we are here, paying particular regard to those without power.

14 RM4.2 Roll Call

Akron 1
Ann Arbor 6
Athens 2
Birmingham 0
Broadmead 10
Cleveland 1
Delaware 0
Detroit 6
Grand Rapids 2
Granville 1
Holland 0
Kalamazoo 3
Kent 0
Mid-Ohio Valley 0
North Columbus 2
Oberlin 0
Pine River 0
Pittsburgh 2
Red Cedar 3
Waysmeet Worship Group 1
Wooster 3
Total: 43

14 RM4.3 Clerk's Report

Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) reported. Sally greeted everyone and presented the agenda for the meeting. She brought forward Seth Reichenbach (North Columbus) and Joyce Balderston

(Wooster) to be appointed to the Naming Committee. They were approved.

14 RM4.4 Executive Committee Report

Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) reported for the committee.

Sally reported that the Executive Committee had met Fourth Month 4, with the main issues considered being the proposed summer Work Camp Project in Detroit, the High School Retreat Program, and changes in the Spiritual Formation Program for the coming year. The Executive Committee approved the proposal to hold a 2014 summer work camp in Detroit.

14 RM4.5 Ad Hoc Committee on Service Projects Report

Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor) reported for the committee.

At our annual sessions in 2012, yearly meeting agreed that we felt led to find a way to provide service project opportunities, particularly noting the great needs being felt by our neighbors in Detroit.

Last year we held a work camp in Lima, OH that proved to be a successful opportunity for 17 Friends to help in a Habitat store and a soup kitchen. At the yearly meeting sessions we determined, through a poll, that Friends would like to have a similar experience this year in the challenging setting of Detroit. We are now proposing to explore the world of social, environmental and economic justice in the Cass Corridor of Detroit for four days preceding Annual Sessions 2014. We will be able to partner with Cass Community Social Services (CCSS) in their program to help

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meet the needs of folks who are seeking jobs, security, training, and family stability. Most of the clients start out living rough, but some now have apartments on-site.

CCSS was formed in 2002 by the Methodist Church and now has a “campus” of 6 buildings on Woodrow Wilson Blvd., immediately northwest of center city Detroit. It has expanded to a \$6 million per year operation, supported by many churches and organizations, serving over one million meals per year to the homeless and hungry, and employing 145 folks in the training and care programs. Thousands of volunteers each year work in a wide variety of programs, and we’ve learned that our group might clear vacant lots, sand and paint walls, help serve meals, sort and pack recycled paper, recover discarded tires (for conversion to doormats and flip-flops), and work in the on-site vegetable garden.

CCSS would be able to house us in two buildings, Mom’s Place I with 3 large dorm-like rooms (total capacity @ 20), and a local church with sleeping mats on the floor. We would bring our own bedding and work clothes. They would provide us with 3 meals a day and specific, supervised jobs. The cost will be \$20 per day per person, plus a donation of \$50 for the entire group. CCSS is able to provide secure parking for our cars and take us on an exploration of some of the highlights and lowlights of Detroit if we request it. They also are eager to partner with us in evening programs, but provide space for our group to hold its own gatherings with worship and discussion when we feel the need for a time of reflection.

We are proposing gathering at the CCSS Scott Building for an orientation on Sunday, July 20 in the afternoon. We would settle into our dorm, have supper together and meet the staff, share worship and conversation in the evening, then do our physical work from Monday through Wednesday, driving down to Bluffton on Thursday in time for committee meetings and the beginning of Annual Sessions.

We have heard from the High School Teen Retreat Program Committee that they are interested in being part of this project as their summer retreat. A straw poll of people who participated in the one day service project in Lima last year showed that at least 9 people from that group would be tentatively able to do this work in Detroit in 2014. Their enthusiasm for this longer, three day, four night, experience was heartening, with one person speaking of his hope that this experience in learning and working together would carry additional energy over into our annual sessions.

Finally, last year in discussing service and work projects in general, we were asked to provide a statement of intention so we would share more clarity in why we want to do this and what we hope will come of it. Our intention for this year is this:

The intent of the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting service project in 2014 is to provide an experiential opportunity to live this year’s theme of “Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges.” We recognize the barriers between classes in our society, and believe that a project that allows us to meet people who are in need will help us learn how to build bridges across those barriers. By joining the ranks of volunteers affiliated with the Cass Community Social Services, our small gift of a few days work will become part of a large mosaic of their ongoing service in that community. We also expect this project to provide a time for community building and spiritual reflection for the participants.

14 RM4.6 High School Teen Retreat Program Report

Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) reported for the committee.

Merry reported that three of four retreats have been completed so far this program year. She then outlined future 2014-2015 retreats. The committee is beginning the process of finding a new coordinator for when Robb Yurisko (North Columbus) steps down from his position as leader. Merry then presented a concern that there is dwindling

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participation in the teen retreats. She spoke and sang earnestly to members to hold the teens in their monthly meetings in the Light and encourage them to participate in the program. The conflict between teens' busy lives and the High School Retreat Program, as well as the Annual Sessions, needs to be resolved by parents in a respectful manner. Perhaps teens should be encouraged to bring a friend along to retreats, which would help tie the experience into a teen's life outside of meeting. The committee members are available to visit meetings in order to help strengthen the relationship between the meetings' teens and the High School Teen Retreat Program.

14 RM4.7 Treasurer's Interim Report

Mike Hinshaw (Wooster) reported.

Mike reported that he has received donations from all but two meetings for this fiscal year (Seventh Month 1-Sixth Month 30). Income to date totals almost \$27,000. \$938.30, or 19%, of the \$5,000 travel budget has been spent to this point. He noted that the Yearly Meeting has donated \$4,500 to Friends School in Detroit and will soon contribute \$4,500 to FGC. Mike continues to set aside funds to help defray FWCC travel expenses, which peak approximately every three years. Expenses to date have totaled approximately \$18,000 in a annual budget of \$31,000. The General Fund Balance was given as \$26,395, with overall assets being \$53,963.

14 RM4.8 Finance & Budget Reports

Jeff Cooper reported for the Committee.

1. **Draft budget for 2014-15.** We are presenting this afternoon a draft budget for 2014-15, with an invitation for comments and questions now and anytime until shortly before Annual Meeting, when we must approve a final budget. Using our current budget as a starting point, we propose the following changes:

a. Decrease the travel budget by \$1000 (to \$4000). More on that below.

b. Decrease the Publications & Archives budget by \$200 (to \$3000).

c. Decrease the Records Project (our contribution to the Friends Historical Library) by \$100, returning to the usual level of \$100.

d. Decrease support for the Scholarship Fund for Ministry by \$500 (to \$500). The \$1000 budgeted this year was unspent and thus is transferred to the fund. Combining that \$1000 with \$500 in next year's budget makes \$1500 available for scholarships next year.

Next we have a number of increases. Please bear in mind that these reflect requests from Executive Committee or individual committees of the Yearly Meeting.

e. Increase the High School Teen Retreat Program Fund by \$1000 to \$7000 to cover the costs of transportation for those teens needing financial assistance (often provided by reimbursing the transportation costs of drivers and/or Friendly Adult Presences).

f. Increase the Spiritual Formation budget line by \$1400 to \$1500. We have intentionally under-budgeted this line for the past few years because the fund it supports had become so large. The fund has now dwindled to \$1457, so it is time to resume support. In addition, the Spiritual Formation group has requested an increase to support bringing in outside speakers.

g. Add a line to support the costs of the summer service projects at \$2000.

These changes bring us to a total of \$33,740, up \$2600 from last year. Our membership numbers appear to be about the same. The suggested contribution per member rises to \$45, and still results in a budget with a slight deficit: \$865, nearly \$1000 less than last year. We can of course make adjustments between now and Annual Meeting, seeing where finances stand at the end of the current year and what comments we hear from Friends in the Yearly Meeting.

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h. The draft budget is attached.

2. New Funds

a. **Proposal to Create a Travel Fund.** Finance Committee proposes the creation of a Travel Fund. Currently we have a budget line for Travel, but no fund. If you look at the figures for the past several years in the draft budget, you can see that travel expenses are difficult to predict. It appears that we'll spend well under the budgeted \$5000 for the current year. If we had a Travel Fund, we could take, for example, \$2000 in unspent travel money for this year and place it in the fund, thereby providing a cushion that would allow us to budget less next year. Continuing the example, we could budget \$4000 rather than \$5000, but have \$6000 available for travel, should it be needed. We currently expect to have a sufficient balance in the General Fund at the end of the fiscal year to transfer \$2000 to a Travel Fund.

The proposal to create a Travel Fund is presented now to allow Friends time for seasoning. We expect to bring it to Annual Meeting for a decision.

b. **Proposal to Create a Temporary Fund with no balance to facilitate cash flow for this summer's work project.** This would enable us to accept donations earmarked for this project, and possibly offer scholarships with any funds that are contributed. The ad hoc committee overseeing this project will manage the money within this fund. The \$50 required donation to Cass Community Social Services will come from the Clerk's Fund.

c. **Proposal to Create a Budget Line and Supporting Fund for summer work projects on a lasting basis.** This is for seasoning and a decision at Annual Meeting. The draft budget includes \$2000 in this proposed budget line.

3. **Covering the cost of Annual Meeting.** The Annual Meeting is intended to be self-supporting, and thus is not part of the budget; income and revenue go into and out of the Annual Meeting fund, which provides a cushion. Last year at this time, the fund had dwindled from over \$6000 down to \$371, and

we made some adjustments to stem the decline. These seem to have worked. The amount in the fund has rebounded to \$1473; this increase of \$1102 is mainly attributable to the \$1011 received in donations for Annual Meeting. Thus our revenue apart from the donations was extremely close to actual expenses – a difference of just \$91. And we thank all Friends who made donations, allowing the fund to recover.

Based on last year's activity, we recommend keeping registration fees and scholarships at the same level:

- The registration fee is \$50 for early bird, \$60 for later.
- Youth and children are charged only 1/3 the cost of meals and lodgings; registration is free.
- First-time attenders pay 2/3 of standard costs (a 1/3 discount).

Moreover, we ask Arrangements and Site Committee to include again on the Registration Form a line inviting donations to help enable youth and children to attend Annual Meeting.

4. **Friends Fiduciary Accounts.** We currently have over \$25,000 invested in two accounts in Friends Fiduciary Corporation's Consolidated Fund. These have a standard annual payout rate of 4.5%, though we've recently been informed this will drop to 4.0% by 2017.

Recently, Friends Fiduciary Corporation has developed a new investment opportunity called the Quaker Green Fund, which is "fossil fuel free," and is specifically designed for Friends meetings, churches, and organizations. The Quaker Green Fund includes a component dedicated to "cleantech" – investments in nine positive environmental areas, including advancements in sustainable use of agricultural resources, alternative and renewable energy, efficient transport, energy conservation, water conservation and filtration, low carbon finance, and cutting-edge clean technologies. It includes a mix of stocks and bonds and is

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intended for investors with a greater than five year investment horizon. Its current standard payout rate is 3.5%. Finance Committee is recommending moving our investments into this, but won't do so immediately and welcome Friends' leadings on this matter. You can read more about it at www.friendsfiduciary.org/quaker-green-fund/.

5. LEYM Financial Manual. We have revised the *LEYM Financial Manual*. This is intended mainly for members of Finance Committee, but we shall post it on the website, where anyone can consult it. We hope to keep it continuously updated – so if in July we agree to create a Travel Fund, this will be added to the *Manual*.

Representative meeting approved the creation of the temporary fund described in 2b above.

14 RM4.9 Spiritual Formation Committee Report

Mathlida Navias (Broadmead) reported for the program.

The committee was asked to prepare a presentation explaining its purpose and program at the Annual Sessions.

14 RM4.10 Nominating Committee Report

Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor) reported for the committee.

The committee is seeking to fill positions on the Peace, Earthcare, Site and Arrangement (including a registrar) committees. It also is seeking individuals to represent the YM at the FCNL, to run the High School Program at the Annual Sessions, and to become the YM's Recording Clerk. All positions are to commence at the rise of this year's Annual Sessions.

The committee raised the question of how to best structure recording the discussions and decisions at our Annual Sessions and other meetings. Should the yearly meeting take minutes with, or without, the reading back of minutes at the time of discussion? Friends shared deeply over the issue.

14 RM4.11 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee Report

Janet Dando (Akron) reported on the planning for the adult program. An alternative dinner is being planned for Thursday evening. This will be free of charge, although participants are asked to bring a dish to share. Dietary considerations will be sent out in advance of the Annual Sessions. She then outlined the workshops being planned for the Annual Sessions. Worship sharing will be structured a little bit differently than in the past. Attenders will be able to sign up for worship sharing opportunities when they sign on arriving in Bluffton.

Dale Pratt-Harrington (Athens) reported on the talent show plans and guidelines. The committee asked for people to let it know of interest in participating in the show as soon as possible, preferable before the start of the Annual Sessions.

Conleth Crotser (Cleveland) reported on the programming for Youth and Children. There is a need for volunteers.

14 RM4.12 Arrangements and Site Committee Report

Jon Sommer (Broadmead) reported for the committee and announced the location and date of the Annual Sessions to be Bluffton, Ohio, from Seventh Month 26th till the 30th.

14 RM4.13 Advancement & Outreach Committee Report

Dolores Avner (Pittsburgh) reported for the committee.

Becky Morehouse will be working on updating the map outlining LEYM boundaries and which will show its monthly meetings and worship groups. She hopes to have the map ready in time for the Annual Sessions and would welcome any input.

Merry Stanford (Red Cedar) has completed five visits since the last Annual Sessions in her ministry to travel amongst the meetings in the Yearly Meeting.

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The committee has agreed to collaborate with the High School Teen Retreat Committee in attempting to reach out to that segment of the Yearly Meeting by encouraging and underwriting Robb Yurisko (North Columbus) to visit individual meetings and speak with their teens. How Robb would accomplish this would be left to the discernment of the High School Teen Retreat Committee.

Mike Holaday (Grand Rapids) reported that the FGC New Meetings Project is progressing.

14 RM4.14 Ministry and Nurture Committee Report

Paula Deming reported for the committee.

Paula reminded the attenders that the spring Spiritual Formation Retreat will be hosted by Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting on Fifth Month 3rd. She then reported that Eric Evans, a Nurturing Ministries Associate from FGC, will be presenting at the Spiritual Formation Retreat this fall. This fall retreat will be held Ninth Month 5-7 at the Colombiere Conference Center in Clarkston, MI. The spring retreat will be held May 2, 2015. The committee is considering a theme of "Experiments With Light" for this retreat.

Although it has begun the process, the committee has not yet been able to finish crafting a consolidated response to the Annual Query. The committee is still waiting for some responses. Paula read from some of the responses received to date.

Paula reported that a concern was brought to the presiding clerk concerning the safety and wellbeing of our children. The meeting approved that the Yearly Meeting clerk, in consultation with the clerk of Athens Monthly Meeting, the Ministry and Nurture Committee, and others with expertise form an *ad hoc* committee to work with Athens Meeting to determine how we will move forward with this concern at our Annual Session.

14 RM4.15 Peace Committee Report

Paul Helbling (Broadmead) reported on the Cam-

paign Nonviolence national activities set to occur in September. The campaign was initiated by Pace e Bene (<http://paceebene.org>). He asked permission to disseminate information about the campaign through the LEYM communication network. He was given permission to do so and it was suggested he use the upcoming Bulletin issue.

14 RM4.16 Publications & Archives Report

The report was submitted by Joe Mills (Kalamazoo).

A. Annual Records

1. The *Annual Records* was out in November of 2013; final formatting, assembly and printing was much easier this year. Last year we used Office Max (whose principal business is sale of office products with a sideline of printing and copying). This year we used Fed EX – Kinkos whose main line of business includes printing and copying. Any Friend who has a strong connection with a printing firm should let the Committee know so it can explore using the firm.
2. Feedback on this year's *Annual Records* is welcomed as the Committee strives for improvement.
3. Les Walden will be next year's *Annual Records*' Editor

B. Bulletin

1. The Committee is mindful of its role in supporting the Bulletin Editor and wants to assure that submission of material for the Bulletin is made as easy as possible.
2. The Committee encourages the use of photos in the Bulletin. Les Walden is willing to travel afar to obtain photos that would support a story or article in the Bulletin as desired by the Editor. The Yearly Meeting's policy on the use of photographs would be followed.

14 RM4.17 Appreciation was given to Red Cedar for the hospitality shown the meeting. The following comments were shared.

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The food was great!

Whoever made the muffins deserves blessings heaped upon him or her.

Thanks for arranging the sunshine. We've done without light long enough.

Thank you for the thought in developing this wonderful space.

The quality of the hospitality was outstanding.

I give much appreciation for the many options of gluten-free food.

I appreciate the beauty and simplicity of the building. It served our needs so well.

I wish you best wishes in becoming closer to the neighborhood.

I give appreciation for making the meetinghouse feel like a home.

I appreciate the shelves of fiction in the library

here.

All the people who touched this building clearly left a blessing on the building and now we are blessing the building anew.

We appreciate Merry's hugs, making this meeting-house truly feel like a home.

I appreciate Kathy Booth's work in making plenty of food for everyone to eat.

Thanks to Merry for making copies for the meeting.

I appreciate meeting for worship this morning and all the energy that was there.

I appreciate the sign that says "Capacity 299". I appreciate all the activity and diversity here. It is truly holy ground.

Alternative Dinner at LEYM

Thursday, July 23, 2014

5:30 pm

Items to bring:

Homemade breads, muffins, rolls

Gluten free breads, muffins, rolls

Low sodium items

Low sugar items

Vegetarian items

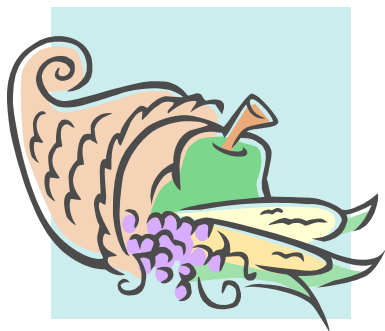
Vegan items

Juices and Smoothies (bring fruit, juicer provided)

Salads

Potluck

Ramsayer Dorm



LEYM Annual Meeting 2014 – July 24 to July 27 – Registration Instruction

1. **Registration deadline** is Saturday, July 12. Registration Form, Parental Consent Form, and check must be postmarked by this date for all children attending. Adults who register after this date must pay the higher \$60 registration fee. Room assignments will be made on a first come, first served basis. Early Registration fee is \$50 by July 12th.
2. Please complete a line on the registration form for each family member attending. Children age 3-18 pay 1/3 the cost of food, linens, and lodgings; registration remains free this year. All adults who work full time with the youth do not incur charges, **it is important that every person attending be listed on the registration form** so that housing assignments can be made, meals are available, and program needs can be met.
3. **Worship Group:** Specific Worship Groups will be available for signups at check-in.
4. **Adult Young Friend:** Put a check in the Adult Young Friend column if age 19-25 and wishing to participate in Adult Young Friends activities.
5. **Lodging:** Overnight attendees may stay in Ramseyer Hall, which is air conditioned, for \$22.50/night, Hirschey Hall Annex, which is not air conditioned, for \$17.50/night, or camp on the lawn near these dorms, for \$10.00/night. Prices are per person. Dorm rooms have two twin beds. Often additional beds or mattresses can be moved from an empty room to accommodate children sleeping in parents' room. Children ages 3-7 when accompanied by a parent have lodging costs of \$15.00/night at Ramseyer, \$10.00/night at Hirschey Annex, and \$5.00/night Camping. Campers need to bring their own tents and sleeping bags and will have access to dormitory restroom facilities. Put a check in the box below each night a person is staying. In the Lodging Choice column, specify Ramseyer (R), Hirschey Annex (H), or camping (C). All children and youth from 3 to 18 have lodging scholarships that reduce the subtotals of lodging and linens by **2/3**.
6. **Linens:** Put a check in the Linens column if linens are desired. The \$10.00/stay cost covers top and bottom sheets, pillowcase, towel, washcloth, and small bar of soap. Alternatively, sheets and towels may be brought from home. Children and adults going to the lake will need towels for swimming. The beds in the dorms are x-long twin size.
7. **Blankets and pillows:** Blankets and pillows are not included in the linens packet. Ramseyer rooms have blankets, but not pillows. Hirschey Annex rooms have neither blankets nor pillows.
8. **Commuters:** Attendees commuting from home or staying overnight off campus pay the commuter fee for each day attending. The cost is \$5.00/day. If attending only part of a day, the full day fee for that day should be paid. Put a check in the box below each day attending.
9. **Lodging/Commuter subtotal:** For lodging: multiply the number of nights staying by the cost per night of the chosen lodging and, if linens are desired, add in the linen cost, and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal column. For commuters: multiply the number of days commuting by the daily commuter fee and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal Column.
10. **Meals:** Put a check in the box for each meal desired. Cost per meal for attendees ages 8 and up: breakfast \$5.85, lunch \$8.20, supper \$9.35. Add together the cost of all meals and enter in the Meals Subtotal column. Youth ages 8-18 have scholarships that will reduce these prices by **2/3**. The children ages 3-7 meal rates are: breakfast \$4.35, lunch \$6.05, and dinner \$6.90. The children and youth scholarships will reduce these costs by **2/3**.

(continued on page 14)

11. **Registration Fee:** Adults age 19 and up pay a registration fee of \$50 if the registration form is post marked by Saturday, July 12, or \$60 if postmarked thereafter. Part time participants must pay the full registration fee.
12. **First Time Attenders:** Those adults attending for the first time are entitled to a discount of 1/3 off total costs. After calculating the "Total" for each adult, calculate 1/3 of Totals for all adults who are attending for the first time and enter the value in the Scholarship field.
13. **CHILDREN:** Registrations for children and completed Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Forms must be postmarked by Saturday, July 12th. Children ages 3-18 pay 1/3 cost of food, lodgings, and linens. Registration for the children is free. Those participating in the Adult Young Friends program must register and pay fees as an adult. Children do not have to be toilet trained. A line on the registration form must be filled out for each child to assure a place in the Youth and Children's Program, lodging and meals. A parent or guardian should complete the LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form for all children ages 0-18
14. **Contact Information:** Please fill out your address, phone number, monthly meeting and email address. If an email address is specified, the registrar will notify you when your registration has been received.
15. **Concerns/Roommates:** Please complete these sections as applicable. We will try our best to meet your requests.
16. **Payment:** Please make checks payable to LEYM and mail along with your completed registration form, and Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form if children will be attending, to the registrar: Berch Carpenter, 1700 Spillan Rd, Yellow Springs, OH 45387.
17. **Financial Assistance:** Those desiring financial assistance should first contact their monthly meetings. If needs cannot be met by the monthly meeting, contact the registrar.
18. **Emergency Contact:** If someone needs to reach you while you are attending LEYM, during business hours, a message may be left at the Marbeck Center switchboard: 419-358-3000. After hours, campus security can be called at: 419-358-3343.
19. **Questions?:** Please contact Berch Carpenter, registrar, at berchrc@yahoo.com or 937-408-4077.

**2014 LEYM Registration Form will be found as an insert
Between pages 14 and 15
LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent Form
Will be found on page 15**

Deadline – July 12, 2014 – Registration Deadline for Children – July 12, 2014 –Deadline
LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form

All children welcome, toilet-trained or not

Child's full name: _____

Child's age at LEYM: _____

Child's grade level next fall: _____

Nickname: _____ Tee Shirt Size _____ Youth Adult

Child's full name: _____

Child's age at LEYM: _____

Child's grade level next fall: _____

Nickname: _____ Tee Shirt Size _____ Youth Adult

Child's full name: _____

Child's age at LEYM: _____

Child's grade level next fall: _____

Nickname: _____ Tee Shirt Size _____ Youth Adult

Child's full name: _____

Child's age at LEYM: _____

Child's grade level next fall: _____

Nickname: _____ Tee Shirt Size _____ Youth Adult

Parent/Guardian name _____

Parent/Guardian email address _____

Home address: _____

Name(s) & address of children's Parent/Guardian/Adult Sponsor: attending with child/teen if different from the above adult

Email address: _____

Please give a full listing of each child's medical, mental, and physical / conditions as well as any medications he/she are currently taking: _____

Medical Insurance Information. – A copy of the insurance card would be helpful. One for each child.

Insurance Carrier: _____

Group number: _____

Policy holder's name: _____

Policy number: _____

I am aware that my child is attending the gathering of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting at Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH, on July 24 – 27, 2014. I authorize the adult staff to arrange for emergency medical care they deem necessary. I am aware that for my child to participate in swimming, bowling, or any other off- campus activity he/she will be riding in a private motor vehicle to and from these activities. My child will only ride in vehicles equipped with seatbelts or age appropriate child-restraining devices. [Providing your child's car seat would help.]

(Signature of parent or guardian)

Telephone number(s) where parent/guardian can be reached for permission for emergency medical treatment/ admittance if they are not attending LEYM.

days: evenings other: _____

If parent/guardian cannot be reached, Notify: _____

Day's: _____

Evening's: _____

LEYM 2014: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges

The world can be a cold, frightening place. The voices coming from our many gadgets constantly remind us that we have many good reasons to be fearful of our world and fearful of each other. As likely victims, we shield ourselves from all that might harm us. Anyone who has been hurt is considered a survivor, and who hasn't been hurt? The barriers that have been built are sturdy, and meant to keep us from potential harm, but by the nature of this sturdiness, we are kept from overcoming our fears and recognizing our many false beliefs about our world.

The same could be said about our relationship with Spirit. How often do we question the nature or the existence of a divine entity that would permit so much human misery? How do we get to a place within our hearts to recognize "that of God" within ourselves as well as our neighbor? What does that mean?

As we share time together, let us consider the tools that we have to break down barriers and build bridges in our personal lives, our meetings, our neighborhoods, and the world at large. This year, a wide range of workshops will be offered at the YM that offer information and inspiration to break down our fears and build hope for a better tomorrow.

The following is a list of presenters and the topics that will be covered. Many of the presenters have graciously agreed to present both days and a couple of them will also have displays.

Our plenary speaker, *Scilla Wahrhaftig*, will be presenting a workshop on Friday with Jo Schlesinger, on **"We are all Bridge Builders: Sharing our Stories"**. Scilla has been the hub of AFSC in Pittsburgh for many years and is retiring this year. She has traveled across Pennsylvania with "Eyes Wide Open", facilitating listening projects with veterans, their families and friends. In recent years, she worked with teens interested in mediation and peace work, culminating in participation in a na-

tional video competition in Washington, DC. Her interactive workshop will explore ways that participants break down barriers and build bridges in their communities. This will be done through story telling. Ideas coming from this workshop will be shared and incorporated into the keynote talk on Friday evening.

Two veteran presenters will also be joining us. *Jerry Knutson*, who has dual membership in Pittsburgh and Orlando Monthly Meetings, will be presenting two workshops.

On Friday, he will present **Experiment with Light: Breaking down barriers and building bridges in your worship/meditation.** Rex Ambler, a British Quaker, uses George Fox's writings to articulate a meditation technique based on the early Friends. Many Quaker "Light Groups" have formed using his book, *Light to Live By: An Exploration in Quaker Spirituality*. After a brief explanation of the method, we will practice it.

On Saturday, he will present a workshop: **"The Gathered Meeting; breaking down barriers and building bridges in your meeting's worship."** We will read and worship share on the tract "The Gathered Meeting", by Thomas Kelly, a twentieth century Quaker.

Jerry is a Released Friend by PMM, who started meditating in 1971 and started to worship with the Friends in 1993. He was a residential student at Pendle Hill for four terms and is nearly finished with his graduate studies in Divinity at Earlham School of Religion.

Our other veteran presenter is *Richard Lee*, who is also doing two presentations. On Friday, he will facilitate **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Healing,** and on Saturday, he will facilitate **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Healing the Earth.**

Richard has been presenting, studying, researching, and writing about meetings for healing since the 1980's. His knowledge of Quaker and biblical history enables him to make interesting references in conjunction with teaching and practicing healing work.

(continued on page 17)

Other offerings include:

Eyes Wide Open: Healthcare; presented by Dr. Brad Cotton

Brad began the Circleville, OH Friends Worship Group in 2004. He has been very active in public peace-promoting actions with the Circleville worship Group and with Veterans for Peace. As a full-time emergency room physician, and committed member of Physicians for a National Health Program and the Ohio Single Payer Action Network, he draws on his daily experience working with the uninsured. Brad's workshop will discuss the Affordable Care Act and single payer healthcare reform. (Both days.)

Beyond Divestment: Friends work toward a just peace in Israel/ Palestine; presented by Lucia Kalinosky

Lucia is a recent graduate of Oberlin College and attends Oberlin Friends Meeting. A history major with interests in Israel/ Palestine, she stays involved by serving as Assistant Clerk of the Steering Committee of the Quaker Palestine Israel Network (QPIN).

Her workshop will provide a brief background on the historical and current situation of Palestinians worldwide. She will show clips from documentaries and talks to give a more personal insight into the occupation. The workshop will recap the past and current work of Friends for justice in Israel Palestine, especially with regard to BDS, and work to find new ways forward through group discussions and brainstorming. (Saturday only.)

Ending the Endless War & Building Our Shared Security; presented by Katherine Phillipson

Katherine comes to us through her work with FCNL to support grassroots lobbying around the country. She writes, "In 2001, Congress passed a 60 word law that has been called 'the most dangerous sentence in U.S. history'. It is the sole legal justification for the war in Afghanistan, Guantanamo prison, drone strikes, warrantless wire-tapping, and numerous military interventions around the world. Now Congress is close to repealing that law and Friends are leading the campaign to make it

happen. Hear how LEYM Quakers can join the effort and transform the meaning of 'national security.' (Both days)

Simple Bridges Over Great Rivers: How Friends' peace & social concerns can be carried from local communities into the world; presented by Jo Posti

Jo is a member of Pittsburgh Monthly Meeting, who has been elected twice and served eight years on the Mt. Lebanon School Board, with two years as board president. She was the first member of her political party to be elected to the school board in its 100 year history. During her tenure, the board undertook a \$109 million renovation project, hired 2 superintendents, negotiated 7 bargaining unit contracts, and participated in making many of the changes that resulted in the high school recently being rated as the top public high school in the Commonwealth. Jo has not only worked across political lines, but has worked with her municipality, state officials, and local magistrate on a variety of issues.

Her session will explore the current state of local politics, the effect "hyper-local" has had on local government, and why there's never been a better time for Friends to consider running for office, learn how to effectively engage public servants, improve public discourse, and discover big-impact opportunities that may be under the radar. (Both days)

Campaign Non-Violence; presented by Josie Setzler and Sister Paulette Schroeder

Josie Setzler, peace activist from Fremont, and Sister Paulette Schroeder, member of Christian Peacemaker Teams Palestine, are working together to promote "Campaign Non-Violence", a national effort initiated by Peace e Bene. By connecting the dots with three glaring areas of violence in our culture: poverty, war, and climate crisis, "Campaign Non-Violence" will work to enlighten and empower people to participate in turning our culture around. Josie and Paulette will also present activities which help participants learn skills in dealing with personal, communal, and global violence. (both days)

(continued on page 18)

Alternative Dinner

In addition to workshops, join us for an "Alternative Potluck" on Thursday evening. Label your contributions with a list of ingredients for those with special dietary needs. Please remember that this **meal is to serve as an alternative to eating in the cafeteria, and indicate this on your registration.**

Talent Show

Back by popular demand, our Saturday Social Time will include a Talent Show. To allow for a large and diverse number of talents, the Program Committee asks that you register for the show by contacting Kate Enger at psychdrkate@gmail.com or Dale Pratt-Harrington at dphdo@aol.com . Keep your performance, from set-up to take-down, to no more than 5 minutes, and keep the performance family friendly. Follow a simple rule of thumb: if in doubt, DON'T.

Worship Sharing

As in previous years, we will have worship- sharing, spiritual practice times, and Bible Study. Some things will be a little bit different. Participants will sign up for worship-sharing rather than having it assigned. There will also be worship sharing options. You may sign up for a session with a query as in the past, or a session in which participants share their life journeys.

Bible Study

Also, this year's bible study will be facilitated by Abby Pratt-Harrington, who will be presenting this for us for the first time.

It's been a long, cold, lonely winter... but we get by with a little help from our Friends! See you soon!

**Submission Deadline for
Fall Bulletin
9/15/2014**

The Famous LEYM Talent Show Returns for an Encore Performance in 2014

Have you yearned to perform before a Friendly audience? Your opportunity has arrived! So polish up your act, whatever it may be: song, dance, yo-yo tricks, juggling, story-telling, you name it, for the 2014 Lake Erie Yearly Meeting.

Please register as early as possible by contacting Kate Enger, psychdrkate@gmail.com or Dale Pratt-Harrington, dphdo@aol.com.

We ask that all performers/acts follow these guidelines:

1. Keep in mind that the Talent Show is light, enjoyable entertainment for all ages.
2. Make sure your act is no longer than 5 minutes.
3. Include the children/teens whenever, wherever possible.
4. As always, be respectful to all individuals and groups.

We look forward to singing, laughing, and enjoying the fun. Thank you for participating. Please share this information with the members of your monthly meeting.

Thank you,

The Adult Program Committee

On-line Resources for Aging Friends and their Meetings

A number of resources for aging Friends and their meetings are available on-line at Quakeragingresources.org. The web site is a joint effort of Philadelphia and New York Yearly Meetings.

A Request

By Emma Steif

My mother rarely has the opportunity to worship with the rest of our meeting. It's not because of her busy schedule or because she chooses to sit out. It's because I have two younger siblings. Our meeting is very small, and usually we're the only people under eighteen.

For the last few years, I've been joining worship, whether on the edge with a ball of yarn and crochet hook or deep in prayer. But my siblings are twelve and nine, and neither of them has any wish to sit still for a full hour. And so they go to First Day School.

Here lies the problem. No one wants to step out of meeting to teach them. It's not merely that my siblings are holy terrors (which they can be, but I'm biased) because I've noticed this in other meetings as well. It's not because people don't realize the need for teachers. My mom has passed around a calendar, has asked people to help out. And maybe one or two people will sign up for a week, but most people don't even pause to look.

I have no intention of insulting my meeting or anyone else's. I don't wish to give the impression that Friends are being lazy or inconsiderate. I don't think that's it at all. I believe Friends are afraid that they don't know how to lead First Day School or that the kids will be bored. They're nervous to step up and help because they're unfamiliar with the territory, particularly if they've never had children of their own.

I say don't worry. If nothing else, the kids will be interested in having someone new around. They see enough of their parents at home – there's nothing particularly special about having them around for another hour on First Day. And many meetings have some sort of curriculum, so you're not starting empty-handed. Read a Bible story, do an art project, or learn a new dance. Whatever you like.

We talk about the lack of young people in our meetings and how to make people welcome.

But the children already within our meetings need attention as well. However carefully our parents teach and guide us, sometimes we need to hear that guidance from others as well.

My dad can talk about why we dress plain until he falls asleep, and I may well tune the words out because I've heard them so many times. But to meet another plain-dressing woman, one who feels spirited and wears her simple clothes with unquestionable grace, I see my own clothes with a new perspective.

The parents of these children joined their Meeting because they felt a connection there and valued the worship. If they feel obligated to take their children out of the room so as not to disturb worship for other attenders, then they're giving up that experience for themselves. If they don't already have emotional and spiritual ties to the meeting, there's little reason for the parents to remain.

It's not just a question of the children's spiritual health, but the adults'. It's a matter of supporting each other and the future of our meetings. I'm not asking for anyone to give up their worship time, or even to take on First Day School for the next month. But a week here and there, yes. I'm certain that it will be appreciated.

If your meeting is already taking care of the problem or – even better – never had it to begin with, kudos. I'm thankful for it and proud of you. And for those meetings who don't have children, don't forget to take care of each other anyway.

I've been taking part in and teaching a folk dancing class for the past three years and occasionally had to run through steps alone, because my partner had to check their class schedule or retie their shoe. You can dance without a partner – you can even dance alone in the hallway – but it's not nearly as fun and usually someone ends up frustrated. And the more couples you have, the better it gets.

You don't have to go very far to make a difference. I hope I just did by writing this. Even if you don't think your meeting is lacking in First Day School teachers, try it anyway. You may be very pleasantly surprised.

Address Service Requested

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING

Thomas Burnett
3816 Spring Valley
Albany, Ohio 45710

Winter 2014 Bulletin

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

LEYM Change of Address

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Email _____

Meeting _____

Please return to:

Thomas Burnett
3816 Spring Valley
Albany, Ohio 45710

LEYM Committee Clerks

Advancement & Outreach: Dorores Avner (Pittsburgh)

Arrangements & Site: Jon Sommer (Broadmead)

Earthcare: Judy Greenberg (Broadmead)

Finance: Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor)

High School Teen Retreat Program: Merry Stanford
(Red Cedar)

Ministry & Nurture: Paula Deming (N. Columbus)

Nominating: Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor)

Peace: Nancy Taylor (Ann Arbor)

Adult and Family: Dale Pratt-Harrington (Athens)
Janet Dando (Akron)

Publications & Archives: Joseph Mills (Kalamazoo)

Youth & Children: Conleth Crotser (Cleveland)