

LAKE ERIE BULLETIN

ASSOCIATION

YEARLY MEETING

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CALENDAR

June 20 - 26 Cape May Conference, Cape May, New Jersey  
July 3 - 6 Gathering of Friends, Quaker Haven, Indiana  
August 16 - 23 Young Friends Annual Meeting, Quaker Knoll  
August 20 - 23 Annual Meeting, LEA/YM, Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio

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"A Christian Response to Extremist Groups" is the title of a leaflet prepared by the Friends World Committee, American Section and Fellowship Council, by Paul Lacey, in consultation with other Friends. Stating that the "extreme right and the extreme left are alike in claiming a pharisaical purity from fault", the authors charge Friends with "a special responsibility to testify against the self-deception and spiritual falseness behind the over-simplified solutions to (conflict) problems offered by extremist groups." One to twenty copies of the leaflet may be obtained free on request to FWC, 152-A North 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

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Preliminary Announcement -- LEA/YM Program for August, 1964

"THE ROOTS OF OUR FAITH -- INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY"

In the thought that we of Lake Erie would benefit from an examination in some depth of where we stand and where we are going, the program for next August's annual meeting has been planned around such a search. The heart of it will be several group meetings (some with the whole group, some broken into smaller groups with individual trained leaders), following experimentally a pattern somewhat similar to the Quaker Dialogues. Rachel Davis DuBois will be with us to lead the discussion. Along with this will be opportunities to explore concerns through three workshops, and to hear from several traveling Friends as well as from Larry Miller of Friends General Conference. An outline of the program follows; more detailed information and reservation blanks will appear in a later issue of the Bulletin.

LEA/YM, August 20 - 23, 1964, to be held at Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio

Thursday evening: Travel reports from far-flung Friends returning

Friday morning and afternoon: Workshops on Ministry and Counsel, Religious Education, and Peace and Social Order

Friday afternoon (concurrent with workshops): Meeting of Representative Committee,  
Recreation following  
Friday evening: First meeting of the group for the joint search with Rachel Davis DuBois  
Saturday morning: Meeting for Business  
Saturday afternoon: Larry Miller speaks on Friends General Conference, Free time following for  
swimming or other recreation  
Saturday evening: Brief Junior High program presentation to adults (if the Jr. Highs wish)  
Second session with Rachel and co-leaders  
Report from Ireland by William and Isabel Bliss  
Folk Dance  
Sunday morning: Third session with Rachel DuBois: a gathering up and weaving together  
Meeting for Worship  
Sunday afternoon: Final brief business meeting (if necessary)

Do please put August 20 - 23 on your vacation calendar now, for Lake Erie meeting!

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YOUNG FRIENDS - INCLUDE AUGUST 16th-23rd IN YOUR VACATION PLANS

The Young Friends are planning a week-long session at Quaker Knoll with Indiana Young Friends, August 16th-23rd. Meeting with them will be Arthur Morgan to discuss Purpose in Life; Cornell Hewson will discuss with them Quaker testimonies; Frank Baldeau will lead discussion of Civil Rights, plus other leaders, folk dancing, of course. There are camping facilities available at Quaker Knoll for adults who will be bringing Young Friends before the beginning of Lake Erie meeting.

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A QUAKER CALL TO ACTION IN RACE RELATIONS  
PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Third month 30, 1964

The Society of Friends was among the first in America to be concerned for the evils of slavery. The earliest recorded statement in this country against slave-holding was forwarded to the Yearly Meeting in 1688 by a group of Friends in Germantown, Pennsylvania. A century before the Civil War, in a day when slavery was commonplace, members of the Yearly Meeting such as John Woolman and Anthony Benezet labored with Friends to free themselves of slave-holding. In 1758 Philadelphia Yearly Meeting decided to exclude from membership those who bought slaves, and in 1776--the year of the Declaration of Independence--it decided to disown members who still held slaves.

In our time the evils of slavery are perpetuated through segregation and discrimination in their many forms. We are witnessing today the great struggle of the Freedom Movement to rid America of segregation, prejudice and hatred based upon race.

While we are grateful for progress that has been made, we as Friends have failed at many points in carrying out the implications of our testimony and beliefs regarding human brotherhood. We

feel that it is imperative that we rid ourselves of all those forms of racial injustice which we have perpetuated through the years in our Meetings agencies, institutions and general practices.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, therefore, in session Third month 30, 1964 calls upon its Meetings and individual members to activate anew our fundamental testimony on race relations with increased dedication and intensity. In order to apply these ideals to our own Quaker household, Friends Meetings and their members are urged to take the following specific actions:

1. Monthly Meetings should in fact be open in membership to all regardless of race and should publicly so declare.
2. Meetings should develop patterns and programs whereby Negroes and whites may meet each other regularly in worship, fellowship and Christian service. Meetings limited in possibility of integration by housing patterns should organize group meetings between their members and churches predominantly of other races.
3. Meetings should encourage their members to consider offering their houses for sale or rent on a non-discriminatory basis, and to indicate their willingness to have as neighbors members of minority groups. Likewise Meetings should support realtors, builders and bankers who operate without regard to race in their real estate transactions.
4. Quaker schools and colleges, camps, hospitals and boarding homes, including children's homes, should adopt a policy of recruiting, employing and promoting personnel without regard to race or color. This should apply to the Yearly Meeting and its committees as well as to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings. It is desirable that boards and committees of Quaker agencies include members of minority groups, and Friends institutions without question should be open to clientele of all races.
5. Curriculum materials used by Friends in First-day Schools should be examined to determine that they deal with racial differences in an objective and helpful manner, and emphasize our responsibility in the struggle for racial justice. Quaker school committees are equally responsible for the educational materials used and for examining the attitudes of administrative and teaching personnel.
6. Friends Meetings and institutions should require fair employment clauses in all repair, maintenance and construction contracts involving both prime and sub-contractors, irrespective of the fact that fulfillment of such nondiscriminatory clauses may result in delays or increased costs.
7. Meetings and their agencies should examine their investment portfolios to determine, where possible, if funds are invested in enterprises which practice racial discrimination, and should remove such investments from those which cannot be persuaded to change their policies.
8. Meetings and their members should support the enactment of desirable federal, state and local civil rights legislation.
9. Meetings and their members should give appropriate support to non-violent civil rights organizations, to Christian communions and interfaith groups working for racial justice.

10. And finally, Meetings are urged to assume conscious responsibility for the cultivation among their members of attitudes and practices which give evidence of a growing commitment to equality of all men before God, remembering always to act in love and without hate or bitterness, seeking reconciliation in Meeting, community and nation as new patterns of justice are being established.

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The representative Committee of the Lake Erie Association/Yearly Meeting of Friends met at the Cleveland Meeting House, April 4, 1964 at 3 p.m.

Persons were present from Ann Arbor, Cleveland, Columbus, Charleston, Delaware, Grand Rapids, Granville, Kalamazoo, Oberlin, Pittsburgh, Wooster, and Yellow Springs Meetings.

#### Meeting of 1965

Having met for several years in joint session with either Barnesville Yearly Meeting or Indiana Yearly Meeting, it was decided a year ago not to meet jointly every year but perhaps to meet jointly with each of the yearly meetings only once in four years, thus we would not be meeting with either group in 1965.

It was agreed that we do want a place where food service is available, that a location in the North Central Ohio area is desired and set the date as August 19-22, 1965. Howard Kriebel was asked to make arrangements for a suitable location.

#### Finance and Budget Committee

Victor Ewald present the report as follows: We first discussed the status of the treasury. Income is meeting current bills adequately, but expenses which are related to the representatives trip to Ireland, and Bulletin expenses prompt a reminder to the Treasurers of Monthly Meetings to remit funds as promptly as possible.

The Bulletin, which goes to all member families of constituent meetings is more expensive than had been anticipated. The cost for two issues fell within \$25.00 of the amount budgeted for the year, and the anticipated expense of the remaining two issues is in the neighborhood of \$140.00. After a brief discussion of the value of the Newsletter, it is recommended that the Bulletin be published as planned, and that the additional cost be absorbed by savings in other budgeted items.

After evaluating our current fiscal year, the Committee prepared a budget for presentation to the LEA/YM at its next meeting in Wilmington.

PROPOSED BUDGET - 1964 - 1965 LEA/YM

Bulletin (mailed to each member family)	\$ 500.00
Operating Expenses (including representatives expenses to meetings of Friends Agencies)	400.00
1/3 Expense of representatives to FWC meeting in 1967 at Guilford College	350.00
Continuing Committee on Greater Unity	<u>50.00</u>
Total Budget 1964 - 65	\$1,300.00

The above budget will be adequately met if member meetings will make contributions at an average amount of \$4.00 to \$5.00 per member family, or \$2.00 to \$2.50 per adult individual member. This is a guide not an assessment. Note: The matter of encouraging individuals and Monthly Meetings to support Friends Agencies, rather than including such agencies in the LEA/YM budget was discussed. It was recommended that this policy be continued.

Advancement Committee

Willard Mead reported that the committee had considered two areas:

1. How it could foster intervisitation. While Greenpastures Quarterly Meetings provide for visitation within meetings in Michigan, and the visitation Committee of Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Barnesville areas provides for that area, there is perhaps a need for some such arrangement in the Western area - Columbus, Delaware, Granville and others.
2. Two meetings, Delaware and Kent have requested recognition as meetings within the Yearly Meeting. The Committee has considered procedures which should be followed. It is felt that a meeting should be expected to have an organization with officers, hold regular meetings for Worship and have chosen a discipline for themselves. In addition the committee would send a visiting committee with a view to recommending recognition by the Yearly Meeting.

The question of a discipline promoted considerable discussion as many of the older meetings are not settled on one. It was agreed that there should be a guide for orderly procedures of business and that the committee should be flexible in its judgement. The procedures were approved.

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Our Yearly Meeting Organization  
by Bob Blood, clerk LEA/YM

Willard Mead's provocative article in the February Bulletin stimulated a useful Sunday morning discussion at Cleveland among some local Friends and those LEA/YM officers and representatives able to spend the night in Cleveland. Out of this informal discussion, the tentative outlines of a possible consensus are beginning to emerge:

- (1) The Representative Committee may usefully be delegated general responsibility for routine

administrative decisions made within the bounds of previously established policy. This would include adoption of the budget proposed by the finance committee, arrangements for the Bulletin proposed by the editor, arrangements for the annual meeting as proposed by the chairmen of the adult, senior high, junior high, and children's programs (including dates, location, and registration fees), recognition of new meetings on recommendation of the advancement committee, etc.

The Representative Committee consists of two representatives of each constituent meeting plus the officers and committee members of LEA/YM. It meets during the annual meeting and approximately half-way between annual meetings. Minutes of the Representative Committee are published in the Bulletin and subject to feedback of comment and concern from the constituent meetings. Barring such feedback, the actions of the Committee on these routine matters are carried out as planned. Ordinarily, concerns arising in the local Meeting go first to the Representative Committee for discussion and action (or referral in the case of new policy questions).

(2) At the general business session at the Annual Meeting, officers and committee members for the following year are named in response to the recommendations of the nominating committee, and new members of the nominating committee are named from the floor. (As Cynthia Kerman expressed it in Cleveland, if we are to delegate our routine administrative responsibilities to these officers and committee members, everyone should have a hand in naming them.)

Proposed policy changes which have already been formulated in the Representative Committee and considered in the constituent meetings are brought before the general business meeting for final action. Policy proposals not yet ready for final action may be discussed in the general meeting so that members of different meetings may exchange views. New policy concerns arising spontaneously in this general meeting are ordinarily referred back to the Representative Committee and the constituent meetings before final action is taken. (An example of a basic policy decision would be affiliation of LEA/YM with the Friends General Conference.) Local meetings will wish to discuss these organizational procedures as we search for new and better designs. One aspect of Willard Mead's proposal which I haven't incorporated in the above statement has to do with committee structure. I was impressed at Cleveland with how well our present structure is operating. I would recommend that we continue it essentially as is (save for specific improvements which may seem desirable from time to time) rather than making any drastic changes which would disrupt a system which has proven its usefulness. In other words, I think we can afford to let our committee structure go to work for us now and give our chief attention to the major spiritual and social concerns of Friends.

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WOOSTER FRIENDS  
by Florence Grundon

Wooster Friends are meeting a half hour later for the remainder of the school year. Sunday School now starts at 9:45 a.m. and Meeting for worship at 10:30.

The children recently presented an original play to the Meeting group, "Max Finds Facts". In the play a news reporter from Cleveland, Ohio in trying to find his way in Hong Kong, comes upon the A.F.S.C. Day Nursery and learns something about the Chinese New Year from a Friends

Service worker, the house boy, and five young Chinese children. A collection netted \$8.75 to be sent to the A.F.S.C. for the Hong Kong Day Nursery Fund.

Our Meeting outlook has been broadened by the sharing of individual experiences. Barbara Clack, Wooster College student, took an active part in a Peace Workshop held at Winona, Ohio under the leadership of Lawrence Scott. Another student, Marcia Woods, reported to the Meeting on her experience at the weekend workcamp at Chagrin Falls. Two Meeting families attended the Ohio Yearly Meeting Retreat at Salem, Ohio and some of the topics discussed there were brought up in our adult discussion group.

Dottie Kriebel, who has long been an active member of the local Human Rights Group, is presently teaching an adult course under the sponsorship of the Wayne County Council of Churches, called "Color and Conscience".

It was through her concern that an arrangement was made for the Meeting to attend in a body, special services Sunday morning March 29th at the colored church in Wooster. Sharing in their church dinner afterwards provided further fellowship.

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Central Ohio Area Gathering of Friends  
February 15, 1964 ---- by Esther Ewald, Convenor

About thirty adults and children gathered together for the annual winter meeting of the Central Ohio Friends Meetings. Members of the North Columbus, Delaware and Granville gathered at the home of John and Varley Crist in Granville. Granville Friends were hosts for a delightful fellowship beginning with a "carry-in" noon meal.

The best and most rewarding aspect of these gatherings is the opportunity to continue and renew contacts with the members of these meetings. After the leisurely and delicious lunch, John and Varley shared with us the picture taken during their last summer's trip as leaders of a student tour through Russia, Germany, Poland and other European countries. The pictures showed many sides of the life in these countries. They were thought provoking and convinced us that we do not get all the "facts" through our ordinary news media.

The spring gathering will be on May 2nd at Camp Mary Orton with North Columbus as hosts. The fall gathering will be on October 3rd at Camp Mary Orton with Delaware as hosts.

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Ann Arbor Meeting News  
by Cynthia Kerman

Toward the end of January, the civil rights demonstrators who conducted a sit-in at the Ann Arbor City Hall last year in protest at the passage of an inadequate fair housing ordinance were tried and sentenced. All were convicted of loitering and most were given a choice of a \$10 fine or a 30-day jail sentence. One who chose jail was Ruth Zweifler of the Ann Arbor Meeting. "I had three main reasons," she writes, "for serving part of my jail sentence rather than paying the small fine immediately. First, to indicate the importance I attach to civil disobedience and my

belief that when conscience dictates an act of civil disobedience there must be a readiness to accept a severe penalty. Secondly, I hoped this extreme act would make it impossible for Ann Arbor to smile politely and continue to look away from this problem. And finally I considered my brief imprisonment symbolic of the life-long imprisonment which all the white community imposes upon its Negro brothers."

The Meeting learned that according to jail rules, no one except a clergyman could visit Ruth, since she had refused to give the jail permission to censor her mail. It was hurriedly agreed that the chairman of Ministry and Counsel, serving as a clergy visitor, should visit her in the county jail. There was a somewhat equivocal reception for this visitor; she was allowed entrance twice and refused the third time. Afterwards the Meeting appointed two Meeting prison visitors (the chairman plus another member of the Ministry and Counsel Committee), to serve in any such case in the future, and sent a letter to the local jail describing Friends belief and practice in respect to the clergy, to clarify the situation for a later time.

Interest within the Meeting was very high, and Ruth spoke to a full house the morning she related her experiences, after her release. Some of the concerns which arose with Ruth's experience in jail, as to civil liberties and proper provision for prisoners' needs, have received some attention and may occupy members of the Meeting at a later date. All of our eyes were opened somewhat as a result of sharing vicariously in Ruth's witness.

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#### ANSWERS FROM THE STATE OF THE MEETING QUESTIONAIRES

1. What have been the chief new Meeting developments this year?

East Lansing -- Peter Stettenheim

The Meeting has been greatly vitalized by the presence of several new students from freshman to graduate level, who regularly attend not only meeting for worship but also meeting for business. They bring fresh insights, real concern for the growth of the meeting, and a willingness to share the tasks of running it. We have been able to revive the practice of holding a discussion after meeting for worship. At the close of each discussion, someone is asked to volunteer to lead the next week's session. These are in the nature of conversations, and are not centered on a common reading as are our monthly Sunday evening discussions.

Flint -- Virgie S. Mendenhall

Friends in Flint had an exploratory meeting March 23rd and planned to meet again on April 26th.

Granville -- Varley Crist

We started meeting again after not doing so for a year. We sing for fifteen minutes or so before meeting, particularly for the children.

Kalamazoo -- Elmer Beloof

There has been more effort to help members know each other by means of open houses sponsored by Ministry and Counsel Committee, more potluck lunches and coffee hours. Part of the time we have business meeting after worship, followed by a potluck lunch.

The children have had several inter-cultural experiences, including a visit to the Jewish



synagogue, followed by celebration of Hebrew Thanksgiving (Succoth Festival), a visit to a migrant camp, raising money for Friend's work with Indians, and celebration of Chinese New Year.

A Wednesday evening worship and discussion group was attempted by the Ministry and Counsel committee, but there was little response outside the committee itself.

Kent -- David Salstrom

We have undertaken to sponsor a series of meetings with Rachel Davis Dubois in April. We plan a two week workcamp for Friends for early summer for college age people, with Judy Starbuck the main promoter of this project.

Oberlin -- Janice E. Carroll

New families this year together with large turnover of students has meant many new faces in our group. Activities have included hosting a number of visitors and conducting programs for the town and college having to do with Algeria and with the alternatives for the draft. We have also sent letters encouraging the ministers to be of help to boys seeking information on the draft and have sent copies of the CO Handbook to all the ministers in town and to four libraries. At present we are planning a day's retreat out to the country for April with the topic: "What does it Mean to Me to be a Quaker?" We are planning our annual clothing drive for AFSC.

Pittsburgh -- Edward M. Arnett

The main development of the past year falls equally well under all three questions. This is a growing concern about the inadequacy of our present meeting house and great interest in finding a new one. To this end an ad hoc Real Estate Committee was set up several months ago under the Chairmanship of Norman Dewees. A number of properties have been looked at and the committee has already been empowered to place an option on one. Although things of this kind can easily be a divisive force in a meeting it has so far been a unifying one for us, thanks to the unusual tact and good sense of Norman Dewees.

It is my impression that this has been a good year for our meeting. The ministry and atmosphere in Meeting for Worship seem to be improving. There is a growing attempt to know each other better through discussion groups, etc. and to improve the outreach of the group. From the Clerk's viewpoint we suffer from the common tendency to overextend and overcommit ourselves. It requires a fairly large body of active people to do all of the things that we are concerned to do. Unless a certain critical mass is reached, there are inadequate funds and manpower to do the job well. Each Meeting and each person must carefully consider the best way to budget its resources. Clearly, a small new meeting cannot take on as many projects as a large wealthy one and be effective at it.

Saginaw -- Janet Stevens

Participation of members in AFSC activities, especially in development of a far reaching area work camp committee. Meeting for Friends and friends for a Thanksgiving worship, the afternoon before Thanksgiving.

2. What innovations are planned or hoped for during the coming year?

East Lansing

We intend to invite those students who indicate affiliation with a Friends meeting on their

religious preference cards and also approach new faculty members.

Kalamazoo

We plan a retreat to be held in February with an outside leader. There is interest in making greater contact in some form with the community around the meeting house.

Oberlin

We hope for more continuity from year to year and have made a special effort to keep records of preparations for each of our activities which we feel will be helpful in future years.

Saginaw

On January 27th we began a series of discussions at the Bay City YWCA based on "Honest to God" by John A. T. Robinson. This includes Friends and like minded people.

3. What are the chief problems facing your Meeting?

East Lansing

Our chief problem is that of increasing the spiritual quality of our meeting for worship. Many of us share in the vocal ministry but we do not achieve the Quakerliness we should like to have. As the religious experience of our meeting becomes richer, persons who visit casually will wish to return. We must grow in depth as well as in numbers; the former is the primary problem, the latter is secondary.

Granville

Our main problem is that we need more members and a greater cohesiveness among those whom we do have.

Kalamazoo

More active members or attenders moved away this year than have been replaced with new people. Deepening the spiritual life of the Meeting--more regular attendance at Meeting for Worship, more vocal participation, more devotional reading, more interest in individual or group worship.

Kent

We have not made a concerted effort to draw new people into the Meeting. There is a spirit of warmth and mutual concern in the meeting, but we have not as yet become close enough to help each other much in our private lives. Our main service project, helping at McElray Park Community Center is carried forward mostly by one or two members.

Oberlin

Our chief problems each year stem from our composition and its variability from year to year and its variety with regard to age and experience. This at the same time is tremendously vitalizing and is significant in the meaning which each of us draws from our sharing in the group. We are faced with trying to offer a meaningful religious experience to a variety of people and we find that our character as a group changes from year to year and even greatly within the year. This tends to make our relationship to organizations such as LEA/YM somewhat tenuous and at the present time with our newness, this is especially true. We feel that we must wait until a positive impetus to strengthen our ties with LEA/YM comes from particularly the adults and a supportive interest in the whole Meeting before any decision can be reached.

Saginaw

Coming from larger meetings, we see the lack of the sense of the Meeting relating to the Community, though we are active as individuals and as Quakers. We need interchange of spiritual understandings for healthy religious development.

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NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT THE FRIENDS LAKE COMMUNITY

During 1963 the eight-acre terrain and half-mile lake frontage of the Friends Lake Community near Ann Arbor were enjoyed by more Friends than ever before. High school and college Young Friends held retreats and work camps there. An AFSC high school work camp took a four-day midsummer respite and a college Institutional Service Unit weekend breaks there. Ann Arbor Meeting held potluck picnics on alternate Sundays (and plans a Saturday retreat on May 23rd). Membership in the community more than doubled from ten families at the beginning of the year to over two dozen at the end, including one from as far away as Beloit, Wisconsin (Scott and Nancy Crom).

The three original buildings at the waterfront (the lodge, bath-house and boathouse) have all been painted and spruced up. A second sandy beach has been installed (supplementing the children's beach) to provide swimmers with direct access to deep water and the raft. A camp rowboat is now available for general use.

Lake Erie families are cordially invited to camp at the Lake. More details may be obtained from Bob Blood (membership chairman).

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*This is a copy of the original Bulletin that has gone through OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software, and therefore needed to be corrected. Errors may have been introduced in this process. In addition, some of the layout has been changed.*