

The Newsletter of *Western Quarterly Meeting*
Of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

P. O. Box 693
Kennett Square, PA 19348
WesternQuarterQuakers.org
@WesternQM (Twitter)

Kennett Friends Meeting
125 W. Sickie Street
610-444-1012
Facebook.com/WesternQM



Our Community of Meetings

Centre Meeting
Crosslands Worship Group
Fallowfield Meeting
Hockessin Meeting
Kendal Meeting
Kennett Meeting

London Grove Meeting
Marlborough Meeting
Mill Creek Meeting
New Garden Meeting
Newark Meeting
West Grove Meeting

*For more information go to:
westernquarterquakers.org
and then click on
“Our Community.”*

Contents

Quarterly Meeting

Adult Program

(Page Two)

Quarterly Meeting

Youth Program

(Page Three)

Events in Our

Community

(Pages Three to Four)

Stories in Our

Community (including
our annual report,

meditations, and
employment)

(Pages Five to Seven)

Contact Information

(Page Eight)

**Register Yourself and/or your child(ren) for the July Quarterly Meeting. WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP
Go to pages two and three for more information.**

Participate in the July Tour of Meetings!

With the help of the meeting members of the Western Quarterly Meeting, this is a wonderful outreach opportunity to share the places and history of the Quaker presence in our area. London Grove Committee and WQM will provide each Meeting with a Brochure & Map for Visitors. Contact person: Ruth Thompson, 610.486.0760 or ruthiesmed@gmail.com. To begin your tour, go to any local meeting to pick up a map. To see which one might be in your area, go to the main page, westernquarterquakers.org, then click on “Our Community,” then “Western Quarterly Meetings.” Maps are also available online, click on the slide from the main page. You can also sign up for bus tours. Call 610.486.0834 to reserve your seat. Saturday and Sunday buses leave 9:30 AM and return 5:00 PM. Meetings will open on Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM and Sunday 1 PM to 4 PM.

Please send what you'd like to share in
future Newsletters (prose, poems,
pictures, announcements) to
coordinator@
WesternQuarterQuakers.org.

Tear this flyer out and post it in your Meeting and in public places!



Lighting the Fire Within

The Silence of Worship
in the Discernment of
Leadings

9:00 AM—Sign In and Refreshments

9:30 AM—Into the Silence of
Worship with QuakerSpeak

10:00 AM—Worship

10:30 AM—Break

10:45 AM—Hearing of Responses to
the 5th and 7th Queries and Hearing of
PYM Faith & Practice Extract 210

11:45 AM—Break

12:00 PM—Lunch

1:00 PM—The Tour of Meetings Will
Begin at 1:00 PM. WesternQuarter
Quakers.org/events

Sunday 20 July 2014
Western Quarterly
Meeting Sessions at
Fallowfield

Monthly Meeting

800 Doe Run Rd

Coatesville, PA

*Bring non-
perishable
canned goods!*

Register yourself
and your child at
WesternQuarter

Quakers.org/

RSVP

Youth Program at Quarterly Meeting Hosted by Fallowfield Meeting

Plus Events

In Our Meeting Community

July | 2014

Wacky Games Galore Outside on a Beautiful Summer Day at Fallowfield. All ages are welcome. If you register ahead of time, we can be better prepared for the fun:

WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP

Events in Our Community!

For locations and further information regarding events go to:

WesternQuarterQuakers.org/events.



The Inaugural Meeting of the Support Committee!

Tuesday, July 15, 7 PM, Kendal Retirement Community, 1109 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348, Kendal Center, Training Room. We will consider several weighty issues including the approved consolidation of our committee structure and a minute on drone warfare from Kendal Monthly Meeting. The new Support Committee will allow us to be more agile and focus our work on the life of our Monthly Meetings.

July Tour of Meetings! July 19 and 20, 10 AM to 4 PM and 1 PM to 4 PM. Or get a map on our website. To begin your tour, go to any local meeting to pick up a map. All monthly meetings will have a map of meetings. There is a bus tour on which you can reserve a seat. Go to our events page for more info. Fun and family-friendly activities at each monthly meeting.

The July Western Quarterly Meeting Session Sunday, July 20, 9 AM to 1 PM. We'll explore the preparation for witness through worship. We will use videos from QuakerSpeak, a new YouTube project run by Friends Journal and FGC. Go to WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP to register. Tour of Meetings begins after.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions. Although registration for housing and youth programs closes on June 30, Friends can still register to commute or attend on particular days. The theme is "Worship is a door to love," and among other items of business we will consider the proposed five-year strategic plan for the yearly meeting.



Events in Our Community! Continued

For locations and further information regarding events go to:
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/events.

Family Pool Party! Saturday, August 9, at the Brumbaughs' house 12 PM to 3:30 PM. Folks are encouraged to RSVP at WesternQuarterQuakers.org/RSVP. The street address and further details are on the web. There will be a movie night at Hockessin Meeting that Friends are encouraged to attend after.



Hockessin August Movie Night Double Feature! Saturday, August 9, Hockessin Meeting, in the evening, exact times to be announced on the web. We will watch *Over the Hedge* and then *Friendly Persuasion*. Attend for good family fun, pizza, and good movies.



Playing in the Light Training at Pendle Hill! August 15-17, A weekend with Melinda Wenner Bradley & Michael Gibson, Co-Sponsored by Friends General Conference. Faith & Play is a Montessori-inspired resource that helps children find words and images...



Youth Meeting! Sunday, August 17, at Kennett Friends Meeting, 125 W. Sickel Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348. 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. This is a time for High-School-aged Quakers to hang out and also consider their own spiritual development...but mostly hang.



Homeville Meetinghouse Open for Worship! Sunday, August 31, 2 PM, Homeville Quaker Meetinghouse will be open for Worship on First Day (Sunday) Eighth Month (August) 31st, 2 pm. Visit the Cemetery or join us for conversation before or after.



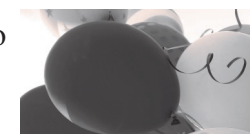
"Harvest's Bounty" A Native American Program with Adrien Martinez. Sunday, September 21, 12 PM at London Grove Meeting. All are welcome to a covered dish lunch—bring a dish/fresh harvest from your garden to share.



Finance and Fundraising Wisdom Sharing Session! Saturday, October 4, Hockessin Meeting. Times are TBD, but there will be a morning and afternoon portion with lunch. Wright Horne, development professional and former WQM Co-Clerk, will lead a workshop in the morning. This will be a time for Monthly Meeting finance folk and fundraisers to learn more about fundraising and support each other in the management of our finances.



All-Day Anniversary Celebration at London Grove Meeting! Saturday, October 18, 1 to 7 PM, Dinner 5:30 to 7 PM. Multi-generational activities throughout the day, advanced tickets required, to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of London Grove Monthly Meeting.



The October 2014 Western Quarterly Meeting Session! Sunday, October 19, 9 AM to 3 PM, A Ministry of Elder Care! The Friends Boarding Home Movement and a Brief History of Senior Living! Kennett Monthly Meeting Hosts! With Wright Horne!



Quakers and the Early Development of Chester County at London Grove Meeting! Sunday, November 9, 7:30 PM with Karen Marshall, Chester County Historic Preservation Office. Refreshments following the presentation.



Celtic Harp at London Grove Meeting! Saturday, December 6, 7:30 PM, Celtic harp performance with Gillian Grassie. All are welcome to a covered dish supper prior to performance. Bring food to share.



Stories in Our Community!

To read more stories go to our blog at
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/blog

July | 2014

2014 Annual Report from our Clerk

It is a privilege to serve during a time when our organization seeks to bring more meaningful opportunities for volunteers, grow programming within important areas of focus, and improve means of communication. These elements demonstrate both our desire for and our progress toward a more vital neighborhood of Monthly Meetings.

Over the coming year, our newly constituted Support Committee will endeavor to implement the approved consolidation of our decision-making structure. The Support Committee will help focus our attention primarily upon the growth and vitality of our Monthly Meetings and worship groups. This is the first phase of a strategic planning process aimed at streamlining our work to make it easier and more meaningful to serve the Quarterly Meeting community. Secondly, we have hired an accounting firm to assist in the management of our finances by relieving it of burdensome operational duties. We hope this will broaden the pool of candidates who might be interested in serving as Treasurer.

In November of 2012, we hired a Coordinator, Zachary Dutton. Zachary has helped us begin building a foundation of good governance and professionalism upon which we may initiate sustainable programs for youth and adults. He has sought to promote the idea that the Quarterly Meeting is inseparable from the life of our Monthly Meetings. He has also helped us to create new spaces for our spiritual lives to converge. In the last year, we have seen three "wisdom sharing sessions" that

have brought Friends together in certain areas of interest for support and collective action. A fourth session on finances is in the works. Our Quarterly Meetings are organized with increasing efficiency, as we develop better ways to support smaller, host Monthly Meetings. We have seen many more young people at Quarterly Meetings. Our youth programs have involved enough diversity in ages that we hope to reinvigorate a youth meeting for High-School age Friends. We are working with Concord Quarterly Meeting to offer a host of activities for Middle-Schoolers and High-Schoolers through the Spring of 2015.

We have also upgraded the website to convey information more clearly about our neighborhood of Monthly Meetings. We've laid the foundations for new outreach efforts. The website is prepared to integrate with social media, and our new blog feature allows Friends access to stories in the life of our neighborhood without having to wait for the next newsletter. An e-newsletter is released monthly, and it is linked to our blog and our new events page. We have added a "resources" page that offers volunteers administrative support. We are streamlining our data management using software that allows us to segment our database.

These efforts reflect our determination to chart a course toward a more Monthly-Meeting-centered mission. I am overjoyed to be able to invite all Friends in every corner of our Quarter to join us in this effort!

Sincerely,
Pamela Leland, Clerk
Western Quarterly Meeting

Linda Pastor on Worship!

Linda Pastor is a member of Centre Monthly Meeting, and, when asked, had this to say, about her experience of worship.

How did I even know about Quakers on a personal level? My uncle was a convinced Quaker and his testimony was profound to me: he was a CO during WW 2 and during that period was familiar with Pendle Hill. Even more dramatically to me, he married my mother's very high strung older sister and lived in domestic peace and harmony till the end of their lives. You would need to have known my Aunt Lillie (who was very good to me and always stashed a craft project for me in a living room end table in her tiny 14th street NYC apartment) to be fully impressed.

So I knew about the Quakers by seeing my uncle Sid on his home front. How many times did I hear a screeching, "S-I-D-N-E-Y," always answered by a very gentle, "yes, dear, yes Lillie."

On to Delaware: I passed by Centre meeting how many times on my way to Winterthur or Longwood Gardens where in retirement I spend every afternoon and some late mornings (when temps are between 40-90 degrees) doing watercolors in the gardens. One Sunday as I began to approach Adams Dam Road and Centre Meeting Road, I felt a tugging at my sleeve which I followed as I drove and parked at Centre Meeting. Not even questioning the leading I entered, sat, and experienced as the worship began and progressed a profound peace as if I had entered a warm, golden stream of light.

Continued on the next page...

Stories in Our Community!

To read more stories go to our blog at
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/blog

July | 2014

Linda Pastor on Worship!

...continued from previous page.

I came to learn in Quaker language that I had experienced a covered and gathered meeting. I was home! I was very familiar with quiet expectant waiting in prayer so no adjustment was needed. As I read the

works of George Fox, Isaac Penington, John Woolman and Ben Pink Dandelion, a contemporary Quaker, I experienced confirmation to my spiritual journey.

Every Sunday has been a wonderful experience and I have found a truth, which is that you never dip your foot in the same river twice, but each week I have experienced a peace which passes all understanding.

A Meditation From Alyce Denver, West Grove Meeting Clerk

This appeared in a recent release of the West Grove Meeting Newsletter by Alyce Denver, who serves as Clerk of West Grove.

Now Moses was tending the sheep of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. Then he led them to the back of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. Then the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he saw the bush burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. So Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not consumed."
Exodus 3: 1—3

There's Moses: Hebrew child drawn from the water, raised by the daughter of Pharaoh; a young adult, he struck and killed an Egyptian overseer for beating a Hebrew slave; fled to Midian after Pharaoh put a price on his head, married Zipporah, daughter of the priest of Midian and became shepherd to his father-in-law's flocks. Moses, husband, father, shepherd . . . living the usual shepherd life.

One hot day while leading the sheep to the back side of the desert, he happened to notice a bush off to the side burning but not being consumed by the flames.

A cross-roads of sorts. It was a hot day and leading sheep can be tedious business... they do not always follow. (In the ancient Middle East, shepherds did not drive their sheep, they led them – thus in Psalm 23 we have 'He will lead me beside still waters' and Jesus' admonition that the sheep will recognize the voice of the shepherd and follow him.)

The cross-road always holds the seed of conundrum: do

I continue on my usual path doing my usual things feeling secure in the usualness of it all or do I step aside and consider this other possibility?

Moses stepped aside to see this unusual thing more closely; to consider the opportunities and the challenges it might contain and what he saw was very disturbing. He was being called to be a union organizer, a civil rights activist, a champion for equal rights under the law for LGBTQ people, the one to challenge the status quo and he did not particularly like what he saw. He knew the consequences—the usualness of his life was about to be turned upside down. He began arguing with God, with his Heart: I am a man of heavy tongue, of slow speech . . . Pharaoh will never listen to me. "Okay, I will send your brother Aaron with you". But what if the people say 'Why should we follow you, who sent you anyway?' "You tell them that I AM sent you". (Hmmm) What proof can I take? "Hold out your staff and it will turn into a snake". A conundrum indeed! But Moses did follow his Heart, went back into Egypt, confronted Pharaoh and led a stubborn people to *their* burning bush, *their* cross-road: they could continue in their usual lives living under the rule of the status quo or they could open their eyes to a new way of being. They chose the new way. Despite the hardships and the muttering and complaining along the way they kept putting one foot in front of the other until they reached the new place.

Even once in the new place, life was not always easy. Sometimes they forgot to follow their Heart and fell back into the usual ruts. But the really neat part of this story is that after that first time of turning aside to see and follow the new path, they were enabled to turn again and again. They never forgot what it was like to leave the usual behind and experience what Life had to offer.

Continued on the next page...

Stories in Our Community!

To read more stories go to our blog at
WesternQuarterQuakers.org/blog

July | 2014

A Meditation From Alyce Denver, West Grove Meeting Clerk

...continued from previous page.

Scripture is full of stories of those who came to a cross-road and their response: Abraham taking Sara his wife and leaving his tribe for a new place that he would not know until he got there; Lot leaving the usualness of a corrupt city and his wife looking back; the Prophets, speaking Truth to recalcitrant people; Mary, saying 'Let it be unto me according to your word'.

A burning bush, a cross-road, an opening door, following the grain, going with the flow . . . whatever word we choose to call 'it', we all experience that opportunity to turn aside from the usual, to follow a new path. It takes discernment of the Heart to know the true burning bush from the fake fire, the real opportunity from the false desire. It takes questioning: am I good enough for the job (the door is open/you *are* exactly right); what are my credentials? (I AM sent you); what proof will I have this is right? (Your staff will turn into a snake). Ultimately, the test of whether or not it is truly an Open Door is the Heart and the Heart does not lie.

Trust your Heart/the Light Within/God.

Summary Minute of the June 7 Gathering on Revitalizing our Quarterly Meetings

On 7 June 2014, Friends met to explore ways to enhance the life of our quarterly meetings. A full report will be produced by Annual Sessions in late July, but below is the summary minute of the proceedings.

Members from nine quarterly meetings gathered at Reading Monthly Meeting on June 7, 2014 to affirm the role and importance of our quarters. There was a sense of community and belonging to each other.

We converged upon the truth that regional gatherings can be a place where yearly meeting becomes relevant. The quarterly meeting experience is an inspirational intermediary between monthly meetings and our wider yearly meeting community. When we come together, we collectively fuel our excitement about being Quakers.

We also considered the life in our quarterly meetings as it relates to leadership, youth support, membership, roles and responsibilities, working across our communities, and spiritual formation. As we adjourned, we affirmed the value of fellowship, worship, and sharing in love towards the development of new ideas and the seasoning of others.

It is time that we further explore concrete ways to integrate the structure, energy, and community between monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and the yearly meeting.

Centre Meeting Seeks New Religious Education Coordinator

Centre Monthly Meeting seeks a creative teacher/professional to lead their First Day School for Children beginning September 2014. Duties include: Coordinate lessons and schedule teachers for each First Day. Minimum compensation is \$25.00 per hour. Contact Michele Sullivan, 610.388.0494.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Seeks Young Adult Friends Coordinator

The Young Adult Friends (YAF) Coordinator will be responsible for stewarding meaningful relationships among Quakers, ages 18-35. The Coordinator creates space for the movement of Spirit within and among the community of young adult Friends, and supports young adults to become active participants and members of PYM. The work of the Coordinator is done in close cooperation with the Young Adult Friends Working Group.

This part-time position (22.75 hours) with benefits requires active participation in the Quaker community, a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, and three or more years of relevant experience.

Please send letter of interest, resume and salary requirement to: Anthony Giunta, HR Coordinator, agiunta@pym.org by July 7, 2014. The salary range for this part-time position (22.75 hours per week) will be 25-28k, depending upon experience.

For more information go to
pym.org/employment/opportunities.

The Friendly News
Western Quarterly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends
P O Box 693
Kennett Square, PA 19348



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
West Chester, PA
Permit No. 433
Address Service Requested

**Contact us with your
ideas, suggestions and
questions:**

Pamela Leland / Clerk
clerk

@westernquarterquakers.org

Zachary Dutton / Coordinator
coordinator

@westernquarterquakers.org

Phone - 610.444.1012 or
443.929.0687. Send content at
any time to us via email or
call us, we'll add it to our
blog, and publish it in our
electronic and
print newsletters.

*Don't be surprised if we
call or email you!*

**We are investing in our web-site!!
*Check it out !!***

You will find ... Contacts, a blog updated daily with
vibrant news about all the communities that make up
our Quarterly Meeting ... our newsletters in PDF
format ... a list of meetings (with information on
Meeting activities) ... resources for Monthly
Meeting leaders ... various publications for your
enjoyment ... bumper stickers for purchase ... an
invitation to join our mailing list ... resources for
folks in search of grants ... a summary of events
happening in our region ... and an events page that
allows you to change the display so you can see
events by day, week, month, or as a list!

***Join us. Go to WesternQuarterQuakers.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/WesternQM
Follow us on Twitter: [@WesternQM](https://twitter.com/WesternQM)***