

The Langley Hill Friend

FIFTH Month 2013

#501

- ◆ How does my life witness to my Quaker faith?
- ◆ In what ways do I reach out to new attenders and encourage their exploration of Quakerism as a spiritual path?
- ◆ How does our Meeting convey Quaker faith and practice to the wider community?

Queries on Outreach from Faith & Practice 2012

Calendar

Recurring Events

- Sundays 9:00 am "Drop-in" Worship Sharing in the upstairs room . *See next page*
9:30 am Early worship in the meeting room
10 am Meeting for worship (9:30 on business meeting day)
- First Sundays 9:15 Singing ♪♪ 10:00 Worship. 11:00 Fellowship. Noon Potluck Lunch.
- Second Sunday 10:30-12:00 Meeting for worship with a concern for Business
- 2nd Wednesday 7:30-8:30 Mid-Week Worship
- Saturday 12-1 pm Witness on Mall "Seek Peace and Pursue It" (*Contact Bill Mims 703-281-7293*)

Upcoming Events at Langley Hill – and Elsewhere

- 5/30 Thursday Quaker Bolivia Link - A Quaker Response to Poverty
- 6/2 Sunday First Day School Recognitions and Picnic
- 6/2 , 9, 16, 23 Sunday evening discussions: Introduction to the Quaker Way. *See next page.*
- 6/4 Evening with poet Lennie Lianne, at Friends House *See page 4*
- 6/8 Saturday Drone Vigil at CIA Main Gate (*see page 5*)
- 6/15 Saturday BYM Interim Meeting at Adelphi Meeting
Poetry in Nature at Friends Wilderness Center
- 6/16 Sunday After Meeting: Q-Meet-Up for Networking at Langley Hill *See page 3*
1-4 pm: Book Sale open to Public *See page 2*
- 6/22 Saturday BYM Faith & Practice Listening Session at Langley Hill
- 6/30 -7/6 Friends General Conference at Univ. of Northern Colorado
- 6/23 Sunday Ice Cream Social - fundraiser to send kids to camp
- October 26 Saturday Quaker Quest Workshop at Langley Hill *See page 3*
- Note! No Third-Sunday evening discussion in May.*



To Schedule Second Hours, contact [Jeanne Houghton](#) 703-609-1065
For other uses of Meeting House contact [Virginia Colin](#) 703-864-2101

First Day School Picnic

Sunday, June 2nd

Come one and all to celebrate

- the end of First Day School classes
- teacher appreciation
- and our high school graduates!

Stay for pot luck lunch!
We hope to see everyone there!

Drop-In Topics

on Sunday mornings from 9 - 10

- 5/26 The Desert Fathers (led by Ken Bernstein)
6/2 First Corinthians: 1:10 - 2:14
6/9 Two Poems by Thomas Merton
6/16 Selections from "Black Fire": Writings of African-American Quakers

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*No monthly discussion group in May.*

## Introduction to the Quaker Way

Four Sundays evenings: June 2 – June 23  
7–8:30 in the Library

Led by Ann Stone and Steve Morse

- ◆ A Very Short Introduction to the Quakers (Pink Dandelion)
- ◆ A Book of Quaker Wisdom (Robert Smith)

Books are available from Ann or Steve  
(at a BIG discount!).

**All are Welcome!**

## Gently Used Book and DVD Sale



at the Meeting House

1-5 June 15 and 1-5 June 16

Downstairs assembly room area, open to the public and an opportunity to reach out to our community

Clean out those closets and bookshelves!! We need donations of gently used (still in good shape and not musty) books and DVDs of all kinds:

- the latest fiction or mystery
- gardening
- cooking
- science fiction
- history
- children's books of all types

Bring donations *after* June 1 but *no later than* June 13\*. Put them in the upstairs classroom (not teen room)

Books will also be accepted until July 15, but those will only benefit our own community.

Questions? Library Committee

Anne Hunt, Ann Stone, Ann Kosmal, Susan Joyce, Naomi Thiers, Barbara Haught



Gracious but important request from the Country Day School: **!! CLOSE THE GATE !!**

“The large gate on the front field by the meeting house has been repeatedly left open on Sundays. We are happy to have families play on the playground but we really need them to **CLOSE THE GATES** when they are finished.

Thanks for relaying this to the members. Have a great day.”

## **When the Going Gets Tough – Meet-Up with College Young Adults Sunday 16 June**

The Langley Hill Friends community is at its best when we channel our resources to help others. We experienced this when we helped rebuild burned churches in the South, when we assisted homeless refugees, and in many other situations. Now, we plan to pool our resources to help young adults, many of them from Quaker institutions of higher learning, get a foothold in this tough economy.

On Sunday, June 16, immediately after our regular Meeting for Worship, the “Q-Meetup for Networking” will give all of us a chance to offer a helping hand to young adults, many of them new to our area. One of us might just have the right connections to help a new graduate discover their passion for grassroots organizing, or connect to an ideal job in social justice, or explore career alternatives they had not previously considered. While this is a one day event, as way opens lasting relationships may evolve.

But giving is a two way street. In return for helping these young adults, we'll enrich ourselves and our own Meeting community as we get a better understanding of their concerns, views and perspectives.

Each of us can help in large or small ways to make this event a success.

- If you haven't been to meeting for awhile, consider joining us for this special event.
- If you know of former visitors or attenders who you think can contribute to helping these young adults build their professional network, call them, tell them about the event and personally invite to participate.
- If you know of college juniors, seniors, recent graduates or even graduate students who might be interested in attending, invite them to join us.

Of course, help with transportation from Metro stations to the Meeting House, with food set up and clean up, etc will be needed. Use the signup sheets

in the Meeting House to let us know what you'd like to do to help make the event a success.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer online, e-mail [LangleyHillEvents@gmail.com](mailto:LangleyHillEvents@gmail.com) .

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## **Quaker Quest is Coming to Langley Hill on October 26<sup>th</sup> !**

Be prepared to be transformed! A **one-day Quaker Quest workshop** for our whole community will be held on Saturday in late October or early November. We hope *everyone will* plan on attending.

What is Quaker Quest? It's a dynamic *in-reach* and *out-reach* program based on the experience that the Quaker way is a spiritual path that's simple, radical, and contemporary. Hosting this fall workshop is part of the response to our own queries from the 2012 Spiritual State of the Meeting Report on how to attract young families, be more diverse, share the Meeting's experiences and talk about our Faith. It will help us find language to describe our spiritual beliefs and be more open and inviting to newcomers by breaking down hidden barriers. It will be an important part of our Advancement and Outreach commitment, but not the only one. Quaker Quest can dovetail with other activities and spawn new initiatives. Whether the Meeting continues with the public sessions will be considered after the one-day workshop as Way Opens. Funding for the Quaker Quest leaders from FGC is included in the 2013-14 budget.

This proposal from Ministry & Worship and Advancement & Outreach was approved at the May business meeting.

You can learn more at: <http://www.quakerquest.org/> or through Friends General Conference here: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/services/quaker-quest>.

Tim Hunt,  
Clerk of Ministry and Worship  
Co-Clerk of Advancement & Outreach

## BYM Interim Meeting Friends Community School\* June 15 – 10am - 7pm

Join Friends from all parts of the Yearly Meeting as we gather at Friends Community School\* along with our hosts from Adelphi Friends Meeting on June 15, 2013 to conduct the business of the Yearly Meeting. All Friends (and friends) are welcome. Child care is available *on request* for both morning and afternoon sessions.

The agenda for the afternoon business session is now being prepared. If you have an item to be included please contact [Meg Meyer, Clerk of Interim Meeting](#) as soon as possible.

The Committees meeting in the morning are:

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Advancement & Outreach     | Indian Affairs |
| Ministry and Pastoral Care | Nominating     |
| Religious Education        | Search         |
| Stewardship and Finance    | Trustees       |
| Unity with Nature          | Youth Programs |

More details on the BYM website.

\* 5901 Westchester Park Drive, College Park, MD

## An Evening With Award-Winning Poet Lennie Lianne June 4 at 7:30 pm – Friends House,

Spend an evening with award-winning poet Lennie Lianne, a former member of Langley Hill Friends Meeting, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. Lennie will read from her work at Friends House retirement community in Sandy Spring, MD. Her poems are humorous, ironic and insightful.

Lennie, who grew up in Arlington, holds an MFA in creative writing and poetry from George Mason University and a Masters in Women's studies in George Washington University. She has taught creative writing. As an ardent feminist, Lennie served as a lobbyist for Virginia Now and campaigned for the Equal Rights Amendment.

Her poetic works have received numerous awards, including a Poetry Society of Virginia award for her book, *A Wilderness of Riches: Voices from the Virginia Colony*. Other volumes include *A Frenzy of Color*, *Reverie of Line: Poems on Vincent Van Gogh's Life and Art*; *The Gospel According To the Seven Dwarves*; and most recently, *The ABC's of Memory*, in which she reflects on popular culture through its products and people, with wit and imaginative insight.

For more information, call Mary Ann Beall, 301-570-8401 or 703-463-8022 (cell).

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*For those of you who know Abby Hadley, please read below. Susan is Abby's middle daughter. Martha Glock is her oldest and Gail the youngest. Abby was an attender/member at Langley Hill for many years before moving to Friends House - Sheila Bach*

### Abby Atwater Hadley

Mother died yesterday [Wednesday, May 22]. At 102 and three months to the day, she was ready to go but her body had been incredibly strong. Up until Sunday she had been fully cognizant and reading. Then late Monday to early Tuesday she started slipping. I went up Tuesday pm and she continued to fail. She died Wednesday afternoon. As I said she was ready and the passing was gentle and completely pain free. She had lived a very active life with many causes, commitments, and a wide range of interests. She lived a good life and she died a good death. We will have a Memorial Service in July at Friends House. She wanted her body to go for research, so when that is over she will be cremated and returned to us for burial at Sandy Spring Friends Meeting. This has been her wish. She will be greatly missed. Love, Susan - [sghdly@aol.com](mailto:sghdly@aol.com)



## **HROC Facilitator Training** **Healing And Rebuilding Our Communities** July 21 – August 10 – Rwanda

The African Great Lakes Initiative of the Friends Peace Teams will conduct a seminar to train facilitators in the Healing and Rebuilding Our Community program developed in Rwanda and Burundi for psycho-social healing of individuals and society after deadly conflict. The objective is to bring together up to twenty-five participants from various countries throughout the world in order to conduct a professional training for the participants to become facilitators of the Healing and Rebuilding Our Community program.

In a unique and highly experiential format, the HROC workshop focuses on a deep understanding of trauma, learning and reconciliation. Participants gain knowledge, self-awareness and tools to help themselves and others through the process of grieving, loss, and conflict transformation. Originally developed to rebuild ravaged communities in Rwanda and Burundi, it has now developed into a comprehensive trauma-healing program for many diverse populations including sexual assault and rape survivors, displaced persons in refugee camps, ethnic and immigrant communities, at-risk youth and individuals affected by HIV+/AIDS. HROC provides the cornerstone of capacity building within communities to rebuild interconnectedness and trust.

To learn more about the program please visit

[www.aglifpt.org/Program/hroc.htm](http://www.aglifpt.org/Program/hroc.htm). For further information on the program contact: David Zarembka, AGLI Coordinator at [dave@aglifpt.org](mailto:dave@aglifpt.org) or call 301-765-4098.

Cost: \$800 per person including in-country travel, food, accommodation, and training costs. Not included are international travel, visa fees, accommodation in Nairobi before or after the training, personal expenses, and cost of translator if needed.

Deadline for application: June 9, 2013, or until full.

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"Testimonial" from Susan Joyce: I attended an introductory HROC training session at Stony Run Friends Meeting May 9-11 and was very impressed with the work done with the group. The format was highly experiential and had participants explore their own losses and grief and how they have handled it. The last day was spent exploring anger and rebuilding trust. It is helping me to look with more compassion on all people and to be willing to offer support to members of the community who are experiencing or have experienced loss or trauma. - Susan Joyce

Vigil to Protest Drone Warfare **Saturday 8 June**

Langley Hill Friends Meeting is one of the co-sponsors of this vigil every month on the 2nd Saturday at the Main Gate of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Vigils begin at 10:00 am. "War is not the Answer", "Drones are Evil", and "Drones kill Babies, too" are just some of the signs Quakers have been carrying. Please join us at the Vigil, and for light refreshments at the Langley Hill Meeting House afterwards. For more information, contact Walter Brown 202-882-1764 (carolewalter@aol.com)

Highlights of Budget Changes

	2012-13	2013-14	\$ Diff	% Diff
Budget Total	\$123,439	\$131,812	\$8,373	6.8%
Contributions	\$120,439	\$128,692	\$8,253	6.9%
Meetinghouse Use	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$2,000	
Major Contributors to Increase				
General Admin	\$1,600	\$3,500	\$1,900	
M&W (incl. A&O)	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$2,000	
RE Coord	\$5,820	\$7,100	\$1,280	
BYM Assessment	\$23,215	\$26,000	\$2,785	
Quaker Leadership Fund	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	
Outreach	\$18,200	\$21,000	\$2,800	
			\$13,265	
Major Offsetting Reductions				
MH Reserves	\$6,000	\$3,000	(\$3,000)	
Newsletter	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	
			(\$4,000)	

And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him. But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. - Leviticus 19:33-34 (KJV)

Highlights from May 21st Business Meeting

We were blessed with two visitors: Lesley Manning, the presenter at the prior day's Quaker Quest workshop, and Pam Moore who described herself as in a "life transition". A number of friends had personal news, so if you know those with joys, sorrows or concerns, be in touch and hold them in the Light.

Two items from **Care & Cleanness** are delightful to share. Susan Joyce has requested membership, and the Meeting approved the marriage of Jim Fussell and Kate English under the care of the Meeting. Joy in both cases! (All are on Facebook, in case anyone wants to "friend" them there as a way of getting better acquainted.)

The Meeting approved the **Spiritual State of the Meeting report**, with appreciation for the generous help of many friends and for the work and well-favored writing of the Ministry & Worship Committee. It's printed on pages 7-8.

Three new members are nominated to serve on the **Nominating Committee**: Jessica Mott and Babs Williams for 3-year terms, and Mark VanRaden at least through December. Approval at the June business meeting.

Our re-energized **Advancement & Outreach Committee** is planning two major events: a Meet-Up with College students in June and a Quaker Quest workshop for the Meeting in October. See page 3 for details.

Tim Hunt for **Ministry and Worship** proposed that we explore Quaker Quest actively. The program has two parts: (1) a meeting-wide day workshop to have members, attenders and especially newcomers explore what Quakerism is and how they understand and can articulate it, and (2) a public-outreach event, inviting seekers in the wider world to join us for a day-long workshop with 2-hour sessions on various themes. Several BYM meetings have done the first part and each has configured it to meet their own needs and situation. Tim suggested we do the same in the fall, and as of this newsletter writing a date has been selected:

October 26. It's on the calendar on page 1! There was a lot of discussion and many suggestions at the business meeting.

Library Report – The Library Committee is in the process of – but not finished with – replacing the Dewey decimal system with a simpler set of categories used successfully by other Meeting libraries. The categories will be color coded for easy use and won't involve completely reorganizing all the books, so finding them in the new system won't be difficult. They hope to eliminate special collections by interfiling those materials within the regular categories and providing a finding aid, but details of this aren't yet settled. There was talk of e-readers and other electronic options available now but no one wants to eliminate books.

The upcoming book sale was described. See the article on page 3.

Treasurer's Report – We're in good order but contributions are behind! Quote from recent email from Doug: We are getting close to the end of Langley Hill's fiscal year. . . and are \$7,000 behind and we need contributions NOW. . . . please get out your checkbook and make a donation TODAY. You can send it, made out to "Langley Hill Friends Meeting," to our bookkeeper Jim Laity at: 2621 Depaul Drive, Vienna, VA 22180-7052. AND we will *continue* to need about \$2,500 *each month* in *addition to autogive* to meet the budget.

Budget – The current budget (2012-13) is the same as the prior one, but the proposed 2013-14 budget is about 6% higher. Income both from contributions and from meetinghouse rental are higher. Expenses are increased in six areas, offset by reduced amount for meetinghouse reserves, and benefitting from greatly reduced newsletter costs. The next page Budget Summary shows what's increased and decreased. Details to be presented at the June business meeting. There is much more to say – in the formal Meeting Minutes. Other agenda items including budget details are carried over to the June business meeting.

Langley Hill Friends Meeting Spiritual State of the Meeting Report for 2012

Approved at May 21st Meeting for Business

We are an active community and blessed with many leaders. We are spiritually healthy in many respects. We have identified a few activities that have benefited us.

- We host weekly worship sharing groups, in depth monthly discussion groups, and an introduction to Quakerism course for all attenders as part of our adult religious education program.
- We plan periodic intergenerational worship sharing on Quaker topics as well as have our youth share their RE experiences with the full Meeting, such as presenting original plays.
- We have embraced the BYM Spiritual Formation program.
- We used our Second Hour program to discuss vocal ministry and other community building topics.
- We held a Meeting for worship with a concern for Babies to celebrate the two newest lives amongst us.
- We keep Business Meeting as a Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business.
- We used our internet access to broadcast a Memorial meeting to friends and family members who could not attend while maintaining a sense of community; we are also starting to use technology more in our Committee work.
- We have reenergized our Advancement and Outreach (A&O) Subcommittee and we remind ourselves that A&O is everyone's responsibility.
- We find joy in the musical ministry that our children and adult community provide.
- Racism is a barrier to Friends' relationship with the Divine, so we continue to have under our care the Meeting's Working Group on Racism.

Our greatest challenge continues to be the decline in our First Day School (FDS) enrollment especially in Grades K to 3 and the nursery program. We have lost a few families with younger children and have

not attracted enough other families. Currently, the responsibility of running the RE program falls on a few dedicated parents so greater involvement by the community would be helpful. In addition, the previous RE Coordinator who served the Meeting so well retired in 2012 and a replacement has not been found yet. Finally, there has been a transition from two long-time Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) who helped Young Friends with their Business Meetings and programs to new FAPs who are still learning their responsibilities. The FDS curricula prepared by the RE Committee are rich, but we need more children to support and challenge each other in the learning process.

As we reflect on our spiritual state, a few qualities of Langley Hill Friends Meeting characterize our spiritual home:

1. Our Community is based in love. That love is strong. At times that love can obscure conflict. We need to support each other in bringing tensions to the surface so that they can be addressed.
2. Our Community is a tapestry of beliefs. It generally holds together and gets renewed by weaving new lives into the Divine tapestry of Langley Hill Friends Meeting. At times, we do not do enough to acknowledge the tensions that come from this spiritual diversity.
3. Religious expression is real and universal. Most meetings for worship are rich and sustaining of the Spirit. Yet, we need to do more to support and provide a safe place for our ministers to give Spirit-led messages whether through words or deeds. And when messages create a dissonance within, we need to reflect upon them, listen for the Voice of God and discern if they are meant for us or others now or in the future.
4. As Quakers we are open. We come from many backgrounds and are on different spiritual journeys heading different places. Sometimes we can appear intolerant of language used to describe the Divine and role of Christ in our faith life.

5. Our Meeting is aging. While aging is common in many religious communities, we are concerned that our younger RE classes are nearly empty and the older classes rely on a handful of dedicated children and Young Friend attenders.
6. We are a welcoming community. We often greet newcomers with enthusiasm although follow-up is inconsistent. To be a more vibrant spiritual community we want to attract and retain new members and increase our diversity.

Reflecting on these concerns, we have identified several queries for the Meeting to explore and deepen our spiritual roots:

- How do we attract the young singles, couples and families to make Langley Hill a vibrant, multi-generational community?
- Do we keep hidden the glories of our Meeting's experiences to the detriment of others and ourselves? How do we build a diverse community?
- Do we do enough to nurture our children's spirituality and find opportunities to explore with us their spiritual quests and questions? What can adults learn from our younger members?
- Is the "tent" of Quaker beliefs in OUR meeting properly sized? Do differences in beliefs and values challenge our community to deepen and grow?
- Do we know who we are spiritually? Do we share enough our convictions and doubts even if it creates tension? Do we have common language to talk about our faith?
- Do we let a message season too long or perhaps fail to share a message when it is not meant for us? Do we talk when we should be listening for the Truth?

We are blessed by a relatively large and active group of members and attenders at Langley Hill who enrich our spiritual lives, create meaningful programs, and nurture one another. As a community, we would like to have more young parents. We struggle to balance the demands of everyday life with our commitments to the Meeting so it remains a nurturing experience and sustains us spiritually in our daily lives.

We are additionally blessed by a committed group of Young Friends who have considered their own spiritual life and presented the following report.

Statement from Young Friends

The Young Friends of Langley Hill Monthly Meeting have had a rewarding but somewhat slow year. Although we have done some meaningful and fun activities, they tend to be few and farther apart than we would like. Nevertheless, late last fall Young Friends had a bake sale that raised a few hundred dollars which was put towards camp scholarships for children who could not otherwise afford to go to camp. With the help of the younger religious education group, we gave money allocated to us by the Peace and International Outreach Committee to a church in New York that was very active in Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. Additionally, groups of young friends assisted in things like the Halloween celebration, the Christmas candlelight service, and leading a workshop about singing camp songs. Not to mention, we hosted a fun filled game night in early 2013. We have been spending time doing activities with the younger children on the first Sunday of each month.

Similar to last year though, we have a slight problem with obtaining critical mass for many of our prospective activities, and we need to work on making meeting for worship more of a priority in our lives. This is not to say that we do not have a strong community; when larger groups of young friends are present in business meeting and our weekly classes, we find that we have very intimate and interesting discussions. However, we feel that our community could be more meaningful and productive if we could get together more often and do more projects together. Nevertheless, Young Friends have a very optimistic outlook towards the New Year, and we hope to do more service and branch out to other young people in our community this spring.

Approved by Langley Hill Monthly Meeting for Business on Fifth Month, Twelfth Day, 2013

Prepared by members of the LHFM Ministry and Worship Committee: Ann Stone, Chuck Kleymeyer, Georgia Fuller, Jenepher Moseley, Ken Bernstein, Mel Snyder, Steve Morse, and Tim Hunt (clerk)

Young Friends Report prepared by Alexandra Kohout, Bennett Maupin, Coleen Kohout, Eleanor Post, Richard Laity (clerk), Tadek Kosmal, and Zephren Collinson.

Langley Hill Friends Meeting
P.O. Box 387
McLean, VA 22101
Address Correction Requested

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