

The Langley Hill Friend

SIXTH Month 2013

6410 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Va. 22101-2210

#502

Like all discipleships, membership has its elements of commitment and responsibility but it is also about joy and celebration. Membership is a way of saying to the meeting that you feel at home, and in the right place. Membership is also a way of saying to the meeting, and to the world, that you accept at least the fundamental elements of being a Quaker: the understanding of divine guidance, the manner of corporate worship and the ordering of the meeting's business, the practical expression of inward convictions and the equality of all before God. In asking to be admitted into the community of the meeting you are affirming what the meeting stands for and declaring your willingness to contribute to its life. ~ Britain Yearly Meeting, 1999

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

6/30 Sunday Second Hour: Monteverde Friends School - See page 3

6/30 -7/6 Friends General Conference at Univ. of Northern Colorado

7/13 Saturday 1 pm Memorial Meeting for Abby Hadley at Friends House

Friends Wilderness Center - Hike on Perimeter Trail

7/20 Saturday Concert - Open Church of Jesus Christ, friends invited

7/29 Monday - Baltimore Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions, Frostburg, Maryland

8/5 Sunday

8/10 Saturday Friends Wilderness Center - Poetry, dinner & Star Gazing

9/7 Saturday Friends Wilderness Center - Forest Walk

October 26 Saturday Quaker Quest Workshop at Langley Hill

To Schedule Second Hours, contact [Jeanne Houghton](mailto:Jeanne.Houghton@quaker.org) 703-609-1065
For other uses of Meeting House contact [Virginia Colin](mailto:Virginia.Colin@quaker.org) 703-864-2101

Drop-In Topics

on Sunday mornings from 9 - 10

- 6/30 Caroline Steven on Quaker Mysticism
7/7 Adin Steinsaltz on Masks
7/14 Adam Curle on Peacemaking
7/21 I Samuel 1:1 - 2:11 The Birth of Samuel
7/28 Thich Nhat Hanh on Anger

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*No monthly discussion group in July.*

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## Where Are These Friends?

This month we are particularly hoping to learn about:

Shawn Malone  
Edward Malone  
Kevin Malone  
Douglas Manring  
Lynn Manring  
Michael Manring  
Bonnie Binns Mattaeus  
Deborah McCormick  
Jenny McLaughlin  
Felicia Mostofi  
Wendy Nirenberg  
Sean O'Neill  
Sarah McGraw Plaster

If you know where any of these Friends are now, what they are doing, or how we can be in touch with them, please contact Rebecca Rawls or any member of the Care & Clearness Committee. Thank you!

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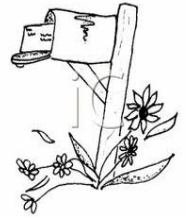
## Reading Glasses for Kenya



Dona Manoukian is collecting them. Bring them to the Meetinghouse by Sunday July 21. There will be a designated box on the table in the foyer for collection.

## New Meeting Address!

6410 Georgetown Pike  
McLean, Va. 22101-2210



Mail will come right to our meetinghouse. The new mailbox is at the back of the building near the outside stairs. This doesn't affect most of us, but whoever currently goes to the McLean post office to pick up our mail will be celebrating!

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## Book Sale Continues

There are still many good books for sale at the meetinghouse in the small classroom upstairs. Pick your books and leave the money.



The sale will continue through mid-August.

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## Abby Atwater Hadley Memorial Meeting Friends House Saturday 13 July

Abby Hadley died on May 22, 2013 at the age of 102. In addition to having served as Associate Secretary for Baltimore Yearly Meeting, she also had a long witness of travelling to prisons, and a founding member of Langley Hill Friends Meeting. The Memorial Meeting will begin at 1:00 pm, with a reception following the rise of the Meeting.

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Into our lives come times when, all  
unexpectedly, He shadows over us,  
steals into the inner recesses of our  
souls, and lifts us up in a wonderful joy  
and peace." Reality Of The Spiritual  
World - Thomas R. Kelly

## Monteverde, Costa Rica: The Friends School and Quaker Community Present, Past and Future. “Surrounded by Nature, Supported by Love”

Presentation by and conversation with **Francisco Burgos, Head of School**

Francisco Burgos, Head of Monteverde Friends School in Costa Rica, will tell us about the school and Quaker community, including a new video. Before responding to this calling to serve Friends in Costa Rica (June, 2012), Francisco and his wife, Rene Seitz, a Quaker from Pennsylvania, and their two bilingual young children, attended Adelphi Monthly Meeting, MD. Betty and John Smallwood and Rebecca Rawls visited the school during their trip to Costa Rica in Jan. 2013 and also met with Francisco and Rene to share their stories. We hope you can come to hear and share stories, too. Refreshments provided.

### **"Surrounded by Nature, Supported by Love"**

Nestled in the cloud forest community of Monteverde, Costa Rica, the Monteverde Friends School was founded over 60 years ago by Quakers who left the United States in search of a country and community that supported their peaceful principles. Today, our school continues to promote the universal values of peace, love and respect in the context of a challenging bilingual education and a sense of community.

#### VISION AND MISSION OF MONTEVERDE FRIENDS SCHOOL

Surrounded by nature, supported by love, we work and grow in community that our lives may contribute to a more just, peace-filled and hopeful world.

Under the care of the Monteverde Friends Meeting, the school primarily serves local communities by educating children of families who value a Quaker education. Our small rural bilingual school welcomes diversity. We educate the whole person, nurturing each student's spiritual, intellectual, physical and creative potential. We endeavor to transform the lives of young people, that they may seek truth with curiosity and awe, and care for and honor all people and the earth.

### **Brief History of the Monteverde Quaker Community in Costa Rica**

*"We do not feel that our gesture in coming here was striking a blow against war or*

*that, in itself, it will have any great effect toward bringing universal peace among men. But every wave on the ocean has its beginning in a tiny ripple somewhere, and perhaps our action will be that ripple which starts others to thinking and acting so that eventually the wave of public opinion will attain the desired end."* – Arthur Rockwell, Founding member of the Monteverde community

Monteverde was first settled by 11 Quaker families from Alabama who decided to leave the United States and settle in Costa Rica in the early 1950's.

They did so because of strong beliefs against the military system in the US and because Costa Rica had chosen to abolish its army. They later wrote, "And so it was that with green forests, green pastures, and green crops growing the year round, we named our new found land Monteverde (Green Mountain)." The Costa Rican farmers in the area lent their support and expertise to the Quaker settlers as they set up their canvas tents and went about homesteading.

The green pastures were ideal for grazing cattle, and as the Quakers had been dairy farmers in the United States, they began dairy farming and cheese production. Their original canvas tents gave way to timber houses, which were built communally in "house raising bees" for the setting of the foundations and raising the heavy frames. Early cheese production at the newly established Monteverde Dairy was about 10 kg per day; today, Monteverde's cheese factory produces over 1000 kg of cheese daily, which is in great demand throughout the country.

To learn more about the school and the Quaker community, please visit the school's website: <http://mfschool.org/>

To learn more about this Second Hour, please contact Betty Smallwood, who is serving as liaison: email: [smallbetty@aol.com](mailto:smallbetty@aol.com). Tel. 301-229-8489 (home); 240-498-0378 (cell)

## **Spring Activities for Peace June 2013**

The Committee continues to working toward shaping a world free from violence, war and global inequities. We've demonstrated, written our legislators, given financial support to peace and justice efforts around the world and helped launch a domestic effort against gun violence.

**Vigil against drones.** Our participation in the monthly vigil at the CIA against killer drones continues. These vigils, on the first Saturday of each month, draw new faces each month from faith communities and groups of concerned individuals of many descriptions. Langley Hill Meeting continues to provide hospitality after the vigils and a peaceful meeting space for the anti-drone coalition. The committee is very grateful to all who have contributed refreshments and time to make this hospitality possible.

**Opposing Gun Violence.** In the wake of the horrific shooting in Newtown CT, the committee lent its support to an effort initiated by BYM women to end gun violence and brought to us by Mary Ann Beall, the initial creative force behind this effort. We have written to Congress, established an anti-gun bumper-sticker contest, and distributed yard signs to raise awareness. The yard signs have gone to meeting member's homes where at least one has generated interest from a neighbor in having two more! It's a simple message, a small effort, but every bit keeps the issue alive. A new initiative underway is to invite faith communities to signal their opposition to gun violence by sounding a bell (or other loud instrument) 82 times on Sundays in memory of the average number of victims killed by gun shot wounds daily in the US.

**Social Justice Efforts.** In addition to our peace work we have also promoted social justice and human development initiatives, both local and international. The committee researched and updated its list of organizations receiving financial support from the Meeting. Generally speaking, a group had to be in line with our values and mission, demonstrate good management, and have either a

Quaker connection or some personal connection (current or prior) to a member of LHFM to be approved to receive small grant funds.

**Quaker Bolivia Link.** One of the groups approved for financial support was Quaker Bolivia Link. Several representatives from QBL blessed us in June with a visit to share their valuable work and strengthen their connection with our meeting. LHFM member Dona Manoukian organized a reception for the QBL representatives that was well attended. The next First Day, the QBL Friends joined us for meeting for worship and the RE picnic.

A sincere thanks to all who have contributed to these efforts! Please consider getting involved in which ever way you feel led by the Spirit. We would be glad to have your help!

Committee: Gary Garriott (clerk), Greg Chudy, Walter Brown, Francesca Costantino, Mary Diamond, Tim Yeane , Jenepher Moseley, Fred Krimgold, Mel Snyder

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*Thinking About Race –*

### **Justice Sonia Sotomayor on Affirmative Action**

“Much has changed in the thinking about affirmative action since those early days when it opened doors in my life and [my brother] Junior’s. But one thing has not changed: to doubt the worth of minority students’ achievements when they succeed is really only to present another facet of the prejudice that would deny them a chance even to try. It is the same prejudice that insists all those destined for success must be cast from the same mould as those who have succeeded before them, a view that experience has already proven a fallacy.” – from **My Beloved World**, by Sonia Sotomayor, 2013

The BYM Working Group on Racism meets most months on the third Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, usually at Bethesda Friends Meeting or Friends Meeting of Washington. If you would like to attend, on a regular or a drop-in basis, contact clerk David Etheridge, [david.etheridge@verizon.net](mailto:david.etheridge@verizon.net).

*Because of the depth of discussion this month, I'm including the complete draft. – Jeanne Houghton, editor*

## Draft Minutes - Meeting for Business Sixth Month 9, 2013

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Queries for this month: Do we as individuals and as members of Meeting seek to take part in the ministry of reconciliation between individuals, groups and nations? – Advices and Queries, SEYM 2005 Read by Mary Yeaney

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**Opening.** The Langley Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends opened its Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business in silent worship on June 9, 2013, at 10:50 a.m. with Mary Yeaney as Clerk and with about 35 friends present. We welcomed first time attenders Keith Alvee, Rashmi Nair-Ripley and Carolyn Stachowski. We welcomed the birth of Virginia Colin's grandson Alex who was born early in May. We reviewed the agenda and heard time-sensitive announcements and news of the community.

**6/13-1. Letters to the Clerk** The Clerk read a letter from Baltimore Yearly Meeting. They will be sending out a series of short surveys. Also, the Committee on Vision and Implementation hopes to have representatives visit each Monthly Meeting sometime between Annual session and March 2014.

**6/13-2. Nominating Committee** Doug Neal again brought forward the nomination of Jim Laity to the Care and Clearness Committee (C&C). This committee first made this recommendation in March, with the knowledge and understanding that Jim is not a member of Langley Hill Monthly Meeting. The Baltimore Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice suggests that C&C Committee members be members of the Meeting. The Langley Hill Monthly Meeting bylaws reflect our practice that most C&C Committee members should be members of the Meeting, but allow for occasional exceptions if the Meeting is clear about this. Since March when Jim's name was brought forward, several Friends have communicated concerns to the Nominating Committee about having someone on the C&C Committee who is not a member of the Meeting. In light of these concerns, Nominating

Committee is asking the Meeting for guidance over this question.

A number of Friends spoke warmly of Jim's wonderful contributions to the Meeting. Several Friends also raised questions about the membership process at Langley Hill Monthly Meeting and whether we are in unity about it, and whether Jim is in unity with it. The Care and Clearness Committee is responsible for issues of membership. It might be difficult to serve on the committee if one was not a member of the Meeting, particularly if one had reservations about the membership process at Langley Hill. A Friend spoke in some detail about the membership process; how it is a deep and profound example of communal discernment, rather than a screening process. When someone applies for membership, the applicant and the clearness committee members must discern whether or not this is a wise decision. Each person expresses his/her truth as best as possible, and then surrenders to let God speak through the group. The clearness committee then makes a recommendation. The Care and Clearness Committee then subjects that recommendation to the process of communal discernment as well, followed by the Meeting as a whole. Another Friend mentioned that while ideally the membership application process is deep and profound, it has sometimes been hurtful to applicants.

Some in the Meeting felt that membership in the Meeting should be open to all who are interested, particularly now that we're trying to attract more people. Others felt that it is very important to have healthy boundaries and that we need to be clear

about our boundaries. The Clerk asked for guidance about continuing the discussion this summer, perhaps with threshing sessions. It was decided to ask the Care and Clearness Committee to guide us in further exploration of membership issues. A Friend mentioned that Annual Session of Baltimore Yearly Meeting would provide an excellent opportunity to hold interest groups or discussion with other Meetings to discuss how they deal with these membership issues. Finally, a Friend asked that as we consider the membership application issues, we also consider how to end membership, that is, how to deal with members with whom we lose touch, but are still on our rolls. It was discerned *not to approve* Jim Laity's nomination to the Care and Clearness Committee *at this time* since we are not in unity for approval.

**6/13-3. Temporary Nominating Committee** Mary Yeaney, reporting for Temporary Nominating Committee, said that last month the Temporary Nominating Committee brought forward the names of Jessica Mott, Babs Williams, and Mark van Raden to serve on Nominating Committee. Mark could participate at least through December, and perhaps after that if he doesn't move away. Friends approved these names for Nominating Committee.

**6/13-4. Financial Report** Doug Smith reported that at the end of the fiscal year (6/30/2013), we expect to have about a \$10,000 surplus. Finance Committee recommended that from this surplus, \$3,000 be transferred to Meeting House Reserves, \$1,000 be transferred to pay for the Quaker Quest training, \$500 be transferred to the Social Concerns Committee to help send two children from AACH to Quaker camp, and the remainder go to general reserves. Friends approved this disposition of surplus funds.

Doug reviewed our pattern of giving to the Meeting. On average, there was a 12% increase this year in giving to Langley Hill. The proposed budget for 2013-2014 recommends a 6% increase in spending which would require a corresponding 5% increase in contributions (the remainder would come from rental of the building). Under committee expenses, the spending

for Ministry and Worship Committee is broken down into two lines: \$1,000 for adult education and other traditional activities, and \$4000 for a newly established fund for Advancement and Outreach (A&O) activities. Expenditures from this A&O fund would need to be considered by Ministry and Worship Committee.

Friends approved the budget.

**6/13-5. Building Use Committee** Virginia Colin introduced Rashmi Nair-Ripley and Carolyn Stachowski who are part of the Saturday morning meditation group. The meditation group is part of the **Insight Meditation of Washington**. They have been using the Meeting Room for about two years now on an informal basis. They thanked the Langley Hill Meeting for the use of the room. They would now like to formalize the arrangement so as to assure a consistent location for the group. The Building Use Committee will work out the details and come back to the Meeting.

In addition, the **Open Church organization**, which used the Meeting House space before the renovation, is interested in using it again. They are interested in one Wednesday per month for a rehearsal, and one Saturday a month for a worship concert. The Building Use Committee will work out the details and come back to the Meeting.

**6/13-6. Quaker Quest Workshop** Walter Brown reported that there was an all day Quaker Quest training session in May which was done for free by Friends General Conference staff. About 24-25 Friends attended, representing 11-12 Monthly Meetings. The workshop went well and feedback was positive.

**6/13-7. Care and Clearness Committee Report** Tim Yeaney reported that the Care and Clearness Committee is charged with caring for the community, including such activities as establishing clearness committees for life events, overseeing the family emergency fund, and managing the membership clearness process. On Mother's Day,



we had a welcome for new member KC Morris and her children. There are two active clearness committees in process, and the committee will be bringing more information on these in the future. C&C is also trying to contact members with whom we have lost touch. Each month, a subset of that list is focused on. The lists for May and June are posted on the bulletin board.

6/13-8. Following silent worship, the Clerk declared friends at liberty at 12:33 pm purposing to meet again as way opens for Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business at the rise of Meeting for Worship on September 8, 2013, at 10:30 a.m.

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Do we faithfully maintain our Peace testimony?  
Advice and Queries SEYM 2005

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## Library Committee Annual Report March 2012 through March 2013



The LHFMM Library Committee continues to meet monthly for a discussion of committee business and a working session.

This year we have focused on plans for a transition from categorizing our collection based on the Dewey decimal system. First, we researched the matter by exploring how other meetings handle their library collections. We learned about the category systems used by different meetings as well as the layout of local meeting libraries.

Committee members have spent time talking with other meetings and with librarians at Swarthmore.

We met with the Library Committee from Adelphi Friends Meeting and exchanged ideas about a similar classification system they use. We have held a work session to devise a plan and have another session scheduled to begin reclassifying and labeling our collection in April.

Our new system will have categories that are color coded, prominently labelled and easy to understand, such as “Newcomers, Bible Study, Quaker Studies, Life Transitions, World Religions, Quaker History, Christian Religions and World Religions, as well as Fiction, Children’s and Young Adult books.” Special collections, such as “End of Life Matters” can usually be found within one of the new categories, and we will develop one-page guides to special subjects to help people locate the

materials easily. It will require considerable time and effort to implement the new system, but we are making a beginning.

Other tasks that we routinely perform include re-shelving returned materials, updating and shelving periodicals, and removing non-library materials from library shelves and tables. We periodically reconsider how best to organize, display and label materials in our new space. We continue to take stock of the current collection and consider what we should keep, add and remove. We welcome ideas and feedback from others in the meeting about these issues.

In 2012, the Library Committee hosted a sale of books from FGC, and we plan to hold another later in 2013. These sales support FGC’s bookstore and offer us a chance to view and purchase important Quaker writings. They also bring in a portion of the sales for the Meeting. In response to many requests from Friends, we are also planning a “self-service” used book sale for the summer.

We hope to continue to work with others in the Meeting to develop ways to make the library welcoming and useful to all, as way opens.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann L. Stone, Clerk, Library Committee

Langley Hill Friends Meeting  
6410 Georgetown Pike  
McLean, Virginia 22101-2210  
Address Correction Requested

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