

PYM News & Events Update for Monthly and Quarterly Meetings For March 2012 Newsletters

[Philadelphia Yearly Meeting News Items](#)



Announcing PYM Today Online. In January we launched a new publication called **PYM Today Online** to better connect with you and others who are interested in Quaker faith and practice, news and activities of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and our faith community.

PYM Today Online is an *electronic newsletter* and we are sending it to all households for which we have an email address. If you want to subscribe but did not receive your own personal copy, it is easy to subscribe - just go to the PYM website at <http://www.pym.org> and sign up! That's all there is to it - PYM Today Online is free to everyone who wishes to receive it.

PYM Today Online is published monthly in addition to our twice-yearly printed journal, *PYM Today*. The emphasis will be on timely information, breaking news and upcoming events. We hope that you will enjoy receiving **PYM Today Online!**

A screenshot of the PYM Upcoming Events Calendar for March 2012. The calendar is a grid showing the days of the month with specific events marked. The events include: 1st (Quarterly Meeting), 2nd (Quaker College Fair), 4th (Interim Mtg.), 11th (Interim Mtg.), 16th (16th Yearly Meeting), 17th (17th Yearly Meeting), 18th (18th Yearly Meeting), 20th (20th Yearly Meeting), 22nd (22nd Yearly Meeting), 23rd (23rd Yearly Meeting), 25th (25th Yearly Meeting), 26th (26th Yearly Meeting), 27th (27th Yearly Meeting), 28th (28th Yearly Meeting), 29th (29th Yearly Meeting), 30th (30th Yearly Meeting), and 31st (31st Yearly Meeting). The calendar is titled 'MARCH 2012' and includes a legend for the events.

PYM Upcoming Events Calendars. Now you can receive a convenient, desktop-sized event calendar for each month. These delightful calendars include artistic images relevant to Quaker testimonies & practice and the PYM community itself. Download your own copy each month at <http://www.pym.org/philadelphia-yearly-meeting-desk-calendars-2012>

[Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Events](#)

Quaker College Fair - Saturday March 3, 12:00-3:00 at the Arch Street Meeting House. *“Where will I most thrive, and how can I connect to that place?”* This Fair is a right-sized opportunity for students and families to meet admissions representatives of the historically Quaker Colleges (Earlham, Haverford, Guilford, Bryn Mawr, Swarthmore, Wilmington, etc.). There will be time for one-to-one discussions and opportunities to get detailed answers about the application process, financial aid, college life, and right “fit.” Keynote panelists for the opening discussion include **Doug Bennett**, former President of Earlham College, **Emily Temple**, recent graduate of Haverford College, and **Dan Evans**, Director of College Guidance at the William Penn Charter School. For more information, see <http://www.pym.org/committee/quaker-college-fair> or contact Grace Cooke, PYM Friends in Education Coordinator at 215-241-7224 or gcooke@pym.org To register, see <http://tinyurl.com/Qcollegefair>

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Everyone is Invited to Junior Interim Meeting in March! **Saturday, March 10th, 2012, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at SHARE Food Program.** Junior Interim Meeting invites all members of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting at ANY AGE to help directly support the Children's Priority by joining us for a very special

Junior Interim Meeting. The Children's Priority: *"God's big idea for us is to make the world a better place and share our Quaker Faith by treating ALL as our brothers and sisters. We will do this by raising money and helping those who are hungry and homeless."* Everyone can follow the ministry of the Children's Priority by offering their service as lead by SHARE and the members of Junior Interim Meeting. Bring your committee, bring your meeting, bring your friends. We will gather at SHARE Food Program at 2901 West Hunting Park Ave. For more information visit <http://pym.org/march-special-event> or contact Benjamin Camp, Children's Religious Life Program Coordinator, at 215-241-7228 or bcamp@pym.org

"Faith, Family, and Fun" gathering for PYM's Middle School Friends, Friday, Mar. 16, 2012, 6:00 pm – Sunday, Mar. 18, noon at Medford Leas continuing care retirement community. Join the Middle School Friends community as we explore what it means to be faithful, fun-loving Friends in a multi-generational community. Medford Leas is located at: 1 Medford Leas Way, Medford, NJ 08055. For more information, please contact Stephen Dotson, the Middle School Friends Program Coordinator, at sdotson@pym.org or 215-241-7171. More details to come.

"Triad" workshop to support Meeting-School relationships, March 17, 2012, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm at Friends Center. The Committee on Friends Education (CoFE) will be hosting this workshop for Meetings who share property or facilities with Friends Schools and Meetings who are in a care relationship with a Friends School. It will gather the leadership triad for fellowship and discussion: the Meeting-School leadership triad is comprised of the Head of School, the Clerk of the Meeting, and Clerk of the School Committee. Many of our members are first attracted to Quakerism through our local Friends schools and research shows that healthy meeting-school relationships can translate into growing and thriving meeting communities and increased membership. For more information contact Grace Cooke, PYM Friends in Education Coordinator at 215-241-7224 or by email at gcooke@pym.org.

Committee on Friends Education (CoFE) Meeting-School Workshop, Saturday, March 17, 2012 9:30-2:30 at Friends Center, 1515 Cherry Street, Philadelphia. This valuable workshop helps shape healthy meeting-school relationships that are essential to growing and thriving meeting communities. Comprised of the Head of School, the Clerk of the Meeting and Clerk of the School Committee, the "leadership triad" sets the tone for community best practices. Meetings who are in a care relationship and/or share property or facilities with a Friends School are encouraged to participate. For more information contact Grace Cooke, PYM Friends in Education Coordinator at 215-241-7224 or by email at gcooke@pym.org

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Young Friends Urban Life Skills Gathering, March 20-April 1, 2012 at Germantown Meeting, 47 West Coulter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144. Saturday morning we will be volunteering on work projects in Germantown area. In the afternoon the Young Friends Urban Adventure: teams of about 5 Young Friends & Friendly Adult Presences will solve clever clues (*we think they are clever*), find obscure landmarks, take pictures, test powers of observation and face fun challenges while navigating the urban landscape via public transportation and on foot! This scavenger hunt will take you to checkpoints, as you explore your city like you've never experienced it before and will be a one-afternoon, one-city amazing adventure. On Saturday evening we will attend the *William Penn Lecture* sponsored by Young Adult Friends. For more information contact Cookie Caldwell, PYM Young Friends Coordinator at 215/241-7222 or ccaldwell@pym.org. Also see <http://www.pym.org/event/young-friends-urban-life-skills-gathering-1>

2012 William Penn Lecture, Saturday March 31, 7:00 pm at Arch Street Meeting House. This year's lecture will feature **Signe Wilkinson**, an editorial cartoonist best known for her work at the *Philadelphia Daily News*. Signe is a member of Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting and is an active and outspoken Friend with concerns for outreach, supporting young adult Friends and humor. The William Penn Lectures have a long history and are warmly remembered by Friends who attend them as occasions for fellowship with our community, inspiration and challenges to live into our faith. All Friends are invited to attend! For more information, please see <http://www.pym.org/william-penn-lecture>

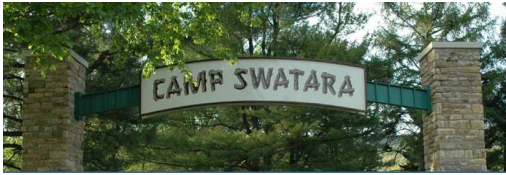
PYM Meeting on Worship and Ministry, Saturday, April 7, 2012, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm at Newton Friends Meeting. The semiannual gathering is an opportunity to worship and hold in the Light the spiritual life and strength of our meetings. Come, take part in this day of communion in the Spirit that nurtures, heals and leads us to deeper understanding and faithfulness in our paths. The Gathering will be held at Newton Friends Meeting, 133 N. 8th Street, Camden, NJ 08102 (entrance on 8th Street, between Cooper and Market Streets). For more information, contact Connie Eash at 610-274-0947 or cneash@gmail.com Call at least 2 weeks in advance to request child care. Beverages and breakfast food will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. You may download a copy of the event poster from: <http://pym.org/sites/pym.org/files/Poster.pdf>

PYM Field Day! Saturday, April 28, 2012, 10am-3pm, Location TBA. Field Day is about fellowship and play. It's a chance to engage with friends from all over the Yearly Meeting in games, song, shared food, and conversation. Field Day is open to all ages and everyone is encouraged to attend. Friends under the age of 16 must have an adult taking part in the event as well. Come play Frazleyrham (a fantastic team-cooperative game that combines ultimate Frisbee, basketball & football and is wildly fun), strum a guitar and sing Country Roads, do arts and crafts, make a human table, sample potluck dishes from new friends, and sit down with wonderful people to discuss how much fun you're having. Bring your kids, bring your friends, bring your friend's kids, and bring your kid's friends! For more information visit <http://www.pym.org/children> or contact Benjamin Camp, Children's Religious Life Program Coordinator, at 215-241-7228 or bcamp@pym.org.

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John Calvi (Quaker Initiative to End Torture), Sunday, April 29, 2012, 1:30 p.m. at Doylestown Friends Meeting. John Calvi and QUIT are committed to raising awareness of the practice of state-sponsored torture and helping people whose lives have been damaged by such practices. John has been a tireless advocate for the abolition of torture, and has also devoted his energies to working directly with victims of torture. Learn more about this vital issue and about how you can support the campaign to end the use of torture. Child care will be provided. For more information, call Doylestown Friends Meeting at 215-348-2320.



Save the Date! Family Weekend for Young Friends and Middle School Friends, May 4-6, 2012, Camp Swatara Bethel PA. This gathering is part of the Caln Quarterly Meeting family weekend. The Middle School and Young Friends programs are open to the whole Yearly Meeting. Middle School and Young Friends will have their own cabins

and program. Stephen Dotson will lead the Middle School Friends program and Cookie Caldwell will lead the Young Friends program.

The Middle School Friends program will include group games and worship sharing, a hike up the "rock pile" and various arts & crafts opportunities. Saturday evening will include a campfire and a contra dance with the whole community. Sunday morning we will have our final small group time, Eighth Grade Graduation and join Meeting for Worship with everyone.

The Young Friends program will include a hike up the "rock pile" and along the Appalachian Trail and participation in the Quarterly Meeting workshops on Saturday afternoon. (Young Friends will be able to choose their workshops on Friday night.) Saturday evening, Young Friends will join the whole community for the contra dance and a camp fire. There will be plenty of free time for four-square!

[PYM Annual Sessions:](#)

PYM Annual Sessions 2012: "Living the Holy Experiment" - Sharing our Experiences at Annual Sessions, July 25-29, 2012, Philadelphia. Holding Annual Sessions in Philadelphia creates exciting opportunities for planning our time together in new ways. Being in Philadelphia presents some new possibilities: we can enjoy our historic home, and make the most of our location in the heart of the city by engaging with community inside and outside the borders of our meeting houses.

Sessions Planning Group is organizing *Holy Experiments* - group activities on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons that will stretch us to consider what Penn's Holy Experiment means for us today. *Holy Experiments* will include opportunities for worship, fellowship, fun, learning and service through themed programs. Visit <http://www.pym.org/holy-experiments-learning-and-working-together> to learn more. If you are interested in this effort or have a leading you want to share please contact Margaret Mansfield: mmansfield14@gmail.com

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Kids Free at Annual Sessions, July 25-29, 2012, Philadelphia. For the second year in a row, thanks to support from the Education Standing Committee, **children entering 8th Grade and younger may attend Annual Sessions for free!** The Education Standing Committee has budgeted \$8000 that will provide scholarships to cover the program fee, housing and the meal served at Arch Street Meeting House each day. Additional scholarships are also available for Young Friends and adults, so the cost of Sessions should not keep anyone away. Come gather with us for fun, fellowship, worship, and to discern God's Big Idea – what is the work that the young people of PYM are called to do?

For more information, contact Tricia Coscia, PYM Annual Sessions Coordinator, at 215/241-7238 or sessions@pym.org. To learn more, please visit <http://www.pym.org/childrens-middle-school-and-young-friends-sessions> Registration will open in the spring.



Friends open up their Philadelphia homes to provide “radical hospitality”! An exciting opportunity offered by 2012 Annual Sessions is the possibility of Philadelphia area Friends providing hospitality to our fellow PYM Friends who will be traveling from other areas. The Sessions Planning Group calls this effort “Radical Hospitality.” (*Radical as in favoring significant change in how we have been doing things, while going back to our roots when local Friends opened their homes to those who traveled from afar to attend Yearly Meeting*).

The **Radical Hospitality Committee** is looking for hosts who are within easy walking, transit, or driving distance to Center City Philadelphia and who would enjoy providing hospitality to others for the 2012 sessions. Would you be interested in hosting? Or being hosted? Or, would you be willing to help us call and identify potential hosts? Please contact: Hollister Knowlton (hollisterknowlton@gmail.com) or Paula Cell (hpcell2@gmail.com) to let us know if you'd like to help or what sort of accommodations you need or can offer. Or call: Tricia Coscia, Sessions Coordinator, at 215-241-7238.

[Other News and Information:](#)

Registration is now open for the 2012 Quaker Pilgrimage to England

Trip leaders, Irene McHenry (Chestnut Hill Monthly Meeting, PA) and Deborra Sines Pancoe (Abington Monthly Meeting, PA) invite you to follow in the footsteps of George Fox, Margaret Fell, and other Quaker founders to explore the roots of the Religious Society of Friends in England's “1652 Country.” The group of 27 “pilgrims” will be making day trips to historic Quaker sites in the lush and green Lake District, climbing the original Pendle Hill, and returning to home to hearty meals at the Glenthorne Guest House in Grasmere, England. **A \$500 registration fee is required to hold your spot.** To express interest, secure a spot, or ask questions please email Deborra Sines Pancoe at dspancoe@gmail.com.



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We're all Quakers except the guy with the hat!

Quaker Quest is coming to London Grove and West Grove Meetings! Come hear Friends talk about their faith and putting it into practice, while experiencing the Quaker Quest outreach program. Sessions include presentations on **Quakers & Family**, **Quakers & Violence** and **Quakers & God**. Experience Quaker worship, hear why being a Quaker matters to us, talk with each other and us about it and get an idea what sort of people we are! All sessions will be held from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. For more information, see www.localquakers.org

<u>Session</u>	<u>London Grove</u>	<u>West Grove</u>	<i>*All sessions are free</i>
Quakers & Family	Sunday, Feb. 26	Sunday, Mar. 18	<i>*Everyone is welcome!</i>
Quakers & Violence	Sunday, Mar. 4	Sunday, Mar. 25	<i>*Licensed child care is provided</i>
Quakers & God	Sunday, Mar. 11	Sunday, Apr. 1	

PYM Public Education Concerns Working Group meets on the third Saturday of every month from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at the Arch Street Meeting House. Dates are: Feb 18, Mar 17, Apr 14, May 19 and June 16. The PEC Working Group's goal is to develop supportive networks among educators, share information about resources, and engage Friends and educators in a joint effort to positively impact education in the region. It hopes to do wonderful things for public education and educator partnerships. The group is clerked by David Austin, a member of Haddonfield Meeting and a teacher in the New Jersey public school system. For more information, please contact the Grace Cooke, Friends in Education Coordinator, at 215-241-7224 or gcooke@pym.org.

[Links to downloadable attachments:](#)

All of the downloadable attachments listed below are available on the PYM website at:

<http://www.pym.org/march-2012-resources-meeting-newsletters>

This month's downloadable attachments:

- PYM Events Calendar – March 2012
- Quaker College Fair – flyer
- PYM Meeting on Worship & Ministry poster
- Annual Sessions: Radical Hospitality – postcard
- Quaker Pilgrimage – flyer
- Quaker Quest – London Grove & West Grove poster