

SAYMA Representative Meeting Huntsville, Alabama, March 15, 2014

132-01 Meeting for Worship

The Meeting opened silent worship/expectant waiting. During worship, some Friends felt the strong presence of Spirit through spoken messages and silence, enveloped by Divine Light, a covered meeting; for some it was overwhelming.

132-02 Greetings and Introductions (Clerk) [Attachment A, Role Call]

The clerk, Carol Nickle, welcomed Friends to this Representatives Meeting. Friends were reminded that space between speaking enables Spirit to be more easily heard.

Friends introduced themselves by name, role, and meeting affiliation.

132-03 Reading (Clerk) [Attachment B, Reading]

Carol read the 2013 South Eastern Yearly Meeting Epistle “Friends Leading: Climate Change – A Crisis of Spirit.”

132-04 Susan Stark’s resignation (Clerk)

Susan Stark has relinquished her duties as Assistant clerk immediately in the wake of serious family illness. Friends held Susan and her family in the Light.

132-05 Administrative Assistant’s Report (Liz Perch) [Attachment C Administrative Assistant’s Report]

The SAYMA office had no weather related closings. Liz provided copies of the Child/Youth Worker Application Form. All Friends interested in working with children should complete the form. The form does not ask for Social Security number or Driver’s License number, and applicants provide that information online privately. Friends can also provide the information in written form rather than completing the form online. The form will be available on the SAYMA website. Friends can also contact Liz for a copy of the form if browser limitations, popup blockers or lack of internet access are barriers.

Census reports from the monthly meetings are coming in slowly. Meetings who have not submitted the forms know who they are. State of the Meeting Reports are due April 1, and will be provided to M&N. Several meetings are already compliant and other meetings are hopeful of meeting the deadline. Liz will continue to remind Friends in a gently escalating process.

Directory updates will be requested shortly and will be due June 6.

Liz expressed gratitude for the support of SAYMA these past months, and reported that the Savannah Meeting space is now environmentally welcoming. Friends are happy to hear of new developments in Liz’s life.

A Friend expressed gratitude for all the work Liz and Jonah McDonald have done in establishing the

Child Protection policy and process for providing a safe and secure environment for SAYMA's children and workers.

132-06 Nominating Committee (David Ciscel)

The Nominating Committee does not have a written report, but wanted Friends to think in terms of coming to Yearly Meeting with recommendations or expressions of interests to serve in various positions. The goal of the committee's work is to help SAYMA have good officers and representatives to committees and Wider Quaker Organizations. Input from monthly meetings and individuals to David Ciscel and Barbara Esther early in the process helps the committee do its best work. The process is difficult and decision-making feels stressful toward the end of Yearly Meeting, yet way often opens on the last day as spirit opens hearts to service.

Another aspect of Nominating Committee will be to reach beyond the usual suspects at Yearly Meeting with a survey to see how individuals in monthly meetings might engage and participate. Pre-discernment and information about Friends interests and suggestions can widen the pool and help nominating committee touch the deeper resources of SAYMA, not just the people who attend Yearly Meeting any given year.

Friends agreed that sending a survey and posting open positions on the website will help Nominating Committee in their work. The Nominating Committee was authorized to use funds for a survey tool as discerned. Friends noted the benefit of shifting funding toward electronic services over physical resources such as postage, paper mailings, etc.

132-07 Clerks Report [Attachment D, Report of the Clerk's Letter to Monthly Meetings]

The SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee is striving for better communication among SAYMA Friends and wants to enable Friends to keep up with the business conducted at Rep Meetings. Last fall/winter the SAYMA clerk sent a letter to each monthly meeting and worship group asking how those Friends would prefer to receive minutes of the SAYMA Rep meetings and how SAYMA might assist their meeting/worship group. She received replies from most monthly meetings/worship groups, and the results are compiled in her attached report.

Several Monthly Meetings/Worship Groups replied to the clerk's letter that they want to receive the minutes by an email attachment. Currently, SAYMA Administrative Assistant Liz Perch sends an email to each monthly meeting and worship group stating that the Rep Meeting minutes are available on the SAYMA website and provides a link.

Friends discussed the distribution of Rep Meeting minutes and communication with monthly meetings/worship groups.

A Friend noted that for him the larger question was how representatives and their meetings communicate, and how can he individually help the connection between SAYMA and his monthly meeting. With the production time of the minutes, reporting can be delayed for 6 weeks. Another friend noted she reports immediately and lets Friends know where the minutes can be found for more information and detail.

A Friend noted that methods to distribute large bodies of information are not solved by providing links or attachments, and raised the question again, how do we make the content of the minutes and the communication between the business of Representative's Meeting more widely accessible.

The clerk and Administrative Assistant will work with monthly meetings/worship groups individually to provide the minutes to them in the most accessible way.

M&N Committee asks Friends to help them address the larger concern of building relationships between small meetings and our wider Quaker body. The clerk was enriched by the direct contact with the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups.

132-08 Wider Quaker Organizations

Friends World Committee on Consultation (Michael Galovic)

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage in Peru will take place this summer. The Section of the America's Regional Consultations are happening now. Guatemala is complete, Sacramento is this weekend, High Point is in April (SAYMA members Geeta McGahey, Tim Lamm, and Michael Galovic are registered for this event), and La Paz, Bolivia is later. The Section of the America's Gathering for 2015 appears to be set to take place in Mexico City, Mexico. The quadrennial is set for Arequipa, Peru in 2016.

Michael was nominated for the Wider Quaker Fellowship Committee within FWCC. This committee manages the Voices of Friends website. He will report back on this if confirmed.

The FWCC query for this year is, "What does the Religious Society of Friends in your area need from a Friend's World Committee in the 21st Century?"

Friends General Conference

Liz Perch brought exciting news that the 2015 FGC Gathering will take place at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee July 5-11, 2015. Terry and Joe Graedon of Durham Meeting in North Carolina are serving as clerks of the 2015 Gathering, and they are extending a special invitation to SAYMA Friends to help plan and organize this wonderful event. Joe and Terry plan to attend SAYMA Yearly Meeting in June.

Friends Committee on National Legislation (Jane Hiles and Charles Wilton) [Attachment E, Report of the FCNL Representatives]

These representatives attended the FCNL Annual Meeting November 14-17, 2013, in Washington, D.C. The theme was "Driven by Faith, Grounded in Policy, Focused on the Future." The clerk commends their excellent report for more information.

132-09 Web Site (Charlie Wilton) [Attachment F, Report of the SAYMA Web Manager]

Steve Livingstone, newly informed clerk of the committee, read the web manager's report. The website has been reworked, and monthly meetings are invited to send updates and photographs for inclusion on the SAYMA website to Charlie Wilton.

132-10 Treasurer's Report (Charles Schade) [Attachment G, Treasurer's Report for March 15, 2014]

Charles Schade, Treasurer, stated that for this time of year, financially things are fine.

He noted that the purpose and ownership of the Young Adult Friend Scholarship Fund (see Attachment 1 of the Treasurer's Report) is not clear. If clear authorization or purpose for the fund is not identified, the Finance Committee might recommend reallocating the funds. Historically, it has

been difficult for Young Adult Friends to consistently connect with SAYMA. Chuck Jones and Carol Nickle will make connections with Young Adult Friends prior to Yearly Meeting, when documentation of the fund will be addressed again.

SAYMA committees and representatives to wider Quaker organizations are reminded to submit funding requests to the Finance Committee before May 1.

Friends gathered in a circle to express gratitude for the delicious lunch to follow.

132-12 AFSC ad hoc Committee Report (Hank Fay) [Attachment H: Report from the Ad Hoc AFSC Committee]

Hank Fay reported that the ad hoc committee met in Chattanooga in February 2014. The preface, the committee composition, historical context and a proposed minute are attached.

The meeting was strongly spiritual and the committee united at the time. This strong spiritual unity evoked the proposed minute that asks Friends to focus on the steps that will lead to organized action from SAYMA to engage with AFSC, but that unity is not as strong now. SAYMA Reps were asked to decide what to do with what this committee produced in that extraordinary moment of Spirit-led unity. When a committee reaches unity in the moment, and has other thoughts later, what is to be done? The committee had an inspired moment of unity and the lack of unity appeared later. How would Friends respond to this? Friends spent much of the afternoon and a substantial portion of time in silence during the discussion that followed presentation of the minute.

Arnold Karr reported that he, Free Polazzo, and Lee Ann Swarm were at the AFSC Corporation meeting March 6-8 and Board meeting March 9, 2014, as SAYMA representatives. He experienced a strong sense of worship as the foundation of the work the organization does. AFSC affirmed the significance of multiple representatives from organizations for continuity and to foster the communication between AFSC and the monthly meetings. He spoke to the strong sense of Quakerism he felt there, and observed that meetings open the same as Quaker meetings and that the business process is conducted as Friends do. Arnold encourages SAYMA to send the full number of representatives we can (5) to foster the full capacity for communication that is possible.

Another Friend noted unity at his monthly meeting on this matter is unclear, and asked what the committee is asking for. Some monthly meetings are more engaged than others on the issue.

A Friend spoke to the aspect of continuing revelation and the perspective of past decisions. He spoke to the possibility that AFSC's discernment of Quakerism is as valid as SAYMA's discernment of Quakerism.

The minute was described as aspirational towards helping SAYMA know we are acting with integrity in lending our Quaker name to AFSC, which is the ethical basis of the discussion. AFSC has the chance to be a model organization, even though the majority of the organization is not Quaker. The minute seeks to engage AFSC in a relationship that helps SAYMA gather the information needed about AFSC. The multiple layers, Corporation, Board, staff, etc., are different. The committee felt it is a matter of integrity to understand AFSC in order to give the Quaker name, our name, to it.

To a new Friend's question about the crux of the issue, a friend suggested that integrity seems to be the issue. A Friend suggested taking the report not as SAYMA's position, but to use it as a reflection on

their own relationships with AFSC, what a right relationship between SAYMA and AFSC should be. Another Friend spoke to changes they have heard or seen in AFSC's processes since concerns were raised long ago. This issue has a long history with multiple interpretations. The importance of bringing the history to the meetings along with the minute was raised, particularly since so many Friends are confused about the issues now.

The preface described the historical context for the committee's work: Bruised relationships at all levels for some. Positive experiences with AFSC and its work for others. Quaker-connected? Or Quaker? Representing Quaker values? Impossible to define Quakers, let alone a Quaker Organization. A Quaker organization? Or Quaker enough.

A Friend spoke to the process of moving difficult issues through the monthly meetings and yearly meeting multiple times to eventually produce unity from all, such as the F&P leading on marriage. Another Friend asked the question to consider what changes we would want AFSC to make?

A Friend spoke to the importance of the core of the question in the query: What is a right relationship with AFSC, and the value of examining that relationship at the individual, monthly and yearly meeting.

Several Friends spoke to the importance of AFSC because for so many it is the face of Quakerism. Another Friend spoke to the importance and the responsibility to stay connected to AFSC and any other organization that Friends support.

Arnold noted that anyone in a monthly meeting can become a liaison with AFSC, to become involved in what is happening right now, that Friends could charge themselves and their monthly meetings to learn more about AFSC. Another Friend asked that SAYMA representatives to AFSC provide more information to monthly meetings. He spoke to the spectrum of healthy involvement between monthly meetings that are already engaged with AFSC programs close by in their areas and those that have little to no involvement with AFSC programs. He suggested that the meetings which have the opportunity to be active could share these positive examples where they exist or their aspirations when disappointed.

The clerk asked for volunteers to form a new ad hoc core group to continue to work on this issue. After discussion, Friends felt that a new ad hoc committee was not needed at this time. The current ad hoc committee has done a lot of work over time, moving from broad issues to very specific ones. The ultimate value has been education. As we seek unity moving forward, Friends thank the committee for their work and release its members.

132-13 Outreach Committee Report (Hank Fay) [Attachment I: Outreach Committee Report]

Hank reported that the Outreach committee has lost a member. Their charge is to coordinate outreach within the body of SAYMA meetings. Contacts from each meeting/worship group are being identified. The committee noted that 10 percent of outreach is getting people in the door. The remaining 90 percent of outreach is the experience of Spirit. If seekers visit meetings and do not feel Spirit, why would they return? Meetings are urged to provide contact information for the Outreach committee to Hank so that the committee can continue to work.

132-14 Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report (Bob Welsh) [Attachment J, Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting Minute on Israel/Palestine Relations]

Bob Welsh reported that the Committee needs additional members. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee wants to know the concerns of monthly meetings. Peace and Social Concerns is a needed committee.

Bob asked monthly meetings to consider the Swannanoa Valley Minute on Israel/Palestine before Yearly Meeting. The Swannanoa Peace & Social Concerns Committee is driven by this concern to speak out against the Israeli occupation and violation of human rights. The Swannanoa Meeting asks Friends who are opposed to this minute, to please learn more before opposing it at Yearly Meeting. Friends are urged to read the information developed by Christians in Palestine. Bob had available a DVD entitled “Life in Occupied Palestine”, narrated by a Jewish young woman about conditions in occupied Palestine; and a study guide from the Presbyterian Church entitled “Kairos Palestine”. Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting purchased these materials for every meeting in SAYMA. Friends from Swannanoa will visit meetings to discuss this matter if asked. Bob said that this issue – what occupied Palestine is like – is the passion of Tony Bing’s life, and that Tony’s passion has drawn the Swannanoa meeting into that awareness and the need for action. Friends took the DVD and Kairos Palestine back to their monthly meetings/worship groups.

132-15 SAYF Report (Jonah McDonald)

The clerk read the following report prepared by Jonah McDonald, SAYF Administrative Assistant: SAYF has been growing this year! With almost 100 teens on our mailing list and 68 teens (which includes 6 teens visiting from SEYM) present at our January retreat, our community is working on making small changes that will allow us to better embrace newcomers and to make activities more effective with such a large group. The teen Nurturers have taken full leadership in this work and the Steering Committee has been impressed at their wise and spirit-led decision-making.

The work of the Steering Committee has been centered around developing procedures related to SAYMA's new Child Protection Policy. We have approved background check policies that include reference checks and procedures for vetting volunteers whose applications are flagged for various reasons. Our next step will be conducting background checks for all of our current FANs (Friendly Adult Nurturers) and inviting more friends to volunteer with the SAYF program. If you would like to help with SAYF at Yearly Meeting or our other retreats throughout the year, or if you have questions or would like more information about our background check policies, contact our Administrative Assistant, Jonah McDonald at awesomesayfers@gmail.com or 404-373-8036.

132-16 JYM Policy for Occasional Volunteers [Attachment K: JYM Policy for Occasional Volunteers]

Rose Black presented the Occasional volunteers policy, applicable only for those times when extra adults are needed to accompany groups when approved FANs are present. Friends **approved** the intent of the policy in general, and the clerk will work the specific language of the policy with the insurance agent.

132-17 Appoint Epistle Committee

Friends who feel led to help on the Epistle Committee are encouraged to contact the SAYMA clerk

before Yearly Meeting

132-18 Appoint Naming Committee

Tim Lamm volunteered to serve on the Naming Committee. Additional members will be appointed at Yearly Meeting.

132-19 News of Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups

Charleston Friends Meeting

Roger Wise reported on behalf of Karen Wise, who offers to visit SAYMA Meetings to provide background on Bolivia and its large Quaker population, and explain the BQEF programs. BQEF funds educational opportunities for young Bolivian Quakers. In brief, its main activity is supporting a weekday student residence for middle and secondary students in a remote town, and small scholarships for Quaker university students, monthly stipends for books, fees, transportation, and food, which makes it possible for them to continue their studies. The residence is for rural students who live hours away from towns with secondary schools. There is no transportation system for them, and the walk can be as much as 8 hours each way.

Big Stone Gap (Sue Ella Kobak) [Attachment L: Update for Big Stone Gap informal meeting]

Big Stone Gap informal meeting meets once a month, and is taking steps to associate with SAYMA. The group is growing slowly but with great depth. The major goal is to visit as a group with Celso, Asheville, and West Knoxville meetings. Members of the informal meeting are very involved with prison visitation and support.

132-20 Ministry & Nurture Committee Report – (Thais Carr)

The State of the Meeting Reports are due soon. Thais reminded Friends that these reports are integral to the working of the committee.

Currently no men serve on M&N, and the male presence is missed. The committee also seeks a clerk. Please work with the Nominating Committee if you know of individuals with the gifts to serve on M&N. Meetings can also self-nominate an individual from each meeting to serve on the committee.

132-21 Yearly Meeting Planning Committee Report (Carol Ciscel) [Attachment M]

The committee met in Nashville and in Huntsville.

The Advance Program is coming out in two weeks and will have all the details and more!

The committee has finalized the plenary sessions. Ron McDonald, Memphis Friends Meeting, will speak on Thursday, and Shelly Tenenbaum, QEW, will speak on Friday. The Talent Show, Earth Quakers in Concert, and a folk dance are scheduled for Saturday.

Meetings will be asked to cohost chat and chew.

YMPC was inundated with proposals for workshops.

New timeslot: Let's Get Moving! Opportunities like drumming circle, tours of the farm, meditation hut, exercises, swimming, etc. Evening worship will be expanded to a full hour in a new venue, and that space will be held open for only worship.

Warren Wilson's facilities are in good shape for our time there.

The changes in registration rules approved in the last Representatives Meeting, will be found in the

program and registration information this year.

The theme was semantically altered and is now: "Spirit Rising: A Revolution in Practice".

YMPC has really enjoyed their work this year!

132-21 Announcements

The next Representatives Meeting is tentatively set for September 27, 2014, at West Knoxville Friends Meeting. The date will be revisited and announced at Yearly Meeting.

The Spring 2015 meeting may be held in Charleston, WV. Charleston Friends are considering this option and will converse with Huntsville Area Friends Meeting for lessons learned for small meeting hosting.

The Arthur Morgan School (Celo) is going through the process of becoming an official Quaker school. Matt Ryan has more information for interested Friends.

132-22 Minute of Thanks

Thank you to Huntsville Area Friends Meeting and all the Friends and friends for your hospitality this weekend. It has been such a wonderful experience to come to Huntsville and the University of Alabama, the first time for many of us. You have exceeded all expectations in arranging for our meeting space, the delicious food, overnight stays, and for being sure that we were transported to the proper locations. Special thanks to the Huntsville young Friends who made the beautiful sign welcoming us. We are grateful for your hosting us and for the superb care and nurturing you have given to us. We have felt, and feel, held in the Light.

131-23 Closing Worship

We ended our gathering with an extended period of waiting worship.

Carol Nickle, Clerk

Susan Phelan, Recording Clerk

(archive copies signed)

Attachments

- A. Attendance List
- B. Clerk's Reading
- C. Admin Assistant's Report and Child/Youth Worker Application Form
- D. Report of the Clerk's Letter to Monthly Meetings
- E. Report of the FCNL Representatives
- F. Report of the SAYMA Web Manager
- G. Treasurer's Report
- H. AFSC Ad Hoc Committee Report
- I. Outreach Committee Reprt
- J. Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting Minute on Israel/Palestine Relations
- K. JYM Policy for Occasional Volunteers
- L. Update for Big Stone Gap informal meeting
- M. YMPC Report

Attachment A: Attendance
(Print copies only)

Attachment B: Clerk's Reading

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
P.O. Box 4024, Winter Park, FL 32793-4024 (407) 739-4150 office @seym.org
EPISTLES FROM YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSIONS 2013

To Friends everywhere,
Greetings from Southeastern Yearly Meeting, together at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, Florida for our 49th annual Gathering March 27th to 31st, 2013. We wound our way from all parts of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Nicaragua to arrive Wednesday afternoon with warm hearts and cold noses, braving the near arctic 50 degree temperature of this early spring.

Our theme for the Gathering was Friends Leading: Climate Change – A Crisis of Spirit, led by Roy H. Taylor III. Roy is a member of the Atlanta Friends meeting and rising clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness. The first night we were introduced to Green Building for Homes and Meeting House, learning that the first and most important investment we can make in the greening of our dwellings is a case of caulk to seal our buildings inside and out. Our journey continued on Friday when we learned how to introduce transition to our cities and towns with community garden projects, one step at time.

During our meeting for worship with a concern for business, we spent time in discernment on our charitable donations and how best to offer resources to the diverse list of groups that speak to our passions.

Each day as we pondered the bigger questions, we were offered an array of workshops; the challenge was to choose. There was writing, drawing, laughing and chanting. We shared Quakerism basics, First Day School challenges, translating worship into action with our business meetings, and examining how Quakers can become enablers. There were reports from the world conference in Kenya and on the work being done by FCNL, FGC and AFSC. Each workshop session offered at least one, usually two, workshops on our relationship to the earth and our responsibility to be good stewards, remembering the earth is a gift to be shared. And what would a gathering be without a plethora of committee meetings?

Our Young Adult Quakers returned this year to renew bonds and bless us with their energy. Offering service, comfort and love, they set up a spot in the front of the auditorium to wash feet on Thursday. This year we were 168 in all, 15 coming for the first time.

The Healing Center offered peace and quiet with Reiki and tea.

The Faith and No-Practice Band once again brought us an intergenerational dance. With the help of our seasoned dance caller, we learned the steps to dance the night away.

Southeastern Yearly meeting announces to the wider Quaker world that our own Faith and Practice, developed over a period of twenty-three years, is finished and will be available in book form by the end of April 2013. The e-book version will be available for Kindle or Nook from amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.com. We believe it will be the first electronic version of Faith and Practice in the United States.

The Yearly Meeting continues its support of ProNica, the project we share with indigenous self-help groups in Nicaragua. ProNica's new staff shared the inspiration and joy they feel as they journey with

Attachment B: Clerk's Reading

our Nicaraguan project partners who willingly make personal sacrifices to continue the work even as they face diminished financial resources.

Saturday brought great joy as our consciousness was raised by a dramatic production by our youth explaining the plight of the Immokalee farm workers and the campaign to bring fair wage tomatoes to Publix and other local supermarkets. They will be taking their concern to the Friends General Conference Gathering this summer and our spirit and support goes with them.

On Saturday night, Roy Taylor led our gathering in a journey to consider how we might become whole in body, mind, spirit and planet. Using our Quaker Testimonies, he called us to action. We learned we need to be leaders who plant seeds of discomfort, to initiate beneficial change in our care of the planet. Knowing the good we are capable of, we are asked, "How can we keep from singing?"

As the five days draw to a close we feel a shift in the air as the warmth of a Florida spring creeps in and we begin our fiftieth year. Please join us next spring in Florida as when we consider the place of Quakerism and our testimonies in the 21st century.

March 31, 2013

Phoebe Andersen, Clerk
Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Attachment C: Administrative Assistant's Report

Things have slowed down a little bit in the SAYMA office over the winter. With our lovely Savannah location, however, the office didn't experience a single weather related closing.

Much of my time has been spent working with Jonah McDonald, Carol Nickle, and other Friends to begin to implement the Child Protection policy. In addition to developing and revising documents and procedures, I have attempted to troubleshoot online problems for our initial pool of applicants and tried to keep up with the changing procedures of our background check provider.

Happily, the procedure for those who for whatever reason are not able to use the online process for a background check have been simplified. I still anticipate this will take some considerable time this spring, assisting applicants.

I have copies of the application form and the 'offline' background check form. Additional copies are available from the website or from the SAYMA office, either by email for you to print or by postal mail. Please encourage Friends in your meeting who might be interested in volunteering to complete the application as soon as possible.

I had hoped to have my usual preliminary report of the SAYMA census for the spring rep meeting. However, at the February 28 deadline, I had received reports from only seven meetings. An additional six have come in since then, but I simply ran out of time to prepare the report. I await forms from Berea, Boone, Brevard, Crossville, Greenville, Nashville, and West Knoxville. I will provide the information I have received to Ministry and Nurture Committee prior to its meeting in April. A final report will be presented at Yearly Meeting.

Speaking of the Ministry and Nurture Committee Meeting, State of the Meeting reports are due April 1 (no fooling.) I have three: Brevard, Charleston, and Cookeville.

Requests for directory data will be sent next week, and the very, very firm deadline will be June 6.

I sincerely appreciate the support from SAYMA Friends during the past six months. I am happy to report that Savannah Friends Meeting, after some angst, allocated funds that allowed the meeting room to be professionally cleaned and treated for mold. I have been able to attend meeting since mid December. Meeting leadership has changed, and challenges are being addressed.

My Savannah house is still on the market. It was featured on the HGTV program *Property Virgins* last month [the episode, HPROV-1512H: "A Home with History," will repeat April 4 at 6 pm EST. My house is the first one they look at.] I have moved on, and with the encouragement of my daughter and friends, started dating my bike partner and best friend last fall. You can meet him at lunch time!

In service,

Liz Perch



Child/Youth Worker Application Form

It is the goal of SAYMA to create a safe and secure environment for all children and workers who are involved in SAYMA activities. To facilitate this emphasis, it is necessary to gather pertinent information from those who desire employment or offer volunteer services to our children and youth program. This information will be used for the sole purpose of helping SAYMA provide a safe and secure environment for children and workers.

Please print all information clearly. You may download this form at www.sayma.org to fill it out on your computer.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Current street address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Current phone number (Home): _____ (cell): _____

Email address _____

Please respond to all questions below that apply to the position for which you are applying/volunteering.

Position applying/volunteering for: _____

Do you have a valid driver's license? _____ Commercial license? _____

Date of birth: _____

Is there any reason you should NOT work with or around children or youth? _____

Have you ever been the subject of a child abuse investigation? _____

If yes, please provide details: _____

Have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a criminal offense? _____

If yes, please provide details: _____

Please provide the following meeting information:

What, if any, meeting affiliation do you have? _____

How long have you attended that meeting? _____ Are you a member? _____

List other meetings with which you have been affiliated: _____

Have you ever worked with youth or children? _____ List where: _____

Please list two references (must be of a business, Quaker, or organizational nature):

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Years known each other: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Years known each other: _____

I hereby give permission to make a thorough investigation of my past employment, education, and background, and release from liability all persons, companies, or corporations supplying such information. I also release SAYMA from any liability that might result from making such an investigation. I understand that any false statements or implications made by me on this application or other required documentation shall be considered sufficient cause for denial of employment or discharge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Once this application is reviewed by the appropriate committee, you will receive an email from our criminal background check provider, Employment Screening Resources. You will also receive an email from Liz Perch (administrative assistant) or Jonah McDonald (SAYF Administrative Assistant) explaining the process. Thank you for your interest in SAYMA's young Friends.

Attachment D: Report of Clerk's Letter to Monthly Meetings

In late November/early December 2013, I sent individual letters to each monthly meeting (MM) (to the clerk and SAYMA representative) and to each worship group (WG) SAYMA representative. This was to follow up on a concern of the SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee for better communication among SAYMA Friends and to better enable Friends to keep up with the business conducted at Rep Meetings. I sent 27 letters electronically and one by U.S. mail. Of the 28 letters, I received 20 replies, and 8 sent no reply. A couple of the replies were just letting me know that their MM/WG would discuss the questions and reply later, but they failed to send another reply. The others sent answers to at least one of the questions. With a substantial number of the MM/WG we had several email exchanges, which I found enjoyable and helpful. Copies of the emails are in a notebook.

Below are the questions asked in my letter and a summary of the replies:

Would your MM/WG like to receive a copy of the Rep Meeting Minutes by U.S. mail?

One MM replied yes.

Would you like for electronic copies to be sent to you on a regular basis?

Fourteen MM/WG replied yes, and several MM/WG gave specific email addresses to which they want the electronic copy sent. Two MM replied that they will get the minutes from the SAYMA web site. Four MM/WG replied but did not state how they want to receive the Rep Meeting minutes.

What other suggestions do you have, or does your MM/WG have, for maintaining closer communication with SAYMA?

Several MM/WG said that their representative keeps them informed about SAYMA Rep Meeting activities/business. One MM offered to host a Rep Meeting. They also would welcome a visiting Friend and would offer overnight hospitality, if needed.

How can SAYMA assist your MM/WG?

One WG said that they would appreciate a Friendly Presence coming to worship with them. Another WG said that they are interested in corresponding with other worship groups who would like to be in touch with them. "If you can facilitate that, it's possible we might benefit from sharing information."

I felt that sending the letters was helpful, and I liked being in direct contact with Friends across the SAYMA region, some of whom I had not met and others of whom I hadn't communicated with. I will give to the Ministry and Nurture Committee the specifics on the last two questions so that they can follow up on the requests.

I apologize to the monthly meetings and worship groups who have expected to receive this summary individually. To make it easier for me, I am making this report at Rep Meeting and attaching it to the minutes.

carol nickle, SAYMA clerk

Attachment E: Report of the FCNL Representatives

As your SAYMA Representatives to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, we attended the sessions of FCNL's annual meeting in Washington, DC, November 14-17. The theme: Driven By Faith, Grounded in Policy, Focused on the Future.

The current major lobbying action is to demand an end to the current state of perpetual war, and the 2014 Spring Lobby weekend (March 22-25) will focus on the Global War on Terror and drone policy. For any Friends wanting to learn the nuts and bolts of lobbying on these and other issues, resources are available online at: <http://fcnl.org/resources/toolkit/>

A major effort in the last year has been the development of **Shared Security: Reimagining US Foreign Policy**, a joint working paper from FCNL and AFSC. Seeking to look beyond *War Is Not The Answer*, Shared Security is a vision of nations acting on recognition of mutual security and natural resource needs. As a result, responsibility for international security is decentralized and cooperative instead of resting on the shoulders of a small number of competing adversaries.

The four pillars of Shared Security are: peaceful ends through peaceful means, global cooperation and rule of law, planetary imperative and restorative approaches to heal a broken world. Jane and Charlie will be presenting a workshop on these themes at the SAYMA gathering in June.

For an organization approaching its 75th anniversary, FCNL's endowment is quite modest: only \$3.5 million – most of which is earmarked for the Education Fund. Through its five-year, \$15 million Capital Campaign, FCNL hopes to add \$9 million to the endowment and develop new meeting and living space. This campaign is in addition to the Annual Fund, which is projected to remain on a path of steady growth. The endowment enhancement will provide reliable long-term funding for young adult programs, the Friend in Washington program, in addition to lobbying. It is hoped that the revenue stability an endowment provides will prevent the need for drastic layoffs during economic recessions, such as occurred in 2009.

The first year of the Capital Campaign has ended, with over \$6 million (40% of goal) from leadership gifts. The second year will be focused on obtaining 100% participation from General Committee members. The public phase of the Campaign will begin in 2015. Contributions from monthly and yearly meetings will be solicited in 2016.

We urge each of SAYMA's constituent meetings and worship groups to think and plan for a special Capital Campaign contribution to FCNL at that time. We also urge SAYMA itself to keep this campaign in mind when doing budget planning. Note that once a Capital Campaign pledge has been made, the donor will have five years to fulfill that pledge, allowing for more substantial gifts.

A major accomplishment of the November meeting was the completion of a new Policy Statement which will guide the work of FCNL possibly for the next decade. It is available online at <http://fcnl.org/assets/policy/policy2013.pdf>

Every monthly meeting is encouraged to participate in FCNL's biannual legislative priorities process. A final priorities document, which will set the lobbying agenda for 2015 – 2016, will be approved at the FCNL annual meeting in November 2014. Monthly meetings are urged to direct their input to FCNL by April 15. See: <http://fcnl.org/about/govern/priorities/114documents/>
Respectfully submitted, Jane Hiles (Birmingham) and Charlie Wilton (Berea)

Attachment E: Report of FCNL Representatives

Attachment F: Report of the SAYMA Web Manager

In the last six months, I've been updating out-of-date information on the website and bringing the pages into compliance with current web standards.

Monthly meeting representatives and clerks are invited to provide me with updated contact information, location, worship times, and meeting photos to keep the individual monthly meeting pages current.

The website is in need of your photos. If you have images of Friends at annual gatherings or other SAYMA meetings/events, SAYMA-affiliated meetinghouses, etc., that you are willing to share for use on the SAYMA website, please send jpegs to me.

Please note that there is no job description for the web manager/coordinator/webmaster (even the title is somewhat loose). It would be helpful to have agreement on the responsibilities, expectations, and relationships with other SAYMA leadership.

Your website questions, comments and other contributions are invited and encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Wilton
webmaster@sayma.org

Attachment G: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for March 15, 2014 Representative Meeting
Prepared March 5, 2014

Our 2014 fiscal year budget runs from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014. Attached are (1) a fund balance report; (2) a budget vs. actual expenditures to date report; (3) a final spending report for FY 2013; and (4) an analysis of annual income and expenditures with an alternative approach to showing year-to-year surpluses and deficits. Items (1) and (3) are current as of 2/28/2014.

Issues to report include:

1. Overview. Income through February 21, 2014 was \$16,508; expenditures were \$25,270 for a deficit of \$8,761. SAYMA has estimated assets of \$60,438, consisting of \$19,156 in checking and approximately \$41,000 in the two Self Help Credit Union savings accounts. Friends have set aside a total of \$22,454 in special funds (liabilities), including contributions made during FY 2014. See Attachment 1 for details.
2. Income. Total assessment income at this point in the fiscal year was \$16,442, approximately \$3,000 more than the same time period last year. Eleven of twenty one monthly meetings have made at least one assessment payment during this fiscal year. The following monthly meetings had not made an assessment payment during the current fiscal year as of February 28, 2014: Asheville, Boone, Brevard, Charleston, Chattanooga, Cookeville, Crossville, Foxfire, Huntsville, and Oxford. Several meetings made payments late last year and may intend to contribute later in this year. SAYMA recorded assessments from all but two meetings last fiscal year.
3. Operational Expenses. Attachment 2 shows that SAYMA currently has a deficit of \$8,761. Most operating expenses are close to budgeted levels for less than 1/2 year. Liability insurance is an annual expense, and is now paid in full. The deficit is approximately the same as it was at this point in last year's budget cycle, and is mainly due to yearly meeting project expenses. Also, we did budget a deficit for the entire year.
4. Yearly Meeting Projects in FY2014. In October, I recognized the transfers of budgeted funds to the set-aside accounts. In January, I sent SAYMA's wider Quaker organization contributions for the fiscal year in a lump sum to each organization, rather than dividing into two installments as in previous years. This resulted in a reduction in net assets since the end of last fiscal year. This imbalance will be largely eliminated if other income and expenses are as expected through the remainder of the year.
5. SAYF has submitted a financial report for the fiscal year to date. For that period, SAYF showed income of \$4,175 with expenses of \$3,601. Nearly all income came from retreat fees. Most expenses were for retreats (\$2,758). Both expenses and income are larger than last year because of greater participation (approximately 20

more on mailing list and 10 more participants per retreat). Retreats provide scholarships to about 20% of participants. SAYF's current net worth is \$2,235, approximately \$1,000 greater than the same time last year. SAYMA's total contributions to SAYF include an annual direct subsidy (\$2,000), which SAYF has not yet required, as well as the salary of the part time SAYF coordinator.

6. Final FY 2013 results. Attachment 3 shows final expenditures and revenues for FY 2013. Even though SAYMA budgeted spending \$5,000 more than revenues, the final result was a near balance. Higher than expected assessments and lower delegate and committee expenses explained the differences.
7. Proposal to restate annual budget. I have prepared an alternative budget formulation shown in Attachment 4. If Finance Committee approves, we may present this information with the budget in future years.
8. Treasurer communications. Meetings are requested to send assessment contributions to SAYMA, P.O. Box 5848, Savannah, GA 31414. The treasurer's e-mail address is treasurer@sayma.org (both the treasurer and assistant treasurer receive messages here). Requests for payment may be e-mailed to that address, with scanned documentation, or sent by postal mail to Charles Schade, 4100 Virginia Ave. SE, Charleston, WV 25304.

Attachment 1

SAYMA Account Balances Report - Fiscal 2014 as of February 28, 2014

	Fiscal Year As Of (date)	2008 9/30/08	2009 9/30/09	2010 9/30/10	2011 9/30/11	2012 9/30/12	2013 9/30/13	2014 2/28/14
Assets - Total Available Funds		\$53,586	\$65,134	\$61,749	\$62,561	\$64,150	\$66,284	\$60,438
Bank Accounts								
Checking (Bank of America)		\$15,013	\$25,658	\$21,683	\$22,084	\$23,270	\$25,068	\$19,156
Money Market (Self Help Credit Union)		\$22,640	\$23,013	\$23,287	\$23,483	\$23,690	\$17,366	\$17,398
Savings (Self Help Credit Union CD)		\$15,933	\$16,463	\$16,779	\$16,994	\$17,190	\$23,850	\$23,884
Liabilities - Total Claims Against Available Funds		\$10,939	\$15,539	\$20,074	\$19,874	\$18,048	\$19,539	\$22,454
Set Aside Budget Funds		\$10,939	\$15,539	\$20,074	\$19,874	\$18,048	\$19,539	\$22,454
FWCC Third World Delegate		\$1,300	\$1,950	\$3,275	\$0	\$650	\$1,975	\$3,300
FWCC World Conference Fund		\$1,767	\$2,467	\$3,292	\$3,567	\$1,302	\$2,002	\$2,702
Released Friend Fund		\$4,350	\$5,850	\$7,350	\$8,850	\$9,150	\$8,700	\$9,000
Spiritual Development Fund		\$327	\$1,627	\$2,127	\$2,977	\$3,277	\$3,277	\$3,577
Young Adult Friends Scholarships Fund		\$800	\$1,000	\$1,109	\$1,309	\$1,349	\$1,389	\$1,429
Youth Enrichment Fund		\$2,395	\$2,645	\$2,921	\$3,171	\$2,320	\$2,196	\$2,446
Net Assets = Assets - Liabilities		\$42,647	\$49,595	\$41,675	\$42,687	\$46,102	\$46,745	\$37,984
Fund Expenses for Fiscal Year		-\$1,495	-\$200	-\$1,439	-\$6,150	-\$4,066	-\$2,915	\$0

Attachment 2

SAYMA Budget vs. Actual Report 10/1/2013 through 2/28/2014

Budget Item	Budget FY 2014	Actual FY 2014	Percent of Budget
INCOME	\$ 76,950.00	\$ 16,508.68	21.5%
Assessments	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 16,442.50	41.1%
Bank Interest	\$ 250.00	\$ 66.18	26.5%
Contributions	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.0%
Publication Sales	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYF Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	
YM Total Receipts	\$ 36,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
YM Receipts	\$ 33,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
YM Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
YM Bookstore Sales Income	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$ 75,310.13	\$ 16,054.66	21.3%
Yearly Meeting	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 250.00	0.7%
Facilities and Services	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 250.00	1.0%
Prtng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Coordinator	\$ -	\$ -	
Ass't Coordinator	\$ -	\$ -	
Supplies/Sitters/Misc	\$ -	\$ -	
Scholarship WQO Reps	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
YM Bookstore	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYF Operational Transfers	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Delegate Expenses	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 1,232.80	34.2%
Rep Mtgs	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0.0%
Del to WQOs	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,232.80	35.2%
Committees	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ministry and Nurture Committee	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.0%
Ecological Concerns Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Finance Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Nominating Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
Peace & Social Concerns Committee	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.0%
Outreach Committee	\$ -	\$ -	
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,418.00	101.3%
SAYMA Personnel	\$ 25,590.13	\$ 11,046.09	43.2%
SAYMA Staff Training	\$ -	\$ -	
SAYMA Office Administration	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,767.27	58.9%
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses	\$ -	\$ 333.85	
Postage	\$ -	\$ 205.11	
Duplication	\$ -	\$ 156.22	
Misc. Office	\$ -	\$ 1,072.09	
SAYMA Newsletter	\$ 750.00	\$ 340.50	45.4%
SAYMA Directory	\$ 150.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA Treasurer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA F&P	\$ 200.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA Website Hosting Service	\$ 120.00	\$ -	0.0%
SAYMA Other Expenses	\$ 800.00	\$ -	0.0%

SAYMA Budget vs. Actual Report 10/1/2013 through 2/28/2014

Budget Item	Budget FY 2014	Actual FY 2014	Percent of Budget
YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS	\$ 9,215.00	\$ 9,215.00	100.0%
Transfers To Funds	\$ 2,915.00	\$ 2,915.00	100.0%
Spiritual Development Fund	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	100.0%
Released Friend Fund	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	100.0%
FWCC - 3rd Wld Del	\$ 1,325.00	\$ 1,325.00	100.0%
FWCC World Conference Fund	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	100.0%
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	100.0%
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$ 6,100.00	\$ 6,300.00	103.3%
AFSC	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
FCNL	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
FGC	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
FWCC	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
Quaker House	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	100.0%
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	100.0%
Friends Peace Teams	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
Wm Penn House	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
Friends Journal	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
Guilford College Archiving	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	100.0%
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
Other	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	100.0%
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 84,525.13	\$ 25,269.66	29.9%
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ (7,575.13)	\$ (8,760.98)	

**Attachment 3
FY2013 Final Expenditure Report**

Budget period	Budget FY 2013	Actual FY 2013
INCOME	\$76,475	\$86,227
Assessments	\$42,900	\$44,775
Bank Interest	\$500	\$336
Contributions	\$1,200	\$200
Publication Sales	\$275	\$394
SAYF Receipts	\$0	\$0
YM Total Receipts	\$31,600	\$40,523
YM Receipts	\$28,600	\$38,791
YM Scholarship Donations	\$1,000	\$586
YM Bookstore Sales Income	\$2,000	\$1,800
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$69,373	\$73,543
Yearly Meeting	\$31,600	\$40,101
Facilities and Services	\$24,000	\$32,766
Prtng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	\$1,500	\$1,173
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	\$3,100	\$3,105
Coordinator	\$1,800	\$1,800
Ass't Coordinator	\$1,000	\$1,000
Supplies/Sitters/Misc	\$300	\$305
Scholarship WQO Reps	\$1,000	\$0
YM Bookstore	\$2,000	\$3,057
SAYF Operational Transfers	\$2,000	\$1,000
Delegate Expenses	\$5,000	\$2,992
Rep Mtgs	\$100	\$53
Del to WQOs	\$4,900	\$2,939
Committees	\$2,150	\$90
Ministry and Nurture Committee	\$500	\$18
Ecological Concerns Committee	\$50	\$0
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	\$500	\$0
Finance Committee	\$50	\$0
Nominating Committee	\$50	\$0
Peace & Social Concerns Committee		\$72
Outreach Committee	\$500	\$0
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$1,225	\$1,283
SAYMA Personnel	\$23,348	\$24,112
SAYMA Staff Training	\$0	\$0
SAYMA Office Administration	\$2,350	\$2,946
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses		\$402
Postage		\$220
Duplication		\$131
Misc. Office		\$2,193
SAYMA Newsletter	\$750	\$678
SAYMA Directory	\$150	\$209
SAYMA Treasurer	\$550	\$29
SAYMA F&P	\$250	\$0
SAYMA Website Hosting Service	\$0	\$103
SAYMA Other Expenses	\$0	\$0

**Attachment 3
FY2013 Final Expenditure Report**

YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS	\$12,515	\$12,415
Transfers To Funds	\$2,915	\$2,915
Spiritual Development Fund	\$300	\$300
Released Friend Fund	\$300	\$300
FWCC - 3rd Wld Del	\$1,325	\$1,325
FWCC World Conference Fund	\$700	\$700
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$250	\$250
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$40	\$40
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$9,600	\$9,500
AFSC	\$1,050	\$1,050
FCNL	\$1,050	\$1,050
FGC	\$1,050	\$1,050
FWCC	\$1,050	\$1,050
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$1,050	\$1,050
Quaker House	\$1,050	\$1,050
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$300	\$200
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$1,050	\$1,050
Friends Peace Teams	\$900	\$900
Wm Penn House	\$300	\$300
Friends Journal	\$300	\$300
Guilford College Archiving	\$150	\$150
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$300	\$300
Other	\$0	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$81,888	\$85,958
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$5,413)	\$269

Alternative Budget Presentation

Each year, SAYMA's finance committee submits a budget for approval, and each year in recent years, we have submitted unbalanced budgets. When proposed expenditures have exceeded expected revenues, we've provided assurances based on SAYMA's net worth. Typically, we have stated that if the expected loss occurred, SAYMA would continue to have adequate reserves, which we interpret as having the money to pay all our accumulated set-aside fund obligations plus a reserve of approximately half of our annual operational expenses. That is not particularly transparent.

An alternative approach has come to my attention. Some organizations explicitly account for carried over surpluses and deficits in annual budgets, adding a budget line for that purpose. This allows each year's budget to be balanced, with deficits funded explicitly from reserves or carryover from a previous year. Using this approach, annual budget totals since 2008 are presented in Table 1 on the next page.

In Table 1, I have added 6 rows to the budget, 4 detail rows and two subtotals, representing transactions implicitly or explicitly involving SAYMA's net assets (referred to as "reserves"). In each year that the budgeted income was less than budgeted expenditures, I show an amount under "Withdrawals from Reserves" that results in a balance of Income and Expenses. This amount is the sum of any carried over surplus from the previous year and actual reduction in reserves (like taking money out of savings). In each year where the total income exceeded expenses, I show the difference as "Surplus for the Year," which is carried forward to the next year less any increases in reserves during the year. The lines "Operating income and interest" and "Total disbursements" are actual amounts from SAYMA's history.

This reveals some interesting facts about SAYMA's recent financial history. First, except for FY 2010, SAYMA's operating income has been relatively stable over time. Second, we have had modest surpluses most years, principally because expenses have consistently been less than budgeted. Third, if we had used this method in FY 2010, we would have budgeted \$3,000 in transfers from reserves, serving as a warning of potential problems ahead. Finally, though we do not currently have a major crisis, we should be concerned about the projected withdrawal from reserves this year. If income holds up, as it didn't in FY 2010, we probably will not need to reduce reserves, based on history, but we should not expect much surplus for next year. This is consistent with trends that show SAYMA's operational expenses increasing more rapidly over time than its income.

The main purpose of SAYMA's budget is to allow us to spend SAYMA funds doing God's work. By showing prior year surpluses as investments in the subsequent year's efforts, SAYMA may advance this purpose and provide easier understanding of its budget.

Table 1
Restated Annual Budgets, Actual Income and Expenditures, and Transactions to and from Reserves
SAYMA, FY 2008 through FY 2013 with FY 2014 Budget

Major Budget Category	FY 2008		FY 2009		FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012		FY 2013		FY 2014	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Withdrawals from reserves	-	-	4,549	1,800	8,859	11,294	11,076	974	4,000	-	5,413	4,900	7,575	
Prior year carried forward	-	-	1,800	1,800	5,815	5,815	-	-	-	-	4,900	4,900	5,169	
Reduction in reserves	-	-	2,749	-	3,044	5,479	11,076	974	4,000	-	513	-	2,406	
Operating income and interest	75,120	74,049	75,410	74,729	72,450	64,887	71,100	75,471	73,800	78,616	76,475	86,227	76,950	
Income	75,120	74,049	79,959	76,529	81,309	76,181	82,176	76,445	77,800	78,616	81,888	91,127	84,525	
Total disbursements	75,120	72,249	79,959	70,715	81,309	76,181	82,176	76,445	77,800	73,716	81,888	85,958	84,525	
Carry forward to next year	-	1,800	-	5,815	-	-	-	-	-	4,900	-	5,169	-	
Decreases (increases) in reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Surplus for year	-	1,800	-	5,815	-	-	-	-	-	4,900	-	5,169	-	
Expenses	75,120	74,049	79,959	76,530	81,309	76,181	82,176	76,445	77,800	78,616	81,888	91,127	84,525	

Calculation notes

- "Operating income and interest" is the total of all income from the corresponding fiscal year budget or actual report.
- "Total disbursements" is the like item from the corresponding fiscal year budget or actual report.
- "Income" is the sum of withdrawals from reserves and operating income and interest.
- "Withdrawals from reserves" is the sum of prior year surplus carried forward and reductions in reserves.
- "Surplus for year" is the difference between income and expenses, if greater than \$0, otherwise \$0.
- "Prior year carried forward" is the same as the previous year's actual amount carried forward.
- "Reduction in reserves" is the amount needed to balance the budget or actual amounts, calculated as the difference between expenses and the sum of prior year carried forward and operating income and interest, if greater than \$0, otherwise \$0.
- "Decrease (increase) in reserves" is an end of year transfer to or from reserves if needed and approved. This will create an unbalanced budget.
- "Carry forward to next year" is the current year surplus less any transfers to reserves.
- "Expenses" are the sum of total disbursements and carry forward to next year, usually equal to income unless an explicit reserve transfer occurs.

Attachment H: Report of the Ad Hoc AFSC Committee

SAYMA Minute on AFSC – 2014

Preface. This preface was drafted by Dennis Gregg to capture the background that brought this minute forward. It was drafted after the February meeting on the Committee and when circulated, there was not unity with everything expressed. Nonetheless, the Committee feels that a preface is important for SAYMA friends to understand how the need for the Minute that follows came to be felt. It is included here as an example only.

Over the years, individuals within SAYMA have had encounters with AFSC that have left them bruised. Sometimes this has been encounters with AFSC staff, sometimes it has been encounters with the AFSC Corporation, Board of Directors, or regional AFSC Steering Committees. These distressing experiences have not been the only experiences that SAYMA Friends have had with AFSC. Many have been deeply involved in various AFSC programs and have found joining with AFSC an important way to express their beliefs as Friends. Perhaps it is because AFSC so proudly carries the Quaker banner out in the public square, that when negative experiences happen, Friends want to understand why. One concern expressed is that AFSC is not in any normal way a Quaker organization. Unlike most Quaker schools, for example, it does not operate under the care of a Monthly or Yearly Meeting. There is no question that it is a Quaker-connected organization with Yearly Meeting representatives on the Corporation Board, Quaker staff, and much connection with individual Quakers in their program work. When this concern has been raised in the past, two responses have been given – AFSC represents “Quaker Values”, and because of the diversity of Friends, it is impossible to define sufficiently what a Quaker is and therefore what a Quaker organization should be. At SAYMA’s 2001 Yearly Meeting, there was a culmination of a multi-year concern about AFSC where these kinds of responses were heard. At SAYMA’s 2013 Yearly Meeting, the question of AFSC’s relationship with SAYMA came up again, based again on a multi-year conversation about whether AFSC was truly a Quaker organization, or in some people’s minds Quaker enough. A minute was approved at the 2012 Yearly Meeting requesting from AFSC a report on the number of staff who were members of the Religious Society of Friends. AFSC’s direct response was that they could not provide that information because they do not ask staff about their religious affiliations. AFSC’s indirect response, which may have occurred completely independent of SAYMA’s request was that they began to provide additional training to their staff about Quakers and Quaker values, including a new publication used for such training. AFSC also hired a staff person to be a full time link to Monthly and Yearly Meetings. This staff person, Lucy Duncan, attended SAYMA’s 2013 Yearly Meeting. At the 2013 Yearly Meeting, there was a threshing session to discuss AFSC’s response to SAYMA’s request and comments came from Friends that again fell into two broad categories – those who were concerned that AFSC was not truly a Quaker organization, and those who focused more on the many excellent programs that they felt well represented Quaker values to the world. At Business Meeting, following the Threshing Session, Clerk Carol Nichols invited Friends to volunteer for an AdHoc Committee to discern where SAYMA might go from here. Members of that Committee were Dennis Gregg, Clerk, Larry Ingle, Hank Fay, Janine Bruton, and Rebecca Sullivan.

That Committee shared deeply in response to a number of queries, bringing forward much information about the history of AFSC since its founding and some key organizational shifts since then. There was and is deep appreciation for much of the extraordinary work that AFSC has engaged in over the years. The Committee met in person on February 15th in Chattanooga. One member, Rebecca, could not participate. The meeting was spirit-filled and unity was achieved. The following minute was produced to be presented at SAYMA’s Representative’s Meeting in March. The Minute has a number

Attachment H: Report of the Ad Hoc AFSC Committee

of sections, and there are notes included here to help explain the understandings that support those sections. These notes are an important part of the Minute.

Minute of Ad Hoc Committee on AFSC, presented to Representative's Meeting March 15, 2014

1. We wish to ask AFSC to engage with SAYMA in an on-going dialogue about how we can all (AFSC, Yearly Meetings, and Monthly Meetings) become more Quakerly.

The Committee united behind the belief that there IS something so central to Quakerism that it sets us apart from other religious denominations. That something is our belief that we can live in the Spirit, and that spiritual discernment is a critical part of how we live our lives. That we as individuals, as Monthly Meetings, and as Yearly Meetings sometimes make decisions without true spiritual discernment is an failure that we wish to overcome. We believe that AFSC could be a model Quaker organization where spiritual discernment is imbedded in the organization.

2. We ask AFSC to consider

- a. How it supports spiritual discernment of all individuals in the organization (staff, Board, Corporation)
- b. How it supports spiritual discernment at the organizational and policy level.
- c. How the belief in living in the Spirit is reflected in its management processes.

The Committee saw clearly the difference between an organization that supports Quaker values and testimonies, and one that incorporates spiritual discernment in its processes. There are many worthy organizations whose goals are entirely in line with Quaker values and testimonies, but are not Quaker organizations and make no claim to be so. AFSC is a large organization in the non-profit realm and a small organization compared to for-profit businesses, but how it makes its decisions, how it treats its staff, and how the staff engage with the world can all be considered an expression of the organization's "culture." We believe that AFSC can model the Quaker culture, but cannot do that without putting spiritual discernment at the center.

3. We ask SAYMA to engage more fully with AFSC by

- a. Encourage all SAYMA members to become informed about the work of AFSC
- b. Assist AFSC in finding qualified candidates, both Quaker and non-Quaker for job openings.
- c. Encouraging more Monthly Meeting involvement with AFSC through formal liason people as well as other linkages with AFSC staff and programs.

The Committee understands that a relationship requires the involvement of both parties. AFSC can only respond to Friends that engage with it. Any relationship has the likelihood of changing both parties, as well. Many people in SAYMA are already engaged with AFSC in various ways and have had their lives enriched by that experience. AFSC has recognized that it needs to strengthen its connections with Friends and has reached out. We welcome this attempt to engage more fully.

4. We hope and expect that AFSC will wish to engage in an on-going dialogue with SAYMA (see point 1). We request that both AFSC and SAYMA determine in a timely fashion who will be engaged in the dialogue and inform the other so that the process can begin.

The Committee feels that Minutes without an action component are unlikely to produce the effect desired. This section asks both sides to decide who should be carrying on the dialogue and how the results of the dialogue can be shared within each organization.

5. We request of AFSC that they provide a statement of the roles and expectations of Yearly Meeting and their Board of Directors in the life of AFSC. We are also interested specifically if the structure of the Board of Directors formally acknowledges the role of Friends.

The Committee did not have a clear understanding of AFSC's current expectations and feels that such a statement would be helpful. If such a statement already exists, this will be a simple request to fill. Clarity is good.

Attachment I: Outreach Committee Report

Outreach has reached out to all Meetings and Worship Groups to determine contacts regarding Outreach, if such exist. This is in preparation for a State of Outreach in SAYMA report to be presented at Yearly Meeting.

We have lost one member, who has left his Meeting and resigned from the committee.

We hope to generate conversations within and among Meetings regarding Outreach. We are hopeful that the sub-theme of Outreach in this year's Yearly Meeting will have an energizing effect on Outreach activities.

A common question, even this early in the canvassing process, is "what is Outreach." Given our Quaker perspective of the inviolability of the inner spirit within each person, this is a good question. Starting that conversation in and among Meetings will likely be a goal for us in the next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Hank Fay
Clerk, Outreach Committee

Attachment J: Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting Minute on Israel/Palestine Relations

MINUTE approved at Swannanoa Valley Meeting for Business, 4/7/13

Brought by the Peace & Social Concerns Committee, duly seasoned.

As Quakers we endeavor to listen deeply to the concerns of everyone involved in a conflict in the belief that no lasting solution to conflict can come unless the just claims of all can be respectfully heard and their just claims can in some measure be satisfied. In the case of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which so sorely torments the international community generally and the peoples of the Middle East in particular, Israel's just claim for security is fully heard and supported by our government, and we join with the great majority of Americans who support Israel's claim for a secure existence.

The just claims of the Palestinians, on the other hand, are not widely recognized or discussed in this country. Further, they receive little support from our government. Several from our Meeting have had direct experience with the on-the-ground realities in Israel/Palestine and others in the Meeting have undertaken a journey to educate themselves, through reading, conversations and forums about the claims of each side. We believe that three Palestinian claims deserve our support.

- 1) The Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory is illegal under the Fourth Geneva Convention, to which Israel is a signatory. Article 49 of that Convention specifically prohibits an occupying power from transferring members of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies. Thus the steady acquisition of Palestinian land for Israeli settlement development and the expropriation of natural resources such as water are illegal and are eroding the Palestinians' right to a viable homeland.
- 2) The Israeli domination of Palestinian land denies the Palestinians' right to personal freedom, national sovereignty and self-determination. This domination through continued expansion of exclusively Jewish towns and highways is also preventing substantive peace negotiations from taking place.
- 3) The Palestinians also claim that those who support these illegal Israeli settlements by buying products produced there are contributing to the perpetuation of a grave injustice against the Palestinian people. People may be unaware of the origin of these products, but once they are made aware that they are illegally produced on The West Bank, they have the responsibility not to be complicit in a continuing injustice.

In support of Palestinian justice, as well as in support of a peaceful and lasting resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we encourage our members and all citizens not to buy products (eg., Soda Stream, Ahava cosmetics, etc) made in the West Bank settlements.

As members of the Religious Society of Friends who believe that all women and men are our sisters and brothers, we are led to respond to the cries of suffering of the Palestinian people by supporting the boycott campaign until the Occupation has ended and the basic human rights of those living under the intolerable conditions of this Occupation, which we regard as both illegal and immoral, are secured.

Attachment K: JYM Policy for Occasional Volunteers

Occasional volunteers at Yearly Meeting are not required to have a background check if the following criteria are met:

- (1) an approved FAN is present
- (2) the volunteer is never alone with a minor
- (3) the volunteer is known by approved FAN(s)

An example is an occasional adult volunteer who helps the FAN accompany the JYM group to the swimming pool or in playing games.

Attachment L: Update for Big Stone Gap informal meeting

We had a business meeting the first Sunday in March. I was annoyed at the business meeting. There was an outpouring from people as to the importance of the meeting in peoples' lives. Also, clearly the meeting grows among us. Our group is growing slowly but with a great deal of depth.

We made some decisions.

1. We will mail a list of attenders and Quaker members.
2. There are three people sharing the leadership role – Jack Beck, Elizabeth Cooperstein and Sue Ella Kobak will share co-clerking.

Clearly a meeting is growing here. We have an average of 10-16 members, usually 12 at each meeting. We are active with PVS as prison visitation. Four of our group visit once a month and we have two visitors in the pipeline.

We have been enriched by SAYMA support and intend to continue building a relationship. One of our goals is to visit some other meetings in a group for the coming year.

Attachment M: Yearly Meeting Planning Committee Report

YMPC – minutes – March 15, 2014 – Huntsville, AL

Present: Carol Ciscel, Committee Clerk; Hank Fay, Plenary Coordinator; Bob Welsh, Site Coordinator; John Potter, Worship Coordinator; Laura Seeger, On-Site Registrar; Judy Guerry, Workshop Coordinator; Chris Berg, Recording Registrar & Bookstore Coordinator; Jennifer Dickie, JYM Co-coordinator

Not Present: Annie Black, Assistant Registrar; Mike Kramer JYM Co-coordinator; Bethany Vega, YAF Representative; Wren Hendrickson, SAYF Representative

We began our meeting by looking at the line-up for the plenary programs. After a long and fruitless search outside of SAYMA for a Thursday night speaker, Carol suggested to Hank that the spirit may be leading us to look inside instead and suggested Ron McDonald of Memphis. Hank checked out his website, liked what he saw and during a Skype-facilitated conversation he and Ron came to a happy understanding. Ron will do about 45 minutes on the ubiquity of spirit and then facilitate a worship sharing around the theme of Spirit Rising.

Shelley is excited about doing the Friday plenary; Jonathan Schinhofen is happy to MC our talent show again; the EarthQuakers will play on Saturday night for both the concert and dance; and Katy German is working out her schedule to be with us. (Jennifer Dickie reported that we had a backup in the event Katy can't come.)

Our Advanced Program will ask for meetings to volunteer to co-host Chat and Chew. Bob Welsh said that Swannanoa will do Friday night with or without a co-host as they always do.

We briefly talked about having more than just one 12-cup coffee pot, but I don't remember if anyone volunteered to bring the pots, coffee, sweeteners, cream, and set-ups.

Next we turned our attention to the workshop schedule. Judy Guerry reported that we had more than enough. Several presenters who had offered to do two workshops were asked to choose. One would-be presenter whose workshop proposal came in after the March 8th deadline was referred to next year. FWCC, which has been invited to send a guest this year, had not yet identified who that might be, so the workshop slot we were holding for them was filled with a proposal from QVS instead. We ended up with 12 workshops each day – a full slate, but each of them spirit-filled.

The new activities time on Friday is shaping up. Liz Brace has told Bob that she can find students to lead the tours on campus; Hank has talked with Aaron Ruscetta about the drum circle; Carol has talked with Marjean Liggett about the Qi Gong exercises; and the pool is open anyway on Friday afternoon with a life guard. (A week after our meeting, Richard Allen contacted Judy about his piano workshop. It was too late to give him a workshop slot, but he was happy with an activities slot which will give attendees a choice of a really low-impact activity!)

After lunch we spent considerable time reviewing the worship sharing queries we had sketched out in January. This time we found direction by focusing on the plenary that precedes each worship sharing session. Friday's queries required only minor changes, but we came up with 3 wholly new queries for Saturday:

How does nature connect you to Spirit?
In what ways does Spirit move you towards stewardship?
What is the source of your hope for humankind's right relationship with our planet?

We were led by the Spirit to consider a wording change in our theme. Instead of *Leadings of Spirit: A Revolution in Practice*, we united on *Spirit Rising: A Revolution in Practice*. This change is semantic only; the theme remains the same.

John Potter presented several possible logos. We chose one with a kite against a blue sky with the tail made up of little people soaring into the air. John will adapt that design for the buttons as well.

After some discussion, we decided not to pursue selling coffee mugs with the logo imprinted on them. The cost of 100 cups at \$8 each would be a budget-breaking \$800. In addition, John reported doing an informal survey at his meeting and finding little enthusiasm for buying a mug at YM.

We made a few revisions to our budget. The cost of the golf cart rental has gone up; travel expenses for Shelley will be more since she is traveling from the west coast, but we have 3 guests to subsidize rather than 4. Also the cost of the buttons is not yet reflected in our direct expenses column.

We reviewed the facilities on campus that we want to use. Bob will check with Liz Brace about using Bryson and the pavilion for more activities, the hours that Jensen is open for access to classroom 105 as a dedicated quiet worship space through-out YM, and the hours that the cafeteria will be available to us.

Finally we reviewed the registration information in the Advanced Program. It is crucial to get the wording right because the Advanced Program is a kind of contract between SAYMA and YM attenders. We made a few changes for clarification.

We adjourned around 3:30 in the afternoon to join the Rep meeting underway upstairs.

Minutes prepared by
Carol Ciscel, Clerk
YMPC