

**SAYMA Representative Meeting  
Chattanooga, September 8, 2012**

129-01: Meeting for Worship

We settled into a silence accompanied by the soft hum of the ceiling fans, the steady continuo of insects and the gentle melodic punctuations of chickadees, vireos and warblers.

Meeting for Business

129-02: Greetings and Introductions (Clerk)

Carol expressed thanks to Chattanooga Friends for putting us all up for this weekend.

Role was called. [Attachment 1 – Attendance]

129-03: Readings (Clerk) (three of them) [Attachment 2 - Readings]

From the 6th World Conference of Friends Epistle, Kenya, April 2012  
From London Yearly Meeting, 1937  
From William Penn, 1669

(~Yearly Meeting Planning Committee and finance committee excused themselves to meet.~)

129-04: Administrative Assistant's Report (Liz Perch) [Attachment 3 - Administrative Assistant's Report]

[Attachment 4 – London Yearly Meeting Library and F & P]

129-05: Nominating Committee Report (David Ciscel) [Attachment 5 – Nominating Update Sept 8]

129-05-01: Friends approved nominations of the following: Wren Hendrickson as SAYF coordinator, Pam Beziat as a new member of YM planning committee and Annie Black as Co-Registrar (with Laura Seeger, previously approved), Hank Fay as Clerk of Web Support, and Outreach Co-Clerks, Hank Fay and Dennis Gregg.

Nominating indicated that members are needed for the following committees: Personnel, JYM oversight (2), Peace and Social Concerns, and Outreach, and for the Ad hoc committees of Faith and Practice, Handbook, Site Selection, and Development. Representatives needed for wider Quaker organizations are for the FLGBTQ committee, and Quaker Earthcare Witness. (A suggestion regarding Peace and Social Concerns will be discussed at lunch)

129-06: Ministry and Nurture Committee (Kristi Estes) announced a retreat to be hosted by SVFM, facilitated by Mary Anne Downey, October 26 – 28, entitled Beyond Quakerism 101 – deepening the roots of new friends.

129-07: Web Site (R.D. Flowers) [Attachment 6 – Web Manager's Report]

It was proposed that we include a HOME page that introduces us as Quakers to browsing people. The Web Manager named a number of Friends with whom he will be consulting; other Friends and the Outreach Committee were suggested as further collaborators. Friends discussed reviewing other websites for qualities

that we seek in our site and included referrals to a number of other sites as good and bad examples and formats in terms of features they provide and various other possibilities.

Outreach Committee co-clerk agreed that that committee would be interested in working on how we are presented on a home page. He also suggested that a few others of the people with technical expertise in website design be added to the Website Committee. Web Manager expressed concern with overcomplicating the process of designing the site or over-engineering the site itself.

Outreach Committee and Website Committee agreed to establish a consistent, collaborative working relationship regarding the web content and SAYMA outreach use of the website as a tool.

129-08: Insurance ad hoc Committee Report (Dennis Gregg) [Attachment 7 – Insurance ad hoc committee]

129-08-01: Friends approved the addition of Sexual Misconduct (child abuse) insurance coverage and the addition of Director's and Officer's Liability insurance coverage to our insurance policy. Friends authorize the Clerk with the Finance committee to obtain this coverage.

It was suggested that the policies that are already in place for SAYF, including training and other requirements of adults who work with SAYMA children, be extended to JYM and possibly become a SAYMA-wide policy. The Clerk will appoint an ad hoc committee to develop policies and procedures to address the risks covered by the Sexual Misconduct policy.

129-09: Southern Appalachian Friend Newsletter Report (Beth Ensign) [Attachment 8 – SAFriend Editor]

Friends were reminded to submit materials to the Southern Appalachian Friend so that they can be published.

Friends affirm their support of continuing the SAF newsletter.

129-10: Rural Southern Voice for Peace proposal (Herb Walters) [Attachment 9 – Listening Project]

We heard from Herb Walters of Celo Meeting, who has for almost 30 years organized "listening projects" through his organization, the Rural Southern Voice for Peace. He told us of the success of a recent project in Yancey County, working with pastors of local Baptist churches to find out how they perceived earth stewardship. The results were astounding. Through the project, RSVP learned that concern for the environment was deep and strong, though their terminology and reasoning was different. By listening lovingly and non-judgmentally, barriers melted away and understanding led to cooperation, with several action organizations being spawned, led for the most part by the Baptist congregations, with participants of all ages and political persuasions. *(summary written by Steve Livingston)*

We entered into a period of worshipful silence also to serve as gratitude for the meal to follow.

129-11: Nominating met during lunch and brings to the meeting the following nominations: Steve Livingston - Web Committee, Brian Yaffe – Outreach Committee, Kathleen Hardie – Personnel Committee.

129-11-01: Friends approved all of the nominations as listed.

129-10-01: Friends approved a minute in support of the Christian Stewardship Listening Project, presented by Herb Walters before lunch, and his outreach to SAYMA monthly meetings.

129-12: Outreach Committee (Dennis Gregg and Hank Fay) [Attachment 10 – Outreach Report ]

129-13: Treasurer’s Report (Alan Robinson) [Attachment 11 – Treasurer’s Report]

129-13-01: Friends express heartfelt gratitude to Deanna Nipp-Kientz for her dedicated and selfless service as Treasurer, even in the face of her serious illness; to Turtle, her beloved husband; and to Alan Robinson for the tremendous task that he has assumed with grace and respect for the work that Deanna began.

129-14: Finance Committee Report (Linda Trask) [Attachment 12 – Budget]

The committee discussed options for long-distance communication in their meeting today. The Treasurer explained how the actual budget lines that we see in our financial reports are not necessarily well-represented in the way the bookkeeping software organizes our books.

A Friend made a plea, on behalf of Celo Meeting, for raising our support of peace work taking place in Kenya at this crucial time in preparation for their upcoming elections. Two issues arose from this proposal:

Friends struggled with how we can respond to pleas made by Friends for financial support to timely issues that occur outside of the regular budget planning cycle. Friends expressed concern that all requests should be considered by the appropriate committee, include the finance committee in the decision-making process and be presented to business meeting. At the same time, Friends recognized that when time is of the essence for our financial support, we need a way to respond to the urgings of the Spirit.

129-14-01: Friends approved that the Treasurer along with the finance committee will develop a procedure for extraordinary requests and bring that procedure back to the business meeting.

129-14-02: Additional funds will be disbursed from the current year’s budget as follows: \$100 to Quaker Peace Teams to be earmarked for the African Great Lakes Initiative and \$500 through FCNL for Quaker Kenya Peace Initiatives.

129-14-03: The budget for the upcoming year was approved with the following changes: Third World Delegate to be increased to \$1325.

129-15: AFSC: Process as to question concerning staff composition:

Two years ago at SAYMA in June is when the question of what percentage composition of AFSC is actually Quaker was raised as an action item. The action was to draft a letter that asked AFSC to answer that question. AFSC responded by stating that they do not ask that question of their employees, nor do they give that information out about their employees. The concern raised by SAYMA representatives was that AFSC, by the fact that it has the word Friends in its name, is representing us and therefore it is of concern to us how Quakerly (as an adjective) that representation is. They do have training provided to employees that one Friend evaluated as very good in regards to what the Friends part of the organization name means. Another Friend shared his experience of being a “professional Quaker” being asked to represent himself as Quaker, being asked if he was Quaker. Another Friend expressed concern that if an organization represents itself as Quaker then it needs to follow Quaker process and that if it doesn’t, it should not call itself Quaker. One Friend said that this discussion should all be part of an evaluation of how we choose to spend our funds, that is, how SAYMA goes out into the world. Another Friend expressed that the larger question is really how well-represented we feel by this organization. She went on to say that this question is really the tip of the iceberg, that there is a lot of underlying emotion involved and that a threshing session is the way that we as Quakers typically discuss an issue that affords all voices a chance to be heard.

The Clerk described a sense of the meeting that we would have a threshing session early on at the 2013 SAYMA Yearly Meeting to address this issue. The clerk asked for volunteers who would like to work on the issue as an ad hoc committee leading up to the threshing session. Brian Yaffee, Wood Bouldin, Lee Ann Swarm, Michael Galovic, and R.D. Flowers will serve on the committee, and the clerk will ask Free Polazzo and Charles Schade to also serve. Michael Galovic will serve as convener. We are reminded that the point of the threshing session is NOT to come to a decision. Its purpose is to present all points of view and inform everyone.

129-16: Peace & Social Concerns Committee Report (Jere Licciardello)

[Attachment 13– Peace & SC]

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee will publish queries concerning the Kabarak Call in the Southern Appalachian Friend. Monthly Meetings and Friends are invited to send their queries to Jere Licciardello.

129-17: Celo's Samburu Education Project (Geeta Jyothi McGahey)

[Attachment 14 – Samburu Education Project]

This is Celo's first project towards meeting the Kabarak Call. Geeta encourages Friends and Monthly Meetings to donate to this project.

129-18: Yearly Meeting Planning Committee Report (Carol Ciscel)

The Clerk of YMPC was happy to report that they had a very productive meeting, that they all felt very good about themselves. In contrast to last year, when the meeting had to report to us that they had not come up with a theme by the end of the Representative Meeting, this year they had the theme by lunch, based on a well-known quote of William Penn, "Let Us See What Love Can Do". The committee sees the theme as guiding us to inward and outward work, a reflection of our Faith & Practice and a way for us to attend to the Kabarak Call. The committee is well on its way to completing the details of the Yearly Meeting.

One feature of the Yearly Meeting will be a Young Adult Friend-led Saturday night meeting for worship sharing. Bethany Vega, YAF Representative expressed the YAF's commitment to be more involved in the wider meeting so that they can learn Quaker process and be prepared eventually to sit in our places (OAFs). Young Adult Friends want to be able to participate in wider SAYMA business meeting while at the same time having some solid time to meet for business as YAFs. To this end, they feel a need to hold their own business meetings from around 10 – noon on Friday and Saturday, leaving early from greater YM business meeting (around 8 – 11).

The dates of Yearly Meeting 2013 were reiterated to be the third week in June, June 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, one week later than usual.

129-19: Birmingham Friends Meeting shared a letter with us to Alabama members of Congress in regard to allowing budget cuts under the Budget Control Act to proceed. Birmingham Friends encourage other Friends to write to their elected representatives as well. [Attachment 15 – An open letter to Alabama Senators]

Reports from Wider Quaker Organizations:

129-20: Right Sharing of World Resources (report by Karen Morris) [Attachment 16 - RSWR]

129-21: Gita Larson is requesting volunteer representatives from each Monthly Meeting who would like to attend a day-long Quaker Quest workshop. [Attachment 17 - ...re QQ FDW]

129-21-01: We recommend that Gita Larson be charged with organizing a SAYMA wide Quaker Quest workshop and that she arrange this to take place in a location in the western part of our region (if possible) on a date sometime after October, 2012.

Closing:

129-22: Location and dates for fall 2013 and spring 2014 SAYMA Rep Meetings. Nashville will host us for Representative Meeting on September 28, 2013. Huntsville is considering hosting the Spring 2014 Representative Meeting. Liz reminded people that they need to register for Rep meetings and to do so on time!

129-23-01: Friends expressed their gratitude to Chattanooga Friends for providing for this large group of Friends. We appreciated the charm and sustainable comfort of the old meetinghouse, the lodging found for all who needed it and delicious sustenance including a birthday cake!

129-24: Friends closed Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, settling back into the soothing hum of the ceiling fans and the gentle breeze through the open windows.

Carol Nickle, Clerk  
(Archive copies signed)

Adrienne Weir, Recording Clerk

Attachment 1: SAYMA Representative Meeting Attendance

Chris Berg, Greenville  
Wood Bouldin, Greenbriar Valley Worship Group  
Carol Ciscel, Memphis  
David Ciscel, Memphis  
Deidre Edwards, Columbia  
Beth Ensign, Atlanta  
Kristi Estes, Oxford  
Barbara Esther, Asheville  
Hank Fay, Berea  
R. D. Flowers, Chattanooga  
Michael Galovic, Swannanoa Valley  
Mark Gooch, Birmingham  
Dennis Gregg, Crossville  
Kathleen Hardie, Nashville  
Errol Hess, Clinton Worship Group  
Bill Holland, Atlanta  
Larry Ingle, Chattanooga  
Kendall Ivie, West Knoxville  
Missy Ivie, West Knoxville  
Sue Ella Kobak, Foxfire and Big Stone Gap Informal Meeting  
Michael Kramer, Atlanta  
Jere Licciardello Chattanooga  
Steve Livingston, Asheville  
Geeta McGahey, Celo  
Kathleen Mavournin, West Knoxville  
Carol Nickle, West Knoxville  
Liz Perch, Savannah  
Susan Phelan, Huntsville  
Sally Prugh, Columbia  
Alan Robinson, Asheville  
Judy Scoville, Nashville  
Laura Seeger, Chattanooga  
Lee Ann Swarm, West Knoxville  
Roy Taylor, Atlanta  
Linda Trask, Nashville  
Bethany Vega, Memphis  
Herb Walters, Celo  
Adrienne Weir, Asheville  
Bob Welsh, Swannanoa Valley  
Bill Wolfe, Nashville  
Brian Yaffe, Celo

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## **Attachment 2: Readings for SAYMA Representatives Meeting**

“The Religious Society of Friends ... is about nothing if it is not about transformation” in the words of one of our speakers. As Friends we feel called to try to return to the conviction and simple faith of our Quaker ancestors and their transformed lives, so that we may once again become a prophetic people, speaking to God’s purposes in these times. (The 6<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Friends Epistle, Kenya, April 2012)

We have thought of the widespread exploitation of economically under-developed peoples, and of those industrial and other workers who are also exploited and heavily burdened. We must therefore work for a larger measure of liberty in political and economic life. For not only is this at the heart of the Christian message, but we have seen that peace stands on a precarious footing so long as there is unrelieved poverty and subjection. Subjection, poverty, injustice and war are closely allied. This situation demands sweeping political and economic changes; and we are convinced that the hope of freedom does not lie in violence, which is at its root immoral, but in such changes as may be brought about by fellowship and mutual service. (London Yearly Meeting, 1937)

That the sweat and tedious labour of the farmer, early and late, cold and hot, wet and dry, should be converted into the pleasure of a small number of men – that continued severity should be laid on nineteen parts of the land to feed the inordinate lusts and delicate appetites of the twentieth, is so far from the will of the great Governor of the world,...(it) is wretched and blasphemous. (William Penn, 1669)

**Attachment 3: SAYMA Administrative Assistant's Report to Representative Meeting  
September 1, 2012**

**1. Yearly Meeting Wrap up**

As always, the aftermath from yearly meeting included assisting with the evaluations, carefully reviewing the final bill with the college, and following up on unpaid fees. I have turned over all the necessary materials for registration to Laura Seeger, the registrar for 2013. I created and revised a spreadsheet to track all yearly meeting gathering income and expense.

**2. Directory**

The directory has been published and distributed to meetings and individuals who requested it. PDFs of the directory may be requested by email or on CD at any time. Print copies are no longer available.

**3. Banking**

After yearly meeting, with the illness and then death of the yearly meeting's outgoing treasurer, much time was spent getting SAYMA's banking in order, including filing a new signature card and making sure there were enough checks. During the transition, I was responsible for paying some bills. Every check I wrote was scanned and a copy provided to the treasurer.

As of yearly meeting, monthly meetings are asked to send assessment checks to the SAYMA office at PO Box 5848, Savannah, GA 31404. Checks are scanned and then deposited. The treasurer receives a copy of the scan as well as a report of each deposit.

**4. Faith & Practice Revision**

Copies of Faith and Practice will be available at Rep Meeting for \$7. Copies may be ordered from the SAYMA Office for \$12 postpaid. I believe we have adequate stock at this time to meet any demand.

**5. Other duties**

I have been working with a small committee to review SAYMA's insurance needs. I have been setting up conference calls for various SAYMA committees and groups, using the web tool "doodle" to determine optimum times. We have been using freeconference.com for the calls.

I monitor the list serves, answer routine emails, forward requested materials to Friends, and coordinate hospitality requests for rep meeting with the host meeting. I submit an expense report to the treasurer each month, including all receipts for debit card purchases.

In service,

Liz Perch



Attachment 4: Thank You Letter for Faith and Practice

Thursday, August 30, 2012 9:06 AM

Dear Friends,

Thank you, on behalf of our Library Committee, for the gift of you new 2012 edition of the Guide *to our faith and practice* (2012). We are very pleased to be able to add this copy to our collections where it will be available for any member of Britain Yearly Meeting and any of our other readers to see.

Yours sincerely,

Tabitha Driver

Printed Books Librarian  
Library of the Society of Friends  
Friends House, Euston Road  
London NW1 2BJ, UK

Tel.: 0207 663 1135

<http://www.quaker.org.uk/library>

**Nominating Committee Appointments  
As of September 8, 2012**

**Officers**

CLERK	Carol Nickle	12-14	West Knoxville
ASSISTANT CLERK	Tim Lamm	12-14	Berea
RECORDING CLERK	Adrienne Weir	11-13	Asheville
TREASURER	Alan Robinson	12-14	Asheville
ASST. TREASURER	<b>Charles Schade</b>	<b>12 - 14</b>	<b>Charleston</b>

**Standing Committees**

**Ministry & Nurture Committee**

CLERK	Errol Hess	11-13	Clinton
MEMBER	Thais Carr	12-14	Nashville
MEMBER	Sharon Annis	11-13	West Knoxville
MEMBER	Becky Ingle	11-13	Chattanooga
MEETING APPOINTEE	Mary Kedl		West Knoxville
MEETING APPOINTEE	Mike Passino		Nashville
MEETING APPOINTEE	Kristi Estes		Oxford
MEETING APPOINTEE	Jere Licciardello		Chattanooga
MEETING APPOINTEE	Jane Goldthwait		Celo
MEETING APPOINTEE	Edie Patrick		Asheville

**Finance Committee**

CLERK	Linda Trask	11-14	Nashville
MEMBER	Lee Ann Swarm	11-14	W.Knoxville
MEMBER	Kendall Ivie	11-14	W. Knoxville
MEMBER	<b>Wood Bouldin</b>	<b>12-14</b>	<b>Greenbriar, WV</b>
MEMBER	David Ciscel	11-14	Memphis
MEMBER	YM Treasurer - Alan Robinson		Asheville

**Personnel Committee**

CLERK	Tim Lamm	12 - 13	Berea
MEMBER	Susan Phelan	11 - 13	Huntsville
MEMBER	Bob McGahey	12 - 14	Celo
MEMBER	Kathleen Hardie	12 - 14	Nashville
SUPERVISOR OF AdmAsst	YM Clerk – Carol Nickle		West Knoxville
SUPERVIOSR SAYF AdAsst	SAYF Steering Cmmttee CoClerks – Mark Wutka & Aaron Ruscetta		Nashville & Atlanta

**SAYF Steering Committee** *(Usually chosen by the monthly meetings)*

CO-CLERK	Mark Wutka	12 - 14	Nashville
CO-CLERK	Aaron Ruscietta	12 - 14	Atlanta
MEMBER	Mary Linda McKinney	11 – 13	Nashville
MEMBER	Martin Gonzalez	11 – 13	Durham
MEMBER	Chuck Jones	11 - 13	Chattanooga
MEMBER	Jonathan Schinhofen	12 – 14	Lexington
MEMBER	Wren Hendrikson	12 - 14	Chapel Hill
ex officio	SAYF Admin Asst – Jonah McDonald		Atlanta

**JYM oversight committee**

CONVENER	Beth Myers	12-14	Berea (from member)
CONVENER	-vacant-		
MEMBER	Jane Goldthwait	12-14	Celo
MEMBER	Charlie Wilton	12-14	Berea
MEMBER	-vacant-		
JYM Coordinators	Michael Kramer & Jennifer Dickie	12 – 15	Atlanta

**Yearly Meeting Planning Committee**

CLERK	Carol Ciscel	12-13	Memphis
ADULT PROGRAMS	Hank Fay	11-13	Berea
WORKSHOPS	Bill Wolfe	11 – 13	Nashville
CO-REGISTRAR	Laura Seeger	12-13	Chattanooga
CO-REGISTRAR	Annie Black	12 – 13	Cookville
BOOKSTORE MGR	Chris Berg	12-13	Greenville
ASST. BOOKSTORE	Jere Licciardello	11-12	Chattanooga
LOCAL ARRANGMNT	Bob Welsh	09 – 12	Swannanoa Valley
JYM COORDINATOR	Michael Kramer & Jennifer Dickie	12 - 15	Atlanta
YAF REP	Rachel Leeman-Monk	12 - 13	Chapel Hill
WORSHIP COORD	Sallie Prugh	11 – 13	Columbia
LAYOUT EDITOR	John Potter	12-13	Nashville
MEMBER	Pam Beziat	12 – 14	Nashville
SAYF COORDINATOR	Wren Hendrkson	12 – 14	Chapel Hill

**Young Adult Friends**

CLERK	Samuel Leeman-Munk		Chapel Hill
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**Nominating Committee** (named by the naming committee at SAYMA)

CO-CLERK	Davis Ciscel	10-12	Memphis
CO-CLERK	Barbara Esther	12 - 14	Asheville
MEMBER	Hank Fay	9 – 13	Berea
MEMBER	Kit Potter	9 – 13	Nashville
MEMBER	Missy Ivie	9 – 13	W. Knoxville
MEMBER	Laura Maynard Lane	11 – 13	Asheville
MEMBER	Judy Scoville/Bethany Vega	12 - 14	Nashville & Memphis

**Peace & Social Concerns Committee**

CONVENER	Jere Licciardello	12 - 14	Chattanooga
MEMBER	Bob Welsh	12- 14	Swannanoa
MEMBER	R.D. Flowers	12- 14	Chattanooga
MEMBER	-vacant-		

**Ecological Concerns Network**

CO-CLERK	Chris Berg	11-13	Greenville
CO-CLERK	Pat Williams	11-13	Atlanta

**Southern Appalachian Friend**

EDITOR	Beth Ensign	11-13	Atlanta
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**Web Support**

MANAGER	R. D. Flowers	12 – 14	Chattanooga
CLERK	Hank Fay	12 - 14	Berea
MEMBER	Steve Livingston	12 – 14	Asheville

**Archivist**

Archivist	Missy Ivie	12—14	West Knoxville
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**Outreach Committee**

CO-CLERK	Hank Fay	12 - 14	Berea
CO-CLERK	Dennis Gregg	12 - 14	Crossville
MEMBER	Brian Yaffe	12 – 14	Celo
MEMBER	Sandy Tracy	12 - 14	West Knoxville
MEMBER	Roger Wise	12 - 14	Charleston
YAF MEMBER	Bethany Vega	12 – 14	Memphis

**Ad Hoc Committees**

**Faith & Practice Revision**

CLERK	Alan Robinson	Began 07	Asheville
MEMBER	Missy Ivie	Began 01	West Knoxville
MEMBER	Wood Bouldin	Began 12	Greenbriar, WV
MEMBER	-vacant-		
MEMBER	Edie Patrick	Began 07	Asheville
MEMBER	-vacant-		
MEMBER	Thais Carr	Began 12	Nashville

**Handbook**

CLERK	Sharon Annis	06	West Knoxville
MEMBER	Missy Ivie	02	West Knoxville
MEMBER	-vacant-		

**Site Selection**

CLERK	Errol Hess		Clinton
MEMBER	Linda Trask		Nashville
MEMBER	Kathleen Mavournin		West Knoxville
MEMBER	-vacant-		

**Development**

CLERK	-vacant-		
MEMBER	Leeann Swarm		West Knoxville
MEMBER	Bob Welsh		Swannanoa
MEMBER	Brian Yaffe		Celo

**Representatives to Wider Quaker Organizations**

*Note: terms for AFSC and SERO are 2 years in length; all others are for 3 years.*

AFSC	Free Polazzo	12 – 15	Atlanta
	Lee Ann Swarm	12 -15	W. Knoxville
FCNL	Joe Parko	10--13	Crossville
	Charlie Wilton	12 – 15	Berea
	Jane Hiles	10—13	Birmingham
FGC	Gita Larson	10—13	Asheville
	Kristi Estes	11-14	Oxford
	Stoph Hallward	11-14	Atlanta
FLGBTQC	-vacant-		
FWCC	Geeta McGahey	12 -15	Celo
FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS	Adrienne Weir	12 – 15	Asheville
QEW	Roy Taylor	11-13	Canton
	-vacant-		
QUAKER HOUSE	Larry Osbourne	11-13	Knoxville
RSWR	Karen Morris	12 - 15	Atlanta
WM. PENN HOUSE	Jane Hiles	11-13	Birmingham

**Attachment 6: Web Manager's Report**  
Representative Meeting, September 8, 2012, Chattanooga

We have acquired new and more capable hosting ( servers ) for sayma.org, but are using our existing hosting for now.

After we change over, we will be using a Content Management System such as Wordpress. That, plus other desirable characteristics of the hosting service itself, will provide the ability to further develop our web presence, to the extent we wish to.

We will have login capability ( while preserving the ability of casual guests to view all open pages ). This would allow people in positions of responsibility to add information relevant to their area, and make it less of a technical challenge to do so.

We will have the ability to have internet mailing lists additional to the 3 we have now, if and when we wish to.

There will be easier and more efficient operation of routine matters by the Administrative Assistant, due in part to the existence of a file manager in the better control panel.

There will be a much improved event calendar.

No changes will be put into place without due thought and consultation.

Respectfully submitted,  
In Light,  
For Peace, Earth, and Justice,

R. D. Flowers

**Attachment 7: Insurance ad hoc Committee Report for SAYMA Representatives Meeting  
September 8, 2012**

The committee met by telephone conference call on August 30, 2012. Participating were Tim Lamm, Dennis Gregg, Carol Nickle, and Liz Perch. The meeting opened and closed with silence.

SAYMA currently does not have insurance coverage for sexual misconduct/child abuse. After discussion, the committee recommends that SAYMA obtain such coverage. An estimated premium is \$325.00 a year for coverage with limits of \$100,000 per occurrence/300,000 aggregate, or \$619.00 a year for coverage with limits of \$250,000 per occurrence/500,000 aggregate. We recommend that SAYMA develop and implement appropriate policies and provide training for volunteers and staff who work with SAYF and JYM.

SAYMA currently does not have Directors and Officers liability insurance coverage. After discussion, the committee recommends that SAYMA obtain such coverage. The estimated cost of the premium will, hopefully, be received by Rep Meeting.

A second conference call committee meeting was held on September 4, 2012, with Tim Lamm, Carol Nickle, and Liz Perch participating. The meeting opened and closed with silence.

Between the two conference calls, the committee members had drafted and exchanged questions for Liz Perch to send to the SAYMA insurance agent. These were discussed and finalized.

The clerk will appoint an ad hoc committee, to include representatives from the SAYF Steering Committee, JYM Oversight Committee, and Personnel Committee to develop policies and procedures required for the sexual misconduct insurance coverage.

## **Attachment 8: Report from the SAFriend editor**

Friends, should this newsletter continue? I wonder, in this age of instant communication via many electronic devices, whether there is still a place and a purpose for this quarterly print publication. I see my role as that of compiler, rather than compositor, but I cannot compile without material to work with. The submissions to the Southern Appalachian Friend have been basically nonexistent for this issue. What role should this publication play in our lives as Friends in SAYMA?

I am listing proposed submission deadlines for the rest of this publishing year below, along with suggested themes to possibly help illicit thoughts from Friends. These are general, and not in any way binding. Please share with your home meetings. My contact information is as follows:

Beth Ensign,  
h.e.ensign@gmail.com  
173 Flora Ave NE  
Atlanta, GA 30307

Winter, deadline Nov 15

Suggested theme: Quakers and the winter holidays. What do you/does your meeting do to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas/Kwanzaa/Solstice, New Year, and the MLK holiday?

Spring, deadline Feb 15

Suggested theme: transitions/ beginnings and endings (of life, of meetings, of years, of seasons. . .)

Late Spring/summer, deadline April 13

Suggested theme: What I do on my summer vacation: yearly meeting/gathering reflections, summer books, summer camp information. . .

Errol Hess, former SAF editor, continues to compile the News of Meetings feature for the SAFriend. He, too, has not been receiving information. He asks that meetings at the very least send an electronic copy of their newsletters to him and he will cull information from them. He would love it if someone from your meeting would write up a brief paragraph describing events in the life of your meeting for him. His contact information is:

Errol Hess  
[errol@kitenet.net](mailto:errol@kitenet.net),  
355 Mt. Lebanon Rd,  
Donalds, SC 29638



## Attachment 9: LISTENING PROJECT / RSVP

### Transforming Divisiveness and Disempowerment Into

### Listening and Cooperative Community Action

### PROPOSAL: QUAKER CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP LISTENING PROJECT

Listening Project / Rural Southern Voice for Peace (RSVP) has for many years received support from SAYMA, Celo Friends Meeting and various other Meetings and individual Friends. We now have in mind a project that would enable SAYMA Meetings to utilize one of our highly successful programs -- the Christian Stewardship Listening Project (CSLP).

CSLP can enable your Meeting to collaborate with other local churches to conduct your own Christian Stewardship Listening Project. We offer this because our Yancey County CSLP has been such a positive experience. It has enabled us to listen and respond to the concerns, fears and the truth that is in church leaders who have previously been apathetic, suspicious or negative about environmentalism.

The polarization and divisiveness that so often results in liberal churches supporting and conservative churches avoiding or opposing environmental action is one of the strongest barriers to environmental protection in our region. And it is unnecessary.

It cannot be overcome with information or stronger advocacy. However common ground can be found and Christian Stewardship of Creation can become a strong movement, as we listen for understanding and truth in the faith perspectives of church leaders in our local community. This is what we have experienced in Yancey and Madison Counties in western NC.

Ask yourself this question: *What would happen if churches throughout the south, including many who have thus far resisted environmental issues, were to embrace stewardship of the earth as God's creation?*

As you well know, churches are some of the most influential institutions in our communities and our region and they could have a major impact on our community's basic relationship with and caring for our natural environment.

Working together Friends can provide vital leadership in the direction of inter-denominational listening, dialogue and action for stewardship of creation. This can happen through additional CSLP projects in the SAYMA region -- projects that are encouraged or sponsored by local meetings. Members or attenders of local meetings can be trained to organize a local CSLP. .

We are hoping to develop two new Christian Stewardship Listening Projects in the Southeast region. On the back of this page is a step by step summary of how it can happen:

**Web:** [www.listeningproject.org](http://www.listeningproject.org)

**Herb Walters: 675-4626**

### SAYMA REGION Christian Stewardship Listening Project

1. We request that your Peace and Social Concerns (or other relevant) committee convene a meeting to discuss this proposal. The Meeting can move forward minuteing support for this effort and identifying two individuals from their meeting interested in organizing a LP. The level of support provided to this project will be determined by each individual meeting. A small but meaningful financial commitment would be helpful.

2. If we have two Friends Meetings wishing to participate we will proceed with a grant to Quaker foundations to fund this work. Funding will cover RSVP training and other resources that will enable development of the project.
3. If the project is funded, RSVP/Listening Project will conduct one full day training session for CSLP local project organizers from the two Friends Meetings in the SAYMA region
4. The local project organizers will conduct outreach to people in other churches who are already interested or open minded about environmental issues. It is not necessary that these other churches officially co-sponsor the project – at this point we are looking to individuals from area churches who want to participate.
5. RSVP will conduct a full day training session for church members who are willing to conduct CSLP interviews with other church leaders. The priority will be to listen to church leaders who do not identify with or are antagonistic to environmentalism.
  - a. The goal will be to train a group of 12 to 20 individuals who will initiate a local CSLP. Members of this local CSLP will be trained as Listening Project interviewers working in teams of two to interview church leaders from more conservative churches.
  - b. The goal is not to “convince” interviewees. The goals are:
    - i. Establish a respectful, caring, listening relationship with interviewees.
    - ii. Ask pre-determined questions **and follow-up questions** that enable interviewees to explore their thoughts and feelings about:
      1. Church stewardship and their faith
      2. Stewardship of God’s creation and how it applies to their faith
      3. Feelings and concern’s about environmentalism
      4. Their personal relationship to the local environment
      5. What do they see as priorities for local stewardship of creation
      6. How have they already and how might they expand their actions on behalf of creation stewardship
      7. What they see as possibilities for creating a local, faith based approach to stewardship of creation.
      8. Interest in becoming an active participant in development of a local CSLP
6. A third on-site training session will be provided at the end of the Listening Project interviews to determine next steps in development of a local Christian Stewardship of Creation (**CSC**) organization that will:
  - i. Include primary leadership from conservative church leaders who are identified through interview results.
  - ii. Review local creation stewardship priorities identified by the Listening Project and develop a plan of action for the local Christian Stewardship of Creation organization. This may include Facilitated Group Listening, education, organizing and action projects.

## **Attachment 10: Report Of The SAYMA Outreach Committee**

Presented at SAYMA Rep Meeting, 9/8/2012

SAYMA Outreach Committee met through the SAYMA Outreach Google Group. Several topics emerged.

- 1) Sharing of Quaker Quest activities and experiences.** Atlanta Meeting has been especially active, organizing for the public outreach aspect of Quaker Quest. Berea Meeting has scheduled 1 first hour every other month to practice the Q&A exercise that was part of their Quaker Quest training: the evidence we have from the meeting is that it is a skill that grows over time. Berea also has tentative plans to incorporate those Q&A skills with new attenders, with an offer to gather a few members who can answer any questions the newcomer might have. Concerns were raised as to how QQ can best server small meetings, with the intention of further exploring this issue in our discussions. Finally, we were informed of a new Public Sessions Planning Book for QQ from FGC, modelled on the British version.
- 2) The value of Elevator Speech training.** There was a short, but cogent, discussion of the value of a 27-9-3 (words, seconds, points to discuss) elevator speech. Two participants had used this method, and at least one had taught it.
- 3) The value of collecting statistics relative to Meeting members and activities.** We have had continuing discussions about where Quakerism, and Quakerism within Sayma, is headed demographically. There is no standard way of collecting this information, and no person charged with developing and working to get that information. Yet without it we are flying by the seat of our pants, as it were. Pacific Yearly Meeting has a post of Official Yearly Meeting Statistician, we were informed. We agreed that this would be a terrific asset to SAYMA, and should be considered by the appropriate committee within SAYMA.
- 4) Visual Symbolism.** Mark Gooch of Birmingham Meeting adopted a poster from UK Friends (with permission). It is a powerful instance of visually conveying a message of what we are as Quakers. Birmingham's version is reproduced on the next page of this report. If Friends and Meetings agree, this would be a powerful "branding" message if placed at all our Meetings, and used wherever Quakers are presenting Quakerism to non-Quakers (college Religion fairs, and so forth).

Finally, even though the Outreach Google Group has been less active in the past few months than normal for the past year, as the description of our discussions indicates we get a lot down, a little bit at a time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Gregg and Hank Fay, co-clerks



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## Attachment 11: Treasurer's Report for September 2012 Representative Meeting

Prepared Friday, September 7th, 2012.

Alan Robinson, Treasurer & Charles Schade, Assistant Treasurer

Our 2012 fiscal year budget runs from October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012.

This year's budget is based on a \$60 assessment. Attached please find (1) the Budget Report and (2) the Account Balances Report as of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The transition to a new treasurer has been particularly difficult with the unexpected death of Deanna. Your current treasurer now appreciates fully what Deanna did for SAYMA. We all owe her our heartfelt gratitude for dedicated and selfless service even in the face of her serious illness.

Issues to report include:

1. Overview. The FY 2012 budget as approved at the September, 2011, representative meeting is attached. Income through September 5th, 2012 is \$79,542 (\$78,616.) Disbursements are \$74,786 (\$76,215.) There is \$22,825 (\$19,374.71) in the checking account and \$40,800 (\$40,880) in the two Self Help Credit Union savings accounts, giving us \$63,625 (\$60,255) in available funds. Friends have set aside a total of \$18,048 in special funds (liabilities), leaving us with net assets of \$45,577 (\$42,207)
2. Income in FY2012. Total assessment income at this point in the fiscal year is \$34,379 (\$37,239.)
3. Operational Expenses in FY2012. Yearly Meeting produced a surplus this year due to several circumstances that we cannot count on in the future. Nevertheless, this surplus greatly eased our shortfall in contribution income. Cost of living increases of 2.0% were approved and implemented for our employees. Our employees receive a monthly payment in lieu of a benefit package. Please note that the expenditure of \$1,053.68 for the bookstore is for the 2011 bookstore not the bookstore for the 2012 yearly meeting. (The expenditure for the 2012 YM bookstore was \$1,478, included in this latest revision.)
4. Yearly Meeting Projects in FY2012. Transfers have been made to SAYMA's Set-Aside Budgeted Funds. Half of the contributions to Wider Quaker Organizations budgeted for FY2012 have been sent. The rest will be sent immediately after this Rep meeting. (All have now been sent including the special contributions approved at rep meeting for AGLI's effort at election violence prevention in Kenya.)
5. SAYF continues to submit quarterly reports on their finances to the treasurer. For FY2012, SAYF had a total income of \$3,782, and total expenditures of \$4,330. SAYF has received \$1,000 and will receive an additional \$1,000 from SAYMA immediately after Rep meeting. The SAYF Coordinator is paid through SAYMA and those expenditures appear under the personnel costs on the budget report. (I removed the SAYF budget lines from the spreadsheet, leaving only SAYMA's contribution of \$2,000.)

Treasurer's Address:

Alan Scott Robinson  
265 Charlotte Street  
#27  
Asheville, NC 28801  
[asrobinson@aol.com](mailto:asrobinson@aol.com) or [treasurer@sayma.org](mailto:treasurer@sayma.org)

SAYMA Account Balances Report - Fiscal 2012 as of September 5th, 2012

	Fiscal Year As Of (date)	2008 9/30/08	2009 9/30/09	2010 9/30/10	2011 9/30/11	2012 9/5/12
<b>Assets - Total Available Funds</b>		\$53,586	\$65,134	\$61,749	\$62,561	\$60,255
<b>Bank Accounts</b>						
Checking (Bank of America)		\$15,013	\$25,658	\$21,683	\$22,084	\$19,375
Money Market (Self Help Credit Union)		\$22,640	\$23,013	\$23,287	\$23,483	\$23,690
Savings (Self Help Credit Union CD)		\$15,933	\$16,463	\$16,779	\$16,994	\$17,190
<b>Liabilities - Total Claims Against Available Funds</b>		\$10,939	\$15,539	\$20,074	\$19,874	\$18,048
<b>Set Aside Budget Funds</b>		\$10,939	\$15,539	\$20,074	\$19,874	\$18,048
FWCC Third World Delegate		\$1,300	\$1,950	\$3,275	\$0	\$650
FWCC World Conference Fund		\$1,767	\$2,467	\$3,292	\$3,567	\$1,302
Released Friend Fund		\$4,350	\$5,850	\$7,350	\$8,850	\$9,150
Spiritual Development Fund		\$327	\$1,627	\$2,127	\$2,977	\$3,277
Youth Enrichment Fund		\$2,395	\$2,645	\$2,921	\$3,171	\$2,320
Young Adult Friends Scholarships Fund		\$800	\$1,000	\$1,109	\$1,309	\$1,349
Accumulated Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Yearly Meeting Scholarships Fund						
<b>Net Assets = Assets - Liabilities</b>		\$42,647	\$49,595	\$41,675	\$42,687	\$42,207
<b>Fund Expenses for Fiscal Year</b>		-\$1,495	-\$200	-\$1,439	-\$6,150	-\$4,066
Spiritual Dev. Fund - FGC Consultation		-\$370				
Spiritual Dev. Fund - Earham Scholarship		-\$800	-\$200	-\$300		
Spiritual Dev. Fund - Registration for Philadelphia YM		-\$325				
Spiritual Dev. Fund - School of the Spirit				-\$700		
Young Adult Friends Scholarships - SAYMA YM				-\$91		
Youth Enrichment Fund - SAYF Travel to SEYM				-\$348		
Spiritual Dev. Fund - FGC Traveling Ministries Program					-\$450	
FWCC World Conference Fund					-\$900	
Spiritual Dev. Fund - Yearly Meeting Clerks Retreat					-\$200	
FWCC Third World Delegate					-\$4,600	
FWCC World Conference Fund						-\$2,965
Youth Enrichment Fund - AFSC Awards Event						-\$1,101

9/30/10

9/30/11

9/5/12 Proposed

Budget period	Budget FY 2010	Actual FY 2010	Budget FY 2011	Actual FY 2011	Budget FY 2012	Actual FY 2012	Budget FY 2013
Income	\$72,450	\$64,887	\$71,100	\$75,471	\$73,800	\$78,616	\$76,475
Assessments *	\$42,000	\$35,603	\$33,500	\$39,666	\$39,000	\$37,239	\$42,900
Bank Interest	\$700	\$552	\$500	\$490	\$500	\$184	\$500
Contributions	\$500	\$639	\$4,000	\$1,250	\$1,200	\$288	\$1,200
F&P Sales	\$250		\$1,500		\$1,500	\$3,451	\$275
SAYF Receipts							
YM Total Receipts	\$29,000	\$28,094	\$31,600	\$34,064	\$31,600	\$37,454	\$31,600
YM Receipts	\$26,000	\$25,060	\$28,600	\$32,012	\$28,600	\$34,760	\$28,600
YM Scholarship Donations **	\$1,000	\$1,400	\$1,000	\$882	\$1,000	\$1,117	\$1,000
YM Bookstore Sales Income	\$2,000	\$1,634	\$2,000	\$1,171	\$2,000	\$1,578	\$2,000
SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	\$69,709	\$64,381	\$70,576	\$64,845	\$69,429	\$68,476	\$69,373
Yearly Meeting	\$29,600	\$30,535	\$31,600	\$32,631	\$31,600	\$34,769	\$31,600
Yrly Meeting - Facilities	\$22,000	\$24,115	\$24,000	\$26,040	\$24,000	\$24,607	\$24,000
Prtnng/Mail/Phone/Minutes/Misc	\$1,500	\$1,593	\$1,500	\$1,973	\$1,500	\$3,785	\$1,500
Junior Yearly Meeting -- JYM	\$3,100	\$3,205	\$3,100	\$2,797	\$3,100	\$3,230	\$3,100
Coordinator	\$1,800	\$1,250	\$1,800	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,800	\$1,800
Ass't Coordinator	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,000		\$1,000
Supplies/Sitters/Misc	\$300	\$705	\$300	\$397	\$300	\$430	\$300
Scholarship WQO Reps **	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$700	\$1,000	\$616	\$1,000
YM Bookstore	\$2,000	\$1,622	\$2,000	\$1,121	\$2,000	\$2,531	\$2,000
SAYF Operational Transfers	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$2,100	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
SAYF Expenses							
Delegate Expenses	\$6,900	\$4,588	\$6,500	\$2,832	\$5,000	\$2,343	\$5,000
Rep Mtgs	\$300	\$0	\$100		\$100		\$100
Del to WQOs	\$6,600	\$4,588	\$6,400	\$2,832	\$4,900	\$2,343	\$4,900
Committees	\$2,100	\$687	\$1,550	\$1,260	\$2,150	\$648	\$2,150
Ministry and Nurture Committee	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,000	\$500	\$750	\$200	\$500
Ecological Concerns Committee	\$300	\$0	\$150		\$50		\$50
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	\$400	\$687	\$300	\$724	\$750	\$424	\$500
Finance Committee	\$100	\$0	\$50	\$14	\$50	\$24	\$50
Nominating Committee	\$100	\$0	\$50	\$22	\$50		\$50
Peach & Social Concerns Committee					\$500		\$500
Outreach Committee							\$500
SAYMA Liability Insurance	\$700	\$591	\$700	\$621	\$700	\$523	\$1,225
SAYMA Personnel	\$21,809	\$21,622	\$22,376	\$22,236	\$22,779	\$23,514	\$23,348
SAYMA Staff Training	\$100	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0
SAYMA Office Administration	\$2,900	\$2,059	\$2,400	\$2,711	\$2,000	\$1,300	\$2,350
Phone, Internet & Office Expenses		\$929		\$575		\$360	
Postage		\$42		\$221		\$159	

9/30/10

9/30/11

9/5/12 Proposed

Budget period	Budget FY 2010	Actual FY 2010	Budget FY 2011	Actual FY 2011	Budget FY 2012	Actual FY 2012	Budget FY 2013
Duplication		\$19		\$35			
Misc. Office		\$1,069		\$1,880		\$781	
SAYMA Newsletter	\$1,300	\$1,318	\$1,000	\$913	\$1,000	\$170	\$750
SAYMA Directory	\$600	\$50	\$300	\$124	\$150	\$158	\$150
SAYMA Treasurer	\$600	\$432	\$550	\$517	\$550	\$216	\$550
SAYMA F&P	\$100	\$0	\$1,500		\$1,500	\$2,716	\$250
SAYMA Website Hosting Service						\$119	\$0
SAYMA Other Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0
<b>YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$11,600</b>	<b>\$11,800</b>	<b>\$11,600</b>	<b>\$11,600</b>	<b>\$8,371</b>	<b>\$7,739</b>	<b>\$8,915</b>
Transfers To Funds	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$2,240	\$1,139	\$2,915
Spiritual Development Fund	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$300	\$300	\$300
Released Friend Fund	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$300	\$300	\$300
FWCC - 3rd Wild Del	\$1,325	\$1,325	\$1,325	\$1,325	\$650	\$650	\$1,325
FWCC World Conference Fund	\$825	\$825	\$825	\$825	\$700	\$700	\$700
Youth Enrichment Fund	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	(\$851)	\$250
Young Adult Friends Scholarships	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$40	\$40	\$40
Contributions Wider Quaker Org	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,600	\$6,000
AFSC	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
FCNL	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$1,200	\$700
FGC	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
FWCC	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
Right Sharing of World Resources	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
Quaker House	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
Friends for LGBTQ Concerns	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700	\$700
Friends Peace Teams	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$300	\$200
Wm Penn House	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Friends Journal	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Guilford College Archiving	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Other		\$200			\$131		
Total Disbursements	\$81,309	\$76,181	\$82,176	\$76,445	\$77,800	\$76,215	\$78,288
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$8,859)	(\$11,294)	(\$11,076)	(\$974)	(\$4,000)	\$2,401	(\$1,813)

\* based @ \$60.00 assessment per member and regular attender

\*\* Not actually counted separately from fees paid to college.



## Attachment 13: Peace and Social Concerns

September 8, 2012

### Item One

#### The Kabarack Call for Peace and Ecojustice

In June 2012 the Yearly Meeting devoted extensive time to discussion of the Kabarack call for Peace and Ecojustice. The Sunday Meeting for Business was an opportunity for many to express what this document, a "Call" felt by the World Conference of Quakers held at Kabarack University in Kenya in April 2012, meant to them. The yearly meeting felt the power of this call in many ways, and this was reflected in a variety of expressed statements as put forward in the minutes. Yearly meeting resonated with the Call, but understood that it could not resonate for those who had not yet been touched by its words or heard its presentation. The Peace Committee was charged with the task of shepherding the Call through the Monthly Meetings and Worship groups.

Over the past three months our Committee has taken up this task. Each of us has done as we felt best enabled. RD has been our IT guru. He has created mechanism whereby we may email one another simply and maintain a file of our conversations, call@chatta.us. RD has also created a second email address kabarackcall@chatta.us, for SAYMA members and attenders to submit queries and material of common interest. More recently he has opened up a blog,

Bob has been a key person in Swannanoa. Bob's was the first meeting to take up the Kabarack call and do serious discernment.

Jere has been given the task of verifying that all of the meetings are aware of the Kabarack Call, have the necessary documents, and have had their questions answered. This week the last contacts have been established. We have reached Foxfire.

As to meeting discernment process, Committee can tell you that some meetings have addresses this at meeting for business. Some have held a second hour, or a specially scheduled meeting to consider the Kabarack call. Some have simply referred the matter to an ad hoc committee. Some meetings have held a series of second hours. Some may have handled the matter in another fashion.

We continue to discuss the future direction of our shepherding process. Many have asked us if there is a way to instill "the fire" into their meeting members. This we debate. Some meetings have found that active engagement of the Kabarack call is a significant outreach tool. We have also heard that the Kabaack Call can only be understood on a personal level. We have heard more than once that an important message for meetings is to offer support for members who heed the call is appropriate ways.

We look forward to the next three months, and to receiving queries from Meetings and to receiving Minuted responses eventually, but not as a matter of urgency. Committee is pleased to hear first-hand that meetings have accommodated the Call into their often full agendas over the often light Summer schedule. We see the great variety of initial manifestations of the discernment process. When the process has matured, we are confident that minutes will be generated by Meetings. It will be our task to sustain the passion over this lengthy process.

We need queries and shared thoughts and leadings from meetings and individuals!

For SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Jere Licciardello

## Attachment 14: Celo Friends Meeting Samburu Education Project

While volunteering in Kenya, I met Sammy Letoole from the Loltulelei Friends Church, Samburu District, a 17 year old mission church founded by FUM (Friends United Meeting). The Quaker community there has also been greatly influenced by an anthropologist from Kalamazoo Friends Meeting, FGC (Friends General Conference.) Sammy heard that I had been working with Samburu people for five weeks as a doctor with a Mobile Family Planning, AIDS Testing, Immunization and Curative Care Clinic. He hosted me for a week in fellowship as a Traveling Friend; I also educated women on their health issues. The lands of the Samburu are semi-arid desert, often with long distances to water sources. Their traditional livelihood of raising livestock is in peril due to climate change and population pressure. Incomes are supplemented by working away at paid jobs and by the bead-work of the women.

As a result of meetings with the Quaker women, discussions with some of the leaders in the community, including long talks with Sammy, I felt a call to help them with finances for adult and girl education. I met children working as shepherds, now able to attend a new afternoon Shepherd's School. Currently there are 95 children attending and an additional 45 children, who have transitioned to primary school. The school lost its funding in April and our project is restoring funds. Education of women is very important in this community. It is still common practice for girls to be married off at 13-14 for a bride price, extensive female genital circumcision is still the norm, there is widespread illiteracy, and women desire 6-8 children for economic security. The Samburu also face political and economic pressures to relinquish their land and lifestyle.

In response to a presentation about the liberating possibilities of education, Celo meeting formed a support committee for a Samburu project. We are initially raising \$5000 which will go directly to an adult literacy school, continuing the Shepherds' School, and secondary school scholarships for 8 poverty stricken girls to be able to get skills and help their communities. One example is an orphan who got pregnant at thirteen, and was then married. Her mother-in-law encouraged her to finish primary school. Now she wants to go to secondary school, but has no funds. With sponsorship, and her mother-in-law's support in taking care of the baby she can continue her education. We appreciate the importance of what we hope will be an ongoing mutually enriching relationship, sharing gifts that are primarily in the spiritual realm, whatever the financial realities.

We have a slide show about the reproductive and education issues demonstrating the efficacies of these projects. For Arthur Morgan School, we are developing a simulation game to understand the lives, and four Personal Growth classes highlighting cultural contrasts in the teen years. On October 20, we invite you to join us at a revelatory fundraiser with a traditional meal and entertainment (\$10). We would love to have support of Friends in the yearly meeting and can make presentations for other meetings. \$250 will support a student for 1 year, \$150 supports the Shepherds school for an entire a month, and \$100 the adult school for a month. Any amount is appreciated. Our project is a direct step to answer the Kabarak call:

- ❖ We are called to see what love can do: to love our neighbor as ourselves, to aid the widow and orphan, to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable, to appeal to consciences and bind the wounds.
- ❖ We are called to teach our children right relationship, to live in harmony with each other and all living beings in the earth, waters and sky of our Creator, who asks, "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world?" (Job 38:4)
- ❖ We are called to do justice to all and walk humbly with our God, to cooperate lovingly with all who share our hopes for the future of the earth.
- ❖ We are called to do justice to all and walk humbly with our God, to cooperate lovingly with all who share our hopes for the future of the earth.

**Attachment 15: An open letter to Alabama Senators Jeff Sessions, Richard Shelby, Spencer Bachus and Terri Sewell**

We urge you to allow the military cuts under the Budget Control Act to proceed. The United States is facing a critical juncture. The balance between domestic spending for our citizens and foreign spending on the military and wars has become so skewed as to risk our future prosperity. As limited resources are stretched thin, tradeoffs between domestic spending on education, employment, infrastructure, health care and retirement pensions must be balanced with military spending. Although our country has plunged further into debt, military spending has grown rapidly.

Pentagon spending in 2010 was more than \$700 billion dollars; that, is more than \$6,000 dollars per household. The U.S spends more on our military than the 28 next largest militaries combined. We spend about seven times as much as China, a country three times our size, on the military each year. The U.S . maintains military personnel in more than 130 nations worldwide, including Japan and Germany, more than 65 years after hostilities have ended in those countries.

The effect of this enormous expenditure is that fewer resources are available at home for our children, parents, neighbors and nation. Over the past several decades, our schools have fallen behind, our roads and bridges have deteriorated, our health quality and life expectancies have dropped and our job prospects have declined. Our students rank 14th in reading, 17th in science and 25th in math. Historically, the U.S. has been first in education and technology; however, continuing down this path will result in decreased ingenuity, and industries and jobs will be developed overseas. Our prosperity will further decline.

Pentagon spending currently makes up approximately 39 percent of the federal budget. Waste, fraud and abuse in military spending is rampant, including cost overruns, duplications of services, lost inventory, and poor bookkeeping. The Government Accountability Office estimates the amount of waste and fraud each year is more than the combined budgets of the Departments of State, Interior, Commerce, Justice and Energy combined. Under the Budget Control Act, military spending cuts are set to occur. Growing support from elements of the military, both political parties and bipartisan studies suggest that cuts in military spending can be made without affecting national security. General Colin Powell, Retired Brigadier General John Adams, Senator Tom Coburn and other respected military personnel agree military cuts are necessary.

As stewards of our government, our leaders should make the best decisions for our society. Now is the time to invest in our future. We owe a duty to our children, our retirees, our workers and to all citizens. We desire a peaceful society operating under the rule of law and infrastructure to make our country efficient, competitive and prosperous. Without cuts to our bloated military budget, there will not be funding to fulfill these obligations. Again, we urge you to allow the military cuts under the Budget Control Act to proceed. Reducing the military budget is the best legacy we can leave for coming generations.

Birmingham Friends Meeting

**Attachment 16: RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES**

Sent via email on Wednesday, August 15, 2012 6:03 PM

Betty Tonsing was named General Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources and has recently taken the helm. She has wide experience in global work for economic justice and in management and fundraising. She took over the position vacated by Roland Kreager after 19 years to work in a different ministry in Cincinnati.

Respectfully, Karen Morris

September 4, 2012

Greetings to SAYMA Representatives!

FGC is offering each yearly meeting a Quaker Quest full day workshop during the next few months (between now and June 2013). There is no cost to SAYMA.

Each meeting in SAYMA can send 2 people to the workshop. SAYMA can also offer 2-3 possible dates (Saturdays).

If you discern that SAYMA would like the workshop, the next step would be to contact Elaine Crauderueff at the FGC office, who arranges the co-leaders and materials and provides other support. Her contact information is below.

I would encourage the reps group to schedule this workshop as soon as possible, between now and next spring. QQ has always been a time-limited effort, and most staff support will be ending in the next year or so. We will be going to a volunteer system, but we want as many meetings as might feel led to schedule their Full Day Workshops during the next 12 months or so.

Any other meetings interested in hosting a Full Day Workshop can also contact Elaine. It is the way to explore whether the meeting discerns to hold public sessions to share the Quaker way in their community. Meetings report increased sense of community and deeper sharing within the meeting from participating in the workshop, as well as honing ways to welcome interested people into the meeting community.

Is there a committee in SAYMA that would agree to be the liaison to the FGC office to help schedule the workshop, offer a site, and help let SAYMA meetings know about this opportunity?

Please contact Elaine Crauderueff in the FGC office to discuss options. [elainec@fgcquaker.org](mailto:elainec@fgcquaker.org), (251-561-1179)

Please let me know if you need more information—you can phone me on the number below during your meeting if needed.

I will be holding you all in the Light as you travel and meet this weekend.

Blessings,

Gita Larson  
Quaker Quest Travel Team/  
Columbia SC MM/attending Asheville NC MM  
803-361-2767 M/text