

# Southern Appalachian Friend

the Quarterly Newsletter of

**SAYMA**  
Southern Appalachian  
Yearly Meeting & Association

Spring 2010

Dennis Gregg, clerk  
185 Hood Drive  
Crossville, TN 38555

(931) 484-9033  
clerk@sayma.org

**Editor: Kathleen Mavournin**

Our business procedure expresses our faith that the light, if heeded, draws all into agreement. Friends make decisions not by vote nor by compromising a variety of positions, but by full and prayerful consideration discerning a corporate "sense of the meeting." Friends believe that decisions reached in this way carry with them an inward consent of the persons involved, rather than mere outward conformity. We seek the Truth that transcends individual differences. As we listen to and consider all views, we look for that place in our midst, beyond individual desires, where God's will is known.

*A Guide to Our Faith and Practice, SAYMA, p. 14.*

SAYMA Office  
c/o Liz Perch  
330 Goebel Avenue, Savannah, GA 31404  
adminasst@sayma.org  
(865) 272-9621

## **YM Clerks, Administrative Assistants, and Standing Committee Clerks**

### Clerk

Dennis Gregg (Crossville)  
clerk@sayma.org

### Assistant Clerk

Tim Lamm (Berea)  
assistantclerk@sayma.org

### Recording Clerk

Bill Holland (Atlanta)  
recordingclerk@sayma.org

### Treasurer

Deanna Nipp Kientz (Cookeville)  
treasurer@sayma.org

### Administrative Assistant

Liz Perch (Savannah)  
adminasst@sayma.org

### Ministry & Nurture Comm. Clerk

Judy Guerry (Huntsville)  
nurture@sayma.org

### Nominating Comm. Clerk

Sallie Prugh (Columbia)  
nominating@sayma.org

### Personnel Committee Clerk

Tim Lamm (Memphis)  
assistantclerk@sayma.org

### Finance Committee Clerk

Susan Phelan (Huntsville)  
sjpsprout@comcast.net

### Young Adult Friends Clerk

Galen Labotka  
theicelizard@hotmail.com

### Peace & Social Concerns Comm. Clerk

Steve Livingston (Asheville)  
nc\_stereoman@charter.net

### Ecological Concerns Network Co-Clerks

Roy Taylor (Canton) & Shaun Chavis (Birmingham)  
wrldeas@mindspring.com schavis@mac.com

### YM Planning Comm. Clerk

Kristi Estes  
QuakerKristi@gmail.com

### SAYF Steering Comm. Co-Clerks

Chuck Jones (Chattanooga) & Wren Hendrickson  
cjonesfly@earthlink.net wrenhendrickson@aol.com

### SAYF Administrative Assistant

Theresé Hildebrand (Berea)  
SAYFadminasst@sayma.org

### **The Deadline for Summer 2010 issue of SAF is June 20.**

Friendly concerns, minutes, reports,  
announcements, humor, & musings  
are welcome.

Send submissions to:  
Kathleen Mavournin  
SAFeditor@sayma.org

Please put a name and email address  
or phone number on all submissions.

### **SAYMA Calendar 2010-11**

June 10-13, 2010  
Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions  
Warren Wilson College  
Swanannoa, NC

September 11, 2010  
Fall Representative Meeting  
West Knoxville, TN

March 2011  
Spring Representative Meeting  
Date & place TBA

## Yearly Meeting 2010: Discerning the Way

April is the month to decide if you are going to Yearly Meeting this year. The Advanced Program will be sent to monthly meetings and posted on the SAYMA website by early in the month. We hope to have complete on-line registration available including payments, but if that doesn't work for you, mail in the paper registration form with a check.

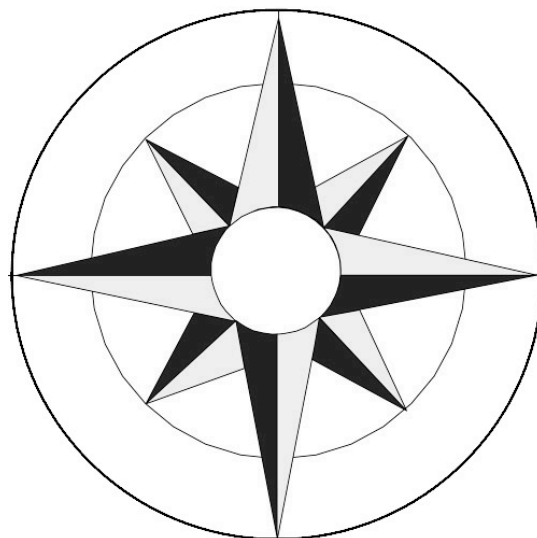
Yearly Meeting officially begins at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, and finishes with lunch on Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. However, the cafeteria will begin serving meals on Wednesday evening and dorm rooms will be available Wednesday night for Friends who must travel long distances and/or want to arrive early.

This year there will be even more time scheduled for us to worship together. In addition to early morning worship for the intrepid few, there will be extended worship on Friday and Saturday afternoons and evening worship after dinner. We will continue our practice of holding Opening Worship on Thursday and Closing Worship on Sunday, as well as beginning every business session with worship, holding a worship for remembrance on Saturday, and providing space for men's, women's, and young Friends late-night worship after Chat & Chew.

Worship Sharing – one of the most beloved parts of Yearly Meeting – will be held on Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. In keeping with our theme, the worship sharing queries, which were seasoned by Ministry & Nurture, will be on discernment and moving forward from discernment to action.

Plenary sessions this year draw on the gifts of SAYMA Friends. On Thursday night a panel of SAYMA Friends will share their personal experiences with clearness for membership, marriage, and corporate decisions. After the panel presentations we will have time to reflect with one another in small groups. Friday night Christina Repoley from Atlanta will talk about her leading to work with and re-new Quaker Volunteer Service. Saturday night brings back the Hibbard Thatcher Memorial Dance and Talent Show for the third year in a row. We are excited that Young Friends will be an integral part of each of these programs.

Workshops are being shaped up as this newsletter goes to press. Again this year they will be held in an unhurried format starting at 2:30 on Friday and Saturday and lasting as long as the Spirit moves – or until dinner at 5 p.m. – whichever comes first!



*continued on the next page*

Yearly Meeting 2010: Discerning the Way (continued)

Junior Yearly Meeting will focus on building community. JYM leaders Beth Myers and Jonathan Schinhofen feel that building community is an achievable first step that will help our youngest Friends prepare for discerning clearness with the help of the meeting when they are a bit older.

Registration, room, and meals add up to around \$60 a day per adult (much less for children). You may ask for support from your monthly meeting and there are also scholarships available through SAYMA. Just make a note on your registration form in the fee summary box.

The inspiration of the company of other Friends is surely what we come to Yearly Meeting for, but the Warren Wilson campus is also a delightful place to spend time with its sloping lawns and big trees surrounded by beautiful mountains and bathed in the cool mountain air.

### **Recreating Encounters with Spirit**

Evan Richardson, Peter Buck, and Joy Hodges, all of Asheville, NC, invite Friends who are longing for an experience of Sabbath to join them at Mountain Light Sanctuary in Barnardsville, NC, on May 6 - 9 for Recreating Encounters with Spirit: Through Extended Worship, InterPlay and Community. The vision for this offering is to create a community of worship and play where we can rest in the place that gives rise to Life and Truth and support each other in the process of discerning how we may be called.

We will offer opportunities for corporate and individual seeking in the beautiful mountains of Western North Carolina. Each day we will worship, explore the lightness and joy InterPlay has to offer, share meals, and be open to how we are each led to be (hike? journal? nap? enjoy informal fellowship? take a sauna? and more....). Come join us in this blessed experience. For more information go to

<http://alturl.com/4h2o>

Kristi Estes and Margaret Farmer will be serving as Spiritual Companions for the retreat.

for information about the  
**2010 FGC Gathering of Friends**  
*Accepting Gifts of the Spirit*  
July 4-10, Bowling Green State University in Ohio  
[www.fgcquaker.org/gathering](http://www.fgcquaker.org/gathering)

## **FWCC Global Change Consultation**

*These paragraphs were excerpted by the editor from a web page describing the proposed consultation.*

There is a need for FWCC and Friends to take action. Friends sense urgency in the face of external conditions and the predictions of scientists for disruption. At the same time we see many Friends working in apparent isolation and at times duplicating one another's efforts. Knowing that the Quaker ethic of simple living has in some ways put us in the forefront of thinking and behavior, nonetheless we feel a desire to empower a radical and deep transformation that delves deeper than outward behavior and words.

There may be a distinctive Quaker response, not so much new action to decrease individual contributions to global warming (although these are important), but in the arena of spiritual grounding and preparation for action in the face of upheavals and socio-economic dislocations that may arise. How might Friends embody the way of peace which grows out of the abundance of God's love rather than the fear which scarcity engenders, so that all might be treated justly?

In the face of substantial evidence that the world climate is changing and access to basic resources and necessities of life is becoming increasingly threatened, FWCC is calling for a consultation among Friends worldwide. We are asking how God's justice, peace and integrity of creation can be made visible in our responses to these challenges. The purpose of the Consultation is to ask ourselves how our lives are contributing to the causes of detrimental changes, what actions we might take to live in right relationships as part of the global community and to discern what Friends have to offer to each other and to the world at large.

As a first step FWCC World Office will develop a simple web page, under the FWCC banner, which would provide links to statements, minutes and documents on this subject from Yearly Meetings and from other churches, and point to other helpful resource material. It feels very much FWCC's work to be facilitating this sharing.

Face-to-face encounters in settings where people can tell their stories in response to queries has the potential to be the most powerful way we can reflect on our response, as Friends, in the face of pending change. The costs in terms of finances and carbon footprint as well as the complexities of international visas, make regional cluster gatherings the most viable opportunity for large number of Friends to consider these complex issues. The hope is that the clusters will also encourage the formation or strengthening networks of Friends committed to address the challenges posed by Global Change.

FWCC will convene a worldwide Consultation on Global Change specifically to address this question of the broken covenant between humanity and God that is triggering planetary change. This consultation will bring together representatives who participated in each regional cluster, plus others who have specific wisdom to bring – a total of perhaps 50 to 60 people.

The complete article can be found at <http://www.fwccglobalchange.org/background.html>.

## Repeated Call for SAYMA Yearly Meeting Workshops

There are still openings for workshops at the 2010 yearly meeting. SAYMA members/attenders and Friends are encouraged to submit proposals for workshops even if the announced deadline has passed. All proposals will be given consideration, whether or not they address the theme. The proposal form was printed in the Winter 2010 issue of SAF and is available online at sayma.org.

### Phone Trees

by Jere Licciardello (Chattanooga)

I wonder about phone trees  
I wonder about email trees  
if they exist

Email blasts  
We send out  
Do cover everyone quickly,  
A spray  
Everyone may not read  
Not everyone grasps the content.

Not to add complexity to life

Our community grows  
in intensity  
The smaller we are.  
Unprogrammed Quakers are rare.  
Unprogrammed Hicksites are rarer still.  
Visitors and fellow rare birds  
View us with intensity in the eyes  
and hearts, seeking to find  
the identity  
the faith

The fewer we know  
The better we know  
The better we know one another

The better we communicate  
The closer we become.

Remember where Terry sat,  
Remember where Jubal, Janine sat, Butch and Breann  
Hold me in the light  
Expansion is awareness of  
Expansion and contraction  
Pangs of the heart  
Perfect in their way  
I wonder if phone trees exist.  
Maybe just pay a call.

## Help FWCC close the gap

FWCC Section of the Americas is about \$30,000 short of their annual fund goal for the fiscal year ending on April 30th. Your contribution will make a difference. Their work depends on individual Friends, meetings, churches and yearly meetings. Even more, the World Office and the programs it supports, which include financing the work of FWCC's Africa Section, depend to a great degree on the Section of the Americas for its financial support.

You may make a gift now using the secure, online website - <https://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal241/Contribute.aspx>. FWCC remains ever grateful for the generous support of Friends in the Americas.

## News of SAYMA Meetings

**Atlanta:** Young Friends fundraiser for Heifer Project netted \$1140. LED lighting installed in meetinghouse greeting room will reduce carbon emissions by 75% and save an estimated \$500 per year. Meeting hosted a forum on immigration in early March. Gathered Meeting Retreat scheduled for late March.

**Brevard:** Friends engaged with FCNL concerns and priorities. Friends responded to Faith and Practice proposed revisions.

**Celo:** Friends reaffirmed the importance of supporting young Friends' SAYF activities and listening to reports following those activities. \$100 was contributed to a fund sending El Salvador youth to college, and a commitment made to raise an additional \$500. A fund was established for Haiti earthquake relief. Meeting members traveled to Haiti to aid in relief work.

**Charleston:** Friends had worship sharing in early February. Donation to Friends Journal in amount equal to number of members who don't subscribe. Donations for Haiti relief and Ramallah Friends School. Endorsed Faith and Practice revisions on marriage, with editorial suggestions.

**Columbia:** Children volunteer monthly with Food Not Bombs, plan to support Quaker Earth-care Witness by selling Monte Verde Coffee. Friends recommended minor changes to Faith and Practice revision.

**Memphis:** Memphis Friends support 13 different causes in their annual budget, ten percent of total budget. Funded AFSC Haiti project.

**West Knoxville:** West Knoxville Meeting will be listed in FGC's traveling Friends directory. Outreach Committee plans a campus Meeting for Worship in spring. Knoxville Interfaith Committee on Conscience and War approved to use meetinghouse for their mailing address.

## SAYMA MEETINGS AND WORSHIP GROUPS

Asheville Friends Meeting	North Carolina	(828) 258-0974
Athens Friends Meeting	Georgia	(706) 353-2856
Atlanta Friends Meeting	Georgia	(404) 377-2474
Berea Friends Meeting	Kentucky	(859) 985-8950
Birmingham Friends Meeting	Alabama	(205) 592-0570
Boone Friends Meeting	North Carolina	(828) 264-5812
Brevard Friends Meeting	North Carolina	(828) 698-2862
Canton Worship Group	Georgia	(770) 720-4669
Celo Monthly Meeting	Burnsville NC	(828) 675-4456
Charleston Friends Meeting	West Virginia	(304) 756-3033
Chattanooga Friends Meeting	Tennessee	(423) 629-2580
Clemson Worship Group	South Carolina	(864) 654-2588
Columbia Friends Meeting	South Carolina	(803) 252-2221
Cookeville Monthly Meeting	Tennessee	(931) 260-1206
Crossville Friends Meeting	Tennessee	(931) 742-0030
Foxfire Friends Meeting of Holston Valley	Johnson City TN	(423) 202-8661
Greenville Friends Meeting	South Carolina	(864) 246-6852
Huntsville Area Friends Meeting	Alabama	(256) 837-6327
Memphis Friends Meeting	Tennessee	(901) 324-3500
Nashville Friends Meeting	Tennessee	(615) 329-2640
Oxford Quaker Meeting	Mississippi	(662) 234-1602
Royal Worship Group	Blountsville AL	(205) 429-3088
Sevier County Worship Group	Sevierville TN	(865) 429-1807
Sewanee Worship Group	Tennessee	(931) 598-5031
Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting	Black Mountain NC	(828) 669-0832
West Knoxville Friends Meeting	Knoxville TN	(865) 694-0036

SAYMA  
 330 Goebel Avenue  
 Savannah, GA 31404