



# SAYMA

## Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association

Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association  
June 11-14, 2009  
Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, North Carolina  
39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

**Thursday, June 11, 2009**

### **39-01 Opening Worship**

The 39th Annual Meeting of the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association began with an extended period of waiting worship.

### **38-02 Welcome and Introductions**

SAYMA Clerk, Dennis Gregg welcomed Friends to the Yearly Meeting sessions and invited Friends present to introduce themselves and their meeting affiliation. A list of Yearly Meeting attenders is appended as Attachment A. State of the Meeting Reports are appended as Attachment B.

### **39-03 Agenda Review**

Dennis Gregg presented the proposed agenda for our fifth day sessions.

39-03-01 On the recommendation of the Clerk, Friends approve the proposed agenda.

### **39-04 Epistle Committee**

The Clerk asked members of the body to volunteer for the Epistle Committee. As no one attending was led to this service, a call for members will be sought at later sessions.

### **39-05 Calendar for Representative Meeting**

The Clerk announced the schedule for representative meetings in the next year. Our fall meeting will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2009 in Crossville, TN. Our spring meeting will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 in Nashville, TN.

### **39-06 Administrative Assistant**

Liz Perch reported on her activities. She circulated her report of the Yearly Meeting census for the year ending Twelfth month 2008 (Attachment H). She is seeking additional information from two meetings. Liz is working on an updated directory. She asked Friends to review the information in the directory for accuracy and make change notations as needed. Liz expects the directory will be published two weeks after the rise of Yearly Meeting. The directory will be available electronically, as a CD or a hard copy. Liz continues to have time available to support the work of the Yearly Meeting and its committees.

On behalf of the Yearly Meeting, Dennis thanked Liz for her continuing service.

### **39-07 Nominating Committee Report**

Mark Wutka reviewed the names of Friends nominated for Yearly Meeting service. He encouraged friends to consider if they were led to serve in Yearly Meeting opportunities for service. Presently, there is need for new Clerk of the Yearly Planning Committee and Assistant Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer is appropriate for a Friend who wishes to learn the Treasurer's job and is prepared to serve as Treasurer.

### **39-08 Faith & Practice Revision Committee**

Barbara Ester reported for the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. The committee will bring forward their recommendations for revisions to sections on Community and Government for the Yearly Meeting's discernment later in our sessions.

### **39-09 Treasurer's Report**

Deanne Nipp-Kientz circulated her report (Attachment F). SAYMA finances for current the fiscal year (October 2008 – September 2009) are sound. Expenditures are running slightly over income, but this was planned by the Finance Committee and approved by Yearly Meeting. Income from assessments is being sustained despite the downturn in the national economy. Interest income has declined. Two-thirds of WQO representative budgeted travel expenses have been expended. Committees continue to use their budgeted funds. Employees have received a cost of living adjustment and receive a monthly payment in lieu of benefits. SAYF is sending regular reports and is operating within budget. Deanne expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve.

39-09-01 We accept the Treasurer's Report of June 5, 2009 with thanks.

### **39-10 Naming Committee**

Dennis reviewed the function of the Naming Committee. The Naming Committee nominates members of the Nominating Committee. There are three vacancies on the Nominating Committee needing to be filled.

39-10-01 Ceal Wutka, Barbara Ester, Errol Hess are approved as members of the 2009 Naming Committee.

### **39-11 Report of William Penn House Representative**

Charlie Wilton (Berea Meeting) reported on William Penn House. William Penn House is a Quaker lodging and program facility providing hospitality for visitors to Washington, D.C. A meeting for worship is held daily. Penn House staff are deeply involved with the local community and are demonstrating sustainable urban dwelling. Work camps are conducted annually through Washington Quaker Work Camps. Friends are encouraged to visit the website of the William Penn House. (Report attached D)

### **39-12 AFSC Corporation Representative**

Free Polazzo (Atlanta/Carrollton) reported on his service representing SAYMA to the AFSC Corporation. Free read and commented upon a communication from AFSC describing how AFSC is responding to financial losses resulting from the downturn in the economy. This loss of income is a challenge to the organization's ability to sustain its programs. The AFSC Board and the organization as a whole have responded proactively to meet these challenges. The organization is committed to keeping the organization viable and focused on the work it does best out of its unique Quaker witness. AFSC encourages Friends to witness to the importance of AFSC and solicit the support of new donors. (Report attached D)

### **39-13 FCNL Representative**

Charlie Wilton (Berea Friends Meeting) reported on his service to the General Committee of FCNL (Report Attached, D.x). There are presently two openings for additional SAYMA representatives to FCNL. He noted that Carol Nickle also serves as an at-large representative to FCNL.

Charlie reported that the work of FCNL, like other organizations, has been deeply impacted by the financial crisis, particularly by the loss of endowment income. As a result of this, 40% of staff positions are being held vacant and other staff have reduced salaries. Despite this, FCNL is important in this time. Charlie described opportunities for SAYMA Friends to help support FCNL: 1) Become a sustaining member by sending monthly contributions to the organization (FCNL provides a variety of avenues to receive contributions); 2) Monthly meetings can send their mailing list to FCNL development office and permit FCNL to provide information and soliciting contributions; 3) Friends are encouraged to write letters and visit members of Congress on the local level drawing upon FCNL's electronic and printed resources. And; 4) Insure that each local meeting has an active FCNL contact person.

Charlie described the priority setting process that FCNL goes through every two years. Charlie encouraged SAYMA to work towards developing a seasoned priority statement. Charlie invited Friends to share with him their legislative concerns.

Friends reflected on the opportunities and challenges posed to Friends by the new administration in Washington. (Report attached, D)

### **39-14 Friends General Conference (FGC) Representative**

Kristi Estes reported on her service as SAYMA's FGC Representative. FGC is also facing financial losses from income downturn in the national economy, but is managing this well. As a Representative, Kristi attends the annual General Committee Meeting and serves on one additional committee. Kristi serves on the Traveling Ministries Committee. The Traveling Ministries Committee supports the travel of seasoned Friends to assist monthly and Yearly Meetings. Other SAYMA Friends are also involved with FGC. Maia Hallward (Atlanta) serves on the Youth Ministries Committee and has provided leadership for several consultations. In addition, Stoph Hallward (Atlanta) serves as FGC's Treasurer. (Report attached, D)

### **39-15 Handbook Committee**

Sharon Annis reported that the Handbook Committee has not met during the last year, as it has not received any feedback to the draft handbook that would require a meeting.

The handbook is a resource available to committees and officers and other people assuming responsibility for the Yearly Meeting providing background information and resources. The purpose of the handbook is to provide guidance and assistance to persons asked to assume responsibility for the Yearly Meeting. The handbook is meant to be used and changed in response to new conditions. Sharon encouraged Friends to use the handbook, review its contents and give the committee feedback on its utility and needed changes. Copies of the Handbook are available from Liz Perch.

### **39-16 Advancement Committee**

Sharon Annis reported that the Advancement Committee has no formal report at this time. The Advancement Committee is an ad-hoc committee and has not met in the last year. The committee worked with the Faith and Practice Revision Committee to clarify the process by which worship groups and monthly meetings are affiliated with SAYMA. A Friend reminded us that the Advancement Committee was also engaged with the question of the Yearly Meeting's regional boundaries.

39-16-01 We lay down the Advancement Committee with our thanks.

### **39-17 Need for Advancement**

A Friend expressed a concern for advancement and asked Friends to consider developing a standing committee for this purpose. He challenged Friends to advance our Yearly Meeting. Friends described ways they have addressed the question of outreach. One meeting follows up with visitors, prints publications and insures that Friends are present at public opportunities. Several Friends encouraged us to engage with the Quaker Quest process as a means of in-reach and outreach, to provide the tools for advancing our path in keeping with our spirit. Both a plenary speaker and workshop will address this question at our Yearly Meeting sessions.

The Clerk thanked the body for their deliberations and encouraged Friends who are led to meet informally and discern how way opens.

### **39-18 Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQ)**

Gary Briggs reported on his involvement with FLGBTQ. Gary attended both at the Gathering and the mid-winter gathering. The mid-winter gathering was held outside Portland, Oregon with about 100 Friends attending.

The 2011 mid-winter gathering of FLGBTQ is scheduled to be held in North Carolina and Friends interested in assisting with planning should contact Gary.

### **39-19 Announcements**

The Yearly Meeting Planning committee is asking Friends to complete electronic on-line evaluations this year. Hard copy evaluations are available for those without access to electronic communication.

Friday at 6:30 Friends are encouraged to participate in a photograph of SAYMA holding FCNL's "War is Not the Answer" signs.

Bob Welch encouraged Friends with any questions or concerns regarding the facilities to talk with him before going to college representatives. Electric golf carts are available this year for those needing assistance. Bob described the facilities and services available at the college. Bob encouraged Friends to be mindful of children. We thanked Bob for his service.

Judy Guerry reported that members of the Ministry and Nurture committee are available for conversations. Wall hangings have been created in response to the state of the meeting reports and can be viewed in the registration area and entry hall.

### **Friday, June 12, 2009**

#### **39-20 Opening Worship**

Our meeting settled with a period of waiting worship.

#### **39-21 Welcoming Image**

The Clerk encouraged us to conduct our business sessions in a manner that holds the place and time as sacred.

#### **39-22 Travel Minute**

The Clerk read a travel minute issued by Deer Creek Friends Meeting (Baltimore Yearly Meeting) accompanying the travels of a young Friend Nigel D. Buchanon-Wollaston. Nigel is traveling under a concern to learn about young Friends groups in five Yearly Meetings, including SAYMA. Nigel is spending his time with SAYF during his time at our yearly meeting sessions. A letter from the Young Friends Committee of Baltimore Yearly Meeting supported Nigel's travel minute. Nigel is accompanied by an adult presence.

39-22-01 We welcome Nigel D. Buchanon-Wollaston to our sessions and encourage Friends to

welcome him. We ask the Clerk to endorse Nigel's travel minute.

### **39-23 Nominating Committee**

Mark Wutka reviewed the proposed nominations and continuing opportunities for service.

39-23-01 On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, we approve following Friends to the positions and terms as follows:

Assistant Clerk	Tim Lamm (Berea)	09-11
Recording Clerk	Bill Holland (Atlanta)	09-11
Ministry and Nurture, Member	Kristi Estes (Oxford)	09-11
Ministry and Nurture, Member	Jane Goldwaithe (Celo)	09-11
Ministry and Nurture, Member	Eddie Patrick (Foxfire)	09-11
Finance Clerk	Susan Phelan (Huntsville)	09-11
Finance Member	Leann Swarm (West Knoxville)	09-11
Personnel Committee Clerk	Tim Lamm (Berea)	09-11
Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, Adult Programs	John Potter (Nashville)	09-11
Peace and Social Concerns member	Jere Licciardello (Chattanooga)	09-11
Peace and Social Concerns member	Wendell Holland (Brevard)	09-11
Ecological Concerns Network Co-clerk	Shaun Chavis (Birmingham)	09-11
Editor, Southern Appalachian Friend	Kathleen Mavournin (West Knoxville)	09-11
FCNL Representative	Kelly Schoolmeester (Columbia)	08-11
FCNL Representative	Jane Hiles (Birmingham)	09-12
Quaker Earthcare Witness	David Ciscel (Memphis)	09-11

### **39-24 Epistle Committee**

The Clerk called for members of the body to serve on an epistle committee. A former member of the epistle committee highlighted the rich opportunity to synthesize the experience of the gathering for the whole body.

39-24-01 We approve Brian Yaffee (Celo) and Mary Ann Downey (Atlanta) to serve on the 2009 epistle committee.

Additional members will be welcomed.

### **39-25 Faith and Practice Revision Committee: Government**

Barbara Ester reported for the committee. Proposed revisions to the Faith and Practice section on Government was distributed. The revision on Government was read and considered. Friends expressed concern over the loss of the Peaceable Kingdom language, while other Friends expressed pain with this language. The relationship to government, government officials and the standard we hold for ourselves were concerns. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the revision committee.

39-25-01 Lacking unity on the proposed revisions, the Clerk will consult with the Faith and Practice Revision Committee to develop a proposal for a way forward if this is in right order.

### **39-26 Wider Quaker Organizations: Friends General Conference (FGC)**

Jane Berger described recent developments in Friends General Conference. A capital campaign is underway to support expanded and deepened program. The Quaker Quest program is receiving support and attention by FGC as a way for meetings as a whole to deepen their spiritual life and expand their hospitality. A new publication by Quakerbooks *Fit for Freedom, not for Friendship* highlights the complicated history of Friends and racial equality. The annual Gathering continues to draw Friends. Jane welcomed opportunities to talk with Friends about their questions and concerns for FGC.

### **39-27 Ministry & Nurture Committee Report**

Judy Guerry reported for the committee. The committee works to support and uphold the ministries of the Yearly Meeting, supporting individual ministries, providing clearness, assisting in the development of queries for Yearly Meeting and engaging in intervisitation with Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups. She described the process the committee went through to review the State of the Meeting reports and to develop the first State of the Yearly Meeting Report and artistic hangings. The State of the Yearly Meeting Report reflects the discernment of the Ministry and Nurture Committee (Appendix C.x).

Friends expressed appreciation for the support the committee has provided to deepen the spiritual life of our Yearly Meeting. Friends encouraged the committee to share their report within the Yearly Meeting (Attachment C).

### **39-28 Faith and Practice Revision Committee: Community**

Ted Edgerton (Boone MM) presented the proposed revision to the Community section of our Faith and Practice. The revision was developed out of a concern to connect our testimony of community to its roots in our spiritual experience. In addition, the question of conflict in the community and the resolution of conflict are addressed more directly in the proposed revision.

Some Friends felt the detail in the revision was more appropriate for a handbook and the earlier version is a better document for Faith and Practice. Committee members reflected that the detail reflects the “how” and not the “how to” of the manner by which we work through conflicts to achieve unity. Other Friends questioned why “looking at how we live in the world” was more important in conflict periods than all times, and why “all ages” are highlighted for inclusion in community, but not other categories. How open are our communities? Friends questioned the historical accuracy of “revelation” to describe Quakers’ early development of the testimony of community. Members of the committee described their desire to highlight the community experience and the encounter with God in community. We are bound in community to understand God’s presence. The committee aspired to lift up that community which can be the means by which Friends experience the word of God.

39-28-01 We ask the Faith and Practice Revision Committee to consider the comments to the Community proposal. We encourage all to read the proposed revisions and discern how they are led.

### **39-29 Introduction of Visitors**

Byron Sanford, Friends Meeting of Washington (BYM), serves as Executive Director of William Penn House.

Tyjohn Muata, AFSC-SERO, serves as Africa Peace Education Director. Tyjohn described her visitation with Friends during her program work.

Keith Helmuth, Secretary of Quaker Institute for the Future. Keith highlighted recent publications of the Institute.

39-29-01 We welcome these visitors, and look forward to the enrichment they provide to our sessions.

### **Friday Afternoon, June 12, 2009.**

### **39-30 Epistle Committee**

The Clerk announced that two additional Friends have offered to serve on the epistle committee.

39-30-01 We approve Laura Maynard and Nick McRae to serve on the 2009 Epistle Committee with thanks.

### **39-31 Finance Committee**

Susan Phelen reported for the committee (Attachment F.1). The Finance Committee has worked to incorporate requests from committees and groups in SAYMA. The Finance Committee is exploring questions regarding insurance for meetings, the SAYF youth fund, support for Young Adult Friends, the Released Friend Fund and the Spiritual Development Fund. The Finance Committee is in communication with meetings about their ability to meet the projected assessments.

The proposed 2010 budget was distributed for questions. Friends will be asked to approve the budget 6<sup>th</sup> day. The 2010 budget projects a reduction in contributions and interest income. Susan highlighted changes. An additional \$100 has been budgeted for Junior Yearly Meeting. A new line item has been created for Finance Committee that includes an allocation of \$100 to support travel to meetings. The contribution to the FWCC World Conference Fund is raised from \$700 to \$825 for the next three years to insure funds are sufficient to support our delegate to attend the next meeting in Kenya. In addition, funds have been increased to the FWCC Third-World Delegate Fund for the next two years to support third world delegates to attending the Kenya meetings. Both these are time-limited increases to reflect exceptional travel costs (Attachment F).

### **39-32 Facilities Coordinator**

Bob Welch introduced Liz Brace, Conference coordinator for Warren Wilson College. Bob expressed his appreciation for Liz's assistance. Liz welcomed us to the campus. She reminded Friends not to use staff parking. She asked Friends to move cars behind Kittridge Theater.

### **39-33 Friends Committee for National Legislation**

Bridget Moix was introduced. She invited Friends to attend the FCNL workshop tomorrow and plenary this evening. She welcomed opportunities to talk with Friends.

### **39-34 AFSC SERO Representative**

Geeta McGahey reported the Southeast Region of AFSC is facing budget reductions and has been asked to propose reductions ranging from 40 to 60%. Despite these challenges, SERO staff and committee continue to be engaged in vital issues. The SERO office is working to direct its work to southern issues including immigration, the school to prison pipeline and the militarization of the south. The SERO office will be moving to loaned spaces with prayers that funds set aside for renovating the building are still available. (Report attached D)

### **39-35 Faith the Practice: Government**

Barbara Ester reviewed proposed revisions to the section on Government based on concerns expressed by Friends on Fifth day. In paragraph 4 the phrase “when conscience has demanded it” is removed from sentence 2 and placed at the end of the paragraph. In the last sentence the phrase “the life of the blessed community, known to many Friends as the “Peaceable Kingdom” replaces ”the life of the peaceable community.”

39-35-01 On the recommendation of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee, we approve the proposed Government section as revised (Attachment G).

### **39-36 Faith and Practice: Community**

Ted Edgerton reviewed three changes that have made to the Community draft circulated earlier in our sessions (Appendix G). He thanked the body for its comments and asked that the committee continue working to develop a further refinement for presentation at a later time.

39-36-01 We approve the Faith and Practice Revision Committee’s direction revising the Community section. We approve the changing of the word “revelation” to “foundation” in paragraph 1. We approve removing the phrase “of all ages” and “especially when things are not going well” in paragraph 2. We look forward to the ongoing discernment of the committee.

### **39-37 Roll Call**

The Clerk called the roll of meeting, asking Friends to stand as their meetings were named.

### **39-38 Peace Consultation**

Liz Perch reported on the Peace Conference, *Heeding God’s Call - A Gathering on Peace* which was held January 13-17, 2009 in Philadelphia. The three historic peace churches sponsored the conference. The work of the consultation has continued, particularly on issues of urban gun violence. During the consultation, participants in the conference learned about the roots of gun violence and its connection to poverty and violence locally and globally. A group of 12 participants were arrested during a protest at a gun shop. During a trial two weeks ago, the charges were dropped. The website for the conference is still available and electronic files of the conference presentations are available (<http://peacegathering2009.org>).

### **39-39 Personnel Committee**

Kristi Estes reported for the personnel committee. SAYMA has two employees, Liz is supervised by the Clerk, and Therese Hildebrand is supervised by the SAYF Steering Committee. The Personnel Committee coordinates the yearly evaluation process and coordinates our relationship with employees. The Personnel Committee recommends that a credit card be obtained by the Yearly Meeting for Liz to use. The Personnel and Finance Committee support this proposal. A Friend recommended printing SAYMA’s tax-exempt number on the card.

39-39-01 We accept the report of the Personnel Committee with thanks.

### **39-40 Approval to Obtain Credit Card**

39-40-01 On the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and Finance Committee, we approve the Yearly Meeting obtaining a credit card for the use of the Administrative Assistant.

### **39-41 Announcements**

Friends shared announcements related to the Yearly Meeting program.



Warren Wilson Colleges asks that children under 12 years be supervised and accompanied by a responsible adult while on campus.

We will hold Susie and Hector Black in the light. Susie's health is poor.

**Saturday, June 13, 2009**

**39-42 Opening Worship**

Our meeting opened with a period of settling worship.

**39-43 Welcome**

The Clerk shared his hope that our Yearly Meeting sessions will provide such a healing presence that we can share our pain and heal it without spreading it to others.

**39-44 Southern Appalachian Young Friends (SAYF) Report.**

Cathi Watkins, outgoing SAYF co-clerk, reported for SAYF. SAYF is a program for middle and high school Friends. Cathi expressed appreciation for the support of many SAYMA Friends for the SAYF program throughout the year and at Yearly Meeting. There are 48 SAYFer's at this Yearly Meeting session. They are supported by 7 adults serving as FAP's (Friendly Adult Presence). SAYF is a 24-hour a day program and it has been the experience of SAYF that 10 FAPS are needed to provide support without exhaustion. Friendly Adult Presence at SAYF must cover a 24-hour job and interested Friends are encouraged to participate. She encouraged Friends to actively introduce themselves to SAYF participants and assist them in staying connected with SAYF programs. At each Yearly Meeting there is a SAYF graduation. A challenge today is how to support young Friends after their graduation to Young Adult Friends.

A full report of SAYF activities may be found in Attachment C.

39-44-01 We express our thanks to Cathi Watkins for her service to SAYF for 10 years.

**39-45 SAYMA Young Adult Friends**

Galen Labotka (West Knoxville) serves as Clerk of YAF. YAF continues to define itself as a community. YAF holds quarterly retreats and business meetings. YAF is trying to grow. YAF desires stronger connection with SAYMA. Galen asked monthly meetings to extend invitations to YAF to host their retreats. YAF hopes to have connection with meetings and to participate in special events, work camps and other opportunities. The desire is to connect with others of that age group. YAF needs assistance to understand how to secure funding to support their program. YAF needs assistance to make connections with young adults who are not yet connected with the YAF program.

In response to questions, Galen and other YAF members reported they have a Facebook page (SAYMA YAFs) to make connections with one another. YAF is appropriate for Friends who have graduated from high school up to age 35. It was suggested that a SAYF newsletter article would be useful. At present, no list of potential YAfer's exists and Galen asked that monthly meetings help with making these connections. A Friend suggested YAF send a communication to each monthly meeting announcing the spring retreat and encouraging contacts.

The Clerk announced that a meeting will be held during the committee time for Friends interested in continuing to explore how YAF can be supported and continue to grow in our Yearly Meeting.

**39-46 Wider Quaker Organization: Quaker House**

Chuck Fager reported for Quaker House. We received an update on Chuck's internal health. Quaker House is located in Fayetteville, North Carolina, close to Ft. Bragg Army Base and is in its 40<sup>th</sup> year of operation. Quaker House has published a book (*Yes to the Troops, No to the Wars*) this year describing its history. The book is available for purchase. Chuck described Quaker House as being at the center of the "torture industrial

complex.” Quaker House is continuing to conduct counter-recruiting programming and is exploring how to “recreate” a peace movement, while also continuing to provide counseling and support for soldiers. Chuck views Quaker House as a manifestation of the religious life and witness of the Religious Society of Friends. Quaker House, like other organizations, faces funding challenges and needs continued support.

Quaker House will be holding an observance of its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this year.

### 39-47 Site Selection Committee Report

Liz Perch reported for the committee. The committee sent out requests for proposals to 22 institutions and received seven responses. Of the seven, two were unavailable on the dates we require and the five others were significantly more expensive than our current arrangement. The committee has been working very productively with the Warren Wilson’s new conference coordinator, Liz Brace. This year we have secured a written contract for our sessions. We have a preliminary agreement for June 9-13 with Warren Wilson for our sessions in 2010.

Accessibility poses a challenge and Liz encouraged us to undergo a “culture change” to advocate for and with Friends to utilize the opportunities that support their participation.

39-47-01 We approve holding our 40<sup>th</sup> annual sessions at Warren Wilson College, June 9-13, 2010.

39-47-02 We ask the site selection committee to undertake steps to secure a contact with Warren Wilson for the second weekend of June 2011.

### 39-48 Nominating Committee

Mark Wutka reported for the committee. Mark presented the nominations and openings.

39-48-01 on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, Friends approve the following individuals to the positions and terms of service:

Assistant Treasurer	Peter Furst (Birmingham)	09-11
Finance Committee Member	Julia Sibley-Jones (Columbia)	09-11
Finance Committee Member	Kendall Ivie (West Knoxville)	09-11
SAYF Steering Committee Co-Clerk	Chuck Jones (Chattanooga)	09-11
Peace and Social Concerns Committee Clerk	Steve Livingston (Asheville)	09-11
JYM Oversight	Wendy Satterthwait (Berea)	09-11
JYM Oversight	Rachel Weir (Celo)	09-11
FLGBTQ Rep	Christina Van Regenmorter (Nashville)	09-11
QEW Rep	Roy Taylor (Canton)	
FGC Rep	Ceal Wutka (Atlanta)	09-10
RSWF Contact Person	Karen Morris (Atlanta)	09-11
Faith and Practice Revision Committee	Ann Welch (Swannanoa)	09-
Yearly Meeting co-registrar	Linda Trask (Nashville)	09-11
Yearly Meeting Local Arrangements	Bob Welch (Swannanoa)	09-11
Quaker House Representative	Harry Rogers (Columbia)	09-11

There are still openings for Clerk of the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, AFSC Corporation Representative and AFSC (SERO) Representative.

**39-49 Finance Committee – 2010 SAYMA Budget**

Susan Phelan asked Friends for questions on the 2010 budget.

39-49-01 On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, we approve the 2010 budget as submitted.

**39-50 Naming Committee**

Errol Hess reported that the Naming Committee sought geographical diversity in discerning new members for the Nominating Committee.

39-50-01 On the recommendation of the Naming Committee, we approve the following Friends to the Nominating Committee for a two year term:

- Hank Fay (2009-2011)
- Missy Ivey (2009-2011)
- Kit Potter (2009-2011).

39-50-02 We lay down the 2009 Naming Committee with thanks.

**39-51 Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) / Ecological Concerns Network (ECN)**

Roy Taylor reported that the Quaker Earthcare Witness is the national organization while the Ecological Concerns Network is the SAYMA internal organization concerned with sustainability and ecological witness. Quaker Earthcare Witness is continuing its programs, developing publications and improving its website.

**Sunday, June 14, 2008**

**39-52 Opening Worship**

We began our First Day sessions with a period of settling worship.

**39-53 Welcome**

The Clerk welcomed the body, visitors were introduced.

**39-54 Nominating Committee**

Mark Wutka presented additional nominations.

39-54-01 On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, we approve

Peace and Social Concerns Committee	Julia Ewen (Atlanta)	09-11
AFSC-SERO Representative	Peter Furst (Birmingham)	09-12

The Clerk thanked the nominating committee for their labors.

**39-55 Ministry and Nurture Committee**

Judy Guerry reported. The Ministry and Nurture Committee recommends SAYMA endorse Marilyn Sizer's (Chattanooga) application for a Cooper Scholarship at the Earlham School of Religion. Chattanooga Friends have minuted their endorsement of Marilyn after a clearness committee met with her. Judy explained

the Cooper Scholarship is named after Wilmer Cooper, a founder of ESR, and provides two years of tuition assistance to students at the Earlham School of Religion.

39-55-01 On the recommendation of the Ministry and Nurture Committee, we endorse the application of Marilyn Sizer for a Cooper Scholarship at Earlham School of Religion. We understand a support committee will be created for her continuing care.

Judy expressed appreciation for the work of Liz Perch collecting the state of the meeting reports enabling Ministry and Nurture Committee to have sufficient time to study and discern our life as a Yearly Meeting.

### **39-56 Minute of Thanks**

The Clerk expressed our appreciation to Warren Wilson College and Liz Brace, the college Conference Coordinator. We also thank Bob Welch for his able service as local arrangements coordinator. Friends expressed their appreciations: The food is incredible, the grounds are glorious and the facilities welcomed us. The use of the golf carts and the care of Friends attention to the needs of all participants facilitated a tendering presence that nurtured our spirits.

Friends expressed appreciation for the many behind the scenes activities Liz Perch has completed to enable our sessions to be spirit led.

### **39-57 Registrar's Report**

Adrienne Weir, co-registrar reported for the registrars. A total of 214 Friends attended our Yearly Meeting sessions. Of these 19 attended Junior Yearly Meeting, 45 were SAYFer's, 7 YAF's and 151 Adults (including YAF's). \$486 was provided for scholarships and \$1125 in contributions was received.

The Clerk encouraged Friends to bring a Friend to next year's sessions.

### **39-58 Epistle Committee**

Laura Maynard (Asheville MM) reported for the Epistle Committee. She read the Epistle for Friends' consideration.

39-58-01 On the recommendation of the Epistle Committee, we approve the 2009 Epistle with revisions and additions (Attachment F.x).

39-58-02 We lay down the 2009 Epistle Committee with thanks.

The epistle will be circulated to all Yearly Meetings in North America and to all Yearly Meetings from whom we receive epistles. The epistle will be translated into Spanish.

### **39-59 SAYMA Young Adult Friends**

Three Young Adult Friends presented their epistle through mime with the assistance of a "translator." The joys of pizza making were enacted. "Simple living rocked our socks off." A FCNL planned workshop fell through. The concern of no money was enacted through dumpster diving. Hugs were exchanged and exploring of ways to integrate new members into YAF and to integrate YAF into the wider SAYF community has begun.

39-59-01 We accept the epistle of SAYMA Young Adult Friends.

The Clerk reported that the Sixth day meeting of Young Adult Friends and other SAYMA Friends had been productive and produced greater clarify and direction.

### **39-60 Southern Appalachian Young Friends (SAYF)**

In an exercise of collective memory enactment (and a misplaced document), four SAYFer's delivered their epistle. In September, the SAYF retreat was held in Atlanta with a healing circle remembering and healing the loss felt from the death of a member of the community. The October retreat was held in Asheville with the theme of listening. The retreat included chakra work, dancing and music. The November retreat was held in Knoxville, planned by Berea Meeting. The retreat included nature walks, meditating with apples and looking deeper and was "super-cool." The January retreat was held Atlanta again. The theme was spiritual journey to the future. It was focused on how to incorporate spirituality into the future. This was explored through art. The art experience and a talent show were highlights. In March SAYFer's met in Nashville with a theme of spirituality, a drummer from a nearby intentional community, "the Farm," drummed near the Nashville Parthenon with dancing. The music and dancing were great and the SAYF community invited the larger community to also participate. The April retreat was held at the Old Greer House in Banner Elk North Carolina, the theme was nurturing spirituality and a clerking workshop was pretty cool. In June SAYF came to Yearly Meeting and that was "super-cool." The Yearly Meeting culminated in the graduation of three seniors from the SAYF.

39-60-01 We accept the Epistle from Southern Appalachian Young Friends with appreciation.

39-60-02 We expressed our thanks to Kathy Watkins, Therese Hildebrand and to all the FAPS, the many resource people and Monthly Meeting who make this community possible.

### **39-61 Epistle: Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM).**

Heidemarie and Stephen Huber-Feely are completing their fourth year coordinating the Junior Yearly Meeting. Heidemarie expressed thanks to the SAYMA community, on behalf of Stephen and herself, for the opportunity to coordinate the JYM. She expressed thanks for the support from the wider community. She thanked parents and support people for their tender care.

JYM carried the theme of weaving community. Younger and older children were paired to support each other. Each child drew a picture of their favorite activity that was then woven on a loom into a tapestry. Children were given the opportunity to describe their joys. Highlights included: the George Fox Game, going to the Swannanoa River, making pizza, creating a bamboo long-house, seeing the piglets, the horse and the stinky compost pile. Heidemarie and Stephen reported on other activities including crafts, weaving and creating a stone-soup inspired fruit salad.

39-61-01 We accept the epistle of Junior Yearly meeting with thanks.

Ron McDonald, convener of the Junior Yearly Meeting Oversight Committee, and other JYMC members expressed appreciation for the service of Heidemarie and Stephen. A gift certificate to Quakerbooks and honey dipper "symbolizing the hard work to get sweet returns" were presented. A mug with the quote "the best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched, they must be felt with the heart," which committee members felt embodied the service of Stephen and Heidemarie.

39-61-02 We are deeply grateful for the gifts of Heidemarie and Stephen Huber-Feely and their leadership of the JYM for the last four years. We thank them for their service.

### **39-62 Clerk**

The Clerk expressed appreciation for the service of Friends serving on SAYMA committees, as representatives of SAYMA and in positions of responsibility for making our community possible and vital.

### **39-63 Announcements**

Errol Hess requested Friends submit news items related to the life of our meetings to him for inclusion in the newsletter.

### **39-64 Next Meeting**

If it is in accord with God's will we will hold our 40<sup>th</sup> annual sessions at Warren Wilson College, Sixth Month 9-13, 2010.

### **39-65 Closing Worship.**

We closed our sessions with an extended period of waiting worship.

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Dennis Gregg, Clerk  
(Archive copy signed)

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Bill Holland, Recording Clerk  
(Archive copy signed)

### **Attachments:**

- A: Attendance List (print distribution only)
- B: State of the Meeting Reports
- C: Committee & Officers Reports
- D. WQO Representatives' Reports
- E. Epistles
- F Financial Reports
- G Faith and Practice Proposals
- H Miscellaneous
- I. Nominating Committee Report and Complete Roster of Officers and Committee