

Nominating Committee Report June 2023

As always, the Nominating Committee has been working hard to find volunteers to fill positions of responsibility for SAYMA. Along with that work we are still developing descriptions of existing committees and positions so that we know what we are asking people to do. In discussing the latter we discovered that there is not clarity around a few of these standing committees. We would like to ask the Yearly Meeting to discuss these three committees again in order to strengthen and clarify what we want them to be doing for us, or to lay them down if they are no longer necessary for our work:

Peace and Social Concerns

Outreach

Earth Justice

We have also talked about how we can reach younger Friends to bring them into our discussions and into any positions of responsibility that they may feel called to. If anyone has any ideas of how to facilitate this process please contact the committee.

Here are our current slate of nominations for Yearly Meeting:

Hugh Thomforde (Cookeville MM) continuing as AFSC representative 2023-2026. Hugh has been enjoying this organization's committed work on keeping our testimonies alive for the last few years and would like to continue to do so as the representative from SAYMA. He brings a calm centeredness to all the work he does.

Chris DeBeer (associated through Swannanoa Valley MM) for clerk of SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Chris is a long time parent, SAYF supporter and lead Friendly Adult Nurturer. He has also helped with the stewardship of the finances of SAYF, supported the current clerk during very challenging times, and has served in leadership roles in his Monthly Meeting.

Kevin Moran (Atlanta MM) for co-clerk of Ministry and Nurture 2023-2025. Kevin feels led to continue solidifying and strengthening our Ministry and Nurture committee with his servant leadership. He has faithfully attended meetings and been the note keeper this year, sharing his many gifts and a deep, centered spirit.

Barbara Esther (Asheville MM) continuing as co-clerk of Ministry and Nurture 2023-2024. Barbara has graciously agreed to continue co-clerking the Ministry and Nurture committee for another year. Along with many other talents, she brings a cheerful, Spirit based practicality to the committee.

Asa Kramer-Dickie (Atlanta MM) for SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Asa, a former SAYFer, is the Young Friends Program Coordinator at Atlanta Meeting. They have a varied and large experience with the Quaker community and will bring much appreciated younger energy and perspective to the committee.

Jennifer Killen (associated through Durham MM) for SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Jennifer is the parent of a young Friend and a Friendly Adult Nurturer who is learning how SAYF works and what it means to center young Friends at retreats. She feels led to continue this work and values the wider and different perspective that young Friends outside our area and even our Yearly Meeting bring to the SAYF community.

Beth Myers (Lexington MM, through affiliation with Berea MM) for SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Beth has spent many years working with and supporting young Friends through many different aspects of our community. She brings listening skills, experience of the Quaker community, an ability to ask for clarity when needed, and a willingness to serve.

Brent Wolf (Atlanta MM) for SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Brent is the parent of two SAYFers, has been an avid supporter of young Friends for years, and serves on the Young Friends Support committee at Atlanta Friends Meeting. He appreciates and upholds the perspective of young Friends, particularly adolescents.

Kevin Moran (Atlanta MM) FGC Rep 2023-2026. Kevin will be attending Friends General Conference Gathering this summer. In retirement he is focusing on service and has a leading to be one of our representatives to this organization.

Lon Eilders (Chattanooga MM) Quaker House Rep 2023-2026. Lon is relatively new to Friends and has spent many years learning about spirituality through different practices. He is a Vietnam Veteran, which will be an asset for being our representative to Quaker House.

Ian Saderholm (Berea MM) continuing on SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Even though Ian is a former SAYFer, at present residing outside of our region, he wants to continue being a presence with the steering committee. He brings consistent attention to the work and thoughtful commentary on issues being discussed.

Robert Sears (Berea MM) continuing on SAYF Steering 2023-2025. Robert brought invaluable medical knowledge during the pandemic, and an understanding of young Friends. His work on the SAYF finance committee has also been much appreciated. He would like to continue.

Geeta MaGahey (Celo MM) for Wider Quaker Organizations Allocations Committee 2023-2025. Geeta has many years of experience with the wider Quaker community and has also served on the finance committee as well as this committee. She has the skills and the willingness to join this work.

Don Hyde (Cookeville MM) for YMPC member 2023-2025. Don has been a wandering Friend for a while and has found his way back to worship in the manner of Friends with attendance at Cookeville MM. He has a leading to explore where his gifts may best be used for the Yearly Meeting. He will bring fresh energy and perspective to the work of the planning committee.

Beth Myers (Lexington MM, through affiliation with Berea MM), continuing as representative to Friends World Committee for Consultation 2023-2026. Beth is led to continue her work in this position for SAYMA.

In service to the Yearly Meeting, your Nominating Committee,

Kendall Ivey, Knoxville MM, co-clerk

Annie Black, Cookeville MM, co-clerk

Pat Gailey, Berea MM

Morgan Murray, Asheville MM

Julia Ewen, Atlanta MM

Chuck Jones, Chattanooga MM

Mark Gooch, Birmingham MM

Adrian Mehr, Memphis MM