

SAYMA Representative Meeting #102 (Spring)
Nashville, Tennessee
April 6, 2002 9 am

1. Opening

After a period of silence, Clerk Sharon Annis welcomed Friends and read the following passage from Lloyd Lee Wilson's *Essays on the Quaker Vision of Gospel Order*:

Quakers have been notable over the centuries for a set of behaviours they have called testimonies. Of these, the most notorious has been our refusal to participate in war or the preparation for war, which is usually called the peace testimony. In recent years Friends have treated these testimonies as valuable in and of themselves, but to our spiritual forebears this was not the case: they were the naturally-occurring outward signs that a more important and fundamental change had taken place within the individual.

Early Friends described themselves as persons who had undergone a radical transformation -- George Fox called it "passing through the flaming sword" -- which had brought them much nearer to Christ who was the Truth of creation, and to a fuller understanding of that Truth. They were changed people inwardly, and their outward lives changed as a result. These outward changes were called the testimonies of their lives, which were now seen as witnesses to the Truth. As a witness in a courtroom testifies to the truth he has personally seen and heard in order to convince a jury of his peers of the truth, these new Friends witnessed with their lives, giving testimony about the Truth that had changed them. They testified in order to convince their peers of the Truth -- and for Friends, everyone was their peer.

Today we often put the cart before the horse, and speak of the testimonies as being at the heart of Quakerism; but our spiritual forebears made no such mistake. They knew "experimentally" what we often forget; outward change and/or societal reformation are not by themselves sufficient to change human beings, even if they were possible by themselves, and they are not in fact possible without a concomitant inward transformation. God's grace and love acting in our hearts is the necessary first motion, which makes all other change possible. We act and talk these days as if simply removing social injustice and poverty would bring about a golden age of humankind. If it were possible with a magic wand to end all social injustice and poverty overnight, within a generation all the present ills of the world would have been reproduced, because the true problems are in the hearts of human beings, not in their surroundings.

2. Introductions

Friends present introduced themselves. A list of attenders is attached as Appendix A.

3. Agenda

The clerk explained an experiment with the agenda for today's meeting. Time before lunch will be available for committee meetings.

4. Announcements

Friends General Conference Gathering. Perry Treadwell encouraged Friends to send in their registrations and keep a copy.

Quaker Center for Spiritual Practice. Dennis Gregg announced that Crossville Friends are considering the creation of a Quaker Center for Spiritual Practice that would offer quarterly one-day practice sessions.

Nurturing the Meeting Community. Penelope Wright distributed information about "Nurturing the Meeting Community: A Conference for Friends who are Called to Care and Counsel in their Quaker Communities," sponsored by Friends General Conference, September 19-22 in Rosholt, WI. Attendance is limited to 200.

Faith and Practice. Administrative Assistant Mary Calhoun announced that SAYMA's *Guide to Our Faith and Our Practice* is out of print. She is keeping a list of Friends who need to have copies as soon as they are available.

5. Logo Committee

The clerk reviewed the background for the logo committee, which was appointed at December representative meeting. A variety of images and forms of letterhead have been used over the years. The representative meeting had appointed the committee to start a process to develop a logo that could be used to represent SAYMA in a consistent way.

Carol Lamm, convener of the committee, presented the committee's report in five sections: technical criteria, a discernment/discussion process for determining what we want the logo to communicate; criteria and process for artist selection; a tentative timeline; and a budget request for authorization to spend up to \$300 if a suitable volunteer artist is not available.

A question was raised whether it is necessary for SAYMA to develop a logo. The proposed process is complex and would require substantial energy as well as possibly funds. Would it not be more in keeping with our testimony of simplicity to choose a font for letterhead?

The clerk asked Friends to settle into worship and reflect on whether the committee should be instructed to go forward with the process. Among the messages shared were that SAYMA exists in a wider world; in a visual age, it is helpful to have an image associated with words in order to reach people who use many different approaches to remembering. An artist spoke to the importance of including art in the life of the yearly meeting. A Friend shared doubts that an image on a piece of paper would strengthen our spirituality or sense of community; however, the process of developing an image might have this effect.

Friends approved the continuation of the committee's work, with the understanding that the committee's contribution may be primarily in the process rather than in the product of a logo. Friends authorized the committee to spend up to \$300 on the process, including the possibility of paying an artist if needed.

6. Southern Appalachian Young Friends

Kathleen Mavournin, Co-Clerk of the SAYF Steering Committee, reported on two recent retreats. At a retreat in West Knoxville, the SAYF group participated in a service project with the Muslim community and attended a Muslim worship service. At a February Nurturing Committee retreat in Atlanta, Mary Ann Downey led a workshop on eldering and clearness, which was also very successful. Things are going well. She asked Friends to carry back to Meetings a concern that our young people are deeply distressed about the state of the political world. They are concerned about the possible re-imposition of the draft. Friends need to consider how we can support our young people as they face these issues.

7. February Peace Conference

Bob Welch reported on the February gathering, "Bringing Our Peace Testimony to Life in These Times" and expressed his appreciation for the way Representative Meeting turned the organizers loose to organize the gathering. His report is attached as Appendix B. Friends who were present testified to the value of the conference and reported on subsequent events.

Following a break for committee meetings and lunch, Friends reconvened with a period of silent worship.

8. Faith and Practice Revision Committee

Penelope Wright presented the following report and recommendations from the Faith and Practice Revision Committee:

The committee has met twice with a third meeting scheduled for June 1. We are pleased with our progress, fully realizing that we have barely made a dent in the amount to be accomplished.

We ask the Clerk of SAYMA to appoint a clerk for the committee as our previous one asked to be released due to health issues. One other Friend has had to resign, so we would welcome another committee member also.

We recommend that we continue the present form of printing *Faith and Practice*, that is, folded, stapled pages in a heavy paper cover. After careful consideration, we did not think that a loose-leaf, ring-binder form would be cost nor time effective.

We recommend that there be two distinct documents: *Guide to Faith and Practice* and *Handbook*. We are aware that it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between practice and procedures, but understand that the latter document is subject to more frequent amendment and needs to be readily available to all Friends serving positions of responsibility within SAYMA. We recommend that a separate committee be named to review the present material designated as *Handbook*, revise it to current status and receive and consider items culled from the F&P Revision Committee's work that have been deemed more appropriate for the handbook.

We recommend that the integrated version of F&P that the Revision Committee is using for its work become the example for re-printing. It will replace the blue-covered, cut and pasted revisions version. It does need some format attention as it is not in suitable page arrangement for printing, but Steve Livingston of the committee will be glad to work with those people involved in the re-printing of the F&P.

We recommend that the integrated version be available through the SAYMA website. We hope to be able to post the proposed changes as we discern them, so that Friends might be better acquainted with them when they are brought forth for approval.

We remind Friends that the process for proposing changes to F&P is: all suggestions need to be seasoned within the monthly meeting and sent to the Revision Committee once a meeting has minuted the proposed changes.

Friends approved the recommendation that *Faith and Practice* continue to be printed in a bound format.

Friends decided that a table of contents will be added to the integrated version of *Faith and Practice*. The integrated version will then be printed for internal SAYMA use and will be made available outside of SAYMA. A working copy will also be available through the website.

Friends agreed that a handbook separate from *Faith and Practice* should be completed. Friends agreed that the creation of a handbook committee be added to the yearly meeting agenda.

Friends agreed with a recommendation from the Ecological Concerns Network that all future printings of *Faith and Practice* be done on 100 percent post-consumer recycled paper.

9. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kendall Ivie presented the following report.

Our financial health is excellent. The total cash on hand is over \$26,000. In addition we have \$7,759.50 set aside in various funds. Over the next 3 months we have \$6,750 in contributions we will donate to Wider Quaker Organizations and RSVP. The projected end of year cash on hand excluding set aside funds should be \$20,000.

A report of Monthly Meeting assessments received is attached as Appendix C.

10. Minute on Israel and Palestine

Sallie Prugh reported on the discussion of an ad hoc committee that met to consider a possible SAYMA minute on the Israeli-Palestinian situation. The committee reviewed minutes from West Knoxville and Columbia Monthly Meetings and believes that they can fruitfully be combined. The two minutes are attached as Appendix D.

The committee would like to continue its work to prepare a minute to propose at yearly meeting and recommends placing the proposed minute on the agenda at yearly meeting. Friends approved.

Friends discussed the need for clarity about the purpose, development and audience for minutes of concern. Friends noted that it would be valuable to discuss these issues at the monthly meeting level. Friends welcomed the clerk's offer to write a newsletter article on the use and significance of minutes of concern.

11. Minute on Population

A revised minute on population is ready for consideration at yearly meeting 2002. The draft minute is attached as Appendix E. Friends agreed to place the population minute on the yearly meeting agenda.

12. Death Penalty

Many monthly meetings have reported as requested on their actions on the death penalty. Their minutes and accounts of work on the death penalty were mailed to representatives in preparation for this meeting and are attached to these minutes as Appendix F.

At yearly meeting 2001, a question arose of whether SAYMA has ever passed a minute on the death penalty. The clerk reported that a survey of the minutes of previous years has determined that SAYMA has never approved a minute on the death penalty. Friends agreed to put the creation of a committee to draft a minute on the death penalty on the agenda for yearly meeting.

13. Finance Committee

Chris Berg, clerk of the Finance Committee, presented the following report:

The Finance Committee reminds all SAYMA funds recipients to please submit your documentation to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

The Committee recommends that a review of books take place every two years, normally in connection with a change in the Treasurer.

The Committee recommends that the term of a Treasurer be limited to four consecutive years.

The Committee is continuing to review the possible benefits of incorporation for SAYMA, tax status, and liability insurance (with help from the experience of other Yearly Meetings); and of other aspects of our financial practice. No recommendations in these areas are submitted at this time.

The Committee reminds Friends that the spring Representative Meeting is normally the closing date for requests for new or amended budgets. The SAYMA Treasurer drafted the following procedure in 1991:

“...The projects of the Yearly Meeting and the Monthly Meetings are placed on the budget by a proposal to the SAYMA Representatives Meeting and with an approval at the Yearly Meeting Business Meeting. Direct requests for projects and one time requests for funds at the annual Yearly Meeting Business Session are not encouraged because the assembled Friends at Yearly Meeting are frequently not well enough informed to act. For requests from organizations outside of SAYMA’s area, it has become the practice to forward these requests to the Monthly Meetings....

“The Monthly Meeting is the source of the Yearly Meeting funds. It has more flexibility and appropriately is the place for decisions about further funding for Quaker organizations. Therefore, Friends with requests for other Quaker organizations or unusual expenses are encouraged to take these to their Monthly Meeting for consideration and/or inform Friends of these needs through the [*Southern Appalachian Friend*]. This method for handling Yearly Meeting Funds was planned by the Finance Committee in order to allow Friends at Yearly Meeting more time for other matters and forms of expression.”

In order to allow appropriate consideration, Finance Committee asks Monthly Meetings, Committees and others to communicate budget requests to the FC by three weeks prior to the spring Representatives Meeting.

The Committee has received the following new or revised budget items. Current amounts are shown, as are proposals affecting the current 2001-2 budget and/or the upcoming 2002-03 budget:

Right Sharing of World Resources:	
Approved 2001-2,	\$200
Proposed for 2001-2,	\$800
Proposed for 2002-3,	\$800

Ecological Concerns Network:

Approved 2001-2,	\$0
Proposed for 2001-2,	\$200 [travel/postage/phone/copies]
Proposed for 2002-3,	\$200

Friends Committee on Unity with Nature:

Approved 2001-2,	\$200
Proposed for 2001-2,	\$400
Proposed for 2002-3,	\$400

Quaker Eco-Witness:

Approved 2001-2,	\$0
Proposed for 2001-2,	\$400
Proposed for 2002-3,	\$400

Guilford College (SAYMA records archive cost)

Approved 2001-2,	\$0
Proposed for 2001-2,	\$100
Proposed for 2002-3,	\$100

The committee recommends each of these proposals.

Other budget matters:

1. The SAYF liaison has provided draft operating and retreat budgets. Slight reductions (\$350 operating and \$150 retreats) are proposed for the coming year. The committee recommends approval of these adjustments.

2. The personnel committee requests budget for a 2% COLA, cost of living allowance, for staff during the 2002-3 year. Finance committee recommends increasing the Personnel line item from \$15,000 to \$15,260 to allow this. The Finance Committee also understands that a payment in lieu of health benefits of \$600 per year worked will be made to each employee, which will be paid from personnel resources already budgeted.

The Treasurer believes that SAYMA continues in a healthy cash position, which is capable of absorbing the specified proposed increases and new items.

These budget recommendations assume the continuation of the assessment at \$55 yearly per active member and regular attender. Because there are significant uncertainties at present, the Committee does not propose an assessment level at this time, but will bring a recommended assessment level to Yearly Meeting.

The finance committee appreciates SAYF's submission of estimates of in-kind and local meeting support for its operations and retreats.

In response to a question, Friends present explained that Quaker Eco-Witness was formed independently two years ago to promote public policies to help restore and protect Earth's biological integrity. It is now a project of Friends Committee on Unity with Nature. QEW's activities include publishing Quaker Eco-Bulletin, issuing Friendly Eco-Action Alerts to a network of almost 400 Friends across the country,

sponsoring an eco-intern in Washington, DC, and planning a Friends' consultation on economics, ecology, and public policy.

Friends approved the amounts proposed by the Finance Committee for both the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 budget year. Friends also approved the addition of \$100 for the Swarthmore College records archive program in each of the budget years.

Bob Welch invited SAYMA to make a contribution to sending Debra Johnson of Memphis Monthly Meeting to Iraq with the American Friends Service Committee. Susan Penn of Memphis explained that Debra Johnson has been deeply involved in Memphis Friends' work on peace and specifically Iraq. Memphis Friends only learned of Debra's trip and the need to raise funds for it within the past several days. In view of the short time frame, Memphis Friends refrained from making a request at Representative Meeting and planned to invite SAYMA Friends to contribute through other means. After a period of worship, Friends were moved to support Debra Johnson's trip with \$1800 from the SAYMA General Fund.

Friends expressed appreciation to the Finance Committee for its faithful work.

14. Nominating Committee

Penelope Wright, Nominating Committee Clerk, reported that there is an urgent need for a junior yearly meeting coordinator. She urged representatives to publicize this opening within their meetings. If at all possible, the JYM coordinator should attend the April 27 meeting of the planning committee.

The committee is also seeking individuals for the following positions:

- Treasurer (2-year term, includes being part of Finance Committee)
- 2-3 Southern Appalachian Young Friends (SAYF) Steering Committee Members - especially female to maintain a gender balance
- 1-2 SAYF Oversight Committee Members
- Yearly Meeting Planning Committee (Note: The YM Planning Committee is generally a 2-year commitment, ideally staggered terms.)
- Clerk (or co-clerks)
- Adult/Evening Program Coordinator
- Junior YM Coordinator
- Workshop Coordinator
- Worship Sharing Coordinator
- Local Arrangements (2 people generally share this--ideally people near the YM site, but we don't yet know where that is for YM 2003.)
- Co-registrar
- Bookstore
- Site Committee - 3 people and someone from SAYF to consult
- Ecological Concerns Network Co-Clerk (2 year term)
- Archivist
- American Friends Service Committee South East Region (AFSC/SERO) Executive Committee-2 (2 people have indicated interest already)
- AFSC Corporation
- Friends Committee on National Legislation representative
- Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns
- Friends World Committee for Consultation

William Penn House Board (Will be re-visited this YM as to whether we continue to participate.)
Quaker House Board

She asked Friends to contact her or the other committee members, Jane Goldthwait and Perry Treadwell, with the names of Friends who might be considered for these positions.

15. Peace Tax Fund Minute

Atlanta Friends Meeting has requested that the following minute be included on the agenda of yearly meeting:

Atlanta Friends Meeting (Quakers) expresses its support of those who are conscientiously opposed to war taxes, in keeping with our more than 350 year religious witness for peace and our historical peace testimony that: "We do utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretense whatsoever." We ask that our elected officials support and work for the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Act (currently HR 1186) as a way of recognizing our deep commitment to peace and social justice. We thank Representative John Lewis for introducing this legislation and ask all U.S. Congressional Representatives to join in co-sponsorship of the bill.

HR 1186 will allow legally defined conscientious objectors to pay 100% of their taxes into a separate fund that will be used only for government spending that is not for a military purpose. The level of contribution to this fund will be annually entered into the Congressional Record, and information about the fund will be published in both the tax return form and the instruction booklet. The apportionment powers of Congress will not be restricted while relief of suffering will be granted to tens of thousands otherwise not able to earn above the taxable level of income or otherwise forced to refuse payment of taxes.

We further request that this Minute be published broadly, including that it be brought by our SAYMA representatives to SAYMA Representative Meeting for placement on the business agenda for the 2002 annual SAYMA gathering.

Friends agreed to place the minute on the yearly meeting agenda.

16. Ministry and Nurture Committee

Connie La Monte submitted the following report from the Ministry and Nurture Committee:

After sharing news of our various monthly meetings and worship groups, we developed plans to become a more visible, active, and supportive presence at Yearly Gathering. Committee members will continue to work with SAYF on developing a better understanding of eldering and clearness committees.

We heard a report from Perry Treadwell on his work with Chattanooga Meeting; the ensuing discussion helped us to clarify procedures for traveling in the ministry within SAYMA.

We agreed to develop an annotated bibliography on eldering and clearness for the use of the Yearly Meeting.

Consideration of a budget request led us to clarification work on guidelines for applications and use of the Released Friend Fund, the Spiritual Development Fund, and our own operating budget.

We foresee using much of the work done here today in future work on developing a Ministry and Nurture section for SAYMA's *Faith and Practice*.

17. Announcements

Energy use survey. Bill Reynolds asked Friends to return the energy use survey recently mailed to SAYMA Friends by the SAYMA Ecological Concerns Network. The survey is not a test. It is an attempt to find out how SAYMA Friends are using energy and set a baseline from which to measure future improvements.

Quaker Eco-Witness intern project. Kim Carlyle reported that Quaker Eco-Witness is sending out an appeal letter seeking financial support for an intern project for a young adult Friend in Washington, DC. Lissa Carter of North Carolina YM will work with the National Environmental Trust and participate in the weekly issues seminars with interns of Friends Committee on National Legislation. Kim expressed the hope that SAYMA Friends will consider supporting this effort.

Friends Committee on Unity with Nature. Kim Carlyle reported that FCUN has recently amended its bylaws and expanded its steering committee to be more inclusive of and accountable to Friends throughout North America. As an extension of this commitment, FCUN is engaged in a long-range planning effort to consider how FCUN can best meet the needs of Friends concerned with the care of God's creation and with our planet's ecological sustainability. To assist in this process, FCUN has sent out questionnaires to monthly meetings across North America. FCUN requests that SAYMA meetings worshipfully consider the questions and return the form to FCUN.

18. Peace and Social Concerns Committee

The clerk reported that she had received a response from Foxfire Monthly Meeting in support of the creation of a SAYMA peace and social concerns committee. Friends agreed that if several more positive responses are received, this item will be included on the yearly meeting agenda.

19. Future Representative Meetings

September Representative Meeting will be on September 14 in Memphis. The clerk alerted Friends that an alternative schedule might be needed, such as continuing until mid-day on Sunday.

Winter Representative Meeting will be December 7, with the possibility of committee meetings on the evening of December 6. The clerk will check with Atlanta as a possible host.

20. Appreciation for Nashville Friends

Representatives expressed appreciation to Nashville Friends for their warm hospitality at homes and in the Meetinghouse, for good directions, the well-organized library, good soup, the sunny porch and the many hands and hearts that went into caring for visitors this weekend.

21. Approval of Minutes

Friends approved these minutes throughout the course of the meeting, subject to final editing by the clerk and recording clerk.

Sharon Annis, Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Carol Lamm, Recording Clerk
(archive copy signed)

Appendix A

Attendees

(not posted to website)

Appendix B

Report on SAYMA Gathering “Bringing Our Peace Testimony to Life in These Times” Chattanooga, Tennessee, February 1-2, 2002

SAYMA Friends tried something new on the weekend of February 1 and 2, 2002, and it worked. Several attenders at the December 2001 Representative Meeting felt a concern to call SAYMA Friends together quickly to consider how we as Friends are trying to live out our peace testimony in these troubled times. And so an ad hoc gathering on “Bringing Our Peace Testimony to Life in These Times” was announced to SAYMA Friends during the Christmas holidays and held in Chattanooga the first weekend in February.

The gathering had a simple format: each of the Friends who attended spent two and a half hours in a small discussion/sharing group; two hours considering messages brought to us by two Friends about paying taxes for war and responding to the desperate plight of the people of Iraq; and three hours in corporate worship.

For most who attended, preparation for the gathering was important. Eight queries related to the peace testimony were distributed in advance of the conference and allowed many to begin their inner work in the days and weeks preceding the gathering.

Between our sharing in the small groups, our individual work with the queries, and the three periods of corporate worship, each of us was profoundly searched and strengthened as an individual peacemaker. The small-group sharing allowed expression of our doubts and questions, sharing of our tentative insights and convictions, testing of our perception of what is really going on in these difficult days of an emerging, new kind of war-making. Are we truly living these days in the presence of enemies plotting in secret to do us harm? Are our enemies “out there” or within us? Are ignorance and affluence our real enemies? If so, might we then begin our work as peacemakers close to home with our own sense of self, our own attitudes, or own lifestyle as we try to “see what love can do”?

One brief report such as this cannot give an adequate sense of the myriad ways in which individuals at this gathering, with their varied histories and life situations, were moved and guided by these experiences of worship, personal confrontation with the queries, and face to face sharing. Let the real outcomes be in our deepened determination to live in the presence of the peace testimony in our individual lives each day and in a more active role in our Meetings.

DETAILS: 40-45 Friends attended, representing all but two or three Meetings in SAYMA. Three Friends (Bob Welsh, Stan Spraker, Peter Buck) did most of the advance work on program, schedule and meal/snack/place arrangements. Mary Calhoun did hours of work to produce a registration/information packet distributed in advance of the conference. The help of Kathleen Mavournin both before and during the gathering as registrar was indispensable. The Ingles, Bill Reynolds, and other Chattanooga Friends pitched in with timely and valuable work on securing the space and on food and clean-up. Our haste in arranging this gathering--we really had only about 6 weeks to pull it together--probably cost us the services of a well-known speaker/resource person. (The AFSC-related person we wanted already had a previous commitment for our weekend.)

We charged a \$10 registration fee, so income was about \$400. Attenders were asked to arrange their own lodging; a local motel gave us a \$40 per room rate, with breakfast included. We paid \$125 rent to the Unitarian Church. The catered lunch cost about \$8 per person, or \$320, so the net cost to SAYMA of the

weekend was \$50-100. (It would have been more had we been able to secure a distinguished speaker/resource person or persons.)

Appendix C

Assessments Received from Monthly Meetings

Date	Description	Memo	Amount
1/23/01	Anneewakee Creek Friends Worship Group	Ck # ? 9/21/01 CY 2001 275.00	275.00
7/15/01	Asheville Friends Meeting	Ck #4138 7/9/01 Full Year	4,200.00
2/24/02	Asheville Friends Meeting	Ck #4203 12/23/01 add to 01/02 assess	200.00
			4,400.00
9/8/01	Athens Religious Society Of Friends	Ck #0553 7/9/01	480.00
			480.00
7/25/01	Berea Friends Meeting	Ck #2271 7/18/01, 7-9/2001	866.00
11/23/01	Berea Friends Meeting	Ck #2286 10/5/01 Qtr	866.00
2/24/02	Berea Friends Meeting	Ck #2316 1/19/02 1st Qtr	866.50
			2,598.50
9/8/01	Boone Friends Meeting	Ck #633 6/3/01 2001 Assess	320.00
			320.00
11/23/01	Brevard Friends Meeting	Ck #329 10/26/01 Partial FY 2002	500.00
			500.00
7/25/01	Celo Monthly Meeting	Ck #1635 7/15/01 7-9/2001	398.75
11/23/01	Celo Monthly Meeting	Ck #1656 9/25/01 Qtr	398.75
2/24/02	Celo Monthly Meeting	Ck #1679 12/27/01 1st Qtr 02	398.75
4/6/02	Celo Monthly Meeting	Ck #1698 3/23/02 2st Qtr 02	440.00
			1,636.25
9/8/01	Charleston Society Of Friends	Ck #526 8/29/01 Replace lost check 8/00	115.00
			115.00
4/6/02	Chattanooga Friends Meeting	Ck #2451 3/11/02 qtr 1 02	312.50
			312.50
2/24/02	Cleveland Worship Group	Spraker Ck 7298 1/25/02 100.00	100.00
7/15/01	Foxfire Friends Meeting	ck 341 7/8/01	660.00
			660.00
2/24/02	Huntsville Area Friends Meeting	Ck #2052 1/13/02	435.00
			435.00
2/24/02	Nashville Religious Society Of Friends	Ck #2877 12/31/01 ½ assess	1,100.00
			1,100.00
2/24/02	New Moon WG	Ck 1620 12/30/01 K Carlyle	110.00
			110.00
12/3/01	Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting	Ck #445 11/30/2001 Annual	1,375.00
			1,375.00
12/21/01	West Knoxville Friends Meeting	Ck #1714 12/21/01 2-4 Qtr 2001	2,550.00
4/6/02	West Knoxville Friends Meeting	Ck #1744 3/29/02 Qtr 1 2002	850.00
			3,400.00
			17,817.25

Appendix D

West Knoxville Minute on Israeli-Palestinian Relations

West Knoxville Friends are deeply disturbed by events in Palestine and Israel, especially the killing and maiming of people on both sides, the destruction of the social and economic infrastructure of Palestine, and attacks on Palestinian government officials. These actions have lost all sense of who is counter-attacking and impair the Palestinian Authority's capacity to restrain individually initiated violence against Israelis.

We also strongly oppose the confiscation of land by Israeli troops and the violent ghettoization of Palestine. We are disappointed in the reporting of the American media including the press. While many Jewish people and other Israelis are peacefully protesting the government's use of force against Palestinians, the media fails to report this and instead focuses on sensationalizing the continuing violence of one side against the other. The flight of Palestinian refugees to other Arab nations puts undue economic pressure on those nations and results in those nations supporting insurgency among the Palestinians.

We urge that Palestinians and Israelis acknowledge each other's humanity and recognize that continued violence will not resolve their conflicts. We call on the United States government to cease supplying weapons and intelligence to the Israeli government and instead encourage dialogue and put pressure on the Israeli government to return land to the Palestinians as required by United Nations resolutions 242 and 338, as agreed to in the 1967 accord. We demand that the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority stop the killing. We call upon them, with the support of the United States and the international community, to resume negotiations and to negotiate until they arrive at a resolution that respects the human rights of all the people of Israel and Palestine.

Columbia Minute on the Middle East

We believe that there is that of God in the people of Israel and of Palestine, even those who are fighting and engaging in violent acts. We cherish both peoples and the lands in which they live.

We believe that violence does nothing but create more violence and will never allow the people of this region to live next to each other in peace and the fullness of human joy.

We acknowledge the centuries of conflict, oppression, discrimination, poverty and segregation that have led to the violence, “. . . visiting the sins of the fathers to the 3rd and 4th generations.” Both sides of the conflict as well as many outside interests (groups, countries, and alliances) have caused or increased the violence. With such a weighty history, stopping the fighting and creating peace will be a long and arduous task, but it is imperative that we find ways to start.

As Quakers we have struggled to suggest ways that this conflict might be resolved including economic sanctions, political pressure and supporting peace negotiations. Several Monthly Meetings have approved Minutes listing policies and activities that the international community or the United States Government should follow.

This is a terrible crisis and one fraught with conflicting religious conviction, fear of retaliation and annihilation, redress of past wrongs, and struggle over power and economic control.

Beyond the political responses that we as individuals may choose to make as Quakers we will continue to hold all of the people in the area in the light. We will find ways to support individuals and groups who are seeking peaceful solutions (the Israeli physicians who are going into the West Bank to treat the Palestinian people, the Israeli soldiers who are refusing to go to the West Bank to destroy homes, AFSC staff who are working on peace in the Middle East). We will actively support efforts such as the peace tax fund, which would allow us to live more fully the Quaker Peace Testimony. We will support the Quaker Meeting and School in Ramallah in their search for peaceful solutions. We will talk with our Jewish and Islamic friends, relatives and neighbors about this crisis and about our belief that there is a peaceful solution, which although difficult to achieve, will be better than violence. We will search for “ways that open” which will help lead the world to a time of peace.

Appendix E

Population Minute from Celo Monthly Meeting and Cookeville Worship Group (seasoned and revised by Yearly Meeting 2001)

In accordance with Friends testimonies of equality, simplicity, and harmony, we recognize the sacredness of all life, the interconnection of all living things, and the balance required to sustain an acceptable quality of life for all inhabitants of our planet. We are committed to providing all children with a safe, loving, nourishing, and habitable world in which to live. In October 1999, world human population surpassed 6 billion, having doubled since 1960. At the present rate of growth, it is likely to double again within the new century. The effects of this rapid population growth, exacerbated by excessive consumerism, threaten all of earth's creatures, placing insupportable demands on her finite resources, creating unmanageable problems of waste disposal, and intensifying environmental degradation.

While remaining sensitive to the needs and values of all cultures, we acknowledge our responsibility to become informed about world population growth and the concerns it raises. Through our leadings and sharings, we will seek knowledgeable, loving, and creative ways of working towards effective and realistic solutions. These include providing education on and means of contraception for both sexes, encouragement of adoption as an alternative to having biological children, and open support for those who choose not to procreate.

Recognizing that the more prosperous countries have caused and continue to cause the most serious environmental degradation, it is essential that we who have more than we need strive toward a simpler, less wasteful life-style.

We offer this minute in a spirit of concern that while population stabilization may be less of an issue in our countries, we understand why larger families are important to others. We realize that for many countries without the safety network of social security and government aid programs, the large family is the primary care giver and protector of the poor.

Special emphasis must be given to measures to reduce poverty, provide security for people as they age and empower women. Literacy, equal social status, and the general education of women to broaden their life choices are measures that not only improve their lives but help delay childbirth and limit family size.

We will work towards a more equitable sharing of the world's resources and towards systems that will aid those in need with the assurance that this will reduce the need for large families.

We urge meetings to consider using queries such as those adopted by Baltimore Yearly Meeting as an aid to the clearness for marriage process, specifically addressing the issue of family size and the consideration of adoption or foster care.

Finally, we urge our government to renew contributions to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, a family planning lifeline for couples in poor countries.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting Queries referenced above:

F. Marriage or Ceremony of Commitment under the Care of the Monthly Meeting

1. Questions to be considered by the Couple before Application to the Monthly Meeting for Marriage or Ceremony of Commitment under its Care...

- d Have we explored our attitudes and vision for family life including:
 - i) Our attitudes toward sexuality?
 - ii) Whether we want children, and if so, how many?
 - iii) How we might jointly plan and take responsibility for our family's growth in size?
 - iv) Whether we might consider adoption or foster care?
 - v) Our ideas about the sharing of family responsibilities?
 - vi) The availability of family, meeting and community support?
 - vii) How our family might reflect Friends' testimony of simplicity and concerns for the environment and world population?

Appendix F

Reports from Monthly Meetings on Action Against the Death Penalty

pre-existing packet
hardcopies
(4 pages)
added here