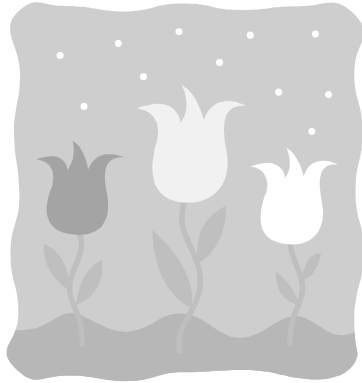


# SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN FRIEND

Newsletter  
of the  
Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association  
of the  
Religious Society of Friends

## SPRING 2004



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### Monthly Meetings & Worship Groups

**Anneewakee Creek Worship Group**

Douglasville, GA (770) 949-8079

**Asheville (NC) Friends Meeting**

(828) 258-0974

**Athens (GA) Friends Meeting**

(706) 546-0056

**Atlanta (GA) Friends Meeting**

(404) 377-2474

**Auburn (AL) Worship Group**

(334) 887-9688

**Berea (KY) Friends Meeting**

(859) 986-2193

**Birmingham (AL) Friends Meeting**

(205) 592-0570

**Boone (NC) Friends Meeting**

(828) 263-0001

**Brevard (NC) Friends Meeting**

(828) 891-7793

**Celo (NC) Friends Meeting**

(828) 675-4456

**Charleston (WV) Friends Meeting**

(304) 756-3033

**Chattanooga (TN) Friends Meeting**

(423) 629-2580

**Clarksville (TN) Worship Group**

(931) 647-9284

**Clemson (SC) Worship Group**

(864) 654-6680

**Cleveland (TN) Worship Group**

(423) 479-4877

**Columbia (SC) Friends Meeting**

(803) 254-0626

**Cookeville (TN) Preparative Meeting**

(931) 268-2592

**Crossville (TN) Friends Meeting**

(931) 277-5354

**Foxfire Friends Meeting**

Johnson City, TN (423) 283-4392

**Greenville (SC) Friends Meeting**

(864) 322-6208

**Huntsville (AL) Area Friends Meeting**

(256) 837-6327

**Memphis (TN) Friends Meeting**

(901) 762-8130

**Murfreesboro (TN) Worship Group**

(931) 389-6340

**Nashville (TN) Friends Meeting**

(615) 329-2640

**New Moon Worship Group**

Barnardsville/Weaverville, NC (828) 626-2572

**Oxford (MS) Friends Meeting**

(662) 473-3670

**Royal Worship Group**

Blountsville, AL (205) 429-3088

**Sevier County Worship Group**

Sevierville, TN (865) 429-1807

**Sewanee (TN) Worship Group**

(931) 598-5031

**Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting**

Black Mountain, NC (828) 669-5914

**West Knoxville (TN) Friends Meeting**

(865) 694-0036

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**SAYF Calendar**

04/16-18/2004: Retreat at Camp Meadowbrook in Collman, AL; Theme: TBA; Program Planning: SAYF Nurturing Committee; Contact: Bill O'Connell

06/2004: SAYMA Yearly Meeting; Program Planning: Wren Hendrickson and SAYF Co-Clerks; Contact: Wren Hendrickson

**SAF Submissions—Next Due**

**Date: 07/01/2004**

Submit meeting or worship group news, original articles, opinions, poetry, announcements, humor, gripes, worries, and cookie recipes to [SAFeditor@SAYMA.org](mailto:SAFeditor@SAYMA.org) or by mail to: SAF c/o Susan & Kim Carlyle, PO Box 439, Barnardsville, NC 28709 (828) 626-2572 (Please include your name and phone number.)

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For resource-saving, electronic delivery of the SAF, send your name, e-mail address and monthly meeting or worship group name to [SAFeditor@SAYMA.org](mailto:SAFeditor@SAYMA.org)

**New Worship Group in Georgia**

The Canton Quaker Worship Group is now meeting on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 5pm. We meet at 360 E. Marietta Street, Canton GA 30114. For information: Roy Taylor (770) 720-4669 or [wrlpeas@mindspring.com](mailto:wrlpeas@mindspring.com)

**SAYMA 2004 Calendar**

04<sup>th</sup> Month: YM Registration packets distributed  
04/30: SAYMA Census responses due  
05<sup>th</sup> Month: Send YM Committee, WQO Rep, and State of Meeting reports to clerk & recording clerk  
**06/10-13/2004: Yearly Meeting at Warren Wilson College**  
07/01: SAF Submission Due Date  
09/10-11: YM committee meetings in Berea  
09/11: Representative Meeting in Berea, KY  
10/01: SAF Submission Due Date  
12<sup>th</sup> Month: Representative meeting

**SAYMA List-server**

The SAYMA list-server provides the ability to post messages to Friends from our yearly meeting who have subscribed to this service.

You can join the fun by subscribing on the web at:

<http://kitenet.net/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/sayma>

You need to be subscribed in order to post messages to the list-server. In case of difficulties, you can reach a live human at [AdminAsst@sayma.org](mailto:AdminAsst@sayma.org)

**Faith & Practice Revision**

The SAYMA Faith and Practice revision is progressing well. We have sent out proposed revisions of Part 1 and Part 2 to the member meetings for input. We have had replies from all the SAYMA monthly meetings and have labored with them and come up with a final revision of these two parts. This revision will be presented at our Yearly Meeting in June for final approval. This final revised form, which includes all changes to date, will also be posted on the SAYMA web site for all to review. The Faith and Practice revision committee will meet again in April and will begin deliberations on Part 4 of SAYMA Faith and Practice. We have also obtained feedback on the proposed SAYMA name change but this will not be presented for consideration at this Yearly Meeting.

— Nancy Beecher

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**Presidential Material**

Is he presidential material,  
I don't know?

It doesn't really show.

I don't think he looks like he could lie,  
I don't think he could order people to die.

Guess we can't vote for him.

— Tom Baugh  
White Oak Cottage

**>From the Editors: Yearly Meeting —Sixth Month 10-13 at Warren Wilson College. — See you then!**

— Yearly Meeting Information —

Dear Friends,

Since their inception, Quakers have been known for the distinctive ways in which our faith reveals itself through our family life, Meetings, work and social action. On behalf of the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee, I would like to invite you to come to our gathering and explore with us the relationships between faith and action in our individual and corporate lives. Come learn from the experiences of others who have wrestled with the same challenges to integration as you. Gain inspiration and renewal. Your four days at Warren Wilson College can be as intense or as relaxing as you choose to make them. But we feel sure that if you will enter into the spirit of the gathering, you will come away feeling supported and recharged, with a greater commitment to integrity of Spirit and action among the various aspects of your life.

—Tim Lamm, Clerk YM Planning Committee

SAYMA YM on the Web

Yearly Meeting 2004 program information and registration materials are now available on the SAYMA web site ([www.sayma.org](http://www.sayma.org)). You can read about the program, view the schedule, and download the registration forms to fill out and mail in. (No on-line registration---maybe next year!)

Registration materials will also be mailed soon to each monthly meeting, worship group, and household attending last yearly meeting. Registrations received after May 15 will incur a late fee. Encourage Friends in your meeting to sign up!

—Tim Lamm, SAYMA Web Manager

**Yearly Meeting Plenary Sessions**

*Thursday evening:* Judy Guerry (Huntsville Area MM) and Carolyn Jordan (Memphis MM); *Friday evening:* Bob McGahey (Celo MM), Sara Rose (Royal WG), and Courtney Siceloff (Atlanta MM); *Saturday evening:* Intergenerational activities, organized by Ron McDonald (Memphis MM)

**Yearly Meeting Workshop Offerings**

*Headless Experiments for Worship and Action* with Samuel Cole.  
*Become a Friendly Adult Presence, Part 1* with Sigurd Christensen.  
*EMAP — Emergency and Material Assistance Program (AFSC)* with Peggie M. Baxter.  
*Acting as Midwives to Spirit-Led Action, Part 1* with Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch.  
*Make a Joyful Noise: Singing out of the Quaker Hymnal* with Beth Ensign.  
*The Earth Charter: An Opportunity for Action* with Susan Carlyle.  
*Interactions among Friends of Different Traditions, Cultures, and Classes* with Rachel Weir.  
*Effects of War on Children, How Can We As Friends Respond?* with Geeta McGahey.  
*Become a Friendly Adult Presence, Part 2* with Sigurd Christensen.  
*Meditation & Pranayama, Helping Us Prepare For Worship & Centered Action* with Geeta McGahey.  
*Reconsidering the Quaker Peace Testimony* with Chuck Fager.  
*Middle East: Occupations, Walls, Violence... Is this the Way to Peace or Security?* with Samir Moukaddam.  
*Raising Non-Racist Children and Youths* with Susan Cozzens, Karen terHorst Morris, and Courtney Siceloff.  
*Sacred Chanting* with Evan Richardson.  
*Right Sharing of World Resources: Living Faithful, Challenging, and Challenged Lives* with Roland Kreager.  
*Work and the Spirit* with Free Polazzo.  
*Acting as Midwives to Spirit-Led Action, Part 2* with Jean-Marie Prestwidge Barch.

**Books**

*Dancing with God Through the Storm:  
Mysticism and Mental Illness*

In 1996 Jennifer Elam, a licensed psychologist, went to Pendle Hill seeking to learn more about the intense movements of the Spirit she was experiencing. Traditional psychology and religion had not been helpful. This book contains stories Jennifer collected from others about their experiences of the Spirit, as well as her advice for meetings in helping people who are having mystical experiences they can't readily handle. Available from Way Opens Press, 114 West Durham Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119, for \$20 + \$3 postage. Or email [jenelam@aol.com](mailto:jenelam@aol.com).

*Each of Us Inevitable*

This 260-page collection of keynote addresses presented between 1977 and 1993 by well-known Friends (including Elise Boulding, John Calvi, Janet Hoffman, George Lakey, and Elizabeth Watson) who reflect a range of sexual orientation, offers an evolving collective wisdom on being gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, or their ally. Melanie Weidner's cover art is titled "Messenger." Available at \$14 from QuakerBooks of FGC (800) 966-4556 [www.quakerbooks.org](http://www.quakerbooks.org) and Pendle Hill Bookstore (800) 742-3150 [www.pendlehill.org](http://www.pendlehill.org).

### **Nashville Regional Gathering**

By Deanna Nipp (Cookeville)

On the weekend of February 14-15, 2004, Nashville Monthly Meeting's Ministry & Counsel Committee hosted a Regional Friends Gathering at their new meetinghouse. Friends from middle Tennessee and northern Alabama came together for worship, fun, and deepening community — not to mention delicious potlucks. Michael Wajda and Alison Levie of Goshen Monthly Meeting (West Chester, PA), who have traveled in ministry for Friends General Conference, facilitated discussions. On Saturday afternoon they posed three questions which brought forth spirit-filled responses from gathered Friends.

*What does it mean to you to live in the world as a Friend?*

- to live with integrity • to see and respond to that of God in every person • to have a clear sense myself of what it means to me to be a Friend • to live in a manner that takes away the occasion for war • to be in the world, but not of the world • to live simply • to know it's OK not to have all the answers • to believe in continuing revelation • to continually seek guidance from the Divine • to practice a direct relationship with the Divine • to be part of a seeking community where I/we may be found by the Divine • to find great joy in all of the above • to honor that others may perceive the Light/God differently • to believe in reaching out and building bridges between all differences • to practice nonviolence in thought, speech, and deed • to wait, pray before speaking • to bring Quaker practice into the workplace • to recognize that I am part of a worldwide community of Quakers • to act out of clearness in my spiritual community • to season leadings in the corporate body • to acknowledge the potentiality that we all have equal access to God • to know faithfulness can move mountains

*What makes it difficult to be a Friend in the world?*

- frequently feeling at odds with the dominant culture • fear of standing out • having too much to do and too little time, especially to wait for guidance living love in a dominant culture of fear • living with a perception of abundance when the culture promotes an attitude of scarcity • feeling inadequate to articulate Quaker beliefs to non-Friends • fear of reprisals • being a small group and non-creedal in a culture that expects creeds • finding the Quaker place in the ecumenical setting • having to explain “Quaker” all the time • being a “priesthood of all believers” • my own fears and anxieties • exemplifying Quaker practice at all times • living in humility with our differences • finding the patience to accept others' need for creed or other spiritual modalities

*What do you find that helps you live as a Quaker in the World?*

- other Quakers
- my own conviction
- less stuff
- Quaker literature
- more spiritual disciplines
- God
- positive re-enforcement from non-Quakers
- examples of others
- being grounded in a meeting
- belonging
- meetings for worship
- the support of others on the path
- going to yearly meeting
- the presence in the meeting of spiritually mature Friends
- encouragement
- Quaker history
- inner leadings
- living for physical wellness

### **Memorial: Dick Cordray**

Richard (Dick) E. Cordray, a founding member of the Huntsville Area Friends Meeting (HAFM) and long-time HAFM representative to SAYMA, died February 23, 2004, in Huntsville, Alabama, after a lengthy period of ill health. In addition to his practical and provocative contributions to the on-going life of HAFM, Dick applied his passionate Quaker-informed political activism to Friends Committee on National Legislation, American Friends Service Committee, and other organizations working for peace and justice.

His peace activism took local, national, and international form. Active in the Huntsville Interfaith Peace Group, he also participated in protests at the School of the Americas in Georgia and traveled to Central America on missions sparked by his peace and social justice concerns.

When HAFM was approached by Meeting families to sponsor a home school, Dick and others served the Meeting as representatives to the school's board. Dick's fervent commitment to the North Alabama Friends School continued long after HAFM children attending the school moved from Huntsville. His involvement ensured that school curriculum and operations continued to reflect Quaker values and processes.

Dick was well-informed, articulate, and plain spoken. A fellow veteran, also active in the peace movement, described Dick as being “marked by his independence.” His independence embraced the Quaker testimonies of peace, community, and equality, to which he responded faithfully.

### Paper and Trees

by Bill Reynolds (Chattanooga)

At Winter Representative Meeting, the Ecological Concerns Network proposed that SAYMA adopt the practice of using only 100% post-consumer recycled chlorine-free processed paper.

During discussion, one Friend suggested that there might be little, if any, net environmental benefit in using recycled paper since the trees for making paper come from farms where they are grown exclusively for making paper and that, after harvests, replacement trees are planted right away. He drew a parallel between recycling paper and trying to recycle corn.

This suggestion gave me pause but I responded rather tentatively that I thought the harvesting of trees for paper was not that simple. I said maybe the full story is that old-growth mixed wood forests are clear-cut to start the paper companies' tree farms.

Coincidentally, when I returned home I had received the Winter 2004 issue of *ONEARTH* magazine with its cover banner "3 Million Trees Gone in One Year, Tennessee's Chainsaw Massacre." The article is full of solidly documented factual descriptions of what has been, and continues to be, done to the forests of the Cumberland Plateau in eastern Tennessee.

My suspicions were right. This report tells the tale of "about 200,000 acres" of native wood forests being clear-cut on the Eastern Tennessee portion of the Cumberland Plateau alone — all for the production of paper. (It also tells about the paper companies, the loggers, the monetary enrichment to these "players," the destruction of habitat of hundreds of species of wild and plant life, the fouling of our water supply, the devastating consequences of monoculture in former mixed woodlands, the devastation from chemicals sprayed over the land, etc.)

The tale includes recent history about the increasing rate at which forests are being destroyed for tree farms and the prospect that the rate will increase even more in the future. These facts engender an image of a future when the yet remaining healthy woodlands with the rich abundance of species variety are all stripped bare of any life; destroyed by erosion, pine beetles, unnatural chemicals, etc., and not even able to sustain tree farms.

**Bottom line: Reducing the use of UN-recycled paper products is VERY IMPORTANT!**

### Some thoughts on the use of paper

by Susan Carlyle (New Moon, Swannanoa Valley)

The Center for a New American Dream has a mission to "help North Americans consume responsibly to protect the environment, enhance quality of life and promote social justice." The Center has produced a guide called *Responsible Purchasing for Faith Communities* (see excerpts on page 7). It lists eight concrete actions to help faith communities make wise choices and contribute to a healthier environment and a more equitable world.

([www.newdream.org/faith](http://www.newdream.org/faith))

Action number four is to "Buy recycled content office paper."

They feel that **communities of faith have an important leadership role to play on issues of environmental and social justice.** "With every purchase we make, every piece of mail we eliminate, we're making important choices and sending messages of hope and change to the rest of the world. It is a challenge to put our beliefs and values into action."

I got interested in paper when Kim and I became co-editors of the Southern Appalachian Friend. We began by using 5 reams of paper every 4 months. I did some research and we decided to use paper that was 100% post-consumer recycled and processed chlorine free.

Back then, it was not easy to find this paper. It cost \$80 a year above what cheaper paper would cost, but we felt that paying the *true cost* was important. In the years that we have been editing the SAF, the cost of this paper is now half of what it was when we began. We also now transmit the SAF electronically to 90+ households and now use only 3 reams of paper every 4 months. So — we are using good paper, and also using less of it!

Some definitions are in order here. The paper industry defines "recycled" as using the trimmings and the ends of rolls of virgin wood paper and perhaps floor sweepings to go back into the making of paper. The term "post-consumer recycled" means that the paper has gone out into circulation, been used, and has then come back for recycling. All copy paper available anywhere has some recycled content, but how much, and what kind, are the questions to ask. Using recycled paper to create new paper saves water and energy and reduces pollution. The only downside is the price, but this is becoming less and less of an issue as the demand for this kind of paper is increasing, driving the price down.

There are also *tree-free* papers. Most of these are actually blends of non-wood fibers (kanaf, hemp, flax, and even shredded up old money and fibers from blue denim jeans!) and post-consumer waste. Joyce Rouse of Nashville MM uses kanaf for her *Earth Mama* newsletter. This stuff costs more than twice what the 100% post-consumer recycled stuff costs, but never uses trees. What a statement that is!

Walking the talk of our testimonies requires getting informed and then acting. I think that our Yearly Meeting would do well to look at how much paper we really need to use and what kind of paper it is.

**Update from Berea Monthly Meeting — April 2004**

Submitted by Carol Lamm

Over a period of many months in 2003, Berea Friends sought clarity about how best to share the experience of meeting for worship with our children. In December, we were led to determine that children would stay in meeting for worship with their parents as long as they choose. We took another couple of months to help families and the whole meeting prepare for this change. The children no longer leave meeting for worship as a group after 15 minutes. On a typical First Day one or two children stay the whole hour with the adults. Those who leave go to a room where they can engage in quiet activities such as reading or drawing in the presence of an adult Friend. Children's First Day School now happens concurrently with Adult First Day School during our second hour.

Since September, our older children's group has been holding its own monthly meeting for business, which they term a "meet." They have planned First Day School and other activities and addressed concerns brought to their attention. Listening to each other and taking everyone's perspective into account is an ongoing learning process with ups and downs, but the progress is evident as the children take more responsibility and identify with Quaker practices.

Berea Friends are seriously exploring the possibility of purchasing the space in which we have been meeting for years. There are zoning complications and many other practical issues to work through before this possibility can become a reality, but our committees are hard at work on the details. In tangentially related issues, we are carrying insurance for the first time and are now officially Berea Friends Meeting, Inc.

**Letter from AFSC-SERO Regional Director**

Dear Friends & Supporters,

There are exciting moves afoot in SERO that I am anxious to tell you about. Following a nationwide visioning and strategic planning process, the volunteers, staff, and Board of AFSC have identified six core areas for our work: *Peacebuilding and Prevention of Conflict; Migration and Human Mobility; Economic Justice; Youth Empowerment; A New Vision of Justice; Humanitarian Assistance & Education.*

We've identified two areas that we plan to bring to the special attention of the wider community given the needs of the world and our own unique expertise and history. Our 'first focus objectives' are: *Peacebuilding and Prevention of Conflict — To oppose the growth of worldwide militarism by working with partners, to stop or reduce war, and promote just and viable models of conflict prevention — and — Migration and Human Mobility — Build a national network of immigrant human rights committees that address local issues and community capacity building as their long-term goal.*

In the Southeast Region all of our programs relate to these two goals. Our Help Increase the Peace (HIP), Africa Peace Education (APEP) and Middle East Peace Education (MEPEP) programs are centrally focused on peacebuilding and prevention of conflict. The Orita Program based in North Carolina is also connected to this goal, as well as a focus on Economic Justice and Youth Empowerment.

Our Central America Political Asylum Program has been renamed. It is now the American Friends Immigrant Services (AFIS) Program. This program's main focus continues to be Migration and Human Mobility.

**This is a crucial time for the US and for the world. Education and advocacy for social justice and peace is more needed than ever. While we are grateful for your ongoing support, we invite you to an even greater level of partnership. Your increased gift to SERO or to one of our programs will make a significant, positive difference.**

SERO staff are working hard based not only on their own passion for justice and belief in a vision of peace, but also out of a sense of urgency. We know full well we could not do this work without you and we ask for your continuing financial support — and your prayers.

Thank you and I wish us all a more peaceful New Year than we experienced in 2003!

Valerie L. Barlow, Regional Director

Southeastern Regional Office, American Friends Service Committee

92 Piedmont Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30303

PS. If additional funds are forthcoming, we want to establish another position to meet the growing demand for HIP conflict transformation training. Through this program young people learn to reduce violence in their personal lives and in their communities, and thus become agents for positive social change.

### Why Save Trees? Some Reasons You May have Not Considered

by Kim Carlyle (New Moon, Swannanoa Valley)

We all know (or should know) that trees and forests safeguard biodiversity by providing habitat for myriad creatures, help prevent soil erosion and flooding, assist in filtering our water supplies, and save energy by providing shade in the summer and windbreaks in the winter. But trees have many other qualities that should inform our decision about whether to use them for paper or leave them standing.

*Trees have spiritual value.* I once heard a Baptist preacher tell an audience that he never felt closer to God than when he was spending time in an old growth forest. It has been observed that surgical patients recover more quickly when their hospital rooms have a view of trees. A University of Illinois study reported in *Sierra* magazine found that residents in a large public housing development in Chicago whose buildings were landscaped areas (as opposed to the usual asphalt and concrete), “had better relations with their neighbors, felt a stronger sense of community, and experienced less violence in their homes.”

*Trees, Climate, and War:* About 25% percent of the net increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>, the leading heat-trapping gas) is due to deforestation. As trees grow, they reduce CO<sub>2</sub> by sequestering carbon and releasing oxygen. When forests are destroyed, the CO<sub>2</sub> is returned to the atmosphere. If global warming isn’t scary enough in itself, a recently released report from the Pentagon recommends that the risk of abrupt climate change should be “elevated beyond a scientific debate to a U.S. national security concern.” Because of “potentially dire consequences” — from food shortages, decreased availability of fresh water, and disrupted energy supplies — “tensions could mount around the world” as goals and priorities shift to “resources for survival rather than religion, ideology, or national honor.” The report suggests some ominous sounding steps such as to “identify no-regrets strategies” and “rehearse adaptive responses.”

**Trees**  
*I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.*  
— Joyce Kilmer, 1886-1918

*10,000 trees are being cut down for pulp/paper  
in the Southern region every four minutes.*

Almost half of Earth’s original forests have been destroyed, and most of this destruction has occurred in the last thirty years.

#### Excerpts from *Responsible Purchasing for Faith Communities*

The computer age was supposed to usher in a paper-free society. Instead, paper consumption has increased 74%, globally, since 1980. The United States consumed 107 million tons of paper in 1999, or about 784 pounds per American. Americans use approximately 7 million tons of office paper or 1.4 trillion sheets of paper each year. . .

Producing a ton of virgin paper requires 24 trees; 7,000 more gallons of water; 4,100 more kilowatts of energy; and releases 60 more pounds of pollutants into the atmosphere than producing a ton of 100% recycled paper. Chlorine is often used in the bleaching process, releasing the carcinogenic chemical, dioxin, and other toxics. Using non-chlorine-treated paper reduces the amount of toxics released into the environment. . .

For many religions, trees are viewed as sacred or as powerful spiritual metaphors. For example, in the Judeo-Christian tradition, trees are described as a symbol of life and represent the righteousness and grandeur of creation. In Buddhism, the Buddha found enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. How we use paper reflects our reverence and respect for trees and the forest ecosystem that supports them.

#### Friends Organizations and Recycled Paper

Not surprisingly, **Quaker Earthcare Witness** for years has had a policy of using only 100% post-consumer PCF (processed chlorine free) recycled paper. But recently, **Friends Committee on National Legislation** has reported “notable environmental savings.” By using this earth-friendly paper for fund appeals and special reports, FCNL has saved 31 tons of virgin wood, 5 tons of solid waste, 14 kwh of electricity (enough to power an average home for 1½ years), 9 tons of greenhouse gases, 77 pounds of harmful chemicals, and 27 cubic yards of landfill space!

**Yearly Meeting News**  
from Penelope Wright (Nashville) — Planning & Nominating Committees

**YM Planning Committee**

**Chat 'n Chew:** We are grateful to the monthly meetings that came forward to provide Chat 'n Chew snacks last year. They were Asheville, Nashville, and Swannanoa Valley. It seems only fair to let other meetings share this opportunity to provide this much appreciated service for Friends. **Times:** Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from 9:00 until 10 or 11:00 PM. **Type of snacks:** fruit, popcorn and cookies are the most popular; hot water for teas, hot chocolate and some kind of juice. Quantities sufficient for 20-30 Friends. **Other:** The designated host meeting needs to be sure all food and drink are put away after closing time. Also remind Friends to refrain from eating/drinking while browsing the nearby Book Store tables. **Please ask for volunteers from your meeting and let Penelope Wright [pennywright@earthlink.net](mailto:pennywright@earthlink.net) or 615-298-1385 by April 28th whether your meeting can host one evening of Chat 'n Chew.**

**Centers:** Last year, Yearly Meeting Planning Committee instituted dedicated Centers for Women and for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Friends (a convenor did not come forward for a Men's Center). Response was favorable and we would like to do so again this year. **This is a call for Friends who are led to convene or share convening duties\* for Women's, Men's, or LGBTQ Centers. Please let Penelope Wright know by April 28th.** Please note these centers are separate from the Nurturing Center provided by Ministry & Nurture Committee.

\* Convenors gather together Friends interested in the respective centers and plan what the center will be for this year. The space will not be used by other groups.

**Interest Groups:** Once again we encourage Friends to sign up early for the limited number of spaces in which to have Interest Groups meet.

- The time designated for Interest Groups is each evening at the conclusion of plenary sessions.
- The process for reserving a space is to sign up on a first sign/first served basis **after arriving at Warren Wilson College.** The sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board near the cafeteria.

**Nominating Committee**

As you can see from the list below, SAYMA's Nominating Committee has been hard at work discerning Friends to fill many of the positions becoming open this year. Yet, we have more work to be done. Thus, the Nominating Committee asks each monthly meeting to think of SAYMA's needs as they discern who will hold positions of responsibility in the meetings and yearly meeting. We are a small committee and cannot know of meeting's wealth of Friends with gifts and skills needed to fill the following yearly meeting positions. We are eager to hear from you!

**If you have questions about the descriptions of the positions or have names to bring forward, please contact Penelope Wright at [pennywright@earthlink.net](mailto:pennywright@earthlink.net) or calling 615-298-1385.**

**Finance Committee:** members (1-2)

**Ministry & Nurture Committee:** clerk or co-clerks

**Nominating Committee:** members (2-3)

**SAYF Oversight Committee:** members (2)

**SAYF Steering Committee:** co-clerk and members (2-3)

**Yearly Meeting Planning Committee:**

Clerk/Co-Clerks

Adult/Evening Program

Co-registrar

**Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL):** 2 representatives each for a three (3) year term beginning with annual meeting in November '04

**Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC):** a co-representative to share responsibilities with Annie Black. Two (2) year terms — two meetings a year — mid-February and at FGC Gathering.

**Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC):** 2 representatives each for three-year terms beginning January '05.

With gratitude and Light, Penelope Wright

**>From the SAYMA Bookstore Coordinator, Deanna Nipp (Cookeville)**

The SAYMA bookstore will be open again on the lower level of Gladfelter. If you are interested in volunteering to "mind the store," contact Deanna Nipp at [reddeanna@charter.net](mailto:reddeanna@charter.net). It would be a great advantage to have some of the scheduling done before yearly meeting gathers. And, personally, I can think of few things more fun than being in a room filled with books and Quakers!