SAYMA 1977

The Seventh Annual
SOUTHERN APPAIACHIAN YEARLY MEETING
of the Religious Society of Friends
and

The Nineteenth Annual Gathering of the SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS

12-15 May 1977
Bonclarken ARP Assembly
Flat Rock, N.C.

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Bonclarken turned out to be a delightful location for our Yearly Meeting. The staff was most hospitable, and we enjoyed a very interesting presentation of the history of Bonclarken from Harold Mace, the Director of Bonclarken ARP Assembly, on Friday evening.

This set of "proceedings" of SAYMA-77 is documentary in nature, mainly devoted to Minutes of the Meetings for Business and the various reports given in these sessions. For the highlights of the non-business sessions as well as for some of the "color" of exciting events in the business sessions you should most certainly look up and read Doris Ferm's lead article...in fact you should read the whole issue...of the June 1977 SAYMA newsletter (Southern Appalachian Friend, Volume XIX, No. 6).

In that issue of the newsletter you will get the flavor of Julia Abrahamson's Friday evening address which set the stage for much of our thinking together during the weekend, and of the next morning panel discussion organized by Dwight Ferguson which emphasized the use of FCNI channels for effective Quaker action. You will also learn of the extra programs which were squeezed into Yearly Meeting after the formal program had been drawn up, such as the color slide show of the George Fox Country, accompanied (on tape) by Elfrida Fould's drawatic commentary, which Mary Esther McWhirter of FWCC shared with us, and the slides of Camp Celo that Bob and Dot Barrus showed to interested children and their parents!

You will also share through her writing the enthusiasm which ran through the SAYA Meeting for Business when SAYMA affiliation with Friends General Conference was approved. This might be an appropriate moment to quote from a note Dwight L. Wilson slipped onto the Clerk's desk as he sped off to catch a plane late Sunday morning: "On June First I take office as General Secretary of FGC. Since three of my four sets of grandparents were born in Georgia and the fourth, in Kentucky, no better "coming in gift" could have been given! From what I have seen of affiliated Yearly Meetings, SAYMA will probably be one of our beacon Yearly Meetings!"

Yearly Meeting weather was ideal for the entire week-end. The Friday trip to Carl Sandburg's home; the sack lunch overlooking the valley after our hike up the "mountain"; the Sandburg goats.... The all day "afting Trip some of the older Young Friends took on Saturday is a story all in itself, as is the trip which many of the other Young Friends made to visit Camp Celo.

Asheville Meeting and the Oldhams as co-chairpersons for Arrangements made the mechanics of YM-77 run very smoothly. Dick Houghton's and Mary Rubin's program arrangements for all ages worked out very well. The four worship-sharing periods gave us ample opportunity to explore special topics in small groups. The morning and evening Meetings for Worship unified us and brought us back to the Center. Special committee meetings galore met around tables during mealtimes, Bird walks, yoga classes, spontaneous song fests, Mike Mykel's "group happening," the Young Friends colorful report session, the evening of folk dancing, the.... but if you were there you remember! and if you weren't, then you must be with us next May for SAYMA YM-78! N.F.

PROGRAM SYNOPSIS SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN YEARIY MEETING

held at Bonclarken ARP Assembly Flat Rock, N.C. 12-15 May 1977

THEME: Putting Quakerism Into Action RESOURCE LEADERS: Members in our own Yearly Meeting this year! Thursday, 12 May 1:00-6:00 pm Registration and Settling In 3:00-4:30 pm Representative Meeting No. 26-A 7:00-7:20 pm Welcome, Introductions and Announcements Group Happening (led by Mike Mykel)
Worship-Sharing - I / Young Friends Program 7:30-8:00 pm 8:15-9:30 pm 9:45-10:15 pm Evening Worship Friday, 13 May 6:30-7:30 am Yoga class / Bird walk 8:30-9:00 am Morning Worship Organization of Outings (led by George Oldham) 9:00-9:30 am 9:30-3:00 pm Outings including lunch; Carl Sandburg's home; hikes 2:30-3:00 pm Representative Meeting No. 26-B Yearly Meeting For Business, Session A / Welcome, Introductions and Announcements 3:00-4:30 pm 7:00-7:30 pm 7:30-8:15 pm "Quaker Approaches to Community Development", by Julia Abrahamson / Young Friends Program 8:30-9:30 pm Worship-Sharing - II Evening Worship 10:00-10:30 pm Saturday, 14 May 6:30-7:30 am Bird walk / Yoga class / Y.F.Rafting trip (til 5 pm) 8:30-9:00 am Morning Worship "Local Issues & National Action", by Dwight Ferguson, 9:15-10:00 am Marian Fuson, Marian Nentwig & Hugh LaFollette 9:15-11:30 am Young Friends Program Worship-Sharing - III 10:15-11:30 am Yearly Meeting for Business, Session B / Y.F. Program 1:15- 4:15 pm 6:45- 7:15 pm Yearly Meeting for Business, Session C 7:30- 8:30 pm Worship-Sharing - IV 8:30-10:00 pm Folk Dancing / Singing 10:15-10:45 pm Evening Worship Sunday, 15 May 6:30- 7:30 am Yoga Class / Bird Walk 8:30-10:00 am Yearly Meeting for Business, Session D / Y.F. Program 10:15-11:00 am Young Friends Reports to the entire Yearly Meeting 13:15-12:15 pm Closing Meeting for Worship 2:00- 4:00 pm Representative Meeting No. 27



Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association

of the Religious Society of Friends

15 May 1977

EPISTLE TO FRIENDS EVERYWHERE

MEETING ROSTER

ASHEVILLE North Carolina

ATLANTA Georgia

BEREA Kentucky

BIRMINGHAM Alabama

CELO (Burnsville) North Carolina

CHARLESTON West Virginia

CHATTANOOGA Tennessee

COLUMBIA

South Carolina

JUMPOFF (Sewanee) Tennessee

NASHVILLE Tennessee

PINE MOUNTAIN Kentucky

WEST KNOXVILLE (Knoxville) Tennessee

SAYMA's official address:

301 Hayes St. Crossville, Tennessee 38555 U.S.A. Friends of Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association, gathered at Bonclarken Assembly 12-15 May 1977, in the wooded hills of North Carolina, reach out in loving greeting to Friends everywhere. Relying this year on our own members as resource people we have become vividly aware of the strengths and talents at work among us, and deeply stirred by the possibilities yet unrecognized.

Exploring various avenues of our theme, "Putting Quakerism Into Action", we see more and more clearly the great Godgiven potential within human beings to enlarge their vision and find more fulfilling ways to live. With the guidance of our own members we have been led into a blighted Chicago neighborhood, where blacks and whites who had hated and feared one another, learned instead to work and dream and build together... and in so doing came to value each other. We have walked the dirty alleys of an Indian slum, and seen the poor and downtrodden learn that they could speak truth - their needs - to power and be answered; seen them develop pride and skills and a sense of community. We have gone among Zambian squatters and seen them respond to people who came with sensitivity to their needs, who listened and then began to help them help themselves.

Groups have sought ways to live more simply; to share more fairly with those in need around the world; to find creative non-violent methods of dealing with conflict in the home, in the community, and between nations. The process of bringing about changes in our society at large has been explored.

Slides and tapes on George Fox's country have helped to draw us back to our roots, to recognize this Power Within and know that we can make it ours. And so, dear Friends, we stretch out our hands to you, that together we may indeed learn to "walk cheerfully over the earth, answering to that of God in every person".

Doris Ferm, Mike Mykel & Doug Price 1977 SAYMA Epistle Drafting Committee

(see Minutes 3 & 27)

Nelson Fuson, Clerk, SAYMA

SAYMA OFFICERS, DELEGATES & REPRESEN	<u> </u>	8 1 June 77
Office	Person	Monthly Meeting
Clerk Assistant Clerk Treasurer Co-Recording Clerk Co-Recording Clerk Newsletter Editor (S.A.F.) Recorder/Historian/Archivist Senior High Young Friends Clerk Junior High Young Friends Clerk Manager, Yearly Meeting Bookstore	Salli Kimberly Vic Vaughen Sue Williams John Geary Doris Ferm Lucretia Evans Leonard Vaughen June Houghton	West Knoxville West Knoxville Atlanta Boone/ Nashville Columbia West Knoxville West Knoxville Nashville
Committee Chairpersons		
Advancement	Brian Yaffe Edit Briss Nelson Fuson	Asheville Gelo W. Knoxy, le- Nashville
Delegates/Representatives to	Wider Quaker Organi	zations
AFSC/SERO Exec. Comm. (1977-80) FCNI General Committee (1976-79) FCNI General Committee (1977-80) FHJ Correspondent (1975-78) FWCC General Committee (1971-78) FWCC Gen. Comm. (Alt.) (1975-78) Wm Penn House	Dwight Ferguson Ski Hilenski Jack Kaiser Richard Houghton FCNI delegates) FCNI delegates) Bo Huff, Jr.	Atlanta West Knoxville Atlanta Nashville Columbia
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Meeting or Clerk or Worship Group(*)	Representative to SAVNA's RN	
Asheville	Mike Hykel Tim Iamm Iinda Merz *John Geary Judi McGahey Steve/Susie We Nary Sanders Doris Ferm	. George Parker . Bob Barrus ellons . Larry Ingle . Doris Ferm

*Jump-Off . . . *Dorothy Hutchison . . *Mary Jo/Claude Sutcliffe
Nashville . . . Richard Houghton . Betty Johnson . Iarry Rubin

*Pine Lountain . . *Burton Rogers . . . *Burton Rogers

*Quaker Earth . . *Terry Chappell *Tri-Cities . . *John Rider . . *Tryon *Ernest Kellogg

*Jump-Off

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the

SOUTHERN APPAIACHIAN YEARLY MEETING AND ASSOCIATION (the 19th Annual Gathering of the Association)

The seventh annual meeting of SAYMA was held at Bonclarken ARP Assembly, Flat Rock, N.C., from the 12th to the 15th of May, 1977. SAYMA meetings for business occupied four periods of the weekend, one on Friday afternoon, two on Saturday afternoon and the final one on Sunday morning. Representative Meetings bracked the Yearly Meeting, with RM-26 on Thursday and Friday, and RM-27 on Sunday afternoon, just before departure.

Vearly Meeting for Business, Session A (3:00 pm, Friday, 13 Fay 1977)

- 1. This session of SAYMA Meeting for business was convened by the Clerk, Nelson fuson. After a brief period of silence, the moving Epistle for 1977 from the Australian Yearly Meeting was read.
- 2. The 1976 Yearly Meeting minutes were approved as distributed by mail after the closing of VM-76, Maryville, Tenn., in June 1976.
- 3. The Clerk asked for volunteers to "catch the spirit of SAYNA-77", reduce it to writing in a form which could enable us to share it with other Yearly Meetings. Mike Mykel, Doris Ferm and Doug Frice volunteered to be the Drafting Committee for the Epistle. They will report back on Sunday.

4. State of the Meeting Reports

Nashville Monthly Meeting: Bob Lough, outgoing Clerk of Nashville Meeting distributed copies of the Nashville report (Report attached) and spoke briefly to highlight certain portions of it and to answer questions.

West Knoxville Monthly Meeting: Salli Kimberly, West Knoxville's Representative to SAVMA, distributed copies of the West Knoxville report (report attached) and underlined the joy of the Meeting in helping the Chattanoga Worship Group to become a Monthly Meeting.

Fine Mountain Worship Group: In the absence of any present from Pine Mountain, the Clerk read portions of Burton Rogers' letter which he had just received (report attached). Friends expressed deep regret that the Rogers could not be with us this year.

Jump-Off Worship Group: In the absence of any present from Se- a wanee, the Clerk summarized recent happenings at Jump-Off (report attached). Salli Kimberly added that the Hutchinsons had recently made a trip to Crossville. Marian Fuson added that Cranford had obtained a van into which a wheel-chair can be rolled, and that Cranford and Porothy are planning a trip in June to Mt. Holyoke College where Porothy will receive an honorary degree at her 50th anniversary of graduation there.

Celo Monthly Meeting: Rather than distributing copies, Judi McCahey read the Celo report (report attached) and replied to many comment and questions. Brian Yaffe reported on Celo's contacts with wership groups in Boone, N.C. and Johnson City, Tenn.

5. Friends Committee on National Legislation, Delegate Report

Marian Fuson reported that she and Dwight Ferguson had represented SAYMA at the Annual Meeting of the FCNL in January, 1977. The FCNI Folicy statement for 1977-82 was finally approved at this meeting (after 8 or 9 revisions!) and is now in printed form in the April 1977 FCNI Newsletter. Marian urged SAYMA attenders to "read this statement to see how closely it matches your own concerns". Each FCNI Newsletter deals with a specific concern; they are worth reading and thinking about. The FCNI is the only full-time church lobby in Washington. Under the new federal tax law there is no limit on the percentage of any MM or YM budget devoted to support of FCNI

To be SAVEA's representative to FCNI is "an exciting experience" and can be fruitful if the person involved has the time, the interest and the ability to follow through on committee actions. There is the added stimulus of participating in the "Wuaker Sandwich" which includes also the Annual Reetings of "illiam Penn House and the Friends Coordinating Committee for Peace (FCCF). After reporting briefly on these other two meetings, Marian spoke of our delegate Dwight Ferguson's two years service on the FCMI Policy Committee and now transferring to work on the FCMI Development Committee. She reminded Friends that there will be a Fall meeting of FCMI in Atlanta, Sept 16-18, 1977.

(note added by the editor: Narian will complete her sixth year as Chairperson of the FCMI Executive Committee in 1977-78.)

6. Fresentation of Special Meeting Concerns for preliminary consideration.

Amnesty (Berea). Tim Lamm distributed copies of a letter Berea Meeting had sent to the President of the United States supporting a full amnesty. He urged the Yearly Meeting to take a similar action.

Walk for Peace in Japan (Asheville). The Clerk read a letter from Asheville Peeting's Clerk, George Oldham. Chip Posten, an active asheville attender has been asked to take part in a welk for peace in Japan, the request coming from some of the Japanese monks who participated in the U.S. Continental Walk for Peace with Chip Posten. Asheville Peeting is contributing \$100 to Chip's travel costs and urges SAYMA to contribute also.

Scholarships for Children at Camp Celo (Charleston). Brian Yaffe briefly outlined the need for additional scholarship help for some of Charleston Neetings children to attend Camp Celo. Both Charldston Meeting and Camp Celo are contributing and ask SAYMA to provide some scholarship aid too.

All of these concerns were raised at this time so that Friends could be thinking and talking about them; dec'sions will be made later on during the Yearly Meeting.

7. Following announcements of Yearly Meeting program changes and additions, the Meeting for Business, Session A, closed with a period of silence.

7

Yearly Meeting for Business, Session B (1:30 pm, Saturday, 14 May 1977)

8. This business session was convened by the Clerk in the Meeting Room of Bonclarken Assembly. After a minute of silence the Clerk read letters sent to SAYVA VM-77 to extend greetings from the AFSC, the London Yearly Meeting, and the FWCC.

9. Announcements

Chip Poston of Asheville Meeting has agreed to submit a written report of SAVMA-77 to the Friends Journal.

Lida Woods, Asheville Meeting, announced a "Friends Retreat on Transactional Analysis", 17-19 June, at Deer Lake Lodge near Asheville. It will be led by Pam Dickson.

Brian Yaffee, Celo Meeting, announced a Friends Retreat to be held at Celo over Labor Day weekend. Reservations are requested.

The Clerk read a letter from FWCC's Jennifer Haines, on the Right Sharing of World Resources. Citing lists of contributions the Clerk referred to amounts from 24 Yearly rectings in the United States, ranging from \$5.00 to \$15,700.00, with SAYMA being listed as having contributed \$27.00. The Clerk asked SAVMA members and Monthly Meetings to have this on their consciences during the coming year as they make contribution plans.

10. Flood Disaster in Kentucky. A letter from the Kentucky Interchurch Disaster Recovery Program, dated 18 April 1977, gave background information and requested volunteer help and direct financial aid for victims of the spring floods in Kentucky.

After discussion the Yearly Peting approved calling Burton Rogers of Fine Mountain, Kentucky, Friends Worship Troup, immediately to find out what specific actions SAVIA could take. Marian Fuson volunteered to make the phone call and report back to Yearly Leeting before it closed.

- 11. Clerk's Report. The Clerk reported on Representative Meetings held between SAYMA-76 at Maryville and the present SAYMA-77 at Bonclarken: RM-23 in June at Maryville; RM-24 in October, 1976, in Columbia, S.C.; and RM-25 in January, 1977, in Atlanta, Ga. Minutes are available for all these Representative Meetings. A special small meeting was held on 11-12 March 1977 at the Vaughen's home in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to make final detailed plans for SAYMA-77. This meeting brought together PAYMA's Clerk, Treasurer, Arrangements Committee Chairpersons, Program Committee Chairman, and the High School Y.F. Clerk. Several other Friends from the West Knoxville Meeting shared in parts of the meeting. Informal notes on this meeting will be available as an appendix to the Minutes of SAYMA RM-26.
- 12. Newsletter Editor's Report. Doris Ferm summarized the work of the editor and staff of SAYMA's newsletter, the Southern Appalachian Friend during the past year and requested more written contributions from Friends during 1977-78 (Report attached.)

The Yearly Meeting commended Doris on the fine publication of the newsletter during the current year.

- 13. Recorder/Historian/Archivist's Report. In the absence of Lucretia Evans, the Clerk read her letter to VV and summarized the statistical report she enclosed (Report attached; with updates in June, 1977, included). The report sent to YM-77 was incomplete because a number of monthly meetings and worship groups did not send in their reports. An additional request was made, by name, to those Monthly Meetings which have not yet responded.
- 14. Advancement Committee Report. A written report was read by the Clerk of the work of this Committee and its chairman, Tom Kenworthy, who sent the report with his regrets for having to be absent from Yearly Meeting for the first time. (Report attached) The files of the Advancement Committee were turned over to the Clerk to be given to the new Committee chairperson when chosen. The Clerk expressed deep appreciation for the work of Tom, whose concern for the nurture of new worship groups and meetings led to the formation of this committee 5 years ago.

There was a discussion of the duties and responsibilities of the Advancement Committee. These were seen to be: providing information to worship groups; helping prepare them for Monthly Meeting status; and serving as a line of communication between worship groups and SAYMA.

This issue of certification of new Monthly Meetings was raised again. Should certification of new Monthly Meetings be made by by the Yearly Neeting or by the "parent" Monthly Meeting (if the worship group becomes a Preparative Monthly Meeting first). Friends were not clear on the approved method of certification since both methods of certification have been used over the past two years. The question was referred to SAYMA's Guide to Our Practice (Book of Discipline) Committee.

- 15. Treasurer's Report. Vic Vaughen distributed copies of the preliminary report as of 11 May 1977. He was not able to present the final report because of many late registrations for VM-77. Friends were requested to register in advance so that the Treasurer's Report can be finished in time for presentation at the Neeting for Business. Vic reported a total YM-77 attendance of 210 persons. (Fiscal year 1976-77 Treasurer's Report and the SAYMA-77 attendance report are attached). A preliminary budget for 1977-78 was outlined, but final approval of this budget was postponed until the Business Meeting session on 15 May.
- 16. Representation of SAYMA on Wider Quaker Organization Boards.
 The Yearly Meeting approved the following policy proposed by its
 Representative Meeting (see RM-24, minute No. 281):
 - (a) Official SAYMA representatives to Wider Quaker Organizations will be appointed to serve usually a three year term. The maximum length of service will be two three-year terms.
 - (b) When it is necessary or appropriate, there will be a one year overlap between terms of the outgoing and the incoming representative. In this case the incoming representative will be designated as the alternate.
 - (c) Each representative is to submit to the SAYMA Clerk a written report covering each "W-Q-O" meeting attended. A state-

- ment of reimbursible expenses, with documentation, should be appended to this report.
- (d) In the late spring of each year each representative is asked to submit to the DAYN'A Treasurer a proposed budget of anticipated expenses for the coming fiscal year (1 May thru 31 Apr.)
- 17. Reimbursement of Expenses for SAYMA appointees

 The Yearly Neeting approved the following policy which had been proposed in a slightly different form by its Representative Meeting (see RM-24, minute No. 282):
 - (a) Any person appointed by SAYMA to carry out a function for SAYMA in a representative capacity may have his/her expenses reimbursed. Such appointees include Monthly Leeting reps and SAYMA officers attending Representative Meetings (but not Yearly Meetings), SAYMA delegates to special conferences, SAYMA Advancement Committee intervisitation, and SAYMA reps or delegates to wider quaker organizations (WQO) when attending annual WQO meetings and other scheduled WQO meetings.
 - (b) Eligible reimbursible expenses include travel (plane fares at lowest rate offered, car travel at 10 cents per mile, or bus or train coach fares), local transportation, meals and overnight expense if necessary.
 - (c) When a SAYMA delegate or representative to a wider quaker organization is asked by them to fill a WQO office or committee responsibility which will necessitate additional travel expense, the Clerk of SAYMA will notify the clerk of the Monthly Neeting to which this SAYMA representative belongs of the additional expenses budgeted and give that Monthly Neeting the opportunity to contribute toward the payment of these extra expenses.
- 18. Nominating Committee Report. Brian Yaffe, Chairman of the Committee, introduced the report by stating that there were seven changes called for in the current list of 23 SAYMA officers and committee chair persons and delegates. He presented the list to the Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting approved the 1977-78 group of new officers as recommended by the committee (report attached).
- 19. Following announcement of the special added business session for a half an hour immediately following the evening meal, the Meeting closed with a short period of silent worship.

Yearly Meeting for Business, Session C (6:45 pm, Saturday, 14 May 1977)

- 20. The Meeting for Business was convened by Brian Yaffe, Assistant Clerk, with a period of silence. A number of announcements were made, including Dick Houghton's request for more volunteer adult leadership for the Young Friends' programs next year, and Fam Callard's reminder of the 28 May Friends "Retreat" on Nonviolence at Ashland Prison to which Friends are invited to participate.
- 21. Scholarship and financial support from SAYMA. After consideration of RM-25, minute 296 at some length, concerning scholarship funds, the Yearly Meeting approved the following minute:

Meeting members' or attenders' concerns for Quaker study and/or action are properly submitted to the Monthly Meeting for evaluation. When a SAYMA Monthly Meeting finds itself in harmony with such a concern and wishes to support it financially but is not able to fully fund it, the Monthly Meeting may forward to the Clerk of SAYMA a request for additional funds to support this concern. SAYMA's Representative Meeting is then authorized to approve or disapprove an expenditure of SAYMA funds, based on such a request, at its next meeting, or, if time requires, by letter and/or telephone decision.

- 22. Disposition of specific requests for SAYFA funds. In the light of the policy decision approved in Minute 21 above, the Yearly Meeting approved postponement of consideration of requests for scholarship funds from the Asheville and Charleston Monthly Meetings (outlined in YM-77 Minute 6) until RM-27 meets tomorrow, Sunday, 15 Pay 1977.
- The Chattanooga Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
 The Chattanooga, Tennessee, Friends Torship Group has been an integral part of the Southern Appalachian Association of Friends and the Southern Appalachian Yearly Neeting and Association since the very beginning. During the last several years Chattanooga Friends have been a Preparative Meeting under the care of West Knoxville Monthly Meeting. At its May, 1977, Monthly Meeting for Business West Knoxville MM approved full Monthly Meeting status for the Chattanooga Preparative Meeting.

NAYMA Yearly Meeting joyfully receives this news, welcomes Chattanooga Friends in this new capacity, and looks forward to joining with them in their formal celebration this fall of becoming a full Monthly Meeting.

24. State of the Meeting Reports, continued (see also YM-77, minute 4)
Asheville Monthly Meeting (given by Lida Woods; report attached)

Berea Monthly Meeting (by Beth Ann Tilden; report attached)

Birmingham Monthly Meeting (Linda Merz, representative; see report attached for this independent MM, observer status in SAYMA)

Chattanooga Monthly Meeting (Mary Sanders, rep.; report attached)

25. Drafting of SAVMA letters to President Carter.

The Yearly Meeting asked a small committee to review and revise as necessary the Berea Meeting letter addressed to Jimmy Carter urging unconditional universal amnesty for Vietnam era offenders and deserters, and to bring the revision before the Yearly Meeting at its final business session on Sunday for consideration as a communication from SAYNA to President Carter.

The <u>Yearly Feeting approved</u> John Coffin's concern and asked him together with a small committee to draft a letter to Fresident Carter in opposition to the construction of the B-1 Bomber. They are asked to bring this draft back for consideration at the final business meeting tomorrow.

The Meeting for Business then adjourned, after a moment of silence, to meet again the next morning.

Yearly Meeting for Business, Session D (8:30 am, Sunday, 15 May 1977)

- 26. To open this final session of the Vearly Neeting for Business, the clerk read a brief message of concern from a member of SAY'A that our our business meetings be conducted in a worshipful manner. The meeting then entered into a period of opening silent worship.
- 27. The SAYMA-77 Epistle. Doris Ferm read to the meeting the draft of the Epistle to Friends Everywhere which the drafting committee (see VI minute No. 3 above) had composed. The committee's draft was approved as read. (Epistle forms a part of VM-77 "proceedings").
- 28. Letter to President Carter supporting universal unconditional amnesty Tim Lamm read the revised draft of a letter on amnesty to Jimmy Carter. The Yearly Heeting approved the draft, after further revision of phrases concerning criminal behavior of soldiers during their time in the military, and asked the Clerk to see that it was mailed to the President. (see copy attached)
- 29. Letter to President Carter opposing construction of the B-1 Bomber. John Coffin read the draft of a letter to the President expressing our opposition to the construction of the B-1 Bomber. The letter was approved as read, after minor revisions, and the Clerk was authorized to sign it and mail it to the President. (copy attached).
- 30. Channels to use for helping victims of Flood Disaster in Kentucky Marian Fuson reported on her phone call to Burton Rogers of Pine Mt. Kentucky regarding relief for flood victims in Kentucky. Furton recommends that financial contributions be sent c/o Burton Rogers, Fine Mountain, Ky.. but that any material contributions be routed to the Kentucky Interchurch Disaster Recovery Program, after corresponding with the Program at 238 Bakhaus Bldg, Lexington, KY 405 5.
- 31. Budget for SAYMA, 1977-78.

 Vic Vaughen, SAYMA Treasurer presented a budget for SAYMA for the coming year. This budget was approved as presented with one change, namely that the item in the budget for special projects was removed, with the understanding that approval for expenditure of special funds will come from SAYMA's Representative Reeting as outlined in YM-77 minute 21 above. (approved budget is attached)
- 32. State of the Meeting Reports, concluded (see YM-77, minutes 4 & 24)

Columbia Monthly Meeting (Doris Ferm, rep.; report attached)

Atlanta Monthly Meeting (Mike Mykel, rep.; report attached)

Charleston Monthly Meeting (given by Rob Callard; report attached)

Quaker Earth Worship Group. This is the first report we have received from the Quaker Earth Friends Group at Blue Creek in Southwest Ohio. Terry Chappell' report is attached. It was received with especial appreciation by the Yearly Feeting.

33. Report from Friends World Committee for Consultation
Reports were received from our delegates to FWCC, Jack Keiser and
Dick Toughton, and from MaryEsther McWhirter, FWCC staff member.

(Jack's report is attached)

- 34. Report from the American Friends Service Committee
 Oral reports were received from our AFSC/SERO delegate, Perry
 Treadwell, and from Mel Zuck of the AFSC/SERO staff who has been
 with us helpfully also in previous years.
- 35. SAYMA joins the Friends General Conference!

 Dwight Wilson, General Secretary-Elect of Friends General Conference (FGC), who had been with us at Yearly Meeting all along, spoke briefly on the purposes of FGC. Dwight's remarks were followed by a report from Bo Huff of Columbia Monthly Leeting who had been asked by AYMA to represent us as an observer at the winter FGC Executive Committee meeting, (see RM-24, minute 283 and RM-25, minute 297).

Following Bo's encouraging report, the Clerk reviewed briefly the history of SAYNA's deliberations over the past six years about affiliation with FGC, and asked again what was the desire of the Meeting.

The Yearly Neeting approved, without any dissenting voice, taking the step of affiliation of SAYNA with the Friends General Conference.

- 36. The Yearly Neeting approved the publication, as the third in a series of SAYMA pamphlets, of the talk given to the Yearly Meeting on Friday, 13 May 1077, by Julia Abrahamson, entitled "Some Quaker Approaches to Community Development".
- 37. Date and Location of SAYMA VM-78. The clerk reported that letters will be sent to Warren Wilson College, to Lutheridge, and to Bonclarken Assembly inquiring about open dates for our Yearly Meetings use of their facilities in May, 1978, and for anticipated costs involved. The Yearly Meeting approved leaving the final decision as to date and location of YE-78 to the new Glerk, Brian Yaffe, in consultation with Fhil Neal and George/Teeny Oldham who are closest to the three possible sites and who have had experience with arrangements.
- 38. Mary Rubin and Dick Houghton briefly outlined the Children's program for YY-77, and asked Friends to share in the report-in-persons which the Young Friends would give during the next hour. (Report attached).
- 39. Yearly Neeting for Business, 1977, then closed with a brief period of silence. Then followed the Children's and Young Friends presentation during the ten o'clock hour and the closing Meeting for Worship at 11:15 am.

Report of Young Friends Program (continued from page 14)
Raymond Morris (Berea Meeting) helped coordinate outdoor sports for several of the different groups. Hibbard Thatcher (Nashville) and Larry Ingle (Chattanooga) led the square dancing. Lots of other SAYFA adults worked with different age groups of the Young Friends programs. No accidents; lots of enthusiasm; it was a good YM!

The younger Friends program was coordinated by Mary Rubin of Nashville Meeting. 67 participated in the activities of the five different age groups, as follows:

0-4 yr olds: Teeny Oldham arranged for paid baby-sitters for them.
There were ten of them altogether

5-7 yr olds: Caroline Carter (Nashville Meeting), Coordinator, for this group of 16. Theme: Dealing with Conflict. This group illustrated their activities to us by a series of crayon drawings on a yard-wide strip of tan wrapping paper 30 feet long!

8-10 yr olds: Jane Price (West Knoxville Meeting) led this group of 16 children in a varied program ending up with their puppet show presentation of the parable of the ruler and his three servants to whom he had intrusted different amounts of "talents". The young folks made their own puppets, stage, and everything else.

11-13 yr olds: Judi McGahey (Celo heeting) led this group of 13 near-to-Junior High folks in their program, which included a trip to Celo for "May day", time with Dwight Wilson of FGC, and a wild "Vegetable Cart Upset" game which they initiated all of us adults into at their reporting session!

ran herd on this group of about a dozen. Their program ran the gamut from Non-Violence (with John Coffin), the 1652 George Fox country slide show and tape (N.E.McWhirter/FWCC), and sessions with Dwight Wilson of FGC, to Volley ball, swimming, square dancing and thee all Saturday rafting expedition down the French Broad River (coordinated by Boh Lough (Nashville Meeting). (continued, bottom of p.13)

NOMINATING COMPTTEE REPORT (see Finute 18)

Of the 23 officers, delegates, and appointees of SAYMA, the Nominating Committee has been asked to fill only seven spots. The Committee, composed of representatives selected by each Monthly Meeting, has corresponded and telephoned each other, and met finally at supper together, Friday evening, 13 May. It has recommendations for six of the seven positions, as follows:

The seventh position is for a second representative to the FCNI. This opening will be postponed for consideration by the Representative Meeting, since it was not realized that this was open until the last moment.

(N.F. for Brian Yaffe)

for the Fiscal Year ending May 1977 (not including YM-77) (see Minute 15) Balance on 20 May 1976 Savings acc't \$2166.02 Checking acc't 1928.59 4094.61	SAYMA CONFERENCE YM*77 (Preliminary Report) 31 May 77 (see Minute 15) Conference Income Fees paid
Receipts Assessments	Conference Costs Accomodations 1768.50 (428 person-nights) Food Service 2948.25 (1269 person-meals) Raft trip
Disbursements Conference (YM-76) 3373.49 Newsletter 695.94 Representative Comm. 676.82 Delegate Expense FCCP 144.00 FWCC 622.43 FCNI 812.95 Advancement 91.90	Total cost . 5295.07 App:Net.(no default) (-)200. App.Net.(fees due def.)(-)400. Financial Assistance Max cost (large family 641.25 Scholarships
Contributions AFSC	Attendance statistics for YM-77. 0-3 years of age 6 4-6 years of age 12 1-3 grades in school 11 4-6 grades 13 7-9 grades (Jr. Hi.) 17 10-12 grades (Sr. Hil.) 8 Adult attenders 143 Total 210
SAYMA BUDGET May 1977 thru April 1978 (see Minute 31) Income Assessments \$3900 Donations 1000 Interest 100 Total Income \$5000 Vic Vaughen Treasurer SAYMA	Expenses (net)

There has been a pronounced decline in our advancement activities and new stimulation is needed if SAYMA is to succeed with the priority projects from among those identified in our recent correspondence.

George Parker reports from Berea, see attached, that there has been little progress since November toward pursuing fellowship with Lexinton and Louis ville meetings.

Atlanta has taken no steps toward nurture of the worship groups in Macon and Athens.

There is no indication from Charleston meeting that there has been any further effort, for nearly a year, on the concept of West Virginia Friends fellowship gatherings that SAYMA agreed to subsidize.

I have no reports or information that worship groups have met in Landrum, S.C.; Memphis, TN.; Boone, N.C.; and Johnson City, TN.

The information requested by December 15, 1976 for the SAYMA meeting posters was still being received as late as two weeks ago so $^{\rm I}$ will now try to finish that project during this summer and forward the posters to SAYMA when they are ready.

West Knoxville and Chattanooga meetings report increased oversight from W. Knoxville of the effort of Chattanooga meeting toward monthly meeting status. I received from Chattanooga several months ago their written responses to the SAYMA queries for meetings preparing for monthly meeting status. Their responses were forwarded to Brian Yaffe and Phil Neal, who have served with me on the SAYMA Advancement Committee, but I have no response from them yet on this communication.

Much can be done if we can provide people who can promote these potentialities.

Berea, KY, 4 April 77 (excepts from George Parker's letter to Tom K.)

"...little contact between Berea Meeting and the Meetings in Lexington and Louisville since our last report. Last November the Louisville Meeting invited members of Lexington and Berea to a weekend gathering which was to be largely social. Ferhaps...since there was no pressing content no one from Lexington attended and only Tim Lamm and myself went down from Berea. Business has prevented Berea from extending any further invitations to Lexington since a picnic last summer. On that occasion in July 1976 we had a good discussion between about a dozen Lexington Friends and about a dozen from Berea... The three Meetings also united in some opposition to the new law in Kentucky restoring the death penalty to the books.... A film on the death penalty have been shown in several places under the sponsorship of the three Meetings...

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1976-77

(see Minute 13)

Meeting		Adu	lts		Youth	ı (ur	nder 1	g)	Mbrs/Att.	Members	Date
Category and Location	Local D Mbrs. M				Local Di Mbrs. Mi				Total A. & Y.	Total	of Info
Monthly Meeti	ngs								-		,
Asheville	29	6	9	44	5	_	1	6_	50	40	1/77
Atlenta	46	16	46	108	13(a)	2	26	41	149	77	3/77
Berea (b)	15	_	9	24			1	1	25	15	1/77
Celo	11	11	24	46	10	9	12	31	77	41	6/77
Columbia	11(c)	-	4	15	2	-	4_	6	21	13	1/77
W. Knoxville	25	30(1)12	67	4	7(9	20	87	66	10/76
Nashville	13(f)	12	20	45	2	2	14	18	63	29	12/76
Charleston	9	1	7	17	4	2_	3	9	26	16	4/7
Preparative M	eetings					**************************************					
Chattanooga*	2(g)		11(h	13	 -	_	2	2	15	2	1/7

Independent Monthly Meeting with Observer Status in SAYNA

Birminghem	10	9	10	29	11	1		12	41	31	10/76
Worship Groups	Other/										
Boone, NC			8(i)	8	_ =		_3	3	11	8	6/7
Johnson City, T	N										
Pine Mountain			1	1		_		-	1	-	1/77
Jump Off/Sewan	99 -		9(1)	9_			-	- 1	9	-	5/77
Macon, GA										1	
Tryon, NC Q.E./B.C.OH.		_	9	9	•		-	-	9	-	7/77
Q.E./B.C.OH			_4	4			4_	7	8		5/77
Grand Totals	171	85	183.	439	51	23	7.79	153	592	338	17/7

Footnotes

(a) These are designated associated members.

(b) With this report Berea is no longer counting as members those not attending, contributing, or otherwise in contact with the Meeting. The ten attenders are regular and are considered as members by Berea, although they have not formally applied for membership and have not been recorded in Meeting records.

(c) One of these is a sojourning member.

(d) Four of these as of this date are a part of Chattanooga Preparative Meeting.

e One of these as of this date is a part of Chattanooga Preparative Meeting.

(f) Two of these are members of another yearly meeting also.

(g) Two of these hold official membership with Friends in West Knoxville Monthly Mtg.
(h) Two of these hold official membership with Friends in West Knoxville Monthly Mtg.

(i) Two local members are members of SAYMA/Nashville Meeting.

(j) Three of these hold membership in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

THE SOUTHERN APPAIACHIAN FRIEND (SAYMA's newsletter) (report by Doris Ferm, Editor) (see Minute 12)

Five issues of the newsletter have been published so far in 1976-77, and the final issue of Volume XIX, in June 1977, will report on the current Xearly Meeting spirit and accomplishments. Feedback is needed from all Meetings on the content of the newsletter. Regular reports are requested from Derea, Jump-Off and Nashville Meetings during the coming year. All SAVMA Representatives are asked to see that their Meetings assign a reporter for the newsletter. Written material is requested from all Friends so that there will be less pre-printed material in the newsletter. (summarized from Sue W. and N.F.'s notes)

SAYMA DELECATE TO FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (Report of Jack Kaiser) (see Minute 33) 15 May 77

To you dear Friends who have passively sat by and endured my written speeches for lo these many years ... sit back, relax, continue your knitting or crocheting or whatever method you use for relaxing, and let me speak, for a few moments, to those who have not been indoctrinated into the strangenesses of Quakerdom.

Friends World Committee for Consultation ... what is it .. why it it ... should it be? Hany newcomers to Quakerism believe that the greatest thing about Quakerism is that there is no creed and no organization. Oh ... there may not be a creed but there are several important testimonies. Ind as to organization ... we would never have lasted this long if there wasn't someone organizing something. So, we do have the usual hierarchy, though more subtle than most.

We must first recognize the fact that there are several forms of Quakerism ... Programmed, Unprogrammed, Conservative, Evangelical ... and we must remember that, although Quakers are a small percentage of the Christian movement, we are spread, thinly, all over the world. There are Worship Groups, Monthly Meetings, Quarterly Meetings, Half Yearly Meetings, Yearly Meetings ... There is Friends United Meeting and Friends General Conference ... there are service groups like the AFSC ... with the FUM Conservative and Evangelical counterparts of Missionary Societies. And, yes, there is the part of Quakerism that keeps an eye on Federal and World Government, FCNI and QUNO ...

In 1937 it became apparent that all this should be held together to promote better knowledge and understanding among Friends the world over... thus FWCC was born. It now has a European section, an African section, a section of the Americas and, in the future, an Asian section. Every three years the Triennial Meetings, representatives from all sections gather ... in 1976 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Dick Woughton w'll report on that meeting.

The membership of this section are representatives from each Yearly Meeting in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Jamaica. All of us are on sub-committees, some of us are on the executive committee, some of us are assistant clerks of the Section, but we all have one cormon roal ... the furthering of cooperative work among all branches of Quakerism. Under the auspices of the FWCC is the Quaker United Nations Organization (QUNO), the Right Sharing of World Resources (formerly the "1% more campaign" which came out of the 1967 Friends World Conference in Greensboro, N.C.), the Wider Quaker Fellowship, four periodicals and a continuous flow of publications, the newest being "Friends in the Americas", "The United Nations and Human Survival", and "New Call to Peacemaking". And also under the FWCC wing, for the past few years, the highly successful and thought-provoking gatherings of the Faith and Life Conferences.

Then, every two years, the FWCC spensors the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage ... 28 teen-age participants from America, Europe and Canada travelling together, studying Quakerism and engaging in service projects in different parts of the world.

And conferences ... the FWCC really puts on a Conference ... and this year's is a show stopper. For the first time, a conference open to all Friends of the Western Hemisphere (Spanish speaking and English speaking) who represent all strands of Quakerism. It will gather in "ichita, Kansas, June 25 to July 1, 1977, with a theme of "Iiving in the Spirit." If you have a week to give yourself something different and exciting in Quakerism, please attend!

Beginning in 1977, regional Conferences will enable Friends of all persuasions, in company with Mennonites and Brethren, to focus attention on: major tasks of peacemakers in the contemporary world; institutional and structural alternatives to war. Insights arrived at in these religiously oriented gatherings will enrich the continent-wide conference to be held at Green Lake, Wisconsin, in October, 1978. The booklet and study packet can be obtained from the Church of the Brethren Headquarters, and Meetings will find it most useful for study groups.

In August, 1077, FWCC will help lead the way in sending five members of the Section of the Americas to Cuba to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Friends Meeting there.

I have said many times that I find it very difficult to bring back to the Yearly Meeting all that FWCC means to me. It is impossible to report on everything that happens and please all members of SAYMA as to the worth of action. But I still consider that the Yearly Meeting's part in sending a representative to FWCC is that you are sending a worker ... one who is a part of that whole family of world-wide Tuakers who need each other and each of us can give a point of reference.



Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association

of the Religious Society of Friends

(see Minutes 6A, 25 & 28)

Address reply to:

1803 Morena Street Nashville, TN 37208

15 May 1977

MEETING ROSTER

ASHEVILLE North Carolina

ATLANTA Georgia

BEREA Kentucky

BIRMINGHAM Alabama

CELO (Burnsville) North Carolina

CHARLESTON West Virginia

CHATTANOOGA Tennessee

COLUMBIA South Carolina

JUMPOFF (Sewanee) Tennessee

NASHVILLE Tennessee

PINE MOUNTAIN Kentucky

WEST KNOXVILLE (Knoxville) Tennessee

SAYMA's official address:

301 Hayes St. Crossville, Tennessee 38555 U.S.A. Jimmy Carter President of the United States The White House, Washington, D. C.

Dear Friend,

We have been encouraged by your inaugural statement that you hope for a world without fear. We believe that you are trying to give the moral leadership which is needed if world peace is to be achieved.

We believe that while working toward peace among nations, you should support those...like the Vietnam deserters and resisters, who tried to find personal solutions to problems of war. They were part of a trend toward a peaceful world. Your pardon to all who refused induction during the Vietnam years is a step in the right direction. We hope you will continue to promote this trend toward peace by supporting legislation establishing a universal unconditional amnesty.

We disapprove of the current proposed program involving case-by-case review for the following reasons:

- 1. Doubts about the Vietnem war, and genuine conscientious objection to it, were not always expressed in behavior that is likely to be recognized by any review board as reflecting this conscientious objection. This is especially true of less educated soldiers, many of whom were poor and from minority groups.
- 2. Despite the stated intentions of a review panel, their biases leading to inconsistent and unjust decisions are inevitable. This would be especially true of military panels as compared to civilian panels.
- 3. Even criminal behavior, such as assault or drug abuse, is often brought on by living in a military environment; the military needs to accept the responsibility

for much of this, rather than simplistically blaming the individuals affected.

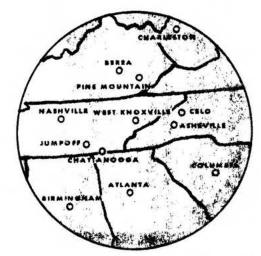
- 4. We do not believe that people who deserted in a combat zone should be separated from those who objected to the war elsewhere. Their objections to the war may have been just as legitimate, and for them to continue to fight would have been just as contrary to their consciences as participating in the military would be to a conscientious objector in other circumstances.
- 5. It would be impossible, several years after the fact, accurately to reconstruct the situation and the motivations involved in the behavior of a given soldier that resulted in a liss-than-honorable discharge. There is no way to look into people's hearts and determine the absolute truth of their past. We believe that the United States should err on the side of reconciliation rather than on the side of punishment.

We look forward to your responce to our concerns as stated above.

Sincerely,

Nelson Fuson, Clerk, SAYMA

signed on behalf of the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association of the Religious Society of Friends, in Yearly Meeting Session, 12-15 May 1977 at Bonclarken Assembly, Flat Rock, North Carolina



Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association

of the Religious Society of Friends

(see Minutes Nos. 25 & 29) Address reply to:

1803 Morena Street Nashville, TN 37208

15 May 1977

Jimmy Carter, President, The United States White House, Washington, D. C.

MEETING ROSTER

ASHEVILLE North Carolina

ATLANTA Georgia

BEREA Kentucky

BIRMINGHAM Alabama

CELO (Burnsville) North Carolina

CHARLESTON West Virginia

CHATTANOOGA Tennessee

COLUMBIA South Carolina

JUMPOFF (Sewanee) Tennessee

NASHVILLE Tennessee

PINE MOUNTAIN Kentucky

WEST KNOXVILLE (Knoxville) Tennessee Dear Jimmy Carter

The Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA) of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) urges you to reject the B-1-Bomber. This weekend some 208 members and attenders of SAYMA, representing twelve Monthly Meetings across the Southeast, are gathered in annual meeting at the Bonclarken conference center near Hendersonville, North Carolina. Together we join in asking you to decide against the B-1-Bomber.

Our opposition to this weapons system stems from several factors. Historically Quakers have been, and remain, committed to peace-making and disavow the preparation for war. On these grounds of faith we reject the bomber. We believe that the B-1 project is indifferent to real human needs, knowing that many more jobs would be created if similar amounts of money were invested in non-military programs. We also believe the planes pose a grave threat to the ecological balances of our planet and to the social, political and economic structures under which we live. We are extremely concerned about and involved in the right sharing of the world's resources. It is clear that for this reason, if for no other, the plane should be dropped. Each \$101,000,000 aircraft absorbs vital resources which can then no longer be shared in ways which are morally supportive of the world's human family.

hany of us have been active against the B-l for several years at the local and regional level and in the national Stop the B-l-Bomber/Feace Conversion Campaign. A few of our number expressed a deep personal concern about peace, the danger the B-l poses to that peace, and the importance of the decision you are authorized to make in this matter by participating last December in the vigil at Plains across the street from your home. Your election to the presidency last November was welcomed by many of us because we were convinced of your opposition to the R-l-Bomber; your comments against it are well documented and remembered.

For all of these reasons we respectfully ask that you stop the funding for the B-1. We look forward to hearing from you soon about your decision in this matter.

Sincerely,

Nelson Fuson Clerk, SAYMA

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STATE OF THE MEETING REPORTS OF SAYMA MONTHLY MEETINGS WORSHIP GROUPS FOR THE 1976-77 YEAR

ASHEVIIIE MONTHLY MEETING, Asheville, N.C. (see Minute 24)

There is in our Meeting a spirit of unity and caring that permeates all our activities. Our social actions have demonstrated this unity as have our weekly forums, mid-week sharing groups and the ministry in our Meetings for Worship.

Religious education is being developed with love and tenderness for our little ones. New spirit and life come to our Meeting as the bond between the children and older Friends grows. Since January a teacher assisted by a parent works with our budding First Day School. Materials from FGC and many other sources are used.

Asheville heeting has been blessed with the active participation of many young Friends. After a forum on membership was held, we received membership applications from a number of such persons. All were joyfully received into our Meeting. The continental Walk, the B-1 Bomber vigil, the Witness Against Executions, the evening meetings on Struggle in couth Africa and the Mideast, the mid-week sharing groups and the interest in establishing a Meeting/House/Family Center reflect the deep social concerns of these new Young Friends.

There has long been an interest in the Society of Friends in the Tryon, N.C., area. The AFSC has held an informational luncheon meeting there for a number of years because of this interest. There is now a group of about fourteen persons who are holding a Worship Meeting regularly Wednesday evenings in the home of Ernest and Helen Kellogg. Asheville Friends have visited with the Tryon group upon occasion.

The forums held for an hour before Neeting for Worship deal with local, personal and wider Quaker concerns. Some of the tolics have been: Psychology of Consciousness, Transactional Analysis, Assertiveness Training, Report on Allen Center for Children, Peaning of Membership, Right Sharing of World Resources, Simple Living, Values Clarification, Journal on the Continental Welk, Pendle Hill Clerking Workshop, the Wisdom of John Woolman, The London Yearly Meeting Book of Discipline, A Report on Friends Activities in Auburn, N.Y., Prisons, etc.

There is in our Meeting an abundance of love and goodwill toward each other and in the world around us. We are developing a closer community with greater knowledge of each other.

ATLANTA FRIENDS MFETING STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT FOR 1976 (see minute 32)

MEETING FOR WORSHIP: The tone of the Atlanta Friends Meeting this year has been more highly centered, less highly charged than in recent years. Since expectations of the Meeting's role vary widely according to individual's perceptions, it is hard to say how effectively their needs are being met in this time of relative calm.

This new sense is felt most through the spoken messages. Notably, there have been few which have dealt with social concerns. In fact, Meetings seem almost to be thematic, centering on messages that have seemed especially thoughtful. The times of speaking and quiet seem nicely balanced.

Attendance has been good, leading some to question, again, the need for more space but rarely are crowded conditions intolerable. Attendance normally runs about eighty. Our Yearly Meeting assessment figures are based on fifty-eight members and forty-six attenders. Many new people are attending regularly. In contrast to earlier times, these new attenders seem less eager to imprint their own image on the Meeting than to join in with existing activities. In this time of the Meeting's stability and reflection, both new and long-standing attenders express the need to learn more about Quakerism.

COMMITTEES: During the past year the main emphasis of the Social Concerns committee has been in effecting national legislation. Several concerns about military spending have been brought to Friend's following the rise of meeting for worship. The social concerns committee supports the Atlanta Peace Committee of the American Friends Service Committee in its' work to demilitarize the Atlanta schools. Several simple living workshops were made possible through the use of Quaker house. Social concerns committee is struggling with the balance between social outreach and sufficient financial support for its' programs. The following is a statement from the committee coordinators:

"We seek a world free of war and the threat of war,

We seek a society with equity for all;

We seek a community where each may fulfill his/her potential;

We seek an earth restored;

We seek a new vision of effective citizenship;

We seek ways to join with others in reaching these goals."

In our seeking we have had some disappointments but these have furthered creative efforts.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE reports that, while the Meeting adopted a budget for 1976 of approximately \$14,000, only \$12,400 was spent and this sum was fully covered by contributions of Friends and other interested persons. The sum contributed was approximately \$1,000 more than last year. Thus the Meeting - both Friends and attenders - has cheerfully and responsibly met its financial obligations for the year and, in this sense, is "in good shape". During the year also a special fund was created to pay the tuition of a Kenyan student from East Africa Yearly Meeting who is attending Albany State College and this obligation was fully met by contributions to the fund.

Among its other activities the MINISTRY AND COUNSEL committee has worked on procedural matters: the membership role was up-dated, guidelines for weddings performed under the care of the Meeting were written, and the procedures and forms for member's funeral arrangements were set up. In November, many early members and attenders of the Meeting returned to celebrate a 25th. year commemoration of the founding of Atlanta Friends Meeting.

Based on last year's successful structuring of age groups, with the occasional addition of relevant Bi-Centennial themes, the RELIGIOUS EDUCATION committee continued to provide an organized plan of instructing young Friends.

THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS committee received active support from the Meeting for several workdays. Ongoing attention to details of carpentry and landscaping keep the Meeting place in good condition. The house is used by several groups for a variety of purposes.

Extensive VOLUNTEER LISTS for Sunday greeters, coffee preparation, and child care after Meeting continue to involve many in Meeting responsibilities.

INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS: Several in our Meeting take an active part in such Quakerly concerns as environmental protection, prison visitation, neighborhood involvement, support for farm workers, and participation on the regional board of the American Friends Service Committee. In addition, several times during the year Friends have called on other Friends to hold informal sessions of clearness to help them reach decisions. This willingness is encouraging.

MEETING OUTREACH: Several members of the Meeting have served as representatives to and officers in Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting as well as functioning as delegates from the Yearly Meet-

ing to other Quaker organizations such as AFSC, FCNL, and Friends World Committee. A member of the Meeting also continued to represent us with the Metropolitan Christian Council of Churches.

MEETING FOR BUSINESS: Thirty to forty percent of those present at Meeting for Worship usually stay for meeting for business. They include both new and old attenders as well as members. The Meeting seems to function fiarly well, usually covering its' agenda. The Meeting met with AFSC representatives to consider a vigil in President Carter's hometown, Plains, Ga., to support the president in acts of reconciliation with Viet Nam, opposition to the B-l bomber, and amnesty. Friends supported the spirit but questioned the strategy of the vigil. Many did attend, however, and they were well received by the president. The meeting is paying the tuition of James Makhoka at Albany State College. The meeting continues to supply office space in Quaker House for a representative of Friends World College and a peace intern. It also permits the use of the annex for regular Yoga classes. Regular visitation between Atlanta meeting and the Birmingham, Ala. Preparatory meeting continues.

EVENTS: A craft fair was held before Thanksgiving and contributed toward meeting our 1976 budget.....Programs offered people with special concerns a forum. One program held this year dealt with death; several others featured musical talents of the meeting.....Karen Lane and Chet Briggs were married under the care of the Meeting in September.....In May and October the Meeting sponsored two workshops in Simple Living. The workshops were under the care of the Social Concerns committee....The Section of the Americas, Friends World Committee, held their annual meeting at Quaker House in February.....The 25th. anniversary of the Atlanta Friends Meeting was celebrated this year. In June, George Hays, one of the founding Friends, returned and exchanged reminiscences......In September, many old Friends returned to an informal program held after Meeting to commemorate the 25th. anniversary.....Suzan and Tom Kenworthy were honored with a shower before the birth of Lauren.

GROUPS: The Women's Discussion Group has continued to meet one evening a month. There was a Worship Sharing Group that met regularly on Sunday night for a good part of the year.

DISCONTINUED: The Adult First Day School, which was started in the spring, lasted only a few months. The Meeting dropped out of the Druid Hills Council of Churches this year, after a three year affiliation with the group.

WHAT WE MIGHT HAVE WISHED

That we could increase parking facilities.

That there were more tables for potluck.

That the Meeting might do more to support the commitment of its members to social concerns. That individually we could make the time to prepare ourselves for Meeting for Worship, through contemplation and the study of Quaker thought so as to use the worship service in a way that not only speaks to the needs of the moment, but through frequent reflection builds the strength for all time.

Atlanta Friends Meeting 1384 Fairvew Road N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30306 404-373-7986

Clerk: Courtney Siceloff

The Meeting has been studying its needs this year and made a greater attempt at meeting them.

To serve as an impetus to organize monthly topic discussions and sharing get-togethers a social and religious life committee was formed. The ministry and counsel composed of Meeting officers and representatives was developed as a means for new direction and sensitivity. These committees were formed in response to the Meeting's members' needs to get to know each other better--to get closer. As a result we've had potluck dinners, caroling, discussions, and worship sharing.

Provisions for child care have been made. Attenders volunteer for that First Day responsibility on a sign-up sheet. After a few minutes in Meeting for Worship children adjourn to a room in Union Church where they're supervised by the volunteer.

A couple members joined the Louisville Meeting in a weekend of fellowship.

The Meeting has provided financial support to local needy families as well as contributing to Kentucky flood relief. Paul Bruhn of the Meeting drove one of the trucks with relief provisions to the flood area.

Some members have an interest in going to the Ashland prison for the rescheduled workshop May 28th organized by Gary Hendrix. Its purpose is to familiarize Friends with prisons and prisoners and vice versa.

The Berea Meeting has written numerous letters on behalf of Earl Crusenberry in prison in Vandalia, Illinois. (He attended Meeting prior to his imprisonment.) The letters did not gain an early parole for him. Tim and Carol Lamm and Raymond and Sally Morris visited Earl on behalf of the Meeting. The Meeting maintains its supportive position.

A clearness committee met on behalf of Beth Tilden and Earl Crusenberry and approved a Meeting marriage. Since that time Beth and Earl have decided to marry while he's in prison (on May 12) to facilitate matters upon his release in June or July. Meeting approved a time for worship-vow exchange for the couple when they're reunited in Berea.

The opposition to the death penalty by Berea Friends and another group to whom we gave some support was not heeded by Kentucky legislation.

Berea, continued

A letter to President Carter encouraging him to take a stand for unconditional amnesty was approved to be sent. To the Berea paper a set of queries concerning amnesty will be submitted after the June business meeting.

George Parker is recuperating from a heart attack which occurred in mid-April. He's at home and doing well. The May 15th Meeting will meet at his home on his backporch for those unable to attend SAYMA.

Carol Lamm is our acting clerk as George decided to discontinue the clerkship. A regular clerk will be suggested at the June business meeting.

Tim Lamm is the new SAYMA representative.

The Meeting is studying its budget--not only to determine bills to be paid but to adequately reflect our concerns/priorities.

Meeting attendance is about the same as it has been. There are new people attending, members transferred from other Meetings and others who've left the area.

Beth Ann Tilden

BIRMINGHAM - STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT - 1976/77 (see Minute 24)

On February 13, 1977, over sixty people gathered in our celebration of becoming officially certified as Birmingham Friends Monthly Meeting. Our certification was made especially moving and joyful by the attendance of and letters from Friends across Alabama and throughout the Southeast. We are grateful to the representatives who came from Atlanta, Nashville, Columbia, Chattanooga and Fairhope meetings and to friends from Tuscaloosa and Birmingham. Their support and loving messages will long be remembered by those present.

Once the dishes from our certification potluck had been cleared away, and the leftovers appropriately distributed, we came to realize that the certification process, toward which we had been directing the majority of our time and efforts for the past year, was not the end product of "arriving" but merely the beginning. We had to re-shape our thinking from "becoming" to "being". This meant new responsibilities, new social challenges, and new possibilities for spiritual growth.

In response to our challenge of "being" we began an adult study and discussion group as part of our religious education program. In addition, we worked on upgrading the quality of our childrens' program and began the task of collecting and organizing appropriate materials. Through our group discussions we have learned a great deal about ourselves, both as people and as a meeting. We are becoming increasingly better able to gear our study and discussion topics to areas of geniune concern to our members and attenders.

Our major organizational challenge continues to be that of meeting location. Our numbers have increased to the point where only a few Friends' homes can accommodate the group for Meeting for Worship and First Day School. We recognize that this places an unfair burden on these Friends but our attempts to locate a suitable, long-term meeting place have not been very fruitful to date. Our meeting is not yet able to accept the responsibilities and financial obligations of purchasing a meeting house, but the lack of a "permanent" location prohibits us from "sinking our roots" as we would like to do.

The goals of our meeting for the coming year include, but are not limited to, continuing our spiritual growth (individually and corporately), increasing our awareness and knowledge of our Quaker heritage, and having more active participation in community and social concerns. We look to our future with great hope and deep personal commitment.

Vital Statistics

Charter members - 17
Attenders - 27
Average adult meeting attendance- 16
Average First Day School attendance (children only) - 5 (of nine)

BOONE WORSHIF GROUF, Boone, N.C.

John and Judy "eary sent their regrets for not being able to attend Vearly Reeting this year because Judy's doctor doesn't wish her to travel this close to the time for delivery of their first child. They report a flourishing worship group, with an attendance of about eight or ten at each Reeting for Worship. They have had interchange of visits with Celo Reeting. (N.Fuson)

Celo Friends Meeting has had a vigorous participation this year. There are sixteen to twenty-four people in attendance at most of our Meetings for Worship. Over half are attenders. The Friends Meeting is becoming an important part of the spiritual life of a growing segment of the community. We come together in quiet worship and share in a renewed awareness of the Inner Light uniting us all.

We recently welcomed Jim and Ann Lenhart who have come to manage Celo Fress and help integrate it into the live of Arthur Morgan School. They are hoping to simplify their lives here and cease being professional Friends. Their loving thoughtfulness has already been appreciated.

Our Meeting is also strengthened by several new attenders: the Browns, who are homesteading nearby; Marmon Thompson, from Lenoir, who went to FCNL representing both Celo and Raleigh meetings; Jenifer Morgan who is working with social services in normative children's programs and trying to think of creative ways she can actually help families; Marilyn and Jerry Cade, the latter a local M.D.; Jim Sutherland; Rabbit; and Linda Henry whose music is an important contribution; and Debbie Colson who starts her relationship with Friends in our Meeting.

We are happy to have the Abrahamsons back after their five month sojourn in Singapore directing Quaker International Seminars in south-east Asia. They have helped our Meeting keep aware of political and social developments there.

This year most of our social concerns have been carried out as individuals. We did not even manage as a Meeting to spend the \$175 set aside in our Special Concerns fund. Two of our Meeting are members of the local volunteer fire department. Jennifer is working with an Appalachian women's group providing Services for Momen. Margit is active working for local Senior Citizens. Many members have maintained their interest in peace issues. We have acted on this concern through the Plains Vigil, the B-1 Bomber campaign, Nuclear disarmament and nuclear power activities. Some also participated in the Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice along with some Arthur Mergan School students. We are also especially interested in action against capital punishment. And we had a visit with George Bliss, sparking Meeting discussion of Celo Meeting's relationship with FCNI and AFSC ... how we feel about "professional Friends".

This year we have begun with a new approach to supporting members' concerns with open-ended budgeting for special concerns. Farmon has continued our relationship with James Harrison whom we first met as a prisoner. Now that James is free, he has spent some vacation time with the herabeys. He is now employed in the recreation field, Marmon being his work supervisor.

Our semi-monthly discussion group is half way through its second year. We are bringing more of ourselves into it. Much of our focus this year has started with passages from the London Yearly Meeting's Christian Faith and Practice. With this as a foundation

we have approached a variety of concerns, including growth of community, handling anger and grievances, the quality of silence and vocal ministry in Meeting for Worship, among others. "t the last meeting we tried a technique of creative listening. For some "eeting participants this "discussion group" is their most important sharing in the life of the Meeting.

Out of a concern raised in our discussion group a standing committee on Ministry and Counsel was formed. Its function is still being explored by its members. It has already set up a clearness committee for a look of communication between two friends. It is now working on improving vocal ministry in our Reeting.

CHARLESTON MONTHLY MEETING, Charleston, W. Va. (see Minute 32)

Despite a hard winter and fluctuating membership, Charleston Friends Meeting continues to meet regularly, meeting the concerns of members and becoming involved in new enterprises.

Perhaps the most exciting of the year's activities was our introduction to prison life. Following a letter from Cary Hendrix at Ashland Federal Correctional Institution requesting support, our Meeting began regular monthly visitations. Soon the Reeting for Worship inside flourished, coming together weekly. No serious difficulaties were encountered from the prison authorities, and the prison chaplain has been helpful. We were fortunate in having Ben and Daisy Lee Fuson nearby to lend their support (including visits from brothers William and Nelson Fuson).

In January Rob Callard attended the initial meeting of the Quaker Center for Prison Support Activities in Baltimore and discovered that Meetings across the country are giving support to prisoners. We have received a constant stream of information from the new Center, as well as from New York's Quaker Information Center for Criminal Justice.

Most exciting of all, we look forward to a workshop on non-violence to be held in the prison on May 28, 1977. Anyone from SAYMA interested in coming should contact our Clerk. We should have about fifty outsiders from Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee and Indiana, besides hentucky and West Virginia.

As we become more involved in prison activities, we learn more of the oppressive conditions which degrade both prisoner and guard slike. The thirst for the spiritual, the depth of inward searching overwhelmed us. "Violent criminals" turn out to be human too, with the same yearnings as people "on the street". These discoveries have led us to deliver copies of Fay Honey Knopp's book Instead of Prisons to the Governor of West Virginia and to the Director of Corrections.

Many visitors to our Neeting this year accompanied us to Ashland: Friends from Marietta, Ohio, friends from isolated parts of West Virginia, and Linley Gregory of New Zealand who is working for QUNO. Our members travelled widely too, a majority of Meeting going to FGC in Ithaca, Pam Callard attending the Clerk's Workshop at Pendle Hill (through the good graces of SAYMA), while another attender, Pat Murray, went on the Continental Walk.

Internally, Charleston Meeting began holding regular monthly Meetings for Business, since we had felt a disunity in the making of decisions. All financial transactions were regularized, and a travel fund set up. The need arose for a Recording Clerk to transcribe our Minutes, if not for the sake of posterity, at least for the sake of the next business meeting! Debbie Lopez became our first Recording Clerk.

Meeting was further pulled together by a series of discussions (one on spirituality, for example), potlucks, picnics and work parties. The children of Meeting came together too, going as a group to Camp Celc last summer, with the support of the Meeting. The children mean a lot to Meeting, but we have not yet satisfactorily worked out a First-Day-School program for them, although on one Sunday we were delighted by their acting out for (and with) Meeting a story of non-violent resolution of conflict, entitled The Fig War!

Other incidents of the year which are remembered: Pam Callard's taking Doris Ferm's advice to heart and reading Barclay's Apology cover to cover (and liking it!); most of Meeting participating in setting up a Food Co-op in Charleston; resolution of the problem of how much money to pay the YWCA for use of their facility as a Meeting place; and Jackie Wagner representing our Meeting on a TV show entitled "Women in Religion".

So closely knit, we felt a loss when one of our members, but Williams, left Charleston to go to Raleigh. But a work party helped her pack up, our Clerk drove her household goods to Raleigh, and a half dozen members of the Meeting went to Raleigh the next month just to cheer her up! And as the hard winter broke in February, a new member, Collette Minninger, arrived—just born—to become the delight of Meeting and the symbol of reborn hopes for the next year.

ANNUAL REPORT--June 15, 1976-May 15, 1977 CHATTANCOGA FREPARATIVE MEETING . . (see Minutes 23 & 24)

This year Chattanooga Friends have been becoming. We have been becoming a Monthly Meeting; we have been becoming more actively concerned with our community and world; and we have been becoming closer and closer to a gathered meeting.

We are becoming a meeting of fellowship. Many Friends both inside end outside SAYMA have visited us, and through several covered dish suppers we have developed fellowship inside the Meeting. Among our visitors have been Linley Gregory, who is doing an internship with QUNO; Jennifer Haines, with FWCC-Right Sharing of World Resources; Russell and Irene Johnson from New England AFSC; Jerry and Eda Smith from New York Yearly Meeting; Leslie Withers of CALC, who reported from Northern Ireland; and the Patrick Kents from Britain. We have had several visits from members of West Knoxville Meeting.

We are becoming a Meeting of concerns. This year we have worked on the 2nd Annual Peace Fair; we have started a biweekly Friendly Discussions which has served to broaden awareness of Friends' concerns to the community and the university; we have approved a minute on capital punishement; and we held a Simple Living workshop.

Our spiritual growth, though no less real, is harder to substantiate. We have studied the last of <u>Friends for 300 Years</u>, <u>Quaker Understanding of Christ and Authority</u>, and <u>No Time But This Present</u>. In addition to these books, we have gone through the quieries for becoming a Monthly Meeting. The deepening of our fellowship has attracted several new attenders, who in their turn have enriched our life as a worshipping community.

We have had a very good year and are looking forward to our growth and usefulness in the Light as a Monthly Meeting next year. Though we still have a distance to go in reaching all of our goals, as we look back over the year we are confident in the Spirit that we are moving in the right direction, and we are not a little surprised that we have come so far.

Columbia Friends Meeting

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT . . (see Minute 32)
4th month, 1977

The past year has seen Columbia Friends Meeting assume formal status as a monthly meeting in the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association. This development has given us a new sense of identity and purpose. Although we remain a small meeting, several members have begun to take active roles in yearly meeting business affairs.

Attendance at meeting for worship has gradually shown a slight increase, and we have recently accepted another attender as a member. However, we have had to move from our former meeting place, now being used as a residence, into a building on the university campus. We look forward to the time that we will be able to obtain a meeting house of our own. First day school for teenagers is going well, but the program for smaller children is hampered by having only two participants.

Considering our small numbers, the meeting has been active in advancing Friends testimonies. The Nigerian couple that we assisted have now returned to their homeland, where both are associated with a teachers college. The meeting has taken a strong public stand on capital punishment, and one member has been active in speaking publicly on this issue. Members have supported the various peace education programs of the American Friends Service Committee and the efforts of local organizations relating to environmental protection and child welfare.

We have welcomed a number of visiting friends during the past year, among them Paul Quinn-Judge, Linley Gregory, and Leslie Withers. Our meetings for worship are generally times of spiritual nourishment. Spoken ministry is not frequent but is nearly always felt to be in close touch with divine leading. We would be pleased if more participants felt free to contribute to the spoken ministry.

JUMP-OFF WORSHIP GROUP, Sewance, Tennessee 37375 (see Minute 4)

The Jump-Off Worship Group continues to meet in the living room of Cranford and Dorothy Hutchinson, thus allowing Dorothy to attend while convalescing from her strokes. They meet weekly on Lunday mornings at 10:30. The highlight of the year was a Meeting for Worship on 23 January 1977, during which the wedding of Ellen and Judson Williams took place in the presence of God and over forty Friends and friends and Jump-Off Meeting attenders. Jump-Off welcomes visitors to the Meeting for Worship Sunday mornings. (N.Fuson)

State of the Meeting Report

Nashville Monthly Meeting

May 1977

. (see Minute 4)

The Nashville Meeting is healthy, active, growing and in debt. During the past year we have hosted a national Friends organization, experimented with a new structure for organizing our social order concerns, converted our basement into an attractive and practical meeting space, and experienced growth in the number of members.

A highlight of the year came in February when we hosted the executive committee of the Section of the Americas of the Friends World Committee for Consultation. Approximately 40 Friends from across the country attended the sessions held in our refurbished "garden level" basement. This occasion gave us the opportunity to make new friendships, renew acquaintances and experience the interrelation of Friends everywhere.

Preparation for the FWCC session stimulated us into finishing our basement so that a suitable meeting space would be available. This necessitated a considerable financial commitment, but left us with a more efficient heating system and plenty of room to grow into. We have also built shelves and organized our books and materials in the meeting library. The meeting house has been used for other groups, such as Reevaluation Counseling and the Co-ordinating Council on Legislative Concerns which monitors the state legislature.

Last year we dissolved the social order committee and replaced it with a meeting of the whole for social concerns. We became absorbed in the process of evaluating the purpose and direction of social order for the meeting and then chose our priorities for action. This restructuring of social order seems to have the effect of better spreading the responsibility for involvment in social concerns. We have continued our interest in the anti-B-1 Bomber/peace conversion campaign and helped organize two successful demonstrations. We have opposed the reinstatement of capitol punishment in Tennessee by writing to the governor, participating in a Christmas eve vigil and offering testimony before the state legislature. We also renewed our commitment to the principle of paying the property tax on our meeting house, though we are entitled to tax exempt status. A short article appeared in Friends Journal detailing our position on property taxes.

Of course the life of our meeting is in our members and attenders and in this regard it would appear that we have grown younger, for there has been a steady increase in the number of toddlers brought to meeting. Once again we held our annual fall retreat which was a refreshing and relaxing time of fellowship. In January a couple was married under our care at Jump Off worship group in the home of the Hutchinsons. Four persons joined us in membership during the past year. Recently, we accepted with regret the decision of one family to withdraw from meeting after a number of years of active involvment, but our spirits have been boosted by the near simultaneous request of several other persons to join meeting.

A vital part of our First Day worship has been the discussions following meeting for worship. Most of the discussions dealt with Friend's values, several queries and the historical basis of our social concerns under the broad topic of "what sayest thou?" The children have had a varied program with a number of different discussions and creative activities. There are enough children attending meeting to divide them into three age groups.

Our membership list reveals that we have 25 members, 12 of whom constitute the Nashville diaspora, settling in such diverse places as Paris, Pittsburg, Portland, Japan, Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina and California. We average 25-30 adults in attendance each Sunday and 10-15 children.

FIRE MOUNTAIN WORSHII GROUF, Kentucky (F.O. Bledsoe, KY 40810) (see Minute 4)

I must write, reluctantly, that it is appearing less and less likely that it is wise for me to attempt Yearly Meeting, on which I had been counting....I am making myself realize, against my will, that it is really not wise to attempt this journey....because of the winter's severe weather and then our area floods...our local roads have gone to pieces...heavy trucks...

If I do not appear, would you kindly just report to the group, at the scheduled moment, that Pine Mountain Meeting is still not revived, for the same reasons of lack of attenders, presently, in our area. With present destruction of roads, the flood disaster, and the heavy program scheduling here (at Pine Mountain School), there seems no immediate prospect of resuming meetings.

(quoted from Burton Rogers' letter of 9 May 1977 to the SAYMA Clerk.)

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QUAKER EARTH WORSHIP GROUP, Blue Creek, Ohio (see Minute 32)

We live on a farm in an isolated semi-mountainous part of South-west Ohio. Our farm is called Quaker Earth and we are striving to live in intentional community. Our four residential families have shrunk to two. While our numbers have become less, our purpose and spirit are becoming solidified.

We have a mobile medical clinic called Health on Wheels in which we make regular stops in remote small towns. We have a full-time social worker on our staff to help us explore preventive aspects of health. One of our projects this winter was to distribute more than 200 blankets and 50 loads of fire wood to victims of the disasterous cold spell in Southern Ohio. We had the support of several Friends Meetings in this project.

We have attended three previous SAYMA Yearly Meetings, beginning in 1970. Out of the encouragement and contacts we made here, we helped to form the Broadmead Meeting in Findlay, Ohio. It is a part of lake Eric Yearly Meeting. Quaker Earth, on the other hand, is distant from any established Friends Meeting. Thus we are very happy to have returned to SAYMA, which we consider to be our spiritual home. We are so remote that we feel our lives need the spiritual stimulation we find here. Yet, our lives are so filled with stimulation and busyness that we also appreciate the quietness that is here in SAYMA.

(quoted from Terry Chappell's remarks given in the YM Feeting/Business)

TRI-CITIES WORSHIP GROUP, Johnson City, Tenn

(we look forward to a report from them next year!)

TRYON Worship Group, Tryon, N.C.

35

(see reference to their activities in Asheville's State of Mtg Report)

The West Knoxville Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends enjoyed a year of growth and gentle fellowship. It was not a year of major changes, new directions, or intense debate, but rather one that might be characterized as introspective, meditative, centering down.

Typical of this attitude is the decision by the Meeting to reintroduce formal Bible study in both the adult and young people's discussion groups. Taught by both Birthright Friends and Convinced Friends, these discussions had the satisfying effect of reawakening the Meeting's interest in Friends' theology and of the strength and wisdom still to be found in the Christian faith even in this age of non-belief.

The Meeting has also taken considerable pride in the activities and awakening social conscience of its young Friends. Moreover, their delightful experimentations with film and theatrics speak well of their ingenuity and creativity, as well as their ability and willingness to work well together.

The year saw a special meeting of concerns called to review the Meeting's policy for making contributions. After much discussion the Meeting decided to attempt to direct its contributions to local causes more than in the past, and overall to allow its pattern of contributions to fit the profile of individual members' concerns.

The East Tennessee Peace Education Committee of AFSC, which the Meeting has supported through individuals' participation and financial contributions, worked on many projects and activities during the year. Their program objectives were necessarily "episodic" since their available work force varied greatly with the seasons. Perhaps the best way to characterize the committee's achievements is to say that they have become a part of the social-change community in the area. They are known and referred to by media and education and religious leaders on peace concerns and have developed the ability to perform "zaps" when needed in the form of peace vigils, marches and acts of social conscience. Most of all they are able to help discover and invent non-violent techniques for living.

The Meeting during the year decided to change the start of Business Meeting from after lunch to the eleven O'clock hour, which heretofore had been reserved for discussion. The change has had the fortunate result of reducing the overly long amount of time spent in Business Meeting, without reducing the quality of decision-making.

A major responsibility the Meeting has had for two years now is the oversight of the Chattanooga Preparative Meeting. Our Ministry and Oversight Committee visited with Chattanooga Friends this year, and various of our individual members have met with them as well. The Clerk of the Chattanooga Meeting has maintained a constant, ongoing communication with our Meeting Clerk, who has apprised the Meeting of the activities of Chattanooga Friends. Our Clerk has also corresponded with SAYMA regarding the Meeting's charge; the Meeting has examined the answers to the queries put to the Chattanooga Friends in the light of concerns both of its members and of SAYMA, and has recommended Chattanooga Meeting to SAYMA for full monthly meeting status.

Some housekeeping needs of the Meeting House were also attended to during the Year. That the Meeting still gets together two times during the year to take care of major cleaning chores, and does its own cleaning, speaks well of the health of the West Knoxville Friends community.

During the year the Meeting accepted six new members, two of whom were transfers from another yearly and monthly meeting to our Meeting, and three of whom (one a transfer from another yearly meeting) became members of our Monthly Meeting to make offical with Friends their joining of Chattanooga Preparative Meeting. The Meeting has an average attendance of about seventeen persons, including children, adult members and attenders and occasional visitors. See current statistical report below.

All in all the year was a tranquil one for West Knosville Meeting. But while we are joyful for the peace which has been afforded our community, we are ever mindful of the sorrow and pain that still rules the planet, and seek in the Light to find the way.

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(note: apologies for mistakes in M.N. assignments, if any, as well as lack of some addresses and phone numbers, which were lacking from the registration blank signups. NF.)

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