SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN YEARLY MEETING

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189 Skiffly Yearly Meeting Minutes

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and ASSOCIATION

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

May 25-28, 1989

"SPEAKING TRUTH TO PAIN"

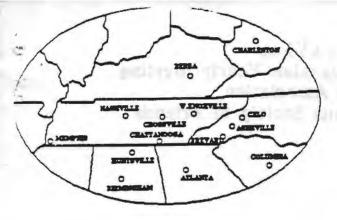
Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association Yearly Meeting #18 - Black Mountain, NC May 25-28, 1989

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SAYMA Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association of the Religious Society of Friends

MEETING ROSTER:

ASHEVILLE North Carolina

ATLANTA Georgia

BEREA Kennicky

BIRMINGHAM Alabama

BREVARD North Carolina

CELO (Burnsville)
North Carolina

CHARLESTON
West Virginia

CHATTANOOGA Tennessee

COLUMBIA South Carolina

CROSSVILLE Tennessee

HUNTSVILLE AREA Alabama

MEMPHIS Tennessee

NASHVILLE Tennessee

WEST KNOXVILLE
Tennessee

Steve Meredith, Clerk P.O. Box 125 Alvaton, KY 42122

Greetings to Friends everywhere from the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association, gathered May 25-28, 1989, at Christmount in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

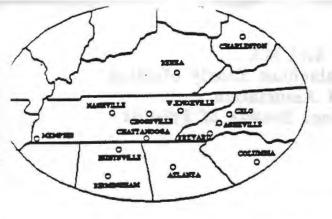
Our days together have been blessed by the woods around us abloom with mountain laurel, by sunny days and an extraordinary storm one night.

Our program theme, "Speaking Truth to Pain," brought us insight and inspiration. Some of our own members shared with us both the pain and the healing they have experienced in their lives. Others told us of ways they have addressed the world's pain through their work for justice and healing. Under this theme, our children explored the nature of feelings, pain, and healing, and how Quakers have responded to the world's pain.

We felt a special connection to Japan this year. Our FWCC representative, Maaret Houghton, has faithfully visited our Monthly Meetings during the course of the past year sharing her experiences at last year's Trienniel in Japan. Mariko Shinoda of the "Never Again" campaign of Japan worked with each age group of children.

At our 1988 Yearly Meeting, a concern for our teenage Young Friends led to the formation of a committee with a budget to develop programs for this age group throughout the year. A weekend workshop on youth and the military at Quaker House in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and a work project at a public housing project in Atlanta were among the results. This year we have more Young Friends in attendance at Yearly Meeting than in any recent year. They have asked us to schedule Yearly Meeting at a different time of year so that even more of them can attend.

We have had abundant opportunities for worship sharing this year - assigned groups, men's and



SAYMA Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association of the Religious Society of Friends

EETING ROSTER:

HEVILLE North Carolina

ILANTA Georgia

EREA Kentucky

RMINGHAM Alabama

REVARD North Carolina

ELO (Burnsville) North Carolina

HARLESTON West Virginia

HATTANOOGA Tennessee

OLUMBIA South Carolina

ROSSVILLE Tennessee

IUNTSVILLE AREA

AEMPHIS
Tennessee

VASHVILLE Tennessee

VEST KNOXVILLE
Tennessee

women's worship sharing, and several additional opportunities each day to join a worship sharing group as an alternative to other activities. We have also been able to choose from among a wide selection of short workshops on subjects ranging from Wider Quaker Organizations to "Journals and Healing."

Our business sessions have been facilitated by excellent preparation by committees and officers. Clarity on financial policies, developed over the course of several years, resulted in the happy combination of thorough understanding and timely agreement on next year's budget.

We returned this year to the custom of SAYMA's early years in cooking our own food cooperatively. With excellent coordinators and menu planning, our meals were wholesome, delicious and on time. One memorable meal - spaghetti - was prepared by the Young Friends.

We shared a deep period of Meeting for Business on Sunday morning in our consideration of a minute on patriarchy first proposed three years ago. Our Monthly Meetings have struggled with this topic over the intervening two years. As we return to our Monthly Meetings with this concern still on our hearts, Friends are encouraged to continue exploring our understanding of patriarchy and the pain it has caused in our lives and in our world and to articulate our insights for each other as fully as we can.

In Peace

Connie hamonte

Connie LaMonte, Clerk Black Mountain, N.C. 28 May, 1989

Epistle Committee: Carol Lamm, Barbara Esther, and Betty Hurst

CC: Peggy Bonnington, SAYMA Recording Clerk

Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association Eighteenth Annual Meeting Black Mountain, North Carolina May 25-28, 1989

FRIDAY, 26 MAY 1989

The meeting opened with a period of silence and a reading by clerk Connie LaMonte from the Athens Preparative Meeting's report. Introductions were made of visitors from outside SAYMA; general announcements were made.

Lydia Wexler shared a resource in Donna O'Toole of Celo Meeting, who distributes books, especially children's books, that are useful with the kinds of problems brought up in Yearly Meeting. For a list of the books available and to obtain her book on grief and loss, "Arvy Finds Hope" (Celo Press), write her c/o Rainbow Connection, Hannah Branch Road, Burnsville NC 28714.

The epistle committee was selected: Carol Lamm, coordinator; Barbara Esther; and Betty Hurst.

Treasurer's Report

Dick Houghton presented the first reading of the budget. In response to inquiry, assessment was determined to be \$25 per person (member or active attender) plus \$3 for the newsletter. The past year's budget was not made, and discussion ensued, including the issue of assessments and SAYMA contributions to affiliate organizations.

#1. Friends approved of posting at yearly meeting the per meeting contributions to SAYMA. Also, if possible, meetings will post information about how they arrived at this amount.

#2. Friends approved that the Finance Committee consider the term assessment and whether a better term could be found and also the issue of future publication of monthly meeting contributions.

Nominating Committee

Tim Lamm reported that all monthly meetings should have a nominating committee representative; if a meeting does not have one, the SAYMA representative can serve.

Guide to Our Faith and Practice

Elizabeth Addison reported. Regarding sections on Children and Families, Children and Young Friends, and Education, the committee was not satisfied and did not feel consensus was reached on what was wished to be said; the Government section is ready to present. A special interest group on Saturday will direct attention to the unfinished sections. A Basic Reading List to include with the Guide was circulated and discussed, with suggestions for additions made by Friends.

#3. Friends approved accepting the Basic Reading List as circulated and amended (enclosure #1) with additions suggested in meeting and with blank pages for ongoing contributions. Other opportunities for contributing to the list will be provided in the future, for example through SAYMA's newsletter.

The section on Government (enslosure # 2) was read by Elizabeth Addison. Modification of the first paragraph was called for by Janet Minshall, who challenged that the

Declaration of Independence and the Constitution truly reflected equality, freedom, justice, and democracy for all persons, including women and people of color. The matter was postponed to a later time in the agenda, pending Friends' reflection.

SATURDAY, 27 MAY 1989 - MORNING SESSION

After an opening silence, assistant clerk Steve Meredith, sitting in for Connie LaMonte, read a greeting from London Yearly Meeting. Announcements followed.

State of the Meeting reports were given by Charleston, West Knoxville, and Nashville meeting representatives.

Committee Reports

Committee on Youth: Nancy Lee-Riffe presented the youth report. The committee (Beth Ensign, Andrew McElligott, Sam Morris, Nancy Lee-Riffe, Judy Scheckel) have developed a mailing list of approximately 120 Young Friends within SAYMA. Several weekend events were planned, but most cancelled. successful ones were a Veterans Day event on Quakers and the Military at Quaker House in Fayetteville (7 Young Friends, Daryl Bergquist, Judy Scheckel, Nancy Lee-Riffe) and the Grady Housing Project work weekend in Atlanta (15 Young Friends, including 2 from SEYM in Florida with Bert Skellie). Two Youth representatives meetings paralleled regular representatives meetings at Chattanooga and Birmingham; monthly meetings are encouraged to send at least one Young Friend to Youth representatives meetings in the future. The Committee requests guidance on how to spend their budgeted fund; it goes mainly for mailings and for scholarships to Quaker youth activities at present. The report was closed with a reading of the Young Friends' minute presented at Birmingham January 28, 1989, on changing the annual gathering to a more favorable time.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Dick Houghton reported an effort to prioritize budget items and spending, and he named 2 finance issues: monthly meeting procedures for requesting money and an increase in the line item "other." Distributions are categorized as yearly meeting projects, monthly meeting projects, or yearly meeting operating expenses. Requests for funds should come under one of these categories and should come through a monthly meeting. Under SAYMA operating expenses, yearly meeting seems to desire increasing funds for Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends. Under the area of yearly meeting projects, there has been a request for the Youth Projects Fund to be added as a fund or line item in the budget. Under the monthly meetings projects area, 2 changes are proposed: a request to raise funds to Crossville Friends School to \$500 and a request for \$500 for RSVP added for next year. Presently the "other" budget line item is the only accumulator provided to cover unforeseen circumstances or Ministry and Nurture.

Wider Quaker Organization Reports

Quaker House: Nell McCracken, SAYMA representative to Quaker House in Fayetteville, reported (enclosure #3) and introduced Greg Sommers. Quaker House is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year with Piedmont Friends Fellowship on Saturday, October 14th in Fayetteville.

FCNL: Ralph Blankfield reported (enclosure #4) and praised the unhurried, efficient, Friendly manner of SAYMA's plenary and business sessions and paid compliments to SAYMA clerks. He reminded Friends that in legislative work, if efforts are successful, it is not always apparent that you are responsible; likewise, it is not always apparent that you are not responsible for failures.

SATURDAY, MAY 27 - AFTERNOON SESSION

Opening silence was followed by extracted readings from Southeastern Yearly Meeting's Children's Epistle by Assistant Clerk Steve Meredith.

Annual Gathering 1990

Courtney Siceloff reported on places studied in north Georgia, including the United Methodist Camp Glisson near Dalonega and the Georgia Baptist Assembly in Toccoa. Larry Ingle mentioned sites in Tennessee to consider: Tennessee Wesslyan, the DuBose Episcopal Conference Center in Monteagle, and Covenant College on Lookout Mountain.

Sam Morris spoke representing strong concerns of Young Friends who wish a change of time of the annual gathering so that more of their group may attend. Final exams, commencement/graduation proceedings, and proms, among other things, make the late May time difficult.

Friends were invited to share feedback with their representatives to bring to Sunday's representatives meeting.

Minute on Patriarchy

Nelson Fuson was not present to report. After preliminary concerns voiced by Conni Lewis of Charleston Friends, further discussion was postponed to the Sunday session, with monthly meetings to advise acting clerk Steve Meredith of their leanings prior to that session. Friends were reminded to look at only the minute itself, as the Preface to the minute has already been dropped.

Ministry and Nurture Committee

Lydia Wexler reported the committee hopes to have regional (quarter) committee meetings at the next annual gathering to report needs, suggestions, intervisitations. Quarter region retreats, like Nashville's, could be worked up to be quarterly meetings. Although there are not yet formal quarter representatives, Friends from different quarters could convene during yearly meeting and then send representatives to report to Ministry and Nurture.

Budget

Treasurer Dick Houghton reported. He reminded Friends that if Wider Quaker Organization delegates do not use budgeted amounts to attend conferences or conventions, unused monies can be used by other committee representatives to attend committee meetings.

4 - Friends approved that Ministry and Nurture funds will be applied for through the Yearly Meeting Clerk who will then direct the Treasurer to disperse the funds.

SAYMA was the only yearly meeting to send money to help a Third World delegate attend the FWCC Triennial Gathering.

5 - Friends approved the proposed budget with amendments

outlined by the Treasurer (enclosure # 5).

In clarification, the RSVP budget item was changed without going through January Representatives' Meeting because, although Lydia Wexler had previously completed all correct preparatory work, an interim representative forgot to bring this up.

Phil Neal announced that he is laying down the yearly meeting Chorale preparations and presentations.

6 - Friends approved a minute of appreciation to Phil Neal for his many years of effort on the behalf of Friends in presenting Chorales at annual gatherings.

AFSC

Bert Skellie read the report prepared by Monette Redslob (enclosure #6).

FWCC

Maaret Houghton introduced visitors Edwin and Helen White, Clerk of Southeastern Region and Visitation Committee representative respectively; Johann Mauer; Eugenia Perkins; and Betty Hurst, SAYMA's new FWCC representative.

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Maaret reported on the summer '89 Trienniel Gathering in Tokyo and other Friends Word Committee business (enclosure #7). Johann Mauer, Midwest Field Staff, announced that Right Sharing of World Resources needs continued support. Traveling Friends are asked to contact Johann.

7 - Friends approved a special minute of appreciation to FWCC representative Maaret Houghton for her outstanding work, both in personal endeavors as well as unprecedented effort in making her participation our participation.

SUNDAY, MAY 28

FGC

George Webb, SAYMA representative to FGC, reported, along with Gretta Stone, developmental manager. FGC's 1991 Gathering returns to Boone. FGC has moved into new offices in Philadelphia.

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Daryl Bergquist, FGC Field Representative, spoke of the importance of intervisitation, especially for small groups. He is now writing monthly reports, with copies going to Ministry and Nurture people and to Friends who request them.

Nominating Committee

Tim Lamm presented the following SAYMA statistics: 1 out of 6 yearly meeting attenders are officers; 1 out of 20 members hold office. Since relatively few members are available for a plentitude of responsibilities, each member is encouraged to consider performing some yearly meeting service or function every few years.

B - A minute of appreciation to outgoing SAYMA officers was approved.

9 - Friends approved minutes of appreciation to: Dennis Gregg and Louise Gorenflo, Program Coordinators; Jeanne and Ernest Doerschuk, Bookstore; Co-op Cooking Coordinators, along with all cooking volunteers; Cory Wiser-Fort and Barbara Esther, Junior Yearly Meeting Coordinators; the Faith and Practice Committee; Karen Skellie, Registrar; arrangements

people; childcare volunteers; special interest group and worship sharing coordinators and leaders.

10 - Friends at yearly meeting approved the Nominating Committee slate (enclosure #8) as presented by Tim Lamm.

Minute on Patriarchy

Discussion ensued after Nelson Fuson read the proposed minute (enclosure #9) and suggested monthly meetings have committees work on this matter during the year using guidelines outlined in Spring 1989 Southern Appalachian Friend. Friends shared leadings thoughtful, varied, heartfelt and urgent. Lydia Wexler called for Nelson's request to monthly meetings to be minuted to ensure definite serious participation, but Friends did not concur with this level of forcefulness. A book by Gerta Lerner, The Creation of Patriarchy, was recommended by Conni Lewis.

Although a general feeling of approval of the minute seemed to prevail, strong concensus was not found. Monthly meetings are urged to work on this further and send recommendations or thoughts or related queries to October representatives meeting. Friends were reminded by Larry Ingle that failure to approve the minute at this session necessitates the exercise of further inner search and examination, a favorable circumstance.

Clerk Announcements

Monthly meeting newsletters and other pertinent meeting news or documents should be submitted to SAYMA Archivist Margaret Farmer, 227 Edgewood Road, Asheville NC 28804.

Concerning IRS 501(C)(3) status, Clerk Connie LaMonte is missing 2 pieces of information which will be requested from the appropriate meetings, whereupon everything will be filed within 2 weeks.

Epistle

11 - Friends approved the epistle (foregoing) as read by Carol Lamm without changes.

Registrar Karen Skellie reported approximately 200 attenders of this annual gathering.

Young Friends hope to pull together an August 6th Hiroshima Day event and also a family camping weekend at a north Georgia cabin on Labor Day weekend.

Meeting closed with silence.

Connie Lamonte

Connie LaMonte Clerk

Regay Bonnington

Peggy Bonnington Recording Clerk

Basic Reading List*

Writings of Friends:

American Friends Service Committee, """ Peak Truth to Fower. Philadelphia: AFSC, 1967. (First published in 1955, still the most important brief on a "Quaker Search for an Alternative to Violence" ever published in the United States)

American Friends Service Committee: Simple Living Collective, Taking Charge. New York: Bantam Books, 1977. (Subtitled "Personal and Political Change through Simple Living")

Hugh Barbour and Arthur Roberts, eds., Early Quaker Writings Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1973. (Selections from the 17th Century)

George Fox, Journal of George Fox. John Nickalls, ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1952; paperback ed., 1985. (More an autobiographical memoir than a journal yet indispensable for understanding Fox's role in the rise of Quakerism)

Rufus Jones, Rufus Jones Speaks to our Time: An Anthology, Harry E. Fosdick, ed. New York: Macmillan Co., 1958. (A broad collection of the writings and thought of an important 20th Century Friend).

Thomas Kelly, A Testament of Devotion New York: Harper & Brothers, 1941. (A classic of 20th Century devotional literature)

London Yearly Meeting, Christian Faith and Practice in the Experience of the Religious Society of Friends London: London Yearly Meeting, 1960.

(A fine anthology stretching back to the 17th Century, with emphasis on Friends of London Yearly Meeting)

William Penn, Fruits of Golitade. Richmond, IN: Friends United Press, 1985.

(An excellent introduction to the devotional writings of Penn)

Jessamyn West, ed., The Quaker Reader. New York: Viking Press, 1962. (Selection of Quaker writings, with one of the best brief introductions to Quaker history)

John Woolman, Journal and Major Essays of John Woolman, Phillips Moulton, ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1971. (Standard collection of perhaps the most important 18th Century Friend)

Introduction to Quakers:

George H. Gorman, The Amazing Fact of Quaker Worship. London: Quaker Home Service, 1973. (By an English Friend, down-to-earth, well-written introduction)

Geoffrey Hubbard, Quaker by Convincement London: Penguin Books, 1976.

(Probably the most readable introduction to Quakerism, its history, forms, and practices)

John Punshon, Encounter with Silence Richmond, IN: Friends United Press, 1987. (Somewhat broader than its title implies, a relatively brief but fine exploration)

^{*}Annotations for this Guide by historian H. Larry Ingle, member of Chattanooga Friends Meeting.

Michael J. Sheeran, Beyond Majority Rule. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1983. (By a Jesuit political scientist, a path breaking study of the way Friends make decisions, with potentials and problems)

History:

Margaret Bacon, Mothers of Feminism: A Study of Quaker Women in America. New York: Harper & Row, 1986. (Popular and somewhat disappointing history but the only examination of the topic)

Hugh Barbour, The Quakers in Puritan England. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1964. (An important book that led students of Quakerism to shift their attention to the roots of the faith in 17th Century England)

William C. Braithwaithe, The Beginnings of Quakerism. New York: Macmillan Co., 1912; 2nd ed., 1979. and The Second Period of Quakerism. New York: Macmillan Co., 1919; 2nd ed., 1979. (Still the most basic studies of the first half century of Quakerism)

Thomas Hamm, The Transformation of American Quakerism Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1988. (Prize winning work, focuses on Orthodox and midwestern Friends during the 19th Century)

Christopher Hill, The World Turned Upside Down London: Temple Smith, 1972; paperback ed., 1975. (Indispensible for the background of Quakerism by the premier British historian of the period)

H. Larry Ingle, Quakers in Conflict: The Hicksite Reformation Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 1986. (Explores the background and describes the struggles in the most important single set of events in American Quaker history)

Daisy Newman, A Procession of Friends Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1972; paperback ed., 1980. (Anecdotal and popular account of Friends's history)

John Punshon, Partrait in Grey. London: Quaker Home Service, 1984. (From an English Quaker perspective, best overview of Friends's history)

Barry Reay, The Quakers and the English Revolution London: Temple Smith, 1985. (Best attempt to place the rise of Quakerism in the context of its time; by a non-Friend)

Biographies:

Margaret Bacon, Let this Life Speak: Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1987. (Excellent study of Henry J. Cadbury, prominent 20th Century American Quaker)

Edwin Cady, John Woolman New York: Twayne Publishers, 1965. (As much a literary analysis as a biography but still a good introduction)

Bliss Forbush, Elias Hicks, Quaker Liberal New York: Columbia University Press, 1956. (Well-written work but rather old-fashioned and outdated point of view)

Vernon Noble, The Man in Leather Breaches London: Elek, 1953. (Best of a poor lot of biographies of George Fox)

Isabel Ross, Margaret Fell: Mother of Quakerism London: Longmans, Green, 1949; 2nd ed., 1984. (Most recent account of Fox's wife, a major figure in early Quakerism)

Elton Trueblood, Robert Barclay. New York: Harper & Row, 1968. (Quite sympathetic but generally well done biography of the "Apologist")

Elizabeth Vining, Friend of Life: A Biography of Rufus Jones Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1958; paperback ed., 1981. (Readable study of one some have claimed is the most influential Friend of the 20th Century)

Theological studies:

- Robert Barclay, Barclay's Apology in Modern English, Dean Freiday, ed. Np: Sowers Printing Co., 1969. (The classic introduction to the theology of Quakerism)
- Lewis Benson, Catholic Quakerism Philadelphia: Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1973. (Excellent analysis of contemporary Quakerism by one seeking to return the Society to its 17th Century roots)
- Howard Brinton, Friends for 300 Fears. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1952; paperback ed., 1965. (Quite readable combination of history and theological analysis; a near classic)
- Douglas Gwyn, Apocalypse of the Word: The Life and Message of George Fox Richmond, IN: Friends United Press, 1986. (Most recent study but poor on history, one-sided theological analysis)

Novels:

- Jan deHartog, The Peaceable Eingelam Boston: Atheneum, 1971, and The Lamb's War, New York: Harper & Row, 1980; paperback ed. (Two of a planned trilogy about the history of Quakerism; acute insights)
- Daisy Newman, / Take thee Serenity, Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1975;
 paperback ed. (Describes the struggles of a modern woman of Quaker background as she comes to grip with her heritage)

 Also: And Area.
- Jessamyn West, The Friendly Persussion New York: Harcourt, Brace, and World, 1945; paperback eds. (Recounts the efforts of a mid-western Quaker family to confront their dilemmas and trials during the Civil War; basis for the famous movie)

Periodicals:

- Friends Journal, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19102. (Monthly magazine of Friends General Conference, explores modern Quaker life and thought)
- Quaker Life, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, IN, 47374. (Published nine times a year by Friends United Meeting)

Fersie Tonger

The power and dominion of the conscience are the province of God, [who] alone can properly instruct and govern it. No one whatsoever may lawfully force the conscience of others regardless of the authority or office he [or she] bears in the government of this world.

Robert Barclay, Apology (1676)

According to many scholars, Friends outnumbered other sects in early colonial America and influenced the formative stages of American culture and government. Friends' traditional concerns for equality, freedom, justice, and democracy are reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Today, though our numbers are smaller* and governmental policies and decisions often pose difficult problems for Friends, we still affirm our corporate and individual commitment to influence governmental actions through thoughtful witness or considered resistance.

Conscientious Friends take this commitment in various directions: some work within government, some work to influence public officials or actions, some withdraw from participation, some resist or oppose governmental claims.

Recognizing that the exercise of authority intensifies the spiritual struggle for those who work within government, we seek unity in the Truth with those we want to influence and believe it may be reached if we remain faithful in our witness. As human beings, we all may find compromise expedient, even necessary; but the decisions of government officials affect far more lives than

^{*}Except in ____ County, Alaska, which has a 6_ % Quaker population.

their own. We seek to encourage and call them to the standard of Truth in their actions.

Friends often are called to withhold their assent from hurtful governmental policies and work to change them through individual or meeting action or through support for the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Many Friends work to elect candidates who hold positions acceptable to Friends and communicate frequently with governmental representatives to encourage their support for positive legislation.

As a body, the Society of Friends has refused to recognize the claims of government as absolutes; we seek truth beyond human institutions. To uphold a single standard of truth, Friends have traditionally refrained from swearing oaths and taking each other to court. Friends have declared themselves conscientious objectors to military service. Individual Friends have felt it right, under the Spirit, to develop these positions and have challenged the corporate body to consider new testimonies, such as resisting war taxation and noncooperation with governmental authority. In such cases, Friends' steadfast and faithful witness has an importance that may transcend its effect.

While we work to see our principles reflected in governmental decisions and actions, we realize that government even at its best can only provide a framework to foster justice, peace, and respect for human differences. These ideals become reality only when individuals, under the conviction of love, daily live the life of the peaceable kingdom.



"We know that we must not flee from this world; we cannot place ourselves outside the political life of our nation; nor must we seek to escape from the greater tension which is threatening to tear the world asunder, but must consciously place ourselves in the midst of it."

-- Rufus M. Jones

Dear Friends:

With every new Congress, FCNL's General Committee gathers together in a common search to identify which, of the many issues of concern to Friends, will be legislative priorities for the upcoming Congress. This process is especially important because it reaffirms the purposeful expression of Quaker faith and action through FCNL's legislative programs.

In preparation for this important decision, FCNL's Policy Committee consulted by mail nearly 250 individual Friends representing 26 yearly meetings and eight allied Quaker organizations, plus some 600 FCNL Monthly Meeting Contacts. After many drafts and hours of prayerful consideration at the FCNL Annual Meeting in November 1988, a sense of the gathering was reached on the priorities for the 101st Congress.

The Legislative Priorities for the 101st Congress are being used by staff in allocating time and resources to our legislative program for the next two years. Completion of the priorities statement was the major item of business for the Annual Meeting. The January issue of the <u>FCNL Washington Newsletter</u> contains the complete statement of legislative priorities and our staff's plan for implementation. Members and attenders of Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting are encouraged to write directly to FCNL for a copy of this important statement.

Another salient event of a very busy Annual Meeting was the authorization of a fourth FCNL lobbyist position to accommodate the upgrading of Indian advocacy to priority status.

During the closing months of 1988 and the first half of 1989, FCNL continues to place itself in the midst of the political life of our nation and work for peace and social justice. Along with intern Jonathan Brown and staff assistant Laura Petroff, I continue to work on issues relating to U.S.-Soviet relations, the arms race, and Central America (with major participation from Alison Oldham). Ralph Kerman, our full time volunteer, has added environmental expertise to our staff.

We seek a world free of war and the threat of war
We seek a society with equity and justice for all
We seek a community where every person's parential may be fulfilled
We seek an earth restored....

Ruth Flower and intern Catherine Ufford continue their domestic focus work on economic issues (such as welfare reform, housing, hunger, and employment), and civil rights and civil liberty issues (including the death penalty, national and selective Service, Peace Tax Fund and refugees).

Nancy Alexander, intern Abigail Adams, and staff assistant Carol Gish work on international issues, concentrating on the international debt and development crises, demilitarizing foreign aid, increasing U.S. support for and participation in the United Nations, and seeking peaceful resolution of conflicts.

lindy Parcy continues her work on Native American advocacy issues, focusing on religious freedom, Indian health care, racism, treaty rights, and economic development issues. She has been joined by Steve Zehr, a Mennonite Central Committee volunteer.

Alison Oldham, in addition to her work on Central America, continues to expand the legislative action program. With staff assistant Deb Smucker, Alison works to strengthen FCNL's network of active participants, including Monthly Meeting Contacts, and associations with coalitions and grass roots efforts. Grass roots citizen action was further supported by the action alert network, call-in weekly legislative update message and Washington briefings.

David Boynton, Ruth Call, Sandy Rasich and Les Lewis continue their good work to insure that the administrative side of FCNL functions smoothly. Denny O'Brien, Aline Autenrieth and La Verne Dickerson are working hard in the Development area. Field Secretaries Martin Cobin, Ralph Blankfield, Cam Satterthwaite, Robert and Ardith Hinshaw travel tirelessly throughout the country for FCNL.

FCNL maintains a persistent witness for peace and social justice in our nation's capital. We continue to hold members of Congress in the Light and to express our concern that they give care to the fundamental principles of truth and justice.

The participation of the members and attenders of Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting is vital to FCNL as we continue -- as Rufus Jones reminds us -- to place ourselves in the midst of the political life of cur nation.

Edward F. Snyder Executive Secretary

May 1989

SAYMA GENERAL FUND PROPOSED BUDGET and STATUS REPORT July 1,1988 - May 24, 1989

July 1,1988 - May 24, 1989			
2 ,	Budget	Year	Budget
	July 1988-	to	July 1989-
RECEIPTS	June 1989	<u>Date</u>	<u>June 1990</u>
Assessment	12500.00	8756.50	12500.00
Newsletter	1000.00	892.00	1000.00
Yearly Meeting Registration		0.00	700.00
Book Sales	25.00	0.00	25.00
Contributions	125.00	370.00	225.00
Interest		102.49	100.00
Total Receipts	14350.00	10120.99	14550.00
D.T.C.D.UTD.CTD.VTD.C			
DISBURSEMENTS SAYMA OPERATIONAL EXPENSES			
Newsletter	1700.00	737.79	1300.00
Yearly Meeting	1700.00	131.13	1300.00
Adult Program & Facilitie	s 500.00	2000.00	950.00
Young Friends Program	.a 500.00	2000.00	350.00
Coordinator	1200.00	800.00	1200.00
Assistant Coordinator	600.00	0.00	
JYM Program Expenses	800.00	406.21	1700.00
Child Care	150.00	0.00	
Delegate Expenses			
Representatives Meeting	400.00	48.60	200.00
Delegates to WQO's	1800.00	1373.82	1800.00
FWCC Triennial Delegate F	und 150.00	150.00	200.00
Guide to Our Practice Fund	300.00	300.00	100.00
Clerk's Enrichment Fund	100.00	100.00	100.00
Ministry & Nurture Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administration	450.00	·374.68	300.00
Miscellaneous	75.00	0.00	50.00
UDIDIU 10000000 DOATEAGO			
YEARLY MEETING PROJECTS			
Spiritual Development Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00
Released Friend Fund	100.00	100.00	0.00
Youth Project	1500.00	500.00	1500.00
MONTHLY MEETING PROJECTS			
Crossville Friends School	300.00	300.00	500.00
Other	300.00	0.00	200.00
Rural Southern Voice (Celo)	200.00	0.00	500.00
Marar Dodding 10100(0010)			500100
WIDER QUAKER ORGANIZATIONS			
ACFIA	. 275.00	275.00	0.00
AFSC	550.00	550.00	600.00
PCNL	550.00	550.00	600.00
FGC	550.00	550.00	600.00
FGC Field Secretary	600.00	600.00	650.00
FWCC	550.00	550.00	600.00
FWCC 3rd World Delegates	150.00	150.00	200.00
New Call to Peacemaking	50.00	50.00	0.00
Quaker House (Fayettevill	.e) 550.00	550.00	600.00
RSWR (Interest on Savings	Ac) 0.00	102.49	100.00
Total Expenditures	14350.00	11218.59	14550.00

SAYMA FUNDS AND BALANCE SHEET July 1.1988 - May 25, 1989

July 1,1988 - May 25, 1989				
And are mark and	Balance 7/1/88	Funds Receipts	Funds Disbursed	Balance 6/25/89
GENERAL FUNDS	4842.80	10120.99	11218.59	3745.20
TITLED FUNDS:		house best to	NEW ALTERNA	
TITLED FONDS.				
Clerk's Enrichment (200)	100.00	100.00	0.00	200.00
FWCC Triennial Delegate (2000	0)2050.00	150.00	1340.00	860.00
Guide to Our Practice (400)	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
Ministry & Nurture (300)	284.20	0.00	0.00	284.20
Released Friend (1500)	1100.00	100.00	0.00	1200.00
Spiritual Development (600)	525.00	100.00	0.00	625.00
Yearly Meeting Scholarships	815.28	0.00	0.00	815.28
Youth Projects (1500)		0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest: RSWR (send all 7/1/	/89) 0.00	102.49	0.00	102.49
ASSETS		Thirty of the same		
Cash-checking .	3632.94			2074.77
Cash-FCNL Fund	6000.00			6000.00
Accounts Receivable	84.34			57.40
Total Assets	9717.28		T 9500.00	8132.17
EQUITIES				
General Fund	4842.80			3745.20
Sum of Titled Funds Listed	4842.80			4386.97
Sum of ficted runds bisted	40/4.40			4300.37
Total Equities	9717.28			8132.17

OTHER DESIGNATION

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SAYMA Yearly Meeting Report on Quaker House Military Counseling Center - Fayetteville, NC

Quaker House is a military counseling and peace work center. It consists of a house in the eastern N.C. military town of Fayetteville, a resident director, a board of overseers from various Meetings in the Carolinas, and a large group of Friends and non-Friends across the country who support the idea of providing support to military conscientious objectors and other people working for peace in a military-oriented environment. Quaker House is also the meeting place of the small Fayetteville Friends Meeting. The board is open to representatives from all Meetings who contribute to the work of Quaker House; presently it consists mostly of Friends associated with the Piedmont Friends Fellowship and North Carolina Conservative Yearly Meeting. SAYMA currently has one representative. Although the geographic spread is large, Quaker House is one of the few established places in the Southeast that can provide expertise to help people get out of the military who discover that they do not want to hurt and kill others.

1988-89 has been a rebuilding year - in several senses of the world - for QH. The current director, former eeco staffmember Gregory Sommers, arrived in June 1988 to replace Bob Gosney, and much of the summer and early fall was taken up with Greg's orientation to the QH program and sorely-needed repairs to the QH structure. Several SAYMA monthly meetings and individuals contributed money for a new roof and floor repairs, which made QH a much safer place

to live and visit.

The military counseling/conscientious objector caseload has kept steady at the level of around 3 to 5 cases at any time. In addition, Greg answers many informal queries about military counseling and is active in peace work in the Fayetteville area. Greg has become involved in the Alternatives to Violence workshops; a Listening Project has been discussed with RSVP but does not seem to be feasible at this time.

In activities connected with SAYMA, a group of SAYMA youth held a retreat at QH last fall to explore the themes of the military and the peace testimony. (Look for an article about this retreat in the June Friends Journal.) The Horry County (S.C.) worship group held a mini-workcamp at QH in early spring to paint the office and discuss military counseling. Other SAYMA groups are welcome. There will be a 20th anniversary conference in October at Fayette-ville that SAYMA Friends are welcome to attend.

Greg Sommers is at SAYMA this year and available to listen to Friends' concerns about military counseling, provide information about QH, enter names for the newsletter mailing list, schedule a visit to or from your Meeting, and discuss how individuals and groups can become more involved in military coun-

seling.

- Ellen McCracken SAYMA representative to Quaker House Columbia (S.C.) Monthly Meeting Report to the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting from Monette E. Redslob, AFSC SERO Representative, May 1989.

As your Representative I have attended all the Executive Board Meetings of SERO, and have served as the Clerk of the Personnel Committee. It has been extrewmely rewarding and interesting. The personnle Committee was composed of David Bailey from Greensboro, N.C., Annie Sturdivant from High Point, N.C. and Roger Clendening from St. Petersburg, FL. We worked well together, and were able to suggest personnel policies, establish salary adjustment and ranges for staff positions, and in consultation with the Executive Director to develop orientation processes, interview candidates for open positions, visit with the personnel and establish annual personal reviews.

In December I went with the Executive Director of SERO, Elizabeth Enloe to Miami to interview applicants for positions, and it was wonderful to see first hand all the work and dedication of the staff there.

Other Committees of the American Friends Service Committee-Southeastern Region are doing a wonderful job, and it has been not only a rewarding experience for me but also a loving one to be able to work with all the other members of the Executive Board.
But, particularly, it has been wonderful to work with Elizabeth Enloe, and I hope the SAYMA will recognize also the magnificent work she has been doing for the whole Southeastern Region, and will not only continue to support the work of the Region, but increase its support, it is well worth it.

Unfortynately for me,I had surgery in December 1988, and was ill again in February, which prevents me from continuing as your Representative to SERO, and I say this with a great deal of sadness, I also have an increasing hearing problem which makes it very tiring to attend large meetings.

I hope with all my heart, that a member of SAYMA will accept to replace me very quickly, as I said it is a wonderful opportunity for serving and learning. I have turned over to Elizabeth all my records and minutes, but I will be very happy to help the next person to understand the responsabilities.

I want to thenk SAYMA to have given me this opportunity to serve from 1985-to this year, and even if I cannot come to SAYMA this year, my heart is with you all.

Monette E. Redslob, SAYMA Rep. P.O. Box 163 Chapin, S.C. 29036

c.El.Enloe;Connie LaMonte;MER.

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE Section of the Americas

Report to SATMA, 1989

SAYMA was represented at the Triennial in Tokyo, August 19 - 27, 1988 by Maaret Houghton. She was accompanied by Dick and Paul (son). The cost for the Yearly Meeting was \$1,340. Maaret and Dick traveled 3,038 miles within the Yearly Meeting, reporting on the Triennial to Nashville, Memphis, Berea, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Atlata, Crossville, and Ashville meetings. In addition to the pleasure of trying to share the highlights of the experience and the business of the Triennial, Maaret and Dick had fun and deep satisfaction from visiting the meetings and making special new friends.

It was important that SATA was part of the circle of the world family of 250 Friends from 35 countries, representing 60 yearly meetings. Both Maaret and Dick felt keenly the importance of the event -- the first Triennial in the East.

In March Betty Hurst, a new SATMA Representative, and Maaret attended the FWCC Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. The major address was on the topic, wastice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, a theme which Friends at the Triennial agreed to study. (The World Council of Churches is sponsoring a convocation on JPIC in Korea in 1990. In Tokyo Friends united with Netherlands Yearly Meeting's concern that Friends participate in the study of this topic.)

Annual Meeting Business in brief:

- The Consultative Committee on the Friends Peace Testimony was formerly Friends Committee on War Tax Concerns.
 - a. This committee is subject to review after 2 years
 - b. Among numerous roles, it is "to encourage and strenghten the growing interest of Latin American Friends in the traditional peace testimony..."
- Quaker Youth Pilgrimage is international in composition and will be visiting meetings/Friends on the west coast of U.S. this summer.
- The U.S. Immigration Reform & Control Act of 1986 was considered.
 - a. AFSC Board's law suite explained
 - b. Expression of concern re its possible implications to FWCC, Section of the Americas, as an employer;
 - c. Request that the Executive Committee study and seek guidance on this issue.
- Friends Committee on Scouting (established a year ago) has ...
 - a. Set a curriculum for those Quaker children and youths who Wish to work for a religious merit badge.
 - b. Have been invited to participate in the Religious Relations Committee of the Scouts.
 - c. Are planning the task of getting the curriculum translated into Spanish-the Committee will serve the Western Hemisphere.
- World Conference of Friends in 1991
 - a. The theme will be: "In Spirit and in Truth: Faith in Action;"

 Meetings are encouraged to study this and to seek ways to participate through the forthcoming literature/publications.

- b. Sites: 1) Netherlands (June), 2) Honduras (July), and 3) Kenya (Aug.)
- c. The Gathering is inspirational and takes the place of the Triennial.

 (The business of the Triennial will be worked in on the side.)
- d. In addition to SATMA Representative(s), Friends may apply directly to attend any of the three Conferences.

As a "user friendly" organization, FWCC welcomes Friends participation and needs your support as an individual, meeting, and Yearly Meeting. It is there to promote world understanding that begins with us and to serve the needs of Friends. For example, as a member of the Executive Committee, Maaret participated in the decision that in 1989 the Section of the Americas would respond to a request to sponsor a Yearly Meeting Clerks' Conference. In order for FWCC to continue to respond to Friends needs and to promote the global work at its present level, FWCC needs every Friend to make a contribution, even if it were to be only a small one. Your Yearly Meeting Reps. are serving in the capacity of Fundraisers. Each one of us is charged with the task of raising \$250 in new contributions. Please help us to meet this challenge.

The Southeast Regional Gathering in October 1938 on St. Simon's Island, GA. attracted 88 Friends. Attached in a copy of an announcment of the Gathering this September in Washington, D. C.

In conclusion, this is a very exciting time to be involved in the work of FWCC. There is new activity in all parts of the world from "enhancing Quaker contacts in China so that our witness might continue there" (Friends World News, 1989/1 No. 132, p. 18) to the growth—numerical, spiritual and social—that is taking place in Latin America.

Maaret Houghton SAYMA Representative

SAYMA Officers

adult program 88-90 adult program 88-90 arrangements 89-90 l assistant clerk 89-91 : bookstore 89-90 : clerk 89-91 : co-registrar 89-91 FGC support Eastern 87-90 FGC support Northern 87-90 FGC support Western 87-90 : FGC support Southern 89-92 finance 38-90 finance 88-91 finance 89-92 Guide to Faith and Practice jr ym coord 88~ jr ym asst 89-M&N Eastern Ellen McCracken Columbia M&N Northern M&N Southern M&N Western i ngm cmt clerk 89-9: : rec clerk 89-91 recorder archivist 88-90 released friend 87-90 released friend 87-91 SAF 87-12/89 SEYM B7treasurer 7/88-7/90 workshops coord 89-91 worship sharing coord 89-91 ! worship sharing coord 89-91 : W00 AFSC/SERD 89-92 W00 FCNL 87-90 W00 FCNL 87-90 : WOD FCNL 89-92 WQ0 FGC 87-90 WQ0 FGC 87-91 WOO FGC Field Sec WOD FWCC 1/87-3/90 WGO FWCC 1/88-3/91 WOD FWCC 1/89-3/92 ; WDD FWCC 1/90-3/93 WDO Quaker House 88-91

Crossville Louise Gorenflo Dennis Greog Crossville (local meeting responsibility) Peggy Bonnington Nashville
Jeanne Doerschuk Asheville
Storm Moredith Nashville Steve Meredith Nashville co-registrar 88-90 Sharon Annis W Knoxville Phil Thomforde Crossville Boone Bill Boyd John Lewis Berea Hibbard Thatcher Nashville Connie LaMonte Birmingham Carol Lamm Berea
Peter Reilly Berea Joyce Johnson Celo Elizabeth Addison Asheville Corie Wiser-Fort Nashville TO ATOM OUT . PROTECTION .

> Lisa Raymer Berea Kathy Johnson Atlanta Nashville Marian Fuson Connie LaMonte Birmingham Mina Johnson Memphis Margaret Farmer Asheville Peter Reilly Dennis Gregg Crossville Lisa Raymer Judy Scheckel Celo Cookeville Dick Houghton Jay Bollinger W Knoxville Celo Judy Scheckel Jane Goldthwait Celo Free Polazzo Atlanta Laurel Kearns Atlanta Steve Angell Bettina Wolfe Nashville Asheville Hibbard Thatcher Nashville Jim Cavener Asheville Daryl Bergquist Birmingham Maaret Houghton Cookeville Robert French Brevard Betty Hurst Tri-Cities Maaret Houghton Cookeville Ellen McCracken Columbia

Minute on Patriarchy

In order to reaffirm our basic faith as Friends in the worth of every person, we hold that Spirit is neither male nor female. We, therefore, acknowledge and believe that we as Quakers must identify, examine and eliminate patriarchal attitudes, language and behavior which may reside in ourselves. We will work in our homes, our monthly meetings and our communities to arrive at a new day when patriarchal oppression has been replaced by full equality for all humanity.

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STATE OF THE MEETING

A Report of Asheville Monthly Meeting
of the
Religious Society of Friends

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Fifth Month 31, 1989

Asheville Monthly Meeting of Friends continues a lively and demanding worshipping community striving, with God's help, to be hospitable to visitors and caring of each other. We are enriched by the variety and range of ages, experience, and concerns found among us. Each First Day about sixty gather in unprogrammed worship, silently awaiting God's wishes and sharing them as they become manifest; a midweek Meeting for Worship serves a smaller group.

Asheville has an energetic First Day School program that serves pre-school and elementary ages. They shared a wonderful Christmas play, and are currently busy planning a new playground, and building equipment for it, for our meeting house grounds. Two elementary school-age members are full and participating members of the committee responsible for all the playground planning.

Asheville's meeting house is newly painted and the grounds attractively cared for. Quarterly "Work Days" are well attended, useful, and help build our sense of a "meeting community.

Asheville meeting's library is a growing collection of books and periodicals under the care of professional librarians from within our membership. It is well used by members. The library contains a separate collection for children and a section with materials felt to be especially useful to attenders and seekers. A concerned group has been planning for the sorting and care of meeting records that are of historic and current importance. The documents of Asheville's first twenty years as a meeting are now under care at the Swarthmore (College) Quaker Collection.

The Committee on Ministry and Oversight at Asheville has been concerned about our new members and attenders. Four new members have been welcomed to the meeting. An evening course on Quakerism was aranged using our own members as resources; often 20 persons were present. The work of the committee has been bolstered by our indefatigable Hositality Committee and their service in organizing regular pot-luck meals and "sandwich lunches" on assigned First Days. Several small groups of members, known as "Friendly Eights" have met in member's homes throughout the year for informal discussion of our faith and as an opportunity for closer acquaintance with each other.

Asheville Meeting continues to hold bi-monthly Forums which focus on a wide variety of topics of interest to Friends. National Quaker organizations report to us; local community service projects are presented; and individual members report on their activities of interest to us all. The Forums strengthen and inform our membership, and are a source of outreach for the meeting.

Our concerns for peace and social justice are pursued by most members of the meeting with the meeting-as-a-whole serving as the committee. As a meeting, we worked with Celo Friends Meeting in gathering, packing, and shipping relief materials to Each month meeting members provide and serve a meal at Asheville's Hospitality House, and our decorated Christmas tree was taken there by a delegation from our First Day School.

Small groups of members have gone out to worship with isolated and house-bound Friends. The Hickory/Catawba worship group spend a First Day with us, and the worship group from Tryon worship with us each month. Plans are underway with Brevard Friends Meeting for the joint sponsorship of a "Pendle Hill On The Road" weekend in the months ahead. We are grateful for all that the Lord has laid upon us and strive to continue in service.

Robot A. Lyw Padria - Engon

STATE OF ATLANTA MONTHLY MEETING 1988

The decision to sell Quaker House in order to seek facilities that would more adequately meet the Meeting's needs was probably the most noteworthy event of the year. That the decision could be made in unity and without a definite site in view, and following more than a decade of exploration, demonstrated faith—in the meeting, in the process, in one another.

Other actions continued or were initiated to implement that decision. The search committee explored some two dozen possible locations, following up every lead, meeting with directors, realtors, trustees, businesspersons. The Finance committee monitored the financial support of Meeting activities, and by regularly alerting the membership, oversaw that all commitments were met, ending the year with a balance. The Meeting made a commitment to add 25 Percent to its 1989 budget that would go into the new building fund, preparing itself for undertaking a mortgage when arrangements for a new Meeting House have been made.

The basis for all Meeting activity is our corporate worship. There was participation in 3 retreats and workshops enabling persons to explore ways to make unprogrammed worship more meaningful. Mary Hopkins of Media, Pa., led a retreat on the Gathered Meetins, Peneloge and John Yunsblut conducted a workshop on contemplation (with recollections of Quaker House in the 60s), and F(f)riends gathered for a weekend to discuss/explore dreams. The Meeting's property on Lake Burton, named after the donor family of Dwisht Fersuson, has served both as a retreat and recreation center. Members of Ministry and Counsel visited preparative Meetings and worship groups in Northside Atlanta, Rome, Carrolton, Athens, and Macon. Individuals were assisted in their concerns to participate in a mission to East Africa and in attendance at a Quaker woman's workshop. A scholarship fund to help persons attend the summer sathering of the Friends General Conference was established in the memory of Anicia Lane, who had demonstrated great courage in her losing fight against cancer.

Opportunities were sought to involve the children and young people in unprogrammed worship, in addition to the quarter-hour weekly at the commencement of Meeting. The high school group worships monthly three-quarters an hour, and forums and a special children's service were scheduled.

Strengthening the bonds among members and attenders is building a more caring and supportive community as the Meeting expands and attracts more visitors. A photo album of Meeting participants and extended family groups which meet independently for recreation and/or discussion provide opportunities to know one another better. A committee reaches out to those who are ill or facing personal crises, as well as contacting visitors signing the register. A library cared for by a dedicated committee assists those engaged in a personal search for wholeness, a deeper religious experience, or additional information on Quakerism. A group meets regularly to explore the feasibility of establishing a school along Quaker principles.

For a Friends Meeting to be vital, members must translate their beliefs and concerns into community projects and

sctivities. As times and conditions change during the years, so does the involvement of the members. Widely recognized contributions of Quaker House in the areas of desegregation/integration have shifted primarily to the needs of Central Americans. An earlier decision to declare itself a sanctuary with hospitality and support of Central American refugees has been followed with the establishment of Casa Blanca. Currently having 4 refugees, Casa Blanca provided housing for 9 Central Americans in 1988 in addition to short term hospitality for others. A significant contribution was made in detering the city of Atlanta's effort to provide training for the notorious Guatemalan National Police; these efforts gained nationwide support, winning a reversal of the city's proposal.

The Meeting joined other churches in the operation of a shelter for the homeless, an increasing segment of the population; high school class members resularly assisted in this project. Financial support also was provided a number of peace and justice organizations. A committee brought Congressional issues to the attention of Meeting members, while 20 volunteers excerpted from national publications items of interest to persons seeking peace and justice, and circulated News/Views to 44 states and Japan. The Meeting continued its support of projects undertaken by the Right Sharing of World Resources by committing one percent of the Meeting budget to that agency. The regional office of the AFSC in Atlanta enabled some members of join those efforts in Atlanta and in nearby states.

Fossessing a Meeting house involves its care and maintenance, and the upkeep has been such that a contract for its sale was concluded prior to its being placed on the market, following a Meeting decision to seek another facility. There is a possibility of the sale of a tract owned by Atlanta Friends Meeting in a low-income area, the proceeds to be used in construction of the new facilities. The tract was utilized in the 1960s in the Meeting's involvement in a desegregation project, and may now be utilized for much needed housing in the area.

Edward Pollard provided invaluable service as Quaker House resident, performing most maintenance functions, entertaining a steady stream of overnight visitors, and responding to innumerable requests and inquiries.

The commitment of members and attenders enabled the Meeting to provide the opportunity for individual and corporate worship and the expression of faith through outreach of the Meeting. These efforts have been channeled through some 16 committees and an enormous amount of time and energy, often performed in a quiet manner that is unrealized by others. Yet there remained the realization that more can be done.

With thankfulness for the shared fellowship and the guidance of the past year, we look forward with faith, strengthened by the words of Howard Brinton: "The activist who seeks explanations based on outer facts declares that our restlessness is due to the terrible state of the world at present....As long as there is inward chaos, all outward actions will be contaminated by this chaos....We seek to bring peace in the world when there is no scace in our hearts and as a result we infect the outer world with our inner conflict...." *

*Howard Brinton, Ibe Quaker Doctrice on Inward Reace: Fendle Hill Pamehlet 44, pp 5.6.

Berea State of the Meeting Report May 1989

Meeting for Worship continues to be the central event in the life of the Meeting. With 20-25 attenders on the average, attendance is somewhat higher than last year. Our worship is generally silent with little vocal or other outward forms of ministry. While it is occasionally very centered and powerful and generally satisfactory to most people, the silence sometimes feels empty and the Spirit hard to find.

Our Meeting for Business is mostly concerned with routine matters and housekeeping affairs, and attendance has often been low. Nevertheless, we have been striving to maintain a worshipful attitude in conducting all our affairs.

The children's program this year has been well-organized and generally successful. We have two groups of young people. They participate in the first 10 minutes of Meeting for Worship, then exit to begin their program in singing together. The younger group has been using <u>Sparklers</u>, while the older ones have been reading stories aloud. Many adults, including some non-parents, have been helping out. A team-teaching approach has worked well for the older class and for planning second-hour activities for all the young people. We continue to feel our once-a-month intergenerational activity is important for developing relationships between young and old and for fostering a spirit of playfulness.

During the second hour, our adult discussions have been varied and interesting, though not controversial. A series of discussions on celebrating holidays culminated in a Christmas visit by adults and children to our county jail, where we enacted a posada. On other occasions, Maaret and Dick Houghton related their experiences at the FWCC Triennial in Tokyo, and a young person from the Meeting told of her visit to Nicaragua this January. Also, we have begun singing together regularly at the start of the discussion period.

For the past several years, our Ministry and Counsel Committee has conducted an all-member canvas in the Fall. This year, members were asked how the Meeting "spoke to their condition" in areas such as worship, business, community, ministry, and social action. This has been helpful in finding out how we can serve each other better.

As individuals, many of us are active in peace and justice activities and organizations, such as the Berea Interfaith Task Force for Peace and the Overground Railroad. For some time we have considered taking on some project as a Meeting, feeling it would be good for the unity and community of the group. For example, we considered sponsoring a Central American refugee family for an interim period but decided the support for the idea was not sufficient.

Fellowship is good within the Meeting. Our weekly soup suppers continue to be popular. Recognizing a need for strictly adult events in addition to gatherings involving children, we have started a monthly fellowship supper, with a discussion topic, for adults only. Even though we have a wide range of ages, we have not succeeded in attracting any college students. Perhaps we should engage in greater efforts to make the community aware of our existence and beliefs.

In short, the Meeting seems to be on an even keel, neither dwindling nor burgeoning, neither totally barren nor spiritually overflowing, but strongly committed to seeing one another through our day-to-day lives.

State of the Meeting Report — Birmingham Friends Meeting

Greetings from the only nomadic Quaker Meeting in SAYMA. Since last year Birmingham Friends Meeting has moved twice. Our current location has just been sold. Presently we are unsure whether we will relocate with Wesley House (our current landlord) or find another location.

We have several new attenders at BFM, and one regular attender has moved away. The new attenders have added a spart to our meeting by asking many questions, thereby encouraging all of us to continue to question and grow.

Generally there is a more positive feeling among attenders about the state of the meeting this year. Committees have been more active, and our newsletter has been more regular and alive.

Our current concerns include: ministering to members' needs, more group social projects, preparation for worship, more social activities (we have begun monthly potlucks), and finding a long-term place to meet that fits our need.

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Respectfully submitted,

Connie Hill SAYMA Representative Birmingham Friends Meeting 5/27/89

State of the Meeting Brevard Meeting

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Brevard Meeting, now with a membership of 18 adults, continues to hold its meetings for worship in the general purpose room of the housing authority's Cedar Crest Manor apartment complex.

An ad placed several months of the year in the local newspaper invites new attenders to experience Quaker worship with us. The ad also informs visitors in the area where and when we meet. So far, we've been unable to attract young families. Since Brevard is considered a retirement community, it is not unusual that our members are mainly elder people.

After meeting for worship, we sometimes have discussions based on a book or pamphlet of interest. We enjoy monthly social get-togethers and pot luck meals in homes of members and attenders, or out of doors in Pisgah Forest.

Meeting outreach to the community occurs in various ways. Several members and attenders helped form the Brevard Dispute Settlement Center which will have trained mediators to settle conflicts between people out of court. Some Friends help plan the Transylvania Peace Fellowship's open-to-the-public meetings, while others volunteer at Sharing House, an ecumenical facility ministering to the needy, or with another community service group. Twice a year the Meeting contributes to the Sharing House pantry.

As individuals, concern for the future of this fragile planet spurs us to support efforts to end the arms race and save the environment.

For Brevard Meeting Robert Duffield, Clerk 5/14/89

State of the Charleston Meeting

We have lost several members in the past year, primarily because they have moved elsewhere for economic reasons. Our First Day School is strong, perhaps the glue of our meeting. We will be moving our meeting from The River School to Covenant House (a day shelter for the homeless). I believe the move from a building with a secular purpose to one with a spiritual purpose will strengthen our meeting, and that dropouts may return. Adult First Day School has been addressing social problems such as mental illness. We continue to share meals on an occasional basis with the residents of the local homeless shelters. We did not need to lobby our legislature as they were occupied with taxes, impeachment and other crises. Yay!

The AFSC has a new Peace and Economic Justice project in West Virginia. Friends from all the West Virginia meetings serve as the steering committee. Charleston Friends have offered to assist in whatever way the project director feels appropriate.

Because we lost people our budget for 1988 was smaller than 1987. 1989 may prove to be a stable year. Adult attendance hovers between 8 and 10, children between 6 and 10.

Connie Gratop Lewis, Clerk

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State of the Meeting Report: Celo Friends Meeting for SAYMA Gathering May, 1989

Celo Friends Meeting has been involved in a variety of projects for peace and justice here and throughout the world. We have been involved in our own and wider Friends activities. We have seen many changes in the lives of our people.

We have had a birth, deaths, a wedding, new members and attenders, and graduations to change our lives. Elias ("Eli") Valentine Wexler was born February 3, 1989 to our Lydia Wexler, who received many gifts at a very well attended shower. Our clerk, Frances Salstrom, died September 6, 1988. The September 25, 1988 memorial service was deeply spiritual as befitting Frances. Margit Hirschenhauser died January 2 or 3, 1989 in Bruderhof where she had been living her last several years. Celo Meeting had a memorial service January 24, 1989. Tasha Harvey and Brian Strickler were married under the care of Celo Friends Meeting on September 4, 1988. They now live in New Mexico and work with emotionally disturbed teenagers.

Carol Gress and her children, Violet Arth and Barry Kraft, were accepted as members at the November Meeting for Business and a potluck party was held for them on December 4, 1988. Kathleen Frederickson became a member at the April Business Meeting with a potluck party on May 7, 1989. The Schwabb-Hill and Seelbach families are new attenders.

Barb, Tom, and Andrew Perrin now live here full time near their Barrus family. Sue and Joe Brutto, former Celo people, adopted 5 children. They live in the Berea area.

There are 2 graduates this spring. Nathan Snider graduates from Mountain Heritage in Yancey County and will go to UNC-Chapel Hill. Carol Oldham graduates from Oakwood School, a Friends School, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. and will go to Bennington College in Vermont.

Our internal events brought us closer to the spirit and each other. In December 1988 we had fellowship ADVENTures: breakfast at the Welshes and supper at the Barruses. Our annual Christmas program sported a female Santa with the atmosphere of a story reading by Bob Welsh, carols, and candles.

We reached out to Friends in SAYMA. We enjoyed the hosting the Eastern SAYMA gathering on October 28 to 30, 1988. We were particularly glad to see so many worship groups and unaffiliated Friends. We continue to have the excitment of growing in the spirit with meetings under our care. Boone Meeting has 10 to 12 adults and children meeting in Mountain Pathway School. Tri-cities, after a few years of inactivity, now has 3 energetic people and they meet twice a month. We had a visit from Greg Sommers of Quaker House in Fayetteville on April 8 and 9, 1989. At breakfast at Dave Salstrom's Greg showed slides and told of the history and mission of Quaker House as well as talking about C.O. status. This was continued at a noon gathering.

Many Celo Friends are involved in RSVP (Rural Southern Voice for Peace) in a variety of capacities. Mailings, the listening project, and the week in Robeson County NC with Witness for Justice were the highlight activities. The Nicaraguan shipment was coordinated by RSVP. Tools, clothing, medical and school supplies were sorted, packed, and stored at Camp Celo. There was good fellowship and dedication in sorting and in the loading of the 40-foot van on February 25, 1989. Quest for Peace gave us information, made the shipment, and notified us when it arrived in Nicaragua.

Our sanctuary committee has a Guatamalan couple, Noe and Hudemia Strin-Martinez, living in Sue Snider's cabin. They work for Friends and others and learn English while they are waiting to go to Canada.

Dave Salstrom continues the volunteer teaching of reading, math, typing, secretaria: skills, and drawing in 2 prisons, an educational program which he and Frances started. He is active in Mountain Prison Ministries which supports a pastor in the prisons. He lets us know when there are ways other Friends can help.

The Alternatives to Violence program was founded by New York Yearly Meeting. Our own Martha Moss and Marge Zybos from Walton, N.Y. were the initiators of the program in Yancey County which held 2 workshops in the spring and hopes to enlarge its work to Atlanta (Women's Halfway House), Asheville, and neighboring counties.

In January 1989 Marnie Walters went to India with an international group of women through Gandhi Peace Foundation and Lisle Fellowship. She read parts of her wonderful diary at a breakfast at the Welshes.

A group of about 10 children ages 5 to 8 and their teacher attend school in Celo Friends' First Day School building.

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The energy of the Spirit, the variety of interests of Celo Friends, and the loving support of the Meeting have enable us to grow in the Spirit and serve our God's people here and throughout the world. Our silent and vocal ministry guides us in our endeavors.

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CHATTANOOGA FRIENDS MEETING

STATE OF THE MEETING

May 26, 1989

Around the end of 1988 and the beginning of 1989, Chattanooga Friends Meeting was moved to conduct an assessment of the Meeting. The following statements contributed by the people of the meeting and summarizing comments seem to express the current state of the Meeting. (Direct quotes from written responses are set off in quotation marks. The rest are summarizing comments.)

Overall responses were quite, even surprisingly, positive, especially about Meeting for Worship and the sense of community we have built among ourselves. And some of the comments ... can be read to mean that we should not be complacent, as when one person wrote, "there seems to be some desire to be all things to all people, all inclusive" --implying, I gather, that we run the risk of superficiality and lack of depth.

"I tend to take meeting and its benefits for granted--this survey helped me realize that meeting as it is doesn't just happen--it takes some thought and work."

"Meeting for worship is GOOD...[It] fully fulfills my spiritual needs."

"The meeting for worship is beyond assessment. It is as it should be. It is no more and no less than the reality of the Spirit moving through the particular Friends who are gathered together. This process touches me, moves me and transforms me into a better person more often that not."

As a result of the suggestion last summer that one should not feel intimidated or inhibited by the solemnity of the occasion "there seems to be more messages now, and the meetings for worship better."

One person liked "Friendly talk over a simple meal."
Another, "the baked potato with meeting for business." And another expressed liking for the presentations of "spiritual journeys" by Meeting participants. One plumped for more social events, while another thought them least satisfying. More than one respondent noted the tediousness and length of Meetings for Business.

Most thought some involvement in a social project would be helpful, but more than one cautioned about the drain on a small group's time and energies. There seemed to be general agreement that conflicts, both potential and otherwise, are usually handled well. One person counseled against "petty remarks." Another feared some unspecified problems were not confronted honestly, but another allowed, almost in a response: "I'm kind of glad--I don't think we've failed to confront any of these problems that turned out to be major problems for the meeting. And sometimes when you wait, the problem goes away by itself."

The sharpest division came on the question of attracting new members and attenders; respondents were about equally divided as to whether it was a problem. Suggestions ranged from making ourselves better known and inviting others to coming to grips with, as one put it, "a more unified sense of who we are, what the meeting is." One who considered it "not a problem in itself" advised, "It might be a symptom of a group which is not settled, content, and/or motivated, and [hence] not attractive to seekers."

Several individuals submitted several different specific suggestions that they felt would improved the life of the Meeting. These were included in the committee's final report which was published in our newsletter.

There is one more matter specific to the history of the Meeting during the last year that was not addressed in the assessment: We have been saying "good-bye" a lot - even more, it seems, than in previous years. No less than five who were active participants in the meeting have moved to other cities for improved career/employment opportunities. For a group as small as we, that is a lot! And now we are saying good-bye to our long-time Meetinghouse resident who will move to Pennsylvania in about two weeks. All of these have brought us the pain that comes from no longer having their lives mingled directly within the experiences of our Meeting. We miss them.

On a more positive note, we have seen a few new participants begin to become a part of the Meeting. We hope they will continue to find the Meeting meaningful for them and to add their vitality to the Meeting's life.

One more note of Meeting history: We celebrated with Mary Thatcher the one hundredth anniversary of her birth in April. We held a special Meeting for Worship with her on this occasion, followed by a little party.

Bill Reynolds, Clerk May 26, 1989

Columbia Friends Meeting

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

1988-89 State of the Meeting Report

The Columbia Friends Meeting continues to meet at the Presbyterian Student Center, with a very fluctuating attendance, due to the fact that the membership is mostly composed of professors and students of the University of South Carolina. The demands on their careers for either trips abroad or sabbaticals makes for a varied attendance, from 5 to 20.

Two of our long standing members: Margot Morrison and Mark Chevalier have moved to Florida and Boston. We are and will miss them.

Another problem is the small number of children of widely different ages. All our members and attenders however are witnessing as Quakers in their professional lives and as volunteers in prisons, peace work, N.C. Quaker House, against the death penalty, and in their community with Meals on Wheels, PAL a support group for people with Aids, Lifeline, AFSC material Aids Program, etc.

June 11th, the Meeting, instead of having a regulare worship meeting will have a Worship Sharing meeting on "How to witness as a Quaker"and "What type of witnessing are you doing?", followed by a picnic. The Columbia Friends Meeting this year will not have a Retreat but will share one with the Friends from Horry County in January 1990. In October of this year the Meeting may have a "relaxing week-end in Abbeville".

The Meeting has for several years cleaned the old Bush River Friends Meeting Cemetary, abandoned since the civil war, but still belonging to the N.C. Y.M. After inquiring with them, they decided not to relinquish their deed to it, but have not mentioned the upkeep of this very historical Quaker landmark.

From an administrative point of view, Friends share and teach First Day school with an unchanged "assigned" Sunday each month. It is easier this way not to forget your day to teach.

Refreshments for between worship and discussion are prepared by Friends, volunteering for a full month.

This year 3 or 4 will attend SAYMA gathering, and one will attend FGC.

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Monette E. Redslob, Clerk.

c.Meeting file.

It is not easy to judge precisely the spiritual growth of the Meeting. However, there has been a wider sharing in Meeting for Worship, and a continuing concern for all members and attenders.

Our Friends Meeting has joined with other religions and community groups in the furtherance of Friends testimonies, especially in the areas of peace and social justice.

The Meeting continues to support the work of the Cumberland Countians for Peace including the Peace Essay Contest in the schools of the American Freedom Association. Members regularly contribute articles under the heading of "the Lion and the Lamb" in the local newspaper. Copies of the FCNL Newsletter and weekly updates are made available to others in the county – about 40. Members who initiate the county—wide "Good Samaritans" program to help those who "fall between the cracks" continue to give it support and direction. The Meeting continues to provide nominal financial support to Friends organizations such as the AFSC, FCNL, FSCC, etc.

The Committee on Ministry and Oversight has been in touch this past year through letters, and personally, with all members and attenders. The Meeting has especially tried to keep in close touch with and be supportive of those who have had serious medical problems. The Committee has had articles in the local newspaper about Friends' beliefs and Meeting's activities.

The Cookeville Worship Group has been meeting with us twice monthly.

There has been an exciting and systematic First Day School program, both for the adults had our young people. The adults have been studying Leonard Kenworthy's book on Quakerism. The Meeting has especially enjoyed the weekend Easter retreat at the State Park for spiritual refreshment and socializing.

Maaret Houghton attended the Triennial in Japan this year and since returning has visited many SAYMA meetings to report on her trip.

The Community Friends School completes another successful year with 22 students K through 6. Don Hyde, a member of the Atlanta Meeting, joined the staff this year. Mary Rhodes, a member of the Third Haven Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and now an attender of our Meeting, served on the School Board, of which the chairman is Dennis Gregg. Parents of students at the school have been much more active this year in fund-raising activities which has been especially welcome. Financial support for the school from SAYMA and others has been greatly appreciated.

State-of-the-Meeting Huntsville Alabama Area Friends Meeting

The meeting has found a permanent public place to meet. A summer schedule has been established; we will be meeting in a home until fall (at Noreen Riley's). Several members have moved too far away to attend regularly.

The meeting-sponsored school (home schooling) continues to grow at about two families per month. Current enrollment is about forty-five families.

Dick Cordray

MEMPHIS FRIENDS MEETING

STATE OF THE MEETING REPORT

May 11, 1989

The Memphis Meeting has felt unusually connected to the rest of the world this year. We followed with Laura the ups and downs of adopting two Honduran babies which made their arrival on May 12 and their first meeting for worship a powerful experience. Bruce and Mina brought greetings from various London Meetings, and Bruce has helped us feel involved in the Ramallah Meeting. Maaret and Dick Houghton shared their experience at the Triennial.

Three women on a tour sponsored by AFSC spoke about the effects of military bases on women and children in Okinawa, Puerto Rico, and North Carolina. Out of worship which followed their presentation, the Meeting was moved to support one parent's concern about corporal punishment in the public schools. The enclosed statement was drafted and presented before the Memphis City School Board. Follow-up efforts are continuing in a positive direction.

Children often outnumber adults at worship; therefore, we are weekly confronted with our space problem at Rhodes College. Creating a program for our 23 active children has presented a challenge to those parents who took six-week turns providing leadership. One series was devoted to stories and activities around environmental concerns; another segment dramatized stories from the Bible. Other highlights were reading a Hanukkah story by candlelight, wearing the burkah Mina brought from Pakistan and seeing slides from her travels, and making the traditional valentines. At Christmas, the White family brought baby rabbits to worship, an intergenerational collage was inspired by the discussion of a Bible story, our annual candlelight worship with carols was held at the McDonald-Penn home, and the children and their families attended a live performance of Peter Pan.

Our concern about social issues takes many forms. Several members are meeting with other congregations and local leaders involved in the Industrial Areas Foundation (successor to Saul Alinsky's social issues organization) to decide what the Meeting's commitment will mean. Wib's presentation at Meeting for Learning has fueled our concern about the homeless. Jack Powelson's Facing Social Revolution and Dialogue with Friends provided the background for a series of meaningful discussions. Ruth Boaz represents the Sierra Club on the City Council's task force on comprehensive waste management and planning for Memphis and Shelby County. The Meeting purchased a conflict resolution videotape which has been circulated.

Joanne Rhodes and Kelly Askins plan to be married under the care of our Meeting in June. We have enjoyed being a part of this process.

A series of worship sharing sessions was held on Wednesday nights prior to the Spring retreat at Shelby Forest. The relatively unstructured time together gave us an opportunity to explore personal issues as well as matters related to the well-being of the Meeting.

TO: Memphis City School Board Members FROM: Memphis Friends Meeting

May 1, 1989

The Memphis Friends Meeting is represented here this evening to speak about corporal punishment.

As members of the Religious Society of Frineds, we do not condone violence in any form. Both the hitting of a child's hand with a ruler or paddling by a principal as well as more subtle forms of emotional violence would fit into out definition of violence. We feel that the use of violence points to a feeling of powerlessness on the part of the people who resort to it and that we, as individuals and as groups in our society, have not done enough to explore the many alternatives to violence. We also believe that violence teaches violence and is not an effective or reasonable means of discipline.

In light of the convictions that you have just heard, we come to you supporting the parents who are recommending that parents as individuals be permitted to object to and protect their children from the Board's present policy on corporal punishment through a letter kept on file at the child's school. As Friends, we see this as an initial step in eliminating corporal punishment in our schools. We would also hope that the Board begin to examine other aspects of the policy, for instance, parental notification before and after the punishment, a more specific definition of what constitutes corporal punishment, and the broader implications of the issue as a whole.

Nashville Monthly Meeting's State of the Meeting Report, 1988-89.

As of May, 1989, Nashville Friends Nectical has 29 adult and 5 children members. In addition 8 Friends from other Monthly Nections attend, as well as 15 adult and 26 children attenders. During the past year 6 of our distant members have moved their memberships to Nonthly Neetings which they now attend. These losses to us have meant gift to these other Neetings of some of our "treasure". These changes in the constellation of our membership have necessitated some adjustments, some assessment of what "treasure" we still have, and how best to make use of it. We give thanks for our SAYMA and FGC affiliations, for at such gatherings we ofter again reunited joyfully with our former members.

A good proportion of our beeting attenders is under 16 years of age, so a large amount of our energy has happily gone into our children's program. Our children range from infants to teenagers, and very vigorous and alert they are!

Our fall retreat brought out whole femilies that we seldom see all togethe We had about 60 in attendance during some part of the weekend. We danced, sang, and created in all sorts of ways. And we ate! We welcomed Ffiends from other meetings, too. Our SAYMA Representative to FWCC, Maaret Hought and her husband, Dick, shared with us their experience attending the FWCC Triennial in Japan last summer, very much enriching our time together.

During two winter months while our Clerk and Treasurer were caring for a Friend in Honolulu, our Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer took over their dubies in addition to their own continuing commitments to the Meetir The Meeting and the Clerk and Treasurer greatly appreciated their gifts to us all.

Thanks to the efforts of a most able and d'ligent House end Grounds Committee our Leetinghouse now is in good physical condition, and we trust

Our Meeting appreciator all of our interactions with FGC. We cherish the encouragement and the insights shared with us by our regional FGC Field Secretary, Daryl Rergquist, and his wife, Sara Pose, through their visits and correspondence. In less than helf a year we will completely pay off our larger mortgage helpfully made to us by the FGC Neetinghouse fund! And this April our Meeting hosted the FGC Advancement and Outreach Committee's weekend meeting, sonce one of our members is Clerk of this Committee.

In June Bob Hetzel and taura Tyree will be married under our care. The Clearness Committee, and now the Oversight Committee, have appreciated their serious but joyful work with this engaging pair.

A Nashville Meeting clearness cormittee has been working for several year now with one of our members. She graduated from the Earlham School of Religion and has recently also completed the training in the Fublic binistry of Pastoral Care, leading to employment in hospital chaplaincy and pastoral counseling. Tagether she and the clearness committee have wrestled with what our Meeting's responsibility to her is as she enters this profession which usually requeres ordination, signifying denomination support. The Reeting has come through this instructive process and has approved providing her with a letter of Meeting endorsement for her use in her applications for such employment.

With many of our older members actively serving on committees and boards of directors of wider Quaker organizations, there results a frequent loss of their presence in their home Meeting. All our younger members and attenders who are parents are working full-time, so have necessarily very limited time fof Eeeting activities. Consequently our Eeeting outreach locally is limited, and our attendance is often small. We treasure the time we have together.

State of the Meeting Report West Knoxville Friends Meeting May 1989

Exciting things have happened in West Knoxville this year!

We have started a regular monthly feature of writing individually to our senators and representatives about topics of current importance such as gun control, aid to the Contras, and homelessness. In addition, the meeting as a whole sent a letter to our senators and representatives after the November election urging stronger support for the Arias Peace Plan in Central America and deficit reduction through lowering the level of military spending.

Lisondro Gordillo, a Guatemalan Quaker, talked to us about the efforts of Guatemala City Friends to provide meals for orphaned children, drug rehabilitation, and job training. Subsequently, we agreed to provide a donation to support this valuable work.

We held a nuclear dialogue project training session and have decided to initiate a discussion with one of the Oak Ridge policy makers in the nuclear industry to listen to and talk with him in hopes of both sides getting a clearer idea of the other's views.

At the request of the chaplin, we held a short meeting for worship and a presentation on Friends' beliefs at Shannondale, a Knoxville retirement community. This was very well received both by the residents at Shannondale and by the meeting members and attenders who participated.

An attempt was made to have a regular midweek meeting for worship, but this was discontinued after several months for lack of participation. A women's worship sharing group was initiated and has been held once a month before meeting for worship since last summer.

For the first time in many years we have had an active program of teen age youth. We hope that this activity will continue in future years.

The younger friends (grades 1-6) have been interviewing the adult members and attenders individually during the year in order to increase the familiarity of all parties with each other. This has been very successful and enjoyed by all who have participated.

We invited the members of First Friends Church in Knoxville to join us for lunch one First Day. They responded positively, and we were able to have a good time of sharing and fellowship with them. We hope that this will lead to future joint activities. We are considering organizing a function involving the local congregations of all the historical peace churches, First Friends and members of the Menonite and Brethren communities.

In support of the religious life of the meeting, the Ministry and Oversight Committee has presented queries at various times during the year for consideration by members and attenders. These have led to thoughtful exchanges on how the Spirit moves among us. We hope to emphasize this area more in the coming year.

Our meeting hosted the SAYMA Faith and Practice Committee twice this year and participated in the discussions. In anticipation of approval of a complete working draft of the Guide, we have begun using it to introduce our meetings for business. We have been impressed with the clarity and wisdom which it contains and urge everyone to use it.

Individuals in the Meeting have been involved in many activities which they have shared with the rest of us. Some of these include the Ulster Project, the sanctuary movement, vigils at the Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge, habitat for humanity, foundation for community development, and Central America concerns.

This has been a year, as always, of thoughtful involvement for West Knoxville Friends. Although we are often frustrated by the seemingly slow pace and incompleteness of many of our activities, a summation at year's end shows us that much has happened and that the state of the meeting is still healthy and viable.

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Submitted by Marti Salk, Clerk

Athens Preparative Meeting State of the Meeting Report

Now entering our third year of meeting in a public space, Athens Preparative Meeting continues to grow and change. Those of us who have been active here since the earliest days worshipping in the home of the Pulham family have begun to have a sense of the life of the meeting: life made up of but greater than the contributions of the individuals who comprise the group. Some new faces in our midst have brought fresh ideas and experiences from other meetings left to move to Athens. But we have also lost faithful and active attenders through moving and death.

Much of our energy as a group in the past 8 months has been focused on the nurture of our friends Al and Jane Kleckner during Al's illness and death. Setting aside personal needs and differences to minister to a more urgent need has knit us more tightly as a group. Sharing together our thoughts on death and dying has helped us to know one another more fully. Through holding our friends in need in the Light, we have all been uplifted.

After a year of preparative meeting status, we have been asked by our oversight committee in Atlanta to consider whether we are ready to seek clearness on becoming a monthly meeting. In considering this, we would appreciate feedback from other small and/or young monthly meetings in the SAYMA region. We think other small groups might offer some valuable insights into both spiritual and practical considerations of becoming a monthly meeting.

First day school continues to be lively and a constant challenge to the adults. With our attendance on any given Sunday usually fairly evenly divided between adults and children, ministering to the needs of our young Friends is an everpresent concern.

We have held one discussion on SAYMA's proposed Minute on Patriarchy but can report no consensus on it. Many of the concerns raised in our discussion were similiar to those expressed in letters printed in the Southern Appalachian Our differences ranged from the definition of patriarchy to the character of the language used (some liking its provocative tone and others finding it offensive). A concern was expressed that possibly this minute was actually addressing two issues, one the issue of patriarchy and the other the issue of power and oppression. We are not convinced that the two are perfectly synonomous. We can report an immediate consensus on the statement concerning the nature of the Spirit, however. We can all agree that we hold that the Spirit is neither male nor female. We expect to hold more discussion/sharing time of the minute and the issues it raises again soon.

Dear Connie,

It was affirming to get your note asking for a report of our newly recognized worship group. It's our first such communication. Unfortunately none of us will be able to attend Sayma this year though two of our membership did try to work it into our schedules. Those same two are attending FGC in CAnton. The two gatherings come too close together.

We haven't started keeping any kind of records of attendance.

Our group has been meeting unofficially for several years, but until Daryl Bergquist visited us, persuaded us to choose a name and become listed in the Sayma and FGC directories we were casual about procedures. We do now have four Friends who form a base for the other (recently 8/9) attenders to relate to. But these attenders are with us for the hour of quiet and the tima of fellowship that follows, not for Guaker.

Since there are always volunteers or students from other countries with us at Koinonia, we find that worshipping in silence is important when a service in English doesn't have to be translated. Right now we have two Germans and three Japanese.

Thank you for contacting us. We will be with you in spirit as you meet at Christmount.

In peace,

Frances Warren

Boone, North Carolina Worship Group State of the Meeting Report - May, 1989

The Boone Worship Group continues to meet at the Mountain Pathways School on Howards Creek Road. We meet on Sundays at 10:30 am for singing and have silent worship from 10:45 am to 11:45 am. The annual FGC gathering last July brought renewed interest in our meeting, to the extent that we now meet weekly instead of bimonthly.

Attendance on a given Sunday ranges from 4 to 10 adults and from 5 to 14 children. Due to the large number of children and a wide range in their ages, First Day School has become a major concern. We meet the needs of the children as best we can, but can't help feeling we should be doing much more. Darryl Bergquist, an FGC field representative who visited us recently, was very helpful in our struggle to cope with the needs of both the children and adults.

We have regularly scheduled business meetings, which serve not only to sort out the meeting's concerns, but also to provide a valuable opportunity for the adults to become better acquainted.

Individually and collectively we have continued to be active in various social issues of local, national and global interest. As a group, we walked in the annual CROP walk, for which the children prepared a lovely banner.

We have recently made contact with the Catawba Valley Friends and hope to continue our association with them. Celo Meeting continues to watch over us, and answer our every question.

All told, it has been a year of encouragement and growth, with the hope of continued spiritual growth in the coming year.

PAX VOBISCUM

Horry County Friends Worship Group

Report to SAYMA 1989 Christmount Christian Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina

Our Worship Group continues to meet regularly with an average of six adults and two children in the group. We have a regular monthly newsletter and hold First Day School once a month for our young people. Next Sunday, June 4th with mark our first gathering in our new location, the Surfside Civic Center. We are looking forward to the large, comfortable space which has a kitchen and even a piano! We had been meeting at Covenant Towers, a senior residence for almost a year and a half.

We have been fortunate to have many visitors this year, including John and Barbara Baker of Penn Yan Monthly Meeting in central New York state, David and Charlotte Boynton of Langley Friends Meeting and their children Betsy and Tom and Ellen Mc-Cracken of Columbia Friends Meeting. Small groups have attended FGC at Boone, Quaker House, Fayetteville for a tour and work weekend, Jubilee Partners in Comer, Georgia, King Center for Non-Violent Social Change, the SAYMA Regional Gathering in Celo last October, Manhassett Friends Meeting on Long Island and the Birmingham, Pennsylvania Friends Meeting. These contacts have been deeply enriching and we hope to increase our visitation in the coming year.

Horry County Friends Worship Group continues to sponsor a Guatemalan child through the Foster Parents Plan. We all enjoy the exchange of letters and pictures. Locally, several of us participated in the first annual Sing Out for Peace on July 31st in our area, and in a "Blast Off for Peace" model rocket launch and celebration to honor Dr. King's birthday. Our First Day school group continues to collect soap and soap chips to send to the AFSC Material Aid Program in High Point, North Carolina and would appreciate your donation at the registration table when you leave this Gathering on Sunday.

We are preparing to host a gathering of Friends in our local region (roughly, South Carolina and Georgia) and have received positive responses from several groups. The purpose of this gathering, set for January 12-14, 1990 is to provide a linking of these groups that are relatively close together and have historically common roots. We are grateful that Daryl Bergquist, FGC Field Secretary is planning to attend, and hope for attendance and support from other SAYMA Friends. Suggestions and advices would also be useful! The January 1990 Gathering will be held at the Christos Village Conference Center in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Grace Gifford
Horry County Friends
Worship Group
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GRESS, CAROL (CRAFT, BARRY-ARTH, VIOLET		704-675-5890
HARDIE, KATHLEEN	501 N WILSON BLVD NASHVILLE, TN 37205	615-297-5040
HEARNE, ELLEN (HEARNE, ARIEL & ALEX)		
	771 BRENTWOOD OAKS NASHVILLE, TN	
HINELY, NITA	882 ST CHARLES ST	404-872-3912

ATLANTA, GA 30306

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HOEFER, LEE	RT 33, KNOXVILLE, TN 37932	615-693-1529	
HOFFMAN, MARY HILLS (HOFFMAN, BRENDAN)	304 E LAUREL RD GREENWOOD, SC	807-229-1724	
HOUGHTON, DICK HOUGHTON, MAARET (MACDERHOTT, HANNAH)	RR 11, BOX 259 COOKEVILLE, TN 38501	615-528-7287	
HOWARD, ROY HOWARD, MISSY (HOWARD, CATHERINE)	FRAZIER APT 29 GREENSBORO, NC 29410	919-282-5430	
HURST, BETTY	(SEE GITLIN, SHARON)		
HYDE, DON	BOX 594 PLEASANT HILL, TN 38578		
IMMERSHEIN, TERRI	1220 BEE TREE RD SWANNANOA, NC		
INGLE, LARRY	1106 COLLINS CIRCLE CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411	615-629-5914	
JOHNSON, KATHY	1425 MILLER AVE NE ATLANTA, GA 30307	404-577-1498	
JUNES, CHUCK	335 CRESTWAY DR CHATTANOOGA, TN 37411		
KEDL, MARY	123 INDIAN'LANE OAK RIDGE, TN 37830	615-482-1555	
KIRK, ELIZABETH (KIRK, KRISTEN)	110 DELWOOD AVE BEREA, KY 40403	606-986-1745	
		606-986-9256	
	613 10TH AVE S BRIMINGHAM, AL 35205	205-324-5256	
LEE-RIFFE, NANCY (RIFFE, DAN & SUSY)			
LEWIS, JOHN RAYMER, LISA (RAYMER-LEWIS, ANNAMARIE)	417 CENTER ST BEREA, KY 40403	606-986-1968	
LYON, ROBERT LYON, PATRICIA			
MASTER, BARRY	RT 7. BOX 1178	704-628-2917	

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PARKE, KATHRYN

39 WAGON TRAIL

704-669-5914

	BLACK MTN, NC 28711	
PARKER, MARY	21 WAGON TRAIL BLACK MTN, NC 28711	704-669-5541
PERKINS, EUGENIA	128 TATE STREET GREENSBORO, NC	
POLAZZO, FREE	(SEE MINSHALL, JANET)	
RAYMER, LISA	(SEE LEWIS, JOHN)	
RHODES, MARY	BOX 415 PLEASANT HILL, TN 38578	615-277-5020
ROBERTS, KAKI ROBERTS, DALE	BOX 8695 ASHEVILLE, NC 28814	
ROSE, SARA	(SEE BERGQUIST, DARYL)	
SALSTROM, DAVE	1582 HANNAH BRANCH RD BURNSVILLE, NC 28714	704-675-4661
SCHECKEL, JUDY	455 HANNAH BRANCH RD BURNSVILLE, NC 28714	704-675-4456
SHELL, HIKE GLEATON, JIM	309 HEYWARD ST COLUMBIA, SC 29201	803-254-9136
SHINODA, MARIKO	6132 FRANKLIN PK RD MCLEAN, VA	
SICELOFF, ELIZABETH	934 WAVERLY WAY NE ATLANTA, GA 30307	404-223-6003
SKELLIE, BERT SKELLIE, KAREN (SKELLIE, BRIAN & MARK) (RAVANI, DREW)	416 PAGE AVE NE ATLANTA, GA 30307	404-378-5883
SOMMERS, GREG	QUAKER HSE, 223 HILLSIDE FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301	919-323-3912
STANNERS, JEAN	(SEE CORDRAY, DICK)	
STONE, GRETTA	FGC 1216 ARCH ST-2B PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107	215-561-1700
SZITTYA, RUTH	PO BOX 545 SWANNANOA, NC 28778	704-686-5305
THATCHER, HIBBARD	1012 BATTERY LANE NASHVILLE, TN 37220	615-298-3747
MUORAO OATAN TAND	COTION HALL BUILDING	

THOMAS, SARAH JANE (SEE WHITMAN, EVERETT)

THOMFORDE, PHIL THOMFORDE, WINNIE	PO 541 PLEASANT HILL, TN 38548	615-277-5003
TYREE, LAURA	(SEE HETZEL, BOB)	
UNDERWOOD, JOYCE	208 PEARSON DR ASHEVILLE, NC 28801	704-255-0421
VINES, LAURA	2229 PARTRIDGE LANE HOOVER, AL 35216	205-823-4132
WEBB, GEORGE WEBB, ELEANOR	5622 ALHAMBRA AVE BALTIMORE, MD 21212	301-435-6928
WEST, JOHN (WEST, TYLER)	BOX 524 ARDEN, NC	
WEXLER, LYDIA V. (WEXLER, ELIAS)	1877 SEVEN MILE RIDGE RD BURNSVILLE, NC 28714	704-675-5346
WHITE, EDWIN WHITE, HELEN	310 COUNTRY CLUB DR ROCK HILL, SC 29730	803-327-2314
WHITMAN, EVERETT THOMAS, SARAH JANE	4 AUSTIN AVENUE ASHEVILLE, NC 28801	704-254-8116
WISER-FORT, CORRIE FORT, MICHAEL (FORT, MIKE & WILLOW)	RT 2, BOX 600 SPRING HILL, TN 37174	615-364-7805
WOLFF, BETTINA	RT 1, BOX 77 LAKE LURE, NC 28746	704-625-4901
WRIGHT, PENELOPE (WRIGHT, BEN/JUSTIN)		615-298-1385

W. C

SAYMA Representatives Meeting #63

Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association

Asheville, NC, 28 May 1989

Attenders

Peggy Bonnington, Dennis Gregg, Louise Gorenflo, Hibbard Thatcher, Dick Cordray, Jess Mock, Suzanne Murdock, Jim Gleaton, Bill Boyd, Lydia Valentine Wexler, Sharon Annis, Connie Hill, Nancy Lee-Riffe, Barbara Esther, Steve Meredith, Karen Skellie, and Mina Fields Johnson.

Yearly Meeting Arrangements

To begin planning for next year's SAYMA meeting Louise Gorenflo read some of the comments from the evaluation sheets. Recommendations for a site included Chattanooga, Monteagle, and return to Christmount at some future date. The availability of swimming was important to many respondents. Several site options were discussed including Dubose Center at Monteagle, Tennessee Wesleyan at Athens, and Collegedale.

The advantages and disadvantages of various dates were discussed. The long week-ends of Memorial Day and Labor Day were attractive to some. Also early May (3-6) as well as Easter (April 15) were considered.

#1 - A committee composed of Steve Meredith, clerk, Hibbard Thatcher, Larry Ingle, and Dennis Gregg, Louise Gorenflo was formed to make the final decision with regard to date and place.

Monthly Meetings should send suggestions for topics and speakers to Dennis Gregg and Louise Gorenflo before September 5.

Representatives Meeting

The next Representatives Meeting will be at Crossville the second week-end in October - Saturday, October 14. All those having responsibility for any activity at the 1990 SAYMA Meeting will be invited to attend Representatives Meeting.)

East German Yearly Meeting

#2 - Friends approved sending \$100 to Atlanta Meeting to support the work of Sally Mykel who will co-ordinate the Youth Program at East German Yearly Meeting and present a two-week workshop at the Quaker UN office in Geneva. A report has been requested.

A copy of this year's Epistle will be sent to Sally Mykel so that she may present it as SAYMA's greeting to the East German Yearly Meeting.

Youth Activities

- #3 Friends approved that Keith Annis be requested to represent SAYMA in the Youth Assembly at Friends Gathering and bring back a report. In the future this representative will be chosen by Young Friends.
- #4 The Committee on Youth will be a standing committee recommended by the Nominating Committee for approval by Yearly Meeting.
- #5 A line item which will have a continuing balance will be added to the budget to support a fund for youth projects.
- #6 A committee consisting of the clerk, assistant clerk, recording clerk, and treasurer will be responsible for selecting a co-ordinator and assistant co-ordinator for Junior Yearly Meeting as well as a food co-ordinator for the 1990 Yearly Meeting.

Report on 1989 Yearly Meeting

Karen Skellie reported 144 adults, 15 children ages 0 - 5, 28 children from 1 - 6, and 10 junior and senior high young people, making a total of 197 in attendance at the 1989 Yearly Meeting. Total receipts were \$5,812.75. Christmount was paid \$4,967.75; \$2307 was spent for 1102 meals.

Mina Fields Johnson, Recording Clerk

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