

Appendix C: Committee and Officer Reports

Advancement Ad Hoc Committee
Ecological Concerns Network
Electronic Communications Ad Hoc Committee
Faith and Practice Revision Committee
Junior Yearly Meeting Program Committee
Logo Ad Hoc Committee
Ministry and Nurture Committee
Nominating Committee (in text of minutes)
Peace and Social Concerns Committee
Personnel Committee
SAYF Steering Committee
Web Manager

Advancement Ad Hoc Committee 2006 Report

This committee is currently inactive. The first part of our charge has been sent to the Faith and Practice Committee and will be part of this year's presentation.

The second part of our charge "consider the boundaries of SAYMA and its size" is not currently being addressed.

Sharon Annis
Clerk of Committee

Ecological Concerns Network

MISSION STATEMENT: SAYMA Ecological Concerns Network will provide assistance including spiritual and consultative support, to Friends in Yearly Meeting who are following their leadings to work on ecological concerns. It will also work to raise the level of awareness of ecological concerns among SAYMA Friends.

Our year started with last year's Yearly Meeting that resulted in adopting the Minute endorsing the Earth Charter. That minute also charged ECN with the task of creating greater awareness of the principles of that document. We continue to struggle just how to fulfill this obligation. Susan Carlyle continues to be our champion in keeping this present within our organization and in getting the message out to the wider SAYMA community. We continue to work on how this can be integrated into the work of each of the Monthly Meetings.

Roy Taylor was accepted as the new co- chair of this Committee and also SAYMA's representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness.

This March we held our first retreat weekend at the home of members Daryl Berquist and Sara Rose. The goal of this retreat was that of Visioning. What is the Vision that we hold of the future? How does holding a vision affect our ability to reach the goals that we seek? What ECN could be doing to meet its Mission?

Much thoughtful discussion was had about how each of us as individuals had gotten us to where we are now as environmental activists and what we need to be doing as the next step.

The result is this list of Goals/Activities:

- Take a Principle of the Month from the Earth Charter and highlighting it in the Newsletter and in small poster format that can be displayed.
- Printing out hard copies of the newsletter for our display table at SAYMA
- SAYF Retreat at Common Ground
- Recruit a person within every Meeting and Worship Group to be our ECN contact
- Support QEW in its efforts to publish a Green Business Directory
- Have an ECN link or page on the SAYMA website

Further tasks that have presented themselves:

- Posters with important reminders about water issues, western resource use, mountaintop removal.
- What can we do in our own communities to help with these issues?
- Get young friends involved in this. Take the kids on the same campus tour that we did, only a little more from a kid perspective.
- Create a small poster on good recycled paper of good graphics what ECN is about to send to each monthly meeting, with a reminder to get involved, and support ECN, and of course QEW.

During various committee meetings and proceedings it was revealed that we need to be doing a better job at communicating within SAYMA the functions of QEW, ECN, and the relevance of earth care work that is being accomplished by these committees, our individual monthly meetings and worship groups and the individual members and attendees of these meetings.

- Action Item: We need to find a contact representative from every MM.

Ecological Concerns Network (ECN) committee continues to publish a (nearly) monthly electronic newsletter. The editor responsibilities continue with Roy Taylor.

We wish to acknowledge the work and energy of Carol Gray as she cycles off as co-clerk of ECN. Her time and energy have helped further the ongoing work of ECN. We owe so much gratitude to Kim and Susan Carlyle, Kathy Johnson, and Carol Gray, for first class leadership to get us where we are today.

Electronic Communications Ad Hoc Committee

- PROPOSED GENERAL STATEMENT ABOUT ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN YEARLY MEETING AND ASSOCIATION (SAYMA) – Sixth month, 2006
[this proposal, as approved, is in the text of the Minutes #36-33a]

• SAYMA WEBSITE PROPOSED POLICIES

Purpose

The purposes of the SAYMA Web Site (<http://www.sayma.org/>) are:

- To share information among SAYMA monthly meetings, worship groups and attendees about organizational matters;
- To reach out to potential attendees by providing information about how to contact SAYMA Friends and locate SAYMA meetings;
- To inform the world at large about SAYMA activities.

Content

The SAYMA Web Site will publish items of general interest to SAYMA Friends submitted by monthly meetings, worship groups, yearly meeting committees, or people in positions of responsibility for the Yearly Meeting.

Specific content will include:

- An annual calendar of Yearly Meeting events;
- An archive of minutes of Representative Meeting and Yearly Meeting business sessions (not including the attendee lists) and other documents in the official record of the Yearly Meeting;
- A list of people in positions of responsibilities, including contact information;
- Information and registration materials (possibly including on-line registration pages) for Representative Meetings and Yearly Meeting gatherings;
- Guide to Our Faith and Practice working documents and drafts;
- Announcements of workshops, retreats, etc., sponsored by member groups and open to all;
- Information about SAYF and SAYF retreats;
- Issues of Southern Appalachian Friend newsletter and subscription information;
- The Yearly Meeting Handbook (when available);
- Information about other Yearly Meeting programs;
- Links to other Quaker organizations, including FGC, FCNL, FWCC, and AFSC.

To facilitate Yearly Meeting committee work, the web manager may provide private, password-protected web space for committees to keep working documents.

Monthly Meeting/Worship Group Pages

The web site will have a page for each monthly meeting and worship group officially affiliated with SAYMA.

These pages will contain:

- The name and status (i.e. Monthly Meeting, Preparative Meeting, Worship Group) of the meeting;
- The place and times of meeting;
- Directions to the meeting or a link to a map;
- A link to the meeting's own web site (if any);
- Contact information provided by the meeting;
- An email link of the form <meeting name>@sayma.org.

Email sent to the above email address will be forwarded automatically to the email contact person designated by the meeting. If the meeting does not designate an email contact person, such messages will go to the web manager.

It will be the responsibility of the individual meetings to keep their information up to date by notifying the SAYMA web manager of changes.

Guidelines for Documents

Documents for publication on the SAYMA Web Site must be submitted in digital form and ready for publication.

Acceptable formats are:

- Microsoft Word, Excel, or Publisher;
- Corel WordPerfect or Quattro Pro;
- Adobe Acrobat PDF;
- Rich Text Format (RTF);
- HTML

The web manager may correct spelling, grammatical or obvious factual errors, but should not be expected to do major editing of submitted documents.

Documents will be posted in one or more of these formats (at the discretion of the web manager):

- PDF;
- RTF;
- HTML

The web manager will make a reasonable effort to insure that the on-line document is as much like the original as possible, but sometimes changes in format are necessary.

For best results, documents to be posted on the web should have a simple layout with at least 1 inch margins and at most two font families. Common font families, such as Times New Roman and Arial, work best.

Privacy and Security

Personal information such as names, postal addresses and email addresses will not be published on the SAYMA web site without the person's knowledge and consent.

The web manager will choose technologies that reduce the likelihood that individuals will be subjected to spam, crank phone calls, or other unwanted communication as a result of web site content.

● A PROPOSAL TO CREATE THREE SEPARATE LISTSERV'S

Date: 6-6-06

1. SAYMA DISCUSSION LISTSERV

GUIDELINES FOR CONTENT:

This list is for the SAYMA community to discuss general issues of concern to Quakers. (For further information about Friends' concerns see Quaker.org). This list is especially for those who like electronic back and forth discussion about views, opinions, etc. Please compose your postings to this list to reflect the fundamental Quaker value that 'there is that of God in Everyone'. When responding to another post, respond to that of God in the author or subject of that post. This means express your perspective sincerely without

passing judgment on the other's motives, character, intelligence or integrity. Sometimes it is good to allow time to pass for seasoning your thoughts before posting a response.

ELDERING GUIDELINES:

Form a group of four or five "elders" from those who read the list regularly and appear to have skills in discernment. Ask them to "step in" if a/some subscriber(s) post inappropriate material or excessive numbers of posts.

When someone posted something with inappropriate content or tone, elder(s) are advised to email directly to the person who sent the message and suggest in their future postings they use more tender language. Elders may, from time to time, feel a sense that a reminder for what and how we speak on this listserv needs to be sent to the whole listserv, either near the time when an offense has occurred or later. Elders are advised to be mindful that some issues will be resolved without their intervention. This is a good thing. If listserv participants make a mistake occasionally, it does not necessarily have to be pointed out to them. If an individual repeatedly violates the listserv guidelines despite repeated eldering, the listserv elders should consult with each other and reach unity before asking the listserv administrator to remove him/her from the list.

"ONE LINER" TO APPEAR AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERY POST TO THIS LIST:

"This list is for the SAYMA community to discuss issues of concern to Quakers. (For further information about Friends' concerns see Quaker.org)"

WELCOME NOTICE TO EVERYONE WHEN THEY JOIN THIS LIST:

This list is especially for those who like electronic back and forth discussion about views, opinions, etc. Please compose your postings to this list to reflect the fundamental Quaker value that "there is that of God in Everyone." When responding to another post, respond to that of God in the author or subject of that post. This means express your perspective sincerely without passing judgement on the other's motives, character, intelligence or integrity. Sometimes it is good to allow time to pass for seasoning your thoughts before posting a response.

2. SAYMA IMP^O^ Bulletin Service:

This listserv is to continue the current IMP^O^ Bulletin Service exactly as currently operated by the SAYMA Administrative Assistant without any non-SAYMA announcements or any discussion. (The latter two functions to be covered by the other two listservs.)

3. GENERAL INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUIDELINES FOR CONTENT OF GENERAL INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENTS LIST:

This list is for posting announcements about events, information, opinion and information about action opportunities related to Friends' concerns. (For further information about Friends' concerns see Quaker.org). To include such things as: (a) events happening around SAYMA region or nationally. (b) articles, publications, and websites of interest - For example: "FCNL has posted an analysis of the Iraq war budget....." (c) action opportunities such as writing congress, peace demonstrations, (d) SAYMA Monthly Meetings' and Worship Groups' newsletters, minutes, etc.. Appropriate responses to announcements on this listserv are to be questions of clarification about details, additional planning information, e.g, time, place, topic and contact information, etc. Any responses other than these particular types of responses are to be posted on the SAYMA DISCUSSION LISTSERV.

GUIDELINES FOR "MONITORING" OF GENERAL INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENTS LIST:

Form a group of four or five "elders" from those who read the list regularly and appear to have skills in discernment. Ask them to "step in" if a/some subscriber(s) post inappropriate material or excessive numbers of posts. One example of what to say: "If those who have been following this conversation would like to continue, it seems more appropriate to move it to the Discussion listserv."

If a subscriber persists in deliberately posting inappropriate material or posting excessive numbers of posts

after being appropriately elderd they are subject to removal from the list.

WELCOME NOTICE TO EVERYONE WHEN THEY JOIN THIS LIST:

This list is for posting announcements about events, information, opinion and information about action opportunities related to Friends' concerns. (For further information about Friends' concerns see Quaker.org). Appropriate responses to announcements on this listserv are to be questions of clarification about details, additional planning info: time, place, topic and contact information. Any responses other than these particular types of responses are to be posted on the SAYMA DISCUSSION LISTSERV.

Faith and Practice Revision Committee

The next 8 pages are the proposed revisions to "A Guide to Our Faith and Our Practice" presented at Yearly Meeting. [*For the electronic version of these revisions, please refer to www.SAYMA.org online documents.*]

Junior Yearly Meeting Program Committee

The committee is supporting the coordinators during this year's program and will submit a report at the Fall Representative Meeting.

Sharon Annis, Co-Clerk for the committee

Logo Ad Hoc Committee

Carol Lamm, convener



The ad hoc logo committee has been working in fits and starts since representative meeting in December 2001. At that time, Clerk Sharon Annis, who needed letterhead for clerk's correspondence, presented samples of various images and stationery that SAYMA had used over the years. After consideration of the situation, Friends agreed to the appointment of an ad hoc committee to develop a SAYMA logo.

Over the course of subsequent rep meetings and yearly meetings, several dozen Friends participated in person and by e-mail in considering the uses and audiences for a logo. The committee reported at several rep meetings. We were fortunate in finding a graphic artist, Jennifer Snow Wolff, who understood Quakers and SAYMA and helped us understand what to expect from a logo design process. Jennifer patiently, creatively and expertly produced multiple designs and variations for our consideration. Friends provided thoughtful feedback and suggestions through several stages. At December 2003 rep meeting, the committee reached agreement on the basic design. We decided, contrary to our initial direction, that a color version would be welcome, though we still needed an image that would work in black and white, too. Jennifer moved to the final design stage of making small changes.

In the spring of 2004, Jennifer suffered a serious stroke. When it became clear that she would be unable to complete the job, her partner was able to identify all the computer files related to the job and send them to us. A graphic designer in Berea, Sara Thilman of Flying High Design, agreed to take Jennifer's files and complete the task as simply as possible. Sara was very appreciative of Jennifer's approach, in particular a document Jennifer had written for the committee at the beginning of the process about how a group could work productively with a graphic artist to design a logo. We realized as we made the transfer to Sara that we would not get the complete package that Jennifer had had in mind, but that we would still have an attractive and usable logo based on Jennifer's work.

Sara and her associate have provided us with computer files for two versions of letterhead and four versions each of color and black and white logos. The various versions are suitable for a web page, printing on home computers, printing by professional printers and using on large signs. As convener, I have written out simple instructions about the various versions and how to use them. I will be glad to e-mail files for the letterhead and logo to Friends in SAYMA positions of responsibility who have a use for them. I am also glad to print letterhead as needed.

I believe the ad hoc logo committee's task has been accomplished, and I ask that Friends lay the committee down.

Ministry and Nurture Committee Report for 2006

It is our practice to identify ourselves with blue name badges (blue dots or a blue field). Please do not hesitate to share concerns or joys about the life of the spirit in SAYMA with us. We will be holding the clerks' table in the Light during meetings for worship for conducting the business of Yearly Meeting, a labor in which our Friends Deborah Fisch and Liz Oppenheimer from FGC Traveling Ministries are gratefully joining us. We will also provide greeters outside the doors who will remind Friends of the ground of silence whence satisfying worship and good decisions emerge. Since our numbers remain small, we will be asking seasoned Friends to join us in protecting the threshold to this space during our time together this weekend.

SAYMA's Committee on Ministry and Nurture has reviewed and affirmed our recent approach of meeting separately from Representative Meeting. Our initial focus on meeting with the smaller, newer, and outlying meetings of SAYMA has been fruitful, though not without challenges. It is our desire through intervisitation to get to know all of our meetings, and to share their experiences, gifts, and spiritual lives. We have learned that it is important to be clear that we are invited to meetings out of sense of unity of spirit and clarity of purpose. We therefore encourage invitations rising out of a clearness process by any meeting within SAYMA.

As we grow into our new vision of ordering our committee's work, we ask that you sincerely seek whether you are called to join us in this exciting new venture of the Spirit. We will be meeting as a committee to welcome such seekers at 11 am tomorrow morning. Check the program for place. We will encourage Friends to season leadings to join us in our work through their monthly meetings, and to go through a clearness process with them in making that decision. Our work together is a joyful gift, but not one we encourage to be passed from one Friend to another without this process of discernment (as in, "Who wants to go to M and N this quarter?").

Let us welcome all the myriad opportunities for meetings of the Spirit as we are woven into the tapestry of Yearly Meeting over the next few days. Blessings.

Bob McGahey, Clerk
SAYMA Ministry and Nurture Committee

Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Summer 2006 Yearly Meeting

The SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee held its first meeting in the winter of 2006, to discern our work based on the charge given to the committee by the 2004 Yearly Meeting. At the Spring 2006 Representative Meeting, we reported our discernment regarding the purpose of a minute of the Yearly Meeting that speaks to matters of peace or social concerns. We offered a set of queries we had devised to guide us in the seasoning process of a proposed minute.

Taking into account the advice given to us by the Representative Meeting, we met again at the Summer 2006 Yearly Meeting to revise our guidelines. We are prepared to offer for the Yearly Meeting's consideration the following definition of the purpose of a minute:

A minute of the Yearly Meeting is our testimony to the world of a new understanding of truth that has been discovered through the process of Quaker discernment.

To season a proposed minute to be brought to the Yearly Meeting, we offer the following queries:

1. What Quaker testimony or testimonies does the proposed minute stand upon?
2. Does the minute address political or social concern? How are they balanced with the spiritual aspects of the minute?
3. What does the minute offer that is hopeful or affirming?

We intend to offer this definition and these queries to the Fall Representative Meeting (2006) for approval, so that we may clearly see how we may proceed with our work. If we learn in the next few weeks that many SAYMA meetings are moved to bring a minute concerning torture to the 2007 Yearly Meeting, we intend to convene our committee prior to the Fall 2006 Representative Meeting so that we may begin our work sooner.

Respectfully submitted by SAYMA Peace and Social Concerns Committee
Dennis Gregg, Deanna Nipp, Jere Licciardello, Kay Smith, Steve Livingston (clerk)

Personnel Committee 2006 Report

The Personnel Committee met at each of the Representative Meetings. We discussed concerns regarding personnel. We revised the description of the Personnel Committee for the Handbook. We recommended that a cost of living raise be given to our employees in accordance with the amount indicated by Social Security (4.1%).

Two weeks before Yearly Meeting, the administrative assistant informed the Clerk of her intention to resign her position as of the end of June 2006. We have accepted her resignation with thanks for the work she has done and wish her well in future endeavors. The Personnel Committee has appointed a search committee to identify possible replacements, to accept applications and to interview applicants.

SAYF Steering Committee – June, 2006

Southern Appalachian Young Friends (SAYF) has another successful year. We hosted 7 retreats during the past year. Six have been completed and the 7th is occurring this weekend here at our SAYMA gathering. For the 6 completed retreats, we have averaged 35 SAYFers per retreat with 67 teens coming to at least one retreat during the past year. This is an increase from last year. Some SAYFers attended all 6 retreats and others attended one. Details of each retreat are described below. All retreats this year were held at Meetinghouses.

In addition to our retreats we hosted two joint Nurturing and Steering Committee retreats and those too are outlined below.

SAYF Retreats:

1. Chapel Hill, NC Retreat September 23-25, 2005

Theme: Community Building

of SAYFers 27

of FAPs 6

Activities included: a drumming workshop and a trip to a drumming place: a 'music emporium'.

2. W Knoxville, TN Retreat October 21-23, 2005

Theme: Heroes and Role Models

of SAYFers 34

of FAPs 10

Activities included: Susan Carlyle's presentation on the Earth Charter and environmental heroes.

3. Asheville, NC Retreat November 11-13, 2005

Theme: Health: the physical and Spiritual Kind

of SAYFers 38

of FAPs 14

Activities included a chi gong workshop, a massage workshop and a contra dance.

4. Atlanta, GA Retreat January 13-15, 2006

Theme: Social and Economic Class

of SAYFers 40

of FAPs 13

Activities included: presentation and discussion with a guest speaker and a movie with a follow up discussion.

5. Berea, KY Retreat March 10-12, 2006

Theme: Spirituality

of SAYFers 42

of FAPs 11

Activities included an extended Worship Sharing time, a service project and musical plays centered around the George Fox song.

6. Nashville, TN Retreat

April 21-23, 2006

Theme: Silence

of SAYFers 30

of FAPs 11

Activities included a community art project and a trip to Centennial Park for earth Day celebrations

Nurturing/Steering/Oversight Committees Retreats

1. Black Mountain, NC Hendrickson Home August 26-28, 2005

of Nurturing Committee Members 14

of Steering Committee Members 7

We reviewed our SAYF presence at the June yearly gathering, where we had a record number of teens participating. Based on this feedback and discernment, we made a list of recommendations for next years Gathering. We also developed a way to keep better records of the joint Steering and Nurturing Committee, devised a plan to revise SAYF guidelines and expectations. Finally the Nurturing Committee developed a process for clerk discernment each year. This has been a stumbling block in past years and the new process more closely resembles traditional Quaker process.

2. Watkinsville, GA Fisher-Watkins Home February 24-26, 2006

of Nurturing Committee Members 15

of Steering Committee Members 8 (and new Atlanta YF leader)

We planned for SAYF at Yearly Meeting and developed our calendar of retreats for 2006-2007 year. We developed a plan to review the handbook that Kathleen has been working on and turned our attention to completing the retreat manual for use by Meetings hosting SAYF retreats. We expressed thanks to Kathleen Mavournin for her 6 years of service to SAYF and looked at ways for others to assume some of the duties that she completed (i.e. web page). Ceal agreed to add pictures to our web page as well. This was the first retreat were we changed from 'worship journal' to 'epistle' in an effort to deepen the spiritual aspects of this activity.

Graduates:

From Atlanta I know Matthias Carentier and Daniel Gatch.

Athens is Will Fisher and Sam Preston.

Web Manager Report

From Web Manager

The SAYMA web site www.sayma.org is first of all a medium for increasing communication among the individuals, committees, and Meetings within SAYMA. The this end, my primary activity over the past year has been to keep information up-to-date: the Yearly Meeting calendar, registration for Representative Meetings and Yearly Meeting, minutes of these meetings, issues of *Southern Appalachian Friend*, the latest changes to the *Guide to Our Faith and Practice*, monthly meeting times and locations, and so on. This type of work takes a couple of hours per month. Thanks to the help of the Administrative Assistant, the SAF editors, and the Registrar in preparing documents, the time for me to post minutes and registration information for meetings has decreased significantly.

To a lesser extent, the web site serves as a source of information about Quakers and SAYMA for the wider world. Over the past year, I have received several letters addressed to WebMaster@sayma.org or to one of the monthly meetings, asking for help contacting Friends or for information about Quaker practices. I keep a list of people to receive mail addressed to <MonthlyMeetingName>@sayma.org, but there are holes; when there is no designated person, the mail comes to me. I will have a copy of this list of e-mail contacts at Yearly Meeting for Friends to update.

I have made no major changes to the layout of the web site since I became web manager, but I believe an overhaul is in order! The art work could be given a more contemporary look, and the organization could be improved to make finding information easier. This could be an interesting project for a student of graphic design or for a Friend with computer graphic skills who would like to make a contribution in kind to the Yearly Meeting. I recommend that Yearly Meeting accept applications for volunteers to do this work and let me or the e-Communications Committee choose the designer and supervise the project.

Thanks to the Friends who have notified me of changes in their monthly meeting's time or location. Remember that you can email people in positions of responsibility for SAYMA or on committees by using generic addresses such as Clerk@sayma.org. (See the *Southern Appalachian Friend* for a list.)