



Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Half Yearly Meeting

November 23-26, 2017 • Wekiwa Springs State Park • 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka, Florida
Registration opens October 5

Half Yearly Meeting brings us together over the 4-day Thanksgiving weekend for a relaxing, fun time in a beautiful Florida State Park. Everyone participates and brings ideas, with a goal of leaving rejuvenated.

We stay at the Youth Camp at Wekiwa Springs State Park---so 50% of our program needs to be about nature and the environment. ***Are you led to share a workshop, worship, nature hike, or other nature lesson?***

Activity Highlights

As Spirit leads, we will have workshops, worship sharing, nature hikes, games, canoeing, swimming, art, music, and more!

Here are our main scheduled activities:

Wednesday

10 am: 8-mile Canoe & Kayak trip, ***for people with their own boat; see details below.***

Thursday

10 am: Canoe & Kayak trip, ***for people with their own boat; see details below.***

2 pm: Early Arrival for Cooking

5 pm: Community Time in the Dining Hall

6 pm: Thanksgiving Dinner & Potluck

Friday

Morning: Youth Gathering

Afternoon: Imagination Stations

Evening: Environmental Program, Bonfire

Saturday

Morning: Wekiwa Springs swimming & canoeing
(canoe rental is \$20) see details below.

Afternoon: Imagination Stations

Evening: Talent Show, Bonfire

Sunday

All Camp Clean-up after Breakfast

Worship by the Lake

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving dinner kicks off HYM at 6 p.m. on Thursday. Here's how it works:

1. Early arrival to cook the main meal.
2. Food provided: turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, & a vegetable
3. Potluck from everyone else: cold sides, desserts, bread, salads, vegetables, casseroles, etc. Did we mention dessert? Fix enough for a crowd! There is not space in the kitchen to cook these extras - please bring it already prepared.
4. Community time: Let's play games, make crafts, and hear music in the dining hall from 5-6 p.m. Have a game you can bring?

Meals and Lodging

We prepare all the meals ourselves. You can get involved by leading a cooking team, helping to cook, or cleaning up--- working together makes it FUN! Contact the HYM clerk if you're willing to lead a meal team. Sign-up in the dining hall to help cook and clean.

We stay at the Youth Camp at Wekiwa, which has group and family cabins (but no tent camping). Families are placed together, and there are some handicap accessible cabins with restrooms. Bring sheets, blankets, and pillows - it can get cold!

Fees for meals & lodging are posted on the website.

Register Online at <http://seymquakers.org/news-events/half-yearly-meeting/>.

Register by Nov. 14th so we can plan enough food!!!

If needed, call Clerk or Registrar to register by phone.

Don't let money keep you from attending! Scholarships are available.

HYM Clerk: Carl Hersh • closeup.carl@gmail.com • 305-667-6779 • Text: 305-606-3717

Registrar: Beeg Camarota • beeg742@yahoo.com • 386-736-4697

Youth

HYM is an important time for SEYM youth to connect and have fun!

- Youth registration fee is waived if registered early; only pay for food and lodging
- Parents, Guardians, and Sponsors must supervise their own youth.
- Must have a parent or adult sponsor if under 19
- Parents: please fill out a Parental Consent form for each youth, and bring them with you.

Swimming, Canoeing & Kayaking

Friends can enjoy the Wekiwa Springs swimming area during daylight hours. No swimming in the river--*there are alligators*. Canoes & kayaks can be rented from the Park's concession for short trips on the Wekiwa State Park section of the river. **A short trip is planned for Saturday.** Longer river trips are planned for Wednesday, Thursday, & Saturday.

Wednesday Paddle: For people with their own boat. Meet at 10 am at Wekiwa Island, Longwood, for an 8-mile paddle to Katie's Landing, Sanford. Bring snacks and water for refreshments while staying in your boat. We will return to Wekiwa Island to pick up cars and eat supper. Overnight housing available courtesy of Quakers of Orlando. Fees will be about \$10 to launch and \$3 for parking. This will be a Meeting for Worship with attention to paddling. **To reserve a spot,** contact Jerry Knutson at almostluddite@gmail.com, cell 407-595-4880.

Thursday Paddle: For people with their own boat, a Meeting for Worship with attention to paddling and giving thanks. We will meet at 10 am at Katie's Landing. We will unload boats, shuttle cars and paddle about eight miles to the Swamp House, DeBary, FL (www.swamphousegrill.com). Bring snacks and water for refreshments while staying in your boat. We will eat Thanksgiving dinner at Half Yearly Meeting, Wekiwa Springs State Park. **To reserve a spot,** contact Jerry Knutson at or 407-595-4880, or almostluddite@gmail.com

Saturday November 26 Paddle: for all Friends. We will meet at 9:30am SHARP in Youth Camp Kitchen to make lunches, and leave at 10 am SHARP to drive to King's Landing, 5722 Baptist Camp Road, Apopka, Florida 32712. **However, friends that want to float with the current and paddle leisurely should make lunches at 9 am, then go to King's Landing and launch.** Cost is about \$20/person--but a solo kayak is \$40.) King's landing will shuttle us back to put in. We will have lunch in our boats. bring cash for refreshments at take out--Wekiwa Island. No alcohol allowed in boats and no swimming in the river. To reserve a spot, contact Jerry Knutson at almostluddite@gmail.com.

What to Bring

- Warm bedding, towel, personal necessities
- Appropriate shoes, outdoor clothes, coat
- Flashlight, water bottle
- Games, craft supplies, toys, telescopes, binoculars
- Talents, story-telling, painting, musical instruments

Getting Here

Wekiwa Springs State Park is just north of Orlando
1800 Wekiwa Circle Apopka, Florida

From I-4 near Longwood-Altamonte Springs: Exit 94. Go west on Hwy SR 434 (Sanleandro Springs Road) about 1 mile. Go northwest on Wekiwa Springs Road about 4 miles. Follow signs to park.

From Hwy 441 through Apopka: Turn east onto Hwy SR 436 (Semoran Blvd). Look for left turn onto Wekiwa Springs Road. Go several miles to park.

- Tell ranger you are going to Youth Camp for the Quaker gathering.
- Free park entry; it's included in your registration.
- Gate locks at sunset. Call clerk's cell for entry code: 305-667-6779. Let us know if you have a late arrival so we'll be looking for you.

Volunteer

HYM works because everyone pitches in to help out. You can sign-up in the dining hall when you arrive, or bring some projects with you.

- Meal Preparation: lead, cook, or clean-up.
- Sunday Cleanup: everyone, please!
- Discussion Sessions: want to lead one about the environment?
- Imagination Stations: bring anything to share that could spark our creativity: crafts, games, outdoor games, science projects, etc.
- Talent Show: musical instruments, skits, or stories to share.
- Worship Sharing: set a time, bring some queries.
- Photographer: capture our memories.

State Park Rules

- Wear helmets while biking
- Camp must be cleaned for inspection by rangers
- For Youth Camp use, 50% of program must be environmental
- No tents or RVs in the Youth Camp area
- No alcohol
- No pets
- No firewood collecting
- No removal of natural object